

# THE FORMATION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES 1663-1943

By

DAVID LEROY CORBITT

*Head, Division of Publications*

State Department of Archives and History

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BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BROWN

GERTRUDE SPRAGUE CARRAWAY MCDANIEL LEWIS

JAMES ALLAN DUNN

MRS. SADIE SMATHERS PATTON

WILLIAM THOMAS LAPRADE

MRS. CALLIE PRIDGEN WILLIAMS

CHRISTOPHER CRITTENDEN, *Director*



## FOREWORD

In compiling the information on the formation of the counties, I have used in the main part of the book the descriptions taken from the laws. I realize, of course, that the surveyors' descriptions of the county boundaries would have been much more valuable, if I had been able to procure all of them. Such descriptions were available only in a few cases. When I did have such descriptions, I have used them in Appendix I, because I believe such information is too valuable to omit. At the same time, I believe that to use this information in the main part of the book, when all descriptions were not available, would be misleading. The material herein compiled will, however, be most helpful in studying county formations and boundary changes.

Many people interested in county boundaries have already found this information quite helpful. If it does not contain the information concerning all boundary changes, it does contain enough to help substantially in locating definite boundary lines. In addition to genealogists, historians, and county officials, the Soil Survey Division, United States Department of Agriculture, the North Carolina Experiment Station, and the Tennessee Valley Authority have made use of the material. The Acquisition Survey Department, Pisgah National Forest, United States Department of Agriculture, became interested in this study in 1936 when it began to abstract titles in acquiring land for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in western North Carolina. At that time that department procured a typescript from which it made a tentative chart showing the origin of the early counties in North Carolina. That organization found the material most helpful in its title work and cooperated in trying to get the typescript in final form for publication. Since that time the material has been rearranged from a strictly chronological order to an alphabetical order according to counties, and then chronologically within the counties.

In many cases the surveyors' returns apparently were not adequately recorded. In some cases, where the returns were possibly recorded, the volumes in which they were recorded have been destroyed or are not available in Raleigh. Copies of a few of the surveyors' returns are filed in the office of the Secretary of State, Raleigh, and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History.

From the beginning of the colony until the change in the constitution of 1868, when a new form of county government was set up, the returns, if recorded, were usually recorded in the minutes of the pleas and quarter sessions court. Many of these minute books have been destroyed or are not available in Raleigh. Since 1868, the returns, if recorded, have usually been recorded in the minutes of the board of county commissioners. The minutes of the commissioners are kept in the courthouses and are not available in Raleigh.

There is much repetition in the book due to the fact that changes affecting one county naturally affected two or more counties at the same time, and in order to have all changes listed under all counties concerned with the change, it was necessary to have these changes listed under the several counties affected by the changes. This method, however, places all boundary changes under the respective counties.

I have found it difficult, and in some instances impossible, to determine definitely when certain counties were established. For instance, there is no information giving the exact date of the formation of the first four precincts—Chowan, Currituck, Pasquotank, and Perquimans. The same thing is true about the date when Wickham was changed to Hyde, or when Archdale was changed to Craven, or when Pamptecough was changed to Beaufort. In certain instances there were disputes relative to the authority to erect new counties. I refer particularly to Edgecombe and Onslow counties. The State Department of Archives and History has the minutes of the pleas and quarter sessions court of Onslow which are dated before Onslow was erected a precinct by the General Assembly. In a few instances bills creating counties were introduced in the General Assembly which convened the last part of one year and continued in session until the early part of the next year, but the bills were not enacted into law until the end of the session. In some cases the laws specified that the effective dates were to be a certain time in the future. I refer to such counties as Chatham, Pitt, and Wake. Polk County was established and actually operated for two years and then was abolished. Later it was re-established from practically the same territory. Some boundary lines were changed by the General Assembly, some were authorized to be changed, provided the people in the affected territory voted for the change, while other changes were authorized to be made by the justices of the peace prior to 1868 and by the county commissioners since 1868. In some cases, when the final decision

was left to a vote of the people, it has been impossible to know if the change was actually made.

The areas and populations of the counties were taken from the *Sixteenth Census of the United States for the Year 1940*.

In listing the information about the county seats, it was found impossible in some cases to determine where the county seats were. Occasionally when a courthouse had not been constructed, or had been burned or otherwise had been destroyed, the justices of the peace held court in private homes, churches, or other buildings. In trying to determine where the courts were held from the available minutes of the courts of pleas and quarter sessions, it was found that occasionally the minutes state that the court was "held at the courthouse," but at the same period bills were being considered in the General Assembly to levy taxes for the construction of the courthouse. Frequently after the General Assembly had authorized the levying of taxes and appointed commissioners to select a site and construct a courthouse, the commissioners failed to act and the county was without a county seat or public building in which to transact public business.

In Appendix I are reports of surveyors and commissioners who established several boundary lines and filed their reports in the office of the Secretary of State at Raleigh. There are cross references in the footnotes to these surveys and reports.

The several maps included in Appendix II are only approximations of the counties as they were formed. No efforts have been made to suggest or indicate on the maps the almost numberless changes in boundary lines which have been made by the General Assembly from time to time. Neither are there any suggestions on the maps relative to boundaries immediately after a county had been divided. Such information would have been very valuable, but it is impossible to show this information on the maps without a greater number of maps, the bulk of which would be too much to include in a volume of this type.

These maps and charts were made by Mr. L. Polk Denmark, who is quite familiar with this material. In 1938 a typescript of it was furnished the North Carolina State Highway Planning Survey, of which Mr. Denmark was chief draftsman, in an effort to aid the survey in the preparation of a large-scale map of each of the one hundred counties in the State. Frequent use was made of the material in locating county boundary lines.

I wish to express my appreciation to Mrs. Julia C. Meconahay, a member of the staff of the State Department of Ar-

chives and History, for copying the material and for assisting me in checking the laws from which the descriptions were taken. Mrs. May Davis Hill has read the proof and has assisted in other ways in seeing the book through the press. Dr. Christopher Crittenden, director of this department, made valuable suggestions, and Mr. L. Polk Denmark, who made the chart and the maps, also gave me constructive assistance.

D. L. Corbitt.

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## INTRODUCTION

The first permanent settlement in North Carolina was made in the territory around the Albemarle Sound and the rivers which empty into it. It is not certain when the first people came as settlers to this section, but a brief discussion below will be suggestive of the information on the subject.

As it is generally known, the Raleigh colonization projects were failures so far as permanent settlements were concerned. The efforts at colonization in Virginia were more successful and from this settlement came the first people to North Carolina. The Virginians soon developed an interest in the Albemarle Sound region. Many adventurers, traders, explorers, and trappers ventured into this territory and on returning to Virginia gave glowing accounts of what they found there. These adventurers reported fertile bottom lands, which all colonists wished, as it was a mark of prominence and wealth to have large holdings of rich and productive lands. John Pory, secretary of Virginia, who in 1622 explored lands along the Chowan River, made the first report on a journey there. Edward Bland, a Virginian merchant, led an exploring and trading expedition among the Indians who lived along the Chowan, Meherrin, and Roanoke rivers. About this time, Roger Green, a clergyman of Nansemond County, also took a leading part in exploring the region south of Chowan River. These people on returning reported that tobacco grew very large, timber of all sorts grew abundantly, there were great stores of fish, pipes had been seen tipped with silver, the Indians wore copper plates about their necks, and there was no winter and very little cold in the region.

These reports naturally created interest and settlers moved down from Virginia. These people came, not for religious freedom, but for economic considerations. Settlers wanted rich lands. Selection of large areas of rich lands on navigable streams in Virginia was growing more difficult all the time, while in the south people could select almost any kind or any amount of land they wanted. Settlers could acquire lands on easier terms and have larger ranges for their stocks. These factors had their influence among the settlers. Thomas Woodward, in 1665, declared that people came to the colony for land only.

Robert Lawrence, in 1707, among other things, said that in 1661 he seated a plantation on the southwest side of Chowan River where he lived for seven years. Names of others who early settled there were Thomas Relfe, Samuel Pricklove, Caleb Calloway, George Catchmaid, John Jenkins, John Harvey, Thomas Jarvis, and George Durant. We, however, know little about these settlers. It has been reported that they were substantial planters. Many of these men became leaders in their respective communities and in the governmental machinery set up for the colony. They aided, in a material way, in establishing the real foundation of North Carolina.

By 1663, these settlements had attracted attention in England. A group of English courtiers thought that they saw in this region an opportunity to colonize the country and thereby acquire power and large returns in wealth. They sought a grant from the king. Charles II, in 1663, complied with the request by issuing his charter to the eight Lords Proprietors, by which he created Carolina. This colony, according to the charter, embraced the territory lying between thirty-one and thirty-six degrees, north latitude, and extending westward from the Atlantic Ocean to the "South Seas." When it was learned that these boundaries did not include all the settlements already planted in the Albemarle region, Charles issued a second charter dated June 30, 1665. This charter extended the boundaries thirty minutes northward and two degrees southward.

Publication of the granting of the charter attracted attention, and inquiries were made about terms to settle in the new colony. After many inquiries, the Lords Proprietors set about to establish in 1663 the first government, which was confined to Albemarle County and which embraced a region forty miles square<sup>1</sup>. This territory was northeast of Chowan River. In 1664, the Lords Proprietors commissioned William Drummond governor of this region. We, however, know little about Drummond's success as an administrator.

Immediately after the organization of the government had become effective, the General Assembly turned its attention to land terms offered by the Lords Proprietors. Thus, the Assem-

<sup>1</sup>Writing to William Drummond January 7, 1774/5, the Lords Proprietors wrote: "Our last unto you was by Mr. Peeter Carteret accompanying your Commission and Instructions for the Government of the County of Albemarle in which we confined the County to 40. myles square or 40. square myles, in which there was a mistake for it should have been 1600 square myles instead of 40. of which you are to take notice and to bound the County accordingly and if it be not enough to comprehend all the plantations already under that Government give us notice of the deft, and on what points of the Compas those plantations lye, that are without the bounds (from the intrance of the mayne River) and we cann soone enlarge your bounds; . . ." *Colonial Records of North Carolina*, I, 93. (Hereafter this work will be cited as *C. R.*)

bly petitioned the Lords Proprietors to grant, for the colony, the same terms to the settlers as the landholders in Virginia had been granted. After due consideration the Proprietors issued a document which became known as the Great Deed of Grant and which gave the Assembly what it asked for in the petition. A liberal policy thus granted, the Assembly adopted a program to encourage immigration.

Since Albemarle had been settled with a good many people, a better form of government was necessary. The form of government had followed the precedent Elizabeth set up in her charter to Sir Walter Raleigh and the similar precedent set up by Charles I and his grant to Sir Robert Heath. The model was that of the county Palatine of Durham, which idea dated to William the Conqueror. This form placed in charge of the Palatine an executive upon whom was conferred many powers and privileges. The executive was supreme in both civil and military affairs. He appointed all judges. He exercised admiralty jurisdiction over the coast line and rivers. He granted pardons, raised and equipped military forces, and incorporated towns and cities. He determined the taxes and how they should be raised.

Charles II turned to this form of government for the colony. He gave the Lords Proprietors the rights, jurisdiction, privileges, prerogatives, royalties, and franchises which were the same as those of the Bishop of Durham in England. The object of the Lords Proprietors was to plant colonies in the territory within their grant. They declared, however, that their motives were to propagate the Christian faith and to enlarge the empire. To accomplish these objectives, full power and authority were given them to create and fill offices, erect counties and other subdivisions for administrative purposes, to incorporate towns and cities, to establish courts, to commute punishments, to pardon offenses, to collect customs, fees, and taxes, to have the advowson of churches, to grant titles of honor, to raise and maintain the militia, and to do whatever was necessary for governing free peoples.<sup>2</sup>

Even though the Lords Proprietors had ample authority and power, the government set up under their direction was weak and confusion developed. In 1663, they sent instructions to set up the government, but two years later this form of government gave way to the scheme designated as the Concessions of 1665.

<sup>2</sup>R. D. W. Connor, *History of North Carolina*, Volume I, *The Colonial and Revolutionary Periods, 1584-1733*, pp. 21-46.

The Concessions, however, were supplanted on July 21, 1669, by the Fundamental Constitutions which were written by John Locke and which were signed on that date by the Lords Proprietors. These Fundamental Constitutions provided for an elaborate system of government, but it was soon apparent that the colony was too sparsely settled to establish all the features provided for in the Constitutions.<sup>3</sup> Therefore, the Lords Proprietors instructed the governor to put in operation as much of the Constitutions as possible.

The Fundamental Constitutions provided for separate and distinct counties or governments. Each county or government was to have legislative, judicial, and administrative functions. Only two counties were ever permanently organized. They were Albemarle, which embraced the territory lying north and northwest of Albemarle Sound, and Craven, which embraced the territory south of Cape Romaine.

It is true, however, that Clarendon, which embraced the territory around the mouth of the Cape Fear River, was organized in 1664,<sup>4</sup> but was abandoned in 1667. Therefore, since Albemarle was the only permanent settlement in North Carolina, we shall omit any further discussion of Clarendon and Craven counties at this time.

Samuel Stephens in October, 1667, was appointed governor of Albemarle County. In the instructions which the Lords Proprietors sent him, he was directed to select twelve men at the most or six at the least to be his council, with four of the twelve or three of the six to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. He was also to have the freemen to make choice of twelve representatives from among themselves who, on being chosen, were to join the governor and his council in forming the General Assembly which was authorized and empowered to enact laws for the regulation of the province.<sup>5</sup>

As stated above, this form of government was modified by the Fundamental Constitutions.<sup>6</sup> These Constitutions provided that the province be divided into counties, each of which was to have four precincts. These precincts were to elect five representatives each, who together with the governor and five councilmen were to form the General Assembly. The Lords Proprietors agreed to this form of government and in January, 1670, issued instructions to Samuel Stephens in which they directed him to

<sup>3</sup>C. R., I, 187.

<sup>4</sup>C. R., I, 161.

<sup>5</sup>C. R., I, 162.

<sup>6</sup>C. R., I, 187.

"... issue out writts to the Fower Precincts of the County of Albemarle requiring each of them to elect five freeholders to be their representatives to whom the five persons chosen by us being added and who, for the present represent the Nobility are to be your Assembly . . ."<sup>7</sup>

The Lords Proprietors saw the necessity for modifications of the Constitutions due to the small number of people in the province. They, in 1670, directed Governor Stephens "to govern according to the limitations and instructions . . . observing what can at present be put in practice of our Fundamental Constitutions and forme of Government . . ."<sup>8</sup>

From this date the government of the province grew according to the circumstances and needs of the people. From 1670 to 1696 there were four precincts, but by the latter year people had settled on the south side of the Albemarle Sound extending the settlements until they reached beyond the boundary of Albemarle, when the governor and council erected Bath County.<sup>9</sup> They allowed Bath two representatives in the General Assembly of Albemarle. In 1705, Bath was divided into three precincts: Wickham, Archdale, and Pamptecough, each with two representatives in the General Assembly. The names of these precincts were, about 1712, changed to Hyde, Craven, and Beaufort, respectively. In 1722, Carteret and Bertie were formed. The province was spreading southward and westward.

As stated above there were two separate and distinct permanent settlements in Carolina. The Albemarle, which later became North Carolina, is the one under discussion here, and the other, on the Ashley and Cooper rivers, later became South Carolina. Generally, the governor of North Carolina appointed deputy governors to serve in his place. On December 7, 1710, North Carolina and South Carolina were made separate provinces, each with a governor.<sup>10</sup> On May 9, 1712, Edward Hyde became governor of North Carolina.<sup>11</sup>

North Carolina, at the time of separation, had seven precincts, four of which had twenty representatives in the General Assembly, while three precincts had only six representatives. From this date precincts (changed to counties in 1739)<sup>12</sup> were formed either by the governor and his council or by the General Assem-

<sup>7</sup>C. R., I, 181.

<sup>8</sup>C. R., I, 181.

<sup>9</sup>C. R., I, 472.

<sup>10</sup>C. R., I, 749.

<sup>11</sup>C. R., I, 841.

<sup>12</sup>*State Records of North Carolina*, XXIII, 126. (Hereafter this will be cited as *S. R.*)



bly. It is interesting to study the growth and development of the counties and their county seats in North Carolina.

In 1722, an act was passed authorizing a majority of the justices of the peace of the several precincts to levy taxes, raise money, purchase land, and have erected courthouses for the precincts. This act stated that "... there had been no care taken by preceeding Assemblies to settle the several Precinct Courts to any fixed or Certain Place, but have always hitherto been kept and held at Private Houses, where they have been, and are liable to be removed, at the Pleasure of the person or persons owning such Houses, to the great Annoyance of the Magistrates and people. . . ."<sup>13</sup> Therefore, it was enacted that the courthouse for Chowan Precinct should be built at Edenton, the courthouse for Perquimans should be built at Jonathan Felp's Point, at the mouth of the narrows, the courthouse for Currituck should be built on the land of William Peyner, next to the land of William Parker, or at Parker's as the justices should decide, the courthouse for Hyde and Beaufort should be built at Bath, the courthouse for Craven should be built at New Bern, the courthouse for Carteret should be built at Beaufort Town, and the courthouse for Bertie should be built at some convenient place at "Ahotskey" or where the justices should select.

The act also provided that if the justices of peace of the several precincts failed or refused to carry out the provisions of this act, the governor or commander in chief was clothed with the power to appoint persons to levy the tax, purchase the land and build the courthouses.

Many counties had difficulties over their county seats. Often the local officers failed to comply with the law in locating a place for the county seat, or the necessary money was never levied and collected for the construction of the courthouse, or the citizens in the counties were never satisfied with the location selected by the commissioners appointed for that purpose. In many instances courts were held in private homes for the use of which the owners were paid fees. When new counties were erected, courthouses had to be erected for them. This often made it necessary to build new courthouses for the old county as well as the new county due to the fact that the old county seat was not then in the center of the county. Of course many courthouses were burned. One was destroyed by a windstorm.

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<sup>13</sup>C. R., XXIII, 100.

All of these factors made it difficult for the county to preserve properly its official records, many of which were destroyed and are not now available for consultation.

In 1732, a controversy developed in the colony relative to the constitutional authority to erect new precincts. George Burrington and his council erected Onslow Precinct,<sup>14</sup> November 23, 1731, Edgecombe Precinct,<sup>15</sup> May 16, 1732, and Bladen Precinct,<sup>16</sup> October 31, 1732, but John B. Ashe and Nathaniel Rice, two members of the council, did not concur in that action. Neither did the lower house of the Assembly believe that the governor and council had the power to erect these precincts. The lower house, therefore, did not always allow the representatives from these precincts to take their seats in the legislative body until the law creating them was passed by the General Assembly.<sup>17</sup> On April 20, 1733, Ashe and Rice, as the spokesmen for the opposition to this averred constitutional power of erecting new precincts, took the issue to the Board of Trade.<sup>18</sup> Burrington, in December, 1733, filed an answer to their protest. Both sides wrote long and detailed arguments in support of their contentions. Both sides gave the history of erecting new precincts and showed by example that these precincts were erected by the duly constituted authority and in the legal and acceptable manner which had always been the practice of the colony. In 1734, the house of commons concurred<sup>19</sup> in the erection of Bladen and Onslow counties and also in 1741 in the erection of Edgecombe County.<sup>20</sup>

This controversy caused the Board of Trade, on March 14, 1754, to make a report to the crown in which it was stated that the attorney and solicitor general was of the opinion that to erect towns and counties by provincial laws and to give them the power of sending representatives to the General Assembly was improper and inconsistent with the crown's prerogatives.<sup>21</sup>

Thus the crown, following this opinion, sent instructions<sup>22</sup> to Arthur Dobbs on April 8, 1754, by which not only was the erection of these precincts dissolved, but the following counties were also dissolved: Bertie erected in 1722, Tyrrell erected in 1729, Northampton erected in 1741, Granville erected in 1746,

<sup>14</sup>C. R., III, 256.

<sup>15</sup>C. R., III, 417.

<sup>16</sup>C. R., III, 425.

<sup>17</sup>See footnote no. 386, p. 95, on the erection of Edgecombe County.

<sup>18</sup>C. R., III, 439-457; S. R., XXIII, 445, 470.

<sup>19</sup>C. R., III, 574-576, 581, 583; S. R., XXIII, 119.

<sup>20</sup>S. R., XXIII, 164-166.

<sup>21</sup>C. R., V, 81-108.

<sup>22</sup>C. R., V, 116-118.

and Duplin and Anson erected in 1750. The next January, 1755, the crown directed Dobbs<sup>23</sup> to allow the re-enactment of the laws establishing these precincts as the repeal would cause many inconveniences and much detriment to the inhabitants. Therefore, precincts or counties were established from time to time as the population of the colony increased without further controversy or interference by the crown.

By 1739, the population in the territory embraced within the confines of Albemarle County had become so extensive that the provost marshal could not adequately serve the colony. Therefore, the Legislature in March, 1739, passed an act changing the precincts to counties and established a sheriff for each county to perform the duties of the provost marshal.<sup>24</sup> Thus the term *county* has been used for the subdivisions of North Carolina since that date.

The Legislature, on December 22, 1789, passed an act ceding the western lands to the United States. On February 25, 1790, North Carolina's two senators in Congress made a deed with reservations which the United States Congress accepted April 2, 1790.<sup>25</sup> After this date the Tennessee counties no longer belonged to North Carolina. They were Washington, Sullivan, Davidson, Greene, Hawkins, Sumner, and Tennessee.

In 1851, Hooper County was authorized to be established from Robeson and Richmond counties. It was to be named in honor of William Hooper, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The act, however, provided for the people in the territory to vote for its erection. The vote was against the new county.<sup>26</sup>

In 1859, Lillington County<sup>27</sup> was authorized to be established from a portion of New Hanover County provided the act was ratified by two-thirds of the qualified voters of Rocky Point Precinct. The people failed to sustain the act.

From time to time disputes arose over boundary lines and many times the Legislature was called upon to enact laws remedying the conditions causing the disputes. In order to remedy this situation the Legislature, in 1837, passed a law<sup>28</sup> empowering the justices of the peace of the various counties to settle dis-

<sup>23</sup>C. R., V, 406.

<sup>24</sup>S. R., XXIII, 126.

<sup>25</sup>S. A. Ashe, *History of North Carolina*, 11, 120.

<sup>26</sup>Robeson County vote for a new county—301. Against the new county—818. Richmond County for a new county—159. Against the new county—419. Making a majority of 777 against the erection of Hooper County. *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1850-51*, Chs. 34, 35; the *Fayetteville Observer*, May 6, 1851.

<sup>27</sup>*Public Laws of North Carolina, 1858-59*, Ch. 6.

<sup>28</sup>*Public Laws of North Carolina, 1836-37*, Ch. 3.



putes over boundary lines without recourse to additional laws. Yet, this act did not prevent the General Assembly from passing laws from time to time in an effort to settle disputes, and to establish and to mark or re-mark certain county lines which had never been adequately marked, or for various reasons were actually unknown.

In 1933, the General Assembly passed an act<sup>29</sup> providing for the consolidation of contiguous counties. Before such consolidation could take place, however, the people in the townships or districts were to decide by popular vote the final annexation and consolidation. No counties have been consolidated under this law.

North Carolina has had one hundred and sixteen precincts or counties. Seven were ceded to the Federal government in 1790 and this territory later became the state of Tennessee, and eight were divided, abolished, or their names were changed. This work gives the dates of the formation of these precincts or counties, the precincts or counties from which they were formed, descriptions taken from acts creating them or changing their boundary lines, and surveyors' descriptions of boundary lines when they were available.

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<sup>29</sup>*Public Laws of North Carolina, 1933*, Ch. 193, 194.

## ALAMANCE

Alamance was formed in 1849 from Orange. The name is supposed to be derived from the Indian word meaning "blue clay." The county gets its name from the Alamance Creek on the banks of which was fought on May 17, 1771, the battle between the colonial troops under Governor Tryon and the Regulators. It is in the central part of the State and is bounded by Orange, Chatham, Randolph, Guilford, and Caswell counties. The present area is 439 square miles and the population is 57,427. The first court was ordered to be held at Providence Meeting House until a courthouse could be erected, provided the justices of the peace at the first session did not select some other place for all subsequent courts until the buildings were completed. Commissioners were named to select a site in the center of the county, acquire land, erect a courthouse, and lay out a town by the name of Graham. Graham, established in 1851, is the county seat.<sup>1</sup>

... , out of that portion of the county of Orange lying West of a North and South line, running from the Caswell line, South to Haw River; thence down the meanders of said River to the Chatham line, said North and South line running nine miles West of the town of Hillsborough, as heretofore surveyed by Edward Benson; said county to be called Alamance; . . .<sup>2</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Orange and Alamance was authorized to be established in 1851.

Whereas, by an act supplemental to an act, passed by the last General Assembly, entitled "An Act to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Alamance," it was provided that Edward Benson be appointed, on the part of Alamance county, and Freeman Walker be appointed, on the part of Orange county, surveyors, to run and mark the dividing line between the counties of Orange and Alamance; and whereas the said Walker failed to act in the premises, and a dividing line between said counties was run and marked by the said Benson, with the assistance of W. S. Moore, of said county of Orange:

... , That the line which has been heretofore run and marked by Edward Benson and W. S. Moore, beginning at a gum sapling on the Caswell line and running due South to a birch bush on the bank of Haw river; thence with the meanders of said river to the Chatham county line, be, and the same is hereby declared the dividing line between the counties of Orange and Alamance.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Laws of North Carolina, 1848-49, Ch. 14* (hereafter this will be cited as *Laws*); *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1852, Ch. 22* (hereafter this will be cited as *Public Laws*); R. D. W. Connor, ed., *North Carolina Manual, 1913, p. 484* (hereafter this will be cited as *Manual, 1913*); K. P. Battle, *The Names of the Counties of North Carolina, p. 14* (hereafter this will be cited as *Battle*).

<sup>2</sup>*Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 14*. See appendix, p. 246, for the commissioners' report establishing the county boundary line.

<sup>3</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 48*.

The dividing line between the counties of Chatham and Alamance was authorized to be settled and fixed in 1855. No description is given in the law.<sup>4</sup>

The act of 1855, to fix and settle the dividing line between the counties of Chatham and Alamance, was repealed in 1857. No description is given in the law.<sup>5</sup>

The boundary line between Alamance and Chatham counties was authorized to be located and established in 1895.

... commissioners to locate the county line between Alamance and Chatham counties according to the original survey of seventeen hundred and seventy, establishing county of Chatham; . . .<sup>6</sup>

The dividing line between Alamance and Chatham counties was directed to be established in 1897.

... That chapter 303 of the laws of 1895, entitled "An act to locate county lines between Alamance and Chatham counties" be and the same is hereby repealed. . . .

... That the dividing line between Alamance and Chatham counties shall be and is hereby declared to be a line beginning at the old Natty Newlin place, which has always been recognized as being on the dividing line of said counties, and running thence due west to the Randolph county line, and extending due east from the said Natty Newlin place to Haw River. . . .<sup>7</sup>

## ALEXANDER

Alexander was formed in 1847 from Iredell, Caldwell, and Wilkes counties. It was named in honor of William J. Alexander of Mecklenburg County, several times a member of the Legislature and speaker of the House of Commons. It is in the west central section of the State and is bounded by Iredell, Catawba, Caldwell, and Wilkes counties. The present area is 255 square miles and the population is 13,454. The court was ordered to be held at James's Cross Roads until the county seat could be established. Commissioners were named to select a site for the county seat as near the center as possible, to acquire land, lay off the town of Taylorsville, and erect public buildings. Taylorsville is the county seat.<sup>8</sup>

... : beginning on the Wilkes and Iredell line, where the same crosses the Cove Gap Road, and running thence a Westerly or North Westerly direction, as the case may be, so as to strike the top of the main ridge of the Brushy Mountain, near James Robinett's, leaving the said Robi-

<sup>4</sup>*Private Laws of North Carolina, 1854-55, Ch. 100.* (Hereafter this will be cited as *Private Laws.*)

<sup>5</sup>*Private Laws, 1856-57, Ch. 49.*

<sup>6</sup>*Public Laws, 1895, Ch. 303.* See appendix, p. 247, for the commissioners' report made under this act.

<sup>7</sup>*Public Laws, 1897, Ch. 39.*

<sup>8</sup>*Public Laws, 1846-47, Chs. 22, 23; Manual, 1919, p. 483; Battle, p. 32.*

nett's house on the south side of said line; thence with the main dividing ridge of said mountain to a point two miles east of Coxe's Knob, provided the said knob be found on the main ridge; if not, then to a point two miles east of a line, running the nearest and most direct course from the top of said knob to the top of the main ridge of the said Brushy Mountain; thence a direct line to the mouth of a branch on the main road near Steel's Old Mill; thence a south westerly direction to a point on the Catawba River, one mile, in a direct line, below the mouth of upper Little River; thence down the said Catawba River to Minrod Pendergrasse's; thence a north east direction to the Ferry Road; thence with the Ferry Road to the Mountain road; thence a direct line to the eleven mile post, on the Statesville Road; thence a direct course to Robert G. Martin's; thence direct to the Wilkes lines, one and a half miles west of the widow Jane Redman's; thence with the said Wilkes and Iredell line to the beginning; . . .<sup>9</sup>

The dividing line between Iredell and Alexander was authorized to be established in 1849. No description is given in the law.<sup>10</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Alexander in 1852.

. . . , That all that portion of the county of Wilkes, lying and being South of the following boundary line, to wit: beginning on the top of the brushy mountain at John Ellison's old place, where the county line comes to the top of the mountain, running thence with the top of the mountain to a point opposite and near to John Bentley's; thence to the ten mile post on the Cove Gap road; thence a straight line to Jones Clanton's old place; thence with the top of the brushy mountain to the house of Benson Riley, leaving the dwelling house and buildings therewith connected, of the said Riley, in the county of Wilkes; thence with the top of the brushy mountain to the point at which the Alexander line intersects with the Wilkes line near the House of John Robinett, be and the same is hereby attached to the county of Alexander.<sup>11</sup>

## ALLEGHANY

Alleghany was formed in 1859 from Ashe. It was named for an Indian tribe. It is in the northwestern section of the State and is bounded by the state of Virginia and Surry, Wilkes, and Ashe counties. The present area is 230 square miles and the population is 8,341. The act creating the county ordered the court to be held at Shiloah Church until the public buildings were erected unless otherwise directed by the justices of the peace. Commissioners were named to locate a site for the county seat at the geographical center of the county, acquire the land,

<sup>9</sup>Public Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 22. See appendix, p. 249, for a report of the commissioners who in 1848 established the line between Alexander and Caldwell counties.

<sup>10</sup>Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 20.

<sup>11</sup>Public Laws, 1852, Ch. 33.

establish the town of Sparta, and erect the courthouse. Sparta is the county seat.<sup>12</sup>

. . . : Beginning in the Wilkes county line on the top of the Blue Ridge at the Mulberry Gap, running with the public road to Flint Hill; thence a direct line to the top of the Frank's Knob; thence to the south fork of New river, at the mouth of Prather's creek; thence down the meanders of said river to the junction with the north fork of said river; thence north to the Virginia line; thence east with the Virginia line to Surry county line; thence with the Surry line to the Wilkes county line; thence with the Wilkes line to the beginning. . . .<sup>13</sup>

Part of Surry was annexed to Alleghany in 1869.

. . . : beginning at the county line on the west end of Saddle Mountain and running eastwardly on the highest ground to the west end of Bear-drive ridge, thence a straight line to the Pine Knob, thence a straight line to the top of the High Piney spur in the Alleghany and Surry line, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>14</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Alleghany in 1869.

. . . : beginning at the county line on the Grandfather mountain and running a straight line to the Airbellows in the county line, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>15</sup>

Part of Surry was annexed to Alleghany in 1870.

. . . : beginning at the corners of the counties of Wilkes, Surry and Alleghany and running eastwardly in a direct line to a large flint rock near the Hanes' field, thence northwardly to the county line at Aaron Woodruff's, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>16</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Alleghany in 1871.

. . . : beginning in the county line at the Airbellows running a straight line to Ellis Knole; thence a straight line to the county line at Abram Brown's place in Francis Bryan's field, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>17</sup>

Part of Ashe was annexed to Alleghany in 1872.

. . . : That all that portion of Ashe county comprised within the following boundaries viz; Beginning in the gap of the Ridge between Joshua Long's and Henry Bare's, running with the top of said ridge to the Grandfather Mountain and the Blue Ridge, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>12</sup>Public Laws, 1858-59, Chs. 3, 4; John Preston Arthur, *Western North Carolina: A History (from 1730 to 1913)*, p. 197 (hereafter this will be cited as Arthur); *Manual*, 1913, p. 484; Battle, p. 14.

<sup>13</sup>Public Laws, 1858-59, Ch. 3.

<sup>14</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 8.

<sup>15</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 6.

<sup>16</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 21.

<sup>17</sup>Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 125.

<sup>18</sup>Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 109.

### Part of Surry was annexed to Alleghany in 1875.

. . . : Beginning in the county line at Aaron Woodruff's, running eastwardly to the main top of the Tyre ridge, then a straight line to the county line on the west end of Saddle Mountain, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>19</sup>

### Part of Ashe was annexed to Alleghany in 1889.

. . . : Beginning in the county-line in public road on top of Peach Bottom Mountain north of A. M. Reeves', running straight to David Osborn's and including him on the Alleghany side; and from said Osborn's a straight line to ford of Cranberry creek northwest of and near James Woody's; and then south two degrees west a straight line to the Wilkes line; and then eastward with the Wilkes county line to the Wilkes and Alleghany line. And all that portion of Ashe county cut off by the line herein established be and the same is hereby attached to and shall form and constitute a portion of Alleghany county.<sup>20</sup>

### Part of Ashe was annexed to Alleghany in 1891.

. . . That chapter two hundred and fifty-six (256) of the public laws of eighteen hundred and eighty-nine be amended so as to read as follows: "That the dividing line between the counties of Alleghany and Ashe be changed as follows: beginning in the county line in the public road on top of Peach Bottom mountain north of A. M. Reeves', running a straight line to A. M. Reeves' barn, then southward a straight line to James C. Miller's, leaving him on the Alleghany side; then to James Williams' and southeast to Jesse Miller's, and then to Meadow Fork creek, and then up and with said creek to Jacob Miller's mill; and then southward to Felix Absher's, leaving him on the Alleghany side; and then southeast to the public road and with said public road to the forks of the road north of and near to Lewis Wyatt's; and then southwestward to the Wilkes line on the top of the Blue Ridge, the line to be so run as to include H. M. Key, William Rose, T. F. Rose and Alex. Rose on the Alleghany side of the line."<sup>21</sup>

### Part of Wilkes was annexed to Alleghany in 1891.

. . . : Beginning in the county line on the top of the Blue Ridge at the Abe Brown place, near Francis Bryan's, running south with the Ridge road one mile, then westward to the top of Stony Knob, then south-west to the top of Buck peak, then westward to Martin's lane gap, then by way of the little falls to the top of Stone mountain, then north to the Alleghany line; all that portion of Wilkes county cut off by the line herein established is hereby attached to the county of Alleghany and shall hereafter form a part of the said county of Alleghany.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>19</sup>Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 160.

<sup>20</sup>Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 256.

<sup>21</sup>Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 236.

<sup>22</sup>Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 166.



An act amending chapter two hundred and thirty-six, Laws of 1891, in regard to the county line between Ashe and Alleghany was passed in 1893.

That chapter two hundred and thirty-six (236) of the laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-one (1891), amendatory to chapter two hundred and fifty-six of the laws of eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, be amended so as to read as follows: That the dividing line between the counties of Ashe and Alleghany be changed as follows: Beginning in the old county line of Ashe and Alleghany in the gap of Peach Bottom mountain north of A. M. Reeves', running on the east banks of the public road to the forks of Ore Knob and Jefferson road east of and near Isom Coxe's; then a straight line to the nearest point of Cranberry creek; then up said creek to the junction of Piny Fork and Meadow Fork creek; then up Meadow Fork creek to the mouth of a branch south of John Scott's; then up said branch to the public road; then running on east bank of said road to the forks of the road at a branch north of Lewis Wyatt's; then southward to T. F. Rose's and including said Rose in Alleghany county; then southward to the Wilkes county line on south side of the Blue Ridge so as to include William Rose in Alleghany county.<sup>23</sup>

The boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Alleghany was authorized to be changed in 1899.

That the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Alleghany be changed so as to run as follows: Beginning in the old county line at the ford of Piney branch, near Martin Pruitt's mill; then with the state road to a small branch near Levi Cox's; then with the branch to Cranberry creek; then up said creek to the junction of Piney Fork and Meadow Fork creeks; then south twenty west to R. L. Doughton's spring; then south seventy east to Meadow Fork creek; then up the said creek to the ford below Jacob Miller's mills; then to the state road and with said road to the Wilkes county line; *Provided, however*, that Henry M. Key, who lives on said line near Gray post office may remain a citizen of Alleghany county.<sup>24</sup>

An act changing the county line between Alleghany and Wilkes counties was passed in 1899.

That the line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes be changed as hereinafter set out, so as to cut off a small portion of Alleghany county to Wilkes, to-wit: Beginning on the top of Grandfather mountain and running thence to the Gaither rocks; then near east to a chestnut tree in the county line in E. A. Long's field; then near east to the bend in the Grassy Gap road, known as the big winds, in J. J. Miller's field; thence to the low gap in the mountain near Isaac Holloway's residence, thence near east with top of the mountain with the dividing waters to the Cherry Lane township line.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>23</sup>Public Laws, 1893, Ch. 234.

<sup>24</sup>Public Laws, 1899, Ch. 105.

<sup>25</sup>Public Laws, 1899, Ch. 567.

## Part of Wilkes was annexed to Alleghany in 1903.

That the line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes be and the same is hereby changed so as to include J. A. Stamper and his farm in the county of Alleghany.<sup>26</sup>

The boundary line between Wilkes and Alleghany counties was authorized to be changed in 1905.

That the line between Wilkes and Alleghany counties be changed so as to include the whole of F. H. Alexander's and C. N. Hunts mountain farm in Alleghany County, to-wit, beginning in present county line on the top of Raven Rock Ridge, running thence down said ridge to Wild Cat Trap; thence northeasterly to the branch in Big Laurel in Air Bellows road; thence a straight line to the Mahogany Rock on the top of the Blue Ridge in present county line.<sup>27</sup>

Part of Alleghany was annexed to Wilkes in 1909. This law returned the land of J. A. Stamper to Wilkes.<sup>28</sup>

An act defining and making certain the dividing line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes, on the Blue Ridge Mountain, near Roaring Gap was passed in 1909.

Whereas there is some dispute and misunderstanding as to the correct line dividing the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes, on the Blue Ridge Mountain, near Roaring Gap; therefore, . . .

That the division line between the counties aforesaid, at the places named herein, shall hereafter be as follows; "Beginning in the recognized line between said counties, on top of the Blue Ridge, near a big gate, and about two hundred yards west of Roaring Gap Hotel, running then south six hundred feet, and then eastward to the southwest corner of H. E. Fries' lot, and then to southeast corner of the same, and then east to the Surry County line."<sup>29</sup>

An act was passed in 1911 which provided for the establishment of the line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes at certain disputed points.

Whereas the General Assembly . . . of one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one passed an act to change the dividing line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes, being chapter one hundred and sixty-six of Public Laws of one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one; and whereas said line has never been run and is in dispute between certain points called for in said act: therefore, the Assembly

. . . appointed commissioners to run, mark, and determine the line between said counties according to the changes and points called for in the act aforesaid. . . .<sup>30</sup>

<sup>26</sup>Public Laws, 1903, Ch. 389. This act was repealed in 1909, which put the land of J. A. Stamper in Wilkes.

<sup>27</sup>Public Laws, 1905, Ch. 668.

<sup>28</sup>Public Laws, 1909, Ch. 821.

<sup>29</sup>Public Laws, 1909, Ch. 73.

<sup>30</sup>Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 30.



An act to correct uncertainty in the location of the line between the counties of Wilkes and Alleghany was passed in 1939.

Beginning on a locust in the county line and on the South bank of the old State road; runs South fifty degrees West sixty poles to a hickory on the West bank of Roaring Branch, thence South sixty-seven degrees West thirty-two poles to a large white pine; thence South forty-eight degrees West twenty and two-tenths poles to a stake; thence North eighty-seven and one-fourth degrees West twenty-one poles to a Spanish oak, Chatham's corner, in the Wilkes-Alleghany County line.<sup>31</sup>

## ANSON

Anson was formed in 1750 from Bladen. It was named in honor of George, Lord Anson, a celebrated English admiral who circumnavigated the globe. It is in the south central section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Union, Stanly, and Richmond counties. Its area is 533 square miles and its population 28,443. From 1755 to 1780 the county seat was called Anson Court House. In 1782 and 1783 laws were passed concerning the courthouse. In the latter year New Town was authorized to be established. In 1787, Newton, the county seat, was changed to Wadesboro. Wadesboro is the county seat.<sup>32</sup>

<sup>31</sup>Public-Local Laws, 1939, Ch. 464.

<sup>32</sup>Colonial Records of North Carolina, V, 1209 (hereafter this will be cited as C. R.); State Records of North Carolina, XI, 607; XIV, 514, 515, 609; XXIII, 343; XXIV, 463, 537, 540, 874, 949 (hereafter this will be cited as S. R.); Manual, 1913, p. 485; Battle, p. 22. The date of the formation of the county has been given as 1748 and 1749 with most of the writers agreeing on 1749. This county was one of the counties whose formation was disallowed by the crown because of the conflicting ideas about what body had the final authority to erect new counties. Edgecombe, Bertie, Onslow, and others came in this category. George Burrington and Gabriel Johnston with their Councils had exercised the authority to erect new counties, and the Lower House had denied them that authority, claiming that it rested with them. This controversy, among other things, caused the disallowances as stated above. The Assembly, however, was to meet March 28, 1749, but the governor prorogued it until May 30. On September 29, 1748, the governor read into the records that "I Gabriel Johnston . . . by virtue of the Power . . . vested in me . . . [do] . . . make, create, constitute and ordain the said Pee Dee in the province of North Carolina and certain Tracts of Land contiguous to the same late in the County of Bladen, a County by the name of Anson County, and the same is hereby Declared (within the Bounds and Limits hereafter ascribed) a County by itself Separate from and independent of Bladen having distinct Jurisdiction with all such Power and Privileges as any other Counties within this Province have and enjoy: . . ." On September 30, 1748, the governor and council named the justices of the peace and a sheriff for Anson. C. R., IV, 889. In October, 1749, a complaint was laid before the council relative to the lawlessness of Anson County indicating that Anson was functioning as an ordinary county. C. R., IV, 971.

A bill establishing Anson was introduced in the lower house of the Assembly April 7, 1749; passed the first reading April 8; the second reading with amendments April 10; and the third reading April 11. In the Upper House or Council it was introduced April 7; read the first time and passed April 8; read the second time and passed with amendments April 10; and the Assembly was prorogued April 14, before it came up for the third reading. C. R., IV, 977, 978, 979, 984, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 999. The General Assembly met again September 26, 1749. On October 9, 1749, a bill was allowed to be brought in the lower house to erect Anson County. In the Council of October 7, a bill for the same purpose was introduced, read the first time and passed. On October 12, read the second time and passed with amendments, and read the third time on the same day and rejected. C. R., IV, 1002, 1004, 1005, 1018.

The General Assembly met again March 28, 1750. On April 2, 1750, a bill to erect Anson County was read in the Council the first time and passed; April 3, read the second time and passed with amendments; and the record read as follows on April 4: "In the Lower House read the third time and passed. In this House read and passed. Ordered to be engrossed." C. R., IV, 1054, 1056, 1057. On April 9, 1750, the governor gave his assent to "the Bill to divide the upper part of Bladen County into a county and Parish." C. R., IV, 1063, 1064.

The caption to the printed law establishing the county says the Assembly met March 17, 1749. S. R., XXIII, 842. The Lower House Journal gives the date as March 30, 1749. C. R., IV, 971, 972, 984, 985, 986.

... That Bladen County be divided by a Line, beginning at the Place where the South Line of this Province crosseth the Westernmost Branch of Little Pee-Dee River, then by a straight line to a Place where the Commissioners for running the Southern Boundary of this Province crosseth that Branch of Little Pee-Dee River, called Drowning Creek, thence up that Branch to the Head thereof; then by a Line, to run, as near as may be, equidistant, from Saxapahaw River, and the Great Pee-Dee River; and that the upper Part of the said County and Parish so laid off and undivided, be erected into a County and Parish, by the Name of Anson County, and St. George's Parish, and that all the Inhabitants to the Westward of the aforementioned dividing line, shall belong and appertain to Anson County: . . .<sup>33</sup>

Rowan was formed in 1753 from Anson.

... That Anson County be divided by a Line, to begin where Anson Line was to cross Earl Granville's Line, and from thence, in a direct Line, North, to the Virginia Line, and that the said County be bounded to the North by the Virginia Line, and to the South by the Southernmost Line of Earl Granville's Land, And that the upper part of said County, so laid off and divided be erected into a County and Parish, by the name of Rowan County, and St. Luke's Parish; and that all the inhabitants of the Westward of the said Line, and included within the before mentioned Boundaries, shall belong and appertain to Rowan County; . . .<sup>34</sup>

Mecklenburg was formed in 1762 from Anson.

... the said County of Anson shall be, and is hereby divided into Two Distinct Counties, by a Line beginning at Lord Carteret's Line, Six Miles North East from Captain Charles Hart's plantation on Buffalo Creek, and to run from thence to the Mouth of Clear Creek which empties itself into Rocky River, below Captain Adam Alexander's; and from thence due South, to the Bounds of the Province of South Carolina; and that all that Part of the said County which lies to the Eastward of the said Dividing Line, shall be a distinct County, and remain and be called by the Name of Anson County; and that all that Part of the said County lying to the Westward of said Dividing Line, shall be thence forth one other Distinct County, and called by the Name of Mecklenburg.<sup>35</sup>

Part of Anson was annexed in 1777 to Bladen.

... within Three Months after the Passing of this Act, to run and Mark . . . a Line from Drowning Creek Bank, beginning where Overstreet's Bridge formerly was, thence running the shortest course to the dividing Line between this State and the State of South Carolina; and all that part bounded to the lower End by the Line above directed to be marked, and along the said South Line to where it crosses Browning Creek.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>33</sup>S. R., XXIII, 343.

<sup>34</sup>S. R., XXIII, 390.

<sup>35</sup>S. R., XXIII, 589.

<sup>36</sup>S. R., XXIV, 151.

Richmond was formed in 1779 from Anson.

. . . the said county of Anson be divided into separate and distinct counties, and that the river Pee-Dee be the dividing line; and that all that part of Anson that lies on the south west side of the said river Pee-Dee, shall be, continue and remain, a distinct county, by the name of Anson; and that all that other part of the county of Anson that lies on the north east of said river, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct county, by the name of Richmond county, . . .<sup>37</sup>

Montgomery was formed in 1779 from Anson.

. . . the said County of Anson be divided by the Road leading from Monroe's Bridge on Drowning Creek to Colson's Ferry to a point opposite the Mouth of Rocky River, thence running a direct Line crossing Pee-dee River to the Mouth of Rocky River, thence up the various courses of Rocky River to the Dividing Line between the Counties of Anson and Mecklenburg, and that all that part of the said County of Anson, which lies to the North of the said dividing Line, shall be erected into a new and Distinct County by the name of Montgomery. . .<sup>38</sup>

The dividing line between Anson and Mecklenburg was authorized to be run and marked in 1829.

. . . commissioners, with full power to run and mark the dividing line between the aforesaid counties of Anson and Mecklenburg as heretofore established by law; . . .<sup>39</sup>

An act was passed in 1832 to prevent disputes in consequence of the survey of the dividing line between the counties of Anson and Mecklenburg.

. . . , That the running and establishing said dividing line by the commissioners appointed in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine, shall not in any wise whatever, affect the legal title to lands of the claimants of either county in consequence of the said line not being found by the said commissioners to run as it was supposed to run previous to the survey aforesaid.<sup>40</sup>

Union was formed in 1842 from Anson and Mecklenburg.

. . . : Beginning at the corner of Anson and Mecklenburg, on the South Carolina line, and runs East on the South Carolina, eleven miles; thence East of parallel of the county line, so that it shall be thirteen miles east of the Cabarrus corner, on Rocky River; thence up the various courses of the Rocky River to the corner of Anson and Mecklenburg; thence with the Cabarrus line, three miles; thence a direct line to where the Providence road crosses Six Mile Creek; thence with the meanders of the creek, to the South Carolina line; thence with the South Carolina line to the beginning; . . .<sup>41</sup>

<sup>37</sup>S. R., XXIV, 287.

<sup>38</sup>S. R., XXIV, 232.

<sup>39</sup>Private Laws, 1829-30, Ch. 126.

<sup>40</sup>Public Laws, 1832, Ch. 24.

<sup>41</sup>Public Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 12.

The dividing line between Anson and Union was authorized to be surveyed and established in 1905 and a copy of the survey filed in the Register of Deeds office in each county. No description of this boundary was given in the law, but it provided for a map of the line to be filed with the description which the surveyors were to make.<sup>42</sup>

## ARCHDALE

Archdale precinct was formed in 1705 from Bath. It was named in honor of John Archdale, governor of Carolina, 1694-1696. The name was changed about 1712 to Craven.

. . . the Precinct of Archdale taking all the south side of said [Pamptecough] river, and at present, including all the Inhabitants of Newse. . .<sup>43</sup>

## ASHE

Ashe was formed in 1799 from Wilkes. It was named in honor of Samuel Ashe, a Revolutionary patriot, a superior court judge, and governor of the State. It is in the northwestern section of the State and is bounded by the states of Tennessee and Virginia, and Alleghany, Wilkes, and Watauga counties. The present area is 427 square miles and the population is 22,664. In 1803 the town of Jefferson was laid out and the public buildings erected. Jefferson is the county seat.<sup>44</sup>

. . . , That all that part of the county of Wilkes, lying west of the extreme height of the Apalachian mountains, shall be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county by the name of Ashe.<sup>45</sup>

The boundary line between Ashe and Burke counties was authorized to be established in 1807.

. . . That the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Burke, shall be established and known by the following boundaries, to wit: beginning at the Blowing Rock on the Blue Ridge, near Yadkin Spring, running thence a due west course, crossing some of the head waters of Watauga River to the top of the ridge dividing the head of waters of Watauga River and Elk Creek, then along the extreme height of said ridge to the Grandfather Mountain, thence along the extreme height of the ridge that divides the waters of Toe River from those of Watauga and Elk Creek, to the Tennessee line, leaving all the waters of Toe River, and the head waters of Watauga south of said due west line, in Burke, and all the waters of Elk, and the waters of Watauga, north of the said line, in the county of Ashe.

<sup>42</sup>Public Laws, 1905, Ch. 713.

<sup>43</sup>C. R., I, 629.

<sup>44</sup>Arthur, p. 159; Laws, 1799, Ch. 36; Laws, 1803, Ch. 75; Manual, 1913, p. 490; Battle, p. 27.

<sup>45</sup>Laws, 1799, Ch. 36.

... commissioners to extend and mark the line from the Blowing Rock, west to the top of the ridge between Watauga waters and Elk Waters, and no further. . . .<sup>46</sup>

In 1814 the boundary line between Burke and Ashe was authorized to be established.

... That the following boundaries, to wit: beginning at the Yadkin spring, thence along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge, to the head spring of Flat-top fork of Elk Creek, thence down the meanders of said creek to the Tennessee State line, shall be and the same is hereby declared the permanent dividing line between the counties of Burke and Ashe.<sup>47</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Ashe in 1835.

... all that part of the county of Wilkes, lying north and north-west of a line to be drawn from the extreme height of a Nob called Dockery Nob, running so as to include all the inhabitants, lying north of a direct line from said Nob to a point running north-east, so as to strike the now dividing line at five and half miles distance from Dockery Nob, running a north-eastwardly course until it strikes the Ashe County line, be added to Ashe county.<sup>48</sup>

Watauga was formed in 1849 from Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell and Yancey.

... , That a county be, and is hereby, laid off and established by the name of Watauga, to be composed of parts of the counties of Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell and Yancey, beginning at the State line in the Lemuel Wilson's plantation, and running with the State line in a Northern direction two miles; thence running as near as may be, in a direct line, (so as to leave Thomas Sutherland in the county of Ashe) to the top of the Big Bald mountain; thence to the mouth of Elk creek, on the South fork of New river; thence down the river to the mouth of a creek that runs down through the Samuel Cooper's plantation; thence to the Deep Gap of the Blue Ridge; thence along the dividing ridge between the waters of Stoney fork and Lewis's fork waters of the Yadkin river, to where the road leading from Wilkesbor' to the Deep Gap, crosses the top of the Laurel Spur; thence to Elk Creek at the Widow Hampton's; thence to the top of the White Rock mountain; thence to the top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Springs; thence along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the top of the Grand mother mountain; thence with the line of Burke county to the corner of McDowell county; thence to the State line where it crosses the Yellow mountain; thence with the State line to the beginning.<sup>49</sup>

Alleghany was formed in 1859 from Ashe.

... : Beginning in the Wilkes county line on top of the Blue Ridge at the Mulberry Gap, running with the public road to Flint Hill; thence a direct line to the top of Frank's Knob; thence to the south fork of New river, at

<sup>46</sup>Laws, 1807, Ch. 70.

<sup>47</sup>Laws, 1814, Ch. 72.

<sup>48</sup>Laws, 1835, Ch. 81.

<sup>49</sup>Public Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 25.

the mouth of Prather's creek; thence down the meanders of said river to the junction with the north fork of said river; thence north to the Virginia line; thence east with the Virginia line to the Surry county line; thence with the Surry line to the Wilkes county line; thence with the Wilkes line to the beginning. . . .<sup>50</sup>

Part of Ashe was annexed in 1872 to Alleghany.

