

Explore Williamsburg County

Historical African-American Sites

Check out all the rich history Williamsburg County has to offer!



Prepared by
C. Williams Rush Museum of African-American Arts & Culture, 2024

Table of Contents

Section 1-Town

Kingstree African-American Sites

- 1 Williamsburg County Courthouse & Grounds, **Page 1-2**
- 2 Kingstree Train Depot, **Page 3**
- 3 Kingstree Post Office, **Page 3**
- 4 Williamsburgh Historical Museum, **Page 4**
- 5 Bethel AME Church, **Page 4**
- 6 Old Mt. Zion AME Zion Church, **Page 5**
- 7 Siloam Missionary Baptist Church, **Page 5**
- 8 Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, **Page 6**
- 9 St. Albans Episcopal Church, **Page 6**
- 10 Tomlinson High School, **Page 7**
- 11 Tomlinson High School Athletic Field, **Page 8**
- 12 WM Anderson Elementary School, **Page 9**
- 13 Benevolent Societies Hospital, **Page 9**
- 14 Dr. Mason's Medical and Dr. Chandler's Dental Offices, **Page 10**
- 14-A Dr. Cooper's Dental Office, **Page 10**
- 15 Stephen Swails Home Location and Historical Marker, **Page 11**
- 16 Redmond-Richardson Funeral Home (Redmond), **Page 11**
- 17 Dimery & Rogers Funeral Home, **Page 12**
- 18 Henryhand Funeral Home, **Page 12**
- 19 Battiste Flower Shop, **Page 12**
- 20 C. Williams Rush Museum of African-American Arts & Culture, **Page 13**

Section 2-County

Williamsburg County African-American Sites

- 21 Williamsburg County Historical Sites, **Page 13**
- Williamsburg County Equalization Schools, **Page 13-14**
- 22 Private Boarding School, Cooper's Academy, **Page 14**
- 23 Other Early Schools: St. John Colored School, St. Mark School & Union Church School, **Page 15**
- 24 Williamsburg County Rosenwald Schools, **Page 16**
- 25 McCollum-Murray House, **Page 16**
- 26 Epps-McGill Farmhouse, **Page 17**
- 27 Chubby Checker Home, **Page 17**
- 28 Maxine Brown Home, **Page 18**
- 29 Black Hospital in Hemingway, **Page 18**
- 30 Bethel African American Episcopal Church, **Page 19**
- 31 Bethesda Methodist Episcopal Church, **Page 19**
- 32 Friendship Methodist Episcopal Church, **Page 20**
- 33 St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, **Page 21**
- 34 Mt. Seal Methodist Episcopal Church, **Page 22**
- 35 Mt. Zion AME Church, **Page 22**
- 36 Marion Missionary Baptist, **Page 23**
- 37 Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, **Page 23**
- 38 Williams Vineyard & Farm, **Page 23**
- 39 Scott's Bar-B-Que, **Page 24**
- 40 St. Lawrence Center, **Page 24**
- 41 Kingstree & Williamsburg County Historical Markers, **Page 25**
- Color Coding & Acknowledgements **Page 26**

Section 1 **Town**

Kingstree African American Historical Sites

Williamsburg County Courthouse & Grounds

1 Williamsburg County Courthouse 147 West Main Street, Location: 33.663435, -79.830952

“Designed by Robert Mill, the c.1823 Williamsburg County Courthouse is built on land that was the site of the original parade and muster grounds for the militia during the Colonial and Revolutionary War periods. The building, a fine example of Roman Neo-Classic design, has a raised first floor, a pediment with lunette, and features Doric Columns. Constructed with 30-inch fireproof walls, the courthouse survived a second story fire in 1883. In 1901, a substantial fence around the courthouse provided a public square and hindered entrance of horses and cattle. In 1953-54, the courthouse underwent substantial remodeling, though it still reflects much of Mill's original design.” Per HMdb.org. It was the manual labor of the enslaved that constructed the original building in 1823.



Photo by Cassandra Williams Rush, January 25, 2018

Courthouse Grounds
Location. 33° 39.791' N, 79° 49.888' W.



Photo by Cassandra W. Rush, October 10, 2024

Inscription: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Nobel Peace Prize Winner; Drum-Major for Justice; Assassinated April 4, 1968; 1929 ~ 1968; "Unless we learn to live together as brothers, surely we will die apart as fools." Sponsored by the Williamsburg County Committee of 101, Aug. 21, 1993

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta on January 15, 1929 to Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta Williams King. He is a graduate of Morehouse College, Crozer Theological Seminary and Boston University. Dr. King was a Baptist minister, a peaceful activist and a leader in the Civil Rights Movement from 1954 - 1968.

His life and history are well known among school children and well documented. Dr. King led many marches to include the 1963 March on Washington where he delivered the infamous "I have a Dream" Speech. He led marches in Albany, GA, Birmingham, Alabama, Charleston, SC, Selma to Montgomery, etc. He received the Nobel Peace Prize 1964, and posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and Congressional Gold Medal. Beginning in 1971, Martin Luther King, Jr., Day was established as a holiday and a federal holiday in 1986. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial on the National Mall was dedicated in 2011. Dr. King visited Kingstree on May 8, 1966, Mother's Day and delivered his 'Let Us March on Ballot Boxes' on the Tomlinson High School Athletic Field to an estimated crowd of 5,000.

Inscription: Thurgood Marshall, J.D. Supreme Court Justice, Trumpeter for Justice; Mr. Civil Rights 1908 – 1993; 'I did the best I could with what I had'; Sponsored by the Williamsburg County Committee of 101, Aug. 21, 1993



Photo by Cassandra W. Rush, October 10, 2024

Thurgood Marshall was born in 1908 in Baltimore to schoolteacher mother Norma and Pullman Porter father, William. When he was in high school, Thurgood did not respond well to corporal punishment for misbehaving, so his punishment was to memorize certain sections of the United States Constitution. At that time, he had no idea that this punishment became his life career, claim to fame and notoriety.

Unable to attend a white university for an undergraduate degree, he enrolled at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, an HBCU. He graduated with a BS degree in 1930 after getting married during his senior year. His wife, Vivian Burey Marshall encouraged him to go to law school, but his application to the University of Maryland was rejected. With devotion and sacrifice from his mother, Thurgood attended and graduated from Howard University Law School. He was appointed as an associate justice of the Supreme Court in 1967 and served for 24 years, until 1991. Marshall was the first African American to serve on the Supreme Court. He was counsel to the NAACP and in 1954, won the Brown v. Board of Education, in which the Supreme Court ended racial segregation in public schools. He was a Judge, Civil Rights Activist and Lawyer.

The Williamsburg County Committee of 101 was responsible for the placement of the Dr. King and Thurgood Marshall monuments on the courthouse grounds. Too, the Warsaw Hwy, Hwy 527 was renamed the Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall Highway and the Lane Highway was renamed the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Highway. The King-Marshall Memorial Ceremonies was a four-part celebration that was held August 20-21, 1993. James A. Franklin, Sr. was the president of the Williamsburg County Committee of 101 and was a man of vision with a strong desire to preserve the African American heritage and history that impacted the nation and had local influences and impact.



American Legion Monument

Honoring All Who Served and Dedicated to the Everlasting Memory of those Who Gave Their Lives for the Cause of Freedom in World War I and World War II – listing the names of persons from Williamsburg County later was added the Roll of Honor for the Vietnam and the Korean Wars.



Photos by Cassandra W. Rush, October 10, 2024

2 Kingstree Train Depot

Kingstree Train Depot

101 East Main Street, GPS Coordinates: 33.663959,-79.828949

"This depot in downtown Kingstree has been serving trains since it was built for the Atlantic Coast Line in 1905 by Florence contractor W.J. Wilkins. Located in the heart of the Pee Dee, the trains passing through this Williamsburg County town The Atlantic Coast Line merged with Seaboard Air Line to form the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad in 1967. Though the company phased out passenger service by 1971, passenger travel to and from Kingstree did not end.

In 1976 Amtrak began stopping here, and the depot was named one of Amtrak's Great American Stations. Travelers can still catch one of four daily trains, including the Palmetto, which travels from New York to Miami.

Though the depot is historic, it has been restored and updated over the years to continue providing modern amenities. The depot is currently owned and maintained by the Town of Kingstree. Space within the depot has served several restaurants over the years and currently, the front of the depot serves as offices for Main Street, Kingstree.

The Kingstree Depot is listed in the National Register as part of the Kingstree Historic District which 101 E, Main Street contains forty-eight properties situated along Main Street, Academy Street, and Hampton Street in the commercial area of downtown Kingstree. The district includes the courthouse, public library, railroad station, and numerous commercial buildings." Quoted from the SC Picture Project.



