

The History of Marvin

Ruth B. Ezzell

I feel so inadequate in trying to give a history of Marvin, but I have tried to collect some information and will share what I have found with you. When searching for Marvin history, undeniable hardships have been constantly present. Like most communities, people have not been very “history – conscious”, and have failed to preserve many records.

As we learn of the early history, the hardships, the sacrifices made by our forefathers, their determination to lay Christian principles as foundations for future generations, how they fought in wars for freedom and liberty, we may be inspired to a greater loyalty and appreciation of our community, “Marvin”.

I would like to express my gratitude to you and many other friends who have given me information. I have acquired other information from the following sources: the Salisbury, Mecklenburg, and Union County libraries; the NC Archives in Raleigh; the SC Archives in Columbia; and the National Archives in Washington, DC. I have searched in numerous courthouses including Mecklenburg, Union, and Cleveland in NC, Lancaster and York in SC, and Sussex in Virginia. Some of the information came from newspapers: The Charlotte Observer, Lancaster News, Evening Herald and the Monroe Enquirer with its many historical features, especially those by Miss Jennie Helms, for which I shall always be grateful.

The Beginning

In formulating any history, the beginning must be made at some point or at some time. I am beginning with why, when and how Marvin was settled. Let’s begin in 1603 when Queen Elizabeth of England died. Her successor, James I, seized two large estates from two rebellious Irish noblemen and granted the property to some Scottish landlords and English merchants. These new owners persuaded Scottish tenants from the lowlands to migrate to the section of Ireland known as Ulster. These people were living in bleak Scottish heaths before migrating to the green valleys of Ireland and later to the colonies. The reasons for migrating, first to Ireland, then to the colonies (Pennsylvania), and then to the Providence-Waxhaw area were the same as those generally ascribed to migrants: escape, excitement, and economic improvement. If you were poor, you stayed poor, no matter how hard you worked or what abilities you had. As a rule, even today, people who migrate are usually dissatisfied at home, or anxious to improve their lots. This was the case with our ancestors. I dare say that most, if not all of

us, are descendants of these very poor Scot-Irish immigrants. The upper classes were already successful and had no reason to go to a wilderness to start fresh.

Our Scot ancestors did migrate and went with great ambition and initiative. They went in great numbers. They settled and became industrious and thrifty and developed flourishing industries. But a combination of events and circumstances led to the American exodus. It was religion – they wanted to worship as they pleased. It was political – freedom to do and say what they pleased. Many had been in Ulster four generations or almost one hundred years before the large scale migration to America about 1717.

You will remember from your history that the first permanent English settlement was at Jamestown, VA, in 1607. Attempts were made to colonize North Carolina for eighty years between 1584 and 1663, but these attempts were unsuccessful. The Virginians (already a colony) began to eye the vacant lands to the south. About 30 families had filtered south into the Albemarle Sound area by 1650 or 1660. As far as is known, none had deeds to the lands, probably just an agreement with the Indians. None are known to have held land prior to 1663 by formal patent.

In 1663, Charles II granted to eight Proprietors (supporters who helped him regain the English throne) certain lands in the “new world”, which is the present NC – from the Virginia border to what is now Cape Canaveral, FL.

These “Lords Proprietors”, had special privileges, including the right to grant lands. And so, in 1669, land grant entries were made, land patents and deeds were recorded, land was taxed, a court of claims was established to settle disputes arising from grants, and record keeping began for the first time in what is now North Carolina.

The colony (NC) was under the leadership of the Lords Proprietors for 60 years, but it did not flourish – the lords did not get the return they expected. In 1729, seven of the original proprietary shares were sold to George II. Then NC became a crown colony. John Carteret, the last of the shareholders, refused to sell. When his mother died in 1744, he became the 2nd Earl of Granville. He got his 1/8 share of the Carolinas, and the Granville district was created. He was represented in the Granville district by land agents who granted the lands and collected the rents and fees. He died in 1763, never having seen his NC lands. His son, the 3rd Earl of Granville, inherited the property. **He died in 1776, the year the Revolution began, and this land grant office was never opened.** There were no Granville grants in this area, as the Granville area was in the northern part of NC. All grants in this area were crown grants.

A land grant/land patent was a document transferring ownership of vacant land from a granting authority to a person who wanted it. Very few of the original crown grants have survived.

Here is what is left of the original crown grant for 300 acres to William King in 1763. This includes where Verlene, Ann, Sissy, Shirley, Ida, Jo and Jo Ann King live, and the big field in the corner of Marvin-Weddington and Joe Kerr roads. Before his death, William King deeded John King 200 acres. Most of the King family died of small pox and are buried in the family cemetery between Ann and Verlene's.

Sara Carter Crooke owns the original crown grant of Benjamin Story for the lands we know as the Stephenson place (on Crane Road). It included where Frances Carter lived across New Town Road to what we call Ross Town.

Another crown grant which both grant and property are still in family ownership is the Henry Downs King's grant on Hwy. 51 and Strawberry Lane. Henry Downs was one of the signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. He was a tax accessor and overseer of the poor for the years 1775-1785. He must have been a lawyer too, because I have seen many legal documents that he signed.

In 1777 (after the Revolution), North Carolina began issuing State Land Grants in order to grant lands formerly held by the crown and the Earl of Granville. Our first Marvin settlers: the Stitt, Dunn, Story, Ezzell, and other families had state grants. A person could locate up to 640 acres of vacant or ungranted land and apply for it. The Land Grant system was as follows:

Headright System: A person was given a certain number of acres per settler brought into the colonies. This was a way to populate the colony. The patent stipulated that the grantee settle on the land, as well as clear and plant a designated number of acres within a specified time.

Purchase Patent: The settler purchased the patent for a small amount of money. Purchase patents became more common during the crown period, and all "Headright Grants" ceased with the Revolution.

This was the Land Grant Process:

~A person found land that he wanted, and made a land entry or application to the land office. Once the entry was made, an warrant was issued. It was an order issued to a surveyor to set apart lands described in the entry.

~The surveyor surveyed it, drew a plat of survey, and gave a description of the lands. (All of the old deeds name the streams: 6 mile creek, 4 mile, 12 mile, etc. The streams were named by the Indians before the settlers came.

~Upon receipt of the plat of survey, the Secretary of State wrote out the patent conveying the land to the grantee, and attached a copy of the survey to it with sealing wax.

~A copy was filed in the Land Grant Office.

These records are in the Secretary of State Land Grant Office on Jones Street in Raleigh. They include all Proprietary, Crown, and State patents from 1679 to 1959, when they ceased issuing state grants.

Now let's talk about the first land owners of Marvin – the Indians. The Waxhaw Indians derived their name from the reed-like waxy haws that were abundant along the Waxhaw creeks. The Waxhaw Indians were almost wiped out in 1741 by small pox, so the few remaining ones left this section and joined the Catawba Indians across the river.

Thy mystery of the Waxhaw Indians is: where did they bury their dead? Usually Indians buried in mounds, but none can be found. I have read that there is an Indian burial ground near Marvin. **I believe it to be behind this Church in the woods on Bill Ezzell's property.** A large section is marked with big rocks as if marking graves. However, this could be a Revolutionary War burial spot (I've read there was also one of these in Marvin) or maybe it's just a coincidence that the stones are in such a formation and no other stones as such are in the area.

With the departure of the Indians, this area was left open for settlement. Let's take a look at how North Carolina was settled, and how the counties were formed.

1763 is the earliest year for which we have any record of settlers living in this area. I have found the record of only one Revolutionary war soldier, Sir Frederick Ezzell. **Here is an account of his application for his pay.** You will remember that the Revolutionary soldiers were not paid for their military service. Instead, some were given vouchers which could be used to get land. Many soldiers did use these vouchers to obtain land. When soldiers later applied for their pay, they were paid in Spanish minted coins. **Here is one, dated 1772, that Aunt Bertie gave to Steve.**

Now let's talk more about the settlement. From the time of Jamestown in 1607 to the Revolution, many immigrants had migrated to the colonies. They were excited about the prospects of a better life, and undaunted by the hardships and perils of a strange land. About 1740, some of the immigrants who had migrated to Pennsylvania and Virginia and other northern colonies began moving through the valley of Virginia to NC. In the meantime, there began a flow of immigrants northward from Georgetown and Charleston. They merged in our region.

The date commonly accepted for settlement for this piedmont section of NC is about 1748. In 1752, a traveler from Salisbury could travel all day and find one house, and southward nothing but wilderness. There were a few Pennsylvania Germans higher up in the piedmont. Their solitary cabins were scattered from the Yadkin River to the Catawba. The earliest record we have of settlers here is 1763.

Once the procession of settlers started, the southbound traffic along the Great Philadelphia wagon road numbered in the tens of thousands. It was a rough road; actually an old Indian trail. You could travel about 20 miles a day in a wagon or 30 on horseback.

