AYNOR TRAIN AND TOBACCO MURAL

This mural honoring the place of the early railroad and of tobacco in the history of the Aynor community was painted by Tom Goforth of Clemson University. It was sponsored by the Aynor Lions Club which raised the money and saw the project to completion. The Mural Committee consisted of Marvin Skipper, John Monroe Holliday and Kenneth Ward. It was dedicated in the intense heat of Saturday, August 4, 1984.
HORRY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT    Miss Miriam Tucker
PRESIDENT ELECT Bruce Chestnut
VICE PRESIDENT  Ben Burroughs
PAST PRESIDENT Mrs. Mary Emily Platt Jackson
SECRETARY Carlisle Dawsey
TREASURER William H. Long
HISTORIAN Mrs. Aileen Paul Harper
DIRECTORS Gilbert E. Barker
Miss Rebecca Bryan
Mrs. Tempe H. Oehler

THE IRQ EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR    E. R. McIver
COPYEDITORS  Mrs. Catherine H. Lewis
William H. Long
ASSOCIATE EDITORS Mrs. Annette E. Reesor
Mrs. Eunice McM. Thomas
MAILING AND DISTRIBUTION Mrs. Jewell G. Long
G. Manning Thomas
Miss Miriam Tucker
SALES    Miss Ernestine Little
FORMER EDITORS  John P. Cartrette
Miss Florence T. Epps

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

Society meetings;                          Board meetings:
January 14, 1985                           March 11, 1985
April *, 1985                              June 10, 1985
July 8, 1985                                September 9, 1985
October 14, 1985                           December 9, 1985

*Special program planned. Watch for details!

Dues: $5.00 annually for individuals; $7.50 for married couples and $3.00 for students. One subscription to the Quarterly is free with each membership. If a couple desires two copies, the dues are $10.00. Checks may be sent to William H. Long, 1303 Laurel Street, Conway, SC 29526.

Back issues may be obtained for $2.00 each (plus $1.00 for one and 50¢ for each additional issue for postage and handling) from Miss Ernestine Little, 1003 6th Ave., Conway, SC 29526, as long as they are in print. Copies of the 1880 Census of Horry County, S. C., may be obtained from Miss Little by mail or from the Horry County Memorial Library, 1008 Fifth Ave., Conway, SC 29526 in person. The price is $5.00 (plus $1.00 postage and handling, if mailed).

Materials for publication in the IRQ are welcomed and may be submitted to The Independent Republic Quarterly, 1008 Fifth Ave., Conway, SC 29526.

The Society is sponsoring the publication of a history of Horry County by A. Goff Bedford which is expected to come off the press in April. Inserted in this issue of IRQ is an advance order blank. To reserve your copy of the new book, fill out the form and send it to William H. Long, Treasurer, Horry County Historical Society, 1303 Laurel Street, Conway, SC 29526.
Greetings fellow members of the Society:

For our October program, Kelly Joyner gave us an insight into lifestyles in the 20s and 30s in Horry County and especially around the Bucksport area where she grew up. You can read it in this issue.

We are still looking forward to hearing Mildred Brown talk about the Gurley area of the county at our January 14 meeting.

It has been a pleasure serving as your president this year. Your new officers will be: President - Miriam Tucker, Vice-President - Ben Burroughs, President-Elect - Bruce Chestnut, Secretary - Carlisley Dawsey, Treasurer - Bill Long, Historian - Aileen Harper, Past President - Mary Emily Jackson, and Editor of the Quarterly - Rick McIver. The holdover director is Gilbert Barker and the new directors are Rebecca Bryan and Tempe Oehler.

It has been my privilege to work with Dr. Goff Bedford a little and to have a preview of his book on the history of Horry County. This book will be published early in 1985 and will be here for distribution in April. We will start taking advance orders at our January meeting. The book will sell for $20.00 hardback and $15.00 paperback (plus postage if it is mailed). This will be a big feature of our 250th Anniversary Celebration that we are planning for April. Plans will be announced later.

Best wishes to all,

Mary Emily P. Jackson

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Train Comes to Aynor, by Carlisley Dawsey Page 4
A Priceless Heritage, by Kelly Paul Joyner 5
Editor's Mailbag 10, 14
Waccamaw Church Register, compiled by J. Ernest E. Harper 11
Confederate Soldiers of Horry County, compiled by Hoyt McMillan 15
Abraham Bessent, by Stanley M. Bessent 19
Can You Help? 20
Some Sessions Marriages in Horry County, ca. 1730-1898, by George Q. Sessions 21
Francis Ichobod Sessions, Sr., by C. Walker Sessions 22
Down By the Riverside, a Book Review by Josoph David Joyner 23
Horry County Museum, an announcement by William Keeling 24
THE TRAIN COMES TO AYNOR

By Carlisle Dawsey

I have written and spoken quite a bit about Aynor in the past and have received glowing acknowledgments as well as some scorching criticism. So, let me say from the beginning that I don't know everything there is to know about the town's history. Since so little of it has been written down, I don't know that there is anyone who really does. I have made a diligent effort to be as accurate as possible concerning the dates and events that I will recount to you here.

As for the name of the town, I am sure in my own mind that it is derived from the name of a lady, Miss Mary Aynor. I feel very strongly that this is the case, although I have had some contradiction. This has been borne out in early newspaper accounts, as well as by older citizens of the community who have a reputation for truthfulness and veracity. I'm not going to try to go into a list of names. What I'm going to do is to tell you the story of this lady as I have best been able to understand it.

It seems that her family came here from the southeastern portion of North Carolina, or so the story goes. They lived northwest of what is now the town in the area toward Antioch. For some reason her family did not stay long and they soon left, going back presumably to southeastern North Carolina. No one knows where exactly they came from or where they went. It is not certain either whether she married while her family was here or shortly after they left. We do know, however, that she did spend her life here and raised her family here for her descendants are here still.

From what I can gather, and the stories are varied, she owned a tract of land of around 100 acres in the area where we now stand [the center of Aynor--ed.]. Early accounts state that she had at one time owned the property where the depot stood, which was around the corner from here. The story goes that she and her husband had taken in a passerby for a meal and that she traded her property to this stranger for a horse and saddle--and the horse was one-eyed.

This has been passed down orally as a truthful story and I have had it affirmed to me as a fact and have no reason to disbelieve this account. I have not, however, been able to verify any of this according to the public records of Horry County since I can find no trace of the name Aynor. I am still looking and currently the name is being checked by the Latter Day Saints Church in its index of similar sounds, but at this point Pawley's Island has its mystery about the Gray Man, Murrells Inlet has its mystery about Alice, and we still have our mystery about Miss Aynor.

