

**THE GEORGE WYTHE BUST**

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**REPORT OF THE  
COMMISSION TO ARRANGE CEREMONIES  
FOR THE PLACEMENT OF THE BUST  
OF GEORGE WYTHE  
to  
THE GOVERNOR  
and  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



HD 4, 1966

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
Department of Purchases and Supply  
RICHMOND  
1965



## MEMBERS OF COMMISSION

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RUSSELL M. CARNEAL

HOWARD H. ADAMS

FRED W. BATEMAN

LYMAN C. HARRELL, JR.

VICTOR P. WILSON

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JOHN B. BOATWRIGHT, JR.

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G. M. Lapsley—Robert L. Masden—Frank R. Dunham—Mary R. Spain



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### REPORT OF THE COMMISSION TO ARRANGE CEREMONIES FOR THE PLACEMENT OF THE BUST OF GEORGE WYTHE

Richmond, Virginia, October 29, 1965

To:

HONORABLE A. S. HARRISON, JR., *Governor of Virginia*

and

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA

The General Assembly of 1962 created a Commission to cooperate with the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in having a bust of George Wythe made with a view to having the same placed in the Capitol. That Commission reported to the General Assembly of 1964 (Senate Document No. 9). The General Assembly of 1964 continued the Commission for the purpose of cooperating with the Colonial Dames in commemorative services in connection with placing the bust of George Wythe in the Capitol. The resolution continuing the Commission follows:

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6

*Creating a Commission to arrange ceremonies for the placement of the bust of George Wythe in the Capitol.*

Whereas, the Colonial Dames of America and the Commonwealth, acting jointly, have had a bust of George Wythe completed and it is fitting that same be placed in the Capitol with suitable commemorative services; and

Whereas, the Colonial Dames of America have planned appropriate ceremonies for this occasion and it is fitting that the Commonwealth be represented therein; now therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Commission, created under Chapter 398, Acts 1962, is hereby continued for the purpose of cooperating with the Colonial Dames of America in planning, arranging, and conducting commemorative services in connection with placing the bust of George Wythe in the Capitol Building. The members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their services. The Commission shall make a report to the General Assembly of 1966 concerning its activities in this regard. The Commission shall expire upon the completion of its work.

The members of the Commission who were continued in office were: Victor P. Wilson, former member of the State Senate, Fred W. Bateman, member of the State Senate, H. H. Adams, member of the House of Delegates, Russell M. Carneal, member of the House of Delegates, and Lyman C. Harrell, Jr., member of the House of Delegates. The staff of the Division of Statutory Research and Drafting functioned in a secretarial capacity to the Commission.

The Commission believed that its function might be most appropriately achieved through offering its services to the Colonial Dames. Accordingly, offers of assistance were made to the Society through Mrs. Harry J. Warthen, Jr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Boushall. While the greater part of the work was done by the Society, the Commission was able to assist in certain matters.

Arrangements were perfected to have the bust, which had been made by Mr. Bryant Baker, of New York, placed in the Old Hall of the House of Delegates. Appropriate ceremonies had been arranged by the Society and they were carried through in a fitting manner. The event may best be summarized by an extract from the minutes of the Society, which follows:

"On May 7, 1964, a bust of George Wythe was presented to the Commonwealth of Virginia by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"The program, which took place in the Old House of Delegates in the Capitol, opened with the presentation of the colors by a Color Guard of George Wythe High School cadets.

"Mrs. Harry J. Warthen, Jr., president of the Virginia Society of Colonial Dames, presented the bust which was accepted with appreciation by the Honorable Albertis S. Harrison, Governor of Virginia.

"Mr. David J. Mays, historian of note and president of the Virginia Historical Society, made a brilliant address about George Wythe.

"The sculptor, Mr. Bryant Baker of New York, was present and made a brief address . . .

"The Rt. Reverend William A. Brown, D.D., Bishop of Southern Virginia, pronounced the invocation and benediction."

In conclusion, the Commission is of opinion that Virginia owes much to the Society for its guiding part in having the bust prepared and placed. The Capitol is enhanced by its presence and a long deserved and overdue tribute has now been paid. The remarks of Mr. David J. Mays concerning George Wythe are worthy of reproduction and, should the General Assembly of 1966 so decide, they might well be printed and bound with the documents of the General Assembly of 1966.

Respectfully submitted,

RUSSELL M. CARNEAL

HOWARD H. ADAMS

FRED W. BATEMAN

LYMAN C. HARRELL, JR.

VICTOR P. WILSON

