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# *The Independent Republic Quarterly*

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## *Calendar Events:*

- **Quarterly Meeting on January 13, 2013—Tour the new Horry County Museum in Conway.**
- **“Stories in Stone” on April 12-13, 2013, including First Methodist Church in Conway and Hebron United Methodist Church in Bucksville.**
- **Spring Tour on April 12, 2013—Tour North Island with Dr. Roy Talbert Jr., history professor at Coastal Carolina University.**

## *The Independent Republic Quarterly*

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## **"Up Much the Boldest River" A History of Colonial Kingston By Rod Gragg**

Sometime in the late spring or summer of 1734, a team of Charlestown surveyors paddled up the dark waters of the Waccamaw River and went ashore at the site of what is now Conway, S.C. on a thickly forested bluff above a creek now called Kingston Lake. They laid out the site of a new settlement for colonial South Carolina. Preliminary surveys of the area had been completed for more than a year and the surveyors and map-makers were already calling the site "the Township on the Waccamaw." Although inhabited mainly by deer, bear and wolves in 1734, the proposed settlement did have an official name, Kingston Township.<sup>1</sup>

Kingston Township was planned to nestle against the Waccamaw River in the sparsely inhabited northeast corner of the colony. The proposed settlement was part of Royal Governor Robert Johnson's "Township Scheme." In December, 1730, Johnson returned to South Carolina from England to assume duties as Royal Governor of the colony. Johnson had been governor once before, when the Lords Proprietors controlled South Carolina. The proprietors lost their hold on the colony in the Revolution of 1719 and officially relinquished their claim in 1729. Britain's Privy Council assumed governmental control over South Carolina in 1720, before the proprietors released their official title to the colony. A year after the Privy Council began to govern South Carolina, Francis Nicholson was appointed as the colony's first Royal

Governor and served for nine years until replaced by Robert Johnson.

When Johnson took office on New Year's Day in 1730, he was convinced South Carolina needed protection from the threats of Indian uprisings, slave revolts, and foreign invasion. The best way to prevent those dangers from occurring, he thought, was to settle the colony's unpopulated areas with white inhabitants. "Nothing," he said, "is so much wanted as White Inhabitants, for the Security and improvement of that Frontier Colony."<sup>2</sup>

Johnson was not the first person who tried to disperse South Carolina's white population from settlements on the coast. After the Yemassee War of 1715, the Proprietors had offered the captured Yemassee tribal lands to anyone brave enough to settle the bloodied area. Induced by promises of free land, a few European immigrants accepted the offer, but not enough came to make a difference. Two years later the Proprietors withdrew their unsuccessful offer.<sup>3</sup>

When Johnson unveiled his plan for expansion of the white population, South Carolinians were doubtlessly still jittery about their safety. Only fifteen years had passed since the Yemassees had killed hundreds of settlers. The General Assembly fretted about "the frequent robberies, Insolences and unrestrained Liberties of most slaves at this time," and voiced fears of "some deep plot on foot destructive of his Majesty's subjects in the Province."<sup>4</sup>

Protection was needed, the legislators lamented, to "secure us against the Attempts of Domestick Foes as well as to guard the Province, against those of our Foreign Enemies."<sup>5</sup> Agreeing with the governor that expanded settlement would diffuse possible hostilities, the General Assembly enthusiastically supported Johnson's township plan to bring into this Province "White persons to increase our Strength and security."<sup>6</sup>

When ultimately refined, Johnson's plan called for 11 townships laid out on rivers about 60 miles from Charlestown. Immigrants to the townships would receive 50 acres of township land per headright--50 acres for each household member: family, slave and servant. Settlers would pay no survey fees, grant fees, or land taxes for 10 years. Besides this generous "bounty," new arrivals would be furnished with tools and provisions free of charge and free transportation from Charlestown to the township of their choice. If settled equally, 11 proposed townships would disperse the white population throughout the colony's back country. Two townships would be laid out on the Savannah River, two on the Altamaha River and two on the Santee River. The remaining five sites would be established on the Wateree, the Black, the Pee Dee, the Pon Pon and the Waccamaw Rivers.<sup>7</sup>

The two townships on the Altamaha River fell within the boundaries of the new colony of Georgia when it was laid out in 1733, but the other nine townships were developed approximately where planned on South Carolina's frontier.

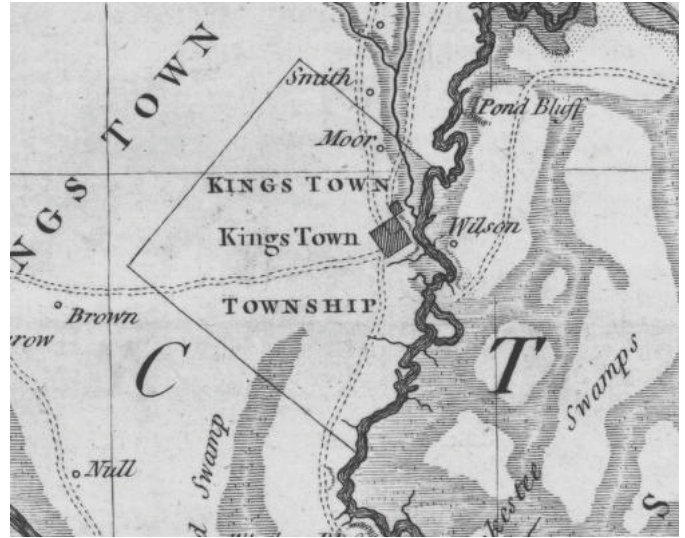
Kingston, the township closest to the Atlantic coast, was ordered laid out on February 9, 1733, by the House of Commons in Charlestown. Seventeen days later, on February 26, the Council, composed of the Upper House of Assembly and the governor, passed the Commons House resolution and ordered the township surveyed and laid out.<sup>8</sup>

Colonel William Waties, a deputy surveyor and a member of the General Assembly, was ordered to lay out Kingston Township and was promised 150 pounds payment for his services.<sup>9</sup>

At the time Kingston Township was ordered laid out, it was a wild, swampy area in which few people had reportedly claimed land. Early explorers sent to scout the area for a township site told the General Assembly no settlements existed within the proposed township boundaries. A man named Jennour claimed 700 acres within the township's boundaries and a man by the name of Waties reportedly owned 500 acres at a place called Pond Bluff.

Because Jennour resided in North Carolina, the legislators had little respect for his claim, and made a point of recording Waties' land as "not yet settled."<sup>10</sup>

Although originally planned to encompass both sides of the Waccamaw River, the township's site was changed to the northwest side of the Waccamaw River by the leg-



