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The City of Conway was originally founded as part of Governor Robert Johnson’s 1730 “Township schema [sic]”, which was his plan on how to populate the frontier of the colony of South Carolina. This was done in order to attract European settlers to the frontier areas and thus protect the City of Charles Town from attack by internal, as well as external dangers. Kings Town Township was the northernmost of these eleven originally planned townships, nine of which came into being. The township’s central village was also named Kings Town and was situated on a bluff on the western bank of the Waccamaw River. The name was soon shortened to Kingston. Records indicate that the village of Kings Town was laid out in 1732 and a plan of the town drawn up in 1734. This was the plan that the existing City of Conway was built upon.

In 1801 the residents of the newly established Horry (oh-ree) District requested changing the name of the village of Kingston to Hugerborough, in honor of the well-respected Huger (u-gee) family of the old Georgetown Judicial District, of which Horry District had been a part. Instead and to their great disappointment, the state legislature changed it to Conwayborough, named after Robert Conway, the area’s representative in the state legislature and head of the committee to which the petition had been assigned. Another request was made in 1802 to correct the name, but residents finally gave up after receiving no satisfaction from the legislature. That generation, many of whom were veterans of the American Revolution, oftentimes reacted by simply referring to the village as the “Boro.”

Now in 2015 the growth of the internet has led to the “digitization” and online access of books, newspapers and government and archived records of all types. As a result of this access, a clearer, more accurate picture is emerging of life in what is now Horry County during the three decades leading up to the Confederate War of 1861-65. During that time, the county was prospering under what could be considered an economic “boom-time” until the war and the resulting reconstruction period brought about drastic changes in Horry District.

In actuality, the “naval stores industry” had been stimulating the local economy from as early as 1734 but its value, or resulting income, does not show up on the typical Federal Population Census or Agricultural Survey records. To see that effect, one must dig deeper into the records to get an indication of where much of the local population was deriving its true income. During the 1830s, 1840s and 1850s, the demand for lumber and naval stores made the natural
resources of Horry District increasingly more profitable. Conwayboro, or the “Boro,” was blessed with men, some native-born and others not, who engaged in business and further developed the town. As a result of this district-wide economic growth and the emerging importance of Conwayboro as a local economic center and inland seaport, community leaders saw the need to incorporate the village in 1855. Amazingly, memory of this early incorporation had been lost until a short item giving town council election results was recently found in a digitized historical newspaper. This discovery led to a search of South Carolina State Statutes for evidence of that incorporation.

James Ira reminisced about his boyhood in Conwayboro, in the 1830s and 1840s, in an article appearing in the Horry Herald of September 11, 1902: “Sometime in the [18]40s the turpentine men came in from North Carolina and invaded our pine forests. Among the first to come were Yates & Jordan [Gordon], S. & H. Bell, Peacock, Tolar & Co. Then there came a change. Conwayboro, as it was called then, seemed to take on a new start and improved in business and looks.”

An article in the Charleston Courier on April 17, 1854, a reprint from the Pee Dee Courier, reported the comments of Judge Glover who had presided over the Horry District Court Session of the preceding week:

“The Judge, in his charge to the Grand jury, commented in favorable terms upon the evidences of prosperity and progress that met the eye in every direction through out [sic] the district. The large pine barrens, which have hitherto served only as pasturage ground for cattle, are now made to yield immense quantities of turpentine, and wealth which had been so long locked up in the trunks of the large and lofty trees, is now pouring its blessings around, and converting the waste places into large and extensive farms, where the hand of industry is busily at work.

The change arising from this new source of wealth is most strikingly manifest at Conwayboro. From a few scattered houses of little external attraction, it has risen to the dignity and importance of a flourishing village, and now boasts of eight or ten fine stores, and a sale of merchandise amounting to over a hundred thousand dollars.

Several turpentine distilleries are in the immediate neighborhood, and among the signs of progress and improvement, we observed a saw mill in course of construction by Col. James Beaty, and a large fore and aft schooner on the stocks, building expressly to facilitate the commerce of the place. There can be little doubt of the favorable situation for Conwayboro for ship-building. It is surrounded by inexhaustible pine forests, while the river swamps abound in white oak and cypress. It requires but a moderate degree of energy well directed and judiciously pursued to make this the source of great prosperity and profit to the entire district. The schooner now building is of a fine model, one hundred and eighty tons burden, and capable of carrying fourteen to fifteen hundred barrels of turpentine. She is to be called the “C. Perkins,” in honor of the enterprising gentleman who is her principal owner. We should have preferred General Horry or General Conway as her name; but the name is of small consequence.

We must not omit to mention a beautiful church [Hebron] which we saw near Bucksville, nearly completed and built almost entirely by the liberality and generosity of Capt. Henry Buck. The building is an ornament to the country and an honor to the liberal kindness and uncalculating generosity of its founder. Capt. Buck has made a large fortune in the lumber business upon the Waccamaw, and he is not content to make it minister simply to the happiness of himself and family, but desires to diffuse its benefits and scatter its blessings to those around him—his neighbors and the community.

These are some of the proofs that Horry is disposed to keep pace with “Young America,” and have shaken off the lethargic sleep of the past, has bid adieu to supineness and inaction.

— Pee Dee Times, Georgetown (S. C.) 12th inst. [April 1854]"

Judge Glover’s statement and the Industrial Schedule of the 1860 U. S. Federal Census indicate that the progress extended to the entire county. The census (Industry Schedule) counts only those industries with over $500 ($12,985.86 in 2014 dollars) in annual income. There were 25 turpentine distilleries in Kingston Parish and two in All Saints meeting the income criteria. In December of the year following Judge Glover’s comments, the citizens of Conwayboro took the steps to incorporate their village.

The Journal of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina (1855) gives the following report of the incorporation request.

“On Tuesday, December 4, 1855:

Mr. GREEN presented the petition of citizens of Conwayboro’, praying a charter of incorporation; which was referred to the Committee on Incorporations.

Also, the petition of citizens of Conwayboro’, praying the appointment of a magistrate; which was referred to the Committee on District Officers and Offices.”
Pages 467-468 of the Statutes at Large of South Carolina for 1855 give the following account:

XVI. “That the inhabitants of the village of Conwayboro be, and they (Village of Conwayboro) are hereby created and declared a body politic and corporate, with such powers and privileges as have been granted to the inhabitants of the village of Marion by an Act entitled ‘An Act to incorporate the village of Marion and for other purposes therein mentioned,’ ratified on the twenty-first day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four. The corporate limits shall extend from the Court House to Kingston Lake and Waccamaw River on the east, and three quarters of a mile from the Court House in all other directions. The first election for Intendant and Wardens for said village shall be held on the second Monday in February next, and on the same day in every year thereafter. That the town council of Conwayboro shall have the sole power and authority to grant tavern and retail licenses within the limits of said corporation."

The following “powers and privileges”, II - XIII, are taken from the 1854 incorporation charter for the village of Marion and would have applied to Conwayboro as is stated in “the ‘Boro’s’ 1855 incorporation statute mentioned above.

**Powers and Privileges**

II. “The said village shall be governed by an Intendant and four Wardens, (who shall always be freeholders within the limits of said village,... and shall continue in office until the election and qualification of their successors. The Managers of the first election shall be appointed by the Clerk of the Court of the District of Marion [Horry], who shall also designate the place of said election within the corporate limits of the said village; ten days' notice, in writing, being previously given; and that every succeeding election for said Intendant and Wardens shall be held at such place and by such persons as the Council shall thereafter designate and appoint; and that all free white male inhabitants of the said village who have attained the age of twenty-one years, and have resided therein six months previous to the election, paupers excepted, shall be entitled to vote for said Intendant and Wardens, the election to be held from ten o'clock in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon, and when the poll shall be closed, the Managers shall count the votes, proclaim the election, and give notice thereof, in writing, to the persons elected. That the Intendant and Wardens, before entering on the duties of their offices, shall take the oath prescribed by the Constitution of this State, and also the following oath, to wit: “As Intendant or Warden of Marion [Conwayboro], I do solemnly swear that I am duly qualified to exercise the office to which I have been elected, and that I will equally and impartially, to the best of my ability, exercise the trust reposed in me, and will use my best endeavors to preserve the peace, and carry into effect, according to law, the purposes of my appointment, so help me God.”

III. That in case a vacancy shall occur in the office of Intendant, or any of the Wardens, by death, resignation, removal from office, or by removal from the State, an election shall be held by the appointment of the Intendant and Warden or Wardens, as the case may be, ten days' previous notice being given; and in case of the sickness or temporary absence of the Intendant, the Wardens, forming a council, shall be empowered to elect one of themselves to act as Intendant during the time.