As for the existence of the town itself, no one single thing has contributed more to it than the train; in all probability if there had been no train there would not be an Aynor today. The Burroughs family had large land holdings they had acquired from the end of the Civil War to the turn of the century up in this area. These were mostly timberlands that they were logging and working for rosin, although they did have a few scattered stores to supply farmers with fertilizer and other various needs. The main road in the area at this time (1900-1905) was a dirt road that ran from Gallivants Ferry through Antioch to Cool Springs and on to Conway. The closest thing to what is now Aynor was a small settlement around Antioch. Other than this, there was nothing but pine savannah. So when the train was run into here, it changed things quite considerably. The railroad had begun as a private concern of the Burroughs Company and had expanded rather rapidly. It operated in this manner until 1906 when it became an entity in itself. On March 31, 1906, the Burroughs Company had all title to the rights-of-way, building, depots, etc., vested in the name of the Conway, Coast & Western Railroad.
I might point out that this is the year that the train came to Aynor. Mr. R. E. Beaty was the chief engineer on the construction of the railroad and he had surveyed and platted the right-of-way, the location of the depot and the Gunters Island spur. The tracks went all the way to where Dayton Johnson's house is now and had a large loading and unloading dock there, as well as a dock where the library is now. The depot stood about where Pauline Lewis' flower shop is and the spur came off up about the docks at the library and came down in front of the Masonic Lodge back of Basil's store with the mural on it and on down behind the Hagood house through where the J. H. Goodson house is now and on across the branch towards Gunters Island. Everything between what is now North Main Street and South Main Street had been surveyed and platted as property belonging to the railroad, so Mr. D. M. Burroughs decided to lay out a town. He surveyed and platted the rest of the lots and streets. He sold his first two lots on Aug. 23, 1907 from a blueprint he had made. They were bought by Mr. G. A. (George) Rabon and Mr. W. D. (Dave) Graham and were the site of the first store. Mr. John Shelly put up a sawmill as well. Other lots along North Main Street were bought for stores. A cotton gin was started and a tobacco warehouse was opened.

The Burroughs & Collins Co. had tried to ensure growth of the town by donating lots to the school, the Masonic Lodge, the Methodist Church and the Baptist Church, and the town had grown. It had grown fairly quickly; all this had happened by the middle part of 1912. The Burroughs & Collins Co. was still not satisfied, though, so they decided to hold an auction and sell lots. This was planned for Thursday, Nov. 9, 1912. Again the train comes into the picture. A special train with a brass band on board for entertainment was to carry prospective purchasers from Conway and other locations up to the Aynor tract to purchase lots. Unfortunately the weather was bad and the turnout was not as good as expected, but about fifty more lots were sold so things really did begin to hop.

In fact they had moved so fast that it was decided to incorporate into a town. In October of the following year, 1917, the town of Aynor was incorporated and elections were held. Gabe Edwards was elected intendant; Waterman Cook, John Shelley, and Hugh Johnson were elected as wardens. It seemed that the town was off to a booming start. Two more tobacco warehouses came in along with a packing house.

On Aug. 6, 1915, the Atlantic Coast Line bought the railroad and it began making two trips a day to Conway. Two banks were opened. Things went very well until the latter part of the 20s and then we all know what happened in 1929—the Depression struck. The only bank left failed in 1931, the tobacco co-op killed the tobacco market so the warehouses folded, taking with them the packing house.

Roads had become better and trucks were beginning to haul freight. People had bought those newfangled automobiles, so both freight and passenger customers were falling off for the train. The Atlantic Coast Line had talked several times with the Seaboard Coast Line to try and work out a spot to bridge the Little Pee Dee and continue the line to Marion, but negotiations were never successful.

In 1939 the train quit its regular runs to Aynor. The tracks were taken up and the depot was torn down. On March 27, 1943 after 37 years and 4 days the railroad right-of-way to Aynor was officially abandoned.

These were serious blows to a town with not yet forty years under her belt. Aynor did not stir herself from this for a long time. It took a lot of hard work on the part of a lot of folks, but finally in the 1960s she began slowly to get her wind back. Some people think she’s just a hick town or a speed trap, but to most of us born and raised here, she’s still Aynor, the Little Golden Town.

[Carlisle Dawsey is the secretary of HCHS. When the mural shown on our cover was dedicated, he was one of the principal speakers. The ceremony took place on August 4, 1984.—ed.]
A PRICELESS HERITAGE

By Kelly Paul Joyner

Much has been written about Horry County and the low country of South Carolina, mostly dealing with specifics--dates and records of court proceedings from courthouse records. In this "Priceless Heritage" I would like to bring out the human element of the way it was for my family, and the countless others throughout this large, rural "Independent Republic of Horry". I shall attempt to relate to you the lifestyle of the people of the time: how we worked and entertained ourselves, what we wore and what we ate, how we worshipped and how we mourned.

Let me quote from Deuteronomy, the eighth chapter and seventh verse:

"For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks and water, of fountains and springs."

Ours is indeed a "priceless heritage".

My life began at Bucksport, about fourteen miles from Conway on the Waccamaw River. My family consisted of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Oneal Paul (Margaret Davis), brother Clarence, sisters Bertha and Aleen, and later brother Odell. At that time Bucksport was a thriving community. There were churches and schools, a shingle mill, a large general store, and there was also a doctor. He was Dr. John K. Stalvey. However, we had no dentist.

My father was foreman of the shingle mill, and later the millwright for the Huntly-Richardson Lumber Company. The earliest memory I have is about the time my family moved from Bucksport to our new home on the Bucksville road. I can barely remember walking through our wide hall and bragging, "I am four years old." My sister Aleen (Mrs. J.E. Harper) exclaimed, "Home sweet home." Our family enjoyed our home on the farm where we had a big, shady yard with lots of trees, and large front and back porches. Aleen and I spent many hours during the summers on the high back-porch reading and playing with our paper-doll families.

This was the good life. We had many church and community activities in which to participate. Sunday was the Sabbath, and we were required to keep it. We dressed for Sunday school and church, and had to keep on our Sunday clothes all day, so as not to be tempted to play rough games. We were not allowed to play rough games on Sunday, not even hop-scotch. We could, however, entertain ourselves by reading, practising our music, or studying the catechism. We were, and still are, Presbyterians. We attended Waccamaw Presbyterian Church, which was erected in 1898. It not only still stands, services are still held there on the first and third Sundays of each month.

Then, as now, funerals were very sad. As a child, I remember seeing coffins made when someone died. I recently talked with Mr. Mac Goldfinch and learned that Goldfinch Funeral Home was started in 1905 by his grandfather, Mr. William T. Goldfinch, and his uncle, Mr. Albert Goldfinch. Mr. William M. Goldfinch joined his father and brother in the business shortly thereafter. In the beginning they started a furniture business, the Kingston Furniture Company, and carried as part of their merchandise coffin shells. They also sold the handles, padding, pillows and the linings. Kingston Furniture Company was located on Main Street, next to the Jerry Cox Company. Soon Kingston Furniture Company began providing the coffin already fitted with handles and pillows, already lined and ready for the funeral. Soon Mr. William T. Goldfinch and his sons began to offer delivery, as well as transporting the body to the church. Mr. William M. Goldfinch took an embalming course in Raleigh, N. C., and further committed the family to the funeral business. They continued to operate on Main Street until 1938, when Mr. William M. Goldfinch moved the business to his home on Beaty Street, and it became Goldfinch Funeral Parlor. It is still in business today with the third and fourth generations, Mr. Heyward Goldfinch and his son, George Heyward, and Mr. William M. Goldfinch, Jr., and his son, W. M. Goldfinch, III.
Top left: Wedding picture of H. O. Paul and Margaret Davis, married Dec. 24, 1902.
Bottom left: Their children Clarence Davis and Kelly, seated, Aileen and Bertha, standing. Top right: Kelly Paul (Joyner) at three. Bottom right: Kelly Paul Joyner at 18.
I recently learned from Mr. Goldfinch that the difference between a coffin and a casket is the shape. A coffin is small at the head, larger at the shoulders, then tapering down again at the feet. At that time Mr. Ben Moore, Mr. Baker Martin, Mr. Goodwin Martin and Mr. Bill Murrow were noted within the community for making coffins.

Funerals were very sad. Rock of Ages and Amazing Grace were almost always sung. "Amazing Grace that saved a wretch like me." At my age I felt like a wretch was a terrible thing to be, and I developed a distaste for the sad hymn. And yet funerals, too, were part of our church life. We were very thankful to be born and raised in a Christian home with loving, Christian parents.