Kingston 1780

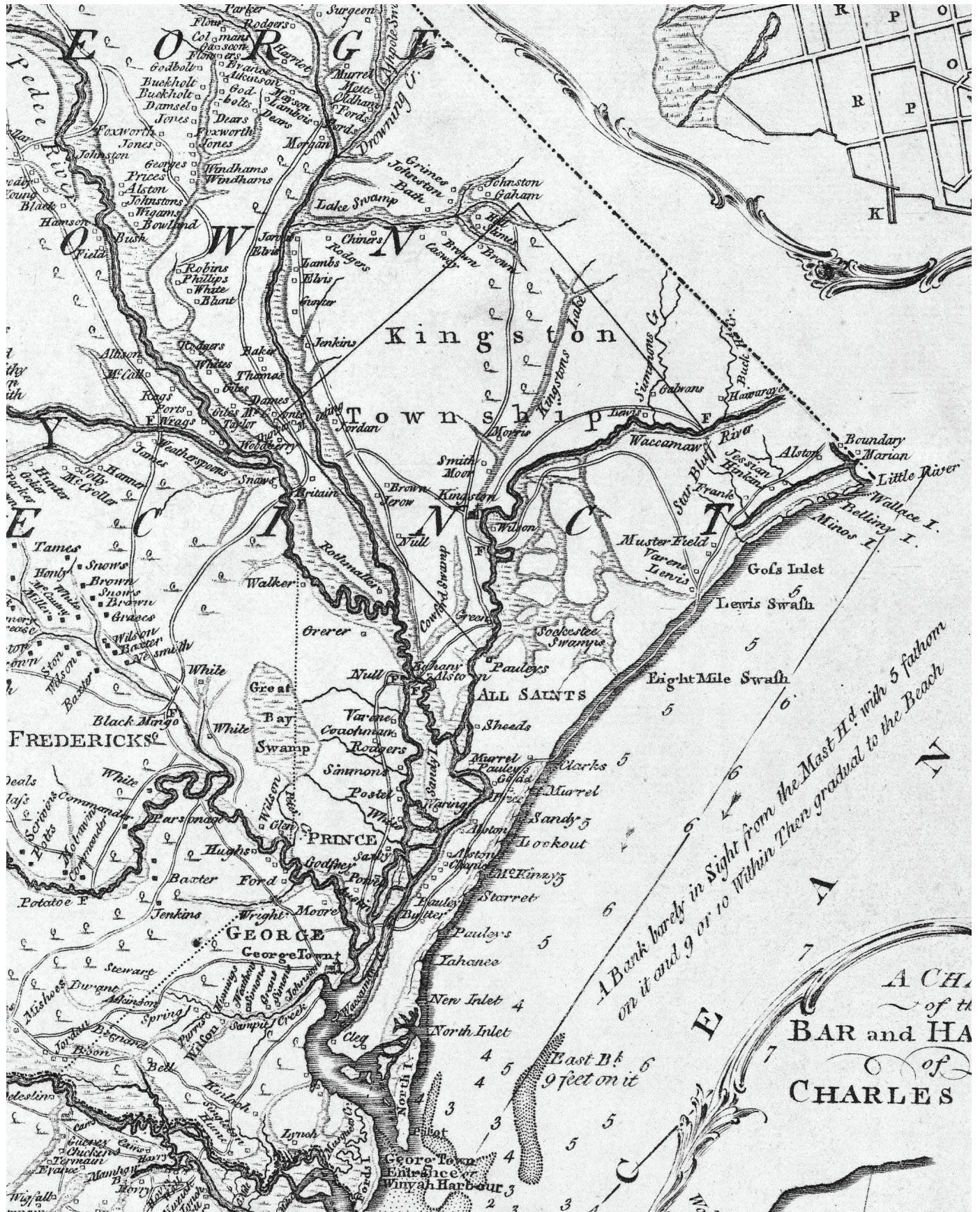
islators. House of Commons Speaker Paul Jenys presented a resolution to the Council which defined the change:

*"...the Township and Parish on the Waccamaw River is not as yet intirely laid out and being of opinion that the said Township and Parish may more commodiously be on the North West side of the said River; which we conceive is agreeable to the King's Instructions and convenient for the inhabitants who settle in the said Parrish [sic] and Township in regard that on the Northwest side there is a vast Tract of waste land not as yet surveyed or laid out, and there is on the South East side a large impassable Bay swamp most of which is unimprovable, and also that there are several poor people settled on the South East side of the River near the sea whose lands will be included within the lands reserved for the Township, should part of the same be laid out on the South East side of the Said River.*

*"There are other also who have made surveys by virtue of the King before the town was fixed or the draught of the River taken, and some who hold by grants of Twenty years date, which will be also included within the said Township if it is laid out on the South East side of the river."<sup>11</sup>*

*We therefore pray your Excellency and Honours In regard that...the said Township and Parish may more conveniently laid out on the North West side of the said River and that it will not prejudice his Majesty or any of his subjects that you will be pleased to order the said Township and Parish be laid out on the North West side of the River."<sup>12</sup>*

The word "convenient" seems to be the key reason why the General Assembly wanted to shift the township northwestward. Apparently early landholders like Jennour and Waties did have some legal claim to lands



Cook Map of 1773

near or within the southeastern part of the original township plan, and "several poor people" living on the coast north of Georgetown claimed lands extending near or into the township. Therefore, apparently to avoid having to contest land claims, the General Assembly thought it would be easier to shift the township to the northwest where no land at all was claimed.

The argument that "unimprovable" land lay on the southeastern side of the township was not a strong case for moving the site. Early explorer Colonel Robert Barnwell, returning from a trek into eastern North Carolina, noted "Low Land" and "Sunken Land" throughout the township site and recorded "Dry good land" only once.<sup>13</sup> Whatever their reasons were, the legislators voted to lay out Kingston Township on the northwest side of the Waccamaw, and a decade later another General Assembly would criticize the change as a mistake.

As soon as the township was laid out, the General Assembly declared it open for settlement:

*"The Township on Waccamaw River hath been marked out and named Kingstown, and the courses of the river duly taken; and as new comers shall arrive to settle the same, proper orders be given to the Surveyor General to complete the Same by laying out to each Person what Lots and Lands he shall be entitled to."*<sup>14</sup>

The township thus located had three sides of a square, the southwest line being for most of its course in the swamp of the Little Pee Dee, the northeast line lying close to and paralleling the North Carolina boundary. Ten or fifteen miles from the southern tip of the township a large creek or "lake" flowed into the Waccamaw and on the bluff at this point the site of the town was fixed.

*"The bulk of this great area is a plain so level that drainage is bad and much of the soil — partly for this reason and partly from its composition — was hardly practicable for settlement in a country where better and accessible land was plentiful. Near the two rivers, however, the plain falls away to the edge of the river swamp, presenting a wide strip of well drained and excellent soil. Smaller strips of the same land are to be found along the small creeks reaching back into the interior. Thus the southern corner, between the two rivers and including the site of the proposed town, offered the best advantages — good upland soil, river swamp for rice, and water transportation."*

*"Between four and five thousand acres was taken up in the township prior to 1736, but in that year over 17,000 acres appear in the records in plats, warrants or grants. A third of this was in tracts of 500 acres or more for outsiders of the type that besieged Williamsburg. The next year about 15,000 acres was taken up or applied for, with about the*

*same proportion for non-residents. Thereafter for twenty years Kingston warrants and surveys ranged from 100-2,000 acres a year. If all the land which was not apparently for non-residents was taken up by actual settlers, the population would have been about 400, and this figure is in accord with the militia returns of 1757 which listed for the township a company of 68 men, and showed 57 male slaves from 16-60. There is little but indirect evidence for the identity of these settlers."*<sup>15</sup>

The first immigrants to enter Kingston Township faced a hard life in what was probably typical of America's "Howling Wilderness." A journalist exploring the newly opened township in February, 1734, described his trip up the Waccamaw River in a large canoe. Although he and his companions were exploring just to take a view of the land, the writer was obviously interested in the potential of the new township.

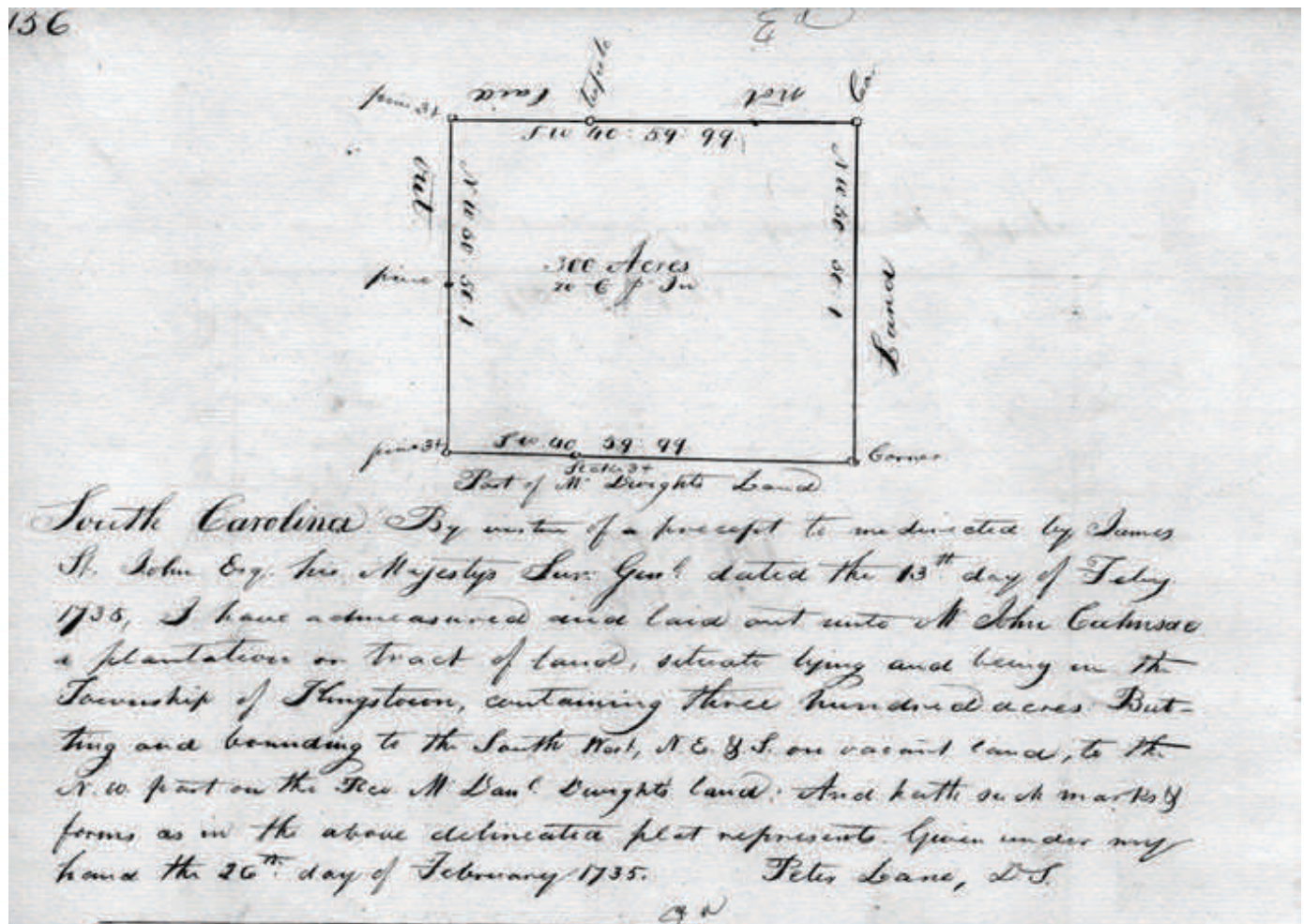
It is believed that they stayed at Pawley's Plantation near present day Enterprise Landing. The explorers noted several pretty settlements. The travelers stopped long enough to warm themselves beside two barrels of burning pitch. The land around the settlements was mostly pine barrens. The writer noted, "very inefficient and not fit for anything but tar and turpentine."<sup>16</sup> However, the naval stores industry would eventually become the most important in the county.

