



NEWSLETTER

BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 874, SHALLOTTE, NC 28459

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MISSION STATEMENT

To collect, preserve, study, evaluate and publicize the history of Brunswick County, NC. To devote meetings to presentation of materials about Brunswick County and the Lower Cape Fear through lectures, slides, and discussion. To publish a newsletter which contains news of the Society's activities, research papers and articles that pertain to genealogy.

Society Officers For the 2014 - 2016 Term

President: David Holden
Vice-President: James Green
Secretary: Roberta Brady
Treasurer: Gwen Causey
Directors: Don Hickman
Jim Marlowe
Dave Lewis

Newsletter Editor: Dave Lewis

BCHS Website
www.bchs1764.org
Webmaster: Jimmy Green

AUGUST MEETING TO BE HELD AT BEMC IN SUPPLY, NC AUGUST 11, 2014 7:30 P.M.

The next meeting of the *Brunswick County Historical Society* will be held on August 11th at the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation Building, 795 Ocean Highway West, Supply, NC. The meeting begins at 7:30 P.M. We always meet the 2nd Monday in February, May, August and November.

The February 2014 issue of the *NEWSLETTER* began the 53rd Volume. Volume I, Number 1 was printed September 1961. A complete set of the Newsletter from September 1961 to May 2014 can be found in the Wilson Library at UNC-Chapel Hill, NC and at the New Hanover County Public Library North Carolina Room in Wilmington, NC. There were no publications of Volume 17, #3 & 4 (1977) and Volume 18, #1 (1978).

Paul Shivers, PE. will be our guest speaker for the August meeting. Mr. Shivers is the project manager leading a volunteer team in the first survey of the Civil War fortification Fort Anderson in nearly 150 years. His program will include pictures and a slide presentation in connection with the survey. Bring a friend for this informative and interesting meeting. Remember, the public is always welcome.

Question: How many Navy ships have been called, North Carolina.
Answer: Four

1. Authorized by Congress in 1816, launched at the Philadelphia Navy Yard on Sept. 7, 1820. Sold in 1867.
2. ACR-12 was a Tennessee-class armored cruiser, launched at Newport News in 1906 and in service until 1921.
3. BB-55, "the Immortal Showboat", WWII era battleship commissioned on April 09, 1941, decommissioned June 27, 1947.
4. SSN-777, Virginia-class nuclear attack submarine. Commissioned on May 03, 2008 in Wilmington.

Historic Wilmington Foundation 2014 Most Threatened Historic Places List

Two sites in Brunswick County made the **Historic Wilmington Foundation Most Threatened Historic Places List** for the year 2014.

The **Joseph Hewett, Sr. Cemetery** located at 1193 Kinston St. SW, Holden Beach is a new entry to the list.



Joseph Hewett Cemetery

Joseph Hewett, Sr. was the first Hewett to arrive in Brunswick County in the mid 1700's. In the time since his arrival the Hewett clan has grown, and together they have applied for help and support to protect the grave of their patriarch. His grave along with more than twenty five other graves have deteriorated through the years due to plant growth around it, neglect, and has been the victim of vandalism.

The Hewett descendants wish to gain access to the property, now in private ownership, in order to clean and maintain it in honor of their family. For more information on this project contact Ouida Hewett, David Holden, Grover Holden or Dave Lewis.

First listed in 2010 and again in 2014, rare **Wooden Grave Markers**, which can be found in various cemeteries throughout Brunswick County. These extant examples of a regional mourning tradition are threatened by neglect and lack of proper attention. These vanishing markers need to be documented for future generations to appreciate

this form of funerary art.



Wooden Grave Markers

Making the list again are **Historic Wood Windows**, first listed in 2010. These can be found in many historic structures within the Lower Cape Fear Region including Brunswick County.

A building's character is often determined by its windows. Frequently, however, historic windows are improperly removed when a structure is repaired or rehabilitated and are then replaced with inappropriate modern glazing. In most cases, wood windows can be repaired and upgraded in an environmentally friendly manner while retaining historic integrity. Well-maintained wood windows will typically outperform new replacements windows.



Historic Wood Windows

Will of Joseph Hewett, Sr.

REFERENCE: Register of Deeds: Brunswick County Wills - Last Will and Testament, Joseph HEWETT, Senr., dated June 16, 1794. Will Book A, Page 281.

Editors Note: Transcribed as Written.

