

## NEWSNOTES OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: January 20, 1993

Congratulations to Julia Jean Woodson and Anne Sheriff on their recent publication on the railroad town of **Liberty, S. C.** It has been well received by the citizens of Liberty and its surrounding area.

Oddly, Greenville County has few railroad towns. Although Dr. A. V. Huff has recently completed writing a **history of Greenville County**, it probably will not appear in print for at least a year. Jean Martin Flynn is in the process of completing a work on **Taylor**, one of the Greenville railroad towns. Again, it will be over a year before this work appears in print. I am unaware of anyone doing any major work on Greer (which straddles the line between Greenville and Spartanburg counties).

Probably the next area publication to appear will be a book on **Salem, S. C.** Another well researched work on the mountainous area of South Carolina, a large work on northern Greenville County by Mann Batson, will perhaps be published by 1994.

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As stupid as some might suspect me of being, I am aware that 9 out of ten persons entering the Archives and 7 out of 10 entering the Caroliniana are seeking family data. I also realize that some of the OCHS membership would love to wake up on day to discover our publications loaded with interesting genealogical data. Those seeking to satisfy their addiction for this type of information and having an interest in parts of Cherokee, York, Union, and Chester counties are in luck. Read the section discussing the **Broad River Basin Historical Society**.

Work on **Col. Benjamin Cleveland** is progressing -- and is being done by more than one researcher. See section below on Benjamin Cleveland.

A graduate student contacted me about a year ago about plotting the **Cherokee Path** using satellite mapping. Recently I heard from her again. The project is continuing and will hopefully be completed by spring 93.

Dr. W. J. Megginson will be with us for the next six to nine months to hopefully complete his research on both the town of **Calhoun** (now much of **Clemson**) and **black heritage, history, and culture** in a select area of far northwestern South Carolina.

I truly enjoy a good book, and two of the **books** described herein are wonderful. Another mentioned in greater detail represents one method of presenting a county history. Yet another publication mentioned is of considerable value to many genealogical researchers. Books discussed:

*The Promise of the New South: Life After Reconstruction*

*The Cherokee People: The Story of the Cherokees from Earliest Origins to Contemporary Times*

*The History of Newberry County: 1860 -- 1990.*

*Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files. 3 vols.*

This newsletter's last section entitled VENTING A BIT OF FRUSTRATION also provides some information about the **Backcountry Study Group** an upcoming event that will be of considerable interest to persons interested in **shape note singing** and "old time" fiddle playing.

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## **COMPLAINTS DEPARTMENT/ and a few other things of interest:**

"The" person who has complained in the past that too little was being published in the form of newsletters and Journal articles has struck again. The most recently received communication at least did not demand that materials be issued at specific times of the year. In truth, I have few excuses to offer other than stating that I am busy on other projects (BOOKS, answering some inquiries, and promoting new research initiatives). I also must confess that I am developing a certain kinship to far too many researchers who simply do not know when it time to wrap something up and publish -- there is always another little fact out there in the bushes just waiting to be discovered.

AND Please remember that I have been waiting for a number of years for MOST of the membership to contribute articles about most anything, including bits of area folklore, grocery shopping lists, a list of books in their collections (Oconee or Pickens county Residents ONLY), memoir accounts of events that have happened in Oconee or Pickens counties, etc. Since it seems that much of our membership is getting over writing a book, is writing a book, or is planning to write their first book or another book, not many people are available to produce the smaller things. Even so, I cannot stress how important it is to preserve information about the twentieth century. Whatever happened prior to 1900 is only going to be available in the paper trail that was left behind, but there is plenty of information about the twentieth century floating around in the heads of many of our membership and other folk living in the area. PLEASE, PLEASE write up something about your knowledge of twentieth century happenings and events that will not surface a hundred years from now in the newspapers, census records, and the like. South Carolinians keeping a diary in the twentieth century are going to be heroes to twenty-first century historians doing research on the years from 1901-2000.

\*\*\* I noticed the other day that the Walhalla Steak House (the name this restaurant serving country-style food has carried for years) has a reasonable size meeting room. Since we have worked ourselves silly producing area history for over half a decade, it might be nice to have a dinner meeting with a speaker starting about five-thirty some Friday or Saturday evening. Anyone

thinking this to be a good idea and willing to take responsibility for arrangements, or a speaker, or press notices is invited to make themselves known.

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## THE BROAD RIVER BASIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

I recently received information about a group in western York, Cherokee, upper Union and Chester counties that term themselves the Broad River Basin Historical Society. They seem like a good bunch of folk, their president is certainly a nice fellow, and they put out an interesting quarterly publication of about twenty pages in length. In truth, the material found in their publication is the type of information that some of the Oconee County Historical Society membership would probably prefer to receive: short articles, brief church histories, information from family bibles, lists of soldiers, reprints of newspaper articles that provide readers with a number of individuals' names, and a variety of other items. The publication is a genealogist's delight and fun to read. Before anyone becomes excited because they think the publications of the Oconee County Historical Society will adopt this format, please be aware that it would take a lot of members willing to seek out and submit these types of materials.

I may join their group because I truly enjoyed their materials. BUT, the general history of the upper Piedmont from the town of Spartanburg east to the Catawba River is presumably on a much firmer footing than the history of far-northwestern South Carolina. Such important scholars as Charles Hudson, Robert L. Meriwether, Lacy Ford, and David Carlton have devoted considerable attention to that part of the state and effectively provided the folk living there with several hundred thousand dollars worth of free research. Phrased a bit differently, I feel like the Broad River folk have the luxury of printing a variety of materials because they have not had to engage the extensive sort of research required to make some sense of the history of their area.

Membership in the Broad River Basin Historical Society can be obtained from Jerry West / 7457 Lockhart Road / Sharon SC 29742. The cost is currently \$15.00 a year -- the same as membership cost in the Greenville County Historical Society. In my opinion (a polite way of saying that the following is a FACT), the information found in the Broad River Basin Quarterly is a considerably better buy for \$15.00 than what is currently produced in the publications of the Greenville Society. (NOTE: there is some hope that the Greenville publication will possibly improve in the future if they decide to accept articles from a variety of researchers instead of only printing the written versions of presentations made at their meetings.)

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## COLONEL BENJAMIN CLEVELAND:

Anthony Wise, a graduate student at Wake Forest University pursuing a M.A. degree, is planning to finish writing the first draft of his research on Benjamin

**Cleveland** by the end of January. Rewriting then follows until approved by his advisor and committee. All things going well, copies of his work should be in the hands of the staff of the Oconee Library system and a few other South Carolina Libraries by mid-summer, 1993.

Though I had known about Mr. Wise's work for months, I was surprised in mid-January when a Mr. Stephen Addison of Cleveland, Tennessee, inquired about some information pertaining to Cleveland, S. C. (a community in northern Greenville County). Mr. Addison has completed, excepting a few details, a biography of Cleveland and is preparing it for press.

As I foresee events, we should have two works on Benjamin Cleveland appearing at approximately the same time! Poor Ben has suffered from a mild degree of neglect for nearly 200 years, but he certainly is popular these days.

(Persons with a sense of humor might stop in Wilkesboro, N. C., and see the almost comic statue of Cleveland created sometime in the last 50 years by some Wilkesboro area art students. Poor squat Ben is standing there in concrete poured into a chicken wire frame with the toes of his booties pointing up like a medieval court jester, one hand slinging a sword to the heavens and the other holding what I suspect is a horn to call the troops. I do not suspect that the Colonel would be terribly pleased with his image!)

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## **A BOOK FOR ANYONE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY OF THE NEW SOUTH:**

For the **librarians** who read this newsletter seeking possible new titles to acquire: the following work deserves your serious consideration!

No major Southern history study has delighted me as much in years as the recently published *The Promise of the New South: Life After Reconstruction* by Edward L. Ayers (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992). I find reading it to be akin to finding a shopping mall full of fascinating shops that sell the goods I had only thought about, or else found in limited quantity and generally lesser quality. Fifteen chapters with 438 pages provide wonderful detail about, and explanation of, life in the South from the mid 1870s through the early 1900s. I could go on and on chattering away about this book, but instead I will simply suggest that the \$30.00 I spent to acquire this publication has rewarded me with many dollars worth of delights. This book is just wonderful!

But be aware that the book is not about Oconee or Pickens counties or northwest South Carolina, the upper piedmont, or South Carolina -- it is about the entire southland. Some of the examples he uses may apply to northwest South Carolina or the upper piedmont, others may not. But if you want to know when toys for children replaced raisins and oranges at Christmas, or when toilet paper came into use, and information about a thousand other subjects -- most more serious than Christmas customs and toilet paper -- presented in short

readable sections that could keep you entertained for months, buy it now and thank me for suggesting it when you finish reading.

[Persons with an interest in the time period discussed by Ayers may also wish to examine I. A. Newby's *Plain Folk in the New South: Social Change and Cultural Persistence 1880-1915* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1989). Broken into five major components (Background of the Plain Folk, Mill Work, Village Life, Cultural Persistence and Social Change, and Class Themes), the book details sharecroppers and mill workers. While not nearly so entertaining as *The Promise of the New South: Life After Reconstruction*<sup>1</sup> remains an important work for understanding the south that emerged in the late 1800's.]

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## **FOR CHEROKEE DEVOTEES:**

In 1972, Thomas Mails' *Warriors of the Plains* was released; over 200,000 copies in various editions are now in circulation. Mails' new (and long awaited) book entitled *The Cherokee People: The Story of the Cherokees from Earliest Origins to Contemporary Times* is a delight! Mails is not the most brilliant of Native American scholars, but he excels in his use and interpretation of materials that have not been fully utilized by others (particularly the John Howard Payne Papers housed at the Newberry Library), in his ability to relate and explain events, and in his hand done illustrations that give extra meaning and that add color to his narrative. While Mail's drawing are perhaps not accurate down to the last feather of the outfits worn by Ancient Cherokees (a term he seems to use for the Cherokee prior to about 1725), he brings to life a vibrant society full of complex myth and provides sufficient detail to make one feel as if he is participating in some of the described events. The serious student of the Cherokee will find some errors (which are possibly typographical errors in some instances) scattered in the text. But it must be recalled that Mails is not attempting to be the foremost Cherokee scholar -- he is attempting to share with the reader something of Cherokee life from Ancient times through the present. He succeeds admirably! A bad thing about this otherwise delightful book is the price: \$49.95.

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## **FINALLY, THE SECOND VOLUME OF TOM POPE'S NEWBERRY COUNTY HISTORY -- AND SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT WHAT A COUNTY HISTORY SHOULD BE:**

Recently, the Reverend George B. Shealy graciously loaned me his newly obtained copy of Thomas H. Pope's second volume of *The History of Newberry County: 1860 -- 1990*. Pope obtained some notoriety with the publication in 1973 of a volume entitled *The History of Newberry County: 1749 -- 1860*. This work carefully guided the reader through some of the complexities of both colonial, Revolutionary, and antebellum history, as well as serving as a valuable genealogical reference tool. In the second volume, Pope provides about 110 pages of information about the years following the Civil War, much of the material being an overview of state and national history with specific related

examples from the Newberry County area. The remainder of the volume (hundreds of pages) is concerned with a variety of special topics such as education, dentists, churches, and the like. I believe that Pope has managed to name everyone in Newberry County of any prominence, or near prominence, whatsoever, and those persons' wife(s), children, and grandchildren. About the only thing left out are the zip code and telephone numbers for all named individuals who are still alive. Quite honestly, I could not think of anyone that I have ever known, or even ever heard of, in Newberry County that was not listed in the fifty-six page index.

I am perfectly aware that Pope's second volume may be many people's ideal of what a county history should be; I rather suspect that the folk in Newberry County are completely enthralled with this publication; and I have reason to believe that a number of copies will be sold (at \$40 a copy). But is Pope's second volume the sort of history that might be desired for areas of northwestern South Carolina? I would quickly opine that it is not, although there are certainly numbers of people who would disagree.

MY OWN IDEAS OF WHAT A COUNTY HISTORY SHOULD BE ARE CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENT FROM THE WORK OF MR POPE:

A county history should provide a context for the lives of the individuals who lived within a specific area -- without really naming every single living and dead person. Why do so many county histories include a list of war veterans rather than or a list of the county's deer hunters? The reason is because such lists are sometimes available, because writers tend to think such listings to be the proper thing to talk about, and because war service information helps to sell books. BUT, I am unaware of many such listings of solders participating in real battles past the Revolutionary War years that in themselves help to tell much about a particular South Carolina county.

I believe that a county history should provide an overview of notable events that have affected the area as well as information about notable events within a county boundaries that have affected surrounding areas and perhaps even the state or nation. Unfortunately (or fortunately, depending upon your viewpoint), few places in South Carolina have played such a prominent role in state and national life as Charleston -- in particular the city of Charleston -- and most counties are as much affected by events happening elsewhere as by the events within the county.

A county history should tell something about the way in which poor, middle income, and well-to-do individuals were born, lived, and died -- the types of shelters in which they lived and the way they used the space within their dwellings, and the ways they celebrated life and the ways they mourned (or celebrated) death. Such a publication should include notable health problems experienced by the population at large, the activities that occupied people's daily existence, the ways in which individuals performed their work, and the respites from their daily and often repetitious tasks.