. . . , That all that portion of Ashe county comprised within the following boundaries, viz: Beginning in the gap of the Ridge between Joshua Long's and Henry Bare's, running with the top of said ridge to the Grandfather Mountain and the Blue Ridge, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>51</sup>

The boundary line between Wilkes and Ashe was authorized in 1877 to be changed.

. . . , That the dividing line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe be changed so as to run from a point twenty rods south of Phillip's Gap, on the Blue Ridge; north sixty degrees; east to the top of the Blue Ridge, near the widow Callaway's, so as to include in Ashe county the dwellings of James Burge and Rufus Holdaway.<sup>52</sup>

Parts of Wilkes and Ashe were annexed in 1877 to Watauga.

. . . : Beginning on the top of the Wolf Knob near the widow Tempy Mikels where the Watauga and Wilkes county line intersects, running a north course to the top of the Blue Ridge at the dividing line between the lands of Leander Robbins and Enoch Treplits, and thence a north course to the top of Huson's Ridge, then a north course to the ford of Gap creek near the mouth of Alexander Green's lane, thence a north-west course to the top of the Big Ridge to the Ashe county line.<sup>53</sup>

The boundary line between Wilkes and Ashe was authorized to be changed in 1879.

The boundary line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe shall hereafter run as follows: Beginning at the Mulberry Gap, running thence west (to) Ziadock's Knob; thence west to Daniel Mills'; thence north-west to the Ashe county line.<sup>54</sup>

The dividing line between Wilkes and Ashe was authorized to be changed in 1885.

That the dividing line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe be changed so as to run as follows: beginning at Mulberry gap of the Blue Ridge and running southward with the northeast side of the Mulberry road to the top of Chestnut Knob, thence westward to John Wingler's new gate, thence to Isham Patrick's, thence to the Panther tree on the Wilkesboro and Jefferson road, and thence to the top of Little Lump, and thence to the old line at Phillip's gap.<sup>55</sup>

<sup>50</sup>Public Laws, 1858-59, Ch. 3.

<sup>51</sup>Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 109.

<sup>52</sup>Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 153.

<sup>53</sup>Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 167.

<sup>54</sup>Public Laws, 1879, Ch. 295.

<sup>55</sup>Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 109.



The act of 1885 changing the dividing line between Wilkes and Ashe was repealed in 1887 and the original line was designated as the boundary line. No description was given in this law.<sup>56</sup>

Part of Ashe was annexed in 1889 to Alleghany.

. . . : Beginning in the county-line in public road on top of Peach Bottom mountain north of A. N. Reeves', running straight to David Osborn's and including him on the Alleghany side; and from said Osborn's a straight line to ford of Cranberry creek northwest of and near James Woody's; and then south two degrees west a straight line to the Wilkes line; and then eastward with the Wilkes county line to the Wilkes and Alleghany line. And all that portion of Ashe county cut off by the line herein established be and the same is hereby attached to and shall form and constitute a portion of Alleghany county.<sup>57</sup>

Part of Ashe was annexed in 1891 to Alleghany.

That chapter two hundred and fifty-six (256) of the public laws of eighteen hundred and eighty nine be amended so as to read as follows: "That the dividing line between the counties of Alleghany and Ashe be changed as follows: beginning in the county line in the public road on top of the Peach Bottom mountain north of A. M. Reeves', running a straight line to A. M. Reeves' barn; then southward a straight line to James C. Miller's, leaving him on the Alleghany side; then to James Williams' and southeast to James Miller's, and then to Meadow Fork creek, and then up and with said creek to Jacob Miller's mill; and then southward to Felix Absher's, leaving him on the Alleghany side; and then southeast to the Public road and with said public road to the forks of the road north of and near to Lewis Wyatt's; and then southwestward to the Wilkes line on the top of the Blue Ridge, the line to be so run as to include H. M. Key, William Rose, T. F. Rose and Alex. Rose on the Alleghany side of the line . . .<sup>58</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed in 1891 to Ashe.

. . . : Beginning at J. W. Galloway's in the Ashe County line and running south-east to the main top of the Big Lump in Wilkes County, thence north-east to the top of Elk Spur, thence north to the Ashe county line so as to include R. M. Miller, Thomas Griffin and H. L. Burgess, junior, in the County of Ashe, and that all that portion of Wilkes county cut off by the line herein established be and the same is hereby attached to and shall form and constitute a portion of Ashe county; that said territory until otherwise ordered shall constitute a portion of Obid's township in Ashe county, and all the electors residing in said territory, as well as the electors who now reside in Obid's township, Ashe county, shall hereafter vote at Obid's in said township, and at all elections hereafter held for said county the voters living in said territory transfer to Ashe as well as those at present living in Obid's township, . . .<sup>59</sup>

<sup>56</sup>Public Laws, 1887, Ch. 177.

<sup>57</sup>Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 256.

<sup>58</sup>Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 236.

<sup>59</sup>Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 57.

An act amending chapter two hundred and thirty-six, Public Laws of 1891, in regard to the county line between Ashe and Alleghany was passed in 1893.

That chapter two hundred and thirty-six (236) of the laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-one (1891), amendatory to chapter two hundred and fifty-six of the laws of eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, be amended so as to read as follows: That the dividing line between the counties of Ashe and Alleghany be changed as follows: Beginning in the old county line of Ashe and Alleghany in the gap of Peach Bottom mountain north of A. M. Reeves', running on the east banks of the public road to the forks of Ore Knob and Jefferson road east of and near Isom Coxe's; then a straight line to the nearest point of Cranberry creek; then up said creek to the junction of Piny Fork and Meadow Fork creek; then up Meadow Fork creek to the mouth of a branch south of John Scott's; then up said branch to the public road; then running on east bank of said road to the forks of the road at a branch north of Lewis Wyatt's; then southward to T. F. Rose's and including said Rose in Alleghany county; then southward to the Wilkes county line on the south side of the Blue Ridge so as to include William Rose in Alleghany county.<sup>60</sup>

The dividing line between Ashe and Wilkes was authorized to be surveyed and located in 1895.

. . . appointed commissioners to run and make the dividing line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes, from Mulberry gap, by way of Ziadock's Knob, Daniel Miller's and to the old county line . . .<sup>61</sup>

The boundary line between Ashe and Alleghany was authorized to be changed in 1899.

. . . That the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Alleghany be changed so as to run as follows: Beginning at the old county line at the ford of Piney branch, near Martin Pruitt's mill; then with the state road to a small branch near Levi Cox's; then with the branch to Cranberry creek; then up said creek to the junction of Piney Fork and Meadow Fork creeks; then south twenty west to R. L. Doughton's spring; then south seventy east to Meadow Fork creek; then up the said creek to the Ford below Jacob Miller's mills; then to the state road and with said road to the Wilkes county line; *Provided, however*, that Henry M. Key, who lives on said line near Gray post office may remain a citizen of Alleghany county. . . .<sup>62</sup>

An act to restore the old boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes was passed in 1901.

. . . That the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes shall be restored to the top of the Blue Ridge as follows: Beginning at the Alleghany County line on the top of the Blue Ridge, thence in a southwesterly direction with the main height of the Blue Ridge to the Watauga County line. . . .<sup>63</sup>

<sup>60</sup>Public Laws, 1893, Ch. 234.

<sup>61</sup>Public Laws, 1895, Ch. 341.

<sup>62</sup>Public Laws, 1899, Ch. 105.

<sup>63</sup>Public Laws, 1901, Ch. 714.



The boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes was authorized to be changed in 1907.

. . . That the boundary-line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes be and the same is hereby changed as follows, to wit: Beginning on the top of the Rattlesnake Mountain in the boundary-line of the counties of Ashe and Wilkes, and running southwest to the main height of the cross mountain; thence a southward direction to Ellis Bore's store and in the line of the counties of Ashe and Wilkes.<sup>64</sup>

The boundary line between Wilkes and Ashe counties was authorized in 1909 to be changed by repealing part of the act of 1907.

That chapter nine hundred and eighty-seven of the Public Laws of one thousand nine hundred and seven be amended as follows: in section one, line five, insert after the words "Cross Mountain" the following: "so as to include the present lands of Charles and T. F. Miller in Ashe County."<sup>65</sup>

Part of Ashe was annexed to Wilkes in 1911.

. . . that the boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes counties is hereby changed as follows: All the lands of James M. Calloway now lying in Ashe County are hereby transferred to the county of Wilkes, and hereafter said lands shall be assessed for taxes and taxes shall be paid thereon to the county Wilkes. . . .<sup>66</sup>

Part of Ashe was annexed to Wilkes in 1913.

. . . that the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes be, and the same is, hereby changed so as to include the lands of James Bowlin and Samuel Miller, which are now in Ashe county, in the county of Wilkes. . . .<sup>67</sup>

Chapter 222 of the Public Laws of 1909 and chapter 132 of the Public Laws of 1911 relative to the boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes were repealed in 1913. No description was given in the law.<sup>68</sup>

The boundary line between Ashe and Watauga was directed to be changed in 1915.

That chapter twenty-five of the laws of North Carolina, ratified the twenty-seventh day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, creating the county of Watauga, be and the same is hereby amended, by striking out eleventh line of said act, which reads as follows; "to the mouth of Elk creek on the south fork of New River" and inserting in lieu thereof the following; "to the ford of Elk Creek near Alex. Blackburn's residence; thence down and with the meanders of the Elk Creek to the south fork of New River." . . .<sup>69</sup>

<sup>64</sup>Public Laws, 1907, Ch. 987.

<sup>65</sup>Public Laws, 1909, Ch. 222.

<sup>66</sup>Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 77.

<sup>67</sup>Public Laws, 1913, Ch. 82.

<sup>68</sup>Public Laws, 1913, Ch. 16.

<sup>69</sup>Public Laws, 1915, Ch. 34.

The boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes was authorized to be changed in 1931.

. . . That the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes, be, and the same is hereby, changed so as to include all the A. L. Miller land lying South of the public road running along the top of the Blue Ridge Mountain, except the A. L. Miller residence which is not in Ashe County, in the County of Wilkes. . . .<sup>70</sup>

An act repealing chapter 425 of the Public-Local Laws of 1931 relative to the boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes was passed in 1933.<sup>71</sup>

## AVERY

Avery County was formed in 1911 from Mitchell, Watauga, and Caldwell. It was named in honor of Colonel Waightstill Avery, a soldier of the Revolution and attorney general of North Carolina. It is in the northwestern section of the State and is bounded by the state of Tennessee and the counties of Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, McDowell and Mitchell. The present area is 247 square miles and the population is 13,560. Commissioners were named in the act establishing the county who were to select two or more sites for the county seat after which the county commissioners were to hold an election and the people were to vote on the sites. Whatever site was selected, it was to be called Newland. Newland, the county seat, was named in honor of W. C. Newland, then lieutenant governor of North Carolina.<sup>72</sup>

Beginning at the highest point of Grandfather Mountain, the corner of Watauga, Caldwell and Mitchell counties, and running a direct line to the Hanging Rock Mountain; thence with the dividing ridge to the Turnpike Road in the gap of Bower's Mountain; then a direct course to the eastern prospect on the eastern end of Beech Mountain; then a direct course to the Buckeye Spring; then down and with the meanders of Buckeye Creek to Beech Creek; then with the meanders of Beech Creek to Watauga River; then with the meanders of the Watauga River to the Tennessee line; then with the Tennessee line to the Grassy Ridge Bald; then a direct line to Spear Top; then with the main height of Yellow Mountain to the highest point on Little Yellow Mountain; then a direct line to Pine Knob; then to the mouth of Gouge's Creek on Toe River; then south forty degrees east to Bald Ground on Humpback Mountain at the McDowell County line; then with the McDowell County line to the Burke County line; then with the Burke County line to the Caldwell County line; then with the Burke and Caldwell line to the highest point on Chesnut Mountain; then a direct course to Anthony Creek so as to include all of Carey's Flats; then to the beginning.<sup>73</sup>

<sup>70</sup>Public-Local Laws, 1931, Ch. 425.

<sup>71</sup>Public-Local Laws, 1933, Ch. 122.

<sup>72</sup>Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 33; Arthur, p. 213; Manual, 1913, p. 494.

<sup>73</sup>Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 33.

## BATH

Bath was formed in 1696 from the territory south of Albemarle River. It was named in honor of John Granville, Earl of Bath. The territory was made into Archdale, Pamptecough, and Wickham precincts in 1705. Bath Town was the county seat.

Whereas several Persons are seated on Pampticoe River without the Bounds of the County of Albemarle . . . , it is now by the authority of this Court erected into a County & by the special direction of the Right Honble the Governor is nominated the County of Bath.<sup>74</sup>

## BEAUFORT

Beaufort was first called Pamptecough, the name being changed about 1712. It was named for Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort, who in 1709 became one of the Lords Proprietors. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Craven, Hyde, Martin, Pamlico, Pitt, and Washington counties. The present area is 831 square miles and the population is 36,431. Bath, incorporated in 1705, was the first county seat. Washington was made the county seat in 1785. When the name was changed no description was given. The description of Pamptecough was as follows:

Lying on the north side of Pamptecough River and beginning at Molines's Creek, and westerly to the head of the river.<sup>75</sup>

The boundary line between Edgecombe and Beaufort and between Tyrrell and Edgecombe was authorized to be established in 1741.

. . . shall begin at the upper Corner Tree of Jenkin Henry's Line, on the South Side of Roanoke River, and from thence, run a direct line to the Mouth of Cheek's Mill Creek, on Tar River; and the said Commissioners, as soon as the said Line is finished, shall, under their Hands return the Courses, thereof into each of the Courts of the aforesaid Counties, which

<sup>74</sup>C. R., I, 472. It was called Bath County in the Council Minutes. The meaning of the term "county" as applied to Albemarle indicating a government having legislative, judicial, and administrative powers was never accorded to Bath County. It is true, Bath County had county courts and also a provost marshal while there was, at the same time, a provost marshal for Albemarle. C. R., II, 606. There is a record which indicates that the names Pamlico and Bath were used interchangeably. In a case between Thomas Patt of Virginia and Joel Martin south of Pamlico, the record of 1703 states, "Immediately after his arrival in ye county of Bath (Alias Pamlico)—aforesaid." General Court Papers, 1690-1760. There is a reference showing that the town of Bath was sometimes referred to as Pamlico. U. Urnstone, a missionary, wrote on October 18, 1718, ". . . the Library at Pampticoe, sent in for the use of the Clergymen by Dr. Bray in all appearance will be to all destroyed, . . ." C. R., II, 310. William Gordon, writing to the secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, May 13, 1709, said, "Bath county contains most of that land which lies to the southward of Albemarle Sound to the Pamlico River, and about thirty or forty miles more southerly to Neuse River, which (being but lately peopled with a few French who left Virginia) is not laid down in the draft. They have divided the whole into three precincts or parishes, . . ." C. R., I, 714, 715. This section continued to be referred to as Bath County as late as 1724. C. R., II, 308, 588; V, 88; S. R., XXV, 192. Bath was not abolished, but the territory was made into three precincts.

<sup>75</sup>C. R., I, 629.

shall be recorded by the Clerks of the said several Courts; and the said Line so run, shall, for ever after, be deemed the Boundary Line between Tyrrell and Edgecomb Counties, and between Edgecomb and Beaufort Counties, from Tyrrell county as far as Tar River.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Flat Swamp which, heretofore, was the Boundary of Albemarle and Bath Counties shall, to the Head of the said Swamp, and from the Head thereof, by a direct Line between Tyrrell and Edgecomb Counties, forever, be the Boundary Line between Tyrrell and Beaufort Counties.<sup>76</sup>

The boundary line between Tyrrell and Beaufort and between Tyrrell and Edgecombe was authorized to be continued in 1748 because taxes for surveying the same had not been collected.

. . . for finishing the said Line between Part of Edgecomb, Beaufort, and Johnston Counties, already begun and Carried on, to the Mouth of Cheek's Mill Creek, in Beaufort County, on Tar River, and from thence shall run, with a straight Line to Contentnee, at the Mouth of Tosneat Swamp, and thence up the main Stream of Contentnee, opposite the Mouth of Cypress Swamp, on Tar River; which said Line, when run by the Commissioners aforesaid, shall be by them entered on Record, in the Court of Edgecomb County aforesaid, and shall hereafter be deemed and taken to be the true Bounds of the said county. . . .

. . . And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Clause and Clauses of the act, instituted, An Act for ascertaining the boundary line between Tyrrell County, and Beaufort County, and between Edgecomb County, Tyrrell County, and Beaufort County, so far as relates to running the Boundary Line between Edgecomb County, and Beaufort County, is and are hereby repealed and made void, as if the same had never been made.<sup>77</sup>

Part of Beaufort was annexed to Craven in 1757.

. . . That that part of the said County of Beaufort, lying between Bay River and lower Broad Creek as aforesaid, be from henceforth deemed, held, and taken to be part of Craven County; . . .<sup>78</sup>

Pitt was formed in 1760 from Beaufort. The act was to become effective January 1, 1761.

. . . That from and after the First Day of January next, the upper Part of the said County of Beaufort, beginning at the Line between the said County and Tyrrell, running South Southwest to Cherry's Run, where the main Road crosses the said Run; thence down the said Run to Tranter's Creek; thence down the said Creek to Pamlico River; thence down the said River to the Fork Point, on the South side of the said River; thence up the Chocowinity Bay and Creek to the Head thereof; thence South, South West to the dividing Line of the said County and Craven; thence along the dividing Lines of Craven, Dobbs, Edgecomb, and Tyrrel; so that all that Part of Beaufort County to the Westward of Cherry Run, Chocowinity Bay and

<sup>76</sup>S. R., XXIII, 168.

<sup>77</sup>S. R., XXIII, 287.

<sup>78</sup>S. R., XXIII, 480.

Creek, shall, and is hereby declared to be a separate County and Parish, and shall be called and known by the name of Pitt County, and St. Michael's Parish, . . .<sup>79</sup>

Part of Pitt was annexed to Beaufort in 1785.

. . . , all that part of the county of Pitt included in the following bounds, beginning at Craven county line where it crosses Creeping Swamp, and running with Creeping Swamp and Checod Swamp to the mouth of Round Island branch, then a direct course to the mouth of Pitch Hole branch, then with the swamp to Bear creek, then down Bear creek to Tar river, then down the river on the north side to the mouth of Tranter's creek, then up said Creek to Martin county line, then with Martin, Beaufort and Craven lines to the beginning, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall be and remain a part of the county of Beaufort: . . .<sup>80</sup>

An act was passed in 1801 locating the boundary line between Beaufort and Martin, because disputes had arisen concerning titles to land and because of the uncertainty of the location of the boundary line. Reference was made to the law establishing Martin, but no description of the line was given in the law.<sup>81</sup>

Part of Beaufort was annexed to Craven in 1801.

. . . , all that part of Beaufort county that lies within the following bounds, viz. Beginning at the head of Jones' Bay, and running a direct line to Bay River Bridge, near Palmer's cabbins; thence down the meanders of said Bay River to Jones's Bay, thence with said bay to the beginning.<sup>82</sup>

In 1811 the boundary line between Beaufort and Washington was authorized to be established and a record made in each county. No description is given in the law.<sup>83</sup>

Part of Beaufort was annexed to Martin in 1816.

. . . Beginning where the line that now divides the said counties intersects the Bear Grass Swamp, running along the main drain of said swamp, to the main drain of Tranter's Creek, thence up the main drain of said creek to the mouth of the Flat Swamp, the present dividing line between the counties of Martin and Pitt, . . .<sup>84</sup>

Part of Hyde was annexed to Beaufort in 1819.

. . . , That all that part of the county of Hyde, which lies upon the west side of Pungo river, be, and it is hereby added to, and made a part of the county of Beaufort.<sup>85</sup>

<sup>79</sup>S. R., XXIII, 531.

<sup>80</sup>S. R., XXIV, 758.

<sup>81</sup>Laws, 1801, Ch. 69.

<sup>82</sup>Laws, 1801, Ch. 72.

<sup>83</sup>Laws, 1811, Ch. 77.

<sup>84</sup>Laws, 1816, Ch. 18.

<sup>85</sup>Public Laws, 1819, Ch. 114.

An act to establish the boundary line between the counties of Washington and Beaufort was passed in 1832.

. . . , to run the boundary line between said counties, leading from Long Acre to the Pungo settlement, or such portion of boundary as is yet undetermined between said counties.<sup>86</sup>

In 1851 an act was passed which stated that as the dividing line between Washington and Beaufort had not heretofore been sufficiently described, either by actual survey or by known and fixed boundaries, it becomes expedient, in order to prevent disputes between the inhabitants of said counties in relation to county affairs, that the said dividing line should be more accurately ascertained. No description was given in the act.<sup>87</sup>

In 1851 an act was passed authorizing the running and marking of the boundary line between Craven and Beaufort because of the uncertainty of the location of the said line. No description was given.<sup>88</sup>

The dividing line between Beaufort and Craven was authorized to be established in 1852.

. . . , the dividing line between said counties of Beaufort and Craven shall begin at the head of Jones's Bay at a cedar post, and run S. 83 deg. 39 min. W. to the head of Bay River at the bridge on the road leading from Durham's Creek to Goose Creek in Craven county, thence from said Bay River N. 47 deg. 48 min. W. to Flat Swamp Bridge on the road leading from Core Point to Gaskins' Ferry, thence from said Flat Swamp Bridge N. 57 Deg. 29 min. W. to the run of Creeping Swamp on the Pitt county line. . . .<sup>89</sup>

Pamlico County was formed in 1872 from Beaufort and Craven.

That a county by the name of Pamlico shall be and the same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Craven and Beaufort counties, within the following bounds, to wit: Beginning at the mouth of South Creek, in the county of Beaufort, at Hickory Point, running thence up South Creek to the mouth of Bailey Creek, and up Bailey Creek to the head thereof, thence a west course to Durham's Creek and up Durham's Creek to the head thereof, thence a direct line to the head waters of Deep Run and with Deep Run to Upper Broad Creek, in Craven county, and with Broad Creek to Neuse river, thence with Neuse river and Pamlico Sound to the mouth of Pamlico river, and thence up Pamlico river, so as to include Indian Island, to Hickory point, at the mouth of South Creek, the beginning.<sup>90</sup>

<sup>86</sup>*Private Laws, 1832, Ch. 42.*

<sup>87</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 44.*

<sup>88</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 46.*

<sup>89</sup>*Public Laws, 1852, Ch. 23.*

<sup>90</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 182.*



### Part of Beaufort was annexed to Pamlico in 1874.

That on the first Thursday in March, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, in Goose Creek Island township, in the county of Beaufort, an election shall be under the rules and regulations for the election of members of the General Assembly, for the purpose of allowing the qualified voters of Goose Creek Island township to vote upon the annexation of said township to the county of Pamlico.

. . . , that portion of Beaufort county known as Goose Creek Island shall, from and after that day, become a portion of the county of Pamlico.<sup>91</sup>

### Parts of Beaufort and Craven were annexed to Pamlico in 1875.

. . . : Beginning at the mouth of Goose creek, and runs up Pamlico river to Lee's creek, then up said creek to the Washington road, then with said road westerly to the township line, then with the township line southerly to the Craven county line, then with the Craven and Pamlico county line to the mouth of Goose Creek, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Pamlico county. This shall have no effect until a majority of the qualified voters of the territory shall have declared themselves in favor of the annexation.<sup>92</sup>

### Part of Beaufort was annexed to Pamlico County in 1891.

. . . : beginning at the mouth of Durham's creek and running up the creek to its head, thence south to the dividing line between Beaufort and Pamlico counties, with said dividing line to Goose creek, thence down Goose creek to Pamlico river, thence up said river to the mouth of Durham's creek the beginning, be and is hereby annexed to the county of Pamlico.

This act shall not go into effect until it shall have been submitted to and ratified by the qualified voters residing in the territory annexed.<sup>93</sup>

The election was to be held the first Thursday in May, 1891.

The dividing line between Beaufort and Washington was authorized to be settled and fixed in 1911.

That the board of county commissioners of the counties of Washington and Beaufort shall appoint two commissioners, one on the part of the county of Washington and one on the part of the county of Beaufort, who shall settle, determine, run and mark the dividing line between said counties, from the western to the eastern terminus thereof.<sup>94</sup>

The boundary line between Beaufort and Martin was established by special proceedings in the superior court and approved September 8, 1938.<sup>95</sup>

<sup>91</sup>Public Laws, 1873-74, Ch. 152.

<sup>92</sup>Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 129.

<sup>93</sup>Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 307.

<sup>94</sup>Public-Local Laws, 1911, Ch. 314.

<sup>95</sup>A typescript of the record and a blueprint of the survey of the line in the suit of Beaufort County vs Martin County in superior court of Beaufort County are in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh. This matter was begun in the superior court, December 18, 1935, and was concluded September 8, 1938.



... We began at the head of Welch's Creek as indicated by a marble monument in the head of Welch's Creek, the corner of Beaufort, Martin and Washington Counties, said being marked "B-W 1913." From this point we ran South  $66^{\circ} 45'$  West ten thousand and one hundred and seven (10,107) feet to a monument in the center line of the Roanoke Railroad and Lumber Company's old tram right of way, said point being indicated by a granite monument erected by us. From said monument in the old tram right of way we ran South  $66^{\circ} 53'$  West twenty thousand and thirty-one (20,031) feet to the center line of the CCC road marked "Tract 1, Line 1" (the letters CCC standing for Civilian Conservation Corps, which is an agency of the United States building roads through the territory in question.) Said road designated as CCC road Tract 1, Line 1 is also the right of way of the old Washington-Jamesville Railroad formerly extending from Washington to Jamesville. In running this course we intersected another road designated on the map as CCC road, Tract 1, Line 5 and for convenience in locating the line we set up a granite monument indicating the point where the line intersects said CCC road, Tract 1, Line 1, said monument being erected at station one hundred and sixty-one plus fifty-one (161 plus 51). The end of this line (which is in the center of the Washington-Jamesville railroad right of way—CCC road, Tract 1, Line 1) is indicated by a granite monument station one hundred and ninety-nine plus ninety (199 plus 90); from the center line of said Washington-Jamesville railroad right of way—CCC road, Tract 1, line 1, we ran South  $66^{\circ} 57'$  West sixteen thousand six hundred and sixty (16,660) feet to the cypress which is a corner between M. U. Hodges and O. B. Rawls, which said point is indicated by a granite monument at station one hundred and sixty-six plus fifty-five and five tenths (166 plus 55.5). Said monument is as close to the said cypress as the physical condition of the land would permit it to be placed. From said cypress corner between M. U. Hodges and O. B. Rawls we ran North  $56^{\circ} 11'$  West seventy-six hundred and sixty-two (7662) feet to the center line of the Washington-Jamesville road. Said point is indicated by a granite monument at station seventy-six plus thirty (76 plus 30). From the center of said road we ran North  $58^{\circ} 49'$  West eight thousand six hundred and thirty-three (8,633) feet to the center line of the thoroughfare road indicated by a granite monument at station eighty-five plus ninety (85 plus 90). From the center of said thoroughfare road we ran North  $53^{\circ} 02'$  West seventy-three hundred and sixty (7360) feet to the center line of a public road (which has no name) indicated by a granite monument at station seventy-three plus twenty-three (73 plus 23). From the center of said road we ran North  $59^{\circ} 36'$  West thirty-four hundred and eighty-eight (3488) feet to the center line of the road extending from Batts' Cross Roads to Smithwick's Creek Church, said point indicated by a granite monument at station thirty-four plus forty-three (34 plus 43). From the center line of said road we ran North  $51^{\circ} 49'$  West thirty-one hundred and ninety-five (3195) feet to the center line of highway, U. S. 17 (N. C. 30), which point is indicated by a granite monument at station thirty-one plus sixty-four (31 plus 64). From the center of said highway we ran North fifty-four ( $54^{\circ}$ ) degrees  $08'$  West thirteen thousand and forty-two (13,042) feet to a granite monument in J. A. Britton's yard, said monument being located forty-one (41) feet from the center line of the public road passing in front of the house of the said J. A. Britton. From said monument so located we

ran North 56° 57' West seventy-six hundred and eighty-eight (7688) feet to a pitch pine stump on the west side of Taylor's lane, which point is indicated by a granite monument at station seventy-six plus sixty-five (76 plus 65). From the stump we ran North 53° 05' West fifty seven Hundred and sixty-nine (5769) feet to a stump in the road in front of the residence of George Hoel, said point being indicated by a granite monument at station fifty-seven plus forty (57 plus 40). From the said stump we ran North 59° 20' West three thousand three hundred and thirty-four (3,334) feet to the run of Bear Grass or Turkey Swamp, said point being indicated by a granite monument on Hardy's Island at station thirty plus 00 (30 plus 00), said Hardy's Island being an island in Turkey or Bear Grass Swamp slightly on the east side of the run. In running from the stump in front of George Hoel's to the run of Turkey or Bear Grass Swamp, we ran through an oak tree at station fourteen plus thirty-one (14 plus 31), which is indicated by a granite monument at station fourteen plus fifteen (14 plus 15), said monument being as close to said oak tree as the physical conditions would permit. Said oak tree is generally reputed to be a line tree in the line between the counties as said line was heretofore recognized. . . .

An act to provide relief for property owners along the Beaufort-Martin line was passed in 1937.

*Whereas*, for a long period of time there has existed a dispute between the Counties of Martin and Beaufort as to the dividing line between said counties;

*And Whereas*, said dividing line between said counties has now been established by a decree in the suit of Beaufort County vs Martin County recently pending in the Superior Court of Beaufort County;

*And Whereas*, the location of said line under said decree may possibly cause certain lands heretofore considered to be in Martin County to become a part of Beaufort County, and likewise, may cause certain lands heretofore considered to be in Beaufort County to be located in Martin County;

*And Whereas*, it is the purpose of said suit to ratify and confirm all existing land titles along said line and that the title of no landowners should be effected by the location of said county line and the removal of his land from one county to the other:

*Now, Therefore*, in order that said matter may be legislatively determined and set at rest, *The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact*:

Section 1. That the title of each landowner whose land was formerly considered as being in Beaufort County and by said location has been determined to be in Martin County, is hereby ratified and affirmed as fully in all respects and purposes as if said land continued to remain in Beaufort County; and further that the title of each landowner whose land was formerly considered as being in Martin County and which by said location has been determined to be in Beaufort County, is hereby ratified and affirmed as fully in all respects and purposes as if said land continued to remain in Martin County.

Sec. 2. That the payment by any person of taxes on land to the county in which it was thought his land was located prior to the location of said

line, shall in all respects be as good and effectual as if said taxes had been paid to the county in which said land is determined to be by the location of said line and there shall be no further claim for such taxes by either county on such land.<sup>96</sup>

## BERTIE

Bertie was formed in 1722 from Chowan. It was named in honor of James and Henry Bertie, Lords Proprietors. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Albemarle Sound, Chowan River, and Washington, Martin, Halifax, Northampton, and Hertford counties. Its area is 693 square miles and its population is 26,201. An act of 1743 provided that the courthouse, etc., "shall be built between Cusby Bridge and Will's Quarter Bridge." Windsor was established in 1766 and was made the county seat in 1774.<sup>97</sup>

. . . That that part of Albemarle County lying on the West Side of Chowan River, being part of Chowan Precinct, bounded to the Northward by the line dividing this Government from Virginia, and the Southward by Albemarle Sound and Morattuck River, as far up as Welch's Creek, and then including both sides of said River, and the Branches thereof, as far as the limits of this government, . . .<sup>98</sup>

Tyrrell was formed in 1729 from Chowan, Bertie, Currituck, and Pasquotank.

. . . That that Part of Albemarle County, lying on the South-side of Albemarle Sound, and Moratuck River, being Part of (Chowan, Pasquotank, Bertie and Currituck) the several Precincts before mentioned, bounded to the Westward by Thomas Hoskin's upper Line, beginning at his upper Corner Tree, on Rainbow Banks, on Moratuck River, and by a Line running South from his outer Corner Tree, to the Southward by the Bounds of Albemarle County, to the Eastward by the Sound, between Roanoke Island, and Croatan, and to the Northward by Albemarle Sound and Moratuck River as high as the Rainbow Banks, in Moratuck River, . . .<sup>99</sup>

Edgecombe was formed in 1741 from Bertie.

. . . Beginning on Roanoke River, at Jenkin Henry's Upper Corner Tree, from thence a straight Course to the Mouth of Cheek's Mill Creek, on Tar River; and from the Southside of the said River, opposite to the said Cheek, a straight line unto the Middle grounds, between Tar and Neuse rivers; which shall be the dividing line between Beaufort and Edgecombe, and Craven Counties; and from thence up as high as may be, keeping the Middle between the said two Rivers, which shall be the dividing Line between the Counties of Craven and Edgecomb, and Beaufort; . . .<sup>100</sup>

<sup>96</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1937, Ch. 386.*

<sup>97</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 100, 215, 755, 958; XXIV, 19, 252, 469; Manual, 1913, p. 500; Battle, p. 19.*

<sup>98</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 100.*

<sup>99</sup>*S. R., XXV, 212.*

<sup>100</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 164.*

Northampton was formed in 1741 from Bertie.

. . . That that Part of Bertie County which lieth North and West of Sandy Run, and in a direct Line from the Head of the said Run, to the Head of the Beaver Dam Swamp, and down the said Swamp and Meherrin Creek and River be, and is hereby erected into a County, by the name of Northampton county; and that the said Bounds . . . be the Limits between Society Parish and the Northwest Parish of Bertie.<sup>101</sup>

Hertford was formed in 1759 from Bertie, Chowan, and Northampton.

. . . Beginning in Bertie County, at the first high Land on the North West Side of Mare Branch, on Chowan River Pocoson; running thence by a direct Line to Thomas Cutlaw's Plantation, near Stoney Creek; thence by a direct Line to Northampton County Line, at the Plantation whereon James Rutland formerly lived; then along Northampton County Line to the Head of Beaver Dam Swamp; thence by a direct line to the Easternmost Part of Kerby's Creek; thence down the Creek to Meherrin River; then up Meherrin River to the Virginia Line; then Easterly along the Virginia Line to Bennet's Creek; then down Bennet's Creek to Chowan River; then across the River to the Mouth of the said Mare Branch; and up the Branch to the Beginning: And all that Part of the said Counties included within the said Bounds be thenceforth erected into a distinct County and Parish, and called and known by the Name of Hertford county, and Parish of St. Barnabas.<sup>102</sup>

In 1877 a portion of the dividing line between Bertie and Hertford was authorized to be changed provided that the qualified voters in the section affected voted for the same.

. . . Beginning at the point where roads leading from Pich Landing to Powell's cross-roads intersects the present line dividing said counties; thence along said road to Powell's cross-roads; thence along said road to Loving Swamp, near J. W. Mitchell's farm; thence along said road to Harris' cross-roads; thence along a straight line from Harris' cross-roads to Jenkins' cross-roads; thence along the Winston road to a fork of said roads, known as "Roads Place"; thence along the Winston road about two miles, to the bend of said road, near Asa F. Earley's farm, and thence along a straight line in a north-westerly course to the Hertford line.<sup>103</sup>

An act to amend chapter one hundred and sixty-five, laws of one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six and seventy-seven, was passed in 1883. This act repealed the part giving the description and authorized the following description:

. . . Beginning on the west side of the Chowan river at the starting point of the present dividing line between said counties, and thence along a straight line from said starting point to the point where the dividing line

<sup>101</sup>S. R., XXIII, 205.

<sup>102</sup>S. R., XXIII, 503.

<sup>103</sup>Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 165.

between said counties intersects with the eastern boundary of the county of Northampton.<sup>104</sup>

The boundary line between Hertford and Bertie counties was authorized to be located and settled in 1907.

That the dividing line between Hertford and Bertie counties shall begin at the point where the old James Rutland dwelling formerly stood and now recognized as the corner for Hertford, Bertie and Northampton counties, thence in an easterly direction along the line as recognized as such dividing line up to one thousand nine hundred and one, to the first high land from Chowan River on the northwest side of Mare Branch to the nearest point to Chowan River, thence in a straight line due east to the Chowan River.<sup>105</sup>

## BLADEN

Bladen was formed in 1734 from New Hanover. It was named in honor of Martin Bladen, one of the members of the Board of Trade which had charge of colonial affairs. It is in the south-eastern section of the State and is bounded by Sampson, Pender, Columbus, Robeson, and Cumberland counties. The present area is 879 square miles and its population 27,156. The county seat was first called Bladen Court House. Elizabethtown, established in 1773, is the county seat.<sup>106</sup>

. . . Beginning at the Mouth of Livingston's Creek and bounded by the said Creek to the head thereof; and then, by a Line West, to the Bounds of the Government; and that the said Precinct to be Bounded to the Northward by Black River, as follows; viz, Beginning at the Mouth of said River, and bounded by the Main River up to the Fork, and that then the Westernmost Branch to be the Bounds to the Head thereof.<sup>107</sup>

Anson was formed in 1750 from Bladen.

. . . That Bladen County be divided by a Line, beginning at the Place where the South Line of this Province crosseth the Westernmost Branch of Little Pee-Dee River, then by a straight Line to a Place where the Commissioners for running the Southern Boundary of this Province crosseth that Branch of Little Pee Dee River, called Drowning Creek, thence up that Branch to the Head thereof; then by a Line, to run, as near as may be, equidistant, from Saxpahaw River, and the Great Pee Dee River; and that the Upper part of the said County and Parish so laid off and undivided, be erected into a County and Parish by the Name of Anson County, and St. George's Parish, and that all the Inhabitants to the Westward of the aforementioned dividing line, shall belong and appertain to Anson County: . . .<sup>108</sup>

<sup>104</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 353.*

<sup>105</sup>*Public Laws, 1907, Ch. 210.* See appendix, p. 250, for a report of the commissioners on Bertie and Hertford county line which was made in 1902 under authority of the boards of county commissioners of the two counties.

<sup>106</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 119, 920, 974; XXIV, 147, 179, 307, 541, 700; XXV, 480; Manual, 1913, p. 505; Battle, p. 20.*

<sup>107</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 119.*

<sup>108</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 343.*



Orange was formed in 1752 from Bladen, Granville, and Johnston.

. . . That the upper Part of Granville, Johnston, and Bladen Counties, be erected into a County and Parish by the name of Orange County, and the Parish of St. Matthew, and be divided by a Line, beginning on the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, thence a direct line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Occanechas, near to the Plantation where John Williams now dwelleth; thence down the South side of Eno River, to Neuse River; thence down Neuse River, to the mouth of Horse Creek; thence a direct line to the Place where Earl Granville's Line crosses Cape Fear River; thence along the said Line, to the Eastern Bounds of Anson County; thence along the dividing Line of Anson County to the End thereof; And that the upper Parts of the said Counties be divided and run accordingly, by the commissioners. . . .<sup>109</sup>

The dividing line between Granville, Johnston, and Bladen counties was authorized to be changed in 1753.

I. Whereas it is found to be more convenient to the Inhabitants of the said County to have the lines mentioned in the above said Act, to run from the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, in a direct Line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Ocanechas, and from thence down the Eno River to Neuse River, and from thence down Neuse River, to the Mouth of Horse Creek, altered by a line to be run, beginning on the Virginia Line, twenty miles west of Granville Court House, running thence a South Course to Neuse River, thence bounded by the said River to the Mouth of Horse Creek; . . .

. . . , That instead of the Lines mentioned in the above recited Act, to be run from the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, in a direct Line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Occanechas, and from thence down the Eno River to Neuse River, at the mouth of Horse Creek, a Line shall be run, beginning on the Virginia Line, twenty Miles West of Granville Court House, running thence a South Line to Neuse River, and thence bounded by the said River, to the mouth of Horse Creek.

. . . That the Clausés in the before recited Act, so far as they relate to running the said line, from the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, in a direct Line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Occanechas, and from thence down the Eno River to Neuse River, and from thence down Neuse River to the Mouth of Horse Creek, dividing Orange and Granville, . . . be and are hereby repealed and made void, to all intents, purposes, and constructions, as if the same had never been made.<sup>110</sup>

Cumberland was formed in 1754 from Bladen.

. . . , Beginning at the Mouth of Cross Creek, running a South-West line to the Bounds of Bladen County, and Northeast to the Line of Duplin County, thence along the dividing Lines of Duplin, Johnston, Orange and Anson Counties; so that all the Inhabitants in Bladen County to the Northward

<sup>109</sup>S. R., XXIII, 383.

<sup>110</sup>S. R., XXIII, 390.

of the Mouth of Cross Creek aforesaid, shall belong to Cumberland County, and the same shall, and is hereby declared and enacted to be a County and Parish, by the Name of Cumberland County and St. David's Parish. . . .<sup>111</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Cumberland in 1762.

. . . , That so much of the said land being in Bladen county, as shall be judged necessary for establishing the said town [Campbelton], by the commissioners hereinbefore appointed, or the majority of them (provided the same do not exceed one hundred acres of land), is hereby annexed to and declared to be part of Cumberland county; . . .

. . . , are hereby empowered and directed, to run an east line down to the river; beginning at the dividing line between Cumberland and Bladen, two hundred poles below the mouth of Cross-Creek, which line being so run, as above directed, shall be henceforth taken and deemed to be the dividing line between the counties of Cumberland and Bladen, . . .<sup>112</sup>

The boundary line between Bladen and Cumberland was authorized to be run in 1764.

. . . the Dividing line between the Counties of Bladen and Cumberland, running North East and South West, is found to be inconvenient to the Inhabitants of both the said Counties.

II. . . the dividing Line between the said Counties of Bladen and Cumberland, shall begin at the mouth of Rock Fish and shall run a due East Course to Black River, and from the Mouth of Rock Fish Creek, up the said Creek to Gravelly Hill, and from thence a due West Course to Drowning Creek; and all the Lands to the Northward of the said Line shall from henceforth be deemed and held to be a Part of Cumberland County, and all the Lands to the Southward of the said Line shall be deemed and held to be a Part of Bladen County; . . .<sup>113</sup>

Brunswick was formed in 1764 from Bladen and New Hanover.

. . . That that Part of Bladen County which lies to the Westward of the Northwest Branch of Cape Fear River, be divided from the upper Part of Bladen County, by a line beginning at the upper Corner of a Tract of Land on which the Plantation of John Grange is situate, above the Mouth of Beaver Dam Creek, which Plantation lately belonged to Mr. Robert Howe, running from thence a direct Course to the East side of the Lake on Wag-gamaw River, and from thence by a West Line to the Bounds of the Province, so as to leave all the Inhabitants of the said Lake in Bladen County; and that the said Lower Part of Bladen county, together with all that Part of New Hanover County called St. Phillip's Parish, except so much thereof as lieth to the North Westward of the dividing Line hereby directed to be run to the Lake, and from thence to the Bounds of this Province, be erected into a Distinct County by the Name of Brunswick county.

<sup>111</sup>S. R., XXV, 267.

<sup>112</sup>S. R., XXV, 471.

<sup>113</sup>S. R., XXIII, 630.



. . . That all that Part of St. Phillip's Parish which lieth to the North Westward of the said Line, to the East End of the Lake, and from thence to the bounds of the province be annexed to . . . Bladen County.<sup>114</sup>

Part of Brunswick was annexed to Bladen in 1777.

. . . That all that Part of Brunswick County on the western side of Wag-gamaw Lake, lying between Brunswick and Bladen line, and the Southern Side of the Swamp known by the Name of the Devil's Elbow, beginning at the Outlet from the said Lake, and running around the outermost Side of the said Swamp called the Devil's Elbow, until it intersects the said Line a South West Course to the Province Line, shall be, and is hereby added to, and made part of Bladen County; . . .<sup>115</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Brunswick in 1777.

. . . ; and that all those Parts of Bladen County lying on the Eastern Side of the Northwest River, beginning at the upper Corner of the Plantation of John Granger, Sen., Esq; on the same Side of the River, and running thence a North East Course to Black River, including all the Lands from the said Line downwards to New Hanover Line, be, and are hereby added to, and made Part of Brunswick County.<sup>116</sup>

Part of Anson was annexed to Bladen in 1777.

. . . to run and mark a Line from Drowning Creek Bank, beginning where Overstreet's Bridge formerly was, thence running the shortest course to the dividing Line between this State and the State of South Carolina; and all that part bounded the lower End by the Line above directed to be marked, and along the said South Line to where it crosses Drowning Creek, . . .<sup>117</sup>

Robeson was formed in 1787 from Bladen.

. . . : Beginning on Drowning creek where South Carolina line crosses said creek, thence up said creek to the mouth of the Great Swamp, thence a direct line to the point on the main road five miles westwardly of the bridge on said Great Swamp as the road now runs, thence running a straight line to the Cumberland county touching at Steward's mills on Rockfish; and all that part of the late county of Bladen lying east of said line, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Bladen, and all that other part of the said county of Bladen lying west of said line, shall henceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Robeson.<sup>118</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Robeson in 1788.

. . . all that part of the county of Bladen west of the Great Swamp, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall remain part of the county of Robeson; and that the dividing line between the said two counties shall be

<sup>114</sup>S. R., XXIII, 622.

<sup>115</sup>S. R., XXIV, 148.

<sup>116</sup>S. R., XXIV, 148.

<sup>117</sup>S. R., XXIV, 151.

<sup>118</sup>S. R., XXIV, 838.

and forever remain as herein described, viz: Beginning at the line dividing this State from South Carolina where it crossed Drowning Creek, and the said Drowning Creek to be the line (as it now is) to the mouth of the aforesaid Great Swamp, thence up the meanders of the east side of the said swamp to the head thereof commonly called the Galberry, and thence a direct line to the head of Gilley's Branch, and down the meanders of said branch of Rockfish Creek, and thence to the nearest point to the Cumberland line.<sup>119</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Cumberland in 1789.

. . . That all that part of Bladen county lying to the north west of a line beginning directly opposite to the mouth of Willis's creek, on the north-east side of Cape Fear river, thence a direct course to John Pharis's on South river, so as to include said Pharis's in Cumberland county, thence the same direction until it strikes the Sampson line; then beginning at the said first station opposite to said Willis's creek and running south seventy-five west to Robeson county line, be and is hereby annexed to the county of Cumberland, and from and after the passing of this act shall be and remain a part thereof.<sup>120</sup>

The dividing line between Brunswick and Bladen was authorized to be established in 1796.

WHEREAS the line between Bladen and Brunswick counties has never been extended, by which means difficulties have arisen as to serving process, also in obliging the inhabitants near where the line is supposed to run, to perform public duties, and other inconveniences have happened and are likely to continue; for prevention whereof, . . .<sup>121</sup>

No description is given in the law.

Columbus was formed in 1808 from Brunswick and Bladen.

. . . , That all that part of Bladen County and Brunswick, beginning in the Wacamaw river, where the dividing line between North and South Carolina crosses the same, then up said river to the White Marsh Branch, then up the same to the western prong and to the head of it, then a direct line to the Rough Horn Branch or Swamp; then down Rough Horn to Drowning Creek, thence down the same to the State line, thence with the same to the beginning shall be and is hereby established into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Columbus.<sup>122</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Columbus in 1809.

. . . , the boundary-line between the Counties of Bladen and Columbus, shall begin in the Brunswick line, two miles to the east of the Waggamaw Lake, and run thence a direct line to Slade Swamp, so as to include Henry Swindle's plantation, thence down Slade Swamp to the Brown Marsh Swamp, thence down the same to the Western Prong, thence up the same

<sup>119</sup>S. R., XXIV, 988.

<sup>120</sup>S. R., XXV, 38.

<sup>121</sup>Laws, 1796, Ch. 35.

<sup>122</sup>Laws, 1808, Ch. 1.

to the mouth of Green's Mill Branch, then up the said Branch to the head, and then a direct line to the mouth of the Horsepen Branch at the Big Swamp, thence down the Big Swamp and Drowning Creek to the Columbus line. And the boundary as herein mentioned and described, shall be the dividing line between the said Counties of Bladen and Columbus.<sup>123</sup>

In 1811 the act of 1809 which added part of Bladen to Columbus was amended by adding new commissioners to extend and mark the dividing line between the said counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>124</sup>

In 1820 the boundary line between Bladen and Columbus was authorized to be extended and marked as before directed by law. No description is given in the law.<sup>125</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Columbus in 1821.

... , That all that part of the County of Bladen which lies south west of a line hereafter to be run, beginning on the Brunswick line where the Lake Road leading to Wilmington crosses, thence on the north side of said road to the drain of Buckhead Bay, thence a direct line to where the road leading from Manly Westbrook's to Gabriel Holmes's crosses Saspan drain, thence a direct line to where the line that divides Bladen and Columbus Counties is supposed to run, thence along said line to Samuel Swindol's plantation, and thence on the south west side of said plantation to the mouth of Slade Swamp, be, and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall hereafter form a part of Columbus County; and all that part of the county lying north east of the said line shall form a part of Bladen County.<sup>126</sup>

The boundary line between Bladen and Cumberland was authorized to be extended and marked in 1822. No description is given in the law.<sup>127</sup>

In 1827 the boundary line between Bladen and Columbus was authorized to be established according to the several acts of the Assembly. No description is given in the law.<sup>128</sup>

An explanatory act relative to the annexation of part of Bladen to Columbus County in 1821 was passed in 1828.

... commissioners to run and establish the boundary line between the counties of Bladen and Columbus, instead of the line directed by the above recited act [act of annexation, 1821], shall run, ascertain and mark the said boundary line in manner following, (to wit:) beginning on the Brunswick line where the lake road leading to Wilmington crosses; thence on the north side of said road, so as to include the road in Columbus county, to the ford of Sasspan where the road leading from William Jones' house, in

<sup>123</sup>*Laws, 1809, Ch. 23.*

<sup>124</sup>*Laws, 1811, Ch. 80.*

<sup>125</sup>*Laws, 1820, Ch. 104.*

<sup>126</sup>*Laws, 1821, Ch. 34.*

<sup>127</sup>*Private Laws, 1822, Ch. 69.*

<sup>128</sup>*Laws, 1827-28, Ch. 88.*

Bladen County, to Gabriel Holmes' house, in Columbus county crosses Sasspan Drain; thence a direct line running north sixty-seven, west about eleven and a half miles to Slade Swamp, opposite Samuel Swindoll's plantation, to a hickory, the former established station of the dividing line between said counties; thence to the mouth of Slade Swamp, so as to include Samuel Swindoll in the county of Bladen.<sup>129</sup>

The act passed in 1827 concerning the boundary line between Bladen and Columbus was repealed in part in 1832 and a new commisisoner was appointed to act in establishing the said boundary line. No description is given in the law.<sup>130</sup>

The dividing line between Bladen and Columbus was authorized to be run in 1834. No description is given in the law.<sup>131</sup>

The line between Bladen and Columbus was authorized to be changed in 1873, provided the qualified voters approved the same.

That all that portion of Bladen county comprised within the following boundaries, viz: Beginning in the edge of Slade swamp at the point where the present line between the counties of Columbus and Bladen now enters said swamp, and running thence down the main run of Slade swamp to the main run of Brown Marsh swamp; thence down the run of said Brown marsh swamp to the public road, crossing said Brown marsh swamp at the red hill; thence with said road to the point where it now intersects with the public road leading from Whiteville to Elizabethtown; thence a direct line to the head of Rattle Snake swamp; thence down the main run of said Rattle Snake swamp to the run of the Horse Pen swamp; then down the run of the Horse Pen swamp to where it enters the Big Swamp and intersects the Robeson county line, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form part of Columbus county: . . .<sup>132</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Cumberland in 1874, provided the qualified voters of the affected territory approved the same.

. . . : Beginning at the mouth of Willis Creek, where it empties into Cape Fear River, the present line; thence direct to James Melvin's mill on Peters' Creek; thence down the South bank of said creek to the point where it empties in South River; thence up said river with the present county line to the present intersecting point of Cumberland and Bladen counties; and all that portion of the county of Bladen, cut off by the line therein established, be and the same is hereby attached to and shall constitute a portion of the county of Cumberland.<sup>133</sup>

<sup>129</sup>*Private Laws, 1828-29, Ch. 145.*

<sup>130</sup>*Private Laws, 1832-33, Ch. 159.*

<sup>131</sup>*Private Laws, 1834-35, Ch. 69.*

<sup>132</sup>*Public Laws, 1872-73, Ch. 97.*

<sup>133</sup>*Public Laws, 1873-74, Ch. 131.*

An act to define the line between Bladen and Columbus was passed in 1879.

That the line between the counties of Bladen and Columbus shall be the run of the Brown Marsh swamp to the south side of the Red Hill road; thence along the south edge of said road to the point where it intersects with the Whiteville and Elizabethtown road; thence south eighty-five and one-half degrees west seven hundred chains to the head of Rattlesnake swamp; then to the old county line north, sixty-four degrees west to the run of Rattlesnake swamp, then the run of said swamp to the run of the Horsepin swamp; and that said description of the line shall represent the true boundary line between said counties: . . .<sup>134</sup>

The dividing line between Bladen and Columbus was authorized to be changed in 1883.

That the dividing line between the counties of Bladen and Columbus be and the same is hereby changed as follows, to-wit; beginning at the point where the county line comes to the Whiteville and Wilmington public road, thence with the south edge of said road for a distance of two and one-half miles, thence across said road to its north edge, thence with Bladen county line as it now stands.<sup>135</sup>

An act to establish and make certain the boundary line between Bladen and Cumberland counties was passed in 1905.

. . . : Beginning at a stake, pine and oak pointers, on the Melvin old mill-dam and runs thence south 70 degrees east 87 chains to a stake on the southeast side of Peter's Creek; thence with the courses of said creek on the edge of the swamp north 53 degrees east 40 chains, crossing the public road at a large walnut tree; thence north 70 degrees east with the said creek 40 chains to South River, shall be the true and correct line between said counties of Bladen and Cumberland.<sup>136</sup>

## BRUNSWICK

Brunswick was formed in 1764 from New Hanover and Bladen. It was named in honor of the House of Brunswick of which the four Georges, Kings of England, belonged. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean, the Cape Fear River, and Columbus, Pender, and New Hanover counties. The present area is 873 square miles and the population is 17,125. Brunswick, established in 1745, was made a borough town in 1754, and when Brunswick County was established in 1764 it was made the county seat. In 1779 the county seat was authorized to be moved to the plantation of

<sup>134</sup>Public Laws, 1879, Ch. 318.