IV. That the Intendant and Wardens duly elected and qualified shall, during the term of service, severally and respectively be vested with all the powers of Magistrates in this State, within the limits of the said village, except for the trial of small and mean causes, on taking the oath now by law required to be taken by Magistrates; and the Intendant shall and may, as often as may be necessary, summon the Wardens to meet in Council, any two of whom, with the Intendant, may constitute a quorum to transact business; and they shall be known by the name of the Town Council of Marion [Conwayboro], and they and their successors hereafter to be elected may have a common seal, which shall be affixed to all their ordinances, may sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity in this State, and may purchase, hold, possess and enjoy, to them and their successors in perpetuity, or for any term of years, any estate, real, personal or mixed: Provided, The same shall not exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars. And the Intendant and Wardens shall have full power, under their corporate seal, to make and establish all such rules, by-laws and ordinances respecting the roads, streets, markets and police of said village as shall appear to them necessary and requisite for the security, welfare and conveniences of the said village, or for preserving health, peace, order and good government within the same; and the said Council may fix and impose fines and penalties for the violation thereof, and appropriate the same to the public uses of the said corporation; but no fine above the sum of twenty dollars shall be collected by the said Council, except by suit in the Court of Common Pleas: And provided, also, That no fine shall exceed fifty dollars, and also that nothing herein contained shall authorize the said Council to make any by-laws inconsistent with, or repugnant to the laws of this State; and all by-laws and ordinances the Council may make shall at all times be subject to revisal or repeal by the Legislature of this State.
V. That the Intendant and Wardens shall have the full and only power of granting licenses for billiard tables, to keep tavern or retail spirituous liquors within the said limits, which licenses shall be granted in the same manner and upon the same conditions as they now are or may hereafter be granted by Commissioners of Roads under the laws of this State; and all the powers vested in the Commissioners of Roads are hereby granted to the said Intendant and Wardens within the said limits; and all moneys paid for licenses, and for fines and forfeitures, for retailing spirituous liquors, keeping taverns and billiard tables within the said limits, without licenses shall be appropriated to the public uses of the said corporation.

VI. That the Intendant and Wardens of the said village, in addition to all such fines and penalties as may be incurred and recovered, and to the tax on all licenses for taverns, billiard tables and retailing spirituous liquors, (all of which the said Intendant and Wardens having a right to grant as hereinbefore stated,) shall, annually, within ten days after entering on the duties of the office, appoint some fit and proper person as an assessor, who, after taking the following oath, to be administered by the Intendant or any one of the said Wardens, to wit: I, A B, do swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will well and truly to the best of my knowledge and judgment, fairly and impartially assess and value all the real taxable property within the limits of the said village, and make returns as well of such property as also of the several proprietors and occupants, to the said Council—so help me God,—shall proceed to assess and value all the real taxable property within the said village, an shall, within one month after his appointment, make a full and true return of all the property so assessed by him, together with a list of all the proprietors and occupants of the same, to the Board of Wardens, whose duty it shall be to lay a tax on the same sufficient to discharge and defray all the expenses of carrying into effect the rules, regulations and by-laws made and established as above mentioned: Provided, Such tax does not exceed fifty cents for every hundred dollars’ worth of property so assessed, which said tax shall be collected as the said Council may direct.

VII. That the said Intendant and Wardens of said village shall have power to lay a tax not exceeding twelve cents on each slave within said village, but shall have no power to lay any tax on any other personal property whatever. That the said Intendant and Wardens shall have power to levy and collect such tax as they may deem expedient upon all free persons of color within said corporate limits: Provided, Such tax shall in no case exceed the sum of two dollars per head.

VIII. That the power and duty of organizing, superintending and regulating the patrol of the said village be, and the same are hereby, transferred to the said Council; and for that purpose the said Council is vested with all the powers in that respect exercised by the officers of a beat company and courts martial; and severally and collectively the members of the said Council are made subject to like penalties for neglect of duty. No ordinances, however, shall diminish the quantity of duty which is now or may hereafter be provided by law.

IX. That it shall be the duty of the said Intendant and Wardens to keep all roads, streets and ways within their corporate limits open and in good repair, and for the purpose they are invested with all the powers granted to Commissioners of Roads. The Intendant and Wardens shall have power to compound with all persons liable to work on said roads, streets and ways, to release such persons as may desire it, upon the payment of such sum of money as they may deem a fair equivalent therefore, to be applied by them to the uses of said corporation; and no person residing within the said limits shall be liable to work on any road without the said limits.

X. That the said Intendant and Wardens shall have power to collect the taxes from all persons representing publicly, within their corporate limits, for gain or reward, any plays or shows of what nature or kind soever, which have hitherto been payable to the Clerk of the Court of said District, to be used for the purposes of said corporation.

XI. That all the fines imposed by the said Intendant and Wardens shall be collected by a fieri facias, or, if that be returned nulla bon, by a capias ad satisfaciendum, under the hand of the said Intendant and seal of the corporation, which, if not paid, may be discharged by schedule and assignment, according to the provision of the Prison Bounds Act, after giving ten days’ notice to the said Intendant and Wardens.

XII. That the said Intendant and Wardens shall have power, and are hereby authorized, to elect or appoint a Marshal or Marshals who, upon taking the oath now by law required to be taken by Constables, shall be invested with all the powers Constables now have by law, whose jurisdiction and authority shall be confined within the corporate limits of said village.

XIII. That for any willful violation or neglect of duty, malpractice, abuse or oppression, the said Intendant and Wardens, severally, shall be liable to indictment in the Court of Sessions, and upon conviction, to punishment by fine at the discretion of the court, not exceeding one hundred dollars, and to removal
from office, besides being liable for damages to any person injured.”

Although the village was incorporated by the state legislature in December, 1855, the first elections did not take place until February, 1856. Samuel Pope was elected as the first Intendant (Mayor) of Conwayboro on February 11, 1856. Town Wardens (Councilmen) were Thomas W. Beaty, John Darby, John M. Hardwick and Luke R. Marlow.

It appears that during, or soon after the Confederate War, due to hardships brought on by the war and the death of the town’s first two mayors (Samuel Pope - d. 1863 and Joseph J. Richwood - d. 1866), the town charter was allowed to lapse. In the absence of an active town council, the state’s General Assembly officially shortened the name of the village from Conwayboro to Conway in 1883.²

Conway was reincorporated in 1898. Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina for 1899, page 277, notes that an act was passed in the Regular Session of 1899 that granted a municipal charter to Conway on April 18, 1898. Intendant: C. P. Quattlebaum. Wardens: F. A. Burroughs, B. R. King, Dr. J. S. Dusenbury, D. A. Spivey.

²Ibid, 47.

Conwayboro’s Town Councils: 1856-1862

By John Benjamin Burroughs & Sharyn Barbee Holliday

When the history of a community is not recorded properly, for whatever reason, the assumption sometimes arises that very little happened during the poorly recorded timeframe. The recent discovery of Conwayboro’s 1855 incorporation demonstrates the loss of a significant portion of Horry’s history that occurred prior to and during the Confederate War and Reconstruction Period. Not only the incorporation of the village, but the men who led the progress in the county, and oftentimes even the progress itself, have largely been forgotten. The brief sketches of these councilmen combine to illustrate a vigorous town and county that was both aware of and involved in events facing their state and nation.

The election results for Conwayboro Town Councils for 1856, 1857, 1858 and 1862 name the men who promoted the development of the village during those years and who played an important part in the life of the town and district. Some of the names are familiar, but others are not. Though it was long ago when they served the town, there are records that have survived about most of them. The glimpses that have been found, though enlightening, still leave questions about the men, the town and the county they knew. Hopefully, as additional records become accessible, more questions will be answered.

The brief sketches of these councilmen combine to illustrate a vigorous town and county that was both aware of and involved in events facing their state and nation.

The following biographical sketches were composed from information found in historical newspapers and other publications, online databases such as Federal Censuses, records of the Horry County Historical Society and Horry County land and probate records. Some of these councilmen have descendants still living in Horry County today. If you have information about or photos of any of these early councilmen, you are encouraged to let us know.

There is a heavy reliance on the United States Federal Censuses in this account. From 1790 through 1840, the head of household is the only person in the home who is named, with others represented by tally marks in appropriate age groups for males and females. The 1850 census names all household members but does not state the relationship to the head of household. In 1860 the relationship to head of household is given. Most of the census information gathered here comes from 1850 and 1860.