Certainly an examination of the economic impacts upon a particular area are important and deserve consideration. But, political happenings, an overworked theme of South Carolina historians, is probably not as important on the county level for many time periods as many writers would induce us believe. (I continue to take the position that Reconstruction history is one facet of political history that does deserve considerable attention.) In effect, a complete political history of any given county would probably provide a mass of little consulted detail.

Lastly, a county history should, when possible, attempt to convey something of the thoughts of the individuals who occupied an area.

## DOES OCONEE OR PICKENS COUNTY REALLY NEED A COUNTY HISTORY?

Admittedly, a work such as Pope's would be a delight for many types of researchers -- including just plain busybodies. Certainly it would be the sort of thing that school teachers and librarians could point to quickly as a research tool (or as a way of simply getting rid of a pesky patron). Genealogists would either find something that wanted in a work such as Pope's, or they would walk away from it muttering over the errors or omissions. No matter what use people might make of such works -- even volumes so large as Pope's -- they never contain all the information that curious minds might wish to know.

I would suggest in lieu of a county history for Oconee or Pickens counties that regional studies would be of considerably greater value. For example, an antebellum study of present-day Oconee, Pickens, Anderson, and Greenville counties would far more valuable because such a work could use the variety of examples that would surface from the examination of a broader area. A study of all railroad towns along the Southern line in South Carolina would provide information that would never emerge from doing work on a few railroad towns in a single county. A study of Reconstruction as concerns only Oconee and Pickens counties would be far more valuable than simply recanting the events within the confines of a specific area. A yet broader study of Reconstruction that would also encompass Greenville and Anderson counties would perhaps be even more illuminating. Many issues cannot be studied within the confines of a single county's boundaries. For example: the idea of doing a major study for publication of Revolutionary War events in far-northwestern South Carolina and confining it to a single county would be absurd!

Perhaps some of the above proposed studies are simply beyond the abilities of our membership because of time constraints, the cost of such projects, the lack of convenient access to major archival holdings, and perhaps the lack of ability to produce the sort of analytical studies required. And I rather suspect that a study of the railroad towns as a group might benefit from the observations of a detached researcher who has not previously worked with any aspect of the railroad towns.

While we await people to do regional studies on some of the subjects already noted, it is wonderful that our membership continue to produce the many specialized studies -- such as the books on the towns, churches, schools, and communities -- that will ultimately serve as the building blocks of larger studies. It is within these books that biographical data and family connections, such as found in Pope's work on Newberry County, have a happy and even relevant home.

At one time in my life, I thought a county history one of the ultimate achievements of a county historical society. Obviously, I now think differently.

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## **FOR THOSE SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT THE RELATIVES OF REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS:**

*Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*, 3 vols. plus a just released one volume index (Waynesboro, Tennessee: National Historical Publishing Company, 1990) will prove a useful tool for a variety of researchers. For those who are not aware, the pension applications of Revolutionary War Soldiers comprise some 2300 rolls of microfilm; the names are found in alphabetical order. The only holding in South Carolina of this extensive collection is at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The pension records are fascinating and contain a wealth of useful and important information. *Genealogical Abstracts...* provides only select data from each record. An example follows:

FILES, Jeremiah, S13025 [the Pension #], SC Line, sol lived in Abbeville Distr SC at enl, appl 4 Feb 1833 Blount Co AL aged 68, sol had rec'd a pension from the state of SC because of disability incurred in srv.

Even though the above information is hardly what I personally want to know about Jeremiah Files -- the abstract is CERTAINLY not the fascinating accounting of his interesting activities during the war that is to be found within the actual pension record -- it does at least alert me to the fact that a record for Jeremiah Files is part of the Pension Records on microfilm. Otherwise, I might have spent an entire day and made a long trip only to discover that the person about whom I sought information was not on the microfilm.

The Greenville Public Library has the three volumes of abstracts at 973.34 (currently found in the wall cabinets of the South Carolina reading room where more recently acquired books are displayed). I do not know if the Library has the one volume index on order. Though well worth the money, I hesitate to quote a price for the set because someone might faint. Seriously, the set (index and the 4014 pages of abstracts) is so expensive that only those with a major interest in pension records (or those with PLENTY of money) might consider purchasing copies for personal use. Anyone wishing to inquire about the price



may address the National Historical Publishing Company at 209 Greeson Hollow Road/ PO BOX 539/ Waynesboro TENN 38485.

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## VENTING A BIT OF FRUSTRATION:

A few days ago, when I received the most recent copy of the South Carolina Historical Magazine, I got right "ticked." Of the 73 pages of articles, 29 pps. were devoted to an article on the Seal of the City of Charleston. Another 6 pps. were about Charleston Versus the Royal Navy. Yet another 3 pps. were about a ship named *Prosper* from Charleston. An additional 10 pps were about a poem written about the Sampit river near Georgetown. And another 9 pps. were about the Performances of the Russian Ballet in South Carolina (meaning Columbia and Charleston) in 1912, 1916, and 1922. Fortunately, 20% of the article pages (or 16 pps.) on Southern Loyalists in the Caribbean and Central America did discuss a few other places in the state and some places in other countries.

I am aware that the majority of support for the South Carolina Historical Society comes from the lowcountry area of South Carolina, and I suppose that fact entitles those folk to a lot of materials of particular interest to them. BUT, the South Carolina Historical Society certainly is not a statewide historical society as it purports to be! Were it not for two articles written by Tracy Power of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History and the book reviews Stephen Hoffius puts in the *Carologue*, the upcountry of South Carolina would have been sorely represented in the 1992 articles appearing in the various issues of the publication.

Fortunately, a group has been formed called the **Backcountry Study Group**. In time and with some luck, it may develop into an organization which better represents the interests of the folk north of Statesburg, S. C., and west of Statesville, N. C. In early June of 1993, the Backcountry Study Group will sponsor in Gaffney, S. C., a lecture on Southern music traditions on a Friday evening, and a day long series of events exploring Southern Music traditions -- particularly shape note singing -- on a Saturday. A journal with a number of the papers presented at the meeting will appear some six to eight months after the meeting.

Please contact F. C. Holder at 159 Dodd Farm Road/ Seneca, S. C. 29678-9681 if you desire to know more about the activities and events of the Backcountry Study Group.

NEWSNOTES OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:  
March 22, 1993

In the last newsletter was found the following: Fortunately, a group has been formed called the **Backcountry Studies Group**. In time and with some luck, it may develop into an organization which better represents the interests of the folk north of Statesburg, S. C., and west of Statesville, N. C. In early June of 1993, the Backcountry Study Group will sponsor in Gaffney, S. C., a lecture on Southern music traditions on a Friday evening, and a day long series of events exploring Southern Music traditions -- particularly shape note singing -- on a Saturday. A journal with a number of the papers presented at the meeting will appear some six to eight months after the meeting.

Having now received a few inquiries about the organization, a bit more information might prove useful. Over a year ago, a small group, **The Carolina Backcountry Studies Group**, began exploration of a possible organization that would investigate many facets of several counties in North Carolina and South Carolina. A workshop was held in North Carolina last spring and the results of that workshop (in effect, the papers presented on Native Americans, early ironworks, and other materials) will be published in late spring of 1993. The area of the backcountry now proposed for examination has now spread to cover many other counties (including Oconee and Pickens).

I have been watching the growth of the organization carefully because it has considerable benefits to offer if properly developed. Recent conversation among some members has centered on the idea of publishing a Journal to compliment and supplement the yearly Papers and Proceedings. Expressed differently, the yearly workshop is rather specialized, and some feel that a journal is needed to allow a number of different voices to speak on a variety of subjects. Interestingly, virtually all the historical societies in the entire upper Piedmont, excepting Pickens and Spartanburg, are now publishing a reasonable amount of material on a yearly basis, as are the various genealogical groups. The Oconee County Historical Society publications partially serve many of those in Pickens County seriously interested in area history, and Spartanburg is considering a publication effort. The purpose of a journal for a larger area, the Carolinas Backcountry, is to provide a place for articles that would have more than strictly local interest. For example, an article about roads and trails might well cover several counties in the two states, an article about early life in the backcountry might cover a very large area, and a well prepared article on a town such a Greenville would show its importance to a geographical area extending beyond the Greenville County boundary lines. I have suggested in past newsletters that much is to gained from a study of more than a single small area. The publications of the Carolina Backcountry Studies Group may ultimately be the vehicle that will expand our knowledge of a broad and often interconnected area. For those wishing to join the organization, a membership form is at the end of this newsletter.

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LECTURE: At 2:00 P. M. on Tuesday, March 30th, at the Ramada Inn in Clemson on Hwy. 123, W. J. Megginson will present a lecture on the town of Calhoun from 1890-1910. (Calhoun now that comprises part of Clemson.) Four years ago, at the Clemson Presbyterian Church to an overflow crowd, he presented this same lecture/slide presentation; it was excellent and greatly enjoyed by all attending. The repeat lecture is sponsored by Tri-County Technical College. A \$10.00 fee will be charged.at the door for the lecture and the accompanying reception.

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PRESENTATION OF PAPERS: The yearly meeting of the South Carolina Archaeological Society will be held in Columbia on April 3, 1993. Carol Cowan-Ricks of Clemson appears to be the only up-state presenter as well as only presenter dealing with an up-state topic. (NOTE: Ms. Cowan-Ricks will present a related lecture entitled "Historical Archaeological Research Goals: Pre-Emancipation African American Cemeteries and Graveyards" on Monday, April 12th, at 4:30-5:30 P.M. in room 200 of Hardin Hall at Clemson University. FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT MET OR PREVIOUSLY HEARD COWAN-RICKS--DON'T MISS HER!)

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LECTURE SERIES: The Department of Historic Houses at Clemson University will present a series of lectures in late March and through April under the general title: "Lifestyles of the 19th Century Calhouns and Clemsons." A brochure describing the series is enclosed.

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One of our members commented about the information included along with the list of area books in print. He suggested mention that typescripts of select records pertaining to Oconee County--even when it was part of the Pickens District, and earlier the Pendleton District and Pendleton County--are available at the Oconee County Courthouse. Having just done as much, some warning about the use of these records needs to follow. In doing work about Old Pickens on the Keowee, Peggy Rich and I encountered difficulties in correlating our daily collected data. She was working with the typescripts in the Oconee Courthouse, and I was working with the original deeds in the Pickens Courthouse. We discovered that the typed transcripts of the deeds contained a number of typographical and other types of errors. Though the typed transcripts of the deeds may well serve the needs of many researchers, those doing serious work and wanting to be assured of the accuracy of their materials should consult the original documents. The original deed books for the Pickens District are now available at the Pickens Courthouse in condensed format volumes that were produced from microfilm of the original records. These light weight books are a blessing for those who still have memory of lugging around the heavy originals. Unfortunately, they are a bit harder to read in condensed format: take along a magnifying glass!

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## NEWSNOTES OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: June 8, 1993

IMPORTANT LECTURE ON JUNE 16-Wednesday night-7:30 P.M. at South Carolina National Bank in Clemson, S. C.: Mr. David George of Laurens will be speaking about the Cherokee Path (locally called the Keowee Trail). George wrote a notable article about the trail for the *South Carolina Historical Magazine*. In the article, he virtually proved that the origin of the name 96 originated in the crossing of one creek nine (9) times and another creek six (6) times while traveling the original trail course. Those interested in the colonial history of northwestern South Carolina will wish to attend this lecture sponsored by the Pendleton District Chapter of the SC Genealogical Society. (The SCN bank--a two story building with white columns--is located on the left along Hwy. 123 shortly after crossing the Seneca River into Pickens County. Use the side entrance to the building, go down a short hall, and take the elevator to the second floor. Parking is available in front and side of the building, and in a nearby employees parking lot.)

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A DIARY FROM THE PICKETT POST COMMUNITY WRITTEN DURING THE LATE 1800S: Sarah Kellar has published *Jane Massey's Journal 1897 - 1900: A personal diary of Jane Duncan Massey in Oconee County, South Carolina*. Jane nee Duncan Todd Massey (1841-1905) recorded in short entries the day to day affairs of her farm life in a rural community near Walhalla. Sample entries follow:

Friday, June 25, 1897:

Very warm, no [,] that is not so. It is real hot, hot weather, but [I] just hoe corn and cotton. Mr. Garrison Green at Oconee Station was bitten by a rattlesnake and may die yet [,] we hear. (p. 28)

Friday, August 4, 1899: Clear and oh, hot, hot, sultry. Sam to school, Janie to Pleasant Ridge meeting and I.O.U.G. The weather is too hot for me and dinner to cook and grape jelly to make, perspiration without hesitation. Wish I had me a cool, brick-walled cellar so I could rest and cool and hide away from those tormentable flies. Good mind to run away and stay gone. O no, I won't run away, for at home is where I like to stay, to stay, to stay. (p. 157)

Ms. Kellar is now working on other family diaries and papers. While we wait for her next effort, the diary of Jane Duncan Massey (198 pages, paperback) may be ordered, \$8.50 (includes postage and handling) from

ordered for

Sara Hunter Kellar  
3736 Chiara Drive  
Titusville, Florida 32796

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Mr. L. Anthony Wise's has completed his M.A. thesis on Col. Benjamin Cleveland: the study is entitled "Frontier Leadership and Transition: Benjamin Cleveland and The North and South Carolina Backcountry, 1777 - 1806." Mr. Wise portrays Cleveland as a natural leader who dealt effectively with social disorder on the frontiers of both North Carolina and South Carolina. Hopefully, copies can be obtained for the Oconee County Library system and few of the major libraries within South Carolina.

