



# ***Greenwood County Historical Society***

P.O. Box 49653, Greenwood, SC 29649

January, 2017

## **President's Message - January 2017**

As we begin the new year we hope you will join us as we have a renewed effort to honor, present, and share local history with our citizenry. Please not only join us for our meetings, but I encourage you to bring a guest, ask someone to join our group, and decide to get more involved with our mission! We look forward to a more active fellowship in the coming year and your part in it. Also, if you have an idea for a program in the future please let me know. We would like to have your opinions.

We hope you attended and enjoyed our last meeting at Cokesbury College in November on the history of the college. Rob Jones led this presentation which was full of great information. We were presented a new perspective of the level and amount of importance the college played on our local area. If you were not in attendance, you missed a great event! Our next meeting will be to reward three property owners for our 8th annual Architectural Restoration and Preservation Awards (ARPA) on January 29 at 3:00 pm at the Greenwood Library. We had several nominations and enjoyed the process with each. We do have a rubric we use to evaluate each property that increases the integrity of the selections the board makes. We would be happy to discuss this process with anyone willing to nominate or who has nominated a property. We look forward to seeing you then.

We plan our fifth annual antiques fair on April 29th at Cokesbury College. For those that were a part of our undertaking last year as either a participant or worker, we appreciate your help. This was by far our most successful effort as GREAT weather, successful advertising, and a yard full of crafters and sellers made for a GREAT day. See Carol Scales for more information on our 2017 annual craft fair!

### **Dates for 2017 meetings:**

**January 29-** Architectural Restoration and Preservation Awards (ARPA)

**March 20-** Jonathan Bass- History of the Greenwood YMCA.

**June 25-** Joe Camp- Local Boys Serving in MacArthur's first Pacific Offensive:  
Beaudrot and Cheatham

**September 24-** Dr. Dee Stone- History of Lander College.

**November 27-** TBA

We appreciate your continued support! We look forward to seeing you at our remaining meetings this year! Please send any ideas or suggestions for meetings for next year to me @ ctinsley63@yahoo.com Also, if you would like to serve on our board, please let me know!!

*Yours in History! What is your Story?*

Chip

<http://greenwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com/>

# GREENWOOD HISTORY: OUR OLD ROADS

By Harry Legare Watson

These sketches about the early travel routes in the area that is now Greenwood County and early families who lived along the old roads were written by the editor of *The Index-Journal* of Greenwood, and were published weekly in this newspaper from August 18, 1940 (with an occasional break) until February 1950, numbered 1-428. They include considerable family history information as well as local and area history. They will be reprinted here in following issues with the permission of the editor of *The Index-Journal*.

No. 83

Saturday, March 21, 1942

Although not a resident of Cambridge (Old Ninety Six) John Ewing Calhoun, the father-in-law of his younger cousin, John C. Calhoun, had an "extensive law practice" there, according to records and observations of writers who knew. John Ewing Calhoun, often referred to as "the first educated man of the Back Country", was born in Augusta county Virginia in 1750. He removed with his parents Ezekiel Calhoun and Jane Ewing Calhoun to the Long Cane in 1756 and as a ten year old boy was a member of the party of whites, twenty-three of whom were massacred, attacked by the Indians after the whites had camped for the night on their flight towards Fort Moore near Augusta on the first day of February 1760. The site is near the present town of Troy.

John Ewing Calhoun in later life spelled his name with an "o" instead of an "a", thus; "Colhoun", as a move toward the original spelling "Colquhoun" of the Gaelic clan of North Ireland. He was graduated from Princeton College (now Princeton University) in New Jersey in 1774 and the following year was elected a member of the South Carolina Legislature. He continued a member until 1800, having become a State Senator meanwhile. He was elected United States Senator in 1801 and died at his home near Pendleton Oct. 26th, 1802. He was admitted to the Bar in Charleston in 1783 and practiced there a short time, later removing to "his plantation in Ninety Six District", according to the Biographical Directory of the American Congress. He married Miss Floride Boinneau, whose father was a large land owner on the Cooper river about twenty miles above Charleston. One of their three children who lived to maturity was Floride Boinneau Calhoun who married her cousin, John Caldwell Calhoun. Another James Edward Calhoun, naval officer, married Maria Simkins and built "Millwood" on the Savannah. He gave his library to the town of Greenwood about 1884. What was left of this library was destroyed when the Greenwood graded school building (first built by the Misses Giles) was burned in 1901.

The remaining three resident members of the Bar at Cambridge, Charles C. Mayson, Wiley J. Mathews and John A. Meriwether were natives of the community.

John A. Meriwether was admitted to the Bar in Columbia in 1825 and was either a son or nephew of Dr. Zachariah Meriwether, previously mentioned. What became of him is not known.