<sup>135</sup>Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 251.

<sup>136</sup>This line had been surveyed by A. J. Bullard, who acted under an order of the commissioners of Cumberland County. The survey was approved by the Board of County Commissioners of Bladen County, Public Laws, 1905, Ch. 623.

John Bell near Lockwood's-Folly Bridge. In 1784 Walkersburg, named in honor of John Walker on whose land it was situated, was established. Provisions were made in the act for a courthouse and other public buildings to be established there. It was located at Deep Water Point. This act specified that the courts were to be held at the most convenient place until the courthouse was completed.

It is doubtful that the act was put into effect because in 1808 an act was passed authorizing the removal of the courthouse from Lockwood's Folly to Smithville. Court was held at the courthouse from 1805-1810. The record does not indicate where the courthouse was. From April 1810 to 1858 court was held at the courthouse in Smithville. This town, established in 1792, was named in honor of Benjamin Smith, governor of North Carolina, 1810-1811. In 1879 an effort to move the courthouse failed. In 1887 Smithville was changed to Southport. Southport is the county seat.<sup>137</sup>

. . . That part of Bladen County which lies to the Westward of the Northwest Branch of Cape Fear River, be divided from the upper Part of Bladen County, by a line beginning at the upper Corner of a Tract of Land on which the Plantation of John Grange is situate, above the Mouth of Beaver Dam Creek, which Plantation lately belonged to Mr. Robert Howe, running from thence a direct Course to the East side of the Lake on Wag-gamaw River; and from thence by a West Line to the Bounds of the Province, so as to leave all the Inhabitants of the said Lake in Bladen County; and that the said Lower Part of Bladen County, together with all that Part of New Hanover County called St. Phillip's Parish, except so much thereof as lieth to the North Westward of the dividing Line hereby directed to be run to the Lake, from thence to the Bounds of this Province, be erected into a Distinct County by the Name of Brunswick County.

. . . That all that part of St. Phillip's Parish which lieth to the North Westward of the said Line, to the East End of the Lake, and from thence to the Bounds of the Province, be annexed to . . . Bladen County.<sup>138</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Brunswick in 1777.

. . . That all that Part of Brunswick County on the Western side of Wag-gamaw Lake, lying between Brunswick and Bladen Line, and the Southern Side of the Swamp known by the Name of the Devil's Elbow, beginning at the Outlet from the said Lake, and running around the outermost Side of the said Swamp called the Devil's Elbow, until it intersects the said Line a South West Course to the Province Line, shall be, and is hereby added to, and made Part of Bladen County; . . .<sup>139</sup>

<sup>137</sup>C. R., V, 151; S. R., XXIII, 622; XXIV, 248, 611, 631; *Laws, 1808*, Ch. 64; *Public Laws, 1879*, Ch. 69; *Private Laws, 1887*, Ch. 76; *Manual, 1913*, p. 509; *Battle*, p. 21; *Brunswick Court Minutes, 1782-85, 1805, 1810, 1815, 1819, 1823, 1839, 1845, 1853, and 1858*.

<sup>138</sup>S. R., XXIII, 622.

<sup>139</sup>S. R., XXIV, 148.



### Part of Brunswick was annexed to Bladen in 1777.

. . . and that all those Parts of Bladen County lying on the Eastern Side of the Northwest River, beginning at the upper Corner of the Plantation of John Granger, Sen., Esq; on the same Side of the River, and running thence a North East Course to Black River, including all the Lands from the said Line downwards to New Hanover Line, be, and are hereby added to, and made Part of Brunswick County.<sup>140</sup>

### Part of Brunswick was annexed to New Hanover in 1788.

, . . . all that part of the county of Brunswick which lies in the fork of Black River and the North West as far as the Bladen line, shall hereafter be annexed to the county of New Hanover; . . .<sup>141</sup>

The dividing line between Brunswick and Bladen counties was authorized to be established in 1796.

WHEREAS the line between Bladen and Brunswick counties has never been extended, by which means difficulties have arisen as to serving process, also in obliging the inhabitants near where the line is supposed to run, to perform public duties, and other inconveniences have happened and are likely to continue: For prevention whereof, . . .<sup>142</sup>

No description is given in the law.

### Columbus was formed in 1808 from Brunswick and Bladen.

. . . , That all that part of Bladen County and Brunswick, beginning in the Wacamaw river, where the dividing line between North and South Carolina crosses the same, then up said river to the White Marsh Branch, then up the same to the western prong and to the head of it, then a direct line to the Rough Horn Branch or Swamp; then down Rough Horn to Drowning Creek, thence down the same to the State line, thence with the same to the beginning shall be and is hereby established into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Columbus.<sup>143</sup>

### Smith's Island at the mouth of the Cape Fear River was annexed to Brunswick in 1809.

. . . , That the said Smith's Island be, and the same is hereby taken from the County of New-Hanover, and added to the County of Brunswick, . . .<sup>144</sup>

### Part of Eagle's Island was annexed to New Hanover in 1809.

. . . , That all that part of Eagle's Island, on the east side thereof, as conveyed and described in deeds recorded in the Register's Office of New-Hanover County from John Watson to Michael Higgins and Caleb Grainger,

<sup>140</sup>S. R., XXIV, 148.

<sup>141</sup>S. R., XXIV, 985.

<sup>142</sup>Laws, 1796, Ch. 35.

<sup>143</sup>Laws, 1808, Ch. 1.

<sup>144</sup>Laws, 1809, Ch. 24.



including the ground up to the thoroughfare as mentioned therein, running down to the entrance thereof into the Northeast River, and down the same to the beginning, described in the said deed to Higgins, or so far as the wharves, for the purpose of carrying on commerce, opposite the town of Wilmington, now are, or hereafter may be erected, and running back with the lines designated in said deeds from Watson to Higgins and Grainger, being fourteen hundred and eighty-five feet, or thereabouts, back from the river, shall be, and the same is hereby taken from the County of Brunswick, and annexed to the County of New-Hanover.<sup>145</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Brunswick and Columbus was authorized to be established in 1810.

. . . That Waccamaw River, from the South-Carolina line up to the Stake, shall be considered as the true and established boundary between the said counties; . . .<sup>146</sup>

Part of Brunswick was annexed to Columbus in 1811.

. . . , all that part of Brunswick county bounded as follows, to wit—Beginning at Waccamaw river, at the mouth of Juniper creek, on the Columbus line, and running up Juniper creek, to a swamp called Big Swamp, and up Big Swamp to a branch called Clear Branch, and up the Clear Branch, at the mouth of a large creek, and thence join the Columbus line or river to the beginning—be, and the same is hereby annexed to the county of Columbus.<sup>147</sup>

This act annexing Smith's Island to Brunswick was continued in force by an act passed in 1817. No description is given in the law.<sup>148</sup>

The dividing line between New Hanover and Brunswick was authorized to be run in 1824 according to an act of 1819 [1809, Ch. 24]. No description is given in the law.<sup>149</sup>

Part of Brunswick was annexed to Columbus in 1877.

. . . : Commencing at the point where the counties of Bladen, Brunswick and Columbus now join; running thence with the said Bladen line to north west Cape Fear river; thence down the said river to the point where Hood's Creek empties in the same; thence with the run of said creek up to its source in Little Greene Swamp; thence a direct line to the source of Clear Branch and to the present Brunswick and Columbus line; thence with the line of said counties to the beginning; and all that portion of Brunswick county, embraced within the boundary above described, shall be, and is hereby transferred to, and constituted a part of the county of Columbus.<sup>150</sup>

<sup>145</sup>Laws, 1809, Ch. 24.

<sup>146</sup>Laws, 1810, Ch. 47.

<sup>147</sup>Laws, 1811, Ch. 80.

<sup>148</sup>Laws, 1817, Ch. 45.

<sup>149</sup>Private Laws, 1824, Ch. 43.

<sup>150</sup>Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 72.

The eastern boundary line between Brunswick and Columbus was authorized to be established in 1879.

. . . : Beginning at a point on Cape Fear river immediately below Fowl Foot plantation, the property of John M. Sikes; from thence an air-line to head of Livingston creek; from thence a due south course to Clear Branch, in Green swamp; from thence with old line as now established.<sup>151</sup>

An act was passed in 1913 to cede Eagle's Island by the county of Brunswick to the county of New Hanover, upon certain conditions.

That all that portion of the territory which lies in the county of Brunswick and known as Eagle Island, surrounded by the waters of the Cape Fear River and the Brunswick River, and lying east of the eastern boundary of Brunswick River, be, and the same is, hereby ceded and annexed to the county of New Hanover: *Provided, however*, that New Hanover County build a free bridge across the Cape Fear River at Wilmington, with suitable approaches and a substantial roadway across Eagle Island to Brunswick River.<sup>152</sup>

An act was passed in 1915 which provided for locating and defining the boundary line between Columbus and Brunswick, as confusion had arisen because the line was inadequately established and marked, especially through Green Swamp. No description was given in the law.<sup>153</sup>

## BUNCOMBE

Buncombe was formed in 1791 from Burke and Rutherford. It was named in honor of Colonel Edward Buncombe, a Revolutionary soldier, who was wounded and captured at the Battle of Germantown, October 4, 1777, and in May, 1778, died a paroled prisoner in Philadelphia. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by McDowell, Henderson, Haywood, Madison, and Yancey counties. The present area is 646 square miles and the population is 108,755. Asheville, named in honor of Samuel Ashe, governor of North Carolina, 1796-1798, is the county seat.<sup>154</sup>

<sup>151</sup>*Public Laws, 1879*, Ch. 159. In 1875 commissioners were appointed to survey the line between Columbus and Brunswick counties. For a report of this survey, see appendix, p. 260.

<sup>152</sup>*Public Laws, 1913*, Ch. 50. The bridge was never built by the county. J. A. Orrell, New Hanover County auditor, writing to the editor February 16, 1938, said: "I beg to advise that New Hanover County never complied with the proviso in the 1913 act and accepted Eagles Island. We made several attempts to do so, but were never able to secure approval by the Highway Commission of the type bridge we contemplated building; and eventually the bridge was built by the State, and since made free; but all of Eagles Island except a narrow strip along the western border of Cape Fear River still remain in Brunswick County." Letter on file in editor's office.

<sup>153</sup>*Public Laws, 1915*, Ch. 119.

<sup>154</sup>*Laws, 1791*, Ch. 62; *Laws, 1792*, Ch. 33; *Laws, 1797*, Ch. 54; *Laws, 1840-41*, Ch. 53; Arthur, p. 143 ff; *Manual, 1913*, 514; Battle, p. 28.

... That all that part of the counties of Burke and Rutherford, circumscribed by the following lines, viz. Beginning on the extreme height of the Apalachian mountain, where the southern boundary of this state crosses the same, thence along the extreme height of said mountain to where the road from the head of Catawba-river to Swannanoë crosses, then along the main ridge dividing the waters of South-Toe from those of Swannanoë unto the great Black mountain, then along said mountain to the north east end, then along the main ridge between South-Toe and Little-Crabtree to the mouth of said Crabtree creek, then down Toe river aforesaid to where the same empties into the Nollichucky river, then down the said river to the extreme height of the Iron mountain and in cession line, then along said cession line to the southern boundary, then along the said boundary to the beginning, is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Buncombe.<sup>155</sup>

### Part of Rutherford was annexed to Buncombe in 1794.

... all that part of the county of Rutherford, west of a line beginning at the Sugar-Loaf Mountain; from thence a direct line to the Hungary Mountain; and along said Mountain to Green-River, crossing the same; and from thence a direct line to the South-Carolina boundary, and all that part lying to the west of the line aforesaid, shall be annexed to, and considered a part of the county of Buncombe.<sup>156</sup>

### Haywood was formed in 1808 from Buncombe.

... (to wit) beginning where the southern boundary line of this State crosses the highest part of the ridge dividing the waters of the French Broad from those of the Tucky Siegy River, then along the said ridge to the ridge dividing the waters of Pigeon and the French Broad River, then with said ridge to the top of Mount Pisgah, thence a direct line to the mouth of the first branch emptying into Hominy Creek on the north side above Jesse Belieu's, thence with said branch to the source, and thence along the top of the ridge, dividing the waters of the French Broad and those of Pigeon River, to the northern boundary of this State, and with the State line to the line which shall divide this State from the State of Georgia, and with that line to the beginning, shall be, and is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of *Haywood*, in honor of the present Treasurer of this State.<sup>157</sup>

In 1816 commissioners were named in an act to run, ascertain and mark the boundary line between Rutherford and Buncombe counties. No description was given in the law.<sup>158</sup>

The dividing line between Haywood and Buncombe was authorized to be run and marked in 1830.

... appoint ... commissioners ... to run and mark the dividing line between said counties, from Jesse Ballow's old place, on Hominy creek, to

<sup>155</sup> *Laws, 1791, Ch. 52.*

<sup>156</sup> *Laws, 1794, Ch. 28.*

<sup>157</sup> *Laws, 1808, Ch. 1.*

<sup>158</sup> *Laws, 1816, Ch. 115.*

the main height of Mount Pisgah: and the line so run and marked shall be the dividing line between said counties: . . .<sup>159</sup>

Yancey was formed in 1833 from Burke and Buncombe.

. . . , beginning on the extreme height of the Black mountain; running thence along said mountain to Ogle's improvement; thence along the dividing ridge to Daniel Carter's fork field; thence a direct course to the mouth of Big Ivy creek; thence, with the Warm Springs road, by Barnard's Station, to the three forks of Laurel; thence a direct line, so as to include James Allen's house to the Tennessee line; thence with said line to county of Ashe; thence with the line of said county to the Grandmother mountain; thence a direct course to the extreme height of the Humpbacked mountain; thence with the Blue Ridge to where it intersects the Black mountain; thence with the ridge of said mountain, to the beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Yancy, with all the rights, privileges and immunities of the other counties in this State.<sup>160</sup>

Henderson was formed in 1838 from Buncombe.

. . . , beginning on the top of Pisgah Mountain, on the Haywood line, and from thence taking the dividing ridge between Hominy Creek and Mills' River, to the dividing ridge between Mills' River and Avery's Creek; from thence, keeping said ridge, to the head of Israel's Branch; from thence, taking down said Branch, to French Broad River; from thence, up said River, opposite the mouth of Cane Creek; from thence, crossing the River, to the mouth of Cane Creek; from thence, taking up Cane Creek, to the Buncombe Turnpike Road; from thence, taking said road, to the top of the ridge between Cane Creek and Mud Creek; from thence, taking the main dividing ridge, between Cane Creek and Clear Creek waters; to the top of Bear Wallow Mountain, on the Rutherford line; from thence, with the Rutherford line, the South-Carolina line; from thence, with the South-Carolina line, to the Macon line; from thence, with the Macon line, to the Haywood line; from thence, with the Haywood line, to Pisgah, the beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Henderson.<sup>161</sup>

Part of Yancey was annexed to Buncombe in 1849.

. . . , All that portion of the county of Yancy in the vicinity of Barnett's Station, beginning at a point one mile east of said Station, and running with the top of the mountain to the top of the main Walnut mountain; then with the top of the said Mountain to the Hopewell Gap, at the old Allin road; then with the line of the counties of Yancy and Buncombe, to a point due south from the beginning; thence north to the beginning; shall be, and the same is hereby attached to and made part of the county of Buncombe; . . .<sup>162</sup>

<sup>159</sup>*Private Laws, 1829-30, Ch. 77.*

<sup>160</sup>*Laws, 1833-34, Ch. 83.*

<sup>161</sup>*Public Laws, 1838-39, Ch. 12.*

<sup>162</sup>*Public Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 16.*

An act altering the line between Buncombe and Henderson was passed in 1851.

... That the line between the counties of Buncombe and Henderson be, and the same is hereby so altered, that from the mouth of Burn's branch, on the West side of French Broad river, the line shall be run a direct course to the point of Burney's mountain; thence with the summits of said mountain to the present county line between said counties, on Bear Wallow mountain.<sup>163</sup>

Madison was formed in 1851 from Buncombe and Yancey.

... : Beginning on the Paint Rock on the Tennessee line, and running with that line East to the top of the ridge that divides the waters of Ivy and Laurel from the waters of Caney River; then, with the top of said ridge, by way of Ivy Gap and Point Gap, and passing the same to a ridge that divides the waters of Big Ivy from those of Little Ivy, being a spur of the Black mountain; thence with the top of that ridge to the junction of Big Ivy and Little Ivy; thence a direct course to the mouth of Sandy Mush Creek; thence up the said creek to the fork thereof; thence with the top of the ridge that divides the waters of Big and Little Sandymush Creeks, to the Haywood line; thence with said line to the line of the State of Tennessee and with the same to the beginning; . . .<sup>164</sup>

An act concerning the boundary line between the counties of Buncombe and Haywood was passed in 1889.

Whereas, There has heretofore existed a dispute concerning the dividing line between the counties of Buncombe and Haywood from the top of Big Pisgah mountain northwardly to the mouth of Ballew's branch, at the residence of John G. Smathers, on the old Western turnpike road; and whereas, . . . the said commissioners have actually surveyed, marked and settled said line and made report thereof to the respective boards of commissioners, which report has been duly ratified and confirmed and ordered to be recorded in the said county of Haywood and to be recorded in the county of Buncombe; . . .

... Beginning at the mouth of a branch emptying into North Horning creek on the south side thereof, near the residence of John C. Smathers, and about seven and one-half poles above the mouth of the Ballew branch, which empties on the north side of said creek and runs up said branch, which is known as County Line branch, to the forks thereof; then up the east prong of said branch to the top of the ridge or mountain that divides the waters of North Horning or Dutch Core creek from the waters of South Horning, and also the waters of South Horning from those of the east fork of Pigeon river; thence along the top of the said ridge or mountain, passing a hickory on the top of Thompson's knob and passing a colored graveyard on the top of said ridge or mountain, and crossing the road that passes through the Deep gap at the foot of Pisgah; and thence to the top of Big Pisgah mountain, the said line following the meanderings of the water-shed of the said mountain from the head of the said County Line

<sup>163</sup>Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 45.

<sup>164</sup>Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 36.

branch to the top of Big Pisgah, being in length three thousand two hundred and sixty nine (3,269) poles or ten miles and sixty nine-poles;—shall be and the same is hereby declared to be and established as the dividing line of said counties between the points therein named, and to have been such line from the establishing of said county of Haywood.<sup>165</sup>

An act changing the boundary line between Buncombe and Madison was passed in 1901.

That the portion of the boundary line between the counties of Buncombe and Madison, from the fork of Little Ivy and Big Ivy, to the point at the lower end of J. M. Sam's farm where the said line crosses and leaves Ivy river be and the same is hereby changed so as to make the said portion of the boundary line run with the meanders of the said river.<sup>166</sup>

Part of McDowell was annexed to Buncombe in 1925.

That the boundary line between McDowell County, North Carolina, and Buncombe County, North Carolina, be and the same is hereby changed and relocated so as to divest McDowell County of all the territory now and heretofore embraced in the bounds of Broad River Township, McDowell County, North Carolina, and vest and include all of the said territory in Buncombe County, North Carolina, and the said territory shall become and be a part of Buncombe County.<sup>167</sup>

## BURKE

Burke was formed in 1777 from Rowan. The act was to become effective June 1, 1777. It was named in honor of Dr. Thomas Burke, a member of the Continental Congress and governor of North Carolina, 1781-1782. It is in the west central section of the State and is bounded by Catawba, Cleveland, Rutherford, McDowell, Avery, and Caldwell counties. The present area is 506 square miles and the population is 38,615. The act establishing Burke specified that the first court was to be held at Edward Smith's but subsequent courts were to be held at a place the justices should decide until they selected a permanent place for the courthouse and had the same erected. In 1784 Morgansborough was established and made the county seat. Morganton is the present county seat.<sup>168</sup>

... beginning at the Catawba River, on the Line between Rowan and Tryon Counties; thence running up the Meanders of said River to the North End of an Island, known by the name of the Three Cornered Island; thence North to the Ridge that divides the Yadkin and Catawba Waters;

<sup>165</sup>*Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 399.*

<sup>166</sup>*Public Laws, 1901, Ch. 95.*

<sup>167</sup>*Public-Local Laws of North Carolina, 1925, Ch. 353.* (Hereafter this will be cited as *Public-Local Laws*.) For a report of the surveyors acting under this act, see appendix, p. 269.

<sup>168</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 28, 149, 604; Manual, 1913, p. 519; Battle, p. 27.*



then Westerly along the Ridge to the Mountain which divides the Eastern and Western Waters, commonly known by the Name of the Blue Mountain. And that all that Part of the late County of Rowan which lies to the East of the said dividing Line, shall continue and remain a distinct County by the Name of Rowan; and all that other Part of the said county of Rowan which lies West and South of the said dividing Line, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct County, by the Name of Burke. . . .<sup>169</sup>

Part of Burke was annexed to Lincoln in 1782.

. . . Beginning at Sharrel's ford, running with the road leading towards Henry Whitners, as far as Matthew Wilson's thence a direct course to Simon Horse's, on the waters of Clark's Creek, thence a direct course to the Fish-Dam ford of the south fork of the Catawba river, between James Wilson and David Robinson, and from thence a southwest course to Earl Granville's old line, and that all that part of Burke county lying southeast of the line above described shall henceforth be taken off from Burke, and shall be added and remain to Lincoln county.<sup>170</sup>

The line between Burke and Lincoln was authorized to be run in 1784.

. . . That the boundary line between the counties of Burke and Lincoln shall hereafter be as follows, to wit: Beginning at the Horse Ford on Catawba river, running thence to John Hawnsom Hendry river thence to William Orrson Jacobs river, and thence to the intersection of the counties of Burke, Lincoln and Rutherford, as they now stand.<sup>171</sup>

Part of Burke was annexed to Rutherford in 1787.

Whereas by reason of a ledge of mountains that divide the waters of first Little Broad river from the waters of Silver and Cain creeks, it is extremely difficult for the inhabitants on the south side of the said ledge to attend the court house of the county of Burke; and whereas the inhabitants on the south side of the ledge aforesaid have signified their desire to be annexed to the county of Rutherford.

. . . all that part of the county of Burke lying to the south-east of the aforesaid mountains so as to include all the waters of first Little Broad river, shall be, and the same is hereby annexed to and declared to be within the county of Rutherford: . . .<sup>172</sup>

The dividing line between Burke and Rutherford was authorized to be established in 1788.

. . . That the line as laid out, marked and extended by Joseph M'Dowell, Junior, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, vis: Beginning at the west point of the line that formerly divided the above counties, thence west to the Indian boundary as in the Act of Assembly of the seventeenth of May, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three; which line

<sup>169</sup>S. R., XXIV, 28.

<sup>170</sup>S. R., XXIV, 472.

<sup>171</sup>S. R., XXIV, 646.

<sup>172</sup>S. R., XXIV, 845.



is hereby established to be the dividing line between the counties of Burke and Rutherford: . . .<sup>173</sup>

Part of Burke was annexed to Wilkes in 1789.

. . . : Beginning on Iredell county line at the Whetstone hill on the Spring road, and running up said road to the lower Little river, thence up said river to Holmes's creek, thence up said creek to Lambert's fork, thence up said fork to the head thereof, then a north course to the top of the Brushy mountain, being Wilkes line.<sup>174</sup>

Buncombe was formed in 1791 from Burke and Rutherford.

. . . That all that part of the counties of Burke and Rutherford, circumscribed by the following lines, *viz.* beginning on the extreme height of the Appalachian mountain, where the southern boundary of this state crosses the same, thence along the extreme height of said mountain to where the road from the head of Catawba-river to Swannanoë crosses, then along the main ridge dividing the waters of South-Toe from those of Swannanoë unto the great Black mountain, then along said mountain to the north east end, then along the main ridge between South-Toe and Little Crabtree to the mouth of said Crabtree creek, then down Toe river aforesaid to where the same empties into the Nollichucky river, then down the said river to the extreme height of the Iron Mountain and in cession line, then along said cession line to the southern boundary, then along the said boundary to the beginning, is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Buncombe.<sup>175</sup>

The boundary line between Ashe and Burke was authorized to be established in 1807.

. . . the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Burke, shall be established and known by the following boundaries, to wit: beginning at the Blowing Rock on the Blue Ridge, near Yadkin Spring, running thence a due west course, crossing some of the head waters of Watauga River, to the top of the ridge dividing the head waters of Watauga River and Elk Creek, then along the extreme height of said ridge to the Grandfather Mountain, thence along the extreme height of the ridge that divides the waters of Toe River from those of Watauga and Elk Creek, to the Tennessee line leaving all the waters of Toe River, and the head waters of Watauga south of said due west line, in Burke, and all the waters of Elk, and the waters of Watauga, north of the said line, in the county of Ashe. . . . commissioners to extend and mark the line from the Blowing Rock, west to the top of the ridge between Watauga Waters and Elk Waters, and no further. . . .<sup>176</sup>

Part of Burke was annexed to Rutherford in 1807.

. . . The dividing line between the said counties of Burke and Rutherford, shall begin at a white oak tree that stands near the forks of the public road

<sup>173</sup>S. R., XXIV, 957.

<sup>174</sup>S. R., XXV, 43.

<sup>175</sup>Laws, 1791, Ch. 52.

<sup>176</sup>Laws, 1807, Ch. 70.

above James Jones's, in the line heretofore run between said counties and the public road that leads up second Broad River, shall be the line between said counties, as far as Joseph Goodbread's, thence a south-west course to the dividing ridge that divides the waters of Cove and Crooked Creeks, thence the ridge that divides the waters of Catawba and Broad Rivers, to the Buncombe county line. And the line as herein mentioned shall be the dividing line between the said counties of Burke and Rutherford; . . .<sup>177</sup>

In 1809 the act of 1807 annexing part of Burke to Rutherford was amended to read as follows:

. . . , That a line shall extend from the White Oak mentioned in the above recited act, on the old east and west line, to a stake; thence crossing Little Rock Creek, to the south side of the tract whereon Widow Smith lives; thence crossing Big Rock Creek, to the north side of Moses Black's buildings; thence to a place called the Dye-Stone; thence to the north side of Levi Trout's buildings; thence between the Plantations of Perminter Morgan and Henry Carter, to the south side of the tract of William Morris, senior; thence with a spur of the mountain, to the dividing ridge between Crooked Creek and Montford's Cove Creek, to the Hickory-Nut Mountain; thence along the ridge to the Round Mountain; thence due west to the Buncombe line; and all that part lying northwardly of said line, be, and the same is hereby declared to be in the county of Burke, and the part southwardly thereof shall continue, as heretofore, within the county of Rutherford, . . .<sup>178</sup>

In 1814 the boundary line between Burke and Ashe was authorized to be established.

. . . , That the following boundaries, to wit: beginning at the Yadkin spring, thence along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge, to the head spring of Flat-top fork of Elk Creek, thence down the meanders of said creek to the Tennessee State line, shall be and the same is hereby declared the permanent dividing line between the counties of Burke and Ashe.<sup>179</sup>

In 1818 an act was passed amending an act of 1783 and naming commissioners to run the dividing line between Burke and Iredell.

. . . from the three cornered Island in the Catawba River to the bent of Little River in James Fox's land, agreeable to an act of one thousand seven hundred and ninety three for establishing the same.<sup>180</sup>

In 1819 an act was passed naming additional commissioners to run the line between Burke and Iredell according to the act of 1818. No description is given in the law.<sup>181</sup>

The dividing line between Lincoln and Burke was authorized to be marked in 1824. No description is given in the law.<sup>182</sup>

<sup>177</sup>Laws, 1807, Ch. 71.

<sup>178</sup>Laws, 1809, Ch. 14.

<sup>179</sup>Laws, 1814, Ch. 72.

<sup>180</sup>Laws, 1818, Ch. 139.

<sup>181</sup>Laws, 1819, Ch. 39.

<sup>182</sup>Private Laws, 1824, Ch. 46.

The boundary line between Lincoln and Burke as directed in 1784 was authorized to be run and established by an act passed in 1826. No description is given in the law.<sup>183</sup>

Yancey was formed in 1833 from Burke and Buncombe.

... , beginning on the extreme height of the Black mountain; running thence along said mountain to Ogle's improvement; thence along the dividing ridge to Daniel Carter's fork field; thence a direct course to the mouth of Big Ivy creek; thence, with the Warm Springs road, by Barnard's Station, to the three forks of Laurel; thence a direct line, so as to include James Allen's house to the Tennessee line; thence with said line to county of Ashe; thence with the line of said county to the Grandmother mountain; thence a direct course to the extreme height of the Humpbacked mountain; thence with the Blue Ridge to where it intersects the Black mountain; thence with the ridge of said mountain, to the beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Yancy, with all the rights, privileges and immunities of the other counties of this State.<sup>184</sup>

Caldwell was formed in 1841 from Burke and Wilkes.

... , beginning at Lovelady Ford, on the Catawba River, in the County of Burke, from thence to Corpening's Bridge, on Lower Creek, thence to John's River, at the upper end of the plantation of the late John Perkins, crossing the same, to and with the dividing ridge between Warrior Creek and Wilson's Creek, to the Yancy line, thence with said line to the Ashe line, and with the Ashe line to the dividing Ridge between Buffalo and Elk Creek, thence with said ridge to the Yadkin River, at the mouth of Elk Creek, crossing the same to and with dividing Ridge between Beaver Creek and King's Creek, to the top of Bushy Mountain, at the Burke line, thence with the said line to the corner of Iredell county, and with said line to the Catawba River, thence with the River to the beginning, be, and is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Caldwell.<sup>185</sup>

McDowell was formed in 1842 from Rutherford and Burke.

... , beginning at a point two miles south of the corner of Burke and Rutherford, in said line; from thence a direct course to Cove Creek, at a point two miles south of John Bradley's; thence to, and with the dividing ridge between Rock House Creek and Stoney Creek, crossing Second Broad River at the mouth of Rock House Creek; thence a direct course to the Burke line, at or near Conway's Knob; thence with the Burke and Rutherford line, to a point on the South Mountains, two and one half miles east of Cane's Creek, thence a direct line crossing the top of the Pilot Mountain, to the mouth of Shadrick's Creek; thence a direct course to the top of Linville Mountain, and with the said mountain to the Yancey line; thence with

<sup>183</sup>*Private Laws, 1826, Ch. 70.*

<sup>184</sup>*Laws, 1833-34, Ch. 83.* In 1833 the court of pleas and quarter sessions appointed commissioners to establish the line between Burke and Yancey. For a description of this survey see appendix, p. 251.

<sup>185</sup>*Public Laws, 1840-41, Ch. 11.*

the Yancey line, to the Buncombe line, and with said line to the beginning; be, and the same is hereby created into a separate and distinct County by the name of McDowell.<sup>186</sup>

The dividing line between Burke and Caldwell was authorized to be altered and changed in 1859.

. . . , That the dividing line between the counties of Burke and Caldwell be altered and changed in the following manner, to wit: from Corpening's bridge on lower creek, the line shall run with said creek to a point where the lands of Joseph Tipps and Jesse Harrison join, thence a north-eastwardly course to a large pine tree near the public road leading from the Horseford road to Sudderth's ferry, the said pine being now a line tree between said counties of Burke and Caldwell, thence with the line as, established at the session of the General Assembly of 1840-41, and that said line be so run as to include the dwelling house of Jesse Harris, within Caldwell county.<sup>187</sup>

Mitchell was formed in 1861 from Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, and McDowell.

. . . , That a county by the name of Mitchell shall be and the same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke and McDowell counties with the following boundaries; beginning at the top of Grandfather mountain, thence with the top of the Blue Ridge to the Bear Wallow Gap, thence to the Three Knobs, thence to Big Crab-tree creek, thence down said creek to Toe river, thence down said river to the Tennessee line, thence with the Tennessee line to Elk river, thence to place of beginning; and the said county of Mitchell, when it is laid off and established, shall be, and is hereby, invested with all the rights, privileges and immunities with the other counties of the State.<sup>188</sup>

An act amending an act to establish a county by the name of Mitchell was passed in 1861.

. . . , That an act passed at the late session of the General Assembly, entitled an act to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Mitchell, be so amended as to run from the top of the Grand Father Mountain, with the old Watauga line, to the Blue Ridge; thence with the said Yancey line, and according to said act, around to the beginning.<sup>189</sup>

The boundary line between Burke and McDowell was authorized to be changed in 1870.

. . . , That the dividing line between Burke and McDowell Counties where it runs to the river at the mouth of Shadrick's creek, it shall run up the river on the south side at the water's edge to and against the mouth of Bradshaw's creek in Wm. R. Gray's farm, thence across the river to the mouth of Bradshaw's creek, thence up the creek to the fork, thence up the

<sup>186</sup>Public Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 10.

<sup>187</sup>Private Laws, 1858-59, Ch. 103.

<sup>188</sup>Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 8.

<sup>189</sup>Private Laws, First Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 22.

right hand fork through Fulwood's land to the second fork, thence up the right hand fork to the present line.<sup>190</sup>

An act repealing an act to change part of the line that divides Burke and McDowell was passed in 1871.

That an act entitled "an act to change part of the line that divides Burke and McDowell counties," in the laws of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine and one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and the provisions of the same, are hereby repealed.<sup>191</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Burke in 1871.

. . . : beginning at the corner where Rutherford, McDowell and Burke unite, and running along the top of the ridge of the South mountain as the line now runs to the corner where Rutherford, Cleveland and Burke unite, thence by a direct line to the beginning, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall form a part of the county of Burke. . . .<sup>192</sup>

The boundary line between Burke and Caldwell was authorized to be changed in 1885.

. . . : Beginning at the new line one mile below Corpening's bridge on Lower Creek, and running thence with the southwest boundary of W. C. Corpening's lands to the old line at or near Tuttle's Cross Roads.<sup>193</sup>

## BUTE

Bute County was formed in 1764 from Granville. The act was to become effective June 10, 1764. It was named in honor of John Stewart, Earl of Bute, one of the principal secretaries of state, and first Lord of the Treasury under George III, over whom he exerted a dominant influence. The Earl of Bute became very unpopular with the Americans, and in 1779 the General Assembly abolished Bute by dividing its territory into the counties of Warren and Franklin which were named for the Revolutionary patriots, Joseph Warren and Benjamin Franklin. It was in the northeastern section of the colony. The act ordered the court to be held on Jethro Sumner's land at a place called Buffalo Race Path.<sup>194</sup>

. . . The said County of Granville shall be divided into Two Distinct Counties; and that all that Part of the said County which is now called or known by the Name of the Parish of Granville, from and after the said Tenth Day of June, shall be a Distinct County, and remain to be called Granville County; and that all that Part of the said County called and

<sup>190</sup>*Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 96.*

<sup>191</sup>*Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 50.*

<sup>192</sup>*Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 129.*

<sup>193</sup>*Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 193.*

<sup>194</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 625; XXIV, 227; Manual, 1913, p. 524; Battle, p. 22; Bute County Court Minutes, 1767-76.*

known by the Name of St. John's Parish, shall, after the said Tenth Day of June, be another Distinct County, called by the name of Bute County.<sup>195</sup>

Part of Northampton was annexed to Bute in 1766.

. . . , to run and Mark (or cause the same to be done) a Line from Roanoke River Bank, opposite the mouth of Stone House Creek, a due North Course to the dividing Line between this Province and the Colony of Virginia; and all that part bounded to the Eastward, by the Line above directed to be marked, and to the Northward by the Virginia Line, to where it crosses Roanoke River, shall be, and is hereby annexed to, and made part of the County of Bute; and the Inhabitants thereof shall be subject and liable to the same Rules, Orders, Taxes, and Privileges, as any other of the Inhabitants of the said County of Bute.<sup>196</sup>

Franklin was formed in 1779 from Bute.

. . . a direct line from the Granville line to Halifax or Nash county line as the case may be, leaving in each part or division an equal quantity of Acres as near as can be ascertained, . . .

. . . to measure the lines of said County on every side and to run the dividing line so as to make each respective division as convenient to the respective persons residing therein as possible, which said lines when run by the commissioners, or a majority of them, shall be entered on the record of each County, and all that part or division which lies North of said line & adjacent to Virginia shall be a distinct County by the name of Warren, and all that part or division that lies South of said line shall be a distinct County by the name of Franklin: . . .<sup>197</sup>

Warren was formed in 1779 from Bute.

. . . a direct line from the Granville line to Halifax or Nash County line as the case may be, leaving in each part or division an equal quantity of Acres as near as can be ascertained, . . .

. . . to measure the lines of said County on every side and to run the dividing line so as to make each respective division as convenient to the respective persons residing therein as possible, which said lines when run by the commissioners, or a majority of them, shall be entered on the record of each County, and all that part or division which lies North of said line & adjacent to Virginia shall be a distinct County by the name of Warren, and all that part or division that lies South of said line shall be a distinct County by the name of Franklin. . . .<sup>198</sup>

## CABARRUS

Cabarrus was formed in 1792 from Mecklenburg. It was named in honor of Stephen Cabarrus of Edenton, several times a member of the Legislature and four times speaker of the House of Commons. It is in the south central section of the State and

<sup>195</sup>S. R., XXIII, 625.

<sup>196</sup>S. R., XXIII, 754.

<sup>197</sup>S. R., XXIV, 227.

<sup>198</sup>S. R., XXIV, 227.



is bounded by Stanly, Union, Mecklenburg, Iredell, and Rowan counties. The present area is 390 square miles and the population is 59,393. In 1795 an act was passed naming commissioners to erect a courthouse on the land of Samuel Hugey which had already been selected as a proper place for the county seat. They were to lay out the town of Concord. Concord was incorporated in 1806, and is the county seat.<sup>199</sup>

... , the county of Mecklenburg shall be divided as follows, *to wit*, beginning at where Iredell line crosses the east branch of Rocky river, then down the said branch to its junction with the west branch which comes from Colonel Osborne's, from thence to where the waggon road crosses Clerk's creek, a little to the west of Captain Pickens, thence to the barn of Adam Meek, sen. thence to a cluster of large rocks a little to the southeast of the great road from Colonel Smith's to Charlotte, not far distant from said Smith's, thence to James Stafford's, and from thence to the mouth of Clear creek; and all that part of the county of Mecklenburg aforesaid lying west and south of said dividing line, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Mecklenburg; and all that part of the said county lying north and east of said line, shall be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Cabarrus.<sup>200</sup>

Part of Mecklenburg was annexed to Cabarrus in 1794.

... , That all that part of the county of Mecklenburg, which shall or may be included by a line beginning at Pickens's Ford on Clark's creek, running such a course and direction as to include the following persons, and the land whereon they live, *to wit*, John Wilson, Robert Hope, Zaccheus Wilson, John Sloan, Nathaniel Giles, and Doctor Charles Harris, from thence to the north east corner of Adam Meek's dwelling-house on the Cabarrus line, so as to include the said Adam Meek in Mecklenburg county, shall be added to the county of Cabarrus in as full and ample a manner as if the same had been included at the time of the division. . . .<sup>201</sup>

The boundary line between Montgomery and Cabarrus was authorized to be established in 1802.

... , beginning at Lord Carteret's line, six miles northeast from Captain Charles Hart's plantation on Buffalo creek, and to run from thence to the mouth of Clear Creek, which empties itself into Rocky river, below Captain Adam Alexander's. . . . *Provided*, that said line is run agreeable to an act for dividing the county of Anson and Mecklenburg, passed in year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-two, and the said line when run, adjusted and agreed on, is hereby declared the boundary and dividing line of the said counties.<sup>202</sup>

<sup>199</sup>*Laws, 1792, Ch. 21; 1794, Ch. 69; 1795, Ch. 58; 1806, Ch. 43; Manual, 1913, p. 525; Battle, p. 30; Cabarrus County Court Minutes, 1793-1797.*

<sup>200</sup>*Laws, 1792, Ch. 21.*

<sup>201</sup>*Laws, 1794, Ch. 27.* In 1803 the legislature authorized the survey of the line between Cabarrus and Montgomery, and a copy of the survey to be filed in each county.

<sup>202</sup>*Laws, 1802, Ch. 67.*

In 1803 an act was passed which authorized the survey of the line between Cabarrus and Montgomery, and a copy of the survey to be filed in each county. No description is given in the law.<sup>203</sup>

Part of Mecklenburg was annexed to Cabarrus in 1804.

... , the tract of land now owned and inhabited by Evan Shelby Wiley, a small part of which lies within the county of Mecklenburg, shall be considered as lying exclusively in the county of Cabarrus.<sup>204</sup>

The dividing line between Union and Cabarrus was authorized to be established in 1887.

Whereas, doubts have arisen concerning the location of the dividing line between the counties of Union and Cabarrus, and the citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the line are unable to determine where they shall exercise their rights of citizenship and pay their taxes;

That it shall be the duty of the commissioners of the counties of Union and Cabarrus . . . to appoint one commissioner or surveyor from their respective counties, which said commissioners or surveyors shall select a third man from a county other than Union or Cabarrus, . . . who shall proceed to locate the dividing line between the counties of Union and Cabarrus and shall mark the same by permanent monuments, . . .<sup>205</sup>

## CALDWELL

Caldwell was formed in 1841 from Burke and Wilkes. It was named in honor of Joseph Caldwell, the first president of the University of North Carolina. He strongly advocated a public school system and a railroad across the center of the State from Morehead City to Tennessee. It is in the west central section of the State and is bounded by Alexander, Catawba, Burke, Avery, Watauga, and Wilkes counties. The present area is 476 square miles and the population is 35,795. The court was ordered to be held at the store of George Powell near the house of George Smith, Jr., until a courthouse was erected. Commissioners were named to select a site as near the center of the county as possible, acquire land for a town, and erect a courthouse. Lenoir, named in honor of William Lenoir, is the county seat.<sup>206</sup>

... , beginning at Lovelady Ford, on the Catawba River, in the County of Burke, from thence to Corpening's Bridge, on Lower Creek, thence to John's River, at the upper end of the plantation of the late John Perkins, crossing the same, to and with the dividing ridge between Warrior Creek

<sup>203</sup>Laws, 1803, Ch. 77.

<sup>204</sup>Laws, 1804, Ch. 53.

<sup>205</sup>Public Laws, 1887, Ch. 255.

<sup>206</sup>Public Laws, 1840-41, Chs. 11, 12; Manual, 1913, p. 529; Battle, p. 33.

and Wilson's Creek, to the Yancy line, thence with said line to Ashe line, and with the Ashe line to the dividing Ridge between Buffalo and Elk Creek, thence with said ridge to the Yadkin River, at the mouth of Elk Creek, crossing the same to and with the dividing Ridge between Beaver Creek, and King's Creek, to the top of Brushy Mountain, at the Burke line, thence with said line to the corner of Iredell County, and with said line to the Catawba River, thence with the River to the beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Caldwell.<sup>207</sup>

Alexander was formed in 1847 from Iredell, Caldwell, and Wilkes.

. . . , beginning on the Wilkes and Iredell line, where the same crosses the Cove Gap Road, and running thence a Westerly or North Westerly direction, as the case may be, so as to strike the top of the main ridge of the Brushy Mountain, near James Robinett's, leaving the said Robinett's house on the south side of said line; thence with the main dividing ridge of said mountain to a point two miles east of Coxe's Knob, provided the said knob be found on the main ridge; if not, then to a point two miles east of a line, running the nearest and most direct course from the top of said knob to the top of the main ridge of Brushy Mountain; thence a direct line to the mouth of a branch on the main road near the Steel's Old Mill; thence a south westerly direction to a point on the Catawba River, one mile, in a direct line, below the mouth of Upper Little River; thence down the said Catawba River to Nimrod Pendergrasse's; thence a north east direction to the Ferry Road; thence with the Ferry Road to the Mountain Road; thence a direct line to the eleven mile post, on the Statesville Road; thence a direct course to Robert G. Martin's; thence direct to the Wilkes line, one and a half miles west of the widow Jane Redman's; thence with the said Wilkes and Iredell line to the beginning; . . .<sup>208</sup>

Watauga was formed in 1849 from Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell, and Yancey.

. . . , That a county be, and is hereby, laid off and established by the name of Watauga, to be composed of parts of the counties of Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell and Yancy, beginning at the State line in the Lemuel Wilson's plantation, and running with the State line in a Northern direction two miles; thence running as near as may be, in a direct line, (so as to leave Thomas Sutherland in the county of Ashe) to the top of the Big Bald mountain; thence to the mouth of Elk Creek, on the South fork of New river; thence down the river to the mouth of a creek that runs through Samuel Cooper's plantation; thence to the Deep Gap of the Blue Ridge; thence along the dividing ridge between the waters of Stoney fork and Lewis's fork waters of the Yadkin river, to where the road leading from Wilkesboro to the Deep Gap, crosses the top of the Laurel Spur; thence to Elk Creek at the Widow Hampton's; thence to the top of the White Rock Mountain; thence to the top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Springs; thence

<sup>207</sup>Public Laws, 1840-41, Ch. 11.

<sup>208</sup>Public Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 22. See appendix, p. 249, for the report of the commissioners who had the line between Alexander and Caldwell counties surveyed in 1848.

along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the top of the Grand mother mountain; thence with the line of Burke county to the corner of McDowell county; thence to the State line where it crosses the Yellow mountain; thence with the State line to the beginning.<sup>209</sup>

The boundary line between Wilkes and Caldwell was authorized to be changed in 1857.

... , That that portion of the boundary line between the counties of Wilkes and Caldwell from Day's Gap in the White Rock mountain to the Watauga line, be so altered, run and established as to leave the whole of Sampson's gap road in Caldwell county.<sup>210</sup>

The dividing line between Burke and Caldwell was authorized to be altered and changed in 1859.

... , That the dividing line between the counties of Burke and Caldwell be altered and changed in the following manner, to wit: from Corpening's bridge on lower creek, the line shall run with said creek to a point where the lands of Joseph Tipps and Jesse Harrison join, thence a north-eastwardly course to a large pine tree near the public road leading from the Horseford road to Sudderth's ferry, the said pine being now a line tree between said counties of Burke and Caldwell, thence with the line as established at the session of the General Assembly of 1840-'41, and that said line be so run as to include the dwelling house of Jesse Harris, within Caldwell county.<sup>211</sup>

Mitchell was formed in 1861 from Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, and McDowell.

... , That a county by the name of Mitchell shall be and same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke and McDowell counties with the following boundaries; beginning at the top of Grandfather mountain, thence with the top of the Blue Ridge to the Bear Wallow Gap, thence to the Three Knobs, thence to Big Crabtree creek, thence down said creek to Toe river, thence down said river to the Tennessee line; thence with the Tennessee line to Elk river, thence to place of beginning; and the said county of Mitchell, when it is laid off and established, shall be, and is hereby, invested with all the rights, privileges and immunities with the other counties of the State.<sup>212</sup>

An act amending an act to establish a new county by the name of Mitchell was passed in 1861.

... , That an act passed at the late session of the General Assembly, entitled an act to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Mitchell, be so amended as to run from the top of the Grand Father Mountain, with the old Watauga line, to the Blue Ridge; thence with the said Yancey line, and according to said act, around to the beginning.<sup>213</sup>

<sup>209</sup>Public Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 25.

<sup>210</sup>Private Laws, 1856-57, Ch. 48.

<sup>211</sup>Private Laws, 1858-59, Ch. 103.

<sup>212</sup>Private Laws, First Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 22.

<sup>213</sup>Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 8.

### Part of Caldwell was annexed to Watauga in 1871.

. . . ; beginning at the fairview on the Caldwell and Watauga turnpike road on the top of the Blue Ridge, thence a straight line to the top of the Grandfather mountain, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall form a part of Watauga county.<sup>214</sup>

The boundary line between Burke and Caldwell was authorized to be changed in 1885.

. . . : Beginning at the new line one mile below Corpening's bridge on Lower Creek, and running thence with the southwest boundary of W. C. Corpening's lands to the old line at or near Tuttle's Cross Roads.<sup>215</sup>

Avery County was formed in 1911 from Mitchell, Watauga, and Caldwell.

Beginning at the highest point of Grandfather Mountain, the corner of Watauga, Caldwell and Mitchell counties, and running a direct line to the Hanging Rock Mountain; thence with the dividing ridge to the Turnpike Road in the gap of Bower's Mountain; thence a direct course to the eastern prospect on the eastern end of Beech Mountain; then a direct course to the Buckeye Spring; then down and with the meanders of Buckeye Creek to Beech Creek; then with the meanders of Beech Creek to Watauga River; then with the meanders of the Watauga River to the Tennessee line; then with the Tennessee line to the Grassy Ridge Bald; then a direct line to Spear Top; then with the main height of Yellow Mountain to the highest point on Little Yellow Mountain; then a direct line to Pine Knob; then to the mouth of Gouge's Creek on Toe River; then south forty degrees east to Bald Ground on Humpback Mountain at the McDowell County line; then with the McDowell County line to the Burke County line; then with the Burke County line to the Caldwell County line; then with the Burke and Caldwell line to the highest point on Chestnut Mountain; then a direct course to Anthony Creek so as to include all of Carey's Flats; then to the beginning.<sup>216</sup>

The dividing line between Caldwell and Watauga was authorized to be run and established in 1921.

. . . , to run and establish a dividing line between the counties of Caldwell and Watauga, and as soon as may be practicable after the passage of this act.<sup>217</sup>

The dividing line between Caldwell and Watauga was authorized to be run and established in 1925.

The dividing line between the counties of Caldwell and Watauga shall hereafter be as follows:

Beginning at the top of White Rock Mountains and running thence to the top of Blue Ridge Mountains at the point nearest to the Yadkin Spring

<sup>214</sup>*Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 202.*

<sup>215</sup>*Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 193.*

<sup>216</sup>*Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 33.*

<sup>217</sup>*Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 75.* For a surveyor's report on this line, see appendix, p. 255.

and runs south forty-four degrees thirty minutes west, fifty feet to the center of the Lenoir and Blowing Rock highway, thence with the center of the said highway as follows; north forty-four degrees west two hundred and fifty feet; north forty-seven degrees west four hundred and twenty-two feet; north thirty-five degrees west one hundred and twenty-four feet; north sixty degrees west, one hundred and fifty-four feet; north seventy-two degrees thirty minutes west one hundred feet; north eighty degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; north seventy degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; south eighty degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; north seventy degrees west, one hundred feet; north forty-nine degrees west, two hundred and fifty feet; north seventy-two degrees west, one hundred feet; south seventy-four degrees west, two hundred and eighty-five feet; north seventy-one degrees west, one hundred feet; north forty-six degrees west, one hundred and fifteen feet; north sixty-six degrees west, one hundred feet; south fifty degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; south sixty-two degrees west, one hundred feet; south eighty-five degrees west, one hundred feet; north eighty-three degrees, west one hundred feet; south seventy-nine degrees and thirty minutes west, two hundred feet; north sixty-seven degrees west, one hundred fifty feet; north forty-nine degrees west, one hundred feet; north forty degrees and thirty minutes west one hundred and fifty-seven feet; to a point in said highway near the residence of Washington Clarke on the water divide of the Blue Ridge, from which point a twelve foot maple bears south seventy degrees and ten minutes west, thirty-five and six-tenths distant and a twelve foot Spanish oak bears south twenty-nine degrees and ten minutes west, twenty-two and four-tenths distant; thence with the top of said water divide of the Blue Ridge approximately as follows: south seventy-nine degrees no hundredths minutes west, eighty-eight feet to an iron stake; north sixty-eight degrees west one hundred and seventy-one and five-tenths feet to an iron stake, three feet from the northwest corner of an old building; north eighty-two degrees west, one hundred and seventy-one feet to an iron stake; north forty-three degrees west, two hundred and fifty-seven and five-tenths feet to an iron stake; north forty-seven degrees and thirty minutes west two hundred and one and seven-tenths feet to a point on a rock in the rear of Skyland Inn; north fifty degrees and thirty minutes west, one hundred and fifty-two and two-tenths feet to an iron stake; north sixty-three degrees and thirty minutes west, fifty-one feet to a stake, one and five-tenths feet from a small maple; north sixty degrees and thirty minutes west, eighty-four and eight-tenths feet to an iron stake; north seventy-five degrees and thirty minutes west, one hundred and ten and sixth-tenths feet to an iron stake; south eighty-nine degrees and thirty minutes west, two hundred and thirty-nine and four-tenths feet to a large rock near to the Weeden residence and near Grandview, thence a straight line to the top of Grand Father Mountain to the highest peak thereof, the lands of Everett Pitts shall be in Watauga County.<sup>218</sup>

<sup>218</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1925, Ch. 520.* See also "Report of County Line Survey between Caldwell and Watauga Counties, North Carolina. Surveyed by Samuel E. Howard, consulting Engineer, November 20, 1924 and January 23, 1925." On file in archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, from which the above is taken.



## CAMDEN

Camden was formed in 1777 from Pasquotank. It was named in honor of Charles Pratt, Earl of Camden, who was one of the staunchest friends of the Americans in the British Parliament. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by the state of Virginia, and Albemarle Sound, Pasquotank, Gates, and Currituck counties. The present area is 239 square miles and the population is 5,440. Camden Court House is the county seat.<sup>219</sup>

. . . That all that part of Pasquotank County lying on the North East side of the said River [Pasquotank River], and of a Line to be run from the Head of the said River a North West Course to the Virginia Line, shall be, and is hereby established a County, by the Name of Cambden.<sup>220</sup>

The dividing line between Currituck and Camden was authorized to be run in 1784.

. . . That the following shall hereafter be held and deemed the boundary line between the said counties, that is to say; Beginning at the head of North river where the same forks into two runs, thence a direct course to the middle of Lamb's toll-road or bridge, thence a direct course to the Virginia line, so as to divide that part of the Great Dismal Swamp, as nearly as may be between the said counties.<sup>221</sup>

The lines between Pasquotank and Perquimans and between Camden and Gates were ordered to be run in 1804. Because of the difficulty of establishing and marking the lines in the Dismal Swamp, they had not been previously marked.