In the Name of god Amen - I Joseph HEWET Senr. of the county of Brunswick and State of North Carolina being low and weak of boddy But of Sound Mind and Memory Thanks be to god for it - do make and Ordain this to be my Last Will and testament in Manner and form following that is to say I Recommend My Soul into the hands of Almighty god In Sure and certain Hope of his reserextion unto Eternal life through the alone Merits of My lord and Saviour Jesus Christ - And as Concerning My Wordly goods and chattels Wherewith it has pleased god to Bless me With I dispose of them In Manner and form following that is to say in the first Place I gave and bequeth to My Son Jacob HEWETT one hundred Acres of Land Joining DUPRES line and known by the Name of BOATRIGHT and runing across to little shallot Allso I gave unto My Son David HEWET one hundred Acres of Land Joining Jacob HEWET and runing Across to little shallot Allso I gave unto My Son Joseph HEWET Junr. one hundred Acres of Land and Joining David HEWET and runing Across to little shallot Allso I gave unto My Son Joseph HEWET Junr. one hundred Acres of Land and Joining David HEWET and runing across to little shallot Allso gave and Bequeath him the one half of the Marsh known Samuel WILLETS Marsh during his life if he Should have Children lawfully Begotten in Marrage then to be at his disposhel if Not - then to Return to the Heirs of My boddy Allso I gave unto My Son Phillip HEWET one hundred acres of land and - Joining Joseph HEWET Junr. - and known by the Name of BOONS and Including Where the House Now stands and runing across to little shallot Allso I give unto my Son Robt. HEWET one hundred acres of Land Joining Phillip HEWET Including Where POTTER lived Allso fifty acres of land Joining his own tract at the Green swamp one Negro fellow Named Cuff Allso I gave unto my Son Samuel HEWET one hundred acres of Land Joining Robt. HEWET allso I give and Bequeath unto My son Robt. and Samuel HEWET Baccons Island Allso I give unto My Son Thomas HEWET the Plantation known by the Name of SIMMONS's and Where he Now lives allso the one half of the Marsh known by the Name of Samuel WILLETS Marsh allso I give unto My Son Samuel HEWET three cows and calvs for his young bay horse - Allso I

give unto My Daghter Rachal IVEY five shillings to be Paid her after My death allso I give unto My Daugter Ruth STANALAND Ten pound to be Paid to her after My death Allso I gave unto My grand Daugter Barkis HEWET Daugter to Robt. HEWET one yearling heffer With a read head allso I give unto My grand son Joseph HEWET Son of Samuel HEWET one yerling heffer Allso I give and bequeath unto Susanah HEWET one hundred and fifty acres of Land known by the Name of the turkey trap during her life and after her death to be Equely divided Between Robert and Samuel HEWET Lastly all the the Remaining part of My Stock and houseould Furniture Except My bay horse that I had from my Son Samuel HEWET to be sold and the Money to be Equely divided Between Jacob David Phillip Joseph Robert Samuel and Thomas HEWET Lastly I give unto My Well beloved friend James CHAIRS and the Heirs of his boddy one Bay Passing Hors and Likewise I do Make and Ordain my Well beloved Son Phillip HEWET Robert HEWET and James CHAIRS My Whole and Soul Executors of this My Last Will and Testament.

Joseph HEWET (signature). June the 16th 1794. Signed Selled and deliverd in the Presents of - James CHAIRES (signature) Robert HEWET (his mark) Samuel HEWET (his mark)

Tabby in Southeastern North Carolina

Tabby is a traditional construction material important to the coastal areas of the Southeastern US and the Caribbean.

The spatial distribution of tabby was limited to a narrow section of the Carolinas, Georgia, north Florida and the south Texas coast line. Examples of the material, most of which date from the eighteenth or nineteenth century, have been found on nearly all the sea islands and adjacent mainland areas from Cape Fear, North Carolina, to Saint Augustine, Florida, and in the vicinity of Copano Bay, north of Corpus Christi, Texas.

Although the vast majority of tabby structures were located in the Southern Atlantic coast of South

Carolina and Northern Florida examples of this mortar construction can be found in Brunswick County. Such as the wall and tombstones found in the Joseph Hewett Cemetery.

Tabby is an early cast-in-place construction material consisting of sand, lime (from shells and wood ash), and water. Tabby can be considered a lime-based concrete, unreinforced, with shell and shell fragments serving as the coarse aggregate. Also known as "The Oyster Shell Concrete of the Low-country". It's origin is uncertain: although early documents record Indian burial vaults with walls made of oyster shells and lime. No such structures have been known to survive. It is likely that Sixteenth-century Spanish explorers first brought Tabby to the coasts of what would become South Carolina and Georgia.