Photo by Cassandra W Rush, Dec. 11, 2011



3 The Kingstree Post Office

The Kingstree Post Office was built in the late 1930s as a WPA (Works Progress Administration) project under President Roosevelt's New Deal. Construction on this building began in 1937 and was completed in 1938 with an addition in 1983.

A mural titled Rice Growing, seen below, adorns the interior of the post office. Located above the door to the office of the postmaster, the oil painting is the work of New York artist Arnold Friedman and is one of 13 paintings to grace various post offices throughout South Carolina. The murals were commissioned by the Section of Fine Art of the United States Treasury, which was established in 1934 for the purpose of installing art in public buildings, thus making it accessible to all. By SC Picture Project.



Photo by J. Gallagher, Jan. 2020



Photo Cassandra W. Rush, March 21, 2012

4 Williamsburgh Historical Museum

Williamsburgh Historical Museum

101 East Main Street, GPS Coordinates: 33.663959,-79.828949

The Williamsburgh Historical Museum is located in the old Carnegie Library building is an important property in the historic downtown district. The Carnegie Library was completed in 1917, and used as the county library until the present library was completed in 2000 on Jackson Street. The museum operates on membership dues through the Williamsburgh Historical Society and occasional grants. Society is a nonprofit organization. The society was founded in 1972 by a group of local residents who were concerned about preserving their history and heritage of Williamsburg County. The society's mission is to collect, preserve and share the rich history of the area with the community, with the community and visitors.

The museum features exhibits on the county's history, including Native American artifacts, Civil War era items, and displays on the agricultural and industry industrial history of the area. The society also maintains the library and the African American Archives which opened in 2023.



Photo by Cassandra W. Rush

Churches

5 **Bethel AME Church** 308 W. Main Street, green

Prior to 1881, worshippers were gathering in their homes when seven trustees purchased two lots on 8/1/1881; this churches property has been owned by African Americans for over 140 years. A board structure was built with two bell towers and an arched entryway with renovations over the years to include being bricked in the 1930's; Pastor's study, restrooms and kitchen added in 1960's; Sanctuary renovated 1970's and due to growth, a new church was built in 2004.

GBAME has been a major cornerstone of not just the AME Churches, but all churches in Williamsburg County, not only because of its landmark location but the many contributions of the members and citizens. Greater Bethel AME Church has a land area of 3.2 square miles.



Photos by Cassandra W. Rush, November 1, 2024



6 Old Mt. Zion AME Zion Church



Photos by Cassandra Williams Rush, November 1, 2024



Old Mt. Zion AME Zion Church 109 McFarlin Street, green

In 1973, a small group of devout Christians embarked on a voyage quite similar to the Pilgrims long ago in Kingstree, SC. This little band of Christians meditated and waited on the Lord. One day the Lord moved in the hearts of Mrs. Mary Ann Middleton and Mr. Albert Tharpe. They took their concerns to Bishop Arthur Marshall, Jr. of the ninth Episcopal District of the A.M.E. Zion Church. Bishop Marshall consulted with Presiding Elder C.J. Jenkins, Dr. Lem Long, Rev. Z.B. Wells and Rev. W.R. Jones to set the wheels in motion to build Old Mount Zion A.M.E. Zion Church.

The small band of Christians had begun worship services at the home of its faithful warriors. Prayer services and Church meetings were held weekly in the homes of Daisy Fulton, Eddie and Thomasina Miller, Johnnie and Laura Wallace, and Mary Ann Middleton. Finally, the Lord moved in the Hearts of the members of North Kingstree Baptist Church and Rev. Eugene Burrows who opened their church doors to Old Mt. Zion every 2nd and 4th Sundays for worship services.

Bishop Marshall appointed Rev W.R. Jones as a part time pastor for Old Mt. Zion for several months. Then he appointed Rev. James A Diggs as a full-time pastor for this dedicated flock of Christians.

The Ground breaking ceremony was held on, January 20, 1974, at Bethel A.M.E. Church. The Corner Stone was laid, and the Dedication Service was held Nov. 9, 1975.

Through the years the Lord has blessed this congregation with God Fearing Pastors, namely Rev. W.R. Jones; Rev. James A. Diggs; Rev. Blair; Rev. Marion Wilson; Rev. Clifford Barnett; Rev. Michael Polk; Rev. Eddie Jones; Rev. Dr. G.G. Johnson; Rev. Benjamin Miller, Sr.; Rev. John S Gary, Sr.; Rev. Dr. Robbie C McKesson and Rev. Monica C. Davis.



Photo by Cassandra Williams Rush, April 23, 2013

7 Siloam Missionary Baptist Church,

Siloam Missionary Baptist Church,
200 Madison Ave., green

1882: Siloam Baptist Church was founded by seven dedicated Christians of a Negro community in Kingstree, SC who were aided by two concerned residents of Camden, SC, Rev. Monroe Boykin and Rev. M. W Gilbert (Benedict College Professor). The seven founding members operated as a church congregation under the leadership of Dr. Rainey Roberts.

1906: Records show that land "Lot" was given to the Trustees of the newly formed Siloam Baptist Church by E. R. Roberts of Florence County and Cohen and Sarah Whitehead of Union County. The sole purpose of the land gift was to help the small congregation secure a place to hold religious services. That place was on the corners of Mill and Jail streets (now Jackson, opposite the Kingstree Post Office).

1924: Siloam was indebted to the Wee Nee Bank of Kingstree for the sum of \$12.00. At the time, the lot which the Church stood was sold to J. E. Porter, for the sum of \$300.00, by Trustees, W. W. Battiste and J. L. Winters.

Siloam Baptist Church needed a new place to hold religious services. It then became possible following the death of an elder Kingstree resident of the Fulton Family. Mr. Fulton's death left his property available for purchase. The Church Trustees paid the \$350 due on the property to Williamsburg County and gained ownership to one-half of the property. The remaining half was maintained by the Fulton Family.

1969: Following the meeting of the NAACP, held at Siloam and hosted by Siloam's Deacon McFarlin, the Church Sanctuary was destroyed by fire. Worship Services were held in the Christian Education Building until a new sanctuary could be built. Rev. W. M. Parker died before its completion.

1973: The present-day Sanctuary was erected and dedicated to God; the Christian Education Building renovated and re-named in memory of Rev. W. M. Parker.



Mt. Zion United Methodist Church



Photo by Cassandra Williams Rush, April 23, 2013

8

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
701 St. John Street, green

9

St. Albans Episcopal Church

113 E. Church Street (Church faces Hampton Ave.), green

Because St. Alban's specifically mentioned, acknowledged and included 'Blacks' on their Historical Marker, they are being included in the Historical African American Sites in Kingstree.

'St. Alban's Episcopal Church has long been the only continuously active Episcopal congregation in Williamsburg County. It was founded in 1879 by Carrie Simons (1849-1938), who persuaded Bishop W.W. Howe to help her organize a mission church with a few communicants. In 1887, Simons moved to Kingstree and married Michael F. Heller. She continued to support St. Alban's until her death. This sanctuary, a fine example of the Carpenter Gothic style, was built between 1889 and 1895 and was completed during the tenure of the Rev. Herbert Jarvis. Who served as priest 1894-98 and named the church St. Alban's. The Revs. William Guerrey and William Moore, supply priests here 1891-94 and 1940-44, later became bishops. White and Black families have worshipped together at St. Alban's since 1890".

The last Black member, Mr. Bacoate attended until his passing in 2010.



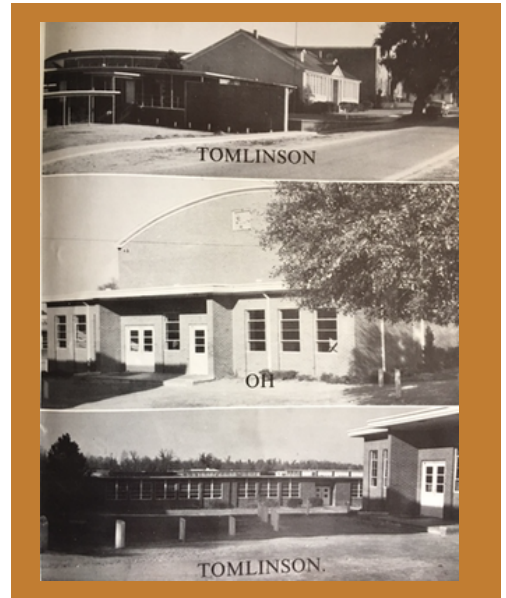
Photo by Cassandra Williams Rush, April 23, 2013

10 Tomlinson High School

701 Tomlinson Street; yellow, teal, black
Historical Marker 45-26

Tomlinson was founded in 1866 at the first public Negro School, not only in Williamsburg County, but in the state of South Carolina and is the 'mother school' of the county. Prior to the Equalization Schools of the 1950s, beginning in 1866, children attended community and church schools, Rosenwald Schools and came to Tomlinson to get their high school education. When established in 1866, it was then named Kingstree Graded and High School.

