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BOUNDARY HOUSE MONUMENT

This 600 pound granite monument marks the site of the Boundary House. On the North Carolina-South Carolina line between Calabash, N. C. and Little River, S. C., it is a surveyor's point of reference and site of the oldest recorded building in Horry County.
The County with a heart
That will win your heart.

---Ernest Richardson

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IMMIGRATION AND SETTLEMENTS OF HORRY COUNTY

By C. B. Berry

[9-28-72 - Presented at USC Coastal Campus History Class]

In previous discussions, you have learned about the geological and geographical makeup; the influences of the ocean; the Indians and early European attempts at settlement of what we now know as Horry County. Tonight, we will attempt to shed some light on settlements in this section. In attempting to give you information on such settlements, we will wander northward to the Cape Fear River in North Carolina and southward to Charleston and other areas, in order that you might see the settlements here in Horry County in their true perspective.

Sometimes history can seem somewhat uninteresting with the many events and dates to be remembered—the myriad of details of activities whose purpose is not understood. But when certain significance can be given to such activities, we begin to see them in a new light. How many of us, for instance, have ever contemplated the connection between the defeat of the Spanish Armada and the early settlement of Horry County?

For nine historic days in July, 1588, the supreme powers of the Old World, Spain and England, fought a great sea battle for possession of the New. Among other things, Spain had been angered and alarmed by the cheeky buccaneering of Hawkins, Drake and Frobisher, who yearly took in prize, a third of Spain’s rich gold fleet on its way home from the Americas. The Invincible Armada of some fifty great galleons and eighty auxiliary vessels set sail to sweep the seas of Britain’s scavenging sea dogs. The battle began in the English Channel, off Plymouth. For three days the fleet feinted at each other. At last the Spaniards made anchorage in the Calais roads. The next night, the British loosed fire ships into the Spanish formation. The Armada dispersed to the four winds in complete disorder. The British pursued, but most of the galleons made their escape under cover of a squall. In the end, however, less than half of the Spanish navy reached its home port. Britannia ruled the waves and over them, in the colonial centuries to come, would transport free men and free institutions to build free societies of North America (From Life’s Picture History of Western Man - Time, Inc., N. Y. 1951).

Another famous activity that was to influence the settlement of our area was the French Revolution. France had as its principal religious influence the Roman Catholics. So strong was Catholicism there that France was referred to as the ‘‘eldest daughter of the church.’’ About 80% of the population were baptized, married and buried by the church. The practicing element amounted to only about 25%. The Catholics, of course, were anti-Protestant but reformers such as Luther and Calvin, of the 16th century, quickly gained adherents in France. In 1555 the extermination of ‘‘heretics’’ was ordered and a long period of emigration began. Between 1562 and 1570, intermittent civil war broke out between the Catholics and the Reformers (French Protestant Reformers were known as Hugenots). In 1572 the massacre of Hugenots in Paris on St. Bartholomew’s Day initiated a widespread slaughter; by their desperate resistance the Hugenots gained in 1573 an amnesty and the promise of liberty of worship in a few towns. But hostilities again broke out and continued intermittently until Henry IV by the Edict of Nantes granted the Hugenots liberty of conscience and of worship and full civil rights, together with the possession of numerous fortified towns as a guarantee.

In 1610, King Henry IV was murdered and the persecution of the Hugenots was renewed, and during the next 20 years the Hugenot strongholds were gradually reduced and revolts crushed. Under a centralizing policy of Louis XIV steps were taken to close Hugenot Churches and Schools, and in 1685 came the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. This of course ended the freedom of worship for the Hugenots and they began to emigrate from France. It was estimated that 400,000 Hugenots emigrated from France during the next fifteen years because of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes.

As we proceed here, it will become more evident as to how these two events so famous in history - the defeat of the Spanish Armada and the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes - influenced the settlement of South Carolina and Horry County.

You will recall that the first permanent English settlement in America was made in May, 1607 at Jamestown, Virginia. Jamestown is a flat wooded island nearly three miles long, separated from the mainland by a marshy inlet. There were many things about this place no one
could have forseen, 350 years ago, including the fact that it would one day be an island; but the men who landed there thought it a fine anchorage, a place not overrun by Indians, and out of range of the Spanish—and decided to stay. Yet, were it not for the mute evidence of ivy-covered church ruins, an ancient graveyard, and restorations of some of the first buildings, one might doubt its survival.

The first of many mistakes these colonists made was the site itself, surrounded by mosquito-infested swamps, with an unreliable water supply and unhealthy climate. Inside a triangular fort they built a church, storehouses, and some flimsy living quarters, and here trouble broke out almost immediately. There was mutiny, malaria and the menace of Indians whom the colonists had treated unwisely. Then a real leader, Captain John Smith, turned up in their midst. Smith learned to speak Algonkian, bargained with the Indians for corn, and began to create organization out of chaos. Late in 1607, while out exploring, he was captured by Powhatan and saved, according to his story, by Pocohontas. When he returned to the colony the settlers were starving. A fire in January, 1608, destroyed nearly all their buildings, but Smith managed to get the colony through the winter. He begged the London sponsors to send carpenters, masons, and "diggers up of trees," but in September more gentlemen settlers arrived. Miraculously, they survived yet another winter; then in August came 400 new, inexperienced settlers, with damaged supplies, fever and plague. That autumn Smith was injured and sent back to England—probably because others coveted his position. His departure was followed by the "Starving Time", the terrible winter of 1609-10 which only sixty of the 500 colonists survived.

Lord Deleware had been appointed governor of the colony, and his advance agent was so appalled by what he saw at Jamestown that he decided to abandon the settlement. But Deleware determined to salvage the effort. Under his able rule Jamestown finally became a going-concern, and the community began to spill out into the lovely James River Valley. Then in 1698 Jamestown was burned, and it was decided to move the capital to Middle Plantation, or Williamsburg. (from GREAT HISTORIC PLACES - The American Heritage Pub. Co.).

This settlement in Virginia is referred to because it was a source of settlers who eventually came into Horry County as will be seen later.

The first permanent English settlement in Carolina was on the Chowan River in What is now North Carolina about 1653 by people from Virginia. In 1663 the settled region north of Albemarle Sound was organized as Albemarle county. Settlers began to move into the Neuse-Pamlico region soon after 1700. (from the Encyclopedia Britannica).

Before proceeding further here, it might be well to mention that while Virginia and New England was being settled, other men were busy with plans to add the Province of Carolana to the growing empire. Carolana originated in 1629 when Charles I of England granted to Sir Robert Heath, his attorney-general, the region between 31 degrees and 36 degrees North parallel and extending from sea to sea. In making the Grant, Charles attributed his generosity to Heath's "laudable and pious desire as well of enlarging the Christian religion as our Empire & increasing the Trade & Commerce of this our kingdom". It appears, however, that Heath was motivated by a more specific objective—the settling of French Hugenots in America. At the time many such aliens were fleeing France and seeking sanctuary in England. Heath's plans to settle Carolana failed when King Charles I issued an order that no alien was to be allowed to settle in Carolana "Without Special Direction" and then only those who were "Protestants who conform to the discipline of the Church of England." Upon this action, Heath disassociated himself and sold his rights to the Carolana grant. During the next thirty years, many plans were brought up for settling the Carolina region but none materialized. On May 29, 1664, John Vassall and his followers landed on the Lower Cape Fear River and set up a settlement. From the beginning, the experience was a trying one for the small band of hardy and courageous pioneers. It was a strange and lonely world they entered, with the closest friend as far away as Albemarle and the enemy as near as the Spaniards at St. Augustine, Florida. The local natives appeared to be no threat, but all about, the wilderness loomed as a formidable barrier to the fulfillment of their hopes. It was a forbidding challenge, but they accepted it and in time others arrived from Barbados, New England, and elsewhere to join in the struggle.

