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The County with a heart
That will win your heart:

---Ernest Richardson

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

HORRY COUNTY HISTORICAL OFFICERS ........................................ Page 2
LIBRARY ARTICLES AND PICTURES ....................................................... Page 4
COUNTY OFFICERS:
Elected:
- Congressman, 6th District ......................................................... Page 14
- Delegation ........................................................................ Page 14
- County Board of Commissioners ................................................ Page 15
- Clerk of Court .................................................................. Page 16
- Auditor ........................................................................... Page 18
- Treasurer ........................................................................ Page 18
- Delinquent Tax Office ............................................................. Page 19
- Coroner ........................................................................... Page 19
- Sheriff ............................................................................. Page 21
- Probate Judge ................................................................ Page 22
Legal:
- Solicitor ........................................................................ Page 23
- Horry County Civil and Criminal Court ..................................... Page 24
- Family Court .................................................................. Page 24
- Probation and Parole ............................................................... Page 25
- Horry County Police Commission ............................................ Page 26
- Magistrates (Eight Districts) ..................................................... Page 26
Other:
- Service Officer ................................................................ Page 29
- Civil Defense .................................................................. Page 29
- Ecological Commission ......................................................... Page 30
- Lay Commissions ................................................................ Page 30
- Executive Director Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse .... Page 30
TOWNS OF HORRY COUNTY:
- Atlantic Beach ........................................................................ Page 30
- Aynor ............................................................................ Page 30
- Conway ........................................................................... Page 32
- Loris ................................................................................ Page 39
- Myrtle Beach .................................................................. Page 41
- North Myrtle Beach ............................................................... Page 41
- Surfside Beach .................................................................. Page 42
RIVER TRANSPORTATION by Gen. Hoyt McMillan .................. Page 42
CAPT. RALPH RUFUS DOZIER by Ruby Lee Wachtman ............. Page 48
QUARTERLIES AVAILABLE ............................................................... Page 13
MEMBERSHIP LIST ................................................................ Page 62
ERRATTA .................................................................................. Page 67
HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT

Horry County Memorial Library opened its doors in formal ceremonies held July 1, 1949. For that occasion Senator Paul Quattlebaum wrote a history of the library movement in Horry County which was printed in the program. It is reprinted here as Horry County Memorial Library celebrates its first quarter century of service.

Educated and intelligent people have always been interested in books and in libraries. That there were libraries in the province as early as colonial days is a matter of record. Most of these libraries were connected with the church and with the school. While there is no information available as to when the first library was established in what is now Horry County, it was probably at a very early date. It is not possible here to give credit to all those who contributed to the library movement.

Fifty years ago, there was considerable library in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Conway, containing books that were then very old. Most probably this library dates back close to the organization of the present church in 1855. At one time, both the Baptist and the Methodist churches in Conway maintained libraries. Other churches in the county have likewise had libraries.

The Burroughs School in Conway, founded in 1877, maintained a library. This library has been continued through the Conway school system up to the present date. Other schools in the county have had libraries for many years.

There were earlier attempts to establish a public library in Conway, but the present library movement was given its impetus at a gathering of some thirty or forty persons at the home of Colonel and Mrs. H. L. Buck, in Conway, about 1835. This group selected M. A. Wright as temporary chairman of a Library Association, and he was given instructions to form an organization. In February of 1936, L. D. Magrath was appointed as chairman of the Library Committee and served in that capacity until June of 1941, when he resigned and was succeeded by Mrs. P. E. Sasser. Mrs. M. C. Anderson was chosen as Secretary-Treasurer. Other early members of the committee were: Mrs. H. L. Buck, Mrs. C. D. Brearly, Mrs. E. E. Burroughs, Mrs. P. E. Sasser, and H. L. Buck. This committee took immediate action looking to the promotion of a public library. In 1938, J. G. Lewis, County Superintendent of Education, was added to the committee. In 1939, Mrs. Raymond Ambrose and Henry Woodward, Jr., were added, and Mr. Woodward was made Treasurer. Other persons served with the committee at various times.

Early after the organization of the Library Committee, the Junior Charity League of Conway undertook to raise funds to buy books for a library, and made a contribution of $200.00 for this purpose. Dr. J. A. Norton contributed a large number of books, chiefly from the library of his brother, the late J. O. Norton. Other interested citizens contributed books and money. With this modest beginning, and with a monthly appropriation of $25 by the Town of Conway, a library was formally opened, March 4, 1938, in the auditorium of the Conway Town Hall.

In the meantime, the WPA started a library project for Horry County. Activity of this project centered in the Conway Public Library. A bookmobile was operated in the county. This was purchased by funds provided by the County Board of Education and by the WPA. The WPA furnished the personnel for the operation of the library and for the operation of the bookmobile. This WPA project was terminated on short notice in March of 1942.

After the closing of the WPA project, the County Board of Education took over the operation of the bookmobile with the books belonging to the county, and has continued this operation to the present time.

The WPA books were transferred to a library at Myrtle Beach for the use of the military personnel at the Myrtle Beach Air Base. Since the war, the library at Myrtle Beach has been continued through the support of the Town of Myrtle Beach and contributions by interested citizens, notably the new library building—a gift of the Simeon B. Chapin Foundation. This year this library became a member of the Horry County library system.

With limited funds at its disposal, the Conway Library Committee continued the operation of the Conway Library until July 25, 1948, when the assets of the Conway Library were turned over to the newly-established Horry County Memorial Library.

In 1944, the Horry County Legislative Delegation made the first move towards a county-supported, county-wide library system. A Joint Resolution of the Legislature was passed, approved the 20th day of March, constituting the Delegation a building committee and appropriating $15,000 as the nucleus of
The First Bookmobile owned by HCML.

a fund for the construction of a county library building.

In 1946, the Horry County Legislative Delegation, by an Act of the Legislature, approved the 20th day of March, created the Horry County Memorial Library Commission, appropriated $50,000 for the construction of a county library building, and levied a property tax of one mill for the support of the library. In 1947, this Act was amended, and the appropriation increased to $100,000. In 1948, the Horry County Appropriation Act provided that 20 per cent of the liquor, wine and beer tax allocated to Horry County should be set aside for the maintenance of the library.

Under the Act of 1946, the following were appointed as a Library Commission for Horry County: J. C. Burroughs, Joe H. Derham, W. Talbert Johnson, Mrs. P. E. Sasser, Miss Louise Stone, H. H. Woodward, Jr., Mrs. C. D. Prince, J. K. Floyd, and Dr. J. J. Jordan. The Commission held its first meeting at the courthouse in Conway, March 21, 1947, and organized by electing J. C. Burroughs, chairman, and Mrs. P. E. Sasser secretary. At the next meeting, H. H. Woodward, Jr., was elected treasurer. At a meeting of the Commission September 27, 1947, the following were elected honorary members: F. A. Thompson, Paul Quattlebaum, Doc D. Harrelson, Hopkins and Baker of Florence were employed as architects to make plans for the library building. December 15, 1948 the Commission let a contract to W. P. Crosland for the construction of a library building, the site for the building, on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Laurel Street, having been donated by the heirs of the late H. L. Buck and the Town of Conway.

Miss Mary Parham was employed as county
librarian and started her work August 1, 1948. During the spring of 1949 a branch library was opened at Loris, and the Whittemore Library in Conway formally opened its doors to the public.

The new memorial county library building in Conway having been completed, the formal opening was scheduled for this day, July 1, 1949.

**FRANK AUSTIN THOMPSON**

*by Sarah Thompson Finlayson*

These are the ages of the man: Frank to his wife and friends, Dad to his children, Pop to his daughter-in-law and Papa to his grandsons. When asked to write about him, I had to resort to public records as well as personal memories. You see, he wasn't just one man - he was Frank A. Thompson, Attorney-At-Law, baseball buff, Methodist, Democrat, Representative from Marion County, honorary colonel, member of the State Penal Board, Senator from Horry County and - most important to me - my fun-loving, witty, wise father.

Dad was born in Little River on March 5, 1895, to Julia Roberts (Vereen) and Austin Charles Thompson. In the same family were Loumina, Lila and Jennings. We still have a lovely invitation in Very Spencerian handwriting to his parents' wedding. Dad's Mother and sister, Loumina, died when he was very young. Then he lived with his Grandma Thompson for a time, still in Little River. He told us many tales of his early childhood there... about the ghosts who only appeared to children who didn't mind their Grandma, brush their teeth with baking soda and wear an asafetida bag around their neck during cold weather. And the thunder machine that warned one to get out of the way of the lightning - the safest place being under the nearest bed. And the black cats who would cause terrible troubles to befall anyone who didn't turn his hat around three full times should such cats happen to cross your path.

Grandfather Thompson moved his family to Conway when Dad was five years old and entered into many different business ventures - all apparently successful. Dad learned to sell everything in the Conway Bargain House from livestock to tobacco to "Johnny Cakes" to shoe laces. He also began his public school education.

In the third grade a pretty, new girl joined his class and he was so enthralled that he spent all of his money on a doll for her (complete with a picture of himself in the package) and proposed marriage. That lovely newcomer became his bride about seventeen years later. She was Mr. and Mrs. John McDermott's niece from North Carolina, Donna Coleman. Uncle John and Aunt Mary had taken her to be with them for a time after her Mother's death and she wound up remaining until after her marriage.

Dad enjoyed telling of the first automobile in Horry County. It appeared during his school years. "I took off when I heard about this thing and ran five miles to see it. Some men cranked it up and I ran twenty-five miles to get away from it. That was the darnedest racket I had ever heard!" Uncle John McDermott bought one of the first cars but couldn't drive it so he had Mother learn and she became one of the county's first females-at-the-wheel. By the way, Mother has never had any sort of automobile accident so has contributed nothing to the woman-driver tales!

Young Frank graduated from Burroughs High School and went on to Wofford Fitting School and to Wofford College. In High School he was president of his class and of the Literary Society. In Prep School he was president of the student body. In College he was class president and president of the Law school association. He attended the University of South Carolina School of Law for one year before enlisting in the Army - World War I had begun and he and several classmates entered service together. He served in the Quartermaster Corps for twenty-three
months and was discharged as a Lieutenant. I can remember seeing his service tunic, cap and insignia in an old trunk in the upstairs hallway. Mother still has a gold bar he sent to her when he was commissioned. She wore it for years.

Throughout the rest of his life Dad was a member and staunch supporter of the American Legion. Mother was very active in the American Legion Auxiliary and Carolyn and I were busy members of the Junior American Legion Auxiliary. Dad’s children learned to sing “America” and “The Star-Spangled Banner”, recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the Preamble to the Constitution right along with “Jesus Loves Me”, the Lord’s Prayer and the Ten Commandments. This went right along with being an American and a Democrat. During his last illness when the pain became more intense, he would recite the Psalms, the States of the Union, the names of the Presidents of the United States and the counties of South Carolina - all in correct order.