Tomlinson is a Rosenwald School: The State Department of Education ordered the construction of the first school building (a two-story brick building called the red building) located on the corner of Tomlinson Street and Lexington Ave. According to the Annual Report to the SC Department of Education, President and CEO Mr. Julius Rosenwald of Sears Roebuck and Company of Chicago established the Rosenwald Fund, in partnership with Booker T Washington gave millions of dollars to education and welfare organizations for Negroes. Funds were paid through the SC Department of Education for erecting the first building at Tomlinson School. The new building consisted of nine classrooms, an administrative office and a library. The two-story red brick building was constructed 1923-1924. The writer attended classes beginning in 1960 in this building with Mrs. Thomas in 6th grade and Ms. Miller in 7th grade.



Tomlinson is an Equalization School.

Tomlinson High School graduated its last class in 1970. The writer, Ms. Rush, graduated in 1966, the Centennial Class. Tomlinson's Athletic Field was the location of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Let Us March on Ballot Boxes" speech on May 8, 1966. Tomlinson's history extends beyond a century in spite of the fact that the doors closed in 1970. Its impact upon the state of South Carolina and nationally, if not internationally will forever be ingrained in the history of Williamsburg County via its many, many students and their contributions.

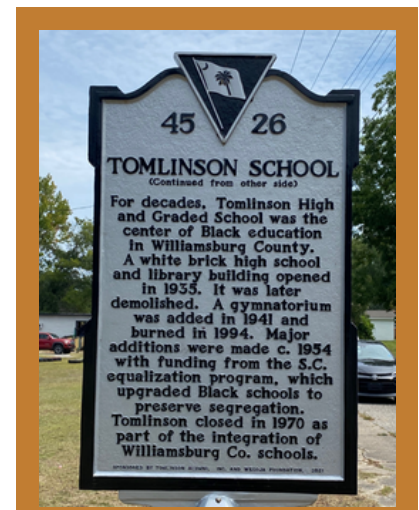
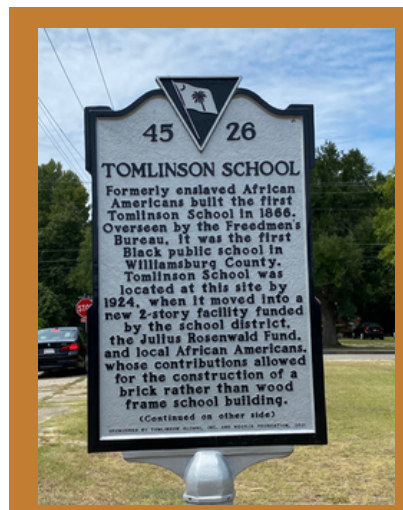
The detailed history of Tomlinson was published in Kingstree's THE NEWS in February 2015; corrections are to be added to include the school began in 1866.

Tomlinson School is the first Negro public school in the state of SC and founded in 1866 through the Freedman's Bureau and we were instrumental in securing the Historical Marker for the school site. Additionally, Tomlinson is a

Rosenwald School, Equalization School and the location where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his 'Let Us March on Ballot Boxes' speech on May 8, 1966.



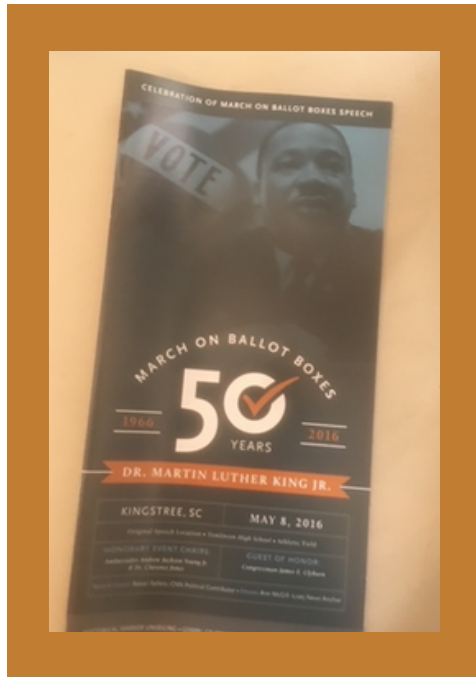
Photos by Cassandra W. Rush: Monument, Historical Marker and school



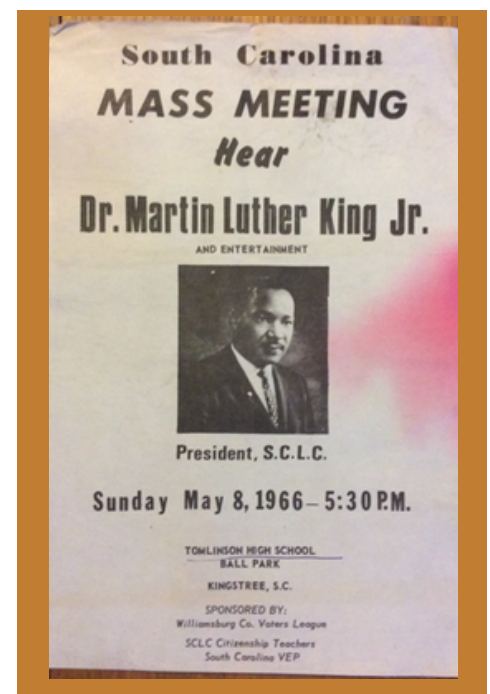
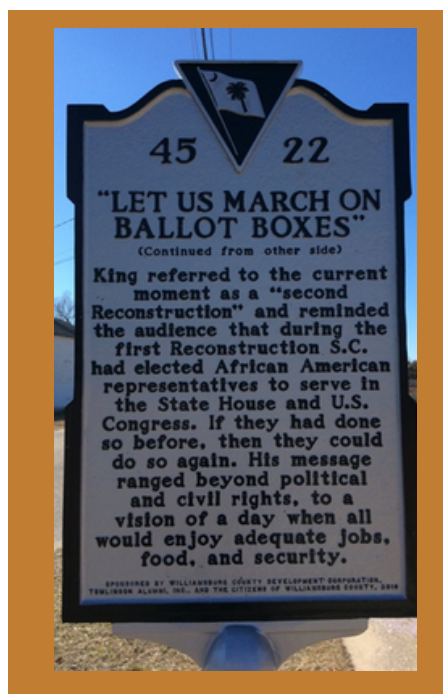
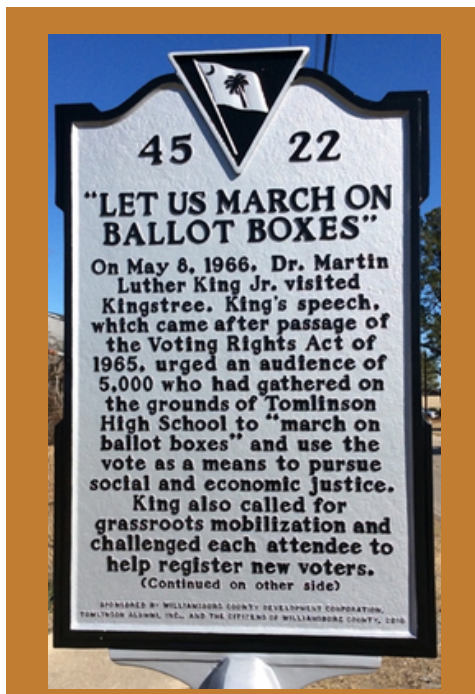
11 Tomlinson High School Athletic Field

701 Tomlinson Street; Historical Marker 45-22

On May 8, 2016, there was a 50th Anniversary celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King's speech on Tomlinson's Athletic Field in Kingstree.



Photos by Cassandra W. Rush on May 8, 2016



12 WM Anderson Elementary School

Currently Anderson Primary School, 500 Lexington Ave., yellow

Prof. Anderson served as supervisory principal at Tomlinson from 1956-1958 while Mr. James M. McAlister served as principal. After serving as principal for 38 years, Prof Anderson then went to the school of his namesake and served W. M. Anderson Primary School for the 1961-1962 school year, then he retired.

Abbreviated history of Prof. Anderson: When D.L. Fulton resigned as principal of Tomlinson Elementary and High School in 1923, Professor William M. Anderson, Sr. of Society Hill, a Benedict College graduate became principal when the school year resumed in the fall of 1923.

Prof. Anderson was met by many of Tomlinson's former students who returned after receiving their degrees and became teachers. Tomlinson was now attracting students from all communities of Williamsburg and surrounding counties. Prof. Anderson had one of the most prepared and energized faculties in the state of South Carolina and they provided him the momentum to get the school year off to an excellent start. Therefore, the students were very receptive and willing to assist in raising funds to sustain the school. Prof. Anderson continued his leadership for many years and made a positive influence on the school and the community.

