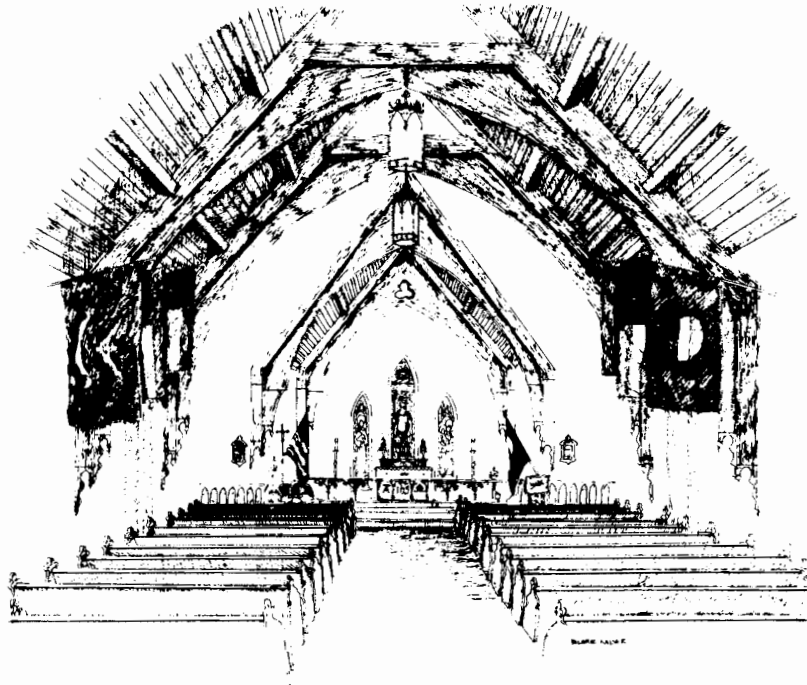




**The Chapel of the Centurion**  
**Fort Monroe, Virginia**

## THE CHAPEL OF THE CENTURION

Welcome to the Army's oldest wooden structure in continuous use for religious services. The Chapel is named after the Roman Centurion, Cornelius, who was brought to Christianity by Peter.



Religious services at Fort Monroe began on a regular basis in 1825 when the Reverend Mark Chevers came to the fort. He was the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Hampton. For several years he came to Fort Monroe on alternate Sundays to various quarters for services. 1 December 1838, he became the Post Chaplain and continued that assignment until his death, 13 September 1875, having served the garrison over fifty years. A small chapel in the Chapel Center is named in honor of Chaplain Chevers.

22 June 1855, an explosion in the mixing room of the laboratory in the arsenal at the fort killed Francis M. McKnight and Henry Sheffis, two artificers working with Lieutenant Julian McAllister. McAllister's thankfulness for God's sparing his life resulted in the construction of the chapel.

Through the personal efforts of Lieutenant McAllister and his Commander, Captain Alexander B. Dyer, \$6,000.00 was donated for the construction of the chapel. Richard Upjohn, noted architect, designed the building and construction began in 1856. Bishop John Johns from the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia consecrated the chapel 3 May 1858.

Chaplain Osgood Herrick succeeded Chaplain Mark Chevers in 1875. During the last ten years of Chaplain Herrick's assignment as the Post Chaplain, various stained glass windows and chancel furnishings were installed and dedicated

to the glory of God in memory of loved ones who had been stationed at the fort. When Chaplain Herrick departed in 1890, gifts of windows and furnishings continued through Chaplain George Dunbar's tour as Post Chaplain, 1903-1911.

A fire occurred in the chapel on 27 April 1933, during the funeral of a sergeant who had earlier told the Post Chaplain, "If I went to church-- the chapel would burn up." The casket had been brought into the chapel when fire was noticed burning at the top of the roof above the organ. The casket was placed on the porch of the quarters opposite the chapel entrance since the caisson and driver had departed across the parade field as the members of the congregation left the building. The funeral service resumed after the fire was extinguished.

The chapel congregation participated in a great centennial celebration in 1958. Several stained glass windows were designed and dedicated at that time. Since 1958 the final placement of stained glass windows in the nave and narthex have been completed.

In April 1968 a major restoration was begun under the able hand of the Post Engineer, Colonel Stanford Polonsky. The building was raised allowing a brick foundation to be built and a heating and air conditioning system to be installed.

The needle point cushions were completed during 1973-77.

The present pews are the fourth set to be used in the chapel. The pews which replaced the original pine benches in 1880 were removed in 1966. The oak pews installed in 1981 are crafted after the ones installed in 1880.

