



Society of
Stukely Westcott
Descendants of America

THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY
AUTUMN, 2018

FROM OUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

Greetings Cousins!

As I write this it is the end of October and our summer reunion in Indianapolis still seems like yesterday! Time is flying by and before we know it we will be gathering again in England in less than 12 months and in Seattle in 2020. After all ... that is what it's all about .. family.

Speaking of family, I recently had the pleasure and honor of attending my mother's college reunion with her and my sister, Jessie. On the way we stopped at Gettysburg, PA and saw where two of our ancestors fought as part of the "New York Line" -- both were in a lot of battles including Bolivar Heights, Beverly Ford, Rappahannock Station, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and Mine Run. If you have not visited Gettysburg, I encourage you to do so; the vastness of the multi-day battle is striking and it was particularly moving to stand where my ancestors stood.

As cousins we have a unique perspective; we descend from some of the first families that gave birth to our democracy. They sacrificed, debated, disagreed, and compromised after understanding the bigger picture. Please consider honoring our ancestors by joining us in October 2019 for the trip to England - imagine how moving and wonderful it will be to see the very spot where Stukely and Juliana were married!! The form is on our website and is easily downloadable; you can also see the introductory video greeting from Rev. James Dudley-Smith, Rector of St. John's, Yeovil.

Anyone on our Facebook group has likely seen and enjoyed the teaser photos posted by Cathie Westcot as she travels around the Seattle area and the State of Washington with "Stuke" - my goodness how Stuke travels! He gets to see all the cool places in the Pacific Northwest and I look forward to meeting him in person in Seattle in 2020!

Please plan to join us for both upcoming trips!

In closing, we are reopening the Westcott Online Store with a number of new and returning items in time for Holiday shopping. Many thanks to Cousin Lynn Hulkow for her efforts and oversight of this. We hope you can take advantage of this for some of your gift purchases!

In a few weeks we will be gathering for our Thanksgiving Celebration - I will be thankful for each and every one of you and wish you all the very best as you give thanks with your loved ones.

Best wishes,
Louise

Tour Code: CTSW19



Stukely Westcott Descendants Tour

SCHEDULED DEPARTURE

October 2 - 11, 2019

Optional

London Extension

October 11 - 14, 2019

Church of St John the Baptist, Yeovil



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Salisbury Cathedral

Day 1: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 • Depart

Our journey begins as we make our way to London today.

Day 2: Thursday, October 3, 2019 • London

On arrival in London, we make our own way to the hotel located near Paddington Station. We have free time to relax or explore London before we meet the rest of the group for our welcome dinner at a traditional pub. **D**

Day 3: Friday, October 4, 2019 • Yeovil

Departing London this morning, we make our way to Salisbury where we visit Salisbury Cathedral, one of the great cathedrals of England. Built to reflect the glory of God in stone and glass, it has always been a setting for great occasions, for huge colorful processions, a majestic and awe-inspiring church - as it has done for over 775 years. After free time to explore the town and find lunch on our own, we re-board our coach and travel the short distance to visit the mysterious "hanging stone" formations at Stonehenge. After learning about this prehistoric enigma, we continue to Yeovil for dinner and overnight. **B,D**

Day 4: Saturday, October 5, 2019 • Yeovil

Today we tour St. John's Church and learn about its history and current work, see the church bells, climb the tower, and meet the Rector. Later we enjoy a traditional tea celebrating our visit with overseas "cousins" and local church members. The rest of the day is free to explore Yeovil or the surrounding Somerset area. **B**

Day 5: Sunday, October 6, 2019 • Barnstaple

We begin our day today at St John's Church where we celebrate church service together in honor of the 400th wedding anniversary of our ancestor. We depart Yeovil after lunch and set out for Cornwall and Devonshire. We visit Dartmouth where we have a little free time to explore on our own. It is believed our ancestor Stukely set sail from there when coming to America. We overnight in Barnstaple. **B,D**