In 1746, (before the Revolution) in Anson county (which is now Union, Mecklenburg, Orange, and Rowan counties) there were not 100 fighting men. In 1753, only seven years later, there were 3000. By 1757, the first white settlers had started coming into the area. On December 11, 1762, Mecklenburg County was formed from the western part of Anson county. We (Marvin) were in Mecklenburg County until 1842, when Union county was formed.

These early Marvin settlers hacked their existence from a wild, strange country. There were huge forests, thickets, and thick underbrush. There was an abundance of game and fish. There were small animals – rabbits, squirrel, birds, and wild turkeys, but their favorite meat was deer. The old Buck Hill Baptist Church, which stood where Vaughn Ezzell's house now stands, was named Buck Hill Meeting House because so many buck deer came there every day. Speaking of the Church, some of the early settlers of Marvin attended Flint Hill Baptist Church. Frederick Ezzell Sr., Frederick Jr., his family, and their slaves are listed on the church roll from 1793-1835. Buck Hill was organized as a mission branch of Flint Hill in 1858. It was moved and became Pleasant Valley Baptist Church.

Our early settlers were not idlers. They erected their crude homes, which were mostly logs with hand-hewn batten doors and rock chimneys. An example of these homes is the cabins at James K. Polk's birthplace. They were originally the old Coffey cabin (moved from where the Coffeys settled near Bill and Dan Kell's) and the Rea cabin and the Kuykendall cabin moved from the Providence

community. The settlers made roads, created simple tools, and then envisioned churches and schools. Their lives in the wilderness changed rapidly. By 1760, they were doing business with the merchants in Charleston. They took tallow, cheese, butter, and hides, etc. and traded for items they needed but could not produce, like salt, iron, etc. Later, country stores began, and sold bundles of yarn, loaf sugar and bars or slabs of iron for plows and tools. Miss Jennie Helms (and Cornelia) wrote a very interesting article describing the earliest country store that Miss Jennie remembered. Blacksmith shops began to appear, and represented an important business then and until after World War II, when tractors and machinery took the place of horse-drawn implements. One such blacksmith shop was Mr. John McKinney's, which stood between the store building here and where Bill Ezzell's old house is. From about 1810 to 1910, there was a blacksmith shop where J. O. McCorkle lives in Indian Land. The best known blacksmiths there were the brothers Madison and Lee Gordon.

Tailors were also important to the early settlers. They took pride in dressing and wanted nice clothes in which to go to worship. There was a tan yard near where Pleasant Valley Church now is, where they manufactured the shoes the Marvin people wore after the Revolution.

Then came the first saw mills. The first such mill was known as Harrisburg Mill, located just north from where McAlpine Creek flows into Sugar Creek. There was also a grist mill there. There were probably other corn mills in this area, but the Marvin people no doubt took their wheat for flour (after they began growing wheat – sowing, cradling, bundling, threshing) to Howard's mill as it was the first flour mill. It was located on Twelve Mile Creek, as all mills were water powered. Go New Town Road across Highway 16 until you come to a little **(colored)** cemetery on your right. Take the field road by the cemetery and go to the creek. There are still some old logs there, remnants of the old mill. This mill was owned by Margie Howard Hemby's ancestral grandfather, and was operated by Henry Wolfe (born 1775, died 1858) for 20 years. Another early one, although not so nearby, was the one on the Catawba River just below where the bridge is between Fort Mill and Rock Hill.

And the cotton gins – they came when the settlers began producing cotton. It was actually the first money crop. The early settlers began agriculture as soon as they arrived here in Marvin, producing about all the requirements necessary for survival. Then came the cotton period. There were no mosquitoes here until 1820, when the cultivation of cotton changed the drainage patterns. Most of the cotton grown here in the western part of Union county was produced by the slave system and the tenant farmer system.

Most of the Marvin settlers owned slaves, some of them owned many. The first census taken in the US was in 1790, and most of the first white residents of Marvin owned slaves. If you read some of the old wills you will find that they generally bequeathed their slaves to their children. Their slaves were their most valuable and honored possessions. The first slaves were brought to Jamestown from Africa by the Dutch in 1619, and were freed by the Civil War in 1865. But the slaves did not become important until 1680, when the Negro workers began to take the place of white indentured servants. Most of the local slaves were bought in Charleston. When the Civil War ended, and they were freed, they frequently took the last names of their masters. We still have black Ardreys, Stitts, Dunns, Ezzells, etc. living in this area.

In addition to the slaves, there was the tenant farmer system, where the tenant worked the crop on shares. They were hard workers trying to get enough ahead to buy lands for themselves.

After the cotton was ginned, it was taken to Charleston and sold or traded for goods or slaves. They traveled to Charleston by the old Steel Creek Road, later known as the Camden-Salisbury Road. Cornwallis tore up the road during the Revolutionary War, causing Highway 521 to be laid out.

I'm sure you have heard and read about the Milt Chaney Inn. Milt Chaney was a mystery – no one knew where he came from. He ran his tavern by the side of the road and was anything but a friend to man. Travelers returning from Charleston may not have relished the idea of staying at the isolated inn on the verge of the dark forest, but with night falling, and no other stopping place in sight, (many came from as far as Salisbury) they had no other choice. Many of the travelers had cash gold received for their produce and cotton in Camden and Charleston. Several travelers disappeared in the area of Chaney's Inn – their relatives could trace them that far but no farther. Chaney denied any guilt, and no proof could be found, but he was suspected of murder. He also dealt in stolen slaves. Finally, he was convicted of stealing a slave from Dr. R. L. Crawford. On a prearranged scheme with the slave, he would sell the slave to a traveler. The slave would run away and come back to Chaney, who would hide him until the chance came to sell him again. Slave stealing at the time was punishable by death, and he was hanged in Lancaster. Years later, when Highway 521 was being cut and paved, many skeletons were unearthed. You may remember the old tavern – it stood near the intersection of 75 and 521.

Extensive cotton culture began about 1800 in the Sandy Ridge township, and spread eastward in the county. There was a decline in its production following the Civil War, as many men had been killed, many others wounded. The

freeing of the slaves resulted in a lot of lost labor. Another factor for the decline was the taking of the growers' livestock for military use. **Here is a receipt of Burton's grandfather Stephenson's 2 head of cattle taken for military use.**



Dr. J. J. Rone House

Curent Owners:

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rone Ardrey
Route 1 P.O. Box 503 B
Pineville, N.C. 28134

Telephone: 704/542-3287

Historical Overview

*Dr. William H. Huffman
October, 1981*

The charming country home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ardrey, presently located about seven miles south of Pineville in the county, was originally built by Dr. J. J. Rone, a country physician of rural Union County, N.C.

James John Rone was born in 1855,¹ the son of Loyd K. Rone (1817-1886) and Elizabeth Clementine Howie Rone (1829-1862). L. K. Rone was a farmer and owner of real estate in the area of the village of Marvin, which is located in the extreme western corner of Union County about two miles southeast of the Mecklenburg County line.² After receiving his undergraduate degree from Erskine College, Dr. Rone studied medicine at the Medical College of Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, from

which he graduated in 1884. Following his graduation and residency studies, he returned to Marvin to practice medicine in that rural community.³ By one account, he started practice on November 12, 1889. In the late 1870's, Dr. Rone had married Mary Levinia McIlwain, who was the daughter of another long-time local family, Dr. and Mrs. W. A. McIlwain. The two met and fell in love while both were attending Erskine College.

