Ghost Island

Harrisburg Plantation Cemetery (Harris Family Cemetery)

"Harrisburg Plantation", also known as Harris Family Cemetery, was on the banks at the confluence of the Seneca River and Coneross Creek near Hopewell in the Long Cane area of Abbeville Co., SC. Current GPS readings show that the remaining island is now located in Anderson County, SC. It was the home of John Harris, Jr. (1762-1845); his wife Mary (Pickens) Harris (1766-1836), and their children. John was the son of Rev. John Harris, Sr. and Mary Dashiell (Handy) Harris. Mary (Pickens) Harris was the daughter of General Andrew Pickens and Rebecca "Becky" (Calhoun) Pickens. John, Jr. acquired land for the plantation using "bounty money" he received as a Revolutionary soldier. He named the Plantation "Harrisburg", partly to honor the place that his family had emigrated from in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and partly for his own surname. He lived there for more than 40 years and during that time was the ordinary

of Pendleton and Anderson Districts. He also served as the area's "high sheriff", was a magistrate judge, and practiced medicine treating most of

Special points of interest:

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- Anderson County Chapter Officers—Page 14
- Books For Sell at the Research Center Page 15
- Church Directories—Page 17

the prominent people of the district. He and his wife were both buried in the plantation's cemetery.

Lake Hartwell on the border between North-East Georgia and North-West South Carolina is a large, man-made reservoir with dam built by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. During its construction from 1955-1963, "Harrisburg Plantation" was flooded and is now completely underwater with only the cemetery located on a high knoll remaining as an hour-glass shaped island in the middle of Lake Hartwell. The only access to the

island is by boat. In Clara Mae Denham Haines' book, "Visit Our Family Tree", it states that a Miss Mamie Price visited the cemetery in 1917 and traced the names and dates on the gravestones. Vandals, weathering, etc. have caused damage to the stones; however, the 59 known graves were not moved and are still in their original locations.

- Cemetery Description compiled by Meredith Drew Trawick, Contributor #46908319

HARRISBURG CEMETERY, X2400-1-C, containing 59 graves was not relocated but left on its original site. A hearing was held on 31 May 1961 in the United States District Court for the Western District of South Carolina before the Honorable Judge C. C. Wyche, and as a result of this hearing an Order was filed 05 August 1961 refraining the removal of the Harrisburg Cemetery. This order further relieved the United States of any responsibility to furnish ingress and egress to said cemetery, or any responsibility for the care and maintenance of the graves located in said cemetery, and of any claims for damage resulting from the non-removal of this cemetery which might be occasioned by the operation of the Reservoir and from damage which might be caused by private individuals using said Reservoir for recreational purposes.

Due to the resistance encountered by next-of-kin, the

Chapter XV of Louise Ayer Vandiver's Book—"Traditions and History of Anderson County"

"Townships"

"Centerville"

"Townships are not indigenous to the South. In early times the divisions were parishes and counties, later called districts and still later restored to counties. Townships were a reconstruction measure.

An act to organize townships and define their powers and privileges was introduced in the senate by D. T. Corbin and duly became a law in 1868. It was but a copy of a statute of some northern state, presumably of Vermont, as Corbin had come to South Carolina from that State. The act (of sixty-nine sections) embodies a most elaborate scheme to township government. Every township was made a body corporate, and provision made for township meetings, each to be presided over by a moderator. Every town (township) was required to choose a town club, three selectmen, one or more surveyors of highways and one constable. The selectmen were to be overseers of the poor, registrars in town elections, general supervisors of the affairs of the township and the auditors of its accounts. They were charged with repairs and maintenance of highways, and might levy taxes therefor.

The surveyors, in addition to duties as such, were the "warners" to call out the road working gangs, and to those officers the selectmen were to depute their work. The pay of the selectmen was fixed at $1.50 a day, of the club the same.

This law was soon found to be utterly impracticable to conditions in South Carolina, and it was summarily repealed by the act of January 19th, 1870. The manifest object of the measure was to create a multitude of offices to be filled by negroes and carpetbaggers, for they would have control of every township meeting.

However, Anderson was fortunate in having appointed as commissioners to lay off her townships, Hon. B. F. Crayton, Colonel W. S. Pickens and Colonel J. W. Norris. Mr. William Sanford Hall was employed as deputy surveyor to survey the county and mark the townships. Mr. Hall divided the county into sixteen subdivisions and made a map showing each township as now constituted except that Anderson was made a township for school purposes only, and was numbered 17, the boundaries being the town limits of one mile in each direction from the court house as a center. The names of the townships were suggested by Mr. Hall and adopted by the board.

The city is now in Centerville township, and very near the Broadaway line. Centerville township was named from an ancient settlement, which once promised to become a village. The hemlet was almost in the center of the district of Anderson and Colonel Elias Earle, its owner, hoped that it would become the center of activity in the newly settled section of the state. Colonel Earle was a Virginian, and for services rendered during the Revolution received a grant of land in the newly opened Cherokee county.

