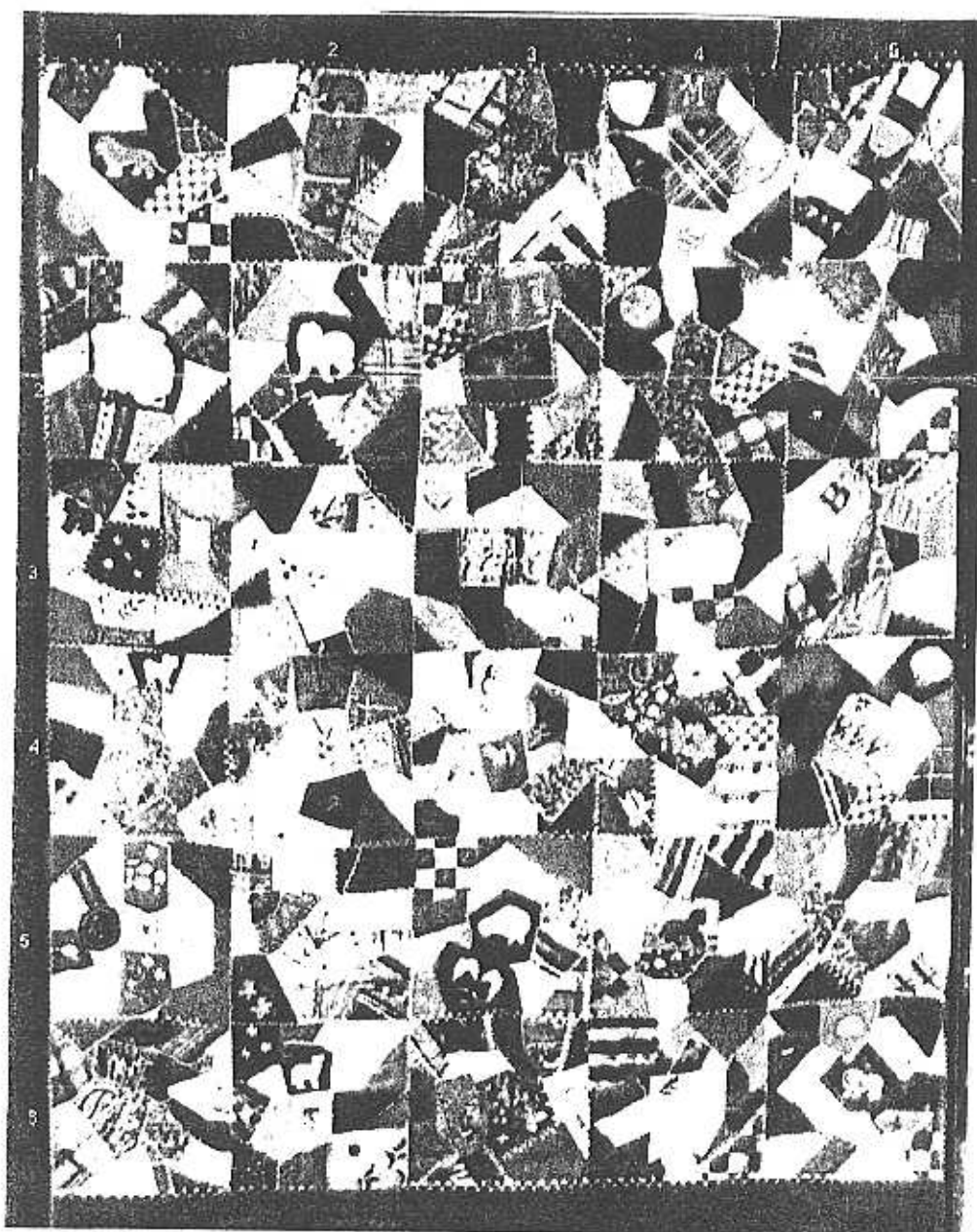


A RARE GIFT

Faithful member of CCHA Betty D. Fitzgerald is a world-champion namedropper and we're glad of it! She's a former airline stewardess and wherever she's been she has spread the good word about noteworthy people related to Caswell County (and to Betty). She has inherited the quilt made from a bride's trousseau over 150 years ago by Caswell native Susan Payne Richardson, born@ present Providence. She is considering giving it to Richmond-Miles Museum.