About 1886, Dr. Rone built his grand country house next to the Banks Presbyterian Church in Marvin on the New Town Road. It was an imposing structure in the village of Marvin, and became a center of social activity for the community as well. Mrs. Rone kept abreast of the latest fashion in clothes, and the household had the reputation of providing the best in Southern hospitality to its guests, which sometimes included local children who would feign illness in order to be kept at the house for observation and treatment just to take advantage of the fine care. The Rones also partly raised their own two daughters there, Blanche (later Mrs. James Potts Ardrey of Pineville, 1878-1956), and Anabel (1879-1898), who suffered an untimely death at the age of nineteen.⁴

About 1891, Dr. Rone and his family moved to Pineville, where he built a house (which burned and was rebuilt) and had some 17 acres of land.⁵ He practiced medicine in that community until 1896, when, following a written request from an ill classmate to take over his practice, Dr. Rone and his family moved to the town of Doe Run, in St. Francois County, Missouri (about 50 miles south of St. Louis). He practiced medicine for a time in nearby Desloge, Mo. The two daughters graduated from Carleton College in adjacent Farmington; Blanche was a graduate in music, and taught that subject and piano for a number of years. Tragedy struck the family when Annabel died in 1898, while only 19, and Dr. Rone himself died the following year. After laying her husband to rest in a Masonic cemetery in St. Francois County, Mrs. Rone, accompanied by Blanche, returned to the homestead in Pineville, where she lived the rest of her days.⁶

In Marvin, Dr. Rone's practice was taken over by Dr. William Herbert Crowell (1866-1933), who was a native of Steele Creek in Mecklenburg County.⁷ The country home of Dr. Rone, however, had been sold to two sisters and a brother, Sallie A. Ross, Maggie A. Ross, and Dennis C. Ross, who managed their extensive farm holdings in the area, and lived in the house until their respective deaths after the turn of the century.⁸ In their nearly identical wills probated on the same day in May, 1920, the Ross sisters left the Rone house to the Banks Presbyterian Church next door.⁹

The Banks Church used the house for a variety of purposes over the years, but in 1964, the trustees decided to build a new structure on the site, and thus the house was in danger of being torn down. Dr. Rone's fine country manse was rescued by Sam and Jennie Ardrey, the present owners, who purchased the house from the church in 1964. In September of that year, they moved it to its present location in a pastoral setting in the southern part of the county, at the end of a long, winding drive leading from the Marvin Road. After extensive renovation efforts and the installation of furnishings which recapture a feeling of its nineteenth-century origins, the Ardreys moved in during June, 1965, and thereby the J. J. Rone house once again recaptured its place as a rural manor, the home of a country gentleman and his family.¹⁰

Dr. J. J. Rone House



This report was written on September 6, 1983

1. Name and location of the property: The property known as the Dr. J. J. Rone House is located on Route 1, Marvin Road, in Pineville, North Carolina.

2. Name, address and telephone number of the present owner and occupant of the property: The present owners and occupants of the property are:

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rone Ardrey
Route 1 P.O. Box 503 B
Pineville, N.C. 28134

Telephone: 704/542-3287

3. Representative photographs of the property: This report contains representative photographs of the property.

4. A map depicting the location of the property: This report contains a map which depicts the location of the property.

5. Current Deed Book Reference to the property: The most recent deed to this property is listed in Mecklenburg County Deed Book 3144 at page 226. The Tax Parcel Number of the property is-229-031-09.

6. A brief historical sketch of the property: This report contains a brief historic sketch of the property prepared by Dr. William H. Huffman.

7. A brief architectural description of the property: This report contains an architectural description of the property prepared by Thomas W. Hanchett.

8. Documentation of why and in what ways the property meets the criteria set forth in N.C.G.S. 160A-399.4:

a. Special significance in terms of its history, architecture, and/or cultural importance: The Commission judges that the property known as the Dr. J. J. Rone House does possess special significance in terms of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The Commission bases its judgment on the following considerations: 1) the Dr. J. J. Rone House, constructed in 1886 in the nearby community of Marvin, North Carolina, is an especially elegant local example of late 19th Century vernacular architecture; 2) the initial owner, Dr. J. J. Rone, was a leading physician in Marvin and the surrounding countryside, including the present location of the house, at the time of the construction of the Dr. J. J. Rone House; and 3) the current owners, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rone Ardrey, have faithfully restored the house and have thereby made a substantial contribution to the cultural richness of Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

b. Integrity of design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and/or association: The Commission contends that the attached architectural description by Mr. Thomas W. Hanchett demonstrates that the Dr. J. J. Rone House meets this criterion.

9. Ad Valorem Tax Appraisal: The Commission is aware that designation would allow the owner to apply for an automatic deferral of 50% of the Ad Valorem taxes on all or any portion of the property which becomes "historic property." Current appraised value of the .884 acres of land is \$9,000. The current appraised value of the building is \$29,320. The total current appraised value is \$38,320. The property is zoned R15.

Date of Preparation of this Report: September 6, 1983

Prepared by: Dr. Dan L. Morrill, Director
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Properties Commission
218 North Tryon Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202
Telephone: 704/376-9115

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October, 1981

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NOTES

¹ *Union County Men of Medicine* (Charlotte: Union County Medical Society Auxiliary, Monroe, N.C., 1968), p. 42.

² Monuments in Marvin United Methodist Church cemetery; interview with Lavinia Kell and Janie Moss Ardrey, 30 September, 1981.

³ *Union County Men of Medicine*, p. 42.

⁴ Interview with Lavinia Kell and Janie Moss Ardrey, cited above; Dr. Rone inherited the property from his father's intestate estate: Union County Deed Book 20, p. 701.

⁵ *Ibid.*; Mecklenburg County Deed Book 77, p. 330, 9 March 1891.

⁶ Interview with Lavinia Kell and Janie Moss Ardrey, cited above.

⁷ *Union County Men of Medicine*, p. 44.

⁸ Union County Deed Book 20, p. 701, 6 February 1888; Deed Book 23, p. 443, August 1892.

⁹ Union County Will Book 4, pp. 252 and 256, probated 26 May 1920.

¹⁰ Interview with Janie Moss Ardrey, 27 September 1981.

Architectural Description

Thomas W. Hanchett

The Dr. J. J. Rone House is a good example of what folklorists call an "I" house; the most common nineteenth-century house type in the Carolinas. Built in 1886 by the grandfather of the current owner, the two-story [frame](#) structure shows some Victorian influences in its elaborate front porch, but generally reflects the persistence of the simple forms and decoration popular before the Civil War. The house originally dominated the tiny crossroads community of Marvin until it was moved to this completely rural site in 1964 to escape demolition.

The "I" house is a long, narrow dwelling that looks like a sans serif "I" when viewed from above. Most have a central stair hall flanked by a room on each side on each floor, for a total of four rooms. The symmetrical form came to favor along with the classically inspired Federal style sometime after the Revolutionary War, and persisted in rural Southern areas into the early twentieth-century.

The Rone house is composed of a two-story main wing, an "I" house in form, with a [hip roof](#) and a pair of exterior end chimneys. A one story wing is hidden at the rear, which has a hip roof and originally had a central chimney between its two rooms. The roofs with their asphalt shingles, and the chimneys, stepped at the eave line, both date from the 1964 move. Eaves are boxed and walls are sheathed in clapboard with simple cornerboards, except for a section of more elaborate "German" siding in the front porch area. The central front door is flanked by narrow sidelights, as is the door to the porch above it. This tripartite entryway form is characteristic of antebellum design. [Windows](#) throughout the house are [six-over-six pane double-hung sash](#), also a pre-Civil War practice.

The conservative simplicity of exterior form and decoration is broken sharply by the~elaborate front porch. Four square-tapered, two story wooden columns support a broad roof that extends across almost the entire front of the dwelling. Under the roof is a two-story freestanding front porch with turned columns, turned balusters, a turned spindle-frieze, and scroll-sawn brackets. This porch is structurally completely separate from the square-tapered columns that support the roof that shelters it. This complex form, and the ornate machine-produced woodwork, reflect big-city Victorian ideals, the "modern architecture" of the period. They show that Dr. Rone, though enough of a country doctor to build a residence whose overall form echoed those of his neighbors, nevertheless had an awareness of new trends outside his rural community and was willing to try them.

The interior of Dr. Rone's house is more traditional than his porch. The stairs in the narrow central hall have simple square balusters. There are two rooms on the first floor, plus the two rooms in the rear floor. Doors close off each space. Sliding doors that were beginning period. Window and door surrounds are wide and plain, without Victorian corner blocks or elaborate molding. The two downstairs mantels are built up of flat boards with only the slightest hint of enrichment. Many doors retain their cast iron panel locks with porcelain knobs.

The clean simplicity of decoration is not a fault, but an indication of prevailing tastes. This is shown clearly in the horizontal matchboarding of the walls in the

stair hall and main parlor. Pine boards were carefully planed to provide smooth wall and ceiling surfaces. Unusual triangular molding strips were nailed into the corners to make a smooth transition from wall to wall and wall to ceiling. This matchboarding and the elaborate front porch are the two outstanding architectural features of the J. J. Rone house.

Over the years minor changes have been made to the house. Upstairs the mantels and fireplaces are no longer in evidence, and a small bathroom has been added in the stair hall. Downstairs a one-story bathroom addition runs behind the main wing, and an enclosed porch runs along the rear wing. The rear wing has received new windows and kitchen equipment, the central chimney has been removed, and the door from the wing into the front parlor has been widened into an archway. The front facade of the house and its major spaces are unaffected by these alterations.

The owners of the Rone house, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ardrey, now enjoy a view of rolling Piedmont farmland from their front porch. Behind the house are a number of period outbuildings, including a log dwelling from near Burlington, North Carolina, and a well house and session house from the more immediate area.

ONE POTTS FAMILY

Submitted by Virginia R. Heath

James Potts, who died May 8, 1781, in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, was born 1719/1720 and is buried at old Providence Presbyterian Church, as is his wife Margaret, born 1732, Died 17 March 1795.