He built a home a short distance from the road now running between Anderson and Townville, on the divided ridge between Deep creek and Seneca river, something over three miles from where Portman Dam now stands. The main body of the house as originally built was standing a few years ago, and may be still. Colonel Earle began the development of the shoals of Six-and-Twenty creek, at a point about eight miles northwest of the spot where the town of Anderson was afterward located. It was then that he gave his home the name of Centerville.

A merchant mill was one of the first things erected in the new settlement. That was a mill which not only ground the wheat and corn, but kept the products on hand for sale. There was also erected a say mill, a blacksmith shop and post office or, rather, a post office was established at Centerville. It was probably located in some building already used for business purposes, as separate post office buildings were erected only in large towns. There was a general store at the place, and it was probably there that the post office was located. Colonel Earle was Postmaster.

The remains of Earle's gun factory were long visible about Six-and-Twenty creek, but the freshet of

1908 which caused a tremendous overflow of the creek, washed away most of the ancient rubbish. It also, however, uncovered some great hammers and shafting which had been buried from sight for almost one hundred years. The hammers weighed from two to three pounds and were operated by water. The charcoal used in the smelting was obtained from the nearby hills and until recent years piles of cinders showing where coal kilns had been burned were scattered about the old fields and pine wood generally known as the "coaling ground."

Another industry established at Centerville by Colonel Earle was the raising of silk worms and the manufacture of silk.

A few years ago there remained remnants of a race which conveyed water from Six-and-Twenty creek to a tan yard which was located between where the Anderson road now runs and Salem creek near where it empties into Six-and-Twenty.

Centerville remained the property of the Earles until sometime in the 60s (1860s) when it was sold by John Baylis Earle to Haynes Whitaker. Since that time it has passed through many hands.

Immediately above the Earle grant was a large body of land given by the government to Andrew Liddell, also a Revolutionary soldier, who lived for many years on the tract, a good, industrious citizen. He gave off parts of his property to his children as they grew up. There are a number of his descendants still in the county, though none of the name. The old soldier is buried in an old family graveyard, now surrounded by fields, located about half a mile from the public road.

"Varennes"

The township lying south of Anderson was named from old Varennes Church. It had been a sort of social center for many years, having been one of the earliest churches and schools in the section.

The word Varennes is French and means waste land. How the school, for it preceded the church, came to be called by so unpromising a name can only be conjectured. French Huguenots settled Abbeville county and town, and named it from their old home in France. It is probable that this section lying north of the little town was at first inhabited by Indians, and came to be known to the white people as the waste land – Varennes. When the tongue became Anglicized, the meaning of the word was lost, but it was a pretty word, sounded well, and so came to be given to the school and church, and also to a sort of trading post which grew up there; then when a township was to be named, why there was the pretty name ready to be bestowed upon it.

The word long ago lost its French pronunciation, through it retained its original spelling, and the Americans by degrees pronounced it according to the rules of their own tongue.

The town of Starr in Varennes township was named for one of the officers of the C. and W. C. railroad which passed through the place.

One of the leading citizens of Varennes township was Colonel C. S. Mattison, who had long been colonel in the old militia service of the Fourth Regiment, and when the state called for volunteers in 1861 he entered the army a lieutenant colonel of the Fourth, which became famous. When that regiment expired he was elected colonel of the Fourth Battalion in which the reorganization resulted.

At the battle of Seven Pines he was wounded in the chest and received an honorable discharge from the army. No braver soldier went from Anderson, and after he was disabled for active service there was no call of the Confederacy, not any way in which he could assist the South, to which he failed to respond. After the war he was three times elected to the state legislature and finally declined to run for the position again.

Colonel Mattison was a man in fine practical judgement and in every way worthy of the confidence of his community. A man of large means for his time and locality, he was always generous. Just and upright himself, he never entertained suspicions of others. His home was ever open to his friends and his hospitality was gladly accepted and eagerly sought by many.

Colonel Jesse Norris was another of the prominent citizens of the township and a man of large means, highly respected by all who knew him. A devoted member for many years of the First Presbyterian church in Anderson. He had no sons but was the father of three daughters, Mrs. Will Simpson, of Anderson; Mrs. Jule Anderson and Mrs. Thompson.

4

A well-known character in Varennes was Dr. Dick Thompson. He was the son of Dr. Addison Thompson, of Savannah township, and grew up in that section.

"Broadaway"

Named from the brawling little stream of the resounding name.

In May, 1784, Governor Benjamin Guerard granted to Eliab Moore a tract of land of 640 acres situated on Broadaway creek, bounded by "vacant land." In February, 1783, Thomas Buford received a grant of 640 acres, also on Broadaway creek. Buford's Mill was the first built on Broadaway, one of the earliest in the county. It is believed to be the same mill which has been successively known as Brown's, Townsend's, Carpenter's and now Burriss' a favorite picnic spot for the people of the town, also a place often used for big political speakings. One of the especially beautiful localities of the county.