Day 6: Monday, October 7, 2019 • Barnstaple

Today we visit Tintagel Castle. The unforgettable vistas leave us awestruck as we look for clues to Arthur's chivalry (and existence), inspect the "Arthur Stone," and Merlin's Cave and ponder other tenuous mysteries. We have free time for lunch and to see some of the locations used in the filming of the TV show, *Doc Martin* in Port Isaac, a small, white-washed fishing village overlooking the magnificent, striking Atlantic coastline. Our next destination is Plymouth, one of England's original trading posts, it was the point that the Mayflower set sail on its famous voyage. It is also where Sir



Cotswold Cottages

Francis Drake set sail from; our maternal ancestor, Juliana Marchant (Stukely's wife) is the Granddaughter of Captain John Marchant who sailed with Drake against the Spanish Armada. We visit the interactive exhibition and explore the harbor to see how Plymouth's coastal location has shaped its history. **B,D**

Day 7: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 • Bath

Departing Barnstaple this morning, we head northeast to Bath. We make a special stop en route at Exeter Cathedral. This is where John de Wescote was Canon Residentiary from 1216-1272. His father, Furbert de Wescote, was the first Wescote documented from the family history (1164-1225). On arrival in Bath, we meet a local guide and learn about the honey-colored Georgian houses and architecture as well as the various sights of Bath, including the Royal Crescent, Pulteney Bridge and Bath Abbey. The city of Bath, largely shaped by the Romans and once an important Roman town, houses the remnants of ancient thermal baths. We visit them as well as the Pump House and the Temple of Sulis Minerva and walk on 2000-year-old stones. We enjoy afternoon tea together at one of the many fine tea rooms in town before checking into our hotel and having the balance of the day at leisure. **B**

Day 8: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 • Stratford-Upon-Avon

Today we drive through the leisurely lanes of the Cotswolds, past bubbling brooks, and quaint villages. We make a quick stop at Stoney Littleton Long Barrow to view the fascinating prehistoric burial site, which is one of the finest examples of a chambered tomb and dates from 3500 BC. We stop along the way to have lunch in one of the charming villages, before continuing to Stratford-Upon-Avon, home of Shakespeare, the great bard himself. Sightseeing highlights center around the Shakespeare sights in the area, including, of course, the birthplace of the great writer, as well as the famed "Anne Hathaway Cottage." This will be a memorable day in the charming Cotswolds! **B,L**

Day 9: Thursday, October 10, 2019 • London

On our way back to London we stop in Oxford for a short tour of England's first university city. We discover something about the life of the students of the 36 colleges here and appreciate the spectacular skyline of tall towers and spires. Arriving in London, we take an afternoon panoramic tour of the city. Highlights along the way include Big Ben and Parliament, Trafalgar Square with the Lord Nelson Column, Westminster Abbey, and of course, Picadilly Circus. Later we check into the hotel and have dinner together as a group. **B,D**

Tower Bridge, London



Day 10: Friday, October 11, 2019 • Return/London Extension

Some of us transfer to the airport on our own this morning for a return flight home. For those extending in London, this morning we have a more in-depth exploration of London's most famous landmarks on a walking tour. We get up close to Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, Picadilly and more! We also see the changing of the guard, complete with the horseguards and pagentry. The new guard departs Wellington Barracks and marches down Birdcage Walk to Buckingham Palace where they trade places with the outgoing soldiers in the Household division of the British Army. After lunch on our own we have an inside visit of the medieval masterpiece, St. Paul's Cathedral, including the transepts, porticos, towers and domes. With the help of a guide, we learn of its fascinating transition from the ruins of the Great Fire in 1666 to its present grandeur and the place where Diana married Prince Charles in 1981. After time to freshen up, we make our way to the famous Beefeater medieval banquet, held in torch-lit cellars. We can awe at the prowess of fighting knights, jesters, and minstrels while enjoying our meal with entertainment and even a little dancing. **B,D**

Day 11: Saturday, October 12, 2019 • London

First on our agenda is a visit to the British Museum for a special tour and experience. Expert guides will bring back life into the masterpieces of the world's ancient civilizations. We not only learn about the significance of the Rosetta stone and the beauty of the Parthenon sculptures, but also explore other objects. The tour might include the Mausoleum at Halikarnassos - one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, 'Ginger', the Sutton Hoo ship burial and many more 'must see' pieces. Exiting the museum, we gain a different perspective of London as we board a boat on the Thames River. We enjoy the lovely skyline while we cruise past Parliament and Big Ben, the London Eye, Canary Wharf, Maritime Greenwich, the Millennium Dome and other famous London sights. The rest of our day is free to explore individual interests. **B**