By November, 1664, the settlement had been incorporated into a county called Clarendon. John Vassall was appointed Deputy-Governor as well as Surveyor-General by the Lords-Proprietors.
The first days of the settlement were ones of hard labor followed by shelterless nights in the open air. In time, however, the forest growth gave way to cleared fields with 'good houses.' Within two years the smoke curling from the chimneys of these modest and scattered homes could be seen for some sixty miles along the banks of the Charles River, which the settlers once more called the Cape Fear. In the fields the farmers grew potatoes, tobacco, corn, indigo, cotton, wool, and various fruits as well as other plants. In the forests and the meadows cattle and hogs thrived with little care, and nature gave freely of her bounty of fish and game as well as wild vegetation. While the settlement was primarily an agricultural community, there was also a lucrative trade with the Indians who came from great distances to exchange furs and skins for English goods. As a trading center, a village called Charles Town, the first in Carolina by that name, was founded about twenty miles upstream, on the west bank of the river and to the north of what is now known as Town Creek. In 1666 a pamphlet was published in London which was intended to lure English men and women from the banks of the Thames to the banks of the Cape Fear. It was an extravagantly written publication which reported the population of the Charles River settlement at the time as close to eight hundred persons. Others were invited to cross the sea and share free land and freedom of religion in a country 'where the neighbour-hood of the glorious light of Heaven brings many advantages.' There are many other favorable attractions cited in the pamphlet. A happy and contented prospect was held out to the ladies in general: 'If any Maid or single Woman have a desire to go over, they will think themselves in the Golden Age, when Men paid a Dowry for their Wives; for if they be but Civil, and under 50 years of Age, some honest Man or other, will purchase them for their Wives.'

This pamphlet must certainly have aroused hope in the restless, neglected, and abused of England, but, unfortunately, its promise for a better life would not be fulfilled. By migrating to Cape Fear before Henry Vassall had completed his negotiations with the Lords Proprietors, John Vassall and his fellow pioneers sowed the seeds of their own failure. For hope proved to be an illusion. The Lords never concluded the agreement that had come so close to fulfillment. For his failure, Henry Vassall blamed the Barbadians who preferred to settle to the south of Cape Fear. According to him, they had intercepted a copy of his tentative agreement and from it had learned the terms of settlement contemplated for Cape Fear. Consequently, he continued, they had offered to settle at Port Royal under conditions more favorable to the Proprietors. Whether true or not, the Lords did turn their back on him and gave their undivided attention to William Yeaman who had come to London as the agent of the rival faction which was led by his father, John Yeaman. (from THE LOWER CAPE FEAR IN COLONIAL DAYS, 1965, by Lawrence Lee).

In June 1666, Robert Sanford, with Capt. Stanton's Frigate, which had returned from the Barbadoes, set out to find a more favorable place for settlement, as the New Englanders and the Barbadians did not live together in harmony, and later Sanford removed with part of the colony to Port Royal. Later that year, Henry Vassall, who signed himself sole agent at Cape Fear, complained that one Sir John Yeaman had been preferred to him, yet hopes to retain the Colonists at Cape Fear.

In October, 1667, John Vassall bewails the breaking up of the colony, though they had two years provision of corn on hand. After the abandonment of the settlement by Vassall and the New Englanders, the river was infested with pirates who became a menace to the other settlements. This information is contained in a book entitled REEVES, MERCER and NEWKIRK BY Lillian Reeves Wyatt, 1956, and is quoting from a DAR N. C. Booklet, Vol. VII, No. 8, Jan. 1908. In this there is a footnote: Thomas Wentworth Higginson, in allusion to the monument of a Madam Ann Vassal, widow of John Vassall, at Cambridge, says: 'At her feet and at her head, Lies a slave to attend the dead.'

The Lords Proprietors, who had been given the Carolina Charter by Charles II of England on March 24, 1663, had promoted a settlement by Sir John Yeaman over that of John Vassall as has just been pointed out. And while the Proprietors might have learned much from the fate of Clarendon, they did not. The most obvious evidence of their failure to do so was the plan of settlement they next devised for Carolina. The plan was contained in a document known as the "Fundamental Constitutions", generally attributed to Anthony Ashley Cooper and his secretary, John Locke. Following the death of Sir John Colleton in 1666, Ashley Cooper was the Proprietor most active in promoting the colonization of Carolina. He had
never been to America, but he was convinced that the compact township society was responsible for the economic well-being of the people of New England and had provided them with greater security than they would have enjoyed in scattered settlements. He also had a high regard for the stable and well-ordered society of rural England in which the people looked to the landed nobility for guidance. These ideas found their way from the mind of Ashley Cooper into the "Fundamental Constitutions."

According to the document, Carolina was to be divided into an unspecified number of counties of 480,000 acres, and each county subdivided into forty units of equal size (12,000 acres each). Eight of the units, called seigniories, were to be allotted to the Proprietors. Eight others, called baronies, were to be divided among the local nobility that was to consist of one landgrave and two caciques in each county. The landgrave was to receive four baronies and the caciques, two each. The remaining twenty-four units, to be known as colonies and divided into four precincts of equal size, were to be granted in more modest allotments to the common people, or freeholders. At the bottom of the social structure there was to be a servile and landless class, known as leetment, who were to work the land of the nobility and were to be under the jurisdiction of their lords. (This continues at mark on page 55 of THE LOWER CAPE FEAR IN COLONIAL DAYS)

Perhaps to better understand the first English settlement in South Carolina, which, of course, was to influence settlement in Horry County, it might be well to review the orders given to Captain Joseph West. Here, perhaps the leadership of the colony should be clarified because we have just pointed out that John Vassal had complained that the Proprietors had chosen Sir John Yeamans over him. In August of 1669, an expedition consisting of the CAROLINA, under Joseph West, and two smaller vessels sailed from England, bound for Port Royal by way of Barbados. Aboard were some one hundred colonists bound for a new life in Carolina. At Barbados they were joined by additional settlers and by Sir John Yeamans. He was still determined to settle Port Royal, and by agreement with the Lords he took over leadership of the venture. After leaving Barbados, violent weather drove one vessel ashore on an island of the Bahamas and another northward to Virginia. The CAROLINA, with Yeamans and most of the colonists aboard, put into Bermuda for repairs. Because of this unexpected delay, it was necessary for Yeamans to return to Barbados on other business, but before he left, he named William Sayle as leader in his place. Sayle was an aged resident and former governor of Bermuda, and by this twist of fate he, not Yeamans, became the first governor of South Carolina. Governor Sayle died in 1672 and Joseph West succeeded him as governor but within a year, was replaced by Yeamans. Upon the death of Sir John Yeamans, West again succeeded to the governor’s post which he held until 1682 when the province was expanded to include all of Carolina that "lyes South and West of Cape Fear." It was thus extended over the old jurisdictions Yeamans had held during the days of Clarendon. Here, I have wandered away from the orders that the Lords Proprietors were about to give to Joseph West before his departure from England with the three ships that were to make settlement in Carolina. Excerpts from those orders were: "Mr. West, God sending you safe to Barbados, you are there to furnish yourself with Cotton seed, Indigo Seed, Ginger Roots which roots you are to carry planted in a tubb of earth, that they may not dye before your arrivall at Port Royall; alse you may in another tubb carry some Canes planted for a tryall - also of the several sorts of vines on that Island and some Ollive setts; all which will be procured you by Mr. Thomas Colleton, if you applye yourselfe to him.

Feb. 6, 1973

It would be so simple to describe the settling of Horry County if we could say a shipload of people sailed over from England; landed in Charleston or Georgetown and then marched into our area; that all of our citizens descended from such a settlement.

But, of course, it was not quite so simple. The settling of our county was an enormously complicated process involving literally scores of factors--any one of which, if properly studied, would fill a sizeable book.

And when we consider the settling of Horry County, we come to realize that it was not just something that occurred in colonial times; it is a process that has involved three centuries. And it is still going on today--perhaps now with greater acceleration than at any time in our history.

Previously, we touched on some of the external factors that influenced the people to
come to this area. Among some of these was the French Revolution and the religious persecution of the Protestants; the defeat of the Spanish Armada and the desire to gain profit and treasures.

But in addition to external factors that caused people to leave their home lands; there had to be internal factors that attracted them to a particular area. Horry County has many features to attract people but some remained unrealized and unexploited for so long that they served little purpose in attracting people until recent times.

Perhaps our earliest attracting factor was Horry County's accessibility. We are located on the Ocean where ships could approach and we have two rivers-the Waccamaw and the Little Pee Dee that served as highways of commerce for early settlement.

