



Greenwood County Historical Society

P.O. Box 49653, Greenwood, SC 29649

January 2018

President's Message

January 2018

We hope you enjoyed our last meeting at Cokesbury College in November! Mac Wyckoff gave an outstanding presentation on Alexander McNeill's Civil War Letters. Mr. McNeill was a resident of Greenwood, the Phoenix community, and fought in the "war between the states". If you were not in attendance, you missed a great meeting as Wyckoff shared letters and introduced McNeil and his family to us! Those in attendance were treated to a wonderful presentation.

Our next meeting will be held at the Greenwood Library on January 28 at 3:00 and will present our annual Architectural Restoration and Preservation Awards (ARPA) as we recognize two local properties for their preservation efforts. Our two award winners are The Andrews House, 1938, owners Mr. Ted Andrews and Mrs. Joyce Hughston, nominated by Cliff Fagan, and The Medlock-Peterson House, 1915, owners Dr. and Dr. John Turner and nominated by Cliff Fagan. We will be celebrating these homes with their owners on January 28th.

Also, Ms. Joyce Bowden will speak on her local family connections to the Cokesbury/Tabernacle community and the McCants-Connor Family History. Her first book, *Four Connor Generations in South Carolina, 1790-1920* in (2014), has been well received. Ms. Bowden has been a tremendous supporter to the Tabernacle cemetery that is the final resting place of some of her ancestors and she will be here to share recent family research. Welcome Joyce!

In February we will partner with the Abbeville and McCormick history groups, local DAR and SAR groups as we commemorate the rededication of **the Long Cane Massacre Site in Troy**. The rededication will be on Sunday, February 4 at 3:00 at the site. Please be a part of this commemoration. Please enter from the Troy side of Old Charleston Road as we will proceed to the rededication of the Battle of Long Cane site marker on our way out.

Dates for 2018:

January 28 - ARPA awards and Ms. Joyce Bowden- Greenwood Library

February 4 – Rededication of Long Cane Massacre Site and area- Troy SC

March 25 - TBA

June 24 - History of Connie Maxwell Children's Home- Greenwood Library

September 30 - Roundtable Share of Greenwoods Football Past

November 4 - TBA

We thank you for your continued support of the GCHS! Financially, we appreciate the renewals, and in attendance of our meetings and support of our mission. Please join and bring a friend if you have not done so.

Yours in History! ctinsley63@yahoo.com 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. 88

Saturday, May 30, 1942

Continuing with old roads which were feeders to the Mathews Road, the great highway which ran across the entire length of what is now Greenwood County, the next feeder road below and parallel to the Phoenix-Ninety Six road was the old road running easterly from what long was known as Gaines store to what is now Epworth. In early days this was a road of importance. The origin of this particular road may be said to have been at Damascus church and on it were one or more old settlements, not all of which can now be identified, between this church and the crossroads where Hugh Williams store and the E. S. Moorer home are. The old road just mentioned ran in front of the Moorer house and it was tapped here by another road leading toward the Kirksey road and going by the J. V. Duffie home.

The E. S. Moorer home is one of the oldest houses in the county. It was built by William Thornton, a brother of Ephraim Thornton who lived nearer Damascus church. The late J. M. Gaines who owned the Moorer home for many years while he operated a large store at this place, said he bought the house and land from Dr. B. A. Ross in 1880 when the old Doctor decided to remove with his family to Texas. Dr. Ross was then over eighty years old. Dr. Ross bought the place from Russel Vaughan, who had come up from Newberry district, and he bought from Robert Red, who also owned the place where J. L. Williams lived. Mr. Gaines estimated the house to be one hundred and thirteen years old in 1935. This would mean the house was built about 1822. The Thornton name has disappeared from this section. Sir Henry Thornton, the great railroad executive and knighted by England for his work in handling the railroads of England during World War Number One, was a native of Indiana and a sketch of him published at the time of his death in 1933 said the grandfather of Sir Henry Thornton was a native of South Carolina who removed to Indiana. Whether he was of the family of that name here is not known.

Dr. B. A. Ross removed to this place from the present "Young Jim Griffin place", near Ninety Six, a place first settled by Leonard Andrews. Dr. Ross as a young man lived in the Buck Level section of Greenwood county. He had a sister Isabella Ross who married Marcus Aurelius "Reel" Crews, whose parents Stanley Crews and Amelia Waller Crews lived in the Buck Level community before locating in Greenwood. "Reel" Crews and his wife had four children. He was a Confederate soldier, captured and died in prison and is

buried in Washington. After the War his widow and four children removed to Anniston, Ala. There was a Stephen Ross living in or near Buck Level in 1821 as he is listed as one of the buyers at the sale of the personal property of Col. John Logan, deceased. Inasmuch as Dr. B. A. Ross named his oldest son Stephen a natural assumption is that Dr. Ross and the first Stephen were related, but whether the first Stephen was the father or a brother is not known.