In 1760 James Potts was granted 260 acres in then Anson County on the waters of Coddle Creek, joining William Courtney, Robert Teanon (?) Samuel Zicklegg, and the Governor's line. (PB16,322) In 1763 he purchased 143 acres on both sides of Six-Mile Creek from the notorious Col. Edward Fanning, Esq., of Orange County (Mecklenburg Co. DB1,2). Grants dated 1764, 1767, 1768, refer to his land, on Six-Mile Creek in New Providence, joining the Indian Survey. In 1769 he was granted another 260 acres on the East side of Six-Mile Creek, as surplus land within the old lines of patent to Thomas Sprat and by purchase then the property of said Potts. (PB20.535)

In 1775 James Potts purchased an additional 550 acres on the Flat Branch of Twelve Mile Creek from James McClure (DB10,203), which he conveyed to his sons, John and William, jointly the same year (DB10,203). On June 9, 1779, he divided an additional 1,000 acres which he had patented, between his sons. To John went 400 acres on the South side of Six-Mile Creek, joining the Indian line (DB12,2481), and to William 600 acres on the North side of Six-Mile Creek, adjoining Arch Crockett (DB14,272). On 22 October 1777 James had been granted Court leave to build a public grist mill on his lands in Mecklenburg County.

Six-Mile Creek arises in present Union County just north of Weddington and flows southwest into the panhandle of Lancaster County, South Carolina, where it joins Twelve-Mile Creek. Twelve-Mile Creek joins the Catawba River near Van Wyck.

James Potts made his will 10 February 1781 (WBF,6), naming his wife Margaret, his sons John and William, his daughter Jane Baxter and her children, John Potts Baxter and Margaret Baxter. He also names his brother John Potts. His home plantation was to go to his son John at his mother's death. His plantation named McUrney's(?)

was to go to his grandson James Potts Baxter. Unfortunately, James Potts Baxter died May 19, 1790, just ten years old, and is buried at Old Providence. The Plantation on Rocky River was to be sold. He further designated two large Bibles for his two sons.

John Potts (ca1718-1783), who held some "hard money" of his brother James, according to James; Will, is buried at old Providence. He left a Will in Mecklenburg County (WBF,10), dated 1783, naming his sons James William, and Robert and his daughter Margaret. Robert was the progenitor of most of the Potts families who lived near Bethel Church in Mecklenburg County. The house of his son, Robert, Jr., built 1811, is on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Sites Register.

William Potts (1758-1800), son of James (1719-1781) and his wife Margaret (1732-1793), is the only William Potts who appears in the 1790 and 1800 censuses of Mecklenburg County. According to Worth Ray, who in the opinion of many is not always to be trusted, William Potts was the wealthiest man in his District, which included the village of Charlotte. He was Tax Collector in 1783 and Captain of Militia, 1781-1785. In 1790 he apparently had one son, two daughters, a wife and 14 slaves. In 1800 his son James was 16-26, and he had three females in the family besides his wife. It seems likely that one of the females was James' wife, Nancy F. In his Will, dated November 21, 1800 (WBF,12), William names his wife Lydia, his son James, and his daughter Mary. To each of three young relatives he left a horse or mare: William, son of his brother John Potts; John Baxter, son of his sister Margaret; and William Gillespie, SON OF JACOB GILLESPIE.

William Potts (1758-1800) married Lydia McKabahan, who died October 23, 1843, aged 80 or 86. Both are buried at Providence Presbyterian Church. After William's death Lydia married Major-General George Graham (1758-1826), North Carolina Militia, Clerk of Court for Mecklenburg County, who served in the North Carolina Senate 1796 and 1803-1812. (MB 30 November 1802)

There is an interesting conveyance filed in Lancaster County, South Carolina (DB3,311), dated September 1, 1785, to William Potts of Mecklenburg County, N. C., from Gen. New River, Col. Ears, and Maj. Brown of the Catawba Nation, on their own behalf and in behalf of the head men and young warriors of their nation, commencing from the day on which said Potts shall make a settlement on the premises, conveying a tract on Six-Mile Creek a half mile each side of the creek to Potts' line, with other provisions.

John Potts, the second son of James (1719-1781) and Margaret (1732-1795) Potts, married Agnes (Nancy) Houston, daughter of James and Grizzy Newell Houston, who bore him one son and eight daughters. John Potts did not leave a Last Will, but he made three conveyances which would substitute for a Will. On April 9, 1791, he made two deeds (DB13,900; DB13,901). In the first he conveyed to his children, namely, Jean, Gracey, Margaret, Susannah, William, Elizabeth, and any future children, his slaves, horses, and cattle, naming William Potts (his brother) and William Morrison to conduct and manage the children's education. The second deed conveyed his home place, containing 250 acres, to his son William, then three years' old, with the provision that John and Margaret continue to live there. His true friends William Potts Snr. and Wm. Morrison were appointed guardians. Twelve years later in another deed, proved July 1803 (DB18,20), John Potts conveyed to his present and future children the goods and chattels left to his wife Agnes in right of the last Will and Testaments of James Houston, Sr., dec'd, and Gracey Houston, his wife, dec'd, to be equally divided among them.

Agnes (Nancy) Houston Potts (1760-3 April 1830), buried at Old Providence, made her own Will March 3, 1830 (WBB,53). She

names the children also named in her husband's earlier conveyances as well as Mary, Nancy, and Carolina, born after 1791. Her and John Potts' daughters were:

Jean, b. 1779, d. 10 March 1843, buried Old Providence,
MB James McCullough 13 January 1801
Gracy, b. ca 1781, m. _____ Crockett
Margaret (Peggy), b. ca 1784, married James Robinson
MB 14 March 1803. They are possibly the Margaret
McKee Robinson (6/25/1784-11/9/1850) and James
Robinson (8/25/1776-2/2/1860) buried Old Providence.
Susanna, b. 15 Sept 1786, d. 7 Feb 1853, married
Edward Stitt (9/17/1778-5/13/1828), both buried
Old Providence (ancestors of columnist "Red Buck" Bryant)
Elizabeth (1790-1831) married John Houston, buried Wesley
Chapel, Union County, N. C. (grandparents of Ellen H.
Mary (Polly) married John Robinson Fitzgerald for whom the
Nancy married James Gordon old Monroe hospital was
Caroline married _____ Wyatt or Wyeth. (named)

The only son of John and Agnes (Nancy) Potts was William Potts, born 10 September 1788, died 22 June 1856. He is buried at Providence Presbyterian Church, where his present marker states that it was erected by the Potts Families of Pleasant Valley, S. C., Steele Creek, and Charlotte, N. C., and the McIlwaine Family of Union County, N. C., by his descendants. The original marker was replaced in 1928 and now lies out front, or did in 1971, of the Hugh Deadwyler's home in the Marvin Community near Weddington. It is the home built by Dr. William McIlwaine and his wife, Levicy. Mrs. Deadwyler obtained the tombstone from the parking lot where it had been discarded by the monument company which replaced it. (The Charlotte News, Aug. 7, 1971, 3a)

William Potts (1788-1856) married three times. His first wife was Levicy Crockett (21 October 1786-8 February 1827), the mother of his first five children. He married 2nd, Elender (Nelly) Dunn, MB 9 April 1829. She was born 17 Nov 1782, died 6 January 1843, and is buried at Old Providence. His third wife was Elizabeth Kirk Wrenn, daughter of John and Sarah Cousar Kirk and widow of Theodore Wrenn (1800-1838). She had two children by her first husband, Amelia V., who died as a child, and George Leonidas (or Leander) Wrenn, born 1836, who married his cousin Nora W. Cousar. William Potts' accounts as guardian of her two children are on file in Lancaster County, S. C.

The children of William Potts and his wife Levicy Crockett were:

Maj. John McKniff Potts, (15 May 1810-5 March 1875), buried Steele Creek, married Martha Isabel Grier (MB 23 October 1835). Will, Mecklenburg County.

Robert Crockett Potts, born 22 August 1814, died 20 March 1872, married 1st, Mrs. Ann Rebecca Cureton Potts (1813-29 May 1844) (MB 19 July 1836 Mecklenburg Co., NC); married 2nd, Louisa Allether Wrenn (1 May 1828-20 June 1899). He was at one time Postmaster, Pleasant Valley.

Isaac Crockett Potts, born 31 May 1817, died 23 February/Lanc. Co. 1844, buried Old Providence.

Levicy Potts married 1st, R. Jefferson Miller (MB 10 November 1843 Union County); married 2nd, Dr. William A. McIlwane (1818-1894) (MB 18 December 1848)

Nancy Potts, born 22 April 1812, died 30 March 1833, buried Old Six-Mile, Lancaster Co., S. C., married Allen Morrow (1799-1883). He married 2nd, Clarissa Spears (MB Dec. 3, 1845).

