

# THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

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## Jones County Grand Jury Recommends Updating Entire County Jury List

Following here is the entire report of the Jones County Grand Jury filed with Presiding Judge Elbert Peele of Williamston Tuesday:

The Grand Jurors beg leave to report as follows: **FIRST:** We extend to the Honorable Elbert S. Peele, Jr., Presiding Judge, our welcome to Jones County during this term. **SECOND:** We extend to Honorable Luther Hamilton, Jr., District Solicitor, our welcome, and we commend the Court's officers for the process of justice offered to the people of Jones County. **THIRD:** We report that we have passed on all bills presented to us during this term. **FOURTH:** We have examined the schools of Jones County and report the following findings:

**JONES CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL:** In generally very good condition.

**MAYSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:** In fair condition except for several window lights broken and in need of repair.

**TRENTON SCHOOL:** Fair to poor condition. Needs plaster repair and painting.

**COMFORT ELEMENTARY:** In general fair condition; but in need of window replacements.

**ALEX H. WHITE SCHOOL:** In general fair condition.

**JONES HIGH SCHOOL:** In good condition other than the boy's bathrooms and window replacements.

**J. W. WILLIE SCHOOL:** In good condition other than rest rooms which need painting and the auditorium which needs a partition.

**MORRIS ELEMENTARY:** In general good condition except for several window lights which need replacing, and several locks on windows which should also be replaced.

**TRENTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:** In good condition except for window locks and glasses which need replacement.

**THE JAIL WAS INSPECTED** and found in good condition. **ALL REST ROOMS** in the court house were found in need of painting and minor repairs. **ALL COUNTY OFFICES** inspected.

The school bus mechanic, J. H. Croom reported all school busses in good repair, and that Trooper B. O. Mercer has inspected the school busses recently.

The Clerk's office reported all Justices of the Peace had filed their reports regularly as provided by law, and that all guardian accounts are up to date, and those administrators or executors who have delinquent accounts have been notified and are filing them.

**IT WAS FOUND AS A FACT** that since the Court has been required to draw a special venire in the last few terms due to jurors living out of the county and who are deceased, that the

## Kinston Negro Held In Onslow County Ax Murder

Richard Gooding, 53 year-old Kinston area negro, is being held on an open charge of murder by Onslow County authorities following the ax slaying of Mrs. Elizabeth Whitehead of the Piney Green section of Northern Onslow County Thanksgiving Day.

Sheriff Tom Marshall says a member of the Whitehead family found the woman in her home, dead from numerous ax and knife wounds and that Gooding was at the scene in a highly intoxicated condition.

Blood from Gooding's clothing and body have been sent to State Bureau of Investigation laboratories for positive identification. Gooding is held without bond, pending a preliminary hearing into the murder charge.

County Commissioners should meet with the Sheriff of Jones County and the Clerk at a time convenient to all and at the earliest possible date, and go through the jury box in order to discard all those persons who are not available for jury duty in Jones County.

No local problems were presented for discussion.

Travis Batchelor, Foreman

## Direct Distance Dialing Being Used Readily by Most Jones Countians

Early reports on the usage of Direct Distance Dialing, inaugurated here on November 24, indicate that telephone subscribers are utilizing the new long distance service for many of their calls.

This fast, efficient service is now available in New Bern, Atlantic, Bayboro, Beaufort, Havelock, Marshallberg, Morehead City, Newport, Oriental, Pollocksville, Trenton, and Vanceboro.

Telephone users in the 12 exchanges dialed and completed more than 11,000 of their own station-to-station long distance calls during the first week that the service was available.

Carolina Telephone Manager L. A. Daniels urges residents of the area to consult their D. D. directory for instructions and to try this convenient new service for their long distance calls.

Telephone users are reminded that after they dial their long distance calls an operator will, for billing purposes, as for the telephone number of the person placing the call.

Direct Distance Dialing is available in 68 of Carolina Telephone's 113 exchanges.