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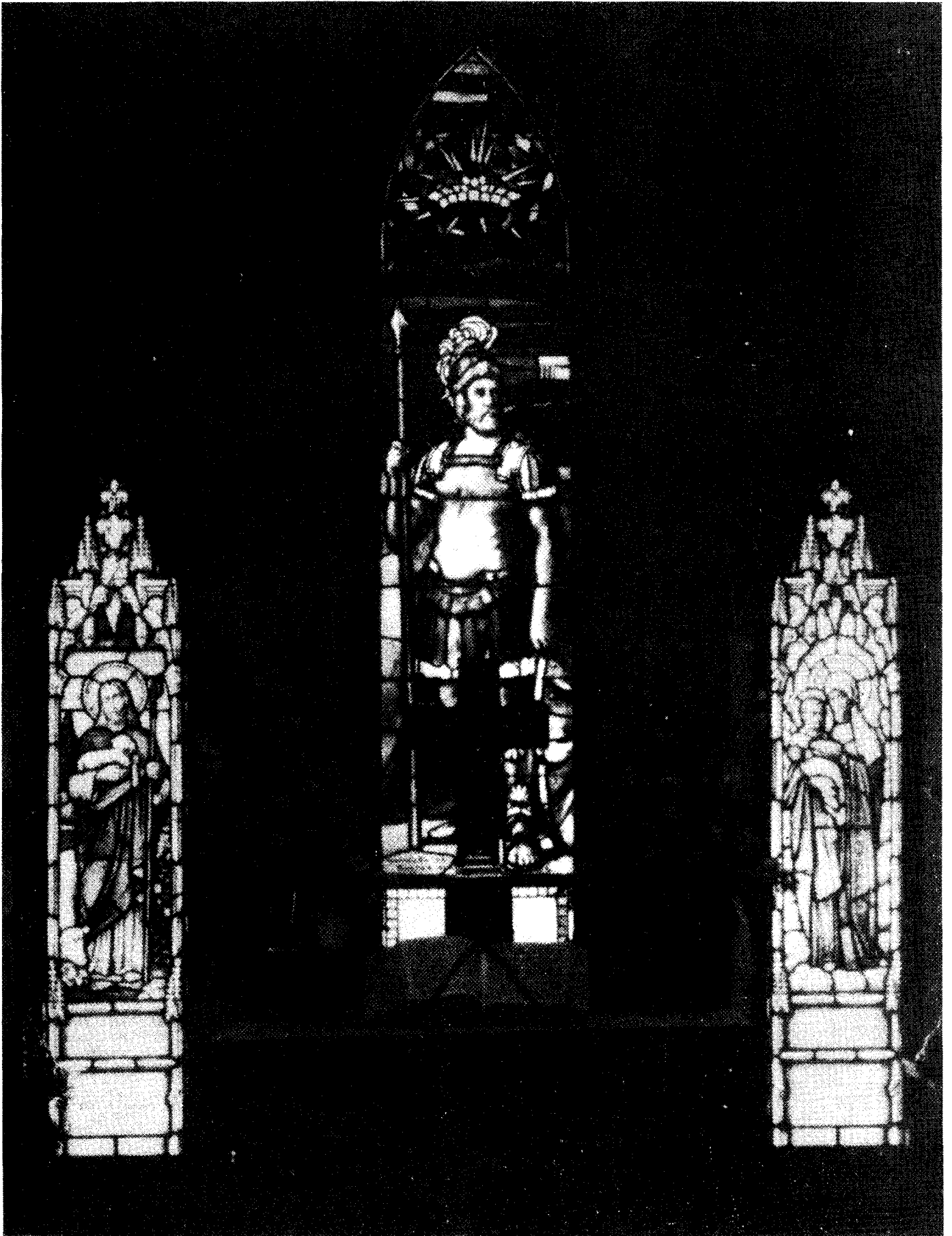
The unique intertwining of the lives of those remembered in the furnishings of the chapel add a dimension of history at Fort Monroe unparalleled in most Army installations. In 1970, Mrs. Paul Erickson began the fascinating collection of data concerning the windows and furnishings in the chapel. Through her tenacious efforts in writing and talking to family members of those memorialized, a rich tapestry was formed of the meeting of artist and soldier.