Life was not all sad, though. We certainly had entertainment. There were ice-cream suppers, oyster roasts, and covered-dish suppers at the church. During oyster season the families of the community would be invited by the logging companies down the river to an oyster roast at the logging camps. There were large sheets of metal filled with oysters roasting over hot coals. The men were always right there to pick out the oysters for the women and young girls. Of course, there was salad, slaw and hushpuppies, too. Those were such happy times. There would be sing-alongs on the boat going and coming home.

At times the ladies in the community would have "quilting bees" where several ladies would come and quilt the hostess a nice quilt. In return the hostess would serve dinner for everyone. It was wonderful fellowship that combined both work and pleasure.

About three times each summer we would go to Myrtle Beach for the day. My mother would pack a picnic dinner, not a picnic lunch, a picnic dinner. For it was dinner in every sense of the word: fried chicken, potato salad, butter beans, rice, sliced tomatoes, ham, buscuits, etc. Rice, by the way, was a diet staple. My mother would always put on her rice, then decide what we would have to go with it.

We were so thrilled to go to Myrtle Beach, partly because our mother made us the prettiest bathing suits. She would make the panties from cotton lisle stockings, and colorful print was used for the bodice and shirt. I must confess that my mother did buy the bathing caps, and even today the smell of a bathing cap reminds me of those times.

In order to get to Myrtle Beach we had to go by Bucksville and on to Peachtree ferry. Uncle Luke Duncan, as most everyone called him, was in charge of the ferry. As we arrived at the river my father would call out in a loud voice for him to bring the ferry boat over. My father would then drive our car onto the flat ferry boat, and we would be pulled across with large oars by a steel cable.

When at the beach we were not allowed to go out too far into the water. Mostly we just jumped over the waves and collected seashells. (While I was still small, the river at Bucksport was dredged, forming a large sandbar and a large shady beach where we later learned to swim.)

During those days Myrtle Beach had only a few houses along the ocean front. The old wooden pavilion was located where today's pavilion is situated. The old Seaside Inn used to stand where the pavilion parking lot is now located, and we used to spread out our picnic dinner where the rides are now. There were dances at the pavilion featuring "big bands". All of the dancers had such pretty clothes. I always thought the men with the navy blue double-breasted blazers and white flannel slacks were especially handsome.

As mentioned earlier, there was no dentist in our area and so my mother would plan a trip to Georgetown to have our teeth checked and do some shopping. There were several steamboats leaving Conway--the Comanche, the Mitchell C. and the F. G. Burroughs. Our boat would leave Conway about 4 a.m. and arrive at Bucksport around 8 a.m. and continue on to Georgetown. For us that was as much fun as a Caribbean cruise would be today. We would visit my aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Josh Lawrimore, do some shopping, and return home in a day or so.
My sister Bertha (Mrs. W. L. Staley) was about eight years old when she became gravely ill with pneumonia. Dr. John Stalvey had moved his practice to Conway, but came by automobile to check on her. Bertha was so sick that Dr. Stalvey went to Socastee and got Miss Ola Turbeville, a registered nurse, to come and tend her. Bertha also needed medicine, so when Dr. Stalvey returned to Conway, exhausted, he gave a prescription to a young pharmacist at Norton's Pharmacy. This young pharmacist, Dr. V. F. Platt, took the medicine to the boat at 4 a.m. the next day to be delivered later in the morning. This illustrates the concern and kindness people had for each other. Dr. Platt and Dr. Stalvey were friends to many people during their years in Conway. (Dr. Platt, by the way, was the father of Mary Emily Platt Jackson.)

When I was eight years old it was necessary to have my tonsils removed. Surgeons from Florence would set up a make-do hospital in the old Burroughs High School for the purpose of removing tonsils. I thought it would be a lot of fun, and I looked forward to all the attention for weeks. When the time finally came, my mother and father checked me in where there were rows and rows of cots set up in classrooms. There must have been at least fifty children from around the county having their tonsils removed at the same time. When it was my turn, I was almost strangled on the chloroform and decided it was not such fun after all.

In 1913 Dr. Homer Burroughs applied to the State of South Carolina for a hospital charter. The charter was granted and the Old Gully building became the Burroughs Hospital. This building still stands on the corner of Ninth Avenue and Elm Street. This hospital remained in operation until 1922 when Dr. Burroughs' health failed, rendering him unable to continue running the hospital. From 1922 until 1925 there was no hospital in Conway.

In those days people did not have much money, but money was not considered where friendships were concerned. Respectable families were just as socially accepted as monied families. Respectability was far more important than wealth. For example, this was during the time of prohibition, and we used to hear our parents speak of bootleggers. My father told a story of a man selling large quantities of whiskey to a bootlegger for resale. The bootlegger was allowed to sample the product from a quart jar. After sampling, the bootlegger bought a whole case of quart jars of whiskey, only to learn later it was all water. My father said it was good enough for him, for there were certain things one did not do, even for money.

There was a large, general store at Bucksport and they sold almost everything. At Christmas they had such beautiful toys, and plenty of fruit. Fresh fruit was not available everyday as it is now, and the smell of apples and oranges still remind me of Christmas long ago. I remember one Christmas when Aileen and I got beautiful sleeping dolls tied in a box. We were so proud of them we would not even take them from the box to play with them. They were the Christmas celebrations of hard-working people, not the extravagant affairs of today, but they were so meaningful.

We would, from time to time, go to Conway and always treated ourselves to a visit to Platt's Pharmacy for ice cream, cokes, and sodas. We would thrill to the sight of the train coming right down the middle of Main Street. Passengers would get off either at Platt's Pharmacy or across the street at the Jerry Cox Company. In front of the Jerry Cox Company there were rocking chairs for weary men and women to relax during a day of shopping. The train continued to come down Main Street until the late 1920s.

Some of the happiest times I remember as a child were when we heard that the ice truck would be delivering ice. Normally we had to get ice from Conway and much of it would melt before we could get home. When the ice truck would make deliveries, the driver would give the children small chips of ice. They were very refreshing, and such a treat. My father built our large ice box. He insulated it with sawdust and lined it with galvanized steel. It would hold a three-hundred pound block of ice with room around the sides for my mother to store food and milk. I can vividly remember my mother placing a large pan of Jello on that block of ice to congeal.
I began the first grade at Inland School at Klondyke. Mr. B. F. Singleton had a general store at Klondyke. He was the father of Dick Singleton, former chancellor of Coastal Carolina College. My parents were good friends with the Singletons, who owned the first radio in the community. We were invited to come and listen, but only one person at a time could listen through the earphones. That was really an exciting time, hearing wireless news and music from so far away.

In the fall of the year sugar cane was harvested and taken to the mill to be made into syrup. It was thrilling to see the mule walk around in circles turning a long timber attached to the press, where a man would feed the cane into a slot where it was crushed and the juice saved. This juice would be poured into large vats and cooked until it was thick and clear. Attendants would skim the foam from the syrup as it cooked. Everyone was offered a serving of the raw juice from a gourd dipper, but the juice did not look very tasty. Besides, our mother did not allow us to drink from gourd dippers. We did, however, enjoy chewing the cane as children naturally would.

In 1927 our family got a new touring car, complete with side curtains. The curtains were used in winter and also when it rained. I do not remember when driver's licenses became available, but it was not necessary at the time to take a test. My father ordered licenses for the entire family through the mail.

Perhaps this reminiscing may sound as though I am wishing for the "good old days". Nothing could be further from my mind. It is true that I think of them as very good days, but today we are living in the most wonderful time in history. Not only do we have the necessities of life, but most of us enjoy many luxuries. Now that my children are all grown, I can involve myself in the many hobbies and interests I never had the time for in the past. Each morning I look forward to a new day to share with family and friends.