. . . , beginning near the fork of Little River, and running northwardly to the south-west corner of a ridge, known by the Middle Ridge, then along the west side of said ridge, crossing Colonel John Hamilton's turnpike road, to the north-west corner thereof, thence a northwardly course to a ridge in the desert known by Colonel Jesse Eason's Ridge, then a north course to the line that divides this State from the State of Virginia.<sup>222</sup>

In 1909 an act was passed to define the boundary line between Pasquotank and Camden counties.

That the channel of Pasquotank River, from its mouth to its junction with the Dismal Swamp Canal, shall be the dividing line between Pasquotank and Camden counties; and the boundary line of Camden County, from the junction of the Dismal Swamp Canal and Pasquotank River to the Virginia line, shall be and remain it now is.<sup>223</sup>

<sup>219</sup>*S. R.*, XXIV, 26, 222, 472; *Manual*, 1913, p. 530; *Battle*, p. 28.

<sup>220</sup>*S. R.*, XXIV, 26.

<sup>221</sup>*S. R.*, XXIV, 647.

<sup>222</sup>*Laws*, 1804, Ch. 54.

<sup>223</sup>*Public Laws*, 1909, Ch. 610.

## CARTERET

Carteret was formed in 1722 from Craven. It was named in honor of Sir John Carteret, afterwards (1744) Earl of Granville, one of the Lords Proprietors. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean and Onslow, Jones, and Craven counties and on the banks by Hyde County. The present area is 532 square miles and the population is 18,284. Beaufort, established in 1723 and named in honor of Henry, Duke of Beaufort, is the county seat.<sup>224</sup>

Pursuant to a former order of Council for making Core sound a separate Precinct from Craven It is resolved that the said precinct be Called and distinguished by the name of Carteret precinct and that the bounds thereof shall be and include all the Lands lying on the said [Core] sound, Bogue sound and the rivers and Creeks running into them including all the Settlements to the Southward thereof untill there shall be a further division of other Countries or precincts.<sup>225</sup>

Part of Hatteras Banks adjoining Currituck, which was without the bounds of any county, was annexed to Carteret in 1770.

And whereas Part of Hatteras Banks, adjoining the Bounds of Currituck County, from the Place where Hatteras Inlet formerly was, and extending Westward to Oacock Inlet, is not included in any County within this Province; by which Means the Inhabitants thereof are not liable to pay Taxes, or perform any Public Duties whatsoever: For Remedy whereof, Be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Passing of this Act, all that Part of the said Banks from the Low Beach, which runs across the same to the Sea Side, and where Hatteras Inlet formerly was, extending Westward to Accomack Inlet, shall be forever hereafter annexed to the County of Carteret, and shall be held, taken, and deemed as Part of the same; . . .<sup>226</sup>

Part of Carteret was annexed to Jones in 1779.

. . . That all that part of the said County of Carteret beginning in Jones county line in the head of Black Swamp, thence running down the meanders of said Swamp to White Oak River, then up the various courses of said river to the head, thence a direct line to Jones county line, that all that part on the north side of said White Oak river and west of the aforesaid swamp shall, from and after the passing of this act, be held and deemed part of the county of Jones, . . .<sup>227</sup>

Part of Carteret was annexed to Jones in 1788.

. . . That all that part of Carteret county lying on the north side of White Oak river and on the West side of Hunter's creek, be and the same is hereby annexed to and made a part of Jones county. . .<sup>228</sup>

<sup>224</sup>C. R., II, 459; S. R., XXIII, 102; XXV, 206; *Manual*, 1913, p. 536; Battle, p. 13.

<sup>225</sup>C. R., II, 459.

<sup>226</sup>S. R., XXIII, 809.

<sup>227</sup>S. R., XXIV, 211.

<sup>228</sup>S. R., XXIV, 960.

In 1806 the boundary line between Carteret and Craven had not been sufficiently established by surveys, fixed or known boundaries. Therefore an act was passed authorizing the establishment of the said line.

. . . at or near Long or Turnagin Bay, near Neuse river, at such places as may be agreed on between the said commissioners, and shall run thence the middle of the open grounds between Carteret and Craven, such lines as may be agreed on between said commissioners unto, or near the marked lines at John Lovet's, and from thence by the best information, unto the head of Hunter's creek on White Oak river, and shall make, or cause to be made, returns of their proceedings to each of the courts of said counties, . . .<sup>229</sup>

The dividing lines between Carteret and Craven, having been insufficiently described and marked, were authorized to be established in 1809.

. . . , That the said commissioners . . . shall begin the dividing lines between the counties of Carteret and Craven, at or near Long, or Turn-again Bay, near Neuse River, at such place as may be agreed on by the said commissioners, and shall run thence the middle of the open ground between Carteret and Craven counties, or such lines as may be agreed on between the said commissioners, unto an old marked line at or near Richard Levett's old plantation on the road, and from thence, by the best information, unto the head of Hunter's Creek, on White Oak River; and shall make, or cause to be made, returns of their proceedings to each of the courts of the said counties, to be deposited with and recorded by the Register of each county. . . .<sup>230</sup>

Part of Carteret was annexed to Hyde in 1845.

. . . , That all that part of Carteret county lying north of Ocracoke Inlet, and running thence in a north-easterly direction to the Hyde county line, bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, and on the west by Pamlico Sound, commonly known as Ocracoke, be, and the same is hereby attached to, and made a part of, Hyde county.<sup>231</sup>

In 1883 an act was passed to establish and define the line between Carteret and Craven.

. . . : Beginning at the point where the dividing line between the counties of Carteret, Craven and Jones intersects on Hunter's creek, running eastwardly along the northern boundary of the Pocosin to the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, thence eastwardly a direct line to the head of Morton's mill pond, thence down said mill pond and creek to Chubfoot's creek, thence across Chubfoot's creek a direct line to the mouth of "Blue Billie's" creek, thence with "Blue Billie's" creek to the head of its northern prong, thence a northeast course to the turnpike, thence a direct line to the Mouth of Turnagain Bay.<sup>232</sup>

<sup>229</sup>Laws, 1806, Ch. 51.

<sup>230</sup>Laws, 1809, Ch. 42.

<sup>231</sup>Laws, 1844-45, Ch. 25.

<sup>232</sup>Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 409.

In 1885 an act was passed repealing the act of 1883 concerning the boundary line between Carteret and Craven.

That section one (1) of chapter four hundred and nine, laws of one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, be amended by striking out all after the word "beginning" and insert the following: "at the mouth of Adams' creek in Neuse river, running thence up said creek to Back creek; thence up said Back creek to the turnpike; thence westwardly to the point at which the Adams' creek road crosses Clubfoot and Harlowe canal; thence westwardly to the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad at a point three miles below Havelock station; thence westwardly to Hunter's creek, at a point one mile south of Great lake."<sup>233</sup>

## CASWELL

Caswell was formed in 1777 from Orange. The act was to become effective June 1, 1777. It was named in honor of Richard Caswell, member of the first Continental Congress, first governor of North Carolina after the Declaration of Independence, and Major General in the Revolutionary army. It is in the north central section of the State and is bounded by Person, Orange, Alamance, and Rockingham counties, and by the state of Virginia. The present area is 435 square miles and the population is 20,032. The act creating the county authorized the first court to be held at the home of Thomas Douglas; it also named commissioners to select a location and have the courthouse, prison, and stocks erected. In 1783 no courthouse had been erected as authorized, and therefore a law was passed authorizing the construction of the public buildings. In 1788 Leesburg was established "adjoining to where the Caswell Court House now stands." In 1791, when Person was formed, the court was ordered to be held at Joseph Smith's. Also, commissioners were named in the act to erect the courthouse as near the center of the county as possible. The courthouse at Leesburg was ordered sold by the commissioners of Caswell and Person. In 1829 an act was passed directing the justices to enlarge the public square, or buy some land elsewhere and erect a new courthouse. In 1833 Yanceyville was established at the courthouse. It was named in honor of Bartlett Yancey and is the county seat.<sup>234</sup>

. . . That from and after the First Day of June next, the Inhabitants of the County of Orange lying to the North of a Point Twelve Miles due North of Hillsborough, and bounded as follows, to-wit, Beginning at the aforesaid Point, running thence due East to Granville County Line, thence

<sup>233</sup>*Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 81.*

<sup>234</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 24, 161, 524, 992; Laws, 1791, Ch. 53, 72; Private Laws, 1829-30, Ch. 140; Private Laws, 1833-34, Ch. 167; Manual, 1913, p. 541.*

North along Granville County Line to the Virginia Line, thence West along the Virginia Line to Guilford County Line, thence South along Guilford County Line to a Point due West of the Beginning, thence due East to the Beginning, be erected into a distinct County by the Name of Caswell County.<sup>235</sup>

Person County was formed in 1791 from Caswell.

. . . that from and after the first day of February next, the county of Caswell shall be equally divided by a line already run, beginning on the Virginia line, and running from thence south to the line of Orange county.

. . . , That all that part of said county lying west of the line aforesaid, including the four western districts, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Caswell; and that all that part lying east of said line including the four eastern districts, shall be erected into another distinct county by the name of Person.<sup>236</sup>

## CATAWBA

Catawba was formed in 1842 from Lincoln. It was named for an Indian tribe which lived in that section of the State. It is in the west central section of the State and is bounded by Iredell, Lincoln, Burke, Caldwell, and Alexander counties. The present area is 406 square miles and the population is 51,653. The act establishing the county named commissioners to acquire land within two miles of the center of the county, lay out a town by the name of Newton, and erect a courthouse. Controversy developed over the location. Consequently in 1845 an act was passed authorizing the erecting of the courthouse in Newton.<sup>237</sup>

. . . beginning at a point on the Catawba river, and running west, so as to a pass within one mile and a half north of Lincolnton, to the Cleaveland County line, and thence with the dividing line between Cleaveland and Lincoln to the Burke line; thence with the line dividing Burke and Lincoln to the Catawba River; and thence with the meanderings of said river to the beginning—be, and the same is hereby erected into a new and separate County by the name of Catawba.<sup>238</sup>

Part of Catawba was annexed to Lincoln in 1847.

. . . that as much of the county of Catawba, as lies south of the following line, to wit: beginning at the Catawba river, and four miles due north of the present dividing line between Lincoln and Catawba counties, and running parallel with said line to the western boundary of said county, be, and the same is hereby annexed and made part of Lincoln county.<sup>239</sup>

<sup>235</sup>S. R., XXIV, 24.

<sup>236</sup>*Laws, 1791*, Ch. 53.

<sup>237</sup>*Public Laws, 1842-43*, Ch. 8; *Private Laws, 1844-45*, Ch. 20; *Manual, 1913*, p. 546.

<sup>238</sup>*Public Laws, 1842-43*, Ch. 8.

<sup>239</sup>*Public Laws, 1846-47*, Chs. 24, 25.

## CHATHAM

Chatham was formed in 1770 from Orange. The act was to become effective April 1, 1771. It was named in honor of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham who was a most eloquent defender of the American cause in the English Parliament during the Revolution. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Wake, Harnett, Lee, Moore, Randolph, Alamance, Orange, and Durham counties. The present area is 707 square miles and the population is 24,726. The act establishing the county provided for the courts to be held at the home of Stephen Poe. It also named commissioners to have a courthouse, prison, and stocks erected. In 1778 a town was established on the land formerly belonging to Ambrose Edwards where the courthouse was. This town was named Chatham. Chatham Court House was mentioned in correspondence, 1776-1782. In 1785 a law establishing Pittsboro on Miles Scurlock's land on which the courthouse stood was enacted. In 1787 an act was passed stating that the heirs of Scurlock would not allow a town to be established on their land. Therefore, the trustees of the town were advised to purchase land from William Petty adjoining the Scurlock tract and lay off a town. It was named Pittsboro in honor of William Pitt, the younger. In 1787 Pittsboro was made the county seat.<sup>240</sup>

... the Inhabitants of the County of Orange, lying to the South of a Point Sixteen Miles due South of Hillsborough, and bounded as follows, to-wit, Beginning at the aforesaid Point, running thence due West of Guilford County Line; thence South along Guilford County Line to Cumberland County Line; thence along Cumberland and Wake County Lines to a Point due East of the Beginning; thence due West to the Beginning; be erected into a Distinct County by the Name of Chatham County, and St. Bartholomew Parish.<sup>241</sup>

The dividing line between Chatham and Alamance was authorized to be settled and fixed in 1855. No description is given in the law.<sup>242</sup>

<sup>240</sup>This is one of the counties which was established during a session of the General Assembly which convened the last part of one year and extended into the next year. This particular session began December 5, 1770, and ended January 26, 1771. A bill to establish Chatham County was introduced on December 10, 1770, read the second time and passed on December 11, read the second time, amended and passed and sent to the council on December 19. In the upper house read the second time on January 7 and passed and on January 18 read the third time and passed and ordered to be engrossed. The bill did not, however, receive the governor's assent until January 26, 1771. *C. R.*, VIII, 295, 310, 315, 329, 341, 353, 367, 384, 405; *C. R.*, X, 469; *S. R.*, XI, 548; XIV, 504, 593; XV, 73, 411; XVI, 212; XXIII, 827; XXIV, 247, 774, 882; *Manual, 1913*, p. 548; Battle, p. 24.

<sup>241</sup>*S. R.*, XXIII, 827.

<sup>242</sup>*Private Laws, 1854-55*, Ch. 100



The act of 1855 to fix and settle the dividing line between Chatham and Alamance was repealed in 1857. No description is given in the law.<sup>243</sup>

The boundary line between Alamance and Chatham was authorized to be located and established in 1895.

. . . , commissioners to locate the county line between Alamance and Chatham counties according to the original survey of seventeen hundred and seventy, establishing the county of Chatham; . . .<sup>244</sup>

The dividing line between Alamance and Chatham was directed to be established in 1897.

That chapter 303 of the Laws of 1895, entitled "An Act to locate county lines between Alamance and Chatham counties" be and the same is hereby repealed.

. . . That the dividing line between Alamance and Chatham counties shall be and is hereby declared to be a line beginning at the old Natty Newlin place, which has always been recognized as being the dividing line of said counties, and running thence due west to the Randolph county line, and extending due east from the said Natty Newlin place to Haw river.<sup>245</sup>

Lee was formed in 1907 from Moore and Chatham, provided the act was ratified by citizens of the said territory.

. . . , Beginning at a point in the middle of Deep River opposite the mouth of Big Governor's creeks, thence up Big Governor's and Little Governor's creeks to the Gulf and Graham plank road; thence as the Gulf and Graham plank road to its intersection with the Carthage and Fayetteville plank road; thence as the Carthage and Fayetteville plank road to the Harnett County line; thence as the Harnett county line direct to the present corner of Moore and Chatham counties on the eastern bank of the Cape Fear River; thence as the Chatham County line to the middle of Cape Fear; thence up the middle of the Cape Fear and Deep River to the beginning. . . .<sup>246</sup>

## CHEROKEE

Cherokee was formed in 1839 from Macon. It was named in honor of the Indian tribe who still lived in the western part of the State. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the states of Georgia and Tennessee and Graham, Swain, Macon, and Clay counties. The present area is 467 square miles and the population is 18,813. The courts were ordered to be held at one of the houses at Fort Butler until a courthouse

<sup>243</sup>*Private Laws, 1856-57, Ch. 49.*

<sup>244</sup>*Public Laws, 1895, Ch. 303.* See appendix, p. 247, for a report of commissioners on this line.

<sup>245</sup>*Public Laws, 1897, Ch. 39.*

<sup>246</sup>*Public Laws, 1907, Ch. 624.*

could be erected. Fort Butler was in the town of Murphy. Murphy is the county seat.<sup>247</sup>

. . . : beginning at the junction of the Tennessee and Tuckaseegee Rivers; thence down the main channel of the Tennessee River to the State line of Tennessee; thence with said Tennessee line, to where it intersects the Georgia line; thence with the line dividing this State from Georgia, Eastwardly, to the Mountain dividing the waters of Hiwassee and Valley Rivers, from those of the Nantahala River; thence along with the highest summit, and the various courses of the said Mountain to the point of the beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Cherokee, . . .<sup>248</sup>

Clay was formed in 1861 from Cherokee.

. . . : beginning at the southeast corner of Cherokee county on the Georgia line, thence to run in a northern direction along the top of Chunkey Gal mountain with the Macon line, between Shooting creek and Nantahala river to the top of the highest mountain, between Fiar's creek, and Valley river; thence in a south-west direction along the top of the highest mountain, between Fiar's creek and peach tree to the Hiwassee river at the old missionary mill shoal, thence across the Hiwassee river, thence a southward direction so as to strike the point of the ridge that divides the waters of Little Brasstown creek and big Brasstown creek, then southward to the point of the ridge, thence along the highest point of the ridge between little Brasstown and pine log to the Georgia line, thence east with the Georgia line to the beginning.<sup>249</sup>

Graham was formed in 1872 from Cherokee.

. . . : Beginning at a stake at the mouth of Slick Rock creek on the lines of North Carolina and Tennessee, and running with said line to the top of Unacoe mountain, thence to the Laurel-top, thence with divide mountain between Beaver Dam, Hanging-Dog and Snowbird creeks, to the top of the Mountain between Snowbird Creek and Valley river and Checoe; thence east, with the meanders of the mountain to the top of the same, to the line of Cherokee and Macon counties, thence northward with that line to the bank of the Tennessee river, thence with the meanders of the bank of said river to the beginning; be and the same is hereby created into a separate and distinct county by the name of Graham, . . .<sup>250</sup>

The boundary line between Cherokee and Swain, near the residence of Jefferson George, was authorized to be changed in 1872.

That the county line between Cherokee and Swain, near the residence of Jefferson George, be changed as follows: Commencing on the top of the ridge above the meadows where the present line now runs west, and run due north to the top of the divide between the waters of the Handpole

<sup>247</sup>Laws, 1833-39, Chs. 10, 11; Manual, 1915, p. 554; Battle, p. 14; Arthur, p. 185 ff.

<sup>248</sup>Laws, 1833-39, Ch. 10.

<sup>249</sup>Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 6.

<sup>250</sup>Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 77.

branch and Ledbetter's creek, thence north to the top of the ridge to the county line.<sup>251</sup>

The boundary line between Clay and Cherokee was authorized to be established in 1883.

. . . the board of commissioners . . . , select one commissioner each to locate and establish the line between the counties of Clay and Cherokee, beginning on the top of the mountain between the Peach Tree creek, in Cherokee county, and Hiwassee river, in Clay county, on the old county line, and run westerly according to the original charter, to the top of the mountain between Little Brasstown and Pine Log creek.<sup>252</sup>

In 1885 the boundary line between Cherokee and Clay was authorized to be settled and located according to the true intent of the act creating the same.

. . . commissioners to settle and locate the line between the counties of Cherokee and Clay according to the true intent and meaning of the act creating the same, as follows: From the butt of the divide ridge between Fires creek and Peach Tree creek to the butt of the ridge between Big and Little Brass Town creeks.

. . . , to proceed to the end of the divide ridge between the waters of Fires creek and Peach Tree creek with a surveyor, to be chosen by them, who is capable to perform the duty whether he be a county surveyor of any county or not, and that the said commissioners or a majority of them, with the aid of the said surveyor, shall run and plainly mark a line, to be the line between the counties of Cherokee and Clay from the aforesaid place of beginning to the point of the divide ridge between the said Brass Town creeks; that the line shall be marked thus: all trees standing in the line shall be marked by three hacks on the side of approach and that of departure, and all side line trees shall be marked with three hacks facing to the line, that the line so run and marked shall hereafter be the county line between the said counties. . . .<sup>253</sup>

Part of Cherokee was annexed to Clay in 1891.

. . . : Beginning on Hiwassee river where the said dividing or boundary line crosses said river at or near the Mission Mill school and run down said river with its meanders to the mouth of Brasstown creek, then up said creek with its meanders to the point where the present county line crosses said creek at or above the mouth of Little Brasstown creek.

That all the territory lying south of Hiwassee river [and] east of Brasstown creek heretofore belonging to and forming a part of Cherokee county shall hereafter belong to and constitute a part of the county of Clay.<sup>254</sup>

An act changing the boundary line between Cherokee and Clay was passed in 1897. This act was to become effective when approved by the qualified voters in the territory concerned.

<sup>251</sup>Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 154.

<sup>252</sup>Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 196.

<sup>253</sup>Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 343.

<sup>254</sup>Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 418.

That chapter four hundred and eighteen (418), laws of 1891, be and the same are hereby repealed.

That the dividing or boundary line between the counties of Cherokee and Clay, as established under the provisions of chapter 343, laws of 1885, be and the same are hereby re-established and restored as the dividing line between said counties.

That all the territory taken from Cherokee county by chapter 418, laws of 1891, is hereby restored to said county, and shall hereafter belong to and constitute a part of said county of Cherokee.<sup>255</sup>

## CHOWAN

Chowan was formed in 1670 as a precinct in Albemarle County. It was named in honor of an Indian tribe, Chowanor, which lived in the northeastern part of the Colony. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Albemarle Sound, Chowan River, and Bertie, Hertford, Gates, and Perquimans counties. The present area is 180 square miles and the population is 11,572. In 1720, Edenton, which was named in honor of Governor Charles Eden, was established. In 1722 it was designated and has continued to be the county seat. There was no description of the precinct when it was established.<sup>256</sup>

Bertie was formed in 1722 from Chowan.

. . . That that part of Albemarle County lying on the West Side of Chowan River, being part of Chowan Precinct, bounded to the Northward by the line dividing this Government from Virginia, and the Southward by Albemarle Sound and Morattuck River, as far up as Welch's Creek, and then including both sides of said River, and the Branches thereof, as far as the limits of this government, . . .<sup>257</sup>

Tyrrell was formed in 1729 from Chowan, Bertie, Currituck, and Pasquotank.

. . . That that part of Albemarle County, lying on the South side of Albemarle Sound, and Moratuck River, being Part of [Chowan, Pasquotank, Bertie and Currituck] the several Precincts before mentioned, bounded to the Westward by Thomas Hoskin's upper Line, beginning at his upper Corner Tree, on Rainbow Banks, on Moratuck River, and by a Line running South from his outer Corner Tree, to the Southward by the bounds of Albemarle County, to the Eastward by the Sound, between Roanoke Island, and Croatan, and to the Northward by Albemarle Sound and Moratuck River, as high as the Rainbow Banks, in Moratuck River, . . .<sup>258</sup>

<sup>255</sup>*Public Laws, 1897, Ch. 362.*

<sup>256</sup>This is one of the four original precincts established when the Lords Proprietors agreed to the Fundamental Constitutions, *C. R.*, VI, 333; *S. R.*, XXIII, 12, 92, 95, 99; XXIV, 152; XXV, 168, 175; *Manual, 1913*, p. 555; *Battle*, p. 14.

<sup>257</sup>*S. R.*, XXIII, 100.

<sup>258</sup>*S. R.*, XXV, 212.

Hertford was formed in 1759 from Chowan, Bertie and Northampton.

. . . Beginning in Bertie County, at the first high Land on the North West Side of Mare Branch, on Chowan River Poccoson; running thence by a direct Line to Thomas Cutlaw's Plantation, near Stoney Creek; thence by a direct Line to Northampton County Line, at the Plantation whereon James Rutland formerly lived; then along Northampton County Line to the Head of Beaver Dam Swamp, thence by a direct line to the Easternmost Part of Kerby's Creek; thence down the Creek to Meherrin River; then up Meherrin River to the Virginia Line; then Easterly along the Virginia Line to Bennet's Creek; then down Bennet's Creek to Chowan River; then across the River to the Mouth of the said Mare Branch; and up the Branch to the Beginning: And all that Part of the said Counties included within the said Bounds be thenceforth erected into a distinct County and Parish, and called and known by the Name of Hertford County, and Parish of St. Barnabas.<sup>259</sup>

Gates was formed in 1779 from Chowan, Perquimans and Hertford.

. . . that all that part of Hertford County that lies on the North East side of Chowan River, and all that part of Chowan and Perquimons Counties, that lies on the North Side of Katherine, and Warwick Creeks, and bounded as follows, (that is to say) beginning at the Virginia line on Chowan River, thence down the said River to the mouth of Katherine Creek, thence up the said Creek, to the mouth of Warwick Creek, thence up said Creek to the Head, thence a direct line to the Head of the Indian Branch in Perquimons County, thence down said Branch to the Great Dismal Swamp, thence a North east Course to the Virginia line, thence Westwardly along said line to the beginning, and all that part of Hertford, Chowan, Perquimons Counties, included in said lines, shall be and is hereby Established a County by the name of Gates.<sup>260</sup>

The dividing line between Chowan, Perquimans, and Gates was authorized to be established in 1805.

. . . , That the said commissioners . . . shall begin the dividing line between the counties of Chowan and Perquimons, at such place on Yeopon river, above Elliot's mills, as they may think proper, due regard being had to the former reputed line, and shall run thence along the said reputed line to Sunday Ridge Road, and from the said road to the intersection of the line of Gates county, and thence along the said line, as far as it extends on the heads of Chowan and Perquimans counties, . . .<sup>261</sup>

In 1814 the act of 1805 establishing the boundary line between Perquimans, Chowan, and Gates was amended by naming a new commissioner, which indicated that the line had not been established at that date.<sup>262</sup>

<sup>259</sup>S. R., XXIII, 503.

<sup>260</sup>S. R., XXIV, 230. See appendix, p. 259, for a survey of a line made in 1773 between Chowan and Perquimans.

<sup>261</sup>Laws, 1805, Ch. 27.

<sup>262</sup>Laws, 1814, Ch. 83.

The dividing line between Chowan and Perquimans was authorized to be run and marked in 1819.

... commissioners to complete running and marking the dividing lines between the counties of Chowan and Perquimans, ... shall commence running at the bridge in the lane called James Hataway's Senr. and run a direct course to Caleb Goodwin's bridge in Bear swamp, from thence a direct course to where the crane pond crosses the sandy ridge road, thence up the sandy ridge road to where the Gates county line crosses the said road.<sup>263</sup>

In 1911 an act to establish the boundary line between Washington, Chowan, and Tyrrell was passed because the boundary line was indefinite and uncertain.

That the true boundary line between the counties of Chowan on the one side, and Washington and Tyrrell on the other side, is hereby declared to be the middle of the Albemarle Sound, a straight line parallel to the shores of said counties.<sup>264</sup>

## CLAY

Clay was formed in 1861 from Cherokee. It was named in honor of Henry Clay. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state of Georgia and Cherokee and Macon counties. The present area is 219 square miles and the population is 6,405. Commissioners were directed to hold their first meeting in the Methodist Church near Fort Hembree. Special commissioners were named to select a site for the courthouse and lay out a town by the name of Hayesville. Hayesville, named in honor of George W. Hayes, is the county seat.<sup>265</sup>

... : Beginning at the southeast corner of Cherokee county on the Georgia line, thence to run in a northern direction along the top of Chunkey Gal mountain with the Macon line, between Shooting creek and Nantahala river to the top of the highest mountain, between Fiar's creek, and Valley river; thence in a south-west direction along the top of the highest mountain, between Fiar's creek and peach tree to the Hiwassee river at the old missionary mill shoal, thence across the Hiwassee river, thence a southward direction so as to strike the point of the ridge that divides the waters of Little Brasstown creek and big Brasstown creek, then southward to the point of the ridge, thence along the highest point of the ridge between little Brasstown and pine log to the Georgia line, thence east with the Georgia line to the beginning.<sup>266</sup>

Part of Macon was annexed to Clay in 1872.

... Beginning on the line of Cherokee and Macon counties, on the top of the mountain dividing the waters of Fires creek and Choga creek and runs

<sup>263</sup>*Laws, 1819*, Ch. 123. For a report on the survey of this line see appendix, p. 259.

<sup>264</sup>*Public Laws, 1911*, Ch. 115.

<sup>265</sup>*Public Laws, 1860-61*, Chs. 6, 7; Arthur, p. 205; *Manual, 1813*, p. 561; Battle, p. 30.

<sup>266</sup>*Public Laws, 1860-61*, Ch. 6.



an easterly direction with a ridge dividing the waters of Clear creek and Choga creek to Nantahala river, thence up said river to the mouth of Buck's creek, thence with the ridge dividing the waters of Buck's creek and Nantahala river to the top of the Blue Ridge, thence an easterly direction with the top of said ridge to the Georgia line, thence west with said Georgia line to the corner of Clay county, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Clay county.<sup>267</sup>

An act supplemental to the act to annex a portion of Macon County to Clay County was passed in 1872.

. . . employ such assistance as may be necessary and run and mark the line between the counties of Macon and Clay, beginning on the line of Macon county, at the corner of Clay and Cherokee counties, on the top of the ridge dividing the waters of Choga and Fires creeks, and following the line as indicated in act ratified at the present session of the general assembly, annexing a portion of Macon county to Clay county.<sup>268</sup>

The boundary line between Clay and Cherokee was authorized to be established in 1883.

. . . the board of commissioners . . . , select one commissioner each to locate and establish the line between the counties of Clay and Cherokee, beginning on the top of the mountain between the Peach Tree creek, in Cherokee county, and Hiwassee river in Clay county, on the old county line, and run westerly according to the original charter, to the top of the mountain between Little Brasstown and Pine Log creek.<sup>269</sup>

The boundary line between Cherokee and Clay was authorized to be located in 1885.

. . . commissioners to settle and locate the line between the counties of Cherokee and Clay according to the true intent and meaning of the same, as follows: From the butt of the divide ridge between Fires creek and Peach Tree creek to the butt of the ridge between Big and Little Brass Town creeks.

. . . , to proceed to the end of the divide ridge between the waters of Fires creek and Peach Tree Creek with a surveyor, . . . shall run and plainly mark a line, to be the line between the counties of Cherokee and Clay from the aforesaid place of beginning to the point of the divide ridge between the said Brass Town creeks; that the line shall be marked thus: all trees standing in the line shall be marked by three hacks on the side of approach and that of departure, and that all side trees shall be marked with three hacks facing to the line, and that the line so run and marked shall hereafter be the county line between the said counties.<sup>270</sup>

Part of Cherokee was annexed to Clay in 1891.

. . . : Beginning on the Hiwassee river where the said dividing or boundary line crosses said river at or near the Mission Mill school and run

<sup>267</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 101.*

<sup>268</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 170.*

<sup>269</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 196.*

<sup>270</sup>*Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 343.*

down said river with its meanders to the mouth of Brasstown creek, then up said creek with its meanders to the point where the present county line crosses said creek at or above the mouth of Little Brasstown creek.

That all the territory lying south of Hiawassee river [and] east of Brasstown creek heretofore belonging to and forming a part of Cherokee county shall hereafter belong to and constitute a part of the county of Clay.<sup>271</sup>

An act changing the boundary line between Cherokee and Clay was passed in 1897. This act was to become effective when approved by the qualified voters in the territory concerned.

That chapter four hundred and eighteen (418), laws of 1891, be and the same are hereby repealed.

That the dividing or boundary line between the counties of Cherokee and Clay, as established under the provisions of chapter 343, laws of 1885, be and the same are hereby re-established and restored as the dividing line between said counties.

That all the territory taken from Cherokee county by chapter 418, laws of 1891, is hereby restored to said county, and shall hereafter belong to and constitute a part of said county of Cherokee.<sup>272</sup>

## CLEVELAND

Cleveland was formed in 1841 from Rutherford and Lincoln. It was named in honor of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, a noted partisan leader of the western Carolina frontier and one of the heroes at Kings Mountain. It is in the southwestern section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Rutherford, Burke, Lincoln, and Gaston counties. The present area is 466 square miles and the population is 58,055. The first court was ordered to be held at the home of William Weathers. At this court the justices were to obtain a place to hold future courts until a courthouse was erected. Commissioners were named to acquire land and lay out a town by the name of Shelby where the courthouse and jail were to be located. In 1887 an act was passed changing the spelling of Cleveland from "Cleveland county" to "Cleveland county." Shelby was incorporated in 1843 and is the county seat.<sup>273</sup>

. . . , beginning at a point in the South Carolina line, and running a North course so as to pass within fourteen miles, East of Rutherfordton, until it strikes the Burke County-line, thence with the dividing-line of Burke and Rutherford, to the Lincoln-line, thence to the thirteen mile-post, on the Lucas Ford Road, thence to the twelve mile-post, on the new Post-Road,

<sup>271</sup>*Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 418.*

<sup>272</sup>*Public Laws, 1897, Ch. 362.*

<sup>273</sup>*Public Laws, 1840-41, Chs. 9, 10; Private Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 33; Public Laws, 1887, Ch. 62; Manual, 1913, p. 562; Battle, p. 26.*

leading from Rutherford to Lincolnton, thence to the twelve mile-post, leading from Lincolnton to Qwinn's Ferry, thence to the twelve mile-post, leading from Morganton to Yorkville, South Carolina, thence with the Road passing Abernathy's Store, by the Gold Mine, at King's Mountain, to the South Carolina line, then with it to the beginning.<sup>274</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Cleveland in 1842.

... , That all that portion of Rutherford County lying between the Counties of Lincoln and Cleaveland, be ceded to, and made a part of the county of Cleaveland.<sup>275</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Cleveland in 1845.

... , commencing at a point on the South Carolina line, three miles west of where the Rutherford and Cleaveland line intersects said line, and running thence a direct course to the junction of Main and Second Broad Rivers; thence a direct course to a point on the dividing line between Rutherford and Cleaveland, two miles north of where Drury Dobbins now resides, be ceded to and made a part of the county of Cleaveland.<sup>276</sup>

Part of Gaston was annexed to Cleveland in 1915, provided the qualified voters approved the transfer.

... : Beginning at a stone on the county line road from Kings Mountain to Cherryville, the corner of number four and number five townships in Cleveland County, near Ebenezer Church, and running thence S. 67 E. 156.50 chains to a stone near James Payne's residence in Gaston County; thence S. 5 W. 444.00 chains to a stone on top of mountain; thence S. 10 W. 110.00 chains to a stone where the present county line between Gaston and Cleveland counties intersects the South Carolina line near John Wells's residence; thence N. 25 3/4 W. 315 chains to a stone near Mrs. Dovie Weir's residence in Cleveland County; thence N. 17 W. 125.50 chains to a post oak on south side of sand-clay road leading from Kings Mountain to Shelby; thence N. 24 E. 213.00 chains to the beginning; . . .<sup>277</sup>

Part of Gaston was annexed to Cleveland in 1917.

... : Beginning at a stone on the county-line road leading from Kings Mountain to Cherryville, the corner of Number Four and Number Five townships of Cleveland County near Ebenezer Church, and running thence S. 67 E. 156.50 chains to a stone near James Payne's residence in Gaston County, thence S. 5 W. 444.00 chains to a stone on top of mountain, thence S. 10 W. 110.00 chains to a stone where the former, or old, county line between Gaston and Cleveland counties intersected the South Carolina line near John Well's residence; and all that portion of the territory of Gaston county which was formerly between the above described line in Gaston

<sup>274</sup>Public Laws, 1840-41, Ch. 9.

<sup>275</sup>Public Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 7.

<sup>276</sup>Public Laws, 1844-45, Ch. 23.

<sup>277</sup>Public Laws, 1915, Ch. 203. This vote was 341 for and 270 against the transfer. Public Laws, 1917, Ch. 31. In 1890 commissioners were appointed to survey the Cleveland and Gaston line. For a report of the commissioners, see appendix, p. 263.

County and the old county line between the counties of Cleveland and Gaston is transferred to Cleveland County, and is hereby declared to belong to and be a part of Cleveland County.<sup>278</sup>

Part of Gaston was annexed to Cleveland in 1921.

. . . : Beginning at a stone, the corner of No. 4 and No. 5 townships in Cleveland County at Ebenezer Church, and running thence a straight line south 56 degrees 18 minutes east 9650 feet to west end of Southern Railway culvert east of L. A. Kiser's residence; then through culvert and down meanders of branch, to wit, south 71 degrees east 663 feet; south 47 1/4 degrees east 1,128 feet to an iron stake in branch at first poplar on west bank of branch, thence a straight line south 6 degrees 38 minutes W. 6,020 feet to an iron stake in north edge of King's Mountain and Dallas old Road, west of Sylvanus Mauney's residence and east of Sylvanus Weaver's residence; thence a straight line south 1/2 degree east 17,990 feet to an iron pin in rock, on top of first mountain southwest of the pinnacle of King's Mountain, with old pointers; thence a straight line south 9 degrees west 9,575 feet to an iron pin in the public road in the North and South Carolina line, the former corner between Gaston and Cleveland counties; and all that portion of the territory of Gaston County which was formerly between the above described line and the old county line between the counties of Cleveland and Gaston is declared to belong to and be a part of Cleveland County.<sup>279</sup>

## COLUMBUS

Columbus was formed in 1808 from Brunswick and Bladen. It was named in honor of the discoverer of the New World. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Robeson, Bladen, Pender, and Brunswick counties. The present area is 939 square miles and the population is 45,663. In 1810 Whitesville was laid out on James B. White's land and the public buildings were ordered to be erected there. Whitesville is the county seat.<sup>280</sup>

. . . , That all that part of Bladen County and Brunswick, beginning in the Wacamaw river, where the dividing line between North and South Carolina crosses the same, then up said river to the White Marsh Branch, then up the same to the western prong and to the head of it, then a direct line to the Rough Horn Branch or Swamp; then down Rough Horn to Drowning Creek, thence down the same to the State line, thence with the same to the beginning shall be and is hereby established into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Columbus.<sup>281</sup>

<sup>278</sup>*Public Laws, 1917, Ch. 31.* For the commissioners' report on surveying this line, see appendix, p. 265.

<sup>279</sup>*Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 71.* This act was passed because of a dispute which developed after the act of 1917 was passed. See p. 70.

<sup>280</sup>*Laws, 1808, Ch. 1.* This line was not run by 1810. Therefore an act was passed which stated that the Wacamaw River from the South Carolina line up should be the dividing line. *Laws, 1810, Chs. 47, 60; Manual, 1913, p. 564; Battle, p. 13.*

<sup>281</sup>*Laws, 1808, Ch. 1.*

### Part of Bladen was annexed to Columbus in 1809.

. . . , the boundary-line between the Counties of Bladen and Columbus, shall begin in the Brunswick line, two miles to the east of the Waggamaw Lake, and run thence a direct line to Slade Swamp, so as to include Henry Swindle's plantation, thence down Slade Swamp to the Brown Marsh Swamp, thence down the same to the Western Prong, thence up the same to the mouth of Green's Mill Branch, then up the said Branch to the head, and then a direct line to the mouth of the Horse-pen Branch at the Big Swamp, thence down the Big Swamp and Drowning Creek to the Columbus line. And the boundary as herein mentioned and described, shall be the dividing line between the said Counties of Bladen and Columbus.<sup>282</sup>

The dividing line between Brunswick and Columbus was authorized to be established in 1810.

. . . , That Waccamaw River, from the South-Carolina line up to the Stake, shall be considered as the true and established boundary between the said counties; and that the county courts of Brunswick and Columbus shall, together or separately, have the power and authority to order the said river, from bank to bank, cleared out, and to enforce the working thereupon on the inhabitants of their own counties respectively, whenever they, or either of them, think proper; . . .<sup>283</sup>

In 1811 the act of 1809, which added part of Bladen to Columbus, was amended by adding new commissioners to extend and mark the dividing line between the said counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>284</sup>

### Part of Brunswick was annexed to Columbus in 1811.

. . . , all that part of Brunswick county bounded as follows, to wit—Beginning at Waccamaw river, at the mouth of Juniper creek, on the Columbus line, and running up Juniper creek, to a swamp called Big Swamp, and up the Big Swamp to a branch called Clear Branch and up the Clear Branch to the head; thence a direct course to the Waccamaw river, at the mouth of a large creek, and thence join the Columbus line or river to the beginning—be, and the same is hereby annexed to the county of Columbus.<sup>285</sup>

In 1820 the boundary line between Bladen and Columbus was authorized to be extended and marked as before directed by law. No description is given in the law.<sup>286</sup>

### Part of Bladen was annexed to Columbus in 1821.

. . . , That all that part of the County of Bladen which lies south west of a line hereafter to be run, beginning on the Brunswick line where the Lake Road leading to Wilmington crosses, thence on the north side of said

<sup>282</sup>*Laws, 1809, Ch. 23.*

<sup>283</sup>*Laws, 1810, Ch. 47.*

<sup>284</sup>*Laws, 1811, Ch. 81.*

<sup>285</sup>*Laws, 1811, Ch. 80.*

<sup>286</sup>*Laws, 1820, Ch. 104.*

road to the drain of Buckhead Bay, thence a direct line to where the road leading from Manly Westbrook's to Gabriel Holmes's crosses Saspan drain, thence a direct line to where the line that divides Bladen and Columbus Counties is supposed to run, thence along said line to Samuel Swindol's plantation, and thence on the south west side of said plantation to the mouth of Slade Swamp, be, and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall hereafter form a part of Columbus County; and all that part of the county lying north east of the said line shall form a part of Bladen County.<sup>287</sup>

In 1827 the boundary line between Bladen and Columbus was again authorized to be run and marked. No description is given in the law.<sup>288</sup>

In 1832 the act concerning Bladen and Columbus boundary line which was passed in 1827 was repealed. No description is given in the law.<sup>289</sup>

Part of Brunswick was annexed to Columbus in 1877.

. . . commencing at the point where the counties of Bladen, Brunswick and Columbus now join; running thence with the said Bladen line to north-west Cape Fear river; thence down the said river to the point where Hood's Creek empties in the same; thence with the run of said creek up to its source in Little Green Swamp; thence a direct line to the source of Clear Branch and to the present Brunswick and Columbus line; thence with the line of said counties to the beginning; and all that portion of Brunswick county, embraced within the boundary above described, shall be, and is hereby transferred to, and constituted a part of the county of Columbus.<sup>290</sup>

The eastern boundary line between the counties of Brunswick and Columbus was authorized to be established in 1879.

. . . : Beginning at a point on Cape Fear river immediately below Fowl Foot plantation, the property of John M. Sikes; from thence an air-line to the head of Livingston creek; from thence a due south course to Clear Branch, in Green swamp; from thence with old line as now established.<sup>291</sup>

The dividing line between Bladen and Columbus was authorized to be changed in 1883.

That the dividing line between the counties of Bladen and Columbus be and the same is hereby changed as follows, to-wit; beginning at the point where the county line comes to the Whiteville and Wilmington public road, thence with the south edge of said road for a distance of two and one-half miles, thence across said road to its north edge, thence with Bladen county line as it now stands.<sup>292</sup>

<sup>287</sup>*Laws, 1821, Ch. 34.*

<sup>288</sup>*Private Laws, 1827, Ch. 88.*

<sup>289</sup>*Private Laws, 1832-33, Ch. 159.* In 1875 commissioners were appointed to establish the line between Columbus and Brunswick counties. For this report see appendix, p. 260.

<sup>290</sup>*Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 72.*

<sup>291</sup>*Public Laws, 1879, Ch. 159.*

<sup>292</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 251.*



An act was passed in 1915 which provided for locating and defining the boundary line between Columbus and Brunswick, as confusion had arisen because the line was inadequately established and marked, especially through Green Swamp. No description is given in the law.<sup>293</sup>

## CRAVEN

Craven was first called Archdale, the name being changed about 1712. It was named in honor of William, Lord Craven, one of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Carteret, Jones, Lenoir, Pitt, Beaufort, and Pamlico counties. The present area is 725 square miles, and the population is 31,298. The county seat was first called Chattawka, or Chattocka, and later, in 1723, Newbern. New Bern—the law fixed the spelling in 1897—is the county seat. There is no description of the precinct.<sup>294</sup>

Carteret was formed in 1722 from Craven.

Pursuant to a former order of Council for making Core sound a separate Precinct from Craven it is resolved that the said precinct be Called and distinguished by the name of Carteret precinct and that the bounds thereof shall be and include all the Lands lying on the said [Core] sound, Bogue sound and the rivers and Creeks running into them including all the Settlements to the Southward thereof untill there shall be a further division of other Countrys or precincts . . .<sup>295</sup>

<sup>293</sup>*Public Laws, 1915, Ch. 119.*

<sup>294</sup>*C. R., I, 910, 922, 933; II, 214, 459; III, 453; V, 86; VI, 333; Albemarle County Papers, I, 1678-1714; S. R., XXIII, 12; XXIV, 152; XXV, 204, 266; Manual, 1913, p. 467; Battle, p. 15. An act passed in 1711 redressing certain grievances listed Chowan, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Currituck, Pamlico, Wickham, and Archdale precincts. S. R., XXV, 155. An act of 1715 designating the voting places of the various precincts lists the following precincts: Beaufort, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Hyde, Pasquotank, and Perquimans. C. R., II, 214; S. R., XXIII, 12. Quoting from the digest of 1754 made before issuing instructions to Arthur Dobbs, "In 1705 Bath County was by an Order of a Council of the Proprietors Deputies divided into three Precincts by the names of Pamlico Wickham and Archdale each of which was by the said Order empowered to send two Members to the Assembly."*

"Some time after this the particular time not appearing the three aforementioned Counties were by succeeding Govrs appointed by the Proprietors erected into four Counties by the names of Beaufort Hyde, Craven Carteret each of which sent two Members to the Assembly . . ." *C. R., V, 86.* (Carteret was formed from Craven in 1722.) *C. R., II, 459.*

K. P. Battle, in his *The Names of the Counties of North Carolina*, p. 8, says that Beaufort was formed from Bath, having first been called Archdale. R. D. W. Connor, in his *North Carolina Manual, 1913*, makes the same statement. John B. Ashe and Nathaniel Rice, in a report made in 1732 to the governor relative to the powers to form new precincts, said, "... and again in the Governors Hyde and Eden's times were added Craven and Carteret precincts by the Governor and Council, and the names of Archdale and Wickham precincts were changed to those of Beaufort and Hyde. . . ." *C. R., III, 453.* By reading the descriptions of these precincts and consulting a map of North Carolina, it will be found that Archdale included the territory on Neuse River. It will also be found that Pamticough precinct was situated on the north side of Pamticough (Tar) River. By consulting also the map, *A New Description of Carolina*, sold by Tho. Basset (date about 1676) and the map, *Carolina*, by H. Moll, 1730, all of which are on file in the State Department of Archives and History, it is evident that Wickham was changed to Hyde, but Pamticough, and not Archdale, was changed to Beaufort. It is also evident that Archdale was changed to Craven. There are no available laws giving the dates of changing the names of these precincts. The records that are available merely say that Craven was formed about 1712, and that Archdale and Wickham were changed to Beaufort and Hyde about 1712. No mention is made of Pamticough. What became of it? If it was not changed to some other name, why is it not in existence today as a distinct county?

<sup>295</sup>*C. R., II, 459.*

New Hanover was formed in 1729 from Craven.

Whereas by an Act, entitled, An Act for regulating Vestries in this Government, and for the better inspecting Vestrymen and Church wardens' accompts of each and every Parish in this Government, it is Enacted, That the Southern Part of this Province shall be erected into a Precinct, by the name of New Hanover Precinct, and bounded to the Northward by the Haulover, and Little Inlet, and to the Southward by the Southermost Bounds of the Province; and as the Precinct of New Hanover is now become very populos, and the extent thereof being found too incommodious . . . We therefore pray. . .<sup>296</sup>

Johnston was formed in 1746 from Craven.

. . . a Line beginning at the Mouth of the Southwest Creek, on the South Side of Neuse River, below Francis Strenger's Ferry, running up the said Creek as far as the aforesaid County extends that Way, and running a North Line from the Mouth of the said Southwest Creek as far as the County extends Northwardly; and that the upper Part of the said County be erected into . . . Johnston County and St. Patrick's Parish, . . .<sup>297</sup>

Part of Beaufort was annexed to Craven in 1757.

. . . That that part of the said County of Beaufort, lying between Bay River and lower Broad Creek as aforesaid, be from henceforth deemed, held, and taken to be part of Craven County; . . .<sup>298</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Dobbs in 1764.

. . . and they or a Majority of them, are required and directed, within three Months after the passing of this Act, to run and Mark, or cause to be run and marked, a Line from the South West Bridge near James Cad-del's to Carnegy's Old Field, and Rattle Snake Branch; then a direct Line to William Randal's Mill, on Trent River; then to a Place where Abraham Bailey lately lived; and from thence South to the Bounds of Onslow County; and that all that Part of Craven County lying to the Westward of these Lines be annexed to Dobbs County; and the Inhabitants thereof shall be liable and subject to the same Duties, Taxes, and Impositions and intituled to the same Privileges, Benefits, and Advantages, as the other Inhabitants of the said County of Dobbs. . .<sup>299</sup>

Jones was formed in 1778 from Craven.

. . . the said County of Craven shall be divided into two distinct Counties, by a line beginning at that part of Carteret line, which lies directly South from the Head of Reedy Branch, running thence to the head of the said Branch, and so down the meanders of the same to Trent River, thence up Trent River to the mouth of Deep Gulley Branch, to Dover or Batchelor Desart, thence up Dover or Batchelor Desart to the plantation of Thomas Kent, thence a direct Course to the South West Bridge, at Dobbs county

<sup>296</sup>S. R., XXIII, 116, 119.

<sup>297</sup>S. R., XXIII, 248.

<sup>298</sup>S. R., XXIII, 480.

<sup>299</sup>S. R., XXIII, 680.

Line, and all that part of the said County of Craven which lies above or Westwardly of the said dividing line, shall be established a new and distinct County by the name of Jones.<sup>300</sup>

### Part of Craven was annexed to Pitt in 1787.

. . . all that part of the county of Craven included in the following bounds beginning at the Pitt line where Creeping Swamp intersects the same, thence down the run or middle of the said swamp to the run or middle of the Clay-root Swamp, thence down the run of the said Clay-root Swamp to the run of Swift's Creek Swamp, thence up the run of the same to Isaac Gardener's Ford, or path across the same, thence a direct line to the lower landing on Grindal Creek, which is in about half a mile of the said creek, thence down the said Grindal Creek to the river Neuse, thence up the meanders of the said river Neuse to the mouth of Great Contentney Creek, thence up the said creek to the mouth of Little Contentney Creek, then up the same to the line of the county of Pitt, be, and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall be and remain a part of the county of Pitt; . . .<sup>301</sup>

### Part of Craven was annexed to Lenoir in 1798.

. . . , That that part of the county of Craven lying within the following boundaries, be annexed to the county of Lenoir, to wit; Beginning on the river Neuse where the dividing line of the two counties crosses the same; thence running down the various courses of the river to the mouth of Stoneyton Creek, thence up the various courses of Stoneyton creek to where the dividing line between the two counties crosses the same; thence along the same to the beginning of the river Neuse; and that the above described part of the county of Craven be hereafter a part of the county of Lenoir.<sup>302</sup>

### Part of Craven was annexed to Greene in 1801.

. . . , all that part of the county of Craven lying in the fork of Great and Little Contentnea Creek, shall be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Greene to all intents and purposes whatsoever: . . .<sup>303</sup>

### Part of Beaufort was annexed to Craven in 1801.

. . . , all that part of Beaufort county that lies within the following bounds, viz. Beginning at the head of Jones's Bay, and running a direct line to Bay River Bridge, near Palmer's cabbins; thence down the meanders of said Bay River to Jones's Bay, thence with said bay to the beginning.<sup>304</sup>

### Part of Craven was annexed to Lenoir in 1804.

. . . , all that part of the county of Craven lying in the fork of Neuse river and Great Contentney creek shall be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Lenoir, and shall become a part of said county of Lenoir, to all intents and purposes, whatsoever: . . .<sup>305</sup>

<sup>300</sup>S. R., XXIV, 225.

<sup>301</sup>S. R., XXIV, 825.

<sup>302</sup>Laws, 1798, Ch. 89.

<sup>303</sup>Laws, 1801, Ch. 71.

<sup>304</sup>Laws, 1801, Ch. 72.

<sup>305</sup>Laws, 1804, Ch. 56.

In 1806 the boundary line between Carteret and Craven had not been sufficiently established by surveys, fixed or known boundaries. Therefore an act was passed authorizing the establishment of the said line.

... , at or near Long or Turnagin Bay, near Neuse River, at such places as may be agreed on between the said commissioners, and shall run thence the middle of the open grounds between Carteret and Craven, such lines as may be agreed on between said commissioner unto, or near the marked lines at John Lovet's, and from thence by the best information, unto the head of Hunter's creek on White Oak river, and shall make, or cause to be made, returns of their proceedings to each of the courts of said counties, . . .<sup>306</sup>

The dividing lines between Carteret and Craven, having been insufficiently described and marked, were authorized to be established in 1809.

... , That the said commissioners . . . shall begin the dividing lines between the counties of Carteret and Craven, at or near Long, or Turn-again Bay, near Neuse River, at such place as may be agreed on by the said commissioners, and shall run thence the middle of the open ground between Carteret and Craven counties, or such lines as may be agreed on between the said commissioners, unto an old marked line at or near Richard Lovet's old plantation on the road, and from thence, by the best information, unto the head of Hunter's Creek, on White Oak River; and shall make, or cause to be made, returns of their proceedings to each of the courts of the said counties, . . .<sup>307</sup>

In 1818 an act was passed authorizing the boundary line between Pitt and Craven to be run and marked, as the boundary line was not properly known. No description is given in the law.<sup>308</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Lenoir in 1819.

... That all that part of Craven county lying above Moseley's creek, be, and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall hereafter be considered as forming part of the county of Lenoir; . . .<sup>309</sup>

In 1851 an act was passed authorizing the running and marking of the boundary line between Craven and Beaufort because of the uncertainty of the location of the said line. No description is given in the law.<sup>310</sup>

<sup>306</sup>Laws, 1806, Ch. 51.

<sup>307</sup>Laws, 1809, Ch. 42.

<sup>308</sup>Laws, 1818, Ch. 136.

<sup>309</sup>Laws, 1819, Ch. 115.

<sup>310</sup>Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 46.

The dividing line between the counties of Beaufort and Craven was authorized to be established in 1852.