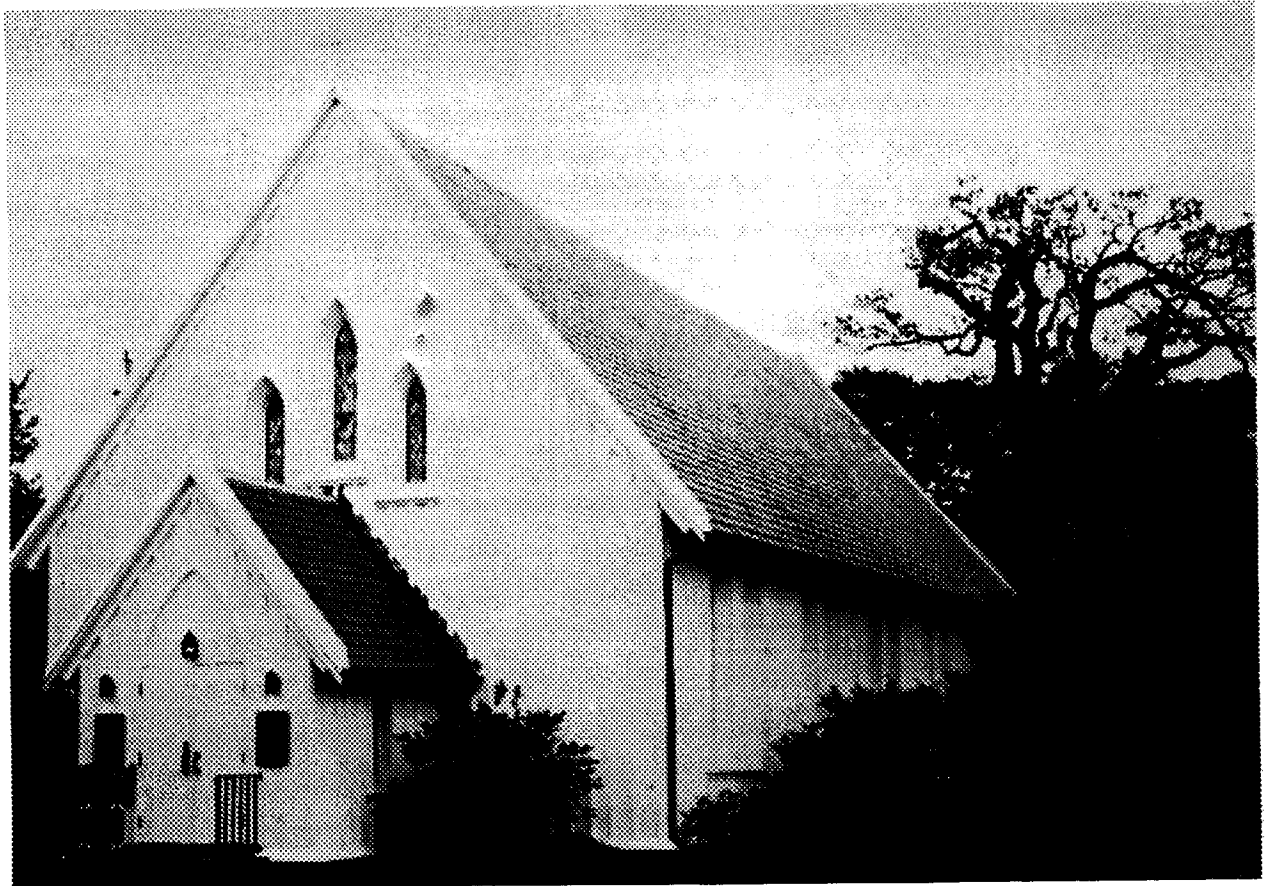
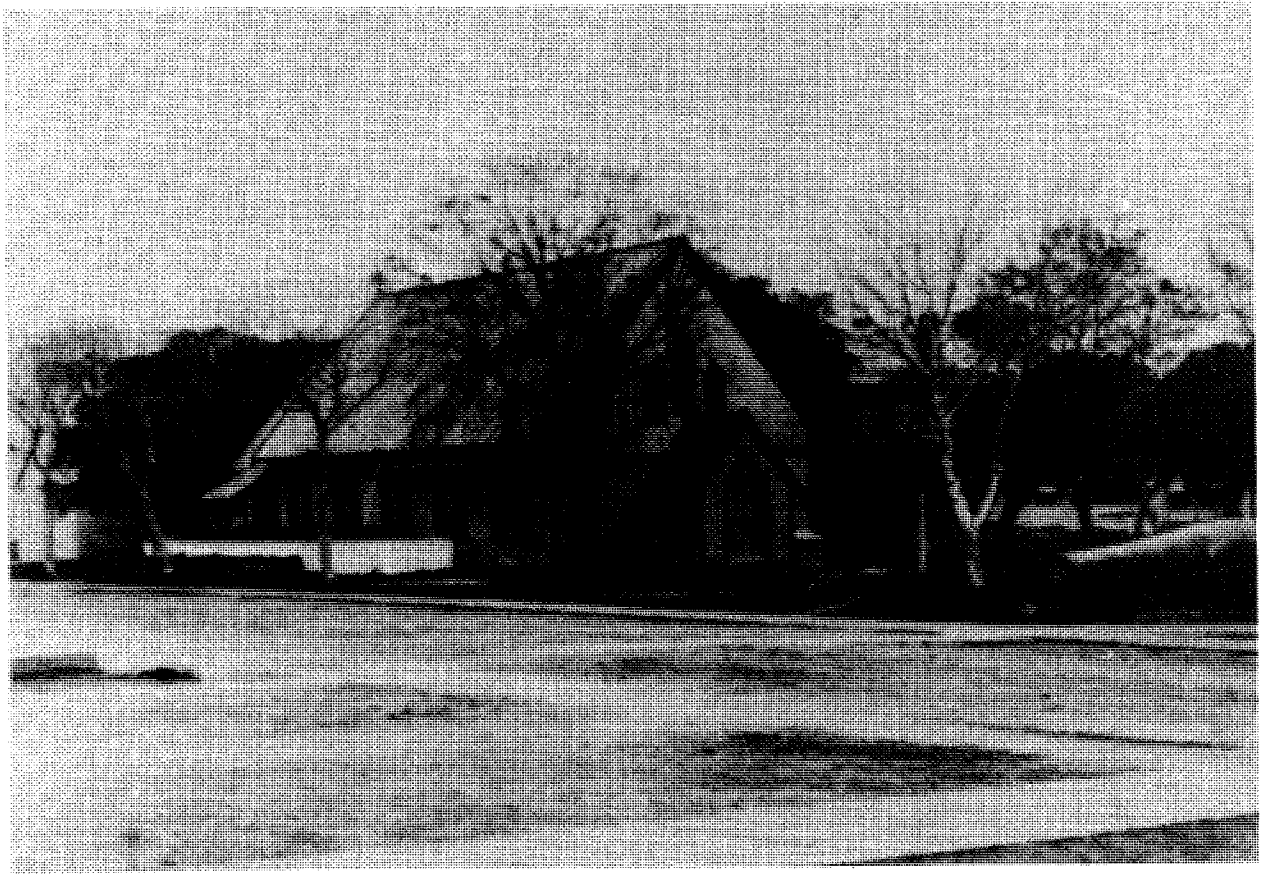
## THE WINDOWS

