

Landgrave Thomas Smith Memorial To Be Dedicated

A marker in memory of Landgrave Thomas Smith, one of the Founders of Carolina, will be unveiled at 3 P.M. Aug. 27 at East Bay and Longitude Lane, site of his Charleston residence.

Smith bore the titles of Landgrave and cacique, conferred on land-owners as an early form of colonial nobility. He served as governor of the colony in 1693-94. Landgrave Smith had many descendants, several of whom now live in Beaufort County.

The original patent making Thomas Smith a landgrave, dated May 13, 1691, is on file in the State Dept. of Archives in Columbia. It is written in Latin and bears the seal of the Lords Proprietors.

Gov. Robert E. McNair is scheduled to accept the marker in behalf of the state from C. Norwood Hastie, vice chairman of the memorial committee.

The only existing memorial to Landgrave Smith is a mark-

er north of Charleston on U.S. Highway 52. It indicates the location of his home and his grave at Back River Plantation, now known as Medway. The plantation will be open on the day of the unveiling to Smith's descendants.

An informal dutch dinner is planned at 7 p.m. Aug. 26 at the Francis Marion Hotel. The ceremonies at the marker Aug. 27 will begin with an invocation by the Rev. R. E. H. Peeples of Hilton Head Island.

Little is known with certainty about Thomas Smith's family and background in England. Various and contradictory versions have been written. No authentic picture of him exists. Nevertheless his service to the colony was important though brief.

His son, the second Landgrave Thomas Smith, said in 1708 that "in the year 1693 my father freighted a ship from Dartmouth bound for Carolina (where we arrived in four or

five months time) . . ." It is known that Smith had been in Charleston as early as June 20, 1684, for on that date he witnessed a deed of 1600 acres from Benjamin Waring to Joan Atkins, widow, of Charleston.

Thomas Smith rapidly acquired large land holdings, some by grant and some by purchase. He was one of the wealthiest men in the province. Early maps show properties, including the house at East Bay and Longitude Lane in downtown Charleston.

Smith was a member of the colonial council, and an active member of the Proprietary Party in the political struggles of the time against a group known as the "Goose Creek Men." Thomas Amy, who succeeded Sir William Berkeley as a proprietor, on Sept. 22, 1691, appointed Thomas Smith his deputy. Smith was appointed governor in 1690, but arrival of Seth Sothell, one of the proprietors, superseded the ap-

pointment. Smith again was appointed governor Nov. 29, 1693.

The land system was snarled and much discord beset the colonists. Smith became discouraged he wrote the Proprietors he might abandon Carolina and live elsewhere in America.

Nevertheless, historians characterize him as an able governor. He made progress with the question of land tenure; quit rents were regularized; there was no trouble with the Indian slave trade, and he was the first governor to have any success with suppression of piracy.

The weatherman isn't hedging when he predicts "partly cloudy" or "partly sunny" skies. The forecast means that three-tenths to seven-tenths of the sky will be covered by clouds. A prediction of "slowly rising temperatures" indicates an increase of 5 to 10 degrees in the following 12 hour period.

R THE SURE WAY TO A BEAUTIFUL FUTURE ... LOOK BEAUTIFUL

Early S.C. Governor

250 See Marker Unveiling

CHARLESTON (AP)—An estimated 250 people watched Sunday as three small children unveiled a marker at East Bay and Longitude Lane in memory of their 17th century ancestor, Landgrave Thomas Smith, an early colonial governor of Carolina.

The memorial marker, erected by his descendants and by the South Carolina Colonial

Dames XVII Century, stands on the site of the four story brick dwelling Smith built on East Bay. The house stood until 1875.

Thomas Smith bore the title of landgrave, a noble appellation conferred on certain great landowners while Carolina was under the rule of the Lords Proprietor. He was a colonial governor from 1693 until his death

a year later.

Gov. Robert McNair, whose wife is a descendant of Smith, accepted the marker for the state, calling Smith "a man of responsibility" who helped to build this nation.

He added, "It's hard enough being governor now with all the problems we face but it must truly have been difficult then when building the colonies."

Mayor J. Palmer Gaillard accepted the memorial marker for the city of Charleston.

The marker was unveiled by three descendants, Miles Mont-

gomery, Tammy Turbeville and Sara Leigh Hinson. It has been estimated that there are more than 10,000 living descendants of the landgrave.