Farther upriver, the travelers found "a good deal of good oak, hickory and the pine, land very valuable and a good deal of cypress swamp, which is counted best for rice."

When one member of the party became lost, the journalist and his companions had such difficulty finding him in the wild forests that they almost starved before he was found. When their provisions were gone, the group managed to shoot a wolf and a deer. Well-provisioned again, they continued their journey into Kingston Township, paddling up the Waccamaw to the site of the town of Kingston.

"The next bluff we came to was the bluff on which Kingston is to be settled," the writer reported, "but there are yet no inhabitants." Wandering through other parts of the township, the journalist recorded a detailed description of what he saw:

*"...the lower part of the township is not above 50 miles from Georgetown, but the tide runs 70 miles up; it is much the boldest river in South Carolina, in a parallel line with the seacoast, which runs northeast and southwest and is not above two miles in some places. But the township is settled on the P. D. [Pee Dee River] side, though it was first run out half on one side and half on the other...The people have great advantages in settling the townships, for they have no taxes for 10 years nor quit rents...the land hereabout is for the most part very good and is not subject to overflow as on the P. D. and Santee."*<sup>17</sup>



John Cahnsae Plat of 1735 – notice it borders on land already granted to Rev. Daniel Wright

Where the town of Kingston would later be settled, the journalist and his companions shot and barbecued a bear. Their hunger for food and adventure satisfied, they journeyed back down the Waccamaw to Georgetown.<sup>18</sup>

Several grants of land were issued while the township was being organized, but the early plats referred to the site as "Craven County" or "the East side of the Waccamaw River."<sup>19</sup> The first land grant issued under the official title of "Kingston Township" appears to have been given to John Cahnsae, who applied for 300 acres of land in the township on February 13, 1735, and received a grant about two weeks later from deputy surveyor Peter Lane of Charlestown. Cahnsae received enough land for six people, according to the headright system.<sup>20</sup>

If Cahnsae settled the land he acquired in the township, he was an exception to the majority of people who received land grants in Kingston Township that year. Of nine people acquiring land in the township in 1735, at least five lived in Charlestown and apparently wanted their grants in Kingston Township for purposes

of land speculation instead of settlement. They were surely not the European immigrants Johnson was trying to attract with his township plan. Seven of nine people applying for Kingston Plats in 1735 received more than 200 acres each, and four of the landholders received more than 500 acres each. At least 5,900 acres of land was granted in Kingston Township in 1735, which would amount to 118 people, according to the headright allotment. A settlement of 118 people in a township by 1735 would likely have caused enthusiastic reactions by the General Assembly, but there seems to be no mention of actual settlers in Kingston anywhere in that year's records of the General Assembly.<sup>21</sup>

One aggressive land speculator who acquired huge grants in Kingston Township was John Hammerton, Esquire. Hammerton, a wealthy member of the colonial Council, was Secretary of the Province from 1732 until 1762, and served as Receiver-General of Quit Rents from 1732 until 1742. In 1735, he acquired at least 2,700 acres of land in Kingston Township and received at least 10,000 acres in other parts of the colony.

Hammerton appears to have filed for his first grant in Kingston on June 10, 1735, when he requested a town lot and 700 acres of land surrounded on three sides by vacant land and on the fourth by more land for which he was applying. The plat, signed by deputy surveyor John Horry, represented headrights of 14 people. His total Kingston acreage for the year represented at least 54 people, most of whom presumably were slaves. He selected land on bluffs above the Little Pee Dee River, surrounded by land "yet laid out."<sup>22</sup>

Captain Samuel Jennings applied for 300 acres of land and a town lot in the township on April 30, 1735, showing the town of Kingston existed on paper at least by early 1735.<sup>19</sup> An early plat issued to Dr. William Brisban, a House member in the 19th and 20th General Assembly, noted the existence of a "town plan" for Kingston.<sup>23</sup>

Presumably, Kingston's town plan followed the guidelines for laying out township towns which were cited by the Council Journal on August 19, 1735:

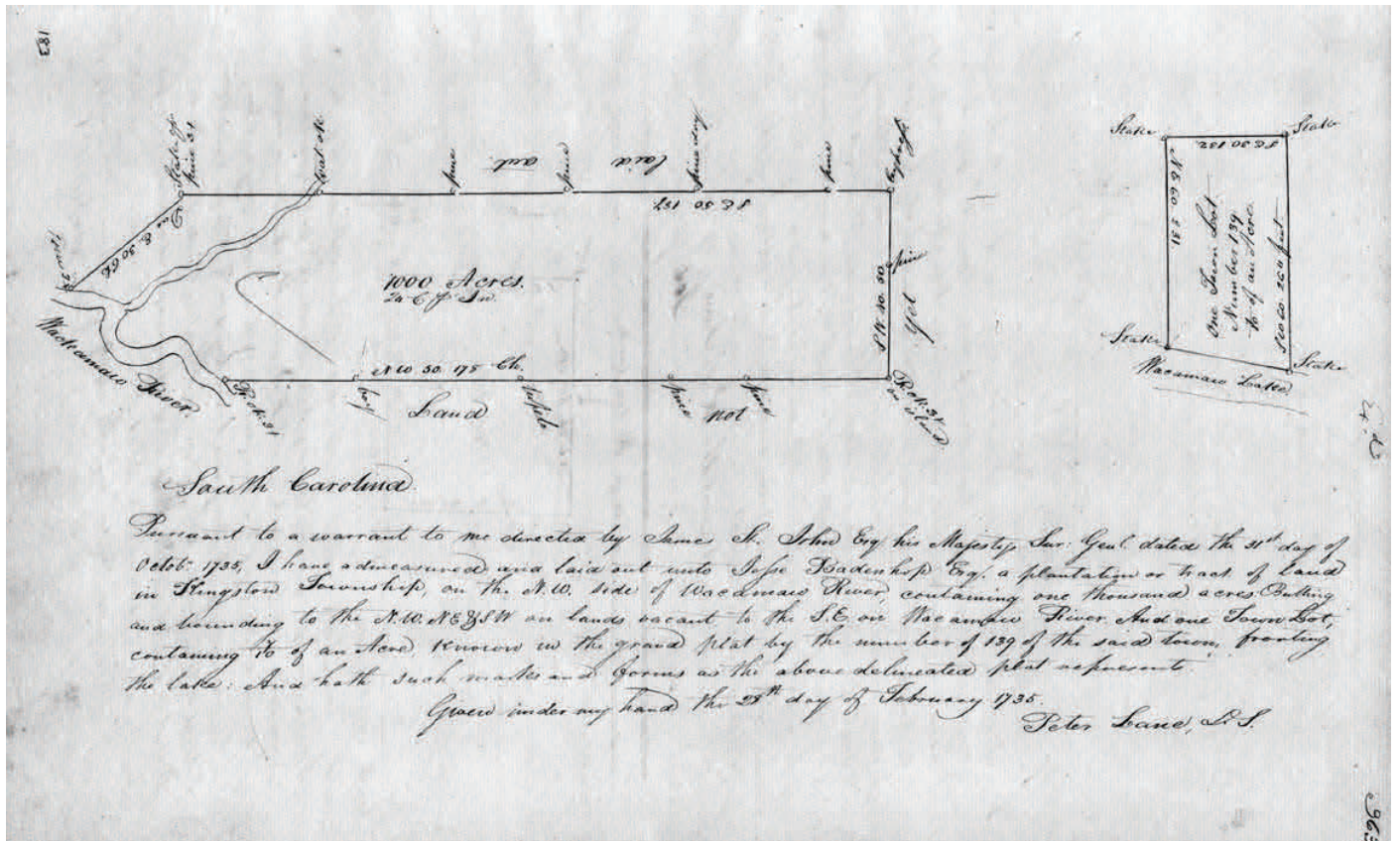
*"Each town to contain 500 acres, layed out in large streets of one chain wide, divided in half acre lots... with a Common of three hundred acres, adjoining to the outside of each town and a Square of four acres one acre layed out for church Yard ad-*

