

Griffith Jones, Esquire (1)

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*This essay concerns an early Welshman in the Old Middle Cape Fear and his extended family, which included at least two families of Scottish descent. The article illustrates the early integration of these two Celtic nationalities. Dr. Doshier earned his Ph.D. degree in early modern European history in 1969 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Since 1986 his major interest has **been** in the subject about which he writes in this series of articles.*

On 25 February 1734 (old style) 4 petitions or grievances concerned with contested land patents on the Northwest Cape Fear River in Bladen County were laid before Governor Gabriel Johnston's Council then meeting at Edenton.(2) The surnames of petitioners George Gibbs, Griffith Jones, Edward Jones and Moses Plummer - all newcomers to the Cape Fear Valley and some subsequently men of prominence in Bladen County — indicate that 2 bearing the Jones patronymic (son of John) were Welshmen, having migrated from Pennsylvania, the original center of Welsh settlement in the American Colonies.(3) As Griffith Jones explained "your petitioner was an inhabitant in Philadelphia," 'where in the late 1720's Benjamin Franklin was a partner with another Welshman, Hugh Meredith, in the printing business.(5) About 1730 Meredith severed his association with Franklin (6) and traveled to the Cape Fear region where he encountered other Welsh families already settled in what was known as the Welsh Tract in the vicinity of the Northeast Cape Fear River . (7)

The Moseley Map of 1733 offers bold evidence of the existence of 2 distinct Welsh settlements in the Old Middle Cape Fear, which, however, have received only passing mention by both professional and local historians.' Yet surnames like Evans, Williams, James, Ellis, Meredith, Jones, Morgan, Owen, Davis, Lewis, Matthis, Price, Thomas and Howell in the records of the Old Middle Cape Fear attest that the Welsh were not only among the earliest settlers in the section, but through intermarriage with other ethnic groups passed on their Celtic genes and heritage into the mainstream of Cape Fear life. The Welsh were as clan oriented as the Scottish Highlanders. And their intense anti-British and nonconformist religious habits of thought later proved a valuable asset in the American Revolution and in the religious confessions of the Old Middle Cape Fear?

Griffith Jones' initial confrontation with surveyor John Porter and Franas Veale (10) over the disputed land patent apparently had no adverse effects on his subsequent land acquisitions and his rise to prominence in Bladen County. In 1734 he was commissioned a Justice of the Peace, an office he held for many years and reflecting possession of land

and slaves." In the political and social thinking of the eighteenth century only men with a vested interest in society - i.e., property - enjoyed either the right to vote or to hold public office.' (12) Griffith Jones as an independent freeholder or planter with a vital interest and voice in the affairs of Bladen County was recognized by other influential property owners in the community as worthy and deserving of office. Political offices in the eighteenth century belonged by right to the propertied class whose members and families rotated these positions among themselves. That was how the political system worked in the Old Middle Cape Fear. (13)

Distinguished as a magistrate in the public realm of Bladen County, Griffith Jones with equal measure maintained his patriarchal image and authority within his household. (14) Judging by the language and stipulations of his Will (1757),(15) Griffith Jones exercised his private rule as paternally as any Scottish father. (16) And as far as this writer knows, this Will is the only extant source expressing Griffith Jones' feelings and thoughts within the context of the patriarchal family. In this respect, it is certainly a representative eighteenth century document:

After reciting the conventional testamentary formulas about being weak in body but sound in mind, directing the payment of his just debts, providing for decent burial beside his wife and expressing gratitude for "the small estate and fortune which God Almighty has been pleased to bless me with," (17) Griffith Jones proceeded to provide for his **3** married daughters and **2** grandsons. (18) Margaret Jones had married William McRee, Mary Jones, John White and **Ann** (Anna in Will) Jones had wed Dr. William Houston of Duplin County. The marriages of these **3** daughters adhered to patterns inherent in an emerging ruling class in the Old Middle Cape Fear which, like everywhere else in the Old South, entailed and rested on land and Negro slavery and involved the holding of public office."