There were no children born of the second marriage of William Potts (1788-1856). His third wife, Elizabeth Kirk Wrenn, was the mother of William Marcellus Potts, born 1845, died 21 June 1863, at Upperville, Virginia, as a Confederate soldier. William Potts appears in the 1850 Census of Union County, N. C., with his son, William M., aged 5, and his stepson Leander Wrenn, aged 14.

William Potts (1788-1856) made his Will 4 August 1852, probated October 1756, Union County, N. C. He left slaves and chattels and money to his sons John M. and Robert C. and daughter Levicy McIlwane. To his grandson James Morrow he left slaves to be held for him by his father Allen Morrow. He also left slaves to his step-son G. L. Wrenn, when of age. To his son William Marcellus he left the plantation he lived on, several other tracts of land, money, and his 8-day clock. On April 30, 1870, in three separate deeds (DB 17, 455; 456; 458) John M. and Martha Potts of Mecklenburg County, R. C. and L. A. Potts of Lancaster Co., S. C., J. M. Morrow and wife Margaret E. Morrow of Lancaster Co., S. C., conveyed to William McIlwain two tracts of land in Union County, N. C., known as the Estate Lands of William Potts, deceased. One tract of 720 acres was bounded by the South Carolina line on the South; by Estate lands of J. L. Robinson, dec'd, on the East; by Six-Mile Creek on the North and West. The second tract of 80 acres was bounded on the South by Estate lands of J. L. Robinson; on the East by Estate lands of J. A. Dunn, dec'd; on the north and west by Six-Mile Creek. The first tract appears to be land owned by James Potts (1719-1781) one hundred years earlier.

who is ~~now deceased~~, do hereby acknowledge that my signature to the above conveyance made and signed by me on this the 3rd day of August, 1881.

Robert Crockett Potts (1814-1872) and his first wife, Ann Rebecca Cureton Potts (1813-1844) were the parents of Margaret Elizabeth Potts, born 1837, who married her cousin James Morrow, son of Allen Morrow and his first wife, Nancy Potts (1812-1833). Ann Rebecca C. Potts is buried at Old Providence. Her first husband was William Potts (1808-1836), son of James Potts and grandson of William Potts (1758-1800) and his wife Lydia. Her two husbands were second cousins. She was the daughter of

Jeremiah Cureton and his wife, Nancy Kirk Cureton.

Robert Crockett Potts (1814-1872) and his second wife, Louisa Allether Wrenn (1828-1879) were married in Union County, N. C. (MB 29 April 1846). They and most of their children are buried at Pleasant Valley, Lancaster County, South Carolina.

Issue:

William Thomas, born 1849, according to Lancaster County Census 1850, compiled by Frances R. Jeffcoat. Some family records, however, show him as half-brother of the younger Potts children, a child of Ann R. C. Potts.

Dallas Orlando Potts, born 1851, married Katherine Jones

James Leon Potts

Ida Potts married J. P. Harris

Lula Potts married J. T. Harris

Dixie Lillian Potts married W. F. Harris

~~Ann R. C. Potts~~

Oscar Wrenn Potts, born 19 March 1855, died 15 October 1935, married Eva Harris (1859-1928)

Annie Lee Potts, born 8 October 1861, died 3 August 1941, married 3 October 1878 Osgood Pierce Heath. They are buried in Monroe, North Carolina

Dr. Robert Marcellus Potts, born 16 September 1871, died 9 February 1952, married Rosa Jane Barnette.

It seems likely that the first James and John Potts came into the Mecklenburg County area directly from the Iredell section of old Rowan County and into Rowan from Pennsylvania, having roots in Maryland. Your compiler, however, has no firm data for such a conclusion.

Principal Sources:

indent → Deeds, Wills, Marriages, Censuses, Cemeteries, Anson and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina, and Lancaster County, South Carolina.

Margaret M. Hoffmann, Colony of North Carolina Abstracts of Land Patents, Vol. 1, 1735-1764 and Vol. 2, 1765-1775. Weldon, N. C.: The Roanoke News Co., 1982.

Louise Barker Matthews. History of Providence Presbyterian Church. Charlotte, N. C.: Brooks Litho, 1967.

Robert W. Ramsey. Carolina Cradle Settlement of the Northwest Carolina Frontier 1747-1762. Chapel Hill, N. C.: The University of North Carolina Press, 1964.

Worth S. Ray. Mecklenburg Signers and Their Neighbors. Austin, Texas: Privately printed, 1946.

Union County Medical Society Auxiliary. Union County Men of Medicine. Charlotte, N. C.: Ramsey Book Service, 1968.

Possible Sources:

Manuscript Collection, South Caroliana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C. A Potts family genealogical chart and 1742 records from a Family Bible.

Thomas Maxwell Potts, compiler. Historical Collections Relating to the Potts Family in Great Britain and America by David Potts Including Contributions by John Potts. Canonsburg, Pa., 1901. There are copies of this book in the Library of Congress and in the DAR Library, Washington, D. C.



11. 25. 1945

105 I. Main - Swope House
Clinton County, N.C.

Presumed built ca. 1945.

N.C. Archives & History, Raleigh, N.C.
Historic Preservation Office

**IN HOUSE OF
GOD HE MIGHT
HAVE BEEN TO**

**Mr. Bryant Finds Mr. Siler's
Account of the Death of
Dr. McIlwaine**

GOOD FOR HISTORY BOOK

By H. E. C. (RED BUCK) BRYANT

Every time I go to Marvin, Union county, and see the old McIlwaine home I think of its early owner, Dr. William McIlwaine, and some of the things neighbors said about him. Some said he was "queer", others that he was a genius. That he had ability, character and a warm heart, no one who new him doubted.

Ignorant people have a way of saying that a man or woman is "peculiar" when they are too thick-headed to understand. My inclination has ever been to see and study persons with reputations of being odd or "queer". Often such folks give me an inferiority complex.

One of the first reports I ever had on Dr. McIlwaine said he did not like for people to agree with him in everything he said. Although quite young at the time I was interested in that report and from that day on I have wondered about that able country practitioner who was know for miles around for his medical skill and high standing in the territory in which he lived and worked. A "me too" person is not usually popular with thinking people. That has ever been true.

Persons fortunate enough to have read Thomas Hugh's book, "Tom Brown's School Days," may recall Tom's experience with Arthur, the gentle youngster put in his charge with out his consent. Arthur was a child, who had the courage to get down on his knees in a room full of wayward youngsters and say his prayers, and had influence for good.

"Arthur took a long time thawing, too, which made it all the harder work; sadly timid; scarcely ever spoke unless Tom spoke to him first and worst of all, would agree with him in everything, the hardest thing in the world for Brown to bear," the author says. "He got quite angry some times, as they sat together of a night in their study, at this provoking habit of agreement, and was on the point of breaking a dozen times with a lecture upon the propriety of a fellow having a will of his own and speaking out; but managed to restrain himself by the thought that it might only frighten Arthur."

I was told that riding horseback to Pineville one morning, Dr. McIlwaine was joined by an humble sort of a chap who agreed to every statement he made. Finally, adding a very absurd one, the companion allowed: "Yes sir, Doctor that is so."

"Well sir, if you say that is so."

it was reported the doctor had said. No doubt that is an exaggeration for Dr. McIlwaine was a Sunday school teacher as well as a physician. But, just the same, it gives the correct idea.

Dr. McIlwaine left a family of interesting children, all dead now, the last to go was the Rev. Robert J. McIlwaine, of Monroe, who died December 15 1944.

Recently there came into my hands a sketch of Dr. McIlwaine written by his pastor, the Rev. Jesse W. Siler, and it gives the kind of information that representatives of college and university libraries are hunting and preserving for historians to come. He died fifty-three years ago.

Of him Mr. Siler said:

Dr. William McIlwaine

"In Union county, Feb. 18, 1894, this servant of God passed to his reward. He was in his accustomed health, and on Sabbath afternoon went as usual to the church to conduct the Sabbath School of which he had been superintendent ever

Dr. William McIlwaine

"In Union county, Feb. 18, 1894, this servant of God passed to his reward. He was in his accustomed health, and on Sabbath afternoon went as usual to the church to conduct the Sabbath School of which he had been superintendent ever since the organization of Banks Church. After opening the school with prayer and taking his seat, the choir had sung but a few lines when it was observed that he was falling. In a moment he had expired, without a word, and without a struggle, as peacefully as if he were falling asleep. It was fitting that a zealous soldier should die in the midst of active service.