"Cornelius the Centurion"

1880

The center window over the altar was given in memory of Brevet Major General William F. Barry, Father of the Artillery School, the first service school of the Army. He served as the Commandant 1867-1877. The window was designed by E. Barnard, crafted by Redding Baird Co., Boston, Massachusetts. One of the unique features of the window is the jeweled glass near the top.





"Blessed Mother and Child"  
1929 - Proverbs 31:28

To the right of the center window given in memory of Fannie Luscombe Easterbrook, by her husband, shortly after her death from typhus at Walter Reed Army Hospital, Washington, D.C. Additional windows in memory of Mrs. Easterbrook are in the chapels at Walter Reed General Hospital and Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.

"Good Shepherd"  
1933 - II Timothy 4:7

To the left of the center window given in memory of Chaplain (Colonel) Edmund Easterbrook by his five children; Arthur, Gladys (Mrs. J. Lawton Collins), Wilfred, William, and Ernest (Major General). Chaplain Easterbrook developed the General Protestant Worship format while stationed here. He served as Chief of Chaplains in 1928-29.

"Lamb of God"  
1955

"Word of God"  
1956

These two windows on the side wall of the sanctuary were crafted by R. Geissler, New York, prior to the chapel centennial. The Altar Guild provided funds for the "Lamb of God" window and the youth fellowship group of the chapel purchased the other window.

(The Nave windows will be described from front to rear starting on the Eagle side of the chapel.)

"Crown of Life"  
After 1906 - Mark 14:9 and Revelation 2:106  
(originally on the right side near the balcony)

In memory of Mary Hammond Ware, born at Ft. Monroe in 1865 and died here in 1906. During her years at Ft. Monroe she was a devoted chapel member where she taught a Sunday School Class, played the organ, sang in the choir, and was president of the Ladies' Auxiliary. Her father was Superintendent of Construction for the batteries and harbor defense. He was originally the post blacksmith. Mr. Ware cut the shackles from Jefferson Davis before Davis was moved from his cell in the casemate to Carroll Hall (no longer standing). Her brother, Captain S. H. Ware supervised the building of fortifications at Pearl Harbor. Originally the window had the proper middle initial, "H," after the fire of 1933, the craftsman identified the letter as "A."