Difficulties with the 1870 census prevent effective use of its schedules, because many people were not counted in the 1870 census. Overall, this census is “considered one of the worst ever taken....In the South the pool of competent potential assistants was especially limited by the low pay and the repugnance that former
Confederates felt for Republican marshals” who were “usually chosen for their party affiliations under the spoils system....A subsequent census report estimated that 1.2 million Southerners were missed by the 1870 census.”¹

To give some perspective on income amounts referenced in this article, a converted value for equivalent buying power in 2014 dollars is given in parentheses.² This is only done with income amounts. The values assigned to property and other assets are left in their original historical amounts. Also, the name of the town of Conway has evolved since it was first conceived in 1730 as Kingston and founded in 1732. Within this article it is referred to by the variation that it was known at the time being discussed. In short, the name evolved as: Kingston (1730-1801), Conwayborough (1801-1855), Conwayboro (1855-1883) and Conway (1883-2016).

1856 - First Conwayboro Town Council³
Intendant (Mayor): Samuel Pope
Warden (Councilmen): T. W. Beaty, J. Darby, J. M. Hardwick, L. R. Marlow

1857 - Second Conwayboro Town Council⁴
Intendant (Mayor): J. J. Richwood
Marshal: James S. Burroughs

1858 - Third Conwayboro Town Council⁵
Intendant (Mayor): J. J. Richwood
Warden (Councilmen): E. F. Harrison, Henry Hardy, Jas. S. Burroughs, Alex Elliott

1862 - Seventh Conwayboro Town Council⁶
Intendant (Mayor): Jos. J. Richwood
Warden (Councilmen): J. B. Wesson, Dr. J. H. Norman, Samuel Bell, Alex Elliott

Conwayboro.—At an election in the town of Conwayboro on the 11th inst. the following gentlemen were elected Intendant and Warden:—

**SAMUEL POPE—Intendant.**

**Wardens**

T. W. BEATTY, J. DARBY, J. M. HARDWICK, L. R. MARLOW.

**Mercury, The (Charleston, S.C.),** February 29, 1856.

We are indebted to a correspondent for the following result of an election held in Conwayboro', for a new Town Council:

J. J. RICHWOOD, (Tempo) Intendant.
JNO. READMAN, Warden.
J. B. WESSON, SAMUEL BELL, JOHN DARBY, JR., JAMES S. BURROUGH, Marshal.

**Charleston Courier (Charleston, S.C.)** April 16, 1857, 1.

**Biographical Sketches**

Samuel Pope - Intendant (Mayor), 1856

Capt. Samuel Pope was born in Wells, York County, Maine in 1800/01.⁷ The title “Captain” referred to his early career as a ship’s captain, including captain of the schooner Penobscot, out of Wells, Maine in 1833.⁸

He is believed to have moved to Horry District, South Carolina in the 1830s, where on February 24, 1837, he and a partner, Henry Buck, jointly purchased 432 acres on the west side of the Waccamaw River at Murdock Landing where they established “Pope’s Mill”, a steam powered saw mill.⁹ He eventually sold his interest in the mill, and Murdock Landing later became known as Bucksport. Pope moved upriver to the village of Conwayborough where he established a shipyard on the banks of the Waccamaw River, building ocean-going vessels, and where he owned a store in the downtown business section.¹⁰

Many buildings in Conwayboro and its vicinity have been attributed to having been built by “ship carpenters.” These buildings were largely built in the 1850s when Pope’s shipyard was in operation.¹¹ His shipyard completed the process of building a large schooner, the Church Perkins, in 1854. The schooner was reported by one newspaper as being “one hundred and eighty tons burden, and capable of carrying fourteen to fifteen hundred barrels of turpentine.” Ship carpenters who were originally associated with Pope’s shipyard must have built those buildings for no one else had a shipyard here at that time.

On January 26, 1851, he married Sara Eliza Richwood (1829-1914) of South Carolina.¹² The 1860 U.S. census lists Samuel as age 60 and his wife, Sara as age 30. Their oldest daughter, Mary (born July 22, 1855) was age 6, Ida age 4 and their son Samuel A. age 1.¹³ Another older son, Gustus, born in 1852 died in infancy and is buried in the Kingston Presbyterian churchyard.¹⁴ In the 1870 census, another daughter, Edith, is listed, age 8.¹⁵

Prior to his marriage, Pope contracted with Alexander Elliott to build him a home located at the end of Main Street near the river and town wharf.¹⁶ That location was at what is now near the foot of the Waccamaw River Memorial Bridge and has the address 203 Main Street. The home was a large wood frame building with four wooden two-story columns in front and a rather large “ell” extension off of the main front section. The Samuel Pope home stood until it was torn down around 1968 to make way for the City Hall Annex building and the Conway Chamber of Commerce building, both of which now in 2016 occupy that site.
This Seaman’s Protection Certificate was issued to Samuel Pope on September 1, 1820 by Joseph Storer, Collector for the District of Kennebunk, Maine. In 1796, the Fourth U.S. Congress authorized Seamen’s Protection Certificates. Their purpose was to protect American merchant seamen from impressment into the British Navy. The British believed that they could force British Seamen in port or on the high seas into service, and it was common for them to impress any English-speaking sailors. The documents basically served as “merchant seamen’s passports.”

The impressment of American seamen into service of the British Navy was one of the causes of the War of 1812. – Used by permission of Ben Burroughs.
where they lived with Samuel’s sister, Mary, who ran a boarding house there.26

**Thomas Wilson Beaty - Warden (Councilman), 1856**

Thomas Wilson Beaty (1825-1886) was a native of the area. He was best known as a merchant, owner of a turpentine distillery and newspaper editor (the *Horry Herald* 1869-1877). Beaty also practiced law for a time. While he made his home in Conway, he possessed land in other parts of Horry District.

He was a son of Rev. Thomas Akin Beaty and Dorcas Chestnut Johnson, a widow born Dorcas Chestnut. T. W. Beaty married Mary E. Brookman (1825-1901) of Bucksport, Maine on September 21, 1851. Their children were Clara (1852-1859), Cora (1853-1870), Frederica Marilila (1855-1870), Mary Brookman (1856-1859), and Henry Brookman (1860-1871). The children all died young and are buried in the old village burial ground adjacent to the Kingston Presbyterian Church.27

By 1853, T. W. Beaty had built a substantial house on Main Street.28 The rear faced Kingston Lake. That house still stands in 2015. The spacious front lawn reached from his home on the lake to present day Main Street. This lawn was the site of gatherings and celebrations for the residents of Conwayboro and Horry District, and accounts of these gatherings survive in personal and news accounts from the time.

Beaty was commissioner of public lots in Conwayboro in 1854 and served as postmaster of the village from 1854-1857. In 1857, he became a member of the executive committee of the local chapter of the American Bible Society of South Carolina that was being reorganized.22

Both Samuel and Sara are listed as charter members of Kingston Presbyterian Church, which was officially organized on May 30, 1858 when the sanctuary was opened for the first time for divine service with Samuel Pope and Joseph Travis Walsh elected as the two ruling elders.23 In 1860, he is listed as having three slaves in his household, two owned and one hired.24

He died in 1863 in Conwayboro. On March 28, 1863, the Session passed resolutions on the death of Captain Samuel Pope, ruling elder of the church. His body was interred in the old village burial ground adjacent to the church.25 The exact location of his grave, and that of his son Gustus, within the burial ground is unknown. Prior to the 1870 census, Sara and her remaining four children moved to Boston, Massachusetts.27
commissioner to approve public bonds in Horry District and as commissioner to approve public securities in Horry District in 1864. During the war, he also represented Horry in the state House of Representatives in the Fortieth General Assembly (1864); he was a member of the committees on agriculture (1864) and county offices and officers (1864).

Following the war, Beaty served his community again as commissioner to approve public securities in Horry District in 1866; worshipful master of Horry Lodge No. 65 of the Masons (1867); clerk of court for Horry County (1874-1881); lecturer of the Horry Patrons of Husbandry (1874); again as postmaster of Conwayboro from 1874-1875 and as a ruling elder of Kingston Presbyterian Church from 1877-1884. He was commissioner of elections for Horry County (1882, 1884).

A Democrat, he was elected to the state Senate for Horry for the Fifty-fourth (1880-1882) and Fifty-fifth (1882-1883) General Assemblies; however, he did not attend the special session (17 June-5 July 1882) of the Fifty-fourth General Assembly. Senate committees on which he served included commerce and manufactures (1880-1883), penitentiary (1880-1883), public lands (1880-1883) and printing (1882-1883).

At the time of his death, Thomas Wilson Beaty owned five tracts of land in Horry County totaling 614 acres. He died in April 1886 and was buried in his family's section of the old village burial ground beside the church that he helped found.

John Darby Jr. - Warden (Councilman), 1856, 1857

The marine correspondence column of the Charleston Courier of October 13, 1852, noted that Mr. John Darby arrived in Conwayboro from New York on the Schooner Sarah Victoria on September 25, 1852. Whether or not this was his first trip to “the Boro” is unknown.