*joining the Square at the end of each Town."*<sup>24</sup>

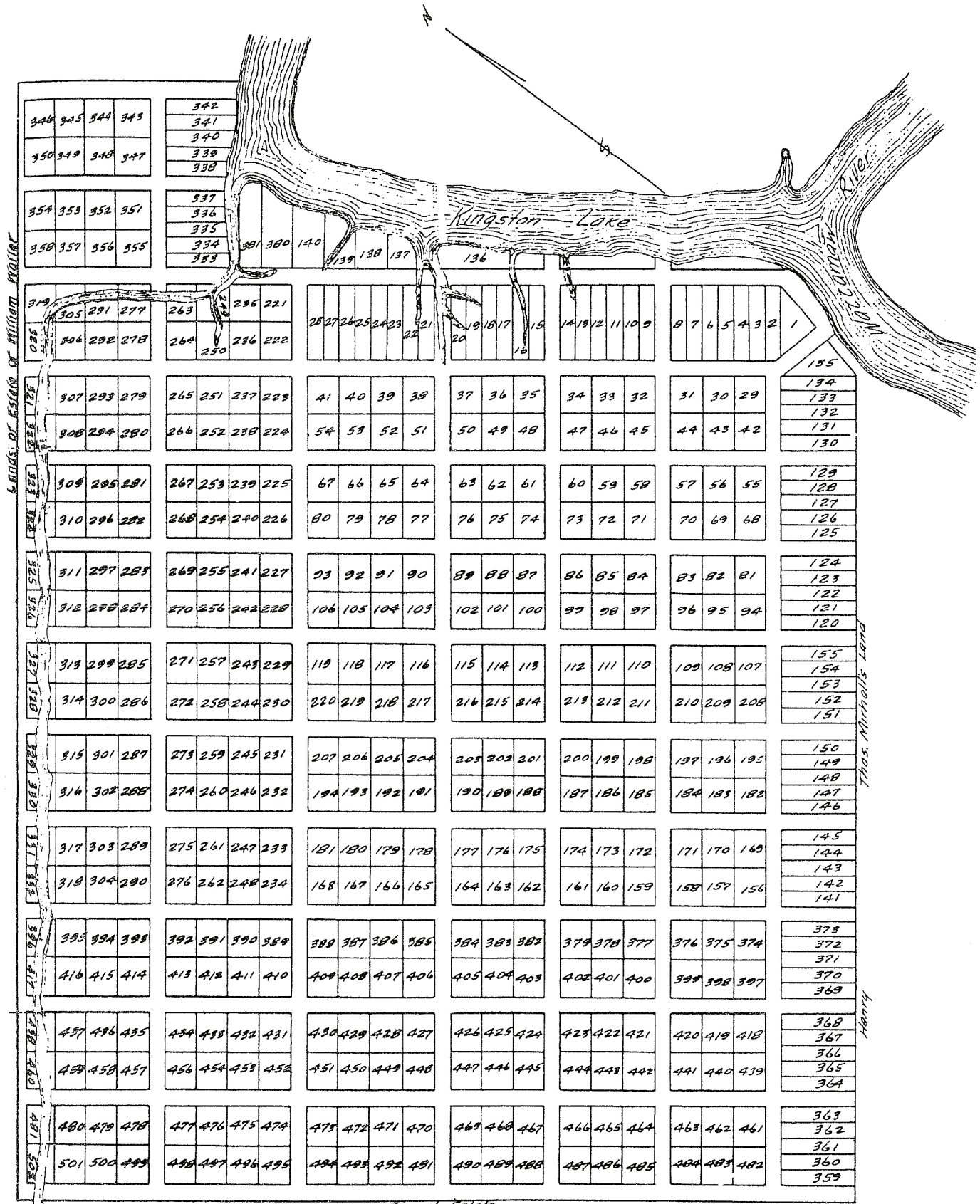
The General Assembly had officially recorded its determination to lay out the town of Kingston carefully, noting that "there are swamps on both sides of the River and we shall make it our endeavor to lay out the town in such a manner as it may be beneficial to the whole province."<sup>25</sup>

Assuming the surveyors followed the General Assembly's wishes, Kingston in 1735 consisted of half-acre lots spread over a 500-acre area, the town divided by wide dirt streets. The town site presumably included a 300-acre town common, a four-acre town square and a one-acre churchyard. The town was laid out on bluffs overlooking Kingston Lake and the Waccamaw River. Deputy surveyor Peter Leane cited the town plan and the lake in a plat he issued Thomas Miles in February, 1736. Miles received 150 acres of land in the township and "one town lot, known in the town plan by number eighteen, to the northeast fronting the Waccamaw Lake."<sup>26</sup>

Arthur Baxter's plat of February, 1757, showed the "Kingston Commons" and David Jordan's plat of September, 1758, cited "Kingston Lots and Parsonage," meaning, apparently, the required "Church Yard."<sup>27</sup>



Jesse Badenhop plat of 1735 showing one of the Kingston town lots "known in the grand plat by the number of 139 of the said town fronting the [Kingston] lake."



Map of Conwayborough drawn by William Hemingway in 1802, was drawn "agreeable to" the 1734 Plan of the Town of Kingston.



In their recommendations for laying out the township towns, the legislators suggested a method of dispensing town lots which they hoped would prevent land disputes among the settlers:

*"In order to prevent all Disputes that naturally will arise among such new settlers in respect to their making choice of the several lotts of Land intended to be surveyed to them; each Deputy Surveyor is ordered that before he lays out any of the Said Lotts to such New Settlers, he shall by way of balloting write so many numbers upon pieces of Paper as there are persons mentioned in the Warrant he shall receive from time to time, and each person Drawing one of the Said Papers Shall be preferred in course according to the number mentioned therein; to have his whole Right Survey to him, the Lotts to lye contiguous together, but if any such persons Lott shall happen to be barren or unprofitable Land, and that he is desirous to make a new Choice, he shall have his Liberty so to do, after all the rest (Drawing with him and Satisfied with their Lotts) are first served, and so on to all others that Desire a New Choice according to the Priority of the numbers they shall Draw as aforesaid, but such choice shall be made before the Survey of the others that fell to his Lott."<sup>28</sup>*

The Council ended its recommendation with a promise to help settlers endure the complexities of land ownership by applying a tax on slaves to finance "the support of Poor Protestants that will come over and settle" the townships.<sup>29</sup>

The number of land grants in Kingston Township seems to have almost tripled in 1737, increasing from about 6,000 acres to more than 17,000 acres. A solid one-third of the land grants seem to have been issued to land speculators because at least 6,000 acres in the township were issued in grants of 500 or more acres.<sup>30</sup>

Although much of the 1737 Kingston grants apparently went to speculators, other evidence suggests an increase in land granted to settlers. In fact, 1737 seems to have been the first year in which large numbers of European immigrants arrived in the colony to settle in the townships. On February 7, 1737, the Council in Charlestown passed a resolution "that the people lately arrived from Ireland...be sent at the public charge to Winyah and there receive the Public Bounty of Provisions at Georgetown, it not being certain in which of the townships they will settle, whether Williamsburgh or Kingston."<sup>31</sup>

By 1756, the Reverend John Baxter of Charlestown, an itinerate Presbyterian minister, was preaching to several Presbyterian congregations in the townships, including "Waccamaw Township" and "Wakamaha Neck."<sup>32</sup> The existence of a Presbyterian congregation in Kingston during this time period provides some evidence that the "Poor Protestants from Ireland" may have been Presbyterians who decided to settle in King-

ston in 1737. This assumption is reinforced by the increase in land grants of less than 500 acres.