"Dr. McIlwaine was born June 18, 1818, being in his 76th year at the time of his death. His father, Charles McIlwaine, was for years an elder in Tirzah A. R. P. Church in York County, South Carolina. He studied medicine with his uncle Dr. William Ardrey of Mecklenburg County, and began his practice in Union County near where he died, and where most of his life work was done. He was married in 1845 to Mrs. Levicy Miller, nee Potts, who survives him, together with six of their seven children. Of four sons, two are ministers of the Gospel, viz: Rev. William E. McIlwaine, Superintendent of Evangelistic Work of the Synod of Alabama, and Robert J. McIlwaine, who is a student at Union Theological Seminary.

"About 1855, Dr. McIlwaine moved into Waxhaw neighborhood, largely influenced by the desire to be near an A. R. P. Church, of which he was always an admirer. It was here that he made a public profession of faith in the 38th year of his life, and connected himself with old Tirzah church which was then an A. R. P. Church,

under the ministry of the late Rev. D. P. Robinson. In 1867, he moved back to his former home and spent there the remainder of his life.

"After some time, he, with his family joined Providence Church in Mecklenburg County. There he continued his membership until Banks Church was organized in 1890-91. To this young church he gave his

Indeed, it was largely owing to his means and influence, seconded by faithful co-workers, that this church was established on so firm a basis.

"To no one would fulsome eulogy be more odious than to this plain, sincere, unostentatious man, but it is fitting that a pastor, who was associated with him in the closest bonds of confidence and sympathy should give some testimonial to his true character an genuine worth. In social intercourse Dr. McIlwaine was usually considered rather blunt or abrupt, yet he was know as far as his acquaintance reached for his tender sympathy and kindly ministry to the poor. He was quite literary in his turn of mind, and induced his children to keep up with current events. He was a fine theologian. He was, too, one of the few men who could say with the Psalmist: The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up. And this zeal and aggressive spirit increased with increasing years. He longed for the poorer classes of people to have the benefit of an educated ministry and of literary culture as well, and always wanted to establish religious schools for their benefit. The most remarkable feature of his religious life was his freedom from sentimental attachments to places. He valued his church membership chiefly for the good he could do with it. He willingly cut loose from two of the old historic churches of the county in order that he might build up Presbyterianism in new territory.

"Even in his death and burial he linked his memory with this work. He died in the church building, while working for the cause he loved, and at his own request was buried on the church grounds. He was the oldest

member of the church to be called from its membership church above, and the buried on the church grounds his life and death be as for

"The funeral service was held from the church, and attended by a large concourse of friends and relatives, colored people from everywhere came to pay their last honor and respect to this ed friend and benefactor.

"The pastor chose as appropriate to the occasion and spoke of the beauties of an aged saint.

"Servant of God well done Rest from thy loved employ The battle fought, the vic Enter thy Master's joy."

Journal, Monroe, N. C., April 22, 1947.

F A C S I M I L E T R A N S M I T T A L		
TO	FAX #	COMMENTS
FROM	PHONE #	
F A C S I M I L E T R A N S M I T T A L		

Fred -

905-4999 cell
 841-8346 H-
 333-2345 W

ATTACHED IS A MAP w/ "GRAVE YARD"
 ATTACHED. THE ONE BEHIND JUCKER
 FARMS APPEARS TO SAINT SOPHIA - NOTE
 CALABASH - POSSIBLY CIVIL WAR
 GRAVE YARDS -

[Handwritten signature]



703-750-1591 (Toll-free 1-800-845-9021). Your suggestions are always welcome.



Greater Charlotte, NC Map Legend

ROADS AND ROUTE SHIELDS

Interstate: _____

Other Controlled Access Highway: _____

Interchanges/Exit Number: **32**

U.S. State Charities: **29** **27** **4**

U.S. or Primary State Highway: _____

Through Route/Traffic Direction Flow: **SCOTT AVE**

Highway Proposed or Under Construction: _____

Street Block Number: **TORRENCE CHARL. RD 2227**

Proposed Street: _____

Trail: _____

PLACE NAMES

Area Name: **REMIER**

Subdivision: **GLENWOOD MANOR**

Business Park: **GASTON BUS PK**

BOUNDARIES

State: **NORTH CAROLINA SOUTH CAROLINA**

County: **CABARRUS, CO**

Incorporated: **MEADOWSBORO, NC**

Boundary Definition: **CONCORD**

Postal Zone/ZIP Code: **28054**

ZIP Code for Post Office Boxes: **28070**

OUTDOOR FEATURES

Park, Forest, Recreation or Wildlife Area: _____

Community/Recreation Center, Playground: _____

Camping, Picnic Area: _____

Golf Course or Country Club: _____

Beach, Ski Area: _____

Marina; Boat Ramp/Launch: _____

Swamp: _____

MASS TRANSIT

Railroad, Station: _____

Park & Ride/Commuter Parking: **E**

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC FACILITIES

Military, Federal, State or County Property: _____

Airport: _____

Hospital: **H**

Special Property Limit: _____

School, College or University: _____

Places of Worship: _____

Cemetery: _____

Municipal Building: **City Hall**

Library, Post Office: _____

Fire Station/EMS, Police Station: _____

Information Center, Parking: _____

Point of Interest, Gate/Barrier: _____

Scale 1" = 2000'

0 1/2 1 Mile

0 2000 4000 6000 8000 Feet

0 1/2 1 Kilometer

BLACK NUMBERS AND BLUE GRID TICKS INDICATE LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE

BLACK NUMBERS AND RED TICKS INSIDE THE NEARLINE INDICATE THE 1000 FOOT GRID BASED ON THE NORTH CAROLINA COORDINATE SYSTEM