Another attracting feature was our abundance of land which, in order to encourage settlement, the English government early offered it free to people who would come and settle on it. This attracted people from Charleston and other populated areas of our South Carolina colony; from the settlements that had spilled over into North Carolina from Virginia; from the Appalachian area of the Carolinas that had many settlers from Pennsylvania; and from New England and other northern states where people came here in ships; as well, of course, as settlers from Honduras and other West Indies islands as well as from European nations.

To use this land often required hard work and much credit is to be given to those who became permanent settlers. But this proved too much for a great many of those early pioneers who came here for we have records to show that many people emigrated from Horry County to Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Nebraska and other states during the 19th century.

The value of the land that the English Crown was giving away often went unrealized. Of course the value of the land was relative to the purpose the custom of the time had for it. Some of the land was valued because it was located on a riverside and easily accessible; some was valuable because it was low and suited for the growing of rice; some was valued for pasture purposes for use in raising livestock; Some of the land was desirable as producing tar and turpentine as well as timber. One little episode about the appreciation of the value of our land comes to mind when I recall a conversation with one of the early residents of Ocean Drive Beach. This man had resided there at the turn of the century-long before a beach resort had ever been dreamed of. He once told me that the long defunct Bank of Little River once tried to sell him about one hundred acres of sandy beach land that now encompasses the Ocean Drive Beach area. He said the bank officials offered it to him for five hundred dollars and were willing to sell it to him on liberal credit terms. But he refused, he said, because it was so sandy, it would not even grow peanuts. Perhaps some of you know that the ocean front, part of this land has been selling for hundreds of dollars per foot and recently, I know of some ocean front lots that sold for figures in the thousands of dollars per front foot.

We know that rice and indigo were two of the principal crops in colonial times. These crops required much labor to clear the land and cultivate. Such need for labor caused the slave trade to flourish and by 1790, the year of the first national census count, the number of slaves settled upon the lands of Georgetown District (which included what is now Horry County) exceeded the number of free white settlers. The records show that we had a total of 22,122 population of which 13,000 were slaves. And in All Saints Parish (that area lying between the Waccamaw River and the Sea in Georgetown Counties), there were four slaves for each free white person. The great slave population of the All Saints Parish area can be attributed principally to the great rice plantations that were in what is now Georgetown county. The 1790 census shows at least five plantation owners with more than a hundred slaves each. So from this, we can see that our settlers were not just Europeans seeking greater opportunity or religious freedom but from Africans whose coming here was involuntary to say the least.

While on the subject of slavery in this area, I might touch on something recently observed that exhibited the work of many of these slaves. One of their jobs, in addition to the planting, cultivating and harvesting of rice and other crops, was the clearing of land during the winter months. If you have ever ridden down the Waccamaw or Pee Dee River and observed the great expanse of old rice fields, you have seen the results of some of the work of these slaves. Great forests of cypress trees once covered most of these rice fields before the coming of the slaves. When the developers of Sandy Island, near Brookgreen Gardens, began developing a small part of one of these great rice fields, they ran into an unexpected obstacle. There were giant cypress stumps so solid that an ordinary
dragline could not excavate the earth around them. It was necessary to bring in extra heavy equipment to pull these stumps from their settings. Many of these stumps were ten feet or more across and had been cut off by crosscut saws wielded by these black settlers along these rivers. To see a pilot ditch cut across these rice fields reveals these huge stumps in such large numbers that the clearing of this land was a task that seems incomprehensible.

By the turn of the 18th century, the culture of rice was increasing in the Georgetown District and, to some extent, in Horry County, but another crop was coming into prominence in our area about this time. An invention by another settler from New England who came south to Savannah, Georgia, for a number of years, was to revolutionize farming and add cotton as a principal crop to rice and indigo. This, of course, is the invention of the cotton gin by Eli Whitney in 1796.

Those of you who have been hunting in Horry County or have wandered through some of our swamps and bays, probably have noticed many drainage ditches which indicate areas that were cleared fields. It was such fields that made Horry County a prolific producer of cotton until the War Between the States when slave ownership ended.

Another purpose that Horry County land was put to was the producing of naval stores. The many sandy ridges that exist between the bays of Horry County are suited to the growing of the long leaf pine. And from the long leaf pines comes turpentine which is produced by boxing and chipping the live trees. These trees also produce fat lightwood which was cooked in kilns and yielded tar and pitch. This industry attracted a number of persons to our county. I have made a study of one family who was a major producer of naval stores in Horry County just prior to the War Between the States.

This naval stores producer was Colonel Daniel William Jordan who came here about 1848 from North Carolina. The record indicates that the first American generation of this family was Thomas Jordan who came from England in 1630 and settled on Manhattan Island, New York, where he became dissatisfied and moved to Maryland. One of his descendants moved to Pitt County, North Carolina, and settled in an area that was to become known as Jordan Plains. The son of this settler was Colonel Daniel W. Jordan who settled at Little River and began purchasing large acreage of land for the purpose of producing tar and turpentine.

Colonel Jordan, who served briefly as Postmaster of Little River, eventually acquired 9,940 acres of land in what we now know as the Grand Strand area. While operating his naval stores activities in Horry County, his attention was attracted to the great rice plantations on the Waccamaw in Georgetown County and in 1859, he sold his entire holdings and moved to Laurel Hill near Murrells Inlet. This 9,940 acres of land was sold to the Nicholas F. Nixon family for $25,000.00 and much of this land is still owned by the Nixon grandchildren who are the present day developers of the Cherry Grove Beach section of the Grand Strand.

During the War Between the States, the Colonel's plantation was harassed by Yankee gunboats who came up the Waccamaw River and forced him to leave his property. He moved to Camden, South Carolina, where some of his descendants still reside. His Waccamaw Rice plantation, Laurel Hill, is today a part of the Brookgreen Gardens properties.

So it is evident that people came to Horry County for many reasons. But life was hard here in the wilderness that was once our land and many of those who came to settle, looked further inland and some of them moved to Kansas, Tennessee, Texas, Georgia, Florida; in fact many people scattered throughout our nation today can trace some of their ancestry to Horry.

In more recent times, the people of this area began to recognize the rich heritage of the natural resources here and began to develop prolific farms, to manufacture the abundance of timber, to take advantage of the waterways and seacoast. In less than fifty years, our seacoast has developed from a barren wilderness into a delightful resort that attracts hordes of visitors in the Summer season and permanent residents in ever increasing numbers. So immigration to Horry County is not an activity that occurred just in historical times but goes on today perhaps now at a greater pace than at any time since its first settlement.
OLD HOUSES IN HORRY COUNTY

By Bart Cain

History 492, The History of Horry County, was first offered at Coastal Carolina in the fall of 1972. Bart Cain was enrolled in this course and wrote a paper describing his efforts to discover the oldest houses in the Independent Republic. The following article is edited from this paper. The cover photograph of the Boundary Stone was part of his photographic exhibit for the paper.

I began this paper to find out the oldest house still standing in Horry County. After much research, by reading books and talking with many Horryites, I found this task quite impossible. The main problem was getting evidence stating as to when the houses were built and the original owners. I enjoyed talking with some unique people and exploring the interesting county of Horry.

I found several houses, sites and graveyards in which I toured and explored and I shall tell about them.

One of the oldest houses, which may be the oldest, is the Randall-Vereen house. It is located at Little River on the water in an old fishing village. It was built by Thomas Randall who came to South Carolina from Rochester, Massachusetts. I got several dates on this house ranging from 1800 to 1880. This is a two-story house with gable roof and two large chimneys on each end. This house has two main rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs. It also has three rooms downstairs which are enclosed porches. In the publication, Waccamaw Survey of Historic Places, it dates the house to have been built around 1830.(1)

Mr. C. B. Berry stated it was probably built in the 1830's.