Despite the assistance the immigrants received from the colonial government, the settlers sometimes faced deadly ordeals before they ever reached the wilderness townships. One group of Swiss settlers heading for Purrysburg Township in 1735, were infected with smallpox by the time they arrived in Charlestown. According to the Council journals, "several of the Swiss dyed of the small pox and there was a child on shore who was then full of it, which child dyed of the same in the afternoon and that several of the Swiss were gone into the place where the child lay."

Possibly contaminated by the infected child, the Swiss immigrants were temporarily detained from going to the township. Charlestown justices of the peace sent constables to the place where the child had died with orders to investigate the chance of a smallpox epidemic. Warning the officers to keep a "moderate distance from the...place where the child lay," the justices told the constables to quarantine the area. Selecting an isolated, uninhabited house about three miles from Charlestown, the constables ordered the Swiss inside, where they would remain under guard until any threat of an epidemic has passed.<sup>33</sup>

Despite its eagerness to lure new settlers to the township, the General Assembly sometimes caused the most serious problems for immigrants. The House of Commons reported in February, 1737, that the Township Fund, created to finance provisions and transportation for the new arrivals, had been drained of all money. The fund was financed mainly by a tax on slaves, but taxes had not been collected regularly and, the House of Commons reported, "the late Arrival of many new Settlers as well as large Draughts heretofore made....for the several Officers concerned in the Townships Settlements...have wholly exhausted the Moneys..."<sup>34</sup>

The House asked the Council for permission to collect 12,682 pounds in taxes due on Negro slaves. The money was needed, the Houses reminded the Council, for "carrying on the Township Settlements."<sup>35</sup>

A week later, having received no reply from the Council, the House sent a reminder to the upper body requesting passage of the tax levy. In this second request the House noted that "there are several Poor Protestants now in the Province waiting for the Support which hath been agreed to allowed to such Poor Protestants on their becoming settled in his Majesty's Townships..."<sup>36</sup>

According to the colony's treasurer, the House continued, more than 12,000 pounds of tax money designated for Township Fund was overdue from "three or four of the most considerable Merchants in Charlestown." The treasurer could not collect the money, the House reported, because of "the merchants complaining that they have not any Currency in their Hands..."<sup>37</sup>

Pushing harder for permission to collect, the House cautioned the Council that without money from the Township Fund the "unhappy Protestants as have arrived, and are now in this Province on the Faith of that Fund must perish, unless some means may be found out for making proper Provisions for those people...."<sup>38</sup>

If the Council opposed collecting back taxes, the House suggested, money designated for building a fort "in the Creek Nation" could be used for the Township Fund, as well as 1,500 pounds appropriated for "erecting Beacons and Buoys" and 1,000 pounds planned for the Fortification Fund." The House assured the Council the appropriation would be used for "the Poor Protestants" only if the immigrants were found to be "immediately wanting."<sup>39</sup>

The Council continued to ignore the House resolution, so several days later the House sent a stronger worded resolution to the upper body, igniting fiery debate. Intentionally or accidentally, the House bill omitted Council member John Hammerton's proper title of "Secretary," so the Council returned the measure to the lower body, calling the resolution "an affront" to the upper body. The House sarcastically replied with a message asking the Council to provide the proper use of "that Honourable Gentlemen's title," so the House could "take Care to frame its Conduce Accordingly."

Apparently incensed at the House member's sarcasm, the Council called the House message a "Contemptuous and Low Manner of Proceeding," and demanded censure of the memo's author. Defiantly, the lower body replied that "the whole House" had authored the bill. The Commons members then returned to the original dispute, urging the Council to act with "no longer delay" to appropriate money for the Township Fund.<sup>40</sup>

When the Council again failed to reply to the House request for township money, the House members accused Robert Johnson himself of misusing the Township Fund. Although "unwilling to lay the least Imputation on any Part of your Honour's Conduct," the accusation read, the House members considered the governor guilty of "Infringements of the Township Fund." Specifically, the legislators were angered because Johnson had used money from the fund to pay South Carolina's surveyor general, secretary and attorney general while the fund lacked enough money for "the Relief of the Poor Protestants." The "poor Protestants," incidentally, had been stranded without income in Charlestown while the General Assembly debated use of the Township Fund.

The House passed a resolution and sent it to the Council, demanding better performance from the governor:

*"We must therefore rely on Your Honour's future Care that no Money be drawn for out of the Township Fund but what by the Direction of the said Law shall be specially used for purchasing Tools,*

*Provisions and other Necessaries for Poor Protestant Families to encourage their settling of His Majesty's Townships."*<sup>41</sup>

The next day the Township Fund bill passed the Council, whose members "caused the Great Seal to be affixed thereto." After weeks of being stranded without provisions, the "Poor Protestants" were presumably transported from Charlestown to their selected Townships.<sup>42</sup>

Less than a year later, however, another group of settlers were stranded in Charlestown because the Township Fund was again empty. While the legislators casually debated the issue of the money, the immigrants were facing starvation. The House journal described their situation:

*"...We have such frequent Complaints that for want of some Provision being made for these People and the other Poor Protestants lately arrived in the province, this town is filled with people begging from door to door, insomuch that unless there be some Way forthwith provided for, they will become a perfect Nuisance [sic] to the present Inhabitants of the Town..."*<sup>43</sup>

Finally, spurred by compassion or a desire to avoid a "Nuisance," the legislators appropriated money for this group of settlers and sent them on their way to the townships.

The Township "Scheme" did not attract the number of immigrants Governor Johnson had hoped to lure into the back country. By early 1743, the General Assembly realized the townships were not being settled as quickly as had been expected. The legislators were so concerned that they appointed a committee to study the "most effectual measure to bring into this Province White Persons to increase our strength and security."<sup>44</sup>

In March, 1743, the House of Commons voiced "Disappointment" in the settlement and growth of the townships in general and Kingston in particular. The main reason Kingston Township was not thriving by 1743, the legislators believed, was because too much land had been granted to land speculators. The House recorded its dissatisfaction with the townships' lack of success with these words:

*"...the great quantitys of the best and most commodious lands in...the townships which were designed by his Majesty for the use of Poor Protestants are held by private persons who neither inhabit nor settle the same..."*<sup>45</sup>

The House also blamed use of slave labor as a partial cause of lack of township growth, noting that a great number of negroes are brought up to and daily employed in Mechanic trades both in Town and Country."<sup>46</sup> Additionally, the legislators blamed South Carolina's colonial 1733 General Assembly, which had ordered the township restricted to the northwest side of the Waccamaw River. "The moving of the Townships of

Queensburg and Kingston," the 1743 General Assembly reported, "has in great measure prevented settling the same."<sup>47</sup>

Not only were settlers not immigrating at a satisfactory rate, but the 1743 legislators also had to worry about losing the few settlers who were scratching out a living in the townships. The settlers, at least some of them, were being lured away from the hard life on the frontier to a more profitable line of work in, of all things, a silver mine.

The mine was rumored to be operating in "the Indian Nation" in western North and South Carolina. While the Council thought the mine would "greatly increase the Riches of, and would no way affect the Peace and Safety of, the Province," the House seemed sure the "opening of a Mine...would greatly endanger the Peace and Safety of the Province as it may be the Means of bringing the French and Indian upon us." Worst of all, the House members fretted, a silver mine would "sink the value of our staple, to the Ruin of the Planter, the Trade and Navigation and the depopulating of the Townships."<sup>48</sup> As if to confirm the fears of the House members, settler Michael Rowe of Orangeburg Township appeared in the House chamber two days later to testify about the effect of the silver mine on the settlers of the townships. Rowe told the House that a "Public Advertisement" had been "posted up" in Orangeburg Township offering 15 pounds per month to anyone who would go to "the Cherokee Nation" and work in the Silver mine. Three men had already left his township for the mine, Rowe reported, and several more were planning to leave. The news of the mine offer had spread, he said, and "several people are gone from the other Townships," some driving 80 head of cattle for sale to the miners.<sup>49</sup>

After an investigation, the legislature learned that the mine was real, and that it was partially owned by house member Childerman Croft. Among Croft's other holding was a sizable amount of land in Kingston Township. The furor over the mine seems to have eventually faded, without great harm occurring to the townships, the mine or the legislators.