Day 12: Sunday, October 13, 2019 • London

The entire day is open for options, a time to explore on our own. Just a few of the many possibilities are the Tower of London, the Docklands or Greenwich area, the British War Museum, and for art lovers, the Tate Gallery. Certainly, of interest would be an hour or two at Harrods, one of the finest department stores in Europe. And, of course, a ride on the London Eye (ferris wheel) would be spectacular on a clear day. We meet up this evening for a final dinner together as a group. **B,D**

Day 13: Monday, October 14, 2019 • Return

We transfer to the airport on our own for our return trip to the U.S. **B**

Tour Price: \$2,275

Prices are *per person, land only, double occupancy* with a minimum of 25 participants

Main Tour Single supplement: \$599

Optional LONDON Extension: \$1,426 with a minimum of 10 participants

LONDON Extension Single supplement: \$299

Your Tour Includes:

- **Land Transportation** via private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- Oyster Card for London Tube *on Extension*
- **Accommodations** (double occupancy) in moderate first-class hotels
- **Meals** per the itinerary
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Services of **professional tour manager**
- Local **step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- **Luggage handling** of one piece per person
- **All taxes and tips** for provided services on land tour, except as noted below

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- **Roundtrip Airfare** and related taxes, fees and fuel charges
- Meals other than indicated above
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for coach driver and tour guide
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (*Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.*)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (*This insurance is available and recommended.*)

Payment Schedule:

A non-refundable deposit of \$250 per person is due with reservation. Final payment is due 100 days prior to departure date. Invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 99 days before departure a \$100 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From 99-14 days, a \$300 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling less than 14 days prior to departure will receive **no refund**.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

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Please register me for:

- CTSW19: Oct. 2 - 11, 2019 • \$2,275
- Single Supplement • \$599
- Extension: Oct. 11 - 14, 2019 • \$1,426
- Extension Single Supplement • \$299

Passenger Information (1st Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. *Best practice is to include a photocopy of your passport.*

Legal Name: _____
 (Name for name badge): _____
 Passport #: _____
 Passport Exp. Date: _____
 Passport Authority: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Place of Birth: _____
 Dietary Needs: _____

Passenger Information (2nd Traveler)

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. *Best practice is to include a photocopy of your passport.*

Legal Name: _____
 (Name for name badge): _____
 Passport #: _____
 Passport Exp. Date: _____
 Passport Authority: _____
 Date of Birth: _____
 Place of Birth: _____
 Dietary Needs: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Work phone/cell: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Sleeping Preference (circle one): Double bed (1 Bed) Twin Beds (2 beds)

Roommate name: _____ OR Single supplement: ___ Yes ___ No

Travel Insurance (please check one)

- I wish to purchase travel protection plan and have included the premium with my deposit.
- I wish to decline the travel protection plan offered.

Deposit Payment Information (payments made by credit card will incur a 3% fee)

- Enclosed is my \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable). **Make checks payable to Cary Travel Express.**
- Please charge \$ _____ deposit and insurance premium (if applicable) to my Discover/MasterCard/Visa

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Card ID Code:* _____ *last 3 digits in signature box on the back of the card

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Prices in this brochure were effective on 5.15.18. By signing below, I understand that price changes are possible at the time of final invoicing, due to exchange rates, an increase in carrier charges, fuel costs, taxes and tariffs, and the number of passengers travelling in the group. I agree to the terms and conditions of this tour.

