## Written History of Crab Point Dates to 1722

## Porters Were First Family To Deed Land in That Area

in the office of the Register of Deeds, Carteret County, is a copy of a deed given by Katherine and Joshua Porter to George Coydell Ester Reed Porter, 1805-1844. The of a deed given by Katherine and Joshua Porter to George Coydell for 120 acres of land on the south side of Newport River and Daw-sons Creek. It's dated 1722.

This acreage is believed to have been part, or whole of one of the first grants (or purchase) of land in that section known today as Crab Point. The river and creek are the only boundaries given. As the name Porter appears many times in the land transfers of that section, it is reasonable to believe that Porter and descendants may rightly be called the first settlers on Crab Point; the name of which was not attached to the section until over a hundred years later.

Eight years later, following the purchase by Coydell, one Sarah Porter, wife of John Porter, deceased, is granted 240 acres near the mouth of Newport River, on the south side. The land was known by the name of "Hershaw." For the next century the name of Porter appears in various alnd trans-actions, both on the Point and elsewhere in the county.

In 1739 Joshua Nash became the owner of Point property through a grant given by the Lords Proprietors consisting of 223 acres. It bor dering on Shepards Creek, known today as Calico Creek. It is this grant most often referred to in establishing boundaries in later transfers. Also part of this tract was known in the county as the Pigott place, which today embraces subdivision of the town of More

Along with Porter and Nash of those early days appears the names of William Dennis, George Read and George Coydell as large land owners. Passing years brought John Jones, David Owens and Wil-liam Adams into the section to be followed by Laughtons, Oglesbys and Willis's and their descendants.

Probably one of the earliest tracts to be cleared and buildings erected thereon was on the proper-ty of Joshua Nash bordering on Shepards Creek. The house, torn down several years ago, was made of hewed timbers, joined with wooden pegs. Interior trim of doors and panels, mouldings and stair construction, were hand wrought The building, no doubt, was on the property at the time Levi Pigott purchased the 100 acres from Nathaniel Porter in 1838.

Further evidence that this loca is a clause in a deed of this prop-erty given by him to William Den-nis in 1744 which reads: "All except the grave yard to be reserved for Jushua Nash." He could not signature is an "X".

This cemetery reserved by Nash, known today as the Pigott ceme-

The contour of the land embrac ing what is known as Crab Point is almost a two-mile square peninsu-la, formed by the Newpart River on three sides and Calico Creek. It contains ome 2,500 acres. Timber

Several small industries thrived on the Point at one time. During the ten-year period of the building of Fort Macon, 1826-1836, with the demand for the millions of brick which went into its construction, a brick yard was put in operation along the north shore where suitable clay for making of brick was abundant. This yard flourished for several years.

property, one Penn Adams.

Along the east shore jutting into the Thorofare is an area that in years past was given the name of Crab Point. This name, through passing years, has designated the entire section. The story has come down through the years that the quantity of crabs caught along the east shore of the river was respon-

sible for the naming of the point It was at this point that a lumber concern under title of The Carolina Lumber Co., F. W. Pelton, of Bos ton, president, purchased from John Jones, Jan. 14, 1865, three acres of land, erecting thereon a saw mill. Operation of this mill was of short duration. Two years

Later, he added to the property by the purchase from Jones of six acres. He built a large house for his family where they made their home for several years. During the period the family lived at the mill site, a daughter, Lillie Fales, con-ducted a school for young children in the home.

erty must have reverted to him in both cases for in 1890 he leased the plant to the American Lumber Co., a northern concern. It was during the operation of the mill by this cept the grave yard to be reserved for Jushua Nash." He could not have been an educated man for his signature is an "X" concern that it was destroyed by fire. The home place did not burn. Following the fire, the Fales family moved to Beaufort.

One of the first menhaden fish factories to be put in operation in tery, contains the remains of many of that family, is thought to have been a community cemetery for families living along the southern part of the Point. Wooden slabs crudest of methods, Presses for



Known as the old Pigott house, long since torn down, this home is believed to have been built by Joshua Nash, who was the first owner of the land that later became known as the Pigott farm. A family ned in a deed given by Nash in 1744, would bear out this belief.



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By F. C. SALISBURY
Recorded on page one, book "A" early pioneers.

families of Reed and Porter at one time were neighbors of Nashes on adjoining plantations.

once nearly covered the area, but today the land is of the best in the county for agricultural purposes.

On the William Adams tract a grist mill, powered by one of those old-timey windmills, ground corn. The site of the mill was at the most northern part of the Adams tract where it extends into Newport River. This point is shown on maps of the section as Penn Point, so named from a later owner of the

later the property was purchased by Arthur M. Fales of Morehead City for \$15,000.

Records show that Fales sold the mill two different times. The prop-



This building is part of the Ward house, built at the turn of the 19th century. It originally had two stories with dormer windows that lighted the upper rooms. Hand-hewed timbers form the framing. Doors and trim and the paneled side wall show remarkable hand work. All mortise and tenon are fastened by pegs. Cupboard doors swing from "H" hinges, much sought after by antique hunters. The building now

Drying of scrap for fertilizer was

Morehead City became interested Miss Emeline to her grave. in the processing of sharks for their Many a Confederate sol skins, and oil from the livers, he selected the former sawmill site on from going out.