Early settlers in North Carolina found only trees and the raw materials for tabby. With an almost unlimited supply of oyster shells the builders extracted the lime by burning the shells. They then painstakingly removed all salt from the shells and from the sand to keep the concrete firm and whole (the salt weakened the concrete mixture). The cleaned sand, a mixture of coarse and fine varieties extracted from sand pits, was added to the lime and shells to make the tabby concrete.

Oyster shells are primarily calcium carbonate. When they are burned they are heated to a high enough temperature to decompose the calcium carbonate to lime and carbon dioxide, which dissipates in the air. The resulting lime mixed with the sand, shells and water form a bond for the mixture. Thus Tabby is a concrete.

Tabby was cheap to produce, but very labor-intensive. The process was depended on slave labor to crush and burn the oyster shells to supply lime. Wet tabby was poured and tamped into a wooden form to make the bricks or walls could be made by using wooden planks tied together by crosspieces. The boards were moved up repeatedly as each layer of tabby dried, up to the desired height of the wall. Settlers used the cement to construct all manner of houses, farm structures, churches, fortifications, sea and exterior walls, fireplaces, tombstones and other structures.

The onset of the Civil War marked the end of the Plantation era and of traditional tabby construction. The end of tabby building was the result of three factors: First, the general disruption of building activity during the war; second, the breakdown of the plantation system; and third, the development of concrete block and inexpensive commercial cements.

Keep in mind while enjoying a part of our past that these pieces of tabby are very fragile and very old. Please leave them how you found them so that many generations to come can enjoy this piece of Brunswick County history.

The Origin of the Leonard Family of Brunswick County

Henry Leonard, III married his wife Hannah bef. 1726 in Cape May, New Jersey. After being a part of the "Whaler Yeoman Families" that settled Cape May, Henry and his family relocated to then New Hanover County along with the Hewett, Holden, Ludlum, and Swain families.

The first Leonard's to New Jersey were James and his brother Henry who came from the iron district of Massachusetts to New Jersey to assist in the operation of Colonel Lewis Morris's iron works at Tinton falls, Monmouth County, NJ.

Henry and James were born in Staffordshire, England. James abt. 1611 and Henry abt. 1618. After their arrival in the Massachusetts Bay Colony between 1645-1650, both were engaged in the manufacture of iron at Lynn during the year 1650, at Taunton in 1656, and at Rowley Village in 1668. While in Lynn Henry married Mary Russell and had the following children: Samuel, Nathaniel, Thomas, Henry, John, Sarah and Mary. He was engaged only a short time at Lynn in the bloomery, (type of furnace once widely used for smelting iron from its oxides) established there by a wealthy company with John Winthrop at its head. In 1652, the leading pioneer citizens of Taunton, discovering large deposits of iron ore in that locality, and hearing of the reputation of the Leonard brothers as "skilled hammers-men, bloomers and refiners of iron," in a public meeting "voted to invite them to

Come hither and join certain inhabitants to set up a bloomery." A company was organized and at once commenced to build the works, which in those days required several years to complete. And in 1656, Henry and James were at Taunton, occupied in their favorite business pursuits. James remained there nearly twenty years, but Henry went back to Lynn for a short time. In 1668, Henry was a work at Rowley with his sons, Nathaniel, Thomas and Samuel, getting them fairly acquainted with the business. He then went to Canton, near Boston, to aid in starting an iron works there, and after returning to assist his boys for awhile again, he left them to carry out a further contract with the owners of the Rowley works while he went to East Jersey, where reports stated the iron ore was found in much greater quantity, and of much better quality. This was about 1674-75 when he moved to New Jersey, in the vicinity of Middletown and Shrewsbury where it is supposed he lived the remainder of his life, engaged in the business of working in iron at the mills of Lewis Morris.

On April 11, 1676, Henry acquired the title for a track of land on the Fall River (Pine Brook) from the Indians. By commission from the Governor, Philip Carteret, February 4, 1678, Henry Leonard, with his son Samuel and others, were given exclusive authority to capture and kill whales and other fish in the sea and harbor off the coast of East New Jersey from Barnegat northward to Sandy Hook. The last days of Henry Leonard (who may be considered the paternal ancestor of the Leonard's in New Jersey) were lived in the midst of troublesome times, when the inhabitants of the province were without any recognized government, except the local magistrates of the several Townships. He died about 1695, leaving a worthy successor in his son Samuel, to hand the name down to posterity.

