

A BRIEF HISTORY OF
GRAVES MILL
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE ON COUNTRY LINE CREEK
CASWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

by
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February 24, 1982

TO THE RESEARCHER

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GRAVES MILL

The rock dam remnant on Country Line Creek about two miles southwest of Yanceyville can be associated with the earliest settlement of Caswell County. Country Line Creek, from its origin in southeastern Rockingham County, dissects Caswell in a northeasterly direction. The creek appears in the records as a geographical location as early as 1752, and William S. Powell suggests that the stream ". . . was probably named from the eighteenth century customs of calling the North Carolina - Virginia line the 'country line,' as the two colonies were regarded as different countries."¹ The fertile soil in the drainage basin, a plentiful water supply, and abundance of fish proved highly attractive to the early settlers of the area. Between January 18, 1752 and October 10, 1762, when Caswell was part of Orange County, 8,148 acres were patented along Country Line Creek.² Among these early settlers came John Graves who erected a mill on the site under study perhaps more than a decade before the American Revolution.

John Graves, son of Thomas Graves of Spotsylvania County, Virginia, moved to the Country Line Creek area about 1755. There he married Isabel Lea, daughter of James Lea, one of the largest landowners in what was to become Caswell County in 1777.³ Between May 7, 1761 and January 10, 1762 Graves purchased 851 acres on Country Line Creek; however, the 1761 grant was described as "adjoining his own line."⁴ Graves obviously was an established landowner even before 1761 and while the acreage of his original purchase is unknown, it seems safe to conclude that he possessed at least 1,000 acres of contiguous land by 1762. Precisely when John Graves erected his gristmill cannot be determined; it may have been as early as the late 1750s. Graves's Mill is acknowledged with bold print on the Collet Map

of 1770, suggesting that it had become an established landmark by that year.⁵

Gristmills were adjuncts of agriculture and generally confined to local use. Early Caswell settlers were farmers, mostly English but some German and Scotch-Irish. Bartlett Yancey described the land found by the pioneers:

The object of the first Settlers was to possess themselves of fertile land, and good pastures. I am told by the first Settlers, that cane was so plenty, at that time, that their cattle were fat all the winter without feeding. . . .

The growth on Country-line land, is pine, all kinds of Oaks, hickory, dog-wood, sower wood, Black gum, Black-Walnut, white-walnut, ashe, Beech, birch Sassafras and a variety of other vegetable productions. . . .⁶

Such was the setting in which Graves established his plantation and mill. A significant part of his acreage was given to the growing of corn which not only supplied the gristmill, but provided a basic food for the family, fodder for the livestock, and refreshment in the form of spirituous drink.⁷ Rapid population growth in Caswell quickly changed the pastoral innocence found by the early settlers. In three decades Caswell became the second most populous county in the state;⁸ large land tracts broke into smaller units and the land underwent intensive cultivation. Farms were largely self-sufficient and more mills for local use began to appear along Country Line, Hyco, Cobb, Moon's, and Rattlesnake creeks as well as tributaries of the Dan River.

John Graves certainly contributed to the population growth of Caswell by producing eight children, five sons and three daughters.⁹ The oldest son, Barzilla became a Baptist minister. Son John served as a captain in the Revolution and later became active in the political affairs of Caswell County. A third son, Thomas, apparently too young for service in the war,

stayed home to help with the plantation duties.¹⁰ All three figure prominently in the history of Graves Mill.

The function of the gristmill in the economic life of the community can be gleaned from the following testimony of Thomas Graves in regard to a Revolutionary War incident:

. . . in the month of February, 1781, he [Thomas Graves] saw a party of British and Tory soldiers at a Store house of Col. John Williams on the plantation of John Graves, Senr. in which was contained a large quantity of Corn belonging to him; that the said Thomas Graves was the first person there on the ensuing day, and found the quantity diminished, and supposes it to have been done by the aforesaid Soldiers, who at the same time committed many acts of violation upon his father's property; and he further deposes that he saw the Soldiers conveying the corn from the Store house of the Mill.¹¹

Graves Mill obviously served a number of families in the community, most of whom were related by marriage. The presence of several storehouses (as indicated by the wording of the testimony) suggests that the mill operated on a scheduled basis fulfilling the needs of each family in turn. If the Graves Mill was typical, then this **basic format** of self sufficiency characterized the gristmill industry in Caswell for three quarters of a century. Meanwhile, ownership of the mill bounced around the Graves family.

