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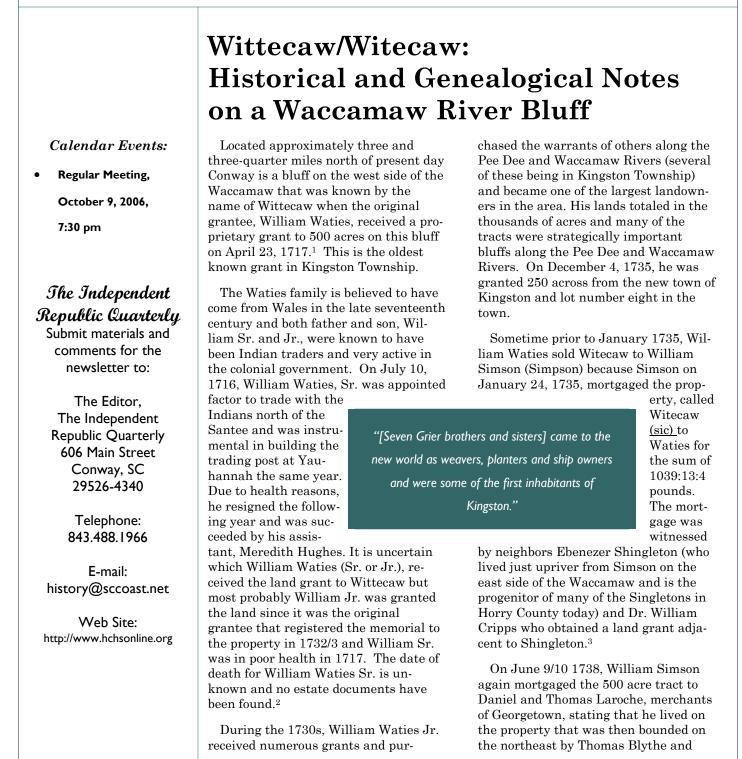
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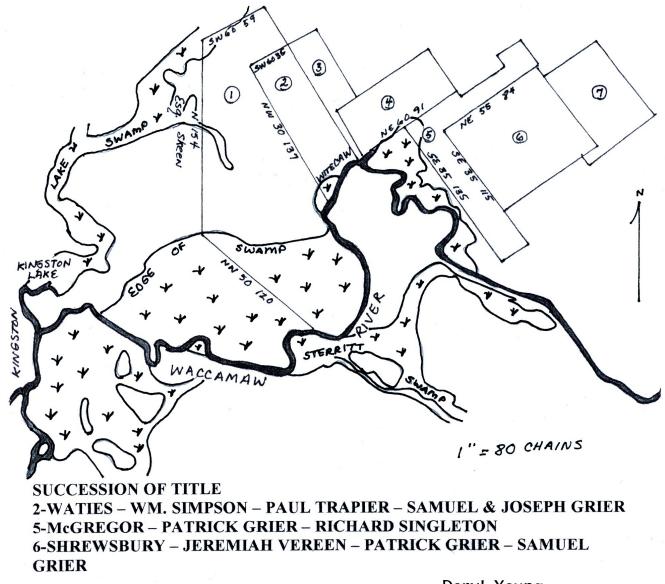
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VOLUME 37, NO. 1 & 2

KINGS GRANT PLACEMENT FOR WITECAW AND VICINITY KINGSTON TOWNSHIP CRAVEN COUNTY

1-WILLIAM PINCKNEY 1700 ACRES GRANTED 9-16-1736 2-WILLIAM WATIES 500 ACRES GRANTED 4-23-1717 3-THOMAS BLYTHE 250 ACRES GRANTED 9-17-1736 4-THOMAS & JANE BLYTHE FOR SIMON DAVID STEAD 400 ACRES GRANTED 9-17-1736 5-MARTHA McGREGOR 550 ACRES GRANTED 4-12-1739 6-EDWARD SHREWSBURY 650 ACRES GRANTED 12-16-1736 7-BENJAMIN JONES 550 ACRES GRANTED 9-30-1736



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Deryl Young

southwest by William Pinckney, both of whom had received land grants adjacent to Simson's Wittecaw. William Pinckney received a grant to 1,700 acres and a town lot in Kingston on September 17, 1736 and Thomas Blythe received a grant of 250 acres (including a portion of the bluff at Witecaw – see accompanying map) on September 17, 1736.⁴ Thomas Blythe called himself a cabinet maker of Craven County when he mortgaged his 250 acres in 1738 and probably lived on the tract.⁵ He later became a deputy surveyor and a justice of the peace for Prince George Parish.

William Simson sold Wittecaw to Paul Trapier who sold to brothers Joseph and Samuel Grier on March 26/27, 1749.⁶ Shortly after purchasing the 500 acres, the two Grier brothers divided the tract into two parcels of 250 acres each. Joseph Grier wrote his will on September 2, 1749, naming his wife Barbara and children Andrew, Joseph, Jean and Mary. He left the Wittecaw tract to his son Andrew.⁷ Andrew Grier married Margaret (last name unknown) and had children Jean, Joseph and Samuel. He wrote his will on April 8, 1765, leaving the Wittecaw tract to his two sons Joseph and Samuel.

Samuel Grier, brother to the original Joseph Grier and the owner of the other 250 acres at Wittecaw, purchased other lands in Kingston (750 acres on Hunting Swamp and 350 acres adjacent) and on the Pee Dee in Yauhannah (1,950 acres at Conns Creek). At the time of the writing of his will on June 11, 1769, he lived on his plantation in Yauhannah. He left the 250 acre Wittecaw tract to his son John Grier.⁸

Seven Grier brothers and sisters came from Northern Ireland and settled in old Kingston starting in the early 1730s. They were Samuel, Joseph, John, Patrick, Jannett Willson (wife of John Willson), Agnus Baxter (wife of Arthur Baxter) and Mary Ridgell (wife of William Ridgell). One brother, Thomas Grier, remained in Northern Ireland.⁹ They came to the new world as weavers, planters and ship owners and were some of the first inhabitants of Kingston. John and Joseph Grier appear to have been in Kingston when the lands were being laid out as a township. Several references are shown of them being adjacent land owners on some of the original grantees' plats but no plats or grants have been found for either John or Joseph Grier. Although the surname no longer exists in Horry County, the name Grier shows even today in some of the old families of Horry - probably from one or more of the numerous Grier girls (children of the original seven brothers and sisters) who married into the old Horry County families and whose genealogies have been lost over the last 250 years. Many of the descendants of these Grier brothers and sisters moved down to the Pee Dee in the Yauhannah/Petersfield area during the 1750s and 1760s.

