

This is the FINAL publication you will be receiving if you have not paid your dues for the 1987 year!!!!

Beginning this year, the *NEWSNOTES* will only contain notices, requests for information, announcements and other matters of interest to our members and friends. Meeting notices will be issued by postcard and public press announcements. Historical materials will be presented under the cover of *The Journal of the Oconee County Historical Society*. These changes have been made at the suggestion of our membership in an effort to make our activities more orderly and useful. Also it will greatly enhance our ability to index published materials as well as provide a slightly more convenient form for members to retain purely historical materials.

A number of individual research projects are beginning to reach conclusion and/or publication. These works will greatly enhance our knowledge of Oconee County and the Western Corner of South Carolina.

In regard to the Cherokee Indians and the Colonial Period (the first two listing should be carefully noted as they are principally about Oconee and Pickens County):

(1) *Volumes in Historical Archaeology II "Eighteenth Century Lower Cherokee Adaptation and Use of European Material Culture"* by Michael Anthony Harmon. Pub: The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, The University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. 29208. Price: \$10.00.

This is the first notable study solely on the Lower Cherokees (principally Oconee County, S.C.). While this work deals primarily with archaeological finds in the Keowee-Toxaway Reservoir area and their comparative relationship to other archaeological digs related to the Cherokees in N.C., Georgia, and Tennessee, the introductory historical material gives a brief summary of the Lower Cherokees from the standpoint of European colonial relationships and trade goods. Some maps and illustrations are included as well as a discussion of some villages not within the Keowee-Toxaway Reservoir area. Although the introductory historical material contains some small errors as well as statements that might be argued according to interpretation of source materials, the historical material is useful as a general guide to the Lower Cherokees. The actual study of the effects of European materialistic culture on the Lower Cherokees appears (based on my limited knowledge of archeological research practices) to be quite good, especially in light of the loss of some artifacts and/or notes relating to many of the specific digs.

We have one "in house" copy of this work for loan to our membership and one copy for presentation to the Oconee County Library for circulation. We should probably try to obtain copies for each of the branch libraries in Oconee County as this is certainly a needed work. Fortunately it somewhat replaces the works of Bert Bier (for which I have NO regard) that are currently found in all of the branch libraries of Oconee County.

(2) Mr. Bryan McKown is in the process of completing the writing of his M.A. thesis regarding Fort Prince George and the Lower Cherokees. This work will provide a wealth of historical data in regard to this area. Hopefully we will be able to obtain copies for both our collection and the libraries of Oconee County.

Mr. McKown will be continuing this work in a Ph.D. thesis in the future.

(3) *Forgotten Outposts: Fort Moore and Savannah Town 1685-1765* by Harold S. Maness. Pub: Beach Island Historical Society, P.O. Box 158, Beach Island, S.C. 29841. Price: \$8.95 + postage.

This work would probably be of interest to those desiring to do a larger exploration of upcountry Colonial History.

(4) *Colonial Augusta: Key of the Indian Country* edited by Edward J. Cashin. Pub: Mercer University Press, 1986. Price: unknown.

Although I have yet to read this work, I would suspect that it contains a variety of useful information pertaining to Indian trade and Indian traders.

(5) *A Guide to Cherokee Documents in Foreign Archives* edited by William L. Anderson and James A. Lewis. Pub: Scarecrow Press, Inc., Matuchen, N.Y., 1983. Price: \$40.00.

A book worth having for those seriously interested in the pursuit of Cherokee studies. Many of the documents noted can be located on microfilm in those institutions in North Carolina actively collecting Cherokee materials.

(6) *Indian Traders of the Southeastern Spanish Borderlands: Panton, Leslie & Co. and John Forbes and Co. 1783-1847* by William S. Coker and Thomas D. Watson. Pub: University of West Florida Press, Pensacola, Fla. Price: approx. \$30.00.

Probably the key factor in turning Oconee County from a frontier borderland into a widely settled area was the simple fact that Panton, Leslie, & Co. ceased to supply the Creeks and renegade Cherokees with supplies in the 1790s. I believe that this is the first full scale study of their operations. This book is probably best suited to anyone seriously interested in Indian trade.

In regard to Revolutionary, Post Revolutionary, and anti-bellum Pickens and Oconee County. (All listing should be carefully noted as they are principally about Oconee and Pickens County):

(1) Expected Title: *A History of Secona Baptist Church and the Pickens Area* by Jean Martin Flynn. Pub: Currently unknown. Price: Currently unknown.

The first three chapters of this work will provide a wide variety of information about both Pickens and Oconee County including information on the Indians, the Frontier, Pickensville, Old Pickens, a number of the early churches in both counties, etc. Although this book is going to be generously footnoted, it is written for the general reader not having a knowledgable background in the history of this area.

Ms. Flynn has read virtually every early Baptist Church record that could possibly be related to this area including records from Ga., S.C., N.C. and Tenn; complete runs of the available *Pendleton Messenger*; all available issues of the *Keowee Courier* up to 1875 (and beyond); and consulted numerous primary source materials in the Caroliniana Library, the S.C. Archives, Furman University, the Pickens Museum collection (Twelve Mile Association Minutes), and the Pickens County Court House Records. Equally the entire collection of the Oconee County Historical Society was searched for related primary and secondary source materials that related to this project.

Ms. Flynn's work will hopefully dispel many of the "myths" so often quoted about this area in regard to Pickensville, Old Pickens, and other subjects. Equally this work will provide some carefully researched information regarding a number of early churches in both Pickens and Oconee County. This work will certainly correct numbers of errors in the publications of the late Pearl Smith McFall and various popularized newspaper writers over the years.

Of particular note is the fact that Ms. Flynn has "unearthed" references for Fort Defiance (a post Revolutionary Fort somewhere within the Old Pendleton District); a reference that provides a date (1797) for the end of the frontier fortifications (of which Oconee Station was but one out of approximately a dozen such small fortifications); and information on troubles caused by a group of Creeks called the "Lightwoods" around Oconee Station in 1795.

This book will certainly be a highly desirable addition to the libraries of Pickens and Oconee County.

(2) Mr. Gary McMahan of Columbia has graciously loaned us hundreds of pages of referenced notes which he compiled in the late 1960s pertaining to The Blue Ridge Railroad. This material was unfortunately never fully written up or published. Mr. McMahan's collected materials also include a number of photographs of the site of the town of "Tunnel Hill" and various other places related to the railroad, excellent photographs of some of the Blue Ridge Railroad engines, complete copies of the minutes and various reports of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company, and various maps. In addition to the papers of Mr. McMahan, we have obtained the following:

(2-a) *A History of the Blue Ridge Railroad, 1852-1874* by George DeWitt Brown. This is an unpublished M.A. thesis completed in 1967 at the University of South Carolina.

Between the unpublished work of Mr. McMahan and Mr. Brown, and the published work of Ethel B. Mitchell (*The Romance of the Blue Ridge Railroad*), we have a reasonably complete picture of both the railroad, the tunnels, and some information on the town of Tunnel Hill. If an archaeological dig were undertaken (with the results published) as well as a totally exhaustive historical study of Tunnel Hill and the conflicting relationship between the town and Walhalla, we would have an excellent knowledge of this facet of Oconee County History.

As a point of note: It rather appears from all available collected data and other collected historical analysis that the role which a completed Blue Ridge Railroad

might have played in trade relations with the North. It has had little, if any, effect on the Civil War. These commonly heard statements and discussions of the Blue Ridge Railroad and the Civil War are seemingly nothing more than local (or state) myth. If anything, the completion of the project might have produced substantial havoc in Oconee County during the last years of the war, when Federal troops might have made an attempt to destroy the railroad and/or the completed tunnels (which would have possibly lead to a general destruction of the surrounding countryside and in particular the area around Walhalla). The other side of the issue is simply the possibility that Pendleton (and more likely Anderson) might have developed into a sizable trade area.

It is more than apparent that a larger study of the town of Tunnel Hill is needed for a true understanding of possible ethnic and class conflict during the late anti-bellum years. Equally a study of the projected bond sales to Germany in the 1870s would be a subject worthy of analysis. I have to located materials that would connect the German inhabitants of Walhalla in any way with the proposed sale of the bonds in Germany.

It seems far more plausible to speculate upon the effects of the Blue Ridge Railroad had it been built (and completed) at a far earlier date. For example: How would it have effected the regional economy? Would it have prevented notably Westward migrations of inhabitants already living in this area? How would the imported workers who remained in this area have effected local thought, politics, social behavior, etc. It is certainly remotely possible that the area at or near what is current Walhalla might have become a town (under a different name, no doubt) founded by Irish Catholics rather than by German Lutherans. Equally it should be pointed out that the exact role which Black slaves played in the construction of the Tunnels and the railroad has been little studied.

In addition to all just mentioned, I have asked several knowledgable local residents to compile a complete mapping of the Blue Ridge Railroad between Seneca and Walhalla (as they remember it) and related information regarding stops, stations, old road crossings, etc. I am still seeking information on a place called "Seneca City" which was perhaps located along the then future course of the Blue Ridge Railroad long before the present town of Seneca ever came into being. Also knowledge of the "Seneca Bottoms" would be of interest as a considerable amount of grade work was done in this area of the county.

In regard to post Civil War and Contemporary Oconee and Pickens County (All listing should be carefully noted as they are principally about Oconee and Pickens County):

(1) The "Sanborn Insurance Maps" are an extremely valuable depository of information about the towns of Seneca, Walhalla, Westminster, Central, Easley, Liberty, Pickens, and some on West Union. A complete run of these maps for any of the above noted locations carefully plots the organic growth (and or decline) of a given city lot, block, street, area, or entire town. Copies are on both microfilm and loose at the Caroliniana. At this time, we have been unable to determine

the cost of obtaining copies of this large volume material. In addition to the materials on the towns, the maps also provide information on various cotton mills, a distillery near West Union, etc.

(2) Recently the Historical Society made reproduction copies of the sections of *Health Resorts of the South* by George H. Chapin published in 1891 available in folder form to each branch of the Oconee County Library System (not yet catalogued and on the shelf in the branch libraries). This outstanding publication provides much information of interest regarding Seneca, Westminster, and Walhalla in the 1880s. A new introduction page gives a historical context for the materials in regard to Oconee County. The steel engravings of many buildings in Oconee County are excellent and copied well. Other steel engravings of romanticized scenes did not reproduce well (which is perhaps for the best).

Other Materials:

(1) We will hopefully have completed during this calendar year a beginning volume on the History of Oconee County. By taking some of the best of unpublished and previously published materials on Oconee County, we have been able to put together a compilation of interesting and varied materials regarding many of the larger places commonly noted by both long established residents and newcomers. The purpose of this collection is not to provide a full history of Oconee County, but rather to provide a summary of the history of the County and a more in depth look at such places as Fairplay, Newry, Westminster, etc. In accordance with my personal view that a good history should reflect not only the area under consideration, but also the people within the community (past and present), a number of living persons have been asked to contribute materials and some of the best materials derived from the works of those now deceased have been incorporated into this effort. The original intention was to release this material early in 1987; however the collection of materials has been so rewarding that the original scope of the work has been expanded to include additional information.

(2) We are still waiting for some special material on William Gilmore Simms to complete the study of the "Legend of Jocassee". Should anyone have a special interest in this subject and/or need materials relating to same, we will happily provide that material which has already been compiled (already written up in usable form but not yet printed out and not including the footnotes and references).

(3) We await the publication of the work on Secona (noted above) to conclude the large amount of work already completed regarding Shiloh Baptist Church.

(4) New materials available by permission for the use of the SERIOUS researchers ONLY includes an early 1600s Dutch work and an early 1700s English work on fortifications. It is quite likely that these works provide some of the historical origins and/or building traditions behind such fortifications as "Star Fort" at Ninety-Six and "Fort Prince George" on Keowee. Because of the rarity of these works (as well as the

binding on one volume), no attempt has been made to produce photocopies.

(5) We now have in our collection (although not yet available to the libraries) a complete collection of all state and federal treaties that have effected Oconee County. Some of these treaties, along with additional information, will subsequently be appearing in our *Journal* during the 1987 year.

OTHER NOTES:

(1) As some of you are aware via various articles in the local newspapers, a serious effort is now underway to revitalize the Lunney Museum with proper staff and county and/or private funding. It is to be seriously hoped that the Lunney Museum can be made into a vital functioning organization that will truly serve the needs of a majority of the Oconee County community. A meeting of an organization group will be held at the Presbyterian Chapter House (across the street from the Presbyterian Church in Seneca on South 1st St.) at 7:00 on Thursday, January 22 for the purpose of determining future plans for the museum. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS NOT A MEETING OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUT RATHER AN ORGANIZATION MEETING FOR THE MUSEUM ORGANIZATION. I would encourage all of you who are interested in the Lunney Museum to be present to voice your interest, ideas and/or concerns.

(2) We have FINALLY acquired a heavy duty stapler for the use of our membership at a reasonable price. Please inform the Secretary should you have need of this piece of equipment.

(3) We remain desperately in need of your experiences in Oconee County, S.C. Most people seemingly remain unaware that their contemporary accounts of events and people will be of more value to future historians than most of the newspaper accounts, legislative acts, etc. Equally it is to be hoped that the Oconee County Library might begin to develop a picture collection.

(4) Let me sincerely thank many of you who have contributed extra dues in order to carry out our worthwhile and needed programs. Your interest has paid huge dividends in that considerable interest is growing in regard to this area. As you can note by the listing of published and unpublished works listed above, a large volume of work is beginning to be produced on/or related to this area that would have been impossible for us to undertake as a Society. We NEVER hesitate to supply interested scholars with detailed information on any known (and preferably documented to some small degree) facet of Oconee County History along with a reasonable number of photocopies and/or listing of known available materials. As this year progresses, we will make every attempt to attract additional researchers to pursue work on/or related to this section of South Carolina. It is my personal feeling that we will begin to attract a growing body of local interest once a sufficient collection of published materials are available for general consumption in the schools and country libraries.

NEWSNOTES of the Oconee County Historical Society: 03/07/87

*** There are genealogical requests on the last page from our members. Please assist these individuals if at all possible.