John Graves, Sr. died in 1792 and ownership of the mill passed to his oldest son, the Reverend Barzilla Graves. Rev. Graves died in 1827 leaving the home plantation, which included the mill, to his daughters Peggy and Mary after the death of their mother. Mary married Barzilla Graves, son of John Graves, Jr., and thus her first cousin.¹² Apparently Peggy released her interest in the property for Barzilla and Mary sold the mill to John Graves, Jr., known as Captain John Graves.¹³ He was probably the most prominent member of the family, having served in the Revolution and attended both Constitutional Conventions (Hillsborough 1788 and Fayetteville 1789)

as well as representing Caswell in the 1790 General Assembly. In 1792 he was appointed the county's standard bearer and directed "to call & receive from John Douglass the former standard bearer the Weights & Measures &c which was procured for the use of Caswell and keep them at his own Dwelling house." Capt. John Graves's home was situated on the mill tract.¹⁴

Captain John Graves died in 1829. His will gave to his daughter, Polly,

. . . the tract of land whereon I now live being the tract on which the Mill is situated, and which I purchased of my son Barzilla Graves and which has been run off to him [surveyed] before I purchased it & Supposed to contain about 412½ acres . . . and to have joint use with my wife of the Mansion and other houses attached and which she is to receive in the division of my property. . . .¹⁵

In January of 1833 Polly Graves married James Mebane, and they retained ownership of the mill until the mid 1850s, during which time a significant change was taking place in the industrial history of Caswell County.¹⁶

The 1850 census listed fifty five industrial enterprises operating in Caswell. The variety was about the same as in other counties; however, the following decade saw a dramatic change. By 1860 there were eighty industrial units but instead of the sixteen different products in 1850, there were only ten (see Appendix C). The greatest change occurred in the milling sector where in ten years the number of gristmills had grown from twelve to twenty-eight and the number of sawmills from three to nineteen. Since during the decade the number of farms increased by only ninety and the number of landowners by a mere two, the explanation for the mill growth does not appear to lie in the breaking up of large farms into smaller units.¹⁷ The key to the industrial change involves the social phenomena taking place in the antebellum period.

William S. Powell states that ". . . Caswell County was the scene of a flourishing society typical in the popular imagination of the antebellum

South . . . There were numerous fine homes with comfortable, even elegant furnishings."¹⁸ The building of fine homes required lumber which generated an interest in the development of sawmills that could easily be supplied with raw material from the abundance of pines and hardwoods. It seems more than mere coincidence that gristmills and sawmills increased by exactly the same number during the 1850s. The need for sawmills provided the impetus, but since both mills could function from the same structural network, it was not unusual for both to exist on one millsite and it was economically advantageous to conduct a dual operation. The 1860 census shows that everywhere a sawmill existed a gristmill stood also.¹⁹

During this period of industrial change the Graves Mill switched from a local, self-sufficiency enterprise to a profit making industry. A sawmill was constructed at an investment of about \$1,500. The sawmill had one employee and in 1860 turned out lumber valued at \$2,400. The gristmill also had one employee and its 1860 production reached \$5,000. This placed Graves Mill operations economically about midway among those in the county.²⁰ Manager of the Graves complex by 1860 was William B. Graves, son of Jeremiah Graves and great grandson of the mill's founder.²¹

W. B. Graves was born March 12, 1827.²² He began managing the mill for his aunt, Polly Graves Mebane, in the 1850s. Later his sister, Laura Ann Graves Henry, wife of James W. Henry, came into possession of the property and W. B. continued his management.²³ He and his wife Sarah Lea Graves, whom he married in 1863, lived on adjoining property, but not until 1871 did he obtain possession of the mill he had operated for over a decade. On August 23, he purchased the tract of 238 acres from his sister and brother-in-law for \$1,100.²⁴ But the Civil War had ended the industrial spurt of the 1850s which, significant in some ways, still fell

a distant second to agriculture in the economic picture. The milling industry, agriculture, and Caswell County in general had entered a state of decline, never again to achieve the success of the antebellum era.

Caswell's devastated economy never recovered from the adverse effect of the Civil War. The hopes for significant industrial development vanished as manufacturers declined from eighty establishments in 1860 to only thirty in 1870. Except for brief but insignificant resurgences in 1880 and 1900, the downward spiral continued until 1920 when only seven industrial concerns were counted. Caswell seemed out of step with the state in general, particularly in population growth. North Carolina gained 1,487,762 people, but by 1910 Caswell County had lost 1,214 of its citizens since the 1870 census.²⁵ The dwindling population and declining industry closed most of the local markets for agricultural products, and poor roads accelerated the high costs of transporting goods to distant markets. In many counties during the post war years railroads gave new life to ailing economies but the iron lifesaver came not to Caswell. Graves Mill was among the casualties of that era.