Crazy Quilt by Susan Payne Richardson Stevens / Gunn



<http://www.kevinalice.us/SusanPayneQuilt/CrazyQuilt.html>

Betty Fitzgerald also cruises the INTERNET. You can see a result on Pg. 1 except that the original image of the historic quilt is in beautiful full color. She has also obtained permission from the author to submit a valuable article for the NEWSLETTER. Extensive research was done by John C. Howard, P. O. Box 299, Arcadia, Ok. 73007. Tel #405 348-0320. LAWJCH@aol.com

CAPT. THOMAS GRAVES AND THE VIRGINIA ADVENTURE

by John C. Howard

Captain Christopher Newport watched intently as his crew made ready for docking the MARY AND MARGARET in six fathoms of water at Jamestown, Virginia. This was the third crossing for the former privateer done at the request of the Virginia Company.

Captain John Smith had been elected president of the Virginia Council just weeks before on Sept. 10, 1608. It was into this environment that gentleman Thomas Graves and sixty-nine others stepped onto the landing in Virginia. Graves was an initial stock subscriber in the Virginia Company and according to the company records, was from Dublin, Ireland.

The Jamestown which Graves saw could not have been very pleasing. Inside the fort there were twenty buildings that housed one hundred and twenty men. Most of them lived six to a house.

Lack of sufficient housing was not the only poor prospect facing the newcomers. In early September much of the fall crop and supplies had been ruined. Graves and the other adventurers would live on limited victuals or rations with each man learning to survive on a "pinte a day of corne."

Unknown to Graves, things would get much worse before they got better. The food brought on the voyage would be placed in storage only to be ruined by rats and worms brought from England and this would lead to a "starving time."

Subsequently, the Indians captured Graves. Upon learning of his capture, Captain Smith sent the young Thomas Savage to effectuate his rescue.

At some point in time Graves applied for and received his passport to return to England where he married his wife Katherine. (The Instructions permitted no man to leave without a passport.)

While in England, Katherine gave birth to John and Thomas Jr., and three daughters, Ann, Verlinda and Katherine. Only the last boy, Francis, was born in Virginia. Precisely when she and the children came to Virginia is unknown, but it would have been after 1625 because they are not shown in the 1625 census.

Thomas Graves' next appearance on the pages of the Virginia adventure occurs in connection with one of the three initial plantations known as Smythe's Hundred.

In April of that year, Sir George Yeardley had returned to the colony as its Governor. Soon after April 29, 1619 Governor Yeardley wrote to Sir Edwin Sandys, "I have entreated Captain Graves an Antient officer of this co(mpa)ny to take Charge of the people and workes." The event which gave rise to this promotion was the arrest of one Captain William Eps who had slain a Captain Stallings.

Governor Yeardley issued a call for the first legislative assembly in America, which convened at Jamestown on July 30, 1619 and remained in session until August 4th. Among the twenty-two elected Burgesses who met in the "Quire" of the Jamestown Church was Captain Graves and Mr. Walter Shelley representing Smithe's Hundred.

Two committees were created to examine the new charter. Captain Graves served on the second committee to examine the second half of the Charter.

He disappears after August 1619 until he is shown living on the Eastern Shore on Feb. 16, 1623. Some have speculated that he was in England at this time and therefore missed the tragic Indian Massacre of Friday morning, March 22, 1622.

The Quarter Court held in the "forenoone" of Nov. 20, 1622, Captain Graves' patent was approved by the Virginia Company in London. He exercised this right by taking 200 acres of land on the Eastern Shore of the Bay of the Chesapeake dated Mar. 28, 1628.

He continued his civic involvement on the Eastern Shore and was a Burgess for Accomac Plantation for the March 5; 1623-4 Assembly. He was the Commander of the "Plantation Accamacke" by the General Court on Feb. 18, 1628-9 and headed the list of commissioners (later called Justices) at the first court for Accomac on Jan 7, 1633-4. He was a member of the first vestry meeting of Hungar's Parish, being appointed on Sept. 14, 1635.

Death overcame the good Captain somewhere between Nov. 1635 when he was a witness to a deed and Jan. 5, 1636 when a suit was entered against "a servant to Mrs. Graves." The last men-

tion of Mrs. Graves shows her living at the Old Accomac Plantation on May 20, 1636.

Thomas Graves would be proud to know that his descendants now number in the thousands and that his line is one of the longest in America, now extending unbroken for 396 years. The Julian Calendar, which is 10 days behind the Gregorian, has been used throughout this article).

