



# CLARENDON COURIER

NEWSLETTER OF OLD NEW HANOVER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 1

MARCH 1991

## MEETINGS

**Unless otherwise** indicated, all regularly scheduled meetings of the Old New Hanover Genealogical Society will be held on the third Tuesday of each month. We will meet in the large conference room on the second floor of the New Hanover Public Library, 201 Chestnut Street, Wilmington, NC.

**19 March 1991, Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.** Election of Officers and Awards Ceremony. After the awards ceremony, we will have a period of time for **"Show & Tell."** Bring family histories, charts, forms and computer printouts. This is an opportunity to show off your hard work and learn from others.

**16 April 1991, Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.** Military Records. Mr. Bob High will be speaking to us on military records from all the wars. He is a feature reporter for the Whiteville News Report and the editor of The Lower East Journal. Mr. High is an expert on families in Southeastern North Carolina and has an interest in the Civil War. Columbus County has 230 men and women serving in the Persian Gulf Conflict and Mr. High has written an article on each one. He is the only reporter in North Carolina who has done a project of this nature. He is an entertaining speaker and we look forward to having him with us in April.

**May Outing -** We have a nice surprise for you for our annual May Outing. You will find out the details at the April meeting and our telephone committee will also contact you regarding the date and place. Please make every effort to be there.

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New Hanover Co. Museum

**24 March 1991, Sunday. 2:30 p.m.** New Hanover Co. Museum:  
Slide-lecture, "From Europe to America: Immigrant Communities in the Lower Cape **Fear.**"

Old Bew Hanover Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 25361  
Wilmington, NC 28402-2536

Organized 4 **March** 1989

Officers

Dean Jarrett	President
Randolph Cary	Vice-president
Alma <b>Adcock</b>	Secretary
Sue Estep	Treasurer
<b>Michael Whaley</b>	Director-at-Large
Abbie Bitney	Correspondence Secretary

Committee Chairpersons

Alma <b>Adcock</b>	<b>Membership</b>
Sue Estep	Finance
Beverly Tetterton	Program and Publicity
Randolph <b>Cary</b>	Publications
<b>Muriel</b> Piver	<b>Social/Trip</b> Coordinator
Helen <b>Sammons</b>	Research
Edgar Keal	Historian
Billy Davis, Jr.	Computer Interest

Bewsletter

Jane Bailey	Editor
Van <b>Stilley</b>	Editorial Staff
Tom Bailey	Editorial Staff

Membership

Annual membership in **ONHGS**: \$15.00 for individuals and institutions, **\$20.00** for families, and \$100.00 for life. Send matters relating to membership to Sue **Y. Estep**, P.O. Box 13, Riegelwood, BC 28456.

Bewsletter

The "Clarendon Courier" is published quarterly in June, September, December, and March. Copy deadline is **10th** of month prior to publication.

Articles submitted for publication and letters to the editor should be mailed to Jane B. Bailey, 7094 Scotts Hill Lp. Rd., **Wilmington, BC 28405**.

Permission is granted to quote if the appropriate credit is given to the **ONHGS** newsletter, the "Clarendon Courier," and the author.

**COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP**

by

Billy L. Davis Jr.

A lot of us are interested in laptop computers and I thought you might benefit from this article by T.R. Reid & Brit Hume which appeared in the **Wilmington Morning Star**, Thursday, December 27, 1990.

"A laptop computer should fit into your briefcase just a notebook would. Any thing bigger than that falls into the category of portable computers. There are certain objective measures that a laptop computer should meet before you buy it.

Be sure to get a computer with a hard disk. There are several points to look for in laptop batteries. **You** should demand about 3 hours operating time on a single battery. Don't take any thing less. The battery should be light (about two pounds) and small enough to fit a second one inside your briefcase with the computer.

The battery charger transformer units very significantly. You want a unit that will recharge the battery from **empty** to full on the span of one **night's sleep**.

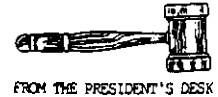
**Unless** you have some unusual need, don't get a color laptop. You do need a printer ("parallel' ) and a modem ("serial") port, another to access an external floppy-disk drive, and a connector to hook up an external display screen, so you can use your full-size monitor at home.

Finally, don't let a salesman talk you into the built-in **modems** that come with the **laptops**. These things have an amazing failure **rate**. Instead, buy one of the tiny **ciga-**rette-pack modems that are available. They are **cheap**, reliable and easy to hook up."

If you have articles to share, send them to me at:

5121 Chaucer Dr.  
Wilmington, **NC 28405**





### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are well into 1991 and I trust your holidays were happy and hopefully, you had an opportunity to "talk **genealogy**" while you were visiting with family. The holidays provide an excellent opportunity to continue family traditions and to share family history.

Our January meeting was certainly an exceptional one. We were privileged to have Reggie Kiser from Delmar Printing and Publishing as the guest speaker. Mr. Kiser gave a great presentation: not only did he explain how to go about getting your book into print from the publishers point of view, but he was a most entertaining speaker and answered many questions from the audience. We will be glad to supply you with his address.

The attendance was almost twice as large as usual. We feel this was due partly to the fact that several of our members served on a telephone committee who called and reminded members of the meeting. When you are called, please attend and if you can serve on the telephone committee, call Alma **Adcock** at 791-1576 who will see that you get a list of names.