A FEW NOTES ON TREATIES:

While I am perfectly aware of the fact that some of you are perhaps not particularly interested in a detailed study of treaties that have effected this area, I would ask that you bear with these efforts until we get up to the Treaty of Beaufort (Vol. II/ No. 3). At that point, it will begin to become evident what effect these various treaties had on the first settlement of Oconee County, times of settlement, etc. Equally I would like to note that we will NOT be devoting the entire year to this project. The goal is to have the entire study of treaties concluded by May. In particular, we desire to get the information on the Treaty of Beaufort available before the 200th anniversary of this event.

CORRECTIONS and/or ADDITIONS:

Marshall Williams was kind enough to point out that copies of the articles (only) of the Treaty of DeWits Corner has previously been published in 1795 in *The History of the Revolution in South Carolina* by David Ramsey. Mr. Williams also suggested that this book had probably been reprinted. Thus far I have only been able to locate copies in some rare book rooms of a few university libraries. A copy from somewhere will definitely be obtained for addition to the materials on DeWits Corner. Also you will be receiving an amended copy of the last sheet of the DeWits Corner Treaty (p.6) with a couple of extra notes. I was particularly plagued by the term "Master of Breath". As it happened, I was reviewing a juvenile book (included in the book reviews below) one day after I mailed out the Journal, when the term and the meaning appeared. It is sometimes amazing where information surfaces.

COLLECTED MATERIALS OF THE SOCIETY:

It has now reached the point where I had far rather have access to the historical holding of our Society and the holdings of the individual members of our society than to the entire holding of the Oconee County Library system, the Pickens County Library system, and the Pickens Historical Museum combined. What we do not have that the above noted institutions contain is the microfilm of the *Keowee Courier*, *The Pickens Sentinel*, the genealogical index to the *Keowee Courier* (this will probably be published at sometime in the future), portions of the photocopy map collection of Margaret Mills Seaborn (individually or collectively, we have a number of these maps), copies of the Twelve Mile Baptist Association, selected individual family genealogical publications, and the

records of Batchelors Retreat Presbyterian Church. On the other side of the coin, so to speak, we have a variety of fine materials (generally primary or documented secondary) that has never been available within the above noted library systems.

Because our collection has grown so large, so fast, we have developed research applications for anyone desiring information about a particular subject. Also our computerized databases of information and indexes continue to grow. We are now mailing these same application sheets to new members in order to determine particular interests they might have related to this area. As the above noted databases grow, we are better able to advise researchers seeking information on this area as well inform our own members of works related to their specific fields of interest.

BOOKS OF INTEREST:

*** Sometime in the future, *Adairs History of the American Indians* by James Adair (Samuel Cole Williams, ed. New York: Promontory Press, 1986) will be available within the Oconee County Library System. This important work has substantial passages related to this area. Although Adair devotes almost half of this work to his notion that the Indians were descended from the lost tribes of Isreal (an idea long discounted and ignored by ALL scholars of the American Indians), the bulk of the remainder of this work remains a solid piece of documentary reporting. Adair was in this area in the 1740s, 50s, and 60s. This is a work that the Oconee County Library System should have long since had available for use. This word was donated to the the basic collection of the Seneca Library by the Oconee County Historical Society. You will be able to obtain this work by request from your local branch...please tell your local librarian that it is in the Seneca basic collection. The reasons for placing it in Seneca are noted in a seperate group of materials being prepared entitled "Comments on a Specific Policy of the Oconee County Library System.....". It principally deals with inequities

and discriminatory practices of the Oconee County Library System, the lack of available documented material on this area, and some possible "cures". It is my opinion that their is a direct correlation between the policies of the Oconee County Library system and the lack of any reasonable amount of locally researched materials.

*** A most important set of works are being produced by Harvard scholar, Bernard Bailyn, as a series with different titles. The overall theme is *The Peopling of British North America* and this is the title of the introductory volume. Dr. Bailyn will be covering in detail the various migrations of people from various continents to America at various times, the reasons for these migrations, and what happened to the immigrants. The first volume of this MAJOR work is entitled *Voyagers to the West (A Passage in the Peopling of America on the Eve of the Revolution)*. (Bernard Bailyn. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1986). While Dr. Bailyn does not list but a

few individual names, this fascinating work evaluates some 10,000 people who left for America during the years from 1773-1776 (these new arrivals would account for some 15% of the population of America by 1776). Many of these people would come from Yorkshire and settle in the South, principally the backcountry area of the South. I had long since noted the number of names commonly found in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, etc. which are identical to a number of surnames currently found in South Carolina. Of even more interest to me is the conclusion which I have reached regarding the author of the so called Ross journal. This man, who traveled all through this area in 1776, reflects decidedly English attitudes (for reasons far beyond the scope of this review). I rather tend to think that he had not been in this country long.

Most unfortunately, Bailyn includes a map and alludes to the idea that this area of the State was settled between 1770 and 1776. He derives this conclusion from the work of Julian J. Perry entitled *The Growth and Distribution of Population in South Carolina* published in 1943 and reprinted in 1975. While overall a good work, Perry (like practically everyone else) was completely unaware of the happenings in this part of the state. While I will write to Bailyn noting such things as the Ross and Fairie Journals, the work by Seaborn on Bartram, the work by Whitmire on Pearis, the Grand Jury report of the Washington District, and one of the letters of General Pickens, it is too late (once again) to alter the material that has already been produced. This is most regrettable in that Bailyn's work will undoubtedly become a classic. These works are highly recommended for a better understanding of the growth and thought of the American People. (NOT currently available within the Oconee County Library system)

*** *Pendleton District, S.C. Deeds 1790-1806.* Betty Willie, comp. Easley, S.C. Southern Historical Press. 1982. Although the Oconee County Library System has copies of the related volume entitled *Pendleton District and Anderson County, S.C. Wills, Estates, Inventories, Tax Returns and Census Records*, they do not have but one copy of this more important work (in Walhalla only...in REFERENCE naturally!). If you are interested in the early history of this area, then this is one book that is indispensable. While this work was primarily designed for the genealogist, a cover to cover reading of this work will teach you important things about this area that you perhaps never knew. For example, it appears that Pickensville, as the seat of the Washington District in the late 1700s, was relatively unimportant when compared to the courthouse that was maintained at Pendleton as the seat of Pendleton County. During the years of the Washington District, Pendleton maintained a clerk, deputy clerk, magistrates, commissioners for the poor, and a sheriff who was apparently totally independent of the sheriff of the Washington District. Of most interest is the impression, derived from a reading of all of these deeds...in effect: that Pendleton County, with its seat at Pendleton, apparently maintained the Land Records of the area (and probably the

wills as well). Previous thought has always recognized the idea that when Washington District was established, Pendleton dried up. This idea resulted from the assumption that all of the records went to Pickensville. It is more than evident that this whole chapter of local history needs to be researched and rewritten. Fortunately the upcoming book on Secona Baptist Church and the Pickens Area will take care of many previously commonly accepted fallacies in either the text and/or the footnotes.

*** A juvenile work that recently surfaced in the Oconee County Library system is *The World of the Southern Indians* by Virginia Pounds Brown and Laurella Owens (Birmingham, Al. Beechwood Books. 1983.) (circulating at 975 in the Oconee Library system) This is a most reasonable small work that gives an overview of various southern tribes. It has a nice section entitled "Seeing the South's Indian Heritage...A guide by States". Various places for visitors interested in the Indians are listed state by state.

ERRORS IN RECENT PRINT:

In case some of you happened to catch a recent article in the *Greenville News* regarding the Twelve Mile River and its history, you might have caught some comments about settlers in this area in 1740. The author of the material misquoted two graduate students, one from Clemson and one from the South Carolina Institute of Archeology and Anthropology. Mr. Harmon of the Institute of Archeology flatly refutes the information which the *Greenville News* feature writer presented. He noted that she had agree to supply him with a copy of her article for correction before publication. Mr. McKown, the gentleman quoted as being an authority on the Twelve Mile River, in fact knows very little about the Twelve Mile (Era M. Davis of Pickens might be considered an authority on the Twelve Mile). Mr. McKown is working on materials connected with Fort Prince George, Indian traders, and the lower Cherokee Indians. PLEASE DO NOT LET ANY NEWSPAPER QUOTE YOU ANY HISTORICAL SUBJECT OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE, WITHOUT OBTAINING A SIGNED FORM GIVING YOU THE RIGHT TO REVIEW THE MATERIAL FOR ERRORS AND MISQUOTES (forms available from the Society).

REPORT OF LAST MEETING AND CURRENT ACTIVITIES:

A meeting of the Oconee County Historical Society was held on October 19, 1986 in Westminster, S.C. Ms. Sue Pratt presented her concerns regarding the Lunney Museum in Seneca. Ms. Shelor Harbin suggested that a Museum Guild be formed to represent a broader base of the population of Oconee County. [Action was subsequently taken by the Oconee County Arts and Historical Commission by letter of Nov. 20, 1986 to make Ms. Harbin's suggestion a possible reality.]

A review of the various efforts of the Oconee County Historical Society during the 1985/86 year was presented along

with various publications both produced and purchased for the Oconee County Library. A small portion of newly located documentary materials from the early 1800s ranging from maps to weaving patterns were displayed.

A committee was formed for the purpose of nominating officers and for making possible changes to the operation of the society.

Activities:

Current publication efforts for the libraries of Oconee County include reproduction of selected portions of *Health Resorts of the South*. This 1891 publication contains substantial sections on Walhalla, Seneca, and Westminster, and numbers of steel engravings of various buildings and business efforts in Oconee County from the late 1880s. This work should be on the shelves by mid-March/87. (circulating copies at 975.7521 probably)

We are in the process of getting ready to issue a final booklet in our series on Revolutionary War Soldiers who lived and/or died in Oconee County. We have already presented the libraries of Oconee County with materials on Andrew Pickens and Benjamin Cleveland. Thanks to the devoted efforts of one of our members, we are hoping to issue a volume of a substantial number (the number amazed me!) of other persons who served in the American Revolution, and who lived in Oconee County after coming here following the end of the war. When this entire project is completed, we will indeed have a fine series available on the patriots of this area.

In addition to republished maps showing this area in ca. 1765 and 1776 and 1827 [available for a contribution to the Oconee County Library Purchase Fund], the Historical Society will also be making a reproduction of a small section of the Tunison Map of Georgia and South Carolina available to the public free of charge or contribution while supplies last. A section of this map of 1885 showing that area from Oconee County down through Edgefield County, thence up through Chester and York counties, and thence over through Spartanburg, Greenville, and Pickens counties, has been enlarged for reproduction. This map is particularly valuable to genealogists in that many of the placenames cited on this map match the names listed in the census reports from 1850 forward (in many cases). The Tunison map section will be available by request at any branch of the Oconee County Library after March 15, 1987. Sufficient copies have been retained to meet the needs of our membership; however, copies obtained from the library will be uncreased by fold marks. Our out of county members will be receiving a copy (folded) with this issue of the our Newsnotes.

Recently we provided the Oconee County and Pickens County school systems with copies of all of our published maps (1763/1775/1827/1885) along with a *Map Guide*. As these maps

are printed on a much cheaper paper than those which we have offered for sale at the Library, the third grade students are encouraged to trace over Indian trails and old roads with colored pencils, and to attempt to identify where they live. Believing that the third grade student might retain information related to the frontier period of Oconee County the longest, we have supplied reasonable ideas of what this frontier may have been like. Also included is a list of third grade reading materials related to South Carolina and this area, a list of places where students can go to visit as a class, and a more modern map of Oconee County showing various place names.

We have the second work in our legends and placenames of Oconee County series scheduled for release this summer. This work will be on the legend of Jocassee. Not unlike the work on Catechee, the story of Jocassee is apparently nothing more than the product of a reasonably fertile imagination. Even so, some very interesting and rewarding results have accrued from work on this second volume. For example, everyone has managed to remember that Eastatoe was an Indian word for "Green bird" and the name of one of Simms' Indian clan groups; however they have conveniently forgotten some of Simms' other Indian clan names including the Alligator Clan. In case some of you reading this fail to appreciate this last remark, let me note that there is more than enough information on the Cherokees to let us know that there never was an Alligator Clan (nor anything close) nor some of the other clans that Simms incorporates in his publication. It rather appears that Simms derived virtually all of his names for the individual Indians in his story from place or waterway names on maps. Simms was producing a book on geography to accompany his already released South Carolina History when he wrote the story of Jocassee. His imagination had been fired by a visit to Tryon, from which he rode down to the top of Whitewater Falls and gazed over the Jocassee Valley. Of course, Simms didn't need much to fire his imagination. Most people are unaware that there is another work on Jocassee from a few years later. In contrast to Simms idea of the noble savage and the frontier wilderness, the other writer who will be presented supplies a picture of the Jocassee Valley as part of a rather boring romantic love tale of Charlestown vacationers...who have elected the Jocassee Vale as an alternative to their normal trip North for the summer (as the second writer points out, the "Yankees" are exhibiting the vile attitudes about the Southern way of life by this time!). It is the contrast of these two writers which supplies the most interesting part of the story.

It is from the second writer that we get possible glimpses of the progressively northwestern movement of those seeking healthy and cooler summer resorts (from Pendleton in the 1820/30s to Jocassee and Tryon in the mid 1800s to Westminster, Seneca, Walhalla in the years following the Civil War to Highlands and Cashiers during these same last noted years and up to the present). It is with some sorrow that Simms romantic view, which reflects a time more suited to the

travels of Adair in the 1740s, must be put to rest.

Another point of interest that I would like to examine is the fact that the story of Jocassee was widely received by the German population of Charleston though the publication of this material in the German newspaper edited by Wagner (often stated as the founder of Walhalla). The description of this area contained in the story may or may not have had some effect on the decision by the German Colonization Society to purchase land in this area.

I hope that the above undertakings meet with your approval. Should you desire to comment on any of the above activities, suggest other needed projects, or provide suggestions upon improving our services to our members, I would sincerely appreciate your addressing same to the undersigned.

F.C. Holder/ Sec.