Names of other pioneer settlers, most of whom came in the first years of the nineteenth century, were "William Nevitt Albert Carpenter, Davis Geer, William Holmes, the noted constable, court caller and church builder; John C. Horton, magistrate and surveyor; Captain John Holland, Edward Vandiver, Strother Kay, James Major, a wealthy man for the time, a mill owner and possessor of a number of slaves; Jesse Kay, Jack Reeves, Erskine, Tel-ford, Todd, McFall, Smith, Anderson, Rice.

One of the wealthiest among those early settlers was John Brown, merchant, planter and mill owner. He was a native of Maryland, and settled first in Abbeville. He moved to Pendleton district, Broadaway neighborhood, in 1817. He settled a little east of Buford's Mill. It is said he came to own nearly all of the land from Rocky river to Neal's creek, and more in other sections. He was the father of Daniel Brown, who so prominent in the early days of the town of Anderson, and Samuel Brown, the founder of Townville, and grandfather of Colonel J. N. Brown, of Anderson. He and his wife are buried in the Presbyterian graveyard in the town.

Much of the land in Anderson county was granted to soldiers of the Revolution after the General Assembly of South Carolina passed an act in March, 1784, authorizing such recognition of their services. The wording of the old deeds is quaint. In some of them the tracts were described as "being vacant land in Ninety-Six district, above the ancient boundary line," and the grant is made "for being a soldier in the continental line."

Colonel Eliab Moore was a state senator from Ninety-Six district. He 'was the first colonel of the old Fourth Regiment, famous in the county. His son, Eliab, Jr., was also colonel of the same regiment. It used to muster in the long ago at Varennes and figured in all real big county occasions.

Colonel Eliab Moore, Jr., married Nancy, a daughter of John Brown, sister of Daniel and Samuel Brown.

Silas Risener was the neighborhood blacksmith. Dick Kitsinger made spinning wheels. Nearby lived James and Samuel McCoy. They had a sister, Polly McCoy, who married a man named Mayfield before the family left Virginia. He deserted her, and she came to her brothers who were too poor to keep her. Destitute, she appealed to Rev. William (Wm) McGee, pastor of Neal's Creek church. He took her into his home and his family were blessed in "the loving" service she rendered them. "Granny" Mayfield took entire charge of a baby boy who arrived in the McGee home about the time that she did, his mother being too delicate to do much for her baby. He lived to become the beloved preacher, Reverend Mike McGee, pastor and friend for many years to a large number of Anderson county people, a man of sterling character, a brave Confederate soldier and withal gentle and loveable as a child.

Other early people of that section were Adam Todd, district surveyor, father of Archibald Todd, who was one of Anderson's early newspaper men; Ephriam Mitchell, a cabinet maker, a few of the pieces of furniture made by him are still in use in the county; Jonathan Lovelace, long forgotten in the locality in which he once lived; Burrell McGee, Michael McGee, Captain Billy Cox. Burrell McGee was the father of G. W. McGee, for many years the popular proprietor of the Belton Hotel. His brother, Michael McGee, was the grandfather of Mr. J. L. McGee, one of Anderson's best known citizens of the present time.

In the fork of Hencoop and Cherokee creeks is a stately old residence built by Chester Kingsley, who came to the section in the early part of the nineteenth century from the faraway northeast. With him were two other men, Martin Trowbridge and a Mr. Barney. They were all cabinet makers. Mr. Kingsley married Miss Broyles, of Calhoun. They both died young and in a short time of each other, leaving; two orphan children, one of whom was the well-known and popular wife of Mr. Clifton A. Reed, of Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Bongsley were first buried in the old Gurley burying ground near their home, but afterwards removed to Shady Grove cemetery.

Others were Alfred Carpenter, who married a Miss Brown, and Elijah Major, who married Miss Wardlaw. The Carpenters were the parents of eleven children who all died of tuberculosis just as they were grown up.

Neal's Creek Baptist and Broadaway Presbyterian churches were the places of worship for most of these people.

The old stage road between Knoxville and Augusta ran through this settlement. There was a relay house about every seventeen miles where the horses were changed and passengers could for a few moments stretch their cramped limbs. One such house was in that old neighborhood, kept by Riley John Shirley. Before the coach was in sight the horn could be heard sounding a blast to warn the hostler to have the horses ready; when the great coach and four drew up the harness was loosened in a twinkling and four other horses without any leading took their place at the whippletree. In a very few minutes they were fastened up and the coach was ready to proceed on its way. The coach carried seven passengers, six inside, and one out with the driver. The fare was ten cents a mile. There was a rack for baggage at the back and the mail bag was carried at the driver's feet."