Also at the January meeting, a nominating committee was appointed which will be chaired by Russ Bailey. Alma **Adcock** and James Stokely; Sr. will serve with him. They should have a new slate of officers to bring before the membership in March. Please respond in the affirmative when you are called. This is your society and we have had a great first two years, but ONHGS could really benefit from new leadership and new ideas.

The society will be making an annual award for outstanding contributions to genealogical research. A committee consisting of Chairperson Beverly Tetterton, Bill Reaves and Helen Sammons was appointed at the last meeting. The award will be presented at the March 19 meeting.

Congratulations to one of our members, Susan Carson, who was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the U. S. Coast Guard, Wilmington Office for her "**outstanding** support of the U. S. Coast **Guard's** Bicentennial **Birthday.**" Susan worked with Coast Guard officials and an auxiliary member in accumulating information about John **BROWN**, second captain of the early revenue cutter, "**Diligence.**" Captain **BROWN** was one of the very earliest settlers of Smithville and talked Joshua **POTTS** into coming the area for his first visit before the town was established. Captain **BROWN** and several members of his family are buried in the Old Smithville Burying Ground.

(This announcement of the award was published in the newsletter of the Southport Historical Society, The Whittlers Bench, Vol XV, No. 1, January 15, 1991.)

GENEALOGICAL NOTES FROM THE PUBLIC LIBRARY...

There is a lot of good news to report from the Local History and Genealogy Room of the Library. The following genealogical books have been donated by Mr. Cornelius D. Thomas of Clarendon Plantation. We have wanted many of these titles for a long time and we thank Mr. Thomas for his interest and generosity.

Album, Charts, and Records

Ancestral Roots of Sixty Colonists

Armorial Families of America

Charlemagne's Descendants I, II, III

DAR Library Catalog. Vol. 1 Supplement

DAR Library Catalog. Vol. 2

Diehl, Deal, Dill, Dale Families of America Vol. I

English Adventures and Emigrants

English Estates of American Colonists

English Estates of American Settlers

Harrison Family

Hemenway Family

Historical Graves, Private Burial Grounds and Cemeteries of Kent County, Maryland

Intelligible Heraldry

Lord Mayor's Court of London Depositions Relating to Americans 1641-1736

Lower Norfolk County and Norfolk County Wills 1637-1710

The Maryland Militia in the Revolutionary War

A New Index to Bishop Gregg's History of the Old Cheraws

The Powell Families of Virginia and the South

Power Families of Virginia and the South Index

The Register Book for the Parish Prince Frederick Winshaw

Royalty for Commoners

GENEALOGY NOTES FROM THE NEW HANOVER CO. LIBRARY (continued)Settlers by the Long Grev TrailStackhouse - An Oriainal Pennsylvania FamilyThe Story of the PalatinesSt. Thomas and St. Denis Parish. South CarolinaTwig and Turf IIVirginia Colonial Abstracts, Series 2, Vol. 1Virainia Colonial Abstracts, Series 2, Vol. 4Virginia's Northern Neck Surveys, Vol. IVWills and Estate Records in the Virainia State LibraryYe Kinadome of Accawmacke

The second piece of good news for the genealogist is the Bill Reaves Collection, which Mr. Reaves has graciously decided to give the Library. Bill, a local historian and a charter member of ONHGS, has been collecting information of local families for twenty-five years. Whenever he found a tidbit on a family, he dropped it into a file. He has **been** typing all the information in each file and even indexing it. As these files are transfered to the library, we will let you know through this newsletter which ones are available. You may request a copy of a particular family file by writing to The Local History Room, New Hanover Public Library, 201 Chestnut Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 or write to the ONHGS Research Department. Copies will cost ten cents per page. If you making your request through the mail, you will have to pay postage and handling. Send a S.A.S.E. with your request and we will advise you of the cost.

The following Reaves Collection family files are now the Library: Aaron, Abbott, Adams, **Adkins**, Adrian, **Agostini**, Ahrens, Albring, Alderman, Aldrich, Alexander, **Alexius**, Alford, Alfriend, Alligood, Alston, Altaffer, **Aman**, Ammenhauser, Anders, Angel, Appleberry, Applegate, Applewhite, Arthur, Atkins, Autry, Avant, Avery, Aycock, **Axler**, Babson, **Bache**, Bacot, **Badon**, Bagg, Baggett, Bagley, **Bagwell**, Bain, Baird, **Baldwin**, Ballard, Banck. Bannerman, **Barden** (Bardin), Barnhill, Batchelor, Bauman, Belcher, Bellois, Blomme (Bloom) and Bremer.

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New hours for the Search Room of the NC State Archives:  
The search room **will** be closed from 12 noon to 1 p.m. on Saturday only. Other hours of operation will remain the same: Tues. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**ONHGS QUERIES**

**1-91.** Seek origins of Joshua SHEPARD, 1815 New Hanover Co., NC, tax list, md. Elizabeth MARSHBOURNE of Onslow Co., NC; removed to Burke, then Jefferson Co., GA. How related to early New Hanover SHEPARDS named Stephen, George, David, Jacob, Benjamin, John, & Elijah? Dalen SHEPPARD, P.O. BOX 612071, San Jose, CA 95161.