Television Innovation Is Announced

Wind Carries 19 Skydivers Into Waters

QUIPS and TIPS

Beach Area Residents Prominent At Historical Marker Unveiling

Mrs. W. V. Moreck of Myrtle Beach presented a bronze tablet honoring South Carolina Governor Thomas Smith to the City of Charleston in ceremonies in the port city last Sunday.

Crescent Beach Mayor C. B. Berry spoke to the assembled group of about 100 people, giving details of the governor's life.

Mrs. Moreck was treasurer of the project — a joint one sponsored by the descendants of Landgrave Smith and the S. C. Chapter, Colonial Dames of the XVII Century.

Charleston Mayor Palmer Gaillard received the mar-

ker on behalf of the city and, in turn, C. Norwood Hastie, Jr., presented it to the state of South Carolina. Current Governor Robert McNair, whose wife is a descendant of Landgrave Smith, received it for the people of the state.

The tablet marks the spot where the governor, who served under the Lords Proprietors from 1693-1694 built his four story brick home. The building, located at the corner of East Bay Street and Longitude Lane (about half way between the foot of Broad Street and South Battery), stood until 1875.

During the ceremonies,

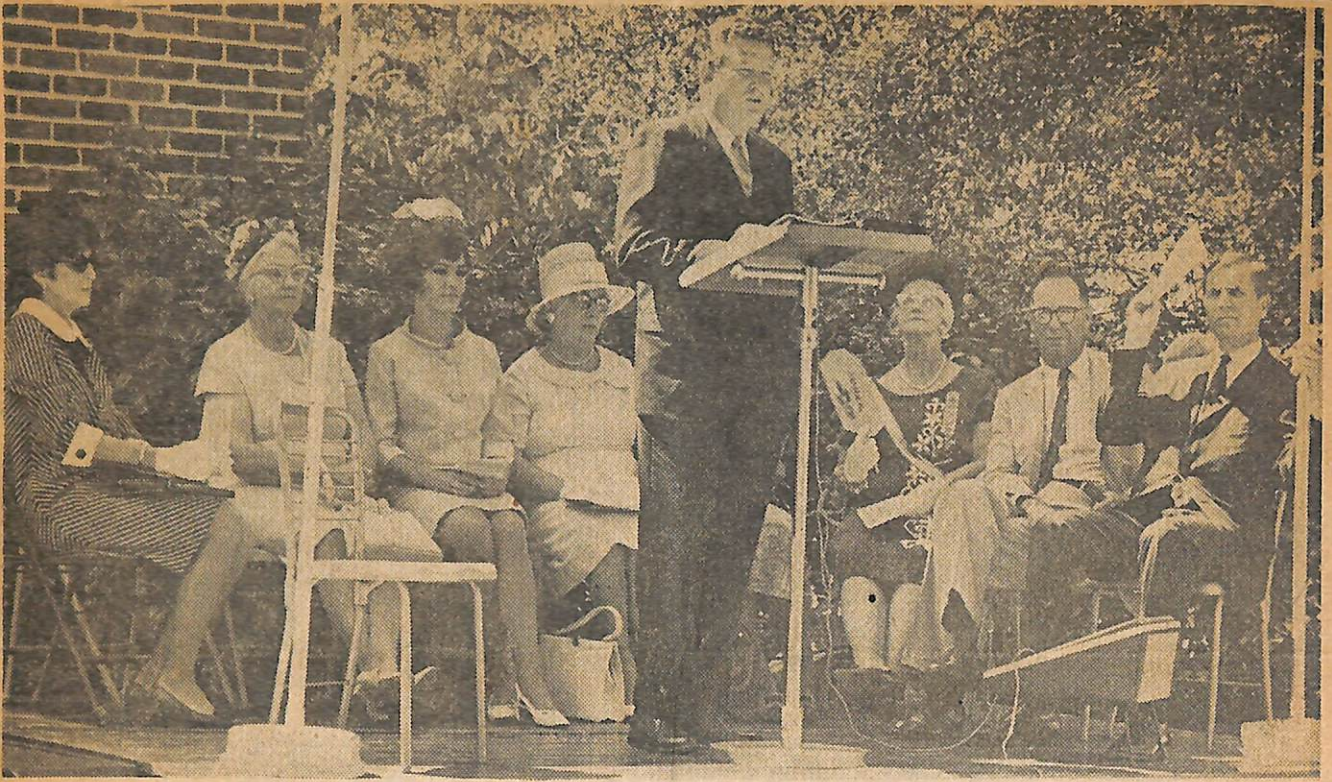
Mayor Berry pointed out that Landgrave Smith, who arrived in Charles Town in 1684, ultimately owned 48,000 acres of land plus four 12,000 acres baronies conferred on him by the proprietors.

