

Fort Dobbs Gazette

Volume X Issue 2

June 2013



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

p. 1

-Small Sword

-Dispatch

p. 2

-Summer Events

-Living History Update

-When it Was News

p. 3

-Photos from the Frontier

p. 4-5

- NC and the NY Campaign of 1756

p.6

-New DCR Secretary

-Raffle Winners

-New Acquisitions

p. 7

-Friends of Fort Dobbs Roll Call

A Gentleman's Small Sword



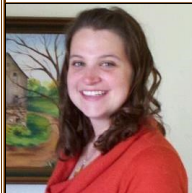
Fort Dobbs' own "history hero" Tom Nicastro has struck again! Tom has made it his mission to ensure that original examples of all the weapons used by the provincial soldiers at Fort Dobbs are displayed in our exhibits. Having already acquired a Dutch musket and bayonet, a cutlass, and a sergeant's halberd, Tom had set his sights on an officer's sword. After years of research, an acceptable example has been found!

The sword in question, which will go on display this summer, was made in London in 1748. The silver hilt of this weapon is very similar to that owned by General Braddock, who was mortally wounded in the disastrous Battle of the Monongahela in 1755. The sword used by George Washington was likewise decoratively gadrooned and had a wire-wrapped handle.



The exact type (or types) of swords carried by the officers at Fort Dobbs is, and will likely remain, unknown. However, this beautiful period piece will serve to illustrate one possible option to our visitors for many years to come.

Dispatch from the Fort by Gennifer Reiter, Site Manager



Spring is the most beautiful time of year at Fort Dobbs. Our little hilltop has become an oasis of natural beauty, and I am reminded of how blessed I am to be here every time I step foot on site. I am also reminded of how lucky I am every time I work with my staff, visitors, and volunteers. Fort Dobbs has a wonderful support base, and I want to thank those who give the site so much of themselves. To my staff—thank you for

your hard work and ideas. I am proud to work along side of you. To the members of the garrison, thank you for your love and talents. Your passion is humbling and a great source of motivation. To our visitors, thank you for your time. We do what we do for you, and your investment in us is a source of strength. Finally, thank you to the Friends of Fort Dobbs. You are our biggest cheerleaders. You provide us with hope, resources and confidence, and I cannot begin to describe what that means to me. I am the luckiest director in the world!

Department of Cultural Resources

Susan W. Kluttz, Secretary

Office of Archives and History

Dr. Kevin Cherry, Deputy Secretary

Division of State Historic Sites

Keith Hardison, Director

Western Region Supervisor

Bob Remsburg

Fort Dobbs Historic Site

Gennifer Reiter, Site Manager
Scott Douglas, Historic Interpreter
Wayne Steelman, Maintenance Mech.
Krystal Arrington, Site Assistant

Summer Events

June 8-9: *Living History Weekend: 1755*

See what the life was like on the western frontier for the provincial soldiers charged with constructing Fort Dobbs. Historic interpreters will present musket and cannon firing demonstrations as well as on-going demonstrations of 18th Century camp life. 10-4 Saturday and 10-3 Sunday.

July 12: *Summer Camp Day*

Summer camps are invited to Fort Dobbs to learn about the culture of American-Indians, watch musket firing demonstrations, and learn about day to day life on the Carolina frontier through hands-on activities and demonstrations. Participation by reservation only. 10am-2pm.

July 13: *Second Saturdays Program-Oven Construction*

Lend a hand as historic interpreters build a clay bread baking oven of the type used by many soldiers and settlers in the 18th Century. 10am-2pm.

August 10: *Second Saturdays Program-The Cherokee Warrior*

Visit with historic interpreters portraying Cherokee warriors from the French and Indian War to learn about their lives, weapons, and equipment. 10am-4pm.

Living History Update

The arrival of spring brought a flurry of activity as the staff and volunteers of Fort Dobbs prepared for our largest event of the year; **War for Empire**. This year's event was well attended, bringing more than 2,000 visitors to the site. A new battle scenario showcasing woods-fighting tactics of both provincials and Cherokees was very well received. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event a success!