**2-91.** Seek wife (COWAN?) of Thomas LAMBE, md. ca. 1784 New Hanover Co., NC. d. 1787. Exch. on fam. of Elijah HENRY, b. 1830 New Hanover Co., NC, md Nancy SMITH, b 1834, Moved to Tippah Co., MS, after 1852. Also, fam. of Isaac Cowan LAMB & Mary HENDRY, md. New Hanover Co., NC, before 1820. Carletta Olivia HARVEY, 22 Highland Hills, Clemmons, NC 27012, Tel. (919) 764-0973.

**3-91.** Exch. info. on Pole (Napoleon?) POWELL and Anne Caroline POWELL, Lake Waccamaw area, Columbus Co., NC, early 1900s. Maude POWELL, P.O. Box 2226, Carolina Beach, NC 28428.

**4-91.** Need parents of Mary PRICE, b. ca. 1725, d ca. 1803 in Sampson Co., NC, wife of Edmund MATTHEWS/MATTHIS (ca. 1719-ca. 1784.) How related to Alexander PRICE and Rice PRICE? Henry deLeon SOUTHERLAND, Jr., 47 Greenway Road, Birmingham, AL 35213-4214.

**5-91.** Seek proof Amos ROCHELLE/ROTCHER/ROCHEL, who d. ca. 1798 New Hanover Co., NC, was father of Benjamin ROCHELLE (ca. 1779-1826) who md. Susanna JAMES. Also, exch. on James Madison SPENCE (1809-1870) of Lenoir Co., NC, who md Nancy GOODMAN. Sloan S. MASON, 125 Durham Dr., Fayetteville, GA 30214

**6-91.** Seek origins and wife of John LAY, of St. Phillip's Parish, Brunswick Co., NC, mid-1700s to 1828; ch. who divided hie land were Joseph, May, John, Martha, Ann, and Ellis LAY, and Mary DUSENBURY. Robert C. LAY, 923 Hawthorne St., Tallahassee, FL 32308.

**NOTE:** Queries are published free for members when space is available. They should be typed or legibly printed on separate sheets of paper, each with the sender's name and address. Each should state a geographical connection to southeastern North Carolina, or adjacent areas, and such dates as will place them in context. They are subject to editing. So that the editor will understand them, please do not abbreviate. Mail them to Queries Editor, Old New Hanover Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 2536. Wilmington, NC 28402-2536.

Anyone interested in forming a Roots III Users Group [RUG] in Southeastern North Carolina, please contact Van A. Stilley, 3812 Sweetbriar Road, Wilmington, NC 28403, tel. (919) 392-6604.

HARRIAGE BONDS OF CANETUCK TOWNSHIP. PENDER CO. NC 1888 - 1893

Contributed by Hattie L. Squires

14 Dec. 1888 - Henry W. C. **MALPASS** of Caswell Township, age 26, s/o Owen and Charlotte **MALPASS**, and Miss Sara **BENSON**, Caswell Township, age 26, d/o of Archie and Sarah **BENSON** by John W. **WEST**, J.P., Canetuck Township.

22 Mar. 1889 - Andrew **HOORE** of Canetuck Township, aged 63, s/o Wiloby and Sarah **MOORE**, and Miss Rebecca J. Moore of Columbia Township, age 44, d/o James & Rebecca **MOORE**, at house of H. A. **BLAND**, by S. B. **COSTIN**, J.P.. Witness: A. J. **HERRING** and H. A. **BLAND** of Moores Creek.

1889 - G. V. **RUSS** of Bladen Co., age 21, s/o of G. W. and Martha **RUSS**, and Miss Eppey R. **HORRELL**, Caswell Township, age 20, d/o E. M. and Mary **HORRELL** of Caswell Township, by L. C. **McDUFFIE**, J. P. at house of E. M. **HORRELL**. Witness: D. B. **JORDON**, Pt. Caswell, & W. H. **LAMB**, Keith, NC.

20 Dec. 1890 - J. W. **FLYNN** of Canetuck Township, age 22, s/o of W. J. & Zilpha M. **FLYNN**, and Miss Almeda B. **LARKINS** of Canetuck Township, age 18, d/o George D. & Carrie C. **LARKINS** at home of Mrs. C. E. **LARKINS**, Caswell Township by F. T. **WOOTEN**, a minister of Baptist denomination. Witness: J. D. **LARKINS**, S. A. **FLYNN**, J. G. **CHARLES**.

26 Nov. 1890 - Angus **McFADGEN**, age 69, s/o John & Mary **McFADGEN**, and Miss Margaret **MOORE** of Caintuck Township, age 43, d/o Annabella and John T. **MOORE** of Caintuck (father dead) by F. T. **WOTEN**, Baptist minister, at home of G. W. **CORBETT**, Caintuck Township. Witness: Geo. W. **CORBETT**, Pen. Co., C. V. **WIMS** (?), Bladen Co., and John **DANIEL**, Bladen Co..

19 Feb. 1890 - C. S. **PRIDGEN**, Caintuck Township, age 26 s/o Frank **PRIDGEN**, and Miss Mary L. **PRIDGEN**, age 21, d/o Sallie **PRIDGEN** (dead) at home of Mrs. Ann **PRIDGEN**, by L. C. **McDUFFIE**, J. P.. Witness: W. A. **BLIZZARD**, Keith, NC, F. P. **LAMB**, Keith, NC.