The exact date of the mill's closing could not be determined but it apparently ceased to function some years before W. B. Graves's death about 1895. On February 6, 1896, W. L. Graves (W. B.'s son and administrator) began selling off his father's estate. The twenty-nine acre tract containing the old mill was sold to T. J. Hatchett on September 5, 1898 for \$660. An accompanying plat named it as the mill tract but did not indicate the actual site of the mill, which, along with the relatively low selling price, indicated that no industrial enterprise was then operating.²⁶ Turn of the century and later deeds mention the "W. L. Graves Place," "the property of the late W. B. Graves," and "the public road, formerly the

old mill road," but none make specific reference to a mill.²⁷ Thus, W. B. Graves appears to have been the last operator of the family enterprise that spanned more than a century.

The Graves Mill site passed out of family ownership in 1900. Several people held title to the property before the county purchased it from Thomas H. Rudd.²⁸ Evidence of the mill operation slowly disappeared and much of the extended site now lies under the waters backed up by flood control projects. Only a remnant of a stone dam remains to recall the technology and land use patterns of two centuries past.

FOOTNOTES

¹William S. Powell, The North Carolina Gazetteer (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1968), 122. See also William S. Powell, When the Past Refused to Die: A History of Caswell County 1777-1977 (Durham: Moore Publishing Company, 1977), 9, hereinafter cited as Powell, Caswell County.

²Patent dates, acreage, location, and patentee quoted in Powell, Caswell County, 37-38. For reference to Caswell as part of Orange, see David Leroy Corbitt, The Formation of the North Carolina Counties 1663-1943 (Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History, 1950), 168, hereinafter cited as Corbitt, North Carolina Counties.

³Powell, Caswell County, 39; and William Gaston Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, "Caswell County, North Carolina Bible, Cemetery, and Family Records" (Bound typescript, Genealogy Branch, State Library, Raleigh, n.d), unpaginated, hereinafter cited as D.A.R., "Caswell Records." See also will of John Graves (Sr.), March 20, 1792 in Caswell County Will Books, Office of the Clerk of Superior Court, Caswell County Courthouse, Yanceyville, Will Book B, 459, hereinafter cited as Caswell County Will Book. See also Corbitt, North Carolina Counties, 59-60.

⁴Land grants listed in Powell, Caswell County, 38 (see fn. 2).

⁵John Collet, A Compleat Map of North Carolina from an Actual Survey, 1770. State Archives, Raleigh. See Appendix B.

⁶A. R. Newsome, "Twelve North Carolina Counties in 1810-1811." The North Carolina Historical Review, V (October, 1928), 422. The sketch by Yancey first appeared in the North Carolina University Magazine, X, No. 4 (November, 1860), 216-224.

⁷See Powell, Caswell County, 111; and Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, The History of a Southern State: North Carolina (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, third edition, 1973), 291-292.

⁸Based on the state census taken between 1784 and 1787. Not all counties made returns but of those that did, Caswell, with 9,839 people ran second only to Halifax County with 10,328. See statistics quoted in Powell, Caswell County, 90.

⁹See will of John Graves, Caswell County Will Book B, 459. See also D.A.R., "Caswell Records."

¹⁰Graves Family Newsletter, October, 1981. Genealogy Branch Vertical File, State Library, Raleigh; and Powell, Caswell County, 64, 86-87, 95, 96, 97, 101.

¹¹The affidavit was submitted in 1788 to the legislature as part of John Williams's petition for relief. Quoted in Powell, Caswell County, 86-87.

¹²See Will of Barzilla Graves, Sr. in Caswell County Will Book L, 144; Will of (Capt.) John Graves, Book L, 462; D.A.R., "Caswell Records"; and genealogical notes made by researcher, 1982, Research Branch, Archives and History, Raleigh.

¹³Caswell County Will Book L, 462. For reference to Captain John Graves see will of Hannah Graves, Caswell County Will Book D, 123.

¹⁴Powell, Caswell County, 64, 95, 96, 97, 101. See also (Captain) John Graves's will in Caswell County Will Book L, 462.

¹⁵Caswell County Will Book L, 462.

¹⁶Caswell County Marriage Bonds, State Archives, Raleigh. James Mebane died in 1857 and left the mill property to his son Giles in accordance with the last wishes of his deceased wife. Caswell County Wills (loose), Caswell County Records, State Archives, Raleigh.

¹⁷Data taken from county tax records and federal census reports. Statistics compiled and quoted in Powell, Caswell County, 115-116. See Appendix C.

¹⁸Powell, Caswell County, 110.

¹⁹Census statistics quoted in Powell, Caswell County, 120.

²⁰See Powell, Caswell County, 120.

²¹D.A.R., "Caswell Records"; Caswell Will Book B, 459; Book L, 244. William B. was son of Jeremiah who was son of Rev. Barzilla Graves who was son of immigrant John Graves.