Dad returned to Law School after his military career and graduated from there in June of 1920. He married Mother the following August and hung out his Attorney-At-Law shingle in Mullins. Carolyn, Phillip, Sara and John were born there and Dad began his career in politics. He was president of the Mullins Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party (S.C.) and served two terms in the South Carolina House of Representatives.

We moved to Conway after Grandfather Thompson had a severe stroke and the shingle was hung below second-floor offices at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Laurel Street. The family lived and laughed at 907 Elm Street. I say “laughed” because we were a merry, loud bunch. Dad enjoyed his home and family and we were just about as close as families can be. Mealtime was for light-hearted conversation (NO problems) and everyone was present at table. Not just that presence was required - we wouldn’t have missed the fun!

In 1945 Dad was elected to the Senate and really dug into his “actions”. This was what I called his three-fold aim: a new and shorter highway to Myrtle Beach (transportation), a new County Prison Farm (incarceration) and a new Public Library (education).

Our home had wall-to-wall books. I can’t remember a time when the entire family could not find an interesting book on any subject. We were all avid readers and still are. Books were objects to be respected and cared for gently. Dad wanted everyone to have access to the wonder and delight of the written word. I guess the Library became his top “action” because of this. A newspaper article in one of Dad’s scrapbooks tells a little of the work towards the Library at that time: “State Senator Frank A. Thompson has given his $700 extra pay voucher to the board of commissioners of the Horry County Memorial Library. This money and other sums that may be donated will be used to buy extra equipment for the library. The commissioners appointed by the delegation some months ago have done much work on the project; conferences have been held with library experts and outstanding libraries have been visited. Definite plans are expected to be ready soon.” Dad probably included that article because there was quite a controversy in the state about this $700! The legislators eventually had to send it back on grounds of unconstitutionality but Dad didn’t ask the board for a refund - he paid it out of pocket, so to speak.
During this time the home fires were glowing constantly but with fewer and fewer family members to stoke them. Carolyn graduated from college and married two years and two jobs later. Phillip became a Paratrooper in World War II and jumped his way across the Pacific with the first troops into the Philippines and inevitably Japan. Before enlistment he had graduated from Carlisle Military Academy in Bamberg and attended Clemson University for one year. After his discharge in 1946 he enrolled in the University of South Carolina. (Is that why he sits in the middle of the field at Clemson-Carolina games?) I graduated from Conway High and entered Coker College in Hartsville (Mother and Carolyn were also Coker graduates.) John finished High School and went on to Davidson College, then spent three years with Army Counter-Intelligence and on to the University of South Carolina School of Law (second honor graduate.) This information is merely to show Dad's intense interest in education. I'm sure that it wasn't easy to have three children in college at one time! All four of us have done graduate work of some sort in our lives and are still working actively in our chosen professions.

We all attended the opening ceremonies of the Horry County Memorial Library on July 1, 1949. It was a hot South Carolina night but festive beyond belief. I'm sure that Dad and Mother felt that they had just climbed to the top of the world! The ‘ations’ were now in Operation!

A few years later a newspaper reporter asked Dad what two Acts he was proudest of having supported. He answered, "the 65 Million Dollar Road Bond Issue and the Horry County Memorial Library. And I knew when I voted for each of them that I was cutting my political throat. The first caused me to lose my seat in the House and the second my seat in the Senate."

He regained his Senate seat in 1952 despite poor health following surgery for the removal of a malignancy. A little over two years later it became evident that the condition had not been corrected.

We had been in Florida after the adjournment of the Legislature for a few days with his big love, Baseball with a capital B. The spring training games were an annual event - a required function, so to speak. When we returned Dad said that he didn't feel well. That was around the first of April. He died on June 29 (1955) without ever having really complained at all.

So this is a brief glimpse of the man - my father and friend - Frank A. Thompson. American Legion Post 111 gave him the Man-Of-The-Year award in 1947. Dr. Carl L. Busbee presented the plaque to him. Dr. Busbee was so far above me in verbal proficiency that I must rely upon his words for this:

"It comes to pass that through the increasing efforts of one of Horry's veteran sons, who has built on the foundation laid by older brothers, and helped by a sincere cooperation of his associates, the magnificent Horry County Memorial Library will be ours.

Faith in people is his and he enlarges that faith as he gives his people vision; for where there is no vision, the people perish, and where there is no tradition, people have never lived.

I present to you... Senator Frank Austin Thompson..."
Since part of the property for the Horry County Memorial Library was given by my brother, the late Henry Lee Buck, Jr., and me, in memory of our parents, I have been asked to write some reminiscences of them on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Library.

As long as I can remember, the corner of Fifth and Laurel was 'The Corner Lot', where as a little girl I searched for four-leaf clovers. It was here my brother's pony grazed, and later it became a baseball or a football field for the boys in the neighborhood, depending on the season. In the 1930's a tennis court was built there, sponsored by the First Methodist Church. While this location was a good one for a public library, it also seemed fitting to us that this was the perfect place for a memorial to those whose lives had touched so many in this very area, through home and church.

Henry Lee Buck was born November 5, 1972, at Bucksport, Horry County, the son of Henry Lee Buck and Georgia Virginia Bell, daughter of Samuel Bell. Attended Furman University, 1890-93. Removed to Conway in 1896. In mercantile business; later Ford dealer; Gulf Oil district agent; vice president of Conway National Bank. Married, first Ella Edith Burroughs of Conway; second, Frances Eugenia McLeod of Bennettsville, November 18, 1903; third, Mrs. Lula (Badger) Buck, widow of his cousin Henry Buck, December 3, 1928. S. C. Senate, Horry, 1912-20. Delegate to National Democratic Convention, 1932. S. C. Highway Commission, 1936-38. Organizing Board of Conway Community Hospital; trustee, Mayor of Conway; member of town council. Mason. Colonel on staff of Governor Ansel. Chairman of school board. Member of Conway Methodist Church; steward and chairman of official board. Died August 1, 1944 at Myrtle Beach; buried in family graveyard at Bucksville.*

Our mother, Eugenia McLeod Buck, came to Conway in early 1900, a music graduate of Converse College. She taught piano in the Burroughs School on Main Street, now the home of Miss Rebecca Bryan. She boarded in the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Collins, across from the Gulley Store, where 'Hal' Buck worked as a clerk. Mr. Collins had twin daughters who were always playing pranks on the young piano teacher, such as hiding a live frog in her hat box, and 'forgetting' to give her the letters sent by them from her suitor, Hal Buck. Instead, the letters were found later, tucked between the leaves of a book in the library. 'Genie' McLeod was a high spirited young woman, small, with brown eyes and brown, naturally curly hair. She and her sister were orphaned at an early age, and were rear ed by their maternal grandmother, Mrs. Sarah Drake Rogers, in Bennettsville. Her sister died shortly before she and my father were married; in fact, I still have her wedding suit, which was entirely of black, as she was still 'in mourning', as was the custom at that time.

We lived in what was known as the Judge Walsh House, at 504 Laurel Street, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Singleton. Both my
brother and I were born there, and there our mother died, of a cerebral hemorrhage, at the age of 47, leaving our father with the difficult task of rearing two teen age children. I was sixteen when he married Lula Badger Buck, the widow of his first cousin, Henry Buck, an attorney in Marion. In looking back I realize what a brave woman she was, to undertake such a task, as she had no children of her own. Suffice it to say that she completely exploded the old theory of "step-mother", as depicted in the story of Cinderella. In fact, though I began by calling her by the nickname her nephews used for her, by the time I was in college I learned to call her "Mother", beginning with my letters home.

Mrs. Buck's first husband, while President of the Marion Library Association and a practicing attorney, drew the first act passed by the Legislature of our state providing the establishment of tax supported libraries, in 1912. Marion's library was the first tax supported library in the state.** After her husband's death she studied Library Science at the University of Virginia, and in 1926 she opened the Florence Public Library. Upon her resignation from the post, on November 1, 1928, an article in the Florence Morning News of November 3, 1928 said of her "Mrs. Buck took hold of the management and direction of a perfectly new institution but she has succeeded so admirably by reason of her distinctive ability that Florence today has an established public library so thoroughly systematized and equipped as to render it a model for cities and towns all over the south.*** At this time she was President of the South Carolina Library Association and at the convention of April 1929 she gave to the Association its first official gavel. The Association minutes recorded the gavel was made from wood from the school house where Henry Timrod taught in Florence County, 1858. It is on deposit at the University of South Carolina Library.**** At the time the School House was restored and moved to the Florence City Park, mainly due to her efforts, my father had this gavel made from some of the wood, and also another one, which he gave to her.

In a talk she made to the Junior Charity League in Conway in November, 1934, Mrs. Buck stressed that they get away from the idea of libraries as luxuries and look upon them as public utilities. In that speech she also said "with the love of books in his heart, no man is ever poor", a statement taken from an address made by former Commissioner of Education Claxton, to the American Library Association. I can remember hearing her make that statement many times at home, and also that books were one's best friends. In fact, after I was grown she admitted to me she had been so pleased, when she first came to live with us, to see me hurry to the door to get the morning paper. Imagine her disappointment when she learned I was anxious to read the next installment in the current serial! She had a great influence on my life, and I feel that I have been blessed to have had two wonderful mothers.

I cannot close without one more remark about my father. To me, he could do no wrong, and not until I worked as his secretary the first year after graduating from college did I realize that he was not really perfect! He was a wonderful husband and father, a deeply religious man, proud of his family, home, church and community. I think the epitaph chosen for his tombstone describes him best, as it was his motto: "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Micah 6:8.

I was appointed to serve on the Horry County Library Board in April, 1953. Grant Singleton and I replaced Mr. Henry Woodward
and Mrs. Paul Sasser, whose terms had expired. Miss Essie Derham was chairman, and those serving with her were Mrs. Thelma Thomas, Mr. R. O. Brown, Mr. A. G. Long, Mr. Hal King, and Mr. Paul Quattlebaum, a Life Member. Both Mr. Woodward and Mrs. Sasser were elected to Life Memberships within the next few years. The Librarian at this time was Miss Dorothy Smith. When she resigned, to return to Columbia, we secured the services of Miss Kathleen Gilleland, who began work in May, 1957.

In June, 1957 I became Chairman, having served two years as Secretary. During those years we met in the Library Auditorium, which on one day a week a week was used by the Social Security Office personnel as a temporary office. In 1958 the Crescent Beach Branch Library was added. In September, 1959, the main library was air conditioned. In March, 1959, Miss Gilleland resigned, to return to North Carolina, and again the search began for a librarian. This was our greatest concern during those years, and Mr. Paul Quattlebaum served as Chairman of the Committee to find and interview applicants. Mrs. Catherine Lewis, Librarian at Coastal Carolina, began helping us on a part-time basis, and in 1960 she came to us as full-time Librarian. My term on the board expired in June, 1960.