7 Jan. 1890 - Francis M. **SYKES** of Columbus Co, age 23, s/o John M. **SYKES**, New Hanover Co., and Miss Lorenor **PRIDGEN** of Caintuck Township, age 17, d/o Nancy & Stephen D. **PRIDGEN**, by F. P. **FLYNN**, J. P. at house of Stephen D. **PRIDGEN**, Caintuck. Witness: W. S. **LARKINS**, Pt. Caswell, NC and Alonzo D. **PRIDGEN**, Dew Drop, NC.

14 July 1893 - C. C. **CROOM**, Caintuck Township. age 24, s/o G. H. & C. J. H. **CROOM**, Grady Township, and Miss Rosa D. **PRIDGEN**, Caintuck, age 19, d/o Nancy & S. D. **PRIDGEN** at house of L. M. **ORR**, J. P.. Witness: A. B. **CROOM**, Long Creek, M. V. **ORR**, Currie, L. F. **ORR**, Currie, NC.

MARRIAGE BONDS OF CANETUCK TOWNSHIP (continued)

18 Dec 1893 - J. M. **GURGANUS**, Columbia Township, age 32, s/o John S. & Martha GURGANUS, and Miss **Lizie McGOWEN**, Caintuck Township, age 25, d/o Sarah P. and John W. **McGOWEN** by D. J. **CORBETT**, J. P. at house of Mr. J. W. **McGOWEN**. Witness: Andrew MOORE, John **MARSHALL**, Pender Co.

2 May 1893 - J. J. **PRIDGEN**, Caintuck, age 32, s/o J. J. **PRIDGEN** & Helen **MARSHALL PRIDGEN** (both dead), and Miss Annie MOORE, Grady Township, age 19, d/o Matilda A. & John R. MOORE, at house of J. G. **MALPASS**. Witness: B. L. **MALPASS**, Currie, W. H. WARD, Pt. Caswell, C. P. **PRIDGEN**, Keith Post Office.

[Note: Caintuck Township was formerly Caintuck Township.]

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FROM THE FILES OF BILL REAVES:

"The grants of land in North Carolina fill 189 great books, as big as ledgers, in the office of the secretary of state. Some of these books are very curious. Some are the originals, while the very earliest appear to have been copied a century or so later. Book No. 1 begins 14 March 1693, with the first grant. It is of 500 acres of land to **Wilton WILKERSON**, "English Measure", on the south side of the Albemarle River, in the precinct of **Chowan**. It is signed by Philip **LUDWELL**, our governor, commander-in-chief and captain general and by his counsellors, Thomas **HARVEY**, Francis **TOMER**, Benjamin **LAKAR**, and Richard **SANDERSON**, Daniel **AKEHURST** secretary. These were our "trusty and well-beloved counsellors" and the grant was "given at Mrs. Diana **FORESTER's house**." The capital letter F is made by joining two letters, thus "Fforestor." Sometimes nowadays one comes upon an English name "Ffrench," etc. The early grants were generally for small areas. It was not until about 1790 that vast tracts began to be taken up. There are three grants, of 1000,000 acres each to John Gray **BLOUNT**. One of these was in Tyrell County. These are the greatest of all the many thousands. In the west, there are some very large areas entered. Nowadays the grants are nearly all for less than fifty acres. it is hard to find vacant lands. Here and there are some vacant spots only to be discovered when old lines are run out. County surveyors often find these, but are forbidden to make entries. The forms of the earliest grants are models of simplicity. No mention of the king is made and they simply begin "Know ye that we have granted, etc." A few days ago, ex-Governor **JARVIS** wrote for a copy of a grant. It was sent [to] him and he wrote back that he wanted a full copy. He was told that all had been sent [to] him. He missed the interminable legal phraseology of the present day." (Raleigh Correspondent to the **Wilmington Semi-Weekly Messenger**, 9 March 1900.)



## NEW HANOVER COUNTY GUARDIAN BONDS 1843-1854

Abstracted by

Delmas Haskett

Arranged and Typed by  
Debbie Edens

These abstracts were taken from microfilmed records located in the Local History Room of the New Hanover County Public Library in Wilmington, NC.

Property often came into the possession of persons who were unable to handle it because of age or infirmity. Probate authorities appointed guardians, receivers, trustees, or collectors to take charge of such property. Guardians were appointed for orphans; for children of living parents but who were possessed of estates; for children who were parties to legal proceedings; for incompetents such as lunatics, idiots, and inebriates. However, most researchers will probably be most concerned with guardians of orphans.

Guardians were appointed from among relatives or neighbors of the ward or from other persons considered trustworthy by the probate authority. Those persons under the care of a guardian were called wards, but this did not necessarily mean the ward was an orphan. Children fourteen years of age or older were allowed to choose their own guardians and were allowed to change guardians. They were legally minors or infants until the age of twenty-one years.

Upon appointment by the probate authority, guardians were required to take oaths and post bonds before receiving letters of guardianship. Guardians were also required to submit an annual report or account to the court and to renew their bonds periodically. A surety was a person who assumed responsibility for the guardian's character and financial stability.