Dr. B. A. Ross apparently was not related, or if so only distantly, to Thomas Ross or Willis Ross, whose families also lived in this section. The two latter were related to each other.

Dr. B. A. Ross married Miss Elizabeth Mabry of Abbeville. They had the following children:

1. Stephen Ross, married Lemie Burnett, a daughter of S. J. Burnett and his wife Arminta Hass. Stephen Ross taught school for some years in this section and then removed with his family to Coffeerville, Miss. where one of his sons, Stephen Ross Jr., became editor of a newspaper and the other, Horace Ross, became a physician. Later Stephen Ross Sr. removed to Texas and was joined by a sister and two brothers.

2. Nina Ross, married a McCracken.

3. Agnes Ross married Elias Lake Tolbert. They had seven children.

4. and 5. Felicia Hemans "Lissie" Ross and a sister, both died single.

6. Elizabeth "Bettie", a teacher, died single.

7. Ben A Ross Jr., became a Methodist preacher in Texas.

8. Samuel Ross, a lawyer after removal to Texas.

Old Dr. Ross sold his home place to J. M. Gaines in 1880 and for the next two years lived with his son-in-law, E. L. Tolbert and then, despite his age – over eighty – and very feeble health, he and his daughter, Miss Bettie, and two sons started for Texas. They went first to Augusta where the old Doctor had a heart attack, but they went on and in Atlanta, the end came. His body was carried to Coffeerville, Miss. where his son had lived and was buried there. The others went on to Texas.

On the south of the old house at Gaines the old road mentioned as the "Edgefield road" went by the home of the late J. Virgil Duffie. The place is now owned by his daughter, Mrs. J. D. Ethridge.

The first settler at this site appears to have been a McMillan, but nothing further is known of the family

other than that one of the daughters was the first wife of the late Amos Stallworth Sr., and their two children died in infancy. After the McMillans the next owner was Joseph Walker who built where the present house stands. He was not related to the Walkers of Rehoboth and Callison. The Walker family burying ground is across the road and opposite the house. There are only fieldstones as markers. Joe Walker himself is buried there and one of his sons who was killed in Confederate service. Neighborhood tradition is that the body was shipped by rail to Johnston, brought by wagon to the home and the burial here was by torch light at night.

Joe Walker had a brother Thomas who was the last of the family to live in this section. He was employed by W. H. Stallworth and was with him at the time of the cyclone of 1884, then removing to Graniteville. The land was later acquired by S. J. Burnett and from him descended to his daughter, Mrs. J. Virgil Duffie. Mr. Duffie was a native of what is now Saluda county, a son of J. Augustus Duffie and came into this section as a young man, first working for Lem Brooks just before the outbreak of the war in 1861. He enlisted and served as a member of Co. M. 7th S.C.V. After the war he married Henrietta Burnett, daughter of S. J. Burnett and located here. They had four children.

Next below on this old road to Edgefield was S. J. Burnett, a son of Isaac Burnett mentioned as living between Kirksey and Callison and in whose home the "mysterious voice" was heard for so many months in 1829 and which drew hundreds of visitors from this and other States.

The S. J. Burnett place, later the home of his son James H. Burnett, is now owned by Burr Connally. The house occupied by S. J. Burnett was burned in 1883 and his son James H. Burnett, schoolteacher as a young man and later farmer, rebuilt, but not on the exact spot of the old house. The great cyclone of Feb. 19, 1884 destroyed this house. James H. Burnett married Miss Gilson and they had two children. The remaining children of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Burnett were Mortimer Burnett and Martha Burnett. Mortimer Burnett married Miss Thornton and they had one child. Mortimer Burnett died in Confederate service, a member of Co. G. 1st S.C.V. Martha Burnett married J. Pinckney Burnett, in Confederate service as a member of Co. K. SC Artillery. They had three children.

From the old Edgefield road below S. J. Burnett's old home place, there was a plantation road up to the "Ouzts place" now owned by B. B. Rhodes. This is now a part of the paved highway from Greenwood by Kirksey to Edgefield. The "Ouzts place" faced an old road leading to the "Brooks place" about a mile away. The "Ouzts place" house was built by David Ouzts about 1850. Tradition is that he hauled the lumber for the house from lands he owned nearer Kirksey. The pine timber of that section from early times had a high reputation as building material. David Ouzts was the

second of the twelve sons of Peter Ouzts (Utz) who married Elizabeth Harling. Peter was a Revolutionary soldier.