A Dissenter by religion, it was during his term as governor that the first laws regulating the sale of alcoholic beverages and the operation of public houses were passed in the colony. In addition, Landgrave Smith instituted the system of drawing juries at random from a ballot box.

Dr. David W. Baxley of Charleston, a cousin of

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BUILDING MATERIAL



GOVERNOR ACCEPTS MARKER FOR STATE

Gov. Robert E. McNair, whose wife (left) is a Smith descendant, delivered brief address. (Staff Photos by Swain)

Marker Honoring Landgrave Smith Unveiled Here

Approximately 250 people watched yesterday as three small children unveiled a marker at East Bay and Longitude Lane in memory of their 17th century ancestor, Landgrave Thomas Smith, an early colonial governor of Carolina.

The memorial marker, erected by his descendants and by the South Carolina Colonial Dames XVII Century, stands on the site of the four-story brick dwelling Smith built on East Bay. The house stood until 1875.

Thomas Smith bore the title of landgrave, a noble appellation conferred on certain great landowners while Carolina was under the rule of the Lords Proprietor. He was colonial governor from 1693 until his death a year later.

Gov. Robert E. McNair, whose wife is a descendant of Smith, accepted the marker for the state, calling Smith "a man of responsibility who helped build this nation."

He added: "It's hard enough being governor now with all the problems we face but it must truly have been difficult then when building the colonies."

Mayor J. Palmer Gaillard accepted the memorial marker for the city of Charleston. He spoke of the significance of Charleston's extraordinary number of historical monuments, praising the efforts of the many groups that help to preserve the city's heritage.

The marker was unveiled by three descendants, Miles Montgomery, Tammy Turbeville and Sara Leigh Hinson. It has been estimated that there are more than 10,000 living descendants of the landgrave.

Presenting the marker to the city was Mrs. W. V. Moreck. Gov. McNair received the marker for the state as it was presented to him by C. Norwood Hastie Jr.

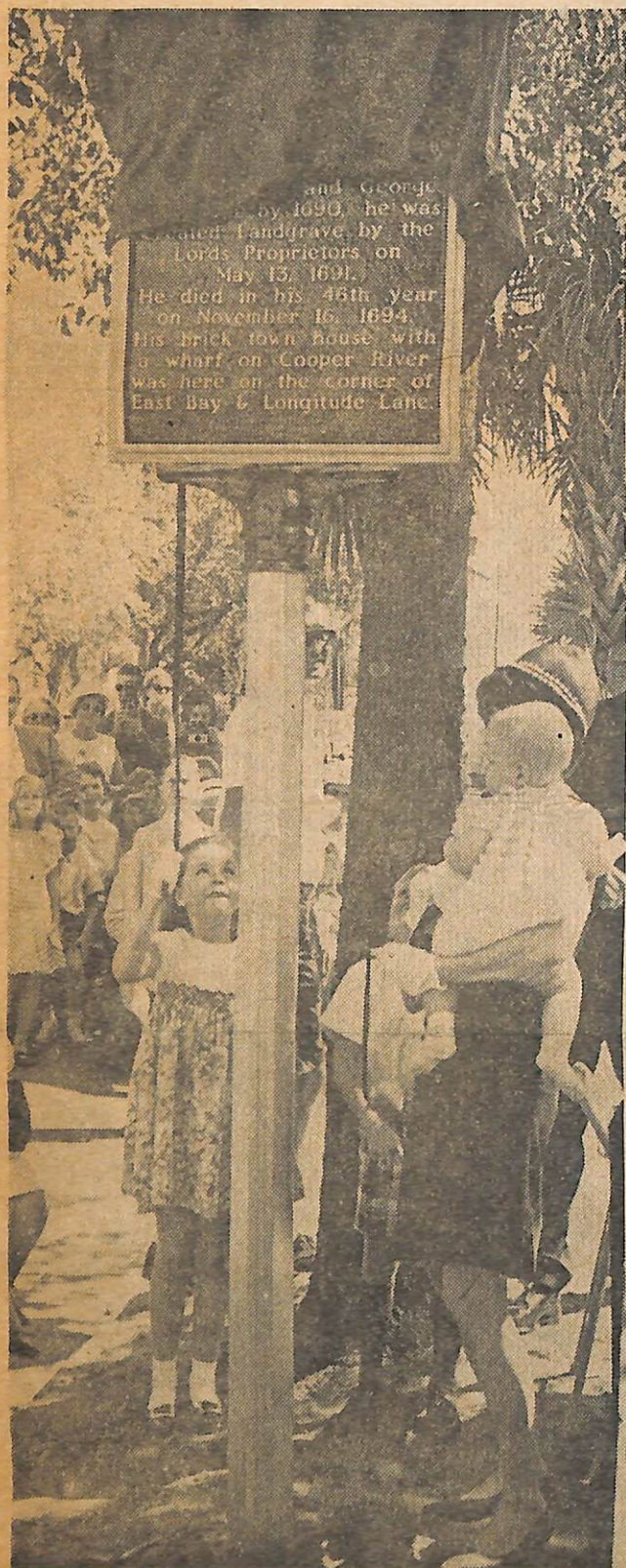
After the ceremony, Medway Plantation was opened to visitors. Landgrave Smith moved to the plantation on the Back River in 1689 and lived there until his death in 1694. His grave is located near the house which is the oldest brick residence in Carolina.