. . . the dividing line between said counties of Beaufort and Craven shall begin at the head of Jones' Bay at a cedar post, and run S. 83 deg. 39 min. W. to the head of Bay River at the bridge on the road leading from Durham's Creek to Goose Creek in Craven county, thence from said Bay River N. 47 deg. 48 min. W. to Flat Swamp Bridge on the road leading from Core Point to Gaskins' Ferry, thence from said Flat Swamp Bridge N. 57 deg. 29 min. W. to the run of Creeping Swamp on the Pitt county line. . . .<sup>311</sup>

Pamlico County was formed in 1872 from Craven and Beaufort.

That a county by the name of Pamlico shall be and the same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Craven and Beaufort counties, within the following bounds, to wit: Beginning at the mouth of South Creek, in the county of Beaufort, at Hickory Point, running thence up South Creek to the mouth of Bailey Creek, and up Bailey Creek to the head thereof, thence a west course to Durham's Creek, and up Durham's Creek to the head thereof, thence a direct line to the head waters of Deep Run and with Deep Run to Upper Broad Creek, in Craven county, and with Broad Creek to Neuse river, thence with Neuse river and Pamlico Sound to the mouth of Pamlico river, and thence up Pamlico river, so as to include Indian Island, to Hickory point, at the mouth of South Creek the beginning.<sup>312</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Pamlico County in 1875.

That the county line between Craven and Pamlico be so changed to make Broad Creek the dividing line from its mouth to the Beaufort County line.<sup>313</sup>

An act was passed in 1881 authorizing the dividing lines between Jones and Lenoir and Jones and Craven to be surveyed and established. No description is given in the law.<sup>314</sup>

In 1883 an act was passed to establish and define the line between Carteret and Craven.

. . . : Beginning at the point where the dividing lines between the counties of Carteret, Craven and Jones intersect on Hunter's creek, running eastwardly along the northern boundary of the Pocosin to the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, thence eastwardly a direct line to the head of Morton's mill pond, thence down said mill pond and creek to Chubfoot's creek, thence across Chubfoot's creek a direct line to the mouth of "Blue Billie's" creek, thence with the "Blue Billie's" creek to the head of its northern prong, thence a northeast course to the turnpike, thence a direct line to the mouth of Turnagain bay.<sup>315</sup>

<sup>311</sup>*Public Laws, 1852, Ch. 23.*

<sup>312</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 132.*

<sup>313</sup>*Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 182.*

<sup>314</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 61.* Commissioners were appointed in 1842 to mark the line between Jones and Craven. See appendix, p. 269, for this report.

<sup>315</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 409.*

In 1885 an act was passed repealing the act of 1883 concerning the boundary line between Carteret and Craven.

That section one (1) of chapter four hundred and nine, laws of one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, be amended by striking out all after the word "beginning," and insert the following: "at the mouth of Adams' creek in the Neuse river, running thence up said creek to Back creek; thence up said Back creek to the turnpike; thence westwardly to the point at which the Adams' creek road crosses Clubfoot and Harlowe canal; thence westwardly to the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad at a point three miles below Havelock station; thence westwardly to Hunter's creek, at a point one mile south of Great lake."<sup>316</sup>

## CUMBERLAND

Cumberland was formed in 1754 from Bladen. It was named in honor of William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, second son of King George II. Cumberland was the commander of the English Army at the Battle of Culloden, in which the Scotch Highlanders were so badly defeated in 1746. Many of them came to America, and their principal settlement was in Cumberland County. Cumberland was changed to Fayette County in early 1784, but the act was repealed at the next General Assembly, which met in November, 1784. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by Sampson, Bladen, Robeson, Hoke, Harnett, and Johnston counties. The present area is 661 square miles and its population is 59,320. The county seat was first called Cumberland Court House. In 1762 Campbelton was established at Cross Creek with provisions for the public buildings. In 1778 Cross Creek and Campbelton were joined and the courthouse was ordered to be erected in that part of the town known as Cross Creek. In 1783 Campbelton was changed to Fayetteville in honor of Lafayette. Fayetteville is the county seat.<sup>317</sup>



. . . beginning at the Mouth of Cross Creek, running a South-West Line to the Bounds of Bladen County, and North-East to the Line of Duplin County, thence along the dividing Lines of Duplin, Johnston, Orange and Anson Counties; so that all the Inhabitants in Bladen County to Northward of the Mouth of Cross Creek aforesaid, shall belong to Cumberland County, and the same shall, and is hereby declared and enacted to be a County and Parish, by the Name of Cumberland County and St. David's Parish. . .<sup>318</sup>

<sup>316</sup>*Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 81.*

<sup>317</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 592; XXIV, 180, 513, 644, 695, 703; XXV, 267, 470; Manual, 1913, p. 573; Battle, p. 21.*

<sup>318</sup>*S. R., XXV, 267.*



Part of Bladen was annexed to Cumberland in 1762.

. . . are hereby empowered and directed, to run an east line down to the river; beginning at the dividing line between Cumberland and Bladen, two hundred poles below the mouth of Cross-Creek, which line being so run, as above directed, shall be henceforth taken and deemed to be the dividing line between the counties of Cumberland and Bladen; . . .

. . . That so much of the said land being in Bladen county, as shall be judged necessary for establishing the said town [Campbelton], by the commissioners hereinbefore appointed, or the majority of them (provided the same do not exceed one hundred acres of land), is hereby annexed to and declared to be part of Cumberland county; . . .<sup>319</sup>

The boundary line between Cumberland and Bladen was authorized to be run in 1764.

. . . , the dividing Line between the Counties of Bladen and Cumberland, running North East and South West, is found to be inconvenient to the Inhabitants of both the said Counties.

II. . . . the dividing Line between the said Counties of Bladen and Cumberland, shall begin at the mouth of Rock Fish and shall run a due East Course to Black River, and from the Mouth of Rock Fish Creek, up the said Creek to Gravely Hill, and from thence a due West Course to Drowning Creek; and all the Lands to the Northward of the said Line shall from henceforth be deemed and held to be a Part of Cumberland County, and all the Lands to the Southward of the said Line shall be deemed and held to be a Part of Bladen County; . . .<sup>320</sup>

Wake was formed in 1770 from Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange.

. . . the said Counties of Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange, be divided by the following Lines; that is to say; Beginning at Edgecomb Line on Mocossin Swamp, a Mile above James Lea's Plantation, running a direct Line to Neuse River, at the upper End of John Beddingfield's Plantation; then to David Mimm's Mill Creek, between Mimm's Mill and Tanner's old Mill; then the same course continued to the Ridge which divides Cumberland and Johnston Counties; then a straight Line to Orange Line, at the lower End of Richard Hill's Plantation, on Buckhorn; then the same Course continued Five Miles; then to the Corner of Johnston County on Granville Line; then with the same Line and Bute Line to Edgecomb Line; and along Edgecomb Line to the Beginning; be thenceforth erected into a Distinct County and Parish by the name of Wake County, and St. Margaret's Parish.<sup>321</sup>

Moore County was formed in 1784 from Cumberland.

. . . beginning at Cole's bridge on Drowning creek, thence a direct line to the corner of Wake and Johnston counties in Cumberland line, and all that part of Cumberland lying to the north-west of the new line, shall be a separate and distinct county by the name of Moore County.

<sup>319</sup>S. R., XXV, 471.

<sup>320</sup>S. R., XXIII, 680.

<sup>321</sup>S. R., XXIII, 819.

... that the lower part of Cumberland county laying south east of said line, shall be a separate and distinct county, and known by the name of Fayette County.<sup>322</sup>

An act correcting the boundary line which divided Cumberland into Moore and Fayette was passed in November, 1784.

... that the line for dividing the county of Cumberland shall begin at Cole's bridge, on Drowning creek, thence a direct line to the Cumberland and Chatham line, on the south side of the river Cape Fear; and that Thomas Armstrong, William Seals and William Rand . . . appoint and agree with a surveyor for the purpose of running the said dividing line; and the said line when so run shall be held, deemed and taken to be the dividing line of the said county of Cumberland, and that the lower county continues and remain by the name of Cumberland county; . . . That all that part of the county lying to the northwest of the new line, shall be and continue by the name of Moore county.<sup>323</sup>

Fayette was formed in 1784 from Cumberland.

... beginning at Cole's bridge on Drowning creek, thence a direct line to the corner of Wake and Johnston counties in Cumberland line, and all that part of Cumberland lying to the north west of the new line, shall be a separate and distinct county by the name of Moore county.

... That the lower part of Cumberland county laying south east of said line, shall be a separate and distinct county, and known by the name of Fayette county.<sup>324</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Cumberland, 1789.

... , That all that part of Bladen county lying to the north west of a line beginning directly opposite to the mouth of Willis's creek, on the north-east side of Cape Fear river, thence a direct course to John Pharis's on South river, so as to include said Pharis's in Cumberland county, thence the same direction until it strikes the Sampson line; then beginning at the said first station opposite to said Willis's creek and running south seventy-five west to Robeson county line, be and is hereby annexed to the county of Cumberland, and from and after the passing of this act shall be and remain a part thereof.<sup>325</sup>

Part of Robeson was annexed to Cumberland, 1791.

... , Beginning at the mouth of the Colecamp branch, thence up said branch to the main road from Lumberton to Fayetteville, thence a direct line to the bridge across Great Rockfish, below Leggit's plantation, thence up said Rockfish to the line of Cumberland county, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall be and remain a part of the county of Cumberland. . . .<sup>326</sup>

<sup>322</sup>S. R., XXIV, 644.

<sup>323</sup>"Whereas by some mistake in describing the dividing line of the late county of Cumberland, it has been directed to be laid off in a different manner from what was intended; for remedy whereof. . . ." This act was to correct the description given above. S. R., XXIV, 703.

<sup>324</sup>S. R., XXIV, 644.

<sup>325</sup>S. R., XXV, 38.

<sup>326</sup>Laws, 1791, Ch. 39.

The boundary line between Bladen and Cumberland was authorized to be extended and marked in 1822. No description is given in the law.<sup>327</sup>

The dividing line between Sampson and Cumberland was indicated as the navigable part of Black River by an act passed in 1828.

. . . to appoint . . . commissioners for each county, to examine into the expediency and practicability of clearing out and rendering navigable that part of Black River . . . which is the dividing line between said counties, . . .<sup>328</sup>

A supplementary act to an act passed in 1828, concerning the dividing line between Sampson and Cumberland as marked by the navigable part of Black River, was passed in 1830.

. . . That the provisions of the afore said act shall extend to Bladen county, on said Black or South river, above Mallet's mills to Cumberland county line.<sup>329</sup>

Harnett was formed from Cumberland in 1855.

. . . : Beginning at the intersection of the lines of Johnston and Sampson counties, on Black Mingo; thence a direct line to the mouth of Lower Little river; thence up said river to the bridge at Elliott's mills; thence a straight line to the place on the Murchison road where Hector's creek crosses; thence with said line to road to the Moore county line; thence with said line to the Chatham county line; thence with that to the Wake county line; thence with that to the Johnston county line; thence with that to the beginning.<sup>330</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Cumberland in 1874, provided the qualified voters of the affected territory approved the change.

. . . : Beginning at the mouth of Willis Creek, where it empties into Cape Fear River, the present line; thence direct to James Melvin's mill on Peter's Creek; thence down the south bank of said creek to the point where it empties in South River; thence up said river with the present county line to the present intersecting point of Cumberland and Bladen counties; and all that portion of the county of Bladen, cut off by the line therein established, be and the same is hereby attached to and shall constitute a portion of the county of Cumberland.<sup>331</sup>

Hoke was formed in 1911 from Cumberland and Robeson.

Beginning at the southwest corner of Blue Springs Township, in Robeson County, on Lumber River, and running thence up said Lumber River, the same being the boundary line between the counties of Robeson and

<sup>327</sup>*Private Laws, 1822, Ch. 69.*

<sup>328</sup>*Private Laws, 1828-29, Ch. 64.*

<sup>329</sup>*Private Laws, 1829-30, Ch. 111.*

<sup>330</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 8.*

<sup>331</sup>*Public Laws, 1873-74, Ch. 131.*

Scotland, and continuing with the run of said Lumber River to the west corner of Cumberland County; thence north thirty-nine degrees east with the line dividing Cumberland and Moore counties to the Harnett County line; thence with the line of Cumberland and Harnett counties to the run of Hector's Creek; thence down the run of Hector's Creek to where it empties into Lower Little River; thence a direct line to the head of Little Rockfish Creek in Seventy-first Township, the same being a spring in A. B. McFadyen's field; thence down the run of Little Rockfish Creek to the central plank road, near the residence of D. A. Blue; thence a direct line to Black's Ford on Stewart's Creek; thence the various courses of Stewart's Creek to Big Rockfish Creek; thence a direct line southwesterly to the crossing of the public road at Graham's Mill on Mill prong of Big Raft Swamp, in Robeson County; thence a direct line, nearly west, to the beginning.<sup>332</sup>

## CURRITUCK

Currituck was formed in 1670 as a precinct in Albemarle County. It was named in honor of an Indian tribe. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean, Albemarle Sound, Camden County, and the state of Virginia. The present area is 273 square miles and the population is 6,709. Currituck Court House, mentioned as early as 1755, is the county seat. There is no description of this precinct.<sup>333</sup>

Tyrrell was formed in 1729 from Chowan, Bertie, Currituck, and Pasquotank.

That that part of Albemarle County, lying on the South-side of Albemarle Sound, and Moratuck River, being Part of [Chowan, Pasquotank, Bertie and Currituck] the several Precincts before mentioned, bounded to the Westward by Thomas Hoskin's upper Line, beginning at his upper Corner Tree, on Rainbow Banks, on Moratuck River, and by a Line running South from his outer Corner Tree, to the Southward by the Bounds of Albemarle County, to the Eastward by the Sound, between Roanoke Island, and Croatan, and to the Northward by Albemarle Sound and Moratuck River, as high as the Rainbow Banks, in Moratuck River, . . .<sup>334</sup>

Part of Currituck was annexed to Hyde in 1745.

. . . , That Mattamuskeet, and the Lake thereunto belonging, shall from henceforward be accounted, taken, reckoned and deemed Part of Hyde County; . . .<sup>335</sup>

Part of Hatteras Banks, adjoining Currituck, which was without the bounds of any county, was annexed to Carteret in 1770.

<sup>332</sup>Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 24.

<sup>333</sup>This is one of the four original precincts established when the Lords Proprietors agreed to the Fundamental Constitutions. C. R., V, 353; S. R., XXIII, 102, 747; XXIV, 871; XXV, 110.

<sup>334</sup>S. R., XXV, 212.

<sup>335</sup>S. R., XXIII, 232.

And whereas Part of Hatteras Banks, adjoining the Bounds of Currituck County, from the Place where Hatteras Inlet formerly was, and extending Westward to Oacock Inlet, is not included in any County within this Province; by which means the Inhabitants thereof are not liable to pay Taxes, or perform any Public Duties whatsoever: For Remedy whereof, Be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Passing of this Act, all that Part of the said Banks from the Low Beach, which runs across the same to the Sea Side, and where Hatteras Inlet formerly was, extending Westward to Accomack Inlet, shall be forever hereafter annexed to the County of Carteret, and shall be held, taken, and deemed as Part of the same; . . .<sup>336</sup>

The dividing line between Currituck and Camden was authorized to be run in 1784.

. . . That the following shall hereafter be held and deemed the boundary line between the said counties, that is to say; Beginning at the head of North river where the same forks into two runs, thence a direct course to the middle of Lamb's toll-road or bridge, thence a direct course to the Virginia line, so as to divide that part of the Great Dismal Swamp, as nearly as may be between the said counties.<sup>337</sup>

Part of Currituck was annexed to Hyde in 1823.

. . . , That all that part of Currituck county, which lies South of New Inlet, be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Hyde.<sup>338</sup>

Dare was formed in 1870 from Currituck, Tyrrell, and Hyde.

That a new county is hereby laid off and established, to be formed out of portions of Currituck and Tyrrel and Hyde counties, bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning in the north of Long Shoals river at a point on the north side of said river known as Rawls' Point, thence running up said river to the dividing line between the counties of Hyde and Tyrrel, thence running west said line to Alligator river, thence running the various courses of said river to its mouth, thence running a course across the Albemarle and Currituck sounds, so as to strike a point on the Currituck sound known as Long Point of Marsh, thence running a northeast by east course to the Atlantic ocean, thence running south along the sea beach to Hatteras inlet, thence running a direct course across the Pamlico sound to the place of beginning.<sup>339</sup>

An act amending the act to lay off and establish the county of Dare was passed in 1873.

That an act entitled an act to lay off and establish the county of Dare, passed by the Legislature of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine and one thousand eight hundred and seventy, be amended by striking out the words "as Long Point of Marsh, thence running northeast by east course to the Atlantic ocean" which occur in the eleventh and twelfth lines

<sup>336</sup>S. R., XXIII, 809.

<sup>337</sup>S. R., XXIV, 647.

<sup>338</sup>Laws, 1823, Ch. 43.

<sup>339</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 36.

of section first of said act, and insert the words, "known as southwest point of the Long Point of Marsh, thence about an east course to the southern boundary of a tract of land belonging to Moore and Griffith, at the head of Kitty-hawk Bay, thence along the said boundary line to the Atlantic ocean."<sup>340</sup>

## DARE

Dare was formed in 1870 from Currituck, Tyrrell, and Hyde. It was named in honor of Virginia Dare, the first child born of English parents in America. It is in the eastern section of the State, and is bounded by Pamlico, Croatan, and Albemarle sounds, Hyde and Tyrrell counties (and on the banks by the Atlantic Ocean). The present area is 388 square miles and the population is 6,041. Manteo, named in honor of an Indian chief, is the county seat.<sup>341</sup>

That a new county is hereby laid off and established, to be formed out of portions of Currituck and Tyrrel and Hyde counties, bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning in the north of Long Shoals river at a point on the north side of said river known as Rawls' Point, thence running up river to the dividing line between the counties of Hyde and Tyrrel, thence running west said line to Alligator river, thence running the various courses of said river to its mouth, thence running a course across the Albemarle and Currituck sounds, so as to strike a point on the Currituck sound known as Long Point of Marsh, thence running a northeast by east course to the Atlantic ocean, thence running south along the sea beach to Hatteras inlet, thence running a direct course across the Pamlico sound to the place of beginning.<sup>342</sup>

An act amending the act to lay off and establish the county of Dare was passed in 1873.

That an act entitled an act to lay off and establish the county of Dare, passed by the Legislature of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine and one thousand eight hundred and seventy, be amended by striking out the words "as Long Point of Marsh, thence running northeast by east course to the Atlantic ocean" which occur in the eleventh and twelfth lines of section first of said act, and insert the words, "known as southwest point of the Long Point of Marsh, thence about an east course to the southern boundary of a tract of land belonging to Moore and Griffith, at the head of Kitty-hawk Bay, thence along the said boundary line to the Atlantic ocean."<sup>343</sup>

## DAVIDSON, TENNESSEE

Davidson (now Tennessee) was formed in 1783 from Washington (now Tennessee). It was named in honor of General William Lea Davidson. This territory was ceded to the federal gov-

<sup>340</sup>Public Laws, 1872-73, Ch. 127.

<sup>341</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 36; Manual, 1913, p. 585.

<sup>342</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 36.

<sup>343</sup>Public Laws, 1872-73, Ch. 127.



ernment and accepted April 2, 1790. The act establishing Davidson made no provision for a place to hold court so far as the records show. However, section 3 of the law is not printed. In 1784 an act was passed establishing Nashville in honor of General Francis Nash who was killed at the battle of Germantown in 1777. The present area is 532 square miles and the population is 257,267. Nashville is the county seat.<sup>344</sup>

. . . that all that part of this State lying west of the Cumberland mountain and south of the Virginia line, beginning on the top of Cumberland mountain where the Virginia line crosses, extending westward along the said line to Tennessee River, thence up said river to the mouth of Duck River, then up Duck River to where the line of marked trees run by the commissioners for laying off land granted the Continental line of this State intersects said river (which said line is supposed to be in thirty-five degrees fifty minutes north latitude) thence east along said line to the top of Cumberland mountain, thence northwardly along said mountain to the beginning, shall after the passing of this Act be, and is hereby declared to be a distinct county by the name of Davidson.<sup>345</sup>

Sumner (now Tennessee) was formed in 1787 from Davidson (now Tennessee).

. . . beginning where the county line crosses the west fork of Stone's River, down the same to the junction with the main Stone's River, thence a direct line to the mouth of Drake's lick Creek, thence down Cumberland river to the mouth of Kaspus creek, thence up the said creek to the head of the Wartrace fork, thence a northwardly course to the Virginia line, at a point that will leave Red River, Old Station, one mile to the east; and all that part of Davidson that lies to the west of the said line, shall continue and remain in the county of Davison; and all that part of the said county of Davison that lies east of the said dividing line, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Sumner: . . .<sup>346</sup>

Tennessee (the name later given to the state of Tennessee) was formed in 1788 from Davidson.

. . . beginning on the Virginia line, running south along Sumner county to the dividing ridge between Cumberland river and Red river, then westwardly along the said ridge to the head of the main south branch of Sycamore creek, then down the said branch to the mouth thereof, then due south across Cumberland river to Davidson county line; and all that part of Davidson county that lies to the east of said line, shall continue and remain the county of Davidson; and all that part of the said county of Davidson that lies west of the said line, shall be erected into a county by the name of Tennessee. . .<sup>347</sup>

<sup>344</sup>S. R., XXIV, 540, 616; Austin P. Foster, *Counties of Tennessee*, p. 52 (hereafter this will be referred to as *Counties of Tennessee*); *Manual*, 1913, p. 586.

<sup>345</sup>S. R., XXIV, 540.

<sup>346</sup>S. R., XXIV, 826.

<sup>347</sup>S. R., XXIV, 973; John Trotwood Moore, editor, *Tennessee, The Volunteer State, 1769-1923*, I, 136.

## DAVIDSON

Davidson was formed in 1822 from Rowan. It was named in honor of General William Lea Davidson, a gallant soldier of the Revolution, who was killed at Cowan's Ford. When General Greene retreated across North Carolina before Cornwallis in 1781 he stationed troops under Davidson at Cowan's Ford on the Catawba River to delay the British army. The British attacked the Americans, killing General Davidson, and forced a passage. The United States government has erected a monument in his honor on Guilford Battle Ground. The county is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Randolph, Montgomery, Rowan, Davie, Forsyth, and Guilford counties. The present area is 548 square miles and the population is 53,377. Lexington is the county seat.<sup>348</sup>

. . . , That all that part of the county of Rowan lying north of the following line, to wit: beginning on the east bank of the Yadkin river, where the same is crossed by the Surry line; thence down the said river to the ferry of Thomas P. Ives; thence a straight line to a point at the end of ten miles, in a line running north, forty-five degrees east from the Court House, in Salisbury; thence to the mouth of Abbot's creek; and thence, down the river, to the Montgomery line, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Davidson, with all the rights, privileges and immunities of the other counties of this State.<sup>349</sup>

An act to amend the act establishing Davidson County in 1822 was passed in 1834. This act established the boundary line between Davidson and Rowan.

. . . , That the dividing line between the counties of Rowan and Davidson, beginning on the east bank of the Yadkin river, where the same is crossed by the Surry line, run as described in said act, to where it intersects Potts' Creek, thence down said creek to the Yadkin river, thence down said river to the Montgomery Line, anything in said law to the contrary notwithstanding; provided, that this act shall not take effect before the first day of January, eighteen hundred and thirty-six.<sup>350</sup>

An act to amend the act establishing Davidson in 1822 was passed in 1835. This act established the boundary line between Rowan and Davidson.

. . . , That the Yadkin river shall hereafter be the dividing line between the counties of Rowan and Davidson, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.<sup>351</sup>

<sup>348</sup>*Private Laws, 1822*, Chs. 47, 48; *Manual, 1913*, p. 587; *Battle*, p. 26.

<sup>349</sup>*Private Laws, 1822*, Ch. 47.

<sup>350</sup>*Private Laws, 1834*, Ch. 60.

<sup>351</sup>*Private Laws, 1835*, Ch. 83.

An act to empower the commissioners of Randolph and Davidson to establish the dividing line was passed in 1871.

Whereas, The dividing line between the counties of Randolph and Davidson is not sufficiently described in many places whereby it has become expedient, in order to prevent inconveniences and disputes between the inhabitants of said counties, that the said dividing line should be more accurately ascertained and laid off; . . .<sup>352</sup>

The act directed that it be established, but no description was given.

Part of Davidson was annexed to Forsyth County in 1889.

That from and after the ratification of this act, that all that portion of Davidson county lying north, north west and west of a line starting at a point known as the "plow-handle corner," as shown on the map hereto attached as part of this act, and running west twenty-three and one-half degrees, south three miles to a point on the Yadkin river at or below the mouth of Douthit's branch, shall be annexed to Forsyth county.<sup>353</sup>

Part of Davidson was annexed to Forsyth County in 1921.

That from and after its ratification of this act all of that portion of Abbotts Creek Township in Davidson County, lying northeast of a line which begins at the southeast corner of Broadbay Township in Forsyth County near the residence of Eli Reid, the same being also at an offset in Abbotts Creek Township in Davidson County, and running thence in a southeastwardly direction to that point in the Davidson and Guilford county lines where the south margin of the old plank road crosses the said Davidson and Guilford county lines, shall be annexed and become a part of Forsyth County.<sup>354</sup>

## DAVIE

Davie was formed in 1836 from Rowan. It was named in honor of William Richardson Davie, a distinguished Revolutionary soldier, a member of the Federal Convention of 1787, governor of North Carolina, special envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to France, and one of the founders of the University of North Carolina. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Davidson, Rowan, Iredell, Yadkin, and Forsyth counties. The present area is 264 square miles and the population is 14,909. In 1837 the court was ordered to be held at Mocksville. Mocksville, incorporated in 1839, is the county seat.<sup>355</sup>

. . . , beginning at the junction of the North and South Yadkin rivers; thence up the South Yadkin river, to the Iredell county line; and all that

<sup>352</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 10.*

<sup>353</sup>*Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 449.*

<sup>354</sup>*Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 80.* For a report of this survey see appendix, p. 249.

<sup>355</sup>*Laws, 1836-37, Chs. 4, 5; Private Laws, 1839, Ch. 66; Manual, 1913, p. 590; Battle, p. 27.*

part of the present county of Rowan, lying and being north of said river, shall hereafter constitute a separate and distinct county, to be called and known by the name of Davie, in honor of the revolutionary patriot, William R. Davie; . . .<sup>356</sup>

In 1925 an act to make certain and define the boundary line between Davie and Forsyth was passed.

That the Yadkin River be and the same is hereby made, fixed and designated as the true and correct boundary line between the counties of Davie and Forsyth.<sup>357</sup>

## DOBBS

Dobbs was formed in 1758 from Johnston. The act was to become effective April 10, 1759. It was named in honor of Arthur Dobbs, governor of North Carolina, 1754-1765. It was in the eastern section of the State and was abolished in 1791. The county seat was on Walnut Creek. In 1779 it was moved to Kingston (later changed to Kinston), which was established in 1762. Kinston is the county seat of Lenoir.<sup>358</sup>

. . . That from and after the Tenth Day of April next the said County be divided by the dividing Line between the Parish of St. Patrick and the Parish of St. Stephen; and that that part of the said County which is now the Parish of St. Stephen; remain, be called, and known by the name of Johnston; and that part of the said County which is the Parish of St. Patrick, be thenceforth erected into a distinct County, and be called and known by the Name of Dobbs.<sup>359</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Dobbs in 1764.

. . . and they or a Majority of them, are required and directed, within three Months after the passing of this Act, to run and Mark, or cause to be run and marked, a Line from the South West Bridge near James Cad-del's to Carnegy's Old Field, and Rattle Snake Branch; then a direct Line to William Randal's Mill, on Trent River; then to a Place where Abraham Bailey lately lived; and from thence South to the bounds of Onslow County; and that all that Part of Craven County lying to the Westward of those Lines be annexed to Dobbs County; and the Inhabitants thereof shall be liable and subject to the same Duties, Taxes, and Impositions and intitled to the same Privileges, Benefits, and Advantages, as the other Inhabitants of the said County of Dobbs.<sup>360</sup>

The dividing line between Pitt and Dobbs was authorized to be established in 1764.

. . . the said dividing Line between the Counties of Dobbs and Pitt; from Blount's Ford on Little Contentney Creek, to Luke White's, then up the

<sup>356</sup>*Laws, 1836-37, Ch. 4.*

<sup>357</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1925, Ch. 72.*

<sup>358</sup>*C. R., VI, 1233, 1276; S. R., XXIII, 495, 592; XXIV, 291, 613; XXV, 468; Laws, 1791, Ch. 47; Manual, 1913, p. 591; Battle, p. 22.*

<sup>359</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 495.*

<sup>360</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 630.*

middle Swamp to William Wilson's, and from thence to the Nearest part of Edgecombe County; which said Lines, when run by the Commissioners aforesaid or any two of them, shall be by them entered on Record in the Court of Each of the said Counties of Dobbs and Pitts, and shall thereafter be deemed and taken to be the dividing lines between the said Counties.<sup>361</sup>

Wayne was formed in 1779 from Dobbs.

. . . the said county of Dobbs be divided, and that William Caswell, Charles Markland, William McKinnie, Senior, Etheldred Ruffin, and Benjamin Cobb, or a majority of them be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners for running the dividing line, who are hereby directed to run the lines of the said county of Dobbs so that they ascertain the middle part of said county, which when discovered, they shall run a line a north and south course through the middle part of said county; and then all that part of said county which lies eastwardly of the dividing line, shall continue and remain a distinct county, by the name of Dobbs, and that all the other part shall be a distinct county, by the name of Wayne, . . .<sup>362</sup>

Part of Dobbs was annexed to Jones in 1788.

. . . That all that part of Dobbs county lying between the following lines, beginning at Dortche's Mill on Trent-river, running from thence a direct line to Widow Jerman's, and from thence to Duplin line, then with the same to Onslow line, then with Onslow line to where Dobbs and Jones line intersect the same; and that all that part of Dobbs between the said lines be, and the same is hereby added to and made part of Jones county. . .<sup>363</sup>

Glasgow and Lenoir were formed from Dobbs in 1791.

. . . , the said county of Dobbs be divided, by running a direct line from where the dividing line between the said county of Dobbs and Wayne county crosses Bear Creek to the head of Wheat swamp, a little above Richard Hodges's, then down said Wheat swamp, to William Killpatricks', and from thence a direct line to the Craven county line, opposite the mouth of Little Contentney; and that all that part of the late county of Dobbs, lying south and south-east of the said lines, be held and deemed a distinct county, by the name of Lenoir; and that all the remainder of the said late county of Dobbs, lying north and north-west of the aforesaid lines, be held and deemed a distinct county, by the name of Glasgow.<sup>364</sup>

## DUPLIN

Duplin was formed in 1750 from New Hanover. It was named in honor of George Henry Hay, Lord Duplin, an English nobleman. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Jones, Onslow, Pender, Sampson, Wayne, and Lenoir counties. The present area is 822 square miles and the population is 39,739. From 1755 to 1780 the county seat was called Duplin Court House, but the location was not specified. The county court min-

<sup>361</sup>S. R., XXIII, 629.

<sup>362</sup>S. R., XXIV, 290.

<sup>363</sup>S. R., XXIV, 958.

<sup>364</sup>Laws, 1791, Ch. 47.

utes merely say that the court was held at the court-house. In 1816 Kenansville was laid out on the public lands and a new courthouse ordered to be erected. On and after January, 1819, the court was held in the courthouse in Kenansville. Kenansville is the county seat.<sup>365</sup>

. . . That New-Hanover County be divided by a Line beginning at the Mouth of Rock-fish Creek, on the North-East River of Cape Fear, running East to Onslow County, and Westward, by a Straight Line from the Mouth of said Creek, to the Upper Forks of Black River, where Cohecry and Six Runs meet, thence Cohecry to the Head thereof; and that the Upper part of the said County be erected into a County by the name of Duplin County and St. Gabriel Parish: . . .<sup>366</sup>

Part of New Hanover was annexed to Duplin in 1751.

. . . And whereas the dividing line between New Hanover county and Duplin is circumscribed by Cohery, by which means a long narrow strip of land, between the said Cohery and Black River, still remains in New Hanover county, which renders it very inconvenient to the inhabitants dwelling thereon to attend the courts at Wilmington, by reason of its great distance therefrom: be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the line between the said counties shall be continued from the place where Cohery and the six runs meet, by a west course, until the same strikes Black river, and from thence the county of Duplin shall be bounded by Black river, up to the mouth of Black Minge creek, thence up the said creek to the bounds of the said county; any in the act for erecting the upper part of New Hanover county into a county and parish, by name of Duplin county, and St. Gabriel's parish, for the appointing place for building a court-house, prison and stocks, in the said county, concerning the bounds of the said county, to the contrary notwithstanding.<sup>367</sup>

The boundary line between New Hanover and Duplin was authorized to be run in 1766.

. . . That Rock Fish Creek shall be the Boundary, from the Mouth thereof to where Doctor's Creek branches from the same; then up Doctor's Creek one Mile above the House of Mr. George Maires; thence running a direct Line to the Corner made by Arthur McCoy on South River; and the said Line when run, shall forever after be deemed the Boundary Line between the said counties of New Hanover and Duplin.<sup>368</sup>

<sup>365</sup>C. R., V, 353; S. R., XIV, 837; XXII, 537; XXIII, 342, 779, 925; XXIV, 151; XXV, 246, 270; *Laws, 1816*, Ch. 134; *Manual, 1913*, p. 592; Battle, p. 20; Duplin County Court Minutes, 1800-34. A description of the courthouse is given in the county court minutes, January term, 1817. The caption of the law establishing Duplin County is dated March 17, 1749. S. R., XXIII, 342. The journals of the General Assembly, however, indicate a different date for the formation of the county. The General Assembly met March 28, 1750. C. R., IV, 1051. On April 2, 1750, "Mr. Sampson and Mclewin brought up a bill for erecting the upper part of New-Hanover County into a County, and Parish, by the name of \_\_\_\_\_ and Parish of \_\_\_\_\_ and for appointing a place for building a Court House. In the Lower House read the first time, and passed." C. R., IV, 1054. On April 3, 1750 the bill was read the second time and passed with amendments. C. R., IV, 1056. On April [4], 1750, the record reads as follows: "In the Lower House read the third time and passed. In this House read the third time and passed. Ordered to be engrossed." C. R., IV, 1057. On April 9, 1750, the governor gave his assent to "The Bill to divide the upper part of New-Hanover County, into a County and Parish &c." C. R., IV, 1064.

<sup>366</sup>S. R., XXIII, 342.

<sup>367</sup>S. R., XXV, 246.

<sup>368</sup>S. R., XXIII, 687.



Part of Duplin was annexed to Johnston in 1777.

. . . That all that Part of Duplin County above Dismal Creek be added to the County of Johnston, and that it be divided by said Creek, beginning at the Mouth of the Creek, Cumberland Line, thence running up the Meanders of said Creek an East Course to Johnston County line: . . . all that Part of Duplin County above said Creek be annexed to and made Part of the County of Johnston, . . .<sup>369</sup>

Sampson was formed in 1784 from Duplin.

. . . beginning on the line that divides Duplin from New Hanover county where the main road crosses Bultail, a branch of Rockfish creek; and running thence a straight line to the lower bridge on Stewart's creek, from thence a direct line to Goshen swamp at the mouth of Young's swamp, thence due-north to the Wayne line; and all that part of the said county of Duplin which lies west of the above line, shall be established into a separate and distinct county by the name of Sampson.<sup>370</sup>

The boundary line between Duplin and Wayne had not been established in 1806; therefore the legislature authorized the line to be established according to the acts which established the said counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>371</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Duplin and Onslow was authorized to be run and established in 1819.

WHEREAS considerable difficulty hath arisen . . . , in consequence of the dividing line between the said counties never having been ascertained, to remedy which, . . . commissioners to run and establish the dividing line between the counties of Duplin and Onslow, as soon as may be practicable after the passage of this act.

. . . the line so established . . . shall be the permanent line between the said counties of Duplin and Onslow, and shall govern all controversies that shall or may have arisen in either county concerning said line.<sup>372</sup>

The dividing line between Duplin and Lenoir was directed to be run and established in 1819.

. . . are hereby appointed commissioners for the purpose of running and establishing the dividing line between the counties aforesaid, . . . and when completed . . . two fair plats or representations of the said dividing line shall be by them made out, and returned to the Clerk's office of the respective counties aforesaid, and the same shall be entered on the records thereof; and the line so run and established, shall forever thereafter be considered the permanent dividing line between the said counties.<sup>373</sup>

In 1824 the legislature again authorized the dividing line between Duplin and Wayne to be established. No description is given in the law.<sup>374</sup>

<sup>369</sup>S. R., XXIV, 144.

<sup>370</sup>S. R., XXIV, 642.

<sup>371</sup>Laws, 1806, Ch. 52.

<sup>372</sup>Laws, 1819, Ch. 124.

<sup>373</sup>Private Laws, 1819, Ch. 126. In 1930 a report on this line was made by surveyors appointed for that purpose. See appendix, p. 260, for this report.

<sup>374</sup>Private Laws, 1824, Ch. 45.

In 1826 the line of Duplin and Wayne was again authorized to be run, as many disputes had arisen concerning its location. No description is given in the law.<sup>375</sup>

Because of the uncertainty of the existence of the true boundary between Duplin and Wayne counties an act was passed in 1831 authorizing the establishment of said line.

. . . That the said line shall commence at a pine stump near the house of John Elliot, it being the dividing corner between the counties of Sampson, Wayne and Duplin, and shall run thence south along the dividing line between said counties of Duplin and Sampson 300 poles; thence south eighty east 1540 poles to near the head of the pocoson branch, called Thunder Swamp; thence north 56 east 700 poles to a blazed black gum, on the run of the North East, just below the mouth of a Calf Pasture branch; thence down the meanders of the North East, south 60 east, about ten miles, to the mouth of Sandy Run branch, at Carrol's Point; thence up the Sandy Run branch as it meanders, north 45 east 320 poles, to a pine at the head of the same; thence a direct line to a pine, the corner of Wayne, Lenoir and Duplin counties.<sup>376</sup>

An act which provided for running and establishing the dividing line between Wayne and Duplin was passed in 1833. No description is given in the law.<sup>377</sup>

An act to change the dividing line between Duplin and Wayne counties was passed in 1883.

That the center of the waters of the North East River in its present course from where the dividing line of said counties enters said river near its source to a point below Goodson's bridge, where said dividing line leaves said bridge, be the dividing line between said counties of Duplin and Wayne.<sup>378</sup>

In 1915, an act was passed authorizing the line between Duplin and Onslow to be resurveyed, marked, and a copy filed with the clerks of the superior courts of these counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>379</sup>

The Legislature in 1921 again authorized the establishment of the dividing line between the counties of Duplin and Onslow because the previous acts had not been complied with. No description is given in the law.<sup>380</sup>

In 1923 an act was passed naming Nere E. Day one of the commissioners to survey between Duplin and Onslow and mark

<sup>375</sup>*Private Laws, 1826, Ch. 117.*

<sup>376</sup>*Private Laws, 1831-32, Ch. 101.*

<sup>377</sup>*Private Laws, 1833-34, Ch. 86.*

<sup>378</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 335.*

<sup>379</sup>*Public Laws, 1915, Ch. 106.*

<sup>380</sup>*Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 28.*

the line—Commissioner Frank Thompson having died before the completion of the survey.<sup>381</sup>

In 1924 an act was passed naming a new commissioner to survey and mark the dividing line between Duplin and Onslow and repealing the acts of 1921 and 1923. No description is given in the law.<sup>382</sup>

## DURHAM

Durham was formed in 1881 from Orange and Wake. It was named for the town of Durham which was named in honor of Dr. B. L. Durham who owned the land on which the railroad station was located. The building of the railroad station was the beginning of the town of Durham. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Wake, Chatham, Orange, Person, and Granville counties. The present area is 299 square miles and the population is 80,244. Durham, incorporated in 1866 as the Town of Durham in Orange County, is the county seat.<sup>383</sup>

. . . : Beginning at the north-east corner of Orange county, thence with the Orange and Person line north eighty-seven degrees, west, eight miles, to the corner of Mangum and Little River townships of Orange county; thence south ten degrees west, twenty-five and one-quarter miles, to the Chatham county line, at the corner of Patterson and Chapel Hill townships; thence with the Chatham county line south eighty-seven degrees east, seven miles, to the Wake county line; thence the same course four miles, to a point in Wake county in Cedar Fork township; thence a line parallel to the Wake and Orange line north fifteen degrees east, thirteen and one-half miles to the corner of New Light and Oak Grove townships; thence continuing the same course two and one-quarter miles, and following the dividing line between said townships to the Granville county line, at the corner of the aforesaid townships; thence with the Wake and the Granville line to their corner on Neuse river, in the Orange county line; thence with the Granville line about north nine and three-quarter miles to the beginning.<sup>384</sup>

Part of Wake was annexed to Durham in 1911.

. . . : Beginning on the Durham County line at the corner of Oak Grove and Cedar Fork townships in Wake County, continuing thence along the old line between said townships about two and three-quarter miles, more or less, to a point four hundred and forty yards east of the place where the said line crosses the Morrisville and Oxford road; thence in a north-easterly direction about four miles, running in the same direction as and about four hundred and forty yards east of the Morrisville and Oxford

<sup>381</sup>*Public Laws, 1923, Ch. 43.*

<sup>382</sup>*Public Laws, Extra Session, 1924, Chs. 17, 92.*

<sup>383</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 138; Private Laws, 1866-67, Ch. 25; Manual, 1913, p. 598.*

<sup>384</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 138.*

road, to a point in the line between Barton's Creek and Oak Grove townships in the county of Wake, four hundred and forty yards east of the Morrisville and Oxford road; thence north about four miles with the line between Bartons Creek and Oak Grove townships in Wake County to Neuse River, and thence up the meanderings of said Neuse River to the Durham County line.<sup>385</sup>

## EDGECOMBE

Edgecombe was formed in 1741 from Bertie. It was named in honor of Richard Edgecombe, who became Baron Edgecombe in 1742, an English nobleman and a lord of the Treasury. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Martin, Pitt, Wilson, Nash, and Halifax counties. The present area is 511 square miles and the population is 49,162. The first county seat was Edgecombe Court House. Tarboro was established in 1760. It was made the county seat in 1764.<sup>386</sup>

. . . Beginning on Roanoke River, at Jenkin Henry's Upper Corner Tree, from thence a straight Course to the Mouth of Cheek's Mill Creek, on Tar River; and from the Southside of the said River, opposite to the said Creek, a straight line unto the Middle grounds, between Tar and Neuse rivers; which shall be the dividing line between Beaufort and Edgecombe, and Craven Counties; and from thence up as nigh as may be, keeping

<sup>385</sup>*Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 47. For a survey of the line between Durham and Wake made in 1914, see appendix, p. 264.*

<sup>386</sup>*C. R., V. 1211; S. R., XXIII, 253, 347; XXIV, 176; XXV, 451, 483; Manual, 1913, 599; Battle, p. 20. There is a disagreement among historians as to the date of the formation of Edgecombe County. J. H. Wheeler states that it was formed from Craven County in 1733; S. A. Ashe gives the date of formation of Edgecombe Precinct as 1732; and the North Carolina Manual, 1913, says Edgecombe County was formed in 1735 from Bertie County. It was formed from Bertie, but the undisputed existence of the county dates from 1741. On May 16, 1732, Governor Burrington, with the consent of his council, granted the petition of the people on the south side of Roanoke, Fishing Creek and places adjacent for the erection of a new precinct. He ordered the establishment of Edgecombe Precinct, with boundaries "from the County line on the South side of Roanoke River and from thence down South side of said River to the mouth of Conocoanaro from thence in a Straight Line down to Blounts old Town on Tarr River observing the Courses of said Line to Neuse River and from thence to the North East Branch of Cape Fear River . . ." He appointed twelve justices of the peace and ordered a precinct court to be held in August, November, February, and May of each year. *C. R., III, 417. In November of the same year, Burrington granted a petition for annexation to Edgecombe from the inhabitants of the region south of the Roanoke River "from Hoskins Line at the Rainbow Banks upon a Straight line to Blounts old Town on Tarr River and so up Roak River to the Line of Edgecombe . . ." C. R., III, 425. Nathaniel Rice and John Baptista Ashe, two members of the Council, protested in the Council and to the Lords of Trade against the power of the governor and council to erect new precincts. Their contention was that the General Assembly as the representatives of the people should share this power. Burrington answered their objections, contending that his action was in line with past practice. C. R., III, 439-457.**

The General Assembly of July, 1733, refused to seat the representatives from Edgecombe Precinct and accepted the report of a special committee that no new precincts should be created without the consent of the General Assembly and that the representatives of the new precincts be not admitted. As a result of a conference with the Council, Edgecombe was granted permission to send members to the next General Assembly. *C. R., III, 545, 562, 574-576, 581, 583. In the General Assemblies of November, 1733, November, 1734, and January, 1735, Edgecombe precinct was represented. C. R., III, 612, 635; IV, 115. There is no record of its official representation from 1735 until after it was established as a county in 1741.*

In the General Assembly of 1734, a bill to establish Edgecombe precinct, supported by a petition of the inhabitants, passed two readings, but was not enacted into a law. *C. R., III, 640-642. In 1735, a bill passed the General Assembly but was tabled and later rejected by the Upper House. The contest and deadlock continued until 1741, when a law was passed establishing Edgecombe County for the convenience of the inhabitants of that region "who are very numerous (and) labour under great Hardships, for want of Representation in the General Assembly of this Province." C. R., IV, 130, 232, 239, 363, 498, 513; J. K. Turner and J. L. Bridgers, *History of Edgecombe County, North Carolina*, 19-26.*

the Middle between the said two Rivers, which shall be the dividing Line between the Counties of Craven and Edgecomb, and Beaufort; . . .<sup>387</sup>

The boundary line between Tyrrell and Beaufort and between Tyrrell and Edgecombe was authorized to be established in 1741.

. . . shall begin at the upper Corner Tree of Jenkin Henry's Line, on the South Side of Roanoke River, and from thence, run a direct Line to the Mouth of Cheek's Mill Creek, on Tar River; and the said Commissioners, as soon as the said Line is finished, shall, under their Hands return the Courses, thereof into each of the Courts of the aforesaid Counties, which shall be recorded by the Clerks of the said several Courts; and the said line so run, shall for ever after, be deemed the Boundary Line between Tyrrell and Edgecomb Counties, and between Edgecomb and Beaufort Counties, from Tyrrell County as far as Tar River.

111. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, that the Flat Swamp which, heretofore, was the Boundary of Albemarle and Bath Counties shall, to the Head of the said Swamp, and from the Head thereof, by a direct Line between Tyrrell and Edgecomb Counties, forever, be the Boundary Line between Tyrrell and Beaufort Counties.<sup>388</sup>

Granville was formed in 1746 from Edgecombe.

. . . A Line beginning at the Mouth of Stonehouse Creek, on Roanoke River, to the Mouth of Cypress Swamp, on Tar River, and from Thence across the River, in a direct Course, to the Middle Grounds between Tar River and the Neuse River, being the dividing Line between Craven and Edgecomb Counties; and that the upper Part of the said County and Parish, as divided by the Line . . . be erected into . . . Granville county and St. John's Parish: . . .<sup>389</sup>

The boundary line between Tyrrell and Beaufort and between Tyrrell and Edgecombe was authorized to be established in 1748.

. . . for finishing the said Line between Part of Edgecomb, Beaufort, and Johnston Counties, already begun and carried on, to the Mouth of Cheek's Mill Creek, in Beaufort County, on Tar River, and from thence shall run, with a straight Line to Contentnee, at the Mouth of Tosneat Swamp, and thence up the main Stream of Contentnee, opposite the Mouth of Cypress Swamp, on Tar River; which said Line, when run by the Commissioners aforesaid, shall be by them entered on Record, in the Court of Edgecomb County aforesaid, and shall hereafter be deemed and taken to be the true bounds of the said County.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Clause and Clauses of the Act, intituled, An Act for ascertaining the boundary Line between Tyrrell County, and Beaufort County, and between Edgecomb County, Tyrrell County, and Beaufort County, so far as relates to running the Boundary Line between Edgecomb County, and Beaufort County, is and are hereby repealed and made void, as if the same had never been made.<sup>390</sup>

<sup>387</sup>S. R., XXIII, 164.

<sup>388</sup>S. R., XXIII, 168.

<sup>389</sup>S. R., XXIII, 249.

<sup>390</sup>S. R., XXIII, 287.

Halifax was formed in 1758 from Edgecombe.

... That from and immediately after the First Day of January next ensuing, the said County of Edgecomb be divided, by the dividing Line between the Parish of Edgecomb and the Parish of St. Mary; and that that Part of the said County which is now the Parish of St. Mary, remain, be called, and known by the name of Edgecomb County; and that that Part of the said County which is now the Parish of Edgecomb, be thence forth erected into one distinct County, and called and known by the Name of Halifax.<sup>391</sup>

Nash was formed in 1777 from Edgecombe.

... Edgecombe be divided by a line beginning at the cool Springs, at John Powell's on Fishing Creek, thence running to the Falls of Tar River, from thence to the Widow Rose's on Contentney; and that all that Part of the late County of Edgecombe which lies to the East of the said dividing line, which shall continue and remain a distinct County, by the name of Edgecombe; and that all that other Part of the said County of Edgecombe which lies West of the said dividing Line, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct County, by the Name of Nash County. . . .<sup>392</sup>

Part of Halifax was annexed to Edgecombe in 1779.

... all that part of Halifax County lying below a Line beginning at John Wall's and Drewry Crokers dividing Corner Tree on Fishing Creek, then along said Wall's Line to the back Corner, thence a Direct Line as near as may be to the Fork of the Marsh Swamp at or near Matthew Parker's then down said Swamp to Deep Creek and across said Creek to the Mouth of the Indian Branch, then the Various Courses of said Branch to the Martin County Line shall be held and deemed part of the County of Edgecombe, . . .<sup>393</sup>

In 1784 the line between Martin and Edgecombe and between Martin and Pitt was authorized to be run with the following descriptions:

... commissioners, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered as soon as may be after the passing of this Act to extend the dividing line between the counties aforesaid, beginning in the old line that formerly divided Edgecombe and Halifax at or near Benjamin Cotton's running thence a direct course to the line that divides Martin and Pitt counties at or near Charles Council's.<sup>394</sup>

Part of Martin was annexed to Edgecombe in 1793.

... That all that part of the county of Martin south-west of the line beginning where the line dividing Edgecomb and Halifax strikes Martin, running thence a straight course to the Wolf-Pond near the Indian-Branch,

<sup>391</sup>S. R., XXIII, 496.

<sup>392</sup>S. R., XXIV, 139.

<sup>393</sup>S. R., XXIV, 249.

<sup>394</sup>S. R., XXIV, 647. In 1894 the lines between Martin and Pitt and between Edgecombe and Pitt were authorized to be run. For a report of these lines, see appendix, p. 270.



thence to the great Cypress-Pond on William's thick, from thence to Thomas Taylor's as straight as may be so as to include Micajah May's, from thence due south to Pitt county line, be added to the county of Edgecomb; . . .<sup>395</sup>

Part of Pitt was annexed to Edgecombe in 1801.

. . . , all that part of Pitt county, bounded as follows, shall be added to the county of Edgecomb: Beginning where Edgecomb county-line crosses Coneto Creek, near Samuel Crisp's; then down said creek to Christopher Harrod's plantation; then nearly west to Edgecomb county-line, so as to include James Summerlin; and all that part North of said line shall hereafter be part of the county of Edgecomb, . . .<sup>396</sup>

Wilson was formed in 1855 from Edgecombe, Nash, Johnston, and Wayne.

. . . : Beginning at a lightwood stake in the Pitt county line; thence a direct line to Pender's hill; thence a direct line to Town creek, at the mouth of Col. David Williams's mill branch; thence up said mill branch to the mill; thence a direct line by William Adam's, sen'r., to the Nash line; thence a straight line to Turkey creek bridge, near the Pridgen old place; thence with the road to Mocasín creek bridge; thence down the said creek to the junction of Mocasín and Turkey creeks; thence a direct line to the Red Hill, (Henry Horn's old place); thence a direct line to the Wayne county line, at the Juniper swamp; thence the Wayne and Johnston line north, to a point in a direct line from the Red Hill to Ruffin's bridge; thence a direct line to Ruffin's bridge, diverging north at the house of Jacob Hooks, so as to leave the dwelling house of said Hooks in the county of Wayne; thence from said Ruffin's bridge down Contentnea creek to the Greene county line; thence the Green county line to the beginning; . . .<sup>397</sup>

Part of Edgecombe was annexed to Nash in 1871.

. . . , That all that portion of Edgecombe county (west of Wilmington and Weldon railroad) and between the Halifax and Wilson lines, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Nash county; . . .<sup>398</sup>

Part of Edgecombe was annexed to Wilson in 1883.

That the line between the counties of Wilson and Edgecombe shall be as follows: commencing at the Rake Straw place, thence running north in a straight line to the bridge on Williamston branch, on the road leading from Upper Town Creek church to Temperance Hall church, thence up said branch to the head of same, thence northwest a straight line to the Sharpsburg road, near E. G. Hales, thence down said road to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, thence down the said Wilmington and Weldon Railroad to the Wilson county line.