Henry's sons, Samuel, Nathaniel and Thomas, continued the iron business at Rowley Village for a few years after their father's removal to New Jersey, under a contract with "ye owners of ye iron works," which was dated April 6, 1674. But probably within three years the sons gave up this contract, the two older ones moving to New Jersey, and Thomas going to Virginia. Henry, Jr., (probable son of Henry, the ironworker) after moving to New Jersey married Hannah Johnson on

January 29, 1697. He was heavily involved in the whaling and fishing industry as was his son, Henry, III. Henry, III and his wife Hannah moved to Brunswick County (then New Hanover) about 1755.

Source: The Monmouth Inquirer, Nov. 8 and 15, 1883. Compiled by O.B. Leonard of Plainfield, NJ.

Land Records for Henry Leonard of Brunswick County

Editors Note: Taken from "The Colony of North Carolina, Abstracts of Land Patents, Vol. I, 1735-1764 and Vol. II, 1765-1775, Hofman, 1982.

1. Patent Book 15, No. 5014, page 177. 27 Sept., 1756. Arthur Dobbs, Royal Governor to Henry Leonard, 100 acres in New Hanover opposite Lockwoods Folly Inlet joining the river, the water, a branch, and the Eastern most of three little hammocks.
2. Patent Book 15, No. 5027, page 181. 27 Sept., 1756. Arthur Dobbs, Royal Governor to Henry Leonard, 300 acres in New Hanover between Benj. Holden & Mr. Quince, between Bacon's Inlet & Lockwoods Folly Inlet joining a swamp & branch of Stanley's Creek.
3. Patent Book 2, No. 970, page 157, 23 May, 1757. Arthur Dobbs, Royal Governor to Joseph Hewitt and Henry Leonard, 190 acres in New Hanover on the sound, adjoining Roger Moore, the marsh, Symmons br., the path and the said sound.
4. Patent Book 23, No. 6982, Page 324, 22 Dec., 1768. Wm. Tryon, Royal Governor to Henry Leonard, 200 acres on the Royal Oak Br., a br. Of Lockwoods Folly, joining Walsen's corner.
5. Patent Book 20, No. 3353, Page 719, 22 Nov. 1771, Josiah Martin, Royal Governor to Henry Leonard, 170 acres on the Northeast side of Little Shallotte, joining the creek below the forks, the edge of the dry ground, Jno. Daniel's supposed line, Richard Quince, an open pond, a savannah, & Shallot River or Creek below the landing bluff.

Extracts from the land/deed records of Brunswick County. Transcribed as written.

1. A-158, 8 Jan., 1758. Rueben Hewitt & Ezekial

Simpkins, yeomen of New Hanover to Joseph Hewett & Henry Leonard, Jr., yeomen of New Hanover. 16 lbs. for ___ acres beginning at the Southside of Joseph Hewitt's land a corner tree standing by the sound side, a run near Holden's line, West to Joseph Hewitt & Henry Leonard, Sr.'s line. (w) Samuel Leonard, Ebenezer Hewitt.

2. A-157, Feb., 1767. Joseph & Hannah Hewitt to Henry Leonard. ___ acres running up the sound, t the Northeast br. Of Shallot, Northeast side of Red Landing Run; part of a tract purchased from Wm. Boone. (w) Jno. Ludlam, Benj. Holding.

Will of Henry Leonard

Editors note: Transcribes as written including spelling and punctuation from Deed Book A, Page 183, Brunswick County records.

IN THE NAME OF GOD amen I Henry Leonard of Brunswick county in the Province of North Carolina this 29 Day of October One Thousand Seven Hundred & Seventy Two being anchent and Week in body Though in my Parfect Mind memory and Senses Blessed be to God and Calling to mind the mortality of my Body and Knowing that it is appointed for all men once to Die and after that the Judgment do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testement in the following manner and forme and first of all I gave my Soul into the hands of God Who gave it and as for my Body I Recumment it to the Earth to be buried in a Christain Like manner at the Discretion of my Executors Which shall be hereafter Mentioned Nothing Doubting but I shall Receive the Same again by the Mighty Power of God and as touching Such things as my Worly Estate wherewith it hath Plesed almighty God to bless me With Within this Life I gave Distribute Devide and Dispose in the following manner and forme.