Mr. C. B. Berry has a copy of an 1871 map that shows no house there but other houses in the area. (2)

The present owner is Mrs. Sam (Katie) Vereen with whom I talked and she said the house was 175 years old. Mrs. Vereen is now (1972) 83 years old. She said Jack Vereen married into the Randall family. He lived there; then his son John, who later went to Florida, and his brother Charlie (Bubby) Vereen acquired the house. He sold it to Herbert Stone, who sold it to Captain Sanders, who sold it to Captain Arnold. He sold it to Mr. Willy Bryan, then Mrs. Vereen's husband acquired the house. She did not know the men's first names and the dates of ownership. (3)

The graves of Thomas Randall and his wife are in the Cedar Creek Cemetery. It is located near Nixon Cross Roads between old and new Highway 17 north. This cemetery dates back to 1827. This site was originally the location of a Pre-Revolutionary War meeting house where a New Year's dancing party was broken up on January 1st, 1740 by the Rev. George Whitfield. In the 1840's the Little River Methodist Church was built there and served the area until 1920 when it moved to Little River at its present site. Buried there are many prominent citizens of the area. (4) Thomas Randall was born in Rochester, Massachusetts on November 25th, 1791 and died on November 4th, 1872. This would show that the Randall-Vereen House was built around the 1830's.

The oldest cemetery I found (with markers) is the Vereen family cemetery. It is located on the right of highway 17 north across from the South Carolina Welcome Center. The oldest marker is that of William Vereen who died in 1789. The small cemetery has about twelve or fifteen graves and a tall monument in the center which gives the family ancestors and ownership of Big Landing (Which the estate is called).

In 1700 the land was deeded to the Vereen family and is still in the family. The cemetery and a small tract of land is now owned by the Horry County Historic Preservation Commission and they hope to make a park out of it. (5)

There used to be an old house between the highway and the water where the present house now stands. Big landing is famous for preparing salt for the army during the Civil War. Also there is a flagpole where they flew a Confederate flag during the war. (6)

The Boundary House is the oldest house ever mentioned in the county. It was on the North Carolina and South Carolina line between Calabash, North Carolina and Little River. It is 500 feet northwest of the Calabash River. There is a 600 pound monument which marks the spot. (7)

A 1776 map shows a house there known as the Boundary House and also a deed in 1754 states the house known as the Boundary House. (8)

This was the residence of Isaac Marion,

---

brother of Francis Marion, in 1775. The house was also used as a colonial meeting house when not used as a residence. (9)

Another old house is the Buck House. It is eight miles south from Conway, off of U. S. 701. Its estimated date is 1830. It is a two story frame structure with gable roof and two large end chimneys and was built by Henry Buck (1800-1870) who came to South Carolina from Bucksport, Maine. He bought land on the Waccamaw River and was one of the largest planters in the South. He founded the town of Bucksville on the Waccamaw and brought the first saw mill to South Carolina. He built three mills in his lifetime. The Upper Mill, at his home site; the Middle Mill, at Bucksville; and the Lower Mill, later developed into Bucksport. All that remains today are the red brick chimneys of the first two mills, rising 75 to 100 feet. (10)

Another interesting site is that of two graves on Highway 90 near Wampee. There are two graves at the edge of the woods beside a field. Buried there are Mathias Vaught (1839-1892) and his wife Adaline Edge Vaught (1841-1875). Mathias was named after his grandfather who was Mathias Vaught. He fought in the Revolutionary War and The Battle of Cowpens in 1781. He had received a land grant for the land. An 1820 Mills Atlas shows a Vaught house near the tombstones. Mathias Vaught, the grandfather, his daughter married John Bellamy of Little River Neck and they had two children, Marsdon and John, Jr. John became a doctor in Wilmington and had many reputable offspring. His brother Marsdon died when he was on his way to the University of South Carolina. (11) Marsdon Bellamy is buried in Cedar Creek Cemetery at Nixon’s Cross Roads.

The Earl Nixon House on Highway 90 about 10 miles from Conway is believed to be very old, dating back to the late 1820’s or 1830’s. (12) The house is very much the same as it was when it was built. It is unpainted and in a grove of old oaks. The wood inside the house is long leaf pine and all hand work. Long leaf pine is very scarce today. Mr. Harmon Lewis, 87 years old, says the house has been there all his life. John Vaught, another old gentleman at Nixonville, believes the house to be very old. An architect from Washington, who dates old houses, went and toured the old house to try and get an exact date. He guessed the house to be at least built in 1840. He prepared a report on some old houses in Horry County but did not send back any further information on this house. (13)

Miss Ruth Nixon, who lives near the house, says a big house used to be where her present home now stands and the Nixon papers and deeds in it but burned over seventy years ago. (14)

Some of the people who lived in the Earl Nixon House were John Nixon and then later Babe Nixon and his two sisters. (15)

The Joseph Vereen House at Tilly Swamp on the Waccamaw River is said to be 150 years old by some descendants of the owner but they had nothing to back it up except it being there a long time. (16) The siding on the house does not appear to be of that period but of one much later. This is the site of the clash between the Whigs and the Tories during the Revolutionary War. Joseph Vereen was born in the house and he died in 1967 at the age of 92. His father was Ben Vereen. (17)

The John Price House is believed to date back to 1840. It was built by carpenters from Bucksport, Maine, brought here by Henry Buck. The Price House and the Little House in Conway were built for Henry Buck for his daughters as wedding gifts. (18)

It is located about two miles from the Hickory Grove Church toward the river about five miles from Conway. This house is unpainted and is in the process of being restored by John Price. This house is put together with pegs. The timber in the house is 10 x 10 and 42 feet long and the siding is also a full 42 feet in length.

These are a few of the houses I could find in Horry County and I hope more information can be gained and added on the history of these old houses.

LAUNCHING OF THE STEAMER "SANDERS" AT LITTLE RIVER

By C. B. Berry

The following newspaper clipping was made available to me by Mr. M. R. Sanders, formerly of Southport, N. C., but now makes his home in Ocean Drive Beach.]

"GALA DAY AT LITTLE RIVER
"Launching of the First Steamer Ever Built There (October, 1902)
"'Here she comes!' yelled the voice of a small boy standing on the pier, and as we looked
down the river we beheld the Steamer Compton of the Wilmington and Little River Transportation Co., describing graceful curves as she followed the channel of our picturesque Little River.

'Upon her decks stood a throng of distinguished visitors, gentlemen and ladies, come to do honor to the occasion and participate in the launching of the first steamboat ever built at Little River.

'The Compton left Wilmington, at 4 a.m., making a pleasant run down the Cape Fear, stopping for passengers at Southport, Fort Caswell and other points, giving her distinguished guests a most enjoyable excursion to Little River, where she joyously greeted her sister ship on the ways with a laugh from her steam whistle such as you would never forget. Mr. M. J. Corbett, president of the Company, and Mr. R. R. Stone formerly of Little River, were among the arrivals.

'The Company's guests included several distinguished Wilmingtonians. Among them were Messrs. Edgar L. and Joe H. Hinton, the well known proprietors of the Purcell, Orton and seashore hotels, W. P. Monroe, assistant chief of the fire department, and J. S. Monroe, C. D. Ford, J. S. Canady, John D. Harriss, also several newspaper men, among them, T. W. Brunson, Editor of the Wilmington Dispatch.

'The usual beautiful picnic ground was chosen for the banquet to be given after the launching of Little River's new steamer, and at about 1 o'clock p.m., the Captain of the Compton sounded a call to see the event of the day. With all the vantage ground well taken by the big crowd and two beautiful ladies standing on a platform at the new steamer's prow, with Miss Bessie Gore as sponsor, Miss Nellie Corbett said, 'I wish thee all safe voyages and I christen thee Sanders' and smashed a bottle of sparkling champagne upon her bow and exclaiming as the trim little craft darted into the water: 'I christen Thee Sanders!' She was attended at the launching as maid of honor by Miss Bessie Gore and simultaneously with the breaking of the champagne bottle the Union Jack was unfurled by Master Will Gore, the flag 'Sanders' by Capt. Edgar Hinton and the Stars and Stripes by Mr. Ed. Wilson Manning. The colors floated proudly from the prow, cabin and stern of the new boat.

'Following the launching ceremonies was a big basket picnic in an oak grove upon an elevation overlooking the harbor. People for miles around were present and the days was one that will be long remembered at Little River.

'The new boat will be towed to Wilmington next week and her machinery installed. A description of her has been previously published and it is enough to say that the SANDERS will be one of the smartest of the freight and passenger boats in these waters.'

This ship apparently saw service for five years before coming to an untimely end as reported in a newspaper on April 17, 1907:

'STEAMER SANDERS RUNS AGROUND

'Asshore off the Bar at Little River, S. C.'
The Sanders left this city (Wilmington) on Sunday morning--no definite details have yet been received relative to the steamer condition--tug has gone to the assistance of the Sanders.