Griffith Jones entailed **350** acres and **1** slave to his daughter Margaret (Jones) McRee and her male heirs "forever," stipulating that William McRee was to have "no power" over this property either while Margaret lived or after her death. And this exclusion was extended to apply to all husbands of daughters Margaret (Jones) McRee might bear. This entailment and exclusion of William McRee (and all husbands of his daughters) from all control over his wife's property may explain why Griffith Jones' Will was not probated until 1782. For Griffith Jones went further and excluded anyone mentioned in his will who might contest any of its provisions after his death. As all the Bladen County Court Minutes for the Old Regime are lost, we shall never know if in fact Griffith Jones' Will was contested either by William McRee or some other party. But these stipulations and exclusions as well as the delayed probate of the will seem to imply the probability of legal challenge.

Mary (Jones) White and her husband John White received 1 slave; Ann (Jones) Houston **2** slaves; grandson Griffith Jones White **200** acres; and grandson Griffith Houston **350**

acres. Griffith Jones directed that **420** acres be sold and the proceeds divided among his daughters. Thus, the major assets of Griffith Jones' estate consisted of **1320** acres of land and 4 slaves. All livestock, plantation tools and other movables were bequeathed by Griffith Jones to his **3** daughters "share and share alike." Finally, there was the interesting clause concerning Griffith Jones' "servant Elizabeth Pinkington" who received **3** cows and calves. Whether this person was an indentured servant or a free white or Negro we do not know, for no Elizabeth Pinkington appears in any other source from Bladen County. Griffith Jones named William McRee, John White and William Houston, his sons-in-law, as the "trustees and executors" of his Will and estate. (20)

As stated above Margaret Jones married William McRee, a Sheriff, Colonial Assemblyman and Justice of the Peace for Bladen County. Mary Jones became the wife of Justice of the Peace John White," the father of Bladen Sheriff, Coroner, Colonial Assemblyman and Provincial Congressman James White, who was the second husband of Bridget (Day) Beatty. (23) John and Mary (Jones) White were probably the parents of Bladen Clerk of Court John White as well as of Bladen Sheriffs Griffith Jones White and David White." And Ann Jones, Griffith Jones's third daughter, married Dr. William Houston of Duplin County, a Justice of the Peace and Colonial Assemblyman best remembered today for his role in the Cape Fear Stamp Act Crisis of 1765. (25)

While Bladen County land deeds tell us that Griffith Jones, William McRee and John White lived in the same neighborhood along the Northwest Cape Fear River, no direct evidence survives indicating exactly how Dr. William Houston met and married Ann Jones of Bladen County. But a few facts are suggestive and may point in the right direction. "Between the year (sic) 1741 & 1745" we know "Wm. (William) McRee Esqr. Of Bladen County" surveyed property on Goshen Swamp in Duplin County (26) where his father, also William McRee, died in 1751. (27) Other deeds reveal that the McRees and the Houstons were also connected through various land transactions. (28) William McRee, either father or son, also seemed to have had interests in the Rockfish Creek section of lower Duplin County in the Welsh Tract, (29) where he could certainly have encountered Welshmen with possible connections with the Joneses on the Northwest Cape Fear River. From the evidence at hand it seems probable that William McRee, born in Duplin County and later a resident and Sheriff of Bladen County, served as the link between the Duplin Houstons and the Joneses of Bladen County.

But certain other facts at least deserve mention. Between 1754-1760 Isaac Jones of Bladen County served in the NC Colonial Assembly at the same time as Dr. William Houston. (30) This Isaac Jones was the son of Edward Jones, one of the 4 petitioners with Griffith Jones in 1734. Both Edward and Griffith Jones arrived in the Cape Fear section at the same time (1728) and hailed from Pennsylvania. (31) Then both men had patented lands later claimed by Francis Veale. (32) Also, certain land deeds in Bladen County seem to indicate that Edward and Griffith Jones owned some adjoining tracts on the Northwest Cape Fear River? Finally, Isaac Jones, Edward's son, witnessed and proved Griffith Jones' Will. (34) Then there is the interesting fact that in his Will Griffith Jones mentioned being "seized of 100

acres on the west side of Black River (patent dated 1751), (35) which would have been in the vicinity of the vast McCulloh tract between the Northeast Cape Fear and Black Rivers. Golnick speaks of Houston as McCulloh's nephew (36) while Sellers states that Houston acted as McCulloh's agent.(37) We do know Dr. William Houston named 2 of his sons Edward and Henry. (38) Also both Edward and Griffith Jones dated their Wills 1751 and 1757 (39) revealing that they died (we have no evidence to the contrary) in the same decade. Now while none of these facts establishes any incontrovertible evidence of kinship between Edward, Isaac and Griffith Jones, they do suggest the urgent need for additional research which might uncover familial connections.

