



NEWSLETTER

BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 874, SHALLOTTE, N. C. 28459

Volume XXXVII

February, 1997

Number 1

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Dear Members,

Hello there--this new year of 1997! May each day bring to you the best. Let's strive to make this year a promising one for our Historical Society.

We had a Board Meeting January 19th at Concord Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to make plans concerning the speakers and places of meeting for the coming year. Projects we might pursue in the coming year were also discussed. Several projects were mentioned, such as a historical marker for Hood's Creek, historical display on the walls in the foyer of the Brunswick County Courthouse, completing the 1920's Census at Brunswick Community College, the publication of materials relating to our county, and the future permanent home of our Society. We will talk about these at our meeting.

FEBRUARY 10, 1997 will be the first meeting of the new year. We will meet at Concord Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in Supply at 7:00 P.M. Mr. Henry Williams will speak of his book, Combat Boots, that he is writing and his experiences in World War II.

MAY 12, 1997 will be a dinner meeting at Betty's Waterfront Restaurant at Holden's Beach. Frank Galloway will speak on Hood's Creek.

AUGUST 11, 1997 will be at Brunswick Town. Ronald Gooding will speak on Fort Anderson.

NOVEMBER 10, 1997 meeting, place and speaker will be announced later.

Dues of \$10.00 are now payable to our Treasurer. Use the address above or send to home address.

Mark your calendar for these meetings and I look forward to seeing you at our February meeting.

Lottie Ludlum

CHRISTMAS AT FORT FISHER AND WILMINGTON 1861 - 1865

Christmas during the Civil War was by necessity, somewhat diminished. Loved ones were separated and creature comforts as well as the luxuries became harder and harder to acquire. In Wilmington and Fort Fisher, this was no exception.

As early as Christmas, 1861, the effects of the war were being felt. In the Wilmington Journal, an advertisement requested people to send soldiers in camp "evidences of remembrances" to let them know they were not forgotten. Expensive presents, costly toys, jewelry and other fancy articles were not in demand as much as good, warm items of clothing and other necessities.

These same conditions existed throughout the war. In December of 1862, though, people were hoping for peace. The newspaper announced, "We think the beginning of the end is at hand, Let us thank the Lord and keep a good heart". But by December 1863, the war was still going on and the inflated Confederate dollar was quite evident. The Journal reported, "we presume but few families had the pleasure of gobbling up a good sized turkey at the extravagant price of \$2.50 to \$3.00 per pound". The Christmas feast was reduced even further in 1864 when a chicken was \$7.00, \$2.00 for a dozen eggs, turkeys were up to \$32 and brandy, if it could be found, was \$65.00 per gallon!

Christmas at Fort Fisher in 1864 was like anything by Christmas. On the eve of celebration of our Savior's birth, a tremendous powder-ship, the hulk of the U.S.S. Louisiana, was towed within range of the sea-face of Fort Fisher and over 250 tons of black powder were detonated at exactly 1:00 a.m. The Union fleet, who were 12 to 15 miles offshore, waited until dawn and moved in toward the fort. Observing that the explosion had not destroyed the fort as they had expected, they opened a terrific bombardment on the fortifications.

The sound of bells in Wilmington, summoning worshippers to church that Christmas morning, turned to a roar of artillery, that shook windows in homes and places of worship. The deep, heavy recessant roll, like thunder, was kept up during the whole day, into the night and the next day.

The ladies of the Soldiers Aid Society played an important role in the Wilmington area during the years 1861 through 1865. Throughout December, 1864, advertisements appeared in the Journal requesting donations from the inhabitants for a Christmas dinner they were planning for the sick and wounded soldiers in the Wilmington hospitals. December 16, just before the first battle of Fort Fisher, the soldiers sent the following letter to Miss M. A. Buie (a member of the society), "Wayside Hospital #5, Wilmington: Dear Miss Buie, We enclose to you herewith \$135.00, being the proceeds of a concert given tonight at this place, for the purpose of aiding you to give the sick and wounded soldiers at Wilmington a Christmas dinner". Within 2 to 3 days after the battle, more than 100 of these ladies, loaded with baskets, visited the fort and offered the "choicest food", to the soldiers.