Family lore says that there was a fever in Kingston during the 1750s that wiped out much of the population

and the Griers moved to the Pee Dee in hopes of finding a healthier climate.

On April 2, 1782, John Grier and Martha, his wife, sold the 250 acres inherited from his father Samuel to Robert Reynolds. Reynolds died before 1788 and his administrator Bryan Gause sold the property in that year to James Cochran who held the property until 1797 when he sold the tract to Benjamin Gause.¹⁰ No descent of title has been found to date for the other 250 acres (of the original 500 acre Witecaw grant) that Andrew Grier left to his sons John and Samuel in his will of 1765.

It was only my intent to trace the Waccamaw lands from the original grant up to circa 1800 and I do not have the descent of title beyond Benjamin Gause. Perhaps someone in the historical society has already done this and can contribute that work up to the present in a later issue of <u>The Independent</u> <u>Republic Quarterly</u>.

The name Witecaw/Wittecaw is almost assuredly an Indian term and most probably Waccamaw Indian. The earliness of its grant in relation to the surrounding lands in Kingston Township coupled with the fact that William Waties, the Indian trader, received the original land grant, suggests that the bluff was a significant tract. Was it one of the four Waccamaw villages surveyed in 1715 whose names and locations have never been discovered? The Indian census of 1715 states that the Waccomassus (Waccamaw) tribe located 100 miles northeast of Charleston had four villages with 210 men and 400 women for a total of 610 villagers.¹¹ Perhaps one day someone will come up with some yet undiscovered document or diary that will name these villages and explain the meaning of these old Waccamaw terms (and those of the Pedee and Cape Fear Indians tribes that were contiguous to the Waccamaws).

¹Memorial of William Waties dated 29 January 1732, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Memorial Book 1, page 422 – the memorial of Wm. Waties to be registered in the office of his Majesty's Auditor pursuant to the act of the General Assembly in that case made and provided of a tract of land containing five hundred acres in the possession of the said William Waties situate in Craven County in the parish of Prince George and bounding on the Waccamaw River commonly called and known by the name of Wittecaw which said land is granted to the said William Waties under the common seal of this province at the yearly rent of twelve pence per hundred acres as by the said grant bearing date 23rd day of April 1717 doth appear. Given under my hand the 29th day of January An. Dom. 1732 William Waties.

² "The Waties Family of South Carolina" compiled by H.D. Bull, <u>S.C.</u> <u>Historical and Genealogical Magazine</u>.

³ Charleston Deed Book T, page 130, Mortgage, 24 Jan. 1735. William Simson, of Prince George Parish, Craven Co., to secure payment of 3 bonds given by Simson to William Waties this date in the total sum of 1039:13:4 lbs. SC money, conveys to William Waties 500 ac. in Prince George Parish, commonly called Witecaw, fronting on Waccamaw River. Witnesses: Ebenezer (his mark) Shingleton, William Cripps, Paul Trapier. Before Thomas Laroche, J.P.

⁴ Royal grants, S.C. Department of Archives and History. ⁵ Charleston Deed Book S, page 311, 13/14 June 1738, L & R by mortgage. Thomas Blythe, cabinet maker, to Daniel Laroche & Thomas Laroche, merchants, all of Craven Co., as security on bond of even date in penal sum of 1184:13 lbs. for payment of 592:6:9 currency on 16 Dec. 1738; 250 ac. in Craven Co., bounding E on Simon David Stead & James Akin; NW on vacant land; SW on William Simson; SE on Waccamaw River.

⁶ Memorial of Samuel Grier, 15 January 1765, S.C. Department of Archives and History. A memorial exhibited by Samuel Grier to be registered in the office of his majesty's Aud. General, pursuant to the acts of assembly in that case made & provided...of a plantation or tract of land containing 250 acres situate in Craven Co. Prince George's Parish butting & bounding on the Waccamaw River and is part and parcel of 500 acres of land originally granted to William Waties and sold by him to William Simpson to Paul Trapier and by Paul Trapier to Joseph Grier and Samuel Grier the memorialist by lease and release bearing date respectively the 26th and 27th days of March 1749.

⁷ Will of Joseph Grear of Kingston dated 2 September 1749, Charleston Wills.

⁸ Will of Samuel Grier dated June 11, 1769, Charleston Wills.
⁹ Will of Patrick Grier dated July 22, 1767, Charleston Wills. In his will, Patrick names his brothers and sisters, his wife Judith (Marion), his sons James and Samuel Grier, and daughter Mary Ann Mitchell, wife of Capt. Anthony Mitchell of Winyah. He also names his sons-in-law (step-sons) Richard, Ebenezer and William Singleton, sons of his wife Judith by an earlier marriage to Ebenezer Shingleton (Singleton)

¹⁰ Horry County Deed Book A-1, page 205 recorded October 2 1804....Abstracted by Deryl Young. Indenture made 12 April 1797 between James Cochran of the State of N.C. Brunswick Co. & Benjamin Gause – consideration 220 lbs. sterling – 250 ac. (being ½ of a 500 ac. tract sold by Paul Trapier of Georgetown to Samuel Grier & Joseph Grier & by Bryan Gause, executor of the estate of Robert Reynolds to James Cochran) lying in Kingston Co. butting & bounding to the southeast on Waccamaw River, to the northeast on lands granted to Thomas Blythe and to the southwest & northwest on vacant lands. Witnesses: John Gause Jr., Thomas Hemingway Signed: James Cochran.

¹¹ Milling, Chapman J., <u>Red Carolinians</u>. (Columbia. University of South Carolina, 1969), 222.

✤ Deryl Young, proprietor of Ancestral Land Research, specializes in very early native inhabitants and placing the land grants along the Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee and Waccamaw Rivers within Old Georgetown District (Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg and Marion Counties). He is currently finishing a major project for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Kings Grant research of the Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge.

The HCHS regrets an interrupted publication schedule. This issue of *The IRQ* continues an accelerated schedule to correct the lapse.

The Will of Samuel Grier

Samuel Grier, one of the earliest settlers of Kingston, was a planter and weaver. He was married to Ann Porter, daughter of the Rev. William Porter of Christ Church Parish who owned a large amount of land in Kingston through kings grants and the purchase of warrants.