Griffith Jones' name survived in **3** grandsons, Griffith Jones White (Bladen), Griffith Jones McRee (Bladen) and Griffith Houston (Duplin)," first cousins on opposite sides of the Old Middle Cape Fear who participated in that complex network of kinship so characteristic of the section and in which they too established their own private and public places in the world. For these places in the world, either as plantation or courthouse, are what survive in the records and remain after all these years as enduring evidence of the contributions and achievements of men like Griffith Jones and his kin in the history of the Old Middle Cape Fear."

This brief sketch of Griffith Jones of Bladen County and his relations throughout the Old Middle Cape Fear suggests the need and importance of acknowledging the proper place Welshmen held in the section and the contributions they made to all aspects of its history. The whole ethnic composition of the Old Middle Cape Fear needs reexamining and rewriting; and in any historically realistic revision the Welsh, with the French and Palatines, will take their rightful place alongside those of English and Scottish extraction, who have so long overshadowed the presence, achievements and qualities of heretofore neglected ethnic groups. (42) Moseley's 1733 map still sends a strong and important message from the eighteenth century to which historians must now listen and respond if the ethnic richness and variety of the Old Middle Cape Fear is to be preserved within the framework of historical authenticity.

Servata fides cineri (43)

Notes

(1) Griffith Jones was entitled to this honorific by virtue of holding the office of Justice of the Peace for Bladen County. It appears after his name in the microfilm copy of his will. (see below note 15).

(2) When these 4 petitioners first settled on the upper Northwest Cape Fear River the region formed part of New Hanover County. See Corbitt, *The Formation of the North Counties, 1863-1943*(1950), p. 27. These interesting and revealing petitions have been printed in the Colonial Records of North Carolina, Second Series, 8: 1316. (Hereinafter cited as NCCR. 2nd Series.) Earlier McBride, "Three New Families in North Carolina Re: Land Along the Cape Fear. 1734/5", *The North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal* , 11 (February, 1985) 14, 15 published not entirely satisfactory extracts of 3 of these 4 petitions. Although all of the petitioners originally took out land patents in 1726 - 1729 when they moved to the Cape Fear region, it was not until 1734 (old style) that their grievances were presented to the Governor's Council. Those cited in the 4 petitions for illegal land schemes were Roger Moore, John Porter, Francis Veale, Maurice Moore, Nathaniel Moore and James Grange. John Baptista Ashe, whose plantation "Ashwood" on the Northwest Cape Fear later fell into the possession of Col. William Barham and Gen. Thomas Brown, received a fee from Edward Jones in the transactions. All of these men figured prominently in the Cape Fear region in the eighteenth century. We also learn of the existence of tar kilns in the area as evidence of an emerging naval stores industry, which at the time depended on the Port of Brunswick.

(3) Browning, *The Welsh Settlement of Pennsylvania* (1912). Also see Langdon, *Everyday Things in American Life, 1607-1776* (1946), pp. 57-62 for the Welsh Barony (40,000 acres purchased from William Penn west of Philadelphia) and plates for surviving Welsh edifices; and Glenn, *Welsh Founders of Pennsylvania* (1911). Much relevant material on the Welsh in the Cape Fear region and their origins in Pennsylvania and Virginia will be found in the Duplin County Historical Society Library, Rose Hill, NC.

(4) NCCR, 2nd Series, 8:14.