Garrison soldiers have been on the road quite a bit, promoting Fort Dobbs at the Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site Heritage Days program, at the Daniel Boone Festival in Mocksville, and at the Duke Energy Explorium's Homeschool Fair.



As you can see in the article above, there are several events being offered this summer at the site, some of which are part of the state-wide "Second Saturdays" series of events which highlights North Carolina's arts and culture at 37 museums and historic sites. All of the above programs are *free* with the exception of the summer camp day on July 12 for which a nominal fee applies.

Garrison members will be travelling to Fort Ticonderoga this July to assist with their largest event of the season, and a larger contingent will be at Fort Frederick in Maryland at the end of August representing the NC provincials who were there as part of the Forbes Campaign of 1758.

When it Was News, 1762

An Abstract of a Letter from a Gentleman in No Carolina to his friend in Maryland dated June the 7th 1762 concerning the marriage of Arthur Dobbs

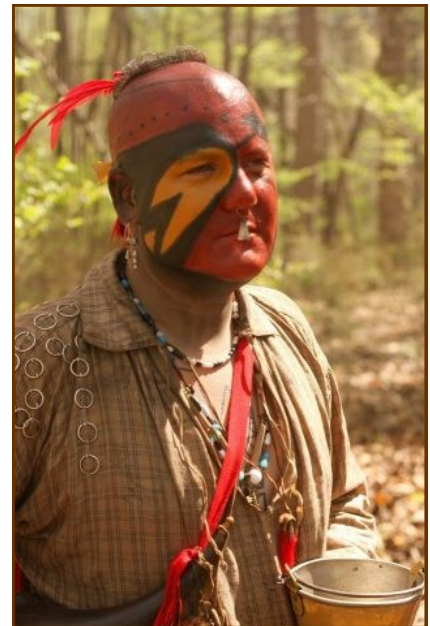
"Our Old Silenus of the Envigorated age of Seventy Eight who still Damns this Province with his Baneful Influence grew stupidly Enamored with Miss Davis a Lovely Lady of sprightly fifteen of a good Family and some Fortune After much doting parade, Young Miss (for surely parents know best) is persuaded to be a Governor's Lady...

The day is fixed the nuptial feast provided when Lo! a Discovery is made which surpasses in Villainy the Description of the most envenomed Satyrst...When the Antedeluvian had agreed, the Old Fellow old in every human characteristic but sense and virtue sends for his Secretary a man of motly cast They form a conveyance of his whole Estate to his son (not even leaving a reversion of his Potatoe Lands near Carrick Fergus) which he enters into and Dispatches a Messenger with it to one of the Supr Court Judges... How was this scheme marred! Some secret power blows the matter Some friendly Sylph protects the Lady The Deed's discovered Her friends warm with indignation send for the youth, the Pensive & Dejected Lover—relate the Injury, propose immediately to consummate the marriage Hymen attends Venus & Apollo add Ringlets and ten thousand Charms to adorn the Lovely pair...They are married! The Leecher waits, 10, 11, 12 past, the Day wakes, Accursed jealousy takes place, his old Teeth of Enormous length that for many years despised to be clothed with Gums shake in his jaws with Rage He orders his horses to the chariot and feebly in his course would Emulate a Youthful passion he enters her parents house demands the Lady, is conducted into the apartment of Youth Love and Virtue Here I stop! for no pen can describe the Rage and Ridicule"

Photos From the Frontier



War for Empire



North Carolina and the New York Campaign of 1756

John R. Maass, Ph.D.

During the French and Indian War, North Carolina provincial soldiers were frequently assigned to serve as garrisons for the colony's coastal forts, and at Fort Dobbs on the frontier. At other times during the war, Carolina provincials left the province for service abroad with British forces, including several expeditions in Pennsylvania, and in the Cherokee War (1759-1761). Much less well-known, however, is the participation by North Carolina troops in British operations during 1756 in northern New York.

Following the disastrous end of the 1755 expedition against Fort Duquesne under General Edward Braddock, British and colonial officials planned an ambitious campaign for the following year, including a British attack on the French Fort Frontenac on Lake Ontario, in order to interdict supplies and reinforcements from reaching enemy posts and Indian war parties in the Ohio Valley. This campaign on Fort Frontenac would begin from Fort Oswego, on the southern shore of Lake Ontario, under the overall command of the new British military commander in America, John Campbell, Lord Loudoun.