A very dear family friend, the late Mr. Casper Benton, said it perfectly when Mrs. Edna Huggins announced she was going to the Holy Land. Mr. Benton simply replied, "Honey, you're in the Holy Land." These are my sentiments for yesterday, today and tomorrow. This land of ours, Horry County, is truly a priceless heritage.

(Editor's note: Kelly Joyner, who was vice president of the Society and program chairman in 1984, gave this talk at the October, 1984, meeting in Conway.)

EDITOR'S MAILBAG

Dear Sir:

I read the article about Joseph Elmore Carter, by Lou Floy Milligan (Spring 1984) with great interest. I have recently obtained some information about Sarah Miranda Carter, the daughter of William Benjamin and Martha Jane Cox Carter that may be of some interest to your readers. Mandy, as she was known, married Needham E. (Elwell?) Prince and they later moved to Georgia and then Florida. I have recently sent you some material on Needham and Mandy's family but I don't believe that I tied her to the Elmore Carter line. One of their children, Flora Delora Prince had an address book that listed the following information:

Father: G. M. Carter, 14 Nov 1842.
Mary Ann Carter, 18 Nov 1862.
Sarah Miranda Carter, 7 Apr 1869.

This information corresponds very closely with the information supplied in the Joseph Elmore Carter article, though the date for Monroe and the initials of "father" disagree. (Continued, p. 14)
WACCAMAW CHURCH REGISTER

Compiled by J. Ernest E. Harper

Waccamaw Church is located in Bucksport and was organized in the 1890s to serve families living in or near the communities of Eddy Lake, Port Harrelson and Bucksville in lower Horry. (See IRQ, vol. II, # 4) The original members were drawn from the families associated with the then thriving lumber industry as well as from old farm families in Bucks Township. The Register lists communicants from the families of Dusenbury, Moore, Little, Sarvis, Officer, Laidlaw and Buck. The church was erected in the summer of 1898 and dedicated on February 12, 1899. Some fifty people were in attendance despite the fact a blizzard gripped the entire East coast leaving five inches of snow on the ground according to the records of the clerk of the session. Dr. R. C. Reed of the Columbia Theological Seminary conducted the dedication on behalf of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. Waccamaw was fully recognized as an organized church in the faith and order of the Presbyterian Church in July, 1899. Waccamaw continues to minister under the reunified Presbyterian Church (USA).

The church is interesting in its architecture for the extensive use of local woods throughout the interior as well as the design of the polygonal apse in the rear of the building. The apse is five-sided with a roof of five triangular sections that rise to a point where the apse roof adjoins the rear wall of the church. The interior ceiling of the apse follows the rise of its roof, thus giving the sanctuary a sense of height which is essential in ecclesiastical architecture. Because of the inherent nature of apse design, very few in America are constructed from wood. The church is sited on lands given by Benjamin Franklin Moore from his adjacent farm and constructed from lumber cut from nearby Bells Bay Plantation.

With this listing of churchyard interments from Waccamaw Church, the Society continues its project to publish all inscriptions from graveyards in Horry County. The following inscriptions were drawn from the church register.

Ole Gibson Andersen, son of M. G. & M. L. Andersen, Jun 30, 1903 - Jul 4, 1904
Robert Wesley Burke, Dec 5, 1890 - Oct 21, 1948
Jesse H. Beaty, 1887 - 1952
Nealy McCormick Beaty, - 1953? (illegible)
Robert Raymond Burke, TSgt, USAF, Apr 22, 1935 - Jun 21, 1979
Louis Asbury Burke, 1933 - 1984
Fred J. Collins, USA, Jan 22, 1914 - May 18, 1975
John J. Davis, 1930 - Nov 27, 1964
Ella Eugenia Grant, Wife of J. Fred Grant, Dec 2, 1881 - Sept 29, 1914
Walter Gary Green, Infant, Aug 20, 1935
George W. Harrelson, 1888-1920
Edward J. Harrelson, Son of Sammuel D. & Ida M. Harrelson, May 11, 1930 - May 19, 1931
Ansel D. Harrelson, Son of Sammuel D. & Ida M. Harrelson, Oct 10, 1922 - Aug 17, 1938
Infant Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Harrelson, Jun 25, 1939
William H. Hearl, Mar 3, 1895 - Oct 24, 1957
Gracie Sanders Hearl, Jun 12, 1902 - Feb 26, 1968
Elizabeth Burke Hearl, 1905 - 1977
J. C. Henry, Apr 21, 1862 - Jan 21, 1905
John Moses Howell, Sept 13, 1931 - Sept 17, 1936
Bessie Inman Howell, Dec 30, 1908 - Jun 8, 1948
Sylvia Ann Howell, Feb 14, 1946 - Dec 8, 1952
Moses Furman Howell, May 18, 1904 - Apr 16, 1978
Joseph Whiteford Hearl, Jul 5, 1901 - Jun 26, 1981
Jessie James Howell, Apr 4, 1917 - Jul 15, 1983
Lula McCormick Inman, 1872-1951
Raymond Rossiter Little, Son of J. W. G. & M. E. Little, Feb 2, 1901-Oct 29, 1904
Mellie Frances Martin, 1925 - 1926
Nellie L. Martin, Dau of Sol & Alice Mew Martin
Frances Adeline Martin, 1882 - Oct 28, 1947
Solomon H. Martin, USA, May 9, 1894 - May 16, 1978
William H. McCall, Apr 15, 1878 - Feb 28, 1902
Annie Parham Moore, 1888 - 1963
Infant Daughter of Samuel R. & Alice S. Pipkin, Dec 29, 1920
Annie C. Pierce, Jul 1, 1862 - Apr 8, 1948
Adron Bevon Pierce, 1872 - 1951
Charles Curry Pierce 1893 - 1955
Della Blake Pierce, 1868 - 195
Champ Dalton Pinner, Jan 13, 1893 - Jan 17, 1950
Henry Richard Roberts, Nov 18, 1856 - Jan 27, 1929
Marie R. Skipper, Apr 15, 1860 - Dec 17, 1947
William F. Strickland, 1891 - 1949
Terry Wayne Strickland, Dau of Hubert L. and Mary Lou Strickland, May 22, 1958 - June 3, 1958
Murtie G. Skinner, Nov 28, 1888 - Feb 23, 1960
Dulah O. Strickland, Wife of Wm. F. Strickland, Aug 17, 1899 - Mar 9, 1983
Leroy Tanner, Infant, Dec 5, 1920
Carrie Geanette Vause, Dau of Woodrow and Carrie Howell Vause, Jan 20, 1939 - Jan 15, 1942
Woodrow Wilson Vause, 1914 - 1983
Isaac N. Wilson, 1853 - 1934
Mary A. Wilson, 1874 - 1953

CRIBB FAMILY LOT
Henry Emanuel Cribb, 1915 - 1962

DUSENBRURY FAMILY LOT
Children of Charles and Rosa Saye Dusenbury
Charles, Aug 8,1885 - Nov 4, 1888
Willie Fred, Jan 1, 1889 - Jan 4, 1889
Rosa Saye Dusenbury, Oct 4, 1854 - Sept 9, 1904
James E. Dusenbury, Jul, 1893 - Jan, 1907
Rosa Shaw Grier, Wife of G. E. Grier,Dec, 1879 - Sept, 1912
Charles Dusenbury, Son of J. E. & Fannie Dusenbury, Jan 30, 1854 - Jan 2, 1929
H. Gordon Dusenbury, Nov 20, 1906 - Nov 25, 1930
C. Ben Dusenbury, Son of J. E. & Fannie Dusenbury, Dec 13, 1863 - Nov 5, 1933
Talulah Dwight Shaw, Wife of C. Ben Dusenbury, Dec 25, 1867 - Jun 1, 1947
James Francis Clarke, Apr 19, 1890 - Mar 14, 1953
Rosa Margaret Dusenbury, NSDAR, Dau of C. Ben & Lula Shaw Dusenbury, Oct 30, 1900 - Sept 27, 1955
Sadie Dusenbury Clarke, NSDAR, Wife of James Francis Clarke, Dec 9, 1888 - Mar 2, 1979