(5) Franklin, *Autobiography and Other Writings*, ed. Nye (1958), p. 29f, for Franklin's move to Philadelphia from Boston and his rise as the most famous printer in American history. (Hereinafter cited as Franklin, *Autobiography*.) On Hugh Meredith see Franklin, *Autobiography*, pp 47, 55 - 59. According to Franklin, Meredith was "addicted to drinking" (p. 47), "seldom sober" (p. 57), "often seen drunk in the street and playing at low games in alehouses, much to our discredit" (p. 58), a vice (or Weakness) hardly tolerable to the industrious and sober Franklin, who in the judgment of the imminent German sociologist Max Weber (*The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, 1958, pp. 455), exemplified the capitalist Protestant ethic in the American Colonies. Marx in *Capital* (Everymore ed., 1939) 1: 21, note 1 credited Franklin with grasping "the true name of value," quoting Franklin (Works, 1836, 2:267) to the effect that "trade in general being nothing else but the exchange of labour for labour, the value of all things is . . . most justly measured by labour." Earlier John Locke had made a similar statement that would be repeated everywhere as the capitalist world developed and expanded (e.g., Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*). In other words, the capitalist (ie. modern) contention that "labor (not God) created man or that labor and not reason) distinguished man from the other animals was only the most radical and consistent formulation of something upon which the whole modern age was agreed" (Arendt, *The Human Condition*, 1958, p. 86) This contention was not only at radical variance with antiquity and all Christendom, but denied by the evangelical Protestant persuasion of the Old Middle Cape Fear. Also, according to Marx "Benjamin Franklin defined man as a 'toolmaking animal'" (*Capital*, 1: 172). Franklin was likewise opposed to slavery because of what he believed to be its deleterious effects on slaveowners and their families, an opinion later shared by Jefferson and in the Old Middle Cape Fear in the early nineteenth century by Gen. Joshua Swift (see Footnotes, August, 1992, p.7). It is therefore not surprising that Franklin was an early abolitionist. Needless to say, Franklin's deistic and scientific outlook, not to mention his views on slavery, was alien to the pre-industrial and Calvinistic persuasions prevalent in the Old Middle Cape Fear. Franklin was a conspicuous harbinger of modern society, while the inhabitants of the Old Middle Cape Fear lived and died as guardians of the past. For an excellent biography of Franklin with many references to his writings see Van Doren, *Benjamin Franklin* (1941).

(6) Franklin, *Autobiography*, pp. 58-59. It is clear from this account that Franklin was anxious to disassociate himself from the libelous Meredith. The latter for his part pled; 'I was bred a farmer and it was folly in me to come to town (Philadelphia) and put myself at thirty years of age an apprentice to learn a new trade (printing). Many of our Welsh people are going to North Carolina, where Land is cheap. I am inclined to go with them and follow my old employment (farming).'" Griffith Jones NCCR. 2nd Series, 8: 14 also mentioned "hearing of his Majesty's (sic) most gracious Order or Instruction for the Settlement of Cape Fear."

(7) In 1730/1731 Hugh Meredith forwarded to Franklin "two long letters containing the best account that had been given of that country, the climate, the soil, husbandry, etc., for in those matters he (Meredith) was very judicious" (Franklin, *Autobiography*, p. 59). These letters were published in Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette* in April and May, 1731. For the best modern edition of Meredith's letters see Swen (ed.), *An Account of the Cape Fear Country, 1731* by Hugh Meredith (1922). An edition of Hugh Meredith's 2 letters has been published in Footnotes (August, 1986). According to Van Doren, Benjamin Franklin, p. 117, Hugh Meredith returned to Philadelphia in 1739 "and for nine years had occasional small sums from Franklin, who finally engaged him to buy rags for paper. Meredith fell behind in his accounts and made off with some books Franklin had put in his hands to sell." One suspects that Meredith had not mended his ways. There is no known kinship between Hugh Meredith and the Merediths of the Welsh Tract and South River, Bladen County.

(8) For those without access to a full reproduction of Edward Moseley's 1733 map, a partial print in McKoy, *Early New Hanover County Records* (1973), p. i shows quite clearly the 2 Welsh settlements on the Northeast and Northwest Cape Fear River. (Hereinafter cited as McKoy, *Early Records*.) A larger partial reproduction of the 1733 Map will be found in Walker (ed.), *New Hanover County Court Minutes, 1738 - 1769* (1958). Unfortunately, the importance Mosley obviously attached to these Welsh settlements in the early eighteenth century has been ignored by twentieth-century historians. For a good discussion of Moseley's cartographic masterpiece see Cumming, *North Carolina in Maps* (1985), pp. 16 - 17.

(9) For a brief but good discussion of the old Celtic world of the Welsh, their hostility to British rule and their strong tendency to religious dissent see Wedgewood, *The Kings Peace, 1637-1641* (1953), pp. 55-56, 86- 87, 99, 109 -110; and the valuable essay by Morgan in From a Death to a View, The Hunt for the Welsh Past in the Romantic Period" in Hobsbawn and Range, *The Invention of Tradition* (1986), pp. 43 - 100.