Serving on this board was both a privilege and a pleasure. I especially enjoyed getting to know the other board members, from all parts of the county, some of whom were: Mrs. J. C. Ayers, Mrs. St. Julien Springs, Mrs. Jamie Best, Mrs. Sophia Blanton, Mr. J. C. Hipp, Mr. Felton Floyd, Mr. David Godfrey, Mrs. Grover Suggs, Mrs. Jean Shelley, Mr. James Dew, Mr. Jerry Poster, Mr. P. L. Elvington, and Mr. Earl Dusenbury.

* Reynolds-Faunt, Biographical Directory of the Senate of South Carolina, 1776-1964 p. 189
** The Field, Nov. 8, 1934
***South Carolina Library Association Handbook, 2nd Edition
MISS KATHLEEN GILLELAND
RECALLS YEARS AT
HORRY COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Miss Kathleen Gilleland was librarian of Horry County Memorial Library from May 23, 1957 until April 15, 1959. She is now director of Northwestern Regional Library, Elkin, N. C.

My years at the Horry County Memorial Library, 1957-59, were very happy ones. I remember with gratitude the cooperation and dedication of the hard-working staff and the helpful guidance of an outstanding Board of Trustees. I especially recall Mr. Paul Quattlebaum and his great interest in local history. He had written *THE LAND CALLED CHICORA*, the year before I came to Conway.

Although the Crescent Beach Branch was started during my time, I was mostly involved in the administration of a library system which had been wonderfully well-organized by my predecessors. It was a great experience for me and I am grateful to have been a small part of the first twenty-five years of Horry County Memorial Library.

LORIS LIBRARY
A BRIEF HISTORY

As far as available records show the first public library in Loris was founded by the American Legion Auxiliary as one of its civic projects in 1939. Located in the then new Masonic Hall on Main Street, it was funded for two and a half years by the Workers Progress Administration (WPA). Books were donated by local citizens and by the Lend-a-Hand Book Mission of Boston, Mass. Mrs. Lalla Stevens was the first librarian.

In 1949 after the establishment of the Horry County Memorial Library as a county system, the library was re-opened as a branch. The Loris Parent-Teacher Association sponsored it and secured a room in the high school to house the collection. Mrs. Mason Shelley served as the librarian during this period.

Mrs. C. D. Prince was a member of the original Horry County Memorial Library Commission and she interested the Loris Garden Club in providing quarters for the library. Through the efforts of the clubwomen a room on the second floor of the new Town Hall was secured and on the evening of November 17, 1952, the Club held a reception formally opening the branch in its new quarters. Mayor J. D. Duncan spoke and pledged the support of the town government. Senator-elect Frank A. Thompson, who in an earlier term of office had written legislation for the county library system, pledged the support of the county government.

On the following day the new branch served its first patrons. Mrs. Prince and other volunteers maintained a schedule of three to five o'clock on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays and a story hour for children from ten to twelve on Saturday mornings.

Mrs. J. R. Suggs was the president of the Loris Garden Club at the time and the other members of the library committee chaired by Mrs. Prince were Mrs. Sam Hickman and Mrs. B. K. Stabler.

According to the records volunteers served the Loris Branch Library from its opening through the next five years. Mrs. H. C. Milligan became the first paid branch assistant on February 1, 1958, and the library increased its hours of service to sixteen a week.

Shortly before the resignation of Mrs. Milligan in January, 1962, the hours the library was open to the public each week were increased to twenty. In February Mrs. Sam Hickman became librarian. It was becoming apparent that many people who might use the library were put off by the long, steep flight of stairs which they must climb. The room was becoming overcrowded and tended to be too hot in the summer and chill in the winter.

In October 1965 the book collection was moved into an office building at 4131 Main Street and circulation immediately jumped by 25
James Blanton was a prime mover in this action. The story hour for children which had been inaugurated in 1962 by the Loris Literary and Music Club continued to be extremely popular. Members of the Club still take turns weekly to read or tell stories to preschoolers.

About the same time informal conversations among interested citizens about a permanent home for the Loris Library were increasing, spurred on in January 1968 by the news that the County Legislative Delegation had introduced legislation to appropriate $30,000 for a building to house the branch. Representative James Blanton was a prime mover in this action. The bill was passed and according to its terms a permanent home for the Loris Library were introduced legislation to appropriate $30,000 for a building to house the branch. Representative James Blanton was a prime mover in this action. The bill was passed and according to its terms a committee of Loris citizens was appointed by the Horry County Memorial Library Commission to oversee the purchase of a lot and the construction of a building. Each member of the committee had been nominated by one of the leading civic organizations: Mr. B. K. Stabler, who became chairman, by the Loris Merchants Association; Mrs. J. D. McCormick by the Loris Literary and Music Club and Mr. Charles Hodges by the Loris Jaycees.

On January 17, 1969, the committee finalized the purchase of land at 4310 Main Street from Miss Elaine Hughes and Mrs. C. D. Prince. The site is regarded as one of the best possible locations for the branch library.

The original appropriation was not sufficient to begin construction after the site had been purchased, so the County Legislative Delegation appropriated an additional $7,500 in 1972-73, which, together with funds to be raised from the community, could be used to provide an adequate facility.

On June 30, 1971, Mitchell Hickman retired after almost a decade of service during which she personified good library service to the people of the Loris area. She was succeeded by Mrs. Ann Porter, who is current branch assistant.

In September 1971, the Horry County Memorial Library reactivated the Loris Library Committee by appointing Dwight Byrd, Donald Hardee, and Mrs. Bill Wooten, with Mrs. T. E. Duke and Mrs. J. C. Stanley as alternates. Mr. Hardee became chairman and under his direction an architect was engaged to draw plans and the old house on the new site was sold and removed.

Under the chairmanship of Donald Hardee the committee and the Horry County Memorial Library Commissioner for the Loris area, Mr. E. E. Prince, began to raise additional funds for the building from businesses and interested individuals. Arrangements were made for supervision of the construction to be done by the Area II Vocational School, which also agreed to supply some of the needed labor by giving students in the building trades on-site experience. Mr. Wilson Lovett, principal of the vocational school, is also a member of the Library Commission.

The construction will still take a year or more, but the reality of a building is now assured. It will be an attractive traditional building which will house up to 10,000 volumes and provide comfortable seating for readers. There will be offstreet parking, a book drop for returning materials when the library is closed, and a room which will accommodate the story hour or small meetings.

Not all the funds necessary to complete the building and furnish it are yet in hand, but the Building Committee expects that they will become available either from local government or from private donors as the work progresses. Persons who wish to make contributions are urged to contact members of the Building Committee. Donations are tax deductible.

### QUARTERLIES AVAILABLE FOR SALE

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<th>Volume</th>
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<th>Year</th>
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<td>1974</td>
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They may be obtained for $2.00 each plus twenty five cents postage from Miss Ernestine Little, 1003 Sixth Avenue, Conway, S. C. 29526.

A few Tricentennial Copies may be obtained from the above address at $5.00 each plus postage of 25 cents.
CONGRESSMAN ED YOUNG
Republican, 6th District, S. C.

JAMES H. VAN OSDELL
Representative

JAMES P. STEVENS
Senator

SIDNEY T. FLOYD
Representative

CHARLES HODGES
Representative
HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Horry County Board of Commissioners is composed of seven members. The Chairman is elected by the people and the other six members are appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the Horry County Delegation. The members of the Horry County Board of Commissioners are as follows: Julian Richardson, Chairman, Ernest Johnston, Jr., W. G. Hucks, Jr., W. G. Sarvis, William Parker, Henry G. McNeill, R. L. Hendrick, Gladys Allen, Clerk and John Pat Henry, County Attorney. The Clerk and County Attorney are appointed by the Horry County Delegation.

The Horry County Board of Commissioners is the governing body of their county. The Horry County Board of Commissioners has to approve all vouchers for payment. They accept or reject road easements, endorse the sale of industrial revenue bonds, decide upon insurance and fringe benefits for the county employees.

The Board also presents a proposed budget of the anticipated expenditures to the Delegation each year. They report their activities monthly to the Delegation.

The Chairman of the Board is also in charge of all county roads, the road paving program, and the Horry County Public Works Department.

Gladys Allen is clerk of the Horry County Board of Commissioners and secretary to the Horry County Legislative Delegation. She takes and transcribes the minutes for the meetings of both bodies. Also her duties include typing appointment letters and keeping current list of same; writing purchase orders and purchasing supplies for the county departments, checking all bills and invoices against purchase orders and marking them for payment.

Harriett James is the Bookkeeper and payrool clerk for the Horry County Board of Commissioners. Mrs. James is in charge of all county payroll records, and insurance records. She has to write all checks for bills payable and posts on ledger cards with posting machine.

Gail Roach is the receptionist for the Horry County Board of Commissioners. She answers the telephone and her other duties mostly consist of typing letters, reports, and types claims for payment.
FORMER CHAIRMEN
COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

K. L. Arnette
Eb Johnson
Alton Lee
French Collins
Julian Richardson

Henry B. Hardwick, County Supervisor
John T. Shelley, County Supervisor
A. C. Murrell, County Supervisor
Joe Todd, County Supervisor

CLERK OF COURT

Duties & Responsibilities

Clerk of Court's office is responsible for receiving, filing, indexing and returning all deeds, mortgages, releases from mortgages, options, bill of sales and Articles of Associations. We also file plats, bonds, discharges, financing statements, action pendens (law suits) judgments, mechanics lien, tax liens, and Mental Health liens. Attend and make proper minutes of circuit courts (General Sessions and Common Pleas), County Court, (Civil & Criminal) and placing on trial calendar all cases for court. Make roster for all terms of Civil Court, type commitments for defendants sentenced in court, check bonds for defendants, collect all fines imposed by court and issue bench warrants by court order. Furnish criminal information to various offices. Order and maintain all documentary stamps for deeds, mortgages, leases and etc. Keep proper records of all monies collected by various departments including documentary stamps, fees and trust funds. Remit money collected from fines, fees, discount on South Carolina documentary stamps and documentary stamp tax for Horry County to Horry County Treasurer and other proper officials. Clerk’s office is called on to furnish photostatic copies of various and numerous documents filed in the office to various and interested persons.