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TWO MAJOR, NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST TO STUDENTS OF NATIVE AMERICANS ARE NOW AVAILABLE:

Kathryn E. Holland Braund's *Deekskins & Duffels: Creek Indian Trade with Anglo-America, 1685-1815* is good reading from beginning to end-- and a good introduction to the study of the Creek. (about \$38.00 from University of Nebraska Press)

Tom Hatley's *The Dividing Paths: Cherokees and South Carolinians through the Era of Revolution* is an attempt to view the relationship of the Cherokees and South Carolinians from 1670-1776. The book offers interesting material and many thought provoking sections for the well-informed Cherokee student (in effect: those who will quickly recognize when Dr. Hatley goes off into speculation rather than statement of fact). For those only beginning to explore the Cherokee, the book should perhaps be avoided until their knowledge of the subject is considerably advanced. (about \$45.00 from Oxford University Press)

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VOLUMES OF THE *TUGALOO TRIBUNE* RECENTLY SURFACED AND WERE GIVEN TO THE SOCIETY. Without so much as a second thought, I sent them untouched and unexamined to the South Caroliniana Library, where they will be microfilmed. After microfilming, they will be examined volume by volume to determine if researchers can use any of the physical papers (hardcopy, as it is called).

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Lastly: I find myself getting increasingly behind in many of my traditional activities such as journal articles and newsletters. The reason is relatively simple; interest in the upper Piedmont area of South Carolina is growing, and the demands upon the time of other area researchers are increasing. I find that I spend a huge amount of time these days directing people to possible sources, alerting researchers to incorrect data in select books, informing people about newly discovered collections and newly published works, and making sure that published works about this area find their way into major library collections. Hopefully this effort will result in yet more published works about far-northwestern and the upper piedmont of South Carolina. More on the subject of newly discovered collections, particularly the Germans in the Walhalla area, will appear in future publications.

People in the upcountry commonly relate information by giving you a "sense of the thing" under discussion. That they fail to have all the facts correct (or just plain make up some of the "facts") is of little consequence in a world where oral tradition is the common means for transmission of much considered worth knowing. Ben Robertson, most often noted for *Red Hills and Cotton* (19 ), was a master genre writer -- a person extraordinarily gifted in relating the "sense of the thing." That he had an intellectual "blind spot" for the upcountry of South Carolina can be partially forgiven.

When Robertson speaks of a mansion (or mansions) along the Twelve Mile River in the short piece that follows, it must have come as nothing short of a revelation to his relatives who knew anything about the area. His story about the movement southward from Pennsylvania and Virginia of roots and seeds for flower gardens, as well as his claim that the Pickens family planted Crepe Myrtles at the Old Stone Church, and that famous South Carolinians took flowering plants westward in their migrations can be classed as nothing more than speculation. But remember, Robertson was not after the facts, only the "sense of the thing."

Just as some seek to validate themselves through associations with long-dead, carefully selected ancestors, Robertson attempted to articulate his own sense of self-worth through his identification with a geographic region. Though he loved it, he perhaps subconsciously reacted to what he may have considered a lack of cultural heritage. Of more importance, he attempted, albeit unsuccessfully, to create a workable myth of a region of proud people who could successfully retain many traditional values in a changing world.

Admittedly, I have something of a personal vendetta against Robertson. While historians attempt to understand a world of real people and their relationships, he strove to capture images that he loved and hated. The stories Robertson told became to too many people an upcountry history that he and everyone who came before him lived. But yet, there are glimmers of truth in his portrayal of the upcountry. I can remember my great-grandmother's swept sand yard and two-story house with porches on all sides at the very base of the high hills in the Holly Springs community of Pickens County, and the fragrant smell of old varieties of plants in her garden -- and, if not careful, I find myself wanted to agree with Robertson's "sense of the thing."

## PLEASE NOTICE:

I obtained 18 copies of the *Carolina Backcountry Studies 1992 Workshop Proceedings and Additional Papers* for area distribution. Although I am planning to place a single copy in the bookstore in Seneca and the one in Clemson with a selling price of \$12.95, OCHS members may obtain one for **\$11.00**, which includes the postage, during the next month or so (September and October). You need to mail your order blank (on the following page) to

Frederick C. Holder  
PO BOX 444  
Pickens SC 29671-0444

## PLEASE NOTICE:

**BUT PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:**

**HIGH SHOAL HISTORIES**

## Information about the publication:

The publication is the first effort towards a regional publication covering areas of North Carolina and South Carolina.

The issue contains approximately 130 -- 8 1/2 x 11 -- pages.

Most of the issue presents papers discussing two topics:

A.: The Native American Occupation

B.: The Old Iron Industry, with a Glance at Gold

The publication contains a number of pictures, and some maps and diagrams

The Table of Contents lists the following papers and talks delivered at the 1992 meeting of the group and included in the publication:

**Terry Ferguson** on The Geologic Context for Native American Occupation of the Backcountry

**Alan May** on Native American Culture of the South Central Piedmont

**David Moore** on Boundaries: Cultures of the Piedmont and Summit

**Wesley Breedlove** and **Anne McCuen** on Archaeological and Ethnohistorical Evidence of Cherokee Occupation on the Headwaters of Saluda River, South Carolina

**Wenonah George Haire** on Recovering a Heritage: The Catawba Cultural Preservation Project

**Myrtle Johnson** on The Status of the Traditional Cherokee Today: Some Reflections

**Terry Ferguson** on Why a Regional Iron Industry Developed

**Gaither Schrum** on Iron Lore of Lincoln and Thereabouts, With a Glance at Gold

**Dean Ross** on The Cooperville Ironworks in Cherokee County, S. C.

**Terry Ferguson** on A Note on the Decline of the Iron Industry

**Irene Delpino** on the Pearson Memoir and Prehistory in Piedmont Carolina  
and on the Eastern Siouan Prehistory: The Language Window

Also included is:

The Iron Economy: Notes from Contemporaries

and A History Tour with Gaither Schrum (Recorded 1992)

Some of the above persons are professionals in the fields of archaeology and anthropology or linguistics, others are local historians or amateur archaeologists, and yet others are merely representing particular Native American groups. The quality of the articles vary. Although I would not quote the History Tour of Lincoln County by Gaither Schrum in a research paper, it is enjoyable reading.

---

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Dr. Delpino, Ms. Hendrix, Ms. McCuen, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Ward, Mr. West, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Sheriff

A continued discussion of the frontier in three states (NC, SC, GA) from 1767-1795/99:

---

(JERRY / SAM -- see comments on pps. 7-8)

(RAY -- see material of interest to you about Rev. John Cleveland on bottom of p. 8)

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I have read, and read, and read, and made **infinitely** more maps than I am sending out to each of you. Before making a few observations, be cautioned that I have a habit of calling the shots as I see them; phrased differently, I am bound -- sooner or later -- to insult somebody's favorite book about a particular section or county. No particular offense is **usually** intended by my remarks, but if it is wrong -- then its wrong.

---

During the time frame under discussion it rather strikes me that N. C. published materials are longgggggggggg on names and often short on presenting just exactly what it was that these people did. I guess that I am suggesting that these books fail to provide a context for the story being told.

In contrast, S. C. published materials seem, on the whole, to present a much clearer (and certainly better documented) concept of what people did within a broader context -- though I should mention that these works often fail to name many of the individuals who participated in the specific activities.

(NOTE: most NC county or regional histories are old, generally outdated, and in need of revision. I could say the same about some of the SC counties. One of the notable differences between the two states is the large amount of genealogical materials published about NC)

At the time when I began writing this material (about 3:00 in the morning), I did not have (and have not since had) enough time to re-examine my Georgia materials to make comments.

---

A few observations from materials examined thus far may prove useful to other researchers: a map by E. M. Moffett's (whoever he is) comes closer than any other map -- at least to any others thus far examined -- to showing the correct Indian cessions in western North Carolina. Even though I question one date used for the Meigs & Freeman Line -- (the date is based on the date of the Treaty of Tellico of October 2, 1798, rather than the survey date of 1802), -- I highly recommend the map. (A copy as presented in George H. Smather's work is enclosed.)

(NOTE: I got slightly mad when I discovered that the map of Cherokee Land Cessions, 1721-1835 was wrong in *Cherokee Renaissance in the New Republic* by William G. McLoughlin, one of my favorite writers on the Cherokee. (I count on McLoughlin to get things RIGHT.) A quick glance made me realize that the map showed land ceded in 1798 by the Cherokee where Buncombe County existed in 1792 -- a slight error!)

George H Smathers (born at Turnpike, N. C. in 1854) was obviously an attorney of some considerable influence in western NC. Smathers, who handled cases before high courts for big corporations and the government, appears to have a firm understanding of land, treaties, and a variety of other issues. His work, *The History of Land Titles in Western North Carolina*, was published in 1938 and reprinted by Arno Press in 1979. For anyone interested in Western NC, I recommend it, even though the writing is a bit dense. In fact, it reads like a lawyer would sound when arguing a case! (NOTE: The Moffett Map was attached inside Smathers' publication.)

The above is of interest because, following the Treaty of Tellico (1798), the state of Georgia, not having a proper survey of certain lands in the northern part of the state, concluded that a twelve mile (north to south) strip (part of lands earlier ceded by SC to the Federal Government, I think?), was Georgia's property. They believed, incorrectly, that the northernmost boundary of this strip was the 35° north latitude and the northernmost boundary of the state. In ca. 1803 (I have not checked the legislative journals of Georgia), Georgia created a county called **Walton**. It included lands on the eastern head-waters of the French Broad river, near the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Supposedly, some fifty families of whites had been in the area for a few years prior to 1798. These residents are said to have petitioned to the United States for annexation to SC "that they might be brought within the protection of the laws of that state." (This suggests that they were from SC.) Ultimately the area -- in what became western Transylvania County (NC) -- ended up being within North Carolina.

NOW to return to the Meigs-Freeman Line: A line was been run in 1798 by a Captain Butler extending from the point from where the Hawkins Line of 1791 suddenly changed into the Pickens Line (in effect, a point along the border between Tennessee and North Carolina divided this perfectly straight line into two segments with different names) to a point where the "southerly branch of Little River [in present Oconee County, SC] crossed the divisional line to Tugaloo River." This line was apparently unacceptable to the War Department because it would have left ten to twelve Indian **villages** within the State of NC. Next, an effort was made in 1802 to run the line to the lower of the Little River branches of the French Broad (in what is now NC, though then probably part of the area claimed by GA). This line would have placed more than one hundred white families within the Indian territory. It was then decided by Meigs to run the line to the upper of the Little River branches of the French Broad -- thereby "not a single white settlement was cut off or intersected, and but five Indian families were left on the Carolina [though claimed by Georgia] side of the line."

What a compromising line for Meigs to select -- once Meigs found the right Little River to fit the needs of all concerned. Indeed, it was fortunate that so many waterways were called Little River, thereby giving him such a broad selection! Some of these 100 +/- white families were probably those along the head-waters of the French Broad in western Transylvania County (NC) in the area that was proclaimed Walton County (GA) in 1803. But some few white families were perhaps also in the northeastern area of what is now Jackson County along Scott's Creek and maybe even along the nearby Soco Creek (both being branches of Tuckaseegee River). The point I am trying to make is simple: the expansion of white settlement in sufficient numbers into areas in the south of western NC in 1798 to enable the term "frontier" to be applied to these areas is rather clearly defined by the Meigs-Freeman line of 1802. (It is one of few boundary lines that so neatly divide whites from Native Americans at any specific time.)

Stated more succinctly: The limits of frontier settlement in in 1798 in the south of Western NC are seemingly defined by the Meigs-Freeman line of 1802.

Some miles to the south of the settlers along the headwaters of the French Broad (that later became part of Walton County (GA) and is now Transylvania County (NC)) is another limit of the frontier in 1798. One documentary account in 1805 tells that the settlement at Eastatoe (northwestern Pickens County SC) was new. In fact, it was a replacement settlement, there having been an earlier white occupation prior to and during 1792 that was destroyed by Indian attack in that year. It is unlikely that there was any white settlement (other than perhaps a single white or possibly a single white or a few mixed blood families) to the immediate west of Eastatoe in the mountainous area of present Oconee County. Hawkins' journals of the 1790s confirms this statement. We know from documentary materials that men were stationed at Oconee Station (in middle, northern Oconee County SC) after 1795 to against white incursions into the Cherokee territory that was only a short distance from this frontier outpost. We also know that Gov. Blount of Tennessee wanted stations manned at Tugaloo and Oconee to decrease the traffic in stolen horses being carried on by the Cherokee between the two states (SC and TENN) -- this being yet additional evidence that the area immediately northwest of Oconee Station was not occupied by domestic white settlers. In effect, we also have the ultimate limit of the frontier in extreme northwestern SC in 1798.