First Prohibition Law in North Carolina

It may interest the general public to know that Brunswick County, and North Carolina as a State, can undoubtedly offer and sustain a challenge to any other state in the Union to produce a prohibition law which ante-dates the year 1745. Thousands of voters, regardless of their attitude toward the controversial question of whether or not sales of hard liquors should be abolished, may be interested in knowing about a Colonial regulation which served to keep imbibers from leaving the straight and narrow path. It is a fact, beyond controversy or dispute and as can easily be demonstrated, that a regulatory law to control the sale of "fire water" was passed, and enforced in this general area more than two hundred years ago.

The particular law in question levied a fine against anyone, tavern-keeper, or otherwise, allowing a person to get drunk in his place of business, or home, on Sunday. The reason assigned for the passage of the law was to prevent disturbance of religious services in a recognized house of worship, or to be more specific, St. Philip's Church, which was then in course of construction, at the Colonial town of Brunswick, eighteen miles below the site of Wilmington.

It is generally known that the State of North Carolina in our own day and time adopted prohibition some six to ten years before National enactment of a Prohibition Law. However, readers are not so well advised of the fact that two centuries and more, prior to prohibition laws enacted after World War One, an act of similar force and character

was made into law. It applied to the confines of the small town of Brunswick, then situated on the west bank of the Cape Fear River. Its location was about 15 miles south of the present site of Wilmington.

It was "way back" in 1745, that the rather unusual and unique law (for that time and period), was adopted. This early prohibition regulation was written in Section 18, Chapter 12, of the Acts of the Colonial Assembly, under King George II, of England. It is dated April 20, 1745. After the introduction the gist of the Act is as follows:

"And it is further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that if at any time after 20 days after the ratification of this Act, any tavern-keeper, ordinary-keeper, or any other persons whatsoever, selling liquor or keeping a public house in the said town (Brunswick), shall suffer any person or persons to get drunk in his house on the Sabbath, such person or persons so offending shall forfeit and pay, for every such offense, the sum of 10 shillings, proclamation money."

Thus, it can be seen that on Sundays, at least, the way of the old toper in Colonial days, in the good old town of Brunswick, was beset with legal difficulties and financial thorns. The chief difficulty he encountered was in securing that which "cheers and also inebriates." The stumbling block in the path of the one who would be the seller rested in the fact that he would have to pay an equivalent of \$2.50 in present coin of the realm, if he made such sales on Sunday and his customer became slightly hilarious.

Just how long the law remained on the statute books for general enforcement is not known—probably during the life of the town of Brunswick, however, which came to an end about 1775, or prior thereto. A study of Colonial laws reveals the fact that Bath, Edenton and several other early settlements also had their liquor problems. Various and sundry laws were passed in relation thereto.

A note attached to a copy of the interesting old law states that the other sections in the particular Chapter noted, dealt with enforcement of other laws for the town of Brunswick, as it existed in that day. The preamble states that Maurice Moore, late of the Cape Fear section, appropriated and laid out a certain parcel of land, containing 320 acres, on the west side of the Cape Fear River, for a town, and common, for the use of the inhabitants of what was to be the town of Brunswick. It is further stated that the laws passed under said Act are "to encourage persons to settle in the town of Brunswick."



Britishers Fought Duel for Fair Lady

Most of the thousands who go to see beautiful Orton Plantation every year do not go the extra distance over the sandy road to the nearby site of old Brunswick.

There's no particular reason for them to go there now, for only the thick brick walls of a ruined church can be seen.

But, almost two centuries ago, old Brunswick was a thriving town, and near it two men dueled cruelly for the love of a Brunswick girl.

The story of that duel has been told and retold. And, it must be admitted, some of those telling it during the years since Capt. Alexander Simpson and Lieutenant Thomas Whitehurst had their duel have told it wrong.

The two men were officers of the British navy, both on the sloop of War *Viper*, tied up at Brunswick, which was 14 miles below Wilmington. Some tellers of the story say they dueled over political reasons, for they fought in 1765, and the people of the lower Cape Fear were upset considerably then by differences with the British government.

However, a correct account of the duel is given by Col. Alfred Moore Waddell of Wilmington, who knew and studied the lore of the section and who wrote a history of New Hanover County for the period from 1723 to 1800.

Colonel Waddell says that the duel occurred in Brunswick, March 18, 1765.

Colonel Waddell declares unqualifiedly that the duel could not have been caused by political excitement in connection with the Stamp Act Resistance. This fight was staged March of 1765, at Brunswick, fourteen miles below Wilmington. This was nearly nine months before the defiant demonstration of November 28, 1765.