EARLY CLERKS OF COURT & YEARS EACH SERVED

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<td>James Beaty</td>
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<td>1831</td>
<td>John Beaty</td>
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<tr>
<td>1831-1836</td>
<td>S. M. Stevenson</td>
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<td>1837-1838</td>
<td>John Readman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1838</td>
<td>S. W. Dunbore</td>
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<tr>
<td>1841-1849</td>
<td>James Beaty</td>
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<tr>
<td>1850-1851</td>
<td>James Beaty</td>
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<tr>
<td>1853</td>
<td>W. I. Howard</td>
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<td>W. I. Howard</td>
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<td>1858</td>
<td>John R. Beaty</td>
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<td>1859</td>
<td>John Beaty</td>
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<tr>
<td>1860-1865</td>
<td>J. A. Thompson</td>
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<td>1866-1867</td>
<td>E. T. Lewis</td>
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<td>1868</td>
<td>W. I. Howard</td>
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<tr>
<td>1869-1872</td>
<td>E. T. Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>B. E. Sessions (Died in office 1-12-1873)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1873-74</td>
<td>J. W. Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1875-1880</td>
<td>Thomas W. Beaty</td>
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<tr>
<td>1881-1882</td>
<td>Alva S. Anderson</td>
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<td>1882</td>
<td>John M. Oliver</td>
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<td>1883</td>
<td>Julius Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>1884-92</td>
<td>John M. Oliver</td>
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<tr>
<td>1893-99</td>
<td>John A. McDermott</td>
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<tr>
<td>1900-08</td>
<td>W. L. Mishoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909-27</td>
<td>W. L. Bryan (Died in office 1927)</td>
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<td>Nov. 1927-28</td>
<td>L. D. Bryan (Unexpired Term)</td>
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<td>1-1-1929 to</td>
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<td>1-1-1961 to</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>R. G. Horton</td>
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BRIEF SUMMARY OF DUTIES IN COUNTY AUDITORS OFFICE

The County Auditor’s Office is responsible for charging for taxation all personal and real estate property in the County. In January and February work is started by taking county tax returns. All deeds and wills that are filed in the county come through Auditor’s Office for transfer of ownership. All Vehicle Registrations, boats and airplanes are sent in for verification to see if owner’s have reported them for taxation, if not they are added to the returns with a 10% penalty added. All building permits and mobile home applications that are issued in the county come in for verification. State Tax Commission send in reports on all merchants and manufacturer’s in county. Persons disabled or 65 years of age can apply for Homestead Exemption Jan. through May 1, we average 1500 annually.

HORRY COUNTY AUDITORS

1871-77 ......................... Richard G. Sessions
1873 ............................ Richard G. Sessions
1875 ............................ Richard G. Sessions
1877 ............................ Richard G. Sessions
1879-87 .......................... E. Norton
1881 ............................. E. Norton
1883 ............................. E. Norton
1885 ............................. E. Norton
1887 ............................. E. Norton
1889 ............................. J. P. Derham
1891-92 .......................... John P. Derham
1893-1908 ....................... James A. Lewis
1895 ............................. James A. Lewis
1897 ............................. J. A. Lewis
1899 ............................. James A. Lewis
1901 ............................. James A. Lewis
1903 ............................. J. A. Lewis
1909-11 ......................... C. E. Barker
1911-23 .......................... N. C. Adams
1924-29 .......................... J. A. Calhoun
1930-56 .......................... Henry B. Brown
1956 ............................. Jack Q. Gerald

TREASURER’S OFFICE

The treasurer’s office collects all county taxes such as property taxes and salt water fishing licences and in addition receives monies from such agencies in the county as eight magistrates, probate judge, police and sheriff departments, Master of Equity, health department and building inspector.

In addition to accepting monies the treasurer’s office is responsible for balancing all bank accounts, but all writing of checks is done by the Board of Commissioners.
EARLY TREASURERS & ABOUT YEARS EACH SERVED

1877, Jan 1 .......... Joseph T. Walsh
1877, July 1 ............ Edgar R. Beaty
1882 ..................... Moses F. Sarvis
1891 ..................... Lorenzo D. Long
1903 ..................... John A. McDermott
1909 ..................... J. N. Jenrette
1911 ..................... John Holt
1917, July 1 ............. W. L. Bellamy
1921, July 1 ............. C. E. Barker
1933, June 30 ......... J. A. Calhoun, Jr.
1947, June 30 - Resigned to take job with S. C. Tax Commission July 1, 1947
1947, July 1 ............. W. H. Jordan, Jr.
1972, Dec. 23 - Died in office
1972, Dec. 28 ............
1973, Mar. 6 ............. Mary P. Riddle
1973, Mar. 7 ............. Robert M. Grissom

TREASURER'S OFFICE - HORRY COUNTY
Front Row Left to Right - Lynn Todd, Genice Elliott. Back Row Left to Right - Doris Bell, Sonya Todd, Deborah Cox, Leanne Kennedy and Mary Pearl Riddle. Mrs. Mary Pearl Powell Riddle is now in her thirty fourth year in the Treasurers' Office. During her high school days she worked in the Auditor's Office. After the death of W. H. Jordan, in December 1972, she served two months as Treasurer and was given permanent appointment. She was recently honored as the Field and Herald's Working Woman of the Week.

DELINQUENT TAX OFFICE
Dottie H. McElveen serving her fifteenth year. duties: When Treasurer turns over to her delinquent taxes, she notifies by letter. If no response a Deputy may call on them. If this does not secure a payment then the Sheriff levies on the property and a sale is conducted to secure payment. [Public Auction on sales day - 1st Monday in front of the court house]. Some former Tax Collectors were F. G. Holliday, Dewy G. Ford, Sam Hucks, F. W. Medlin.

OFFICE OF CORONER OF HORRY COUNTY
J. Clayton Richardson, was elected to Horry County Coroner's office June 1968, and ran unopposed in the 1972 election. The duties of the Coroner's office consist of certification of all deaths in Horry County other than persons dying in hospitals. The Coroner's office checks each death to see if there is foul play involved. If this is found, the Coroner has to place the suspect under bond and hold an inquest to determine the cause of death and how it
happened, and the person so causing the death. If this is decided the Coroner signs a warrant and the person is sent to the Grand Jury for further court action. The Coroner signs death certificates and files such with Horry County Health Dept. The Coroner authorizes all autopsies to be done if they pertain to his duties. The Coroner can arrest the Sheriff. He automatically assumes his duties in certain instances. The following are previous Coroners in this County:

1957 .......................... Littlejohn Blanton

1941 .......................... John S. Dix
(Uncle of the present Coroner)
1937 .......................... C. E. Sasser
1933 .......................... Fred G. Graham
1925 .......................... Henry B. Brown
1917 .......................... L. W. Cooper
1905 .......................... H. H. Burroughs
1901 .......................... A. H. J. Galbraith
1893 .......................... W. J. Waller
1889 .......................... A. H. J. Galbraith
1885 .......................... A. H. J. Galbraith
1884 .......................... John A. Mayo
1879 .......................... Josias T. Sessions

SHERIFFS OF HORRY COUNTY

Robert Sessions .................. 1800-28
Solmon Sessions .. 1828-42 (Died while in office)
Thomas Sessions ................. 1842-44
J. J. Kirton
Ben Bruton
W. H. Johnston in the 50's
W. I. Graham
Daniel Lewis
John Newton (colored) Appointed by the Carpetbaggers, for a short time
A. B. Skipper
Frank Sessions - Died in office
Dick Sessions ........ 1880-1890 (Died in Office)
W. J. Sessions ................. 1890-1900
Ben Sessions .................. 1900-1912
J. A. Lewis .................... 1912-1928
John Chestnut ................. 1928-32
Edward Sessions .............. 1932-40
Don Burroughs .......... 1940-42 Resigned Feb. 1942
Edward Sessions .............. 1942-44

Appointed by Senator Paul Quattlebaum for the remainder of the year, resigned at Convention 1942 and was defeated Aug. 42 by C. E. Sasser
Ernest Sasser ................. 1942-52
John Henry ................. 1952-60
Tom Cannon ................. 1960-68
M. L. Brown, Jr. .............. 1968-

Duties of the Sheriff's Office is enforcing Civil and Criminal laws and acting as officers of the Court.

HORRY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
May 15, 1974

The Court of Ordinary was established for Horry District in 1803 and continued as such until 1866. The name was then changed to Probate Court for Horry County. This Court handles Estates of deceased persons, both testate and intestate; all Testamentary Trusts; Guardianships of minor children; Committeeships for incompetent persons; admittances of mentally ill to the South Carolina State Hospital on medical certificates; issuances of marriage licenses and performs marriage ceremonies when asked to do so.

Our office staff consists of Mrs. Sandra P. Smith, employed by the Court March, 1968; Mrs. Elizabeth O. James, employed by the Court December, 1964; Mrs. Carolyn L. Wright,

Deputy Judge of Probate, employed by the Court April, 1963, and W. C. Floyd, Judge of Probate, who took office January 2, 1959.

The following is a list of office holders:

COURT OF ORDINARY

1803-1805 ......................... Samuel Foxworth
1806-1810 ......................... Wm. Hemingway
1811-1816 ......................... Henry Durant
1817-1818
1819-1822 ......................... S. G. Singleton
1823-1840 ......................... John Durant
1841-1856 ......................... James Beaty
1857-1866 ......................... James A. Thompson

PROBATE COURT

1867 ......................... Joseph H. Harrell
1868-1870 ......................... Noah B. Cooper
1871-1872 ......................... Isaac G. Long
1873 ......................... Isaac Cannon
1874-1878 ......................... Isaac G. Long
1879-1880 ......................... C. P. Quattlebaum
1880-1881 ......................... John N. Pearce
1881-1882 ......................... T. T. Sessions
1882 ......................... J. M. Pearce
1883-1884 ......................... John N. Pearce
1885-1903 ......................... Wm. E. Hardwick
1903-1906 ......................... H. N. Sessions
1907-1910 ......................... John Holt
1911-1934 ......... W. C. FLOYD
1935-1942 ......................... J. S. Vaught
1943-1958 ......................... H. E. Bourne
1959- ......................... H. E. Blanton

1968- ......................... W. C. Floyd

W. C. FLOYD
Probate Judge

The Solicitor is charged with responsibility of prosecuting all Criminal cases in Courts of record within the Circuit.
THE CIVIL & CRIMINAL COURT OF HORRY COUNTY

Claude M. Epps
Judge

Evelyn C. White
Court Reporter & Secretary

John T. Holt
Associate Judge

Wanda Fowler
Court Reporter & Secretary

The Civil and Criminal Court of Horry was established by Act of South Carolina Legislature and came into existence April 1, 1953. This Court is inferior to the Circuit Courts of this State and its jurisdiction is limited to Horry County, South Carolina. However, the Court has concurrent jurisdiction with the Court of Common Pleas to try and determine all civil cases and special cases and special proceedings, both at law and equity, where the value of the property in controversy or the amount claimed in the Complaint does not exceed the sum of Twenty Five Thousand ($25,000.00) Dollars and its criminal jurisdiction is concurrent with the Court of General Sessions to try and determine most criminal cases if the maximum penalty is not in excess of ten (10) years imprisonment. This Court also has jurisdiction in cases of divorce, annulment, adoption and appeals from Magistrate’s Courts and City Recorder’s Courts. The Court is always open for the transaction of civil and criminal matters that may be disposed of without a Jury. In cases requiring a Jury Trial specific terms are set in advance. The Judge and the Associate Judge of this Court are appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the Horry County Bar Association for a term of four (4) years. Claude M. Epps, the present Judge, has continued in office since the Court was first created and John T. Holt was appointed an Associate Judge August 1, 1973.