In the days of brick making and lumbering, the north shore of the In the day of other harms and for a stricting colorade.

As a wedding gift to her daugh in this area, if any, today.

For nearly a century the name of Laughton has been identified with the ownership and farm operation of the early homes at the plantation for a home site. The point was that of John Jones who owned considerable land along the owned considerable land along the cast shore. During the Civil War,

extracting the oil from the cooked property was purchased by John eral hundred acres along the New

Interesting Civil War history cenof the solar process. It was spread ters about the former Pigott planout on large open wood floors to be dried by the sun. Until cured, the daughter Emeline, whose are large tract of his daughter, Alice, who married David Ward, that be dried by the sun. Until cured, the daughter Emeline, whose as a spy in the cause of the daughter Emeline, whose are large tract of his sections with educational advantages. Laughton gave the county sections with daughter from the county of the Wards. This family was repwished by their descendants in the old Nash cemetery that her seented by their descendants in the old Nash cemetery that her seented by their descendants in that section up until about the time of the Civil War.

In 1936 when the county occame who married David Ward, that sections with educational advantages, Laughton gave the county of the Wards. This family was repwished by their descendants in that section up until about the time of the Civil War.

later moved to Morehead City and became known as the Royal house. the house was taken over by the William Borden, a member of Federal Army for use as a hospital. In later years when the the county in 1721, purchased sev-

fish were of the lever type operated by manpower.

Oglesby the house was moved to a port River, that in later years this became known as the Ward homeplace.

It was to his daughter, Alice

Emanuel Jones came into the Many a Confederate soldier county about the time of Joshua crossed the Newport River, to beat Nash, 1743. He became quite a their way in the night through the large land owner throughout the which to build his plant. He con-tinued work until the start of World war II, which stopped his boats ceive some message from their the east shore of the Point. Dehomefolk, to get a snack to eat or scendants of neither Ward or Jones some aid for a suffering comrade.

day families of this name, came from England shortly before the outbreak of the Civil War. He was married to Mary Anne Roberts in 1859 at Sheffield, which no doubt was his early home. He was born

Arriving in the states, he first

settled in Beaufort, later moving to Morehead City where he was

the vicinity of the railroad pier. He operated it until 1870. It was that year he purchased from the Ward heirs the land on Crab Point known as the Alice Ward homestead. It lay along the south and west sides of Newport River and contained 550 acres.

This site became the homeplace of the Laughtone down through the said to have come the name of the laughtone down through the said to have come the name of

of the Laughtons down through the years and is still owned by members of this family. With passing years, his holdings of farm property increased until they consisted of nearly 1,000 acres, almost half the area known today as Crab Point.

Seven children was been consisted of family of girls living on the Point bought calico by the bolt in which the seven children was been consisted of family of girls living on the Point bought calico by the bolt in which the seven children was been consisted of family of girls living on the Point bought calico by the bolt in which the seven consisted of family of girls living on the Point bought calico by the bolt in which the seven can be seven consisted of family of girls living on the Point bought calico by the bolt in which the seven can be seven consisted of family of girls living on the Point bought calico by the bolt in which the seven can be seven consisted of family of girls living on the Point bought calico by the bolt in which the seven can be seven consisted of the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought calico by the bolt in which the point bought called the poin

Seven children were born to this couple, four sons and three daugh-ters. The first child, a son, George, died in infancy from neglect on the part of his nurse from over-exposure in the hot sun. A son, Edwin. died at the age of 3. From the son, John, the present generation has descended to carry on the name of Laughton. The son, William, had

In 1883 when the county became interested in supplying the rural sections with educational advantages, Laughton gave the county school committee one acre of land. a short distance west of the home,

Later, the building was moved some distance along the north shore where it served up until the consolidation. Laughton built and operated a cotton gin on his property during the years when cotton raising was popular.

The present century brought two brothers, John and Dan Oglesby, from Hull's Swamp, into the Point section. Between them they pur-chased the Jones' property along the east shore. Descendants of these two brothers, now engaged in agriculture on the Point, are rated among the best farmers of the county.

An unusual relationship exists be-



joined by his wife. Here they lived until establishing their home on Crab Point.

For a short period during the Civil War, Laughton served on a Confederate hospital ship, carrying sick and wounded to southern ports where hospitals had been established. The gruesome sight of the maimed and wounded so affected him that he gave up the work.

After the close of hostilities, Laughton opened a ships' store in the vicinity of the railroad pier. He operated it until 1870. It was that year he purchased from the Ward

said to have come the name of Calico Creek.

The late Fred Royal would tell the story that the father of a large bought calico by the bolt in which to garb his wife and daughters

See CRAB POINT, Page 7



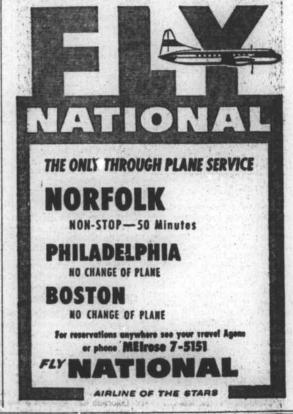
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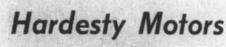
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ASKEW'S CREDIT CLOTHIERS,



It was to the Adams' windmill of this type, that farmers living

on Crab Point went to have their corn ground. This mill operated up until about 1870. The last operators were Penn and Octave Adams.
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