



NEWSLETTER

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

VOLUME LIX

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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 2019 & 2020 Term

President: James Green
Vice-President: Gwen Causey
Secretary:
Treasurer: Bob Armour
Directors: Sally Robinson
Jim Marlowe
Dave Lewis

Newsletter Editor: Dave Lewis



ATTENTION

THE MAY MEETING OF THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY HAS BEEN CANCELED DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS.

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2020.

The February 2020 issue of the *NEWSLETTER* began the 59th Volume. Volume I, Number 1 was printed September 1961. A complete set of the Newsletter from September 1961 to May 2020 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).

Dues

DUES are now past due unless you are a **Life Member**. The annual dues are \$15.00 for an active member or \$150.00 to become a Life Member. Checks may be mailed to the **BCHS** in care of Bob Armour or bring check or cash to the May meeting. Use the membership application found on page 7 for contact changes. Make checks payable to the **Brunswick County Historical Society**.

Final Fate

The Albertine Adoue was, after 1923 or 1928 converted to a rum-runner to run the federal blockade of the US during Prohibition. It met its fate on the fog-bound coast of Oak Island, North Carolina on or immediately after Christmas Day 1930 per the following article and several others like it.

“Norfolk, Virginia, Dec. 26 [1930] A cargo of 1,600 cases of intoxicants was found on the British schooner Albertine Adoue, which went ashore off Oak Island, North Carolina, the Coast Guard reported tonight. The guardsmen valued the cargo at \$80,000. None of the crew was aboard when the vessel was found. She was towed to Wilmington, N.C., where here cargo will be taken in charge by federal officers. The ship went ashore in the fog which has held the Virginia and Carolina coast in its grip for two days.”

Source: Evening Star, Washington, DC Dec. 27, 1930

Grover Aubret Gore, Sr.

Grover Aubret Gore, Sr. passed away on March 8, 2020 in Winston-Salem, NC. He was born September 18, 1931 at the crossroads of the seaside road and highway 17 in Grissetown. Grover graduated from Shallotte High School in 1949 and joined the Coast Guard.

Graduating from North Carolina State University in 1958 he then married Marianne Florence Noel Boyd from Charlotte. He returned to school at Wake Forest University School of Law graduating in the spring of 1963.

Mr. Gore served as an officer of the **BCHS** during the 1970's where he was instrumental in helping the Society obtain its not-for-profit status.

He is survived by his wife, Marianne and their four children.

Spanish Influenza

Brunswick County and the entire Cape Fear region have not been immune to various infectious diseases within the last 300 years. There were at least 25 major outbreaks of yellow fever during the 18th and the 19th century in North America. Reported cases in Brunswick County began in the summer and fall of 1712 when many colonists fell victim to the disease. More cases occurred in 1812, 1846, and 1862. In the decade preceding the Civil War the Commissioners of Navigation and Pilotage es-

tablished quarantine stations on the Cape Fear River between Southport and Wilmington. When the Civil War began, however, the quarantine laws that applied to the port of Wilmington were waived because supplies and food were desperately needed by soldiers and civilians. In the fall of 1862, as a result of the waiving of quarantine regulations, an epidemic of yellow fever began with the arrival of the steamer Kate, a blockade-runner from Nassau. During September of 1862 many refugees from the yellow fever epidemic in Wilmington arrived down river in the coastal town of Smithville bringing the disease with them. Many refugees died along with several Brunswick County residents contracting the fever. During the epidemic nearly all of the Confederate troops were ordered to leave town and camp outside in the country and remain there until ordered to return. Again in August of 1888 quarantine was imposed on the town of Southport due to yellow fever in Florida. No persons from any of the infected towns in Florida were allowed to enter Southport by water or land unless certified that they have passed through a quarantine station along the route.

In the month of April 1879, a new quarantine board was established composed of Dr. W. G. Curtis, quarantine physician at Smithville, Dr. J. C. Walker, superintendent of health in Wilmington, and Dr. Thomas F. Wood as secretary. New quarantine regulations for 1879 were adopted. One month later there was an epidemic of measles in Brunswick County. Another measles epidemic followed in 1912 and again in March of 1914. During December 1917 a quarantine was established in Southport due to a threat of yet another measles outbreak. For several days many married soldiers stationed at Fort Caswell were prevented from visiting their wives who were living in Southport.