<sup>395</sup> *Laws, 1793, Ch. 32.*

<sup>396</sup> *Laws, 1801, Ch. 68.*

<sup>397</sup> *Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 12.*

<sup>398</sup> *Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 171.*

Sec. 2. That the portion of said territory on the north side of Town creek shall be annexed to Toisnot township, in Wilson county, and that portion on the south side of said creek shall be annexed to Gardner's township, in Wilson county.<sup>399</sup>

## FAYETTE

Fayette was formed in 1784 from Cumberland. It was named in honor of Lafayette who aided George Washington in defeating Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. The act establishing the county divided Cumberland into Fayette and Moore counties with Fayette having the courthouse of Cumberland which was located in Fayetteville. In October, 1784, the act creating Fayette was repealed and Cumberland re-established.<sup>400</sup>

. . . beginning at Cole's bridge on Drowning creek, thence a direct line to the corner of Wake and Johnston counties in Cumberland line, and all that part of Cumberland lying to the north-west of the new line, shall be a separate and distinct county by the name of Moore county.

. . . That the lower part of Cumberland county south east of said line, shall be a separate and distinct county, and known by the name of Fayette county.<sup>401</sup>

## FORSYTH

Forsyth was formed in 1849 from Stokes. It was named in honor of Colonel Benjamin Forsyth, a native of Stokes County who fell on the northern frontier in the second war with England. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Guilford, Davidson, Davie, Yadkin, and Stokes counties. The present area is 424 square miles and the population is 126,485. The act establishing the county ordered the first court to be held at the town hall of Salem, at which time the justices were to select a place for future courts until a courthouse could be erected. Commissioners were named to select a place for the public buildings, acquire the land, and lay out a town. In 1851 an act was passed naming the county seat Winston. In 1879 an act was passed authorizing that Winston and Salem be combined, provided the people voted for the same. In 1913 Winston and Salem were incorporated as one town. Winston-Salem is the county seat.<sup>402</sup>

. . . the county of Stokes shall be divided into two distinct counties, by a line beginning at the South West corner of Rockingham county, and running thence West to the Surry county line.

<sup>399</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 396.*

<sup>400</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 644; Manual, 1913, p. 604.*

<sup>401</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 644.*

<sup>402</sup>*Public Laws, 1848-49, Chs. 23, 24; 1850-51, Ch. 332; Private Laws, 1879, Ch. 78; 1913, Ch. 10; Manual, 1913, p. 605.*

That all that part of the said county, lying North of said line, shall be erected into a distinct county by the name of Stokes county; and all that part lying South of said line, shall be erected into another distinct county by the name of Forsyth county, in honor of the memory of Col. Benjamin Forsyth, . . .<sup>403</sup>

#### Part of Davidson was annexed to Forsyth in 1889.

That from and after the ratification of this act, that all that portion of Davidson county lying north, northwest and west of a line starting at a point known as the "plow-handle corner," as shown on the map hereto attached as part of this act, and running west twenty-three and one-half degrees, south three miles to a point on the Yadkin river at or below the mouth of Douthit's branch, shall be annexed to Forsyth county.<sup>404</sup>

#### Part of Yadkin was annexed to Forsyth in 1911.

That all that portion of Yadkin County included within the boundaries hereinafter set out, shall be and hereby is annexed to and made a part of the county of Forsyth. Said boundaries are as follows: Beginning on the line between the counties of Yadkin and Forsyth at the northeast corner of Little Yadkin Township, on the Yadkin River; thence down said river a distance of one mile; thence a straight line to the point where the public road from Lewisville to West Bend, sometimes called the Nading's Ferry road, crosses the county line; thence northwardly with the county line to the beginning.<sup>405</sup>

#### Part of Davidson was annexed to Forsyth in 1921.

That from and after its ratification of this act all that portion of Abbotts Creek Township in Davidson County, lying northeast of a line which begins at the southeast corner of Broadbay Township in Forsyth County near the residence of Eli Reid, the same being also at an offset in Abbott's Creek Township in Davidson County, and running thence in a southeastwardly direction to that point in the Davidson and Guilford county lines where the south margin of the old plank road crosses the said Davidson and Guilford county lines, shall be annexed and become a part of Forsyth County.<sup>406</sup>

In 1925 an act to make certain and define the boundary line between Davie and Forsyth was passed.

That the Yadkin River be and the same is hereby made; fixed and designated as the true and correct boundary line between the counties of Davie and Forsyth.<sup>407</sup>

#### Part of Yadkin was annexed to Forsyth in 1927.

That all that territory known and designated as Little Yadkin Township, Yadkin County, which is all that portion of Yadkin County lying east of the Yadkin River and adjoining Forsyth County, be and the same is hereby transferred from the said Yadkin County and annexed to the

<sup>403</sup>Public Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 23.

<sup>404</sup>Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 449.

<sup>405</sup>Public-Local Laws, 1911, Ch. 588.

<sup>406</sup>Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 80. For a report of this survey see appendix, p. 249.

<sup>407</sup>Public-Local Laws, 1925, Ch. 72.

county of Forsyth, and the boundary line between said counties of Forsyth and Yadkin be and the same is hereby changed and fixed so that the Yadkin River shall be the boundary line between said counties.<sup>408</sup>

## FRANKLIN

Franklin was formed in 1779. It was named in honor of Benjamin Franklin. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Nash, Wake, Granville, Vance, and Warren counties. The present area is 494 square miles and the population is 30,382. The act establishing the county authorized that the first court be held at the home of Benjamin Seawell. The justices were to determine where subsequent courts were to be held until the courthouse could be erected. In 1779 Lewisburg was established on land purchased by the commissioners for the erection of the courthouse. Louisburg is the county seat.<sup>409</sup>

. . . a direct line from the Granville line to Halifax or Nash County line as the case may be, leaving in each part or division an equal quantity of Acres as near as can be ascertained, . . .

. . . to measure the lines of said County every side and to run the dividing line so as to make each respective division as convenient to the respective persons residing therein as possible, which said lines when run by the commissioners, or a majority of them, shall be entered on the Record of each County, and all that part or division which lies North of said line & adjacent to Virginia shall be a distinct County by the name of Warren, and all that part or division that lies South of said line shall be a distinct County by the name of Franklin; . . .<sup>410</sup>

Part of Wake was annexed to Franklin in 1787.

. . . That all that part of the county of Wake lying east of Mockison Swamp, and a line running from the head of the westernmost prong thereof a north course to the Franklin line, be, and the same is hereby added to and made a part of Franklin county.<sup>411</sup>

In 1805 the boundary line between Franklin and Wake was authorized to be established according to the act which established Granville county, and all the laws respecting the boundaries since that date were repealed. No description is given in the law.<sup>412</sup>

In 1806 another act was passed authorizing the same line to be established. No description is given in the law.<sup>413</sup>

<sup>408</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1927, Ch. 490.*

<sup>409</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 227, 313; Manual, 1913, p. 606; Battle, p. 25.*

<sup>410</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 227.*

<sup>411</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 838.*

<sup>412</sup>*Laws, 1805, Ch. 26.*

<sup>413</sup>*Laws, 1806, Ch. 53.*

In 1808 this line was again authorized to be established. No description is given in the law.<sup>414</sup>

In 1810 the boundary line was authorized to be established and a copy filed in the secretary of state's office, Raleigh. No description is given in the law.<sup>415</sup>

In 1817 the dividing line between Franklin and Nash was authorized to be run.

. . . to run and mark the dividing line between the counties of Franklin and Nash, from the mouth of Cypress Creek on Tar River to Mocosoan Creek, at the intersection of the counties of Franklin, Nash, Wake and Johnston.<sup>416</sup>

In 1818 new commissioners were named to carry out the act of 1817 authorizing the establishment of the dividing line between Franklin and Nash. No description is given in the law.<sup>417</sup>

Part of Granville was annexed to Franklin in 1873, provided the qualified voters in the affected territory sanctioned the same and certain financial conditions were met.

. . . : Begin on the Franklin and Granville line where it is crossed by Tar river, at Kearney's old mill, about three miles above the point where the old line crosses said river, run south twenty-three degrees; west seven miles one hundred and ten yards, to the road near A. S. Gill's store house; then south four miles to the Wake line, thence with the Wake line to the south-west corner of Franklin county.<sup>418</sup>

Part of Granville was annexed to Franklin in 1875.

That the dividing line between the counties of Granville and Franklin on the south side of Tar river, shall be changed as follows: Begin on the south bank of Tar river at the point where the old dividing line between said counties crosses said river, thence up the said river about three miles to a black-gum, at the high rock, one hundred yards above the point where Fort creek empties into said river, and near Kearney's old mill, thence south twenty-three degrees west, seven miles one hundred and ten yards, to a red oak in the road near A. S. Gill's store, thence south four miles to the Wake line, thence with the Wake line to what was formerly the southwestern corner of Franklin county, and all that portion of Granville county cut off by the line herein established be and the same is hereby attached to and shall constitute and form a portion of the county of Franklin.<sup>419</sup>

Vance was formed in 1881 from Granville, Warren, and Franklin.

<sup>414</sup>*Laws, 1808, Ch. 77.*

<sup>415</sup>*Laws, 1810, Ch. 46.* For a report of a survey of the Franklin and Wake line made in 1915, see appendix, p. 262.

<sup>416</sup>*Laws, 1817, Ch. 35.*

<sup>417</sup>*Laws, 1818, Ch. 131.*

<sup>418</sup>*Public Laws, 1872-73, Ch. 143.*

<sup>419</sup>*Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 63.*

That a new county is hereby laid off and established to be formed out of portions of Warren, Franklin and Granville counties, and bounded as follows: Begin at a point on the south bank of Tar river in Granville county, just oposite the point where the dividing line between Fishing Creek and Kittrell's townships strikes said river; thence down said river to a point in Franklin county opposite the place where King's creek empties into said river; thence across said river north twenty-three and one-half degrees east to a pine tree near the old Moss house; thence due east to a rock on the road leading from Duke's store to Nat. Macon's place, about half-way between the Alston and the old Perry places; thence down said road to Duke's store; thence in a direct line to the point where the Millford road crosses the Warren and Franklin counties' line; thence a direct line to Coley's X roads in Warren county; thence in a direct line to the point where Nuthush creek crosses the Virginia and North Carolina state line; thence along said State line to Big Island creek; thence up said creek to the line between Townsville and Sassafras Fork townships; thence along the boundary line between said townships, thence between Henderson and Oxford townships, and Kittrell and Fishing Creek townships, south to the beginning.<sup>420</sup>

An act changing the boundary line between Vance and Franklin was passed in 1909.

That chapter one hundred and thirteen of the public Laws of one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one be amended by striking out, after the word "thence," in line fourteen of said act, the words "in a direct line," and inserting in their place the following: "down and with the Millford Road."<sup>421</sup>

## GASTON

Gaston was formed in 1846 from Lincoln. It was named in honor of William Gaston, a member of Congress and a Judge of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. It is in the southwestern section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Cleveland, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg counties. The present area is 358 square miles and the population is 87,531. The court was ordered to be held at the home of Jesse Holland until a courthouse could be erected. Commissioners were named to select a site for the county seat as near the center of the county as possible provided it was in two miles of Long Creek Baptist Meeting House. They were to acquire land, lay out a town by the name of Dallas, and erect a courthouse. Dallas continued to be the county seat until 1909 when Gastonia was, by popular vote, selected as the county seat.<sup>422</sup>

<sup>420</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 113.*

<sup>421</sup>*Public Laws, 1909, Ch. 890.*

<sup>422</sup>*Public Laws, 1846-47, Chs. 24, 25; 1909, Ch. 455; Manual, 1913, p. 612; Battle, p. 32.* In October, 1909, commissioners were appointed to establish the magnetic meridian on the Lincoln and Gaston line four and one-half miles south of Lincolnton. A map of this survey is on file in the archives of the Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.



. . . : Beginning at a point on the Cleveland line, six miles due south of the present dividing line of Lincoln and Catawba; thence running parallel with line to the Catawba river.

. . . , That so much of the county of Catawba, as lies south of the following line, to wit: Beginning at the Catawba river, and four miles due north of the present dividing line between Lincoln and Catawba counties, and running parallel with said line to the western boundary of said county, be, and the same is hereby annexed and made part of Lincoln county.<sup>423</sup>

Part of Gaston was annexed to Lincoln in 1875, provided the change was submitted to voters of Gaston in August, 1875.

That the dividing line between the counties of Gaston and Lincoln be changed as follows, viz: Beginning on said line in the northwestern portion of said Gaston county at the point where the old road known as the Flint Hill road crosses the Gaston and Lincoln county line, and run thence a direct line to the point where said road crosses the line between the counties of Gaston and Cleveland: . . .<sup>424</sup>

The dividing line between Gaston and Lincoln was authorized to be established in 1909.

Whereas doubts have arisen concerning the location of the dividing line between the counties of Gaston and Lincoln, and the citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the line are unable to determine where they shall exercise their rights of citizenship and pay their taxes: . . .

. . . , who shall proceed to locate the dividing line between the counties of Gaston and Lincoln, and shall mark the same, by stones or other permanent monuments, at every point where said line crosses a public road and at as many other places as they shall deem necessary: . . .<sup>425</sup>

Part of Gaston was annexed to Cleveland in 1915, provided the voters approved the same.

. . . : Beginning at a stone on the county line road from Kings Mountain to Cherryville, the corner number four and number five townships of Cleveland County, near Ebenezer Church, and running thence S. 67 E. 156.50 chains to a stone near James Payne's residence in Gaston County; thence S. 5 W. 444.00 chains to a stone on top of mountain, thence S. 10 W. 110.00 chains to a stone where the present county line between Gaston and Cleveland counties intersects the South Carolina line near John Wells's residence; thence N. 25 $\frac{1}{4}$  W. 315 chains to a stone near Mrs. Dovie Weir's residence in Cleveland County; thence N. 17 W. 125.50 chains to a post oak on south side of sand-clay road leading from Kings Mountain to Shelby; thence N. 24 E. 213.00 chains to the beginning; . . .<sup>426</sup>

Part of Gaston was annexed to Cleveland in 1917.

. . . ; Beginning at a stone on the county-line road leading from Kings Mountain to Cherryville, the corner of Number Four and Number Five

<sup>423</sup>Public Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 24.

<sup>424</sup>Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 125.

<sup>425</sup>Public Laws, 1909, Ch. 776.

<sup>426</sup>Public Laws, 1915, Ch. 208. In 1890 commissioners were appointed to survey the line between Cleveland and Gaston. See appendix, p. 263, for this report.

townships of Cleveland County near Ebenezer Church, and running thence S. 67 E. 156.50 chains to a stone near James Payne's residence in Gaston County, thence S. 5 W. 444.00 chains to a stone on top of mountain, thence S. 10 W. 110.00 chains to a stone where the former or old county line between Gaston and Cleveland counties intersected the South Carolina line near John Wells' residence; and all that portion of the territory of Gaston county which was formerly between the above described line in Gaston County and the old county line between the counties of Cleveland and Gaston is transferred to Cleveland County, and is hereby declared to belong to and be a part of Cleveland County.<sup>427</sup>

Part of Gaston was annexed to Cleveland in 1921.

. . . ; Beginning at a stone, the corner of No. 4 and No. 5 townships in Cleveland County at Ebenezer Church, and run thence a straight line south 56 degrees 18 minutes east 9650 feet to west end of Southern Railway culvert east of L. A. Kiser's residence; then through culvert and down meanders of branch, to wit, south 71 degrees east 663 feet; south 47¼ degrees east 1,128 feet to an iron stake in branch at first poplar on west bank of branch, thence a straight line south 6 degrees 38 minutes W. 6,020 feet to an iron stake in north edge of Kings Mountain and Dallas old road, west of Sylvanus Mauney's residence and east of Sylvanus Weaver's residence; thence a straight line south 1/2 degree east 17,990 feet to an iron pin in rock on top of first mountain southwest of the pinnacle of Kings Mountain, with old pointers; thence a straight line south 9 degrees west 9,575 feet to an iron pin in the public road in the North and South Carolina line, the former corner between Gaston and Cleveland counties; and all that portion of the territory of Gaston County which was formerly between the above described line and the old county line between the counties of Cleveland and Gaston is declared to belong to and be a part of Cleveland County.<sup>428</sup>

## GATES

Gates was formed in 1779 from Chowan, Hertford, and Perquimans counties. It was named in honor of General Horatio Gates, who commanded the American Army at the Battle of Saratoga. At this battle an entire British Army was captured, but General Gates contributed nothing to that success. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Camden, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Chowan, and Hertford counties, and the state of Virginia. The present area is 343 square miles and the population is 10,060. The act establishing the county provided that commissioners be appointed to select a site centrally located for the erection of a courthouse, etc., and to have the building erected. In 1781, an act was passed to levy an additional tax for the completion of the public buildings. The Legis-

<sup>427</sup>*Public Laws, 1917, Ch. 31.* For a report of the commissioners on this line, see appendix, p. 265.

<sup>428</sup>*Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 71.*

lature of 1830-31 passed an act which said that the place now known as Gates Court House, in the county of Gates, shall in the future be known and described by the name of Gatesville.<sup>420</sup>

. . . that all that part of Hertford County that lies on the North East side of Chowan River, and all that part of Chowan and Perquimans Counties, that lies on the North Side of Katherine, and Warwick Creeks, and bounded as follows, (that is to say) beginning at the Virginia line, on Chowan River, thence down the said River to the mouth of Katherine Creek, thence up the said Creek, to the mouth of Warwick Creek, thence up said Creek to the Head, thence a direct line to the Head of the Indian Branch in Perquimans County, thence down said Branch to the Great Dismal Swamp, thence a North east Course to the Virginia line, thence Westwardly along said line to the beginning, and all that part of Hertford, Chowan, & Perquimans Counties, included in said lines, shall be and is hereby Established a County by the name of Gates.<sup>430</sup>

The lines between Pasquotank and Perquimans, and Camden and Gates were ordered to be run in 1804; because of the difficulty of establishing and marking the line in the Dismal Swamp, the lines had not been previously marked.

. . . beginning near the fork of Little River, and running northwardly to the south-west corner of a ridge, known by the Middle Ridge, then along the west side of said ridge, crossing Colonel John Hamilton's turnpike road, to the north-west corner thereof, thence a northwardly course to a ridge in the desert known by Colonel Jesse Eason's Ridge, then a north course to the line that divides this State from the State of Virginia<sup>431</sup>

The dividing line between Chowan, Perquimans and Gates was authorized to be established in 1805.

. . . That the said commissioners . . . shall begin the dividing line between the counties of Chowan and Perquimans, at such place on Yeopon river, above Elliot's mills, as they may think proper, due regard being had to the former reputed line, and shall run thence along the said reputed line to Sunday ridge road, and from the said road to the intersection of the line of Gates county, and thence along the said line, as far as it extends on the heads of Chowan and Perquimans counties, and shall make or cause to be made returns of their proceedings to each of the courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the said counties, to be deposited and kept among the records thereof: and the said lines when so extended and laid off, shall forever be established and confirmed as the dividing lines between the said counties.<sup>432</sup>

<sup>420</sup>S. R., XVII, 659; XXIV, 230, 410; *Laws*, 1792, Ch. 50; 1830-31, Ch. 69; *Manual*, 1913, p. 613; *Battle*, p. 26.

<sup>430</sup>S. R., XXV, 230.

<sup>431</sup>*Laws*, 1804, Ch. 54. In 1793 the Perquimans court of pleas and quarter sessions appointed Josiah White, Joseph Reddick of Gates county, and Benjamin Perry commissioners to have the county line laid out and to be inserted in the public law at the next session of the General Assembly. It appears that courts of Gates and Pasquotank had passed similar orders. The court ordered "that the Little river be held by the county as the Boundary so far as the same runs into the Dismal Swamp." Perquimans County, Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Session, November term, 1793.

<sup>432</sup>*Laws*, 1805, Ch. 27.

In 1819 the boundary line between Perquimans and Gates had not been established so as to be widely and definitely known. Therefore, an act was passed which authorized the establishment of said line. No description is given in the law.<sup>433</sup>

## GLASGOW

Glasgow was formed in 1791 from Dobbs. It was named for James Glasgow who was secretary of state of North Carolina, 1777-1798. The name was changed to Greene in honor of Nathanael Greene in 1799, when it became publicly known that Glasgow was involved in land frauds.<sup>434</sup>

. . . the said county of Dobbs be divided, by running a direct line from where the dividing line between the said county of Dobbs and Wayne county crosses Bear Creek, to the head of Wheat swamp, a little above Richard Hodges's, then down said Wheat-swamp to William Killpatrick's, and from thence a direct line to the Craven county line, opposite the mouth of Little Contentney; and that all that part of the late county of Dobbs, lying south and south-east of the said lines, be held and deemed a distinct county, by the name of Lenoir: And that all the remainder of the said late county of Dobbs, lying north and north-west of the aforesaid lines, be held and deemed a distinct county, by the name of Glasgow. . . <sup>435</sup>

Part of Glasgow was annexed to Wayne in 1793.

. . . , beginning where the Wayne county line crosses the south prong of Bear-creek, then down the said south prong to the fork, then up the north prong to where the Wayne county line crosses the same, and then with the said county line to the beginning, be added to and made a part of Wayne county.<sup>436</sup>

Greene County was formed in 1799 from Glasgow.

. . . , That from and after the passing of this act, the county of Glasgow shall be called and known by the name of Greene county. . . <sup>437</sup>

## GRAHAM

Graham was formed in 1872 from Cherokee. It was named in honor of William A. Graham, United States senator, governor of North Carolina, secretary of the navy, and a Confederate States senator. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state of Tennessee and Cherokee and Swain counties. The present area is 295 square miles and the population is 6,418. The first meeting of the county commissioners was

<sup>433</sup>*Laws, 1819, Ch. 108.*

<sup>434</sup>*Laws, 1791, Ch. 47; 1792, Ch. 35; 1799, Ch. 39; Manual, 1913, p. 618.*

<sup>435</sup>*Laws, 1791, Ch. 47.*

<sup>436</sup>*Laws, 1793, Ch. 30.*

<sup>437</sup>*Laws, 1799, Ch. 39.*

ordered to be held at King & Cooper's store; commissioners were named to lay out a town as the county seat. The county seat is Robbinsville.<sup>438</sup>

. . . : Beginning at a stake at the mouth of Slick Rock creek on the lines of North Carolina and Tennessee, and running with said line to the top of Unacoe mountain, thence to the Laurel-top, thence with divide mountain between Beaver Dam, Hanging-Dog and Snowbird creek to the top of the mountain between Snowbird creek and Valley river and Cheoe; thence east, with the meanders of the mountain to the top of the same, to the line of Cherokee and Macon counties, thence northward with that line to the bank of Tennessee river, thence with the meanders of the bank of said river to the beginning; be and the same is hereby created into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Graham, with all the rights, privileges and immunities incident and belonging to the other counties in this state: . . .<sup>439</sup>

The boundary line between Macon and Graham was authorized to be changed in 1885.

That the line between the counties of Macon and Graham be changed as follows: Beginning on the line of Macon at the head of the Big Meadows in Graham county on the head of Tallula creek, and run in an east direction so as to include the Jeff. George farm, now owned by Jenkins, in Graham county.<sup>440</sup>

An act locating the state line between Graham County, North Carolina, and the state of Tennessee was passed in 1891.

WHEREAS, There is a discontent and uncertainty as to the location of the line between North Carolina and Tennessee, and believing it greatly to the interest of North Carolina to locate said line: therefore, . . . to establish, locate and mark the state line between the county of Graham and the Tennessee line, a distance of about fifteen miles, . . .<sup>441</sup>

An act changing the boundary line between Graham and Macon was passed in 1895.

That the county line between Graham and Macon shall be so changed as to include in the Graham boundary all the land from the Tuluah Gap, to run with and include the public road to where said road intersects with the Western North Carolina railroad, then with said road a west course to the county line of Cherokee, then with said line to Graham county line, thence with said line to the beginning: . . .<sup>442</sup>

## GRANVILLE

Granville was formed in 1746 from Edgecombe. It was named in honor of John Carteret, Earl of Granville, who owned the Granville District. He was Prime Minister under George II. It

<sup>438</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Chs. 77, 175; Manual, 1913, p. 619; Arthur, p. 210 ff.*

<sup>439</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 77.*

<sup>440</sup>*Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 330.*

<sup>441</sup>*Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 299.*

<sup>442</sup>*Public Laws, 1895, Ch. 155.*

is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Vance, Franklin, Wake, Durham, and Person counties and the state of Virginia. The present area is 543 square miles and the population is 29,344. The first county seat was called Granville Court House. In 1748 the location selected became unsatisfactory. Therefore, it was ordered that the courthouse be located on a branch of Tar River called Tabb's Creek. Oxford was made the county seat in 1811. It was incorporated in 1816 and is the county seat.<sup>443</sup>

. . . That Edgecomb County and Parish be divided by a Line beginning at the Mouth of Stonehouse Creek, on Roanoke River, to the Mouth of Cypress Swamp, on Tar River, and from Thence across the River, in a direct Course, to the Middle Grounds between Tar River and Neuse River, being the dividing Line between Craven and Edgecomb Counties; and that the upper Part of the said County and Parish as divided by the Line . . . be erected into . . . Granville County, and St. John's Parish: . . .<sup>444</sup>

Orange was formed in 1752 from Johnston, Bladen, and Granville.

. . . That the upper Part of Granville, Johnston, and Bladen Counties, be erected into a County and Parish by the Name of Orange County, and the Parish of St. Matthew, and be divided by a Line, beginning on the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, thence a direct line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Occanechas, near to the Plantation where John Williams now dwelleth; thence down the South side of Eno River, to Neuse River; thence down Neuse River, to the Mouth of Horse Creek; thence a direct line to the Place where Earl Granville's Line crosses Cape Fear River; thence along the said Line, to the Eastern Bounds of Anson County; thence along the dividing Line of Anson County to the End thereof; and that the upper Parts of the said Counties be divided and run accordingly, by the commissioners. . . .<sup>445</sup>

The dividing line between Granville, Johnston, and Bladen was authorized to be changed in 1753.

I. Whereas it is found to be more convenient to the Inhabitants of the said County to have the lines mentioned in the above said Act, to run from the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, in a direct Line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Ocanechas, and from thence down the Eno River to Neuse River, and from thence down Neuse River, to the Mouth of Horse Creek, altered by a Line to be run, beginning on the Virginia Line, twenty Miles west of Granville Court House, running thence a South Course to Neuse River, thence bounded by the said River to the Mouth of Horse Creek; . . .

<sup>443</sup>S. R., XXIII, 249, 272, 285, 297, 338, 340, 445; XXIV, 878; XXV, 236, 625; *Laws, 1811*, Ch. 65; 1816, Ch. 45; *Manual, 1913*, p. 620; Battle, p. 19.

<sup>444</sup>S. R., XXIII, 249.

<sup>445</sup>S. R., XXIII, 383.



II. . . That instead of the Lines mentioned in the above recited Act, to be run from the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, in a direct Line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Occaneechas, and from thence down the Eno River to Neuse River, at the mouth of Horse Creek, a Line shall be run, beginning on the Virginia Line to Neuse River, and thence bounded by the said River, to the Mouth of Horse Creek.<sup>446</sup>

Bute county was formed in 1764 from Granville.

. . . The said County of Granville shall be divided into Two Distinct counties; and that all that Part of the said County which is now called or known by the Name of the Parish of Granville, from and after the said Tenth Day of June, shall be a Distinct County, and remain to be called Granville County; and that all that Part of the said County called and known by the name of St. John's Parish, shall after the said Tenth Day of June, be another Distinct County called by the Name of Bute County.<sup>447</sup>

Part of Granville was annexed to Warren in 1786.

. . . Beginning at the point where the line of division between Warren and Granville counties shall touch the line of division between this State and the State of Virginia, and running thence west along the said line to Nutbush creek, thence up said creek as it meanders to the mouth of Anderson's swamp, thence up the said swamp to the fork, thence up the south fork of the said swamp to Stark's mill, thence by a line to be run due south until it shall touch the aforesaid line of division between Warren and Granville, be, and the same is hereby annexed to and shall remain a part of the county of Warren: . . .<sup>448</sup>

The boundary line between Granville and Person was authorized to be established in 1871.

. . . so much of the boundary line between said counties as runs between Oak Hill township, in Granville county, and Holloway's township, in Person county, and mark the same by some line of objects.<sup>449</sup>

Part of Granville was annexed to Franklin in 1873, provided the qualified voters in the affected territory sanctioned the same, and certain financial conditions were met.

. . . : Begin on the Franklin and Granville line where it is crossed by Tar river, at Kearney's old mill, about three miles above the point where the old line crosses said river, run south twenty-three degrees; west seven miles one hundred and ten yards, to the road near A. S. Gill's store-house; then south four miles to the Wake line, thence with the Wake line to the south-west corner of Franklin county.<sup>450</sup>

Part of Granville was annexed to Franklin in 1875.

That the dividing lines between the counties of Granville and Franklin on the south side of Tar river, shall be changed as follows: Begin on the south bank of Tar river at the point where the old dividing line between

<sup>446</sup>S. R., XXIII, 390.

<sup>447</sup>S. R., XXIII, 625.

<sup>448</sup>S. R., XXIV, 866.

<sup>449</sup>Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 223.

<sup>450</sup>Public Laws, 1872-73, Ch. 143.

said counties crosses said river, thence up the said river about three miles to a black-gum, at the high rock, one hundred yards above the point where Fort creek empties into said river, and near Kearney's old mill, thence south twenty-three degrees west, seven miles one hundred and ten yards, to a red oak in the road near A. S. Gill's store, thence south four miles to the Wake line, thence with the Wake line to what was formerly the southwest corner of Franklin county, and all that portion of Granville county cut off by the line herein established be and the same is hereby attached to and shall constitute and form a portion of the county of Franklin.<sup>451</sup>

Vance was formed in 1881 from Granville, Warren, and Franklin.

That a new county is hereby laid off and established to be formed out of portions of Warren, Franklin and Granville counties, and bounded as follows; Begin at a point on the south bank of Tar river in Granville county, just opposite the point where the dividing line between Fishing Creek and Kittrell's townships strikes said river; thence down said river to a point in Franklin county opposite the place where King's creek empties into said river; thence across said river north twenty-three and one-half degrees east to a pine tree near the old Moss House; thence due east to a rock on the road leading from Duke's store to Nat. Macon's place, about half-way between the Alston and the old Perry places; thence down said road to Duke's store; thence in a direct line to the point where the Millford road crosses the Warren and Franklin counties' line; thence in a direct line to Coley's X roads in Warren county; thence in a direct line to the point where Nutbush creek crosses the Virginia and North Carolina state line; thence along the said State line to Big Island creek; thence up said creek to the line between Townsville and Sassafras Fork townships; thence along the boundary line between said townships; and between Henderson and Oxford townships, and Kittrell and Fishing Creek townships, south to the beginning.<sup>452</sup>

## GREENE, TENNESSEE

Greene (now Tennessee) was formed in 1783 from Washington (now Tennessee). It was named in honor of Nathanael Greene. This territory was ceded to the federal government and accepted April 2, 1790. The first court was held in August, 1783, in the house of Robert Carr. By 1789 there was a courthouse called Greene Court House. The present area is 617 square miles and the population is 39,405. Greeneville is the county seat.<sup>453</sup>

. . . by a direct line beginning at William William's in the Fork of Horse Creek, at the foot of the Iron Mountain, thence a direct course to George Gallespie's house, at or near the mouth of Big Limestone, thence a north course to the line which divides the counties of Washington and Sullivan,

<sup>451</sup>*Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 63.*

<sup>452</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 113.*

<sup>453</sup>*S. R., XXII, 725; XXIV, 539; Counties of Tennessee, p. 14; Manual, 1913, p. 626.*

thence from the said line, to the Chimney-Top Mountain, thence a direct course to the mouth of Cloud's Creek in Holstein River; and all that part of Washington county westward of the said line, from and after the passing of this Act, shall be and is hereby declared to be a distinct county by the name of Greene.<sup>454</sup>

## GREENE

Greene County was formed in 1799 from Glasgow. The county was originally named for James Glasgow, but when he became publicly involved in land frauds it was changed to Greene in honor of Nathanael Greene, Washington's right-hand man. Next to Washington, Greene is regarded as the greatest soldier of the Revolution. He fought the Battle of Guilford Court House which saved North Carolina from the British. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Pitt, Lenoir, and Wilson counties. The present area is 268 square miles and the population is 18,548. In 1811 Snow Hill was laid out at the courthouse. It is the county seat.<sup>455</sup>

. . . , That from and after the passing of this act, the county of Glasgow shall be known and called by the name of Greene county.<sup>456</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Greene in 1801.

. . . , all that part of the county of Craven lying in the fork of Great and Little Contentnea Creek, shall be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Greene to all intents and purposes whatsoever: . . .<sup>457</sup>

An act authorizing the dividing line between the counties of Wayne and Greene to be run and established was passed in 1861.

. . . , beginning at the corner in the north prong of Bear Creek (or at a point as near said corner as may be established), and running a north course to Great Contentnea Creek, according to an act of the General Assembly, passed at the session of 1779, entitled an act for dividing the county of "Dobbs," and that the line thus established by said commissioners shall be held and considered as the dividing line between the said counties of Wayne and Greene.<sup>458</sup>

An act reviving an act passed at the session of one thousand eight hundred and sixty and one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, establishing the line between Wayne and Greene, was passed in 1872.

. . . , beginning at the corner in the north prong of Bear creek (or at a point as near said corner as may be established) and run a north course

<sup>454</sup>S. R., XXIV, 539.

<sup>455</sup>Laws, 1799, Ch. 39; 1811, Ch. 69; *Manual*, 1913, p. 626; Battle, p. 25.

<sup>456</sup>Laws, 1799, Ch. 39.

<sup>457</sup>Laws, 1801, Ch. 71.

<sup>458</sup>Private Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 76.

to Great Contentnea creek, according to an act of the general assembly passed at the session of one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, entitled an act for dividing the county of Dobbs; and that the line thus established by said commissioners, shall be held and considered as the dividing line between the said counties of Wayne and Greene.<sup>459</sup>

An act re-enacting an act to run and establish the dividing line between the counties of Greene and Wayne was passed in 1880.

. . . be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to run and establish the dividing line between the counties of Greene and Wayne according to an act of general assembly passed at the session of seventeen hundred and seventy-nine, entitled an act for dividing the county of Dobbs, and that the line thus established by said commissioners shall be held and considered as the dividing line between the said counties of Greene and Wayne.<sup>460</sup>

The dividing line between Pitt and Greene counties was authorized to be changed in 1895.

. . . beginning in the old county line of Greene and Pitt, in the mouth of Middle swamp, then down the various courses of Sandy run to Little Contentnea creek; then down the said little Contentnea creek to the old line. . . .<sup>461</sup>

## GUILFORD

Guilford was formed in 1770 from Rowan and Orange. The act was to become effective April 1, 1771. It was named in honor of Francis North who was Earl of Guilford, an English nobleman. He was the father of Lord North who was Prime Minister under George III during the Revolution. Lord North afterward succeeded his father as Earl of Guilford. It is in the north central section of the State and is bounded by Alamance, Randolph, Davidson, Forsyth, and Rockingham counties. The present area is 651 square miles and the population is 153,916. The first court was ordered held at the home of Robert Lindsay. It also provided that commissioners named in the act were to select a site and have the courthouse, prison, and stocks erected. In 1774 the commissioners bought land of John Campbell for the courthouse site. In 1785 Martinsville was laid out at the courthouse. It was named in honor of Alexander Martin, governor of North Carolina, 1782-1785 and 1789-1792. The courthouse had been called Guilford Court House until the passage of this act. Commissioners were named by the act of 1807 to select a place at the center of the county for the erection of a new courthouse, as the old one was badly in need of repair and not conveniently

<sup>459</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 84.*

<sup>460</sup>*Public Laws, Special Session, 1880, Ch. 31.*

<sup>461</sup>*Private Laws, 1895, Ch. 145.*

located. Commissioners were also named to purchase 30 acres of land and have the new courthouse erected. They were to sell the old courthouse. In 1808 the new county seat was named Greensborough in honor of Nathanael Greene. Greensboro is the county seat.<sup>462</sup>

. . . That a Line beginning at a Point Twenty Five Miles due West of Hillsborough, running thence North to the Virginia Line, then West to a Point due North of the Painted Springs, then South to Anson Line, then along Anson and Cumberland Lines to a Point due South of the Beginning, then North to the Beginning, be erected into a Distinct County by the Name of Guilford and Unity Parish.<sup>463</sup>

Randolph was formed in 1779 from Guilford.

. . . the said County of Guilford be divided into two separate and distinct Counties; Beginning on the Anson Line at the Corner of Rowan, thence running North twenty eight Miles, then East to the Orange Line, and all that part of the said County of Guilford that lies South of the aforesaid line shall continue to remain a distinct and separate County by the name of Randolph. . . .<sup>464</sup>

Rockingham was formed in 1785 from Guilford.

. . . the said county of Guilford be divided by an east and west line, beginning at Haw River bridge, near James Martins; and that all that part of the late county of Guilford, which lies to the south of said line shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Guilford; and all that other part of the said county of Guilford, which lies north of the said dividing line, shall henceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Rockingham.<sup>465</sup>

## HALIFAX

Halifax was formed in 1758 from Edgecombe. The act was to become effective in January, 1759. It was named in honor of George Montagu Dunk, Earl of Halifax. It is in the north-eastern section of the State and is bounded by Bertie, Martin, Edgecombe, Nash, Warren, and Northampton counties. The

<sup>462</sup>This is one of the counties which was established during a session of the General Assembly which convened the last part of one year and extended into the next year. *S. R.*, XIV, 395, 580; XXIII, 823, 972; XXIV, 20, 779; *Laws, 1807*, Ch. 81; 1808, Ch. 76; *Manual, 1813*, p. 630; *Battle*, p. 24. The General Assembly convened in New Bern on December 5, 1770. On December 10, 1770, a bill was introduced in the upper house the title of which reads as follows: "A bill for erecting part of Rowan county and part of Orange county into a separate county and parish by the name of \_\_\_\_\_ County and \_\_\_\_\_ Parish and other purposes." *C. R.*, VIII, 290. Section 1 of Chapter XXIV, *Laws of North Carolina, 1770*, establishing Guilford County reads as follows: "Whereas, the great extent of the prospective counties of Rowan and Orange render the attendance of the Inhabitants of part of Rowan County and the Inhabitants of the upper part of Orange County, to do public duties in their Respective Counties extremely difficult and expensive . . ." These quotations suggest that the bill establishing Guilford county was introduced on December 10, 1770. The bill, however, did not get the approval of both houses of the assembly and the governor's assent until January 26, 1771. The act was not to become effective until April 1, 1771. *C. R.*, VIII, 290, 291, 353, 402, 384.

<sup>463</sup>*S. R.*, XXIII, 823.

<sup>464</sup>*S. R.*, XXIV, 234.

<sup>465</sup>*S. R.*, XXIV, 745.

present area is 722 square miles and the population is 56,512. The first court was held at Enfield. Halifax was made the county seat by an act passed in 1758. It is the county seat.<sup>466</sup>

. . . That from and immediately after the First Day of January next ensuing, the said County of Edgecomb be divided, by the dividing Line between the Parish of Edgecomb and the Parish of St. Mary; and that that Part of the said County which is now the Parish of St. Mary, remain, be called, and known by the Name of Edgecomb County; and that that Part of the said County which is now the Parish of Edgecomb, be thence forth erected into one distinct County, and called and known by the Name of Halifax.<sup>467</sup>

Martin was formed in 1774 from Halifax and Tyrrell.

. . . Beginning at the mouth of Kehukee Creek, on Roanoke River, and running a direct Line to Edgecombe County Line, where it crosses the Tar river road that leads by Nicholas Loyd's; thence down Edgecombe Line, to Pitt County Line; thence along Pitt line, to Beaufort County Line; thence along Beaufort Line, to the head of Welch's Creek, near Stewart Hamilton's plantation; thence down Welch's Creek, to Roanoke river; thence up the River to the beginning; and all that part of the said Counties, included within the said Bounds, be thenceforth erected into a distinct County and Parish, and called and known by the Name of Martin County, and Parish of St. Martin.<sup>468</sup>

Part of Halifax was annexed to Edgecombe in 1779.

. . . all that part of Halifax County lying below a Line beginning at John Wall's and Drewry Crokers dividing Corner Tree on Fishing Creek, then along said Wall's Line to the back Corner, thence a Direct Line as near as may be to the Fork of the Marsh Swamp at or near Matthew Parker's, then down said Swamp to Deep Creek and across said Creek to the Mouth of the Indian Branch then the Various Courses of said Branch to the Martin County Line, . . .<sup>469</sup>

## HARNETT

Harnett was formed in 1855 from Cumberland. It was named in honor of Cornelius Harnett, an eminent Revolutionary patriot, president of the Provincial Council, president of the Council of Safety, delegate to the Continental Congress, and author of the Halifax Resolutions of April 12, 1776. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Cumberland, Hoke, Moore, Lee, Wake, and Johnston counties. The present area is 606 square miles and the population is 44,229. The courts were ordered to be held at Summerville until a courthouse was erected unless otherwise directed by a majority of the justices

<sup>466</sup>S. R., XXIII, 496; *Manual*, 1913, p. 636.

<sup>467</sup>S. R., XXIII, 496.

<sup>468</sup>S. R., XXIII, 976.

<sup>469</sup>S. R., XXIV, 249.



of the peace. It also named commissioners to locate the geographical center of the county, acquire the land, lay out a town and erect the public buildings. The town was called Toomer in honor of John D. Toomer of Cumberland, a judge of the superior and of the supreme court. Many people became dissatisfied with the location, and in 1859 an act was passed to allow the voters to decide whether Toomer should remain the county seat or a new location be selected. If a new site was selected, it should be called Lillington. Lillington was named in honor of Alexander Lillington. It is the county seat.<sup>470</sup>

. . . : Beginning at the intersection of the lines of Johnston and Sampson counties, on Black Mingo; thence a direct line to the mouth of Lower Little river; thence up said river to the bridge at Elliott's mills; thence a straight line to the place on the Murchison road where Hector's creek crosses; thence with said line to road to the Moore county line; thence with said line to the Chatham county line; thence with that to the Wake county line; thence with that to the Johnston county line; thence with that to the beginning.<sup>471</sup>

The dividing lines between Harnett and Johnston and between Harnett and Moore were authorized to be established in 1883.

. . . That for the purpose of ascertaining and establishing the dividing lines between the counties of Harnett and Johnston and the counties of Harnett and Moore, . . . commissioners . . . of said counties shall, . . . appoint one . . . and select a competent surveyor to survey and establish said lines, . . .<sup>472</sup>

No description is given in the law.

An act to settle and mark the boundary line between Moore and Harnett was passed in 1889. This act named commissioners to run and mark the line and designated the method of marking the said line. No description is given in the law.

. . . : all trees standing in the line shall be marked with three hacks on the side of approach and that of departure, and all side lines shall be marked with three hacks facing to the line; that the line so run and marked shall hereafter be the county line between said counties.<sup>473</sup>

Part of Cumberland was annexed to Harnett in 1911.

That chapter eight of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and fifty-five, being the act creating the county of Harnett, be and the same is hereby amended as follows: Strike out the words "thence a direct line to the mouth of Lower Little River" in lines five and six of section one thereof and insert in lieu thereof the following words, to wit: "Thence with the

<sup>470</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55, Chs. 8, 9; 1858-59, Ch. 5; Manual, 1913, p. 644.*

<sup>471</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 8.*

<sup>472</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 133.*

<sup>473</sup>*Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 125.*

line of Sampson County, that is to say down the various courses of Black Mingo to Lightwood Knot bridge over said Black Mingo; thence a direct line to the mouth of Lower Little River."<sup>474</sup>

## HAWKINS, TENNESSEE

Hawkins (now Tennessee) was formed in 1787 from Sullivan (now Tennessee). It was named in honor of Benjamin Hawkins, who later, with Samuel Johnston as United States senators, jointly executed the deed ceding North Carolina's western territory to the United States government. This cession was accepted April 2, 1790. The first court was to be held at the home of Thomas Gibbins, at which time the justices were to decide on a place for holding the future courts until the courthouse was erected. In 1789 Rogersville was established on land belonging to Joseph Rogers and James Hogan. The present area is 494 square miles and the population is 25,523. Rogersville is the county seat.<sup>475</sup>

. . . said county of Sullivan be divided in the following manner, beginning where the boundary line between the commonwealth of Virginia and the State of North Carolina crosses the north fork of Holston's river, thence down said fork to its junction with the main Holston's river, thence cross said river due south to the top of Bayes mountain, thence along the top of the said mountain and the top of the dividing ridge between the waters of Holston's river and French Broad river to its junction with Holston's river, thence down said river Holston to its junction with the Tenasee river, thence down the same to the Suck where the said rivers run through Cumberland mountain, thence along the top of said mountain to the afore-said boundary line, and thence along said line to the beginning: And that all that part of Sullivan county on the east side of the north fork of Holston's river, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Sullivan; and all that other part which lies west of said north fork of Holston shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Hawkins: . . .<sup>476</sup>

## HAYWOOD

Haywood was formed in 1808 from Buncombe. It was named in honor of John Haywood, treasurer of North Carolina, 1787-1827. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state of Tennessee and Madison, Buncombe, Transylvania, Jackson, and Swain counties. The present area is 543 square miles and the population is 34,804. The first court was ordered to be held at Mount Prospect, at which time the justices could decide on some other place for holding court until a court-

<sup>474</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1911, Ch. 591.*

<sup>475</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 830; XXV, 49; Counties of Tennessee, p. 21; Manual, 1913, p. 645.*

<sup>476</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 830.*

house could be erected. In 1809 the justices of the peace were authorized to appoint commissioners to erect the courthouse. "In the erection of the public buildings at Mount Prospect there was laid the foundation of the little city of Waynesville. . . . In the record of the court of pleas and quarter sessions the name of Waynesville occurs first in 1811." Waynesville was confirmed as a town by legislative act in 1810. Waynesville is the county seat.<sup>477</sup>

. . . , (to wit) beginning where the southern boundary line of this State crosses the highest part of the ridge dividing the waters of the French Broad from those of the Tucky Siegy River, then along the said ridge to the ridge dividing the waters of Pigeon and the French Broad River, then with said ridge to the top of Mount Pisgah, thence a direct line to the mouth of the first branch emptying into Hominy Creek on the north side above Jesse Belieu's, thence with said branch to the source, and thence along the top of the ridge, dividing the waters of the French Broad and those of Pigeon River, to the northern boundary of this State, and with the State line to the line which shall divide this State from the State of Georgia, and with that line to the beginning, shall be, and is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Haywood, in honor of the present Treasurer of this State.<sup>478</sup>

Macon was formed in 1828 from Haywood.

. . . , That all that part of Haywood county bounded as follows, (viz.) beginning on the Tennessee line, on the extreme height of the Great Smoky Mountain; Thence along the main summit of a ridge that divides the waters of the Oconaluftee River from those of Deep Creek, to the head waters of Newton's Mill Creek; thence down the said creek to Tuckaseega River; thence up the main channel of the river to the first main fork above the mouth of the Cany Fork of said river; thence along the ridge dividing the forks of said river to the top of the main Blue Ridge, which divides the eastern from the western waters; thence eastwardly along the various courses of the said Blue Ridge to the South Carolina line; thence with the said line to Ellicott's Rock on the east bank of Chattouga River; thence with the line dividing this state from Georgia to the line of Tennessee; thence along the Tennessee line to the extreme height of the Great Smoky Mountain, the point of beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Macon, with all the rights, privileges and immunities of the other counties of this State.<sup>479</sup>

The dividing line between Haywood and Buncombe was authorized to be run and marked in 1830.

. . . , appoint . . . commissioners . . . to run and mark the dividing line between said counties, from Jesse Ballow's old place, on Hominy creek,

<sup>477</sup>*Laws, 1808, Ch. 1; 1809, Ch. 22; 1810, Ch. 61; Arthur, p. 169; Manual, 1913, p. 645; Battle, p. 30.*

<sup>478</sup>*Laws, 1808, Ch. 1.*

<sup>479</sup>*Private Laws, 1828-29, Ch. 50.*

to the main height of Mount Pisgah; and the line so run and marked shall be the dividing line between said counties; . . .<sup>480</sup>

Jackson was formed in 1851 from Haywood and Macon.

. . . ; beginning on the extreme height of Scott's Creek mountains, where the State road crosses; thence with the top of that mountain, which divides the waters of Pigeon river from the waters of Tuckasege, near to the line that divides the counties of Henderson and Haywood; thence with the said line to the line which divides the states of North and South Carolina; thence with a line to be run from the said line to the top of Fodderstack mountain, so as to include the William Barns' Plantation within the new county; thence with the top of the said mountain to the White-side mountain; thence to the top of the Cowwee mountain to where the State road crosses it; thence with the top of the said mountain, which divides the waters of Tuckasegee river from the waters of the Tennessee river to the top of the mountain at the head of the Alarka Creek; thence along the top of said mountain, and the ridge that divides the waters of Alarka creek from those of the Tuckasegee river to the Tuckasegee river opposite the mouth of Fourncey's creek; thence with the top of the first ridge below said creek to the top of the Smokey mountain, on the Tennessee line; thence with the said line and top of said mountain to where the Oconaluftha Turnpike road crosses it; thence with the top of said mountain to the Bald mountain, that divides the waters of Oconaluftha from the waters of Cattaloocha creek; thence along the dividing ridge to where the Loco and Jonathan creek road crosses; thence on the top of the Balsam mountain that divides the waters of Richland creek from the waters of Tuckasegee river to the beginning, at the State road; be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county by the name of Jackson, . . .<sup>481</sup>

An act concerning the boundary line between Buncombe and Haywood was passed in 1889.

WHEREAS, there has heretofore existed a dispute concerning the dividing line between the counties of Buncombe and Haywood from the top of Big Pisgah mountain northwardly to the mouth of Ballew's branch, at the residence of John C. Smathers, on the old Western turnpike road; and whereas, . . . the said commissioners have actually surveyed, marked and settled said line and made report thereof to the respective boards of commissioners, which report has been duly ratified and confirmed and ordered to be recorded in the said county of Haywood and to be received in the county of Buncombe; . . .

. . . ; Beginning at the mouth of a branch emptying into North Horning creek on the south side thereof, near the residence of John C. Smathers, and about seven and one-half poles above the mouth of the Ballew branch, which empties on the north side of said creek and runs up said branch, which is known as County Line branch, to the forks thereof; then up the east prong of said branch to the top of the ridge or mountain that divides the waters of North Horning or Dutch Core creek from the waters of

<sup>480</sup>*Laws, 1829-30, Ch. 77.*

<sup>481</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 38.*

South Horning, and also the waters of South Horning from those of the east fork of Pigeon river; thence along the top of the said ridge or mountain, passing a hickory on the top of Thompson's knob and passing a colored grave-yard on the top of said ridge or mountain, and crossing the road that passes through the Deep gap at the foot of Pisgah; and thence to the top of Big Pisgah mountain, the said line following the meanderings of the water-shed of the said mountain from the head of the said County Line branch to the top of Big Pisgah, being in length three thousand two hundred and sixty-nine (3,269) poles or ten miles and sixty-nine poles; shall be and the same is hereby declared to be and established as the dividing line of said counties between the points therein named, and to have been such line from the establishing of said county of Haywood.<sup>482</sup>

## HENDERSON

Henderson was formed in 1838 from Buncombe. It was named in honor of Leonard Henderson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Transylvania, Haywood, Buncombe, McDowell, Rutherford, and Polk counties. The present area is 382 square miles and the population is 26,049. The first court was to be held at the home of Hugh Johnston, at which time the justices were to decide on a place for future courts until a courthouse was erected. Commissioners were named to acquire land, lay out a town, and erect a courthouse. This town was to be named Hendersonville. The commissioners selected a site which is now called Horse Shoe, but much dissatisfaction developed over the selection and two factions arose, one called the River party and the other the Road party. The River party favored the Horse Shoe site. In 1839 the Road party enjoined the sale of lots of the site selected at the Horse Shoe and the controversy soon waxed so warm that the Legislature ordered an election to be held to determine the location by popular vote. The Road party was successful. In 1840 Hendersonville was laid out on land deeded by Michael King of Charleston, South Carolina, for that purpose. Hendersonville is the county seat.<sup>483</sup>

. . . , beginning on the top of Pisgah Mountain, on the Haywood line, and from thence taking the dividing ridge between Hominy Creek and Mills' River, to the dividing ridge between Mills' River and Avery's Creek; from thence, keeping said ridge, to the head of Israel's Branch; from thence, taking down said Branch, to French Broad River; from thence, up said River, opposite the mouth of Cane Creek; from thence, crossing the River, to the mouth of Cane Creek; from thence, taking up Cane

<sup>482</sup>*Public Laws, 1889*, Ch. 399.

<sup>483</sup>*Public Laws, 1838-39*, Chs. 12, 13; 1840-41, Ch. 53; *Manual, 1913*, p. 648; *Battle*, p. 32; *Arthur*, p. 181-185.

Creek, to the Buncombe Turnpike Road; from thence, taking said Road, to the top of the ridge between Cane Creek and Mud Creek; from thence, taking the main dividing ridge, between Cane Creek and Clear Creek waters; to the top of Bear Wallow Mountain, on the Rutherford line; from thence, with the Rutherford line, to the South-Carolina line; from thence, with the South-Carolina line, to the Macon line; from thence, with the Macon line, to the Haywood line; from thence, with the Haywood line, to Pisgah, the beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Henderson.<sup>484</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Henderson in 1844.

. . . , That all that portion of the county of Rutherford lying west of a line beginning at a point on the dividing line between the county of Henderson and Rutherford, on the top of the Sugar Loaf Mountain, running thence S. 10 degrees E. to the South Carolina line; then West with said line to the Henderson county line; then commencing at the beginning point and running another line on the dividing ridge between Fall creek and Reedy Patch creek to Broad River at Paris Gap; then north 5 degrees east to the McDowell county line; then with said line to the Buncombe line; then with the said line to the Henderson line, be, and the same is hereby ceded to and made a part of Henderson county. . . .<sup>485</sup>

An act altering the boundary line between Buncombe and Henderson was passed in 1851.