David Ouzts was born -- 23 1790 and died in July 1858. He married Charlotte Stedham who was born Oct. 28, 1796 and died in July 1867. They had the following children:

Elizabeth, Mary, Thomas, Minerva, Frances and Benjamin. Two children died in infancy.

(To be continued.)

(Continued from last page - Long Cane Massacre) children, with 13 loaded Wagons and Carts; that he had since been at the Place where the Action happened, in order to bury the Dead, and found only 20 of their Bodies, most inhumanly butchered; that the Indians had burnt the Woods all around, but had left the Wagons and Carts there empty and unhurt; and that he believes all the fighting men would return to and fortify the Long-Cane Settlement, were part of the Hangers so stationed as to give them some Assistance and Protection." We have no late Advices from Fort Prince-George or any Consequence from Places in that Route. But from Fort Moore, we learn, that a Gang of about 18 Cherokee's, dwindled into 3 or 4 Parties, on the 15th Instant, way-laid, killed, and scalped Ulric Ihbler, Esq; a Captain of Militia in those Parts, as he was riding from his Father's to that Fort; and shot Mr. William Calhoun, who was with him, in the Hand: 3 other persons, who were in Company escaped unhurt: the Indian who killed Capt. Ihbler, left a Hatchet sticking in his Neck, on which were 3 old Notches, and 3 newly cut." Patrick Calhoun subsequently erected two stones to mark the site of the Long Cane massacre, upon the larger of which appears the following inscription:

Pat' Calhoun Esq'
 In Memory of Mrs.
 Cathrine Calhoun
 Aged 76 Years who
 WITH 22 others was
 Here Murdered by
 THE Indians the
 FIRST of Feb. 1760

These stones are located about two hundred and fifty yards to the right of the road from Abbeville to Troy, about three quarters of a mile beyond Patterson's Bridge over Long Cane Creek and about two and a Half miles from Troy and twelve from Abbeville. They stand in a little valley upon land was once owned by Dr. Mullwee, of Greenwood.

This site is now owned by the Emmet Davis family.

Greenwood County Historical Society

THE LONG CANE MASSACRE - THE CALHOUN FAMILY OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

By A. S. Salley, Jr.

In 1756 James, Ezekiel, William and Patrick Calhoun and their sister, Mrs. Mary Noble, widow of John Strobel, and their mother, Mrs. Catherine Calhoun, removed to South Carolina, arriving, according to a letter written by John C Calhoun, a son of Patrick, in February. They settled on Long Cane Creek, Prince William's Parish, Granville County, where they took up lands. July 18, 1756, 400 acres were surveyed out to William, who subsequently received other grants; November 7, 1756, two hundred acres were surveyed out to Patrick, who subsequently received other grants; July 11, 1758, 350 acres were surveyed out to Ezekiel, who subsequently received other grants; and August 11, 1758, 350 acres were surveyed out to James, who subse-

quently received other grants. Patrick had been commissioned by the Surveyor General (Egerton Leigh) as his deputy surveyor for this work and laid out the lands for his brothers. In 1760 the Cherokee Indians began to give trouble to the people of the up-Country of South Carolina and on the first day of February, 1760, while the people of the Long Cane Settlement were removing with their families to Augusta for safety they were attacked and twenty-three of the number were slain. "Yesterday at night the whole of the Long-Cane Settlers, to the Number of 150 Souls, moved off with most of their effects in Wagons; to 20 towards Augusta in Georgia, and in a few Hours after their setting off, were surprised and attacked by about 100 Cherokees on Horseback, while they were getting their Wagons out of a boggy Place: They had amongst them 40 Gunmen, who might have made a very good defense, but unfortunately their Guns were in the Wagons; the few that recovered theirs, fought the Indians Half an Hour, and were at last obliged to fly: In the action they lost 7 Wagons, and 40 of their People killed or taken (including Women and Children) the Rest got safe to Augusta; whence an Express arrived here with the same account, on Tuesday Morning." Mr. Patrick Calhoun), one of the unfortunate Settlers at Long Canes, who were attacked by the Cherokees on the 1st Instant, as they were removing their Wives, Children and best Effects, to Augusta in Georgia for Safety, is just come to Town, and informs us, ' That the whole of those Settlers MIGHT be about 250 Souls, 55 or 60 of them FIGHTING Men: that their Loss in that Affair amounted to about 50 Persons, chiefly Women and

(Continued on previous page)

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