"It was learned this morning that the steamer Sanders, which is owned by the Wilmington, Southport and Little River Steamboat Company, is ashore on the bar off Little River, S. C. No particulars have yet been received relative to the steamer Sanders, which is owned by the Wilmington, Southport and Little River Steamboat Company, at present, but it is not believed that the boat is in a dangerous position. A tug has been sent to the assistance of the Sanders. The Sanders left this city on Sunday with a cargo consigned to merchants in Little River, and is in charge of Capt. L. J. Pepper. It is hoped that the boat will be floated within the next few hours.

"Every possible effort will be made to hasten the release of the steamer from its present position and it is hoped that the boat can be pulled off without any material damage to it."

A later article gives more details on the demise of the Sanders:

"TALE OF A SHIPWRECKED MARINER"

"We have been requested by Mr. F. S. Williams, former engineer of the now defunct steamer Sanders, to print his experience in the recent wreck of that gallant steamer on Little River bar, and we take pleasure in doing so, knowing that it will be interesting reading for our patrons.

"Mr. Editor: The tale of a shipwrecked mariner is at all times sad but especially so when one is wrecked within a stone’s throw of the beach and in eighteen inches of water as was the case last week in the wreck of the Sanders. But to begin at the beginning. We left the Battery at Little River at 9:50 o’clock the morning of April 16th. Everything was working well and the entire crew happy to feel that soon they would see loved ones at home after so perilous a voyage, having been away from home for nearly three days. Suddenly in crossing the bar the gallant ship was felt to strike the beach and soon was hard and fast, the engine refusing to work on account of the shoe having been bent up and caught in the propeller. I at once rushed up on deck and reported the catastrophe to Capt. Pepper who was at the wheel. This was indeed a sad time of my life and Capt. Pepper and the good mate Mr. Fred Dosher I have no doubt, felt the same way. I felt as the old song runs, ‘Let your lights be burning, send the gleam across the waves.’ It was then about 10:15 o’clock and we were pounding the shoals heavily and looking for some steam pipe to break or the ship to go to pieces. Whistle after whistle of distress was blown and the colors were set in the hope that assistance would arrive. At last a small yacht did come along but she was nearly swamped in trying to get to us and gave up the attempt, steaming on to Cape Fear. Then it was again that we were sad to think that the yacht would report the ship lost with all hands, to our loved ones.

"Soon we were overjoyed to see the gallant Capt. Herbert Stone and Capt. Bryant coming to our assistance in their launch. . . . (here a skip in the printing omits a small part of the account) . . . . at once left by private conveyance, procured through the kindness of Mr. Jas. Craig, for Southport and from what Capt. Pepper says this trip was as eventful as the wreck, he only reaching Southport after about ten hours of misery in a cart. However, we feel that Capt. Pepper bears no hard feeling against Mr. Craig in his choice of a mule wherewith to take him to his home and he knows that it was an error of the head and not of the heart in Mr. Craig procuring such an onery steed. Mate Dosher and myself also reached Southport the next day safe and sound. We wish to express to all our friends who assisted us our heart-felt thanks.

Respectfully, F. S. Williams, Former Chief Engineer of The Ocean Steamer Sanders"

THE BELLAMY FAMILY

By C. B. Berry

Our quarterly for October 1973 had a most interesting article about the Bellamy family and the old home place of William Addleton Bellamy (Jan. 4, 1816 - April 26, 1900). I was fortunate to have interviewed a granddaughter of Addleton Bellamy while she was still living. Amanda Bellamy (June 15, 1867 - Dec. 17, 1961) was interviewed by me on May 3, 1961, and gave some interesting information on her Grandfather with whom she made her home part time during her youth.

Her family Bible showed: Seth Bellamy married Penelope Quintilla Bryan 11 July 1866 at William Carter’s home by the Rev. William Carter, Esq. (they were her parents). Seth Bellamy born Aug. 5, 1841, d. October 22, 1918; Mary M. Bellamy b. Dec. 7, 1837, d. June 9, 1918; Seth Bellamy and Mary M. Bellamy, his second wife, were married Oct. 27, 1872. Amanda Penelope Bellamy b. June 15, 1867;
Addleton Bellamy's 180 year-old home located on S. C. Hwy. 9

Amanda F. Bellamy, daughter of F. K. and M. M. Bellamy born Oct. 3, 1856; Ruthie O. Rhodes born May 28, 1887 (adopted child of Seth); Penelope Q. Bellamy died Sept. 12, 1869.

Amanda Bellamy married Leavy Gerald who died about 1910. They had eight children: Doc Gerald married Lona Rowell; Worth Gerald married Louise Rose; Shelton Gerald married Faulk; Code Gerald unm.; Newman Gerald married Hazel Hardee; Clarence Gerald married Mary Lee Benton; Retha Gerald married Deck Hardee; and Dula Gerald married Goreham Boyd.

Addleton Bellamy's grandfather was John Bellamy (April 12, 1750 - Feb. 1826) who obtained a grant of land on Buck Creek and the Waccamaw River in 1768. His first wife seems to have been Sarah Frink, daughter of John Frink and his wife, Martha Masters Hankins Frink who was the only daughter of Samuel Masters, a pioneer who early settled upon the coastal area of Horry County and had several grants of land here.

John Bellamy had a second marriage to Elizabeth Vaught (1795-1857) daughter of Matthias Vaught a Revolutionary War Veteran who had been born at sea while en route from Hanover, Germany to Charleston in 1750. Matthias Vaught had a home in the Wampee section of Horry County and served with Francis Marion's forces during the war. He lost a leg in the battle of Cowpens when a British Calvaryman struck him with a sword.

John Bellamy and Elizabeth Vaught had two children: John D. Bellamy, born Sept. 18, 1817 and Marsden Bellamy (25 May 1824-20 Jan. 1839). Marsden was enroute to the University of South Carolina when he was taken ill at Marion, S. C. and died at the home of a Dr. Evans. He is buried in the old Cedar Creek Cemetery near Nixon's Crossroads where a stone memorializes him.

John D. Bellamy who was born and reared in Little River Neck, moved to Wilmington, N. C. and read medicine in the office of Dr. William James Harris, as was customary in those days for students who intended to go to medical college for their degrees. In 1839, he was graduated with honors from Jefferson Medical College of the University of Pennsylvania and returned to Wilmington to begin the practice of his profession.

Dr. Bellamy and his family resided in the former home of Governor Benjamin Smith from 1846 until they built their new home, a beautiful mansion that has been featured on television in modern times, at Fifth and Market Streets in Wilmington, in 1859.

Dr. Bellamy married 12 June 1839 Eliza McIlhenny Harris (Aug. 6, 1821 - Oct. 18, 1907) daughter of Dr. William J. Harris and his wife, Mary Priscilla Jennings. Their children:

Mary Elizabeth Bellamy; Marsden Bellamy; Dr. William James Harris Bellamy (Sept. 16, 1844 - Nov. 18, 1911) married Mary Williams Russell of Brunswick County, N. C.; Eliza Bellamy, unm.; Ellen Bellamy, unm., the last of the family to reside at the old Bellamy mansion at Fifth and Market Streets in Wilmington; Senator John Dillard Bellamy and George Bellamy.

Mary Elizabeth Bellamy (1840-1900) married in 1876 William Jefferson Duffie of Chester County, S. C. and had two children: Eliza Bellamy Duffie and Ellen Douglas Duffie.

Eliza Bellamy Duffie, born Dec. 3, 1878 in Columbia, S. C. married 29 April 1903 James Spencer Verner (March 12, 1879 - 16 July 1933) and had four children: 1. James S. Verner Jr. (22 Jan. 1906 - March 18, 1940) married Ann Marshall of York, S. C. Mr. Verner served in the South Carolina Attorney General's office during the terms of five South Carolina governors. Their children were James Verner III married Martha Harley of Newberry. He is a Columbia attorney; and Elise Verner married William Weston III. 2. Mary Bellamy Verner married Eliza M. Schlaefer of New Jersey and they have three children: Edward Verner Schlaefer; Mary Bellamy Schlaefer and Ellen Douglas Schlaefer. 3. William Duffie Verner, b. Aug. 11, 1908,


Dr. John D. Bellamy’s son, Marsden Bellamy (14 Jan. 1843 - 1 Dec. 1909) resided in Wilmington, N. C. He was appointed assistant paymaster in the Confederate States Navy May 23, 1864, and made an assistant paymaster in the Provisional Navy on June 2, 1864. He married Harriet Susan Harllee of Florence County and had several children.