There are, obviously, more townships in Anderson County and I plan to provide information on all of them in the next few newsletters. Keep your eyes open to our newsletters for the continuation of this topic. There is more to come.
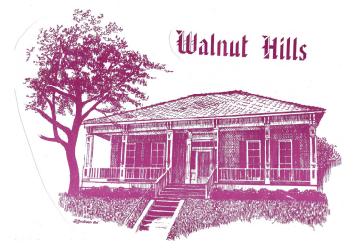
Walnut Hills

By: Gordon A. Cotton, Former Director
Of the Old Court House Museum
Vicksburg, Mississippi

"Wild game abounding in the virgin forest, succulent fruit growing near the clear streams, scattered villages providing shelter for Indians—it was a peaceful place when the Spanish first saw it several hundred years ago. They gave it a name, Nogales, because of the profusion of walnut trees that grew along the bluffs.

Western civilization got its first toehold when the French came in 1698 and established a mission. The priests were followed in time by settlers, and a sturdy stockade was erected; they called it St. Pierre.

The sojourn of the French was brief; by the time the earliest English custodians of the land arrived the wilderness had reclaimed, nature had erased, most of the evidences of the earlier occupation. By the time the revolutionary guns sounded in faroff New England in 1776, the determined Tories here had anglicized the Spanish name, Nogales: They called it The Walnut Hills.

When in 1798 the Stars and Stripes were first unfurled over The Walnut Hills, newcomers from the eastern seaboard had cleared more of the wilderness. In 1819 a town was born on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River; it was named "Vicksburg" for its founder, the Rev. Newet Vick, who died the same year his town was established.

Membership Application

Date: _____

Last Name: _____   Are you on Facebook? ☐ YES ☐ NO

First Name: _____   Is this a change of information? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Middle Name: _____

Maiden Name: _____   SC Genealogical Society – State Number _____

Mailing Address: _____

      City: _____   State: _____   Zip Code: _____

Home Phone #: _____   Cell Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Surnames being researched:

Please list below the Family Surnames of those you are researching. Please include full names, known dates, and areas in Anderson and surrounding counties. *Use the back of this form if you need more space to add a surname.*

Surname, Given	Locations (City or County)	Dates

☐ **New Member**   ☐ **Renewal**

☐ **ASSOCIATE** - $15.00 - I am a primary member of another SCGS Chapter.
        SCGS Chapter _____   SCGS Member # _____

☐ **INDIVIDUAL** - $25.00 - Membership for one person.

☐ **FAMILY** - $30.00 - Membership for 2 people, within the same household.
        Name of 2nd person: _____

☐ **Donation -** _____

☐ Cash   ☐ Check   Check # _____   Amount $ _____

Make checks payable to: *ACGS*

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Vick had been wise in his choice in his vision of a city. The bluffs on which Vicksburg stood gave way to open fields a few miles distant; the view from a hundred hills was spectacular.

The new town was born of the river. Its brown, rushing waters over which Indian canoes had once silently skimmed became a highway for rowdy frontiersmen who landed their flatboats along the muddy banks and drank and danced and brawled in the shantys that catered to their lusts. Then soon came another type vessel, bringing a different class of people: looking like a floating wedding cake, the steamboat made its appearance at the Vicksburg landing. In time the scattered farms evolved into plantations, the small stores to thriving mercantile businesses, the modest houses to elegant mansions which lined the terraced hills, and Vicksburg took its place with the refined and cultured cities of the South.

In 1863 Vicksburg kept a rendezvous with history and left its name indelibly imprinted upon its pages. The home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, yet Unionist in sentiment, Vicksburg found herself as strategically important in war as Vick and envisioned the site in peace. When the smoke had cleared after months of fighting and 47 days of siege, Vicksburg was scarred and wounded and subdued; but her spirit was never conquered.

From the ruins, from the ashes, Vicksburg rebuilt her houses and her stores. She entered the era of the New South with confidence. Bricks made from the soil, hardwood from the hills, went into construction of homes such as this house, built in November, 1880, by George Rogers.

The Walnut Hills have witnessed tragedy and tribulation, gaiety and gentility, all meshed together into a proud heritage." ****

Got a note from Lynn Smith Cassell and I thought I would share it with you: Received 22 February, 2022;

February 16, 2022

Dear Shirley and Linda,

Thank you so much for your kindness and work on my family tree.

My friend and I enjoyed our visit to your wonderful "Anderson" a few years ago. My connection to Anderson is my Great-Grandmother "Ida Narcissa Anderson".

This SEARCH has been a wonderful adventure.

Thanks you again for your help.

Sincerely,

Lynn Smith Cassell

Lynn also writes:

Dear Linda, (Rogers)

I have a question about William Albert Hughes.

Relatives say his mother was "Elizabeth Hughes" (m. Cochran).