INDEXING OF PAST PUBLICATIONS OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORIC SOCIETY:

For those who have saved all the past issues of the Newsnotes of the Oconee County Historical Society (hereafter separated into the Newsnotes and the Journal of the Oconee County Historical Society), an index will be provided for previously published materials probably in conjunction with an index for Vol. II. Because the long run objectives were not totally established at the time in which it was decided to issue publications, and because there was no idea of the amount of available materials relating to Oconee County, the pages of the Newsnotes were unfortunately unnumbered (an error that will be corrected with all subsequent issues of the *Journal*...the *Newsnotes* will not be paginated as they will no longer contain major historical material). Future references to Vol. I of the Journal of the Oconee County Historical Society will refer to the Newsnotes produced from September 1985 through September 1, 1986. Our supply of back issues of the Newsnotes is totally exhausted with the exception of the article on "Physiographic Features and Geology of Oconee County". In order to avoid confusion in the future over dating, we will issue all the issues of a Journal during a single calendar year (1987 for example rather than 1986/87). If you would like a table of contents for Vol. I, you can merely photocopy the material below. Page numbers which you may wish to add to your back issues are as follows:

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Newsnotes 09/25/86

[no page numbers will be designated for the 09/25/86
issue or future issues of the Newsnotes. Only the
Journal will receive page numbers.]

Report of the meeting for the purpose of organizing an Oconee
County Museum Association (02/03/87): Unfortunately only a

few persons were in attendance including myself (F.C. Holder), Ms. Louise Bell, Ms. Frances Holleman, Ms. Lynn Norton, Ms. Sue Pratt, Mr. Walter Dost...and two individuals who may and may not have been involved with the Lunney Museum in the past. Ms. Pratt offered comments and reported that a number of other persons were interested. She regretted that they were unable to be in attendance. Mr. Dost equally provided a number of comments in addition to noting the possibilities of obtaining advice from certain museums outside of this area. He also discussed getting a small amount of grant money. However Betty Plisco, the acting staff of the Lunney Museum, was the most impressive speaker in my opinion. I was impressed with her ideas, her interest, and her obvious expertise in a number of areas. While it people such as Ms. Pratt and Mr. Dost that will have to do much of the legwork, it is Ms. Plisco that will, in many ways, be responsible for the public perception of the Lunney Museum. Equally it will be Ms. Plisco that will have to try and not be pushed around by various persons with their own opinions about how the museum should function. Naturally we offered Ms. Plisco any help that she might need in regard to historical materials and references from our collection. Even though she specifically requested information, she will probably be horrified when she finds about 100 pages of reading material, book lists, etc. in her mailbox! (she wasn't!)

The museum now has a telephone for anyone desiring to call to find out hours, to make an appointment for a visiting

group, etc. The number is area code 803-882-4811.

GENEALOGICAL NOTES:

Southern as I am, I must admit that I have relatively little interest in just how everybody is kin to everybody else. HOWEVER, I certainly do get in a panic when I can't find the person(s) whom I happen to be looking for at any given time. I immediately run to my targeted knowledgeable genealogist friends for information.

The point of the above comments is simply that it is becoming increasingly apparent that in order to properly pursue the history of this area, we are going to have to know a substantial amount about numbers of individuals. One could successfully write a history of Walhalla, for example, without going into great detail about individual families and individual family members (although the work would be less for such exclusions). However one cannot write much of anything about Long Creek without discussing families and certain individuals. These people are THE HISTORY OF LONG CREEK until very recently and until such time as the apple growing industry and the white water rafting industry began to develop.

Fortunately good genealogical work is being done at an amazing rate. Unfortunately a substantial amount of this work has yet to be published. Even so, I must confess that I am more than suitably impressed by the tremendous volume of work being accomplished by people in the western corner of South Carolina.

For better or worse, I have almost completed *A Beginning Guide to Genealogical Investigation in the Northwest Corner (Oconee and Pickens counties) of South Carolina*. Because I had some less than flattering remarks to make about some individuals in their efforts to boast the reputations of their ancestors (such as those claiming their relatives to have been here in 1730), I will be copyrighting this work under my own name rather than associate it with the Oconee County Historical Society. It does "sometimes" occur to me that my remarks do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Society. However it is worth noting that I do have footnotes for practically every listing of historical information (including the fact that John Doe wasn't here in 1730!). These footnotes will not be listed with the text as it would make it unduly expensive to mail out copies. Notes on individual statements can be obtained from me on request as can copies of this publication (FREE....if I ever get it out!). Primarily this work provides a summary of the history of the area in terms of records and history, notes on land speculators, locations of records, divisions of areas, etc. Also included are principal books that will be of value along with comments on these works and warning regarding possible errors. I think even those very familiar with this area will find a few surprises in this material. Anyone who obtains a

copy is welcome to offer criticisms, comments, and note any errors that I may have overlooked in numerous proofreadings. Any corrections would be most sincerely appreciated (please supply references for new materials that you would like to see added...or simply as complete a listing as possible for books you would like to see added).

I have prepared this material not because I know that much about genealogy, but rather because I know a lot about what is to be found in various books and at various courthouses, etc. in this area. Many of the books that quite a lot of people attempt to use in locating their ancestors in this area are not at all useful. As a result, people are wearing out the pages of scholarly South Carolina historical works in a generally useless search (unless you happen to want to read about Gen. Pickens, Col. Cleveland, Col. Anderson, etc.should you happen to be kin to one of them). Of more importance is the simple fact that many people are simply not aware of the very books that would prove the most helpful and/or the proper location in which to seek out information. I sincerely felt that there was a long standing need for such a work for this area of the state, even though I never suspected that I would be the one to produce this material. There can be little doubt that this work will receive some criticism because I call some people to task for dubious claims, statements, and exclusions. Equally I spare no pains to note that the claims of one family, regarding their time of supposed arrival in the northwest corner of South Carolina, is ridiculous! Equally I try to somewhat note that people in this end of the earth were not Scotch, German, English, etc., but rather Southerners and Americans who were shaped by their experiences of living in the South and the United States. You are not English, for example, by virtue of your ancestors for generations back being pure English stock; rather one is only English by virtue of being a product of the English experience. There are people of Indian heritage living in England who are decidedly English, whereas I don't know of a one of us who could be called English even if we were directly descended from Henry VIII.

I am interested in the family of William H. _____ ca. 1834, died July, 1862 at Danville, Virginia. The 1860 lists him residing in the 2nd Regiment, District of Pickens, Whetstone Post office. William's wife was Isabella _____ (Bottoms?). They had three children:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| (1) John Henry | b. March 1855
m. Alzarah Alletha Rankin
Moved to Alabama about 1900 |
| (2) Alfred Whitner | b. 1857
m. Martha A. _____ |
| (3) Mary A. | b. 1860
m. Henry Dodd
d. 1930, Central, S.C. |

(Note: I checked some Pickens Court House records for Henry and Mary A. Dodd without success. FCH)

William Davis had a much younger brother named Hilan or Hiban born ca. 1855.

I am also interested in the Rankin line. Alzarah's parents were William and Minerva Head Rankin. William Rankin's parents were Edward Rankin and Mary _____. All were born in South Carolina. Edward ca. 1793-94, William ca. 1825.

Reply to: Ms. Alletha G. Boling
4306 Landover Drive
Jacksonville, Fl. 32207

Is there a written history of Oconee County? I am interested in the area of Longcreek especially.

Is there someone I could write to, to help me? I am the Greatgrand Daughter of

William (Bill) P. Barker	1848-1932
m. Nancy Smith	

also

William Henry Thrift	1876-1908
m. Lily Josephine Thrift	1874-1948

I have many pictures of people from these families but do not know who they are.

(Note: I replied to Ms. Burdett's letter with some scant information about Long Creek, maps of the area, entries in the 1840 Census for the Barker's and information from the Cemetary Books regarding not only the above mentioned persons, but also noting every other listing for the two above families. FCH)

Reply to: Ms. Gloria Barker Burdett
3608 Greenstone Place
Valrico, Florida 33594

A FEW NOTES ON WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO NEED TO DO!

We have "bullied", begged, and coerced individuals (non Society members) into considering doing renewed work on portions of the Colonial history of this area; and we have carried on a virtual crusade to make research scholars in other parts of South Carolina aware of the western frontier. We have sought out all sorts of historical and archaeological reports relating to the Cherokee Indians prior to 1792 (and for later periods of time in terms of historical materials) pertaining to this area. We have filled in a number of the gaps in terms of archeological reports with brief papers prepared by one of our members, Marshall Williams. We continue to seek materials related to the very late Colonial period and Revolutionary War period as pertains to this area. We are finding out more and more about patterns of land settlement and land speculation in the late 1700s, thanks to the discovery of some unpublished thesis work as well as work being done within the Society. We continue to seek additional information about attempts to obtain land from the Indians before 1776. There is a growing interest in the various currently existing towns of Oconee County and the defunct towns of Fairplay and Tunnel Hill. Lastly I will note that one of our members is doing amazing work on the early settlers of Oconee County.

Unfortunately there are numbers of other areas of Oconee County History receiving little, if any, attention. We know precious little about events in this area from 1797 until 1873. Equally we are severely lacking in information from 1920-the present. In regard to the antebellum period: one can pick up quite a bit of information here and there about Old Pickens and a few other places; however Old Pickens was but a tiny segment of life in this area. Quite frankly, I am a great deal more interested in what was happening in Long Creek or Fairplay in the 1840s, for example, than in what was happening in Old Pickens. The settlement at Polaskie (Pulaskie) remains a considerable mystery!...as does the exact happenings in an around Tokeena. Many of the courthouse records of the period are not as easily available as one might suspect (although reasonably intact); and we are somewhat dependant upon the work of the late Pauline Young for much of the published information about the Antebellum years. In effect, we don't know much about Antebellum Oconee County, which was first a part of Pendleton District, and later a part of Pickens District. Unfortunately there is not much chance of getting "outsiders" (meaning non-Society members) interested in doing any great amount of work on this period. The antebellum years are almost definately going to have to be a research project of our society.

Of more importance, WE ARE SIMPLY NOT GETTING THE TYPE OF COOPERATION AND HELP WHICH WE NEED FROM MANY OF OUR MEMBERS. NOTICE: MUST HAVE THE HELP OF EACH OF OUR MEMBERS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE OUR PUBLICATIONS IN A TIMELY MANNER. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME DIRECTLY TO TALK

the Journal or any other information? Well I feel the same way at those times when I have requested members to send in information from their own lives and experiences....WE DON'T GET ANYTHING! At present, a substantial amount of time that could be devoted to research on such things as the Antebellum years is being spent in collecting information about events from 1920 forward. There is nothing wrong with this effort, other than the fact that our very own members could just as easily, and much more conveniently, be supplying this same information. Some minor efforts by EACH of our members would free up research time for those actively supplying most of the information for our journals at present. WE MUST HAVE YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS EFFORT!!! As many of you are aware, the \$5.00 we receive each year in dues barely covers the cost of postage. Fortunately many of our members have supplied extra funds in order to carry out our other projects such as publications for the libraries, information for the schools, etc. WE ARE NOT ASKING FOR MORE MONEY...most of our members are already sufficiently generous! WE ARE ASKING FOR EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS OUT OF YOUR LIFE AND THINGS WHICH YOU OBSERVE....something from EACH of you...ONCE A YEAR! We are not asking for this information because we have nothing left to publish...for in fact, enough material is already written to supply journals for the next five years or longer (and it will be a lot LONGER in coming out if we don't get some aid and help on contemporary history!). The principal reason for making this request is because we are losing history so fast that is impossible for a few people to even began to collect and record it.

Last year, I asked one person to do nothing other than survey some of the materials which "might" be available on a particular subject. This survey was well within the range of the materials which this person normally researched, and at a place where this person often went. This person never performed this modest and relatively simple request, and equally they did not rejoin the Society for this year. This person was enthusiastic about our efforts before being called upon for a little aid. They were, in effect, perfectly happy to send in five dollars and let others provide the materials. LET ME POINT BLANK SAY THAT MONEY, WHILE HELPFUL, IS NOT OUR CRYING NEED! To have a few people supplying most of the materials is simply not the way to operate a historical society! To my way of thinking, such an organization should be a partnership and not a group dominated by a few people (either politically or in print). I am more than aware that some of our members are from outside of Oconee County. From these individuals, we simply ask that you supply any old stories from or about members of your family who were at one time from this area, as well as any other bits and pieces of information which you may come across. I should note that most of our out of county members have been most gracious in sending in all sorts of pieces of information. Also I should note that many of our in county members have been most generous in taking the time to answer various questions regarding various subjects.

The bottom line is simply the fact that some three

people have been supplying virtually all of the text in terms of research and finished copy for our Newsletters and our Journal. While it is always nice to hear people say that we are doing a fine job...this is hardly what we need. We need materials! When we first started this "enterprise" of publications, I rather hoped that I would begin to receive materials from a considerable number of our members after a reasonable length of time. Such has not happened! I think it only reasonable to point out that eventually these current three contributors will get "fed up" with carrying the entire load.

THIS IS WHAT YOU (and this does mean YOU) NEED TO DO !!...AND WHAT MUST BE DONE BY EACH OF US IN ORDER TO REMAIN A VIABLE SOCIETY: Admittedly, not everyone feels qualified or is even in position to help research or to write articles. However many of our members are long time natives of this area (PLEASE NOTE THAT many of the things listed below do not require long term native status to complete!). Some of you have letters written by some relative now deceased, or even living, which would tell something about life in Oconee County. You could share this information with other members of our Society. Others of you may have interesting documents of other types relating to this area. Certainly some of you have gardens...and in this regard, we are sincerely interested in even a rough plan of your garden or yard and the types of plants that you grow (Please don't underrate garden plans, as the plan of the garden at Oconee Station is one of the most popularized documents from this area of the state). Others of you hike or at least ride around in your car...TELL US WHAT YOU SEE and the your impressions of what you see (a modern day condensed Bartram's Travels can be produced with a modest amount of effort!). Tell us about your house, its history, and what things you have changed over the years from the type of furniture to kitchen appliances. Someone might simply make a listing of what they bought at the grocery store during the course of a single week (send us your used grocery lists). Others of you might tell how you cook your food, what newspapers you read, what magazines you subscribe to, what cultural activities you pursue in the community, what church you attend and a discription of one of the services. Tell us about your community club, places you take your friends, children, or grandchildren to visit in Oconee County, etc. We need listing of books that you own (which in the case of some of us will be a considerable task!) and what type of things decorate the walls of your house. If you collect art, tell us about the type of art which interests you. If you take pictures of places and people in Oconee County, send us some of them with a discription. Tell us what you do at a club meetings, what refreshments you serve, etc. In case you remember such things, tell us about your first impressions of the car, the radio, the television, space flight, a microwave oven, etc. and what your friends thought about these same things. We need discriptions of attending a funeral...and particularly memories of attending country funerals in days gone by. We need discriptions of revivals, political meetings, parades, schools, and any number of other subjects. If you have lived here since you were quite young,

tell us where you traveled then, versus where you travel now. Tell us about farming...raising cows, chickens, pigs, horses, etc....about growing cotton, corn, wheat, beans, etc. We need to know more about what life is like working in a mill, running a merchantile business, being a "public servant", being retired, etc. in Oconee County. If you have lived here since you were a child, write a discription of the stores where you first shopped for merchandise...or a country store that you particularly remember from childhood. If you have only moved here recently, tell us about stores you shop at presently in Oconee County and the types of things you buy. Also tell us about the things you can't find in Oconee County. Tell us about playing golf, water sking, bike riding, horseback riding, or any other recreational activity which you pursue in Oconee County. Tell about problems or joys of being old or young or in between in Oconee County. We need discriptions of growing up in different parts of Oconee County. Even I well remember going to an electrified corn mill with my grandmother in 1952 (age 5)...as well as all sorts of stories told within my family about this area. Many of you undoubtably have experiences worth retelling and stories about this area worth recording. SURELY at this point I am getting across the idea that your daily life and memories are very much a part of the history of Oconee County...and the stuff that one will see quoted in future historical books and used in future historical research...AND THE TYPE OF MATERIAL WHICH WE MUST HAVE. If we, as members of a historical society, are not willing to provide such materials, then it is totally stupid to assume that anyone else is going to go to the trouble to record such history. Equally if our own members are unwilling to provide materials, then we must seriously question just exactly how much interest we actually have in the History of Oconee County and/or why we even bother to exist as a historical society. If YOU don't write the history down, then it is lost!! I would certainly hate for someone a hundred years from now to have to derive the history of this area from the newspapers...what a misleading picture they would obtain.