He appeared in only one U.S. census for Horry District, that of 1860, which noted that he was a thirty-three year old merchant born in Ireland. Evidence indicates that he was successful during his time in Horry. His twenty-year-old wife, Clarkey, was born in South Carolina. Their two daughters were Ada, four years old, and Frances, one year old. The agriculture schedule accompanying the 1860 census showed Darby with 2,400 “unimproved” acres in Horry District. He owned 31 slaves. The last two facts taken together in Horry District at that time would likely indicate involvement in the naval stores or timber industry or both.

The land records held at the Horry County Court-house suggest that Darby speculated in land, lots in town and acreage in the district. “Marine” news columns during 1853 name him as a partner in a business called “Morgan & Darby” to which merchandise was shipped, though neither the kind of merchandise nor the type of business is known. In that same year he was also listed as a member of the Conwayboro Masonic Lodge.

Two documents indicate close ties to Horry families and provide insight into Darby’s character. John Darby paid Frances Hemingway’s tuition for the first session of the Conwayboro Academy in 1857. Henry Durant Hemingway of Horry District had a daughter named Clarkey in his home in the 1850 census who was the right age to be the Clarkey married to Darby in 1860, when she is no longer in the Hemingway home. There was also a younger Hemingway daughter named Frances.

A deed conveys Lot Number 78 in the Village of Conwayboro from John Darby to Leroy Beaty for $1, love and affection. Leroy Beaty was the seven-year-old son of Martha Roland Hemingway Beaty and the deceased Bethel Durant Beaty. Martha Ann Hemingway was living in Martha Roland’s home in 1860. Both Martha Roland and Martha Ann were in Henry Hemingway’s home in 1850, and are assumed to be his daughters. The lot conveyed to Leroy was part of a purchase made by Darby at a sheriff’s sale of Leroy’s father’s estate.
Conwayboro as follows...to wit, twenty feet front on Church Street leading from the Court House, and fifty feet on the rear, he the said John M. Hardwick to have the use and enjoy the privileges of the same for the term of Nine years, commencing the first day of January 1856. John M. Hardwick agrees on his part to build a good Store House on the land aforesaid to be fifty feet long and twenty feet wide to be put up of good material and in good style and so to be kept until the expiration of the said Nine Years, and at that time to deliver the same with the necessary requisites to a store house to the said James Henry Norman. The building to be two story [sic] high, with good ceiling and flooring throughout, and be delivered in good order at the expiration of the time stipulated ...

Hardwick’s business must have been lucrative if he expected a profit after assuming the cost of erecting a storage building to be used for only nine years.

Documented in Deed Book N, page 228, “John M. Hardwick of Wilmington, N. C.” sold lot number 50 in Conwayboro to George R. Congdon for $600. The property is described as “a corner lot bounded E by church ground of M E Church, South by lots of John Readman, Esq. and one of the lots conveyed by Samuel G. Singleton to Josias T. Sessions the 17th day of January, 1829 …”

Wilmington Journal, The (Wilmington, N.C.), April 7, 1853.

Finding Darby after he left Conwayboro is problematic because there were a number of men with the same name. The man most likely to be the same person is a lumberman of the right age in Starke, Bradford County, Florida in 1880. He was born in Ireland, and his wife Carrie C. was born in South Carolina. His sixteen-year-old son, John H. Darby, was born in Florida and worked in a saw mill. There were five more children still in their home. John Darby was listed two times in the 1880 census. The second listing for Darby was in Precinct 10, Alachua, Florida, thirty-two miles from Starke. He was a manufacturer of lumber and naval stores. With him was his seventeen-year-old son, John H., who was an assistant at the mill. No other family members were included in this entry, but there were twenty-three male boarders living in the same place whose jobs included superintendent of mill, machinist, laborer, watchman, teamster, fireman and cook.

John M. Hardwick - Warden (Councilman), 1856

The 1850 U.S. Census for Horry District lists J. M. Hardwick as a 26-year-old farmer living with M. J. Hardwick, a 26 year old female. This census does not state relationships. The Hardwicks could not be found in the 1860 population schedule although he owned 20 improved acres and 230 unimproved acres within Kingston Parish of Horry District as reported in the agriculture schedule.

Horry County Deed Book M, page 612, is a lease agreement dated January 16, 1855, between John M. Hardwick and James Henry Norman. Norman is leasing land to Hardwick

“…on the N.W. corner of Lot No. 31 in the village of

Wilmington Journal, The (Wilmington, N.C.), April 7, 1854.

Market report columns in The Wilmington Daily Herald for 1859 list Hardwick as one of the Wilmington merchants shipping merchandise by rail. He is also
shipping merchandise by sea between Wilmington and Conwayboro in the 1850s. Though the specific type of merchandise Hardwick shipped is not stated, the list for all cargo shipped includes turpentine, rosin, cotton, flour, dried fruit and sundries.

By the time of the 1870 census, J. M. Hardwick was a 46-year-old retail grocer in Wilmington, North Carolina, with his wife, 45-year-old Mary Jane, 12-year-old Samuel, 10-year-old George, and 3-year-old Jesse. Also in the home were 22-year-old Marianna Thomkins, 24-year-old Nelly Thomkins and 20-year-old Susan Thomkins.

Luke R. Marlow - Warden (Councilman), 1856

The 1850 census for Horry District included Luke R. Marlow, a 26-year-old carpenter born in South Carolina living in Jane Norman’s hotel in Conwayboro. His fellow residents were George R. Congdon, 12 years old; Mary F. Congdon, 11 years old; Bethel D. Batey [sic], 32 years old, a merchant; Thomas J. Hewie, 25 years old, a lawyer; Robert Munro, 22 years old, no occupation given; Wm. H. Buck, 24 years old, a merchant born in Mane [sic]; Tho. Marlow, 18 years old, a farmer; and Francis Cooper, a 16-year-old female.

By the time of the 1860 census, Marlow had moved to Georgetown and was working as an engineer. He lived with his wife, Mary E. Marlow, 8-year-old daughter O. R., and 5-year-old son John M.

Joseph J. Richwood - Intendant (Mayor), 1857, 1858, 1862

Gladys Rollinson Davis wrote an article for the Independent Republic Quarterly in the Spring, 1978 (Vol. 12, No. 2) issue in which she gave information about the Richwood family. Joseph J. Richwood was her ancestor and much of this information is taken from her article. The dates she provided were taken from Richwood’s Bible.

Joseph J. Richwood was born September 5, 1803. He came to Conwayboro as a young man and married Mary Jane Bruton (1802-1871). The Richwoods had five children: Sara Eliza (1829-1914), Benjamin Franklin (1831-1872), Mary Frances (1836-?), George Cornelius (1838-?), and William Joseph (1840-1842).

Richwood and Capt. Samuel Pope were friends and contemporaries, and Pope lived with the Richwoods while his house was being built. Pope and Richwood’s daughter, Sara Eliza Richwood, were married on January 26, 1851.

Richwood was active in the Temperance Movement on a local and state level. The 1858 Conwayboro Town Council, headed by Richwood as Intendant, was proudly lauded as a “temperance council” in The Spirit of the Age, a North Carolina temperance newspaper. In November of the same year, Richwood was elected Grand Sentinel for the Sons of Temperance of South Carolina for 1859 at a meeting in Charleston.

The 1850 census gives his occupation as carpenter. Richwood was postmaster of Conwayboro from 1857 until his death in 1866.

Spirit of the Age, The (Raleigh, N.C.), March 31, 1858, 3.
John Readman - Warden (Councilman), 1857

John Readman (1802-1857, sometimes spelled Readmon) is believed to be an Horry native and his birthplace is given as South Carolina in the 1850 census. He was also listed in the Horry District census in 1840, and the household consisted of one male in his thirties, two males in their twenties, two females in their twenties, and one female between fifteen and nineteen. He owned ten slaves.

Readman married Mary Ann Eliza Pickett (1807-1839) who was born in New Hanover County, North Carolina. Their daughter, Mary Ann Eliza Readman was born in 1839, the same year her mother died. Mary Ann “Mollie” Readman, the daughter, wrote under the pen name Minnie E. Ray. Her work was printed in The Spirit of the Age, a temperance newspaper published from 1849 to 1865 in Raleigh, North Carolina, and in various newspapers in the Carolinas before she became the literary manager of The Wilmington Morning Star in 1874.

Editors Marrying.


We congratulate our neighbor and contemporary, on his migration from the bleak and desert island of Bachelordom, to the sunny plains of the connubial state. May a perpetual honey moon shed its softest “Ray” upon his pathway through life, and the sun of prosperity and happiness ever beam benignantly around the gifted “Minnie,” whose sprightly inditings have so often graced our columns.

