

## **Frederick Jones was first a resident of Jamestown, Virginia**



wine bottles

The excavations into the Tuttle's Neck in Jamestown reveal that Frederick Jones was first a resident of Jamestown, Virginia. Apparently he removed into North Carolina where he was residing in 1711 when Jones and others appealed to Governor Spotswood of Virginia for help against the Indians.

Later that year his name was written in an address to Spotswood concerning the rebellion of Colonel Cary. A year later he applied to a council meeting for the return of salt carried from his house ostensibly for "Supporting ye Garrisons. "

In July 1712 Jones acquired an additional 490 acres in North Carolina. In 1717, Frederick Jones replaced the previous Secretary and Chief Justice,

Tobias Knight, who had resigned in disgrace. The latter had made the mistake of being too open of an accomplice of Edward Teach "Blackbeard", the pirate. It appears that Governor Eden was fully aware that the pirate made his winter quarters in a North Carolina inlet. Teach was finally captured on November 22, 1718 during the famous exploit of Lieutenant Maynard off Ocracoke Inlet. Although there is no evidence that Jones profited from the operations of Blackbeard, the records show that he was quite prepared to turn the trust of his office to his own advantage.

In the end it was a comparatively small manipulation that proved his undoing. In 1721 when Daniel Mack Daniel murdered (by drowning) and Ebenezer Taylor carried off his goods and money to a total of 290 pounds. When Mack Daniel was apprehended the money was passed for safekeeping to Frederick Jones, who apparently pocketed it. On April 4, 1722, the following entry appeared in the Colonial Records of North Carolina:

" It is the Opinion of this Board that the money lodged in the said Collo ffredk Jones hands late Cheif Justice for the appearance of Robert Atkins and Daniel Mackdaniel at the Genl Court ought to have been deliverd to the present Cheif Justice with the Genl Court Papers & Records. Ordered that the said Collo ffredrick Jones late Cheif Justice doe immediately pay to Christopher Gale Chief Justice or his Order whatever moneys he has in his hands lodged as aforesaid; in case of failure hereof the Attorney Genl is hereby Orderd to take proper measures for the recovery thereof."

At the session of July 31 to August 4, 1722, Jones was due to appear to answer the charge that he had failed to relinquish the money. But when the session opened, it was reported that Colonel Jones was dead, having made his will only five days after the initial order of April 4th had been issued. Frederick Jones was in many respects a worthy and upright member of the North Carolina Council, or so one would gather from the opinion of Hugh Jones (no relation), who wrote:

"Col. Frederick Jones, one of the Council, and in a good post, and of a good estate in North Carolina, before his death applied to me, desiring me to communicate the deplorable state of their Church to the late Bishop of London." ' "

Frederick Jones presumably thought no better of the state of education in the colony, for we know that in the period 1719-1721 two of his sons were at school in Williamsburg. Sources: Colonial Records of North Carolina, vol. 1, p. 680.