THE FAMILY COURT OF HORRY COUNTY

The Family Court of Horry County was established in 1969. It is a court inferior to the circuit court and is particularly concerned with the well being of families and most especially of children. The judge of Family Court is also an Associate Judge for the Civil and Criminal Court of Horry County and Master in Equity for the county.

Although the Family Court has all the power and authority of any other court, it is often conducted more informally because of the nature of the cases with which it deals. Delinquent, neglected and abandoned children and children whose custody is in dispute are protected and supervised by this court. Child support cases, divorces, separations, adoptions, changes of names, corrections of birth records, and the termination of parental rights over a child all fall within the jurisdiction of this court.

The Horry County Bar Association recommended the Hon. Winston W. Vaught to the Governor who appointed him the first judge of this newly created court.

JUDGE WINSTON W. VAUGHT

THE FAMILY COURT OF HORRY COUNTY

Winston W. Vaught

Jean S. Johnson

David A. Thomas

Earl Spain

Wanda H. Hughes
DAVID A THOMAS

CHIEF COUNSELOR

David A. Thomas is the first person to hold this position.

Duties include counseling with all persons who come into Court unless they are represented by an attorney-at-law.

Juveniles and their parents coming into Court from law enforcement and other agencies appear before the Chief Counselor for counseling. Family information is obtained and the procedure for court appearance is explained. Following the court appearance, the Chief Counselor conducts investigations into the child's home, school, and work history making recommendations to the Judge for possible disposition of the case. Juveniles and parents also appear for counseling unofficially if a formal complaint has not been signed.

Those with domestic problems appear before the Chief Counselor where it is decided what best needs be done through Court to help with the problem. The Chief Counselor dictates preliminary orders which are signed by the Judge to institute Court handling.

PROBATION & PAROLE OFFICER

The purpose of this office is to investigate for parole the case of every prisoner serving on the County public works or in the Department of Corrections, and to supervise individuals who are placed on parole. Also, to take charge of Defendants placed on probation by the Courts and supervise them during their probationary period, and to investigate all prisoners that have been on parole for a period of five years with exemplary conduct for a pardon.
HORRY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Commission
R. D. Way, Jr., Chairman
Hoyt Jordan
Emery Skipper
"Slim" Doyle
Joshua Vaught
Floyd C. Worth
A. B. Grainger

George O. Fowler, Acting Chief
Herman Enzor, Lieutenant
Enoch O. Smith, Detective
Ellis Bellamy, Detective
Aubrey Winburn, Corporal
Job Blain, Corporal
Eugene Graham, Sergeant
Ralph Vaught
Buddy Causey
Keith Smith
Ronald Floyd
Jonny Mew
Willie Dutton
Woody Perry
Pete Bellamy
Harry Wilson
Bill Carter, Corporal
Furman Gause
Theo Johnson, Jr.

Dispatchers - Conway
French Collins
Oscar Turner
B. D. Doyle
Montgomery Johnson

Dispatchers - Nixon Cross Road
Barney McClellan
Capers McClellan

Mack Hemingway, Janitor

Janice Skipper, Secretary
Kathy Richardson, Secretary
Mrs. French Collins, Jail Matron
Oretha Bellamy, Cook
Esther Oliver, Cook

MAGISTRATES

District 1 - Conway .......... Leon Cannon
District 2 - Aynor .......... Robert M. Floyd
District 3 - Duford .......... Jack Hooks
District 4 - Green Sea ........ B. P. Harrelson
District 5 - Loris ............ N. C. James
District 6 - Myrtle Beach .... Wallace Harrelson
District 7 - Nixon Cross Roads .. Pat Bellamy
District 8 - Bayboro .......... U. D. Phipps

MAGISTRATES JURISDICTION

Criminal - Magistrates have jurisdiction over minor offenses, cases in which the fine does not exceed $100.00 or imprisonment does not exceed 30 days, and may impose any sentence within those limits, singly or in the alternative.

Civil - Magistrates shall have civil jurisdiction in the following cases:
1. Actions arising on contracts for recovery of money.
2. Actions for damages for injury to rights pertaining to person, personal, or real property.
3. Actions for a penalty, fine or forfeiture.
4. Actions commenced by attachment of property as provided by statute.
5. Actions upon a bond conditioned for the payment of money.
6. Actions upon a surety bond taken by them.
7. Actions upon a judgment rendered in a court of a magistrate or an interior court.
8. To take and enter judgment on the confession of a defendant in manner prescribed by law.
9. Action for damages or for fraud in sale, purchase or exchange of personal property.
10. All matters between landlord and tenant.
11. Actions to recover possession of personal property claimed. The value stated by affidavit of plaintiff, his agent or attorney.
12. Cases of bastardy.

In the First eleven items the sum claimed is not to exceed two hundred dollars.

FORMER MAGISTRATES

DISTRICT NO. 1

J. O. Cartrette
W. H. Chestnut
J. T. Mishoe
C. H. Grainger
Lonnie Calhoun
Stanley Bryant
Lonnie Causey

Hobson Smart
F. W. Medlin
T. O. Lane
Otis G. Dunn
Ike G. Long, Jr
Leon Cannon
LEON CANNON & STAFF
District No. 1

ROBERT M. FLOYD
District No. 2 for the past 13 years. President of the S. C. Magistrates Association until March 1st when he resigned upon being named Highway Commissioner for District No. 15 for Horry and Georgetown Counties. He assumed this post on April 15, 1974. He was a former chairman of the Horry County Police Commission.

JACK HOOKS
District No.

B. P. HARRELSON
District No. 4

DISTRICT NO. 4

Ben P. Harrelson was elected Magistrate, District No. 4, for Horry County, Green Sea Township and took office in 1961 and is still serving at present time. He is a native of Green Sea Township and the Grandson of the late B. P. Harrelson who served as Magistrate for Green Sea Township for 32 years beginning in 1900.

Former Magistrates of Green Sea Township include E. L. Buffkin, G. O. Fowler, J. K. King

Officers living in and serving Green Sea Township are:

John Ronald Floyd of the Horry County Police Department. Arion L. Small of the Horry County Sheriff’s Department. G. F. King, Jr. of the S. C. Highway Patrol.

W. M. James was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1944 - served until 1953 -- eight years. Roscoe Bryant, son of former Magistrate J. A. Bryant was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1952 - served until 1954 -- (2) two years. Winston W. Vaught was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1954 - served until 1959 -- (4) four years. N. C. James, son of former Magistrate W. M. James was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1958 and has been re-elected in 1960, 1962, 1964, 1968, and 1972 - has served -- (15) fifteen years and still serving. J. C. Mew is now serving the Magistrate as Deputy and has served for the past (4) four years. He has approximately (17) seventeen years experience in Law Enforcement.

**Record of Magistrate’s office at Loris, S. C. in Simpson Creek Township for the past [58] fifty-eight years:**

J. A. Bryant was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1916 - served until 1944 -- (28) twenty eight years.

W. M. James was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1944 - served until 1953 -- eight years. Roscoe Bryant, son of former Magistrate J. A. Bryant was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1952 - served until 1954 -- (2) two years. Winston W. Vaught was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1954 - served until 1959 -- (4) four years. N. C. James, son of former Magistrate W. M. James was elected to the Magistrate’s office in 1958 and has been re-elected in 1960, 1962, 1964, 1968, and 1972 - has served -- (15) fifteen years and still serving. J. C. Mew is now serving the Magistrate as Deputy and has served for the past (4) four years. He has approximately (17) seventeen years experience in Law Enforcement.
A. David Altman, Horry County Veterans Affairs Officer; Mrs. Nadine S. Ard, Secretary & Assistant.

HORRY COUNTY VETERANS' AFFAIRS OFFICE

The Veterans Affairs Office is an office created by the South Carolina Legislature sometime after WWI. Its purpose is to assist veterans and their dependents in applying for federal VA benefits.

The Veteran Affairs Office is also charged with presenting and prosecuting all types of claims to some decision by the Veterans Administration. This requires a detailed inspection of Veterans Administration records and sometimes appearing with veterans before a Veterans Administration rating board. He is also charged with stocking and assisting veterans in completing all types of Veterans Administration applications and forms. He also assists active military duty personnel and their dependents in making certain requests and applications to the military services. He is also required to assist eligible veterans in being admitted to Veterans Administration Hospitals. Duties of this office are quite numerous and I could go on at length but to sum it up, you might say, we serve the men who have served their country in the military.

I, A. David Altman, was first appointed Veterans Affairs Officer in November, 1953 and have served continuously since this date. My present Secretary-Assistant, Mrs. Nadine S. Ard, was first employed June 10, 1964 and has been employed continuously since that date.

E. T. HARRISON, JR.
Director

HORRY COUNTY CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY

Director ................. E. T. Harrison, Jr.
Secretary ............... Wanda Bessant
Former Director .......... J. S. Creel

The main function of this office is to plan, organize, administer, and co-ordinate with local government and emergency services to respond to any extraordinary emergency - such as tornado, forest fire, hurricane, earthquake, flood or other natural disaster; a major explosion or accident, or the release of radioactive materials or toxic chemicals; or an unusual peacetime emergency such as civil disorder. Civil Defense operations would also be required should the most massive emergency of all occur, a nuclear attack upon the United States.

WANDA BESSANT
Secretary
ECOLOGICAL COMMISSION

J. Eugene Altman, Chairman Ecological Commission. Served six terms, House of Representatives, and also served for five years and three months, as clerk of County Board of Commissioners.

His present duties are Pollution Control.

LAY COMMITTEES

A list of county officers would not be complete without mentioning the list of Lay Committees who do a great part of the work of county government. It speaks well for democracy when the local citizens take part in the work of running the county. A partial list of commissions is listed below:

Airport Board
Marketing Commission
Beach Preservation Commission
Board of Education
Boxing Commission
Development Board
Fish and Game Commission
Forfeited Land Commission
Higher Education Commission
Memorial Library Commission
Police Commission
Scholarship Board
Technical Education Commission
Civil Defense Advisory Commission
County Building Commission
Historic Preservation Commission
Planning Commission
Little River Recreation Commission
Surfside Recreation Board
Ambulance Commission
Selective Service Board
Welfare Board
Health Department Board
Voter Registration Board
Agricultural Stabilization Committee
Soil Conservation Committee
County Board of Tax Appeals

THE TOWN OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH

The Town of North Myrtle Beach is a union of Cherry Grove Beach, Ocean Drive Beach, Crescent Beach and Windy Hill Beach.