Although a "disappointment" in attracting new settlers to the province, Kingston Township appears to have developed a slight but steady growth rate. In early 1744, evidence of activity in the township surfaced in a petition to the General Assembly. Residents of the Georgetown area asked the government to complete a "High Road" from the "Ferrie on the Peed River and Lynches Creek ...to the several Townships in the Northernmost Part of Craven County," which included Kingston Township. The petitioners claimed the road expansion would "contribute very much to the Ease and Advantage not only of the Petitioners, and the Inhabitants of the said Townships going to and from Church and Market, but many others" as well. Settlers in Kingston apparently traveled to Georgetown to stock supplies unavailable in the township. The road petition

indicates Kingston had grown enough to be an apparent market for Georgetown merchants and a destination for travelers in the area. Some legislators wanted to make toll roads of all highways leading to Charlestown, including, presumably, the route which connected Charlestown to Georgetown and Kingston. Charlestown merchants, however, succeeded in defeating the proposal, arguing that toll roads would hurt business. In voting down the proposal, House members observed that toll roads would discourage "poor people who mostly use the path" from visiting Charlestown.<sup>50</sup>

A study of colonial plats and petitions seems to indicate that some early Kingston inhabitants were small farmers, who often had difficulty making a living from the soil on their land grants.

In 1744, Robert Jordan, a landowner and militia captain who resided in the township, petitioned the colonial General Assembly for a grant of better farmland, complaining that he could not provide for his family on the poor land he had been given by the government. Identified in his petition as an "Inhabitant of the township of Kingston on the Waccamaw River," Jordan told the legislators that he had acquired 550 acres of land on the headrights of his family, which apparently included 11 people. Despite his "endeavors to cultivate the same," he told the legislators, "the ground has proved so barren that I can not by labor nor Industry Get a Living thereby." Jordan requested that the government exchange his original land grant for 500 acres of unoccupied land in another part of the township. Citing an "increase of family," Jordan also asked for 150 acres more on the western side of the township, bordering the Little Pee Dee River. The legislature approved his petition and Jordan presumably moved his family to better ground in Kingston Township.<sup>51</sup>

Jordan was not the only Kingston resident to encounter problems with the land. Besides Colonel Robert Barnwell's description of the township as "Sunken Land," many of the early land grants issued in Kingston Township described township property as "impassable Swamp."<sup>52</sup> And in August of 1743, the government bought space in the South Carolina Gazette to advertise 3,500 acres of land in Kingston Township which had been returned to the Surveyor General's Office between 1735 and 1739.<sup>53</sup>

Although some settlers encountered disappointment in their attempts to farm property in Kingston Township, persistent farmers apparently did succeed and some residents even bragged about their land. An advertisement in the South Carolina Gazette in 1743 described a tract of land in Kingston Township as among the "choicest Land in the township," a description which admittedly may have been a sales pitch.<sup>54</sup>

The Kingston settlers did enjoy at least one advantage over inhabitants in other parts of the colonial back country: Kingston seems to have been faced with little threat of Indian uprisings. By the time Kingston

Township was settled, the dangers of Indian attack had ceased to exist in the area. Settlers in Williamsburg Township, however, still had a few worries about Indians in the 1740s. Located about 45 miles from the town of Kingston, Williamsburg Township was settled on the Black River and the residents petitioned the General Assembly in 1746, asking for protection from possible Indian attack. The Williamsburg settlers reported that they were concerned about rumors of "a threatened Invasion from the French Indians." A group of seven Indians had passed through the township about eight months earlier, the petitioners wrote, and the settlers were afraid the Indians were spies searching for a likely settlement to attack.

In their petition, the Williamsburg settlers provided a glimpse of life in the township which probably was typical of their fellow settlers in Kingston Township. Their houses, the petitioners wrote, were arranged "in a Row along the River side," much as the settlers of Kingston arranged their village along Kingston Lake, a tributary of the Waccamaw River. The Williamsburg residents, however, considered their housing arrangement vulnerable to Indian attack because it "might easily be surrounded and...singly destroyed by any small Party without being able to give notice."<sup>55</sup>

They wanted to defend themselves, the Williamsburg residents explained, but they had to work so long and so hard in the fields that they had no time to prepare a proper defense. A fort was needed, they claimed, but the "working man" of the township faced such demands in working his farm that he was "obliged to employ all his Time at Work for the Maintenance of the same," a description of backwoods colonial life which doubtlessly also applied to the residents of Kingston Township. The Williamsburg settlers asked the government to provide funding for some full time soldiers and to provide for construction of a small "Palisade Fort mounted with a Few Swivel guns." The legislature responded by providing enough funding to pay the salaries of two companies of militia from Williamsburg for six months.<sup>56</sup>

The settlers of Kingston Township appear to have left no record of similar concerns about Indian attacks and there's no evidence to suggest they were endangered. By the time the first settlers were granted township land in Kingston, the local Indian tribe, the Waccamaws, had ceased to exist in even moderate numbers. Years earlier, the British had organized the Waccamaws and had sent them on at least one warring expedition against enemy tribes to the west.<sup>57</sup> In 1715, the Waccamaws received ammunition from the Cheraws, who tried to enlist them to support the Yamassees and other tribes against the English. That year a British census of the Indian population listed six Waccamaw villages in the area of Kingston Township and recorded an Indian population of 210 Waccamaw warriors and 400 women and children.<sup>58</sup> In 1720, they

were in a brief war against the colonists where 60 Waccamaw men, women and children were killed or taken captive. In 1755, Cherokee and Natchez raiders killed some Pee Dee and Waccamaw in white settlements. Many of the remaining Waccamaw may have merged with the Catawba.<sup>59</sup>

Official correspondence between the residents of Kingston Township and the colonial legislature displays no indication of concern about Indian attacks, although Kingston did raise a militia, commanded in 1755 by Capt. Robert Jordan, Lt. Abraham Jordan, and David Jordan.<sup>56</sup>

The 1750s was a decade of growth for Kingston Township. Landowner Arthur Baxter, who had acquired 300 acres of land and a town lot in 1737, received 400 acres more in 1754 by claiming headrights on eight slaves, and by 1759 he had received 350 acres more.<sup>60</sup>

Militia commander Capt. Robert Jordan, apparently becoming an influential member of the township after his move from poor ground, received 350 acres more and a town lot in 1755, claiming headrights on five more children and two slaves. Jordan had petitioned for 200 acres of unsettled land "adjoining his dwelling" near Kingston the same year. The land had been advertised in the Gazette 12 years earlier and it was still unclaimed. Jordan petitioned the legislature and received the land, including a town lot on Kingston Lake.<sup>61</sup>

By May of 1757, Kingston Township had developed a small but apparently stable population. A 1757 militia roster lists three officers, 81 privates, two alarm men and 57 slaves. If the 86 militiamen on the rolls each represented a family of four, Kingston Township would have had a population of at least 344 people. If each soldier represented a family of six, the township would have been home for at least 516 people. The existence of 57 slaves compared to 86 white men indicates at least a small but stable degree of community income.<sup>62</sup>

A tavern bill published in the South Carolina Gazette in 1762 records a fleeting glimpse into the life of the colonial residents of Kingston Township. Published to embarrass a tardy patron into paying his bill, the tavern invoice listed a surprising variety of consumer items available to the residents of the remote township: gun powder, shot, iron, fishing lines, ivory combs, paper, nails, tea, wool, lace and garters. Although the consumer items indicate that the taverns at Kingston also served as general mercantile stores, the largest expenditure on the bill was for "spirituous liquor."