The Turpentine Distillery of Mr. John Readman, at Conwayboro’, was entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday morning last, together with some spirits and rosin. Loss estimated at $2,000.

Charleston Courier (Charleston, S. C.), January 5, 1856.

Margaret, John Readman’s wife, is not listed in the home at the 1850 census, but two Readman children, Albert and Frances, are. Also in the home were Rebecca Thompson, 27; Martha Thompson, 23; and Ann King, 87, whose relationships to Readman is unknown. Likewise, children of deceased friend and neighbor Thomas Hemingway--Mary A. Hemingway, 12; Orilla Hemingway, 10; Thomas K. Hemingway, 8; and William Hemingway, 6--were in the home. Readman was an executor of Hemingway’s estate and apparently assumed care for his children.

A group of citizens met in December 1856 to consider renovating the old village schoolhouse in Conwayboro and reestablishing a new school there. John Readman subscribed $100 to the school fund. For the first session starting in January 1857, Readman paid first grade tuition to Conwayboro Academy for Calvin C. Hughes and James Hughes and second grade for Frances Readmon, Albert Readmon, Thos. Hemingway, Wm. Hemingway and Wm. Hughes. For second session in the fall, his estate paid tuition for Frances and Albert Readman.
Page 3 of the Wilmington Journal of Friday, August 14, 1857, carried John Readman’s obituary and a statement from the Conwayboro Town Council:

In Conwayboro’, S.C., on the 1st inst., Major John Readman, in the 56th year of his age [sic]. As a father, he was affectionate and kind; as a citizen, high-minded and honorable; and as a friend, generous, noble and true. His loss is deeply felt and will long be remembered... - Com.

Council Chamber, Conwayboro’, S.C., Aug. 6th, 1857. Whereas, Almighty God, in the dispensation of his providence, hath removed from among us our highly esteemed citizen and member of Council, Maj. John Readman; Therefore, in Council assembled this day, the following resolutions were passed: Resolved, That the Town Council deeply deplore the removal by death of one of its worthy and valued members, Maj. John Readman. Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with his afflicted family in their sad bereavement. Resolved, That the preamble and resolutions of this meeting be forwarded to the Wilmington Journal for publication. Resolved, That a copy of the above be sent to the bereaved family of our deceased friend. [Signed] J. J. Richwood, Intendant.

Wilmington Journal, The (Wilmington, N.C.), August 14, 1857, 3.

J. B. Wesson - Warden (Councilman), 1857

No information was found for Councilman Wesson.

Samuel Bell - Warden (Councilman), 1857, 1862

Samuel Bell, son of Benjamin Bell and Lydia Tucker, was born October 7, 1823, in Pitt County, North Carolina. On 22 February 1844, he married Sarah Adeline Hartsfield (1827-1872) in Hookertown, North Carolina.59

In the 1850 U.S. census for Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina, twenty-six-year-old Samuel Bell, a merchant, was living with 22-year-old Sarah A. Bell and 3-year-old George [Georgia] Virginia Bell. By the time of the 1860 census, the Bell family was living in the village of Conwayboro, Kingston Parish, Horry District, South Carolina, and Sam S. Bell was listed as a merchant. The household included parents, Sam S. and Sarah A., and children George V. who was 14, Ella who was 11, Iola who was 5 and James S. who was 3. Also in the home were Adaline A. Sands, 35, and Jesse Boyd, 25.61

Bell owned 80 improved acres and 3,500 unimproved acres for a total cash value of $4,000 as reported...
in the 1860 agriculture census. He owned 10 slaves.

Newspaper articles and marine reports about arriving and departing vessels identify naval stores partnerships Bell formed with other men. Most often seen is S & H Bell & Co., a partnership between Samuel and his brother Henry. A legal notice in 1858 also names the firms H & S Bell, Bell & Haddock, and Bells & Watson.

Bell not only traded in naval stores, he also owned turpentine distilleries. A turpentine still located on the Gully Branch at Elm Street in Conwayboro was sold to Franklin G. Burroughs. An agreement dated 1853 between Bell and Elias Blount, administrator for the deceased Allen Blount, divided the property of the firm of Bell & Blount. The division included notes due to the firm, cash, land and one turpentine still and fixtures valued at $900. In 1869, Samuel Bell sold to Wright & Buck of Bucksville one turpentine still, spirits shed, cooper shop, small dwelling, steamer, glue kettle, pump, bull gutters, worm and tub in the suburbs of Conwayboro bordering on the Waccamaw River.

In January 1857, Bell paid tuition for daughter Ella in first grade at Conwayboro Academy. He was a member of the Conway Methodist Church and joined Conwayboro Masonic Lodge in 1858. During the Confederate War, Bell served as a first lieutenant (July-August 1861) and captain (ca. September 1861-May 1862) of Company B of the Tenth Regiment of South Carolina Volunteers. Locally, he served Conway as a commissioner of public lots (1854) and town warden (1858-1859, 1861-1862). Elected to the S.C. Senate, he represented Horry in the Forty-sixth General Assembly (1864).

The papers of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, contain a letter written to Davis from Bell in October of 1864 concerning the current wartime conditions in Horry District. The letter is very revealing, and describes how, for the most part, “At and before the war” the people of Horry District had depended on lumber and naval stores for their chief occupations while importing their food from elsewhere by way of ocean-going schooners. He explained how this had caused a great hardship with the U.S. blockade off the coast preventing food supplies from entering our waterways.

A three-page letter from S.C. State Sen. Samuel Bell to President Jefferson Davis, C.S.A. states: Conwayboro Horry District, S.Ca Octr 21/64
President Davis
Honord [sic] Sir

Allow me to state some facts, in relation to my section, for your consideration, and beleive [sic] me in so doing it is not done with any other view but for the wellfare [sic] of our country and for the acheivement [sic] of our independence [sic].

At and before the war, we were almost entirely a lumber, and naval store producing people, dependent on other sections for our breadstuff, mostly No. Ca: which was brought us by schooners via Georgetown. Since the blockading [sic] of Georgetown, we have been supplied from the rice crop made before the war: which we could get until the past year, in abundance, and at very [sic] moderate prices; but since that time the government and speculators have sweep [sic] every thing out of the market, on the Waccamaw and Pee Dee Rivers; but by extrodinary [sic] efforts, we have been able to live by hauling the last of the old of rice which was on the Santee, across to the Waccamaw River; and then floating it up to this district, and by taking salt up the Pee Dee River and bartering for corn. Both of these resources are loss [sic] to us, the first because, there is no old crop of rice, to get, and the new crop cannot afford releif [sic] from this fact “that little will be made” as most all of the Santee plantations are abandoned [sic] and a large portion of the Waccamaw, and Pee Dee, rice plantations, are in the same condition. This throws all the rice and black birds (largely increased since the war) on about one third of the plantation[s]; which birds, were only kept under, before the war, by keeping several shooters, with muskets, on each plantation, who killed them by the thousand every day. Since the war, they have increased, so much, that the whole crop, on some plantations, were so much destroyed [sic], that the rice was only useful for the straw, to be fed, to stock. The last resource [sic] will be destroyed [sic] by the government absorbing all the surplus corn in the Pee Dee country for the prison camp at Florence; and if that was not the case, we would not have the salt to send forward as the revocation of all details will leave us but two or three exempts, as agriculturist, in our district it seems to me, that if there is, no exception in our favor, that it will leave us, in a deplorable [sic] condition. Our most enterprising and useful [sic] men are details; and they have been bending their energies to develop the resources [sic] of our country (with a sorry few exceptions) and if every man of all ages were to claim an exemption as agriculturist, that would be entitled [sic] to exemption under the act of fifteen workers we could not have over about eight in a population that usually voted about eleven hundred and that made twelve full companies before the conscript act of an average of one hundred each besides furnishing about one hundred and fifty more to other companys [sic] in North Carolina and adjoining [sic] districts and enough conscipes [sic] to make about fifteen hundred furnished [sic] by this district. If the government in its wisdom and necessities [sic] can modify [sic]
the order in regard to revoking all the details of this district. I do not think it should be held strictly to a worker of slave labour as there is many an old man that has daughters that would be quite useful with their fathers to direct them and keep fences in repair they assisting in the field labour. But respected Sir speculation must be put down or we are gone.

I do not make the statement set four for my benefit, as I have just been elected Senator from this district, and I was elected as a war man if there was any issue at all I served as Capt in a twelve months regiment until the reorganization and “I look at reconstruction as subjugation.”