Further Colonel Waddell says that a report filed by Governor Tryon with the Board of Trade shows that the difficulty resulted from a controversy between Simpson and Whitehurst as to which was the favored one with an attractive young woman who then lived at Brunswick. Both men are said to have been most attentive to her. Naturally, their close personal relationship as captain and lieutenant of the *Viper* did not help to clarify a perplexing and embarrassing situation.

The record does not indicate which of the two men finally decided to issue a challenge. There was never issued any statement which would serve to reveal the identity of the young woman.

The ever increasing differences reached a climax early on the morning of March 18, 1765. Tradition says that the memorable duel took place in a thickly wooded section just beyond the confines of the town of Brunswick, and somewhat near old St. Philip's Church. The four walls of this hallowed edifice are the only evidences today that once a flourishing and busy Colonial town occupied the area.

Colonel Waddell's research proves that the duel was a particularly brutal affair. He ascertained that Simpson maimed and disabled Whitehurst's thigh with his shot. After his victim was stretched on the ground Simpson cracked Whitehurst's skull with the butt of his pistol. The force of the blow is said to have broken the butt and pan of the pistol. Simpson himself did not escape unscratched. Whitehurst's shot lodged in his right shoulder, coming out under the arm.

The record says that the witnesses before the Coroner's jury were Midshipman James Brewster and James Moringe. It is believed that they were seconds in the duel.

Simpson, immediately after slaying his adversary, is said to have left his ship and to have made his escape. Tryon later issued a proclamation offering 50 pounds for the arrest of the officer.

Tryon is then said to have communicated with Governor Fauquier, of Virginia, saying that some months previously, Simpson had married "Miss Annie Pierson, daughter of Mrs. Ramsberg, whose husband keeps a tavern in Norfolk." As Mrs. Simpson had returned to Virginia, Tryon offered the suggestion that Simpson had followed her to the neighboring State.

In his letter, Tryon had made the observation: "The weak state of Simpson's health and the dangerous condition of his wound, strengthened the conjecture that the missing man is in Virginia," concluding with the observation, "It is not probable that he would venture at this time and in view of his physical condition, upon a long voyage to England."

Tryon then continued his observations through a characterization of Simpson's conduct as, "most extraordinary and reprehensible."

Simpson afterwards surrendered himself. Just where he had so successfully hidden himself for several weeks, Simpson would never disclose. He could not have reached a haven very far distant from Brunswick and Wilmington, due to the fact that he had suffered a painful wound.

Simpson's case was called for trial in the Fall of 1765 at the October term of court, which was held in Wilmington.

This writer has had opportunity in the past to inspect the court records of civil issues tried at the same term. In several places these bear the elaborate signature of Judge Charles Berry, who presided. Although nearly 200 years now have passed, the writing is as clear and legible as if it had been done today.

Simpson was convicted of manslaughter. The solemn judgment was pronounced by Judge Berry, to the effect that he (Simpson) "be branded in open court with the letter 'M' on the ball of the thumb of the left hand." This appears from the record of the hearing which is still preserved in New Hanover County Courthouse.

Two months later, Judge Berry killed himself.

Tryon wrote a letter to the Board of Trade, dated February 1, 1766. In this he said: "Mr. Berry, Chief Justice of this Province, shot himself in the head the 21st of December, 1765, and died in Wilmington the 29th of the same month. The coroner's inquest held an investigation and brought a verdict of 'Lunacy'."

Old Docket Entries

The story of what happened in the court room when Captain Simpson was brought before the bar of justice is told in the old document which gives the following outline:

"Wilmington, 23rd October, 1765. Court met according to ad-

journalment. Present: The Honorable Charles Berry, Esq., Chief Justice, Robert Howe, Esq., Associate Justice.

The King versus Alex's Simpson.

Evidence Sworn—Joshua Grainger, Jr., John Walker, William Lord, John Eustice, John Fergus, Wm. Hill.

On motion of the Prisoner for counsel to be assigned him, Mr. Marmaduke Jones and Mr. Maurice Moore were admitted to speak to the matters of Law, etc.

Jurors: John Anderson, John Daniel, Uz Williams, Ben'j Rhodes, John Watson, Robert Walker, George Parker, William Campbell, William Robeson, Robert Walls, Benjamin Stone, John Gibbs.

Verdict: Jury finds the Defendant not guilty of murder but guilty of manslaughter. Court adjourned to Thursday evening.

