

Plain Stones Mark Graves Of Murdered Brother, Sister

By F. C. SALISBURY

Two plain headstones in a neglected cemetery on the east side of South River, at a point known as Buzzards Bay, where the small settlement of Lukens existed for several years, tell a tragic story of a brutal murder and robbery of two harmless middle-aged persons, Nancy and Alfred Reel, brother and sister.

The murder of this couple by two Negroes took place during the time of the Civil War, on Sept. 19, 1864, when the county was under federal military rule.

The home of the Reels was on the south side of Southwest Creek which flows into South River. To this isolated spot came the two murderers about evening on the day of the crime, rowing up the river in a skiff stolen from Acey Edwards at South River settlement.

There was one witness to the murder, a young Negro girl living with the family, some 6 or 8 years of age, who for some reason was not killed. It was this child who, through the years, kept alive the story of this crime and the horror of the night that she passed alone with her murdered mistress.

The story, which older residents of the South River community relate, as given them by their elders, varies some in the telling.

It was supper time and Nancy and the young girl were preparing the evening meal when they noticed the two men approaching from the river landing. Going out on the porch to see what was wanted, they were confronted by the two men without a word. One raised his gun and fired at Nancy who fell severely wounded.

The girl, from fright, fell by the side of her mistress. This probably saved her life for the men may have thought she was killed from the buckshot charge.

Reel, who was out feeding his hogs, must have heard the shot and started for the house, for his body was found near the rear of the building. Both men probably carried guns of the old muzzle-loading make for it would not have been possible for the man who shot Nancy to reload before Alfred could have reached the house after hearing the firing.

The crime was discovered the next morning by Clare Pittman. The day before he had gone to the Reel home and bargained for the purchase of a number of hogs. Reel was to round up the swine during the day, ready for Pittman when he was to call the next morning.

Upon his arrival, Pittman was met by the Negro girl, half crazed with fear, who managed to impart to him the details of the murder. He found the body of Alfred in the rear of the house and that of Nancy on the porch. She was not killed instantly, lingering on several hours with the frightened child remaining by her side through the long night.

As to the cause for the murder, two versions have come down with the story. One states that Reel owed two Negroes for cutting timber, which wages he had either refused or could not pay. Elijah Reel, an aged Negro of 90 years, relates, as he heard the story from his parents who were alive at the time of the crime, that Reel owned two young slaves whom he abused.

After they were freed by President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation, they were said to have stated that "they were going to get Reel".

Sheriff George Dill, with a detail from the Federal forces in Beaufort, rounded up a group of Negroes in the Merrimon section to face the young girl, the only witness to the murder. As she stood before the line-up, pointing to one of the men she said, "That one killed Missey," and pointing to another, "He killed Massie."

There are no county records to show the outcome of this affair. The county being under military rule, the case could have been handled by the officers in charge. Any court records that could have given some information on the outcome of the case are not in the county clerk's office, for records covering the period from 1862 to 1865 are missing.

To the best knowledge of present generations, no one was ever brought to justice for the slaying of Alfred and Nancy Reel. It is said they left no heirs to mourn their death or claim their property.

For several years following the murder, the Reel property consisting of 1,900 acres was unoccupied. Later George Pate, a single man from Goldsboro hid in the property at a county tax sale, securing the property at the rate of 15 cents an acre. He was often called Indian Pate, for he claimed that his mother was a full-blooded Indian.

Pate cultivated much of the cleared land, using an ox for the work, also cut much timber of which there was a fine stand. The property today is part of that vast acreage owned by Miss Georgina Yeatman, Beaufort.

Core Creek

May 13—Miss Geneva and Johnnie Hardesty spent the weekend with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Hardesty.

Miss Nancy Broda spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Broda.

Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Elmore of Kinston spent the weekend in their fishing camp.

Mrs. Ben Harris of Belhaven returned home Monday after spending several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Whitley.

Mrs. Jeff Sabiston visited at Williston Saturday.

Mrs. Eugene Thomas, mother of Mrs. Howard Mason and Mrs. Barbara Sawyer and children, sister of Mrs. Mason spent a week visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mason. They returned to their home in Nashville, Tenn., Monday.

Miss Jan Mitchell of Durham was a weekend guest of Miss Johnnie Hardesty.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Foreman and children visited Mrs. Lena Simpson and Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Simpson Sunday evening at North River.

Mr. Paul C. Whitley of Grifton, and Mr. Leo Whitley of Hobucken spent Mother's Day with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Whitley.