It would be tempting to term some of northern Greenville County (SC) an ultimate limit the frontier in 1798. I am not sure such is possible because a road was cut by 1795 though the northern region that enabled passage of wagons between Greenville (SC) and Knoxville (TENN) in that year. At best, some portion of extreme northwestern Greenville County (SC) might be part of a line that wiggles slightly to the east from the settlement along the French Broad (Transylvania County NC) to the north, and the settlement in the Oolenoy Valley near the Saluda River (the line between Pickens County/Greenville County SC) to the south. More information is needed about the Douthit family (visited by Asbury), other families, and their time of settlement in northwestern Greenville County. (ANNE McC: can you offer any assistance?)

*ANNE McC.*

Ascertaining these "outer" limits is **important** because it allows one to move backward in space and time toward the Catawba River (NC and SC).

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COUNTIES ALONG THE NC/SC BORDER:

Polk County (NC) undoubtedly has errors in their history of the Revolutionary War era. Also dubious is some information presented about the years 1783-1799. Of their cherished battle at Round Mountain with the Indians, Sadie Smathers Patton (a name which bespeaks a notable NC pedigree) in her *Sketches of Polk County History* (1950) says:

Early after the Revolutionary War opened, General Joseph McDowell was stationed at Earle's Fort, with 500 men to furnish protection for the settlements nearby. Maj. James Dunlap, with a force of one hundred English mounted troops, by making a surprise raid on the fort, inflicted considerable loss, compelling Gen. McDowell to retreat to Gilberttown, in Rutherford County. People on the frontier of upper South Carolina and across the line at the Blue Ridge foothills, found that with Royalist forces so close on the front, they were beleaguered between two dangers. (p. 7)

In 1776, probably not a great while before Gen. Rutherford led his men through Hickory Nut Gap in his drive against the Cherokee, several members of the Hannon family were murdered at their home, which was near where Mimosa Inn now stands. (p. 7)

Alarmed at the new atrocities, Capt. Thomas Jackson, an ancestor of the present family living Pacolet Valley, summoned militiamen who drove the Indians back to an old camp ground and into unexplored wilds of the mountains. There, they continued to give trouble until it was necessary to send expeditions in their pursuit. (p. 7)

Capt. Thomas Howard, one of the early pioneers in the upper part of Greenville County, known as Dark Corner, at the head of a company recruited for the mission, led a sortie from the Block House against the Cherokee. (p. 7)

Schuyucha, an Indian who knew the old trading paths through the mountains, proved himself the one remaining link in the old Chain of Friendship between the Cherokee and early colonists. Deserting the ranks of his own people, he guided Capt. Howard to where the Indians had taken their stand and while keeping a lookout toward the south, were celebrating their recent victories. They were entrenched at a low place on the slope of Little Warrior, or Round Mountain, known since that time as Warrior Gap, after the chief who was their leader. Some accounts of the engagement say there were several Tories among their number. (p. 7/8)

All of the above is interesting reading, but such an event, if it occurred -- and it likely did in some form -- probably took place around 1780 when McDowell actually was in the area with numbers of men. Of more concern, this account gives one the impression that the area close to the Spartanburg/Greenville (SC) boundary was heavily settled. In fact, evidence discovered thus far indicates only a limited number of families near the boundary in 1776 -- in effect, this area was one of the ultimate extensions of the frontier area of 1767-77.

In another section, Patton says:

Through the joint efforts of Tennessee and the two Carolinas, this Indian passway [a pathway leading from Green River to the Nolachuckee], as early as 1795, had been improved to serve as a road. Already, in 1793, wagons had come through Saluda Gap 'where a road had been opened by Capt. John Earle,' (who lived just across the South Carolina near Landrum at Earle's Fort). The state of South Carolina had paid him \$4,000 for the work he did on what was "probably the road from Columbia, yet known in the upper part of the State as the Buncombe Road." (p. 9)

Where this State Road or Buncombe Turnpike from Greenville to the North Carolina line reached the head of the Winding Stairs, there was an Indian Path which led near to the present site of Saluda and over the mountain. This path which crossed the watershed is known as the Fall Creek Road, and many of the early settlers coming by way of Greenville County followed it. Some of the oldest cleared lands in the upper part of Polk County were in the section it traversed. (p. 9)

Again, this is all very interesting, but the major upper-piedmont road of the era was cut through (or at least to) Saluda Gap by Col. Elias Earle (also an iron works owner) from Greenville. The section cut by Elias Earle probably went to Tuxedo, NC. and there joined a road ordered by the Buncombe County Court. Happenings in what is now Polk County are an interesting side story (the major road that did not pass through Polk County), and I have discovered no record of SC paying John Earle \$4,000. There is a record, however, of the \$4,000 being paid to Col. Elias Earle for the road from Greenville to Saluda and slightly beyond. However, Capt. John Earle did cut a road -- at least according to family accounts -- that joined with the Buncombe Road, probably above present Hendersonville.

(NOTE: I wrote the following about one of Clarence W. Griffin's works before having a conversation with Dr. Delpino the following day. She provided corrections to Griffin's statements, particularly regarding dates and other information about the time of earliest settlement in Rutherford County NC and Brittain Presbyterian Church. Both are hardly as early as Griffin claims. The information about an ordained minister coming with the congregation also needs adjustment. Dr. Delpino's comments indicate that the dates of various happenings in Rutherford correspond with known data about Spartanburg

County (SC) to the south of Rutherford County. I decided to leave my original comments to assist in making a point about local histories.)

Clarence W. Griffin in *History of Old Tryon and Rutherford County North Carolina 1730-1936* (1937) comments:

No record exists to show the exact date of the first settlement made within the present bounds of Rutherford County. It is known that the Westminster, or Brittain community [north of Spindale, on the Second Broad River, and southeast of Old Fort in McDowell County], was settled prior to 1740. The Scotch-Irish and Germans from Pennsylvania moved into Lincoln and Rutherford Counties as early as 1730. It is probable that the first settlement in what is now Rutherford, was made prior to, or about, 1730. (p. 3)

And then he turns around and says:

The Scotch-Irish settlers of the Brittain neighborhood, in Rutherford County, brought with them their ordained ministers, as well as teachers. Brittain Presbyterian Church, or Little Brittain, as it was known until a few years ago, was established in 1768. The first church was erected in August, 1768. (p. 5) (I wonder how much of this is true??? If correct, it would place a church in upper Rutherford at about the same time as those in western York County -- NOT LIKELY!

And then he says:

As indicating the extension of population a survey was made in 1754, to determine the number available for military duty in the colony, and the Anson County reported 790 men as available. This would indicate that there were a thousand or more families within the bounds of Anson. (p. 5 citing Ashe, Vol. I, p. 286).

Mr. Griffin was probably an interesting man, but such a statement about settlers in Rutherford County in 1730/40 strikes me as absurd. How does Mr. Griffin justify his statements about 1730 and 1740? Did he decide that all the people who lived in Anson County area of the 1750s were actually living in what is now Forest City instead of in the area near or to the east of what is now Charlotte? Maybe he thought these folk vacationed in Rutherford? Or maybe he was trying to play up the Rutherford area at any early date for a great deal more than it deserves (a problem of all local historians!).

(NOTE: Please consider the idea that a few folk at the advancement of settlement do not, in my opinion, constitute a frontier area. Even with this thought considered, I do not expect that folk in advancement of settlement were in Rutherford County in 1730.)

I am not trying to pick apart Patton's or Griffin's work (much of it is quite useful for some time periods), but it almost goes without saying that local histories

have to be used with considerable caution -- particularly those that fail to supply extensive footnotes or at least present an interesting argument!!!

With the above said against these works, Griffin makes a couple of statements that interest me:

About 1781 the settlers from the block house at Old Fort, now in McDowell County -- then Rutherford [Griffin must mean Burke]-- crossed the mountains to the head of the Swannanoa River and became trespassers on the Cherokee territory, the Blue Ridge being at that time the boundary line. Samuel Davidson, his wife and child, were among the first.. They brought a female negro slave with them, and settled within a short distance east of Gudger's Fort on the Swannanoa River, and near what is now Azalea. He was soon afterwards killed by the Indians, and his wife and child and slave hurried through the mountains back to Old Fort. (p. 126)

Also:

"After the [Revolutionary] war, Major William Davidson [there were three William Davidsons] removed with some relatives and friends to the mouth of Bee Tree Creek of Swannanoa River then in Burke County, but now in Buncombe County, where in 1784-85, they formed the famous "Swannanoa Settlement," and where he resided for the remainder of his life and is buried." (131)

I suspect this information, though perhaps not perfectly correct in every detail, gives some hint about the early settlement of the area that became Buncombe County within a decade after the conclusion of the Revolutionary War. And Griffin may have gotten all of the above from Sondley -- I just have not had the time to check.

---

#### EARLY CHURCHES ALONG THE NC/SC BORDER

*Gastonia and Gaston County North Carolina: Past, Present, Future* (1936) by Joseph H. Separk (b. 1872) gives the earliest churches in that area as Goshen Presbyterian (1764) near Belmont; Long Creek Baptist Church (1772) near Dallas; Philadelphia Lutheran Church (1776) near Dallas; and Pisgah Associate Reform Presbyterian (1793) near Gastonia. (p. 24) (NOTE: Though the book tells little about the early years of settlement -- or much of anything that happened before the late 1800s -- the information on the religious organizations seems very reasonable and in line with documented information about nearby York County (SC).

It would appear that the earliest churches in both western York County (SC) and Gaston County (NC) officially date to the mid 1760s (though the congregations may have been organized several years earlier). This

Jerry  
Sam

information indicates a settlement time for these areas from 1750 to 1755. No real definition or parameters are yet available for this proposed study, but these churches might well have been on the frontier of congregational advancement - even if they are not part of the area that would more generally qualify as part of the 1765 - 1775 frontier.

## SEEKING THE EASTERN LIMITS OF FRONTIER SETTLEMENT IN 1767

Jerry West has suggested that a line passing up the First Broad River (+/- five miles to the east or west) through what is now Cleveland County NC and thence in an approximate line going north to the Catawba River might be the beginning of a portion of the eastern segment of the frontier in 1767. Although this suggestion seem plausible, I am still seeking evidence for some small bit of a 1767 frontier being in part of York County SC and Gaston County NC. Spartanburg County SC is definitely part of the 1767-1777 frontier, and it now appears that portions of Union County SC and Laurens County SC may qualify as part of the same frontier. As quickly as some useful definition of the term "frontier" is determined, I will once again be in touch with the people from York and Chester to discuss their area.

## THUS FAR DISCOVERED GEORGIA PREACHERS THAT WAS EARLIER IN NC

Ray

The records of the Wilkes County (NC) Roaring River Baptist Church, probably organized about 1779, are missing through August, 1785. In 1786, the church appointed Rev. John Cleveland, Rev. Geo. McNeill, and Rev. William Petty as a presbytery to look into a constitution for the church. In addition, Elder John Cleveland was moderator of the branch association [of the Strawberry Association] meeting in 1786. From 1787-89, Elder George McNeill was moderator -- a fair indication, when combined with other known data, that Rev. John Cleveland is no longer in the area. If, in fact, John Cleveland was the first pastor of Shoal Creek Baptist Church (in either GA or SC, on one side or the other of the Tugaloo River), then this most-definatly-on-the-frontier church is probably no earlier than 1786.

[Ray, can you prove differently.]

Probably the most interesting of the NC gone to GA preachers was Beverly Allen -- a Methodist

I noticed with some curiosity that there were seemingly no Presbyterian Churches in Wilkes County (NC) until after 1800 -- the same is true for Edgefield County (SC). Edgefield is particularly interesting because one of the great Presbyterian strong-holds of the south was in the adjacent county of Abbeville (SC). The author of Edgefield History relates that only three counties in SC were without a Presbyterian Church until after 1800 (Edgefield, Lexington, and Georgetown).



## NOTES ABOUT THE ENCLOSED MAPS:

(1) The map of NC/SC will NOT overlay with the maps of NC or GA/SC that you earlier received. A full map of all three states will come later. For the moment, I needed to make the enclosed NC/SC map bigger in order to show the northern boundary claimed by GA and the various Indian lines.

(2) The claimed state boundary and Indian lines shown on the maps are not perfectly accurate -- the small scale of the map, the imperfections from sizing the maps so that they would fit together, and the use of my daughter's marker pens were all contributing factors in limiting the accuracy. In general, both the Meigs-Freeman Line and the Butler Line should be slightly more to the west. (See enclosed map of the Meigs-Freeman line as it passed through Jackson County.) As the Butler line was supposed to hit on the waters of Little River in present Oconee County, I obviously have it too far east. I also suspect that I have the claimed northern line of Georgia slightly incorrect. It should perhaps be north of where I have it drawn by a couple of miles. Even considering the problems just mentioned, this map is going to beat a lot of those appearing in published books!