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NOTES AND QUERIES

Unless we hear differently, the MIDDLEBROOKS clan will re-unite from all over the United States in Caswell County where they first settled very early not too far from Perkins Ferry just above "Dixes" Ferry on the Dan as they wrote in Revolutionary days. The date mentioned was the last Sunday in July and they had mentioned using the Museum as headquarters. The aim is to hold the yearly in every state where they lived in olden times and this will take in lots of states. We got calls from Oregon and were able to locate the Widow Middlebrooks' grant lands adjoining WARE and DIXON in the Providence area. We have to keep in mind that Dix's Ferry has no family ties to Col. Hal Dixon that we know of. Both Middlebrooks and Dixons were mostly gone west shortly after 1800. WARES we still have with us and their graveyard with two Revolutionary markers will be one of the points of interest. DIX descendants can be found today in both Caswell and Pittsylvania Counties.

Two large GUNN books have recently been added to the Museum collection of family genealogies as well as a copy of the DIARY of Herndon Haralson, gift of Carol Jean Murphey Garner.

Long-time subscriber Tacie B. Smith had some family to come in and announce that the long-time government service in Alaska was over and the Jesse G. Smiths, having returned to the USA were in Caswell looking for old homes of their family, including Graves, Yancey and Moorefield. If they went to the Bartlett Yancey House, they found that Mr. and Mrs. Mike Willis are developing the grounds as well as the house. Sadly, the Long-Yancey-Womack-Wiggins-Moorefield house has not been worked on in a long time.

The gift of The Social History of Robert Lyon of Caswell County by J. A. Dresser, 216 Pine Ridge Drive, Wappinger's Falls, N. Y. 12590 is much appreciated by GCHA. It seems that Robert Lyon moved to Caswell County during the Revolution and died there in 1804. He would be "most happy to hear" from interested parties at the above address and dresj@optonline.net. He closes with the comment "While addresses both e-mail and snail mail do not last forever, I can be found now (at the above). There are several LYON-LYONS people around.

Last fall, Paul R. Jackson, 26921 State Highway 3, Kirksville, Mo. 63501 joined us and requested help with JACKSON, MATHIS, DAMERON, CULBERSON, SMITH and HIGHTOWER. We have to report that some of the families have a great deal of information in Caswell, namely Smith, Dameron, and Hightower. The other three have never filed any information with us which they may have collected. Perhaps if he could give us the first names of the individuals we could help him.

Ken Smith, 5730 Washburn Ave. S, Minneapolis, Minn. 55419 would like info. about NOAH COBB. We believe Robt. Owen Cobb, Rt. 1, Box 183, Reidsville, N. C. 27320 is descended from this family and might help.

General Sam Houston of Texas and Temple Lea's Daughter Margaret.

By: Betty Jean (Davis) Fitzgerald

Frontier "Heroes" and their resolute women give us tales of romance and adventure, almost too outlandish to believe. One is the tale of the marriage of "Old" Sam of the Texas "tall tales" and his staunch Baptist third wife, Margaret. Most of the levity can be put aside, but the Baptist College of Baylor, that the Lea/Graves line had not a small effect in founding, is the source of a fountain of Sam's follies. As most of those eye witnesses came from Caswell Co., NC, a small, true picture is justified.

In Jan. 14, 1836 while going to his troops in Goliad, TX, Houston learns that the Alamo has fallen. By October 22 of that year Houston is sworn in as President of the Republic of Texas. After two years putting the State together he takes a long trip through the South with an eye to getting Texas admitted to the Union. In May 1839 he meets Margaret Lea of Marion, Alabama and is quite smitten. Twice bitten, twice shy in the field of matrimony, he goes on his way through the United States, and visits his old friend Andrew Jackson at The Hermitage in Nashville, TN. By the end of summer he is in Mobile, and there asks Margaret Lea's hand in marriage. Families who could, summered on the coast of Mobile to escape the heat. He returns to Nacogdoches, TX, and is elected to TX Congress. In 1840 he returns to Marion, AL and marries Margaret. She will bear him seven living children, the last Temple Lea Houston, born 1860 in the Gov.'s mansion in Austin, TX. He will be the inspiration for the character, "Yancy Cravat" in Edna Ferber's novel, "Cimarron". (Biog. can be found on the Web; www.SamHoustonMemorialMuseum.org.)