²²D.A.R., "Caswell Records." See also Seventh Census of the United States: North Carolina, Caswell County, Population Schedule, 228. William's middle initial is given as R but is obviously a misreading by the census compiler. Barzilla, with whom William was living in 1850 was his brother.

²³The property passed from Polly Graves Mebane to her husband who willed it to their son Giles. Giles Mebane sold it to Anderson Willis who deeded it to James W. and Laura Graves Henry. See Caswell County Wills (loose), James Mebane; Caswell County Marriage Bonds, James W. Henry to Laura A. Graves, October, 1850; and Caswell County Deed Books, Office of the Register of Deeds, Caswell County Courthouse, Yanceyville, Deed Book KK, 221, hereinafter cited as Caswell County Deed Book. See also Powell, Caswell County, 120, for list of gristmill operators in 1860.

²⁴Caswell County Marriage Bonds, July 17, 1863 (date of marriage), William B. Graves to Sarah H. Lea; and Caswell County Deed Book KK, 221.

²⁵Statistics quoted in Powell, Caswell County, 272-273, 276.

²⁶W. B. Graves's Estate Papers, Caswell County Records, State Archives, Raleigh; Caswell County Deed Book 22, 277; Deed Book 53, p. 456; and plat from W. B. Graves's Estate Papers (see Appendix D).

²⁷Caswell County Deed Book 55, p. 245; Deed Book 74, p. 349 (adjoining property); Deed Book 88, p. 334; and Deed Book 100, p. 471.

²⁸See fn. 27. Ownership of the site by the county confirmed by Steve Stewart, county official, in interview with John Clauser, archaeologist, during on site inspection, 1981.

ANATOMY OF A RURAL MILL*

The working of a rural gristmill was simultaneously simple and complex--simple in operation from start to finish but rather complex within the internal workings of the machinery and fixtures. The following descriptions of associated features of the mill forms a basic anatomy of its structure. No one mill is represented; rather a composite picture is produced when all the features are taken together.

The Mill Dam

Mill dams were built with six basic considerations in mind. They should be constructed so that the water tumbling over them cannot undermine their foundations at the lower side. They should also be constructed so that heavy logs or other debris floating down river cannot catch against any part, but instead will slide over easily. The dams should be so designed that the pressure or force of the current will reinforce the strength. Give them a sufficient tumbling space to vent all the water in time of freshets. The abutments should be built high enough to prevent overflow in time of freshets. Set the dam and mill a sufficient distance apart so that the dam will not raise the water level on the mill, even in time of flood.

The Millrace

The miller's domain extended from the dam on the stream where the water was impounded and diverted by a head gate into the race, to a point where the tailrace joined the stream and carried the water on its normal course after passing through the mill. The distance covered may have been a half mile or more.

* For sources see bibliography

The depth of water in the millrace varied from one to five feet depending upon the amount of water needed to insure a fall at the wheel. Because the millrace would become silted every few years, the mill would be shut down and the race drained and cleaned. At this time neighbors often flocked to the race with buckets and tubs to scoop up fish, particularly eels, caught in pools as the muddy waters receded.

The Millwheel

Overshot, breast, and undershot waterwheels were commonly used. With a generous flow and a sufficient fall, the overshot wheel was the most efficient and was therefore the preferred type.

An overshot wheel rotates forward with the weight of the water filled buckets, and after one third of a revolution, the water is spilled from the wheel. The water striking the wheel gives it initial momentum, but the weight of the water in the buckets keeps the wheel turning and the millstones grinding.

A very old variant of the waterwheel was the horizontal wheel by which power was transferred vertically from the shaft to the stones. The horizontal wheel eventually evolved into the turbine.

The Mill Gears

Power to operate the mills was relayed from the waterwheel to the capstone by gears. The early mills had no line shafts with belt operated equipment. The following description of a mill with a single run of millstones and provided only with gears serves as a typical example.

A sixteen foot overshot wheel transmitted its power, generated by the weight of the water, to the great cogwheel, often called the bull or master wheel. The cogs of the great wheel meshed with those on a four

foot wallower which in turn engaged the cogs on a six foot counter wheel. A two foot trundle wheel, affixed to the spindle, meshed with the cogs on the counter wheel and rotated the capstone which ground the grain.

The master wheel and the wallower were face wheels, with the cogs placed on the side near the outer edge of the wheel. Spur wheels had teeth, or cogs, on the rim, while a trundle was a gear wheel without cogs but which consisted of a pair of circular discs connected by bars with which the cogs of the counter were meshed.