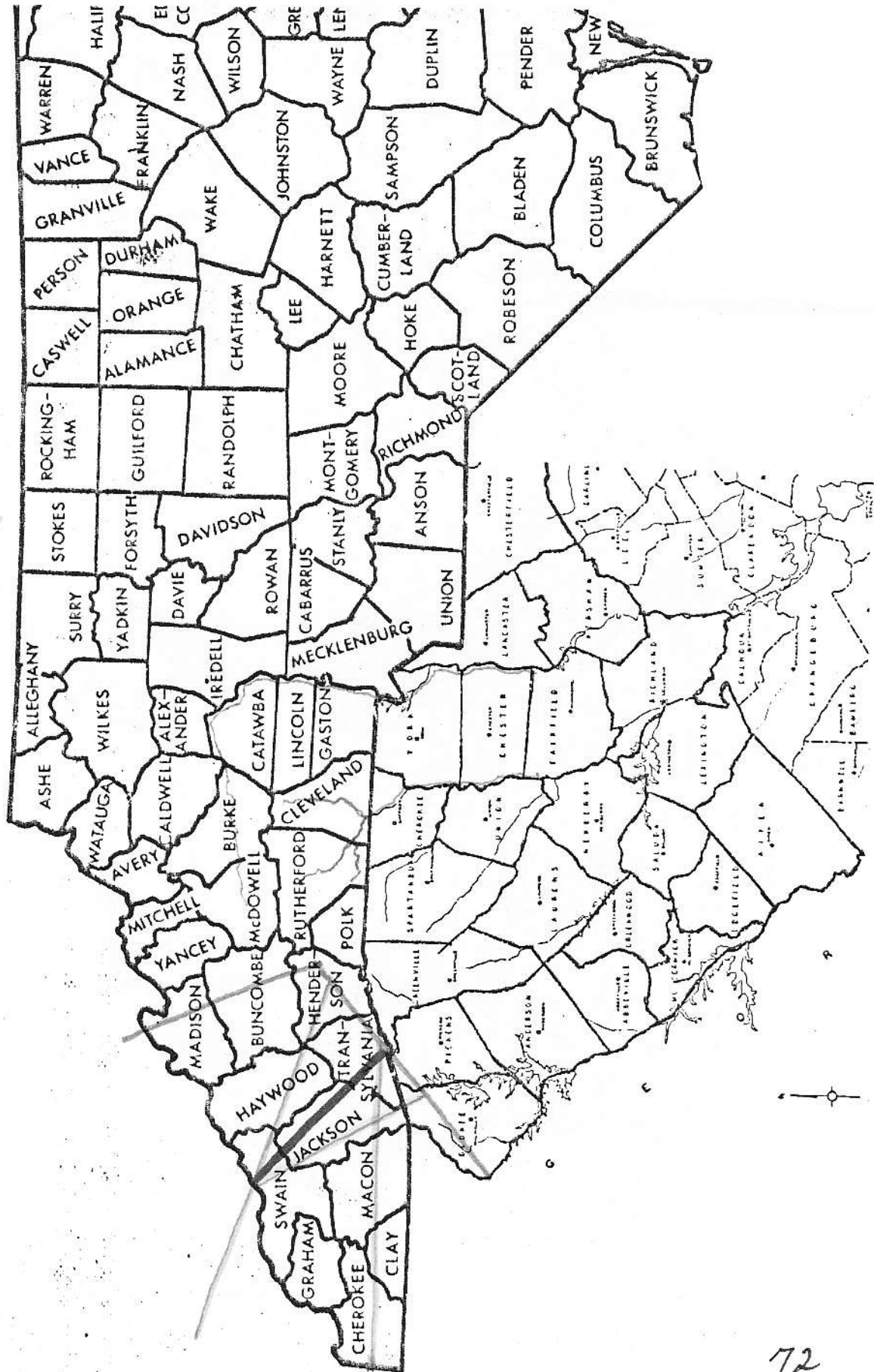
(3) The southwest length of the Hopewell Line of 1785 (in effect, that section going from southern edge of present-day Transylvania County NC southwest toward Georgia) was earlier the line surveyed in 1777 by Robert Anderson, et. al. to mark the remaining territory of the Cherokees in SC. The 1777 survey resulted from the Treaty of Dewits' Corner in 1776.

(4) Maps that you received earlier were attempting to show the expansion and limits of the frontier at various times. One of the enclosed maps suggests where the principal frontier may actually have been in South Carolina and a part of North Carolina during the 1767-1777 time frame. Areas such as Union and Laurens SC, reasonably settled -- at least enough to call them a frontier -- before 1767, were perhaps still subject to fears for personal safety from Native Americans in and after 1767. Thus, they were still frontier, in my opinion, though the extent of the frontier had advanced by 1767 from its 1757 (or earlier) position.

**CAUTION:** Once past about mid-point going north in Burke County NC, I am truly guessing at the frontier!!!! It well may have extended further west and not as far east.

- Apowell Lise 1785
- Hawkins-Pickens Lise 1791
- Butler Lise 1798 (rejected)
- Meigs Freeman Lise 1802

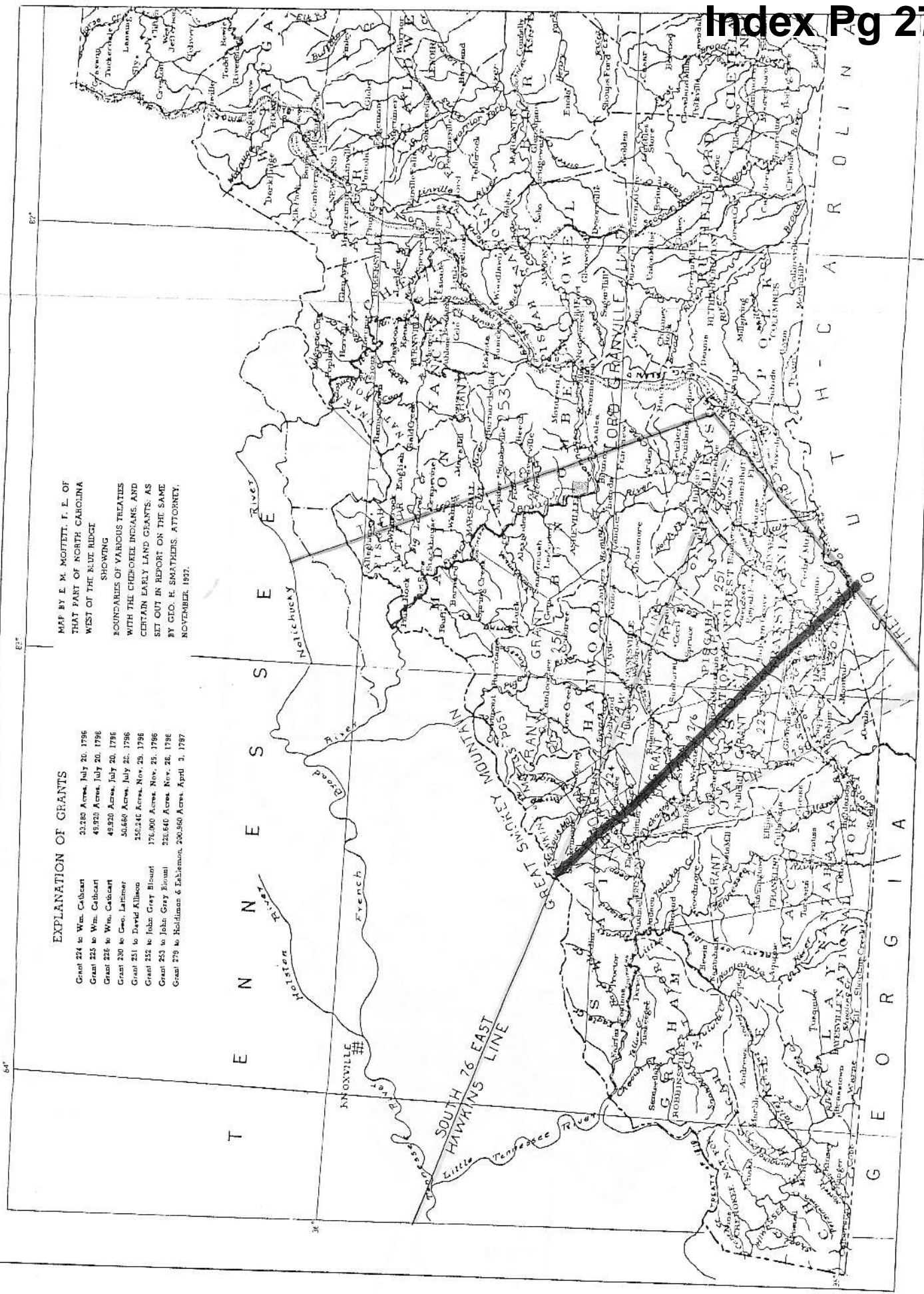
area claimed by Georgia (would have included GA county of Wilkes that took its people to lower Newry/over County NC)



EXPLANATION OF GRANTS

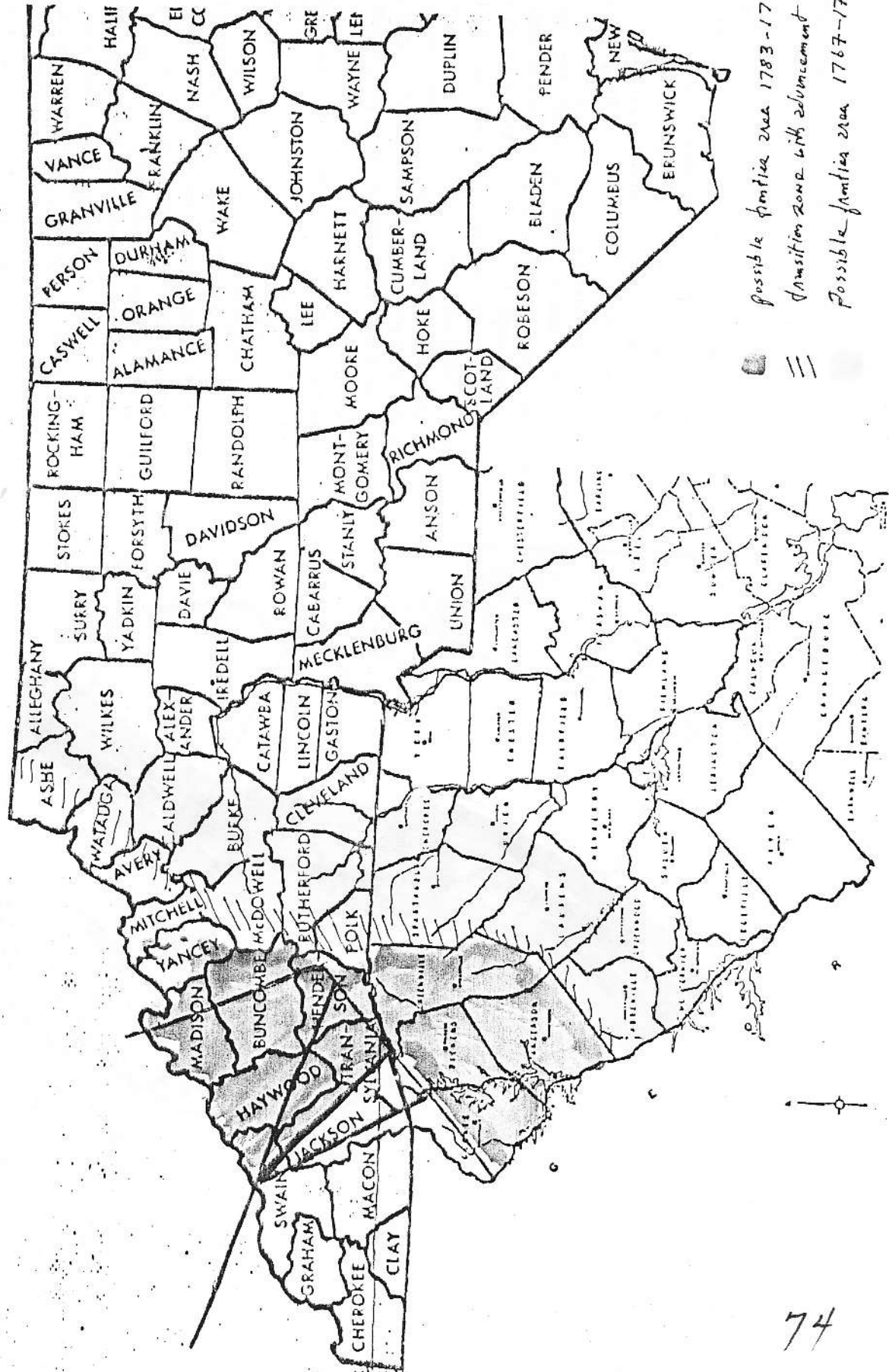
- Grant 224 to Wm. Cabarrt 32,282 Acres, July 20, 1796
- Grant 225 to Wm. Cabarrt 48,920 Acres, July 20, 1796
- Grant 226 to Wm. Cabarrt 48,920 Acres, July 20, 1796
- Grant 230 to Geo. Latimer 50,680 Acres, July 20, 1796
- Grant 231 to David Killaco 250,740 Acres, Nov. 29, 1796
- Grant 232 to John Gray Blount 176,900 Acres, Nov. 29, 1796
- Grant 233 to John Gray Blount 226,640 Acres, Nov. 29, 1796
- Grant 279 to Holdeman & Eshleman 200,860 Acres, April 3, 1797

MAP BY E. M. MOTTETT, F. L. OF THAT PART OF NORTH CAROLINA WEST OF THE BLUE RIDGE SHOWING FOUNDARIES OF VARIOUS TRACTS WITH THE CHEROKEE INDIANS, AND CERTAIN EARLY LAND GRANTS, AS SET OUT IN REPORT ON THE SAME BY GEO. H. SMATHERS, ATTORNEY, NOVEMBER, 1937.