Samuel Grier purchased Witecaw along with his brother Joseph (died ca. 1749). Along with his half of Witecaw, Samuel owned at the time of his death a 1,075 acre plantation on Hunting Swamp and 350 acres on the Little Pee Dee. In 1767, he purchased a 1,950 acre plantation on the Pee Dee River in Yauhannah and made his home there.

South Carolina

In the Name of God Amen I SAMUEL GRIER of Craven County in the province of South Carolina, Planter being in good bodily health & of Sound & disposing mind do make & Ordain this to be my last will & testament resigning my soul to God & desiring that after my decease my body be decently Interred by my Executrix & Executors herein after named & with the Respect to the worldly Estate of which I may die possessed, I will as follows. In the first place, I order that my whole Estate wheresoever a whatsoever be kept together & improved untill all my Just debts shall be paid, after which I give unto my SON JOHN GRIER the six following Negroes vizt: Ben, Bob, Glasgow, Lydia, Silvia & Nero. Also one fourth part of my Negroe Slaves not particularly named in this will One third part of my household Goods & Kitchen utensils, my riding horse & watch & one half of my Stocks of Cattle Horses Hogs & Sheep. I also give devise & bequeath unto my said SON JOHN & to his heirs & assigns forever two thirds of that my Plantation or four tracts of Land, situate on Great Pedee River whereon I now reside containing in the whole nineteen hundred & fifty acres of Land more or less to be divided as is herein after directed, also all that my plantation or Tract of Land on Little Pedee containing by estimation three hundred & fifty acres originally laid out to William Romsey. And likewise all that my plantation or tract of land in Waccamaw containing two hundred & fifty acres more or less. Item: I give unto MARY RIDGILL, JOB ROTHMAHLER & WILLIAM RIDGILL in trust for the use of my daughter ELIZABETH these my six Negroes named Dick, Prince, Peter, Hannah, Kate & Sawney, also one fourth part of my negroe Slaves, not particularly named in this my will, one thirdpart of my household Goods & Kitchen Utensills & one half of my Stock of Cattle Horses, Hogs, & Sheep. Item, I give devise & bequeath unto my Daughter AGNES McDOUGALL, wife of Mr. JOHN McDOU-GALL all that my Plantation or tract of Land on

Hunting Swamp containing by estimation Seven hundred & Seventy five acres more or less & to her heirs & assigns forever, also one fourth part of my Negroe Slaves not particularly named in this my will, & likewise One third part of my household Goods & Kitchen Utensils. Item I give devise & bequeath unto my GRANDSON SAMUEL GRIER, son of WILLIAM GRIER, deceased one third of that my plantation or four tracts of land situate on Great Peedee River whereon I now reside containing in the whole nineteen hundred & fifty acres more or less & to his heirs & assigns for ever to be divided as is herein after directed, Also one fourth part of my Negroe Slaves not particularly named in this my will. Item I give devise & bequeath unto AGNES JORDAN, widow of JOSEPH JORDAN, decd & to her heirs & assigns for ever all that my plantation or tract of land containing by estimation three hundred acres joining the seven hundred & seventy five acres of land on Hunting Swamp given to my Daughter AGNES McDOUGAL as abovementioned. Also one Negroe Girl named Dibby & one Negroe Boy named Sambo. Item my will is & I do order that my sister MARY RIDGILL with her husband shall have free liberty to reside on my Peedee Plantation where I now dwell with Land to plant thereon as long as she lives & shall have the use & Compation[sic] of the Dwelling house & conveniences thereunto belonging untill my Son JOHN shall arrive to his age of twenty one years. Item, I do order that all the Divisions directed or Intended by this my will, as well of my Real as of my personal Estate, shall be made by my executrix & Executors hereinafter named or by three or more indifferent Persons nominated by them or by the survivor or survivors of them for that purpose which Division certifyed under their hands & seals shall be for ever conclusive & binding upon every person whatever claiming or that may claim by from or under me by virtue of this my Last Will & Testament or otherways. Lastly I do hereby nominate Constitute & appoint my sister MARY RIDGILL, Executrix & my friends JOB **ROTHMAHLER & WILLIAM RIDGILL, Executors of** this my Last Will & Testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made & declaring this only to be my Last Will & Testament. In witness whereof I the said SAMUEL GRIER have hereunto set my hand & Seal this Eleventh day of June Ammo Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred & Sixty Nine.

Signed, Sealed, Published & Declared By the above named Samuel Grier as & for his Last Will & Testament in the presence of us, Who in his sight & in the sight of each other, Have at his request subscribed our names as Witnesses.

ALEXR WILSON, SUSANNA GRIER, AGNES JORDAN

PROVED by virtue of a Dedimus from his Excellency the Governor directed to Paul Trapier Esq 27 April 1772 at same time Qualified Job Rothmahler Esq, one of the Executors to the above will.¹

¹Recorded in Original Will Book, 1771-1774, Page 163. *A Deryl Young*

William Waties parleys with Indian Chiefs

The following excerpt from <u>Red Carolinians</u> tells of William Waites parleying with the Catawba, Seneca and Tuscarora Indians chiefs to restore peace. Although Waites was no longer the Indian factor, he was still involved Indian affairs.

... In the spring of 1731 a party of strange Indians invaded the low country near Georgetown, stealing slaves and cattle from Messrs. Mishoe, Pawley, and other planters. William Waties, the old Winyah factor, followed their tracks up the path straight into the Tuscarora settlements [in North Carolina]. He at once called a parley of the chiefs, at which the Governor of North Carolina was present. The Tuscarora bitterly denied their guilt, imputing all the mischief to the Seneca. It was true, they admitted, that several years ago they had promised not to come into the white settlements of South Carolina, but the Catawba had entered their country the previous fall and had slain one of their chiefs at the head of new River, besides wounding another man. Soon afterwards a party of Seneca had come through their towns on their way to fight the Catawba. Joining these warriors they had traveled until they found the tracks of their enemies, which had led into the white settlements. Coming down the banks of the Waccamaw,¹ "They found a small Fort with some Indians between Santee and Winyah Rivers at a White Man's Plantation and in the night they went up to the Fort and fired in, but could not tell if they killed anyone or not, and so returned directly." Waites replied that "it was true what they said about the Fort, but that they had been at a Plantation at Black River also, and there, in a very rude way, took some shirts that were in wash and put them on and also carried away some cloth and that they had killed Cattle in 2 or 3 places now as well as formerly, that they could have no pretence of War with our Neighbour Indians but because they came against them in the North Carolina War...."²

The above affair was, of course, but a single episode in the perpetual war between the Catawba and the Tuscarora. As in the case of similar raids by the Shawnee and other enemy tribes, the white people frequently suffered as well as their Catawba friends.