Signature of 1st traveler: _____ Date: _____

Signature of 2nd traveler: _____ Date: _____



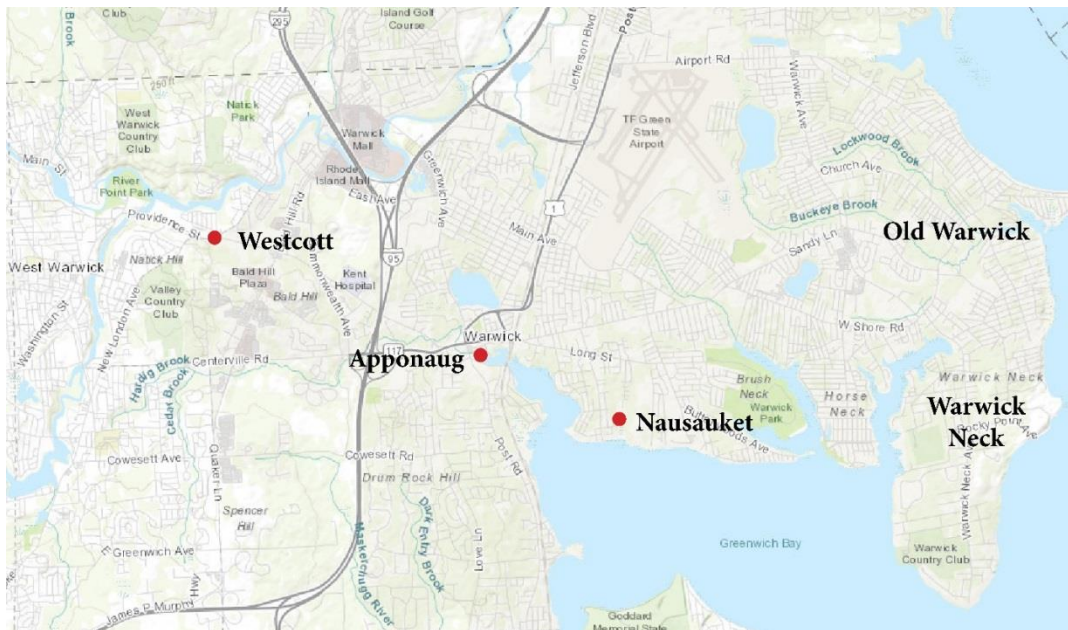
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5.15.18 land

GENERAL THOMAS WESTCOTT

When I heard about the burial lot in Westcott, Rhode Island named after “General Thomas Westcott of Revolutionary War fame,” I thought it would be great to crow about a Westcott cousin who was a heroic Revolutionary War General, one to offset the unfortunate turn of cousin Benedict Arnold. What I did learn is that tucked between the family stories and the historical record is that Westcott was not a general during the War of Independence (and might not be buried in the lot named after him), but Thomas Westcott was a cousin who served often and served well.

The real Thomas Westcott was born on July 16, 1758 in Warwick, Rhode Island to Nathan and Mary (Rutenburg) Westcott. He was the great grandson of Stukely Westcott (Nathan⁴, Josiah³, Jeremiah², Stukely¹). He married Marcy Arnold on February 4, 1781. They had eleven children. After Marcy died on May 5, 1810, Thomas married Elizabeth Low (May 21, 1777 to April 6, 1858). Thomas and Elizabeth did not have children. Thomas died on September 22, 1838 and was buried in the Marble Lot in the Nausauket section of Warwick. His gravestone was later moved four miles to the west and placed in the General Thomas Westcott Lot in what is now the village of Westcott in West Warwick, R.I. (Whether his remains went with the stone is not known.) All of this is from Edna Lewis, *The Westcott Family Tree*, January 2000. There is not much more information in *The Westcott Family Tree* about Thomas’ descendants beyond the eleven children.



It appears that Thomas spent all or most of his life in Nausauket, a farming and shipping area on the Greenwich Bay just to the east of Apponaug Cove. It was also at Nausauket and neighboring Old Warwick that Thomas began his military career and rise to General. The family story is picked up in a 1984 newspaper article: “General Westcott is the one who gathered the forces to defend Nausauket and Old Warwick. This was shortly after Major {sic} William Barton and his men made a bold raid on Middletown, captured the British Commander, Gen. Prescott, and took him to Warwick. A British attack on Warwick in retaliation was expected, but Westcott and his men were prepared and the British decided against it” (Donald D’Amato, “The Rice-Westcott House, Warwick’s Historic Homes,” *Warwick Beacon*, August 7, 1984).