For additional information on the nature of Guardian Bonds, please consult pages 176 and 177, Chapter 11, North Carolina Genealogy and Local History, edited by Helen F. M. Leary and Maurice R. Stirewalt (The North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, NC 1980).

**NEW HANOVER GUARDIAN BONDS - PART TWO IN THE SERIES**

June Court 1844: John F. **SPICER**, guardian for Minors of Robert **NIXON** (?). Sureties: J. A. **SAUNDERS**, D. L. RUSSELL, N. F. **NIXON**, A. **MOTT**, Wm. C. **MOTT**, & S. D. **MOTT**.

June Court 1844: John D. MOORE, guardian for **Eliza** J. MOORE.  
Surety: Daniel **McALLISTER**.

June Court 1844: James **ANDERSON**, guardian for Emily HOWARD.  
Sureties: E. A. ANDERSON & Wm. A. **WRIGHT**.

June Court 1844: Jeremiah HAND, guardian for Julia Ellen, & Martha A. SMITH. Sureties: T. W. **BLOODWORTH**, Wm. J. HAND, and Jms [James?] **BROTHERS**.

June Court 1844: John **WOOSTER**, guardian for Minors of Adam **EMPIE**. Sureties: Wm. A. **WRIGHT** & Thos. H. **WRIGHT**.

June Court 1844: Edwin A. ANDERSON, guardian for Margaret LILLINGTON. Surety: James ANDERSON.

June Court 1844: Parker QUINCE, guardian for George **LILLINGTON**.  
Surety: John A. **LILLINGTON**.

March Court 1845: Daniel **McALLISTER**, guardian for John, Mary C., & Margaret **McALLISTER**. Sureties: J. M. **ALDERMAN** & John JONES, Jr.

March Court 1845: George MORDECAI, guardian for Ellen, Mary C., & Julia LAZARUS. Sureties: D. **CAMERON**, C. L. **HINTON**, & Wm. **BOYLAN**.

June Court 1845: Arthur CREWS, guardian for John Reuben **CREWS**.  
Sureties: John JONES, Jr. & Jas. GARRISON.

June Court 1845: Wm. H. **BEATTY**, guardian for Douglas C. \_\_\_\_\_  
[Blocked Out]. Sureties: Jno. S. **PEARSON** & John DAWSON.

June Court 1845: Thomas JOHNSON, guardian for Edward & John SIDBURY. Sureties: John DIXON & Evan ATKINSON.

June Court 1845: John DIXON, guardian for James. W., John W., Elizabeth & Rebecca DIXON. Sureties: E. ATKINSON, Thomas **JOHNSON**, & Chas. **McLAMMY**.

June Court 1844: Frederick J. HILL, guardian for Wm. Fred BERRY.  
Sureties: Thos. C. **MILLER** & Thoas W. **WRIGHT**.

June Court 1844: Benjamin F. **MITCHELL**, guardian for Robert SWANN. Sureties: Wm. WARD & Johanna PETERSON.

**NEW HANOVER GUARDIAN BONDS (continued)**

Dec Court 1845: Soloman W. **NASH**, guardian for John Soloman **NASH**.  
Sureties: Jas. **SAMPSON** & Wm. **KELLOGG**.

Dec Court 1845: Daniel B. **BAKER**, guardian for James W. **BAKER**.  
Surety: Samuel **POTTER**.

Dec Court 1845: Wm. C. **LORD**, guardian for Herietta [Henrietta?] **BERRY**.  
Sureties: W. A. & Joshua G. **WRIGHT**.

Dec Court 1845: Oscar G. **PARSLEY**, guardian for C. Cornelia **GRANT**.  
Sureties: Wm. A. **WRIGHT** & N. N. **NIXON**.

Dec Court 1845: Dugal W. **McMILLAN**, guardian for Rachel **WRIGHT**.  
Sureties: Jas. **GARRISON** & Thos. J. **ARMSTRONG**.

March Court 1846: Nattie **BONHAM**, guardian for Sarah **BONHAM**.  
Sureties: Jn. **ROCKS** & Hugh **BONHAM**.

Fall Court 1844: Charles **HENRY**, guardian for Nahor **WHEELER**.  
Sureties: J. B. **SEAVEY** & Bryan **NEWKIRK**.

Sept Court 1845: John **HOWARD**, guardian for Robert F. & Lewis A. **HOWARD**.  
Sureties: J. M. **FOY**, D. S. **SANDERS**, & Thos. **HANSLEY**.

Sept Court 1845: Joseph M. **FOY**, guardian for W. J. **FOY**.  
Sureties: John **HOWARD** & D. S. **SANDERS**.

Sept Court 1845: Wm. C. **HENRY**, guardian for Sarah J., Geo. W.,  
Wm. B., Mary, & Chas. **HENRY**. Suretee: Chas. **HENRY** and Jno. J.  
**BORDEAUX**.

Sept Court 1845: Thomas **HANSLEY**, guardian for John Wm. &  
Winifred **FUTCH**. Sureties: Owen **HANSLEY** & Wm. **HANSLEY**.

Sept Court 1845: Flora A. **COLVIN**, guardian for Minor heirs of  
Wm. B. **COLVIN**. Sureties: E. A. **HAWES**, J. **McDUFFIE**, & P. **MURPHY**.