 $^{^1}$ Milling, Chapman J., <u>Red Carolinians</u>. (Columbia. University of South Carolina, 1969), 236-237

² S.C. Records, B.P.R.O., XVI, 11-12, as quoted in <u>Red Carolinians.</u> **«**Chyrel Stalvey

The Indian Trading House at Uauenee (Otherwise called the Great Bluff)

In Colonial times, Indian trade was a way to form alliances and maintain good relations between the Indians and those who settled in Carolina. In an effort to cultivate trade with the Indians living in areas north of Georgetown, an Indian trading house was established. William Waties, Sr., who owned much land in what is now Horry County, was appointed factor, an agent or manager, for the trading house by the Trade Commissioners.

The following excerpts from the **South Carolina Indian Trade Commissioners Journal, 1716-1718** deal with Waties' first suggestion to the Commissioners that Saukey was a good place for the trading house and the subsequent decision that Uauenee was the best place. Over time, the spelling of the name Uauenee has been corrupted to Yauhannah.

Monday, July 16, 1716

Met according to Adjournment.

Present: Ralph Izard, Esq., Col. Jon. Barnwell, Charles Hill, Esq., and Capt. Jonathan Drake.

Mr. Watis, Sr., appearing at the Board, according to a former Order, informed us that Saukey is a more proper and convenient Place for settling a Factory and Trading House at, then the old Caseka's on Black River, for a Commerce with the Pedea's and Wackamaw Indians.

Ordered therefore, that Saukey be the appointed Place, for settling the Factory at, instead of the old Casekey's.

Agreed with William Watis, Sr., to officiate as Factor there, for one hundred Pounds Salary for one Year, and to allow him fifty Pounds for building of a logg House, at the said Saukey, of twenty-five Feet Length and fourteen Feet wide.

The said Watis likewise informed us that Henry Farwell is a fit Person, to be his Assistant, in managing the Trade.

Resolved that the said Watis be impowered to agree with Hen. Farwell for his Assistant for that Purpose, on Condition that the said Farwell will accept of fifty Pounds Salary per Annum, and accordingly the said Watis was ordered to make him that Offer. Mr. Barthm. Gaillard informed the Board, that some of the Wineau Indians were seated at Santee, and have been found beneficial to that Part of this Province, for their Safety, by keeping the Negroes there in Awe, and desired us to take that Matter into Consideration, and proposed the Settling a small Factory there, to ingage those Indians to continue among them, and further offered to manage that Trade, gratis.

The Board taking that Matter into Consideration, resolved to lay it before the Assembly at their next Meeting.

Adjourned till tomorrow Morning, eight of the Clock.

Friday, September 21, 1716

The Board met according to Adjournment.

Present: Col. John Barnwell, Charles Hill, Esq., and Capt. Jonatn. Drake.

William Watis, Factor, having further represented Uauenee (or the Great Bluff) to be the most safe and convenient Settlement, for a trading House, with the Indians, and having offered his Reasons for the same; desired our Determination of that Place for a Factory.

The Board taking the same into their Consideration; for the following Reasons, do esteem the said Uauenee (otherwise called the Great Bluff) to be the most commodious Place for a Factory and trade with the Northward Indians; viz.: 1st, its Vicinity to our English Plantations, will afford us News from thence, at all Times, by Land, within three or four Days, at most; whereas Saukey (the appointed Place) is much more remote; 2ndly, that Saukey being only covered by the Pedea's, is exposed to the Insults of the Charraws; 3rdly, that (besides the Interest it will be to us, in obliging the Wackamaws, a People of greater Consequence then the Pedeas, by such a Settlement), Uauenee being contiguous to the Wackamaws lies doubly fortified against any forreign Attempt; 4thly, that this place, as on the one Hand, it is preferable for a ready Commerce with the Wackamaws, the most populous of those two Nations; so on the other Hand, 'tis the best seated for a general Concourse and frequent.

Resolved therefore that the said Uauenee, be the Place for settling the Northward Factory at, instead of Saukey.

Ordered that William Waties, Factor, do now build the trading House (formerly designed on Saukey) at Uauenee, as aforesaid.

The Goods and Necessaries for the Northward Factory, being provided and delivered to William Waites, Factor, according to Order, with an Invoice thereof, amounting to, eighty six Pounds, fifteen Shillings and three Pence, Charges included (as appears per Invoice Book, in Folio 5) the present Instructions, given by us to the said Waties, are as follows, viz., ...

Monday, November 26, 1716

The Board met according to Adjournment.

Present: Col. John Barnwell, Charles Hill, Esq., and Capt. Jonath. Drake.

Received by Saml. Teed, a Letter from Mr. William Waties, Factor at Wineau, as per e (No. 5) Bundle.

Samuel Teed (the Carpenter, hired of Capt. Porter) being examined at the Board, relates: "That he left Mr. Waties on Sunday, the 18th Instant, at the Factory, at Euauenee, and that he hath built a log House of twelve Feet by ten, at that Place, to secure the Trade there, and that Mr. Waties sent him down by land, with the before mentioned Letter; that he paid for Provision and ferrying over, at several Places he came through, the Sum of twenty Shillings, and that coming to Seawe, at one Mr. Collins', a Cooper, he discerned Signs of the Dressing of Deer Skins there, by a Parcel of Hair newly shaved from the Hides, and believes that the Inhabitants thereabouts have Dealings with the Indians, but he did not see any such Action the Time he was there: and the said Teed likewise confirmed several Passages in the Letter from Mr. Waties, aforesaid."

Ordered, that Ralph Izard, Esq., Cashier, repay out of the Stock of the Indian Trade, unto Samuel Teed, or Order, the Sum of twenty Shillings, current Money, for his Charges and Expenses at several Places, in his Journey from the Factory at Wineau to

Charles Town.

Resolved, that Samuel Teed be and he is hereby discharged from the Service of this Board...

Saturday, August 10, 1717

The Board met according to Adjournment.

Present: Col. George Logan, Col. Jno. Barnwell, and Capt. Jona. Drake.