EASON FAMILY LOT
Wilson Richard Eason, Apr 6, 1941 - Jan 27, 1969
LAWRIMORE FAMILY LOT
John Russell Lawrimore, Jr., Jul 19, 1923 - Jan 2, 1947
John Russell Lawrimore, Jul 19, 1884 - Mar 7, 1951
Annie Brown Lawrimore, Feb 13, 1883 - Jan 20, 1976

LEWIS FAMILY LOT
Infant Daughter of W. D. & Minnie R. Lewis, May 4, 1911 - May 5, 1911
Joseph Raymond Lewis, July 25, 1917 - Jan 29, 1919
William David Lewis, Jun 6, 1870 - Jan 1, 1954
Minnie Roberts Lewis, Mar 7, 1880 - Nov 4, 1954

MCCORMICK FAMILY LOT
Fannie Cook McCormick, Wife of G. C. McCormick, Dec 9, 1878 - Jul 23, 1945
Jessie Lee Mills, 1943 - 1952
Sherrie Lee Mills, Jun 1961 - Aug 1961
George Cornelius McCormick, Oct 1, 1878 - Feb 13, 1978
Jesse Clarence Mills, USN, Dec 10, 1920 - Feb 28, 1983

MARSH FAMILY LOT
Minnie Tyler Marsh, Apr 17, 1881 - Mar 25, 1956
William Edward Marsh, Oct 1, 1880 - Jan 25, 1966
Donald Gordon Marsh, Oct 12, 1910 - Mar 9, 1978

MARTIN FAMILY LOT
Molsie Lula Martin, Wife of Henry Buck Martin, Apr 29, 1858 - Jul 9, 1937
Olivia Maude Martin, Dec 21, 1896 = Oct 1, 1924
George Henry Martin, Mar 1, 1886 - Feb 25, 1962
Beatrice Skipper Martin, Feb 16, 1895 - Mar 29, 1982

MISSROON FAMILY LOT
Infant Daughter of James & Amanda Dix Missroon, Mar 6, 1912
Infant Daughter of Vernon T. & Anna Missroon Pinner, Feb 22-24, 1933
James Missroon, Sept 30, 1872 - Mar 13, 1940
Amanda Dix Missroon, Dec 12, 1880 - Apr 30, 1966
Anna Parker Missroon Pinner, Aug 18, 1909 - Oct 9, 1970
Vernon Thomas Pinner, May 9, 1907 - Feb 10, 1972

MOORE FAMILY LOT
Donald L. Moore, Mar 17, 1908 - Feb 14, 1926
Infant Son of Jesse Bryant & Carrie McCormick Moore, May 24, 1927
Benjamin Franklin Moore, Feb 19, 1866 - Oct 5, 1936
Rosannah S. Moore, Jan 18, 1870 - Mar 20, 1937
Elizabeth J. Moore, Dau of Edward L. & Ethel McCormick Moore, Dec 25, 1940 - Sept 15, 1941
Fannie E. Moore, Aug 6, 1893 - Dec 19, 1941
Infant Son of Franklin and Sadie Port Moore, 1952
Infant Son of Franklin and Sadie Port Moore, 1953
Jesse Bryant Moore, Mar 14, 1901 - Feb 3, 1957
J. Bright Moore, Dec 31, 1928 - Sept 26, 1964
Benjamin Franklin Moore, Feb 11, 1893 - Nov 10, 1966
Albert O. Smith, Sept 14, 1888 - Aug 24, 1968
Annie Moore Smith, Aug 31, 1890 - Apr 25, 1974
Clara M. Moore, Apr 10, 1903 - Dec 17, 1978
PARKER FAMILY LOT
Viola D. Parker, Oct 12, 1877 - Nov 19, 1953
Lola Gardner Parker, Aug 3, 1898 - Jan 23, 1976

PAUL—DAVIS FAMILY LOT
Margaret Blanch Davis, Wife of Henry O'Neal Paul, Mar 10, 1883 - Sept 18, 1933
Patricia Anne Harper, Dau of J. Ernest & Aileen Paul Harper, Sept 12 - 14, 1937
Henry O'Neal Paul, May 27, 1881 - Oct 22, 1940
Furney Council Davis, Nov 18, 1887 - Nov 3, 1957

PINNER FAMILY LOT
Joseph B. Pinner, Mar 3, 1885 - Aug 11, 1943
Joseph B. Pinner, III, Feb 28, 1947 - Dec 28, 1948
Louise Edge Pinner, Wife of Joseph Pinner, Sept 24, 1889 - May 5, 1980

PORT FAMILY LOT
Benjamin Franklin Port, Aug 22, 1854 - Apr 15, 1919
Thad Port, Son of B. F. & Rebecca Port, Apr 28, 1893 - Jan 13, 1918
Benjamin Franklin Port, Jr., Sept 24, 1887 - Jan 7, 1931
Joseph Ceaph Port, May 27, 1885 - Apr 10, 1966
Rebecca Cox Port, Nov 24, 1888 - Jun 21, 1966

THOMPSON FAMILY LOT
Infant Daughter of Brooks & Frances Davis Thompson, Feb 27, 1919 - Mar 1, 1919
Corbett Lewis Gainey, Jr., Sept 1, 1928 - May 8, 1929
Corbett Lewis Gainey, Sept 6, 1903 - April 22, 1942
Mary Thompson Gainey, Apr 9, 1909 - Oct 23, 1951
Brooks Thompson, Dec 9, 1870 - Aug 13, 1954
Frances Davis Thompson, Dec 30, 1881 - Dec 20, 1970

(Edited note: Mr. Harper, son of Aileen Paul Harper, HCHS Historian, is a charter member of the Society and resides in Washington, D. C.)

EDITOR'S MAILBAG (cont. from p. 10)
Mandy's family is in the 1880 census and her father's name was William B. All the other information matches. We don't know who Naomi Carter was yet nor the relationship of Monroe C. Carter. It is interesting to note the Needham is the same name as Mandy's brother and her maternal grandfather, with the exception that the IRQ article spelled it Neednam. The Cox/Carter/Prince families must have been very close.

...There are considerable references to other carters that were born in North and South Carolina in a publication called "The Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia", a seven volume work...

I failed to include, in my last correspondence, the families that I am now researching. They include Starling, Baxley, Prince, Carter, McGivoney, McCullough, Strong, Lee, Belin, Timmons, Lane and recently Jane McKnight who married Hugh McCullough in St. Philip Parish on January 1, 1773. I also have some information on the Tisdale, Snowden, Hemingway, Grayson, Brown, Graham, Nesmith and McGill families that settled in the Williamsburg County area. I would be happy to exchange information with others who are researching any of these families.

You have an excellent publication! In addition to the genealogical information I really enjoy the articles about the history of Horry County. Keep up the good work.
CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF Horry County

Compiled by Hoyt McMillan

[We are grateful to Eunice McMillan Thomas who found these lists among her father's papers for allowing us to publish this information.]