Thursday, 24th Oct. 1765. Court met according to adjournment. Present, the Hon'ble Charles Berry, Esq., Chief Justice, Rob't Howe, Esq., his associate justice.

Alex Simpson was brought to the bar to receive sentence and prayed the benefit of his clergy. Admitted.

Ordered that the prisoner be branded on the ball of the thumb of the left hand with the letter 'M' which was executed in Court, and discharged by proclamation on paying the fees."

Stories Old and New
of the
Cape Fear Region

as told by

LOUIS T. MOORE

Chairman, New Hanover Historical Commission



LOUIS
TOOMER
MOORE

1885-1961

Louis T. Moore

Louis Toomer Moore was born May 17, 1885, son of the late Col. Roger Moore and Susan Eugenia Beery. Col. Moore himself had a hand in writing the history of his native state, for as a young man he went from Wilmington during the Civil War as a member of the Third North Carolina Cavalry.

From an editorial in the Wilmington Morning Star, December 1961:

"He wrote well, whether the self-imposed assignment be a few paragraphs for a newspaper, a lengthy magazine feature or a book. When he touched an historical fact, he gave it life, meaning and magnetic interest."

Moore married Miss Florence Hill Kidder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Kidder of Wilmington. They have three children, Mrs. John O. Dunn and Mrs. William E. Perdew of Wilmington and Mrs. Zack Hampton Bacon, Jr. of Raleigh.

Brunswick County North Carolina
Board of County Commissioners Minutes 1878-1889

P. 364

Be it Remembered that the
County Commissioners Met at the
Court House on the 6th day of
July 1885. Present

M.C. Guthrie, Cham
S.J. Stanley
W. W. Drew

The Board of Commissioners with
E. W. Taylor Sheriff. And W. S. Doshier Clk supr Court went into
a Board of inquiry to consider
applications for Pension's under the
Act of the General Assembly 1885.
Chapt 214

Ordered that the following claims be passed
for Pension's

T. M. Justice
Gttaway Bell
J.F. Mintz
W. R. Fergerson
S. B. Leonard
Mrs. Charity Sellers
Mrs. Eliza E. Sellers
Mrs. Nancy Elvington
Mrs. Prior Lewis
Mary Ann Brown
Rebecca C. Mintz
Geo. W. Williams
Ann Jones
Abram Danford
Lydia Joiner
Benja E. Hewett
Elizabeth W. Sellers
Saml Hickman
Mahaley Stanley
Elizabeth Hickman
John T. Leonard
Sarah Leonard
Pinalepy Williams

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Glenn Kye is seeking the death date of ANDREW JACKSON MILLS. He was born in 1842 and was alive in 1901 and possibly as late as 1911. In 1901 he applied for a pension. He is buried in the Town Creek area. Contact Glenn at P.O. Box 9, Winnabow, NC 28479 or (910) 253-5311.

OUR CONFEDERATE VETERANS - Col. Thomas Cowan McIlhenny.
Compiled by Mary B. Heyer, Historian, Cape Fear Chapter, No.3, UDC.

My father, Col. Thomas Cowan McIlhenny, was the son of Thomas McIlhenny, of South Carolina, and Sarah Cowan, of Wilmington. My mother was Margaret, youngest daughter of Governor Edward Bishop Dudley. My father was a rice planter and lived at the "Forks" in Brunswick county. Our home received its name from its location, being between the Brunswick and Cape Fear rivers where they branch, or fork. My father owned large tracts of land on the rivers and one hundred and fifty negroes. He enlisted in the Confederate service in 1861. He was on General Whiting's staff and detailed to keep suspicious characters from landing on our coast. He often entertained General Beauregard, General Whiting and his entire staff in our home. My mother would be the only lady in the dining room. She always presided at the head of the table. We refuged to Raleigh in the latter part of 1864. Father bought a home on Hillsboro street near Hillsboro bridge. We took many provisions, a cow, our horses and carriage, and my sister took her pony, Mingo, our butler, Hester, the under servant, Aunt Clary, our black Mammy, and a cook went with us. Clary nursed us all. She was given to my mother with twelve other servants by Grandpa Dudley to wait on her and take care of her when she was married. He also gave her Greenfield and other property. She had eleven children. Robert Cowan and Cora died young, but nine reached maturity. My brother, Wm. Chase Whiting, was named for General Whiting who fell in the defense of Fort Fisher, January 1865. Aunt Jennie Dudley, my mother's sister, married Richard Johnston, of Fredericksburg, Va. It was a grand wedding before the war, Gen. Wm.T. Sherman was best man. He and Richard Johnston were classmates at West Point; my father knew him and when he came raiding down on us and burning and stealing and destroying, father went to him personally and asked protection of his family in Raleigh. Yankees were camped right back of our house and had stolen our horses and the pony and everything we had. Negroes occupied our home in Brunswick county, so we had nothing there. I say it to Gen. Sherman's credit, he sent Captain Rochester and two guards who stood in our yard and protected us. The pony was returned, but the carriage and horses could not be found, at least they were never seen again by us. Father sent word to mother when Sherman was coming, to cook all the provisions she possibly could and be at the bridge with them, as our troops would pass under the bridge and the Yankees would cross the bridge. Mother did as father ordered and had bushels of potatoes and biscuits baked and a great quantity of meat cooked and we were at the Hillsboro bridge waiting when we saw them coming double quick; they couldn't stop but held up their hands as they ran, poor things, I can see them now, how gladly they caught what we hastily threw to them like hunted animals. Sherman in close pursuit.