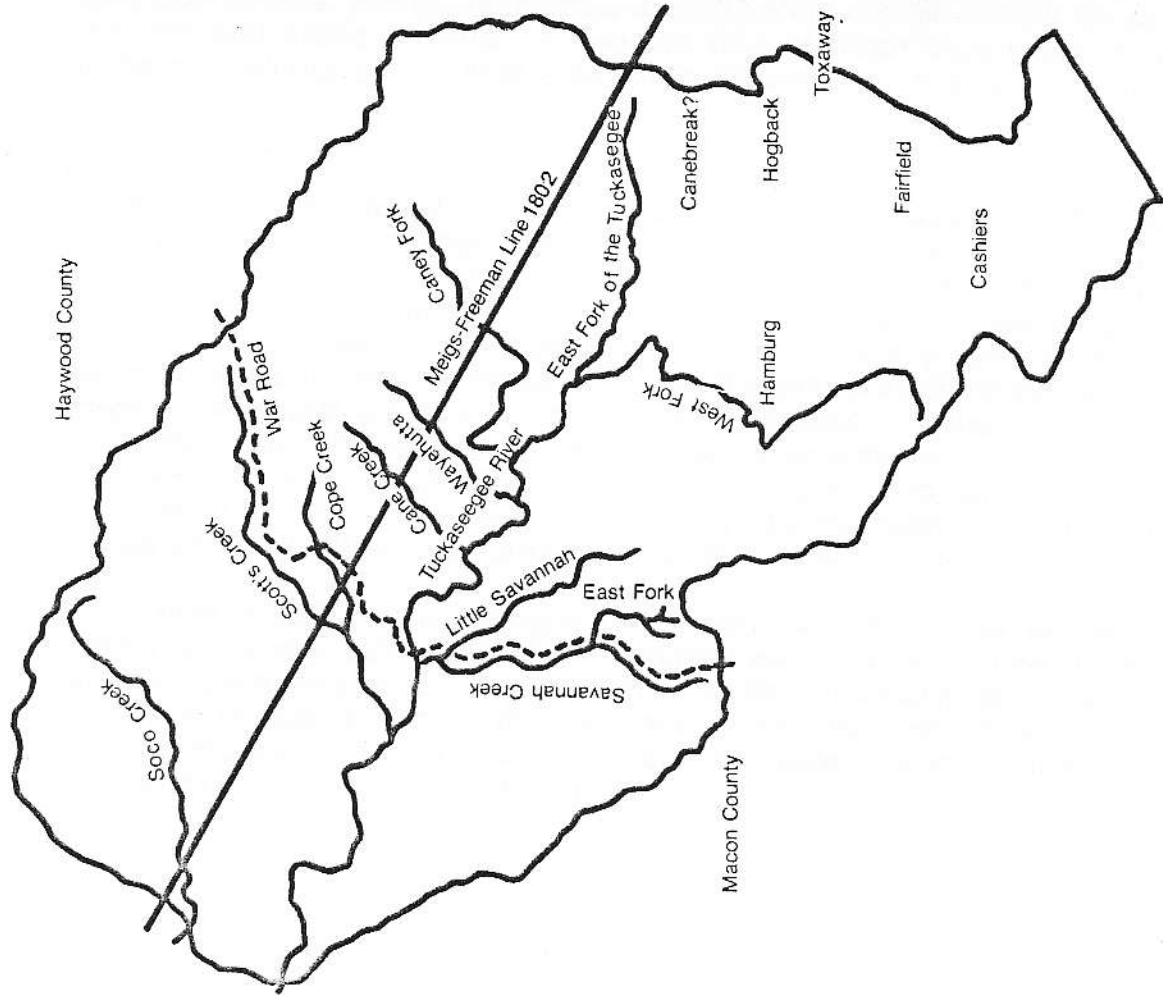


- 1 Hopewell Line 1785
- 2 Hawkins-Pickens Line 1791
- 3 Botler Line 1798 (rejected)
- 4 Myers-Freeman Line 1802

Area claimed by botler (would have included 6A county of Wilkes that took its people to lower Transylvania County NC)



possible frontier area 1783-1798  
 transition zone with advancement of settlement 1767-1777  
 possible frontier area 1767-1777



The Meigs-Freeman Line (1802) superimposed on a map of Jackson County.

Cane Creek. Scotts Creek east of the Meigs-Freeman line was the most heavily settled. Among the earliest settlers were the Brysons, Cunninghams, Catheys, Sherrills, Gillespeys, Sloans, Underwoods, and Walkers.

There were 26 entries in the Buncombe County land records for land along the Tuckasegee west of the Meigs-Freeman line when it was drawn in 1802. Eight of the entries were for thousands of acres and were clearly filed by land speculators. They were voided by the General Assembly in 1809. The other 18 entries were for smaller parcels, ranging from 100 to 640 acres. Of these 18, at least 8 (John Dobson, John Stiles, William Avery, John Fergus, Richard Morrow, William Bryson, William Sloan, and Holliman Battle) were those of men who received title for their lands after 1802. Four of these eight, John Stiles, Richard Morrow, William Bryson, and Holliman Battle, had improved their land and were occupying it in 1820 when the area was surveyed. Another six of the families that had entered the valley before 1802 and for whom no land grant has been located, were still there on their land in 1820 (John and Ute Sherrill, George and William Cathey, John Bryson, and James Bryson, Sr.) So 10 of the original 18 claimants were still in the Tuckasegee Valley in 1820.<sup>2</sup> Some of these families were substantial Haywood County citizens identified with the public life of the region. They formed a core for the new community.

It is clear that from 1802 to 1819 land in the Tuckasegee Valley was not open to legal entry. Nevertheless, there were families settled there and others continued to come illegally; and a prosperous trade existed with the Indians and white settlers across the line. Vigorous legal settlement continued east of the Meigs-Freeman line, in particular in the Scotts Creek area. In February, 1819, yet another treaty was concluded with the Cherokee which opened the entire region across Cowee Mountain into the Little Tennessee Valley to white settlement. Until this time, all state lands had been sold to individuals under the General Entry and Claim law of North Carolina. Due to the interest in the new territory, in 1819 the General Assembly decided to survey this land into 18 districts in preparation for sale. The best lands were divided into sections of 50 to 300 acres with each section containing some land that the Cherokee had previously brought under cultivation. Captain Robert Love, one of Haywood County's most prominent citizens, was commissioned to survey the land. He was ordered to mark the sections and note the acreage and quality of each so that a map could be

## NEWSNOTES OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: September 15, 1993

FIRST: I find myself increasingly committed to the idea of regional studies. Before reading the papers and proceedings of the Backcountry Study Group, I had absolutely no idea of the importance of ironworks. Dr. Terry Ferguson remarks that the industry of the piedmont before textiles was iron works. Certainly I knew iron works existed, but I gave them no particular thought or consideration. I just assumed that they were small operations producing a small output and manned by just a few people. Reading and hearing about the amount of wood required for just one firing of a furnace was amazing. A major iron work existed a few miles south of the Oconee/Anderson boundary and not many miles distant from Anderson, S. C. Before Elias Earle established this operation, he earlier had a furnace on the Rocky River near the Anderson/Abbeville boundary (1810), and prior to that time, he had operations in Greenville. One of the major uses of iron was the manufacture of guns, and numbers of skilled workers were undoubtedly employed by Earle. Members of the Herron family are an example. It is likely that descendants of some of Earle's craftsmen inhabit portions of Greenville, Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties at present.

Many of us are aware that Table Rock was an antebellum resort visited by folk from a wide area, and that Walhalla, Highlands, and Cashiers served numbers of summer visitors before and after the Civil War. However, we do not fully appreciate the number of mineral springs (spas or health resorts, one might call them) and summer towns and communities covering a wide area of the upper piedmont and alpine regions. A regional view of these sites might provide interesting insights into another antebellum industry that has received limited attention.

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The past so many months -- I've obviously lost count -- have been particularly busy. Before discussing these happenings (if I get around to mentioning them at all), the presentation of Journal materials needs explanation. The continued publication of materials about Seneca, S. C. was planned. In reviewing these materials, it is obvious that they would benefit from additional notes. As mentioned several times in the past, considerable materials of various types are stored on disks that are sporadically located. The Journal issue that follows is one of the many collections of "bits and pieces" or random materials that did not conveniently fit into broader discussions. The accuracy and dating of some of the material being questionable, research by any members that would help provide additional information or context would be appreciated.

The date of 1992 on the Journal issue clearly indicates that this publication is running over a year behind schedule. Though I was once concerned about this tardiness, there are just so many hours in a day and priorities must be assigned. I continue to operate under the assumption that the development of new projects and the publication of books and booklets should receive priority consideration over Journal articles and newsletters.

## A DISCUSSION OF AREA BOOKS INCLUDING SALES AND DEMAND:

Some information about area books would perhaps surprise the membership. I estimate in excess of 15,000 books and booklets about this area have been sold over the past decade. (This figure does not include hundreds of copies of booklets presented to school systems.) Amazingly, the best selling publication appears to be a small paperback discussing the town of Central. Not so surprising, the best selling hardback publication perhaps is George B. Shealy's work on Walhalla. (Information about Walhalla is always popular.) The work drastically underprinted in terms of demand was the *Bailey A. Barton Muster Roll Book of Pickens District, S. C.* (orders exceeded supply over two and a half to one -- and we are still receiving orders for this publication). Actually, our list of books in print for this area is somewhat smaller than it was just two years ago because several recent publications are already out of print.

**AT THIS WRITING**, we have only Sallie M. Harbin's manuscript on Westminster and Dr. W. J. Megginson's work on World War I Black Soldiers remaining to be published. (An important diary from 1810 edited by Peggy Rich and Frederick C. Holder will be published in the South Carolina Historical Magazine in 1994.) Dr. Megginson's work needs only some light editing to make it more usable for general audiences, and Ms. Harbin's work lacks only a bit of map and text work to be completed. In fact, I am now reading the printouts of the Westminster book!

**A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE WESTMINSTER BOOK:** I have procrastinated a bit on this book because I am aware that this publication will perhaps be our last opportunity for some years to come to present findings, in an indexed work, about a post Civil-War town in Oconee County. In addition, it completes what I view as a body of work on area towns: one work on an antebellum town (Walhalla), one on a post-Civil War courthouse town (Pickens), one work on a Railroad and Agricultural town (Westminster), one work on a railroad town and its surrounding communities (Liberty), and one work on a twentieth century town/community involved in the timber industry and cotton production before the post-World War I depression (Salem). Of course, there have been other works published during the past several years. Work on Pickensville/Easley and the mill villages of Easley, along with publications on a variety of other subjects (Cherokee Indians, the Antebellum Militia, Presidential Reconstruction, etc.), could be mentioned

Though hardback, typeset books are quite expensive and beyond our financial means to produce often, we have been storing up funds for sometime to bring the Westminster book to press without having to worry significantly about prepublication orders to fully finance the effort.

Obtaining pictures of Westminster has been (AND REMAINS) a major problem. Fortunately, a rather large collection of materials about Westminster has been presented to Caroliniana Library. We retain access to all pictures in

this collection until such time as the book is ready to go to press -- after which time the collection will be catalogued by the Library. Though we are still lacking a reasonable quantity of early pictures of structures, individuals, and street scenes, we have an excellent group of Sanborn Insurance maps covering a number of years. These maps will enable documentation of structures on the main street in intervals of roughly ten years.

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## **NEW THESES and BOOKS:**

### **BENJAMIN CLEVELAND:**

Some copies of L. Anthony Wise's thesis on Benjamin Cleveland are in my possession. Since only a limited number were received, it will be impossible to make any of these copies available to individuals. Copies have already gone to the DAR library, Clemson University Libraries, the South Caroliniana Library and the South Carolina Historical Society. A least one copy (hopefully more, if the binder completes my initial order) can be obtained for the library systems in Oconee, Pickens, and Greenville counties. A few copies are reserved for purchase by the major US libraries that frequently buy publications from this area and the Society.