Wiley J. Mathews was a son of Drury and Mourning Pope Mathews and was admitted to the Bar in Columbia in 1826. He began the practice of Law at Cambridge immediately after his admission but lived only a short time. He was a young man of parts and much admired. Dr. R. C. Griffin says of him: "Had his valuable life been spared he would have been in the front rank of his profession." Mathews is buried in the old family burying ground in front of the old Mathews house on the highway from Ninety Six by "Rose-lands" out to the main highway from Greenwood to Saluda. A simple gravestone has this information:

Wiley James Mathews

Born March 19, 1800

Died June 29, 1828

Charles C. Mayson was well educated and prepared for the practice of law. He was graduated from the South Carolina College (now University of South Carolina) in the class of 1812. It was a class of men who became distinguished in State history. Among them were Chief Justice John Belton O'Neill, Henry L. Pinckney, Beaufort T. Watts, Whitfield Brooks and others. College mates were George McDuffie who was graduated in 1813 and Hugh S. Legare who was graduated in 1814.

After graduation Charles C. Mayson attended the famous law school in Litchfield, Conn., taught by Msrs. Reeves and Gould, the law school attended by John C. Calhoun. He was admitted to the Bar in Columbia in 1815. Mayson had a considerable practice at Cambridge and in the adjoining counties. His name has been noted on numerous legal documents still held by descendants of his clients.

Charles C. Mayson was the eighth child of Col. James Mayson and his third wife, Henrietta Hart, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Hart, rector of St. Michael's Church in Charleston from 1764-1770. Col. Mayson's first wife was, like Col. Mayson, a native of Scotland. Her last name is not known but her first name, from family records, was "Miriam." They had Nancy Mayson, Miriam Mayson, and Luke Mayson. Nothing is known further of Nancy Mayson and her brother Luke Mayson than their names. The third child, Miriam Mayson, married David Anderson, Revolutionary patriot of Spartanburg county and they have a number of descendants in this and other States.

Col. James Mayson's second wife's name is not known.

The records show four children: James Robert who married in 1787, date uncertain, Nancy Conway at "Peach Hill", descendants in Georgia; Elizabeth Mayson who married first Swift and then Davenport; Christiana Mayson married Clarke, native Scot; and William Mayson whose record is not known. It was this second wife of Col. James Mayson who was drowned in Wilson's Creek on the night of August 26th, 1775. The unfortunate lady had been to Ninety Six to hear a sermon preached by the Rev. Wm. Tennent and was on her return home when she was drowned. The Rev. Wm. Tennent, Presbyterian minister of Charleston, and the Rev. Oliver Hart, Baptist minister of Charleston, had been sent in 1775 by the Council of Safety in Charleston on a tour of the Back Country to develop and strengthen among the people the cause of Liberty. Mr. Tennent kept a journal of his activities. From it is taken a small extract telling of the death of Mrs. Mayson:

"(August, 1775) --27th--Went eight miles to Ninety Six, put up at Wm. Mores (Moore's). In our way, crossed Saluda at Mr. Creswell's ferry; and Wilson's Creek, at Pearson's mill. The fresh (freshet) was so high, as that we were obliged to put the chaise into a flat (boat) and cross the mill pond. Had a considerable meeting; preached from Neh. 11:3.

"Mr. Drayton (Hon. Wm. H. Drayton of Charleston), spoke and was followed by me. The audience appeared fully convinced, and as I learned, there remains not one who had not subscribed before, that did not subscribe now. Met with messengers from Long Cane, who came to solicit us to go thither; agreed with them on meetings in different parts of the district. Were alarmed in the night by a messenger to inform us that the wife of Major James Mayson was drowned in crossing Wilson's creek on her return from sermon."

Colonel James Mayson and his third wife, Henrietta Hart, had ten children. These added to the three by his first wife and the four by his second wife made Col. James Mayson the father of seventeen children.

Those of the third marriage were:

1. Archibald Mayson who married first Phoebe M. Chiles and second Miss Lowe.
2. James (?)
3. Katherine Mayson who married Elihu Cresswell.
4. Willis Mayson who married Miss Goudey.
5. John C. Mayson who married Mrs. Cowdry (nee Anne Moore).
6. Frances Mayson who married Dr. James Moore.
7. Louisa Mayson, died single.
8. Charles C. Mayson, the lawyer, married Mrs. DuBose (nee Margaret Glynn). No descendants now living.
9. Ramsay Mayson married Eliza Grundy.
10. Sallie Mayson who married first Maj. John Chiles Jr., at one time sheriff of Abbeville county; and second mar-

ried Garland Holloway. No children.