Col. John D. Taylor lost his left arm in the battle of Bentonsville. He was brought to our home and tenderly nursed by mother. Hester ran off with a Yankee soldier who soon tired of her and shot her. When she was dying she begged that my father and I be sent for! Mother went to her but did not take me. Poor Hester she loved us all; that was one of the awful things the Yankees did for us. My grandfather, Governor Dudley, and Governor Charles Manly married sisters, daughters of William Henry Haywood and Betsy Shepherd, of Raleigh. Rather remarkable that two sisters in one family should marry governor of their state(North Carolina). Aunt Eliza Dudley married Thomas Purnell and became the parents of Judge Purnell. My mother was born, reared and married in the home built and occupied by her father, Governor Dudley, now owned by Mr. Laurence Sprunt. When the war was over we returned to Wilmington. Father created the the home on Third street now occupied by Mrs. Wm. Calder. Negroes had possession of our home "The Forks," and had destroyed what they could not use, the piano and such things. The dram tree of local fame was on father's plantation called "Greenfield," which was named for the Greens, former owners. We still own Clark's Island, five hundred acres, separated from Eagles' Island by Redmond Creek. Eagles' Island was named for its owner, Mr. Eagles, a Baltimore man. He died and was buried under a large tree in our yard. Father cultivated his plantations, working his negroes and turning the proceeds to the feeding of our soldiers. Confederate officers urged him to do so, saying he could serve the Souht in no better way than by raising food supplies for her troops in arms. All the yield of his plantations, apart from the maintenance of his family was given to the support of the Confederacy four years. Note- This record of Col. Thomas Cowan McIlhenny was given by his daughter, Mrs. Sarah McIlhenny Lockhart. M.B.H. WILMINGTON STAR, 12-21-1930.

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Brunswick County, North Carolina

Minutes of County Commissioners 1878-1889

The Board of Commissioners, Sheriff and Superior Court Clerk being present met and formed a committee for the relief of the Blind and Maim for the county of Brunswick. When Samuel J. Summerset of said county was examined and the committee find that Samuel J. Summerset was a private in Company G 20th Regiment under Captain Brooks Commanded by Col. Overson, that he lost both hands in an engagement at the Battle of Gettysburg the 3rd day of July, 1863. The Board being of the Opinion that he is entitled to relief of the Blind and Mamed in such cases made and provided and we the committee, so adjudge it is further ordered that the proceedings of the Meeting be Spread upon thæ Record and that the Same be Certified to the Governor of the State by the Clerk of Superior Court.

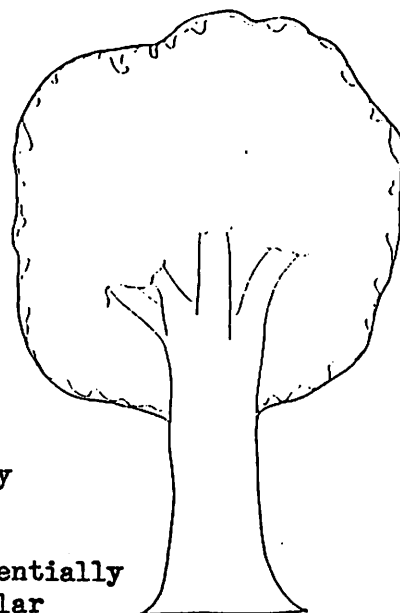
H.K. Ruark
Clerk

March 1880

Under the Genealogy Tree

by: Gwen Causey

CHURCH RECORDS



John R. Woodard wrote a chapter, Church Records, for Helen F. M. Leary's book, North Carolina Research Genealogy and Local History.