## Election Saturday For Jones County Soil Supervision

An election to elect one District Supervisor for Jones County of the Lower Neuse Soil and Water Conservation District will be held Saturday, December 5, 1964.

Candidates for this office are Charles C. Jones Jr., and Randolph Foy. Ballot boxes will be located at stores in each community. All qualified voters are eligible to vote.

The winner of this election will join R. L. Fordham and Charlie Davis in directing the soil and water conservation activities of Jones County. The term of office is three years commencing January 1, 1965.

## Farm Statistics Being Brought up to Date by Current Census of All Farms

The 1964 Census of Agriculture, now being conducted by the Bureau of the Census in Jones County will bring up to date farm statistics last collected in 1959.

Here are a few of the many facts recorded in the 1959 farm census for this County:

There were 1,083 farms in 1959, compared with 1,515 in 1954. The average size of farm was 97.1 acres in 1959, compared with 86.1 acres in 1954.

The value of products sold by the County's farmers in 1959 was \$5,733,550. The value of all crops sold was \$5,074,869.

The value of livestock and livestock products sold was \$658,681.

The 1964 national Census of Agriculture is the 18th in a series which began in 1840. Because of the rapid changes American agriculture has been undergoing in recent years, Census Bureau officials regard the current census as one of the most significant ever taken.

They ask every farmer to cooperate in compiling an accurate record of these changes by filling out the census form he receives in the mail and holding the completed questionnaire until a census taker calls for it.

## Lots of Love, Money Keeps Old Homes Looking New

by Jack Rider

A ride through any part of Eastern North Carolina for just a few minutes will take one by dozens of abandoned houses, most of them crumbling in decay, surrounded by weeds, junked automobiles and the litter of long-gone families.

The majority of these houses are what one loosely calls "tenant houses". But there are a few once-stately old homes that were the manor houses of considerable plantations.

Fortunately, or unfortunately, depending upon one's point of view, most of the old "manor houses" abandoned by departing generations have been consumed by fire or destroyed by looters, searching for hidden treasures or for fine woods left in such old homes.

The rare exception is the old manor house upon which someone has lavished loving care — and considerable money. Generally such a person is an "outsider" who has an appreciation of history and earlier American architecture.

Rarely does one come upon the member of a family that has this same deep devotion to an old, empty, damaged and nearly forgotten home.

Mrs. Raymond Adams of Pink Hill route 1 is one of these rare exceptions and her husband shares her feeling.

Mrs. Adams was Bessie Kinsey, daughter of the late Jackson B. and Della (Gurganus Kin-

sey. She was born in such an old home. The Kinsey home until this past summer had stood where it was built well over a hundred years ago in the southeastern tip of Lenoir County between Irvings Crossroads and Pleasant Hill.

Since the death of Mrs. Adams' father the home had belonged to her brother, Andrew Kinsey of Jacksonville, from whom she had tried repeatedly to buy it. He had the same feeling for the land, that his sister had for the home. He wouldn't sell any of the land, but this summer he did agree to sell the house to Mrs. Adams and her husband.

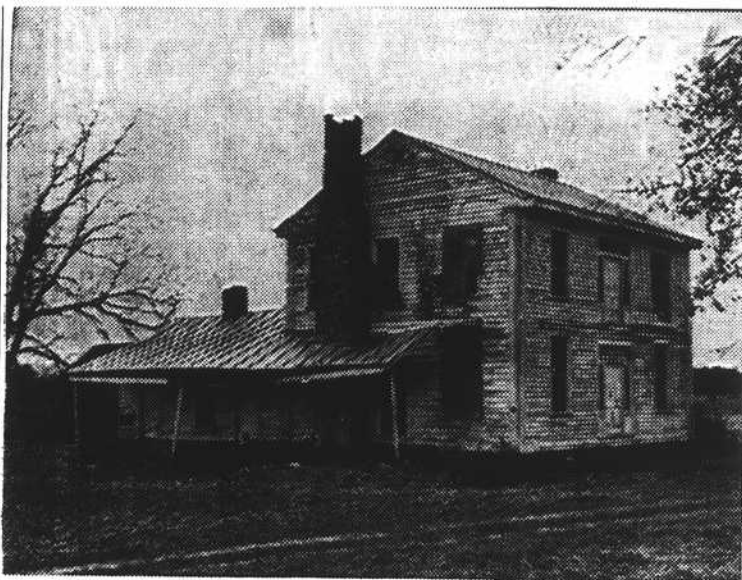
But the nearest land the Adams owned to the old home place was five miles away on US 258 in Jones County.