LEE JOHNSON
Former Chief Horry Police Commission, now Executive Director Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Mayor .................. Millard Ruckner
Councilmen ................ P. D. Mitchell
                        John Mark Simmons
                        Lesuel Stekers
Chief of Police ............ Licious Gore

TOWN OF AYNOR

The Town of Aynor was chartered May 21, 1914. Mr. G. Edwards was the first Mayor or Intendant as the title was then. Mr. John T. Shelley, Mr. J. W. Cook, Mr. H. B. Johnson and Mr. W. A. Benton as Councilmen or Wardens as they were called then.

Since the incorporation of the Town, the following citizens have served as mayor:

G. Edwards
J. M. Boyd
J. B. McCutcheon
John T. Shelley
George M. Huggins
A. D. Lewis
W. B. Carroll
The Town of Aynor has a population of approximately 600. Even though small, the inhabitant of Aynor has practically all the benefits and accommodations of a larger town. There are stores in Aynor that can take care of grocery, farm, hardware, lumber, clothing, auto, furniture, drug store supplies and many other needs. The latest asset of the town is that of a resident doctor.

The religious influence of the community is manifest through the activities of four Churches, with several in surrounding communities.

The Civic minded person in Aynor has an outlet for service through several organizations in town, among which are Lion’s Club, The Jaycees, American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, Masons, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Booster’s Club.

Industrial wise, Aynor has one Manufacturing Plant which is operated by Marlene Industries. It presently employs approximately four hundred people and makes ladies slacks and shorts.

Within the past three years a large modern bank building, which is a great asset to the financial needs of the Town and Community has been erected. Also in the last couple of years the Masons have erected a modern Masonic Lodge with large dining area facilities, which is often used by various groups and organizations of the Town and community.

The Town of Aynor is very much aware of the needs of recreation for all ages. In fact in the last two years the Town has constructed a recreation park, consisting of tennis court, basketball court, swings, rides, outdoor grills and softball field. The Town received the Consulting Engineers of South Carolina award for having completed this project as the most outstanding Public Work Project of any town in South Carolina with a population of 7500 or less.

The opportunities, social, financial, educational and religious, available to the citizens of Aynor are conducive to a good life.
GARBAGE MEN - TOWN OF AYNOR
Left to Right - Woodrow Coates & Jim Jenkins

MAYORS - OF CONWAY

Cephas Perry Quattlebaum ............. 1898-1899
(First Mayor)
James Mathis McKeithan ............... 1900
Doctor Allen Spivey ................... 1901-1903
Henry Lee Buck ......................... 1903-1904
George Robert Sessions ............... 1905
Leon Hall Burroughs ................... 1905
Jeremiah Smith ......................... 1906-1908
Henry Pile Little ...................... 1909-1914
William Edward McCord ............ 1915
J. A. McDermotte ...................... 1917-1918
Lawren Denton Magrath ............... 1915-1916
1919-1922
1925-1934
1945-1946
William Kenneth Suggs .............. 1923-1924
Carl L. Busbee ......................... 1934-1935
1947-1948
Austin Charles Thompson ............ 1948-1957
James Hart Long ....................... 1957-1958
James G. Lewis ......................... 1958-1962
H. Blue Huckabee ...................... 1962 to present
JEREMIAH SMITH [1906-1908]

HENRY P. LITTLE [1909-1914]

WILLIAM EDWARD MCCORD [1915]

JOHN A. MCDERMOTT [1917-1918]

WILLIAM KENNETH SUGGS [1923-1924]

CARL L. BUSBEE [1934-1935, 1947-1948]

AUSTIN CHARLES THOMPSON [1948-1957]
Mrs. Henry was City Clerk from 1946 until her death in 1971. In 1963, when as principal fiscal officer of the City of Conway, she won the Government Accounting Award for Accounts for South Carolina Municipalities.
LORIS
HORRY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

SLOGAN — "A Little Town With a Great Future"

HISTORY — Named "Loris" from a novel of the same title. In 1880 Loris was a small clearing. In 1890 the first Post Office operated. In 1903 Loris was incorporated.

LOCATION — In Horry County, South Carolina, on Atlantic Coast Line Railway, twenty-one miles North of Conway, and twenty-five miles West of Ocean Drive Beach; on U. S. Highway 701 and South Carolina #9, approximately 4 miles South of North Carolina Line.

GOVERNMENT — The community has a mayor-council form of municipal government. The mayor is elected for a term of two years and the six councilmen serve four-year alternating terms of office. Present City government is composed of:
- Mayor: C. P. Brewer
- Council Members: C. Vernon Hardee, Austin Graham, Roscoe Todd, A. Ben Todd, Fred Watson, and Maxine T. Dawes.

Mayors who have served during the past forty years are: C. P. Brewer, Cecil Milligan, J. D. Duncan, Sr., Henry Nelson, S. J. Deery, Edgar Stanley, Jennings Hardwick, and W. H. Stevens.

The following is a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation for the Town of Loris:

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
By The Secretary of State

WHEREAS, A petition was filed on the 14th day of June, 1902, A.D. by ten freehold electors in the precinct in which the town of Loris is situated, setting forth the corporate limits, the number of inhabitants of the proposed town, and that they desired to be incorporated.

AND WHEREAS, A commission was issued on the 18th day of June, 1902, A.D. to Albert F. Cannon, D. James Butler and Yancy P. McQueen empowering them to provide for the registration of all electors within the proposed corporate limits of said town, and to appoint managers to hold the election, and to have them to certify the result under oath to the Secretary of State.

AND WHEREAS, J. C. Bryant, J. E. Prince and D. J. Butler, managers of election duly appointed to hold the election for the purpose of determining the incorporation of the town of Loris did, on the 26th day of July, 1902 file with the Secretary of State a written declaration of the result of said election under oath signed by themselves, setting forth:
- FIRST: In favor of corporation
- SECOND: The name of the proposed town to be LORIS.

THIRD: That James D. Butler was duly elected Intendant, and D. O. Boyd, J. C. Bryant, R. F. Harrelson and H. H. Burroughs were elected Wardens.

NOW, THEREFORE I, M. R. Cooper, Secretary of State, by virtue of the authority vested in me by an Act of the General Assembly entitled "An Act to provide for the Incorporation of Towns of Less Than One Thousand Inhabitants," do hereby issue to the Intendant and Wardens elect this certificate of Incorporation, with the privileges, powers, and immunities, and subject to the limitations prescribed in the said Act.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal of the State, this 26th day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand, nine hundred and two and in the one hundred and 27th year of the Independence of the United States of America.

M. R. Cooper
Secretary of State

LORIS MAYOR AND STAFF
Standing Left to Right - Mayor C. P. Brewer, City Recorder John L. Reaves. Seated Left to Right - Assistant Clerk Pearl R. Tyler and City Clerk and Treas. Martha G. Dorman.
LORIS CITY COUNCIL
Standing Left to Right - C. Vernon Hardee, Roscoe Todd, Fred D. Watson. Bottom Row Seated - Austin W. Graham, Mrs. Maxine T. Dawes, A. Ben Todd.

LORIS POLICE DEPARTMENT
Left to Right - Police Chief Elton J. Hardee, J. Woodrow Hardee, Sgt. Ernest Huggins. Haywood Elliott and Rubin White are absent from picture.
LORIS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

MYRTLE BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND MAYOR
L to R - Councilmen Arthur Vereen, Allison Farlow, Mayor Robert J. Hirsch, Councilmen Fred Holland, Charles Cook.
A BRIEF HISTORY OF WATER TRANSPORTATION IN HORRY COUNTY, S. C.

By Hoyt McMillan

Brigadier General, U. S. Marine Corps (Retired)
June 1974

In the time of recorded history, the availability of the means of transportation and communication has been a major factor in the development and progress of civilizations. The principal cities of the ancient world and in modern times have been located on, or near, the major trade routes. Accessibility to navigable waters and overland routes has been a primary influence in the growth, prosperity and well being of population centers.

The inaccessibility of Horry County to outside areas resulted in the isolation of our people and was a dominant factor in developing their character. It gave rise to the name, "Independent Republic of Horry". We lived in isolation and had to be "independent" and self reliant.

In 1974 there remains very little evidence that transportation on the Waccamaw River was the major means of moving people and supplies into and out of the county. Conway and Bucksport were the centers of this important river traffic and at one time both could boast of their active shipyards where large ships were built.

This paper is limited in its scope and contains only information the author was able to assemble through old newspaper accounts, available records and conversations with persons having first-hand information on the subject. The accompanying pictures are either copies of old photographs or were made in 1973 by the author.

It is surprising to note that so little research has been done on this important subject, and others having information to add to what is assembled here are encouraged to write articles, or to make information available to the Horry County Historical Society. Much more first-hand information was known just ten or fifteen years ago than can be found now. Persons who used our Waccamaw River as an artery of commerce, or who worked on the River Boats and River Wharves, are becoming difficult to find. Perhaps descendants, relatives and friends of those persons can supply knowledge necessary to reconstruct an accurate history of water transportation in Horry County. If those of us who have this knowledge do not make it available, it will be lost forever and an accurate account can never be compiled.

Since childhood, the Waccamaw River has been of great interest to the author; especially, as a source of recreation. Swimming in the river as well as fishing, exploring, and boating has always been a source of entertainment. First-hand knowledge of the vessels of the river steamboat era is limited to a brief visit on board the steamer "Comanche" and numerous views of hulks of the "Ruth", and the burned "New Maggie".

The "Comanche" was the last of the river steamboats to make the regular run from Conway to Georgetown carrying passengers and freight. The hulk of the "Ruth" was beached near the bridge over the Little Pee Dee River at Galivants Ferry. The hulk of the "New Maggie" rested in a small lake on the south side of the causeway on the far side of the bridge over Kingston Lake at Conway. This bridge led to what is now Highway 905.

The first known persons of European descent to explore the Waccamaw River as far as Conway were several young men from Georgetown. They came up the river in February 1734 to "Bear Bluff". Today great sections of our beautiful river look very much the same as they did then. (See picture #1).

The aborigines, the Waccamaw Indians and other tribes, probably used boats, or flotation of some type, before the first Europeans arrived. We know very little about their use of the Waccamaw River as a means of transportation.