To support the 1756 campaigns, North Carolina Governor Arthur Dobbs sent four companies of North Carolina troops to serve on Lake Ontario, under the command of Major Edward Brice Dobbs, the governor's son, and captains McManus, Grainger, and Arbuthnot. The Carolina troops made the long journey to New York by water, with a combined strength of about two hundred men.

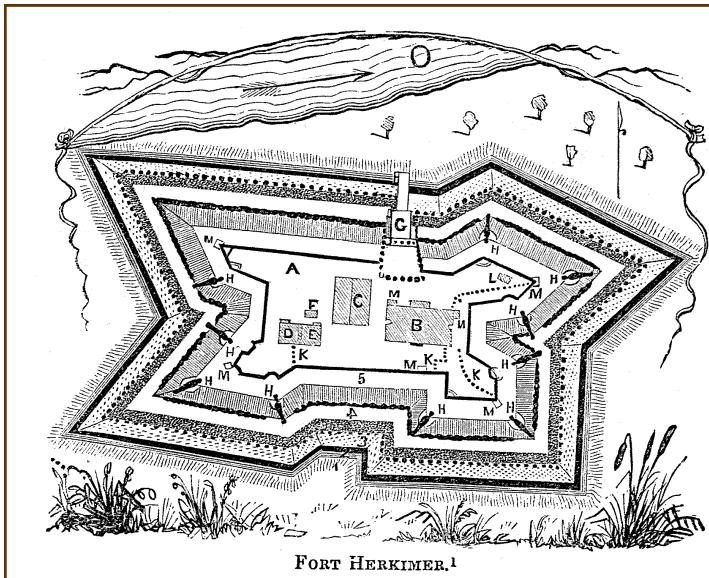
In May or June the Carolina troops arrived at the city of New York. A Pennsylvania newspaper reported that in the second week in June, "two Sloops from North-Carolina, having on board Governor Dobbs's Son, Major Edward Brice Dobbs, and his two hundred North Carolinians" arrived in the harbor. The men soon "disembark'd and encamp'd on Kennedy's

Island," an island at the mouth of the Hudson River previously used as a quarantine station, "to refresh themselves."

Although Governor Dobbs was enthusiastic about sending the troops to New York, he worried that the colony "shall find great difficulties in procuring Provisions to sell at New York to pay the 4. Companies I have sent there, as there are additional charges not provided for, such as tents, camps, furniture, Batteaus, Provisions and ammunition." He hoped Loudoun would pay the Carolina men "if we cant send over in time what is necessary to pay our Troops ... until we can send returns to New York when you shall be repaid," otherwise the companies would have to be disbanded and if so, "must turn over the private men to other regiments, and bring back the Officers to raise men here, if more are wanted."

Soon after Lord Loudoun arrived at the army's main camp at Albany, New York, he began to plan the operations against Fort Frontenac. The British position on Lake Ontario was a weak outpost called Oswego, comprised of three forts at the mouth of the Oswego River. Before the British could launch their campaign, Oswego came under attack by a force of 4,000 French troops and Indian allies, who laid siege to Oswego and compelled its 2,000-man garrison to surrender on August 14. Immediately thereafter, the French destroyed the fortifications before departing.

Loudoun had dispatched Dobbs' companies to support British operations at Oswego in June or early July, but the North Carolina troops were not at the fort when it was attacked. Major Dobbs' soldiers instead were at the settlement of German Flatts along the Mohawk River, about eighty miles from Oswego. The Carolinians served in logistical operations supporting the campaign at this small outpost