"Ionic Corinthian Column"  
c. 1880

In memory of Brevet Brigadier General C. H. Morgan, served at Ft. Monroe 1857-59 and became the Superintendent of Practical Artillery here from 1869 to 1871. He died on Alcatraz Island in California in December 1875. The window was given by "Engineer Roebling and various officers of the Second Army Corps."

"Woman With Palm"  
c. 1890 Tiffany Glass & Decorating Co.

In memory of Helen Fargo Squires, who was married in the chapel, 11 October 1881, and died at Ft. Monroe in 1886. Her husband, Lieutenant Herbert G. Squires, had received his commission by referral of President Rutherford B. Hayes. Lieutenant Squires fought at Wounded Knee. The Adjutant General of the Army said, "There is not probably a young officer in service who has been more indulged on his personal requests than has Lieutenant Squires. He has not shown one particle of military spirit but rather the reverse." He left military service in 1891 to join the diplomatic service and served in Peking during the Boxer rebellion.

(Additional comments about Helen Squires will be found elsewhere in this booklet.)

"Per Mare, Per Terras"  
c. 1890 - Psalm 132:3-6 and St. Luke 7:5  
Tiffany Glass & Decorating Co.

In memory of Colonel Julian McAllister who served at Ft. Monroe from May 1853 until August 1857. He had graduated first in the Class of 1847 at West Point. After leaving here in 1857 he served at posts in New York and California. Julian McAllister probably never saw the completed chapel he had so generously contributed toward building.

(Additional comments about Julian McAllister will be found elsewhere in this booklet.)

"He Died So the Kids Next Door Might Live"  
1952 R. Geissler, Inc., New York

In memory of First Lieutenant Robert L. Williams, Jr., the first service person from the Peninsula to be killed in the Korean Conflict. He was piloting an Artillery Observation airplane for the 99th Field Artillery Battalion. The window was given by his wife and his mother.

"Peace Window"  
1958 R. Geissler, Inc., New York

The window was designed by Mrs. P. E. Winn and Colonel Eugene C. Jacobs, Commander, US Army Hospital, Ft. Monroe, for the Chapel Centennial. The patches are those of the six armies, at that time part of the Continental Army Command. The flags were those of 1858 and 1958. The Civil War soldier is copied from a

tintype of Colonel Jacob's grandfather, who served here in the Civil War as a member of the New York Heavy Artillery. He was present at Appomatox when General Robert E. Lee surrendered. The names of those who contributed to the window's purchase are listed on the wall plaque.

"St. Paul Defender of the Faith"

1966

J. & R. Lamb Studios,  
Tenafly, New Jersey

In memory of Colonel Perry M. Smith who served as a student here in 1922-23 and 1929-30. He commanded Battery Parrott from 1937 to 1939. The window was given by his children, then Captain Perry M. Smith, Jr., USAF and Mrs. R. A. Barber (presently a member of the congregation).

"St. Michael"

1964

J. & R. Lamb Studios  
Tenafly, New Jersey

In memory of Major General Frederick Harrison Smith who served here in 1906-08 and 1920-24. He commanded the Coast Artillery District here in 1938 to 1940. His wife gave the window (she was instrumental in having the Crepe Myrtle trees planted throughout the post).

"Little Children"

1969

Rudy Glass Co., York, Pennsylvania

This window was given by the Church School members at the conclusion of the chapel restoration.

"Power for Peace"

1958

George Payne, Inc., Patterson,  
New Jersey

The window was designed by Colonel Eugene C. Jacobs for the members and friends of the 56th Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion. President Dwight D. Eisenhower's "Power for Peace" slogan was the theme for the window.

"Well Done Thou Good and Faithful Servant"

ESSAYONS (Let us try)

c. 1880 (Earlier ?)

In memory of Colonel Rene Edward De Russy, Superintendent of Engineering Construction here from 1838 to 1854. He served 57 years on continuous active duty as an officer after graduating from West Point in 1812. Ft. De Russy in Hawaii was named for him.



"St. Alban"  
c. 1890

In memory of Brevet Major General Emory Upton, the "boy wonder" of the Civil War. Commissioned a Second Lieutenant when he graduated from West Point in 1861, Upton successively commanded a battery of artillery, infantry regiment, infantry brigade, artillery brigade, and finally a division of cavalry. He was breveted to Brigadier General in 1864. Upton's troops captured Little Round Top at Gettysburg. At age 28 he was the Commandant of the US Military Academy. General Sherman sent him with two other officers around the world to study the armies of Europe and Asia. Upton's book The Military Policy of the United States was a penetrating look at our military policies and forces. He served as the Director of Artillery Tactics in the Artillery School here from 1877 to 1880. At age 42 he committed suicide while suffering from an incurable disease.