(see more on Mr. Wise's projects at the end of this material)

### **HISTORY OF UPPER GREENVILLE COUNTY:**

Enclosed please find a flyer for Mann Batson's forthcoming history of upper Greenville County (expected delivery: mid December/93). Though I read only a small segment of this work in manuscript, this 600+ page history will prove valuable to a variety of researchers. Batson often quotes entire passages from statues of law and petitions to the legislature, or else runs lengthy segments from newspaper articles. Printed by Faith Printing Company (estimated run: 1500 copies/ hardbound/ indexed)

### **FOR THOSE BUDGETING BOOK PURCHASES:**

### **HISTORY OF SALEM, S. C. and surrounding environs:**

Joe Gauzens work on Salem, S. C., and the upper reaches of northeast Oconee County is also at the printer and delivery is anticipated in mid December/93. This 200 +/- page publication will sell for approximately \$15.00 + \$2.50 postage and handling. Printed by Hiott Printing Company/ Pickens, S. C. (estimated run: 500 copies/ hardbound/ indexed)



## HISTORY OF GREENVILLE COUNTY:

Dr. A. V. Huff's forthcoming History of Greenville County is scheduled for publication. Completion is not anticipated before late spring 1994. This 600+ page book will probably sell for about \$40.00. A publication of USC Press. (estimated run: unknown/ hardbound/ indexed)

## GREENVILLE COUNTY (1785-1799) AND WASHINGTON DISTRICT (1791-1799) COURT RECORDS (prepared from the papers of the courts)

Anne McCuen and associates shifted through piles of miscellaneous papers in the attic of the Greenville County Court House and located a variety of court papers that have tremendous value to area researchers. The abstracts of the Greenville County papers will discuss, for the most part, the present Greenville County area; however, Washington District, the judicial district for the area that is today Anderson, Greenville, Pickens and Oconee counties, includes papers about a number of individuals from the area that would become Oconee County. There is even a civil suit among the Washington District papers related to soldiers stationed at Oconee Station. The book will be approximately 200 pages; it will probably sell for around \$25.00 +\$2.50 postage and handling. Publication date is unknown. (estimated run: 500 copies/ hardbound/ indexed)

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## A MAJOR UNDERTAKING ABOUT THE FRONTIERS OF THREE STATES:

Mr. Anthony Wise, who did work on Col. Cleveland and who is now at the University of Tennessee, wishes to continue his work on frontier areas. Certainly there is a need in South Carolina alone to extend the work found in Dr. Robert L. Meriwether's *The Expansion of South Carolina, 1729-1765*. Of more importance, there is an entire frontier area running through North Carolina, into South Carolina, and thence on into Georgia that deserves consideration during the years from 1768 - 1795/99. At the time of this writing, it is difficult to define precisely the area involved, though it perhaps includes parts or all of:

(IN NORTH CAROLINA) Wilkes, Caldwell, Alexander, Burke, Catawba, Lincoln, Gaston, McDowell, Rutherford, Cleveland, Polk, Henderson, Buncombe, and perhaps sections of Clay and Macon;

(IN SOUTH CAROLINA) York, Chester, Union, Cherokee, Spartanburg, Laurens, Abbeville, Greenville, Anderson, Pickens, and Oconee.

(IN GEORGIA) Stephens, Banks, Hall, Barrow, Jackson, Oconee, Clark, Madison, Franklin, Hart, and Elbert and other counties on the east side of the Oconee River.

Most of the area described above might be termed as being east and southeast of the Blue Ridge Mountain Front -- in the piedmont and alpine regions of the three states -- and it is believed that the various frontier zones (the zones move as the years go by) share some related concerns, common activities, and courses of action during different frontier periods. Differences between activities in these areas and their methods of solving problems are of considerable importance.

Certainly parts of the three states had a frontier during the late Colonial period.

Areas of the three states had a distinct frontier zone at the time of the Revolutionary War, and parts of these states had settled areas that partially reverted to quasi-frontier conditions during the Revolutionary War years.

An area of South Carolina and Georgia east of the Blue Ridge Front had a reasonably well-defined frontier area during the decade following the Revolutionary War. Sections of North Carolina west of the Blue Ridge Front may also deserve consideration during the same time span.

Anyone who has ever studied frontier zones is aware that only a few individuals are survived by extensive records. (A religious colony is somewhat different in that their records are normally more bountiful.) In examining frontier areas, records are sometimes absent for civil institutions, and those for religious and social institutions are often missing. In effect, a study of almost any frontier area is generally more difficult than the study of extensively settled areas.

Certainly, there are some major historical issues involved in Mr. Wise's proposed study. In 1990, Rachael Klein's noted study *Unification of a Slave State: The Rise of the Planter Class in the South Carolina Backcountry, 1760-1808* was published. In her conclusion, she contends:

In 1808 South Carolina was poised to withstand the democratizing pressures that transformed other southern state constitutions during the Jacksonian era. The new system of apportionment kept political power squarely in the hands of Black Belt representatives, and an expanding slave-plantation system was reducing the sources of sectional tension. During the preceding decades, backcountry political leaders had forged ties to their coastal counterparts, and, by the second decade of the nineteenth century, the two groups were beginning to merge. (p. 303)

Nonetheless, backcountry political leaders of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, together with their sympathizers on the coast, succeeded in formulating a democratic-republican vision that simultaneously sanctioned slavery, contained persisting tensions between yeomen and planters, and provided the ideological foundation for South Carolina's political unification. Backcountry leaders bowed to principles of political equality and made

ostentatious demonstrations of deference to the yeomanry, but they were democrats only within narrowly defined limits. They saw slavery as a legitimate extension of household dependency and expected planters to wield influence beyond their numbers. Those assumptions, shaped by a deepening commitment to slavery, enabled a colony rent with sectional conflict to emerge, by the first decade of the nineteenth century, with the South's most unified and politically powerful statewide leadership. (p. 305)

Though there is considerable truth in Klein's remarks, the planter class was effectively allowed to rise to civil power by its constituency, who, in fact, may have exhibited other concerns outside the realm of political power. That some backcountry ministers accommodated their viewpoints to support the concerns of slaveowners is supportive of Klein's position, but this support may have been little more than an accommodation that allowed the continued growth of other forms of power within the community structure. If such is the case, then such development perhaps has roots in the frontier experience. Manifestations of the differences in power groups have sprung to life from time to time since the 1700s -- and they will continue to appear. Though South Carolinians may generally agree on some fundamental issues, this unity may evaporate when groups feel their particular bases of power or their ideological viewpoint severely threatened. In truth, the ideology of the "yeomen" in the late 1700s has not been examined, though it might become more apparent from an examination of other states contiguous to the South Carolina.

Another point in Klein's work that significantly bothers me is simply that South Carolinians have a habit of not giving without getting something in return. What did the planters give in return for their rise to Civil Power? The only answer I find emerging clearly from Klein's work is the concept of deference to the yeomanry. I have a gut feeling that more was involved in the exchange because backcountry people, while sometime not reading or spelling the best in the world, have always been able to count money and seek a fair exchange -- a bit of deference is not likely sufficient. It seems more plausible, at least to me, that the overriding concern in far-northwestern S. C. in the 1790s was not slavery, but rather protection of self and property (from attack). The persons who could best arrange for the protection of the area were Andrew Pickens and Robert Anderson, both of whom were positioned to make political exchanges to address their constituency's concerns. (Anderson's political influence was threatened in the early 1800s after defense had ceased to be a notable issue.) I do not believe that anyone has fully examined the possible exchanges that might have been made for the benefit of other areas of the backcountry.

Persons who can provide information that may prove useful to Mr. Wise's proposed study (1767 - 1795/99) -- **particularly those persons with an extensive working knowledge of pre-1795 church records** -- are asked to contact Frederick C. Holder to discuss the information that might be available on your particular area or community.

NEWSNOTES OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:  
September 15, 1993  
(a supplement for those who have already received their materials)

"Well, I'll be...", as Jerry Alexander, publisher of the *Pickens Sentinel* is sometimes prone to say.

Normally, pages and pages of material go out about Oconee County History and comments about the material-- either good, bad, or indifferent -- rarely are received, though I do get the occasional demand for **more** materials on a **regular** basis. Some of you are aware that I mail out the materials at different times: after all, the various pages have to be prepared, reproduced, collated, put in envelopes, sealed, have address labels pasted on them, and mailed. Since all of this takes time, and since I do have real job(s), I prepare a few copies at a time, mail a few copies every day, etc.

Amazingly, I have already gotten some comments about the most recently prepared materials -- though only a few persons, thus far, have received their copies. Every question or comment received is about Lewis Redmond. One of our out-of-state members humorously wrote asking why she did not know "this sort of man" when she was young. Best of all the replies received: Marshall Williams of Georgia graciously supplied some materials from his research notes that are included as additional *Journal* pages. Very special thanks for this material are extended to Marshall because it dates from a somewhat later time than researchers normally seek materials on either Redmond or the moonshiners.

**More about Lewis Redmond****(editorial from the Keowee Courier of 25 Nov. 1925.)**

We knew Lewis R. Redmond, a quiet, and peaceable citizen. When we came on the scene it was about the time Redmond had his encounter with Duckworth in the Hill County, and when we first knew him, he had been released from prison, and had come to this county, and was working as head stiller for several of the government plants up in the mountains of Oconee. The first time we ever saw him we knew it was Major Redmond, for boy like, we had investigated everything around Walhalla, from the barrooms in Walhalla to the Depot in West Union, each of which places we had seen the reproduction of the remarkable likeness of Lewis R. Redmond on the highly colored labels which just fitted the tops of whisky barrels and kegs -- two sizes. That was a truly remarkable likeness. So much so, that one needed only to see them a few times, and then meet Lewis R. Redmond to be able to say definitely that he was the original of the likeness. He was really a handsome fellow, and as pleasant and genial a man as one could wish to meet. At the time we knew him, and up until his death, his life was, as far as we know, above reproach, and within the law. He was a good citizen after he had paid the price exacted from those convicted of violation of the law. By reason of the many wounds which he had received, several of them, we understood, having been in and about his lungs, he always talked in a very hoarse tone, as if he were in pain with the drawing of each breath, though such was not the case. He was a regular subscriber to the *Keowee Courier* for many years before his death, and some of the most interesting conversations we have had were with Lewis R. Redmond, for whom in his latter years we had the highest degree of respect.

**(also from the Keowee Courier of 25 Nov. 1925: reprint of a letter written by J. Lewis Bell for the *Charlotte Observer*.)**

Lewis R. Redmond, locally nicknamed Major, or Maj., Redmond, was reared in the east fork of the French Broad River, about 10 miles from Brevard, N. C. His father was a small farmer, and like many in that section before the advent of the Revenue Laws, made corn liquor and apple brandy. They thought that this was an inalienable right. Major as a boy followed his father's example. He was a quiet, inoffensive, unlettered boy, a typical mountain lad whose advantages had been few. He was of dark complexion, had dark eyes, and was slim and wiry. Tradition said he had a strong mixture of Indian blood. Such was the youth on quite east fork. With the advent of the revenue laws came Zeb Vances' redlegged grasshoppers of the Ray and Anderson type. They raided this country in a most ruthless manner. One bitterly cold night they invaded the home of old man Redmond, arrested him, and brought him to town. Released on bond, in [a] few day[s] he was

stricken with pneumonia, and died. He was then about 70 years of age. Major felt that the revenue men were the cause of his fathers death. One morning, -- I think it was in 1875 -- A. F. Duckworth of this place, a U. S. deputy marshal, called at my house and wanted to borrow my pistol, stating that he wanted it for a deputy who was going with him to east fork. They went, and in the public road near Uncle Jack Gillespie's, they met Major Redmond and his uncle, Mr. Belcher, riding in a covered wagon drawn by a pair of oxen. They called on Major to halt. Duckworth dismounted and came up to the side [of] the wagon and told Redmond he was arrested, and must go to Brevard. Redmond asked for the warrant. Duckworth did not produce it. He had [a] pistol in his hand though Redmond was unarmed, though his uncle had a single barrellled derringer, which he passed behind his back to Remond's waiting hand. In an unguarded moment, Duckworth lowered his gun. Quick as lightning, Redmond presented the derringer and fired. The bullet entered Duckworth's throat, taking with it his collar button. Redmond leaped from the wagon and climbed the mountainside, leaving Duckworth in the road, with Mr. Belcher and Deputy Langford. Duckworth died in a few days; from that day, the hunt for Redmond began. A sheriff summoned a posse, of which I was one, to go to East Fork and capture Redmond. A futile effort -- 10 or 12 men at nighttime in the mountains trying to capture a boy who knew every trail, cave, and cove in the Blue Ridge. The U. S. Gov't then took up the hunt. For months squads of revenue officers -- 12 or 15 in number -- combed these mountains, -- sometimes from Ashville N. C., sometimes from Greenville S. C., they came, and were frequently joined by officers from Statesville, N. C. Once they surrounded the house of his sister on East Fork. Her son, a mere boy, came out on the porch. The officers fired, thinking the boy was Redmond. The youth fell dead. More fuel to the fires of hate. The hunt continued. Once Redmond was captured, tied with a rope, and placed on a horse behind an officer. Passing a dense laurel thicket, Redmond slipped for the horse and escaped, to join some friends who were trailing along unnoticed, on a mountain. The pursued now became the pursuers. They fired on the officers, wounding two of them. The officers had taken Redmond's team and wagon. A few days later, Redmond visited the home of the officer at Easley, S. C., who had taken his team. He demanded, and secured, his team and returned home. The constant raiding of the deputy marshalls kept up so much excitement that Redmond was advised to leave the county. He went to the home of a relative in Swain Co., N. C. The officers learned of his retreat and followed him. A large posse under the command of Shelby Ray of Yancy Co. one morning concealed themselves, and about sunup Redmond left the cabin, crossed a branch and as he entered a cornfield the posse, without halting him, fired, for he was an outlaw. He fell, the officers still firing. Shelby Ray told me himself that Redmond was the gamest he ever knew, for lying with nothing but the smoke of the officers guns to guide him, he shot as long as he was able to raise his body. He had 56 wounds on his

body. Redmond was carried to Ashville N. C. where he lingered a long time between life and death. Almost recovered, he was tried in federal court -- not for killing Duckworth, but for other violations of the law. He was never tried in either state or federal court for the killing of Duckworth. I suppose therefore that Duckworth really did not have a warrant for the arrest of Major Redmond. On the charges on which he was tried, he was convicted and sentenced to the pen at Albany, N. Y. A Mister Child, a lawyer of Anderson, S. C., interested Gov. Hampton in the case. On account of the winters in N. Y., and Redmond's distressing condition, Hampton induced Pres. Hayes to transfer Redmond to Columbia, S. C. Later Gov. Hampton induced Pres. Hayes to pardon Redmond. From Columbia he never returned to this county to live. He went to Walhalla, S. C., where he ran a government still for the Bieman's. Later, he bought a farm not far from Seneca, S. C., and a few years ago he died, leaving his wife and children on the farm. If Mr. Doyle of Seneca, S. C., is living now he can give many interesting stories of Redmond in his State. J. A. Gillespie of East Fork grew up with Redmond, lived within a mile of the Redmond home, and he knows his whole career. I have written hurriedly and tried to be brief, but there is so much more which could be told of this simple mountain boy, whom circumstances made an outlaw, I have often wondered why the author of the Red Book did not write the facts. They are much more tragic and interesting than his fiction.