FORT HERKIMER.¹

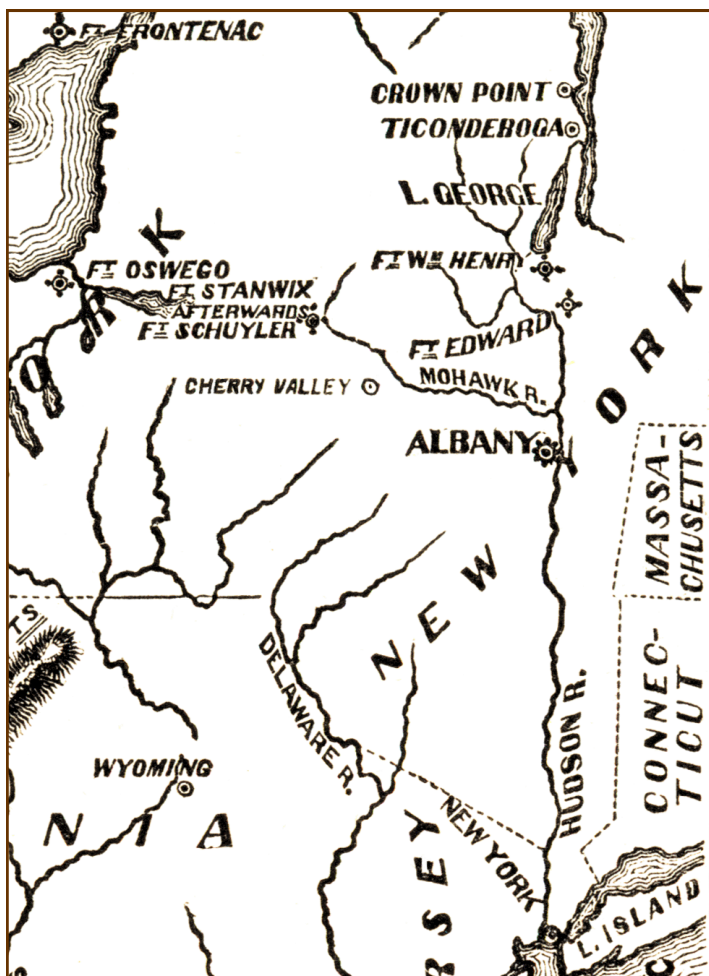
Plan of Fort Herkimer at
German Flatts, NY

west of Albany. From the July 12, 1756 edition of the *New York Mercury* comes a report that the “four Independent Companies of North-Carolina” and other troops “were posted at Oswego, and the several Forts and Carrying Places between that Place and Schenectady [New York].” Other evidence shows that the Carolinians were at German Flatts, which included some defensive works around several buildings (later called Fort Herkimer,) in late July. The British supported Oswego by transporting supplies on the Mohawk River west from Schenectady, to Lake Oneida, then on to their outposts on Lake Ontario. Dobbs’ troops stationed at German Flatts guarded part of this crucial link in the British logistics chain. After the fall of Oswego, Dobbs’ men returned to the main British concentration at Albany.

In late September Governor Dobbs received word of Oswego’s fall from Virginia’s Lieutenant Governor Robert Dinwiddie, including a report that “your son was well, and believed his men were to be enlisted in the Royal Americans [the 60th Regiment], and he to return for more Recruits” in North Carolina. Still at Albany in late October, Governor Dobbs ordered the company officers to have their men enlist in the ranks of the Royal American Regiment, or the 44th Regiment of Foot, since the colony could no longer pay them, nor could they be shipped home at the conclusion of the year’s campaigns. Loudoun reported that he could not get the Carolinians to enlist in his regular battalions “without force,” which he “thought better avoided.” A number of them eventually did join the 60th Regiment, rather than return home. Major Dobbs eventually returned to England in 1759 to rejoin his regular regiment.

Dr. Maass works as an historian with the U.S. Army Center of Military History.

He is the author of “The Spreading Flames of War: North Carolina in the French and Indian War, 1754-1763” which is due to be published this fall.



Theater of Operations in New York

New DCR Secretary Susan Kluttz

On January 5, 2013, Susan Kluttz took the oath of office, becoming the eighth Secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources. She brought to the position keen interests in historic preservation and the arts, along with commitments to bolster economic development and education.

Secretary Kluttz brings a wealth of leadership experience to the Department. From 1997 until 2011, she was Mayor of Salisbury, after years of volunteer work in many areas, including serving as president of the Rowan Arts Council and board member of the Waterworks Visual Arts Center. She had also been personally involved in Salisbury's historic preservation and downtown revitalization for over 30 years. As Mayor, she oversaw initiatives that developed the city's cultural arts plan, reorganized the Arts Council, and created a master tourism plan.