The Millstones

At the heart of the gristmill were the stones themselves. They were arranged in pairs, the upper "runner stone" rotating above the lower fixed "bed stone" or "Ligger." Sizes varied over the years, but a diameter of about four feet came to be generally accepted as most satisfactory. Such a stone could weigh over a ton when new and functioned most efficiently at a speed of 125-150 revolutions per minute. Sources of suitable material were few and far between and millstones of good quality were very valuable. "Dutch blue" and "Cullin" stones were shipped from the continent and were widely used over the years. Most highly prized of all were "French burrs," skillfully pieced together from blocks of quartz quarried near Paris. This material occurred in small deposits only and it was necessary to shape and match the pieces with great care. They were then jointed in cement, bound with iron hoops, and backed with plaster of Paris.

The Hopper

The hopper held grain and fed it into the stones for grinding. It was suspended over the upper stone and was equipped with a "shoe," or serving trough, at the bottom to funnel grain into the grinding space. An agitator,

a peg fixed in the stone and striking the shoe at each revolution, would shake out a quantity of grain. The agitator came to be called the damsel. By careful adjustment of shoe and damsel, it was possible to regulate the flow so as to keep the mill grinding at a steady rate.

The Bolter

The type of bolter which came to be installed in country mills consisted of a cylindrical frame rotating on an inclined axis and enclosed in a wooden casing. Over the frame was fitted a tubular bolting cloth, reinforced with leather bands and fastened with drawstrings. Meal entered the revolving cylinder at its upper end and weighed down the cloth until it brushed against a series of longitudinal bars, which shook the flour through the woven fabric. Early bolters were turned by hand but methods of transmitting power from the main shaft of the mill, either by gears or by pulley and belt, were soon devised.

The Hoist

The actual operation of grinding had been for many years the only mechanical process performed in a gristmill. Sacks of grain and meal were carried on the miller's shoulders, and if the need for a sack hoist was felt, it was no doubt met by a rope passed through a block hung from a convenient beam. Later it became customary to install a form of windlass.

The general introduction of a main vertical shaft made power similarly available at high level in the watermill, enabling various forms of hoist to be developed. A pair of trap doors at each floor level opened upwards on leather hinges as the sack passed through and fell closed behind it. While the hoist eased the miller's burden, it still left a great deal of heavy manual labor undone, and if one man was working the mill on his own, he had no alternative but to climb to the bin floor after sending up each sack.

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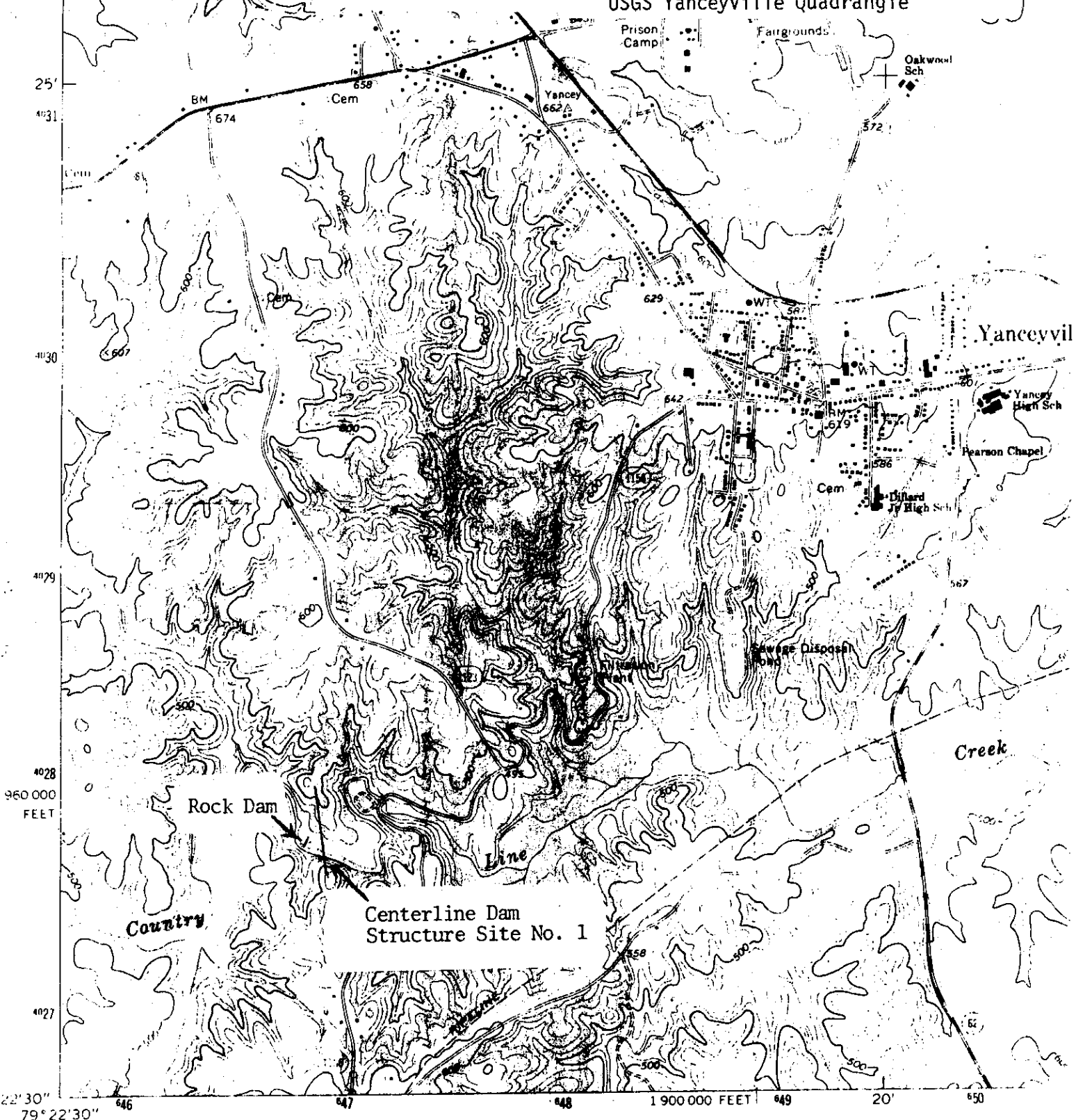
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APPENDIX A.