Signed J. L. Bell  
Brevard, N. C.  
Oct. 1925

[NOTE: I have no idea of what the "Red Book" might be. Can anyone supply this information?]

Mary Christ mrs

## NEWSNOTES OF THE OCONEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: December 13, 1993

**IMPORTANT:** The first book mentioned below (Salem) is selling extremely FAST. I would suggest you order immediately if you wish to obtain a hardbound copy. The book was printed and available for distribution before the flyers were available -- thus the reason for the late notice.

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### NEW BOOKS:

**Salem: Twice A Town** by Joe Gauzens (219 pps. including index/ hardbound/ 16 pps. pictures. Includes gorgeous drawings by Gail McKinley)

For anyone who wants to read about the northeastern section of Oconee County, for anyone who just wants to read a well written book -- *Salem: Twice a Town* is a delight and a bargain. The book discusses far more than the town of Salem; it tells of mad dogs and rural free delivery, of schools in the mountain coves and timber and cotton, of baseball and the Democratic Club and the "late war", of Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, of oxen and wagon sliding off a precipice in a blinding snowstorm -- to fall 150 feet to the valley floor, and of dozens of other subjects. The flyer for the book says: "READ IT -- YOU'LL LIKE IT." I completely agree. It is a prized addition to my collection of materials on far-northwestern SC.

(PRICE: \$15.75 at:

The Variety Store in Salem  
Alexander's Office Supply on Main St. in Walhalla, or  
Oconee Office Supply on North Townville St. in Seneca

OR the book may be ordered by mail for \$17.75 from  
Joseph Gauzens, 18 Quail Drive, Salem SC 29676)

*Congratulations to Joe on a job extremely well done!*

**Upcountry Reflections 1900-1903 and 1906: Some personal diaries belonging to Jane Duncan Todd Massey and other bits of history from Oconee County, South Carolina**, edited by Sarah Hunter Kellar (302 pps. including name index/ softbound with sturdy cover)

In this publication, Sara Hunter Kellar continues her earlier work on the Massey family and the Pickett Post Community. (Her previous publication is *Jane Massey's Journal 1897-1900: A personal diary of Jane Duncan Massey in Oconee County, South Carolina* / Titusville, Florida, 1991.) Kellar provides a



prologue discussing Jane Duncan Todd Massey's background -- often using excerpts from JD TM's birthday diary. These sketchy entries commence in 1863 and continue through 1906. Additional sections at the end of the work provide information on the various children of JD TM. The bulk of the work, however, is devoted to the journal JD TM kept from 1900-1903 and the small diary she kept in 1906 shortly before her death.

Massey's diaries have particular value because she was a person of no more than average means and resided in a rural situation in the middle, northern section of Oconee county (in effect, slightly west of some of the areas discussed in the Salem book). Her entries, though often short and containing few details, help convey the day to day life experienced by many persons in Oconee County in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

(PRICE: \$7.95 all costs/ ORDER FROM: Sara Hunter Kellar/ 3736 Chiara Drive/ Titusville FL 32796)

***Twin Springs and A Grove of Trees: A History of the Congregations*** by Effie A. Porter and Blanche B. Hannah (200 pps BUT NOT INDEXED/ softbound with very thin cover)

In truth, I was not expecting to this publication to be particularly noteworthy. I was surprised. Author Effie A. Porter, researcher Blanche B. Hannah, and editor Sue P. Heiney do a fine job of relating something of the complex, intriguing, and shrouded history of New Hope Baptist Church (1797-1818 as an arm of Secona; 1818 - ca. 1828 an an independent congregation), and Mountain Springs Baptist Church (ca. 1830 - 1842 as an arm of Antioch; 1842 - 1852 as an independent congregation). The records of New Hope and Moutnain Springs are not extant, and information about either is very difficult to locate. Mountain Grove Baptist Church was the end product of these earlier churches.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT MOUNTAIN GROVE IN PICKENS COUNTY IS ACTUALLY THE NEW HOPE CONGREGATION OF 1797. THE NEW HOPE IN OCONEE COUNTY CLAIMING THE 1797 DATE HAS THEIR HISTORY INCORRECT -- information that we have known since Jean Martin Flynn completed her work on Secona Baptist Church.

ALSO BE AWARE THAT THE BOOK CONTAINS SOME INFORMATION ABOUT BAILEY BARTON -- ONE OF THE "COUNTRY" SQUIRES OF ANTEBELLUM PICKENS DISTRICT.

There are two unusual features to *Twin Springs...*: 17 pages of memories of the church (some of which contain unusual mentions) by members , and 15 pages discussing tragedies experienced by members of the congregation. The section on Baptisms contains some humorous data. The picture reproductions -- on matte paper -- are nothing short of excellent

(PRICE: \$22.50 should cover all costs/ ORDER FROM: Mountain Grove Baptist Church/ 644 E. Preston McDaniel Road/ Pickens SC 29671)

***Richard Benjamin Winchester: An Indian Territory Farmer*** by Linda Mae Saunders (100 pps. BUT NOT INDEXED/ softbound with sturdy cover)

R. B. Winchester, like many other South Carolinians in the late 1800s, went west to Oklahoma. The publication provides information about his life there, but it provides just as much information about South Carolina -- either in the form of accounts of the Winchesters before R. B. moved west, or in the authors account of her visit from Oklahoma to Pickens County in recent years (actually my favorite part of the book!). Included in the work are 19 pps. of genealogical charts commencing with William Winchester (? - 1789)

(PRICE: \$12.95 all costs/ ORDER FROM: Linda Saunders/ 1704 East Hill Circle/ Moore OK 73160)

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## SOON TO BE PUBLISHED: YET ANOTHER MAJOR PROJECT OF PEGGY B. RICH AND MARION A. WHITEHURST:

For a year or longer, Rich and Whitehurst have been abstracting the entries from ca. 1872 through 1893 as found in *The Pickens Sentinel*, the major newspaper of Pickens County for almost 100 years. Topping out at 755 pps., the work has been shipped to their publisher and will likely be printed as two volumes. Since the roughly 200 pp. index will be in the second volume, the two volumes will be sold only as a set.

The pre-publication price will probably be around \$60.00. One should consider the purchase of this work as an investment that will save hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars in time and labor. Think of your cost to

- (1) go the library (time after time),
- (2) locate microfilm,
- (3) thread it,
- (4) then read it -- all just to located one name or information about a particular subject you wish to research,
- (5) rewind it,
- (6) re-shelve it!

By having these volumes at home, you can (1) leisurely browse two decades of this notable and long-running far-northwestern SC newspaper that covered events in all of Pickens County and that often provides data on adjacent counties, (2) check a wide variety of subjects, or (3) use the index to look up names of particular interest..

This new publication serves as a companion to Rich and Whitehurst's earlier published *The People's Journal: Pickens South Carolina, 1894-1903, Historical and Genealogical Abstracts* (1991: 397 pps.: currently out-of-print, though Heritage Books, Inc., is considering reprinting).

## FAIR WARNING REGARDING AREA BOOKS:

I urge anyone interested in any book from this area to buy copies while available at a reasonable price. It truly is surprising to find area publications, some printed in recent years, already listed in rare book catalogues -- with accompanying price increases. (Keep in mind that a number of still in-print, books about the area are bargains!!!!) One of our "away" members wrote asking the value of various out-of-print works. I can only list what I suspect one will commonly pay to get the following. Listed prices represent the most recent quotes found in dealer catalogues:

<i>Persons, Places, and Happenings in Old Walhalla</i> (the last listing I saw was some 8 years ago at \$45. In my opinion, the book is not worth the going price; <i>Walhalla: A German Settlement in Upstate South Carolina</i> would be a much better buy)	\$40-\$50
<i>Walhalla: A German Settlement in Upstate South Carolina</i> (no known copies yet to change hands, but I anticipate the the opening price will be \$35 and climb thereafter.)	
<i>Walhalla: Oconee County, South Carolina</i> (ca. 1880s)	\$35-\$45
<i>History of Pumpkintown-Oolenoy</i> (a booklet -- very difficult to find!)	\$25+
<i>Seneca, S. C., Centennial 1873-1973</i>	\$20
<i>Cherokee Villages in S. C.</i> (no known copies yet to change hands, but I anticipate the the opening price will be \$25-\$30 or higher, unless reprinted soon)	
<i>Bailey A. Barton Muster Roll Book of Pickens District, S. C.</i> (a booklet. The rather high, recently listed, dealer price is quoted; \$10 would be more reasonable)	\$15

### THE NEXT THREE BOOKS CONTAIN NUMBERS OF ERRORS:

<i>So Lives the Dream</i>	(overpriced at) \$18
<i>It Happened in Pickens County</i>	(overpriced at) \$25+
<i>The Keowee River and Cherokee Background</i>	(overpriced at) \$15

Older works about Oconee County by such writers as Col. R. T. Jaynes and Mary Cherry Doyle are sometimes interesting to the collector, but have little monetary value (\$5-\$15/ in good condition).

A number of genealogical books about the area, including the enormous Alexander book by Rich and Whitehurst, are still available. Some older genealogical books are sporadically reprinted by Southern Historical Press in Greenville.

The difficulties involved in maintaining a list of in-print genealogical publications about individual families are immense -- such efforts have been abandoned.

## OTHER SELECTED OUT-OF-PRINT BOOKS COLLECTED BY THOSE INTERESTED IN UPPER S.C.:

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <p><i>The Expansion of South Carolina 1729-1765</i><br/>         (worth every penny and more -- in my top 10 of the best books ever produced about SC. This work will probably be reprinted -- someday!)</p>   | \$45        |
| <p><i>Unification of a Slave State: The Rise of the Planter Class In the South Carolina Backcountry, 1760-1808</i><br/>         (the price quoted is for the hardback/ the paperback is still available)</p>   | \$25-30     |
| <p><i>Origins of Southern Radicalism: The South Carolina Upcountry, 1800-1860</i><br/>         (the price quoted is for the hardback/ the paperback is still available)</p>  | \$25-30     |
| <p><i>Mill and Town in South Carolina 1880-1920</i><br/>         (the price quoted is for the hardback/ the paperback is still available)<br/>         I have not seen a copy of the hardback for sale since it went out-of-print.</p>   | \$ ??       |
| <p>Wallace's 4 vol. <i>History of South Carolina</i><br/>         (this work is now considerably dated. Certainly some portions of it have been replaced by more recent scholarship. Even so, the three volumes remain among the most collectable of SC books. At \$300-\$400, it is perhaps overpriced -- but do not let my opinion stop you from buying a set. I paid \$100 for my set in 1968 and thought I had bought a bargain (the lack of extensive quality material about the state at that time justified such a conclusion). Though a friend recently picked up the first 3 volumes at a library sale for about \$5.00 a vol., it is extremely rare to find Wallace at a bargain price.<br/>         Wallace contended that the fourth volume (in which people paid to include information about themselves -- the method used to finance the publication of the first three volumes) would ultimately be the most valuable of the set. Thus far, nobody agrees with his statement. The fourth volume, by itself, is often priced at \$25-\$50.<br/>         (CAUTION: in case you buy, or now own, a set, be aware that the glue used in the cover binding is particularly attractive to some bugs)</p> | \$300-\$400 |