Wrote to Meredith Hughes, Factor for Wineau, the following Letter; and sent the same per the Periaugoe belonging to that Factory, viz.;

"We are now to answer your several Letters, viz.; one from Watchetsan without Date, received the 3d Instant per John Evans; one dated July the 28th past, from Wineau, received per Ditto, and one dated the 3d Instant, this Day received. The Skins in the Periaugoe, came to Hand; but not without Loss and Damage (as usual) for besides the Want of thirty-odd Skins, (according to Evans' Receipt) we find many wet and some rotten and spoiled by means of bad Stowage, and your unadvisedly detaining the Tarpawling (as he informes us) which was provided for no other Use, then to preserve the Goods and Skins, in the Periaugoe, because the Publick had heretofore suffered so much (in the Skins we have received) for want of it.

The Periaugoe being much out of Repair, when she came down, and having lost the Rudder, Oars and some other Implements belonging to her, occasions so tedious a Stay at this Time, in order to refit her.

We have considered the Subject of your several Letters, and find the Dread you have of the Charraws hath occasioned your Removal from our Trading House, at YourEnee, and interrupted the Commerce you had with the Indians there. We have represented the Matter to the Deputy Governour, together with the Circumstances of that Part of the Province, which seems so exposed to the Incursions of the Charraws, and hope speedy Care will be taken for the Security of the Inhabitants there, and to ease them of their present Troubles and Apprehensions; in the Meantime we thought fit to dispatch the Periaugoe back to you, under the Care of these Indians; it being our Will and Order that you come to Charles Town, with our whole Trade and Effects under your Management, together with your Accounts, as soon as you shall find most convenient, where we shall consider of such Measures as you have to offer concerning the Establishment of the Trade with the Indians of Wineau &c. for the Good of the Publick, with more Safety. If you find it expedient for the Publick Service,

"The Board taking the same into their Consideration; for the following Reasons, do esteem the said Uauenee (otherwise called the Great Bluff) to be the most commodious Place for a Factory and trade with the Northward Indians..." bring down with you two or three of the Chief Men of the Wackamaws, not forgetting such of them as have been most zealous for our Interest. We send you only six Blankets,

not knowing but they may be ingaged by you. As for Provision, you now being among the Inhabitants, we suppose you cannot be in great Want, however we send you three Pounds inclosed, as well to pay what Mr. Waties took up of that Kind (though he never gave us any Account of it) as to supply yourself, until we see you, which we look for shortly, &c."...¹

🗢 Deryl Young and J. Benjamin Burroughs

¹From the **South Carolina Indian Trade Commissioners Journal, 1716-1718,** edited by W. L. McDowell.

In Search of Uauenee (Otherwise called the Great Bluff)

Early king's grants confirm that the name Uauenee, or Yauhannah, referred to an area in both present



Great Sand Bluff in the Yauhannah section of Horry County

day Horry and Georgetown Counties in the vicinity of the Great Pee Dee River, Bull Creek and the Waccamaw River and not to just one particular bluff.

In recent years it has been assumed that the location of "the Great Bluff" the Commissioners referred to was the Yauhannah Bluff in Georgetown County, adjacent to Highway 701, that particular bluff having retained the name most successfully. However, there is another possible location that fits the Commissioners' description.

While the Yauhannah Bluff in Georgetown County is definitely a large bluff and was a place of activity in the early 1700s, there is another higher, more substantial sand bluff in the Yauhannah section of Horry County running approximately one mile along Bull Creek. Could this be "the Great Bluff" that the Commissioners refer to in the **South Carolina Indian Trade Commissioners Journal, 1716-1718** as the site of the Indian trading house at Uauenee? Three entries in the **Journal** refer to the trading house site as: "Uauenee (or the Great Bluff)," "Uauenee (otherwise called the Great Bluff)," and "YourEnee."

- When comparing the two bluffs, there is no doubt that the one on Bull Creek in Horry County would be described as the greater of the two.
- Also, the land where the Horry County bluff is lo-

cated remained a government holding longer than the surrounding lands. It seems plausible that since the trading house was a government run facility, its site would have been held by the government instead of being granted out. The location of the trading house on this Bull Creek site could account for this bluff remaining in government hands instead of being granted out.

• Furthermore, Waties' son, William Waties, Jr., applied for and was granted title to some of the land adjoining the Bull Creek bluff in present-day Horry County. It seems likely that had it been available, he would have preferred this higher bluff.

For these reasons, as well as for others stated by Waties and recorded in the **Journal** on Friday, September 21, 1716, there is certainly a possibility that the Great Bluff mentioned in the **Journal** as the loca-



Great Sand Bluff on Bull Creek

tion of the Indian trading house was the Great Bluff on Bull Creek in Horry County

⇐ J. Benjamin Burroughs, research specialist in Coastal Carolina University's Burroughs and Chapin Center for Marine and Wetland Studies

William Bartram's Journey through Horry County

William Bartram (1739-1823), accomplished naturalist and talented artist, was born to John Bartram, the Royal Botanist to King George III. William was born in Kingsessing, Pennsylvania. He had a natural affinity for drawing and displayed an early interest in botany. After much persuading, John allowed William to accompany him on his trip to Florida and Georgia in 1765.



In 1773 Bartram set off alone on a four-year journey through eight southern colonies. His vivid narrative of the trek included the activities of the Indians, drawings and watercolors of plants and animals. Plant specimens were gathered and sent to his European colleagues.¹

Bartram's influence extended beyond the scientific community. His descriptive narratives influenced the romantic writers of his day—Samuel Coleridge, William Wadsworth, and Renee de Chateaubriand.²

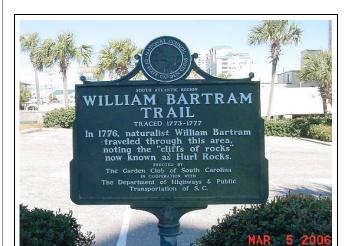
In 1791, he published a book under the title Travels Through North & South Carolina, Georgia, East & West Florida, the Cherokee Country, the Extensive Territories of the Muscogulges, or Creek Confederacy, and the Country of the Chactaws; Containing an Account of the Soil and Natural Productions of Those Regions, Together with Observations on the manners of the Indians - *Embellished with Copper-Plates*, which was considered to be one of the foremost books on American natural history.