Itam to my Dearly Beloved Wife Hannah Leonard I give and Bequeeth the Use of all my Lands and Living Within Dors and Without by her freely to be enjoyed With all the Use and Prevedges to rent them at her Pleasure as she may think Proper During her Life or Day of marriage and after she Seeses to by my widow or after her Death I gave

and Bequeth to my GranSon Job Holden one fether bed With a home Spun Tick one Small Pot, Two Quart Basons, Two Plates and my Plantation Tules I gave and Bequeth Unto m Well beloved grandsons Henry and John Willitts, Sons of Samuel Willitts all that messuage or Tract of Land beginning at John Dements Line at the mouth of a run and Running along the Sound to a pametom Tree Marked with a Cross and sum notches from thence along Boons Line to Stephen Daniels Corner from thence Westerd along a line of marked Trees to Two Dogwood Trees marked with Six Chops from thence Runing along a line of Marked Trees to a large Pine Nothced from thence to a large Pine Notched on the South Side of gallaways Swamp from thence Up the Said Swamp to John Dements Line to a notched Pine on the Same Side of gallaways Swamp from thence along Dements Line to a gum tree Marked Standing in the head of a branch from thence Down the branch to the first Station Which Said Tract or Parsel of Land as aforesaid I gave & Devise Unto them their heirs and assigns for Ever.

Itam I gave Devise and Bequeeth Unto Joseph Hewett Son of Joseph Hewett my beloved Granson all my Lands and being on the North Side of Little Shallotte Joining on the River Which Said Lands I gave and Devise Unto the Said Joseph Hewett his heirs and assigns for Ever.

Itam I gavve Devise and Bequeth Unto my Grand-Son Crafurd Ludlam a tract or Parsel of Land beginning at John Dements Line at a Pine Tree Marked with Six Notches from thence Runing along Little Shallotte to Stephen Daniels Line Thence along the Said Line to Two Dogwood Trees marked with Six Chops from thence along a line of marked Trees to a large Pine notched from thence to a large Pine marked on the South Side of Galaways Swamp and from thence along the Said Swamp to John Dements Line Which Said Tract or Parcel of Land as afore Said I gave and Devise Unto the Said Crafurd Ludlum and to the Lawful Heirs begotten of his body and my Will Desire and intention is that in Case the Said Crafurd Ludlum Shall Depart this Life With out issue Lawfully Begotten of his body that then this Tract or Parcel of land shall be Sold and one high Chesst With a a Drawer Which I also gave to Crafurd Ludlam Should be Sold at Publick Vendue and the money Equelly Divided between

All my Grand Children excepting Rachel Ivey to them and their Heirs for Ever.

Item I also give and bequeath Unto my Two Daughters Abigail Holden and Ann Willitts all my Movable Estate to be Equally Divided between them Excepting one forth Part I gave and Bequeth to my grand Daughters Ruth & Lyddea Hewett and I Desire my Daughter Ann Willitts may have my fether Bed Whereon I Rest Which is to go in her Part.

And Lastly I Do Hereby Nominate Constitute and appoint my beloved Wife Hannah Leonard and my beloved Grand Son Job Holden to be my Hole & sole Executors of this my Last Will & Testament Utterly Revoking Disanuling and Disalowing all and Ever other Wills heretofore made Ratifying and Confirmaing this & no other to be my Last Will and Testament in Witness Whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and fixed me seel this Twenty Ninth of October 1772.

Assigned Seeled and Publickly Delivered and acknowledged by the Said Henry Leonard in the Presents of us.

John Dement Henry Leonard
Charles Dement
Mary Dement
Will Hewett

Last Will & Testament of Henry Leonard
Henry Leonard — his seal



The Within Will was proved in Open Court June 1774 by the Oath of Will Hewett on of the Evidences thereto & ordd. To be Registered.

Will Lord, Repr.

Area Events

August 1-Sept. 13: Brunswick Town - Blackbeard's Queen Anne's Revenge exhibit. See artifacts recovered from the wreck of Pirate Blackbeard's ship.

September 6 & 7: Brunswick Town - Commemorates the Spanish attack on the town.

Mid September thru Mid November: Moores Creek National Battlefield - Demonstrations each Saturday.

November 14 & 15: Moores Creek National Battlefield - Candlelight Tours from 6:00 PM-9:00 PM. Reservations can be made beginning October 15, 2014. The program has been totally revamped by adding new stops, taking out some old ones, and changing where the tours begin.

Membership Application ... Invite a Friend to Join Brunswick County Historical Society

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail _____

New: _____ or Renewal _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Mail this form with your check to: P.O. Box 874, Shallotte, NC 28459

Annual Dues: Individual \$15 Life Membership \$150