The teachers serving under the leadership of Prof. Anderson as head principal included Mrs. Charlotte Reese Anderson, Rosa Levallie Brown (also listed as a 1925 graduate), Clara David, Mrs. Minnie Sawyer Franks, Mrs. Mildred Sawyer Mason, Mrs. Anna McFarlin, Mrs. Estes Dimery Rogers, Mrs. Zenobia Swails and Mrs. Flossie Wilson.

Prof Anderson was principal when the brick two-two story Rosenwald supported building was constructed. The new building consisted of nine classrooms, an administrative office and a library.

The two-story red brick building was constructed 1923-1924. W.M Anderson was an Equalization School, c. 1953.



Photos by Cassandra W. Rush



13 Benevolent Societies Hospital

(Later Dimery & Rogers Funeral Home), 1100 E. Main Street; Historical Marker 45-25



Photos by Cassandra Williams Rush, April 13, 2023

The Benevolent Societies Hospital was created to serve the health needs of the African American population in Williamsburg County during the Jim Crow Era who were not allowed to be served by the local white hospital, because of segregation. Before this hospital, African American Physician Dr. Mason and a few white doctors in segregated facilities provided the limited medical care. Midwives delivered babies, and parents and grandparents had home remedies for sicknesses and illnesses.

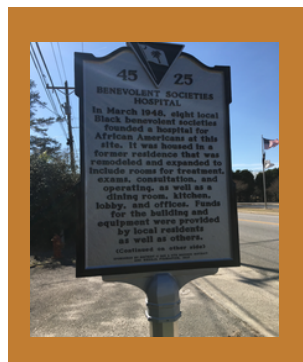
"Founded March 1947 and renovated August 1965 by the several Benevolent Lodges and Societies for the purpose of providing medical care for the sick and infirm."

The funding for the hospital was provided by Lodge and Societies: Farmers Aid, Home Charity, Joint Stock, Joseph and Brothers, Mutual Israelite, Peoples Improvement Association, Sons and Daughters of Jethro, Sons and Daughters of King Solomon, Young People's Christian and Benefit Society.

According to the 1953-1954 Constitution and Bylaws, 'It is formed for the purpose of conducting and operating a general hospital and to carry on the educational, scientific and philanthropic activities as are incident to modern hospital work.'

Officers: William W. Smalls - President; E. W. Lawrence - V. President; Mable McDaniel - Recording Secretary; E. I. Lawrence - Financial Secretary; Jerome Pressley - Treasurer; Mary Ann Middleton - Superintendent; Joseph A. Mason, M.D. - Chief of Staff.

After the hospital closed, the Dimery and Rogers Funeral Home moved into the 1100 E. Main Street location in 1982 from their prior location on Madison Ave.



14 Dr. Mason's Medical and Dr. Chandler's Dental Office

131 Railroad, Ave.

The first African American Physician in Kingstree, Dr. Joseph Addison Mason practiced in Kingstree for 49 years and died at 81 years of age on Friday July 8, 1966 in his home on Main Street on Friday. He was born December 6, 1884 in Lynn, Mass., and moved to Georgetown, British Guiana in his early childhood and two years later moved to South America. He attended elementary and high school in South America.

He began his college education at New York University and was graduated from Boston University Medical School in 1913.

He was married to the late Mildred Sawyer Mason on June 6, 1918 and they had one daughter, Mrs. Ella Gertrude Redmond. Mrs. Redmond was married to Neal Redmond and they had two sons, William N. Redmond Jr. and Joseph N Redmond. Mr. Redmond owned the Redmond Funeral Home in Kingstree.

Dr. Mason practiced in Kingstree in his office on Railroad Avenue from around 1917 to 1966. On the cornerstone at the Benevolent Societies Hospital, it states that the hospital was founded in March 1947, renovated August 1965 and lists Dr. Mason as the Chief of Staff. Dr. Mason's obituary can be found in The State, July 9, 1966, page 14.



Dr. Joseph Addison Mason (born December 6, 1884/died July 8, 1966) Chief of Staff of the Benevolent Societies Hospital of Kingstree (ca. 1955).

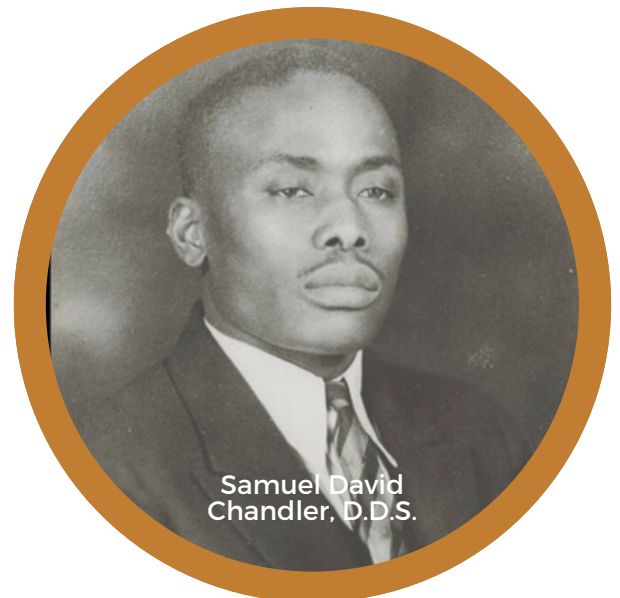
Williamsburg County, SC 'A Pictorial History'



Photo by Cassandra W. Rush January 19, 2019

Samuel David Chandler, D.D. S., graduate of Meharry Medical School in Nashville, Tennessee in 1932 and first licensed Black dentist in Williamsburg, and possibly in SC.

Dr. Chandler has an estimated birthday of 1895-1905 and passed away on July 7, 1944.



Samuel David Chandler, D.D.S.

Williamsburg County, SC 'A Pictorial History'

14-A Dr. Cooper's Dental Office

109 Longstreet Street



Photograph by Cassandra W. Rush
November 1, 2024

15 Stephen Swails Home Location and Historical Marker

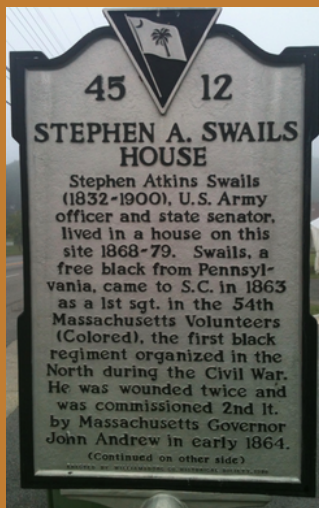
Lt. Stephen A. Swails, (1832-1900) Kingstree Mayor, State Senator,
Civil War Soldier, Lawyer
Historical Marker 45-12

The house was torn down and an Historical Marker is at the location. Lt. Stephen Atkins Swails, a Black Civil War soldier and a member of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, was also the mayor of Kingstree, S.C., a state senator, a member of the Electoral College, and an attorney.

Swails was a member of the famous 54th Massachusetts Regiment, one of the country's first black fighting units, famous for storming Fort Wagner in South Carolina. The unit's story was told in the Hollywood film Glory.

In the early 2000's, Kingstree attorney Billy Jenkinson, an historian was presented with a trunk of Swails' personal documents that had been abandoned and headed to the dump. The trunk inspired Jenkinson and local historians to share and recognize the contributions and struggles of Swails.

Historians say Swails was remarkable because after the Civil War, he was one of a few northern Black soldiers who decided to make a new life in the very towns where they'd just done battle. After he was discharged, the biracial New York native moved to Kingstree. And less than two years later, Swails rode the new voting power of emancipated Blacks to the state Senate on the Republican ticket.



Historical Marker
Photos by Cassandra W. Rush



16 Redmond Funeral Home (Redmond-Richardson Funeral Home)

104 N. Brooks Street



Photograph by
Cassandra W. Rush, Feb 10, 2019

Redmond Funeral Home began in 1948. In 1978 it later became and is known as Redmond-Richardson Funeral Home, Inc. Redmond-Richardson Funeral Home, Inc. has been serving the Kingstree, South Carolina area with compassion and respect for over 70 years. Our deep roots in the community are a source of pride, as we grow side by side with the families we serve.

A tradition of excellence was set by D. W. Richardson and the legacy will continue. The man you could lean on in a lonely hour, has left a staff you can depend on every hour. We stand united and able to serve you during your most difficult times of bereavement by offering you the most dignified, economical, professional and compassionate services.