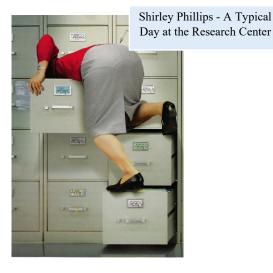*You gave me the name "Elizabeth Caroline Blair" 1844 TN.*

Please review again and confirm.

Thank you for your help!

Sincerely,

Lynn Smith Cassell

If you have any information that you would like to share with Lynn, please forward it to the ACGS library and we will get it to her.

Shirley Phillips - A Typical Day at the Research Center

Extra Copies of Books at the Research Center For Sale

The Carolyn Duncan Research Center has noticed that it has some extra copies or duplicate books that are taking up much needed space. We, at the research center, think we need to sell these duplicate books and we want to give members a chance at these books first.

Here is list of these books:

Hachette & Oxford Translation Dictionary – Francais – English and English – Francais

The Practical Home And School Educator Vol. V – Published in 1912 – This edition like an encyclopedia and covers the letter "S".

The Practical Home And School Educator Vol. VI – Published in 1912 – This edition covers a range of topics such as Mathematics, Arithmetic, Geography, Nature Study, Agriculture, Industries, Orthography and many more subjects.

The Anderson Intelligencer – Volumes 1 through 3 – These were purchased by Jerry Kay and used for his research of the Kay family. They are Used books but still hold lots of good information.

Genealogical Abstract of Revolutionary War Pension Files Volume II: F – M; Abstracted by Virgil D. White.

Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files Volume IV: Index; Abstracted by Virgil D. White.

Old Pickens District, S.C. – Living, loving, working and dying in 1828-1868 Antebellum; by Jerry Lamar Alexander

Pittsylvania County Virginia – Heritage 1767 –
2006 Vol. 2 – Heritage Book – Excellent Condition

American Naturalization Records 1790-1990; What They Are and How to Use Them – by John J. Newman

Anderson County – A Pictorial History – by Hurley E. Badders: The paper cover is slightly damaged but the book itself is in excellent condition.

Ancestors and Decendants of Mary Elise Mauldin Paget and Eilleen Reed Mauldin Mattison – by James Suddath Paget, Jr. – Genealogy Research. (2 copies)

Pickens District, S.C. 1830 Census – by Ann Sheriff – Cover is slightly stained – all pages are clean and readable.

Around Belfast – Photographic Memories – by Henry Hall. Donated by Carolyn Duncan Cummings and purchased during a trip to Ireland.

Landscapes of Ireland – by Michael Diggins. Donated by Carolyn Duncan Cummings and purchased during a trip to Ireland.

Spartanburg County / District South Carolina: Deed Abstracts Books A-T 1785-1827 by Albert Bruce Pruitt – Published in 1988

History of Franklin County – Georgia: by the Franklin County Historical Society

Elgin Families – Compiled by James G. Elgin – Donated by Debbie Giles – Elgin Genealogy.

The Research Center has not determined what we would sell these items for as of this publication but will sell them for a good offer.

High Grade Vehicles FOR THE TRADE. Write for our complete Catalogue and Price List. It costs nothing, showing all kinds of BUGGIES, DRIVING WAGONS, SURREYS, CARRIAGES, SPRING WAGONS, &c. WRITE TO NEW STANDARD WAGON CO, CINCINNATI, OHIO. Responsible Agents wanted in each town. Please mention this paper when writing.

First Uber Advertisement

"Picture Puzzles"

By: Maureen A. Taylor
Article from "Family Tree Magazine" August 2000,
Pages 14-20

Walk into any antique store or flea market and you'll find boxes of old photographs. These "instant ancestors," as they're sometimes called, have been abandoned for lack of interest and because they're un-identified. It's sad to think they will end up as anony-mous wall decorations instead of being cherished by a family for generations.

Most of us have mysterious old photographs in our own collections. They may have been given to you because of your interest in family history of be-cause the executor of an estate didn't want to just throw them away. Maybe some photos have a first name but not a date, or there's partial information passed on from family lore. But most such images haunt us with their lack of identifying information.

All too often these pictures end up in the trash – or at the flea market – because photo identification is seen as a difficult if not an impossible task. Not true! While some photos defy efforts to completely identify them, most images have a story to tell if you know how to discover it.

Here are 10 simple steps to get you started solving your own photographic mysteries:

Ask Questions: The first step in any investiga-tion is to ask questions; your research will try to determine the answers. Do you have any relatives who might be able to supply additional material or stories related to the photo? Try to record their recollections in case you need to refer to them again later, by transcribing their memories of by using a tape or video recorder. Make sure you keep track of full contact information for anyone you interview. You will want to show them the photograph several times during the identification process in case some new information jogs their memory. Here are some sample questions you can ask:

What do you know about the im-age?
Who was its previous owner?
How did it come to be in your pos-session?
Is it part of a larger collection?
Are there any stories associated with it?
Do you know why it was taken?
Do you know when it was taken?
Do you know any of the people in the picture?
Did a family member supply the identification?