I submit this hurrid communication for your consideration and if you think it worthy of notice I would be glad of your reply

Very respectfully your
Obt Servt

Bell died on August 21, 1869, and the 1870 U.S. Census Mortality Schedule reports Samuel Bell’s death at age 45 of paralysis. He and his wife, Sarah, are buried in the churchyard of the Conway First United Methodist Church on the corner of Main Street and Fifth Avenue.

Although the home of Samuel and Sarah Bell has been slightly moved a little further up Elm Street from its original location, it still stands on the southwest corner of Elm Street and Tenth Avenue in Conway, on the edge of property that was once his pine plantation, bordered by Pine Street (old Dogg Bluff Road) and Elm Street (old Placard Road).

E. F. Harrison - Warden (Councilman), 1858

E. F. Harrison was 28 years old and living in Horry District at the time of the 1850 census. He was a schoolmaster who was born in England. In his home were Avy Harrison, a 28-year-old female and 6-month-old E. A. Harrison, both born in South Carolina. Redman Wells, a 65-year-old farmer born in South Carolina was also in the home, with the additional note “pauper.”

By the time of the 1860 census, Harrison was working as a clerk and notary in Conwayboro, Kingston Parish, Horry District. His household included Avy, 35; Sarah Matilda, 9; Frances Elizabeth, 6; Lilian, 3; and Georgiana, 9 months. The agriculture schedule for Conwayboro reported a farm of 5.5 improved acres with a value of $1,200.

Henry Hardee - Warden (Councilman), 1858

Henry Hardee’s will dated January 20, 1893, names his family members and identifies his property in the town of Conwayboro. His wife, Elizabeth J. Hardee, received half of his estate including “all the lots and parcels of land I now own in the village of Conway it being the same where on I now reside and the adjoining lots known as Lots no. 35, 36, and 48 and also that certain lot and parcel of land situate in said village near the...M. E. Church bounded by lands of Mrs. Currie and others.” The remaining half of his estate was shared by his daughter Eliza A. Oliver, his son B. Asberry Hardee, and his grandchildren, William A. Hardee and Florence Hardee.

Lots described in his will cover two-thirds of the block shared by the Conway Methodist Church, now First Methodist, lying between Main and Laurel Streets, and Fourth and Fifth Avenues. The Commercial Hotel, a big wooden structure, was located on one of these lots. H. H. Woodward, editor of The Horry Herald, reported in 1929 that Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hardee used to operate the Commercial Hotel on Main Street in Conwayboro. Mrs. Hardee survived him and operated it after his death.

The 1860 industry census for Conwayboro, Kingston Parish, Horry District identifies Hardy as a turpentine producer with $2,500 capital invested in his business. He owned a distillery and the annual production was 600 barrels of spirits and 2,400 barrels of rosin for a profit of $8,000 and $10,000 respectively.
In January 1857, Hardee paid tuition for Eliza, William and Berry for first grade at Conwayboro Academy. He was a member of Conwayboro Masonic Lodge in 1858.

James S. Burroughs - Warden (Councilman), 1858

James S. Burroughs of Conwayboro seems to have been originally known as “John Pulley,” and was born in North Carolina around 1818/19. About 1837, he married Julia Elizabeth Burroughs (b. abt. 1820 - d. abt. 1880). Julia was the daughter of Anthony Burroughs (b. abt. 1770) and his wife Mary, also of Martin County, North Carolina.

John and Elizabeth B. Pulley had two daughters, Lizzie and Polly. Neither Lizzie nor Polly ever married. In 1843, at age 24 or 25, John Pulley moved away and eventually settled in Conwayboro, Horry District, South Carolina around 1850. However, Elizabeth B. Pulley, Lizzie and Polly remained in Martin County, North Carolina where they lived out their lives.

At some point after his move from Martin County and apparently in order to start a new life, he decided to go by the name of his wife’s older brother, James S. Burroughs, who was living back in Martin County. It was under this new name that he lived out the rest of his life.

“Burroughs” seems to have relocated to Wilmington, North Carolina where he married his second wife, Charlotte A. Bennett (1827-1900). When they moved permanently to South Carolina around 1850 they had two young children. Eventually James and his wife, Charlotte, would have a total of five children together: William A. (1848-1901), Mary Ellen (1850-1921) (m. Samuel Stephenson Beatty), Thomas G., Martha J., and Charlotte M. (m. George G. Hough).

In Horry, he became active in community affairs. In 1857, he is listed as a member of the Conwayboro Academy Association; and, in that year, he paid tuition for two of his children from his second wife, William A. and Mary, for first grade at Conwayboro Academy. He was elected as the town marshal for Conwayboro in 1857 and then as a warden (town councilman) for the Town of Conwayboro in 1858. An interesting note appeared in a newspaper after that election remarking that all of the members of the council “are members of the temperance society.”

In the 1860 census for Horry District, he is listed as a merchant, born in North Carolina. The 1860 slave schedules for Horry District recorded him as having six slaves. While in Horry District he proved to be a respected citizen and by all accounts contributed to the public good.

Obituary of James S. Burroughs
Horry News, The (Conway, S.C.), August 15, 1874

The deceased was born in Martin county, N.C., and moved to this county in 1844, and remained a citizen of this county until 1873, when he moved with his family to Pine Bluff, his late residence. He was a man of strict business habits, industrious and persevering in all of his undertakings. A faithful friend; a neighbor generous to fault whenever he took a liking, surpassing in deed the good Samaritan. As a citizen he had filled offices of trust, discharging his duty faithfully and impartially. In 1871 and 1872, he represented this county in the State Senate, and proved himself a worthy and efficient member.

Public service for Burroughs continued during the Confederate War when he served as a member of the soldiers’ board of relief (1863-1865) and commissioner of public buildings for Horry District (1864-1865).

After the war in 1866, he is shown as paying taxes on several town lots in Conwayboro and 910 acres in Horry District. He was elected to the Board of Trustees for the Conwayboro Academy Association on June 3, 1867. He was chosen as a county commissioner in 1868 and was one of the corporators of the Waccamaw and Little River Canal Company in 1871. Elected to the South Carolina Senate as a Democrat, he represented Horry in the Forty-ninth General Assembly (1870-1872) and served on the committees on privileges and elections (1870-1872), mines and mining (1870-1872), the military (1870-1872), medical affairs (1870-1872), and claims and grievances (1870-1872). In the 1870 census for Horry County, he is listed as a “Grocer.”

In 1873, he moved with his family to Pine Bluff in Georgetown County where he was engaged in the turpentine business. At the time of his death, he was a part owner of the firm of J. S. Burroughs and Company in Pine Bluff and the owner of 3,120 acres of pineland in Georgetown County and 100 acres in Marion County. James S. Burroughs died August 9, 1874 at Pine Bluff and is buried in Lakeside Cemetery in Conway, S.C.
Alexander Elliott was born on April 15, 1818, to a Quaker family in Randolph County, North Carolina. He moved to South Carolina where he married Joanna Pickett Przyborowski, the daughter of Joseph Przyborowski, a Polish immigrant, and Susan Dicks Beaty of Conwayboro. The couple eventually had five children, Anna Cornelia (1866-1947), Alexander Przyborowski (1869-1938), John Walsh (1872-1967), Thomas Thaddeus (1875-1947) and Fannie Susan (1879-1968).

Elliott was living in Horry District in 1850 in the household of William and Mary Moore and was listed as a farmer in the census. By the 1860 census, he had his own home in Conwayboro and was working as a carpenter. Tradition credits him with building the homes of Capt. Samuel Pope and John A. Mayo, a merchant, as well as other buildings in the town and district.

Elliott was received into Kingston Presbyterian Church on July 11, 1858. He, Samuel Pope and F. I. Sessions were appointed to a committee to call Rev. W. A. Gregg as the church’s first regular minister in 1861. On May 22, 1863, Elliott was elected as a ruling elder of Kingston Presbyterian Church to replace the vacancy left by the death of Capt. Samuel Pope.

He married Joanna in 1865. Though he was not found in the 1870 census, his grandson, James R. Hobert Sr., picks up his story in an account presented to the Horry County Historical Society in 1972. Elliott became ill of a fever and was advised by his doctor to leave the swamps around Conway. With his family, he moved to Saluda [probably Saluda, North Carolina, 14 miles from Hendersonville, rather than Saluda, South Carolina], where he lived for a while and recovered from the fever. When he became employed by Southern Railroad to build a trestle at Hendersonville, North Carolina, he relocated there with his family.

The 1880 U.S. Census confirms Holbert’s story by indicating that the Elliott family is living in Clear Creek, Henderson County, North Carolina. Alexander, age 62, is a house carpenter; Joanna, age 40, is his wife. Their children are Anna C. Elliot, 13; Alexander P. Elliott, 10; John W. Elliot, 7; Thomas T. Elliot, 4; and Fannie S. Elliot, 8 months.