Mrs. Bob Slater and daughter visited with her sister, Mrs. Everett Merrill Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Forbes of Wilmington and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Forbes and children of Fountain spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith and family spent Sunday evening with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mason.

Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Lubinsky and children of Goldsboro, Mrs. Ennis Bass and daughters of Clinton and Mrs. Ivey Eubanks and children of North River visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dickinson, Sunday.

Mrs. Alfred Fulford spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Manly Eubanks.

Mr. and Mrs. Connie Sabiston and daughter visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Burroughs of New Bern Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Davis and children of Beaufort visited Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Whitley Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Searle visited their son, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Searle and family of New Bern Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. William Fodrie of New Bern were down to the homecoming dinner at Core Creek Methodist Church Sunday.

Mrs. Helen Small spent Sunday with her son, Mr. Roland Small.

Mrs. Reginald Willis and daughter visited her mother, Mrs. Letha Dickinson, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Piner of Morehead City, and Mr. and Mrs. Dory Dickinson of New Bern visited their mother, Mrs. Hepsy Dickinson Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Taylor and Lori visited with Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Taylor of Morehead Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey Rice of Morehead City visited Mrs. Vivian Fodrie Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Whitley spent Tuesday in New Bern on business.

Our regular 2nd Sunday worship service was held Sunday by the Rev. James Smith. It was followed by dinner on the ground. There was a large crowd and plenty of good things to eat. We were so glad to have so many attend. It was good to have the laymen and their families with us too.

The following attended a study course at Tuttle's Grove church Tuesday night, given by Mrs. Graydon Jordan, Mrs. Jim Vincent, Mrs. David Dickinson, Mrs. R. L. Searle, Mrs. Fred Boswell, Mrs. Jeff Sabiston, Mrs. Everett Merrill and Mrs. Bill Dickinson. The course was a very interesting one and was enjoyed by all.

The WSCS of Core Creek Methodist Church met Thursday night at the community house.

Cecil Walker To Study at A&T This Summer

Cecil C. Walker Jr., a senior at W. S. King School, has been accepted to study under the science and mathematics training program for secondary school students at the Agricultural and Technical College of Greensboro this summer.

This program was made possible through the National Educational Defense Act. Tuition, board and lodging will be paid by the federal government. Some of the country's leading professors in science and mathematics will teach in the program.

Cecil took a competitive examination, which made him eligible



Cecil C. Walker Jr.

along with having an outstanding scholastic record for four years of high schooling in the field of mathematics and science.

Cecil took the National A. and T. College Alumni Scholarship Examination recently along with 1,296 high school seniors from North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia and made a raw score of 111 out of a possible 150.

Cecil is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil C. Walker Sr. of Newport. He is active in church activities as well as being active in school activities. He played varsity end on the football team, sings in the Glee Club, is a member of the Science Club, a member of the Dramatics Club, plays outfield and first base on the baseball team, and is a member of the school patrol.

Cecil plans to attend college this fall and will major in civil engineering. He plans to attend the Agricultural and Technical College of Greensboro.

Bernard Martin, a junior, has won the high school spelling contest. Last year King, Queen and



Eleanor Horton



Bernard Martin

Brownies Tour Newspaper Plant

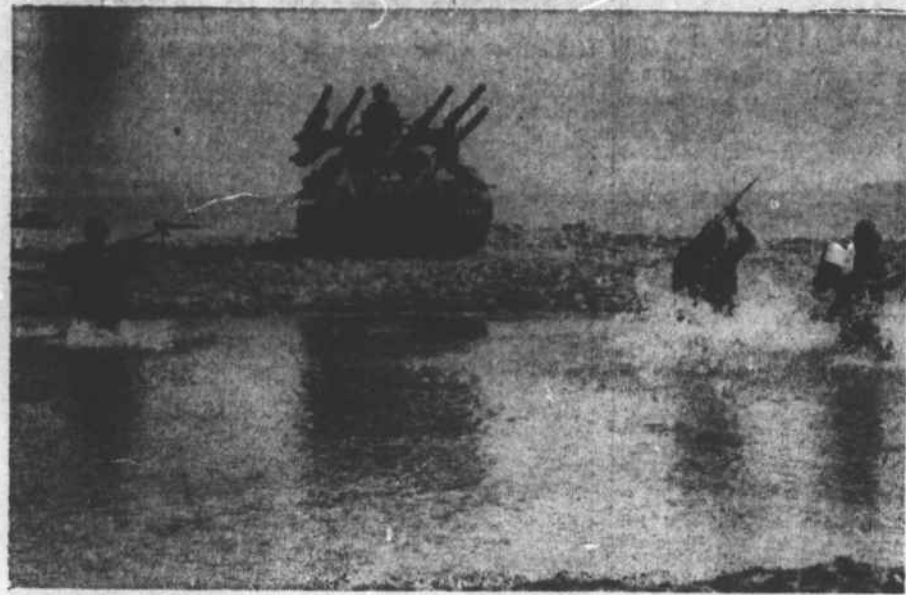
Brownies of troop 93, Beaufort, toured the NEWS-TIMES plant Tuesday afternoon. Each was given a "slug", a piece of metal with her name on it, and a newspaper.