Smallpox was another infectious disease affecting the region. In September 1862 Company G, 40th Regiment stationed at Fort Johnston suffered from an outbreak of yellow fever and smallpox at the same time resulting in the death of a large number of soldiers. One year later a Confederate soldier arrived in Smithville from Richmond to visit relatives and brought smallpox with him. The disease quickly spread until every household in town was hit. At that time only a very few had been vaccinat-

ed against the disease. On March 24, 1867 Dora Bowers, young daughter of Andrew and Mary Jane Bowers, died of smallpox. She was born on Smith Island February 10, 1860.

A special meeting of the Southport Board of Aldermen was called on August 9, 1904. They decided to establish a quarantine against the smallpox infected district of Brunswick County. It was described as, "all that territory south of Town Creek from the Green Swamp to the Cape Fear River and north of Smithville township line from the Cape Fear River to Pinch Gut Swamp."

Another quarantine was lifted on January 20, 1911 that had been in place to assist Wilmington in the town's compulsory vaccination order due to the many cases of smallpox. During the quarantine period no persons from Wilmington were allowed to land at Southport without a certificate of vaccination from a physician. The quarantine order was signed by Price Furpless, the mayor of Southport.

Miss Kate Stuart of Smithville became known across North Carolina through the newspapers as the "Heroine of Smithville". She was recognized for assisting the sick during the yellow fever and smallpox epidemics in Smithville during the Civil War.

Today probably the most remembered pandemic within Brunswick County and the Cape Fear region was the Spanish Flu outbreak beginning in the fall of 1918. Many long-time residences still remember their families struggle with this deadly virus.

Almost 102 years ago the influenza reached the United States during World War I, and the first instance in North Carolina was reported in September 1918. The origin of the disease remains unknown. Many doctors had difficulty identifying the disease, for typhoid fever and tuberculosis was also affecting the state at the same time. The influenza spread rapidly throughout the state and country in great part because hospitals were unprepared and lacked a quarantine area. Flu symptoms manifested quickly. Initially the victim suffered a fever for three days that in many cases led to death. Poverty, lack of sanitation, and crowded conditions in the larger cities increased the number of deaths. Many

of the fearful locked themselves in their homes and refused to open doors. Business owners often nailed doors shut and served customers one at a time. Schools and churches were closed, and social functions were abandoned.

The port city of Wilmington was the first town hit in North Carolina with the first case reported on September 19, 1918. Within a week the hard-struck city reported some 400 cases of the illness. This was the first sign of the devastation yet to come. In an effort to stop the spread of the virus, the State Board of Health banned public gatherings, closed schools, and quarantined victims. However the policy began too late and was difficult to administer. Volunteer groups such as the American Red Cross stepped in to treat victims and provide adequate medicine and food for the sick. Sunshine and open air was recommended as a cure for the disease. Calomel, mercurous chloride used in the treatment of malaria and yellow fever was used to treat the flu but proved to be ineffective along with many other remedies.

At the peak of the influenza outbreak, during the winter of 1918-1919, at least 20% of North Carolinians were infected killing nearly 14,000 citizens of the state. At least 17 doctors succumbed to the virus while treating the infected. With more than 200 deaths Wilmington was the hardest hit town within North Carolina by the disease known as the "Spanish Lady".

Brunswick County was hard hit as well. This infectious disease not only affected the lives of many but also such organizations as the Brunswick Baptist Association. Several of the area churches, especially Southport and Bethel, ministered to the soldiers stationed at Fort Caswell and were in turn blessed by the talents of the men. The churches in the Association were perhaps affected more by the flu epidemic than by the war. There were no records of minutes printed for the years 1919 because of the epidemic.