In his "Narrative History of Horry County", Dr. J. A. Norton, M.D. (1876-1950) of Conway wrote as follows:

"The Waccamaw River was the direct means of the arrival of settlers to this section, and for a long time was the only means for getting in and out, or of getting goods in and out
of the country. Even up to the time of my recollection, the steamboat was the only method employed for freight transportation, all such coming in from or going down to Georgetown and from there by ocean routes to N. Y. and Charleston. The mail route ran from Port Harrelson by way of Conway to Fair Bluff, North Carolina, and was also used for personal trips in and out of town, or a private conveyance could be hired for the long, sandy, tiresome trip to the Bluff to catch the Columbia train there. In either case, it was not exactly a pleasure trip, anyway you figured it, and consequently only the most urgent business saw any of the inhabitants going outside. Practically perforce, we stayed at home and lived at the same place”.

The Waccamaw River, therefore, afforded the most efficient access to our County and was the early “highway” for immigration and commerce. The rough “flat boats” with their square bows and sterns and the long sleek cypress dugouts no doubt carried the first moving people and materials for the first one hundred years after the arrival of our first European settlers.

In 1828, young Henry Buck from Bucksport, Maine, made his way up the Waccamaw River to the site of the “Upper Mill.” He was searching for fine virgin timber and naval stores to supply the needs of the market in New England.

When he arrived at the site of the “Upper Mill” he must have seen what he was looking for. He established his home there and built his first saw mill. His house stands and a part of the brick stack for the “Upper Mill” can be seen today.

He developed his biggest saw mill and shingle mill at Bucksville, a few miles down the river. The site of Bucksville is below the sharp turns, narrow places and shallow shoals found higher up the river. (See picture #2).

This marked the beginning of a new era in our river traffic. From this time on, we know that seagoing sailing ships (two and three mast schooners) came regularly up the Waccamaw to Bucksport (located below Bucksville on the river. See picture #3), to Bucksville, and as far up the river as Pott Bluff, about five miles below Conway. Seagoing vessels of this type also came up Bull Creek from the Waccamaw River to Port Harrelson, another river port of Horry County. (See picture #4).

The “Church Perkins” and at least one other sailing vessel were built at the old shipyard at Conway prior to the War Between the States. This shipyard was located on the north bank of the Waccamaw River a short distance above Conway to the north of where the present approach to the Seaboard Coastline Railroad turnbridge now stands. (See picture #5). Later, this was the site of the Burroughs and Collins Shipyard where a number of steamboats were built.

The large sailing ship “Henrietta” was built at Bucksville in 1875 by Elisha Dunbar with a crew of New England ships carpenters, riggers, and blacksmiths. The “Henrietta” was built for Captain Jonathan C. Nichols, a master mariner and ship owner of Searsport, Maine. This ship was 210 feet long, 39 feet wide, 24 feet deep and registered 1203 tons. She was named for the wife of Captain Nichols, and served in the China trade until she was lost in a typhoon on the coast of Japan in 1894. (See picture #6).

In spite of heroic efforts by our early citizens, economic progress was extremely slow; especially, during Reconstruction time.

In an article in the Horry Herald of September 9, 1909, the editor, Mr. J. W. Ogilvie, wrote that the transportation facilities in 1881 were mostly by water to the outside world. He said that ocean going vessels that came up the Waccamaw River to Pott Bluff, were oftentimes delayed for long periods of time by unfavorable weather conditions. The “Nellie Floyd” and the “Eleanor” were the names of the schooners on the regular line making monthly runs.

The schooner, “Bayard Hopkins”, was chartered by Mr. D. V. Richardson of Bucksport and his partner, Mr. Malone, and made regular runs between Buckspor and New York and Boston. (See picture #7).

In the Horry Herald of October 21, 1909, the editor wrote that in 1881 there were only two settlements in the county of any commercial importance - Conwayborough and Bucksville. Neither of these two places was incorporated and neither could be properly designated as a village, and scarcely as a hamlet. Mr. Ogilvie also stated that two and three mast schooners came up the Waccamaw River as high as Bucksville and it was a common occurrence to find two or three vessels loading or waiting to be loaded at the wharves at that place.

The Waccamaw River had many limitations on navigation in its natural condition. Numerous shoals, sharp bends and narrow places restricted its use by any but the smallest boats. The Rivers and Harbors Act of June, 1884, authorized the maintenance of the Waccamaw River for navigation to Conway. This was the
The first authority to make improvements on the river to make it more usable for shipping.

Under that authority the river was snagged below Conway in 1881. By "snagged" is meant that fallen trees, logs and other obstructions were removed by boats especially equipped for this purpose. Also, in 1881 brush and pile jetties were constructed at shoaled areas on the river to narrow the channel and thereby force the river to run more swiftly in those areas and clear or wash away the shoals and sandbars. (This information furnished by: The District Engineer, Charleston District, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army.) (See pictures #8 and 9).

Prior to the early 1880s cargo for shipment to Georgetown, Charleston or other markets was carried from Conway to Pott Bluff on barges, and flat boats where it was loaded on the larger sailing vessels for further shipment. This was inconvenient and inefficient and developed the need for further improvements in the river. Considerable dredging and other work was undertaken by the Corps of Engineers to improve the river and make it usable for steamboats all of the way to Conway. This work was done over a period of several years.

In her "Chronological Outline of Horry County History" in the Tricentennial Edition of the Independent Republic Quarterly in 1970, Mrs. Catherine H. Lewis stated that in the 1860s the Waccamaw River was filled with traffic. The "Francis Marion" was a troop ship and is said to have been the first steamboat on the river (Circa 1862).

There may have been earlier steamboats running regular schedules on the Waccamaw River; but, the author has been unable to learn anything about them. However, good records exist of the steamboats operated by Burroughs and Collins Company as the Waccamaw Line of Steamers.

From notes of Mrs. Lucile Burroughs Godfrey it was learned that in the early 1880s Burroughs and Collins bought the "Juniper" in Wilmington, North Carolina and operated her on a regular schedule between Conway and Georgetown. The boat was old and not in very good shape when purchased in Wilmington. Captain Ike Williams, the captain, used to say that he could tell when they got to the Great Pee Dee River -- "The water in her hold changed color." It is said that sometimes he would purposely run her on a mud flat at low tide and let her sit there in the mud. Then, when the tide rose and refloated her, the pressure would push the mud tight in the cracks, and make her seaworthy again. The "Juniper" was a stern wheel steamboat.

The operation of the steamboats by Burroughs and Collins Company brought the need for a shipyard to Conway. The company reactivated the old shipyard for the maintenance and repair of its steamboats. Later Burroughs and Collins built their steamboats at this place. The "Driver", a stern wheeler, was built at the Burroughs and Collins Company shipyard from usable parts of the "Juniper". She had a new hull, but the superstructure and most of the machinery were from the "Juniper". (See picture #5 for the location of the Burroughs and Collins Company shipyard.)

About this same time the "Government" shipyard located near the junction of Kingston Lake with the Waccamaw River, in front of the Perry Quattlebaum residence on Kingston Street was built. It was called the "Government" shipyard because most of the vessels built there were for the U. S. Government. A Captain Daggett was in charge of this shipyard and a partial list of ships built there is as follows:

- "Mingo" - supply boat
- "Carolina" - supply boat
- "Little Pee Dee" - snag boat
- "Big Pee Dee" - snag boat
- "Cheraw" - dredge

(See pictures #10 and 11)

The "Maggie" was the next steamboat to be built by the Burroughs and Collins Company at Conway. No picture is available and her specifications are not known, but this notice of her schedule was quoted in the Independent Republic Quarterly, Tri-centennial Edition of 1970 on page 44:

"On and after June 10, 1884, the Steamer MAGGIE, H. T. Williams, Master, will leave Conway, bound for Georgetown, every Wednesday morning at 5 o'clock, touching at all intermediate landings.

Will leave Georgetown bound for Conway every Friday morning at 6 o'clock, touching at all intermediate landings.

D. T. McNeill
Agent at Conway

P. A. Munnerlyn,
Agent at Georgetown"

(See pictures #12, 13 and 14 for some of the "intermediate landings" where the steamboats stopped on the trips to and from Georgetown).

The "Ruth", an iron hull steamer, was built at Conway in 1888. She was 80 feet in length with a 16 foot beam. She had four foot deck level side wheels powered by two
horizontal non-condensing steam engines. She grossed 89 tons and was licensed to navigate on Winyah Bay and its tributaries in South Carolina. (See picture #15 the "Ruth" is the smaller steamboat on the right).

The "New Maggie" was built next. Neither a picture nor the specifications for this steamboat are available. After years of service the "New Maggie" caught on fire while she was at the dock at Conway. Her captain had the presence of mind enough to get her underway and to beach her in the shallow water of the lake where her hulk remained for a number of years. (See picture #16).

The "F. G. Burroughs", a wooden hull passenger and freight steamboat, was built at Conway in 1898, the year after the death of Mr. Burroughs. She was driven by side wheels powered by separate horizontal non-condensing steam engines. She was 125 feet long, and had a beam of 20 feet, and was licensed to navigate on Winyah Bay and its tributaries in South Carolina. She was licensed to carry 125 passengers and could carry 150 tons of freight. She was rebuilt at Conway in 1912. (See picture #17).

The "Mitchell C.", launched in 1905 (March), was the last and finest of the steamboats built in Conway. She was propelled by side wheels, and had a steel hull prefabricated in Wilmington, Delaware, but assembled in Conway by Burroughs and Collins Company for service with the "Waccamaw Line of Steamers". She was 100 feet long with a 20 foot beam with a draft of 6 feet. Her side wheels were powered by separate horizontal non-condensing steam engines. She was licensed to carry 125 passengers. She even had staterooms, and could carry 85 tons of freight. (See pictures #18 and 19).

The "Lillian L.", a 30 horsepower gasoline tug boat, 45 feet long and with an 8 foot beam was built in 1908. This boat was named for Mrs. H. P. Little of Conway.

The "Bertie", another tug boat, was built at the Burroughs and Collins shipyard. Captain Jim Sanders commanded this boat for several years and she was used to tow barges of freight on the river. The "Bertie" was capable of towing barges up the river as far as Red Bluff.

In 1896 Burroughs and Collins Company organized the "Waccamaw Line of Steamers" to continue the operation of the steamboats. In other words, the "Waccamaw Line of Steamers" was a separate company owned by Burroughs and Collins Company.

Mrs. Lucile Burroughs Godfrey said that she was selected to christen the "Mitchell C." when the ship was launched. She was 14 years old at the time and was to break a bottle of wine over the bow of the steamboat. She said that because of nervousness she just froze, and the honors were done by her sister, Bess, who was to be married to Mr. Edwin James Sherwood the following year.

The "Mitchell C." was named for Miss Mitchell Collins, the youngest daughter of Mr. B. G. Collins, one of the partners of Burroughs and Collins Company. Miss Collins still remembers receiving the telegrams of congratulations on the occasion of launching while she was a student at Columbia College in Columbia, South Carolina.