Sept. Court 1845: Dere **NIXON**, guardian for David J. **HILL**, W.  
Nicholas, & Franklin **NIXON**. Sureties: Nicholas N., Monty C., &  
H. R. **NIXON**.

Sept Court 1845: Patrick **MURPHY**, guardian for James S., Mary B.,  
& Almira A. **DEVANE**. Sureties: Robert C. **MURPHY** & E. A. **HAWES**.

Dec Court 1845: Andrew J. **WESTBROOK**, guardian for John **THOMAS**.  
Sureties: John **HOWARD**, Thos. **HANSLEY** & Keziah **EVANS**.

Dec Court 1845: Osane and Parsley Clay **McKOY**. Sureties, Richard  
**BRADLEY** & Richard **GRANT**.

[This series will be continued in the June 1991 Newsletter]

The following is part of a series of Coroners<sup>1</sup> Inquests that will be featured in this publication. Though the entire document includes numerous counties, we will only be printing the information for those in Southeastern North Carolina: New Hanover, **Onslow**, Duplin, Brunswick, Bladen, Carteret, and Craven. The following selected portions of the article, "North Carolina Colonial Coroners<sup>1</sup> Inquests. 1738-1775." by **Haywood** Roebuck, appeared in the North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal, Vol. 1, no. 1 (January 1975), pages 11-37. Acknowledgement and thanks is hereby given to **Haywood** Roebuck, the North Carolina Society, and North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal.

**NORTH CAROLINA COLONIAL CORONERS' INQUESTS: 1738-1775**

by **Haywood** Roebuck

The following abstracts have been prepared from files of original and contemporary copies of coroners' inquests in the North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh. Every North Carolina county had a coroner or "**crowner**" who was, as the name suggests, an official of the crown. As a crown official, the expenses of his office were met from the public taxes. To collect his expenses, the coroner submitted a copy of the results of each inquest to the General Assembly. The Assembly's Committee of Claims, in turn voted by report, the necessary reimbursement to the coroners when the committee approved colonial expenditures at each session of the Assembly. The original records from which the abstracts have been made are arranged in the Archives by date, and are a part of the Secretary of State's record group: SECRETARY OF STATE - committee of Claims - Coroners<sup>1</sup> Inquests. 1738-1775 (shelf mark SS 316).

These abstracts are arranged chronologically by county where the inquest was held, and they report information in the following arrangement: Name of deceased; Occupation or other personal remarks relating to deceased; Cause of death; Details of death (if any); Place and date of inquest: Coroner: Jury.

Sometimes the names of the jury occur in the body of the reported inquest, and their signatures are appended at the end of the document. When substantial discrepancies appear in the two versions of the name, the information differing from the signature is shown in brackets. When the signature is by mark, the abstract shows only "(x)", whether the mark used was a "x" or whether a distinctive mark was used. Occasionally part of **juror's** name has been torn away from another record (such as deeds, tax lists, etc.), and the missing part of the name supplied in brackets. Uncertain readings are indicated by a question.

## CRAVEN COUNTY

**HAMMOND**, infant. Child of Ann **HAMMOND** came to its full time and died a natural death [contrary to the information of James **DURHAM**.] Inquest held in Craven Co. of 26 Jan 1739. John **POWELL**, coroner. Jury: John **BRYAN**; G. **LININGTON**; George **BOULD** [?] John **SLOCUMB** [?]; John **FONVIELLE**; Thos **HARDY**; Wm. **LISTER**; Charles **ADAMS**; Martin **FRANCK**; W[alter] **LANE**; James **REED**; Edward **BRYAN**; James **GREEN**; James **KEITH**; Thos (x) **NORWOOD**; John (x) **WILSON**.

**TAYLOR**, a sailor belong to Capt. Francis **CURTES**. Drowned by distress of weather. Inquest held in Craven Co. on 19 Jan 1739/40. [Coroner not named.] Jury: John **CUMING**, forman; Stephen **WALLIS**; Thos **WALKER**; Ebenezer **DELANO**; Humphry (x) **SMYTH**; Thos. (x) **PARSONS**; Mark **FARGUSON**; Edmond **CULIN**; Barnabas **HOLMES**; Francis (x) **HILL**; Bryant (x) **CULLEN**; Thos. **NELSON**. [Note: Bryant **CULLEN** failed to make his mark.]

**DOTY**, Josiah, sailor. Drowned by distress of weather. Inquest held in Craven Co. on 19 Jan 1739/40. [Coroner not named.] Jury: John **CUMING**, foreman; Ebenezer **DELANO**; Stephen **WALLIS**; Humphry (x) **SMITH** [see above spelling]; Thomas (x) **PARSEN**; Mark **FARGUSON**; Bryant **CULIN** [see above spelling]; Thos. **WALKER**; Edmond **CULIN**; Fransses [Francis] (x) **HILL**; Thos. **NELSON**.

**CURTIS**, Francis. Drowned by distress of weather. Inquest held in Craven Co. on 28 Jan 1739/40. [Coroner not named.] Jury: Thomas (x) **RUSSELL**; Peter **FOLGER**; Barnabas **HOLMES**; Barzillai **FOLGER**; [Undecipherable --literal transcription is Duall **BLAA**]; Francis **SWAIN**; Thos. **WALKER**; Evan **JONES**; John **RUSEL**; Timothy **HEALES**; John **JEWELL**; Joshua **THINNEY** [?].

