

## **SOCIETY COLOR GUARD MARCHES IN HISTORIC WAR OF 1812 TOWN JULY 1 2017**

Three members of the Society Color Guard, Charles Belfield, Color Guard Chairman, Mike Lyman, Past President and Hugh Markham, Registrar, march in the town of Kinsale in Westmoreland County in the town's 4<sup>th</sup> of July ceremonies. Some photos that were taken and extracts of War of 1812 engagements there follow:

Before the ceremony the War of 1812 members set up a display in the town's Reception area for the towns people to see. Left to right is Mike Lyman, Hugh Markham and Charles Belfield







Charles Belfield and his son Brennen and two grandsons are shown below that marched in the parade. Brennen was dressed in Revolutionary War attire as a member of the James Monroe SAR chapter





The color guard forms to lead the parade



Children are shown below following the color guard



Selected items below describe the town's history during the War of 1812 in 1813 and 1814

Below is an extract from one of the society's publications about the war in Kinsale

## ENCOUNTERS WITH THE BRITISH IN VIRGINIA DURING THE WAR OF 1812

Listing revised December 2010

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Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia

**Jul 14 1813** Westmoreland Co., Yeocomico River Enemy ships chase schooners *Asp* & *Scorpion* up Potomac. *Scorpion* escapes, *Asp* turns into Yeocomico River and after firefight is captured. Bargemen kill Midshipman Sigourney, the commander of the *Asp*, and set fire to the vessel & leave. Militia re-captures and save vessel. Enemy: 2 killed, 6 wounded US: One killed, 10 wounded taken as prisoners. [NHC II p366-368; 14NNH p1269; Map #6]

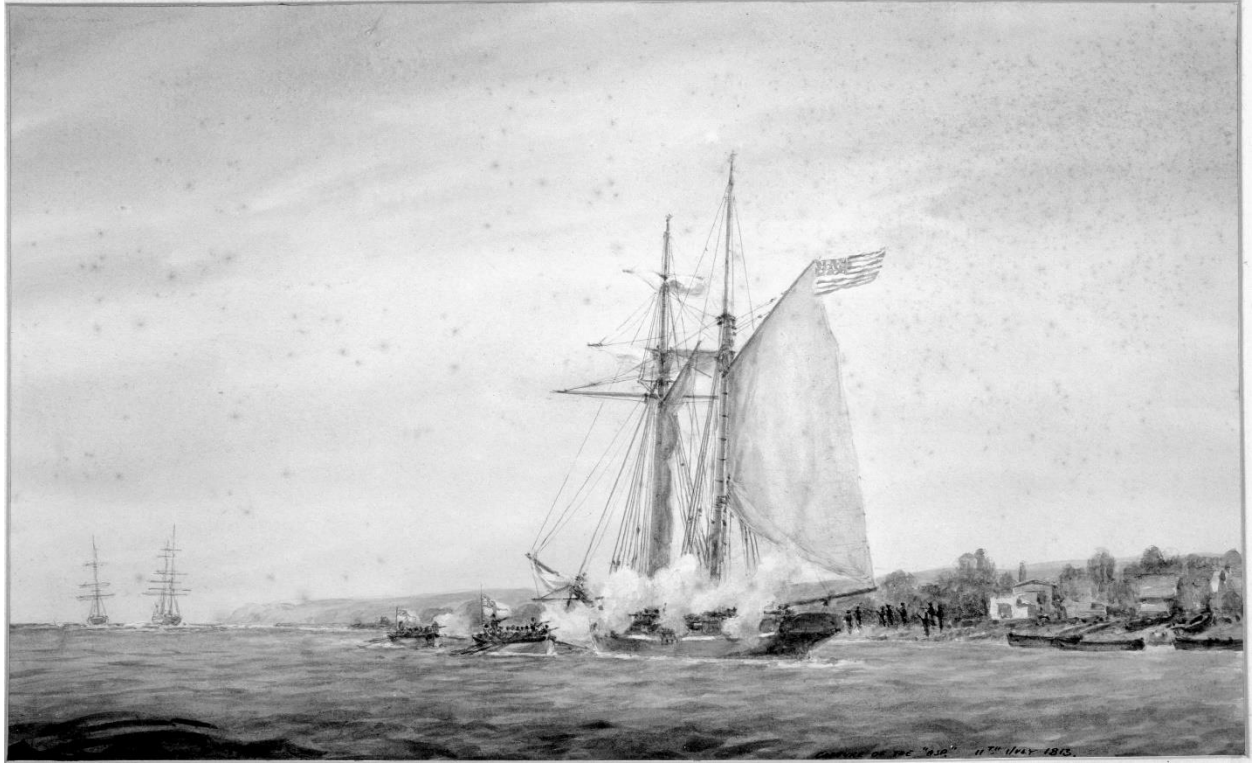
Below is an historical road sign about Kinsale