Making the tour were the following:

- Mrs. Douglas Lewis
- Mrs. Albert Chappell
- Chris Chappell
- Sally McIntosh
- Ann Augusta Warthen
- Bobbie Joyce Lewis
- Rhoda Carol Lewis
- Belinda Gail Rice
- Sara Neal
- Donna Kay Rice
- Helen Worth Merrill
- Annette Chappell
- Marsha Yvonne Hunt

The phrase "according to Hoyle" stems from Edmond Hoyle (1672-1709), who was an authority on card games.

Ontos Advances



Supported by the infantry, a killer Ontos advances during maneuvers to take its objective. The tracked vehicles, carrying six deadly 106mm recoilless rifles, may be seen at the 2nd Marine Division's display of might at Camp Lejeune on Armed Forces Day tomorrow. (Official USMC Photo)

'Alumni' Return



Here are 19 young'uns, born at Morehead City Hospital, who returned to the hospital for a special party in their honor Tuesday afternoon. All persons born at the hospital were invited. Seventy-eight went.

Cities

(Continued from Page 1)

balance on demand so that until a suitable industry was found the investors had the use of their pledged funds.

He explained the need for the support of all four towns in securing the funds from congress to complete the survey of the Neuse River basin. He explained that when completed this project would eliminate flooding, store water for irrigation, increase the average water level which would eliminate the danger of salt water intrusion. It would also supply more recreation areas for increasing tourist business. (The northeastern part of Carteret County is on the Neuse).

R. B. Darden, of Southern Railway told of Southern's interest in the port and the entire area.

Several names were suggested for the organization. The N-use Development Association was the name finally chosen, on motion of Mr. Davis, president of the Morehead City chamber.

Joe DuBois, manager of the chamber, was directed to write Congressmen in behalf of favorable action upon the Neuse River basin survey appropriation.

Each town agreed to take the same action and to secure additional letters from its chamber members.

H. G. Braxton, praised the progress and cooperative effort shown.

Each chamber was requested to appoint two members to the board of directors who will meet at Kinston for the purpose of coordinating the four-community industrial survey, formulating an advertising program and planning for the July meeting.

J. D. Lewis invited the association to meet in Goldsboro July 15, 1959. Present in addition to those mentioned were Cecil King, Earl Finch, both of New Bern; Douglas Guthrie and Joe Campbell, Goldsboro; Kersey Smith and Tom Hewitt, both of Kinston; J. R. Sanders and Bud Dixon, Morehead City.

and senior high school contests again. Bernard Martin, a junior, won the senior high school division and Eleanor Horton won the junior high division for the second consecutive year.

Stella took the elementary division this year.

Charles Owens

is now with the

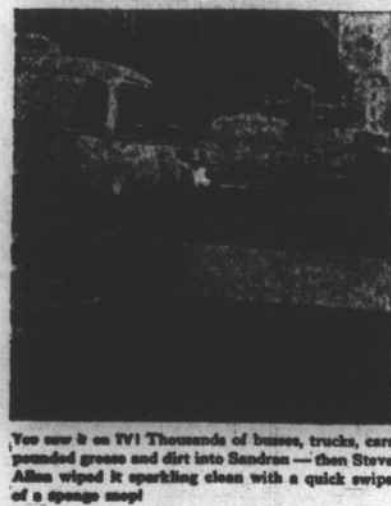
Ann Street Barber Shop

and extends an invitation to his friends to visit him at his new employment.

Corner Live Oak and Ann Streets in Beaufort

AMAZING DEMONSTRATION!

DRIVE YOUR CAR OVER SANDRAN VINYL SANDRAN MIRACLE SCRUBLESS FLOOR COVERING



You see it on TV! Thousands of buses, trucks, cars pounded grease and dirt into Sandran — then Steve Allen wiped it sparkling clean with a quick swipe of a sponge mop!

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- Sheds dirt and stains! Defies hot grease, acids, even lye!
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ELIZABETH 17 jewels, unbreakable mounting. \$29.75

Stamper's Jewelers

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