

Early Stokes History

(CONTINUED BY T. S. PETREE.)

On Dec. 3, 1795, Governor Samuel Ashe commissioned the following as justices of Stokes county in addition to those already serving; Addonijah Harb- our, William Campbell, John Bos- tick and Charles Banner. We might mention that by this time that the Capital of our State had been transferred from Fayette- ville to Raleigh. It was during the Constitutional convention held at Fayetteville in the year 1789 that the delegates from the various counties agreed upon and fixed the present location of our Capital as permanent.

Governor Ashe, on Dec. 20, 1797 appointed James Davis, Thos. East, Sr., Edward Harber and Richard Wallace, Justices of the Peace. We have before us at the time we record these vari- ous commissions the original documents and nothing is said about the expiration of their of- fices, therefore, it is impossible to determine the length of time they serve, and this statement re- fers also to the first appointments made by Gov. Alexander Martin

Isaac Nelson was Sheriff dur- ing the year 1798 and perhaps he might have been a little care- less in performing his official duties as we note by the follow- ing:

State of North Carolina,
Stokes County.

To all Sheriffs & Constables: within this State to whom these presents shall come:

Whereas, Isaac Nelson hath this day made oath before me A. Robinson, Esqr. one of the Justices of the Peace for said county, that Zachariah Moot Brookes Broke Custody from the

said Isaac Nelson last night and is not yet apprehended, therefore in the name of the State I charge you and every of you in your several precincts to search dili- gently for the sd person and to make Hue and Cry After Him from Town to Town and from county to county, as well by horse men as foot men and if you shall find the person who made his escape yesternight, for whom you shall have just cause to hunt that then you ap- prehend and bring him before a justice of the peace of sd county there shall be to be dealt with as the law directs. Given under my hand this 6th day of Dec., 1798.

A. ROBINSON, J. P.

Brookes might have been caught, perhaps not, however, we presume Mr. Nelson was not so negligent in the future, but later on we will have more to say about him.

During the year 1798 it would have been interesting to have visited Germantown and seen how busy our county officials were, so have noticed how proud they would be gathering around our lately created county seat and discussing the events of the day. George Washington had visited Salem on his farewell tour and no doubt all had gone there to see and honor him. Let us take a look and see who owned prop- erty in Germantown at that time as the list below shows and also the assessed valuation.

"We Joseph Banner, Gabriel Waggoner & C. Banner being Chosen assessors for the Town property agreeable to the 7th section of an act of assembly passed in the year 1792, report as follows:

LOTS:	L
Thomas Armstrong,	1 60
Anthony Bitting,	7 150
Joseph Bitting,	6 200
Lewis Blume,	1 75
Gray Bynum,	1 100
George Ebert,	1 100
Leedes Esatte,	1 25
Constantine Ladd,	10 450
Isham Vest,	3 125
Jacob Blume,	4 400
George Houser,	2 250
George Houser, Sr.,	3 50
John Hine,	3 100
Christian Lash,	1 8
John Mickey,	1 100
Henry Shore, Sr.,	2 75
Abram Steines,	1 8
Alexander McCall,	2 75
Nathaniel Moody not given in	2 60
Peter Hairston,	1 10
Henry Fessler not given in,	1 8

CHAS. BANNER,
JO BANNER,
GR WAGGONER.

The above property assessed by us the 29th Jan., 1798.

We have before us the follow- ing report but same is not dated, it was made, however, we think it was some time prior to 1800, judging by the signatures at- tached.

"We your committee appointed by your court the last December Term to settle with Constantine Ladd as Treasurer of public Buildings and contract with him for the Building of a Jail and

make report to the next court of their Proceedings, Now Report: That they have had before them the Expenditures of the new Jail and after some Deduc- tions they have allowed for the same:

.....	L 385, 10, 6.1-2
for C. Ladd's Extra
Service	5, ---
.....	L 390, 10, 6.1-3

also for expenses & repair at the court house 50, --- for which the Treasurer is charged with L 440, 10, 6.1-2
Cash rec'd from the public Treasury L 200.
deduct 5 per ct. is L 190.
Sale of Lot adjoining Jail 7, 14
Sale of Materials of old Jail, 3, 7, 6
Cd Taxes for repairing old Jail 1795 Nt. Amt. 65, 8, 2
Do for repairs done at court house, Nt. 64, 4, 4 1-2
..... 330, 16, 6

Makes in favor of C. Ladd Balance L 109, 16, 6 Which balance is allowed to Constantine Ladd, with the Pro- viso that he finish the laying and ceiling of the Debtors Room, likewise, finish the rough paint- ing and get and put on the door- locks.

They likewise find that the balance due the county by the late county commissioners noth- ing has been received, and they recommend an Enquiry to be instituted for ascertaining the sum in the hands of those com- missioners Charles McAnally and Gray Bynum.

All which is submitted by
ABRM. STEINER,
WM. HUGHLETT,
HENRY B. DOBSON,
JOHN MARTIN.