Image/Address provided by Google
1976

17 Dimery & Rogers Funeral Home

1st Location-Madison Ave.; 2nd Location-1100 E. Main Street
Currently Located at 404 E. Main Street

In 1982, Dimery and Rogers Funeral Home moved into the old Benevolent Societies Hospital building with Virgil Dimery, Sr. as co-owner. Virgil passed in 1987 at 69 years of age, and after co-owner Johnie Dimery passed, it was passed to his daughter Lorraine. Lorraine was a widow in 2015 and moved to Columbia.



Photo by Cassandra W. Rush

18 Henryhand Funeral Home (Original Location)

812 Tomlinson Street

Pressleys's Funeral Home is currently located at 812 Tomlinson Street. The Henryhand Funeral Home was first located on Tomlinson Street and later relocated to 1951 Thurgood Marshall Hwy. Henryhand Funeral Home is a family owned and operated funeral home. They have served the Kingstree community for over 60 years and serves the community in their time of need. Their funeral home family helps your family to celebrate the life of your loved ones. They will help you plan a celebration of your loved one that reflects their and your family wishes.

19 Battiste Flower Shop

212 S. Longstreet St



Photos by Cassandra W Rush, October 10, 2024

20 C. Williams Rush Museum of African-American Arts & Culture

200 Hampton Avenue

The C. Williams Rush Museum opened in December 2010 with the “Beautiful Black Christmas” Exhibition and provides rotating exhibitions and interpretations on a continual basis. The main focus has shifted to researching and documenting the history and contributions of Williamsburg County African Americans from the Jim Crow Era and earlier.

The mission is to document, support, recognize and emphasize the history and contributions of African Americans in general, but more specifically in Kingstree and Williamsburg County, and incorporate more diversity in programs for children. A goal is attract more tourists and visitors to Kingstree and Williamsburg County.



We have researched the 10 Williamsburg County Rosenwald Schools, (constructed 1920-1930), and created a brochure; nine (9) Equalization Schools (Constructed 1950-1960) and the ongoing research in identifying all of the early Negro, Colored, Black and African American Schools from 1866 for a total of ~90 schools.

We have created and hosted museum exhibitions and programs: The Harlem Renaissance: SC Connections?; Quilts and Quilters of Williamsburg County; African American in History; Williamsburg County Art Students' Exhibition; African American Doll Collection; Pottery, Ceramics, Cookie Jars, S&P; A Beautiful Black Christmas, etc.

Additionally, during COVID, we received funding to increase vaccine confidence in the SC Black Community where we shared information and conducted vaccination and testing events. We have addressed the health of our communities via a Mobile Health Unit and served several counties providing health screenings.

We are considered a 'Community Hub' for being a location that provides numerous services to our community for group activities, social support, public and health information, etc.

We have received numerous recognitions for our efforts and impact on our community.

Section 2 County

21 Williamsburg County Historical Sites

Williamsburg County Equalization Schools

“In 1951, South Carolina politicians knew their racially segregated public school system did not meet the constitutional standard of separate but equal and faced a lawsuit. South Carolina passed its first sales tax to fund new school buildings for Black children which became known as the ‘equalization schools’. The state’s goal was to preserve racial segregation in schools. However, like many one room rural schools, one room schools of the early 20th century, equalization schools were notable spaces of black culture in the community, making the buildings contradictory symbols that represent both races in the school community.

“In 1951, SC African American parents in Clarendon County filed a lawsuit, called Briggs v. Elliott and was the first case in the nation to sue for desegregation of elementary and secondary public schools, as opposed for calling for 'equal ' facilities. This court case went to the US Supreme Court as part of the Brown v. Board of Education declaring public school segregation unconstitutional. Five cases were consolidated under Brown v. Board of Education and included, Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas; Briggs v. Elliott, SC; Davis v. County Board of Prince Edward County, Virginia; Bolling v. Sharpe and Belton v. Gebhart and Beulah v. Gebhart. In 1954, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled on Brown v. Board of Education that state-sanctioned segregation of public schools was a violation of the 14th Amendment and was therefore unconstitutional. Attorney Thurgood Marshall, lead counsel for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Inc. and Harold Boulware a local SC Lawyer, filed the Briggs v. Elliott in the fall of 1950. Later, Thurgood Marshall was assigned to serve as a Supreme Court Justice.”

1) Battery Park Elementary & High School, c.1953;
(Battery Park Elementary School),
1467 Battery Park Rd, Nesmith.....yellow

2) Blakely Elementary & High School, c.1953;
(D. P. Cooper Charter School,
4568 Seaboard Road, Salters.....yellow

3) Cades Elementary & High School, c.1953;
(Cades Hebron School)
3783 Green Road, Cades.....yellow

4) Chavis Elementary & High School, c.1953;
(Hemingway High School),
2811 S. State Hwy 41-51, Hemingway.....yellow

5) Lane Consolidated Elementary School, c.1956;
(Lane Head Start),
175 Edwin Road, Lane....yellow

6) St. Mark Elementary & High School, ; c.1954;
6628 Thurgood Marshall Hwy., Kingstree.....yellow

7) Williamsburg County Training School, c. 1953;
(later renamed C E Murray High School),
222 C. E. Murray Blvd, Greeleyville.....yellow



Battery Park Elementary & High School, c.1953

Photo by Cassandra Williams Rush,
November 12, 2024

8) W. M. Anderson Elementary School, c.1954;
(Anderson Primary School,
500 Lexington Ave., Kingstree.....yellow

9) Kingstree Graded and High School, 1866;
Tomlinson Elementary and
High School-Rosenwald 1923;
Tomlinson High School c.1954
Equalization School, Kingstree

22 Private Boarding Schools

10) Cooper's Academy,
2000 Cades Road, (SC Hwy. 512, Cades);
Historical Marker 45-15.....pink, black



Photographs by Cassandra Williams Rush, May 10, 2010

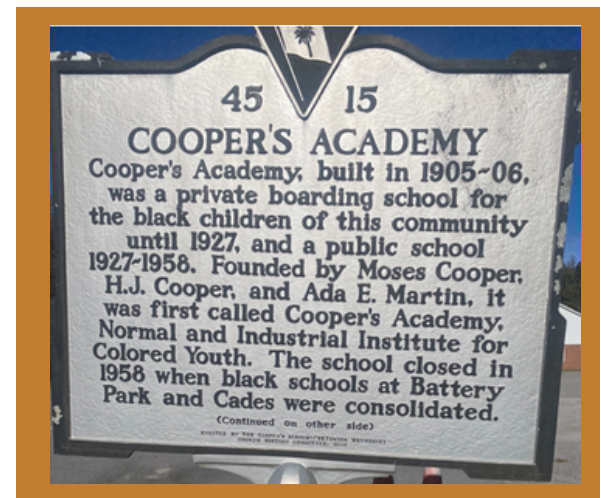
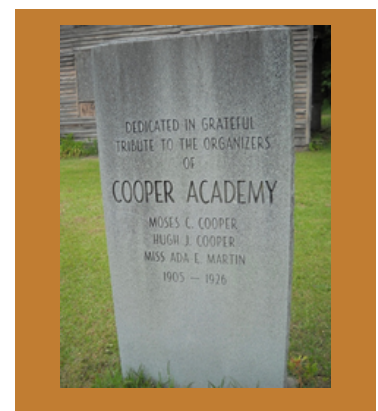


Photo by Ronita Cooper Gaddist,
November 24, 2024

Cooper's Academy, built in 1905-06, was a private boarding school for the black children of this community until 1927, and a public school 1927-1958. Founded by Moses Cooper, H.J. Cooper, and Ada E. Martin, it was first called Cooper's Academy, Normal and Industrial Institute for Colored Youth. The school closed in 1958 when black schools at Battery Park and Cades were consolidated. Bethesda Methodist Church, founded in 1879, was organized in a brush arbor. Its first permanent church, a one-room sanctuary built about 1884, stood 1/4 mi. W. The congregation bought a two-acre site here in 1893 and soon built a one-room frame church. The church was rebuilt in 1971 during the pastorate of Rev. J.B. Bowen. The remains of the dormitory are still standing at the left rear of the church.



Photograph by Cassandra Williams Rush,
May 10, 2010

23 Other Early Schools

11) St. John Colored School,
Green Road & McKenzie Loop,
Recently Approved Historical Marker; pink, black

12) St. Mark School,
Near 1497 Old Georgetown Road, one of
two early St. Mark(s) Schools in
Williamsburg County, possibly a
Rosenwald School; (building has been
demolished), Hemingway

13) Union Church School,
216 Union Church Road, Salters
Recently Approved Historical Marker; pink, black



St. Mark School,

Photo by Cassandra W. Rush

The Union Church School is the only known early school building still standing of the early Williamsburg County Schools, prior to the Equalization Schools of the 1950's.