COMPANY C (Lake Swamp Volunteers)

Captains
A. H. Johnson, resigned, ill health  Carmi Johnson

First Lieutenants
Carmi Johnson, promoted to Captain

Second Lieutenants
J. J. Johnson, wounded Resaca & Atlanta  James H. Porter

First Sergeants
A. C. Skipper

Sergeants
D. S. Johnson, killed
J. L. Graham, killed
J. J. Stephens, died of wounds

Corporals
W. J. Sarvis
W. T. Crawford
W. Prince, promoted twice

Privates
J. Alford, captured
J. Ammons, killed
P. Barnhill
M. Barnhill
S. Barnhill, died
Cornelious Cannon, promoted
J. M. Cannon, killed
F. Causey
W. F. Cox, died
D. Edwards
G. Fowler, died
J. Fowler, died
F. Floyd, died
D. Fipps, wounded
Daniel Graham
F. Graham
A. M. Hardwick, killed
I. B. Hux
J. J. Hardee, died
R. Hardee, wounded
A. James
W. D. James, died
R. L. Johnson
T. H. Johnson, wounded, died
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Condition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eban Jones</td>
<td>wounded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. C. Jones</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Lawson</td>
<td>killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Mincey</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. McDaniels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. P. A. Martin</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. C. Mishoe</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. C. Palmer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Pridgeon</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Ray</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion Skipper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Stephens</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Stephens</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. W. Suggs</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Shelley</td>
<td>wounded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. K. Smith</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. S. Thompkins</td>
<td>captured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. E. Tompkins</td>
<td>wounded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. M. Tompkins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. L. Todd</td>
<td>wounded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Watts</td>
<td>killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. L. Jones</td>
<td>wounded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Jones</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Mincey</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. W. McDaniels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. T. Merritt</td>
<td>wounded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Martin</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. McCracken</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. C. Powell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Ray</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Rabon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. M. Skipper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. J. Stephens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. D. Spears</td>
<td>wounded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. S. Lucas</td>
<td>promoted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. J. Cade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMPANY G (HORRY ROUGH AND READYS)**

**Captains**
- C. T. Ford

**First Lieutenants**
- M. F. Sarvis, promoted

**Second Lieutenants**
- D. D. McDuffie, promoted
- S. E. Lucas, promoted

**First Sergeants**
- J. J. Todd
- J. T. McCracken

**Sergeants**
- A. D. Martin
- Jessee Boyd, killed
- W. P. Allen

**Corporals**
- T. J. Anderson
- R. P. Arnold
- Joseph Barnhill, died
- John Boyd
- L. M. Boon
- D. H. Chestnut
- J. S. Cade

**Privates**
- Joseph Barnhill, died
- John Boyd
- L. M. Boon
- D. H. Chestnut
- J. S. Cade
T. J. Cook, died
H. L. Doyl
D. M. Edge
J. M. Elliott
J. W. Gause, died
Wm. F. Galaway
E. J. Gause
J. B. Hardee
J. W. Hawkins
R. S. Holmes, killed
H. A. Hampton, died
W. E. Jerrald
Isaac Lewis
L. C. McCumber
M. M. Martin
B. B. Nobles, died
T. A. Rials, died
John Reaves
N. E. Stanley
R. Shannon
J. H. Stephens
J. M. Sydam
W. F. Todd
L. M. Todd, died
S. J. Todd
D. W. Todd, died
Moses Tyler
C. Thompkins
D. W. M. Tompkins
Levi Watts, died
C. G. Cox
Daniel Dawsey, died
W. L. Edge, lost leg at Atlanta
J. J. Fulghum, killed
J. G. Graham, died
A. J. Galaway
L. J. Hardwick
Thomas Henneford
R. C. Hardee
H. C. Housand
N. A. Howell, died
E. Johnson
M. McDowell
M. H. R. Martin
Robert Milligan
Hardy Parker, killed
H. F. Riley
G. W. Reaves
Bethel Smith
H. I. Stephens
J. W. Smith
A. Singleton
J. M. Todd, died
H. J. Todd, died
John H. Todd, died
Dennis Todd
Lewis Tyler
J. B. Tompkins, killed
H. T. Williams, killed

COMPANY M
Captains
J. P. Bessant

First Lieutenants
E. D. Richardson

Second Lieutenants
Jas. F. Molloy
Wm. Cannon
J.C. Inman, killed

First Sergeants

Sergeants
Isaac B. Hardee, died
Wm. McAnge, died
Joseph M. King
S. J. Crawford, died
W. C. DuBois, promoted

D. T. Allen
J. T. Anderson
C. M. Baker
G. B. Baker, died
C. N. Baker
Isaac Barnhill
W. W. Barnhill
J. J. Blake, died
Wm. H. Bryant, died
W. R. Caulder
C. H. Causey
Wm. M. Cox
H. A. Duncan, died
Wm. D. Ellis, died
Wm. Floyd
Cortenus Gore
I. O. D. Hardee, died
J. A. Hendrick
Ira G. Hux
Thos. A. Joiner, died
W. J. Jordan, killed, Atlanta
Joseph Johnson
S. S. Jones
W. H. Lewis
Robert Livingston
J. H. McDaniels, died
J. A. Ownes
Noah Patrick
James Prince, died
S. H. Sarvis
J. W. Stevens, died
B. F. Shackelford
Reddick Skipper
Solomon J. Smith, died
Wesley Tharp
A. P. Thompson
W. B. Thompson
J. E. Todd, wounded
W. J. Vereen, wounded

Corporals
S. B. Rhuark, wounded
T. M. Owens
Isaac Cannon

Privates
James Allen, lost leg Atlanta
S. W. Baxley
M. G. Baker, died
M. M. Baker
E. S. Baker
R. J. Barnhill, died
Caswell Blake, died
T. P. Brown
J. B. Bruton
Joseph Capps
C. Cox
D. H. Crawford
Peter J. Elks
Wm. H. Floyd
Alex Gasque, felt sick, died Ky.
C. Hammontry
B. Hardwick
Washington Herring
John W. Hux
I. B. Jordan, killed, Atlanta
Ervin Johnson
J. T. Jones
J. J. Lewis, killed
Giles Lee
J. F. McCall
J. H. Owens
Isaac Patrick
A. M. Pierce, died
G. C. Rabon
Enoch Stevens, died
Hugh Stevens, died
James Skipper
Solomon Skipper
Daniel Shelley
Wingate Tharp, died
Hugh Thompson
J. D. Thomas
J. J. Vereen, wounded
R. C. Wilson, died

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

The continued publication of IRQ depends upon the contributions of members and friends of the Society. Please send us material you would be willing to share--letters, diaries, essays, documents, cemetery catalogs, family Bible records, genealogies, histories of families, businesses and institutions, place name information, maps, etc.
ABRAHAM BESSENT

By Stanley M. Bessent

Abraham Bessent was born May 25, 1763, in South Carolina. Not much is known about his early life, however, he became a lawyer and landowner in Brunswick County, North Carolina. His wife's name was Ann (maiden name unknown). In North Carolina he owned a parcel of land on the east side of the Waccamaw River at the point that the river crosses the state line between North and South Carolina.

Abraham Bessent was a soldier in the American Revolution serving as First Sergeant, Captain Daniel Morrall's Company, General Francis Marion's Brigade. After the Revolution, Abraham was elected as a representative in the North Carolina House of Commons from Brunswick County. He was a representative in this house from December 30, 1794 until December 20, 1800.

Abraham was a devout Methodist. Some sources refer to him as a lay preacher. Bishop Francis Asbury made the following entry in his journal January 6, 1802.