(10) For the high-handed and underhanded land speculations of Roger, Maurice and Nathaniel Moore with whom John Porter was associated see Ekirch, "Poor Carolina"; *Politics and Society in Colonial North Carolina* (1981), pp. 51-85. On Francis Veale see Edmund and Dorothy S. Berkeley, eds, "The Manner of Living of the North Carolians, by Francis Veale, December 19, 1730," NCHR, 41 (April, 1964) 239-245. Veale's son William (Will in Grimes, Abstract of NC Wills, 1910, p. 387) named Abigail White, a sister of Euphemia (White) Dewey who was connceted somehow with the family of Gen. Thomas Brown at the end of the eighteenth century (see McKoy, *Early Records*, pp 156 - 157 and Footnotes, August, 1993). References to early New Hanover and Bladen County documents will be found in the Brown Family Papers, Wanda Suggs Campbell Collection, Bladen County Public Library, Elizabethtown, NC Abigail (White) Veale later married William Gregory and was interredbeside her sister Euphemia (White) Dewey in the Brown plot, Carvers Creek Church Cemetery (see Cemeteries of Bladen County, NC, 1987, 2: 64).

(11) NCCR, 2nd Series, 8:23, 88, 102, 162, 234, 245, 257, 270. See also NCCR, 1st Series, 4.

(12) "The people of the Southern States who have any property hold it mostly in Land and Negroes, and if divested of their Negroes their lands will become useless or rather burdensome to them They would not be able to cultivate or pay the taxes on them and the most opulent and considerable families would in a short time be reduced to indigence and extreme poverty." Col. William Dickson of Duplin County in Carr (ed.), *The Dickson Letters* (1973 Reprint), p. 22. See also Cooper, *Liberty and Slavery : Southern Politics to 1860* (1983).

(13) Lest the mention of land, slaves and planters inflame the imaginations of some readers to conjure up visions of the old bugbear mythical plantation life, it must be remembered that when Griffith Jones settled in the Old Middle Cape Fear the section literally formed part of the first American frontier, and many aspects of frontier conditions would linger on down to 1865 (see Cash, *The Mind of the South*, Vintage ed., pp 829. Now planters on eighteenth century America "meant a person who lived by growing crops," "the opposite of general 19th- and 20th-century signification" (Isaac, *The Transformation of Virginia, 1740 – 1790*, 1985, p. 16). The old Bannerman log cabin (c. 1750) which survives in Sampson County reminds us of the dwellings of the settlers in the Old Middle Cape Fear, James S. Purdie, Bladen County Sheriff, directed in his will (1817) that "a commodious dwelling house 18 by 30 ft., single story to be erected for use and convenience of wife", (Campbell, ed., *Bladen Wills*, p. 70). For the pertinent comments of Col. William Dickson of Duplin County in 1810 see Footnotes, August 1992, p. 34, note 102. For the development of the NC frontier 1657-1835 see the map (Figure 1.3) in Clay, Orr and Stuart, *North Carolina Atlas* (1975), p. 15. In 1740 the Northwest Cape Fear River flowed directly along the NC frontier. Many easterners often forget that the American frontier began along the Atlantic seaboard. For the political structure of eighteenth century NC three works are essential: Merrens, *Colonial North Carolina in the Eighteenth Century: A Study in Historical Geography* (1964); Raper, *North Carolina: A Study in English Colonial Goevernment* (1904); and Guess, *County Government in Colonial North Carolina* (1911). Winslow, "The County Court", *The North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal*, 10 (May and August, 1984), pp. 70-79, 134-143 is an excellent article explaining the operation of county government and the authority and influence of the justice of the peace.

(14) I have a very good plantation where I live, a good stock of cattle, etc., eight working slaves and some young ones growing up I hold the clerk's office at Duplin County Court which I esteem as good as fifty pounds sterling yearly, which with my other industry and care of my plantation. etc., enables me to live very plentifully and to maintain my family in credit and decency." Col. William Dickson (1784) in Carr (ed.) *The Dickson Letters*, p. 11.