The school was located in close proximity to the Union Baptist Church at 216 Union Church Road. Teachers included Lillian R. McClary 1944-1946, as reported by daughter, Ophelia McClary Starks, and Mrs. Elese Ford. The building has been modified and currently used as the Sunday School and educational building for the church.



Union Church School

Photo provided by Dr. Janice Gamble,
building as it currently exist.

24 Williamsburg County Rosenwald School

...Teal

In 2002, the National Trust for Historic Preservation created a listing of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places with Rosenwald Schools being on the list. Consequently, in all of the 15 states where Rosenwald Schools were established. Efforts have been underway to locate these historical sites and preserve the history associated with them. Unfortunately, all of the Rosenwald Schools in Williamsburg County have been demolished. Rosenwald Schools were established when prominent educator and freed slave Booker T. Washington approached Chicago philanthropist Julius Rosenwald, the son of Jewish immigrants and the owner of Sears & Roebuck, with an ambitious plan to educate African Americans.

Beginning in 1912, Rosenwald funded a program to provide 25% of matching grants for school construction across the southern states from Texas, across the south and up the east coast to Maryland. By the time it ended in 1932, the program had awarded \$4.3 million in grants. These grants coupled the \$4.7 million raised by African-American communities, built over 5,000 schools in 15 states. In South Carolina there were 481 schools with 10 of them being located in Williamsburg County. In 2013, the Williamsburg County Tourism Board provided the funds to publish brochures of the research done by Cassandra Williams Rush and Lillie McGill. Too, they purchased 10 signs to commemorate these schools. There was a public unveiling of the 10 signs on September 25, 2013, and the unveiling of the other nine (9) school signs are scheduled at the Tomlinson School site for September 1, 2018, during the Tomlinson Grand Reunion.

14) Cooper School District #30, constructed 1923-1924, 2-teachers (Beulah School); located on Hwy 261 at the intersection of Road Rabbits Foot Road and Hwy 261.

15) Cooper School District # 11, constructed 1929-1930, on four (4) acres with 3-teachers (Hickory Hill School); Original lavatory cement remains located in the curve of Hwy 261 and close proximity and rear of 7030 Hemingway Hwy.

16) Greeleyville Elementary School, constructed 1924-1925, on four (4) acres with six (6) teachers; Memo "…has six (6) classrooms , auditorium, office, library rooms and cloak rooms.'.... per info from Fisk University. 7 Varner Ave. vicinity, Greeleyville

17) Hemingway School constructed 1920-1921 with three (3) teachers, (Chavis – 'Shavers'),

18) Kingstree School, constructed 1923-1924, constructed on four (4) acres with eight teachers. The school was a two story red brick building (Later renamed Tomlinson School), 701 Tomlinson Street,

19) Nesmith Corner School, 1921-1922, (4?) 1-teacher, located at the corner of Morris Corner and Nesmith Corner Roads. (The author, Cassandra Williams Rush, as a child, remembers the building at the entrance to the Williams Vineyard & Farm; it was a small 1 room building that could accommodate one teacher, per her perception and confirmed by Rose Anna Pressley Nesmith, who attended school there).

20) Ox Swamp School, constructed 1921 1922, on 4 acres with four (4) teachers, (Ward School), It later burned. "Memo: This is the original Ox Swamp School. It was a 2-story clapboard building. It was rebuilt in the budget year 1927-1928 using Rosenwald funds. See also Ox Swamp School (Rebuilt) per info from Fisk University. Salters area

21) Ox Swamp School (rebuilt) 1927-1928, constructed on four (4) acres with four (4)-teacher, (Aimwell School), built on four (4) acres. Location Hwy 50 & 81. Salters area22))

22) **St. Marks School, 1921-1922, constructed on four (4) 2-teachers

23) St. Mary School, constructed 1921-1922, 1-teacher, Salters area

**** There were two St. Mark Areas and two early St. Mark Schools in Williamsburg County. One was in the Stuckey area on Old Georgetown Road and the second was in the vicinity of 6628 Thurgood Marshall Hwy- the location of the St. Mark Elementary & High School, Equalization School.**

Williamsburg County Historical Homes

25 McCollum-Murray House
C.E. Murray Library
72 C.E. Murray Blvd. Greeleyville, SC
Historical Marker 45-17
GPS Coordinates 33°34'59"N 79°59'33"W;
Historical Marker 45- 17;orange, black



Photo by Linda Brown, 2013

"The McCollum-Murray House was constructed c. 1906 for Edward J. (d. 1942) and Margaret McCollum (d. 1949), an African American couple who moved to Greeleyville around the turn of the 20th century. The McCollums moved to the area so that Edward could work as a machinist for the Mallard Lumber Company. Though the home was built by an African American contractor named George Whack, it is suspected that Edward McCollum contributed to the interior woodwork. The house features elements of folk Victorian and Classical Revival architecture. When Charles E. Murray (1910-1999) lost his father at the age of 12, he went to live with the McCollums as their foster son. After graduating from the Colored Normal, Industrial, Agricultural, and Mechanical College (now known as South Carolina State University) at the age of 19, Murray began a long career at Tomlinson High School in Kingstree as an English and drama teacher. In 1960 he became principal of Williamsburg County Training School, where he remained for 23 years." The Green Book

"Also known as the C. E. Murray House, is a historic home located at Greeleyville, Williamsburg County, South Carolina. Built c. 1906, the house was the home of African-American educator Dr. Charles Edward Murray, and is an example of transitional folk Victorian and Classical Revival residential architecture. It was originally a two-story, T-shaped dwelling. It features a wraparound one-story porch. It has a single-story rear gabled addition, with another single-story shed-roofed addition built in the 1950s. [2][3] It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2006.

26 Epps-McGill Farmhouse

679 Eastland Ave, Kingstree
Historical Marker 45-27;.....orange, black



Photographs by Cassandra Williams Rush on November 1, 2024



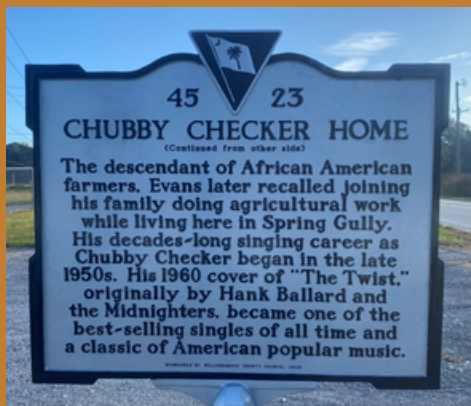
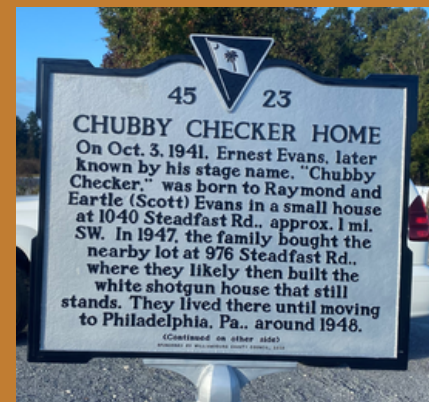
27 Chubby Checker Home

Steadfast Road and Hwy 521
Spring Gully Community;
Historical Marker 45-23;orange, black



Photos of Historical Marker by
Cassandra W. Rush, November 1,
2024.

www.syrscuse.com, photo of
Chubby Checker performing at
the Songwriters Hall of Fame
Awards, June 12, 2014



28

Maxine Brown Home
25 Gausetown Road
Kingstree, SC
(Zeta Phi Beta Sorority House)



Photo of house by Cassandra W. Rush, February 13, 2020. Opening of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority House, photo by THE NEWS Michaele Duke, May 26, 2014

“Oh No Not My Baby”, “All in My Mind”, “Sugar Dumplin’”, “It’s Gonna Be Alright”, “Funny”, etc. are some of the recordings of Maxine Ella Brown who was born in Kingstree on August 18, 1939.

From a video, the writer, Ms. Rush, was able to extract Maxine Brown’s firsthand information about leaving Kingstree for NY. While living in Kingstree with her father, she was nine years old when her mother came from NY and carried her and her sister to NY, leaving her brother behind. Her mother passed away at 34 years of age and Maxine was 17 years old. Her older sister got married and moved out of the house; Maxine would have been left alone so she went to live with a dear friend.

Maxine stayed in NY and continued her education, living in Queens, graduated from high school and enrolled at the Central Needle Traders which was then affiliated with the Fashion Institute of Technology. Her music career evolved from there.