Alexander Elliott died in 1894 and is buried at Moore’s Grove Methodist Cemetery in Henderson County, North Carolina. Some of his descendants returned to live in Horry County, South Carolina.
is, gives an account of Norman’s wartime service. “Dr. James H. Norman ... became captain of the Brooks Rifle Guards, a militia group which merged into the Tenth South Carolina Volunteers after the Civil War began. After the Battle of Shiloh, he resigned his commission and returned to Conwayboro.”

Norman was appointed postmaster for Conwayborough on December 15, 1871, and served until May 1873. The date of his death and the place of burial have not been found.

Though these biographical sketches were written about individuals, they reveal a great deal about the history of Conwayboro and Horry District. Conwayboro, during the early nineteenth century and into the days of the Confederate War, was in many ways typical of numerous villages that grew into small towns during this time period. Horry District was fortunate to have the advantage of natural resources in the form of abundant pine forests used in the naval stores industry, navigable rivers for transportation and access to the ocean for shipping and sea travel. These advantages allowed men with vision and determination to create a prosperous community during the 1840s and 50s here on the banks of the Waccamaw River.

A Description of Conwayboro by Ellen Cooper Johnson (1844-1925)

Ellen Cooper Johnson (1844-1925) left her written memories of Conway for her family. A portion of these memories include the people and businesses of Main Street during the days of the early Conwayboro councils, and her words invite us to imagine their town. The title at the top of one page is “Conway on the Banks of the Beautiful Waccamaw River.” She wrote her account in 1924 at 80 years of age. Minor grammar, spelling, and punctuation changes have been made to these excerpts. Her words from 1924:

“We will now go from the Methodist Church down Main Street, passing the M. E. C. Cemetery we come to the Commercial Hotel. This is a very old building, has been remodeled and was once the home of John Readman. He was one of the early settlers, a merchant here for many years. His store stand on Main Street where the National Banks now stand. He was a good citizen who lived in Conway until his death. I do not remember all who have lived in this home but I will speak of those I remember. Once the home of Luke Marlow, Henry Hardy, Jery [Jeremiah] Smith, Mrs. Fanny E. Cune who lived here until her death. She was devoted to her church and Sunday School, a faithful church worker in the M. E. C. who now rests in its cemetery. Now this place, at the present day, is the home of Mr. Vaught.
From this corner, next was Readman’s store, Bell’s store where Mr. Tilley Sessions’ now stands, a Jewish [owned] store, Mr. Isaac Lewis’ store, Mr. Bolton’s law office, Mrs. Norman’s office (this was in front of her Norman Hotel which stood on the opposite side of Main Street) next on the corner the Buck and Beaty store.

Crossing Third Avenue on the opposite side from the Buck & Beaty store we come to the old Court House, now called the City Hall, next the old jail, then the McKeithan home on the corner. This home was built by Capt. Pope. He came from Maine, married Miss Sarah Richwood of Conway. He was a strict member of the Presbyterian Church. After his death Mrs. Pope went to Boston where she died, leaving one daughter, Miss Mamie Pope, now of Boston.

Crossing 2nd Avenue in front of Mr. McKeithan’s office we come to the old Conway [Robert Conway] lot. On this corner was the home of Thomas Holmes. This was once a lovely home with its pretty flower garden and the beautiful ivy covered porch. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes were very fond of flowers and kept this flower garden very nice. Two large walnut trees stood back of the house, also a large vegetable garden. Farther on to the corner of this lot was the home of Mrs. Susan Przyborowski, the daughter of Rev. John Beaty. This lot at that time extended from Main Street to Laurel. This was then the property of Thomas Holmes, next the river landing near the present depot. Thomas Holmes married Jane Beaty, Rev. John Beaty’s daughter. She was one of the most particular ladies I ever knew, careful in everything she said or did. She was a kind hearted Christian lady who had many friends in Conway. Maj. Holmes, as he was called, was at that time one of the head men of Conway. He was a merchant here many years. If you wished to know anything that was going on in this town or what should be done, just ask Thomas Holmes, for what he don’t know isn’t worth knowing, so said. But after all, he was a useful man in this town and a good citizen liked by all who know him. He lived and died in Conway and is buried in this old Kingston Lake cemetery.

Crossing Main Street to the opposite side in front of the Methodist Church we find the home which was once the home of T. W. Beaty, the son of Rev. Thomas A. Beaty. He built this home which stands there at the present time, 1924. This place was then as now a beautiful place, its noble oaks and pretty lawns. In early days this was called the Oaks. Much could be said of this place for it was the place for public speaking, big dinners, May parties. Many big dinners have been served beneath those beautiful oaks. Mr. & Mrs. T. W. Beaty took much interest in such things and did a great deal to make it pleasant for all at these big meetings...

Going from the T. W. Beaty’s, we cross 4th Avenue. On this corner is the store of John Spivey where in earlier days there had been a small office which was the printing office where the first paper was published in Conway. Further on Main Street was a store of Mrs. T. W. Beaty, built in 1865, also Miss E. J. Congdon’s store which stood next to the Norman Hotel. This hotel at that time was where the Burroughs & Collins Co. store now stands. From this hotel across the street [Norman Alley] where the Horry Drug Store now is [2016, The Trestle Restaurant] was then Aunt Norman’s flower garden. In this was a small store belonging to George R. Congdon, her grandson. This stood near the corner where the café now is. On this corner was the store of Mr. George Fisk, the corner of the Norman lot. Mr. Fisk owned considerable property in this town in the early [eighteen] fifties. This store was once the Potter store, later the Bethel Beaty store for many years. After his death, I do not remember all who kept there. At one time H. Kaminsky & Ballen, later years was the W. R. Lewis store, still later Waccamaw Hotel, now (in 1924) it is the New York café ...

From the Norman square on the corner where the New York Café now stands, we cross 3rd Avenue to the corner where the Trading Co. Store now is that was in the early days the store of Charles Malloy who was a merchant here many years. He lived where Mr. Paul Quattlebaum now lives. A few years before his death he moved to his farm at Glass Hill near Conway and there died. Further on Main was the store of Mr. Price, next the old Mason Lodge and near this was the shoe shop of Mr. Bill Abrams. He was a fine workman who made all the shoes and boots for Conway during the Civil War.

There were no [other] buildings of any importance until we come to the landing. Near this was a two-story house, the home of John Darby......

Mrs. Johnson was around twelve years old when the first Conwayboro council took office, and the people and town of her teen years are those she fondly describes. Our understanding of the late 1850s in Conwayboro is greatly enhanced by her memories.
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From the Writings of Carlisle E. Dawsey...

Hughes' Landing Celebration

John Hughes received a grant for 100 acres on the Pee Dee River in Craven County, South Carolina, on September 3, 1754. This grant was located in the present day community of Jordanville, and the landing at this site became known as Hughes' Landing. John and his son, John Hughes Jr., became large landowners and were a prominent family in the community with many descendants in the area to this day.

William F. (Bill) Davis (Nov. 21, 1914 - June 15, 2000) related to me that when he was a boy, one of the highlights of summer was going to Hughes' Landing for the annual Fourth of July Celebration hosted by the Jordanville Masonic Lodge. According to his account, the men of the lodge would go into the river and catch enough fish to have a fish fry or the ladies of the Lodge would bring picnic baskets of fried chicken, potato salad, and all the fixings. Folks would come by mule and wagon and park their animals in the shade of the woods surrounding the landing. While the adults visited, the children would swim in the river or play along its white, sandy banks.

About 11:30 a.m., a two-horse wagon would arrive from Galivants Ferry with a delivery that the Lodge had ordered especially for the day. It would contain a bag of sugar, a box of lemons, and the real gem, a block of ice packed in sawdust and covered with wet burlap. The men would back a wagon down into the river with a large barrel in its bed, and proceed to fill it with water straight out of the river. They would drive the wagon out of the river and position it alongside the wagon containing the sugar, lemons, and ice. The mixing process began with the lemons being cut and squeezed into the water; the sugar was stirred in with a boat paddle. The real treat was when the block of ice was uncovered and chipped up into chunks to be dropped in to chill the lemonade. He said the children clamored and grabbed for the small slivers and chips of ice that came off for a treat to melt in their mouths in the hot weather. In preparation of the meal, a prayer of thanksgiving was given. Mr. Davis said it was usually of sufficient duration to give everything time to cool down real well. Following that a delicious meal was had by all with ICE COLD lemonade.

There was no parade and no fireworks; however, a day off from work to play and swim at the river with ICE COLD lemonade to drink was plenty for a day of celebration.

Origin of the Name Dawsey Swamp

William Dawsey and Fowler Dawsey arrived in Craven County, South Carolina, in the mid-1750’s, presumably as poor Protestant settlers seeking land under grants that were available at that time.