Thomas Smith was born in Exeter, Devonshire, England, and came to Charles Town in 1684. He was a cousin of the great cavalier general, George Monk, Duke of Albemarle and cousin to the Earl of Bath, both Lords Proprietors.

By 1690 Thomas Smith was a cacique (a nobleman of lesser rank than a landgrave) with 48,000 acres and in March of 1691 was created a landgrave. He was an honored member of the Grand Council until commissioned governor and commander-in-chief of Carolina.

Smith's first wife, who came to the colonies with him, was Barbara Atkins, who died in 1687. A few months later he married Sabina de Vignon, Dowager Van Wernhaut, widow of Jan Van Arsen, the Dutch nobleman who built Medway.

He was a successful merchant plying an active trade with Barbados and England. He was an early promoter of the planting of rice and indigo which were to be Carolina's staple products for decades. He further served the colony as doctor and surgeon.



UNVEILING CEREMONY

Three young descendants pull cords.

Colonial Governor's Home Site Marked By Memorial

A marker was unveiled yesterday honoring one of the Carolina Colony's earliest governors and reminding historians of an unsuccessful attempt to establish a "nobility" class in the new world.

The marker commemorates Thomas Smith, Colonial governor in 1693-94, and bearer of the title of "landgrave". It is near the site of his house at East Bay Street and Longitude Lane. The house was torn down in 1875.

Gov. McNair spoke at the ceremonies, labeling Smith as "a man of responsibility who helped build this nation". Mrs. McNair is a descendant of the landgrave.

The marker was unveiled by three of Smith's estimated 10,000 or more descendants: Miles Montgomery, Tammy Turbeville, and Sara Leigh Hinson. Mrs. W. V. Moreck presented the marker to the city and it was accepted by Mayor Gaillard. Following the ceremony, Smith's country estate, Medway Plantation on the Cooper River, was opened to visitors. Smith's tomb is near Medway House, the original section of which is the oldest brick building in South Carolina.

Smith came to Charles Town in 1684 from his native Exeter in England. He was cousin to one of the lords proprietors: George Monck, duke of Albemarle, and also to the earl of Bath. These connections resulted in his being granted huge tracts of land and being named to the Grand Council of the colony, from which he

stepped into the governorship two years before his death in 1694.

Carolina came into being when Charles II was restored to his throne in 1660 after the Cromwell era. He gave a group of his noble supporters lands south of Virginia, extending to the "South Sea" (Pacific Ocean) between latitudes 31 and 36. Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury, asked his brilliant young secretary, John Locke, to draw up a constitution.

Locke used the basics from Plato's Republic and threw in some facets of the early German hierarchic system to produce the Fundamental Constitutions for Carolina, creating a palatinate, the name deriving from the early Bavarian titles.

The eldest lord proprietor was to be the palatine or ruler, under whom were three classes: landgrave, cacique (an Indian chief), and leetmen, with graduated estates within these ranks. The Province of Carolina was to be divided into counties of 750 square miles, each governed by a landgrave. Two-fifths of the land would belong to the proprietors, the landgrave and two caciques. Grants of 12,000 acres were made to each landgrave and cacique. The leetmen actually were to be serfs with no property rights.