Keep Track of Your Research: In order to draw conclusions based on your inquiries, document your research using a worksheet. This will also help you develop a research plan. You'll want to include such basic information as:

Owner's name: Your name or the person who currently owns the image.

Address and telephone number: Any con-tact information that may prove help-ful.

Condition: Is the photograph difficult to read because of mold damage or fad-ing?

Type of image: Make sure of the photo-graphic process before you fill in this information.

Size: Measure in inches, height x width.

Mounting: Is it an original, copy image or digitized?

Photographer's imprint: Does the name of the photographer appear anywhere on the image, front or back? Do you know the name of the photographer

because family legend has it that your family always frequented the same studio?

Props/background: What other elements are visible in the photograph?
Style of dress: Write a short description of the type of clothing shown in the picture. Be sure to include hairstyle, jewelry and hats – it's often the accessories that add the final piece of documentation.

Get Ready to Research: By listing what you know and don't know on a worksheet, you're one step closer to finding out when the picture was taken and who is in it. Once you've filled out the worksheet you thought about that unidentified image.

Since you'll be showing your picture to relatives and taking it with you to libraries, you should make either a same-size photocopy of both sides of the photograph or a copy print so that you aren't carrying an irreplaceable original. Make multiple copies so you can send them to relatives who may have similar photographs in their collections. Most photo labs now have the ability to make direct positive prints from the original and many can make digital prints. Get the best possible copy that your budget allows so that the details remain visible.

Now that you have a worksheet and a copy image, you can begin to fill in the blanks. There are four basic ways to identify a photograph: You're looking for information on the photographer, clues to the type of photograph, visible elements such as signage, and clothing features. By researching each detail of the image you'll get closer to drawing a conclusion – it's the sum total of your research that leads to a date or identification. (Keep in mind that not all photographs necessarily have multiple points to research. For instance, a pho-

tographer's name isn't present on all images.)

What Type of Photograph Is It? List the photo's physical characteristics on the worksheet. Is it on metal? Does it look like a mirror? Is it a paper print or on glass? What is its exact size? By answering these questions you're eliminating possibilities. For example, the earliest type of photographic image, the daguerreotype, was a shiny metal surface. It actually needs to be held at a particular angle in order to see the image. It was used for a relatively brief 20-year period. But another type of metal image, the tintype, was introduced in 1856 and remained popular until the early 20th century. Creating a checklist of characteristics will help you narrow your choices.

Who Is The Photographer? The presence of a photographer's name, also known as a imprint, can be a shortcut to deciding on a time frame. In the 19th and early 20th century photographers could order cards preprinted with their name and address on either the front of the back. They would then mount photographs on the cards. The resulting combination provided a sturdy support for the image and advertising for the photographer. You can discover a photography studio's date of operation by searching city directories *(found in the Research Center in Anderson)* or libraries of the area in which the photographer lived, contacting the local historical of genealogical societies or consulting a published directory of photographers for that locale.

What Are They Wearing? One of the most important details in the dating process involves clothing. In many cases determining the type of photographic process and a photographer's dates of operation will still leave you with too broad a time frame for genealogical identification. Clothing elements become key to narrowing down the

date. In general, fashion changes are most notable in the accessories of a woman's costume such as hats, hairstyle and jewelry. Costume encyclopedias and fashion magazines (check your local public or academic library for these resources) can help you trace when certain styles of dress were fashionable.

Stick to a step-by-step process as you try to develop a theory about the photograph—don't skip ahead to a wrong conclusion. In one case, a woman decided the photograph of a couple was her great-grandparents on their wedding day. While the woman's wedding dress suggested she was right, the groom's suit was of a different time period. By figuring out the photographic process and comparing those dates to the costume clues, it became apparent that the photograph actually showed her grandmother, probably wearing her mother's wedding dress. In this instance each clothing detail had to be carefully examined and compared to other known factors. By making a quick assumption based on just one feature, the dress, it would have been easy to misunderstand the photograph and assign a wrong date.

Where Are They Standing? Are there any other clues in the image? In outdoor scenes you can identify a season or establish a list of features. Signage in an image can provide information about a business; city directories can then help you pinpoint a date. Examine each section of the photograph for details. Did the photographer use props? While you probably can't determine a date based solely on the photographic elements, it can help you create a relationship between other photographs in your collection. Photographers generally used similar props in their images. By grouping photographs together that have similar internal details you may discover that you have a number of images taken by the same photographer around the same time. Combining that with other information may lead you to conclude that these individuals form a family group.