**DUNCAN**, Keziah, wife of John **DUNCAN**. Death, said by James **DURHAM** to be by her husband's ill usage, was found to be occasioned by lack of due care during her sickness. Inquest held in Craven Co. of 24 June 1745. Jno **POWELL**, coroner. Jury: W. **WILSON**; John **BRYAN**; John **CARRUTHERS**; Wm. **CARRUTHERS**; C. Gregory **HOBBS**; Philip **TAYLOR**; Henry **EIERTWELL**; Dens. **SHERLOCK**; Samuel **HILLS**; L[ambert] **FLOWERS**; Robt. **JARMAN**; Nichs. **ROUTLEDGE**; Charles **ADAMS**; Walter **LANE**; Barnabas **RUSSELL**; Arthur **JOHNSTON**; Abraham (x) **BUSSITT**.

**BURKE**, Richard, merchant. Sometime in the night following 24 May 1746, "being a little in Liquor and in bed alone in his own house Dyed a natural death." Inquest held at the house of the deceased in New Bern, Craven Co., on 25 May 1746. James **MACKILWEAN**, acting coroner. Jury: John **CARRUTHERS**, foreman; Daniel **DUPEE**; Arthur **JOHNSTON**, John **PINDAR**; Nichs. **ROUTLEDGE**; Jno. **RICE**; Frs. **MACKILWEAN**; Sml. (x) **GRIFFIS**; Jos. **CARRUTHERS**; Thomas **LOW**; Peter **HENDRICKSON**; Barnabas **RUSSELL**; Henry **HERTWELL**; Roger **CANNON**; John (x) **RIGGS**.

CRAVEN COUNTY (continued)

**LEECKBLEED, John.** Arrested by Sheriff Walter **LANE** for debt at the suit of John **CARRUTHERS, Jr.**, and found dead in jail of "natural causes" at about 2:00 or 3:00 a.m. on 3 Nov 1750. Inquest held in the jail in New Bern, Craven Co. on 3 Nov 1750. John **RICE**, coroner. Jury: Benjamin **WHEATLEY**, foreman: Charles **ADAMS**; Phil. **SMITH**; Richd. **McGRAW**; Richard **DAVES**; Jno. **FOSTER**; Jona. **FREEMAN**; Roger **CANNON**; William (x) **McINTOSH**; Willm. **BISHOP**; John **DOPSON**; Joseph **LEECH**; [Note: Report of inquisition is endorsed under the name John **LICKBLADE**.]

**JOHNSON, Peter.** Accidentally drowned in Great Contentnea Creek. Inquest held at Great Contentnea [Creek], Christ Church Parish, Craven Co., on 12 Jan 1750/51. Lewis **BRYAN**, coroner. Jury: Saml. **HUXF[O]RD**; Wm. **NUNN**; Benjamin **SANDERSON**; James **SANDERSON**; Wm. **BARBOUR**; John **BARBOUR**; Thos. **YOUMAN**; Peter (x) **LOW**; Saml. (x) **KBIGHT**; James (x) **GALLOWAY**; Wm. (x) **MIXON**; James (x) **GARALD**; Thos. (x) **PHILIPS**.

**BATEN, John**, mariner belonging to the Boston brigantine, Mary, Daniel **ARNOLD**, commander. Accidentally fell overboard and drowned. Inquest held at New Bern, Craven Co., in 13 Aug 1751. John **RICE**, coroner. Jury: Charles **ADAMS**; Richard **COGDELL**; Charles **EVITT**; Moses **FOGG**, William **MOSELEY**; Richard **DAVES**; Thos. **ANDREWS**; Jas. **DURHAM**; Samuel (x) **GILLIARD**; John (x) **DEPT**; Christopher **DAWSON**; Pat. **MOORE**; James **BOELL** [called **BOSWELL** in the report]; Wm. **NICHOLSON**; James **GRIFFTH**; Jos. **CARRUTHERS**; Jno. **GATLIN**; Francis **FONTAINE**; Jno. **LEATE**; Jno. **KILBEE** [called John **KIBIE** in the report of the inquisition].

**LOGAN, James**, mariner. Fell from a boat in Trent River on 1 Apr 1751 and accidentally drowned. Inquest held at New Bern, Craven Co., on 5 Apr 1752. James **BALCH**, justice. Jury: David **SMITH**; Jno. **GREW**; Joseph **RIVERS**; Jona. **FREEMAN**; Richard **COGDELL**; John **HESKETH**; Joseph **HALL, Jr.**; Edwd. **HERBERT**; Richd. **WILLIAMSON**; Tho. **WILLSON** [called Thomas **WILLIAMSON** in the report]; John **McDANIEL**; Edwd. **WILLSON**; John **BAMBRIDGE**; Isaac **CAMER** [CN]: Willm. **BARNES**; Willm. **McDOWELL**; John **DAVIESON**. [NOTE: Sigley **CURTICE**, named in the inquisition as a juror, did not sign.]