Country Line Creek Watershed
 Caswell County, North Carolina
 USGS Yanceyville Quadrangle



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

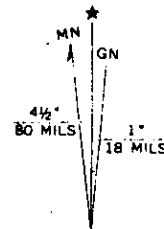
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1972

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: North Carolina coordinate system. (Lambert conformal conic)

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum

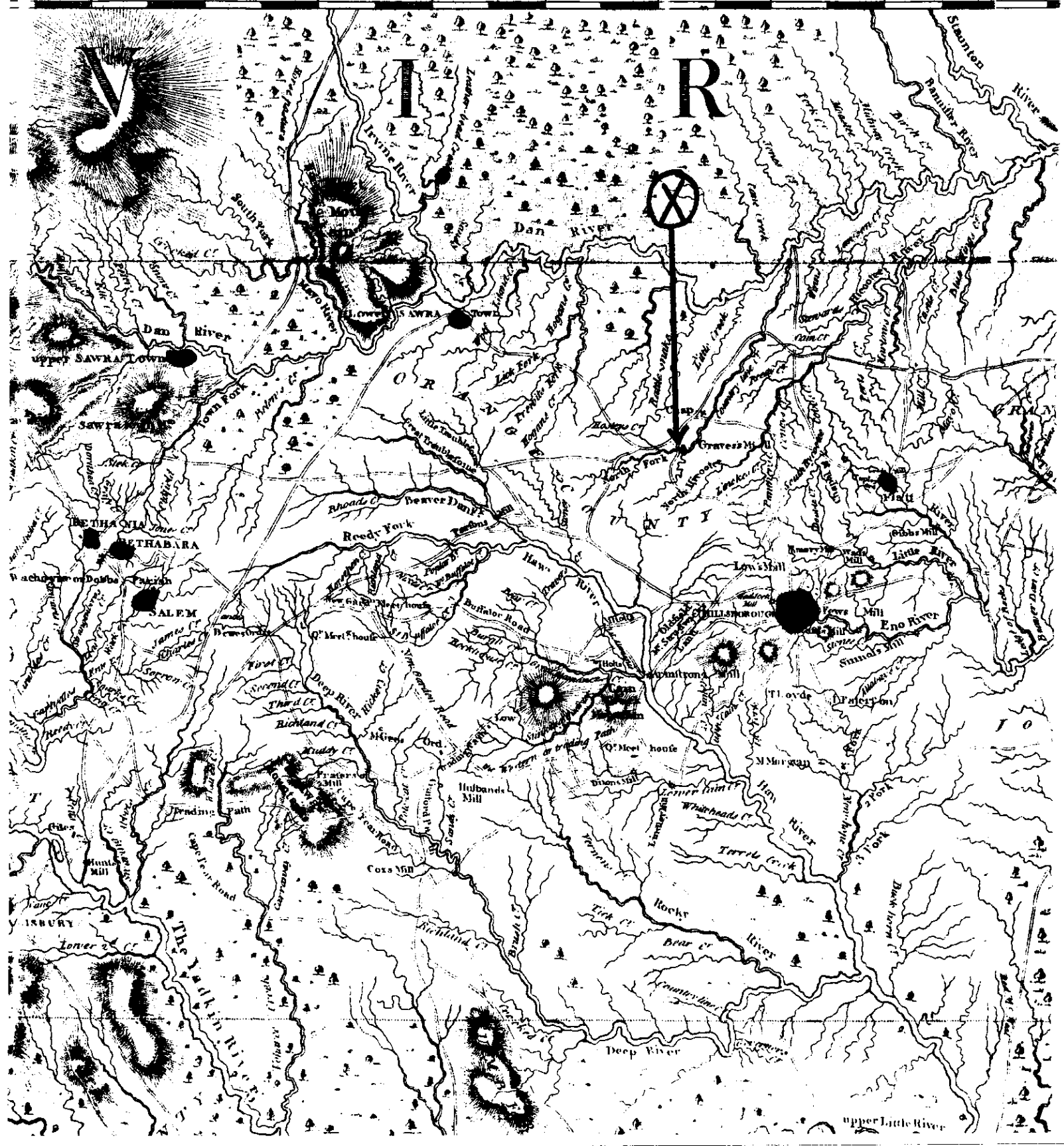
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1972 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