Conway never fitted the definition of a "rip-roaring" river port. However, its waterfront was active and was a center for the receipt and shipment of freight required by and generated by the people living in a wide surrounding area. Today two waterfront warehouses remain and are still used by The Jerry Cox Company and Burroughs and Collins Company. These warehouses were built as the terminal and dock storage buildings for the river steamboat traffic. The remains of numerous pilings show the extent of earlier development of the waterfront. (See picture #20. This picture was made after 1914, the year the Conway water tank was erected.). (See pictures #21, 22 and 23. These pictures show the Conway waterfront as it appeared in 1973.).

The following notes were taken from copies of the Horry Herald of the period when the steamboats were a vital link between Horry County and the outside world:

1. Horry Herald, June 29, 1899 reported that Captain H. T. Williams of the steamer "Ruth", left here yesterday morning with a party of young ladies and gentlemen bound for the beach. They will leave the boat at Wachesaw, mount their wheels, and cycle around until Friday, when they will return home by the same steamer.

2. Horry Herald, Oct. 19, 1905 reported that the "Mitchell C." made her first run on the previous Monday, October 16, 1905, to Georgetown.

3. Horry Herald, April 30, 1910 reported that the "Mitchell C." sank and a pump was brought from a Georgetown rice plantation to assist in raising her. The Conway band assembled and furnished music.

4. Horry Herald, Jan. 9, 1919 reported that the "Waccamaw Line of Steamers" had decided to discontinue operations on January 11, 1919.
Burroughs and Collins was getting out of the business of operating the steamboats.

5. Horry Herald, February 27, 1919 reported that the “Waccamaw Steamboat Company” had been chartered by D. A. Spivey, A. W. Barrett, S. P. Hawes, H. P. Little, and A. T. Collins. [This company bought the steamboats from the “Waccamaw Line of Steamers”.

In 1909, under the authority of The Rivers and Harbors Act of June 1880, an appropriation was made by congress for the first dredging and straightening of the Waccamaw River. In that year the dredge “Cheraw” removed 37,633 cu. yds. from the Waccamaw River and the hoister “Socastee” and two bank derricks also worked to improve the navigation on the Waccamaw River below Conway. Later the dredge “Wateree” did this work and now the dredge “Snell works on our river.

In 1911 and 1912 considerable work was done by the Corps of Engineers in straightening the crooked course of the Waccamaw. These cuts were made to a depth of 8 feet at normal low water and 80 feet in width.

After numerous local hearings and many expressions of need by local citizens, the Rivers and Harbors Act of July 3, 1930, authorized work to improve navigation on the Waccamaw River above Conway.

(The above information on work to improve the Waccamaw River was furnished by: The District Engineer, Charleston District, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army.)

No discussion of water transportation in Horry County would be complete without mentioning transportation of logs on the Waccamaw River. Rafting provided the means for moving a large volume of logs down the river to the Conway Lumber Company without the use of a tug boat or other source of mechanical power.

The logs were brought to the landing by log carts pulled by either mules or oxen, or were dragged by yokes of oxen. When the accumulation of logs was sufficient, they were rolled into the river and formed into a raft.

The rafts of logs were either built by the owners of the logs, or by employees of the lumber company and floated down the river to the sawmill. The current of the river furnished the necessary power and the rafts were steered by raftsmen. To form the rafts a long thin pole was laid across the ends of the logs to be clamped together. An auger was used to bore a hole through the pole and into each of the saw logs floating in the water underneath. Wooden pegs were then driven into the holes to keep the logs straight and firmly in place. This was called “clamping the logs together” and each section thus formed was called a “clamp”.

Two “clamps” of about fifteen logs each were securely pinned together to form the “head” of the raft. Next, a “clamp” of one less number of logs was pinned or tied to the center log of each of the “clamps” which made up the “head”. These “clamps” were attached to the “clamps” ahead by means of split round wood couplings (or ropes) pegged with wooden pegs or large nails, leaving sufficient space between the “clamps” to allow for turning around the sharp bends to be negotiated on the trip to the sawmill. It was not unusual to have rafts ten or fifteen “clamps” of logs in length (twenty to thirty “clamps” in the raft).

When the rafts were completed, a hearth of clay and sand was built on one of the “clamps” of the “head” and a fire for warmth and cooking was kept burning there. The raftsmen caught fish and killed game to eat as they silently drifted with the current.

A raft was managed by two men when the river flow was normal. Two men were sufficient because the raft was tied to the bank when the tide changed, and they waited until the next falling tide to continue the journey to the sawmill. A trip such as this, from Red Bluff to Conway required eight to ten days (a road distance of approximately twelve miles - a river distance of more than three times that far.).

When the river was high (freshet), four men were required to man a raft because it traveled day and night during all tides. Under these conditions, the trip from Red Bluff to Conway was about five days.

The raftsmen were equipped with long poles having iron spikes inserted in the ends. These poles were used to guide the “head” of the raft around bends in the river by pushing from trees on the river bank. Because the “clamps” of logs narrowed toward the rear of the raft the danger of getting hung on the river bank was greatly reduced. The raft would slide by snags and other objects on which it might otherwise be caught. (See the attached figure for the make-up of a raft of logs on the Waccamaw River). (This information was furnished primarily by Mr. Charles Dusenbury who worked with his father in rafting logs on the Waccamaw River during the late 1920’s.)
Although Horry County has a coastline of about 35 miles, Little River Inlet is the only salt water harbor. Little River Inlet provided the early settlers in the northeastern section of the county an outlet to the sea and a means of communicating with areas to the north by inland waters. This advantage was a factor in the early development of the Little River Community.

The Horry Herald of October 2, 1902 under the heading "Gala Day at Little River" printed the story about launching the "Sanders", the first steamboat built there. Many sea worthy vessels have been built at Little River since then.

Commercial salt water fishing and sport fishing are still thriving industries at Little River. The Intracoastal Waterway passes the Little River waterfront. The troublesome sandbar at the entrance to Little River is being corrected by the construction of jetties and by dredging. This will give Horry County a relatively deep water access directly to the Atlantic Ocean.

The Horry Herald of August 23, 1930 printed the information that rights of way for the Intracoastal Waterway were being secured, and stated that the route will commence in this county at Enterprise, then follow Socastee Creek, and on through low lands to Little River. (See picture #24).

The dream of having an Intracoastal Waterway from Maine to Florida was finally completed in 1935 when the last big cut through Horry County from Little River to Bucksport was finished. The Standard Dredging Company was the contractor for this project and performed the work at a cost of $3,654,000. (See picture #25).

The Intracoastal Waterway runs for 43 miles through Horry County. It is maintained at an authorized depth of 12 feet with a width of 90 feet (minimum).

This big cut through Horry County has exposed our geological history for everyone to see. (See pictures #26 and #27).

From the point where the Intracoastal Waterway enters the Waccamaw River above Bucksport, to Georgetown, the channel of our beautiful river is marked with channel markers.
that are illuminated from sunset to sunrise. (The information about the construction of the Intracoastal Waterway was furnished by: The District Engineer, Charleston District, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army.)

In 1974 the river steamboats making their regular scheduled runs to Georgetown, and the long rafts of logs on their way to the saw mills have disappeared from our waterways. Water transportation does not hold the principal role in Horry County that it held in earlier years. It has been replaced by highway transportation and air transportation to a great extent.

Today the Waccamaw River above Bucksport is used primarily by pleasure craft. The Intracoastal Waterway, including the Waccamaw River below Bucksport, supports a considerable volume of commercial shipping, principally, barge traffic moving in interstate commerce. This waterway is also used by a great number of pleasure craft of all types, including large yachts on their migrations north and south "following the sun".

The waterways and coastline of Horry County continue to be major natural assets. They contribute vastly to the quality of life in this section, and make it a most desirable place to live. More and more people visit and reside at our seashore resorts and build their homes near our waterways; but these waterways no longer serve as the essential routes for moving people and supplies into and out of Horry County.

CAPT. RALPH RUFUS DOZIER

By Elizabeth Dozier Vaughn

Ralph Rufo Dozier was the oldest child of James Lawrence Dozier and his wife Bettie Moore Stevenson. He was born April 7, 1878, in Brittons Neck, S. C.

After finishing school in Conway and taking a machinist's course, Ralph Dozier went to work on the river boats that ran from Georgetown to Conway.

Items in the Horry Herald - one in January 1897 and another in April, 1902 - show Mr. Ralph Dozier of Georgetown, S. C., visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Dozier of Conway.

Ralph Dozier later became Captain of the Dredge "Cheraw", and helped to keep the rivers open for transportation.

Around 1904 he married Miss Edith Lurlene Anderson (1886-1946), of Columbia, S. C. Son thereafter he left the river and moved to Columbia where he became Superintendent of a construction company that built bridges and dams. He was in charge of building the first bridge across the Pee Dee River and through the swamps, at Galivants Ferry, S. C. These replaced the old Mars Bluff Ferry. He was a construction engineer for the W.P.A. when he died July 5, 1941.

He and his wife had four children, Katherine, William Ralph (1911-1952), James and Edith Anderson.

Ralph Rufo Dozier, his wife Edith and son William Ralph are buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Square #7, Lot #16, Columbia, S. C.

The Above information was gleaned from family records, cemetery records and death certificates.

It is suggested that the following note be added to the biographical sketch of Captain Ralph Rufo Dozier furnished by Mrs. Ruby Lee Wachtman:

"During the time that Captain Dozier was in command of the dredge "Cheraw" he did considerable work on the Waccamaw River to improve navigation. The cut near the bridgeware over the Waccamaw River on the U. S. Highway 501 By-pass is called the "Dozier Cut" because it was made by the Cheraw during the time that Captain Dozier was in command.

The dredge Cheraw was built at Conway at the "Government" Shipyard located in front of the residence of Mr. Perry Quattlebaum on Kingston Lake near the junction with the Waccamaw River."

2. Aerial View, Bucksville Chimney [Buck's Middle Mill]

4. Aerial View of Port Harrelson on Bull Creek.
5. Aerial View of the junction of the Waccamaw River and Kingston Lake at Conway, S. C.

7. The Schooner "Bayard Hopkins" at the dock at Bucksport.


10. “Government” Shipyard at Conway, S. C.

13. **Aerial View of Bucksport on the Waccamaw River 1973.**

14. **View of the Bucksport Waterfront from the Waccamaw River 1973.**

17. The Steamboat "F. G. Burroughs", Navigating on the Waccamaw River.


20. River Steamboats at the Wharf at Conway.


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Last line Page 18, right column, date should be 1795 (Not 1975)

Left hand column next to last paragraph George Town (Two words not one as today)

In second paragraph page 19, Hardy Lewis received $451.43¾. This shows a fractional currency of ¾ cents.)

On page 23 the captions for George W. and Samuel N. Anderson are reversed under their pictures.