"The Armor of God"  
1879

In memory of Brevet Captain Albion Howe by his wife, Sarah McKnight Barry (daughter of Major General William F. Barry). Captain Howe was killed at Lava Beds, California, while fighting Modoc Indians. The window is one of the two oldest stained glass windows in the chapel. It is an example of enameled glass of the John Bolton school.

"Sheaf of Wheat"  
1879

In memory of Caroline Matilda Barry, mother of Major General William F. Barry. The window is a companion of the Howe Window. The second of the two oldest windows in the Nave.

"Taps"  
1958

R. Geissler, New York

For the Centennial Celebration, Colonel Eugene Jacobs designed this window to commemorate the first playing of "Taps" for the burial of a soldier at Harrison Landing (present site of Berkley Plantation near Williamsburg on the James River). Brevet Brigadier General Daniel Butterfield, commanded the 3rd Brigade of Infantry, was an exponent of bugle calls. He was not satisfied with the final call of the day known as "Lights Out." Around 4 July 1862 he called the brigade bugler, Oliver W. Norton, to his tent and showed him some notes he had written on the back of an envelope. After getting it properly arranged, Norton was directed to play it that night.

Several days later a soldier died in Captain John C. Tidball's Battery A. Rather than fire the customary three rifle volleys to honor the dead soldier,

Captain Tidball instructed Oliver Norton to play "Taps." The custom of playing "Taps" at a military funeral had begun in a unit of soldiers from this fort.

The picture from which the window is crafted shows a drummer boy standing beside the bugler, the grandson of the drummer boy later purchased the Berkley Plantation. (Additional remarks on Daniel Butterfield will be found elsewhere in this booklet).

"One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism"

1965

R. Geissler, New York

In memory of Chaplain (Colonel) Luther Evans who had served at Ft. Monroe from 1956 to 1961 as the Staff Chaplain, Continental Army Command. The window was given by his wife and had been designed by Colonel Eugene Jacobs.

"Forbid Them Not"

1911

Tiffany Studios, New York

In memory of Helen Brown Kimberly Gifford, installed by her husband Major John H. Gifford. Her father had owned one of two department stores which stood near the present Post Office. The Giffords were married in the chapel in April 1885. The window is one of the finest examples of Tiffany's use of drapery glass and lead cams working together to create the folds of the garments. The window is probably one of the last of this size that Mr. Tiffany personally worked on.

"Angel Gabriel"

1965

J. & R. Lamb, Tenafly, New Jersey

In memory of David and Minnie French and Paul and Mary Clark, parents of Colonel and Mrs. Paul Clark, Jr. Colonel Clark had served in the Continental Army Command at Ft. Monroe from 1946 to 1959 and 1953 to 1960.

"Nehemiah"

1969

Rudy Glass Co., York, Pennsylvania

To commemorate the chapel renovation, the rebuilding of the temple by Nehemiah was symbolic of the work accomplished to refurbish this lovely chapel. Note the drain pipe running from the narthex roof in the picture of the chapel in the window. Such pipes were used to fill the large cistern at the chapel around 1885-1890.

"St. Peter"

1970

J. & R. Lamb, Tenafly, New Jersey

In memory of Brigadier General Urban Niblo given by his wife and daughter. General Niblo served at Ft. Monroe as the Ordnance Officer of the Army Field Forces in 1956-57. Peter had brought Cornelius to Christ and after all the other windows had been given, one bearing his name was finally placed in the Nave.

"Narthex Windows"

1976

Old Dominion Stained Glass Co.

The only stained glass windows in the chapel crafted in Virginia were given in memory of 40,000 American soldiers who gave their lives in Southeast Asia from 1960-1973. The windows were given by Major General and Mrs. S. L. McClellan, Major General and Mrs. Robert Kingston, Captain J. M. McClellan, First Lieutenant Karen McClellan, and Sergeant First Class and Mrs. William L. Mosher.

The Chevers Memorial Organ, 1983

The rebuilt Möeller organ - Series 80, Opus R-140 was dedicated on 4 February 1983, Cornelius the Centurion Day, as a memorial to the Reverend Mark Lindsay Chevers the first Post Chaplain at Fort Monroe.

The organ was designed and built by M. P. Möller Pipe Organ Company, Inc. It is equally expressive for quiet meditation and soaring exaltation. Placed in the balcony of the chapel, the organ has an advantageous position from which to speak.