Below

Capture of the *ASP*, watercolor by Irwin Bevan, Mariner's Museum, Newport News





### **Sigourney Gravestone, Kinsale, VA**

**Inscription:**

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF MIDSHIPMAN JAMES B SIGOURNEY OF US  
NAVY A NATIVE OF BOSTON, MASS AGED 23 YEARS, WHO DIED  
GALLANTLY DEFENDING HIS COUNTRY'S FLAG ON BOARD THE US  
SCHOONER ASP UNDER HIS COMMAND IN ACTION WITH FIVE  
BRITISH BARGES OF VERY SUPERIOR FORCE DIED THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF  
JULY 1813



Below: This cannon rests at the site of his gravestone. Note the U.S. Daughters of 1812 grave marker in front of the gravestone

## Was cannon from *ASP*?

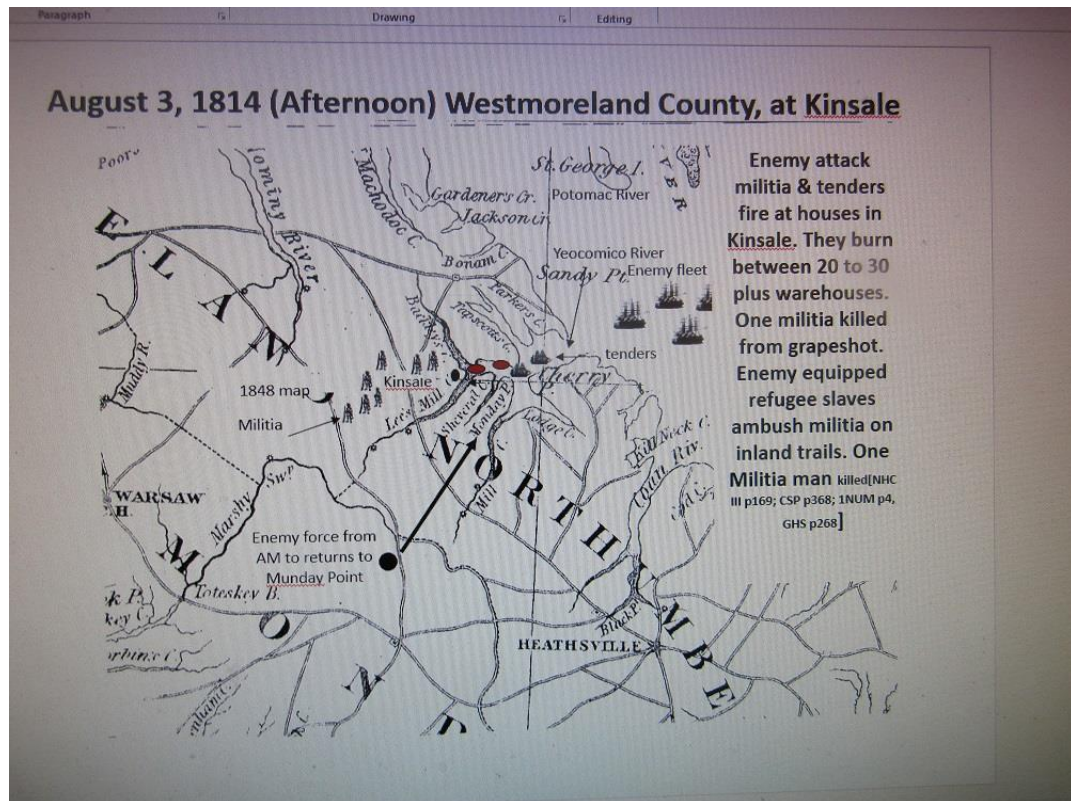


**August 3, 1814** (Afternoon) Westmoreland County, at Kinsale

Enemy attack militia & tenders fire at houses in Kinsale. They burn between 20 to 30 plus warehouses. One militia killed from grapeshot.

Enemy equipped refugee slaves ambush militia on inland trails. One Militia man killed [NHC III p169; CSP p368; 1NUM p4, GHS p268]





Below is the proposed sign wording by Historian Stuart Butler of the War of 1812 Society in Virginia who is the author of the book “Defending the Old Dominion, Virginia and Its Militia in the War of 1812”



# Sign wording for Kinsale

**PLACE:** Kinsale

**LOCATION:** Town of Kinsale, Westmoreland County

**SIGNIFICANCE:** On 3 August 1814, Admiral Cockburn and several hundred Royal Marines landed here and captured the town of Kinsale. Many of the town's wharves and shops along the waterfront were burned and otherwise destroyed. Opposing this force were Virginia militia from several counties under the immediate command of Brig. Gen. John Hungerford of Westmoreland. During the resulting battle, General Hungerford and his superior, Maj. Gen. Thomas Parker, were nearly captured, Parker's horse shot beneath him. When Virginia militia began to reform to push the enemy out of town, British tenders with superior fire power protected the slowly retreating Royal marines on their return to their ships at the mouth of the Yeocomico River.

**POSSIBLE LOCATION OF MARKER:** In the town of Kinsale near the waterfront.

THIS IS A NEW  
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL  
ROADSIGN LOCATED  
ON ROUTE 202 JUST  
BEFORE THE  
WESTMORELAND  
COUNTY LINE