We had between forty and fifty people to hear us in an open house. We lodged at Mr. Wilson's. Next day we crossed Waccamaw at Kingston, came on to Little River, fed at M. Hankins, and reached Abraham Bessent's where we housed for the night.

In about 1803 Abraham and his family and his younger brother John Bessent and John's family moved to the town of St. Marys in Camden County, Georgia. Abraham became the collector of customs for the Port of St. Marys. By 1809 Abraham was the owner of 250 acres of land and ten slaves. At the time of his death he had increased his land to 800 acres. While he lived at St. Marys, Georgia, he was Justice of the Inferior Court and County Surveyor. He founded and was captain of the Volunteer Guards of St. Marys District.

As collector of customs for the U. S. Government Abraham handled large sums of money. When the British threatened to invade and capture the town of St. Marys during the War of 1812 Abraham took about $150,000.00 that belonged to the government and $30,000.00 of his own money and hid it in the woods about eight miles from St. Marys. He told his son John Bessent the location of the money. The British did capture St. Marys but did not locate the money.

Abraham Bessent died of the prevailing fever (yellow fever) September 28, 1814, and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery at St. Marys. The inscription on his tombstone reads: ABRAHAM BESSENT born in S. C. 25 May, 1763, Died 28 Sept. 1814 of prevailing fever. Active in Revolution which established the independence of his country, a representative in the legislature of one of the states, called to offices of honor and profit which he filled with zeal and integrity. Pious and submissive to the will of heaven. Endeared to a number of his family by his civility and paternal affection. They with his fellow citizens will mourn the loss of one so esteemed, so generally respected.

At his death he was survived by his widow and fourteen of his seventeen children. Abraham's wife Ann lived to be over 90 years old. She died Sept. 5, 1852 in Newton County, Georgia, where she had gone to live in her old age with her son, Peter G. Bessent.

Of Abraham's and Ann's seventeen children, only nine are known to this writer at present:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Married</th>
<th>Died</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>1790</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>June 3, 1815, Camden Co., Ga.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew W.</td>
<td>1796</td>
<td>Serena S.</td>
<td>1840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>1800</td>
<td>Elizabeth Braddock</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On Saturday, June 3, 1815, after the War of 1812 was over and after Abraham Bessent had died, his son John went out on horseback into the country to bring back the money his father had buried the year before. He recovered the money and was on his way back to town with it when he was waylaid by five Spaniards from Florida. They beat and stabbed him to death. The body was not found until Monday. The enraged citizens of St. Marys formed a posse and captured three of the Spaniards. Two of them were killed resisting arrest. At the next term of the Camden Superior Court the three remaining were indicted, convicted of murder and hanged October 30, 1815.

By 1983 the inscription on Abraham Bessent’s tombstone was worn down so much that it was almost illegible. The only way it could be read was by rubbing with chalk and paper and patient deciphering. It was decided by members of the Guale Historical Society of St. Marys to apply to the Veteran's Administration for a new tombstone. This stone arrived in due time and a dedication ceremony was held February 18, 1984. The ceremony was attended by numerous citizens of Camden County and several of Abraham Bessent's descendants.

**References**

North Carolina State Census, 1790
Index to Headright and Bounty Grants of Georgia, 1756-1909
Camden County, Georgia, Tax Roll, 1809
Vocell, James T., Reminiscences of Old St. Marys
Vocell, James T., History of Camden County, Georgia
Huxford, Folks, Pioneers of Wiregrass, Georgia, v. 6, 7

Newspapers: Athens Gazette, Athens, Ga., June 22, 1815
The Savannah Republican, Savannah, Ga., October 11, 1814
The Georgia Journal, June 21, 1815

Other: Application for Revolutionary War Pension, John Bessent, No. S45834, National Archives

(Editor's note; IRQ thanks Mr. Bessent for this information. In his letter forwarding this article, he wrote: "I look forward to receiving my issue of the Quarterly each time. Congratulations on a job well done. The only way I could improve on it would be to make it a monthly instead of a quarterly. ... I certainly have enjoyed my correspondence with Mr. Berry. He is very knowledgeable and is definitely an asset to your community. ... I would welcome correspondence with anyone who has knowledge or interest in the Bessent family." Mr. Bessent's address is: Stanley M. Bessent, P. O. Box 405, Goldthwaite, Texas 76844 Area code 915, 985-3622.)

**CAN YOU HELP?**

Robert S. Shepherd, 705 Pugsley Dr., Monticello, FL 32344: I am looking for the parents of John Bailey, Sr., born in 1750 in Horry County, married Elizabeth Raines. He had two brothers, one of whom, I believe, was David Bailey. Elizabeth Raines was the daughter of Joseph Raines, Sr. and Mary Dionicia MacDonald. John Bailey, Sr. later moved to Camden County, Georgia.
SOME SESSIONS MARRIAGES IN HORRY COUNTY, ca. 1730-1898
By George Q. Sessions

Solomon Sessions (ca. 1730-1808) married
George Sessions (ca. 1750-?)

S. Sessions (1764-1837)
Solomon (ca.1775-1829)

Robert Reynolds, Sr. (1782-1866)

Benjamin Jenkins (ca. 1784-1832)
Ransom (ca. 1785-1833)

Hester (ca 1786-?)

Josias Tillman (ca. 1790-1847)

Benjamin Tilly (1804-?)
Thomas (1807-ca. 1857)
Jeremiah M. (ca. 1810-?)
Rebecca (ca. 1872-?)

Robert Reynolds, Jr. (1815-1865)

Benjamin Eason (1815-1873)
Emily (ca 1820-?)
Francis Ichabod (1822-1884)

George W. (1837-1921)

Elizabeth Margaret (1840-?)
Sarah Ann (1843-?)
John Marion (1845-1927)

Joseph Tillie (1845-1916)
William J. (1846-1923)
James Whiteford (1846-1875)

Benjamin J. (1849-1914)
Frances (1851-?)
George W. (1853-1922)
Edward (1854-1923)
Solomon Tilly (1856-1933)
Plowden Green, Sr. (1858-1915)
Elizabeth L. (1861-1945)

Franklin Robert (1872-1948)

Mary Tilly or Mary Tillman
Jeanne Mansfield (ca 1757-?, great granddaughter of Rev. John La Pierre)

Elizabeth Tilly or Elizabeth Tillman
Sarah Flint (1775-1851, daughter Thomas Flint)

Elizabeth Waller (1798-?, daughter of William Waller)

Elizabeth Davis
Eliza Carr (1792-1818, daughter of Stephen Carr)

Samuel Waller (1786-1837, son of William Waller
Mary Frances Sarvis (1800-1877, daughter of John Sarvis)

Elizabeth Anderson (ca. 1815-ca. 1845, dau. of David Anderson)

Elizabeth Jane Graham (1817-?, dau. of William B. Graham)

Jayne Wayne (ca. 1810-?, dau. of Francis Wayne)

Thomas F. Willson (great grandson of John S. Willson)
Sarah Anderson (ca. 1815-?, dau. of David Anderson)

Ann Monk Brown (1815-?)

James Anderson

Harriett Tillman Green (1819-1879, dau. of Richard Green)

Temperance Jordan (1839-1893, dau. of Isaac Jordan)
John L. Guyton (1833-?)

Joseph M. Thompson (1845-?)

Rhoda Jordan (1853-1907, dau. of Isaac Jordan)

Fannie Lewis (1849-1925)

Delilah Lewis (1845-1924)

Hannah Louisa Sarvis (1846-?, dau. of Cornelius Benjamin Sarvis)

Sarah Rutilla Stalvey (1856-1954)

Thomas William Graham (1849-?)