As you can tell from the above list, it is hardly necessary to be a long term native to this area in order to provide much of the needed materials. We very much need someone to supply a sketch of life at Keowee Keys and the development of other recent areas of Oconee County. Someday such sketches will be just as valuable as an early sketch of life in Walhalla.

We will print any material WITHOUT your name on it, should you do desire...and in fact, we may not get around to printing it for 10-20 years. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND that there is no point in our publishing a journal about the past if we are totally losing what is happening in the present; and equally, there is no point in our publishing a journal purely for our membership unless we receive the full cooperation and assistance of our members in this effort. Equally there is no point in just a few people providing all of the information, as we will perhaps end up getting a one sided view of history and/or of the interpretation of various types of documentary

material. While I will admit that a slanted history is better than no history at all, a history that records a wide range of opinions, ideas, and happenings is far, far superior. It is also worth noting that it is considerably less than fair for a few people to have to gather and produce all of the materials. Many of our research problems could be resolved if each of our members would assist by providing only some small glimpses of life in Oconee County only ONCE each year. Such action would give those willing to take on long term research projects back the time now spent preparing and assisting in the preparation of shorter articles for publication and/or preservation. I don't mind telling anybody that I feel a bit guilty calling certain people for information and help, knowing full well that their time could be better spent in projects upon which they have worked for years. As I see the situation, either we must have substantially more "brief bits" of information from each of our members or else produce materials only once or twice each year....and ONLY when we are not having to go out and collect information about the last 70 years of Oconee County History. This would be a dreadful loss just at a time when there are increasing demands for all sorts of information about this area.

If for some strange reason you don't feel that you can do any of the above, we need help in scheduling and holding meetings and other activities as noted below:

Many of our members are perhaps unaware that we are running a fairly large scale business these days, with numbers of activities and all types of correspondence. Most of our members never see or actively participate in many of these day to day activities, and many of our members are unaware that these day to day events even exist. In 1987 we expect to distribute over 1000 copies of maps of various kinds and send out an additional 2000+ pages of information to various requests for information (this does NOT include the Journal and Newsnotes going to our members). We will be supplying the libraries of Oconee County with over 30 books this year...which have to be first read, sometimes marked with corrections, and sometimes even edited, photocopied, and bound. Somebody answers EVERY letter and call received...even if it is only to say that we don't know the answer. We will attempt this year alone to solicit the interest of at least three research scholars who are contemplating doing work regarding this area or on subjects possibly related to this area. We will add well over a thousand pages of excellent materials to our collections this year...all of which has to be catalogued, open rephotocopied (which often means that the individual pages have to be hand cut before rephotocopy work begins), and bound. At present, we have copies of Civil War diaries waiting for the names to be indexed and published, and a variety of other materials in need of work of various kinds. The truth of the matter is simply that we are so desperate for certain types of help that we often simply "assign" the work to people capable of doing it...even when they are not members of our society. Amazingly (!), this system has worked reasonably well and produced acceptable results. We need publicity work in the form of published

materials in the papers about this area. A recent article in the *Seneca Journal* on the Treaty of Beaufort took some 6 hours of time (1st meetings, 2nd meetings, map reviews, etc.) ...and this was after supplying the writer, weeks in advance, with a copy of the Journal issue that discussed the Treaty of Beaufort. Equally, we did not fully work up the map used in the article!

SO PLEASE DON'T SAY YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO WRITE A BRIEF BIT ABOUT SOMETHING AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR. SOME OF THE PEOPLE CURRENTLY SUPPLYING INFORMATION AND WORKING ON THE ABOVE PROJECTS ARE AS BUSY, AND THEIR TIME IS A VALUABLE, AS ANYONE ELSE.

The following example will serve to illustrate but one (of many) types of material desired:

(From a gentleman born in 1890s/ now deceased who lived in Oconee and Pickens county)

How to make a cow adopt and nurse a second calf:

Put her calf and the one you want her to adopt in stall to themselves--let them stay together one of 2 hours. Then take rag reasonably damp with turpentine and rub each calf from head to tail, then put her in the stall with both calves. This works in most cases. A cow know[s] her calf by smell, not by color and size.

Another example from the same source:

Put fish baskets in the river when the moon is Full.

(The information which you supply does not have to be lengthy as noted by the examples cited above.)

TOURS:

On April 19-87, the Society with the cooperation of the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, hosted a tour of the buildings on the Oconee Station Property. The tour was both a great success as well as a great disaster. We received reservation requests for 214 people. We accepted the first 24 people (+ a few extras in case of cancellations). The 10+ pages of materials mailed to these 24 people apparently went to the IRS in Atlanta or somewhere else unknown (material mailed after April 15 arrived in fine style and on time). As a result, I arrived at the meeting place on Sunday to find absolutely no one there. However on arriving at the Station property, we had a full house. It turned out that a number of people simply decided to come without any sort of reservation. Others who had requested to come had decided that they were not going to receive anything in the mail...thus they came anyway. This situation presented a number of problems as well as a bit of amusement. At any rate, and despite the fact that no one arrived knowing the first thing about the pages of historical

material which I had mailed out, we toured the place reasonably well. After the first group of people left...and I was sitting there slightly exhausted from the horror of the U.S. Mail System totally letting me down...a second batch of people arrived from Greenville. They had come over to look at the wildflowers and decided to visit the Station property while they were there. So we had another tour. All told, we hosted some 52 people. This proved to be a money losing tour from the time the materials, which included copies of the work of Seaborn on Oconee Station, failed to arrive on time (we did not charge for anyone who got their materials late). However as our purpose is to provide information to others about Oconee County, we had great success. Apparently most of the materials once lost have now been received by the various parties requesting same. One thing is seemingly for certain: there is more than a reasonable interest in touring selected spots in Oconee County! While I find it hard to believe, we are still getting requests for the information regarding Oconee Station...weeks after the tour. Also I should note that most of the people who came to Oconee Station have put their names down for notices of future tours.

COMPLETION OF THE TREATY STUDIES:

Our original plan was to complete the study of treaties by May/87. Unfortunately, we have a problem in historical geography. While I have always had the greatest of respect for the work of Margaret Mills Seaborn, I am less than sure that her analysis of the Indian Boundary Line of 1777 in northwestern Oconee County is correct. The problem revolves around EXACTLY where the line hits the Tugaloo River. Seaborn shows the line as hitting the Tugaloo River only slightly above the mouth to Brasstown Creek. I cannot find any information anywhere that puts the line below Panther Creek (in Georgia), including the survey of the Wofford Tract which Seaborn sites as one of her principal sources. Thus I have decided not to complete the work on the 1816 treaty, whereby the land behind the boundary line of 1777 became part of South Carolina, until such time as I can confer once again with the Surveyor General's office in Georgia, as well as with Ray Ward of Stephens County, Ga. As Mr. Ward is totally familiar with the original land grants in Stephens County, I am confident that we will be able to get an exact extension of the line from the Georgia side. Because Seaborn has done her work on the South Carolina side with extreme care in terms of original land grants showing the boundary line, it may eventually prove that the extension of the line in Georgia does NOT perfectly tie together with the extension of the line in South Carolina. It also rather strikes me that Seaborn's line makes no allowance for the settlement of Pulaskie which surfaces on the 1818 Stribling Map. It would seem logical to me that the settlement was below the Indian line, although this assumption may eventually prove to be incorrect.

The above noted information may be for the best in that we really need to cease our membership publications for the summer months. For those new to the Historical Society,

we try to devote at least a segment of our time each year (usually the summer) to providing materials for the schools and the libraries. As these efforts are generally considerably larger in size than our individual journals, members do not receive copies of these materials. Last year, for example, we completed 4 copies (one for each branch of the Oconee County Library System) of a 200+ page compilation of materials on the Legend of Cateechee. One of the principal projects of the summer, in addition to materials on the Legend of Jocassee, will be a publication of a Synopsis of Oconee County History. We got this synopsis in the works many months ago; however we never made it commonly available. Various people were asked to proofread the materials from time to time, and their comments and corrections were duly noted. Since the time in which we first began this project, we have added considerably to our knowledge of this area. Some of this new information has been included. We became more aware of the need to get this project completed when we started receiving requests for this type of information from 8th grade teachers, and an increased number of requests from new residents to this area for information. Some attempt will possibly be made to salvage some of the place names from Mary Cherry Doyle's earlier work: *Historic Oconee* (even though I now have questions about some of these place names, such as the origin of the term "Fairplay"). Doyle's work was truly a pioneering effort in 1935; however this work is so dated, and the sources for Doyle's information were so limited, that only small portions of it are now correct or have any continuing value. In the Synopsis, readers will be cautioned to totally ignore everything in *Historic Oconee* that talks about the Indians. Equally readers will be urged to consult Mooney in the original for the stories and legends so "freely" used by Doyle, which were probably supplied to her by Rev. Daniel.

BOOKS AND PAPERS:

I took it on my own initiative to purchase (at a substantially reduced price) a fairly large number of reference works relating to this area for the various branch libraries of Oconee County. Many of these works are extremely valuable for genealogical and/or historical research (and some are almost out of print). As many of you are aware, far too much material is "hoarded" in Walhalla in Reference (even though they have duplicate copies of some works in Reference of which there are no circulating copies). Of more note is the fact that the "powers that be" refuse to share this material with the other branches. I have some questions about the legality (or at least the ethics) of this situation, as these books belong to all of the citizens of Oconee County and were paid for by tax dollars (the duplicate copy works were apparently purchased, rather than being given to the Walhalla Library). And as most of you are aware, the branch libraries have far too little material, as well as lacking access to a number of works that would be useful to individuals doing specialized research. Thus we are attempting to correct this problem in the most reasonable way immediately possible---by providing quality materials to the branch libraries. From the

time these materials are delivered to the Walhalla Library for cataloging until the time they reach the shelves will probably take about three months. In addition to these works, we have acquired more specific works for selected branch libraries. It is my personal opinion that we should make a special presentation in time to the Board of the Oconee County Library regarding the inequities within the County System. However we must first complete the gathering a considerable body of data to fully document our position.

Fortunately the Society members maintain photocopies and/or copies of most of the works of any accurate historical value within the Oconee County System. As I have noted in past letters, we now have a much better and larger collection of most materials than can be found within the County System.

A reasonably important M.A. thesis which we recently added to our collection is entitled *Acquisition and Conflict: A History of South Carolina's Western Lands, 1763-1784* by Ronald Edward Bridwell. Considering the fact that numbers of people have now combed the deeds of Charleston, the various archives of several states, the British Public Records, many county records, and hundreds of contemporary letters and diaries from the period, I will have to say that the chances of ever finding any evidence of any permanent settlers in this area from 1763 to 1783 is reaching the point of being non-existent. Certainly no one seeking a family member should be encouraged in ANY WAY whatsoever to be looking for anyone in the area that now makes up Oconee or Pickens counties before 1783. Equally any works published about his area should in no way suggest that white settlers were here prior to 1783.

After some two years, the work on Secona Baptist Church is finally at the press. This important work will be available by early August at a price of \$20.00. While the first three chapters (and many of the footnotes) of this work will be extremely valuable to us from a historical point of view, please keep in mind that well over half of the book is devoted to the Church in the years after 1857, and the town of Pickens after 1868. Because of the price, members of our Society might be well advised to first consult a copy in a library before making a purchase of this book. Again because of the price, I don't think that it will be immediately sold out. Those primarily interested in genealogy will also be wise to first consult a library copy before making a purchase. [Note: The list of individuals buried at Secona is already recorded in one of the volumes of the Pickens County Cemetery Books.]

A M.A. thesis on Fort Prince George and the Lower Cherokees, which I had expected to see completed by April/87, is somewhat behind schedule because of other activities on the part of the author. Even so, I expect this work to be available to our members by 1/1/88.

NEWSNOTES of the Oconee County Historical Society: 7/30/87

** When we first started our publications, the Oconee County Historical Society had virtually no working materials. As a result, and because of the cost that might be incurred in obtaining such materials, we borrowed materials from a number of people. The Society itself does not own anything other than the money in a bank account, one large stapler, several bound volumes of old minutes, a couple of bound volumes of newspaper clippings, a bound volume of legal papers and correspondence, the materials in our journals and other publications, and some few unpublished and/or collected papers contributed to the group as a whole. In effect, the majority of the large collection of materials we now have in a single unified collection does not actually belong to the Society...however these collected papers are available for your use in doing research projects. All papers are bound by subject and often by individual author. Recently I had some special boxes designed to hold this growing collection by subject, as well as for the additional purpose of being able to efficiently locate materials upon request. By making the determination to operate in this fashion, the Society has saved literally hundreds of dollars that would have had to be expended otherwise. Even though I had some initial concerns about gathering and maintaining materials on a loan basis, it seems to have worked reasonably well. More information about this area is now generally available than ever before. Someday, when we feel both more affluent and have a space to store these materials in a centralized location, we should consider obtaining copies of this material now on loan. Keep in mind that the most significant expense is in locating the materials rather than making copies of same.