The following are observations Bartram made, as he traveled from Charleston up the South Carolina coastline and into North Carolina.

[Please note the information in brackets which have been added by J. Benjamin Burroughs to identify places with today 's names and by Colleen Lohr, biologist and master gardener, to identify the flowers, shrubs and trees with the common names and today's taxonomy, when necessary.]

AFTER a few days residence in Charleston, I sat off on my return to my native land, crossed Cowper [Cooper] river, about nine miles above the city, where the water was a mile wide, and the ferry-house being on the opposite shore, I hoisted my travelling blanket on a pole for a signal, which being white, the people soon came to me and carried me safe over. In three days more easy travelling, I crossed Winyaw bay, just below Georgetown, and in two days more, got to the West end of Long bay [Surfside Beach area], where I lodged at a large Indigo plantation. Sat off early next morning, and after crossing over the sand ridges, which afford little else but Quercus pumila [running oak], Myrica cerifera [wax myrtle], Cassine [Ilex cassine, dahoon holly], Sideroxilon [Bumelia tenax, tough bumelia] and Andromeda [may be Lyonia fruticosa, coastal plain stagger-bush or Leucothoe axillaria, coastal dog hobble] entangled with various species of Smilax [coral, dune, and whiteleaf greenbrier], got on the bay, which is a hard sand beach, exposed for thedistance of fifteen miles to the continual lash of the Atlantic ocean; at about low water mark, are cliffs of rocks [Hurl Rocks section of Myrtle Beach] of the helmintholithus, being a very firm concrete or petrifaction, consisting of various kinds of seashells, fine sand and pulverized shells; there is a reef of these rocks, thirty or forty yards farther out than low water mark, which lift their rugged backs above water, and brave the continual strokes of the waves, which, however, assisted by the constant friction of the sands, make continual inroads upon them, bore them into holes and cavities, when tempestuous seas rend them to pieces, scattering the fragments over the sandy shore. It is pleasant riding on this clean hard sand, paved with shells of various colours.

OBSERVED a number of persons coming up a head which I soon perceived to be a party of Negroes: I had every reason to dread the consequence; for this being a desolate place, and I was by this time several



Marker at Hurl Rock: "William Bartram Trail – Traced 1775-1777. In 1776, naturalist William Bartram traveled through this area, noting the "cliffs of rocks" now known as Hurl Rocks."

Erected by The Garden Club of South Carolina in cooperation with The Department of Highways & Public Transportation of S.C.

miles from any house or plantation, and had reason to apprehend this to be a predatory band of Negroes: people being frequently attacked, robbed, and sometimes murdered by them at this place; I was unarmed, alone, and my horse tired; thus situated every way in their power, I had no alternative but to be resigned and prepare to meet them, as soon as I saw them distinctly a mile or two off, I immediately alighted to rest, and give breath to my horse, intending to attempt my safety by slight, if upon near approach they should be tray hostile designs, thus prepared, when we drew near to each other, I mounted and rode briskly up, and though armed with clubs, axes and hoes, they opened to right and left, and let me pass peaceably, their chief informed me whom they belonged to, and said they were going to man a new quarter at the West end of the bay, I however kept a sharp eye about me, apprehending that this might possibly have been an advanced division, and their intentions were to ambuscade and surround me, but they kept on quietly and I was no more alarmed by them. After noon, I crossed the swash at the east end of the bay [Singleton Swash], and in the evening got to good quarters. Next morning early I sat off again, and soon crossed Little River at the boundary [Boundary House]; which is on the line that separates North and South Carolina; in an old field, on the banks of this river, a little distance from the public house [Boundary House], stands a single tree of the Magnolia grandiflora, which is said to be the most northern settlement of that tree. Passed this day over expansive savannas [a flat area with widely spaced trees, usually dominated by grasses], charmingly decorated with late autumnal flowers, as Helianthus [sunflower], Rudbeckia [blackeyed susan], Silphium [cup-plant], Solidago [goldenrod], Helenium [bitterweed], Serratula [may be Liatris secunda, gay feather or Vernonia noveboracensis, ironweed], Cacalia [now called Arnoglossum, pale Indian plantain], Aster [aster], Lillium Martagon [lily], Gentiana caerulia [may be Gentian autumnalie], Chironia [most likely Sabatia brachiata, rose pink], Gentiana saponaria [sapwort gentian], Asclepias coccinea [milkweed], Hypericum [St. Peter's-wort], Rhexea pulcherima [new spelling Rhexia, meadow beauty], &c. &c.

OBSERVED likewise in these Savannas abundance of the ludicrous Dionea muscipula [new spelling Dionaea muscipula, Venus' flytrap]³ (Dioneae, Ellis ad Linnaeum, miraculum naturae, folia biloba, radicalia, ciliata, conduplicanda, sensibilia, isecta incarcerantia. Syst. vegetab...) [Bartram reported the Native American name for Venus' flytrap is "tippitiwicher."4]

Т R NORTH & SOUTH CAROLINA GEORGIA, EAST & WEST FLORIDA, THE CHEROKEE COUNTRY, THE EXTENSIVE TERRITORIES OF THE MUSCOGULGES, OR CREEK CONFEDERACY, AND THE COUNTRY OF THE CHACTAWS; CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF THE SOIL AND NATURAL PRODUCTIONS OF THOSE REGIONS, TOGE. THER WITH OBSERVATIONS ON THE MANNERS OF THE INDIANS. EMBELLISHED WITH COPPER-PLATES. BY WILLIAM BARTRAM. PHILADELPHIA: FRINZID BY JAMES & JOHNSON. M, DCC, XCL

THIS wonderful plant seems to be distinguished in the creation, by the Author of nature, with faculties eminently superior to every other vegetable production; specimens of it were first communicated to the curious of the old world by John Bartram, the American botanist and traveller, who contributed as much if not more than any other man towards enriching the North American botanical nomenclature, as well as its natural history.