Martha Todd (1864-1901)

Margaret Wise (1859-1933)

Sarah Jones (1862-1945)

Ella Skipper (1867-1947)

Coval C. Housand (1858-1927, son of Samuel C. Housand)

Marah Elizabeth Bellamy (1878-1947, dau. of Flavius J. Bellamy)
Francis Ichobod Sessions, Sr., was the son of Josias Tillman Sessions and Mary Frances Sarvis Sessions. She was the daughter of Cornelius B. Sarvis and Frances Pawley Sarvis. Born 1822, Horry County, married 1847?, d. in Conway, SC, in 1884 at age 60. He was buried at Kingston Presbyterian Church in Conway.

**ACTIVITY**
- County - Commissioner to Approve Securities - 1859
- Commissioner of Public Buildings
- Magistrate, Justice of Peace
- Sheriff, 1876-1884 (8 years)

**State**
- Senate of State of South Carolina, 1858-1864 (6 years)
- House of Representatives 1865-1866 (1 year)

**Church**
- Signed petition requesting organizing a Presbyterian Church, Conway, SC, 1857
- Member of Committee to erect a church building, 1857
- Member of committee to call first pastor (Rev. W. A. Gregg), 1861
- Ordained Ruling Elder, 1881-

**Family**
- Married Harriet Tillman Green, daughter of Richard Green, Jr., and Mary Tillman Green, born 1819 and died 1879 at the age of 60.

**Children**
- Richard Green Sessions, Sr. 1848-1890 (C.S.A.)
  - Josias Tillman Sessions 1849-1880 31
  - Frances Jones Sessions 1853-1913 60
  - Plowden Green Sessions 1858-1915 57
  - John Vereen Sessions 1859- ? (Louisiana)
  - M. Harriet Sessions 1860-1879 19

**Sources:**
- "The Kingston Presbyterian Church" by Paul Quattlebaum
- "Biographical Directory of Senate of S. C." by Reynolds & Faunt

(Editor's note: The Rev. C. Walker Sessions is the great grandson of Francis Ichobod Sessions, Sr. His address is 727A Mansion Circle, Chattanooga, TN 37405.)
Today fishermen and duck hunters criss-cross the old canals of the rice fields just north of Georgetown along the Waccamaw River. Huge, luxurious yachts, perhaps travelling from New York to Florida along the Intracoastal Waterway, pass these tremendously vast areas cut from the swamp and never realize that 125 years ago thousands of slaves produced millions of pounds of rice annually along this approximately 25 mile stretch of the Waccamaw. This was the ante-bellum rice culture of upper All Saints Parish, South Carolina.

In his book Down by the Riverside Dr. Charles Joyner (University of Illinois, 1984, $24.95) closely examines the lifestyles of both slave and master, the contributions of each to the other, and the almost contradictory relationships which developed between the two groups, relationships which under the system of slavery were both confrontational and affectionate. For example, Alex Parker, the coachman of the Robert Allston family, when told after the Emancipation that he must seek work elsewhere because Mrs. Allston had no money to pay him, repled, "Miss, I don't want no wages. Ain't I work for you since I been man grown? Ain't my fadder work for Massa fadder? Een my grandfadder de same? Ain't I drive you, de gov'ner's lady, all de time Massa been gov'ner? And now you think I gwine left you? No Ma'am. Not Alek Pa'ka. He ain't mean nuf for dat." But there were tense moments as well, such as the time when Scipio, an old African-born slave, was made the brunt of a joke by the master of Woodbourne Plantation. Scipio sharply retorted, "Don't bother me, Massa. Ain't you know I been libbin' in dese woods fore erry other nigger make track here. Go 'way and don't bother me or I run away for true. You hear what I say?"

The rice technology which could flood and drain the fields was brought to All Saints Parish by Africans, not Europeans, for the most preferred slave along the Waccamaw was from the rice growing areas of Africa, and with him came his culture. Actually, it was a mixture of the many and varied cultures of the different African tribes that was mixed with the obvious European influences to develop the lifestyles, language and relationships chronicled in the book, Down by the Riverside.

While the slave was considered property, which could be and often was bought and sold, it is interesting to note that the rice planters of All Saints Parish were concerned enough for the souls of their "property" to introduce them to Christianity. Some built beautiful churches just for their slaves. Indeed, some of the slaves were taught to read, in violation of South Carolina law at the time, and were given Bibles. Also, it seems that the planters along the Waccamaw made great efforts not to break up slave families. Often they were sold as a family, or not at all.

Although Christianity was accepted by most of the slaves, many of the old African superstitions and spirits were followed and feared. Among the slaves there were conjurers, or witch doctors, who practised their own form of voodoo, called "hoodoo" in upper All Saints Parish. But there were slave preachers, too, who taught, or tried to teach, that these old superstitions were just that--superstitions. Most slaves, however, seem to have combined their belief in Christianity and their fear of the old African spirits.

Oddly enough, some of these superstitions still exist today. If one travels to Charleston along Highway 17, he can still see many black homes with the door frames and windows painted with bright colors. The idea is to keep out the evil spirits, like the plat-eye and the hag. The plat-eye was said to be a spirit which could appear either in the form of man or beast, and whose goal was to lure an individual into the woods and steal his wits. To have nightmares, on the other hand, was to "be ridden by the hag".
The slaves of the South Carolina low country, including upper All Saints Parish, through necessity developed their own language, Gullah. Initially, slaves were brought to this country from many different areas of Africa, speaking many different languages. Of course, there was the imposition of the English language upon these people, and the resulting pidgin language was primarily English utilizing many African grammatical forms. First generation Africans used Gullah as a second language, their native African tongues being the first. As succeeding generations learned Gullah, it became their primary language, the African tongues being for the most part lost. When Gullah became the primary language for the slaves, the status of the language changed from that of pidgin to creole. Although the colorful sounding language may sound to white ears to be grammatically poor, speakers of Gullah actually adhered to rather rigid standards—of their own language, Gullah, not of English. What an accomplishment!

Much of the source material for Down by the Riverside came from the interviews conducted with former slaves by Genevieve Willcox Chandler as part of a Federal Writers Project. A great deal of the information was gathered at the Georgetown County courthouse, where many of the plantation records are still stored. And much of the material came from actual interviews conducted by the author with the children and grandchildren of former slaves.

The next time you happen to be on the Waccamaw River somewhere between the Horry County line and Georgetown, take a look at "all dem rice field" and think about the very rich history of South Carolina's low country. A copy of Down by the Riverside by Dr. Charles Joyner will definitely help you understand and appreciate our history much better.

(Editor's note: IRQ welcomes another of Kelly Paul Joyner's sons to its list of contributors.)

HORRY COUNTY MUSEUM

As a way of saying "Thanks" to all of those who have supported the Horry County Museum during its first five years of development, the Museum plans a series of lectures on the geology, natural history, and history of Horry County during 1985-86. There will be twelve lectures, beginning in March, 1984. One lecture a month will be held at Wheelwright Auditorium at Coastal Carolina College with advance notice given in the Sun News of the date of each. (A complete schedule is not available presently since the College could only make reservations through August. We hope a complete schedule will be available for the next Quarterly.)

The series will include such diverse subjects as the geology and geography of the county, the history of the county through photographs, and famous characters of the county. The series will be open to the public without an admission fee. The Museum staff hopes that all of those who are interested in the history of the county will join them for this, the first of what we hope will be a continuing series of educational events staged by the Museum. Guest lecturers will include Al Sanders, geologist for the Charleston Museum, Charles Joyner, and several members of the Horry County Historical society.

If you wish further information, please feel free to contact the Museum at 248-6489 or extensions 282-283 on the County Courthouse switchboard.—William Keeling, Dir.