A graduate of University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Secretary Kluttz has served on her alma mater's board of visitors. She was a trustee of Rowan-Cabarrus Community College, was honored with an endowed scholarship in her name at Catawba College, and was awarded an honorary doctorate from Livingstone College.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site was pleased to have a visit from the new secretary in April as part of her tour of western district sites. We look forward to working with her!



Raffle Winners

This year's Friends of Fort Dobbs raffle was a huge success, bringing in \$3500 that will go towards supporting our educational programming! The three prizes this year were a reproduction musket, an engraved powder horn, and a sword. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who contributed!



Zach Suttle
of Virginia
with his
sword



Chet Tomlinson of Winston-Salem and his musket



Mr. David Haiger
of Statesville and
his powder horn

New Acquisitions

Fort Dobbs is pleased to now have an original Dutch musket on display!

This weapon is one of several on long-term loan from volunteer Tom Nicastro.



After decades of service, the old cedar flagpole has been retired.

The historic site now proudly displays the Union Jack on the same pole as the US and NC colours, catching the eye of passers-by much more dramatically.



FRIENDS OF FORT DOBBS ROLL CALL

The Friends of Fort Dobbs supports the mission of Fort Dobbs State Historic Site:

"To preserve and interpret North Carolina's only French and Indian War fort."

THANK YOU NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS!

Lieutenant:

Anne Alexander
Statesville, NC

Sergeant:

Drs. Douglas & Laurel Eason
Statesville, NC

Michael Neader
Statesville, NC

John & Coleen Olive
Statesville, NC

Julian & Jill West
Statesville, NC

Bill & Carol Leach
Statesville, NC

Corporal:

Laura-Lee Spedding
Winton-Salem, NC

James Turner
Hickory, NC

Ken Reece
Fairview, NC

Retha Reece
Fairview, NC

Sentinel:

Gerald & Carol Dukes
Demorest, VA

Dr. Norman & Nancy Harris
Statesville, NC

Doug Wood & Dianne Anestis
Nitro, WV

Dixon Rhodes
Statesville, NC

Terry Mayhew
Reidsville, NC

Ruth Denton
Wake Forest, NC

Eric Ardjewski
Titusville, FL

Thank you to our sponsors for support in 2013:

*Benfield Sanitation Services
Courtyard Marriott*

Country Legends WAME

Design Detail

GL Wilson

L. Gordon Iron & Metal

*Statesville Record &
Landmark*

**and to the many other
Friends of the Fort!**



Salute, 4th Motion.

JOIN OR RENEW

On-Line at

WWW.FortDobbs.Org!

***Visit Fort Dobbs
on Face Book!***



Fort Dobbs State Historic Site
438 Fort Dobbs Rd.
Statesville, NC 28625
704/873-5882



*WHERE EMPIRES CLASHED
ON THE
COLONIAL FRONTIER*

*Thank you to the Friends of Fort
Dobbs for providing funding for
the printing of the Fort Dobbs
Gazette*



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
**CULTURAL
RESOURCES**
WWW.NCCULTURE.COM

Support Fort Dobbs through your Friends membership!

Application Please Print

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

E-Mail _____

My Check is Enclosed: _____

Please debit my Credit Card: Visa/MC (Circle One)

My Credit Card Number is _____

Security Code: _____ Exp. _____

☐ **Cadet** (Student) \$10 ☐ **Lieutenant** \$200

☐ **Sentinel** \$20 ☐ **Captain** \$500

☐ **Corporal** \$50 ☐ **Major** \$1000

☐ **Sergeant** \$100 ☐ **Colonel** \$5000

☐ **Ensign** \$150 ☐ **General** \$7500

Please mail application with your check or credit card information to:

Friends of Fort Dobbs

PO Box 241

Statesville, NC 28687

The Friends of Fort Dobbs welcomes additional tax-deductible contributions. For giving memorials, honoraria or matching gifts from employers, call the Friends of Fort Dobbs, at 704-873-5882 or e-mail at info@fortdobbs.org

Your membership benefits include:

10% discount in store

Advance notice of events

Invitation to member special events

Quarterly newsletter

Invitation to annual membership dinner

And more.....