

**JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
2311 MEMORIAL AVENUE  
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24501**

**(434) 846-0501**

**INVITATION TO H.E. STEPTOE, 2 DECEMBER 1932**

Lady Nancy Astor invites her cousin, Hampden E. Steptoe, and wife, to a reception on 10 December 1932, at Oakwood Country Club in Lynchburg, Virginia, for her aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Dabney Langhorne Lewis, in honor of Mrs. Lewis' 81st birthday.

**ASTOR, NANCY WITCHER LANGHORNE ASTOR, VISCOUNTESS, 1879-1964**

Nancy Witcher Langhorne was born in Danville, Virginia, 19 May 1879, the daughter of Chiswell Dabney Langhorne and Nancy Witcher Keene. She was the niece of Elizabeth Dabney Langhorne Lewis. She became the wife of Waldorf Astor and was the first woman seated in the British Parliament. In Parliament, she championed temperance, women's rights and benefits for children. During World War II, she worked with her husband to boost public morale. She retired from office in 1945.

Nancy Witcher Langhorne Astor died on 2 May 1964 and is buried at Cliveden on the Thames.

**HAMPDEN EARLY STEPTOE, 1885-1963**

Hampden Early Steptoe, son of John Marshall Steptoe and Lucy Landonia Cobbs, was born in Bedford County in 1885. He attended Piedmont Business College in Lynchburg, Virginia. He left Lynchburg to run a commissary in the coal fields of Logan County, West Virginia. In 1912, he married Mary Lowe of Logan County.

Steptoe returned to Lynchburg in 1910 and became associated with the real estate firm of Armstead and Steptoe. In 1911 he formed a partnership with Charles P. Patteson and the firm was incorporated as Steptoe and Patteson. He served as president of the Lynchburg Real Estate Board and in 1930 was elected president of the Virginia Real Estate Association. He helped form the city-manager plan for Lynchburg and worked for its adoption. He served as vice chairman of the City Planning Commission for ten years and was a director of the Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce. He also served on the board of the Family Welfare Society and was a director of Lynchburg Associated Charities.

Steptoe was the first to propose and obtain approval for night illumination of the Court House and Monument Terrace.

A member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Hampden Early Steptoe died 3 April 1963 in Lynchburg and is buried in Presbyterian Cemetery.

**(Continued)**

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**ELIZABETH DABNEY LANGHORNE LEWIS 1851-1946**

Elizabeth Dabney Langhorne, daughter of John Scarsbrooke Langhorne and Sarah Elizabeth Dabney, was born 9 December 1851, in Botetourt County, Virginia. She was educated in Lynchburg schools and by private instruction. She married John H. Lewis (1841-1907) on 13 August 1873. Elizabeth was a teacher in public and private schools. She wrote about women's suffrage in local newspapers. She was president of the Lynchburg Woman's Club, the Schelmann Music Club of Lynchburg. She was also president of the Equal Suffrage Club of Lynchburg and a member of the Legislative Committee of the Virginia State Equal Suffrage League. In 1912 she spoke before the Virginia Legislature on behalf of equal suffrage.

A member of the Unitarian Church, Mrs. Elizabeth Dabney Langhorne Lewis died 30 December 1946 and is buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery in Lynchburg.

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**[Detailed finding guide available with the collection.]**