MAP of NORTH-CAROLINA

240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160



APPENDIX C. AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY, 1850-1860

Size and Number of Farms and Plantations

No. of acres owned	1782 ¹	1792 ¹	1805 ¹	1824 ¹	1838 ¹	1850 ²	1860 ²
None	33	235	310	351	386	5	93
Less than 50	3	9	23	54	43	33	20
50-100	55	89	129	150	116	78	66
101-150	51	93	139	132	130	105	94
151-200	59	73	132	99	104	87	91
201-250	53	55	85	94	79	64	80
251-300	58	52	63	52	58	67	58
301-350	42	35	44	42	40	46	29
351-400	52	38	40	25	33	24	38
401-450	16	19	24	21	29	22	26
451-500	22	17	14	18	32	37	27
501-550	12	9	14	9	22	15	14
551-600	12	21	18	13	13	20	31
601-650	25	18	13	8	14	14	15
651-700	4	14	10	10	14	16	15
701-750	4	7	10	7	16	7	16
751-800	5	5	5	7	5	11	14
801-850	6	4	4	4	7	5	3
851-900	10	7	4	6	5	8	11
901-1,000	3	4	4	2	2	6	6
1,001-1,999	4	1	5	4	5	6	11
2,000-2,999	18	30	24	29	30	19	28
3,000-3,999	8	4	4	3	1	3	3
4,000-4,999	3	2	2	0	1	1	0
	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Total	558	842	1,121	1,141	1,185	700	790
Non-land owners	-33	-234	-310	-351	-386	-5	-93
Land owners	525	607	811	790	799	695	697

¹From county tax records. The 1782 figures do not include the districts which became Person County in 1791.

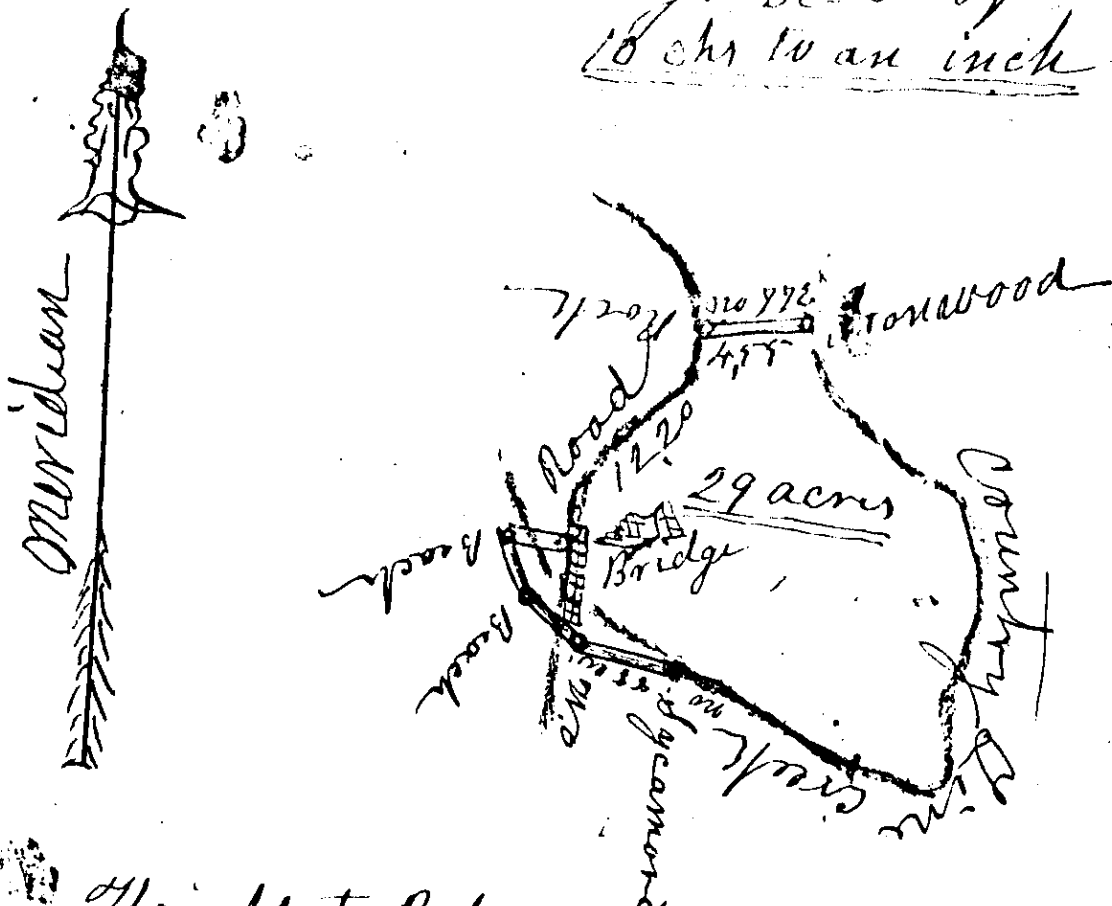
²From federal census reports.