The electro-pneumatic organ consists of two manuals and pedal comprising three divisions, namely Great, Swell (under expression) and Pedal. It contains 13 ranks (sets of pipes) for a total of 845 individual pipes. The pipes are constructed of metal, an alloy of tin and lead, and of wood. The exposed casework and organ console are made of oak. The facade pipes are purely decorative.



## FOUR DECADES

- 1829 The man who designed the chapel arrived in America - Richard Upjohn. Robert E. Lee graduated number two in his West Point Class. At Fort Monroe an old outhouse was torn down-- it had stood where the present steps to the sacristy are located.
- 1839 Emory Upton was born in Genesee County (near Buffalo) New York. During the 1840's Julian McAllister and John Tidball graduated from West Point. Daniel Butterfield (of Buffalo, New York) graduated from Utica Academy, New York. Louis Comfort Tiffany was born.
- 1850's Three men from Buffalo, merged their companies to form American Express Company. The men were John Butterfield, father of Daniel Butterfield; Henry Wells, who later founded a bank with one of the partners and William George Fargo, whose daughter Helen married the Canadian, Herbert Squires. Woodrow Wilson was born in 1856 at Staunton, Virginia, later as President he often worshipped in the chapel. J. & R. Lamb Stained Glass Studio was founded in 1857. John Tidball's Artillery supported Robert E. Lee's troops in the raid at Harper's Ferry to capture John Brown. The artillery schools had opened at Ft. Monroe in 1858.
- 1860's Daniel Butterfield led the first Union forces into Virginia. Eugene Jacobs was a member of the New York Heavy Artillery posted at Fort Monroe to form part of the Army of the Potomac. Young Louis Tiffany was a member of the 5th New York Regiment known as Duryee's Zouaves. The 5th engaged enemy forces at nearby Big Bethel (present source of water for the post). John Tidball's artillery supported Daniel Butterfield's troops in the battle of Richmond.

\* \* \*

From these decades in this chapel the children of two of the founders of an Express Company have windows almost opposite one another. A young Eugene Jacobs is depicted in a window commemorating the Chapel Centennial-- he had served with an artillery unit supporting Daniel Butterfield's 7th Regiment of New York. Louis Tiffany first became known for his design and glass used in decorating the 7th Regimental Armory in New York City. J. & R. Lamb Studios has crafted four of the windows in the chapel, Tiffany did three of the windows.

In 1968 when the chapel was renovated-- fresh water was found-- thirty feet from the outhouse destroyed in 1829.

## THE FLAGS

(starting on the Eagle side, described front to rear)

Fifty Star - Current National Colors

56th AAA Missile Battalion - Given in 1958

Forty-six Star - Issued in 1907 when Oklahoma was admitted to the Union.

Coast Defense of Chesapeake Bay - Issued in 1920, placed in the chapel in 1925.

Second Coast Artillery - Issued upon the units reorganization in Panama in 1923. Placed in the chapel when the unit returned to Fort Monroe in the 1930's.

Forty-five Star - Issued in 1896 - carried by the Seventh Artillery.

Artillery School - Issued prior to separation of artillery in 1907 into coastal and field branches.

Christian Flag - Standard Chapel Flag

Second Regiment of the Artillery - Colors used in the Civil War by the unit.

Thirty-four Star - Carried by the Second Artillery during the Civil War.

\* \* \*

Continental Army Command (Now Forces Command) at Ft. Monroe February 1955 to 30 June 1973.

Forty-nine Stars - Authorized from July 1959 to July 1960.

Training and Doctrine Command - Fashioned after the original school's training command flag of the 1920's.

Second Coast Artillery Regiment - For many years the garrison regiment at Ft. Monroe.

Forty-eight Star - Last used in 1959.

Sixth Artillery Regiment - Following the Spanish-American War, the unit was redesignated Coastal Artillery.

Sixth Provisional Coast Artillery Regiment - Used on the Mexican border in 1911.

Forty-four Star - Used by the third Artillery prior to 1896.

Seventh Coast Artillery Regiment - Prior to and during World War II this regiment was garrisoned at Ft. Hancock, New York.

Forty-eight Star - Last used in 1959.

Christian Church Flag



## CHAPEL FURNISHINGS

### Altar Cross

In memory of Katherine M. Barry who died in 1879, her husband was Major General William F. Barry.

### Credence Table

In memory of John Butler McAllister, who died in 1850. He was the infant son of Lieutenant Julian and Mrs. McAllister.

### Altar Missal Stand

A gift of the Coast Artillery School.