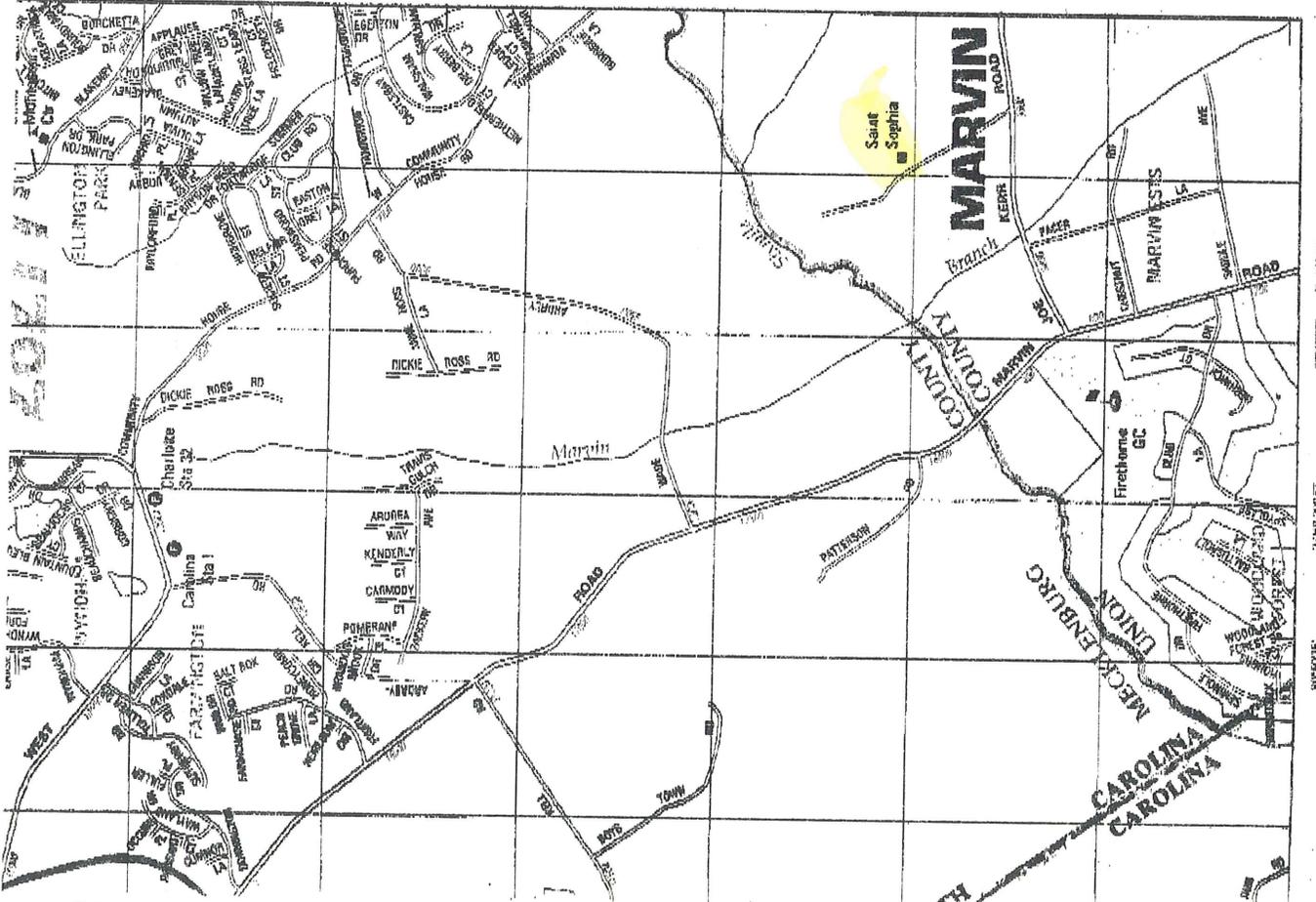
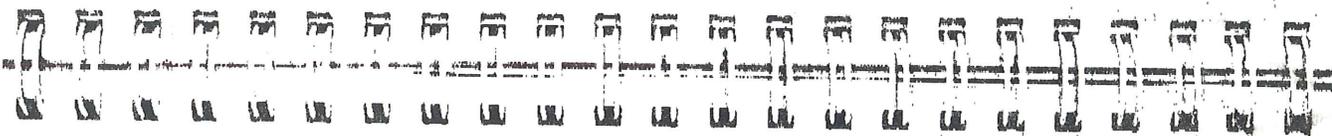
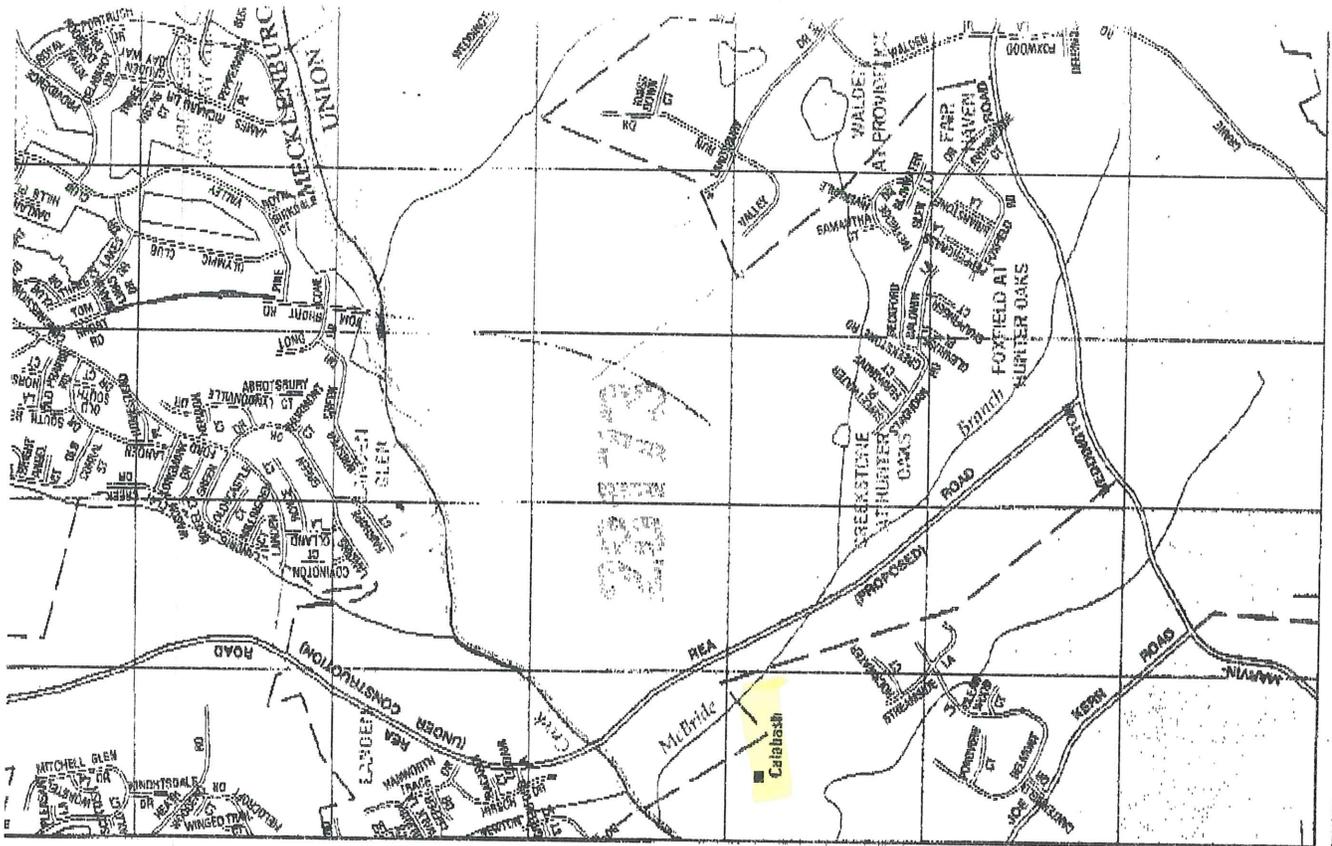
RED NUMBERS AND RED TICKS INSIDE THE NEARLINE INDICATE THE 10,000 FOOT GRID BASED ON THE SOUTH CAROLINA COORDINATE SYSTEM

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM REFERENCED IN THIS STREET MAP BOOK IS BASED ON THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1927 (NAD 27).

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The base information provided by the City of Charlotte Engineering Department was verified and believed accurate upon its release to ADC. Further information on city data is available by contacting the Survey/Mapping Supervisor City of Charlotte Engineering Department, Government Center, 600 East Fourth Street, Charlotte, NC 28202-2944.



A B C D E
 F G H J K

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1993 SESSION
RATIFIED BILL

CHAPTER 641
SENATE BILL 1331

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE VILLAGE OF MARVIN IN UNION
COUNTY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. A charter for the Village of Marvin is enacted to read:

"CHARTER OF VILLAGE OF MARVIN.

"CHAPTER I.

"INCORPORATION AND CORPORATE POWERS.

"Section 1-1. **Incorporation and Corporate Powers.** The inhabitants of the Village of Marvin, which area is described in Section 2.1 of this Charter, are a body corporate and politic under the name 'Village of Marvin.' Under that name they have all the powers, duties, rights, privileges, and immunities conferred and imposed on cities by the general law of North Carolina.

"CHAPTER II.

"CORPORATE BOUNDARIES.

"Sec. 2-1. **Village Boundaries.** Until modified in accordance with the law, the boundaries of the Village of Marvin are as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the centerline of Stacy Howie Road (SR 1311), said point being on the North Carolina-South Carolina State line, and being the southwest corner of the Billy and Martha D. Howard property described in Deed Book 265 at page 708 of the Union County Registry, and running thence with the centerline of Stacy Howie Road (SR 1311) in a northeasterly direction to the intersection of the centerline of Stacy Howie Road (SR 1311) with the centerline of the Waxhaw-Marvin Road (SR 1307); thence with the centerline of the Waxhaw-Marvin Road in a northerly direction to the intersection of the centerline of the Waxhaw-Marvin Road (SR 1307) with the centerline of New Town Road (SR 1315); thence with the centerline of New Town Road (SR 1315) in an easterly direction to the intersection of the centerline of the New Town Road with the Marvin-Weddington Road (SR 1316); thence with the centerline of the Marvin-Weddington Road in a northeasterly direction to the southeast corner of the property of Allen D. Carter and wife Shirley Y. Carter described in Deed Book 216 at page 624 of the Union County Registry; thence with the line of said Carter property North 34 degrees 23 minutes West 330 feet to a corner of the property of Sam W. Craver, Jr. and wife Sarah R. Craver described in Deed Book 337 at page 769 of the Union County Registry, said line passing an iron pin at 30 feet; thence with the line of said Craver property North 34 degrees 23 minutes West 703 feet to the corner of the Craver property described in Deed Book 337 at page 771 of the Union County Registry; thence with the line of said Craver property North 34 degrees 23 minutes West 1536.7 feet to a corner of the Lucky Realty property described in Deed Book 400 at page 281 of the Union County Registry; thence with the line of the Lucky Realty property

North 17 degrees 02 minutes 50 seconds West 1,178.53 feet to a corner of the Reunion Land Company property described in Deed Book 394 at page 461 of the Union County Registry; thence with 3 lines of the Reunion Land Company property as follows: (1) North 15 degrees West 1123 feet; (2) South 46 degrees 30 minutes West 858 feet; (3) North 31 degrees 45 minutes West 1192 feet to the centerline of Six Mile Creek; thence in a southwesterly direction with the centerline of Six Mile Creek to the point where the centerline of Six Mile Creek intersects with the North Carolina-South Carolina State line; thence in a southerly direction with the North Carolina-South Carolina State line to the point and place of **BEGINNING**.

"CHAPTER III.

"GOVERNING BODY.