Of the above children, Archibald Mayson, son of Col. James and Henrietta Mayson, married Phoebe Chiles and had the following: Emeline; Mary Anne; Elizabeth who married Mr. Thew of Augusta; Caroline who married a Youngblood and Francis Marion Mayson who married Miss Wharton. Archibald Mayson had no children by his second marriage to Miss Lowe.

Katherine Mayson, daughter of Col. James and Henrietta Mayson, who married Elihu Cresswell had only one son, James Cresswell, early settler of Greenwood. Elihu Cresswell married second Sarah Hunter, daughter of Senator John Hunter and they had a large family, as previously mentioned.

Willis Mayson, son of Col. James and Henrietta Mayson, married Miss Goudey (family of Robert Goudey, the first white settler at Old Ninety Six) and they had John Ramsay Mayson and Robert C. Mayson. The latter married Frances Mayson, a cousin.

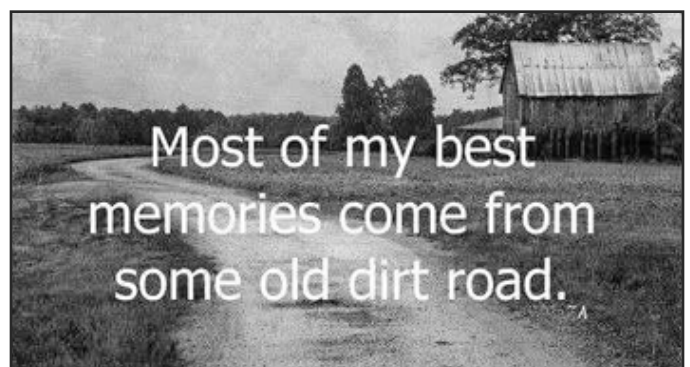
John C. Mayson, son of Col. James and Henrietta Mayson, married Mrs. Cowdry who was first Anne Moore. They had Henrietta Mayson who married John W. Connor; Henry Hart Mayson married Miss Mays and had the following children: Virginia, William, Robert, Ann, Martha, Emma, Girard, Jerome, and Brooks Mayson; George Washington Mayson who married Miss Lamar and had Josephine Mayson.

Frances Mayson, daughter of Col. James and Henrietta Mayson, married Dr. James Moore and they had two sons, Edwin and James Moore.

Ramsay Mayson, son of Col. James and Henrietta Mayson, married Eliza Grundy and they had: Dr. C. R. Mayson; Frances who married Robert Mayson, a cousin; and Sally Mayson who married a Murphy.

Sallie Mayson married first Major John Chiles Jr., and they had: James M. Chiles who married Sarah Tatum; Emily who married Dr. Lewis Ford; John Chiles who married Dr. Lewis Fort; John Chiles who married ----- and had two sons, Antonio and James M. Chiles.

Sallie Mayson Chiles married second Garland (?) Holloway, but had no children. (To be continued.)



# 2016 Greenwood County Historical Society Architectural Restoration and Preservation Awards (ARPA)

Each year the Greenwood County Historical Society honors homes that represent the best in historical architectural restoration and preservation and are at least 50 years old or older. Nominations are made from the community at large and are reviewed by the ARPA committee including Chairman, Chip Tinsley, and member Stephan Wiecki as well as the Board of the Greenwood County Historical Society. This year three homes and their owners will be honored at the January 29 meeting.

### The Grier House- 1932-

This Tudor style home, a Hemphill design, was originally owned by F E Grier in 1930. The structure has maintained its original structure and has not undergone many changes over its history. Owners are Mr. and Mrs. William F. Rogers.

### The Abney House- 1920-

John Pope Abney, founder of Abney Mills, and Susie Mathews Abney, founder of the Abney Foundation, built the four-square craftsman home in 1920 which has been lovingly restored and renovated to its earlier splendor. Owners are Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth David McCoy.

### Riley-Harkness-Jones House- 1830-

The original home was a two story log cabin built circa 1830 located on the original Abbeville Road. The front Victorian structure seen today was constructed in 1903 to incorporate the cabin. The cabin has been lovingly maintained and restored and still maintains characteristics of early Greenwood County integrated to honor the preservation. Owners are Mr. and Mrs. Mark Maxson



**5th Annual Antique and Artisan's Fair**  
**Saturday, April 29th 9am until 4 pm at Cokesbury College**  
**Crafters, Artisans and Antique Dealers**  
**Appraiser on Site for a donation (\$10 for two items)**  
**New or Used Yard Sale Items Needed!**

Call Carol Scales (227-0687) for pick up or delivery information Your donations are tax deductible

### 2017 Historical Society Dues

If you have a blue "X" on the face of this newsletter you are NOT current with your 2017 dues to the Greenwood County Historical Society. An addressed envelope has been included for your convenience. We appreciate your continued support as we plan and offer programs of historical information about our community, our state and our nation!



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**Return Service Requested**