Members of the Delta Tau Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, along with Williamsburg County Supervisor Stanley Paisley and Councilmember Rev. Frankie Fulmore, celebrated the opening of the first sorority house in Williamsburg County. The house that is located on Gausetown Road is the former home of R&B singer Maxine Brown. The News & Courier

29 Black Hospital in Hemingway

S. Lafayette Street, red

The hospital was located on S. Lafayette Street behind the Johnson Memorial Hospital and operated during the 1940’s. The Food Lion is presently in the location of the former Johnson Memorial Hospital. Research is continuing to determine the name and years of operation of the Black hospital.

Historical Churches, Rural

30 Bethel African American Episcopal Church 1224 Courdin Road, Salters

Historical Marker 45- 24
- Green, Black



31 Bethesda Methodist Episcopal Church (Bethesda United Methodist Church) 200 Cades Road, SC Hwy 512, Cades

Historical Marker 45-15.....green, black



32 Friendship Methodist Episcopal Church (Friendship United Methodist Church) 21 Friendship Church Road, Nesmith ...green

The History of Friendship United Methodist Church

During slavery and Civil War, Negroes received their religious training where they worked, or in the gallery of white churches. This was no less true of Turkey Creek, for it was true all over the Southland. After the Civil War the Methodist Episcopal Church, North returned to South Carolina and resumed its work. April 2, 1866, the South Carolina Mission was organized under Bishop Baker. Turkey Creek was one among the seven charges of the Charleston District. Friendship was a church on the charge.



A brush arbor sanctuary was the first church. With prayer in their hearts and faith in the future that transcended their humble brush arbor sanctuary, a small band of men and women were endued with the spirit of missions when Bishop Baker appointed their first minister to the Turkey Creek Charge. In 1867 at the Annual Conference in Charleston, South Carolina, Bishop Scott appointed the first minister, Rev. T. W. Lewis as pastor. The Rev. Alonza Webster followed as pastor and led the church for the next three years. Rev. Webster's tenure was followed by Rev. Joseph Jenkins and under his guidance and direction a new church was built in the early 1870's. Rev. Joseph Jenkins served the charge from 1875-1880. Within the five years, the church grew by leaps and bounds; thus leading to the construction of the second church. In 1881, Rev. E. McDaniel took up the mantle and helped to increase the membership to over 700 members. 1883 Turkey Creek was placed on the Florence District.

Turkey Creek was blessed with an extensive list of spiritual leaders that led them to become Friendship United Methodist Church of Nesmith. The burning fire for saving souls was kindled by the pastors that ministered to the flock. The many shepherds were Rev. B.M. Pegues in 1889; Rev. R. B. Keller in 1891; Rev. W. N. Hannah in 1894; Rev. A. B. Franklin in 1895; Rev. I. H. Fulton in 1897; Rev. S. S. Sparks in 1901; Rev. Dickerson Salters in 1903; Rev. John Harrell in 1907; Rev. N.T. Bown, Jr., in 1910; Rev. W. M. R. Eaddy in 1911; Rev. L.C. Gregg in 1912; Rev. W. E. Jones in 1915; Rev. C.C. Robertson in 1918; Rev. I. H. Richardson in 1920; Rev. D. H. McClam in 1924; Rev. H. W. Williams in 1927. Rev. Williams erected the sanctuary of the church that lasted until renovation in 1974. The Rev. N. E. Franklin became pastor in 1940, followed by Rev. R. C. Connor in 1948. Rev. L. W. Curry ministered from 1954 until 1958 when Rev. E. N. Jamison became pastor. He was followed by Rev. F. G. C. Dubois in 1965. Rev. J.L. Summers came to FUMC in 1967 and the Rev. S. R. Porter continued the tradition in 1968. Rev. Porter served five successful years. During his tenure, the Gospel Choir was organized and the first organ was purchased.

In June 1973, Rev. J. V. Livingston was appointed pastor. He served from 1973-1982. He was a great leader, who won the admiration and the respect of the members. In September of 1979 the first Homecoming Celebration was held.

In June 1982, Rev. H. B. Shaw was charged with the awesome task of leading Friendship. Under his guidance and direction, the first "Family and Friends Day" celebration was held on May 5, 1985, a new educational building was erected in April 1987 and the H. B. Shaw Choir established.

In June 1991, Rev. Roberta C. Josey was appointed pastor. She demonstrated an interest in raising money for a new sanctuary and was dedicated to securing plans and resources for the building fund. The Children's Sermonette was implemented and the Friendship Male Chorus formed under her tenure.

In June 1995, Rev. Leonard Huggins, Jr., was appointed pastor. Upon his arrival, a new parsonage was purchased and building plans of a new sanctuary and fellowship hall were finalized. The new edifice was completed in March 1999 and the Friendship Church Choir was organized.

In June of 2005, Rev. Nathan McClennon became pastor. He was a God fearing man who believed in the Golden Rule. He encouraged the members to LOVE one another as Christ Loved the Church. He implemented Noon-Day Prayer, and firmly believed that if you put God first, everything will be alright.

The Rev. Carlton J. McClam, Sr., became pastor in June of 2006 to the present. He is a realist, a man of integrity, that believe in leading the church by using (2) books; the Bible and the Book of Discipline. He is a great spiritual leader, teacher, and advisor with one main objective; to make disciples for Christ. He has been instrumental in reorganizing the Young Adult Ministry and Choir.

St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church
3733 Thurgood Marshall Blvd.
(St. Paul United Methodist Church)
 ...green



Photo provided by
 St. Paul UM Church, 2024

Saint Paul United Methodist Church, was founded in 1876 under the leadership of Reverend Gamble. With no building for worship, the members started meeting in homes and later decided to meet on the Burgess property under a shed.

On May 28, 1880, Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church trustees, H. H. Mouzon, Isaac Gamble, Seipio Pendergrass, Henry Brown, William Scott, Rober McCullough, and John T. Flagler purchased one (1) acre more or less of land from Flora Brown. A wooden structure was erected and named Saint Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church. Due to the rapid growth of the congregation in 1907, a larger structure was built and remained until the forties. The storm Hazel came and left the church building leaning. The members took some Pine trees from the church yard to brace the building from falling.

The church always valued education. When there were no school for Blacks in our community, a school was erected within walking distance in the Boggy Swamp/McKee area. A group of visionary men and women which included Mr. Pinkney Wilson, Mrs. Rosa Wilson, Mr. Frank Wilson, Mr. Anthony Chandler, Mr. Andy Tisdale, Mr. Jake Burrows, Mr. Marcus Mack Flagler, Mr. Corbett Flagler, and Mrs. Beaty Scott established their own school within the community, Cane Branch Elementary School.

Dr. Henry N. Tisdale, President of Claflin University from 1994 to 2019, received his educational background from Cane Branch Elementary School through the 6th grade. He was among the last group of students to attend Cane Branch before it was closed. Cane Branch was a two-room schoolhouse with two teachers, Mrs. Nellie Commander and Mrs. Thedith Salmon.

They also established in the 1900's the Saint Paul Elementary School consisted of grades 1st through 6th. One of the principals was Mr. Calvin Thompson. The church always had a basketball team whose colors were black and gold with original team players who are still members of the church today.

In 1939, The Methodist Episcopal Church, The Methodist Episcopal Church-South and The Methodist Protestant Church merged together to become The Methodist Church. Saint Paul name changed to Saint Paul Methodist Church and became a part of the Central Jurisdiction. The Central Jurisdiction was all inclusive of blacks within the church in the United States. The Methodist Church also created five geographical jurisdictions for whites.

In 1946, the congregation decided to build another structure. The Board of Trustees consisted of Mr. Joe Boyd (Chairman), Mr. Jake Burrows, Mr. Charlie Scott, Mrs. Rosa Wilson, Mr. Andy Tisdale, Mr. James Lowery and Mr. Sam Brown. After careful planning, a brick structure was constructed and completed under the leadership of Reverend I. V. Manning.

In 1956 under the leadership of Reverend C. J. James, the Gospel Choir was organized. Mrs. Willar Mae Tisdale, being a faithful member of Saint Paul, doing the work of the Lord, started talking to the members about starting another choir.

On October 28, 1957, Mr. S. W. Guerry purchased twenty-one (21) acres of land from Mr. Walter Burgess. Saint Paul was included in this transaction that was sold to Mr. S. W. Guerry. This deed is recorded in A-60, page 93.

In 1968, The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church merged to create The United Methodist Church. The church became Saint Paul United Methodist Church. The Central Jurisdiction was dissolved at this time. Saint Paul became a part of the Southeastern Jurisdiction.