Where there is a determined will there generally is a way and it was found in the same moving contractor who moved the Confederate Ram Neuse from the Neuse River low grounds above Kinston to a similar site several miles northward.

So in July of this year the men and equipment arrived. Three days of preparation went into getting the old home ready for a new resting place.

After it was put in place, however, it only took two hours to carry it the five miles south into Jones County and there another four days were required to underpin it and move it off the carriers that had taken it from its old resting place in Lenoir County.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams are working slowly, but surely in the restoration of the old Kinsey Place. Their funds do not



This is an example in reverse of what happens to fine old homes when no one is left to love them. This once-beautiful old home was the seat of a huge plantation in Falling Creek Township, belonging to the Hodges Family. But abuse by passing families of tenants and neglect by a series of owners has left it in a condition perhaps far beyond repair, since it would cost more to renovate and repair it than to build the average modern home and few people are likely to indulge in that kind of loving care for even such an old home as this.

permit an "all-out" effort, and neither does their temperament. Their plans are to go slowly and repair it as their funds and their free time permits.

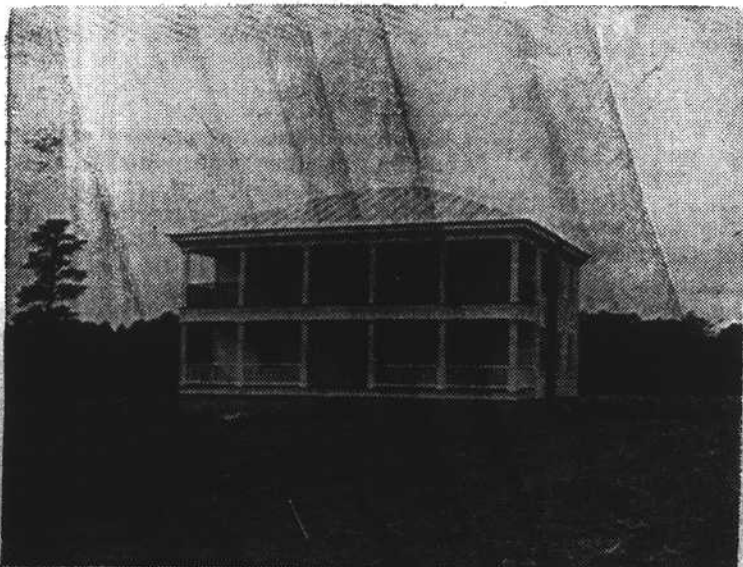
Unoccupied for nine years, abused by years of occupancy by tenants who didn't treat it any too gently and practically deserted to the scrap heap the old home now stands proudly and beautifully on its new site, 15 miles south of Kinston.

Mrs. Adams confesses that she does not know the exact date the old home was built. All she knows, and this by family rep-

etition, is that her grandfather, Jesse W. Kinsey, built the home some time before the Civil War. The lines of the home and the materials used in its construction confirm that it was built well before that War between the States.

The first family to live in the home was that of its builder, Jesse W. Kinsey, and his wife, Zilphia Noble.

From them it passed to their son, Jackson B. Kinsey, who lived there until his death in 1926. His children, Andrew, Bessie and Mamie were all born there.



This is the old Kinsey Home which stood for more than a hundred years in Southern Lenoir County, but is now being renovated on a new site five miles southwardly in Jones County by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Adams. The new site is 15 miles south of Kinston on US 258 and when the renovation is completed it will be one of Jones County's handsomest homes.