"Sec. 3-1. **Structure of Governing Body; Number of Members.** The governing body of Village of Marvin is the Village Council, which has four members and the Mayor.

"Sec. 3-2. **Temporary Officers.** Until the initial election in 1995 provided for by Section 4-1 of this Charter, Don Kerr is hereby appointed Mayor, and Joe Ardrey, Jane Schmitt, Cathy Spain, and Gordon Suhre are hereby appointed members of the Village Council, and they shall possess and may exercise the powers granted to the Mayor and Town Council until their successors are elected or appointed and qualify pursuant to this Charter.

"Sec. 3-3. **Manner of Electing Village Council; Term of Office.** The qualified voters of the entire Village shall elect the members of the Village Council. Except as provided by this section, members are elected to a four-year term of office. In 1995, the two candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes are elected to four-year terms, and the two candidates receiving the next highest number of votes are elected to two-year terms. In 1997 and each two years thereafter, two members are elected for four-year terms.

"Sec. 3-4. **Manner of Electing Mayor; Term of Office.** The qualified voters of the entire Village shall elect the Mayor. The Mayor shall be elected in 1995 and each two years thereafter for a two-year term.

"CHAPTER IV.

"ELECTIONS.

"Sec. 4-1. **Conduct of Village Elections.** Village officers shall be elected on a nonpartisan basis and results determined by a plurality as provided in G.S. 163-292.

"CHAPTER V.

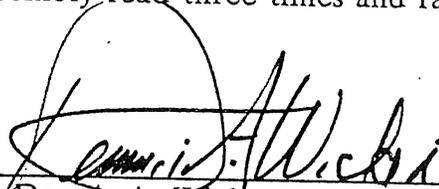
"ADMINISTRATION.

"Sec. 5-1. **Village to Operate Under Mayor-Council Plan.** The Village of Marvin operates under the Mayor-Council plan as provided in Part 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes."

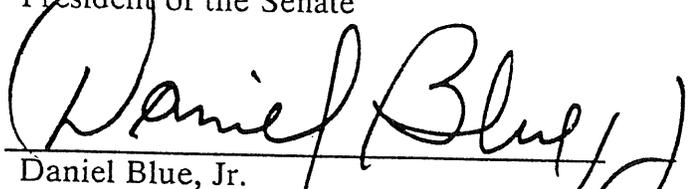
Sec. 2. From and after the effective date of this act, the citizens and property in Village of Marvin shall be subject to municipal taxes levied for the year beginning July 1, 1994, and for that purpose the Village shall obtain from Union County a record of property in the area herein incorporated which was listed for taxes as of January 1, 1994. The Village may adopt a budget ordinance for fiscal year 1994-95 without following the timetable in the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, but shall follow the sequence of actions in the spirit of the act insofar as is practical. For fiscal year 1994-95, ad valorem taxes may be paid at par or face amount within 90 days of adoption of the budget ordinance, and thereafter in accordance with the schedule in G.S. 105-360 as if the taxes had been due and payable on September 1, 1994. If this act is ratified before July 1, 1994, the Village may adopt a budget ordinance for fiscal year 1993-94 without following the timetable in the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act, but shall follow the sequence of actions in the spirit of the act insofar as is practical, but no ad valorem taxes may be levied for the 1993-94 fiscal year.

Sec. 3. Chapter 514 of the Session Laws of 1983 is repealed.
Sec. 4. This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 1st day of
July, 1994.



Dennis A. Wicker
President of the Senate



Daniel Blue, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Representatives



Union County History

The area now Union County was inhabited originally by Indians known as the Waxhaw Tribe. A town near the South Carolina line still bears this name. In about 1700 John Lawson, Surveyor-General of North Carolina, began a trip through South Carolina and North Carolina. During his trip he passed through or near where Union County now is, visiting the Waxhaw Indians for a time. Lawson described the land of the Waxhaws as being so fertile "that no labor of man in one or two ages could make it poor."

In 1741 an epidemic of smallpox seriously diminished the tribe, with most of the survivors leaving to join other tribes. As a result, land agents began advertising for colonists to settle the vast area of fertile land.

Beginning around 1750, settlers began arriving from Pennsylvania as well as Germany, England, Wales and Scotland. The land was ideally suited for farming, and the new communities began to grow and prosper.

Gradually the area of Waxhaw began to be settled. Presbyterian Scots-Irish who were dissatisfied with conditions in Pennsylvania finally found a place to their liking in Waxhaw. What is today Buford township in the southern part of the county was settled by German immigrants. The northwestern part of the county was settled by Pennsylvania Germans and people from eastern North Carolina. The eastern part of the county was also settled by people from other parts of North Carolina who were primarily of English descent, as well as settlers from Virginia. The central portion of the county, near the present county seat, was sparsely settled prior to 1760 but was later settled by people from other sections of the county. By the beginning of the Revolutionary War all of the territory, later to be Union County, was thinly settled by these immigrants and their descendants.

Ancestors of the people of Union County took part in the Revolutionary War. Patriotic tendencies were heightened by Tarleton's massacre of Buford's men just twenty miles south of Monroe. Consequently, a number of men of the area enlisted in the Revolutionary Army. The area gave at least one major and three captains to the Revolutionary Army. A battle occurred in the southwestern part of the area which is known as the Battle of the Waxhaws or Walkup's Mill.

After the Revolutionary War had ended there was a great new influx of settlers. The influx led to the next significant event in the history of the area, the establishment of its political identity. Union County was created by an act of the general assembly of North Carolina on Dec. 19, 1842, from parts of Anson and Mecklenburg Counties. This territory having previously been a part of New Hanover and Bladen Counties. It is said that there arose a dispute over the naming of the county between the Whigs and Democrats, as to whether it should be Clay or Jackson. Union was suggested as a compromise and adopted. The new county was a union of parts from other counties.

In 1843, the first Board of County Commissioners, appointed by the General Assembly selected an area in the center of the county to be called Monroe, as the county seat. Monroe was incorporated in 1843. Monroe was named for James Monroe, the country's fifth president.

The Mexican War began in 1846 shortly after the county was established. Union County furnished its share of volunteers. Slavery was most concentrated in the western part of Union County because this was where the largest farms and plantations were. Many more soldiers from Union County served in the Civil War than in the Mexican War. They participated in many of the more important battles. Union County escaped the devastation of the Civil War, but its families sent their young men to fight with twelve companies of the Confederate Army. The bigger problem came after the war: economic hardship and a reduction in markets for the cotton crop.

The completion of a railroad through the county in 1874 did much to re-establish prosperity. The Seaboard Railroad was extended from Wilmington to Charlotte through Monroe, Wingate, Marshville, and Indian Trail in 1874. The pioneer bank of Monroe, the First National Bank, also came into being in 1874.

After the end of the Reconstruction period educational revival began in Union County, being part of the state wide revival. Intensive cotton culture spread over the county from the Waxhaw area. The Monroe Journal, occupying a journalistic place in the county similar to that of The Monroe Enquirer, was founded in 1894 by two brothers, G.M. Beasley and R.F. Beasley. In 1890 the Monroe Cotton Mill, the first county industry of considerable magnitude, was established. It was later purchased by local businessmen.

The Courthouse of Union County was constructed in 1886. It is perhaps unique among courthouses in that it is surmounted by a cross, the placement of which was attended by some controversy, being opposed by people who thought it sacrilegious. Soldiers from the county fought in all three wars of the 20th century, some with distinction, some with anonymity. They brought back from the wars trophies and new ideas.

During World War II, the military maneuvers staged in Union and other counties, and Camp Sutton both stimulated business, especially the retail trade, more than the war by itself could have. The moving of the county toward more dependence on manufacturing was greatly accelerated by World War II and the events connected with it.

The Wars, the Atomic Age, and the Space Age have stimulated education. Subjects have been added to the curricula. Schools have been consolidated. With larger schools instruction has been improved because the teachers can teach in their fields of preparation rather than having to teach in several different fields.

Monroe and Union County have long been seen as the "good neighbor to Charlotte" but with recent economic growth and more new residents moving to the area this has begun to pave the way for a promising future. In a recent study on population, Union County as compared to Charlotte and all it's surrounding counties, has seen a 23% population growth since 1990. This was the largest increase for counties studied. With the expansion of the Interstate 485 now at Highway 74, access to Union County has greatly increased. Also, the new Union County Business Park located near the new interstate exit will add to the already growing number of industries moving to the area.

Because of the increase of growth, the area has seen a wave of new homes, schools, and businesses. With new community facilities like the Aquatic Center in Monroe, more residents are finding that Union County is a great place to work and live. In considering the future, the county has begun to evaluate its growth by looking at how to effectively plan for the use of land and communities in the area. A proposed Highway 74 by-pass will enable Union County to continue to grow and attract new businesses and residents to the area.