We have to go back in time to Sam's youth to see the friendship links that drew Houston so confidently to these leaders. One of these were the sons of Nathaniel Williams m. Mary Ann Williamson. (1742-1805) NC. Planter, Lawyer, NC provincial congress, delegate. He was father to Marmaduke (1772-1850) and Robert (1776-1814) among others. Marmaduke will m. 2nd widow Agnes (Payne) Harris, the dau. of Robert and Ann (Burton) Payne of "Cascades", Pittsylvania, Co., VA. Pres. James Madison's wife Dolley is their niece. Ann will travel west into TN with her two sons's in law, the other being Christopher Harris m. Mary Woodson "Polly" Payne, and the new county courthouse will meet in her house/tavern. She is called, "the famous widow Payne of TN." Known to her are Thomas Hart Benton, Herman Husbands, Davie Crockett, Andrew Jackson and Sam Houston. Here he will get to know the Williams's as they are lawyer's there for three years. Robert m. a Payne cousin. He will be appointed by Pres. Jefferson as Gov. of the Territory of MS, @1807 and will be buried in his dau.'s cemetery, Eliza Winston Williams Richardson and her husband Samuel Richardson, a cousin of the Ann Payne (Ware) Richardson/Sergeant line of the "Brickhouse", Providence, CC, NC. Staying behind at "Cascades" was Ann's mother, Susannah (Payne) Ware, wife of William Ware, and sister of the migrating pair. (Writers line.)

Marmaduke was a NC US Senator but will travel to TN., practice law three years, then, following the death of his wife's mother, Ann (Burton) Payne, and the final disposition of her husband's many plantations, will then go after 1810 in to the territory of AL, Tuscaloosa Co.,

Elected to the State Constitutional convention, he narrowly misses being elected gov. He serves many years, and finally becomes a judge. Among other legislators will be found TEMPLE LEA, the father of Margaret. So Sam has many friends in AL. Temple had been in AL when the first "new" capitol was built in Wetumpka. It was moved after several years of successive floods and droughts making steamboat traffic impossible.

As important as these connections were it is John Williams, (1778-1837), among East TN's most illustrious soldier-diplomat's that guided Sam's star. "The Raven" had just returned from the Cherokee's to the white man's world a few years when those on the Holstein R. & Knox Co. were called to the war of 1812. He joins the regular army under Col, Williams. The decisive battle on March 22, 1814 was that of Horseshoe Bend, on the Tallapoosa River. A major set battle against fortified ramparts, with heavy guns led by John against the combined Indian nations, with their outside help. It was more important than the battle of Fallen Timbers in Ohio, as it opened up all of the Southern states. Andrew Jackson, later will take full credit in his report to congress. This sets the two friends as opposing life-time enemies. The regimental flag for the 39th was embroidered by Polly McClung. Later to marry Thomas Lanier Williams. The flag was carried in the battle by SAM HOUSTON. Jackson will promote him to Second Lt.

The HOUSTON-LEA line begins with William Lea & Frances. B @ 1734 K&Q Co. VA. D. 1804 Person Co., NC. Son: George m. @1761 Lucy Tolbert. Nine children. Son: TEMPLE LEA, B. 1771. m. 1797 Nancy Moffatt, Hancock, GA. Five children. Fourth: MARGARET, b. 11 April, 1819. M. 1840 GEN. SAM HOUSTON, his third wife. Her brother, Col. Martin A. Lea. While in Texas the same LEA grouping, through Major and Lavinia (Jarnagin) Lea is their son: Judge Pryor Lea. In TN he was in the Creek wars, and congressman with Davy Crockett and James K. Polk. In TX he acted for HOUSTON & GEN. RBT. E. LEE.

The Baylor University Lea's are: Henry Lea Graves, b. 1813 in Yanceyville. M. Rebecca Williams Graves, b. 1812. Dau. Of Azariah Graves & Elizabeth (WILLIAMS), sister of MARMADUKE AND ROBERT. These Baptist will finally bring the 'RAVEN' to a semblance of civility, but his fire burns while as Gov. of TX he refuses to sign the oath to the Confederacy.