Another son was Senator John Dillard Bellamy who graduated from the University of Virginia in 1875 and served as an attorney in Wilmington, N. C. for some sixty-five years. He was born 24 March 1854 at the corner of Dock and Second Streets where his parents resided before moving to their mansion on 5th and Market Streets. He served as a member of Congress, state senator and was dean of the North Carolina Bar. Late in life, he wrote the book “Memoirs of an Octogenarian” in 1942 which gives an excellent account of activities in and around Wilmington during his lifetime.

In 1876, he married Emma M. Hargrove, daughter of Colonel John Hargrove of Granville County, N. C. and had children.

Another son of Dr. John D. Bellamy was George Bellamy who was known as the Duke of Brunswick because of his political activities in Brunswick County, N. C. He married Kate Thees and had children that included, Bessie Bellamy who married 6 Nov. 1901 Silas Paul Venters and resided in Jacksonville, N. C. and had at least three children. Also John Dillard Bellamy who married Elizabeth Walker.

The Bellamy Mansion located at the corner of 5th & Market Streets in Wilmington, North Carolina, was built in 1859 by Dr. John D. Bellamy who was born September 18, 1817, in Little River Neck, Horry County, S. C. (Photo - Courtesy of R. V. Asbury, Jr., Executive Director of the Historic Wilmington Foundation)
EARLY BUS TRANSPORTATION IN HORRY COUNTY

By J. P. Cartrette

After World War I O. H. Bagnal operated a bus between Conway and Marion, for a short time. As I recall the seats ran the length of the bus from the front to rear-the passengers sitting facing each other. He was succeeded by J. Thelbert Lewis. Later Jesse H. Anderson and W. Pearce Cartrette operated passenger cars as Buses to Marion from Conway.

Finally W. Pearce Cartrette became the sole operator, making two round trips per day, carrying both passengers and mail. He left Conway in the early morning making connection with the Wilmington-Columbia train West bound, and returning with mail and passengers about ten A.M. That afternoon he met the East bound train at Marion, returning to Conway late that night.

When the mail connection was opened for bids and Lloyd Allen and Walter Baker got the star rte., which is still in operation by their family from Myrtle Beach to Florence, S. C., Cartrette discontinued his run.

For a few years this carrier continued to haul passengers. Other star route mail carriers continued this practice of mail and passengers, A. M. Dusenbury then W. Fred Brown to Toddville.

After World War II, for a few months Geo. H. Jenkins operated a city bus line in Conway and outlying areas as far as Homewood.

Today Conway is served by a Greyhound Bus and a Continental Trailways. Highway Post Offices carry the mail.

LITTLE RIVER METHODIST CHURCH

It is the opinion of C. B. Berry, author of the address delivered August 9, 1970 at Little River Methodist Church at the beginning of the Tricentennial Celebration in Horry County, that Cedar Creek Church was the forerunner of the present Little River Methodist Church. Cedar Creek Church, which served the people of Little River for a century or more before the Little River Methodist Church was established, was located on a tract of land obtained by Boryiah Grant January 18, 1733; this tract of land is near the present day Nixon’s Cross Roads. From the diary of George Whitfield, friend and close associate of John Wesley, came some interesting entries that might bear on the organizations of the church:

“Tuesday, January 1, 1740. About sunset we came to a tavern five miles within the province of South Carolina. I believe the people of the house at first wished I had not come to be their guest, for it being New-Year’s-day, several of the neighbors were met together to divert themselves by dancing country dances. By the advice of my companions I went in amongst them. All were soon put to silence, and were for some time so overawed that after I had discoursed to them on the nature of baptism and the necessity of being born again to enjoy the kingdom of heaven, I baptized, at their entreaty, one of their children and prayed as I was enabled, and as the circumstances of the company required.

“Wednesday, January 2. We rose early, prayed, sung a hymn, gave another word of exhortation to the dancers, and at the break of day we mounted our horses. For nearly twenty miles we rode over a beautiful bay, and were wonderfully delighted to see the porpoises taking their pastime...”

In this account, Whitfield says this tavern was five miles within the province of South Carolina, and this would have put it in the vicinity of the site of Cedar Creek Church. It is the opinion of Mr. Berry that Cedar Creek Methodist Church was the result of George Whitfield’s visit and sermon back on New Year’s day in 1740. There is a strong possibility that a Meeting House was established there in colonial times, there being a dense little round bay scarcely a hundred yards from the Cedar Creek site which has long been named Meetinghouse Bay. This name undoubtedly came from the fact that there was a church or Meetinghouse there, however, actual records of
activities at such a Mettinghouse have not been found.

In the Horry County Deed records, is found evidence of actual Methodist activities in 1840 when Anthony Brantly granted two acres to the Trustees of the Methodist. These trustees were: John Brantly, William Bessent, Joseph Vaught, Daniel Thomas and Joseph Claridy. The deed further states that this two acres is a part of a tract originally granted to Boriah Grant in 1783. In the same year, Joseph Vaught granted an additional half-acre to the Methodist Episcopal Church--lying between the line which runs through the cemetery and a branch nearby. The existence of a cemetery at this site in 1840 would seem to imply that it had been the site of prior religious activity.

It seems that as the Little River Methodist Church grew, the old Cedar Creek Church diminished and the last building there was torn down sometime in the 1920's. It is not known when the Little River Methodist Church was established and its early history has to be reconstructed from references to two other churches--Cedar Creek Methodist and a Baptist Church that was on the site of the present church. There is a deed in the Horry County Courthouse dated March 22, 1856, in which Thomas Randall conveyed to Abraham W. Bessent and John S. Thomas, Trustees of the Baptist Church, a plat of ground on Little River, All Saints Parish and at the old cross roads and where the church house now stands. Beginning at the cross of the roads and running an Eastwardly direction with the Wilmington Road 42 yards to the road leading out to the Waccamaw River; thence Southwardly to the beginning. The title was to exist for so long as it

reconstructed from references to two other churches--Cedar Creek Methodist and a Baptist Church that was on the site of the present church. There is a deed in the Horry County Courthouse dated March 22, 1856, in which Thomas Randall conveyed to Abraham W. Bessent and John S. Thomas, Trustees of the Baptist Church, a plat of ground on Little River, All Saints Parish and at the old cross roads and where the church house now stands. Beginning at the cross of the roads and running an Eastwardly direction with the Wilmington Road 42 yards to the road leading out to the Waccamaw River; thence Southwardly to the beginning. The title was to exist for so long as it continues a location of the Baptist Church with a sufficiency of time to rebuild or repair from age, fire or storm. It was signed by Thomas Randall, Witnessed by W. L. Gore and W. A. Bessent, before Joseph B. Edge, Magistrate for the parish. This description fits the present location of the Methodist Church now standing, so it becomes evident that his site had at once time been the site of a Baptist Church.

But there is evidence that a Methodist Church has long been associated with Little River. One day while researching in the Horry County Public Library in Conway, Mr. Berry's attention was attracted to an obituary in the Horry Weekly News for September 9, 1876: ‘Mr. Thomas W. Gore, a merchant and prominent citizen of Little River, died on the 6th instant and was buried with Masonic Honors at the old Methodist Church near Little River on the 7th instant.' The expression here ‘old Methodist Church’ would seem to imply that there was a new Methodist Church nearby and from this it was assumed that a Methodist Church in Little River had already come into existence by 1876. The tombstone of Thomas W. Gore with matching dates to those in the obituary was found in the old Cedar Creek Cemetery. It also had the Masonic Emblem on the stone and proved that the Cedar Creek Church was what they referred to as the ‘old Methodist Church’.

The white wood church which so long served the congregation of the Methodists of Little River as their house of worship was moved from its corner location to a lot beyond the cemetery of the church and is now used as a recreation center by the members. A handsome new brick church now stands on a lot adjoining the cemetery on the north, on a tract deeded to the church trustees January 30, 1943 by Nelle M. Bryan, great-granddaughter of Thomas Randall who gave the land for the first church on this site.