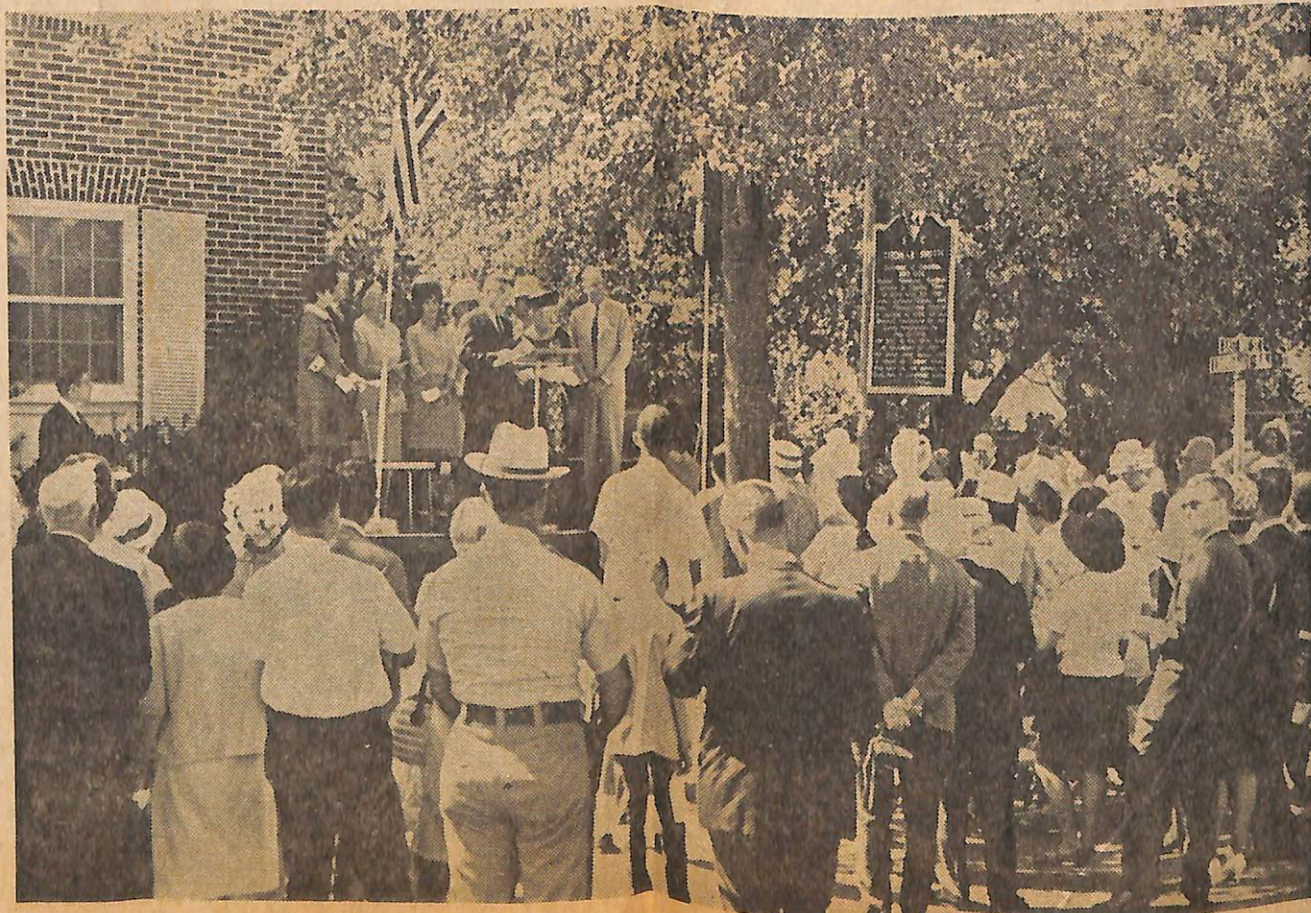
The system was put into effect but, by 1714, it had disintegrated and was abandoned in 1719 when The Crown took over. Carolina then became a Royal Colony and America's "nobility" ended.

Council Chairman To Address Jaycees

J. Mitchell Graham, chairman of Charleston County Council, will be speaker at a meeting of the Mount Pleasant Junior Chamber of Commerce tonight.

The meeting will be held at 8 o'clock at the Piggy Park restaurant.

John Locke & the Park



Memorial marks site of residence of S.C. Colonial Gov. Thomas Smith. (Staff Photo by Swain)