**UNNAMED** negro woman belonging to Arthur **JOHNSON**. "Came to her Death by a Mischance or Wilfully by her own Act." Inquest held at Mr. John **FOSTER's** in New Bern, Craven Co., on 2 May 1754. Solomon **REW**, coroner. Jury: Fran. **FONTAINE**; James **GRIFFEN**; John (x) **BEMBRIDGE**; Robert **WARREN**; Richd. **DAVES**; Joh. **FONTAINE**; Joseph **MARTIN**; Daniel **DUPEE**; William (x) **ARTHUR**; Edward (x) **HARBERT**; W. **CARRUTHERS, Jr.**; Richd. **HALL**; Alexander **URQUHART**; John **WELCH**; John **RAWLINGS**; Benjn. **MERFORD**; Robt. **TEAT**; Samuel **POPE**; Kittrll **MUNDIN**; William (x) **WELLS**; Stephen (x) **MERIMAN**.

CRAVEN COUNTY (continued)

**YEDDIM**, Thomas. By mischance (and "Act of God") fell, from a canoe and drowned on 15 Jun 1754. Inquest held in Craven Co. on 19 Jun 1754. Solomon **REW**, coroner. Jury: Richd. **DAVES** for John **LOVET**; Zorababel [ i.e., Zerubbabel] **WELLS**; John **HEAD**; Richard **JONES**; Ro[b]ert. **WARREN**; Benjm. **MERFORD**; John **RAWLINGS**; Levin **LANE**; Nathaniel S [C] **ARBROUGH**; Jos. **MARTIN**; John **FONTAINE**; Fran. **FONTAINE**; Richd. **HALL**; Jeramiah **LAMBERT**; Charles **EVITT**; John (x) **WIGGINS**; John (x) **WILLIAMS**; Mathias **COOK**; John **SPEIGH** [T]; Edwd. (x) **HARBERT**.

**BEMBRIDGE**, Joseph and Liddy. Struck in the head with a "narrow Axe" and murdered by **JACK**, a slave belonging to **Newman DUNN**, on an unspecified date. Inquest held in Christ Church Parish, Craven Co., on 22 Aug 1754. Solomon **REW**, coroner. Jury: Fran. **FONTAINE**; Charles **EVITT**; John (x) **BARNICASTLE**; Richd. **HALL**; William (x) **ARTHUR**; John **FONTAINE**; Joseph **MARTIN**; Richd. **DAVES**; James (x) **BARNICASTLE**; Robert **DELOP**; James **PURDUE**; Kittrell **MUNDIN**; Thomas **MOSS**; Edward (x) **HARBERT**; James **FALCONAR**; John **STEVENSON**; Stephen (x) **MERIMAN**; John **MEAD**. [NOTE: A separate inquisition was held for each victim, and there are two separate reports signed by the coroner and jury.]

**UNKNOWN**, James, a seafaring man of no estate. Accidentally fell into Trent River on Tuesday eveing, 14 May 1771, suffocated and drowned. Inquest held in Christ Chrch Parish, Craven Co., on 20 May 1771. Thomas **SITGREAVES**, coroner. Jury: Michl. **DeBRUHL**; Jr.; William **MILLER**; Godard **DeBRUHL**; David **AMBROSE**; Arthur (x) **BUTTERS**; William **BURNS**; Daniel **READY**; Thomas **TIFFIN**; Francis (x) **EVKIT**; John **DANE**; John **BARKER**; John (x) **WORSLY**; Josiah (x) **RIDGWAY**; Isaac **MINER**; Jallel **SMITH**; Thos. **BURNS**; Willm. **HALES**; Thomas **WHITE**.

**CAPPINHEAD**, John. Through negligence, his candle set fire to his pettiauger and burned him to death on the night of 7 Apr 1772. Inquest held in Christ Church Parish, Craven Co., on 8 Apr 1771. Thomas **SITGREAVES**, coroner. Jury: John **JOHNSTON**, foreman; John **MACKAY**; Wm. (x) **HEITH**; David **MARSHALL**; Geo. **RAYOR** John **ROMSEY**; John **VANCE**; Jos. **SANDERS**; Ale[xande]r **SANDERS**; Charles **ROACH**; Jno. **BALL**; David **CAUTHORN**; John **DAVIS**; Hugh **GAVIN**; Francis **LYN** [AUGH]; Jesse **WOOD**; Issac **DARBY**; James **SEARS**; Alexr. **ADAMSON**. [NOTE: A pettiauger, or piragua, is a small water craft -- either a dugout or a small two-masted vessel.]

**LEWON**, a slave belonging to Richard **GRAVES**. Jumped from a sinking scow or flat in Bachelor Creek, suffocated, and drowned on Saturday last [11 Apr 1772]. Inquest held in Christ Church Parish, Craven Co., on 18 Apr 1772. Thomas **SITGREAVES**, coroner. Jury: Edmd. **WRENFORD**; William **HOLDER**; Philip **NEALE**; John **DAVE** Hugh **GAVIN**; Henry **DARNALE**; Francis **LYNAUGH**; William **MILLER**; Henry **SMITH**; Jeremiah **LOFTEN**; Robt. (x) **M'LAIN**; David **AMBROSE**; John **SMITH**; Joseph **CLARK**.

REMINDERS

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\* Please note on the order form for publications that we have two new books compiled and edited by James Michael Whaley, Onslow County Cemetery Records, Southwest Township. Volumes III & IV.

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