The subject of books is slightly more complicated. Books purchased by the Society have been presented to the libraries of Oconee County and are available for the use of anyone. Other books, of various kinds, belong to individual members. It is totally up to the member who owns the particular book(s) to decide if they want to loan it out. Let me note that my personal experience indicates that people are not generally keen on loaning out their genealogical works. I can hardly blame these individuals, as copies of certain works sell for in excess of \$100.00. To be found below is a list of books which we will be presenting to the libraries of Oconee County in 1987. Salem is getting a copy of most of the books listed below. Other branches are getting materials to fill out their already existing collections.

Legends and Placenames of Oconee County, Vol. II "The Legend of Jocassee"

Health Resorts of the South

*Marriage and Death Notices from Pendleton (S.C.)
Messenger 1807-1851*

Pendleton District and Anderson County, S.C. Wills,

Estates, Inventories, Tax Returns and Census Records

Pendleton District, S.C. Deeds 1790-1806

A Genealogical Collection of South Carolina Wills and Records, Vol. I, II

A Collection of Uppers South Carolina Genealogical and Family Records, Vol. I, II, III

Eighteenth Century Lower Cherokee Adaptation and Use of European Material Culture

Traveler's Rest and the Tugaloo Crossroads

The 1840 Census of the Pickens District

Adair's History of the Cherokee Indians

(many of these books are not yet catalogued and/or available on the shelves)

For informational purposes, I should also note that the Oconee Library has purchased a copy (circulating) of John Brown's *Old Frontiers*.

At present, books (or materials) produced by the Society specifically for the libraries are to be found ONLY in the libraries of Oconee County. Out of area or out of state members may borrow these works, with the exception of the books on Legends and Placenames in Oconee County, for the cost of postage. Because the books on Legends and Placenames are large and generally full of a substantial amount of rather useless material (unless you have a very specific interest in reasonably poor prose work from the 1840s or tolerable poetry from the late 1800s), we will supply you with a bound copy of the table of contents, the indexes and the introductions to these works. After reviewing these indexes and table of contents, you MAY THEN request specific materials and/or simply provide us with a list of what information you are seeking from these works. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND that the works on Legends and Placenames, thus far available, were created for the purpose of establishing that many local placenames and legends are inaccurate and/or lacking in historical substance. In effect, these publications will not provide you with a great deal of useful historical information about Oconee County.

Again, as a matter of information, the *Journals* which you receive are NOT available in any libraries. We would request members not to give copies to libraries until such time as we have had the opportunity to receive comments, make corrections, etc. Please keep in mind that if you give your copy away, we do NOT have backcopies available for you at this time. We will probably begin making copies of Vol.I (with corrections, indexes, and various additional notes) available to select libraries in 1992, Vol.II in 1993, etc. As a member

of this Society, you deserve something for your contributions (other than simply supporting a good cause and providing information to the schools and libraries). If we made copies available to the libraries immediately, you would have far less reason to belong to the Society, and the libraries will possibly be supplied with information that needs revising.

** Having just spent the morning in the Greenville Library's South Carolina Room, I remain constantly amazed by their holdings. Often times, I spend a lot of time gathering information from far places, only to later find that the Greenville Library has a copy of the same materials. Because they have a large collection of genealogical materials from other areas of South Carolina and the South, those of you seeking genealogical information on the ancestors (of your ancestors in this area) would perhaps be well advised to visit the library and make a personal assessment of their collected materials. They have recently installed a new computerized card catalogue. Unlike the ones which I have used at other places (Clemson University for example), this system is a relatively simple and easy to use. Because I am familiar with computers, I picked it up in about two minutes. If you aren't familiar with computers, ask the staff for some help in either learning to use a computer or in obtaining the information which you desire. I would highly suggest that you learn to use a computer index as eventually the Oconee County Library System will have the same, or a similar, type of operation (probably within 3 - 5 years).

** I had long since suspected that a group of rangers (mounted soldiers) rode the border areas of Oconee County (and perhaps a part of Pickens and Anderson counties) after the time of the Williamson Campaign against the Cherokees in 1776. Such an assumption was logical because of the fear of repeated campaigns against the state by the Cherokees and the Tories who were stirring up the Cherokees. FINALLY a reference to these rangers was located...one short sentence in some primary materials. Because I have temporarily given the bulk of my attention to the Antebellum years, I turned this material over to a scholar having some interest in this period. I will be happy to supply this same reference to anyone else wishing to pursue this topic.

** Some of you go the courthouse in Pickens in an effort to obtain various types of information (particularly information relating to the time span between 1826 and 1868 when Oconee County was part of the Pickens District). KEEP IN MIND THAT OCONEE AND PICKENS COUNTY WERE PART OF PICKENS COUNTY FROM 1826-1828...THUS MANY OF THE RECORDS DO NOT START UNTIL 1828 WHEN PICKENS COUNTY BECAME PICKENS DISTRICT. RECORDS BEFORE 1828 ARE SOMETIMES PART OF THE PENDLETON DISTRICT RECORDS AND SOMETIMES A PART OF THE PICKENS DISTRICT RECORDS. Others of you are planning such a visit in the future. In either case, I thought it might be helpful to some of you to present a

diagram of the Pickens County Clerk of Court's Office and the type of material that you might find (and not find).

Adequate parking is now available in a free parking lot on Pendleton Street (this street is to the side of the Courthouse where you see a large two story window and running along the side of the South Carolina National Bank). Even so, I would highly suggest that you call 1-(803)-878-7809 to find out if court is in session. TAKE HEED: you really don't want to go to the courthouse when court is in session. Even the big parking lot gets full and nobody wants to see you (or anybody else) walk through the door.

On entering the courthouse by the main portico, you should take the hall to your left (go past a hall leading to your right as quickly as you turn into the hall on the left), and enter the first door to your right. This is the main staff office of the Clerk of Court. Directly behind this staff room is the room containing the deeds (1828 forward), many mortgages, and other materials as shown on exhibit "A". OR (and what I would suggest) you may go almost directly into this room by taking the hall to the right immediately after turning into the hall to the left noted above (see exhibit "A"). At the back of the room containing the deeds and mortgages, etc. is a staircase leading to a lower level. As you descend these stairs, you will see a photocopy machine and several file cabinets. When you reach the bottom of the stairs and look immediately to your right, you will see a door leading into a small room with numbers of file cabinets (see exhibit "B"). This room contains many of the books of the Pickens District (present Pickens and Oconee counties). The material is not currently arranged in any order and the titles of the books are often misleading.

TAKE HEED: There is a much larger room on this lower floor (next to the small room I am pointing out to you---marked court staff room on EXHIBIT "B") with a number of staff people and a number of inviting looking files. These files are the records of the criminal court and the staff who are in charge of court papers. These people are very nice...and they are very, very busy...and most importantly, they are probably NOT going to be able to help you or know the answers to your questions. PLEASE DO NOT BOTHER these people unless you are seeking something related to the court system from recent years (1970 forward) or unless you have a reference to the papers which you are seeking. Equally let me note that the staff on the main floor are not going to be able to provide you with a great deal of assistance unless you want to know something relatively simple (such as where the deeds are located). I don't make these remarks to indicate that members of the staff are lacking in knowledge. Rather I am simply trying to point out the fact that these people are completely absorbed with keeping up with what happened no later than yesterday. They do not have the time, and have never had the time, to become acquainted with what is in the older books. Equally the Clerk of Court is fairly new to his position and rather absorbed with duties of his office. So if

you do decide to ask about anything obscure, over a hundred years old, etc., don't be offended when they simply say that some "old books and papers are stored downstairs".

PLEASE TAKE THE ENCLOSED DIAGRAMS WITH YOU WHEN YOU VISIT THE COURT HOUSE IN PICKENS...IT WILL SAVE YOU (AND THE STAFF) A LOT OF TIME!

In regard to what you will find in the Clerk's Office: the deeds date from ca. 1828 forward. When the District was divided in 1868, the deeds, wills, and virtually all other papers went to the current town of Pickens. It rather appears that special lists were compiled in 1868 for the new officers in Oconee County to begin their books. Many people know that you find old deeds and papers in Oconee County. This probably results from the fact that people sometimes held onto deeds and other legal papers for as long as 60 years before filing them. The filing date will reveal if such is true in regard to the particular papers with which you might be working.

The Clerk's office also contains mortgages. This set of books is not as full as you might hope. At this point, I should note that the Clerk of Court's Office is absolutely about to break at the seams. As a result, select older books and papers have been stored elsewhere. Until some space becomes available, you are rather wasting your time trying to seek out these older books, papers, etc. Even should you find a member of the staff with absolutely nothing to do (which you generally won't!!) who is willing to take you to some obscure closet, you will then find that you need a good back, some reasonable muscles, and some summer clothes which you don't mind getting very dirty. I recently went seeking a particular set of books that were not that old. I noticed the staff slightly smiling before one of them took me to the end of a hall to a small door and offered to lock me in (I being a reasonably well known person in the Clerk of Court's Office...at least they know where to find me in case I walk out the door with anything!). Upon opening the door, I was greeted with a massive "heap" of books and papers in a mild degree of disarray. I decided that my particular project could wait to another day (someday after I am retired, for example!!) By way of note, this particular group of records just discussed will not be of any help to any of you in my opinion.

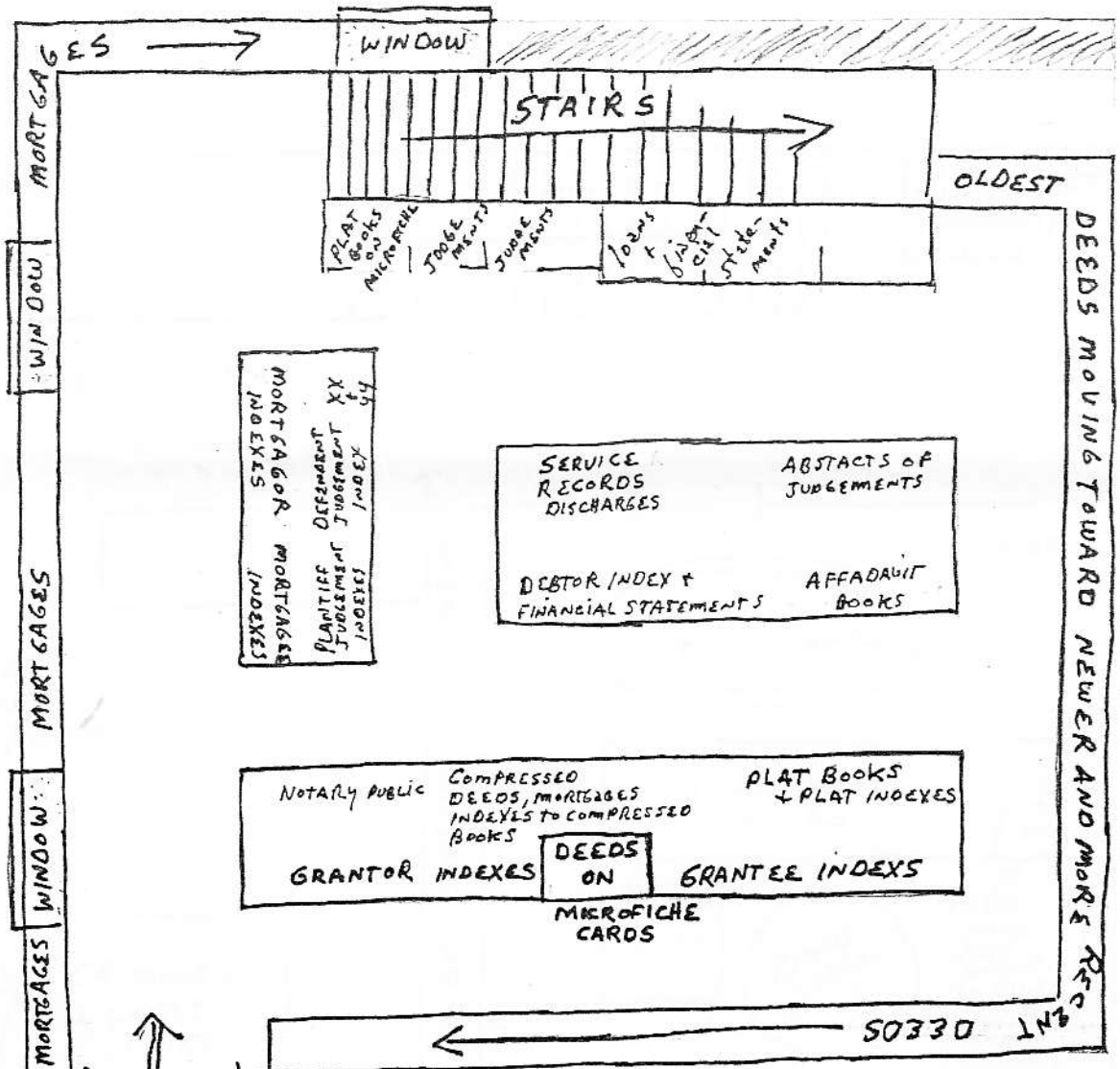
Other records on the main floor of the Clerk's Office include Plat Books, various miscellaneous books of the Abstracts of Judgements, Service Discharge Books, and the various indexes to the deeds and the mortgages. With the exception of deeds and mortgages, other smaller groups or single title books get moved around. I sorted both this room and the metal boxes in the downstairs room before I compiled my diagrams. Things may not be quite the same when you arrive!

One will also notice a number of files to the rear of

this large room where the deeds are stored. These files contain the Judgements and financial statements, etc. Judgements deserve some discussion as they are slowly taking over the world. Anyone familiar with this subject knows that judgements are often over nothing more than a debt for a relatively small amount of money. Other judgements involve suits for damages (victims of car wrecks, etc.). Other judgements are criminal judgements. I mention judgements because one will find virtually all of the file cabinets and a whole wall of green metal boxes in the downstairs floor to be full of civil JUDGEMENTS. There are more judgements in the Pickens Courthouse than you would probably ever want to read. The major point of interest is simply that these papers start in 1868.