(15) Will of Griffith Jones (1757) in *Bladen Wills* 1, 514-517 (microfilm reel # C. 011.80001, NC State Archives). (Hereinafter cited as Will of Griffith Jones.) Skeletal genealogical information will be found in Campbell (ed.) *Abstracts of Wills, Bladen County, North Carolina* (1975), p. 43. (Hereinafter cited as Campbell, ed., *Bladen Wills*.) According to his petition Griffith Jones was already married with a family at the time (1728) he took out a land patent on the Northwest Cape Fear River. The size of his family at that time is unknown (NCCR, 2nd Series 8: 14). According to his Will Griffith Jones' wife (unnamed) predeceased him leaving 3 daughters as his heirs (Will of Griffith Jones. 1: 514) For the readers convenience pertinent printed sources published by the Historical Societies of Bladen and Duplin Counties are cited when available. Those from Duplin County are quite good, free of that genealogical bias which, unfortunately for the historian, dominates the Bladen printed sources.

(16) Paternalism in the Old Middle Cape Fear meant as much the exercise of full authority, by the head of household as it did protection and leniency for dependents. Family values in this preindustrial community reflected discipline and reciprocal responsibilities reinforced and vitalized by the centrality of the household in the prevailing social structure. The father was a source and agent of power among his

dependents, and given the nature of kinship in this community might also have been father to his constituents as well if he held public office. In his 1734 petition Griffith Jones also reflected the preindustrial reality of property which permitted the exercise of paternalism when he informed the Governor's Council he had "found out(,) pitched on, (as he thought) a fit, and Convenient place, to seat on" (NCCR, 2nd Series, 8: 14). A "seat" to eighteenth century thinking was property, a place in the world, a location from which paternal authority radiated and where it had its being.

(17) Will of Griffith Jones, 1:514.

(18) It is clear from the wording of the Will that Griffith Jones' daughters and their husbands already enjoyed use of certain lands with absolute ownership only conferred by this Will. This was a very common practice concerning property in the Old Middle Cape Fear and is discussed more fully in Footnotes, August, 1993.

(19) The reader is referred to 2 articles published earlier in Footnotes in August 1952 and August 1993 with full citations.

(20) All the above information will be found in the Will of Griffith Jones. 1: 514517.

(21) For William McKee as Sheriff see Campbell (ed.) *Abstracts of Early Deeds of Bladen County, North Carolina* (1980), 2: 1: 63 (Hereinafter cited as Campbell, ed., *Early Deeds.*) 1784 *Tax List Bladen County, NC*, p. 4. Cheney (ed.), *North Carolina Government, 1585 - 1979* (1979). p. 1061 for William McRee's terms in the NC Colonial Assembly, 1769.1776. (Hereinafter cited as Cheney, *NC Government*). As Justice of the Peace see Governor's Office Taxable, Justices, Militia Officers, Part 11, 1763-1768, G.O. 146, p. 58, Bladen County Justices. (Hereinafter cited as Governor's office with specific references.) For William McRee's Will (1789) see *Bladen Wills*, V. 1. pp. 579-581 (microfilm reel # C.011.8001). In his William McRee stated ownership of 1450 acres of land. Also see Campbell (ed.), *Bladen Wills*, p. 66. In the 1790 Bladen Census Margaret (Jones) McRee, William McRee's widow, owned 16 slaves (Clark, ed. *The State Records of North Carolina*, 26: 299). (Hereinafter cited as Clark, ed. NCSR.) William McRee's brothers, Robert and Samuel also moved to Bladen County where their wills are recorded (Campbell, ed., *Bladen County Wills*, p. 66). For the McRees see the will of William McRee of Duplin County in Murphy (ed.) *Genealogical Abstracts of Duplin County Wills, 1730-1860* (1982), p. 103. (Hereinafter cited as Murphy, ed., *Duplin Wills*.)

(22) As Justice of the Peace see Governor's Office, Part I, 1754-1764, G.O. 146, p. 31, Bladen County Justices, 1760-1763. John White's Will (1770) will be found in *Bladen Wills*, V. 2 pp. 260-262 (microfilm reel # C011.80001). In his Will John White claimed possession of 1200 acres of land. Also see Campbell (ed.) *Bladen Wills*, p. 91. In the 1790 Bladen Census one John White owned 14 slaves (Clark, ed. NCSR, 26: 299). The White family (or families) of Bladen in the eighteenth century is still a genealogical tangle and needs additional research for sorting out Griffith Jones' White descendants.