There were many social activities in and around Southport to entertain the troops stationed at Fort Caswell and civilians of Brunswick County. Functions such as parties, oyster roast, dinners, plays, and ball games along with group singings to keep

up the moral of our citizens and soldiers. However as the Spanish influenza began to make its way into the lower Cape Fear in October and November of 1918, the music died. Almost every home in Southport and many others throughout the county were affected. Schools and theaters were closed by order of the Board of Health. Many church and civic meetings were canceled. Fort Caswell had 1,200 men stationed there with 500 cases of the flu and seven deaths.

In October the epidemic struck the Southport post office. Postmaster D. O. Daniels and all the clerks, Misses Sallie Doshier and Minnie Newton, were all resting at home very sick.

The first part of November saw hundreds of Puerto Rican laborers arrive in the Cape Fear region to work at various industries where there was a shortage of workers due to the war. They were ill-clad and not prepared to survive in the extremely cold weather that they encountered on their ocean trip. Many were ill and transferred to the military hospital at Fort Caswell where Lena W. Jason, a nurse who had served fifteen years in Puerto Rico, was brought in by the Red Cross to aid the sick laborers. The American Red Cross chapter in Southport had been organized on April 2, 1917. Twenty-five died during the month of November and another twenty-five died in December. The war ended the day after their arrival, and most of the laborers were returned to their home island on December 27, 1918. The laborers that died were interred in the National Cemetery in Wilmington.

Although much of Brunswick County was a rural area, that did not mean they avoided the influenza outbreak. Many households were affected, and many deaths occurred. Some were Margaret Mercer, four year old daughter of W. F. Mercer of Bolivia, died October 16, 1918 at the Wilmington High School emergence hospital in Wilmington. John W. Harper, Jr., son of Capt. John Harper, died in Wilmington on October 8th. Quincey Watson of Leland died October 11th at the Wilmington High School emergency hospital. Mrs. L. Bragdon of Douglas, Georgia died October 17th in Leland while visiting. Miss Beulah Robbins, eight year old daughter of Randolph R. Robbins, died on October 14th in the Wilmington High School hospital. Her

mother had died on October 2nd in Phoenix. Mrs. D. W. Stevens, also of Phoenix, died November 6th at the James Walker Hospital in Wilmington, John T. Thorpe, age 79 of Town Creek, died October 26th. Mrs. Hilda Evans Henry, wife of T. W. Henry, died January 23, 1919. The Rev. Charles O. DuRant, a Methodist minister from Brunswick County, died March 16, 1919 in Snow Hill, North Carolina. Alice McNeal, four month old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. McNeal of Town Creek, died February 18, 1919... and the list goes on.

Even with all the suffering brought on by this pandemic, November 1918 brought one of the happiest days to Brunswick County history as peace was declared. News of the Armistice signing on November 11th quickly relayed over the area. Bells rang, whistles blew, hundreds of flags waved, and voices laughed, cried, sang, and gave thanks to God that the "war to end all wars" was over. Unfortunately this highly infectious disease was to continue into the winter of 1919.

Sources: "North Carolina Through Four Centuries," by William S. Powell.

"Masters of the Shoals," by Jim McNeil.

"Southport A Chronology Vol. 1, Vol. II," by Bill Reaves.

"Flu Pandemic (1919)" NC History Project, by Shane Williams.

"The Spanish Flu Epidemic of 1918," NC Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources.

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness," by Gwen Causey.

"Joshua's Dream," by Susan S. Carson.

Thanks to Gwen Causey for her help with reference material.

Woodside Cemetery

The Woodside Cemetery was destroyed the week of February 21, 2020 by a logging company. This small cemetery is located off Old Lennon Road SE in Bolivia, and has five known graves with three markers. The three broken headstones have been recovered but a foot stone remains missing.

While overgrown and not maintained, the cemetery is documented on the Brunswick County GIS map found in the county planning department. This site has been on maps dating back to 1865 and research

shows it has not been used since the 1920's. It is the final resting place of Samuel Woodside, a Confederate veteran of Capt. Galloway's Coast Guard.

The Brunswick County government and the Sheriff's Department were notified and the county government has promised to fix or replace the broken headstones, and erect a fence around the cemetery. Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 pandemic this project is on hold until a later date.