As I have just noted, the bulk of the small downstairs room is full of Judgements. However nested away in the back corner is a group of books and records of particular interest to all of us. These are many of the older records of the Pickens District. I have already noted in an earlier paragraph some of the problems in using these books (lack of dates, misleading titles, etc). However there are additional problems, including the fact that we currently do not have enough historical legal information to make the use of these books particularly feasible. Simply going through these books hunting a particular event or name will probably not prove the best way of spending your day. There are approximately 100 such older books (some relating to the Pickens District and some to Pickens County). Some of these books weigh 3-6 pounds, having chipping leather to soil your clothes, and are on high shelves. And, as you might well imagine, many of them are extremely difficult to read. At present, I am making an attempt to both index and identify these records; and then to go back and create some type of labeling system for this material. I would sincerely ask that none of you bounce over to Pickens to use these records until such time as I have completed this project. Such a project is difficult enough without having people reshuffle the books. As quickly as the inventory is completed, we will issue a list of the books along with a general abstract of the subject found in the book. This index, combined with a labeling system for the records, will make such materials far, far easier for everyone to use.

PLEASE NOTE: The small room at the bottom of the stairs does double duty as a kitchen area for the staff. The very small round table and the two old chairs are for your use at the convenience of the staff. If this table is occupied with a birthday cake or whatever, you will need to take the book which you are desiring to use upstairs. PLEASE RETURN THIS BOOK to the lower level when you have completed using it!!!



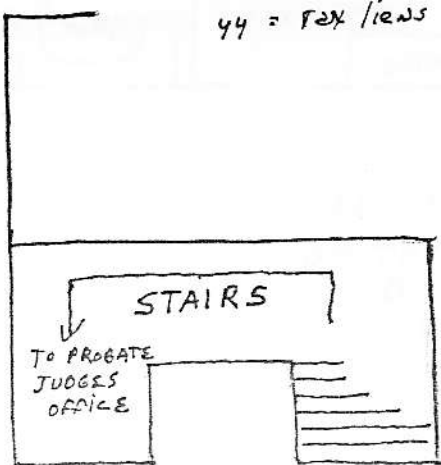
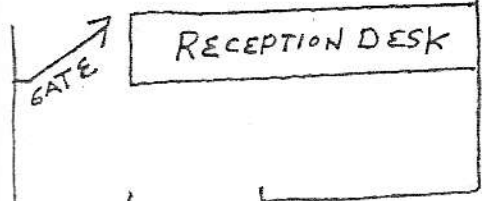
44
XX
MORTGAGES
MORTGAGES
INDEXES
INDEXES
PLANTIFF JUDGEMENT
DEFENDANT JUDGEMENT
INDEX
INDEX

SERVICE RECORDS DISCHARGES
DEBTOR INDEX + FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ABSTRACTS OF JUDGEMENTS
AFFIDAVIT BOOKS

NOTARY PUBLIC
COMPRESSED DEEDS, MORTGAGES INDEXES TO COMPRESSED BOOKS
GRANTOR INDEXES
DEEDS ON MICROFICHE CARDS
PLAT BOOKS + PLAT INDEXES
GRANTEE INDEXES

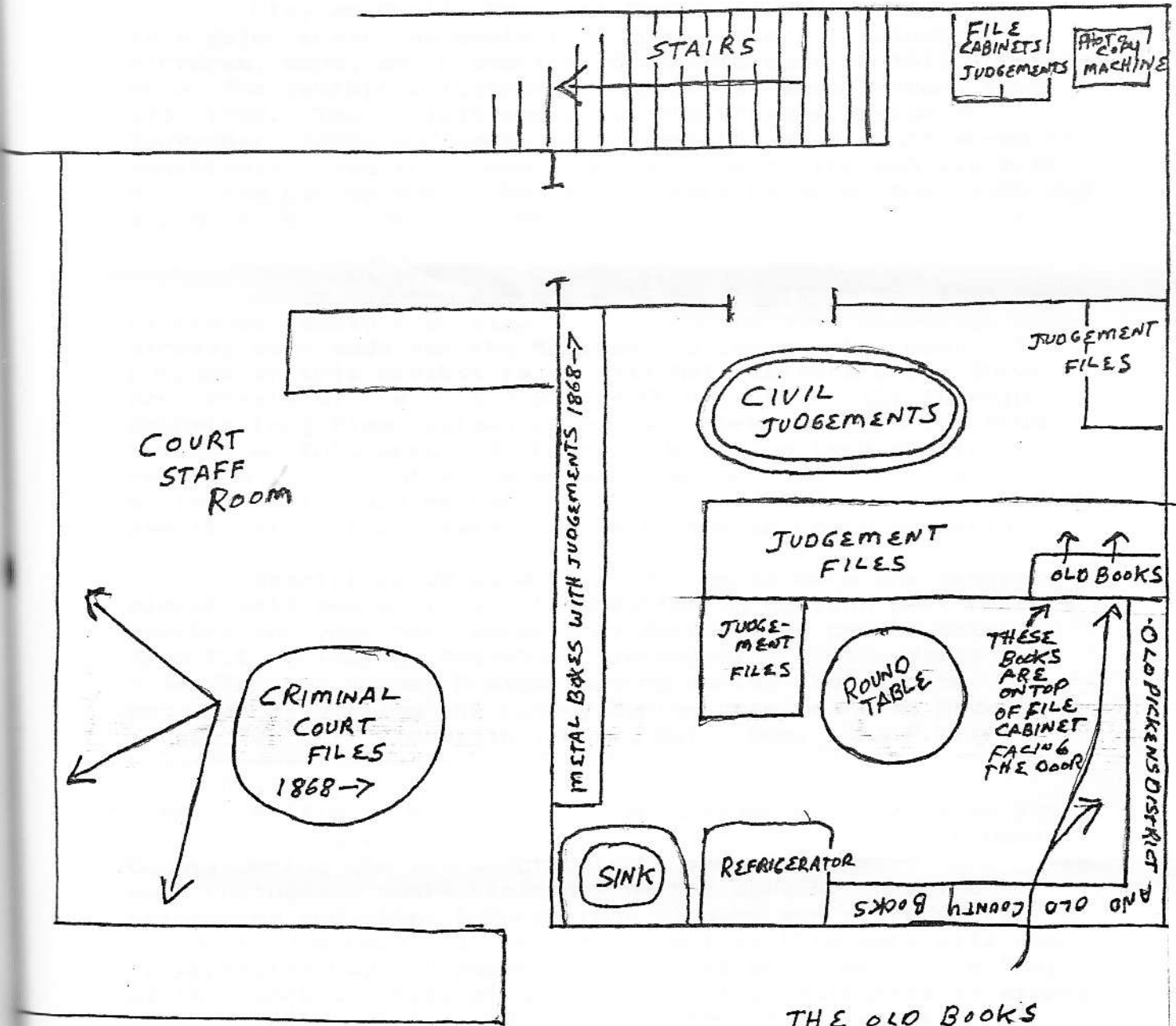
XX = PROBATE/JUDGEMENTS/
REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS
44 = FAX /IEWS

STAFF CLERK OF COURT



MAIN HALL OF COURT HOUSE

EXHIBIT A



THE OLD BOOKS
OF THE PICKENS
DISTRICT
1828-1868

EXHIBIT B

NEWSNOTES OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ 10/20/87:**** BRIEF NOTES:**

****** The Oconee County Historical Society and The Faith Clayton Family Research Center are currently involved in a major traveling exhibit of area history. Selected pictures, maps, and historical documents make up this 18 piece show. The exhibit illustrates segments of area history from 1730-1920. The exhibit opened at the Pickens Museum on September 17/87, and parts of the exhibit have since moved to additional sites in Pickens County. The entire exhibit will be at the Lunney Museum in Seneca starting after Nov. 2/87 and during most of the month of November (watch your local papers for times and dates).

Parts of this exhibit will be displayed in other parts of Oconee County from time to time during 1988 (bookings have already been made for the Madison and Longcreek areas). The purpose of this exhibit is to (1) help celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the United States Constitution (2) to help educate long time residents and newcomers alike on the true history of this area (3) to provide a long term public resource for school children and teachers (4) to have an exhibit that could be taken out into the two counties to reach people rather than having people trying to reach an exhibit.

Special cards go with each item to make the exhibit almost self explanatory. Information on getting part of this exhibit for your particular area during 1988 can be obtained from F.C. Holder at 882-6556. Information on the dates and times for the Lunney Museum showing during 1987 can be obtained by calling the Lunney during open hours at 882-4811 (suggested call times: Th., Fri., Sat., Sun. 2-6 P.M.)

****** Sallie Harbin has produced a major manuscript on 100 Revolutionary War Soldiers who came to live in Oconee County during the years following the Revolutionary War. This work includes a small biography of the person, selected references and other information. Typing and reproduction is currently underway. It is estimated that this work will come to approximately 150 pages upon completion. One of the "joys" of this work to those of us who are not genealogists is simply that selected entries indicate a number of different possibilities for future research.

Ms. Harbin was on the Channel 4/ 6:00 news on October 26/87 providing information on Revolutionary War soldier, Obadiah Trimmier. Several people from Greenville and Spartanburg counties contacted me to note that we should have more media coverage on this area....not a bad idea. Would anyone be willing to be chairman of a media/publicity committee?

** Congradulations to the Blue Ridge Art Association on the purchase of the historic Episcopal Church in Seneca, S.C. This 1881 structure is one of the oldest (and perhaps the oldest) building in that town and one of the most important architectural structures in Seneca. One of the great cultural needs in Oconee County is for a suitable gallery/display area, a function which the new building will ultimately fulfill. Historical research on the building has revealed new and interesting information about the town of Seneca and the overall Oconee County Community. Considerable financial support is needed to complete this project. Membership in the BRAA is \$10 a year for which you receive their newsletter, discounts on select courses, and invitations to their events. Extra contributions will be a considerable help to this organization in eventually getting the gallery open. The address of the BRAA is P.O. Box 2046/ Seneca, S.C. 29679.

In my opinion, the BRAA has the opportunity of becoming THE largest growing and most far reaching artistic cultural organization in the county...and the organization with which we can work the most closely in the future.

** There are a growing number of museums in Oconee County in addition to the Lunney House in Seneca. A project related to the Civilian Conservation Corp of the Depression years is being developed at Oconee State Park. I also requested the State to consider special exhibits of early area history at each state park in this area. In a recent letter from the parks system, they noted:

It would be a simple matter to incorporate some of the early history of Oconee County into such a display at Oconee State Park. As this work beings, I will contact you for ideas and resources.

Work is beginning on a museum and community study center in Newry that will be related to the Mill Village.

New uses are under study for the Depot in Westminster. This is basically a project of the Westminster Garden Clubs, according to my information.

There continues to be talk of restoring the Depot in Walhalla. It is unknown if this building will serve in any way to interpret the history of Walhalla.

Some work is being done at Oconee Station State Park (not yet open to the public). A new road has been cut into the property and a parking area is being developed behind the Stone Building. A recent letter from John Rogers of

Parks, Recreation and Tourism suggests that the property may be open by mid 1988.

** A new booklet which we will be adding to the Oconee Library Collection this week (who knows when it will get to the shelves?) is *Pickens District Jury List 1828-1849* compiled by Faith Clayton, Julia Woodson and Edwin H. Vedder (published by the Pendleton Genealogical Society). This work is one of the first results to accrue from the all the work that is currently being done with the thousands of papers from the Pickens District (current Oconee and Pickens counties 1828-1868). Persons listed on Grand Jury, Petit and Common Pleas Court jury, Special Juries, etc. are to be found in this compilation. The introduction to this work should be read carefully before using this work. Listings are in alphabetical order.

**** REPORT ON THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:**

Because I am unhappy with the information available on the later treaties relating to this area (and because I think I have found one additional treaty of note pertaining to this area), I am not going to conclude the study of treaties at present. In fact, this *Newsnotes* will probably be the last publication of the 1987 year.

The Society has had a good year, although certain problems have developed and/or become apparent. RELIABLE Historical information on this area within the Oconee County Library System has probably doubled. Reliable information published in the papers of the county has certainly increased. Certain individuals within the county are completing active research projects. Certain communities are taking an increased interest in their area...and will hopefully publish their efforts in time. A certain amount of academic interest in regard to this area is beginning to surface. New publications are revealing detailed data about certain aspects of the history of this region. Serious questions have been raised about previous interpretations of historical information...and reasonable interest appears to exist in terms of resolving these questions.

We provided information for an upcoming State Library Guide on works related to the Cherokee Indians for use by school children in 1988. Piles of data of various kinds have gone out to numbers of people during the year. Our various reading lists, etc. remain popular. The new "beginning genealogical guide" is getting increased use.

However, there are PROBLEMS and ways to correct the problems:

TO MANY OF OUR INCOUNTY (OCONEE COUNTY) MEMBERS

(1) Although the Society is reasonably backlogged with work to review, edit, type, produce, etc., we are still receiving NONE to LITTLE in terms of written materials and real help from many of our incounty members. We HAVE GOT TO HAVE YOUR HELP to continue in our efforts!!! Please keep in mind that your \$5.00 in dues has thus far gone either into an interest account or for a few dollars worth of postage to answer various letters which we receive....AND NOT TO PAY FOR THE NEWSLETTERS AND JOURNALS WHICH YOU RECEIVE!!! In effect, your NEWSLETTERS and JOURNAL have been coming to you free!

To continue to produce this material, we have to have your INPUT, your CONTRIBUTIONS of MATERIALS, etc. I sincerely want to continue this effort; however payment for this production is going to have to be made in time, organization help, or written materials and NOT in dollars.

(2) The Junior High Schools of the county are seriously lacking in reliable materials related to this area. For 1988/89, I propose that we devote a reasonable amount of our resources and abilities to developing materials for these schools. Four copies of one select work on the Indians has already been ordered for the schools. Unfortunately it is one of the few works on that particular grade level which I can find to purchase. In effect, we are simply going to have to try and produce materials for the schools. ANY HELP WILL BE APPRECIATED!!!!!!