Another document published in the Gazette casts a more lurid light on colonial Kingston. An affidavit published in May of 1768, by one William Hunter in defense of his credibility as a witness, records a sensational, violent event in Kingston--a tavern brawl which ended in murder:

*"From the piazza of the house of John McDougal, justice of the peace and tavern keeper of Kingston, Hunter had seen the owner and Joseph Jordan [the only son of Abraham Jordan] begin a quarrel which, interlarded with many and furious oaths, proceeded to displays of horsewhip, sword, and knife; in the course of the long altercation Jordan paused to eat the victuals set before him by the negro wench of the tavern, and on McDougal's refusal to let him have punch, sent to Mrs. Wilson's for it. Presently McDougal wounded Jordan, pursued him eighty yards to a smith's shop and there killed him. Mrs. Gaddis dressed a cut in McDougal's hand, and a negro belonging to Hunter's schooner also saw part of the affair."<sup>63</sup>*

By the time the American Revolution exploded in the next decade, Kingstown was connected to other parts of the colony and to North Carolina by a rude network of roads. The Presbyterian Church of Kingston enjoyed the services of a fulltime pastor.

The Circuit Court Act, passed in 1769, was being used to bring justice to the backcountry. A courthouse in Georgetown was authorized by the colonial government and was built in 1772, allowing residents of Kingston to take their quarrels and legal affairs to Georgetown instead of Charlestown.

In March, 1785, the County Court Act passed by the legislature of the new state of South Carolina created Kingston County. In 1801, Kingston County would be renamed Horry District in honor of Revolutionary War veteran Brigadier General Peter Horry. Few people in the new Horry District would want to live in a town named for Britain's King George II, so the town of Kingston, once a quiet forest wilderness, would enter the 19th century renamed Conwayborough, in honor of another American military officer, Robert Conway of the 25th Regiment of South Carolina Militia. Gradually, the surrounding forest, swamp and coast would yield to the press of progress.<sup>64</sup>

#### ABBREVIATIONS

JC	Journal of His Majesty's Council
JUHA	Journal of the Upper House of Assembly
JCHA	Journal of the Commons House of Assembly
BPRO	British Public Records Office
Col. Plat	Colonial Plats of South Carolina
STATS	Statutes at Large of South Carolina

#### END NOTES

- <sup>1</sup>JC, April 4, 1734; JCHA Mar. 7, 1733
- <sup>2</sup>BPRO, XIV, 237-8
- <sup>3</sup>STATS 11, 641-643; CSCHS, 1, 164
- <sup>4</sup>JUHA, Feb. 2, 1733
- <sup>5</sup>JC, Feb. 10, 1737
- <sup>6</sup>JCHA, Mar. 3, 1743
- <sup>7</sup>BPRO, XIV, 89-91
- <sup>8</sup>JCHA, Feb. 9, 24; JUHA, Feb. 26, 1734
- <sup>9</sup>JUHA, Feb. 26, 1734
- <sup>10</sup>JCHA, Mar. 7, 1733
- <sup>11</sup>JCHA, Mar. 2, 1733
- <sup>12</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup>Barnwell Map, 1722
- <sup>14</sup>JCHA, Var. 7, 1733
- <sup>15</sup>Meriwether, Expansion of South Carolina, 86.
- <sup>16</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>17</sup>p. 20, Norton, James, History of Horry County
- <sup>18</sup>Meriwether, Expansion of South Carolina, 86.
- <sup>19</sup>Col. Plat, II, 156
- <sup>20</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>21</sup>Index to Col. Plats
- <sup>22</sup>Col. Plat, II, 363, Record of the Court of Chancery of South Carolina; Index to Col. Plat; Col. Plat, II, 313, 326, 335
- <sup>23</sup>Col. Plat, III, 451
- <sup>24</sup>Col. Plat, IV, 138
- <sup>25</sup>JC, Aug. 19, 1735
- <sup>26</sup>JCHA, March 7, 1733
- <sup>27</sup>Col. Plat, II, p. 443
- <sup>28</sup>Col. Plat, VII, 65; Col. Plat.
- <sup>29</sup>Col. Plat, Aug. 19, 1735
- <sup>30</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>31</sup>Index to Col. Plat, Meriwether, Expansion of South Carolina, 86.
- <sup>32</sup>JC, March 7, 1737
- <sup>33</sup>Howe, George, History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina, p. 204; Howe's book published in 1880, quotes notes from the diary of Reverend John Baxter, who served the Kingston Presbyterian congregation from its birth--1756. Baxter's original diary was destroyed during W. T. Sherman's occupation of Columbia in February, 1865. Howe's book is the sole remaining source on the diaries.
- <sup>34</sup>JC, July, 19, 1735
- <sup>35</sup>JCHA, Feb. 24, 1737
- <sup>36</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>37</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>38</sup>JCHA, Mar. 2, 1737

- <sup>39</sup>Ibid.  
<sup>40</sup>JCHA, Mar. 4, 1737  
<sup>41</sup>Ibid  
<sup>42</sup>JCHA, Mar. 5, 1737  
<sup>43</sup>JCHA, Feb. 1, 1738  
<sup>42</sup>4CHA, Mar .24,1743  
<sup>45</sup>Ibid.  
<sup>46</sup>Ibid.  
<sup>47</sup>Ibid.  
<sup>48</sup>Ibid.  
<sup>49</sup>JCHA, Oct. 12, 1743  
<sup>50</sup>JCHA, Jan. 27, 1744; JCHA, June, 5, 1747; JCHA; June 10,1747  
<sup>51</sup>JC, Jan. 24, 1744  
<sup>52</sup>Index to Col. Plat; Col. Plat. II, 139  
<sup>53</sup>SCG Supplement, Aug. 1, 1743  
<sup>54</sup>SCG, Aug. 1, 1743  
<sup>55</sup>JCHA, Jan. 16, 1746  
<sup>56</sup>Ibid.  
<sup>57</sup>BPRO, VI, 241-242  
<sup>58</sup>Ibid.  
<sup>59</sup><http://www.sciway.net/hist/indians/waccamaw.html>  
<sup>60</sup>Col. Plat, VI, 103, 240; JC, May 7, 1754, Oct.,6, 1757  
<sup>61</sup>JC, May,4, 1757  
<sup>62</sup>Col. Plat, VI, 103, 240; JC, May 7, 1754; JC, Oct. 6, 1757  
<sup>63</sup>Meriwether, Expansion of South Carolina, 87-88.  
<sup>64</sup>SCG, May 2, 1768; Mouzon, Map of N.C. and S.C., 1775. Howe, History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina, p. 204

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*This article was edited by the IRQ Editor and staff. Maps and plats were added to enhance Mr. Gragg's original article.*

## From Carlisle Dawsey's Historical Files

### Origin of the Name Gerrald Lake

The earliest notation of James Gerald (spelled with one "r") is on the plat for Eva Rastin of a 300 acre grant on the Little Saludy River, Saxe Gotha Township, Craven County. The lands on the southeast were a 250 acre grant laid out for James Gerald on January 28, 1754, but were never surveyed or claimed. The next grant to James Gerald is for 182 acres in the low grounds of the Congaree River, Saxe Gotha Township, Craven County on May 18, 1756. He is moving southeast and the next grant is dated March 7, 1757, for 300 acres in the swamp of Santee River, Amelia Township, Craven County.

On February 2, 1749, Evans Vaughan, who seemingly was roving around also, received two land grants in Craven County along a lake on the eastern side of the Little Pee Dee River which according to the naming practice of the day was deemed Vaughan Lake. One grant was for one hundred acres and the other grant was for fifty acres.

On January 5, 1757, John Woodberry received a land grant for one hundred acres adjoining Evans Vaughan on the east with Vaughan Lake running

through the upper portion of the grant. In very late 1758 or early 1759 (the archive records show 1758-1759) John Woodberry, another person trying to get situated, and his wife Sarah executed a Lease and Release of the one hundred acres to James Gerrald (note spelling) which in essence is the same thing as a lease purchase today. John Woodberry died in 1768 and Jonah Woodberry as Administrator of the estate of John Woodberry brought a judgment against James Garrell (note spelling) in regards to payment on the Lease and Release. The legal issue was resolved in the ensuing two years and on June 18, 1770, James Gerrell (note spelling) recorded a Memorial for two tracts of land in Craven County summarizing his chain of title and one of the tracts was from John Woodberry on his grant of 1757. This perfected title to the property in James Gerrell.