### Receiving Alms Basin

In memory of Mary Townsend Derby who died in 1893. Her father was the Lighthouse Engineer at the post from 1857 to 1859.

### Prie-Dieus

1. In memory of Elizabeth McAllister who died in 1862 as the result of burns from curtains near a candle. She was the wife of Julian McAllister.
2. In memory of Franck Eveleigh Taylor Davis who died c. 1884-85. The prie-dieu was given by her sister Charlotte who was the wife of Admiral Robert D. ("Fighting Bob") Evans. Admiral Evans' ship fired the first shot in Santiago in the Spanish American War. In 1907 he led the great White Fleet from Hampton Roads around the world.
3. At the Chapel Centennial the Altar Guild gave one in 1958.
4. The desk in front of the crucifer's chair was given in memory of Suzanne Gibbs Starry who died in 1961 and an infant daughter (who died in 1967) of Paul and Emily Starry. General Donn A. Starry crafted this desk in 1981 from oak grown at Fort Monroe.

### Alms Basins

Given by LTC and Mrs. Paul Q. Erickson, RET in 1964

Other memorial items are kept in the Chapel Center.

### Needle Point

St. Barbara's Guild undertook the project in September 1973. Mrs. Charles L. Bolte designed the various cushions and instructed the members in carrying out the theme of the live oak leaf with acorns on the blue background with Christian symbols. The needle point was dedicated upon completion in May 1977.

The following are memorialized:

COL Clarence Talmage Marsh  
MG William Frederick Hase  
Harry and Laura Hall  
Ada Novak  
Willis Kohl  
Flora Coughran

MG Archibald Henry Sunderland  
Hollis and Viola Baker  
Margaret Miley  
John and Mildred Kronau  
Wilmot Jacobs  
Herbert and Willie Murray  
Adelaide Bolte

POST CHAPLAINS OF FORT MONROE

PAST - PRESENT

1828-1875	Mark L. Chevers	1950-1952	Wilber K. Anderson
1875-1890	Osgood E. Herrick	1953-1956	Harmon D. Moore
1891-1899	Charles W. Freeland	1956-1959	Arthur E. Mills
1902-1904	Thomas S. Barry	1959-1962	William C. Taggert, Jr.
1903-1911	George Ward Dunbar	1962-1964	George H. Birney
1909	Charles S. Walkley	1964-1965	Charles L. Trinkle
1909-1913	William Reese Scott	1965-1967	Harry G. Campbell, Jr.
1913-1918	Alfred A. Pruden	1967-1968	Stephen E. Peterson
1918-1922	Walter Marvin	1968-1969	Arthur H. Marsh
1921-1923	Samuel J. Smith	1969-1972	Pat H. Davis
1923-1927	Edmund P. Easterbrook	1972-1976	Clinton Helton
1927-1930	James L. McBride	1976-1980	Howard T. Cross
1930-1933	Ivan L. Bennett	1980-1983	Richard W. Mansur
1933-1935	Nathaniel A. Jones	1983-1985	Everett H. Greene
1935-1940	J. Knox Bodel	1985-1989	Thomas L. Deal
1940-1942	George H. Daum	1989-1992	Richard H. Holley
1942-1943	Edward J. Tanski	1992-	Joseph E. Miller
1943-1944	Dennis P. Coleman		
1944-1946	Raymond E. Brock		
1946-1947	Edward N. Mize		
1947-1948	Raymond C. Sutherland, Jr.		
1943-1944	Walter H. Bierck		
1948-1950			



For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that

John 3:16  
ed through him.

You have come to this chapel, leave it not without a prayer. No one entering a house ignores **him**

whoever believes in him should

not perish but have

the world might be saved

world, not to condemn the world, but that

who dwells in it. This is God's house. Offer Him your prayers for he loves you and welcomes you. Give thanks for those who in past ages built this chapel to His glory and for those who, dying that we might live, have preserved for us this place and given us our heritage. Praise God for His

eternal life. For God sent the Son into the

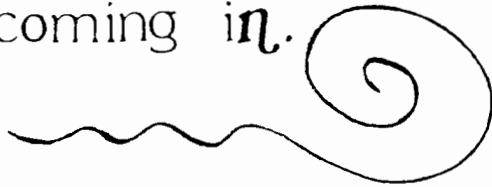
God sent the Son into the

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that who  
ever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

gifts of beauty in glass, wood, handicraft and music. Ask that we who now live may build the spiritual fabric of this nation in truth, beauty, and goodness. May the Lord preserve our going out and our coming in.

world, not to condemn

the world, but that the world might be saved through him. For God



so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that who