(3) As I noted above, your dues have not, thus far, been spent on the Journals and Newsletters. Rather we have carefully tried to manage the funds for future select projects. One such project is at hand. There are already works available on Seneca, Walhalla, and Mt. Rest (and a bit on Richland). We now need productions on Salem, Westminster, Tunnel Hill, Fort Madison, Long Creek, Keowee Keys, etc. As some major research work has already been done on some of these places, I propose that we have a photograph contest to obtain pictures of places in and around those areas just noted. We would award a \$150 first prize and three (3) \$50 dollar second prizes with all submissions becoming property of the Oconee County Historical Society. It is obvious that we cannot produce works on all of these places for the \$2000 we have in savings...but we CAN obtain pictures for future use of those doing research on these areas.

(4) I continue to find the Oconee County Library most uncooperative in terms of providing the exchange of "hoarded" materials to the reference sections of other branches. I contend that such an action is staid, behind the times, and an action that actively retards the development of Oconee County Historical Research. If there were abounding information on

Oconee County History around and about, I would not say a word. As the situation presently exists, there is not even the first readable book on the Colonial History of this area.

Just for example, such works as the Journals of the Commissioners of the Indian Trade, etc. are really only efficiently (and correctly) used by people who have some expertise in this area of knowledge...and if that person(s) is willing to write and produce something usable for the average person in Oconee County, then those books should be transferred to the Reference Section closest to the residence of the researcher upon a specialized request.

The Library Board recently sent me a letter stating their policy regarding such books...after I had notified them that they had duplicates of certain works in reference while the rest of the county had no copies of these books in circulation and/or reference. Their policy is that reference works are never moved from their "HOME". Stated reasons include the misplaced idea that that other Librarians in the county do not have the expertise to advise on the use of this collection and that the Main Library was the only place where control could be maintained over such works. These statements are a bit lacking in fact: books disappear from the S.C. Room in Walhalla fairly frequently (the South Carolina room cannot even be watched by staff) and branch librarians in the county are often the ones to make me aware of materials in the Main Branch which the staff in Walhalla is unaware of existing. I contend that as long as there are schools in Oconee County that have no materials on this area, then either the policies of the Oconee County Library need to be changed, the Board needs to be changed, or else direct complaints need to be made to well placed persons who can "assist" to correct this problem. County council holds the pursestrings and we are certainly entitled to appear at the budget requests and present our concerns. In effect, we have books moldering (or else which are useless to the average person) on the shelves in Walhalla and yet we have schools with no materials. Something or is BAD wrong!

The cost of moving a few reference works upon qualified request from reference in one branch to reference in another branch is nothing compared to the lost opportunities for educational advancement and/or simply the cost of replacing "disappearing" books. Lastly I will note that the Library Board is unwilling to move a book worth \$40.00 at most (and useable to but a few) to reference at another branch, where a qualified person could possibly produce works usable by hundreds of people in the county.

Frederick C. Holder
Rt. 2/ Box 540-B
Seneca, S.C. 29678-9681

Members of the Oconee County Historical Society

Dear Members:

With this issue of the *Journal of the Oconee County Historical Society*, your dues have expired (unless noted as PD on your copy of this letter). We keep coming up with new and exciting information on Oconee County...and we would like to continue to share this information with you. Future journal articles already scheduled for this year will cover the events connected with Oconee County from 1775-Spring, 1776, and the Militia boundaries in Oconee County during the Antebellum Period. I should note with a small degree of pride that our journals, after getting off to a bit of rough start, are now being included in footnotes in publications, and are almost becoming collectable items...with an increasing number of academic scholars, local historians, and libraries requesting copies.

In addition to sharing information, we have a variety of projects scheduled for 1988. Principal among these is a concentrated effort to provide information for the Junior High School Libraries in Oconee County. We have already purchased a few books for each of these libraries including the *The World of the Southern Indians* by Virginia Pounds Brown and Laurella Owens, and *General Andrew Pickens, An Autobiography* by Lynda Worley Skelton. In addition, we are producing copies of the sections of *Health Resorts of the South* as pertains to Oconee County, and providing a variety of reproduced historical maps with present Oconee County color marked on each map for these libraries.

We will continue to arrange shows for the traveling exhibit sponsored by the Oconee County Historical Society and the Faith Clayton Family Research Center. I should also note that the people in Long Creek have exhibited some interest in producing a small publication on their area of the county. Work continues on a publication for the Fort Madison section.

In conjunction with the Oconee County Museum Association, we are hoping to produce a brochure with a brief summary of the History of Oconee County.

Your continued support of our Society is sincerely appreciated. Dues remain at \$5.00 with additional contributions being sincerely appreciated. Please remit your cheque to Frederick C. Holder at the letterhead address. After recording any changes of address, your dues will be forwarded to our Treasurer.

Sincerely yours,



Frederick C. Holder
Sec./ OCHS

GENERAL NOTES ON OBTAINING INFORMATION FROM
THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND/OR
MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY:

The Oconee County Historical Society actively encourages research on this area by anyone seriously seeking information.

General Researchers: A number of resources should be exhausted before seeking search services from the Historical Society. These naturally include the materials contained within the Oconee County Library System. The Society maintains only a limited amount of genealogical material (very little in addition to that already within the Oconee County Library System).

The Old Pendleton District Genealogical Society would be an excellent group to unite with should you be seeking only family related materials. (membership form included on last page)

SERIOUS RESEARCHERS INVOLVED IN LONG TERM PROJECTS: The Oconee County Historical Society provides a number of services for the serious researcher contemplating a book, thesis, etc. While our holdings include a limited amount of primary materials, we will notify you of known locations of primary materials and some listings of secondary materials (of which you will perhaps already be aware). We try to maintain lists of certain known experts in particular fields of research, lists of works already in progress, and other relevant material and/or information. We will be happy to assist you in any way possible to complete your contemplated work.

*** ALL RESEARCHERS ***: Please complete the enclosed form just as if you were applying for membership (DO NOT INCLUDE ANY MONEY as our search services are free). Naturally, you will not be added to our mailing list of published materials. We will try to reply to your inquiry within a month from the receipt of your query.

TO RECEIVE THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Most publications of the Oconee County Historical Society are only available by membership in the society. Please complete the enclosed form and return with your current dues.

MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Current dues: ¹⁹⁸⁷ 5.00 Please remit to:

FREDERICK C. HOLDER
ROUTE 2 / BOX 540 B
SENECA, SC 29678-9681

Dues include all publications of the Society, access to all materials in the holdings of the Society, a search service of these materials, and a reasonable number of queries in the NEWSNOTES of the Oconee County Historical Society. Members from points in excess of 100 miles will not receive mailings of meetings unless requested.

Name: _____

Address: _____ (zip code must be included)

Telephone #: _____ (optional)

If you live over 100 miles from Oconee County, do you wish to receive notifications of meetings Yes: _____ No: _____

If you have special interests and wish to receive advance notification of specialized works in that area of interest, please briefly list general fields (Example: Cherokee Indians, Genealogy from the Northwestern portion of the county, Pendleton District Records, Anti-bellum crime and punishment, etc.)

SPECIALIZED SEARCHES: (briefly list area of general interest followed a condensed explanation of the exact area of your research. Example: (CLASS CONFLICT IN ANTIBELLUM SOUTH CAROLINA: I am seeking material pertaining to class conflicts that might have developed between the Irish Catholic workers involved in the construction of the Blue Ridge Railroad and the local

residents already residing in Oconee County.
Equally I am interested in any problems regarding race relations that might have pertained to the construction effort). Please use extra sheets of paper if needed to precisely identify the area of search.

Reason for this request: (Example: term paper, M.A. thesis, Ph.D. thesis, general interest, etc)

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Pendleton Chapter
South Carolina Genealogical Society

1987
Membership Renewal Form

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Type of Membership	Individual	Family	Associate
	\$10.00	\$14.00	\$6.00 (only for those who already belong to an established chapter)

Mail form with check to: Anne Sheriff, Route 4, Box 232, Central, SC 29630.

[TAG] Special Constitutional Exhibits and Publications presented for Oconee County.

As part of the observance of the 200th Anniversary of the Constitution of the United States, the Oconee County Historical Society has a number of projects completed which are to be released over the next eight months.

Sally Harbin, a member of the Society, has prepared a special book which will be a major addition to Oconee County History. This work, entitled *Revolutionary War Soldiers of the Pendleton District: A Compilation*, Vol I, contains almost 100 soldiers with brief biographies, a comprehensive index, and references for the information. This volume relates primarily to Revolutionary War Soldiers who came to live in Oconee County following the Revolutionary War, although some few soldiers relating to present Anderson and Pickens counties are included in this first volume. This work will be also be valuable to geographers seeking the origins of some local place names, and to those interested in exploring the early demographics of this area. For example, the name of Stamp Creek Baptist Church can be traced to Stamp Creek, which derives its name from one of the listings in this book. This volume will be available in selected libraries in the upcounty area as quickly as the illustrations and the printing

are completed.

The Faith Clayton Family Research Center of Central Wesleyan College and the Oconee County Historical Society will jointly sponsor a "A Commemorative Exhibit in Celebration of the the 200 Anniversary of the Constitution of the United States". Literally thousands of documents pertaining to this area have been culled in order to present a small sampling of area history from 1730-1880. Out of this group, papers have been selected to represent the notable and the less than notable features of this part of the world. Some documents pertain to reasonably well known people, such as the fairly wealthy Benjamin Hagood who lived in the Midway Community of current Pickens County...but yet the same document refers to a slave and her child with an unknown surname. Jacob Busch, a surname still in evidence in Walhalla, was selected as an example of a naturalization paper; but yet another person, a totally unknown Irish surname in this area and a person who most probably worked on Stumphouse Tunnel, is also included. The thought to be first jury list for the new town of Pickens Court House (the courthouse town that once served the present Pickens and Oconee counites and not to be confused with the current town of Pickens) is included. The sheriff of the Pendleton District (this District made up present Anderson, Pickens, and Oconee counties) had to serve the papers to the prospective grand jurors, as a sheriff for the new Pickens

District had yet to be elected. In addition a few personal papers and a variety of types of legal papers, the exhibit will also include a few select maps of this area, a few pictures of some of the notable historic sites and other rare items of particular interest at select showings.

This special exhibit will begin in Pickens County at the Pickens County Museum on September 17, 1987 with a reception in honor of the Constitution. The exhibit will then be moved between Oconee and Pickens counties and probably conclude in Oconee County around May 23, 1988 at the time South Carolina ratified the United States Constitution. It is the desire of the Oconee County Historical Society to display this exhibit in different parts of the county for the benefit of as many people as possible.

The Fort Madison section of Oconee County will receive special emphasis during the time between Sept/87 and May/88 as this is the only area of the county that can be documented as having a considerable population during this period. Most of the present area of Oconee County was classed by Georgia as part of Franklin County and the State of Georgia in 1787 and during the ratification of the United States Constitution by the Georgia Convention. By the time of the Ratification Convention in South Carolina in 1788, this area was officially a part of the State of South Carolina. All available evidence

indicates that this area remained in favor of the Constitution under two different state conventions. The reasons for this affirmative vote, at odds with the majority of the upper part of South Carolina who were against the ratification of the Constitution, will be explored in feature articles for the local newspapers.

In addition, the Society is hoping to see a special spot ad (to be presented on the T.V.s and the radios during the state wide Constitutional Celebration) as one of the early and presentations of unusual and little known information about the Constitution in South Carolina. A group of fact sheets on the role of this area in the ratification of the United States Constitution is scheduled to go out to all of the eighth grade S.C. history teachers in Oconee County who have requested such information before September 17.

Enclosed please find information on a traveling exhibit available to your organization, society, museum, etc. from September 17, 1987 through May 26, 1988.

The title of the exhibit is:

A SPECIAL EXHIBIT IN HONOR OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

The purpose of the exhibit is:

To make people in Oconee and Pickens counties more fully aware of the historical heritage of this area through a carefully arranged group of maps, pictures, and legal documents.

Individuals or groups desiring this exhibit for their area may make arrangements by contacting:

Pickens County: Anne Sheriff 639-6387

Rt. 4/ Box 232
Central, S.C. 29630

Oconee County: Frederick C. Holder 882-6556

Rt. 2/ Box 540-B
Seneca, S.C. 29678-9681

The exhibit is already booked for the month of September and the month of November and one Saturday in May of 88.

In the case of community clubs, special display stands will be made available for your use the day of the exhibit. Special cards accompany each exhibit. You may request a short lecture to accompany the exhibit should you so desire.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick C. Holder

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PROSPECTUS OF EXHIBIT IN HONOR OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

Overall project sponsors:

The Oconee County Historical
Society

The Faith Clayton Family Research
Center of Central Wesleyan College

Special items to be included in the
display while at select locations are
not included in this listing.

Cherokee and the Revolutionary War Materials

PICTURE OF CHEROKEE INDIANS VISITING
LONDON AND KING GEORGE II IN 1730
ca. 1730

Picture reproduction from the British
Museum.

FORT PRINCE GEORGE RECONSTRUCTION
DRAWING (top)
AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RENDERING OF THE
SITE (bottom)

The fort was ca. 1753
Drawing and pictures from the South
Carolina Institute of Archeology and
Anthropology

THE AREA OF PICKENS DISTRICT AS SEEN
ON A MAP OF 1770/76 FROM INFORMATION
PROBABLY OBTAINED IN THE 1760S

map ca. 1776
Reproduction copy.

THE AREA OF PICKENS DISTRICT AS SEEN
ON A FRENCH MAP SHOWING THIS AREA IN
1763-66.

ca. 1785 (from information from
1763/65)

Reproduction copy

THE TREATY OF DEWITTS CORNER (1777)

treaty 1777

Reproduction of Treaty courtesy of
the South Carolina Department of
Archives and History.

The South Carolina Western Frontier

LAND GRANT FROM THE SECRETARY OF
STATE TO A PERSON RECEIVING LAND IN
THE PENDLETON DISTRICT OF SOUTH
CAROLINA

1797

ORIGINAL Document from the papers of
the Pickens District, S.C.

PICTURE OF OCONEE STATION/ ONE OF A
NUMBER OF STATIONS AND OUTPOSTS IN
THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF S.C. IN THE
1780s AND 90s.

Oconee Station ca. 1792/93

The Antebellum Pickens District

(present Oconee and Pickens
counties)

THE AREA OF PICKENS DISTRICT AS SEEN
ON A MAP OF 1831 FROM INFORMATION
PROBABLY OBTAINED IN 1826

Map 1831 (from information ca. 1827)

Reproduction copy.