Industry	1850	1860
Blacksmith	1	0
Boots & Shoes	2	7
Cabinetmaker	2	1
Carriages & Wagons	3	0
Cotton mill	1	0
Distillery	1	0
Flour mill	11	0
Foundry	1	2
Gristmill	12	28
Machinist	1	2
Saddler	2	3
Sawmill	3	19
Tailor	1	0
Tanner	4	6
Tinner	1	0
Tobacco manufacturer	9	11
Wheelwright	0	1

MILL OPERATIONS, 1860

1860 MILLS						
GRISTMILL				SAWMILL		
Name	Capital	Employees	Value of Product	Capital	Employees	Value of Product
Joseph Akridge	\$300	1	\$ 700	\$1,500	2	\$2,400
John Allen						
Joseph Cannon	3,000	1	1,800	1,000	1	2,250
W. H. Childs						
Thomas Eury	1,400	1	9,600			3,000
James Evans	600	1	680			
Fleming & Jones	6,500	3	11,600	1,000	3	
O. C. Fowler	2,500	1	8,040			3,000
Elijah Graves	2,000	2	7,600	1,000	2	
John S. Graves	1,500	1	2,450			2,400
W. B. Graves	3,000	1	5,000	1,500	1	
Benj. Hines	2,500	2	7,500			
Hinton & Donoho				1,000	1	3,000
G. S. Hooper				700	2	750
William Hughes	1,500	1	1,800			
H. & J. Jones				700	1	1,000
Sidney Lee	4,000	1	4,100			
William Long	4,000	2	8,600	1,000	1	1,250
H. A. McCain	500	1	2,050	500	1	2,400
Mitchell & Blackwell	4,000	1	11,800			
Oliver & Oliver	300	1	1,350	700	2	750
Patson & Page				650	1	1,000
Elisha Paschal	4,000	1	5,000			
James Potent	1,000	2	5,600	500	2	750
S. B. Price	2,500	1	2,940			
C. H. Richmond				1,000	1	2,400
J. Y. Richmond	1,000	1	1,500			
William Russell	5,000	1	7,400	800	1	4,800
Shade & Shade	2,000	2	6,800	1,000	2	1,500
R. J. Smith	1,000	1	9,600			
Stadler & Stadler	1,000	2	1,750	2,000	2	800
Rachal Walker	1,500	2	9,000			
A. G. Walters	5,000	2	11,200			
James E. Williamson	5,000	1	5,000	1,500	1	2,400
Joseph J. Yarbrough	3,000	1	10,700	800	2	1,725
Total	69,600	38	161,160	18,850	29	37,575

By a scale of
18 chs to an inch



This plat represents a piece or parcel of land in Caswell county N.C. on the waters of Country Line Creek and known as the Wagon Graves Mill tract, bounded as follows viz, Beginning at a Rock on the west side of the north end of the Bridge thence ^{with the Road} North 190 chs, North 49 1/2° East 4,80 chs, North 7° East 2,00 chs to a Rock on east side of the Road then North 77° East 4,55 chs to an Ironwood by the creek then up said creek as it meanders 33,60 chs to a Sycamore on the south Bank of the creek then North 88° West 6,00 chs to a ~~tree~~ ^{mulberry} on the east side of the public Road then North 35° West 2,00 chs North 59° West 150 chs to a Beach on the Bank of the pond then North 12 1/2° West 240 chs to a Beach then South 80° East 2,00 chs to the first station containing 29 acres.

Oct 18th 1897

Chas. G. Tate