Don't Forget Oral Traditions: Sometimes a family knows who is in the image but would like additional information or proof. One person was certain that the photograph in her possession was of her grandmother because of stories she'd heard when she was a child, but she wanted confirmation. The image had no identifying information. Her worksheet quickly showed that very little additional research could be done. The lack of a photographer's imprint and the long time span for the photographic method meant that costume was the only way to assign a date. Since the owner had corroborating identifying data from several family members, she was comfortable with dating the image based solely on costume. The fashion information agreed with the life dates of her grandmother, as the oral tradition had suggested.

Put It All Together: Let's look at how all the previous steps can come together to date a photograph. The owner of a picture of a young couple *(Below)* was trying to determine a time frame for the image. A worksheet helped determine that the size of the picture, the photographer's imprint and the couple's clothing were all clues.

The photograph was mounted on a 4 ½ x 6 ½ inch card. Consulting a timeline of paper prints helped identify this as a standard size for a type of photograph known as a Cabinet Card. They were introduced in 1866 and were popular into the early 1900s.

In this case, the photographer, "Bonell," chose to advertise on the card. By consulting a directory of Western photographers it was determined that a Bonell (listed as "Bonnell") was active in Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, from 1875-1890.

The details in the woman's dress and her accessories narrowed that 15-year span. The tight sleeves and high puffed shoulder seams were examples of a sleeve style that was in fashion only very briefly about 1890. By 1893, sleeves were fuller on the upper arm. The rest of her appearance, including her short, frizzed bangs and a bun at the nape of her neck, agree with that circa-1890 date.

The young man's clothing was a little harder to date since men's fashion changes are not a dramatic. But his basic black sack suit with buttoned vest, white shirt and silk tie would fit with the late 1880s and early 1890s. By putting all the pieces together, the photo's owner could confidently date the mystery photo at circa 1890.

WOMAN HAS SHORT, FRIZZED BANGS, POPULAR AROUND 1890

DRESS WITH TIGHT SLEEVES AND HIGH, PUFFED SHOULDERS WAS IN STYLE ONLY BRIEFLY

MAN'S BASIC BLACK SACK SUIT AND BUTTONED VEST SUGGEST EARLY 1890S

CLOTHING AND OTHER CLUES DATE THIS PHOTOGRAPH AS CIRCA 1890.

IMPRINT REVEALS PHOTOGRAPHER'S NAME AND LOCATION

Bonell *B* *Eau Claire, Wis.*

Use Your Genealogical Data: After completing your photo research, compare what you know to your genealogical material. It may surprise you to discover you can now place a name with a face. You may also decide that your initial tentative identification was incorrect.

In one family there was an image of a woman that lacked positive identification. Using genealogical data alone, the owner surmised that the portrait was of Mary (Sparks) Munn, who died in 1852. By talking with other relatives he discovered an identical picture—except this one included the name of the photographer. By researching the photographer, closely examining the clothing clues and scrutinizing his genealogical material, he realized that he had the wrong woman. In fact, it was more likely a portrait of Mary Louise (Munn) Tyrell, the woman's daughter.

What If It's Still A Mystery? What happens if all your efforts to identify the image fail? Go back and look at the photograph again. Do you notice anything you missed the first time around? Examine the faces for expressions and features. Is there a purpose behind the photograph? Is it documentation of an event?

When you re-examine the photograph, look to see how the individuals are posed. The intimacy in the way a young couple is seated together may suggest they are sitting for either an engagement photograph or, more likely, a wedding portrait. In a group portrait, the central figure may be the oldest member of the family or the most successful. Photographers carefully positioned individuals within a picture and included props that suggested a context. For instance, a photograph as a prop usually refers to someone not included in the image because of death or absence.

Are there any similar photographs in your collection? In the Munn family, once the whole collection was laid out on a clean surface it became apparent that a series of portraits had been taken at the same time, probably by the same photographer. The four images were the same size and used the same photographic process, and the poses were similar. Additional research proved that the costume dates agreed with the assumption. Once one photograph was tentatively identified, it was possible to also assign names to the rest of the portraits.

Still stumped? Try these additional steps:

Show the picture to as many relatives possible. You never know when someone might have an identical copy of similar image.

Post it on your Web site or someone else's. A number of sites reconnect people with lost family photographs (see page 18). You might discover answers of other family pictures.

Place a request for information on a message board or in query column. While you can't add a photograph to your message or query, you can verbally describe the picture and express an interest in seeing possibly related images.

Re-examine your genealogical data. Are you sure you didn't miss a likely suspect?

It may take several attempts to identify the most challenging images in your collection. Don't despair! The more people who see your picture and the more you learn, the better your chances of identifying it.

Don't let your ancestors wind up in a flea market, to become someone else's "instant ancestors." With the right steps and a little patience, you can put names and dates to those faces from the past.