He begins the chapter by saying church records are potentially rich sources for family historians seeking news of particular ancestors and for local historians seeking information about particular counties or regions. The documents refer to such secular matters as the organization of towns, schools, and community centers. They often furnish evidence of political, moral, and social issues that stirred area residents, and demonstrate the influence of organized religion on personal, social, political, and economic developments at both the local and state levels. Vital statistics, recorded by churches decades earlier than by civil authorities, provide details about personal lives, as well as about population growth and movement, that can be found nowhere else.

He concludes the chapter by saying churches are private bodies and thus the final arbiters of what records they will keep and how long they will keep them. Because of their nature, however, many records are lost to future generations. The North Carolina State Archives offers all denominations the opportunity to have their records micro-filmed for security (access is denied to researchers, however, without permission from the church or denomination). Researchers who value these records may wish to insure that churches in their own areas are aware of the service and the guarantee of preservation it provides.

These church records are available in North Carolina:

Baptist: North Carolina Baptist Historical Collection, Room 207, Smith Reynolds Library, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC 27109

Catholic: Roman Catholic N.C. Archives, 300 Cardinal Gibbons Drive, Raleigh, NC 27603

Christian Church: Historical Society of the Southern Convention of Congregational Christian Churches, Elon College, NC 27244

Episcopal: Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, 201 St. Albans Drive, Raleigh, NC 27619

Lutherans: Archives of the N.C. Synod of the Lutheran Church of America, N.C. Synod Church House, P.O. Box 2049, Salisbury, NC 28144

Methodist: Commission on Archives and History, The United Methodist Church, 39 Lake Shore Drive, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

Presbyterian: Historical Foundation of the Presbyterian and Reformed Church, Montreat Assembly, Montreat, NC 28757

Quakers: The Quaker Collection Library, Guilford College, 5800 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27410

LIST OF RESEARCHERS

Listed below alphabetically are the names and addresses of several persons who have indicated a willingness to perform genealogical research for a fee. The North Carolina State Archives does not recommend a particular researcher nor is it involved in any of the negotiations between the patron and the researcher which must be made directly with the researcher. All inquiries should be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. This list has been prepared in accordance with Section T07:04M.0202, North Carolina Administrative Code, Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History.

Mrs. Lynne White Belvin
1523 Beichler Road
Garner, NC 27529

Ms. Helen F. M. Leary, C.G.
P. O. Box 27428
Raleigh, NC 27611-7428

Mr. William D. Bennett
415 Bickett Blvd
Raleigh, NC 27608

Mrs. Jo Anna B. McDaniel, C.G.R.S.
4178 Indian Trail
Oxford, NC 27565

Mr. Gerald S. Boswell, C.G.R.S.
Rt. 2, Box 127
Zebulon, NC 27597

Kimberly E. Morris
6300 Creedmoor Road, Suite 165
Raleigh, NC 27612

Mr. Lewis Shore Brumfield
Box 913
Yadkinville, NC 27055

Mr. Bruce Pruitt
P. O. Box 815
Whitakers, NC 27891

Mr. James Vann Comer
P. O. Box 219
Cameron, NC 28326-0219

Mrs. Rosemary Richardson
P.O. Box 279
Bunn, NC 27508

Mrs. Frances G. Cox
16 Forest Avenue
Tabor City, NC 28463

Mr. Lynn Roundtree
P. O. Box 1145
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Mr. Timothy Kearney
411 Gardner Street
Raleigh, NC 27607

Mr. George W. Wilcox
6621 Riptide Drive
Wilmington, NC 28403

Henry L. King
6701 Valley Lake Drive
Raleigh, NC 27612

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Trudy Gilbert Green is interested in finding history of at least two wagon trains from Brunswick Co, NC to Washington Co., Fl; first, John Gilbert and spouse, Martha Godwin (about 1830's), second, William Gilbert (brother to John) and spouse, Margaret Cain with sons, John Wesley and George Washington (about 1840's--1847 arrival). Contact her at 950 56th Ave. So., St. Petersburg, Fl 33705. Phone: 813-867-6021.