I protest to the extra allow- ance for the Treasurer's Services made in the 2nd article of this report.

T. ARMSTRONG.

On the 17th day of December 1799, Governor Benjamin Wil- liams appointed James Martin a Justice of the Peace and his name is the only one mentioned in the commission, however, the com- mission is directed to "Matthew Moore & William Dobson, of the county of Stokes, Esquires or any three of their Associate Justices."

We are now starting in the year 1800 and of course this means more appointments, so on December 15th 1800, Gov. Wil- liams appointed Peter Hairston, John Evans, John Endsley and William Wrand as Justices, serv- ing at that time were some pre- viously appointed.

To try and list all appoint- ments from the year 1789, and each year thereafter would re- quire considerable research, therefore, in the future we prob- ably may run across some of them but will make no special ef- fort to compile a complete list. When we consider the fact that Stokes county is almost 150 years old, then we can see how much time it would consume to gather all these facts together.

To raise revenue following the war for Independence it appears that a tax was levied upon vari- ous documents, as well as other things, to help retire the National

debt. We have before us a note against one John West, dated Feb. 20, 1801. Impressed within the note, made by a metal seal, is an Eagle perched upon a shield surrounded by the words "Ten Cents-Virginia." This reminds us that after the world war, we likewise, attached a stamp on all notes for the same purpose.

We promised to say more in regard to Isaac Nelson who was appointed Sheriff before the year 1800 and served for several years thereafter. Nelson appears to have been a man that was very careless at times as we will see from some articles we quote be- low, as well as a little later on: "Stokes County, North Carolina.

Whereas Ann Briggs came be- fore me this 16th day of Feb- ruary, 1802, & complained on oath that on the 2nd day of January last Isaac Nelson did violently assault & abuse her with an intention to commit a rape contrary to law and against the peace and dignity of the State.

You are therefore commended to apprehend the said Isaac Nel- son & him safely keep so that you have him before some justice in said county to answer to the said complaint & be further dealt with as the law directs. Given under our hands the 16th day of Feby, 1802.

THOS. T. ARMSTRONG, J. P.
ISAAC DALTON.

There must have been just cause to bind Nelson over to the court as we note on the warrant that he was placed under bond of 20 pounds. Andrew Bowman was security on bond for an ad- ditional 20 pounds. Ann Briggs gave bond in the amount of 10 pounds as witness for the State. When this was brought up before the grand jury a true bill was found. We will quote.

State of North Carolina,
Stokes County,

March Session, 1802.
The jurors for the county of Stokes and State of North Caro- lina on their oath present that Isaac Nelson, gentlemen, late of said county on the second day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and two with force and arms in the county aforesaid and State afore- said in and upon the body of Ann Briggs an assault did make and with an entention to ravish, & to commit a rape on the said Ann Briggs then and there being did beat, wound and ill treat, to her great damage con- trary to morality as well as law to the evil example of all others in like cases offending and against the peace and dignity of the State.

THO ROGERS,
atty pro State.

We notice that the present- ment was aganst Isaac Nelson, gentlemen. Perhaps he was never-the-loss, a few years later on, and while still occupying his office, he again was in trouble over taxes collected and not ac- counted for but for the present we will take up other items.

Jenny Lind's Grave
Jenny Lind, the Swedish night- gale, is buried in Malvern, England.

No Hunting In the State on Sunday— Legal Notice.

In accordance with authority vested by Chapter 486, Public Laws of 1935, in the board of Conservation and Development, this body in regular session at Raleigh, N. C., on January 19, 1937, voted to prohibit the hunt- ing or taking of game birds or animals on Sunday in North Carolina.

C. H. MARTIN,
Game Protector.

NOTICE

NORTH CAROLINA
STOKES COUNTY
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
THOS. E. SMITH AND WIFE,
MINNIE SMITH; EFFIE
LEMONS AND HUSBAND,
ROY LEMONS, ET AL
VS.
CLARENCE H. HOLLAND AND
WIFE, GRACE MCGEE HOL-
LAND; LILLIAN HOLLAND
BOYLES AND HUSBAND AUB-
REY BOYLES, ET AL.

NOTICE

The defendants Clyde Bennett and wife, Pearl Bennett, will take notice that an action en- titled as above and involving the sale of real estate in which they have an interest, has been insti- tuted in the Superior Court of Stokes County, North Carolina; that the said defendants will further take notice that they are required to appear at the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Stokes County in the courthouse in Danbury, North Carolina on or before the 17th day of Feb, 1938, and answer or demur to the petition filed in said action, or the petitioners will apply to the Court for the relief demand- ed in the said petition.

This 18th day of January, 1938.
J. WATT TUTTLE,
CLERK SUPERIOR COURT.
H. H. LEAKE, Attorney,
Winston-Salem, N. C.