Woodside Cemetery, February 21, 2020

Five known graves per Find A Grave website:

- Susan Woodside Arnold
February 1872 - September 21, 1921
- Alice B. Woodside
April 04, 1877 - October 19, 1911
- David Elliott Woodside
April 27, 1872 - April 23, 1924
- Mary Elizabeth Smith Woodside
November 06, 1848 - October 12, 1920
- Pvt. Samuel F. Woodside
July 01, 1834 – February 04, 1904

The Man Who Charted the Coast

Source: Our State Magazine, June 2017. Written by Bryan Mims, a reporter at WRAL in Raleigh.

Edward Moseley used chains, clocks, and compasses to create a map of eastern North Carolina. Nearly three centuries later, his attention to accuracy and detail is still astonishing.

The unmistakable shape of the state's coastal region – the sounds, the rivers, the porous peninsulas,

the pointed capes, the string of barrier islands-is all there in ink on yellow-white paper. The names are familiar too: New Bern, New Hanover, Cape Hatteras, Beaufort, Bogue Sound. And there are familiar names with weird spellings: Pamlico (Pamlico) Sound Woggomau (Waccamaw) Lake, Neus (Neuse) River, Charokee. Sure, the Outer Banks could use some tweaking, and the Deep River mistakenly flows into the "Pedee" River instead of the Cape Fear. But even if you only have a bare-bones grasp of North Carolina geography, you can still appreciate the accuracy of this nearly 300-year-old map.

In 1733, Edward Moseley created "A New and Correct Map of the Province of North Carolina." It covers a wide sweep of territory, from the Santee River delta in South Carolina up to southern Virginia and west to the Piedmont. The mouth of the Cape Fear below present-day Wilmington is nearly spot-on, with the coast making a sharp westward turn and the cape thrusting like a dagger into the sea.

Only three of Moseley's original 1733 maps are known to exist in the world. Two are kept in England: one in Britain's National Archives in London, and another at Eton College. The only map in America, and the one likely owned by Moseley himself, is framed on the wall of the Special Collections room at East Carolina University's Joyner Library. It's roughly 5 by 4 feet, with one inch representing about five miles. Written in nine lines between the "Pedee" and Cape Fear rivers is this passage:

"This Country abounds with Elks & Buffaloes at the distance of about 150 miles from the Sea & the whole affords plenty of Deer, Swine, Bever, wild Cows & Horses. Also, Turkeys, Partridges, and all sorts of water-fowl, with abundance of Swans."

The map is marked not only with place names, but also with the names of families dwelling in those places. Follow the Meherrin and Chowan rivers, for example, and you'll see the surnames of people who were living along the banks: Anderson, Bryan, Kirchin, Williams, Cotton, Dew, Gee, Pollack. Those names still resonate today, says Ralph Scott, the curator of printed books and maps at ECU.

“People will come in and say, ‘Oh, I know who that is.’”

Edward Mosely was a planter, a Chief Justice, a book collector, and a politician. He was also the surveyor general of the Carolina colony in the first decade of the 1700’s. John Lawson, who had famously explored the Carolina backcountry and written a book about it, succeeded him. The northern half of the colony evolved separately from southern Carolina, developing a culture of small tobacco farms rather than expansive plantations, and it had far fewer slaves. So in 1712, given their different geographies and economies, the two regions split and became their own colonies.

In 1723, Mosely again became the surveyor general of what was by then called North Carolina. “He was a very extensive landowner in eastern North Carolina,” Scott says. “So of course he was interested in measuring his land to make sure he got it recorded correctly.”

That led to his surveying the region for his “new and correct” map of North Carolina, aiming to improve upon John Lawson’s 1709 map with greater detail. Mosely and his team used compasses, clocks, and likely a sextant, a tool that use angles and mirrors to determine latitude and longitude. A critical instrument for 18th-century surveyors was the Gunter’s chain, which measured distance on the ground: One chain, with its 100 links, stretched 66 feet.

Mosely sent his ink drawings to London to be engraved and published. What the map fails to show is the boundary between North and South Carolina; that wasn’t added until a couple of years later, when he served on a commission to fix the border. An updated map from 1737 does include the line, extending northwest from the Little River.