The name has been spelled in documents in all the variations noted above but one of the most common is Jarrell or Jarrall. James' son Benjamin served as a well beloved Captain in the militia under General Francis Marion in the Revolutionary War and many of the veterans recorded pension accounts, usually given in an open court, testify to service under Capt. Benjamin Jarrell or Jarrall. The family seems to have most commonly used the spelling Gerrald. James Gerrald seemed to like the coastal area best and settled his family on the tract which is north of present day Galivants Ferry and the name of the lake changed to Gerrald Lake. It has been recorded in documents as Garrell's Branch of the Little Pee Dee, Gerrald's Branch, Gerrald's Swamp, etc. A large tract of land, including the lake, was later acquired by the late Mack Carroll Sr. in the late 1990s.

### Treadwell Swamp

According to his testimony given in open court to receive his Revolutionary War Pension, Reuben Treadwell was born in Bertie County, N.C. in 1751. He originally enlisted in the North Carolina Militia in December of 1775 and was called into service in January of 1776 for three months. He joined Capt. Steven Anderson's Company under Col. Caswell's North Carolina Regiment. General MacDonald had assembled a Tory force of about 1,500 men from the Scotch Loyalists near Campbelltown (Fayetteville) and was moving on Wilmington to attack the Patriot forces there to take over their supplies and to then provide troops for the British effort in the south and New York.

The Patriot forces, including Col. Caswell's Regiment of about 800 men, were under the command of Brigadier James Moore. He moved his army around to the northwest of Wilmington and met MacDonald's Tory forces at Moore's Creek Bridge on February 27, 1776.

The significance of this is that it was the first major military action of the Revolutionary War in the south. The Tory force was driven back with about 30 killed or wounded; MacDonald himself was captured the next day. The Patriots only had two wounded and one casualty, John Grady. This quieted the Scotch Loyalists in southeastern North Carolina until around 1779.

Reuben continued to be in and out of the service in southeastern North Carolina until 1778. In 1779 he moved across the state line into the Georgetown District and enlisted in the South Carolina Militia. He was drafted for a three month tour in Capt. Benjamin Garrel's Company under Col. Peter Horry's command. During this time Reuben met Amelia Dawsey who was the daughter of William Dawsey Sr. and his wife, Sarah, living at Galivants Ferry. Reuben and Amelia were married October 22, 1779, and set up house south of Galivants Ferry. Reuben continued to be drafted into the militia until shortly before peace was declared in 1781.

On April 23, 1785, Reuben applied for and received a grant of 250 acres with Treadwell Creek running through it. This is the swamp just south of Galivants Ferry. Presumably since he and Amelia were already living there, it was deemed Treadwell Creek (Swamp), pronounced locally as Treadle or Treddle. They eventually had a large family of twelve boys and two girls. Soon after the children started coming, Reuben decided to move the family west. They relocated to the Sparrow Swamp section of Darlington District and were living there by 1800. Between 1810 and 1820 Reuben moved the family again, to Rutherford County, N.C. where they were living when he died on May 29, 1833. After Reuben's death his widow, Amelia, and two of her sons moved the family westward again to Marshall County, Miss.. This is another family that left their name attached to Horry County and moved on.

## Origin of Chinners Swamp

As a youngster growing up in western Horry County, the only swamp near enough to our home to have a name was, I thought in my boyish naiveté, one of biblical significance, "Genesis Swamp." I was rather saddened and confused as I matured to learn that it had no biblical connection whatsoever and was instead Chinners Swamp pronounced colloquially as "Chenesis Swamp."

The Chinners were early Huguenot émigrés to Carolina in the late 1690's. The first of the line was Thomas Chinners who became an Indian Trader in the area around Charles Town. Most sources cite Thomas' wife as Elizabeth, and they appear to have had two sons: Abraham and Isaac. Abraham married Ann Sandiford

the daughter of John Sandiford. They remained in the low country around Charles Town.

Isaac moved northward into Craven County where he received a grant for 450 acres on September 30, 1736, mostly an unsettled area that extended to the North Carolina border. Looking at the records it would indicate he probably settled north and west of Georgetown.

Isaac, it seems, was married twice. His first wife was named Rebecca and they had a daughter, Mary. Isaac's second wife was named Wineford and they had two sons and three daughters. The sons were Ezekiel and Thomas (no doubt named after his grandfather), and the daughters were Rebecca, Ann, and Sarah. Isaac served as Captain of the Little Pee Dee Company of the Craven County Regiment and his son Thomas served as an Ensign. Isaac and his son Thomas seem to have died in a fairly short timeframe from each other.

Ezekiel apparently did not serve in the military but moved on northward still. He received a grant for 1,000 acres in Georgetown District on a branch of Chinners Swamp (probably named for him as it was a rather common practice for swamps or nearby physical features to be named for grantees) on November 1, 1791 (modern day Horry County). He married Sarah Wood (no doubt named for her mother), the daughter of John Wood and his wife Sarah. From the records, they seem to have lived on or near the Pee Dee Road just south and west of what is present day Aynor. Ezekiel and Sarah had two children Hardy Harbert Chinners and Sarah Ann Elizabeth Chinners.

Hardy Harbert Chinners became a surveyor. As his parents became elderly, they moved on westward still into Marion District near his mother's relatives. As with many early settlers that came through, they left their name as a part of Horry County history and moved on.

## Wolf Pit Bay

As Halloween has recently passed, our thoughts turned to trick or treating, things that growl and snarl and go bump in the dark, and fright night experiences. In the western portion of Horry County above Ketchuptown there is a place called Wolf Pit Bay. It has been known as that since the late 1700s and the first written reference to it is in a land grant of 1803. There is also a Wolf's Bay mentioned at Woodbourne Plantation located just below Bucksport on the Waccamaw River. It is not peculiar to Horry County as there are references to Wolf Pit Bays or Wolf Pit Swamps dating from the 1700s in most all of South Carolina's early districts. Often we think of such place names as flights of fancy but in many cases they have a very real background.

(Continued on Page 16)



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## Follow the Blooms Tour By Janice G. Cutts

The headquarters of the Horry County Historical Society was one of Conway's six featured sites for the "Follow the Blooms" Tour, an annual statewide event sponsored by the South Carolina Garden Club. The tour was held on Saturday, April 14 and 144 tickets were sold.

Visitors to the Bryan House were invited to step back in time and imagine how life might have been in the early 1900s. Rebecca Bull Reed, one of the garden editors for "Southern Living" magazine and State Chairman of the event, commented: "The Conway tour was a HUGE success. The Bryan House tour was worth every penny and more!" Participants on the tour loved seeing the three garden areas created by local garden clubs and Master Gardeners at the Bryan House, and were thrilled to receive a free plant courtesy of "Southern Living."

Private gardens/yards on the tour included those of Buck and Brenda Cutts on Elm Street, Mike and Pam Ellis on 5th Avenue, Hal and Margaret Holmes on Lakeside Drive, Marshall and Susan McMillan on Lakeside Drive and Edward and Janice Cutts on Dunn Shortcut Road.

## Included in This Issue:

**Up Much the Boldest River:  
A History of Colonial Kingston .....Page 1**

### **From Carlisle Dawsey's Historical Files:**

- Origin of the Name Gerrald Lake
  - Treadwell Swamp
  - Origin of Chinnners Swamp
  - Wolf Pit Bay .....Page 14
- Follow the Blooms Tour .....Page 16**

(From Page 15)

An article in the Marion Star dated October 8, 1975 regarding the history of Centenary Baptist Church included portions of a letter written by Ann Owens Philips who was the oldest daughter of Rev. David Owens and had married William Linton Philips. Take into consideration that she was born December 22, 1765 and died in 1849. This letter was written many years before.

In the excerpt from her letter she had this to say, "When I and brother Davey were little children, they were building on the second church, a pole house at Terrell's Bay, and we had to carry dinner to Papa and the men working on the house. We were so little until Mama would follow behind us to see that we did not get in Papa's wolf pit beside the road like Mr. Jones did. Papa built a mill and dug a wolf pit between his house and the church. There was a Mr. Jones who had been to the mill and while going by the pit on his way home got to pranking with the treadle to the door of the pit and got thrown into the pit. When the pit was visited the next morning to secure the night's catch, behold, there was Mr. Jones and three wolves, one in each corner."

These pits were not just concealed deadfalls but had triggers or treadles that were rather ingeniously counterweighted to reset themselves for another catch. When wolves still roamed South Carolina, they were necessary safety precautions for livestock, domesticated pets, and children; quite often there was also a bounty for the hides which brought in a little extra money as well.

As you took your children out on Halloween, they didn't encounter any such fright night experience as Mr. Jones and you didn't encounter any canine wolves, but unfortunately the human wolves are still out there. Beware!