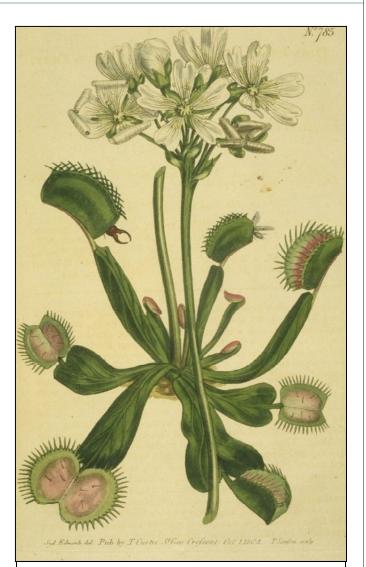
AFTER traversing these ample savannas I gradually ascended sand hills to open Pine forests; at evening got to Old town near Brunswick, where I lodged. Brunswick is a sea-port town on the Clarendon, or Cape Fear river, about thirty miles above the capes; it is about thirty years since this was the seat of government, when Arthur Dobbs, Esq. was governor and commander in chief of the province of North Carolina. Continued up the West side of North West of Cape Fear river, and rested two or three days at the seat of F. Lucas, Esq. a few miles above Livingston's creek, a considerable branch of the North West. This creek heads in vast swamps, in the vicinity of the beautiful lake Wakamaw [Waccamaw], which is the source of a fine river of that name, and runs a South course seventy or eighty miles, delivering its waters into Winyaw bay at George-town. The Wakamaw lake is twenty six miles in circuit, the lands on its Eastern shores are fertile and the situation delightful, gradually ascending from pleasing eminences; bounded on the North-West coast by vast rich swamps, fit for the production of Rice: the lake is twelve miles West from Esq. Moores, whose villa is on the banks of the North West.⁵

²http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Bartram

³The Venus' flytrap is found only in North and South Carolina. It is Federally protected and on the Endangered Species List. A more descriptive detail of the plant is in Bartram's Travels, "Introduction," pp. xx-xxi: "BUT admirable are the properties of the extraordinary Dionea muscipula! A great extent on each side of that serpentine rivulet, is occupied by those sportive vegetables--let us advance to the spot in which nature has seated them. Astonishing production! see the incarnate lobes expanding, how gay and ludicrous they appear! ready on the spring to intrap incautious deluded insects, what artifice! there behold one of the leaves just closed upon a struggling fly, another has got a worm, its hold is sure, its prey can never escape--carnivorous vegetable! Can we after viewing this object, hesitate a moment to confess, that vegetable beings are endued with some sensible faculties or attributes, similar to those that dignify animal nature they are organical, living and self-moving bodies, for we see here, in this plant, motion and volition."

⁴Porcher, 262.

⁵Reprinted with permission from the University of North Carolina, **Travels**, 470-474 at http://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/bartram/bartram.html



Venus' Flytrap drawing by William Curtis, courtesy of National Agricultural Library, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Description of Horry County taken from the "American Encyclopaedia," 1873-1876

"Horry, an E. county of South Carolina, bordering on the Atlantic and North Carolina, bounded W. by the Little Pedee, which flows into the Great Pedee on the S.W. border of the county, and drained by the Waccamaw River; area 1,200 sq. m.; pop. in 1870, 10,721, of whom 3,235 were colored. It has a low, marshy surface, and is partly covered with large forests of pine. ... The Wilmington, Columbia, and Augusta railroad touches the N. corner. The chief productions in 1870 were 62,039 bushels of Indian corn, 72,232 of sweet potatoes, 74 bales of cotton, 417, 507 lbs of rice. There were 451 horses, 3,347 milch cows, 6,431 other cattle, 7,592 sheep, 17,399 swine; 3 saw mills, and 8 manufactories of tar and turpentine. Capital, Conwayborough."

¹ Porcher, Richard D. and Rayner, Douglas A., <u>A Guide to the</u> <u>Wildflowers of South Carolina</u>. (Columbia, University of South Carolina Press, 2001), 25.

Itinerant Preachers of the Church of England

The Church of England was the established church in most of the British colonies in the New World and so it was in Carolina. Much of the ministering was spent in combating immorality, irreligion, and the new sects coming on the scene. This article includes the writings and reports of three itinerant preaches who wrote of incidences within Horry County.

The first preacher, The Reverend Charles Woodmason, is recognized for his wilderness experiences in the northwest backcountry of pre-Revolutionary South Carolina (1766-1768). His journals document more than 9,000 miles of sojourns and may be the most extensive firsthand description of any American colonial frontier.

Born about 1720, Woodmason emigrated from England to South Carolina about 1752 to set up as a planter and merchant in the Pee Dee Region. Although he prospered and was involved in civic affairs for ten years, he suffered a reversal of fortune and lost everything.

Genuinely concerned for the spiritual welfare of the frontier, Woodmason set sail for England seeking ordination from the Church of England. He returned to South Carolina in 1766 as an itinerant minister in St. Mark's Parish.

Newly ordained, he left the comforts of Charleston in 1761 to travel for six years in Carolina, seeking to bring the established church to areas where it had not taken hold.

One particular entry in 1768 refers to a new sect, the Baptist New Lights. He relates the story of Skinking Moore (thought to be Schenking Moore, a captain of the New Hanover Foot Company) living at Little River on the boundary between North and South Carolina.¹

From The Carolina Backcountry on the Eve of the Revolution, The Journal and Other Writings of Charles Woodmason, Anglican Itinerant:

"Africk never more abounded with New Monsters, than Pennsylvania does with New Sects, who are continually sending out their Emissaries around. One of these Parties, known by the Title of New Lights or the Gifted Brethern (for they pretend to Inspiration) now infest the whole Back Country, and have even penetrated South Carolina. One of C.W.'s [Charles Woodmason's] strongest Endeavours, must, and will be, to disperse these Wretches Which will not be a hard Task, as they will fly before Him as Chaff....