Swapping Prisoners

The article overstates the case. A newspaper article in the 1920s says that Thomas “was with the forces” that prepared the defense of Warwick. But first a digression about the capture of this General Prescott (as told in Christin Mc Burney, *Kidnapping the Enemy, The Special Operations to Capture Generals Charles Lee & Richard Prescott*, 2014). The story begins in central New Jersey on December 12, 1776, when the arrogant and careless General Charles Lee, second in command in the Continental Army, left the protection of his army to dine at an inn in Basking Ridge and was captured by a British reconnaissance patrol.

In the meantime, the British Army and their Hessian mercenaries under the command of General Richard Prescott, which had begun their occupation of Newport, Rhode Island on December 8, 1776, were making life miserable for residents everywhere in Narragansett Bay. (Newport is at the southern end of Aquidneck Island, which is in the Colonial Period was also referred to as Rhode Island.) In July 1777, the equally arrogant and careless General Prescott took up residence with a Loyalist family in an isolated spot near the west shore of the island. On July 10, Lt. Col. William Barton led a small raiding party that rowed under the cover of darkness from Warwick, past the British Navy patrolling the waters around Newport, landed on the west side of the island and rudely interrupted General Prescott’s sleep. Barton’s party returned to Warwick undetected with the General in his nightgown.



The residents of Warwick were correct to worry about retaliation; there had already been on a British raid on Warwick Neck. But those left in command of the British Army were more worried about blaming the Royal Navy, making reports to higher-ups, and under a flag of truce, sending Prescott his waistcoat and servant. The Colonists also quickly moved Prescott to Providence and then to Lebanon, Connecticut, making a rescue mission out of the question. The Americans later returned Prescott in exchange for Lee.

Decades of Service

Thomas Westcott was not in the raiding party and there was no General Westcott in the Rhode Island muster roll of 1776 and 1777. However, according to his application under the Pension Act of 1832 (filed by the War Department under the name "Thomas Westcoot"), Thomas was very involved in the defense of Warwick and in dealing with British across the bay. His testimony is backed by affidavits from his regimental commander, other soldiers and a clergyman (Ancestry.com. U.S., Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800-1900).

Thomas Westcott belonged to several militia companies as early as 1775, was part of an artillery company formed in 1777 to guard Warwick Neck, took part in a raid to drive the British troops off neighboring Prudence Island, and with the Pawtuxet Rangers, took part in the Battle of Rhode Island in August 1778. Thomas began his service as an 18-year-old private, but several years later was a sergeant in the Pawtuxet Rangers.

Thomas continued his military service after the British abandoned Newport 1779 and after the end of the war. In May 1789, Captain Thomas Westcott took command of a company in the First Kent County Regiment. In June 1792, he was the "1st Major" of the regiment and in May 1799, Lt. Col. Thomas Westcott was the "Regimental Commandant" (Joseph Jencks Smith, Civil and Military Lists of Rhode Island 1647-1800, 1907). The regiment was active during the War of 1812, again defending the bay, but things were quiet in Rhode Island during that conflict.

It was probably during the War of 1812 that Thomas became a general officer. An account of a 19th century historian indicates that the rank may have been temporary: "Colonel Thomas Westcott, a descendant of one of the founders of the town, was a man of some prominence in the early part of the century. He was sheriff of Kent county and at one time a general of the militia" (J.R. Cole, History of Washington and Kent Counties, 1889). Yes, Thomas Westcott was a general, but more importantly he was a cousin who served his country well.

David Wescott Smith
SSWADA Historian
July 21, 2018

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Aitcheson, Jessie Anne

Carroll, Samih

Carroll, Leticia Maria

Sundermeyer, Ford Westcott

Doro, Matthew William

Doro, Annabelle Patricia

Doro, Matthew William, Jr.

Stowers, Riley Allen

THOMAS HARKEY, SSWDA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

We congratulate Thomas Jarrott Harkey, our 2016 Stukely Westcott Descendants Scholarship recipient, who received his white coat at the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences College of Medicine, on August 7, 2018. He is a member of the class of 2022.

This is a special ceremony when the student becomes a medical student, and is fully accepted into the medical college. It's symbolic of taking the next professional step.



THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

Issued quarterly or thereabouts through the year with news of the Society.

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www.sswda.org

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