. . . , That the line between the counties of Buncombe and Henderson be, and the same is hereby so altered, that from the mouth of Burn's branch, on the West side of French Broad river, the line shall be run a direct course to the point of Burney's mountain; thence with the summits of said mountain to the present county line between said counties, on Bear Wallow mountain.<sup>486</sup>

Polk was formed in 1855 from Rutherford and Henderson.

. . . , beginning on the top of Sugar-Loaf mountain, at the Henderson Corner, and running nearly east down to the ridge between the waters of Green and Broad Rivers; and with the ridge to Gray's Chapel; and from Gray's Chapel, continuing the same ridge down to the lands of Thomas Miller's; thence nearly east, including said lands, to Broad River; Thence with the main Broad River to Poer's ford; and from Poer's ford with the old road to South-Carolina line; thence with the South Carolina line to the old Buncombe Corner; and thence with the old Buncombe line to the original point, Sugar-Loaf mountain; . . .<sup>487</sup>

Transylvania was formed in 1861 from Henderson and Jackson.

. . . , That a county by the name of Transylvania be laid off and established out of the counties of Henderson and Jackson with the following boundary, to wit: beginning at the standing stone, on the South Carolina line, near

<sup>484</sup>Public Laws, 1838-39, Ch. 12.

<sup>485</sup>Laws, 1844-45, Ch. 24.

<sup>486</sup>Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 45.

<sup>487</sup>Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 10.



the head waters of Green river and Little river, and runs with the Blue Ridge to Green river gap, thence a straight line to the top of Hickory mountain, thence a straight line to the top of the mountain, west of William Sintel's, thence with the main ridge to the top of the high point on the mountain near Hadden farm, thence a straight line to the mouth of a branch between the Hadden and Justus farms, thence down the French broad river to the mouth of Bryson's creek, thence a straight line to the top of Pisgah mountain, thence a west direction with the Haywood line to the Jackson line to a point on the Blue Ridge between the head of Indian creek and Toxaway and running with the dividing ridge between Indian creek and Toxaway river to said river, thence south to the South Carolina line, thence with the South Carolina line to the beginning.<sup>488</sup>

The dividing line between Henderson and Polk was authorized to be established in 1903.

WHEREAS, doubts have arisen concerning the location of the dividing line between the counties of Henderson and Polk, and the citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the line are unable to determine where they shall exercise their rights of citizenship . . .

. . . , who shall proceed to locate the dividing line between the counties of Henderson and Polk, and shall mark the same by permanent monuments; and when they have so determined the proper location of said dividing line, they shall make a report of the same, under their hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of a majority of them, to the County Commissioners of the respective counties of Henderson and Polk, . . .<sup>489</sup>

## HERTFORD

Hertford was formed in 1759 from Chowan, Bertie, and Northampton. The act was to become effective May 1, 1760. It was named in honor of Francis Seymour Conway, Marquis of Hertford, a nobleman. He was a brother of General Conway, a distinguished British soldier and member of Parliament, who favored the repeal of the Stamp Act. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Gates, Chowan, Bertie, and Northampton counties and the state of Virginia. The present area is 356 square miles and the population is 19,252. The first court was held at Cotton's Ferry on the south side of Chowan River. Winton, established in 1766, is the county seat.<sup>490</sup>

. . . Beginning in Bertie County, at the first high Land on the North West Side of Mare Branch, on Chowan River Pocoson; running thence by a direct Line to Thomas Outlaw's Plantation, near Stoney Creek; thence by a direct Line to Northampton County Line, at the Plantation whereon James Rutland formerly lived; then along Northampton County Line to the Head of Beaver Dam Swamp; thence by a direct line to the Eastermost Part of

<sup>488</sup>*Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 10*

<sup>489</sup>*Public Laws, 1903, Ch. 430.*

<sup>490</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 503, 773; Manual, 1913, p. 649; Battle, p. 21.*

Kerby's Creek; thence down the Creek to Meherrin River; then up Meherrin River to the Virginia Line; then Easterly along the Virginia Line to Bennet's Creek; then down Bennet's Creek to Chowan River; then across the River to the Mouth of the said Mare Branch; and up the Branch to the Beginning: And all that Part of the said Counties included within the said Bounds be thenceforth erected into a distinct County and Parish, and known by the Name of Hertford County, and Parish of St. Barnabas.<sup>491</sup>

The boundary line between Northampton and Hertford was authorized to be run in 1764, to become effective March 1, 1765.

... the dividing Line between the said County of Northampton and Hertford shall be altered as followeth, to wit: Beginning on Kirby's Creek, where the dividing Line joins the said Creek, running thence up the Creek to the Fork thereof; then up Turkey Creek to Maple Fork; thence by direct South course, till it intersects the present dividing line.<sup>492</sup>

Gates was formed in 1779 from Chowan, Hertford, and Perquimans.

... that all that part of Hertford County that lies on the North East side of Chowan River, and all that part of Chowan and Perquimons Counties, that lies on the north side of Katherine, and Warwick Creeks, and bounded as follows, (that is to say) beginning at the Virginia line, on Chowan River, thence down the said River to the mouth of Katherine Creek, thence up the said Creek, to the mouth of Warwick Creek, thence up said Creek, to the Head, thence a direct line to the Head of the Indian Branch in Perquimons County, thence down said Branch to the Great Dismal Swamp, thence a North east Course to the Virginia line, thence Westwardly along said line to the beginning, and all that part of Hertford, Chowan, and Perquimons Counties, included in said lines, shall be and is hereby established a County by the name of Gates.<sup>493</sup>

The dividing line between Hertford and Northampton was not sufficiently described in many places; therefore an act was passed in 1870 authorizing the line to be established and marked in order to prevent disputes and inconveniences between the inhabitants of said counties. No description is given in this law.<sup>494</sup>

In 1877 a portion of the dividing line between Hertford and Bertie counties was authorized to be changed, provided that the qualified voters in the section affected voted for the same.

... Beginning at the point where roads leading from Pich Landing to Powell's cross-roads intersects the present line dividing said counties; thence along said road to Powell's cross-roads; thence along said road to Loving Swamp, near J. W. Mitchell's farm; thence along said road to Har-

<sup>491</sup>S. R., XXIII, 503.

<sup>492</sup>S. R., XXIII, 658.

<sup>493</sup>S. R., XXIV, 280.

<sup>494</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Chs. 195, 232.

ris' cross-roads; thence along a straight line from Harris' cross-roads to Jenkins' cross-roads; thence along the Winston road to a fork of said roads, known as "Roads Place"; thence along the Winston road about two miles, to the bend of said road, near Asa F. Earley's farm, and thence along a straight line in a north-westerly course to the Hertford line . . .<sup>495</sup>

An act to amend chapter one hundred and sixty-five, laws of one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six and seventy-seven, was passed in 1883. This act repealed the part giving the description and authorized the following description:

. . . Beginning on the west side of the Chowan river at the starting point of the present dividing line between said counties, and thence along a straight line from said starting point to the point where the dividing line between said counties intersects with the eastern boundary of the county of Northampton . . .<sup>496</sup>

The boundary line between Hertford and Bertie was authorized to be located and settled in 1907.

That the dividing line between Hertford and Bertie counties shall begin at the point where the old James Rutland dwelling formerly stood and now recognized as the corner for Hertford, Bertie and Northampton counties, thence in an easterly direction along the line as recognized as such dividing line up to one thousand nine hundred and one, to the first high land from Chowan River on the northwest side of Mare Branch to the nearest point to Chowan River, thence in a straight line due east to the Chowan River.<sup>497</sup>

## HOKE

Hoke was formed in 1911 from Cumberland and Robeson. It was named in honor of Robert F. Hoke, a major-general in the Confederate States Army. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by Cumberland, Robeson, Scotland, Moore, and Harnett counties. The present area is 414 square miles and the population is 14,937. Raeford is the county seat.<sup>498</sup>

Beginning at the southwest corner of Blue Springs Township, in Robeson County, on Lumber River, and running thence up said Lumber River, the same being the boundary line between the counties of Robeson and Scotland, and continuing with the run of said Lumber River to the west corner of Cumberland County; thence north thirty-nine degrees east with the line dividing Cumberland and Moore counties to the Harnett County line; thence with the line of Cumberland and Harnett counties to the run of Hector's Creek; thence down the run of Hector's Creek to where it empties into Lower Little River; thence a direct line to the head of Little Rockfish Creek in Seventy-first Township, the same being a spring in A. B.

<sup>495</sup>*Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 165.*

<sup>496</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 353.*

<sup>497</sup>*Public Laws, 1907, Ch. 210.* See appendix, p. 250, for a report of the commissioners on the Bertie and Hertford county line, which was made in 1902 under the authority of the boards of county commissioners of the two counties.

<sup>498</sup>*Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 24; Manual, 1913, p. 654.*

McFadyen's field; thence down the run of Little Rockfish Creek to the central plank road, near the residence of D. A. Blue; thence a direct line to Black's Ford on Steward's Creek; thence the various courses of Steward's Creek to Big Rockfish Creek; thence a direct line southwesterly to the crossing of the public roads at Graham's Mill on Mill prong of Big Raft Swamp, in Robeson County; thence a direct line, nearly west, to the beginning.<sup>499</sup>

## HYDE

Hyde was first called Wickham, the name being changed about 1712. It was named in honor of Edward Hyde, governor of North Carolina and a grandson of the Earl of Clarendon. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Pamlico Sound and Beaufort, Washington, Tyrrell, and Dare counties (and on the banks by the Atlantic Ocean and Dare and Carteret counties). The present area is 634 square miles and the population is 7,860. The courts were held in the courthouse in Bath until 1729. In that year an act was passed separating the precincts of Beaufort and Hyde and authorizing a courthouse to be built on the land of William Webster. In 1738 a town by the name of Woodstock was laid out on Webster's land. The courthouse at Woodstock burned about 1789, and in 1790 an act was passed moving the courthouse to Bell's Bay or Jasper's Creek. Thus, the county seat was on Jasper's Creek, 1791-1792. A law was passed in 1791 establishing a town on the land belonging to German Bernard "where the courthouse stands." This town was called German-town. In 1820 the old courthouse was authorized to be sold and a new one erected at Lake Landing or within two miles of it. In 1836 commissioners were named to purchase land from Zacheriah Gibbs for a county seat, or within one-fourth mile of the place called Swan Quarter, and erect a courthouse. Swan Quarter is the county seat. There is no description of this precinct at the time it was established.<sup>500</sup>

Part of Currituck was annexed to Hyde in 1745.

. . . That Mattamuskeet, and the Lake thereunto belonging, shall from henceforward be accounted, taken, reckoned and deemed Part of Hyde County; . . .<sup>501</sup>

The boundary line between Hyde and Tyrrell was authorized to be established in 1784.

. . . , and that they [commissioners named] in the act or any four of them shall meet on or before the first day of December, seventeen hundred

<sup>499</sup>*Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 24.*

<sup>500</sup>*C. R., II, 214; III, 453, 640; V, 86; S. R., XXIII, 12, 73, 112; XXV, 113, 155, 212, 229; Albemarle County Papers, I, 1678-1714; Laws, 1791, Ch. 73; 1797, Ch. 31; 1820, Ch. 66; 1836-37, Ch. 68; Private Laws, 1822, Ch. 149; Manual, 1913, p. 655; Battle, p. 19; Hyde County Court Minutes, 1767-79, 1784, 1787, 1791, 1792, 1796-97, 1821-28, 1844-46.*

<sup>501</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 282.*

and eighty-five, and jointly proceed to run and mark the said line as follows: Beginning where the counties of Beaufort, Martin and Tyrrell corner, thence a direct course to Long Shoal river, and thence the same course continued to Pamptico Sound.<sup>502</sup>

Part of Hyde was annexed to Beaufort in 1819.

. . . , That all that part of the county of Hyde, which lies upon the west side of Pungo river, be, and it is hereby added to, and made a part of the county of Beaufort.<sup>503</sup>

Part of Currituck was annexed to Hyde in 1823.

. . . That all that part of Currituck county, which lies South of New Inlet, be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Hyde.<sup>504</sup>

Part of Carteret was annexed to Hyde in 1845.

. . . , That all that part of Carteret county lying north of Ocracoke Inlet, and running thence in a north-easterly direction to the Hyde county line, bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, and on the west by Pamlico Sound, commonly known as Ocracoke, be, and the same is hereby attached to, and made a part of, Hyde county.<sup>505</sup>

Dare was formed in 1870 from Currituck, Hyde, and Tyrrell.

That a new county is hereby laid off and established, to be formed out of portions of Currituck and Tyrrel and Hyde counties, bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning in the north of Long Shoals river at a point on the north side of said river known as Rawls' Point, thence running up said river to the dividing line between the counties of Hyde and Tyrrel, thence running west said line to Alligator river, thence running the various courses of said river to its mouth, thence running a course across the Albemarle and Currituck sounds, so as to strike a point on the Currituck sound known as Long Point of Marsh, thence running a northeast by east course to the Atlantic ocean, thence running south along the sea beach to Hatteras inlet, thence running a direct course across the Pamlico sound to the place of beginning.<sup>506</sup>

An act amending the act to lay off and establish Dare was passed in 1873.

That an act entitled an act to lay off and establish the county of Dare, passed by the Legislature of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine and one thousand eight hundred and seventy, be amended by striking out the words "as Long Point of Marsh, thence running northeast by east course to the Atlantic ocean," which occur in the eleventh and twelfth lines of section first of said act, and insert the words, "known as south-west point of the Long Point of Marsh, thence about an east course to the southern boundary of a tract of land belonging to Moore and Griffith, at the head of Kitty hawk Bay, thence along the boundary line to the Atlantic ocean."<sup>507</sup>

<sup>502</sup>S. R., XXIV, 705.

<sup>503</sup>Public Laws, 1819, Ch. 114.

<sup>504</sup>Laws, 1823, Ch. 43.

<sup>505</sup>Laws, 1844-45, Ch. 25.

<sup>506</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 36.

<sup>507</sup>Public Laws, 1872-73, Ch. 127.

The boundary line between Hyde and Tyrrell as established by agreement in 1890 was validated by an act passed in 1921.

. . . : Beginning at a post marked Hyde and Tyrrell, which stands on the east bank of Pungo Lake at the mouth of the tributary nearest the State Canal leading from Pungo Lake to Pungo River, running thence through State lands in an easterly direction and in a straight line to another post marked Hyde and Tyrrell, which stands on Long Ridge and on the north-west bank of the Dunbar Canal eight hundred and ninety-eight poles from a marked pine standing on the same side of canal at last described post near John A. Dunbar's home, running thence south sixteen degrees west (time bearing as of above date), one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three poles to another pole marked Hyde and Tyrrell, which stands at the head of New Lake Fork or Creek where Squyars Canal enters therein, thence with said New Lake Fork or Creek and the Alligator River with all the windings thereof to where the Dare County line strikes said Alligator River.<sup>508</sup>

## IREDELL

Iredell was formed in 1788 from Rowan. It was named in honor of James Iredell of Edenton. He was one of the leaders in the State advocating the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Washington appointed him a judge of the Supreme Court of the United States in 1790. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Rowan, Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Catawba, Alexander, Wilkes, Yadkin, and Davie counties. The present area is 591 square miles and the population is 50,424. Statesville, established in 1789, is the county seat.<sup>509</sup>

. . . beginning where Coddle Creek enters Mecklenburg, and running up the east fork of said creek to the road leading from Beatie's Ford to Salisbury, from thence a strait course to Alexander M'Korkle's, Senior, from thence to the south fork of the Yadkin River at the mouth of a branch in Margaret Dobbin's Meadow and from thence due north to the Surry line; that all that part of the said county of Rowan lying westwardly of the said dividing line, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Iredell.<sup>510</sup>

Part of Burke and Wilkes was annexed to Iredell in 1793.

. . . , beginning at Iredell county line on the Catawba-river, thence up said river about three miles to Uriah Davis, thence nearly a north course about two miles to the bent on lower Little-river in James Fox's land, thence up said river to the lower end of John Barnes's land, thence nearly a north-east course along the dividing ridge between Grassy and Muddy forks to Iredell line between Black-Oak ridge and Brushy mountain, thence a south course along said line to the beginning; and all the land included by said line is hereby annexed and added to the county of Iredell.<sup>511</sup>

<sup>508</sup>*Public Laws, Special Session, 1921, Ch. 43.* In 1890 commissioners were appointed to survey the line between Hyde and Tyrrell. See appendix, p. 267, for this report.

<sup>509</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 980; XXV, 38; Manual, 1918, 660; Battle, p. 29.*

<sup>510</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 980.*

<sup>511</sup>*Laws, 1793, Ch. 31.*



In 1811 an act amending the act of 1793 and adding part of Wilkes and Burke to Iredell was passed.

. . . Commissioners to extend the line between the counties of Burke and Iredell, from the Three-cornered Island, in the Catawba river, to the bent of Lower Little river, in James Foxe's land, agreeable to the act of one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, for establishing the same.<sup>512</sup>

Part of Iredell was annexed to Wilkes in 1815.

. . . ; beginning at a place known by the name of Kemp's cabbin, or where the present line crosses the road leading from Statesville to Wilkesborough, on Hunting creek waters, or within one half mile of said place as may seem best to said commissioners, and not depart more than one half mile from a direct line to the following points, running nearly west to Lewis Dishman's, thence to the wolf pit, on the road leading from Randolph Maberry's to Thomas Cook's, thence varying said line so as to include Joseph Queen's house, on rocky creek in the county of Wilkes, thence to the top of Archus mountain, north of John Smith's, sen. thence crossing the Cove Gap road, near Hugh Campbell's house, thence to Benjamin Bentley's plantation, whereon he now lives, thence to the dividing ridge between the counties of Wilkes and Iredell, and that from and after the passing of this act, all that part of the county of Iredell within the above prescribed bounds be annexed to and made a part of the county of Wilkes, . . .<sup>513</sup>

Parts of Wilkes and Burke were added to Iredell in 1818.

. . . run the line between the counties of Burke and Iredell, from the Three cornered Island in the Catawba River to the bent of Little River in James Fox's land, agreeable to an act of one thousand seven hundred and ninety three for establishing the same.<sup>514</sup>

In 1819 additional commissioners were named to run this line. No description is given in the law.<sup>515</sup>

Alexander was formed in 1847 from Iredell, Caldwell and Wilkes.

. . . : beginning on the Wilkes and Iredell line, where the same crosses the Cove Gap Road, and running thence a Westerly or North Westerly direction, as the case may be, so as to strike the top of the main ridge of the Brushy Mountain, near James Robinett's, leaving the said Robinett's house on the south side of said line; thence with the main dividing ridge of said mountain to a point two miles east of Coxe's Knob, provided the said knob be found on the main ridge; if not, then to a point two miles east of a line, running the nearest and most direct course from the top of said knob to the top of the main ridge of said Brushy Mountain; thence a direct line to the mouth of a branch on the main road near Steel's Old Mill; thence a south westerly direction to a point on the Catawba River, one mile, in a direct line, below the mouth of upper Little River; thence

<sup>512</sup>Laws, 1811, Ch. 79.

<sup>513</sup>Laws, 1815, Ch. 18.

<sup>514</sup>Laws, 1818, Ch. 139.

<sup>515</sup>Laws, 1819, Ch. 39.

down the said Catawba River to Nimrod Pendergrasse's; thence a north east direction to the Ferry Road; thence with the Ferry Road to the Mountain Road; thence a direct line to the eleven mile post, on the Statesville Road; thence a direct course to Robert G. Martin's; thence direct to the Wilkes line, one and a half miles west of the widow Jane Redman's; thence with the said Wilkes and Iredell line to the beginning: . . .<sup>516</sup>

## JACKSON

Jackson was formed in 1851 from Haywood and Macon. It was named in honor of Andrew Jackson, who won an overwhelming victory from the British at New Orleans in 1815 and who was twice President of the United States. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the states of South Carolina and Georgia and Macon, Swain, Haywood, and Transylvania counties. The present area is 499 square miles and the population is 19,366. The first court was ordered to be held at the home of Daniel Bryson, Sr., and after that session the courts were held at Allen Fisher's store until the courthouse was erected. In 1852 an act was passed naming commissioners to acquire land upon which to establish a town by the name of Webster, in honor of Daniel Webster, where the courthouse and jail were to be erected. Webster continued to be the county seat until 1913, when an act was passed authorizing an election to be held to decide on moving the county seat from Webster to Sylva. The election was held May 8, 1913, and was carried by a majority of 675. Sylva furnished the site and \$10,000 in cash for the new courthouse. Sylva is the county seat.<sup>517</sup>

. . . : Beginning on the extreme height of Scott's Creek mountains, where the State road crosses; thence with the top of that mountain, which divides the waters of Pigeon river from the waters of Tuckasege, near to the line that divides the counties of Henderson and Haywood; thence with said line to the line which divides the States of North and South Carolina; thence with a line to be run from said line to the top of Fodderstack mountain, so as to include William Barns' plantation within the new county; thence with the top of said mountain to the Whiteside mountain; thence to the top of the Cowwee mountain, to where the State road crosses it; thence with the top of the said mountain, which divides the waters of Tuckasegee river from the waters of the Tennessee river to the top of the mountain at the head of Alarka Creek; thence along the top of said mountain, and the ridge that divides the waters of Alarka creek from those of Tuckasegee river to the Tuckasegee river opposite the mouth of Fourncey's creek; thence with the top of the first ridge below said creek to the top of the Smokey mountain, on the Tennessee line; thence with said line and top

<sup>516</sup>*Public Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 22.*

<sup>517</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Chs. 38, 39; 1852, Ch. 30; Public-Local Laws, 1913, Ch. 153; Manual, 1913, p. 665; Battle, p. 31; Arthur, p. 192 ff.*

of said mountain to where the Oconaluftha Turnpike road crosses it; thence with the top of said mountain to the Bald mountain, that divides the waters of Oconaluftha from the waters of Cattaloocha creek; thence along the dividing ridge to where the Loco and Jonathan creek road crosses; thence on the top of the Balsam mountain that divides the waters of Richland creek from the waters of Tuckasegee river to the beginning, at the State road; be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county by the name of Jackson, . . .<sup>518</sup>

Transylvania was formed in 1861 from Henderson and Jackson.

. . . , That a county by the name of Transylvania be laid off and established out of the counties of Henderson and Jackson with the following boundary, to wit: beginning at the standing stone, on the South Carolina line, near the head waters of Green river and Little river, and runs with the Blue Ridge to Green river gap, thence a straight line to the top of Hickory mountain, thence a straight line to the top of the mountain, west of William Sintel's, thence with the main ridge to the top of the high point on the mountain near Hadden farm, thence a straight line to the mouth of a branch between the Hadden and Justus farms, thence down the French broad river to the mouth of Bryson's creek, thence a straight line to the top of Pisgah mountain, thence a west direction from the Haywood line to the Jackson line to a point on the Blue Ridge between the head of Indian creek and Toxaway, and running with the dividing ridge between Indian creek and Toxaway river to said river, thence south to the South Carolina line, thence with the South Carolina line to the beginning.<sup>519</sup>

Part of Jackson was annexed to Macon in 1861.

. . . , That all that part of Jackson county between the present line of said county and a line running as follows, viz: beginning on the present line between Macon and Jackson counties, on the western end of Black Rock mountain, thence in a south eastwardly direction along the crest of said mountain and down the leading ridge to the confluence of Cane creek and north Chattooga (Chattanooga) river and thence down said river to the present line, being a distance of about three miles, be and the same is hereby ceded to and made part of Macon county.<sup>520</sup>

The boundary line between Jackson and Transylvania counties was authorized to be changed in 1862.

. . . , That that part of the line which now divides the counties of Jackson and Transylvania, from the Tennessee mountain to the South-Carolina line, be so amended as to run from the Tennessee mountain to the top of the Hog-back mountain, thence direct to the top of the Bear-pen mountain, thence direct to the top of Ayres' ridge, thence down that ridge to the White Water river, thence down that river to the line of the State of South-Carolina, and thence with that line to present dividing line between said counties.<sup>521</sup>

<sup>518</sup>Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 38.

<sup>519</sup>Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 10.

<sup>520</sup>Private Laws, Second Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 72.

<sup>521</sup>Private Laws, 1862-63, Ch. 4.

Swain was formed in 1871 from Jackson and Macon.

. . . ; beginning on the line of the state of Tennessee where the Tennessee river crosses said line; thence up said river to where the Cherokee county line leaves the same; thence with the line of said county to the point at which the road leading from the waters of Nantahala river to the waters of Cheowee river across said line; thence with said road within one-fourth mile of Captain N. S. Jarrett's mill nearest his present residence; thence crossing Nantahala river on a straight line to the Shallow ford on Tennessee river; thence crossing the said river last named and running with the dividing ridge to the Jackson county line on the top of Cowee mountain, so as to include the waters of Tabors creek and Alarka creek in the new county hereby created; thence with the line of the said county of Jackson to a spur of said Cowee mountain and running thence with said spur to Tuckasegee river so as to include the waters of Conleys' creek in the county created by this act; thence crossing said river on a direct line, and running thence on the same to the Oconeeluffy river to a point opposite the mouth of Adam's creek; thence up the last named river to the mouth of Soco creek; thence with the dividing ridge between the said Oconeeluffy river and Soco creek and following said main dividing ridge to the Tennessee line on the top of Smoky mountain; thence with said Tennessee line to the beginning; be and the same is hereby created into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Swain, . . .<sup>522</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Swain and Jackson was authorized to be changed in 1887.

That the dividing line between the counties of Swain and Jackson be changed from the following point, to wit: Beginning at the point where the Swain and Jackson line runs to the Tuckasegee river above the mouth of Carley's creek and below the Thomas farm, and thence down the Tuckasegee river as it meanders to the point where the present Swain and Jackson line crosses said river; and all that part of Jackson that is on the west side of the said river and included in said boundary shall be and remain as a part of Swain county.<sup>523</sup>

## JOHNSTON

Johnston was formed in 1746 from Craven. It was named in honor of Gabriel Johnston, governor of North Carolina, 1734-1752. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Wilson, Wayne, Sampson, Cumberland, Harnett, Wake, and Nash counties. The present area is 795 square miles and the population is 63,798. The first court was held at the home of Francis Stringer at the Ferry on Neuse River. Court was held at Hinton's Quarter on the south side of Neuse River, 1759-1760, and probably before that date. In August, 1771, it was held at John Smith's. From 1771 to 1776 the county seat was called

<sup>522</sup>Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 94.

<sup>523</sup>Public Laws, 1887, Ch. 180.

Johnston Court House. In 1777 Smithfield was established "where the Court House, prison and stocks now stand." Smithfield is the county seat.<sup>524</sup>

. . . a Line beginning at the Mouth of the Southwest Creek, on the South Side of Neuse River, below Francis Stringer's Ferry, running up the said Creek as far as the aforesaid County extends that Way, and running a North Line from the Mouth of the said Southwest Creek as far as the County extends Northwardly; and that the upper Part of the said County be erected into a County by the Name of Johnston County, and St. Patrick's Parish, . . .<sup>525</sup>

Orange was formed in 1752 from Johnston, Bladen, and Granville.

. . . , That the upper Part of Granville, Johnston, and Bladen Counties, be erected into a County and Parish by the Name of Orange County, and the Parish of St. Matthew, and be divided by a Line, beginning on the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, thence a direct line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Occanechas, near the Plantation where John Williams now dwelleth; thence down the South side of Eno River, to Neuse River; thence down Neuse River, to the Mouth of Horse Creek; thence a direct line to the Place where Earl Granville's Line crosses Cape Fear River; thence along the said Line, to the Eastern Bounds of Anson County; thence along the dividing Line of Anson County to the End thereof: And that the upper Parts of the said County be divided and run accordingly, by the Commissioners . . .<sup>526</sup>

The dividing line between Granville, Johnston, and Bladen counties was authorized to be changed in 1753.

I. Whereas it is found to be more convenient to the inhabitants of the said County [Orange] to have the lines mentioned in the above said Act, to run from the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, in a direct Line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Ocanechas, and from thence down the Eno River to Neuse River, and from thence down Neuse River, to the Mouth of Horse Creek, altered by a Line to be run, beginning on the Virginia Line, twenty Miles west of Granville Court House, running thence a South Course to Neuse River, thence bounded by the said river to the Mouth of Horse Creek; . . .

. . . , That instead of the Lines mentioned in the above recited Act, to be run from the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, in a direct Line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Occanechas, and from thence down the Eno River to Neuse River, at the mouth of Horse Creek, a Line shall be run, beginning on the Virginia Line, twenty Miles West of Granville Court House, running thence a South Line to Neuse River, and thence bounded by the said River, to the Mouth of Horse Creek.<sup>527</sup>

<sup>524</sup>C. R., VIII, 575; X, 566; S. R., XXIII, 248; XXIV, 21; *Laws, 1794*, Ch. 84; *Manual, 1913*, p. 667. In 1888 commissioners were appointed to survey the line between Johnston and Sampson counties. See appendix, p. 268, for a report of these commissioners.

<sup>525</sup>S. R., XXIII, 248.

<sup>526</sup>S. R., XXIII, 388.

<sup>527</sup>S. R., XXIII, 390.

Dobbs was formed in 1758 from Johnston.

. . . , That from and after the Tenth Day of April next the said County be divided by the dividing Line between the Parish of St. Patrick and the Parish of St. Stephen; and that that part of the said County which is now the Parish of St. Stephen; remain, be called, and known by the name of Johnston; and that part of the said County which is the Parish of St. Patrick, be thenceforth erected into a distinct County, and called and known by the Name of Dobbs.<sup>528</sup>

Part of Orange was annexed to Johnston in 1761.

. . . a Line to begin at the South West Corner of Granville County, and running thence to a due South Course to Johnston or Cumberland County Line, which of the said County Lines it may first intersect.<sup>529</sup>

Wake was formed in 1770 from Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange.

. . . , the said Counties of Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange, be divided by the following Lines; that is to say; Beginning at Edgecomb Line on Mocossin Swamp, a Mile above James Lea's Plantation, running a direct Line to Neuse River, at the upper End of John Beddingfield's Plantation; then to David Mimm's Mill Creek, between Mimm's Mill and Tanner's old Mill; then the same course continued to the Ridge which divides Cumberland and Johnston Counties; then a straight Line to Orange Line, at the lower End of Richard Hill's Plantation, on Buckhorn; then the same Course continued Five Miles; then to the Corner of Johnston County on Granville Line; then with the same Line and Bute Line to Edgecomb Line; and along Edgecomb Line to the Beginning; be thenceforth erected into a Distinct County and Parish, by the name Wake County, and St. Margaret's Parish.<sup>530</sup>

Part of Duplin was annexed to Johnston in 1777.

. . . , That all that Part of Duplin County above Dismal Creek be added to the County of Johnston, and that it be divided by said Creek, beginning at the Mouth of the Creek, Cumberland Line, thence running up the Meanders of the said Creek an East Course to Johnston County Line: . . .<sup>531</sup>

In 1792 an act was passed naming commissioners to run the boundary line between Johnston and Wayne counties and file a copy of the proceedings in each county. No description is given in the law.<sup>532</sup>

Wilson was formed in 1855 from Edgecombe, Nash, Johnston, and Wayne.

. . . : Beginning at a lightwood stake in the Pitt county line; thence a direct line to Pender's hill; thence a direct line to Town creek, at the mouth

<sup>528</sup>S. R., XXIII, 495.

<sup>529</sup>S. R., XXIII, 547.

<sup>530</sup>S. R., XXIII, 819.

<sup>531</sup>S. R., XXIV, 144.

<sup>532</sup>Laws, 1792, Ch. 34.



of Col. David Williams's mill branch; thence up said mill branch to the mill; thence a direct line by William Adams's, senior, to the Nash line; thence a straight line to Turkey creek bridge, near the Pridgen old place; thence with the road to Mocasine creek bridge; thence down the said creek to the junction of Mocasine and Turkey creeks; thence a direct line to the Red Hill, (Henry Horn's old place); thence a direct line to the Wayne County line, at the Juniper Swamp; thence the Wayne and Johnston line north, to a point in a direct line from the Red Hill to Ruffin's bridge; thence a direct line to Ruffin's bridge, diverging north at the house of Jacob Hooks, so as to leave the dwelling house of said Hooks in the county of Wayne; thence from said Ruffin's bridge down Contentnea creek to the Greene county line; thence the Greene county line to the beginning. . . .<sup>533</sup>

The dividing lines between Harnett and Johnston and between Harnett and Moore were authorized to be established in 1883.

. . . That for the purpose of ascertaining and establishing the dividing lines between the counties of Harnett and Johnston and the counties of Harnett and Moore, . . . commissioners . . . of said counties, . . . appoint one . . . and select a competent surveyor to survey and establish said lines, . . .<sup>534</sup>

No description is given in the law.

In 1803 the boundary line between Sampson and Johnston had not been established. Therefore, an act was passed naming commissioners to establish the line and file a report in each county. No description is given in the law.<sup>535</sup>

In 1804 the Legislature again named commissioners to establish the line between Johnston and Sampson. No description is given in the law.<sup>536</sup>

## JONES

Jones was formed in 1779 from Craven. It was named in honor of Willie Jones of Halifax who was one of the leaders of the Revolution, president of the Council of Safety and an opponent of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. It was due chiefly to his influence that the Convention of 1788 refused to ratify the Federal Constitution. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Craven, Carteret, Onslow, Duplin, and Lenoir counties. The present area is 467 square miles and the population is 10,926. The first court was directed to be held at the home of Thomas Webber at Trent Bridge, and to continue there until the courthouse was built unless some

<sup>533</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 12.*

<sup>534</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 133.*

<sup>535</sup>*Laws, 1803, Ch. 73.*

<sup>536</sup>*Laws, 1804, Ch. 55.*

other place was selected. In 1784 an act was passed authorizing a town by the name of Trenton to be laid out where the courthouse stood. Trenton is the county seat.<sup>537</sup>

. . . the said County of Craven shall be divided into two distinct Counties, by a line beginning at that part of Carteret line, which lies directly South from the Head of Reedy Branch, running thence to the head of the said Branch, and so down the meanders of the same to Trent River, thence up Trent River to the mouth of Deep Gulley Branch, to Dover or Batchelor Desert, thence up Dover or Batchelor Desert to the plantation of Thomas Kent, thence a direct Course to the South West Bridge, at Dobbs County Line, and that all that part of the said County of Craven which lies above or Westwardly of the said dividing line, shall be established a new and distinct County by the name of Jones.<sup>538</sup>

Part of Carteret was annexed to Jones in 1779.

. . . , That all that part of the said County of Carteret beginning in Jones county line in the head of Black Swamp, thence running down the meanders of said swamp to White Oak River, then up the various courses of said river to the head, thence a direct line to Jones county line, that all that part on the north side of said White Oak river and west of the aforesaid swamp shall, from and after the passing of this act, be held and deemed part of the county of Jones, . . .<sup>539</sup>

Part of Dobbs was annexed to Jones in 1788.

. . . , That all that part of Dobbs county lying between the following lines, beginning at Dortche's Mill on Trent-river, running from thence a direct line to Widow Jerman's, and from thence to Duplin line, then with the same to Onslow line, then with Onslow line to where Dobbs and Jones line intersect the same; and that all that part of Dobbs between the said lines be, and the same is hereby added to and made part of Jones county. . .<sup>540</sup>

Part of Carteret was annexed to Jones in 1788.

. . . , That all that part of Carteret county lying on the north side of White Oak river and on the West side of Hunter's creek, be and the same is hereby annexed to and made part of Jones county. . .<sup>541</sup>

An act was passed in 1881 authorizing the dividing line between the counties of Jones and Craven and between Lenoir and Jones to be surveyed and established. No description is given in the law.<sup>542</sup>

A dividing line between the counties of Jones and Onslow was authorized to be run and established in 1921. No description is given in the law.<sup>543</sup>

<sup>537</sup>S. R., XXIV, 225, 609, 697; *Manual, 1913*, p. 673; Battle, p. 27.

<sup>538</sup>S. R., XXIV, 225.

<sup>539</sup>S. R., XXIV, 311.

<sup>540</sup>S. R., XXIV, 958.

<sup>541</sup>S. R., XXIV, 960.

<sup>542</sup>*Public Laws, 1881*, Ch. 61. Commissioners were appointed in 1842 to mark the line between Jones and Craven. See appendix, p. 269, for their report.

<sup>543</sup>*Public Laws, 1921*, Ch. 65.

## LEE

Lee was formed in 1907 from Moore and Chatham. The act was to become effective April 1, 1908. It was named in honor of Robert E. Lee. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Harnett, Moore, and Chatham counties. The present area is 255 square miles and the population is 18,743. Sanford is the county seat.<sup>544</sup>

. . . : Beginning at a point in the middle of Deep River opposite the mouth of Big Governor's Creek, thence up Big Governor's and Little Governor's creeks to the Gulf and Graham plank road; thence as the Gulf and Graham plank road to its intersection with the Carthage and Fayetteville plank road; thence as the Carthage and Fayetteville plank road to the Harnett County line; thence as the Harnett County line direct to the present corner of Moore and Chatham counties on the eastern bank of the Cape Fear River; thence as the Chatham County line to the middle of Cape Fear; thence up the middle of Cape Fear and Deep River to the beginning.<sup>545</sup>

## LENOIR

Lenoir was formed in 1791 from Dobbs. It was named in honor of William Lenoir, one of the heroes of Kings Mountain. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Craven, Jones, Duplin, Wayne, Greene, and Pitt counties. The present area is 391 square miles and the population is 41,211. When Kinston was established in 1762 it was in Dobbs County. It was made the county seat of Dobbs in 1764, and when Dobbs was abolished in 1791 Kinston became the county seat of Lenoir.<sup>546</sup>

. . . the said county of Dobbs be divided, by running a direct line from where the dividing line between the said county of Dobbs and Wayne county crosses Bear creek, to the head of Wheat-swamp, a little above Richard Hodges's, then down said Wheat swamp to William Killpatrick's, and from thence a direct line to the Craven county line, opposite the mouth of Little Contentney; and that all that part of the late county of Dobbs, lying south and south-east of the said lines, be held and deemed a distinct county, by the name of Lenoir: . . .<sup>547</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Lenoir in 1798.

. . . , That that part of the county of Craven lying within the following boundaries, be annexed to the county of Lenoir, to wit: Beginning on the river Neuse where the dividing line of the two counties crosses the same;

<sup>544</sup>The act provided for a vote of the people to make a final decision in establishing the county. The vote was: for the county, 875; against the county, 40. *The News and Observer*, July 5, 1907. The county officers were to assume their duties April 1, 1908. *Public Laws*, 1907, Ch. 624; *Manual*, 1913, p. 77.

<sup>545</sup>*Public Laws*, 1907, Ch. 624.

<sup>546</sup>*C. R.*, VI, 1276; *S. R.*, XXIV, 613; XXV, 468; *Laws*, 1791, Ch. 47; 1792, Ch. 35; *Manual*, 1913, p. 678; Battle, p. 26. See p. 89 for early spelling of Kinston.

<sup>547</sup>*Laws*, 1791, Ch. 47.

thence running down the various courses of the river to the mouth of Stoneyton Creek; thence up the various courses of Stoneyton creek to where the dividing line between the two counties crosses the same; thence along the same to the beginning on the river Neuse; and that the above described part of the county of Craven be hereafter a part of the county of Lenoir,<sup>548</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Lenoir in 1804.

. . . , all that part of the county of Craven, lying in the fork of Neuse river and Great Contentney creek shall be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Lenoir, and shall become a part of said county of Lenoir, to all intents and purposes, whatsoever: . . .<sup>549</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Lenoir in 1819.

. . . , That all that part of Craven county lying above Moseley's Creek, be, and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall hereafter be considered as forming part of the County of Lenoir; . . .<sup>550</sup>

The dividing line between Duplin and Lenoir was directed to be run and established in 1819.

. . . are hereby appointed commissioners for the purpose of running and establishing the dividing line between the counties aforesaid, . . . and when completed . . . two fair plats or representations of the said dividing line shall be by them made out, and returned to the Clerk's office of the respective counties aforesaid, and the same shall be entered on the records thereof; and the line so run and established, shall forever thereafter be considered the permanent dividing line between the said counties.<sup>551</sup>

No description is given in the law.

In 1881 an act was passed authorizing the establishment of the dividing line between Jones and Lenoir and between Jones and Craven. No descriptions were given in the law.<sup>552</sup>

## LINCOLN

Lincoln was formed in 1779 from Tryon. It was named in honor of General Benjamin Lincoln, a distinguished general of the Revolution whom George Washington appointed to receive the sword of Cornwallis when he surrendered at Yorktown. It is in the southwestern section of the State and is bounded by Mecklenburg, Gaston, Cleveland, Catawba, and Iredell counties. The present area is 308 square miles and the population is 24,187. The

<sup>548</sup>*Laws, 1798, Ch. 89.*

<sup>549</sup>*Laws, 1804, Ch. 56.*

<sup>550</sup>*Laws, 1819, Ch. 115.*

<sup>551</sup>*Laws, 1819, Ch. 126.* In 1930 a survey of this line was made by commissioners appointed for that purpose. For this report see appendix, p. 260.

<sup>552</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 61.*

act establishing the county appointed commissioners to select a convenient and central place and to erect a courthouse and prison. In 1782 and in 1784 new commissioners were appointed, as the previously appointed commissioners had failed to act. In 1785 Lincolnton was established on land selected for the county seat. It is the present county seat.<sup>553</sup>

. . . , the County of Tryon shall be divided into two distinct Counties, by a Line beginning at the South Line, near Broad River, on the dividing ridge between Buffalo Creek and Little Broad River, thence along said ridge, to the Line of Burke thence along said Line unto the old Cherokee line, thence due West course into the top of a dividing ridge between the Eastering and Westering Waters, thence along said ridge unto the old line Claimed by South Carolina, and all that part of the said County which lies on the East side of the said line shall be called, and known by the name of Lincoln County, and all that part of the County which lies on the other or West side thereof, shall be called and known by the name of Ruth-  
erford County.<sup>554</sup>

Part of Burke was annexed to Lincoln in 1782.

. . . : Beginning at Sharrel's ford, running with the road leading towards Henry Whitners, as far as Matthew Wilson's, thence, a direct course to Simon Horse's, on the waters of Clark's Creek, thence a direct course to the Fish-Dam ford of the south fork of the Catawba river, between James Wilson and David Robinson, and from thence a southwest course to Earl Granville's old line, and that all that part of Burke county lying south-east of the line above described shall henceforth be taken off from Burke, and shall be added and remain to Lincoln county.<sup>555</sup>

The line between Burke and Lincoln was authorized to be run in 1784.

. . . , That the boundary line between the counties of Burke and Lincoln shall hereafter be as follows, to wit: Beginning at the Horse Ford on Catawba river, running thence to John Hawnsen Hendry river, thence to William Orrson Jacobs river, and thence to the intersection of the counties of Burke, Lincoln and Rutherford, as they now stand.<sup>556</sup>

The dividing line between Lincoln and Burke was authorized to be run and marked in 1824. No description is given in the law.<sup>557</sup>

The boundary line between Lincoln and Burke as directed in 1784 was authorized to be run and established by an act passed in 1826. No description is given in the law.<sup>558</sup>

<sup>553</sup>S. R., XXIV, 236, 472, 645, 778; *Manual, 1913*, p. 682; Battle, p. 25.

<sup>554</sup>S. R., XXIV, 236.

<sup>555</sup>S. R., XXIV, 472.

<sup>556</sup>S. R., XXIV, 646.

<sup>557</sup>*Private Laws, 1824*, Ch. 46.

<sup>558</sup>*Private Laws, 1826*, Ch. 70.

Cleveland was formed in 1841 from Rutherford and Lincoln.

. . . , beginning at a point in the South Carolina line, and running a North course so as to pass within fourteen miles, East of Rutherfordton, until it strikes the Burke County line, thence with the dividing-line of Burke and Rutherford, to the Lincoln-line, thence to the thirteen mile-post, on the Lucas Ford Road, thence to the twelve mile-post, on the new Post-Road, leading from Rutherford to Lincolnton, thence to the twelve mile-post, leading from Lincolnton to Qwin's Ferry, thence to the twelve mile-post, leading from Morganton to Yorkville, South Carolina, thence with the Road passing the Abernathy's Store, by the Gold Mine, at King's Mountain, to the South Carolina line, then with it to the beginning.<sup>559</sup>

Catawba was formed in 1842 from Lincoln.

. . . Beginning at a point on the Catawba river, and running west, so as to pass within one mile and a half north of Lincolnton, to the Cleaveland County line, and thence with the dividing line between Cleaveland and Lincoln to the Burke line; thence with the line dividing Burke and Lincoln to the Catawba River; and thence with the meanderings of the said river to the beginning be, and the same is hereby erected into a new and separate County by the name of Catawba.<sup>560</sup>

Gaston was formed in 1846 from Lincoln.

. . . , Beginning at a point on the Cleaveland line, six miles due south of the present dividing line of Lincoln and Catawba; thence running parallel with the line to the Catawba river.<sup>561</sup>

Part of Catawba was annexed to Lincoln in 1846.

. . . , That so much of the county of Catawba, as lies south of the following line, to wit: Beginning at the Catawba river, and four miles due north of the present dividing line between Lincoln and Catawba counties, and running parallel with said line to the western boundary of said county, be, and the same is hereby annexed and made part of Lincoln county.<sup>562</sup>

Part of Gaston was annexed to Lincoln in 1875, provided the change was submitted to and approved by the voters of Gaston in August, 1875.

. . . : Beginning on said line in the northwestern portion of said Gaston county at the point where the old road known as the Flint Hill road crosses the Gaston and Lincoln county line, and run thence a direct line to the point where said road crosses the line between the counties of Gaston and Cleaveland: . . .<sup>563</sup>

<sup>559</sup>*Public Laws, 1840-41, Ch. 9.*

<sup>560</sup>*Public Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 8.*

<sup>561</sup>*Public Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 24.* In October, 1907, commissioners were appointed to establish the magnetic meridian on the Lincoln and Gaston line four and one-half miles south of Lincolnton. A map of this survey is on file in the offices of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

<sup>562</sup>*Public Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 24.*

<sup>563</sup>*Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 125.*



The dividing line between the counties of Gaston and Lincoln was authorized to be established in 1909.

Whereas doubts have arisen concerning the location of the dividing line between the counties of Gaston and Lincoln, and the citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the line are unable to determine where they shall exercise their rights of citizenship and pay their taxes; . . .

. . . , who shall proceed to locate the dividing line between the counties of Gaston and Lincoln, and shall mark the same, by stones or other permanent monuments, at every point where said line crosses a public road and at as many other places as they shall deem necessary; . . .<sup>564</sup>

## MACON

Macon was formed in 1828 from Haywood. It was named in honor of Nathaniel Macon, speaker of the House of Representatives, United States senator, and president of the Constitutional Convention of 1835. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state of Georgia and Clay, Cherokee, Swain, and Jackson counties. The present area is 520 square miles and the population is 15,880. The first court was ordered to be held in the town of Franklin. Franklin is the county seat.<sup>565</sup>

. . . , That all that part of Haywood county bounded as follows, (viz.) beginning on the Tennessee line, on the extreme height of the Great Smoky Mountain; thence along the main summit of a ridge that divides the waters of the Oconaluftee River from those of Deep Creek, to the head waters of Newton's Mill Creek; thence down the said creek to Tuckaseega River; thence up the main channel of the river to the first main fork above the mouth of Cany Fork of said river; thence along the ridge dividing the forks of said river to the top of the main Blue Ridge, which divides the eastern from the western waters; thence eastwardly along the various courses of the said Blue Ridge to the South Carolina line; thence with the said line to Ellicott's Rock on the east bank of Chattouga River; thence with the line dividing this State from Georgia to the line of Tennessee; thence along the Tennessee line to the extreme height of the Great Smoky Mountain, the point of beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Macon, with all the rights, privileges and immunities of the other counties of this State.<sup>566</sup>

Cherokee was formed in 1839 from Macon.

. . . ; beginning at the junction of the Tennessee and Tuckaseegee Rivers; thence down the main channel of the Tennessee River to the State line of Tennessee; thence with said Tennessee line; to where it intersects the Georgia line; thence with the line dividing this State from Georgia, East-

<sup>564</sup>Public Laws, 1909, Ch. 776.

<sup>565</sup>Private Laws, 1828-29, Chs. 50, 51; Arthur, pp. 173-175; Manual, 1918, p. 687; Battle, p. 32.

<sup>566</sup>Private Laws, 1828-29, Ch. 50.

wardly, to the Mountain dividing the waters of Hiwassee and Valley Rivers, from those of the Nantahala River; thence along the highest summit, and the various courses of the said Mountain to the point of the beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Cherokee, . . .<sup>507</sup>

Jackson was formed in 1851 from Haywood and Macon.

. . . , beginning on the extreme height of Scott's Creek mountains, where the State road crosses; thence with the top of that mountain, which divides the waters of Pigeon river from the waters of Tuckasege, near to the line that divides the counties of Henderson and Haywood; thence with the said line to the line which divides the States of North and South Carolina; thence with a line to be run from the said line to the top of Fodderstack mountain, so as to include the William Barns' Plantation within the new county; thence with the top of the said mountain to the Whiteside mountain; thence to the top of the Cowwee mountain to where the State Road crosses it; thence with the top of the said mountain, which divides the waters of Tuckasegee river from the water of the Tennessee river to the top of the mountain at the head of the Alarka Creek; thence along the top of said mountain, and the ridge that divides the waters of Alarka creek from those of the Tuckasegee river to the Tuckasegee river opposite the mouth of Fourncey's creek; thence with the top of the first ridge below said creek to the top of the Smokey mountain, on the Tennessee line; thence with the said line and top of said mountain to where the Oconaluftha Turnpike road crosses it; thence with the top of said mountain to the Bald mountain, that divides the waters of Oconaluftha from the waters of Cattaloocha creek; thence along the dividing ridge to where the Loco and Jonathan creek road crosses; thence on the top of the Balsam mountain that divides the waters of Richland creek from the waters of Tuckasegee river to the beginning, at the State road; be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Jackson, . . .<sup>508</sup>

Part of Jackson was annexed to Macon in 1861.

. . . , That all that part of Jackson county between the present line of said county and a line running as follows, viz: beginning on the present line between Macon and Jackson counties on the western end of Black Rock mountain, thence in a south eastwardly direction along the crest of said mountain and down the leading ridge to the confluence of Cane creek and north Chattooga (Chattanooga) river and thence down said river to the present line, being a distance of about three miles, be and the same is hereby ceded to and made a part of Macon county.<sup>509</sup>

In 1879 an act to establish the state line between Macon, North Carolina, and Rabun, Georgia, was passed.

That the state line between the county of Macon, in North Carolina, and Rabun county, in Georgia, be established by a survey: Beginning at what is known as Elliquet's Rock, which is the corner of the states of

<sup>507</sup> *Laws, 1838-39, Ch. 10.*

<sup>508</sup> *Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 38.*

<sup>509</sup> *Private Laws, Second Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 72.*

North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, and running thence in a westerly direction to what is known as the Locust Stake in the state line of North Carolina and Georgia, and as much more thereof as in dispute.<sup>570</sup>

The boundary line between Macon and Graham was authorized to be changed in 1885.

That the line between the counties of Macon and Graham be changed as follows: Beginning on the line of Macon at the head of the Big Meadows in Graham county on the head of Tallula creek, and run in an east direction so as to include the Jeff. George farm, now owned by Jenkins, in Graham county.<sup>571</sup>

## McDOWELL

McDowell was formed in 1842 from Rutherford and Burke. It was named in honor of Colonel Joseph McDowell, an officer of the Revolution. It is in the west central section of the State and is bounded by Burke, Rutherford, Henderson, Buncombe, Yancey, Mitchell, and Avery counties. The present area is 442 square miles and the population is 22,996. The court was ordered to be held at the home of Jonathan L. Carson until the county seat could be established. The act also named commissioners to select a site as near the center of the county as possible, acquire land, lay out a town by the name of Marion, and erect a courthouse. Marion is the county seat.<sup>572</sup>

. . . , beginning at a point two miles south of the corner of Burke and Rutherford, in said line; from thence a direct course to Cove Creek, at a point two miles south of John Bradley's; thence to, and with the dividing ridge between Rock House Creek and Stoney Creek, crossing Second Broad River at the mouth of Rock House Creek; thence a direct course to the Burke line, at or near Conway's Knob; thence with the Burke and Rutherford line, to a point on the South Mountains, two and one half miles east of Cane's Creek; thence a direct line crossing the top of the Pilot Mountain, to the mouth of Shadrick's Creek; thence a direct course to the top of Linville Mountain, and with the said mountain to the Yancey line; thence with the Yancey line, to the Buncombe line, and with said line to the beginning; be, and the same is hereby created into a separate and distinct County by the name of McDowell.<sup>573</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to McDowell in 1844.

. . . , beginning on the McDowell and Rutherford corner, on the top of the Blue Ridge, on the Buncombe line, and running with the Buncombe line to the top of Pisgah; thence a direct course, crossing the Broad river, to Cunningham's Camp, on the Bald mountain; thence with the dividing ridge that separates the waters of Broad and Buffaloe rivers, to

<sup>570</sup>Public Laws, 1879, Ch. 319.

<sup>571</sup>Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 330.

<sup>572</sup>Public Laws, 1842-43, Chs. 10, 11; *Manual*, 1913, p. 695; *Battle*, p. 26.

<sup>573</sup>Public Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 10.

the Stone mountain; thence along the top of the said Stone mountain to the McDowell line; and the McDowell line, as it at present runs, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall hereafter form and constitute a part of McDowell County.<sup>574</sup>

Mitchell was formed in 1861 from Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, and McDowell.

. . . , That a county by the name of Mitchell shall be and the same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke and McDowell counties with the following boundaries; beginning at the top of Grandfather mountain, thence with the top of the Blue Ridge to the Bear Wallow Gap, thence to the Three Knobs, thence to Big Crabtree creek, thence down said creek to Toe river, thence down said river to the Tennessee line, thence with the Tennessee line to Elk river, thence to place of beginning; . . .<sup>575</sup>

An act amending an act to establish a new county by the name of Mitchell was passed in 1861.