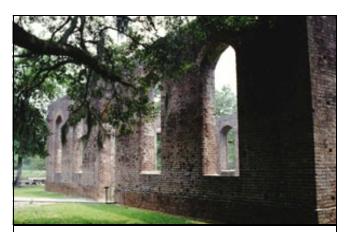
Lately they took another extraordinary Step. For after deluding a Rich Planter, wasting his Substance, and perverting his Understanding One of their Teachers pretended to work Miracles, and declared that He had Power equal with Christ, and that God had given Him Authority even to raise the Dead - And that to evince his Assertion, He would raise the first Dead Body they should meet with. The bigotted Planter had not such strong Faith, but that he called on Him to realise His Assertions. This Nonplus'd the Villain, and put Him on a Scheme, how to deceive his Votary and bring Himself off. So one of the Fraternity was procur'd, and properly tutored to counterfeit Himself Dead, and to revive on certain Prayers and Breathings being utter'd over Him. Accordingly this abominable Farce was play'd. The fellow lay as Dead – The Pretended Prophet, prays, anoints, exercises, and calls on the seemingly inanimate Wretch to Arise – But whether the fellow kept his Breath so long as to suffer Suffocation, or the Exorcist made his Conjurations too long, Certain it was, That the Wicked Wretch was really gone, and (by playing the Fool too well) was with Great difficulty recover'd. The Person thus impos'd on, was one Mr. Skinking Moore¹, of Little-River the Boundary between the two Carolina's. This Moore was alway reckon'd a sensible Man – Nor was his Senses so far darkened by these Fascinations, but for Him to perceive some Gross Delusions some Great Deceptions - These Children of Satan gave out that the Party was in a Trance – and they would have perswaded the unhappy Victim, to have utter'd Blasphemies and Prophecies, as Matters revealed to Him, while his Soul had left the Body, and till her reentering her House of Clay. But the Poor Sinner's Pain had been so great and the Sense of his Guilt bore so heavy on his Mind, as to make Him confess the whole Cheat to Mr. Moore, and thereby recover Him from his Lethergy, but not to his Estate, which he had so foolishly lavish'd on $them.^2$

Not far from the South Carolina border lies Brunswick Town which was founded in 1726 by Maurice Moore, the son of former South Carolina Governor James Moore. Brunswick Town became a major pre-Revolutionary port on North Carolina's Cape Fear River.

The next two preachers, The Reverends John McDowell and John Barnett, served in St. Philip's Parish where Brunswick Town is located. They traveled a circuit reaching the Little River area in South Carolina.

The Rev. McDowell came from England and assumed duties as pastor of St. Philip's Parish in May of 1757.

On June 15, 1762, The Rev. McDowell reported to the conference secretary as follows:



Surviving wall of St. Philip's Church in Brunswick Town dates back to 1754. The British burned the original structure to the ground during the American Revolution.

The reason I have already baptized so many this current year is this: I was out the 9th of May at the Boundary line which divides North and South Carolina and, as my parish joins the South province, I had the largest congregation from both provinces, I ever saw since I have been in America and baptized 23 children on that occasion.

My parish of St. Phillips runs from the mouth of the Cape Fear River along the sea side to Little River..."³

On October 26, 1765, John Barnett was sent from England by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel to replace The Rev. John McDowell who had left sometime before. Barnett's duties included preaching at the old St. Philip's Church which was completed during his ministry, and to what he described as remote congregations.

In a letter to his conference secretary dated August 22, 1767, John Barnett wrote:

Nine times in the year, I preach at the Boundary House situated on the line between the Carolinas. Here a large congregation meets....At my first coming they were so unacquainted with Liturgy that I was obliged to make every response myself, but I for many Sundays afterward spent about half an hour before the divine service in explaining every part of the Liturgy and I have now the pleasure of seeing it well performed there as in most country churches.⁴

¹Thought to be Schenking Moore, who is listed in the militia returns as captain of the New Hanover Foot Company for 1754. Col. Recs. Of N.C., XXII, 306,388. Reed, Brenda Helen Keck, "Charles Woodmason Anglican Itinerant Minister and His Account in 1765 of the Weberite Heresy Saxe Gotha, South Carolina," http:// weberites.homestead.com/Woodmason.html

²Woodmason, Charles. <u>The Carolina Backcountry on the Eve of</u> <u>the Revolution, The Journal and Other Writings of Charles Wood-</u> <u>mason, Anglican Itinerant, 1766-1768</u>, Ed. Richard J. Hooker, (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 1953), 78-80.

³Berry, C. B., "Little River Methodist Church," <u>The Independent</u> <u>Republic Quarterly</u>, October 1970, 12. ⁴Ibid.

& C. B. Berry, J. Benjamin Burroughs and Chyrel Stalvey



Photo from HCHS 2006 Spring Tour: A view of East Cherry Grove Beach (formerly Minor's Island) from the causeway leading to Waties Island.



HCHS members and guests on marsh walk deck overlooking Little River at Vereen Memorial Gardens (Photos by J. Benjamin Burroughs)

The Horry County Historical Society 2006 Spring Tour

Thirty-one members and guests of the Horry County Historical Society met on Saturday, June 10, 2006, for a tour of the Little River area which traces its history back to 1734. Carlisle Dawsey and Ben Burroughs were the guides for the day.

The excursion began at the entrance to Vereen Memorial Gardens which was deeded to the HCHS by Jackson H. Vereen in 1972 to be used as a botanical garden and nature trail. In 1797, this land was a portion of 400 acres conveyed to Jeremiah Vereen Jr. and was part of the Big Landing Plantation. A section of the original King's Highway or Highway 17 is preserved here. President George Washington traveled it in 1791 as he toured the southern states. He spent the night at the home of either Jeremiah Vereen Junior or Senior. At the Vereen cemetery, Mike Edwards shared stories of his Vereen ancestors. We leisurely strolled onto the marsh walk overlooking the Little River which is part of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Next we went to Cedar Creek emetery, one of the older cemeteries in the area, which has the grave of Capt. Thomas Randall, owner of the Randall Plantation and namesake of Fort Randall--a Civil War Confederate Battery. His descendants sold the Randall Plantation to Horace Tilghman, Sr. in the 1920s.

From there we proceeded to Waties Island. In 1995, a portion of the island and the adjoining uplands of

Little River Neck were deeded to the Coastal Educational Foundation, a private, non-profit support component of Coastal Carolina University. Through this gift



Carlisle Dawsey (forefront) talks about the Cedar Creek Cemetery in Little River

by the late Anne Tilghman Boyce and the support of her surviving children, and a substantial cash gift from her late sister-in-law, Kitty Lou Tilghman, Coastal has gained a magnificent addition to the Burroughs & Chapin Center for Marine and Wetland Studies for environmental education and research. It is protected with a perpetual conservation easement through The Nature Conservancy of South Carolina. The day was perfect for strolling this magnificent stretch of beach and looking for shells.



Dunn Creek side of Little River Neck— Waties Island is to the right

To conclude the tour, we had lunch at Tidewater Golf Club where we viewed archaeological exhibits from excavations of early home sites of the area.



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Mike Edwards shares stories of his Vereen ancestors at Vereen Cemetery (formerly Big Landing Plantation)



Captain Thomas Randall's tombstone at Cedar Creek Cemetery—Photos of 2006 Spring Tour by J. Benjamin Burroughs

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