ANDERSON COUNTY CHAPTER
SOUTH CAROLINA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Publication sales, membership fees & donations are the only sources of income for the chapter. *Thank you for your support.*

The Anderson County Research Center Corner

By Gary Farmer

Howdy you all. I hope everybody had a good quarter and ready to finally get to the Fall season again. The Research Center has been busy. Shirley has been busy dealing with her own issues as well as the issues of visitors to the Research Center. Shirley generally helps all who come by and need help. She sometimes doesn't have time to do her own research. We have changed out the display case in the Visitors Center Lobby that is good for the next 3 months. Shirley has also had to deal with family surgeries and what ever Larry Phillips gets into.

Sue Brewer continues to scan the Record Books from Belton First Baptist Church which begin in 1861. It can be frustrating sometimes to scan everything including documents in envelopes or documents taped to the page. She is getting closer and closer to getting done with this project and is ready to get back to projects she has started but not finished yet. Sue is also working with Joyce Gibson and Barbara Clark with the New Silver Brook publication that we hope will turn out to be a well received addition to the ACGS book sells.

Others have come and visited the Research Center to research their family genealogy: They were,

David & Linda Bell traveling from New Boston, TX looking for information on the Bell family during 1780-1865 and Black family 1840-1860.

Dena Culler of Anderson, SC visited the Research Center.

Mary Speed Farmer Lynch spent a couple of days with us here at the Research Center. She went to high school at T. L. Hanna and graduated in 1974. She now lives in Spartanburg and travelled to visit our Research Center. She found information about Robert Anderson and his wife Anne Thompson. She was also researching "Humphreys and Hunters".

Don M. Williams of Anderson stopped by one day in July.

Michael Gardner who lives in Anderson came by to do a little research on W. S. Lee.

Kevin & Laura Fields who bought a house down near the Abbeville County border came in to research information on Asa Hall who owned the house.

Joe Stevenson from Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin visited the Center on the 30th of August.

Jamey Wentzky of Anderson stopped by to gather some information on Manson "Manse" Jolly. He found some information that he shared with his friend Perry Southerland.

Angela Marie Brown visited us from Lowndesville in Abbeville County and was amazed at how much information she found. Some of the information brought back memories and touched her dearly.

Robert W. Whittaker came by from Piedmont looking for information on Richard Robinson who was born in 1751. He donated a book on "The Robinson Family of Abbeville and Anderson County South Carolina".

Angie Johnston visited us from Tyler, TX looking for information on Major Samuel Taylor, 1740-1798, Col. Joseph Taylor, 1783-1852, Col. David Sloan Taylor, 1805-1867, John Bayliss Earle Taylor, 1813-1871, David Sloan, Sr. 1752-1826, Thomas Wilson 1775-1807, and James Hubbard, 1790-1850.
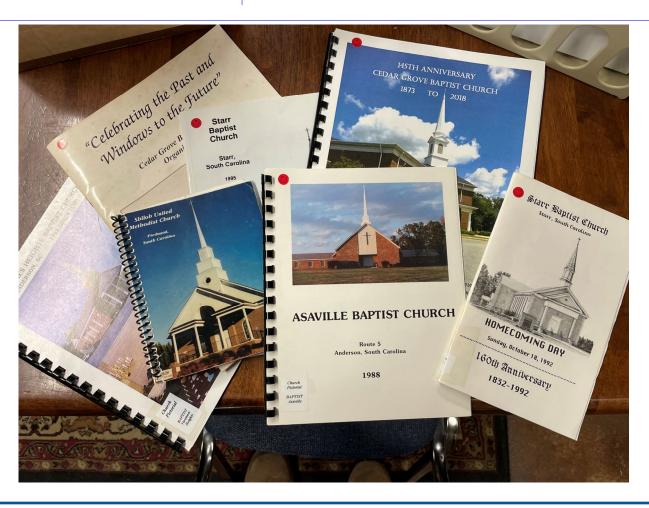

"I found it."

Organization

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Merry Christmas

Cost Per Person/ Dinner

$15.00

Please Send Your Reservation by Nov 21, 2022

Entrée:

Roast Beef w/gravy
Amish Chicken

Sides:

Green Beans
Vegetable Casserole
Creamed Potato's

Dessert:

Strawberry Cake
Peach Cobbler

Join Us For Christmas Dinner

December 5th, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

At Senior Solutions, 3420 Clemson Blvd #17, Anderson, SC 29621

RSVP to Rudolph With Your Menu Entrée Selection On The Form Below, With Your Check

Made Out To *ACGS* And Send To *ACGS, 110 Federal Street, Anderson, SC 29625*

Cut Along Line

Christmas Dinner Gathering

Name: _____   Number in Party: _____

Guest: _____

Your entrée: O Roast Beef   O Amish Chicken

Your Guest entrée: O Roast Beef   O Amish Chicken   Amount Paid: $ _____

2023
Membership Renewal

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Is Accepting Renewal Checks For The 2023 Membership Year.

If Your Information That The ACGS Has Is Correct

And No Changes Need To Be Made

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Such As Your Address

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