From Horry County records in the Clerk of Court's office. October 25, 1892, deed for a lot on which a church is to be erected by Martha E. Bryan to Dr. R. G. Sloan, Hartford J. Vereen, J. Westey Vereen, Robert Livingston and O. N. Holden, Trustees of Little River Methodist Episcopal Church, South Carolina.

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Vereen, Mrs. Sam [Katie]. Conversation 1972.
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The Society has received a book - "History of Horry Lodge no 65 A.F.M.; Conway Lodge No. 219 A.F.M.; Conway Lodge No. 65 A.F.M. 1844-1972 - By J. O. Cartrette, P.M.P.D.D.G.M.

Our thanks to Mr. Purvis Riley and the Lodge.
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

504 Lakeside Drive
Conway, S. C. 29526
February 12, 1974

Mr. E. R. McIver
Box 255
Conway, S. C. 29526

Dear Rick:

The January issue of the Independent Republic Quarterly was splendid and, as usual, we enjoyed each article it contained. The article about Mr. W. H. Winbourne was very fine, but I hasten to make a correction concerning the pieces in our home.

The captions on the four pictures of the three pieces of our furniture shown should be corrected to indicate that each was made by Mr. Winbourne for Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Sherwood, the parents of Sara Sherwood McMillan.

I think that where you misunderstood was that our breakfast-room table was made by Mr. Winbourne for Sara. A picture of this piece is not in the quarterly. We regret that we were not more specific and more helpful in writing the captions for the pictures.

Please have published in the next issue of The Independent Republic Quarterly a notice to correct these errors.

Sincerely yours,

s/Hoyt McMillan

THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE FLOYD FAMILY IN HORRY COUNTY

By Thomas B. Jones

The earliest records of the Floyd Family of Horry County that we have date back to 1785 up to the early 1800's when James Floyd, Francis Floyd, Samuel Floyd, and Frederick Floyd received grants for large tracts of vacant land and settled in what is now Floyds Township. We do not have records of verification, but it is reasonable to assume that they may have been brothers, or that they were closely related.

JAMES FLOYD, SR.

On July 4, 1785 James Floyd, Sr. was deeded 200 acres of land bounded by vacant land on all sides. It was in the district of Georgetown and signed by William Moultrie, Governor at Charleston. He paid 4 pounds, 13 shillings, and 4 pence sterling money.

April 1, 1811 James Floyd, Sr. had surveyed and received a grant for 788 acres surrounding the original tract of 200 acres dated July 4, 1785. This was described as being in Horry District, N. E. side of Downing Creek near the head of Cedar Creek. This was signed by Henry Middleton, Governor at Charleston. (Drowning Creek is now known as Lumber River.) James Floyd, Sr. had other grants for large tracts of land.

FRANCIS FLOYD

Deeds from Hugh Floyd to James L. Floyd for a tract of land dated in 1830 refer to this land as being part of a grant to Francis Floyd. Hugh Floyd was a large land owner and is assumed to have been a son of Francis and Isabelle Floyd. A map of James Floyd, Sr. dated April 1, 1811, shows boundary of Francis Floyd land. Some of the Francis Floyd land was situated in what is now known as the Floyds and Wannamaker Community. Francis Floyd had other grants of land dating back to 1786.

SAMUEL FLOYD, SR.

In 1796 Samuel Floyd, Sr. of Georgetown District for the sum of $200 deeded to Samuel Floyd, Jr. 337 acres of land, "situated in the District aforesaid, on the northeast side of Drowning Creek, on the north side of Gapway, bounded by lines running southwest, and southeast by land granted to Joseph Blunt. All other sides vacant lands and have such form and marks as are represented in the original plat granted to said Samuel Floyd, Sr. October 5, 1975 by Armuldus Vanderhorst, Governor at..."
Charleston." Some of the Samuel Floyd, Sr., lands were near Drowning Creek on the road leading to Nichols. Samuel Floyd had other grants.

FREDERICK FLOYD, SR.
HORRY COUNTY PROBATE JUDGE'S OFFICE: Box 15A Packet 7. Patrick Lewis and wife VS the following heirs of Frederick Floyd, deceased, for partition sale of land: Samuel F. Floyd, James Floyd, Henry Gerrald and wife, Elias Jernigan and wife, Isaac Mintzey and wife, Sam Gerrald and wife, Everett Floyd, and Hardy Floyd. Dated 11-20-1840. James Beaty, Ordinary Horry District. Land to be sold: 435 acres granted to Frederick Floyd April 6, 1801, bounded on the N.W. by Drowning Creek; 1 tract of 200 acres granted to Francis Floyd August 7, 1786; 1 tract of 238 acres granted to Samuel Floyd July 6, 1789; 1 tract granted to Thomas Dawsey (part of) 100 acres from Isaac Floyd to Frederick Floyd, and 200 acres to Samuel Floyd--1100 acres more or less--Fred Floyd purchased for $203. Witness, Lewis Floyd.

We have very little information on the Frederick Floyd family, but it seems they were closely related to the other Floyds. A deed between some of the Floyd clan dated in 1850 refers to a grant to Frederick Floyd of 500 acres dated November 5, 1795. “Situated on Cedar Creek branch waters of Drowning Creek.”

Most of the land in these grants was poor sandy soil and somewhat swampy, especially that near the river. Most of the Floyd family on this land seemed to live well. They had free range for their stock; that is, they fenced fields around their home and raised cattle and hogs on the balance of the land. Game was plentiful and fishing good in the river. (Today the best fresh water fish to be found anywhere are the red breast and blue brim caught in the Lumber River.) Turpentine was a thriving business back then. There was a turpentine still near the river on the Horry side, also one across the river in Nichols.

Most of the Floyds that settled on the land at the head of Cedar Creek had better land and better homes than some of their kin near the river. This land is around where Floyd's School is today.

Until about 1801 what is now Horry County was part of Georgetown District. The Governor was at Charleston.

From the Independent Republic Quarterly, Volume 2, April 1970, page 4, “Compilation of Horry County Chronological Outline of History:’ The first Board of Commissioners met for the first time on January 3, 1802. They were Thomas Livingston, Samuel F. Floyd, Jr., Samuel Foxworth, William Hemingway, William Williams, John Graham, Sr., Thomas Fearwell and Robert Conway.

James Floyd, Sr. died early in the year 1828. Jempsey Floyd was appointed administrator of his father’s large estate April 9, 1828. A sale was held December 10, 1828 and other sales later. The estate was not settled until several years after the death of James Floyd, Sr., possibly after the death of his wife, Elizabeth Floyd. The children of James Floyd, Sr. and his wife Elizabeth listed as heirs of the estate were Lewis, Pugh, Lemuel, Samuel, James L. (Jempsey) and Dicey who married Hardy Lewis, son of William Lewis. Hardy Lewis received $451.44 as one of the lawful heirs of the personal estate. Fractional currency was in use at this time.

Rev. James L. Floyd (Jempsey) was born June 16, 1800 and died March 15, 1885. On March 22, 1819 he married Edith Nichols, daughter of Averit Nichols and Polly Lewis Nichols. They had 10 sons and 4 daughters.

On April 21, 1827, about one year before his death, James Floyd, Sr., for the sum of $200, deeded to James L. Floyd 300 acres of land described as being part of a grant of 200 acres to James Floyd dated July 4, 1785 and part of a grant of 788 acres dated April 1, 1811. This is where Jempsey Floyd made his home.

After the death of James Floyd, Sr., Jempsey Floyd bought from most of the other heirs of the estate, their share of land. Jempsey Floyd was possibly one of the largest land owners of that section of Horry District at that time. Up until about 1840 there was still vacant land near the river, and land could be bought for less than one dollar per acre.

The ‘‘Daily Carolina Times’, December 8, 1854, listed Floyd's Mill as one of the six post offices in Horry District. The others were Bucksville, Conwayborough, Dogwood Neck, Lake Swamp and Little River.

The site of the old Floyd’s water mill and old mill pond is about ¼ mile from Floyd School on Highway 9 going towards Nichols. Old land deeds called for lines bordering on Floyd's mill pond to be high water mark, which was 8 feet of water at the mill dam. Jempsey Floyd's home was a few hundred yards from the water mill on what was then the Fair Bluff, N. C. and Conway public road.