William’s first grant was March 2, 1756 for 150 acres on the northwest side of the Little Pee Dee River adjoining Buckingham Keene’s Dogg Bluff Plantation (on the upper end of present day Brittons Neck). Fowler and he remained in that area for about ten years and then moved to the southeast side of the Little Pee Dee River. This move seems to have been influenced by The Reverend David Owens who was involved in the founding of Terrells Bay Baptist Church. The Reverend Owens had a plantation at Gapway where he was also involved in the founding of Gapway Baptist Church. His plantation was on the northwest side of the Little Pee Dee River and ran all the way to the river.

William received a grant in 1766 for 300 acres just across the river from The Reverend Owens. It started at a swamp (north of present day Galivants Ferry) which, due to common practice in naming places, was deemed Dawsey Swamp and ran northward.

Although Fowler Dawsey received a grant in 1786 for 75 acres, indications are that he was not pleased with the area and spent a great deal of time at the original site. Jury lists, petitions, etc. with Fowler Dawsey on them always finds him in the company of Keene, Britton, Sweet, Rowell, Kirton, Phillips, and other names associated with Brittons Neck.

William Dawsey and his wife Sarah had a relatively large family of five boys and three girls. Although he did not enlist in the Revolutionary War, his son William Jr. did. William provided supplies to the Patriot cause. From the records, it seems that some of the accounts were never settled to his satisfaction, because he could not get the officers involved into court to testify as to what he had provided, which sometimes was quite a bit. On one occasion the Patriots showed up at his plantation with 42 Tory Prisoners of War and required him to provide food and provisions for all the men and horses. On another occasion a squad showed up and compelled him to provide eight head of cattle for the Garrison at Georgetown, no small requests even by the standards of that day. These were just two of many.

From 1756 to 1803, he and his sons, along with Fowler, received 18 lands grants. It appears that they were firmly established in the area.

Oddly enough by 1815, all but one son and one daughter had either died or moved away. The Dawsey name survives today in Horry County in the descendants of that one son, Thomas Lamb Dawsey.
School Directory of South Carolina - 1919-1920

The following transcription was performed by Dena W. for South Carolina Genealogical Trails. Of interest is the great number of graded schools found in our area. This information contradicts the incorrect belief that there were only a few schools located in the area in this time period.

**State Superintendent of Education**—J. E. Swearingen

**Horry County Superintendent of Education**—M. J. Bullock, 1917-21, Conway

**Horry County Board of Education**—J. Baker, Adrian; T. B. Lewis, Conway

**Colored Work**—S. B. Williams, Conway

**Horry County Attendance Officers**—John Holt, Conway; N. C. Holmes, Allen

**Horry County High School**


**Rural Graded Schools**

Allen—E. C. Allen, Allen.

Athens—Miss Dollie Jackson, Nichols.

Aynor—Miss Bessie Jackson, Aynor.

Carolina—Miss Grace Watson, Tabor, N. C.

Cedar Creek—Mrs. Talitha Ingram, Nichols.

Cedar Grove—Miss Frances P lexico, Conway.

Chapel—Wilson Snipes, Galivant's Ferry.

Daisy—Miss Claudia Stanley, Alsbrook.

Ebenezer—Geo. W. Jones, Longs.

Eight-Mile—Miss Bertha Morris, Horry.

Eldorado—Ford Chestnut, Alsbrook.

Evergreen—Miss Odelia Grainger, Conway.

Finklea—Miss Mary Harrington, Loris.

Floyd's—Miss Eunice DuBose, Nichols.


Good Hope—Hal Holmes, Conway.

Grassy Bay—Mrs. Julia Ludlam Hardee, Fair Bluff, N. C.

Green Sea—Miss Essie Derham, Green Sea.

Gurley—H. O. Hux, Gurley.

Hickory Grove—W. C. Clardy, Conway.

High Point—M. D. Cox, Jordanville.

Homewood—Miss Myrtle Spivey, Conway.

Hugh's Mill—Miss Emma Bass, Tabor, N. C.

Hull's Island—A. C. Watson, Loris.

Joyner—George Stevens, Alsbrook.

Kingston—S. G. Tyler, Alsbrook.

Little River—Mrs. Rebecca Clark, Little River.

Loris—O. J. O'Neale, Loris.


Mt. Olive—Miss Littlejohn, Tabor, N. C.

Mt. Vernon—Miss Fannie Anderson, Alsbrook.

Myrtle Beach—H. B. Bryan, Myrtle Beach.

Oak Grove—John Bryant, Loris.

Oakland—Miss Marye Brooks, Fair Bluff, N. C.

Pine Grove—Mrs. Samuel Kelly Levin, Tabor, N. C.

Poplar—Miss Lutie Cartree, Allen, S. C.

Powell—Miss Dorethea Harrelson, Loris.

Rehoboth—Nelle Atkinson, Galivant's Ferry.

Sandy Plain—Miss Evangeline Wideman, Galivant's Ferry.

Savannah Bluff—P. E. Latham, Conway.

Seven Mile—Hal King, Conway.

Shell—Miss Dottie Tucker, Shell.

Sidney—Miss Alphie Norton, Alsbrook.

Simpson Creek—Miss Annie R. Felder, Alsbrook.

Socastee—Miss Nina Lewis, Myrtle Beach.

Spring Branch—Miss Bela Altaian, Fair Bluff, N. C.

Sweet Home—Geo. G. Jones, Loris.

Tilly Swamp—Miss Essie Lupo, Nixonville.

Waccamaw—Mrs. Agnes West Stanley, Nichols.

Wampee—W. B. Singleton, Wampee.

Wannamaker—Miss Tucker, Nichols.

Zion—Miss Evelyn Berry, Galivant's Ferry.

**Other Schools**

Baxter—Ruth Sasser, Gurley, S. C.

Deep Branch—Miss Sallie G. Ellis, Loris.


Haw Branch—Miss Lacie Bass, Galivant's Ferry.


Inland—Miss Edith Proctor, Bucksporit.


Midway—Sam J. Bland, Bucksville.

Pisgah—Ruth Harrelson, Nichols.

Twelve Mile—W. L. Singleton, Conway.

http://genealogytrails.com/scar/1919_school_directory.htm

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**In Memoriam**

**Memorial Gifts (Donations) For**


Kester V. “Bobby” Henderson by Hoyt & Joanne Graham

Phillip Causey by Lutricia Goodwin

Mike Anderson by Lutricia Goodwin

Gladys Bellamy by Ashley and Myra Bellamy

(Continued on Page 24)
A Letter from President Saundra L. Parler

Dear Members of the HCHS:

For many years, I have mailed a check to the Horry County Historical Society (HCHS) to support the work of those interested in preserving the history of our county. This year I have the opportunity to give both my check and my time. I am delighted to serve as your president and only wish I had become more involved earlier.

The HCHS began in 1966 and its first Independent Republic Quarterly (IRQ) was published in 1967. Charter Members are listed in the second issue. When you read the IRQs, you realize what a wonderful, valuable gift they are to the community. And thanks to Ben Burroughs who scanned all of the 1967-2006 IRQs you can now enjoy reading at http://www.coastal.edu/hcac/digital.

The HCHS has grown in the past fifty years. It maintains the Bryan and Quattlebaum Houses, publishes IRQs, maintains a webpage, and holds four interesting membership meetings a year. We have also started a new project, making movies of historical buildings. At our last Board meeting, we realized there were houses in Conway being sold by family members of the original owners. One of the houses was the Holliday house on Laurel Street. We were able to photograph the house and interview Weeza Holliday Smith one day before it was transferred to its new owner.

Currently a few people are “stretched thin” while wearing many hats. The future of the HCHS depends on you. We need a committee to maintain the Bryan House, one for the IRQs, one for the movies, one for genealogy, and maybe one for a new project, documenting history through art. Can you write an article, make a movie, take pictures, or interview someone? Do you know something we should know, someone we should interview, or do you know an old building, a business, or a barn that needs to be discovered? Can you help maintain the Bryan House? Do not wait to be asked, consider this your invitation. We need you. Please call 843-488-1966, email: history@hchsonline.org, or write The Horry County Historical Society, 606 Main Street, Conway, S.C. 29526.

(Continued from Page 23)

Recent Deaths of Friends of HCHS

Brenda Magee Cutts
Dr. Eugene Clemson Proctor
James Phillip Causey
Kester V. “Bobby” Henderson of North Charleston
Benny Sellers of Columbia

Sally Marie Loveland
Mary Ann Long Stalvey
Hope Tallevast Stalvey Godefroy
Lt. Col. William Burroughs Woodward
Gladys McNeill Bellamy
Janet Langston Jones