DEED FOR A LOT IN THE TOWN OF
PICKENS COURT HOUSE (OLD PICKENS)
1830

ORIGINAL document from the papers of
Pickens District, S.C.

SO CALLED "SLAVE PAPERS" FROM THE
PAPERS OF THE PICKENS DISTRICT
1832

ORIGINAL document from the papers of
Pickens District, S.C.

GUARDIANSHIP PAPERS FOR FREE BLACKS
RESIDING IN THE PICKENS DISTRICT
ca. 1830s-40s
ORIGINAL document from the papers of
the Pickens District, S.C.

NATURALIZATION PAPERS FOR U.S.
CITIZENSHIP IN THE PICKENS DISTRICT
1852 Busch (german)
1853 McFelony (irishman probably
working on Stumphouse Mt. Tunnel)
ORIGINAL document from the papers of
the Pickens District, S.C.

PICTURE OF THE ENTRANCE TO STUMP
HOUSE MOUNTAIN TUNNEL ABOVE WALHALLA,
S.C.
ca. 1850s

The Civil War

LETTER FROM ROBERT A THOMPSON TO NEAN
CRAIG
Jan 2, 1861 (letter misdated as 1860)
ORIGINAL document from the papers of
Pickens District, S.C.

CONFEDERATE WAR PENSION ROLLS
FOR PICKENS COUNTY
1890
ORIGINAL document from the papers of
Pickens District, S.C.

Post Reconstruction Materials

LETTER FROM JOHN STEPHENS TO J.M.
STEWART
July 26, 1896
ORIGINAL document from the papers of
Pickens District, S.C.
TUNISON'S MAP OF S.C. AND GEORGIA
1885
Reproduction copy.

THE KEOWEE TRAIL/A HISTORICAL PAGEANT
1921
ORIGINAL document.

Copies of this work were probably in some degree of circulation in this area from the time of publication until the early 1900s. It is works such as this that account for much of the incorrect information about this part of South Carolina.

By way of note, Simms date for settlement in Greenville County (1766) probably misses the mark by about two years. 1768 is probably closer to correct. However, and even in the case of the fringes of Greenville County, we are only talking about some few people. Simms remarks about settlement in this area starting in 1750 are ridiculous. (See Seaborn's edited travel accounts, etc.)

I really did not make an intense study of Simm's History of South Carolina.

I did read enough of this work to discover that Simm's use of the Alligator Clan in his work on Jocassee is derived from work which he did regarding a sloop used (in the defense of Charleston in 1814) against the British. The sloop was named "Alligator".

[Notes: In seeking a copy of the map used in Simms's *Geography of South Carolina-1843* (a work which was to accompany his *History of South Carolina* which had been previously released), I found the following materials in the *Geography*. Please use these materials with the greatest of caution. Simms was noted for his extensive correspondence, which was undoubtedly the source of some of the materials presented in the following selection.]

[p.117]

PENDLETON DISTRICT

PICKENS AND ANDERSON

The settlement of PENDLETON was slow from 1750 to 1763. [This is a particularly interesting statement. Besides the fact that this information is totally wrong, the information supplied on the Greenville District notes that first settlement took place in 1766. This is but one of the statements that makes me believe that Simms was getting portions of his information from correspondents...who probably knew little more about the history of this area than Simms.] From that period colonization went on vigorously. The Cherokee war, which terminated in the cession of all their lands east of the Uncacaya mountains, and the close of the revolutionary struggle, had the farther effect of increasing the population of Pendleton. Prior to these events, the settlers had chiefly been drawn from the frontiers of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland. Until 1798, this district was merged in that of "Ninety-Six." [This statement is not totally correct as the Washington District existed for some seven years before 1791.] It was then erected into an independent judicial district, and received its name in compliment of Judge Pendleton.

Pendleton constitutes the extreme north-west boundary of South Carolina, and is the most mountainous district of the state. It is bounded on the south-west by the rivers Savannah and Tugaloo, which separate it from the state of Georgia.; on the north-west by the Chatuga, which also divides it from Georgia; and on the north by North Carolina; on the north-east by the Saluda river, which separates it from Greenville; and south-east by Abbeville district. The average length of Pendleton is fifty-one miles; breadth thirty-six. It contains about 1,175,040 square acres; being, in point of size, the third district of the state.

The face of the country is rolling and agreeably diversified, or mountainous and highly picturesque. The soil is various, bottomed mostly on red clay, and susceptible of great use in cultivation. Along the rivers there are large bodies of rich bottom lands, with interval tracts of pine. The mountain region is the north and west. The south and east are hilly, with gentle slopes, and long

[p.117] vallies and fertile plains. The soil is adapted to the culture of wheat, corn, cotton, barley, oats, hemp, indigo, gentian, ginseng, potatoes, &c. The climate is equal to any in the world; cold a short period, but stimulating; but for the greater part of the year, delightful equally for the traveler and laborer.

The rivers are, the Tugaloo and Seneca (both branches of the Savannah,) the Saluda, Keowee and Chatuga: There are several smaller streams, viz: the Jocassee, the Toxaway, Chatuga, Chauga, Oconee, Estatoe, Rocky, Oolenoe, and numerous creeks, under the various names of Big and Little Generositee, Little river, Cane, White Water, Hurricane, Wilson, George's, Brush's, Broad Mouth, and Six, Twelve, Eighteen, Twenty-three and Twenty-six mile creeks. The district is excellently watered. The fish are, shad, cat, perch, such-fish, &c.

The timber trees of the uplands are, oak, (post, red, black and Spanish,) hickory, blackjack, pine and chestnut. On the creeks and rivers are found, the oak, (white and water,) poplar, maple, gum, walnut, (black and white,) cherry, persimmon, beech, &c. The fruits are, the apple, peach, pear, plum, cherry, quince, and some varieties of grape. The birds and game are such as are to be found in the upper district, and are numerous. The wood-pecker migrates north in September and re-appears in spring.

The mountains of Pendleton are numerous and stupendous. Rocks of granite and gneiss abound. Beds of primitive limestone are discovered. The minerals are, iron, yellow ochre, pyrites, plumbago, kaolin, talc, asbestos, quartz, crystals, &c. The mountains yield a thousand objects of the picturesque for the delight of the curious: mountains of various shapes, bulk and height; streams of tumbling water; glens, and vallies, and walls calculated to please and amaze the spectator. The Table rock is said to be one of the greatest curiosities of its class in the world. It rears an almost perpendicular wall of solid granite, upwards of a thousand feet from the plain. Its sides are fluted by the constant attrition of descending [p.118] waters, which glow in the sunbeams like a belt of brilliants. Three sides of this mountain are inaccessible, and five cascades may be seen, at the same moment, struggling over the rocks at its feet. The sides of these streams are completely enclosed by a verdant hedge of branch and foliage. The ascent to the top is a difficult labor. Its summit is clothed with a delightful shade of trees and shrubbery. The flat surface on its top is about a mile square. The Giant's Stool is the name of a smaller rock, which stands in proper relation to his Table. A cedar-tree, at the extremity of the mountain elevation, is the usual limit of the explorer's progress. From this point the view is immeasurably grand and beautiful. You stand upon a precipice abruptly down, of one thousand one hundred feet. The eyes takes in a vast extent of country-mountains and vallies, cultivated spots, and serpentine vallies. The whole district of Greeneville (sic) is spread before the sight. On the north-west is Brown's and

Glassy mountain, the Six Mile mountain, and even the knob in Laurens district. To the east, in York district, King's mountain, famed for Ferguson's defeat, terminates the view. [Simms or whomever must have had better eyesight than any of the rest of us!] The Saluda mountains, Panther's Knob, Ceasar's Head, Dismal, Sassafras, Estatoe, and Oolenoe mountains appear in succession; and to the west, the Currahee mountains rise up, in Georgia, bounding the horizon.

The Sassafras Knob is the highest mountain in South Carolina, being three thousand two hundred feet above the ocean. The Estatoe river, which waters the beautiful valley of the same name, rises in its bosom. The Jocassee valley has been sung by native poets. [Simms is perhaps speaking of himself!] It is celebrated for its romantic beauties, its rich vallies and sparkling waterfalls. There are two splendid cascades at the head of the Jocassee valley; that of Whtiewater, and that of the main arm of Jocassee river, which, for elevation, exceeds that of Niagara. A stream called the "Devil's Fork," from the depth of its glens and the tangled gloom of its thickets, enters the valley and finds its way into the Jocassee river. The Toxaway is another lovely stream, full of similarly picturesque beau-
[p.119] ties. But the whole of the region is of a character to reward the traveler who looks for the beautiful in nature. The scenery of Switzerland does not surpass it in grace or grandeur. [You can tell that Simms had never been to Switzerland.]

The population of Pendleton, by the census of 1840, is 32,849. Of these, 24,451 are free, and 8,398 are slaves. Pendleton is entitled, in the state legislature, to one senator and seven representatives. For judical purposes, the district has been divided into two parts, Pickens and Anderson. [Simms is somewhat confused on this point as the two areas were divided by more than just judical functions. At the time Simms published this work, Anderson and Pickens districts were completely seperate and the Pendleton District had ceased to exist as a judical area.] Pickens is in the north, and comprehends the mountainous parts of Pendleton. The population of Pickens is 14,356. Of these, 11,641 are free, and 2,755 slaves. Anderson contains a population of 18,493, of whom 12,810 are free, and 5,683 slaves. Anderson is the southern part of Pendleton, with an undulating surface, but not mountainous.

Pickens is the seat of justice for the judicial district of the same name. It lies on the west bank of the Keowee, a small but permanent settlement, with the usual complement of public offices. The dwellings are few. It is one hundred and fourty miles from Columbia and two hundred and sixty from Charleston.

Anderson judicial district has a court town of the same name, which stands near the head waters of the Generositee creek. The buildings, beside the public offices, are few. The settlement is still small. The village is one hundred and

fourteen miles from Columbia and two hundred and thirty-four from Charleston. There are several villages in both these sections; but they are of small size and population. In Pickens there are, Pulaski, Pumpkintown and Pickensville; in Anderson Rick Mills, Centreville and Andersonville. [It seems obvious that Simms was getting this information off of the 1826 Mill's Map of the Pendleton District.]

The length of Pickens is forty-two miles; breadth, twenty-five. It contains 660,000 acres. [This figure is closer to the amount of land that was in the District before the Indians ceded their land in 1816...who knows where Simms got such a figure.] Anderson is twenty-nine miles long, twenty-seven broad, and contains 500,000 acres.

Pendleton, the ancient capital of the district, is pleasantly situated near the waters of Eighteen Mile creek, a branch of the Seneca. It contains a splendid Court [p.120] House building [Simms is undoubtedly talking about the Farmer's Society Hall. Research into the Mill's courthouses reveals that the Farmer's Society Hall is more than likely NOT the unfinished Courthouse that had been sold to the Society when the Pendleton District was divided], a Jail, two houses of public worship, an Academy, a newspaper and printing office, a public Library and an Agricultural Society; several fine dwellings and about three hundred inhabitants. The village is a particularly pleasant one, and is still a favorite place of resort. The scenery in its neighborhood (sic) is very interesting. A beautiful view of the mountains bounding the horizon to the north, is obtained from it; a glimpse of the valley Jocassee, the Table mountain, and beyond it, the towering summits of Sassafras or mount Estatoe. [Anyone who knows Pendleton well knows that a good view of the mountains is difficult to obtain without being high on the barn next to Hunter's Store. A view of the Jocassee Valley is highly questionable.] Pendleton, as a summer residence, is doubly attractive from its salubrious climate and enlightened society. [This is a slightly misleading statement in that most of the residents of Pendleton were year round residents until the late fall, when some of them went to Charleston and surrounding lowcountry areas for the coldest winter months.]

Education in Pendleton has been gradually and constantly advancing. Her citizens are generally well informed; many of them highly so. [Simms does not mention that many of them are "less than informed and educated."] Two thousand dollars are appropriated annually by the state to the support of the free schools of the district. The most numerous religious sects are, the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and Episcopalian. [This list is certainly not going from highest to lowest in terms of membership in the 1840s.]

Agriculture is the chief occupation of the people. Charleston and Hamburg are the principal markets. [This statement is highly debatable is you use the 1840s as the time Simms is talking about.] There are some small manufacturing (sic) establishments. Wine has been made, of good quality.

Rifles have been manufactured. Centreville was established as a manufacturing village; but the most important labors of this kind are purely for domestic purposes. A beautiful porcelain clay has been found on the Keowee.

Pendleton has given to the state some very distinguished men; among them, generals Pickens and Anderson. The former is the well known partisan warrior, famous equally in warfare with the British and Indians. General Anderson distinguished himself at Cowpens and other places. In this district also lived captain John Lynch, supposed to have originated the notorious frontier law which still bears his name. [I have questioned this statement highly in the past...as many other places in the United States claim a Lynch who started this horrible custom. Even so, one authoritative person assures me that some research does in fact trace the Lynch of the Lynch "Law" (as it is called) to this area.]

This district has been the scene of frequent conflict. The Cherokee Indians were its occupants at the first coming of our ancestors. [This line indicates that at least some of the information in this text was probably supplied to Simms by a correspondent.] They were a numerous people. Their names are more generally and more properly pre-[p.121] served in this than in any other district of the state. The remains of their settlements are still frequently to be seen. [This line is probably rubbish. Most of the early Indian settlements were plowed fields even by the early 1830s.] Among these are, Keowee, old and new; Seneca, on the river of that name; Chaugée, on the Chauga creek; Oconee, Estatoe, Quacoratchie, Tugaloo, Noyauwee and Chickaree. [Simms is probably getting this information off of old maps.] The Jocassee, is the sweet Indian name for as sweet a region; besides these, there are names of river-the Toxaway, Cheochee, Isundiga, Dolence, Keshawee, Generositee, and many others.

The Cherokees were frequently in arms against the white settlers, and as frequently defeated. They received a terrible defeat from the Carolinians under colonel Grant, and another from general Pickens; for the particulars of which see History of South Carolina. [I was unable to find any particular reference to Gen. Pickens and the Cherokees in Simm's *History of South Carolina*.] Fort Prince George, famous for sanguinary events, stood in this district, on the left bank of the Keowee. Near the town of Etchoe, colonel Grant obtained his victory over the Cherokees in 1761.