Submitted by: Betty Jean (Davis) Fitzgerald
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STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP OF THE CASWELL COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
Organized in 1954. Address: P. O. Box 278, Yanceyville, N. C. 27379; Member of N. C. Historical and Genealogical Society. Meetings: Quarterly and as called. Projects: distributing publications related to Caswell County history and genealogy, Richmond-Miles Museum on the Square in Yanceyville, sponsorship of Thomas Day Work-Shops. Board of Directors Meetings held monthly. President: Elizabeth McPherson; Vice-President: Gordon Bendall; Secretary and Treasurer retiring: Nancy Mise Rudd.

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ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC

SUNDAY, June 26 @ 5:00 pm – Yanceyville Presbyterian Church

Program: Maud's Legacy in the World of Art

Joe Rowand, owner of Somerhill Gallery in Chapel Hill, will be our speaker. Joe was Maud's agent and friend for many years. No one knows the significance of her legacy as an artist better than Joe and we'll be energized by his wonderful stories of Maud's artistic gifts and her personality.

Many of us knew that Maud was a very gifted artist, but few of us knew the extent of her accomplishments and recognition across our nation. Don't miss this presentation from one who was there through the years and speaks from personal knowledge of her achievements.

RICHMOND-MILES HISTORY MUSEUM

Summer Schedule: Wednesday-Friday – 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Other times by appointment. Call 336-694-4965 during museum hours for help.

FUNDRAISERS

JUNE 11, 2005 – 7: 00 PM - A DELIGHTFUL EVENING

The Caswell County Historical Association proudly presents

The Danville Symphony

In An Evening of Music, Food, and Dancing

On Saturday, the eleventh of June

At seven o'clock in the evening

Caswell County Civic Center

Yanceyville, North Carolina

Heavy hors d'oeuvres featuring

Pork tenderloin, smoked salmon, and risotto with Italian sausage
and MORE

Festive summer attire

It's not too late to come, but we need your reservation now. Call the museum – 694-4965; Gordon Bendall at the Caswell Messenger – 694-4145; Lib McPherson – 694-4450; Mike Willis – 514-0208; or Gordon Satterfield – 694-4813.

CASWELL HERITAGE REVOLVER RAFFLE

If you have not purchased a ticket for the #1 revolver in this beautiful limited edition which is carefully engraved with scenes depicting Caswell County's history, come by the museum, or contact any board member. Only 100 tickets will be sold and the drawing will be held at the annual meeting.

There will never be but 10 of these revolvers in addition to the proof. All of these were sold within 2 days of our announcing the offering. The owners of these will have first option for the same number in our limited edition rifle next year.

**BRIGHTLEAF HOEDOWN: SEPTEMBER 24-25 – JESSE JAMES EXHIBIT
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE**

You may be surprised to see us announcing a Jesse James exhibit, but research by Jesse James biographer Ralph Ganis has turned up fascinating information confirming the oral traditions in our county that Jesse James spent time here in Caswell county and revealing connections to people involved in the Kirk-Holden War as well as family connections to families who migrated to Jesse James hometown in Missouri from Caswell and Alamance Counties.

Ralph Ganis owns the largest private collection of Jesse James memorabilia in the US including Jesse and Frank James guns. The exhibit will include highlights of this large collection and show the local connection. Admission will be charged.

2005 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE NOW.

IF YOUR NEWSLETTER HAS A "FINAL ISSUE" LABEL, THAT MEANS YOU HAVE NOT PAID DUES SINCE 2003 OR BEFORE. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES NOW! SUPPORT CCHA'S MISSION.

Dues are \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. Mail your check or money order to CCHA, Box 278, Yanceyville, NC 27379. Include your name, address, phone number, and email address. The address label will have the date that you last paid your dues.

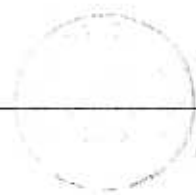
NEW ITEMS IN THE MUSEUM

Our volunteers are working to revise and improve exhibits in order to display the many gifts that we continue to receive from our citizens. We need more volunteers to help us.

We especially need some old-timers to help identify people in some boxes of pictures. Call the museum between 12 and 4, Wednesday-Friday if you would be willing to help.

OR come to our volunteers meeting on Thursday, June 16 from 10-12 to learn the opportunities.

Caswell County Historical Association
P.O. Box 278
Yanceyville, NC 27379



Please
Read Page 6
Immediately

2005
Richmond S. Frederick, Jr.
1965 Jamaica Way
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

*To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always – a child.
For what is worth a human life, unless it is woven into the life of our ancestors by the records of history?
From "The Shuttle" Haw River Historical Association*