Today, smaller prints of the map are sold for twenty-five dollars. “People buy them and give them as gifts,” says Rachel Becton, a development officer for Joyner Library. “It’s a point of pride.” Yet the original map, now hanging at ECU, was once much harder to find. It vanished from public view in the mid-19th century, but resurfaced in 1982 in the attic of Wessington House, an antebellum man-

sion in Edenton. The homeowner at the time said the map had been in the family for several generations and donated it to ECU.

Nearly 300 years after it was drawn, the map shows a North Carolina we still recognize: the tentacles of Albemarle Sound, the writhing ways of the Tar and Roanoke rivers, the jutting coastline. Edward Mosely put the infant colony on paper, giving it shape, demystifying it, making it feel like home.

Good Results of Oyster Roast

Sharon Methodist Church Receives Funds for Improvements as Result of Recent Benefit The State Port Pilot, April 30, 1947

The oyster roast given for Sharon Methodist Church by Mrs. J. M. Roach at her home in Lockwood Folly township last week was a great success. The sum of \$130.00 was realized and Mrs. Roach and the community folks say that they are very appreciative of the support they received in making the occasion a success.

Besides the people of the community, were the Walton’s of Andrews Chapel Methodist church, Rev. A. E. Fulmer of Conway, SC, Mrs. E. F. Mosley of Brunswick, GA; Mrs. W. E. Greer, Bolivia; Mrs. J. Clemmons, Bolivia; Mrs. Maxine Fulcher and son, Southport; J. E. Cooke, Shallotte; Homer Holden, Bolivia; Collen Formyduval, Helen Inman, L. S. Holden, Holden’s Beach; Mrs. Christine Bullock and children, Alexandria, VA; Mr. and Mrs. E. Tripp and son, Shallotte; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Clemmons, Supply; Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Holden, Durham; Harold Milliken, Shallotte; Rev. and Mrs. Richard Braunstein, pastor of Sharon.

The Sharon church is preparing for a Mother’s Day program. The date will be announced later. Dinner will be served picnic style and a special invitation is being extended to all other denominations to attend.

The Rev. Mr. Braunstein’s appointments at Sharon are for the second Sunday morning at 11:00 and the third Sunday evening at 7:30 o’clock. Sunday School is held each Sunday morning at 10 o’clock. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Fire in Brunswick County

The house of Mr. Wm. Starkey, at Spring Hill, in Brunswick County, was entirely destroyed by fire, together with its contents, on Thursday last (May 13, 1874).). Mr. Starkey was absent at the time, his wife with their two small children having been left at home. Mr. Starkey was engaged in preparing dinner when the flames were discovered. Her first thought was for her children, and she raised them in her arms and carried them to the yard in front of the house where she left them and then returned to the rear of the building in the hopes of being able to save some of the furniture.

The flames spread so rapidly, however, that almost everything, together with the house was consumed. Some neighbors reached the spot just as the roof fell in and when they arrived found that the fire had run along the grass to where the children had been left while the mother was endeavoring to save some of the furniture in the house, and where they would probably have burned to death but for the timely arrival of the neighbors.

There was no insurance on any of the property, and Mr. Starkey who is a worthy and industrious man, is left almost entirely destitute.

From: The Wilmington Weekly Journal, issue dated May 22, 1874

Cancellations

The Southport 4th of July Festival Committee has announced the cancellation of all 4th of July activities because of the COVID-19 environment. In addition the city of Southport has cancelled all of the cities public events through Labor Day.

The Brunswick Civil War Round Table has cancelled their May 5 meeting because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The speaker, Brian Luskey will be rescheduled for a later date.



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

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail _____

New: _____ Renewal _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Receive *Newsletter* by email: Y N

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

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

Please submit any articles or information for future newsletters to Dave Lewis.

Email: davelewis@atmc.net

CALENDER OF EVENTS

BCHS Meetings: February 10, 2020
May 11, 2020
August 10, 2020
November 09, 2020

BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 874
SHALLOTTE, NC 28459



Capt. Gano-