Among the many papers relating to the
estate of James Floyd, Sr., deceased, was a claim for $25 due on a mill stone. "One large mill stone sold to James Floyd, Sr. in his lifetime - $60, cash received $35, balance due $25." Sworn to before Benjamin Holt, Magistrate, May 2, 1828 and signed by Silvius Sweet.

October 3, 1803 James Floyd, Sr. paid $450 for a slave. "A Negro man 25 years old named Lum." The deed was signed by Steven Slocum.

The three James Floyd's clarified---James Floyd, Sr. never used a middle name or initial. His son Jempsey Floyd signed deeds, etc. James L. Floyd. Jempsey's son James Rupel (a dentist called Dock) always signed James R. Floyd. In old records this was sometimes confusing.

VERIFICATION - Original land grants and old family records in possession of Thomas B. Jones, 904 Tenth Avenue, Conway, S. C., also records at Horry County Courthouse.

Thomas B. Jones is a great, great grandson of James Floyd, Sr. He owned what had been the home place of Rev. Jempsey Floyd and lived there for 30 years.
Plat of 1975 acres owned by Samuel N. Anderson prepared by W. F. Graham, D.S., May 13, 1857. The original plat is the property of Paul O. Smith, Pine Trailer Court, Highway 501, Conway, the great grandson of S. N. Anderson. It is recorded in Plat Book No. 1, Horry County Court House.

SAMUEL N. ANDERSON


His home was 5½ miles north of Conway on U. S. 701 as shown on a Plat dated May 13th 1857 by W. F. Graham, D.S. (Deputy Surveyor). It consisted of tracts A through H as shown on the plat with the acreage of each totaling 1975 acres.

It was bounded on the Southeast by lands of Dr. John H. Grant of Grantsville (now Homewood). N.E. or East by lands of Silvius S. Anderson.

Shown on this map is the road from Fair Bluff to Conwayboro-now U. S. 701-formerly known as the Placard Road. On the West side of the Highway is the site of the Daniel Grainger water mill. The pond and site is now owned by Ralph Hoffman. He has a cabin and a fish pond there. The Grainger home was just beyond and adjoining the tail race, and this side of the five mile post on the West side of U. S. 701. Next was the home of Dr. Joseph S. Harrell on the hill, a branch and then slave cabins. Next the two story home of Mr. Anderson pictured on the map by the Surveyor. Later on this site was the home of Dr. Harrell's daughter Mrs. Ella D. Smith.

To the Northwest was the Richard Todd land. Ellis, Armajah, Martha, John and Bill Todd were some of his descendants.

Next was the Moses Floyd land extending to the road from Gallivants Ferry to Conwayboro-now S. C. Highway 319.

South of and adjoining was the King land, and then the Burroughs and Collins land.

Southeast was the B. H. Grainger land. He was very likely the father of Daniel Grainger, who was Magistrate in addition to operating a water mill grinding corn into meal and grits.

Also shown on the map are Flat Bay, Wolf Bay, and Poplar Bay. A type found only in the S. C. Coastal plain. Theories are that they were gouged out by a comet's tail or created by whirlpools or sink holes left by a receding ocean. They are shallow ponds and are famous for the huckleberry bushes in them. They form the watershed for Causey's branch, which S. D. Cox, R. L.S. says drain 1500 acres of land.

From the Deed books at the Horry County court house we learned the following as to the acquisition of the 1975 acre tract. A deed from A. A. Williams. (Abimelech A. Williams. "A living". perhaps a life time right. "Gift Cow and Calf". (From whom ? To whom?) 1853. In 1851 he Deeded to Silvius S. Anderson interest in real
estate at head of Organ Branch. Also 300 acres outside living home of David Anderson. Also 200 acres for living of D. A. Williams (Abimelech A. Williams?) And 1140 acres which had been a grant to David Anderson. This totaled 1640 acres for which he paid $570.

**Conway property.** At a sale by T. W. Beaty, Commissioner, brought by action of Martha Thompson, Admxn. estate of John Readmond, Dec'd, he paid $1,335. for the Eastern half of the 400 block of Main street consisting of lots of 35 and 36 on fifth avenue and lots 48 and 49 on fourth avenue, containing ½ acre each.

One lot no. 226 Town of Conway.

In 1869 he purchased 115 acres for $212.38 lying on the West side of Stewart swamp.


Mr. Anderson owned about twenty-five slaves. Among them were the Hickman’s, Bellamys and others who settled around Allen and the St. Paul’s church-community. After the war he offered to give them a homestead. Favor Hickman received 27 acres. Among the Hickman names were Will, Lonnie, Fred, Troy and Aunt Pleasant.

The original plat was furnished me by Paul O. Smith, a great grandson of Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Anderson had a son Geo. W. Anderson and a daughter Lottie who married Dr. Joseph S. Harrell. One Harrell daughter was the first wife of B. R. King. Another daughter, Ella, married Tobe Smith. Their children were Hal, Wallace, Hattie and Paul O. Smith.

Mr. Anderson was one of the organizers and Trustees of Poplar Methodist Church, July 23, 1842, and he is buried there.

Near by his iron railed in burial plot is three tall stone pillars with the same names. Samuel N. Anderson, L. A. Anderson, and G. W. Anderson-(no dates). Perhaps the parents and a brother of Samuel N. Anderson.

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**ERRATA**

In the *IRQ* October 1973 issue, page 14, in the John Asbury and Melona Baker Cartrette family children - should be added:

Alice Cartrette married Wallace Campbell

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**THE FIRST MASONIC TEMPLE IN CONWAY**

At a regular meeting held on January 6, 1845, a building committee was appointed with full power to contract and receive proposals for the building. "The house to be 35 feet long by 20 feet wide two story high, and to advertise for proposals.

At a Communication held on February 3rd, 1845, "Proposal to build a Lodge Room read, G. D. Willard proposed to build for $400. & find material or $180. for workmanship.""

The records in the Office of Clerk of Court for Horry County, Book R-2 Page 594 show that on January 29, 1945, Charles Murrell conveyed to Horry Lodge No. 65 A.M.M. "Acertain portion of ground measuring as follows/Viz: Thirty feet on Street leading from Waccamaw river to the Methodist church, and Forty feet deep, being part of Lot No. 6 in the plan of the Village of Conwayborough for the sum of Twenty Dollars." (This lot was across Main Street and in front of the Old Jail.) On December 29, 1919, Conway Lodge No. 65 A.F.M. conveyed this lot to W. C. Adams for $825. (The name had been changed from Horry Lodge to Conway Lodge).

The ground floor was occupied for a printing office, where the Horry Herald was published when Dr. Evan Norton was Editor. The second floor used for Lodge Hall. This building was identified for me by the late H. H. Woodward.

J. Osby Cartrette
P.M., P.D.D.G.M.
GEORGE W. ANDERSON
"My Only Son"


A Granddaughter
ELLA D. HARRELL SMITH


THE LONG WASH STAND
This was Mrs. Betty McMillan Long's [Mrs. L. D. Long]. Picture courtesy the Hodges.
THE DUSENBURY FILE CABINET
This file cabinet was taken from the home of Dr. J. S. Dusenbury. It is solid mahogany, and is supposed to have been his property. Picture courtesy of Mr. Hodges.

FOLD AWAY BED SHOWN OPEN

FOLD AWAY BED
The pictures showing the folding bed - open and closed - are shown by courtesy of Russell Long Hodges, who has it in his store. The photos were taken by his son John Long Hodges and given to the Society. The bed was discovered by Mr. Hodges on the porch of Mr. Melvin Hemingway at Bucksport, who stated that it had been in his family for three generations. It was used on a passenger boat that plied between Bucksville and Georgetown. It is built of Oak wood.

THE NORTON CHINA CLOSET
This was in the home of Dr. Evan Norton on Fifth Avenue, Conway, S. C. When Mr. Van Norton moved out of the house Mrs. Fancy Long Dusenbury was left with it and she took it to Columbia to the home of her daughter Bess D. Heriot [Mrs. L. W. Heriot], who gave it to Mr. Russell Long Hodges.