(23) As Sheriff and husband of Bridget (Day) Beatty see Campbell, ed., *Early Deeds* 2: 1: 38; 2: 3: 21. For genealogical information see *Footnotes*, August 1992, p. 5, and the excellent article by Wilcox, "Profile of an Irish Lady: Bridget Day Beatty" *Lower Cape Fear Historical Society Bulletin*, 37 (May 1993), 1-8. For James White as colonial assemblyman see Cheney, *NC Government*, p. 1064. For James White as part of the Gun Manufactory Project with Richard Herring, John and James Devane during the American Revolution see *Footnotes* (August, 1992), p. 3. As Provincial Congressman see NCCR 1st Series, 9: 1178. James White had a daughter named Ann Lane White (Will dated 1819 for which see Campbell, ed., *Bladen Wills*, p. 91), which suggests that she was named for Jane White) Kemp and Ann (James) Houston, sister and aunt of James White.

(24) For Griffith Jones White and David White as Sheriffs see Campbell (ed.), *Early Deeds*, 2: 2: 12-13. For John White Clerk of Court see Campbell (ed.), *Early Deeds*, 2: 1: 1-63.

(25) For those without access to NCCR, 1st Series, 7 with citations to Houston as Stamp Agent and his subsequent resignation, a good account with copious references to NCCR. 1st Series 7 will be found in Haywood, Governor William Tryon and the Administration of the Province of North Carolina, 1765-1771 (1958 Reprint). See also McGowens, *Flashes of Duplin's History and Government* (1971), pp. 38-42. (Hereinafter cited as McGowens, *Flashes*.) Dr. William Houston's Will is unknown. For the land and slaveholdings of the Houston's of Duplin County see Duplin County Tax Lists, V. 1, 1786-1838 (microfilm reel # CO35.70001, NC State Archives), pp. 19, 33, 55 for the years 1786, 1787 and 1788. For Dr. William Houston's distinguished career see Golnick, "William Houston, Sr.", in Powell (ed.), *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography* (1988). 3: 212. (Hereinafter cited as Powell, ed., *NC Biography*.) See also Carr, "William Houston, the Stamp - Agent Another Viewpoint," in Sprunt, *Chronicles of the Cape Fear River, 1660-1916* (1916), pp. 100-103. In the 1790 Duplin Census Dr. William Houston owned 10 slave (Clark, ed., NCSR, 26: 513). For Houston in the Colonial Assembly see Cheney, *NC Government*, p. 1126. As a Justice of the Peace see McEachern (ed.), *Duplin County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions. Abstract of Minutes, Part 1, 1784 - 1787* (1978). Part 2, 1788-1791 (1979), Part 3, 1791-1795 (1980), passim. It is also interesting to note that one Samuel Houston, perhaps a brother or nephew of Dr. William Houston, signed the Duplin Oath of Allegiance and Abjuration (1777) with such prominent Duplin citizens as William Dickson, James Kenan, James Sampson, Richard Clinton, Richard Herring and John Molton (see MrGowens, ed., *Flashes*, pp. 4344). Also one Samuel Houston was a Justice of the Peace for Duplin County (see McEachern cited above). Finally, a Samuel Houston owned 18 slaves in 1790 (Clark, ed., NCSR, 26: 504). Like the Bladen White family genealogy in the eighteenth century, the Houston's of Duplin need further research.

(26) Draughon (ed.), *Duplin County. North Carolina, Abstracts of Deeds, 1784-1813* (1986). 1:59. (Hereinafter cited as Draughon

ed., *Duplin Deeds.*)

(27) Murphy (ed.) *Duplin Wills*, p. 103.

(28) Draughon (ed.), *Duplin Deeds*, 1: 91-92,94.

(29) *ibid.*, 1: 2, 82,101.

(30) Cheney, NC Gommment, pp. 1064, 1126, for Dr. Wiillam Houston and Isaac Jones as NC Colonial Assemblymen.

(31) NCCR, 8: 14-15.

(32) *Ibid.*, 15-16. For Francis Veale see note 10 above.

(33) Campbell (ed.), *Early Deeds*. 2: 3: 2526

Pages containing notes 34 to 43 are missing in the scanned copy.