Additional history can be obtained from St. Paul UM Church or the C Williams Rush Museum of African-American Atts & Culture.-Melba B. Mitchum, Church Historian

**34 Mt. Seal Methodist Episcopal Church
(Mt. Seal United Methodist Church)
5134 Hemingway Hwy. (SC Hwy 512)
Historical Marker 45-28
...green, black**



Photographs by Cassandra W. Rush November 12, 2024



**35 Mt. Zion AME Church
SC Hwy 521, 4.5 W of SC Hwy 41
Andrew Vicinity
Historical Marker 45-14
...green, black**



This church was founded in 1867 on land donated by Moses and Matilda Watson. It was the first African American church in the Bloomingdale community and was organized by trustees Orange Bruorton, Augusta Dicker, Sr., Fred Grant, Esau Green, Fortune Session, Moses Watson, and Richmond White. It was also mother church to Bruorton Chapel AME Church, active until the 1950s. Mt. Zion also sponsored Mt. Zion School, which closed in 1958.

The first sanctuary here, a wood frame church, was replaced in the early 1920s by a second wood frame church built by carpenter Rev. W.C. Ervin, Sr. The present church, the third serving Mt. Zion, was built 1948-1954 by carpenter Rev. W.C. Ervin, Jr. It was covered in brick veneer in the late 1950s. Historical Marker 45-14

36 Marion Missionary Baptist Church 777 Marion Church Road, Lane, green



Photo by Cassandra W. Rush November 1, 2024

Marion Missionary Baptist, founded in 1878, is a branch from the old Bethlehem Baptist Church of Salters. The former Marion Church School existed at this location.

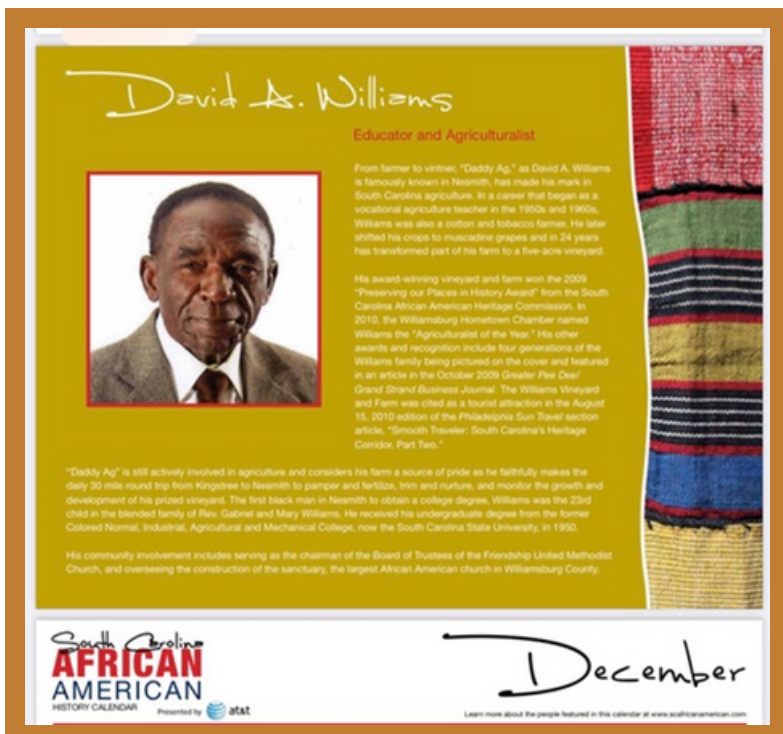
37 Antioch Missionary Baptist Church 352 Broomstraw Road Lane, green



Photo by Cassandra W. Rush November 1, 2024

Businesses

38 Williams Vineyard & Farm, 21 & 26 Gabriel Place, Nesmith



Photos by Cassandra W. Rush.

David A Williams
(Daddy Ag) September 8, 1927 – March 4, 2019

They called him 'Daddy Ag' when he was the Agriculture teacher during the 1950's and 1960's at Brown School and the Equalization School, Battery Park Elementary and High School in Nesmith. He farmed, taught and he was a strict disciplinarian. The farming techniques he taught his students were also practiced at home on his farm, as all seven children can attest to the tales of farming, cotton and tobacco fields. After retiring from teaching in 1987, he began the process of transforming the tobacco, cotton and corn fields to the five-acre muscadine vineyard it is today.

This farm dates back to the early 1900's. The creation of the vineyard started as a serious hobby and evolved into Williams Muscadine Festival beginning in 2003, an AgriTourism site, a tourist attraction and an educational experience on early Black farm life in the rural south. Farming and the vineyard were David A. Williams' passion.

39 **Scott's BBQ** 2734 Hwy 261, Hemingway ...grey



The Scott's Variety Store opened in 1972 as an early convenience store where they sold gas and other items, after moving from Philadelphia. Shortly thereafter, Rosie would Bar-B-Que a hog weekly and the demand grew to become the main focus of their business. To this day, they use open pits and cook hogs over wood embers from freshly cut trees which is a very demanding activity.

Their popularity stems from their amazing vinegar-pepper-based barbeque sauce (with a touch of sugar). Not only do they Bar-B-Que hogs, make pork skins, cook chicken but they serve meals also.

The menu in Hemingway ranked high on 'Southern Living's Top 50 BBQ joints' in the South in 2018. Ella Jane and Rosie's son, Rodney is a Pitmaster and has opened Rodney Scott's BBQ in Charleston, SC and expanding to other locations. Scott's Bar-B-Que is highly recognized and on the list of places of tourists' attraction in Williamsburg County.

Community

40

St. Lawrence Center (Lawrence Family Community Center) 5321 US Hwy 521 Salters



Photos by Cassandra W. Rush, November 1, 2024

The St. Lawrence Community Center offers a range of programs and services for local residents. With the focus on community engagement and support, the center provides opportunities for social interaction and personal development.

41 Kingstree & Williamsburg County African American Historical Markers

1) Historical Marker 45-12: Stephen A. Swails House,

Corner of Main St. and E. Brooks St. Kingstree;
GPS Coordinates 33° 39.921' N, 79° 49.446' W; ...orange, black

2) Historical Marker 45-14: Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church,

SC Hwy. 521, 4.5 mi. W of SC Hwy. 41, Andrews;
GPS Coordinates 33° 32.334' N, 79° 35.819' W;green

3) Historical Marker 45-15: Cooper's Academy,

Front; Bethesda Methodist Church, Reverse: 2000 Cades Road, Cades;
GPS Coordinates 33° 45.72' N, 79° 40.379' W: green, pink, black

4) Historical Marker 45-17: McCollum-Murray House,

72 C.E. Murray Blvd., Greeleyville;
GPS Coordinates 33° 34.899' N, 79° 59.528' W;orange, black

5) Historical Marker 45-18: St. Alban's Episcopal,

113 E. Church St., Kingstree;
GPS Coordinates 33° 40.021' N, 79° 49.782' W;green, black

6) Historical Marker 45-22: "Let Us March on Ballot Boxes",

701 Tomlinson Street, Kingstree;
GPS Coordinates 33° 40.174' N, 79° 49.134' W;yellow, teal, black

7) Historical Marker 45-23: Chubby Checker Home,

Steadfast Rd. and U.S. Hwy. 521, Spring Gully Community;
GPS Coordinates 33° 31.128' N, 79° 39.731' W; ...orange, black

8) Historical Marker 45-24: Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church,

1224 Gourdin Rd., Salters;
GPS Coordinates 33° 30.396' N, 79° 56.208' W; ...green, black

9) Historical Marker 45-25: Benevolent Societies Hospital,

1100 E. Main St., Kingstree;
GPS Coordinates 33° 40.069' N, 79° 48.853' W;red, black

10) Historical Marker 45-26: Tomlinson School,

701 Tomlinson St., Kingstree;
GPS Coordinates 33° 40.172' N, 79° 49.247' W;yellow, teal, black

11) Historical Marker 45-27: Epps-McGill Farmhouse,

679 Eastland Ave., Kingstree;
GPS Coordinates 33° 40.464' N, 79° 48.924' W;orange, black

12) Historical Marker 45-28: Mt. Seal Methodist Church,

5134 Hemingway Hwy., Hemingway;
GPS Coordinates 33° 43.735' N, 79° 34.311' W;green, black

Historical Markers approved and being processed, 2024

**13) St. John Colored School, Corner of Green Rd and McKenzie Loop, Lake City,
Williamsburg County.....pink, black**

14) Union Baptist Church School, 216 Union Church Road, Salters....pink, black

COLOR Coding

White

WC Courthouse
Kingstree Train Depot
Post Office

Green

Churches

Red

Benevolent Societies Hospital

Orange

C. E. Murray Library, Homes

Yellow

Equalization Schools

Pink

Early schools
(not Rosenwald and not Equalization)

Cooper Academy, St. John,
Union Church School ,
Cooper Academy

Teal

Rosenwald Schools

Grey

Businesses

Black

Historical Markers

AA Tour Guide Acknowledgements

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Williamsburg County Tourism Board

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LaKeisha T. Rush
Damon K. Rush

Explore

Williamsburg County