NOTICE

Having qualified as adminis- trator of the estate of A. G. Cromer, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present them to me, duly authenticated for pay- ment, on or before January 20, 1938, or this notice will be plead- ed in bar of their recovery. And all persons indebted to said es- tate are notified to make immedi- ate payment to me.

This January 18, 1938.
A. L. WARNER,
Admr., King, N. C.
R. J. Scott, Atty.

NOTICE OF SALE OF LAND UNDER DEED OF TRUST.

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a deed of trust exe- cuted by W. W. Newman and R. T. Newman to J. D. Humph- reys, Trustee, on the 14th day of January, 1928, which is recorded in the Office of Register of Deeds of Stokes County, N. C., in Book 76, Page 550, to secure the payment of a certain sum of money therein recited, default having been made in the payment of the note at maturity and the holder and owner of said deed of trust desiring to have the same foreclosed for the satisfaction of the debt, the undersigned substi- tute trustee will expose to public sale, to the highest bidder for cash, on the premises on—

SATURDAY, FEB. 19, 1938,
at the hour of two o'clock P. M., the lands conveyed in the deed of trust, to-wit: Beginning at mouth of a branch J.H. Creasey's corner; thence East with said Creasey's line 23 chains to a white oak corner; thence a South direction and along an old Ridge Road as it meanders 20 1-2 chains to a rock G. A. Martin's corner; thence West 20 chains to a bunch of chestnut trees; thence a North direction and up the creek as it meanders to the be- ginning, containing 50 acres, more or less, adjoining the lands of T. W. Tilley, Pete Slate and others, and it being Lot No. 6 in the di- vision of the Hall lands which was allotted to G. W. Hall. See Book No. 50, 585. Register's of- fice, Stokes County, N. C.
This Jan. 13, 1938.

J. W. HALL,
Substitute Trustee.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER EXECUTION.

State of North Carolina,
County of Stokes.
In the Superior Court.
Farmers Bank of Pilot Mountain vs.

R. S. Law and Dora Law, Principals, and Charles R. Fowler, Endorser.
By virtue of an execution di- rected to the undersigned, sheriff of Stokes county, from the su- perior court of Surry county, North Carolina, in connectio; with the above entitled action, I will on Monday, February 14, 1938, at the hour of twelve o'clock, noon, at the court house door in Danbury, N. C., sell to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said execution, all the right, title and interest which the said defendants, particularly the defendant Dora Law, have in the following described real estate:

The land willed to Dora Law by Joseph Coon, being one-third interest in the remainder after the life estate of the widow, as shown by the will of Joseph Coon, deceased, said tract of land lying and being in Yadkin township, Stokes county, N. C., adjoining the lands of I. C. Gordon, R. L. Gordon, J. W. Jones and others.

This January 19, 1938.
J. J. TAYLOR,
Sheriff Stokes County, N. C.

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a deed of trust exe- cuted by Will Martin and Wife Maggie Martin, recorded in the office of Register of Deeds of Stokes County in book 76 page 488, to secure the payment of a certain sum of money due on a note to W. T. Clark, default hav- ing been made in the payment of said note and at the request of the holder of the same, I will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, at the court house door in Danbury, at 10 o'clock on Saturday, Feb. 12, 1938, the following lands:

Containing 54 acres, more or less, and adjoining the lands of W. T. Clark on West, J. M. Hooker on South, D. C. Smith on East, Dick Hall and J. M. Clark on North.

This January 17th 1938.
W. E. HATCHER,
Trustee.

NOTICE OF SALE.

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a cer- tain deed of trust executed by N. A. Amos and wife Martha Amos, to the undersigned trustee, said deed of trust being recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Stokes county in Book 90, at page 118, the terms and conditions of which have not been complied with, and demand having been made, the under- signed trustee will on—

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1938,
at 2 o'clock P. M.,

in front of the court house, in Danbury, N. C., offer for sale at public auction, for cash the following described land:

"Beginning at a white oak on Smith's line, runs North 4 degs. 6 minutes East 24 chains passing Smith's corner to a chain in Mar- tin's corner; thence South 86 1-3 degrees West on Martin's line 86 poles to a white oak; thence North 39 degrees West 21 1-2 poles to a branch; thence with branch the following courses: South 46 degrees West 4 poles; thence South, 20 1-2 degrees East 8 poles; thence South 4 degrees West 11 poles; thence South 28 3-4 degrees West 8 poles; thence South 50 1-2 degrees West 6 1-2 poles to ford of branch; thence leaving branch South 61-2 degrees East on C. M. Hennis line 66 poles to a stone; thence South 85 7-8 degrees East 92 poles to the begining containing 59 acres, more or less.

Being the same property bought of Dewey Price by N. A. Amos as shown by deed recorded in the Register of Deeds office for Stokes county.

This 3rd day of Jan., 1938.
JOE W. GARRETT,
Trustee.

Joe W. Garrett, Attorney,
Madison, N. C.
First Plow of Tree Branches
The first farm plow was made of crooked tree branches and worked by man power.