. . . , That an act passed at the late session of the General Assembly, entitled an act to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Mitchell, be so amended as to run from the top of the Grand Father Mountain, with the old Watauga line, to the Blue Ridge; thence with the said Yancey line, and according to said act, around to the beginning.<sup>576</sup>

The boundary line between Burke and McDowell counties was authorized to be changed in 1870.

That the dividing line between Burke and McDowell counties where it runs to the river at the mouth of Shadrick's creek, it shall run up the river on the south side at the water's edge to and against the mouth of Bradshaw's creek in Wm. R. Gray's farm, thence across the river to the mouth of Bradshaw's creek, thence up the creek to the fork, thence up the right hand fork through Fulwood's land to the second fork, thence up the right hand fork to the present line.<sup>577</sup>

An act repealing an act to change part of the line that divides Burke and McDowell counties was passed in 1871.

. . . , That an act entitled "an act to change part of the line that divides Burke and McDowell counties," in the laws of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine and one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and the provisions of the same, are hereby repealed.<sup>578</sup>

Part of McDowell was annexed to Buncombe in 1925.

That the boundary line between McDowell County, North Carolina, and Buncombe County, North Carolina, be and the same is hereby changed and relocated so as to divest McDowell County of all the territory now

<sup>574</sup>Public Laws, 1844-45, Ch. 30.

<sup>575</sup>Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 8.

<sup>576</sup>Private Laws, First Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 22.

<sup>577</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 96.

<sup>578</sup>Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 50.

and heretofore embraced in the bounds of Broad River Township, McDowell County, North Carolina, and vest and include all of the said territory in Buncombe County, North Carolina, and the said territory shall become and be a part of Buncombe County.<sup>579</sup>

## MADISON

Madison was formed in 1851 from Buncombe and Yancey. It was named in honor of James Madison, the fourth President of the United States. It is in the western section of the State, and is bounded by Yancey, Buncombe, and Haywood counties and the state of Tennessee. The present area is 456 square miles and the population is 22,522. The first court was ordered to be held at the tavern house of Adolphus Beard at which time the majority of the justices could adjourn to any other place they determined until a courthouse could be erected. Seven commissioners were named to select a site for the county seat. When the place was finally decided on, the commissioners were to acquire a tract of land, lay out a town by the name of Marshall, and erect a courthouse. Marshall, named in honor of John Marshall, is the county seat.<sup>580</sup>

. . . : Beginning on the Paint Rock on the Tennessee line, and running with that line East to the top of the ridge that divides the waters of Ivy and Laurel from the waters of Caney River; then, with the top of said ridge, by way of Ivy Gap and Point Gap, and passing the same to a ridge that divides the waters of Big Ivy from those of Little Ivy being a spur of the Black Mountain; thence with the top of that ridge to the junction of Big Ivy and Little Ivy; thence a direct course to the mouth of Sandy Mush Creek; thence up said creek to the fork thereof; thence with the top of the ridge that divides the waters of Big and Little Sandy-mush Creeks; to the Haywood line; thence with said line to the line of the State of Tennessee and with the same to the beginning; . . .<sup>581</sup>

An act changing the boundary line between the counties of Buncombe and Madison was passed in 1901.

That the portion of the boundary line between the counties of Buncombe and Madison, from the fork of Little Ivy and Big Ivy, to the point at the lower end of J. M. Sam's farm where the said line crosses and leaves Ivy river be and the same is hereby changed so as to make the said portion of the boundary line run with the meanders of the said river.<sup>582</sup>

<sup>579</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1925, Ch. 353.* The report of the surveyors acting under this act is in appendix, p. 269.

<sup>580</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Chs. 36, 37; Arthur, p. 194 ff.; Manual, 1913, p. 689; Battle, p. 30.*

<sup>581</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 36.*

<sup>582</sup>*Public Laws, 1901, Ch. 95.*

## MARTIN

Martin was formed in 1774 from Halifax and Tyrrell. It was named in honor of Josiah Martin, the last royal governor of North Carolina. It is probable that this county's name would have been changed like those of Dobbs and Tryon but for the popularity of Alexander Martin, who was governor, 1782-1785 and 1789-1792. It is in the eastern section of the State, and is bounded by Washington, Beaufort, Pitt, Edgecombe, Halifax, and Bertie counties. The present area is 481 square miles and the population is 26,111. The act establishing the county made no provision for the courthouse, prison, and stocks. However, a law was passed making provision for levying special taxes for the county seat. There is nothing to indicate the location. In 1779 Williamston, first called Squhawky, was laid out on the land of Thomas Hunter. Williamston is the county seat.<sup>583</sup>

. . . Beginning at the mouth of Kehukee Creek, on Roanoke River, and running a direct line to Edgecombe County Line, where it crosses the Tar River road that leads by Nicholas Loyd's; thence down Edgecombe Line, to Pitt County Line; thence along Pitt Line, to Beaufort County Line; thence along Beaufort Line, to the Head of Welch's Creek, near Stewart Hamilton's plantation; thence down Welch's Creek, to Roanoke river; thence up the River to the beginning; and all that part of the said Counties, included within the said Bounds, be thenceforth erected into a distinct County and Parish, and called and known by the Name of Martin County, and Parish of St. Martin.<sup>584</sup>

In 1784 the line between Martin, Edgecombe, and Pitt was authorized to be run with the following description:

. . . commissioners, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered as soon as may be after the passing of this Act to extend the dividing line between the counties aforesaid, beginning in the old line that formerly divided Edgecombe and Halifax at or near Benjamin Cotton's, running thence a direct course to the line that divides Martin and Pitt counties at or near Charles Council's.<sup>585</sup>

Part of Martin was annexed to Edgecombe in 1793.

. . . That all that part of the county of Martin south-west of the line beginning where the line dividing Edgecomb and Halifax strikes Martin, running thence a straight course to the Wolf-Pond near the Indian Branch, thence to the great Cypress-Pond on William's thick, from thence to Thomas Taylor's as straight as may be so as to include Micajah May's, from thence due south to Pitt county line, be added to the county of Edgecomb; . . .<sup>586</sup>

<sup>583</sup>S. R., XXIII, 976; XXIV, 252, 307; *Laws, 1799*, Ch. 105; *Manual, 1913*, p. 690; Battle, p. 22.

<sup>584</sup>S. R., XXIII, 976.

<sup>585</sup>S. R., XXIV, 647. In 1894 the lines between Martin and Pitt and between Edgecombe and Pitt were authorized to be run. For a report of these lines, see appendix, p. 270.

<sup>586</sup>*Laws, 1793*, Ch. 32.



By 1801 disputes had arisen as to titles to land because of the uncertainty of the location of the boundary line between Beaufort and Martin counties. Therefore, an act was passed authorizing the establishment of the county line, and also to confirm the lands already entered. The line in question was the "Southern boundary of the same [Martin] to run by the Pitt line to the Beaufort line, to the head of Welch's creek; . . ." <sup>587</sup>

Part of Pitt County was annexed to the county of Martin in 1805.

. . . all that part of Pitt county bounded as follows, shall be annexed to the county of Martin, viz. Beginning where the present county line intersects the fork of Trentross creek and Flat Swamp to where the present county line crosseth said swamp; and all that part of Pitt county lying north of the before recited boundaries shall hereafter be part of Martin county, . . . <sup>588</sup>

Part of Beaufort was annexed to Martin in 1816.

. . . Beginning where the line that now divides the said counties now intersects the Bear Grass Swamp, running along the main drain of said swamp, to the main drain of Tranter's Creek, thence up the main drain of said creek to the mouth of the Flat Swamp, the present dividing line between the counties of Martin and Pitt, . . . <sup>589</sup>

An act to provide relief for property owners along the Beaufort-Martin County line was passed in 1937.

*Whereas*, for a long period of time there has existed a dispute between the Counties of Martin and Beaufort as to the dividing line between said counties;

*And Whereas*, said dividing line between said counties has now been established by a decree in the suit of Beaufort County vs Martin County recently pending in the Superior Court of Beaufort County;

*And Whereas*, the location of said line under said decree may possibly cause certain lands heretofore considered to be in Martin County to become a part of Beaufort County, and likewise, may cause certain lands heretofore considered to be in Beaufort County to be located in Martin County;

*And Whereas*, it is the purpose of said suit to ratify and confirm all existing land titles along said line and that the title of no landowners should be effected by the location of said county line and the removal of his land from one county to the other:

*Now Therefore*, in order that said matter may be legislatively determined and set at rest, *The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:*

<sup>587</sup>*Laws, 1801, Ch. 69.*

<sup>588</sup>*Laws, 1805, Ch. 28.*

<sup>589</sup>*Laws, 1816, Ch. 18.*

Section 1. That the title of each landowner whose land was formerly considered as being in Beaufort County and by said location has been determined to be in Martin County, is hereby ratified and affirmed as fully in all respects and purposes as if said land continued to remain in Beaufort County; and further that the title of each landowner whose land was formerly considered as being in Martin County and which by said location has been determined to be in Beaufort County, is hereby ratified and affirmed as fully in all respects and purposes as if said land continued to remain in Martin County.

Sec. 2. That the payment by any person of taxes on land to the county in which it was thought his land was located prior to the location of said line, shall in all respects be as good and effectual as if said taxes had been paid to the county in which said land is determined to be by the location of said line and there shall be no further claim for such taxes by either county on such land.<sup>590</sup>

## MECKLENBURG

Mecklenburg was formed in 1762 from Anson. The act was to become effective February 1, 1763. It was named in honor of Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg, the Queen of George III who was King of England. It is in the south central section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Gaston, Lincoln, Iredell, Cabarrus, and Union counties. The present area is 542 square miles and the population is 151,826. Charlotte, named for Princess Charlotte and established in 1766, is the county seat.<sup>591</sup>

. . . the said County of Anson shall be, and is hereby divided into Two Distinct Counties, by a Line beginning at Lord Carteret's Line, Six Miles North East from Captain Charles Hart's plantation on Buffalo Creek, and to run from thence to the Mouth of Clear Creek which empties itself into Rocky River, below Captain Adam Alexander's; and from thence due South, to the Bounds of the Province of South Carolina; and that all that Part of the said County which lies to the Eastward of the said Dividing Line, shall be a distinct County, and remain and be called by the Name of Anson County; and all that Part of the said County lying to the Westward of said Dividing Line, shall be thence forth one other Distinct County, and called by the Name of Mecklenburg.<sup>592</sup>

Tryon was formed in 1768 from Mecklenburg.

. . . the said county of Mecklenburg shall be, and is hereby divided into Two distinct Counties and Parishes, by a Line beginning at Earl Granville's Line; where it Crosses the Catawba River; and the said River to be the Line to the South Carolina Line; and all that Part of the said County which lies to the Eastward of the said dividing Line shall be a distinct County and Parish, and remain and be called by the Name of Mecklenburg County, and St. Martin's Parish; and that all that Part

<sup>590</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1937, Ch. 386.*

<sup>591</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 589, 772, 966; XXIV, 178, 701, 948; Manual, 1913, p. 697; Battle, p. 22.*

<sup>592</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 589.*

of the County lying to the Westward of the said dividing line shall be one other distinct County and Parish, and be and remain by the Name of Tryon County, and St. Thomas's Parish.<sup>593</sup>

The boundary line between Rowan, Mecklenburg, and Tryon was authorized to be run in 1770.

... to run the Dividing Line between the said County of Rowan, and the Counties of Mecklenburg and Tryon; beginning at Cold Water, where John Patterson's Upper Line crosses the Creek; thence due West until it intersects the Cherokee Indian Line; which said Line, when run by the Commissioners aforesaid, or a Majority of them, shall by them be entered on Record in the Court of each of the said Counties, and shall hereafter be deemed and taken to be the Dividing Line between the said Counties.<sup>594</sup>

The boundary line between Tryon and Mecklenburg was established in 1774.

II. And Whereas sundry disputes have arisen relative to the Boundary line between the said County of Tryon and the County of Mecklenburg, to prevent which for the future, Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the River Catawba be and is hereby declared to be the Boundary line between the said Counties.<sup>595</sup>

Cabarrus was formed in 1792 from Mecklenburg.

..., the county of Mecklenburg shall be divided as follows, *to wit*, beginning at where Iredell line crosses the east branch of Rockey river, then down the said branch to its junction with the west branch which comes from Colonel Osborne's from thence to where the waggon road crosses Clark's creek, a little to the west of Captain Pickens, thence to the barn of Adam Meek, sen. thence to a cluster of large rocks a little to the south-east of the great road from Colonel Smith's to Charlotte not far distant from said Smith's, thence to James Stafford's, and from thence to the mouth of Clear creek; and all that part of the county of Mecklenburg aforesaid lying west and south of said dividing line, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Mecklenburg; and all that part of the said county lying north and east of said line, shall be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Cabarrus.<sup>596</sup>

Part of Mecklenburg was annexed to Cabarrus in 1794.

..., That all that part of the county of Mecklenburg, which shall or may be included by a line beginning at Pickens's Ford on Clark's creek, running such a course and direction as to include the following persons, and the land whereon they live, *to wit*, John Wilson, Robert Hope, Zaccheus Wilson, John Sloan, Nathaniel Giles, and Doctor Charles Harris, from thence to the north east corner of Adam Meeks dwelling-house on the Cabarrus line so as to include the said Adam Meek in Mecklenburg county, shall be added to the county of Cabarrus in as full and ample a manner as if the same had been included at the time of division . . .<sup>597</sup>

<sup>593</sup>S. R., XXIII, 769.

<sup>594</sup>S. R., XXIII, 841.

<sup>595</sup>S. R., XXIII, 964.

<sup>596</sup>Laws, 1792, Ch. 21.

<sup>597</sup>Laws, 1794, Ch. 27.

## Part of Mecklenburg was annexed to Cabarrus in 1804.

. . . the tract of land now owned and inhabited by Evan Shelby Wiley, a small part of which lies within the county of Mecklenburg, shall be considered as lying exclusively in the county of Cabarrus.<sup>598</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Anson and Mecklenburg was authorized to be run and marked in 1829.

. . . commissioners, with full power to run and mark the dividing line between the aforesaid counties of Anson and Mecklenburg as heretofore established by law; . . .<sup>600</sup>

No description is given in the law.

An act was passed in 1832 to prevent disputes in consequence of the survey of the dividing line between the counties of Anson and Mecklenburg.

. . . that the running and establishing said dividing line by the commissioners appointed in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine, shall not in any wise whatever, effect the legal title to lands of the claimants of either county in consequence of the said line not being found by the said commissioners to run as it was supposed to run previous to the survey aforesaid.<sup>601</sup>

Union was formed in 1842 from Anson and Mecklenburg.

. . . : Beginning at the corner of Anson and Mecklenburg, on the South Carolina line, and runs East on the South Carolina, eleven miles; thence East of a parallel of the county line, so that it shall be thirteen miles east of the Cabarrus corner, on Rocky River; thence up the various courses of the Rocky River to the corner of Anson and Mecklenburg, thence with the Cabarrus line, three miles; thence a direct line to where the Providence road crosses Six Mile Creek; thence with the meanders of the creek, to the South Carolina line; thence with the South Carolina line to the beginning; . . .<sup>602</sup>

## MITCHELL

Mitchell was formed in 1861 from Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, and McDowell. It was named in honor of Dr. Elisha Mitchell, a professor in the University of North Carolina. While on an exploring expedition on Mt. Mitchell, the highest peak east of the Mississippi River, Dr. Mitchell fell and was killed. He

<sup>598</sup>*Laws, 1804, Ch. 53.* Due to an error, which was discovered too late to renumber all subsequent footnotes, there is no footnote numbered 599.

<sup>600</sup>*Private Laws, 1829-30, Ch. 126.*

<sup>601</sup>*Public Laws, 1832-33, Ch. 24.*

<sup>602</sup>*Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 12.* In 1889 commissioners were appointed to survey the line between Mecklenburg and Union. See appendix, p. 272, for this report.

was buried on the top of this lofty mountain. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state of Tennessee and Avery, McDowell, and Yancey counties. The present area is 220 square miles and the population is 15,985. The first court was ordered to be held at Eben Child's. Commissioners were named to acquire the land, establish a town by the name of Calhoun, and erect a courthouse. The justices of the peace refused to levy taxes for the erection of the courthouse at Calhoun. They maintained it was inconvenient to three-fourths of the citizens. They said the matter should, therefore, be referred to the Assembly. In 1862 an act was passed authorizing the people to decide by ballot for Calhoun, or for Davis as the county seat. In 1863 an act was passed which stipulated that the county seat should be located at the geographical center of the county by actual survey and measurements. In 1863 the justices met and unanimously agreed that Norman's Hill should be selected as the county seat. From 1861 to 1866 the court was held at Eben Child's; at the Baptist Meeting House on Bear Creek; in Bakersville; at Bear Creek Meeting House; in Calhoun; and in Davis. At a special term of court in 1866 commissioners were appointed to acquire the land and lay out a town. At the regular September term, 1866, held at Davis, the commissioners reported that they had acquired 29 acres of land and sold the lots. In 1868 the county seat was changed from Davis to Bakersville. Bakersville was incorporated in 1870 and is the county seat.<sup>603</sup>

... , That a county by the name of Mitchell shall be and same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke and McDowell counties with the following boundaries; beginning at the top of Grandfather mountain, thence with the top of the Blue Ridge to the Bear Wallow Gap, thence to the Three Knobs, thence to Big Crabtree creek, thence down said creek to Toe river, thence down said river to the Tennessee line, thence with the Tennessee line to Elk river, thence to place of beginning; . . .<sup>604</sup>

An act amending an act to establish a county by the name of Mitchell was passed in 1861.

... , That an act passed at the late session of the General Assembly, entitled an act to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Mitchell, be so amended as to run from the top of the Grand Father Mountain, with the old Watauga line, to the Blue Ridge; thence with the said Yancey line, and according to said act, around to the beginning.<sup>605</sup>

<sup>603</sup>*Public Laws, 1860-61, Chs. 8, 9; Private Laws, 1862-63, Chs. 2, 5, (adjourned session); 1868, Ch. 2; 1869-70, Ch. 116; Manual, 1913, p. 704; Battle, p. 33; Mitchell County Court Minutes, 1861-1866, 1868. A report of the commissioners to locate the county seat is filed in the office of the Secretary of State, Raleigh, N. C. See appendix, p. 276, for a copy.*

<sup>604</sup>*Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 8.*

<sup>605</sup>*Private Laws, First Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 22.*

An act changing the Mitchell County line by adding some to Yancey was passed in 1861.

. . . , That the boundary lines of the county of Mitchell shall be so amended as to stop on Toe River, at the mouth of Big Rock Creek, thence with the big ridge that divides Rock Creek and Brummett's Creek to the State line at the point where the Yancey and McDowell turnpike road crosses said line, as heretofore directed by law.

. . . , That all of the county of Mitchell between the mouth of Big Rock Creek and the Tennessee line be re-annexed to the county of Yancey and constitute a part thereof.<sup>606</sup>

Part of Yancey was annexed to Mitchell in 1872.

. . . , That all that portion of Yancey county lying on the north side of Taw river, be, and the same is hereby attached to the county of Mitchell.<sup>607</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Mitchell and Yancey was authorized to be established in 1889.

WHEREAS, doubts have arisen concerning the location of the dividing line between the counties of Mitchell and Yancey; and whereas, the citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the line are unable to determine where they shall exercise the rights of citizenship and pay their taxes:

. . . the boards of comissioners . . . , to appoint one commissioner with one surveyor . . . , who shall proceed to locate the dividing line between said counties of Mitchell and Yancey from the ford of Big Crabtree creek up to the east fork of the same to its head, thence a direct course to the Bear Hollow gap on top of the Blue Ridge in the line of McDowell county, and shall mark the same by permanent monuments; . . .<sup>608</sup>

Avery County was formed in 1911 from Mitchell, Watauga, and Caldwell.

Beginning at the highest point of Grandfather Mountain, the corner of Watauga, Caldwell and Mitchell counties, and running a direct line to the Hanging Rock Mountain; thence with the dividing ridge to the Turnpike Road in the gap of Bower's Mountain; thence a direct course to the eastern prospect on the eastern end of Beech Mountain; then a direct course to the Buckeye Spring; then down and with the meanders of Buckeye Creek to Beech Creek; then with the meanders of Beech Creek to Watauga River; then with the meanders of the Watauga River to the Tennessee line; then with the Tennessee line to the Grassy Ridge Bald; then a direct line to Spear Top; then with the main height of Yellow Mountain to the highest point on Little Yellow Mountain; then a direct line to Pine Knob; then to the mouth of Gouge's Creek on Toe River; then south forty degrees east to Bald Ground on Humpback Mountain at the

<sup>606</sup>*Private Laws, Second Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 34.*

<sup>607</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 36.*

<sup>608</sup>*Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 289.*



McDowell County line; then with the McDowell County line to the Burke County line; then with the Burke County line to the Caldwell County line; then with the Burke and Caldwell line to the highest point on Chestnut Mountain; then a direct course to Anthony Creek so as to include all of Carey's Flats; then to the beginning.<sup>609</sup>

## MONTGOMERY

Montgomery was formed in 1779 from Anson. It was named in honor of Richard Montgomery who, in 1775, lost his life at the battle of Quebec in the attempt to conquer Canada. It is in the south central section of the State and is bounded by Moore, Richmond, Stanly, Davidson, and Randolph counties. The present area is 488 square miles and the population is 16,280. The act establishing the county specified that the first court should be held at the home of Henry Munger, and all subsequent courts where the justices of the peace decided until a courthouse could be erected. Another act was passed that same year naming commissioners to select fifty acres of land centrally located and erect a courthouse, prison, and stocks. By 1783 there had developed dissatisfaction among many of the inhabitants as to the location the commissioners had selected. However, the Assembly that year authorized the courthouse to be constructed on the land purchased. The act provided for adequate ferries across the Yadkin and Uaree rivers on court, public, and election days. In 1785 the General Assembly was petitioned to authorize the removal of the courthouse. In 1791 an act was passed directing that the center of the county be located by actual survey, at which place Stokes was to be established. The commissioners, however, failed to act, and in 1792 new commissioners were named. The courts were to be held at the home of Mark Bennet unless the justices decided on some other place more convenient. In 1794 commissioners were again named to select a site for the courthouse. In that year, Henderson was established at the confluence of the Yadkin and Uaree rivers. In 1795 the courthouse, on the land formerly belonging to James Tindall, was authorized to be sold. Tindallsville had been established in that year. In 1815 commissioners were named to locate the center of the county, purchase land, and erect a courthouse. They were authorized to sell the old courthouse and lot in the town of Henderson and apply the proceeds to the erection of the new buildings. In 1816 Laurenceville was named under the authority of a law enacted in 1815 establishing a town at the

<sup>609</sup>Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 88.

courthouse. In 1843 the courthouse was ordered to be moved from Laurenceville to the geographical center. Commissioners were named to locate the center, to acquire the land, to lay out a town and to erect the public buildings. In 1844 Troy was established as the county seat.<sup>610</sup>

... the said County of Anson be divided by the Road leading from Monroe's Bridge on Drowning Creek to Colson's Ferry to a point opposite the Mouth of Rocky River, thence running a direct Line crossing Pee-dee River to the Mouth of Rocky River, thence up the various courses of Rocky River to the Dividing Line between the Counties of Anson and Mecklenburg, and that all that part of the said County of Anson, which lies to the North of the said dividing Line, shall be erected into a new and Distinct County by the name of Montgomery. . . .<sup>611</sup>

The boundary line between Montgomery and Moore counties was authorized to be established in 1798 by an act which directed:

... That the county Surveyors of the said counties of Montgomery and Moore, be and they are hereby empowered and required to run and mark the dividing line between Montgomery and Moore counties, from the Randolph county line to the head of Drowning creek, agreeably to an act entitled "An act for erecting the upper part of Bladen county into a county and parish by the name of Anson county and St. George's parish," passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and forty-nine, and all other acts having reference to the same.<sup>612</sup>

The boundary line between the counties of Montgomery and Cabarrus was authorized to be established in 1802.

WHEREAS it is made appear that the dividing line has never been run or ascertained between said counties, . . . the county surveyors of Montgomery and Cabarrus, shall previous to the first day of April next, run and mark said line, beginning at Lord Carteret's line, six miles north east from Captain Charles Hart's plantation on Buffaloe Creek, and to run from thence to the mouth of Clear Creek, which empties itself into Rocky River, below Captain Adam Alexander's.<sup>613</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Cabarrus and Montgomery was authorized to be established in 1803.

... Commisisoners to ascertain the divisional line between the said counties; and when the same shall be so ascertained by said Commissioners, it shall be deemed and established to be the divisional line.

... said Commissioners shall be governed in ascertaining said line by the laws heretofore passed fixing the boundaries of said counties, and those

<sup>610</sup>S. R., XVII, 278; XXIV, 232, 299, 542; *Laws*, 1791, Ch. 66; 1792, Ch. 55; 1794, Chs. 70, 96; 1795, Chs. 70, 72; 1815, Ch. 25; 1816, Ch. 139; 1842-43, Ch. 40; *Private Laws*, 1844-45, Ch. 22; *Manual*, 1919, p. 705; Battle, p. 25.

<sup>611</sup>S. R., XXIV, 232.

<sup>612</sup>*Laws*, 1798, Ch. 91.

<sup>613</sup>*Laws*, 1802, Ch. 67.

from which they have been separated . . . are hereby required when said line shall be ascertained, to make out two fair and accurate plats thereof, one of which shall be recorded in the county of Cabarrus, and the other in the county of Montgomery.<sup>614</sup>

In 1803 the Legislature authorized a survey of the boundary line between Moore and Montgomery.<sup>615</sup> The act named commissioners to have the line established and ordered a copy filed in each county. No description is given in the law. In 1804 this survey had not been made. Therefore the Legislature again authorized the establishment of this line. No description is given in the law.<sup>616</sup>

The dividing line between Richmond and Montgomery was authorized to be established and marked in 1822.

. . . beginning at Campbell's bridge, (formerly Monroe's) on Drowning creek, and running to Peedee river, at or near Colson's Ferry, and passing the several water courses at the places where the original line crossed them, respectively; and the said commissioners and surveyors shall be allowed such compensation, per day, as the said courts may deem necessary for their services; and each County paying their own commissioners and surveyors; and when said line shall be so run and established, it shall be thereafter considered the permanent dividing line between said counties.<sup>617</sup>

The dividing line between the county of Randolph and the counties of Moore and Montgomery was authorized to be run and established in 1829.

Whereas the dividing line between the county of Randolph and the counties of Moore and Montgomery has become so obscure as to occasion frequent disputes between the inhabitants of said counties, and renders it desirable that the said dividing line should be more accurately ascertained and marked.

. . . shall appoint . . . commissioners . . . and authorize them, to run, ascertain and mark the line between the county of Randolph and the said counties of Moore and Montgomery; . . . the commissioners . . . shall run and mark that part of said line which is the boundary between the said counties of Randolph and Moore; . . . and run and mark that part of said line which is the boundary between the said counties of Montgomery and Randolph.<sup>618</sup>

Stanly was formed in 1841 from Montgomery.

. . . , That a County shall be, and the same is hereby laid off, and established in the territory now comprehended in the Western limits of Montgomery County, in manner as follows, viz: That the Rivers Pedee

<sup>614</sup>*Laws, 1803*, Ch. 77.

<sup>615</sup>*Laws, 1803*, Ch. 76.

<sup>616</sup>*Laws, 1804*, Ch. 52.

<sup>617</sup>*Private Laws, 1822*, Ch. 60.

<sup>618</sup>*Private Laws, 1828-29*, Ch. 169.

and Yadkin, as now running through the County of Montgomery shall be the dividing line between the County of Stanly and Montgomery and all that part of the present County of Montgomery lying and being West of said rivers, Pedee and Yadkin, shall hereafter constitute a separate and distinct County, to be called and Known by the name of Stanly; . . .<sup>619</sup>

## MOORE

Moore County was formed in 1784 from Cumberland. It was named in honor of Captain Alfred Moore of Brunswick, a soldier of the Revolution and afterwards a judge of the Supreme Court of the United States. It is in the south central section of the State and is bounded by Harnett, Hoke, Scotland, Richmond, Montgomery, Randolph, Chatham, and Lee counties. The present area is 672 square miles and the population is 30,969. The act establishing the county provided for the erection of the public buildings. In 1795 an act was passed which stated that the location of the courthouse was inconvenient; it named commissioners to purchase land near the center of the county and erect a new courthouse. In 1796 an act was passed establishing Carthage on land where the courthouse was to stand. In 1803 an act was passed naming commissioners to lay out a town and build a courthouse as directed in the act of 1796. In 1806 Carthage was changed to Fagansville. In 1818, "Feaginsville" was changed to Carthage. Carthage is the county seat.<sup>620</sup>

. . . beginning at Cole's bridge on Drowning creek, thence a direct line to the corner of Wake and Johnston counties in Cumberland line, and all that part of Cumberland lying to the north-west of the new line, shall be a separate and distinct county by the name of Moore county.

. . . That the lower part of Cumberland county laying south east of said line, shall be a separate and distinct county, and known by the name of Fayette county.<sup>621</sup>

An act amending the act creating Moore County was passed in 1784 and the description given in the act follows:

. . . That the line for dividing the county of Cumberland shall begin at Cole's bridge, on Drowning creek, thence a direct line to the Cumberland and Chatham line, on the south side of the river Cape Fear; and that Thomas Armstrong, William Seals and William Rand . . . appoint and agree with a surveyor for the purpose of running the said dividing line; and the said line when so run shall be held, deemed and taken to be the

<sup>619</sup>Public Laws, 1840-41, Ch. 13.

<sup>620</sup>S. R., XXIV, 644, 703; Laws, 1796, Ch. 85; 1798, Ch. 66; 1803, Ch. 23; 1806, Ch. 48; 1813, Ch. 74; Manual, 1913, p. 710; Battle, p. 26. In 1803 the legislature authorized a survey of the boundary line between Moore and Montgomery. The act named commissioners to have the line established and ordered a copy of the survey filed in each county. Laws, 1803, Ch. 76. In 1804 this survey had not been made. Therefore, the legislature authorized the establishment of this line. Laws, 1804, Ch. 52.

<sup>621</sup>S. R., XXIV, 644.

dividing line of the said county of Cumberland, and that the lower county continue and remain by the name of Cumberland county; . . . all that part of the county lying to the northwest of the new line, shall be and continue by the name of Moore county.<sup>622</sup>

In 1798 the boundary line between Montgomery and Moore counties was authorized to be established.

. . . , That the county Surveyors of the said counties of Montgomery and Moore, be and they are hereby empowered and required to run and mark the dividing line between Montgomery and Moore counties, from the Randolph county line to the head to Drowning creek, agreeably to an act entitled "An act for erecting the upper part of Bladen county into a county and parish by the name of Anson county and St. George's Parish," passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and forty-nine, and all other acts having reference to the same.<sup>623</sup>

In 1803 the Legislature authorized a survey of the boundary line between Moore and Montgomery. The act named commissioners to have the line established and ordered a copy filed in each county.<sup>624</sup>

In 1804 this survey of the line between Moore and Montgomery had not been made. Therefore the Legislature again authorized the establishment of this line.<sup>625</sup>

The dividing line between the county of Randolph and the counties of Moore and Montgomery was authorized to be run and established in 1829.

Whereas the dividing line between the county of Randolph and the counties of Moore and Montgomery has become so obscure as to occasion frequent disputes between the inhabitants of said counties, and renders it desirable that the said dividing line should be more accurately ascertained and marked:

. . . shall appoint . . . commissioners . . . and authorize them, to run, ascertain and mark the line between the county of Randolph and the said counties of Moore and Montgomery; . . . the commissioners . . . shall run and mark that part of said line which is the boundary between the said counties of Montgomery and Randolph.<sup>626</sup>

In 1883 the dividing lines between Harnett and Johnston and between Harnett and Moore were authorized to be established.

. . . That for the purpose of ascertaining and establishing the dividing lines between the counties of Harnett and Johnston and the counties of Harnett and Moore, . . . commissioners . . . of said counties shall, . . .

<sup>622</sup>"Whereas by some mistake in describing the dividing line of the late county of Cumberland, it has been directed to be laid off in a different manner from what was intended; for remedy whereof, . . ."

This act was to correct the description given above. *S. R.*, XXIV, 703.

<sup>623</sup>*Laws, 1798*, Ch. 91.

<sup>624</sup>*Laws, 1803*, Ch. 76.

<sup>625</sup>*Laws, 1804*, Ch. 52.

<sup>626</sup>*Private Laws, 1828-29*, Ch. 169.

appoint one . . . and select a competent surveyor to survey and establish said lines, . . .<sup>627</sup>

No description is given in the law.

An act to settle and mark the boundary line between the counties of Moore and Harnett was passed in 1889. This act named commissioners to run and mark the line and designated the following method of so marking the said line.

. . . : All trees standing in the line shall be marked with three hacks on the side of approach and that of departure, and all side lines shall be marked with three hacks facing to the line; that the line so run and marked shall hereafter be the county line between said counties.<sup>628</sup>

Lee was formed in 1907 from Moore and Chatham.

. . . : Beginning at a point in the middle of Deep River opposite the mouth of Big Governor's Creek thence up Big Governor's and Little Governor's creeks to the Gulf and Graham plank road; thence as the Gulf and Graham plank road to its intersection with the Carthage and Fayetteville plank road; thence as the Carthage and Fayetteville plank road to the Harnett County line; thence as the Harnett County line direct to the present corner of Moore and Chatham counties on the eastern bank of the Cape Fear River; thence as the Chatham County line to the middle of Cape Fear; thence up the middle of the Cape Fear and Deep River to the beginning.<sup>629</sup>

## NASH

Nash was formed in 1777 from Edgecombe. It was named in honor of General Francis Nash, who was mortally wounded while fighting under George Washington at Germantown. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Edgecombe, Wilson, Johnston, Franklin, and Halifax counties. The present area is 552 square miles and the population is 55,608. The act establishing the county provided that the first court be held at the home of Micajah Thomas, and all subsequent courts at a place to be decided upon by the justices of the peace until the courthouse could be erected. The act also named commissioners to select a site for the county seat. The first courthouse was to be on "Peach Tree." In 1782 the funds for constructing the public buildings were inadequate and additional taxes were levied. The county seat was called Nash Court House. In 1815 an act was passed naming commissioners to locate the center of the county and purchase fifty acres of land on which

<sup>627</sup>*Laws, 1888, Ch. 133.*

<sup>628</sup>*Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 125.*

<sup>629</sup>*Public Laws, 1907, Ch. 624.* The vote was: for the county 875 and against the county, 40. *The News and Observer*, July 5, 1907.



to erect a courthouse. Other commissioners were named to lay out the town of Nashville and to have the courthouse erected. Court was ordered held at the old courthouse until the new building was finished. There was much bickering and dissatisfaction among the citizens concerning the location of the courthouse between 1815 and 1825. Finally, Nashville was satisfactorily agreed upon and has continued to be the county seat.<sup>630</sup>

. . . beginning at the cool Springs, at John Powell's on Fishing Creek, thence running to the Falls of Tar River, from thence to the Widow Rose's on Contentney; and that all that Part of the late County of Edgecombe which lies to the East of the said dividing line, shall continue and remain a distinct County, by the Name of Edgecombe; and that all that other Part of the said County of Edgecombe which lies West of the said dividing Line, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct County, by the Name of Nash County.<sup>631</sup>

In 1817 the dividing line between Franklin and Nash was authorized to be run.

. . . to run and mark the dividing line between the counties of Franklin and Nash, from the mouth of Cypress creek on Tar River to Mocoso Creek, at the intersection of the counties of Franklin, Nash, Wake and Johnston.<sup>632</sup>

In 1818 new commissioners were named to carry the act of 1817 into effect. No description was given in the act.<sup>633</sup>

Wilson was formed in 1855 from Edgecombe, Nash, Johnston, and Wayne.

. . . : Beginning at a lightwood stake in the Pitt county line; thence a direct line to Pender's hill; thence a direct line to Town Creek, at the mouth of Col. David Williams's mill branch; thence up said mill branch to the mill; thence a direct line by William Adams's, sen'r., to the Nash line; thence a straight line to Turkey creek bridge, near the Pridgen old place; thence with the road to Mocoso creek bridge; thence down the said creek to the junction of Mocasin and Turkey creeks, thence a direct line to the Red Hill, (Henry Horn's old place); thence a direct line to the Wayne county line, at the Juniper swamp; thence the Wayne and Johnston line north, to a point in a direct line from the Red Hill to Ruffin's bridge; thence a direct line to Ruffin's bridge, diverging north at the house of Jacob Hooks, so as to leave the dwelling house of said Hooks in the county of Wayne; thence from said Ruffin's bridge down Contentnea creek to the Greene county line; thence the Greene county line to the beginning, . . .<sup>634</sup>

<sup>630</sup>S. R., XXIV, 189, 471; *Laws, 1815*, Ch. 21; *1816*, Ch. 72; *1817*, Ch. 36; *1818*, Ch. 80; *1825*, Ch. 67; *Manual, 1913*, p. 714; Battle, p. 26; Nash County Court Minutes, 1778-79, 1785, 1787, 1788, 1793, 1816-17, 1821-25.

<sup>631</sup>S. R., XXIV, 139.

<sup>632</sup>*Laws, 1817*, Ch. 35.

<sup>633</sup>*Laws, 1818*, Ch. 131.

<sup>634</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55*, Ch. 12.

Part of Edgecombe was annexed to Nash in 1871.

. . . , That all that portion of Edgecombe county (west of the Wilmington and Weldon railroad) and between the Halifax and Wilson lines, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Nash county; . . .<sup>635</sup>

## NEW HANOVER

New Hanover was formed in 1729 from Craven. It was named in honor of George I, King of England who came from Hanover. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean, the Cape Fear River, and Brunswick and Pender counties. The present area is 194 square miles and the population is 47,935. New Town or Newton was its first county seat. It was changed to Wilmington in 1739. Wilmington is the county seat.<sup>636</sup>

Whereas an Act, intituled, An Act for regulating Vestries in this Government, and for the better inspecting Vestrymen and Church wardens' Accompts of each and every Parish in this Government, it is Enacted, That the Southern Part of this Province shall be erected into a Precinct, by the name of New Hanover Precinct, and bounded to the Northward by the Haulover, and Little Inlet, and to the Southward by Southernmost Bounds of the Province; and as the Precinct of New Hanover is now become very populus, and the extent thereof being found too incomodious. . . .<sup>637</sup>

Onslow was formed in 1734 from New Hanover.

. . . be Bounded to the Northward by Whiteoak River, from the Mouth to the Head thereof; and to the Southward, by a creek that comes out of the Sound, and comes across New River Road, called the Bay Swamp, or Beasley's Creek.<sup>638</sup>

Bladen was formed in 1734 from New Hanover.

. . . Beginning at the Mouth of Livingston's Creek, and bounded by the said Creek to the head thereof; and then, by a Line West, to the Bounds of the Government; and that the said Precinct be Bounded to the Northward by Black River, as follows; viz., beginning at the Mouth of said River, and bounded by the Main River up to the Fork, and that then the Westernmost Branch be the Bounds to the Head thereof.<sup>639</sup>

<sup>635</sup>Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 171.

<sup>636</sup>C. R., III, 454; VI, 227, 331; S. R., XXIII, 116, 119, 133, 146, 292; XXIV, 145; *Manual*, 1913, p. 719; Battle, p. 20. Craven precinct was first called Archdale, which included "all the inhabitants of the Nuse." Thus Craven was situated between what was originally Bath (precinct) County and the territory that became New Hanover Precinct. When Archdale was formed all the territory of Bath (precinct) County was included in Archdale, Wickham, and Pamlico precincts. Therefore, there was no territory of Bath (precinct) County from which to erect New Hanover Precinct. See footnotes 74 and 294.

<sup>637</sup>S. R., XXIII, 116, 119.

<sup>638</sup>S. R., XXIII, 120.

<sup>639</sup>S. R., XXIII, 120.

Duplin was formed in 1750 from New Hanover.

. . . , That New-Hanover County be divided by a Line, beginning at the Mouth of Rock-fish Creek, on the North-east River of Cape Fear, running East to Onslow county, and Westward, by a Straight Line from the Mouth of said Creek, to the upper Forks of Black River, where Cohecry and the Six Runs meet, thence Cohecry to the Head thereof; and that the Upper part of the said County be erected into a County, by the name of Duplin County, and St. Gabriel Parish. . . .<sup>640</sup>

Part of New Hanover was annexed to Duplin in 1751.

. . . and whereas the dividing line between New Hanover county and Duplin is circumscribed by Cohery, by which means a long narrow strip of land, between the said Cohery and Black River, still remains in New Hanover county, which renders it very inconvenient to the inhabitants dwelling thereon to attend the courts at Wilmington, by reason of its great distance therefrom: be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the line between the said counties shall be continued from the place where Cohery and the six runs meet, by a west course, until the same strikes Black river, and from thence the county of Duplin shall be bounded by Black river, up to the mouth of Black Minge creek, thence up the said creek to the bounds of the said county; any in the act for erecting the upper part of New Hanover county into a county and parish, by name of Duplin county, and St. Gabriel's parish, for the appointing place for building a court-house, prison and stocks, in the said county, concerning the bounds of the said county, to the contrary, notwithstanding.<sup>641</sup>

Brunswick was formed in 1764 from New Hanover and Bladen.

. . . , That that part of Bladen county which lies to the Westward of the Northwest Branch of Cape Fear River, be divided from the upper Part of Bladen County, by a line beginning at the upper Corner of a Tract of Land on which the Plantation of John Grange is situate, above the Mouth of Beaver Dam Creek, which Plantation lately belonged to Mr. Robert Howe, running from thence a direct Course to the East side of the Lake on Waggamaw River; and from thence by a West Line to the Bounds of the Province, so as to leave all the Inhabitants of the said Lake in Bladen County; and that the said Lower Part of Bladen County, together with all that Part of New Hanover County called St. Phillip's Parish, except so much thereof as lieth to the North Westward of the dividing Line hereby directed to be run to the Lake, and from thence to the Bounds of this Province, be erected into a Distinct County, by the Name of Brunswick County . . .

All that part of St. Phillip's Parish which lieth to the northwestward of the said line, to the east end of the lake, and from thence to the bounds of the province be annexed to . . . Bladen county.<sup>642</sup>

<sup>640</sup>S. R., XXIII, 342.

<sup>641</sup>S. R., XXV, 246.

<sup>642</sup>S. R., XXIII, 622.

The boundary line between New Hanover and Duplin was authorized to be run in 1766.

. . . , That Rock Fish Creek shall be the Boundary, from the Mouth thereof to where Doctor's Creek branches from the same; then up Doctor's Creek one Mile above the House of Mr. George Maires; thence running a direct Line to the Corner made by Arthur McCoy on South River; and the said Line when run, shall forever after be deemed the Boundary Line between the said Counties of New Hanover and Duplin.<sup>643</sup>

Part of Brunswick was annexed to New Hanover in 1788.

. . . , all that part of the county of Brunswick which lies in the fork of Black River and the North West as far as the Bladen line, shall hereafter be annexed to the county of New Hanover; . . .<sup>644</sup>

Part of New Hanover was annexed to Sampson in 1795.

. . . , all that part of New Hanover county lying west of a line beginning where the Sampson county line crosses Black river, thence down said river to Benjamin Robertson's lower mill branch, thence a direct course to Stewart's Ferry on south-river, and thence up the same to the point of beginning, in Sampson line aforesaid, and the same is hereby annexed to the county of Sampson, and shall be to all intents and purposes considered as a part thereof.<sup>645</sup>

Part of Eagle's Island was annexed to New Hanover in 1809.

. . . , That all that part of Eagle's Island, on the east side thereof, as conveyed and described in deeds recorded in the Register's Office of New-Hanover County, from John Watson to Michael Higgins and Caleb Grainger, including the ground up to the thoroughfare as mentioned therein, running down to the entrance thereof into the North-East River, and down the same to the beginning, described in the said deed to Higgins, or so far as the wharves, for the purpose of carrying on commerce, opposite the town of Wilmington, now are, or hereafter may be erected, and running back with the lines designated in said deeds from Watson to Higgins and Grainger, being fourteen hundred and eighty-five feet, or thereabouts, back from the river, shall be, and the same is hereby taken from the County of Brunswick, and annexed to the County of New Hanover.<sup>646</sup>

Smith's Island, part of New Hanover at the mouth of the Cape Fear River, was annexed to Brunswick in 1809.

. . . that the said Smith's Island be, and the same is hereby taken from the county of New Hanover, and added to the county of Brunswick, . . .<sup>647</sup>

This act annexing Smith's Island (part of New Hanover) to Brunswick was continued in force by an act passed in 1817. No description is given in the law.<sup>648</sup>

<sup>643</sup>S. R., XXIII, 687.

<sup>644</sup>S. R., XXIV, 985.

<sup>645</sup>Laws, 1795, Ch. 24.

<sup>646</sup>Laws, 1809, Ch. 24.

<sup>647</sup>Laws, 1809, Ch. 24.

<sup>648</sup>Laws, 1817, Ch. 45.

The act of 1809 annexing part of Eagle's Island to New Hanover was continued in force by an act passed in 1817.<sup>649</sup>

The boundary line between New Hanover and Brunswick was ordered to be run in 1824 according to the provisions of the act of (1809 and) 1817. No description is given in the law.<sup>650</sup>

Part of New Hanover County was annexed to Sampson in 1847.

. . . , That, that portion of New Hanover county, lying north of a direct line, running from the lower corner of Sampson county on Black River, to the corner of Duplin, Sampson and New Hanover, near Harrel's Store, be, and the same is hereby annexed and made a part of Sampson County.<sup>651</sup>

Part of New Hanover was annexed to Sampson in 1870.

. . . : beginning at Faison's Cove, on the east bank of Black river, thence to the corner of Sampson and Duplin county on the New Hanover county line, thence with the present Sampson county line to Black river, thence down said river to the beginning, be and the same portion of the county of New Hanover aforesaid hereby annexed to the county of Sampson to form and to constitute a portion of the territory of said county.<sup>652</sup>

Part of New Hanover was annexed to Sampson in 1872.

. . . : beginning at Beatty's bridge, on the east side of Black River, thence to the head of White Oak, thence to the head of W. J. Newton's mill pond, thence to the head of B. B. Newkirk's mill pond, thence down his mill and creek to the Duplin county line, thence with the Duplin and New Hanover county line to the Sampson county line, thence with the Sampson and New Hanover line to Black River, thence across Black River with the Sampson and New Hanover line to South River, the Bladen county line, thence down South River to the mouth thereof, thence down Black River to the beginning, be and the same portion of the county of New Hanover aforesaid is hereby annexed to the county of Sampson, to form and constitute a portion of the territory of said county: . . .<sup>653</sup>

Pender was formed in 1875 from New Hanover.

. . . : Beginning at Rich inlet, on the Atlantic Ocean, running thence up the channel of said inlet to the mouth of Foy's creek, thence up said creek to the fork thereof, thence by a direct line to the junction of Old House branch with Island creek, thence down said creek to the north east branch of Cape Fear river, thence down said river to the mouth of Fishing creek, thence by a direct line to the junction of Black river with north west branch of Cape Fear, thence up the north-west branch of Cape Fear to the Bladen county line, and all that portion of the county of New Hanover lying north of said line be and same is hereby created into a separate and

<sup>649</sup>Laws, 1817, Ch. 45.

<sup>650</sup>Private Laws, 1824, Ch. 43. The law makes reference to the act of 1819, but the evidence indicates that it referred to the act of 1817.

<sup>651</sup>Private Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 128.

<sup>652</sup>Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 231.

<sup>653</sup>Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 144.

distinct county by the name of Pender with all the rights, privileges and immunities incident and belonging to the other counties in this State.<sup>654</sup>

An act was passed in 1913 to cede Eagle's Island in the county of Brunswick, to the county of New Hanover, upon certain conditions.

That all that portion of the territory which lies in the county of Brunswick and known as Eagle Island, surrounded by the waters of the Cape Fear River and the Brunswick River, and lying east of the eastern boundary of Brunswick River be, and the same is, hereby ceded and annexed to the county of New Hanover; *Provided, however*, that New Hanover County build a free bridge across the Cape Fear River at Wilmington, with suitable approaches and a substantial roadway across Eagle Island to Brunswick River.<sup>655</sup>

## NORTHAMPTON

Northampton was formed in 1741 from Bertie. It was named in honor of George, Earl of Northampton, an English nobleman. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Hertford, Bertie, Halifax, and Warren counties, and the state of Virginia. The present area is 540 square miles and the population is 28,299. In 1806 Atherton was established as the courthouse. Jackson, established in 1826 at the courthouse, is the county seat.<sup>656</sup>

. . . , That Part of Bertie County which lieth North and West of Sandy Run, and in a direct Line from the Head of the said Run, to the Head of the Beaver Dam Swamp, and down the said Swamp and Meherrin Creek and River be, and is hereby erected into a County, by the name of Northampton County; and that the said Bounds . . . be the Limits between Society Parish and the Northwest Parish of Bertie.<sup>657</sup>

Hertford was formed in 1759 from Chowan, Bertie, and Northampton.

. . . , Beginning in Bertie county, at the first high Land on the North West Side of Mare Branch, on Chowan River Pocoson; running thence by a direct Line to Thomas Outlaw's Plantation, near Stoney Creek; thence by a direct Line to Northampton County Line, at the Plantation whereon James Rutland formerly lived; then along Northampton County Line to the Head of Beaver Dam Swamp; thence by a direct line to the Eastermost

<sup>654</sup>Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 91.

<sup>655</sup>Public Laws, 1913, Ch. 50. The bridge was never built by the county. J. A. Orrell, New Hanover county auditor, writing to the author February 16, 1938, said: "I beg to advise that New Hanover County never complied with the proviso in the 1913 act and accepted Eagles Island. We made several attempts to do so, but were never able to secure approval by the Highway Commission of the type bridge we contemplated building; and eventually the bridge was built by the State, and since made free; but all of Eagles Island except a narrow strip along the western border of Cape Fear river still remain in Brunswick County." Letter on file in author's office.

<sup>656</sup>S. R., XXIII, 205; XXIV, 632; Laws, 1806, Ch. 46; 1826, Ch. 115; Manual, 1919, p. 726; Battle, p. 20; Northampton County Court Minutes, 1817-21.

<sup>657</sup>S. R., XXIII, 205.



Part of Kerby's Creek; thence down the Creek to Meherrin River; then up Meherrin River to the Virginia Line; then Easterly along the Virginia Line to Bennet's Creek; then down Bennet's Creek to Chowan River; then across the River to the Mouth of the said Mare Branch; and up the Branch to the Beginning: And all that Part of the said Counties included within the said Bounds be thenceforth erected into a distinct County and Parish, and called and known by the Name of Hertford County, and Parish of St. Barnabas.<sup>658</sup>

The boundary line between Northampton and Hertford was authorized to be run in 1764, to become effective March 1, 1765.

... , the dividing Line between the said County of Northampton and Hertford shall be altered as followeth, to-wit: Beginning on Kirby's Creek, where the dividing Line joins the said Creek, running thence up the Creek to the Fork thereof; then up Turkey Creek to Maple Fork; thence by direct South Course, till it intersects the present dividing Line.<sup>659</sup>

Part of Northampton was annexed to Bute in 1766.

... , to run and Mark (or cause the same to be done) a Line from Roanoke River Bank, opposite the mouth of Stone House Creek, a due North Course to the dividing Line between this Province and the Colony of Virginia: and all that part bounded to the Eastward, by the Line above directed to be marked, and to the Northward by the Virginia Line, to where it crosses Roanoke River, shall be, and is hereby annexed to, and made part of the County of Bute; and the Inhabitants thereof shall be subject and liable to the same Rules, Orders, Taxes, and Privileges, as any other of the Inhabitants of the said County of Bute.<sup>660</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Hertford and Northampton was not sufficiently described in many places; therefore, an act was passed in 1870 authorizing the line to be established and marked in order to prevent disputes and inconveniences between the inhabitants of said counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>661</sup>

The boundary line between Northampton and Warren was authorized to be established in 1883, because disputes had arisen due to the fact that the line was not properly marked. No description is given in the law.<sup>662</sup>

## ONSLOW

Onslow was formed in 1734 from New Hanover. It was named in honor of Arthur Onslow, who for more than thirty years was speaker of the House of Commons in the British Parlia-

<sup>658</sup>S. R., XXIII, 503.

<sup>659</sup>S. R., XXIII, 658.

<sup>660</sup>S. R., XXIII, 754.

<sup>661</sup>Public Laws, 1869-70, Chs. 195, 232.

<sup>662</sup>Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 42.

ment. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean and Pender, Duplin, Jones, and Carteret counties. The present area is 756 square miles and the population is 17,939. The act creating the county ordered the justices to select a site for a courthouse. The act also validated all acts of the court held in accordance with a commission issued (November 23, 1731) by Governor Burrington for that purpose. From July, 1734, to January, 1735, court was held "at the court house on New River." In January, 1735, it was held at Joseph Howard's. In July of that year it was held at Christian Heidleburg's, and from then until 1737 it was held at Joseph Howard's. After April, 1737, it was held "at the courthouse on New River." The courthouse was burned between January and April, 1744. Between April, 1744, and January, 1753, court was held "at Johnston on New River." Johnston was established in 1741. It is evident that for a while court was held in private homes, as James Foyle and Thomas Black were paid for allowing the court to sit at their homes. In January, 1753, the court met at Jonathan Melton's on North East New River, a storm having destroyed Johnston. In July, 1757, court was held at the new courthouse at Wantland's Ferry on New River. In 1819 a new courthouse was authorized to be established within one-half mile from the old courthouse and on the same side of the river. In 1842 Jacksonville was authorized, but it was not laid out until after 1849. It is the county seat.<sup>663</sup>

. . . be Bounded to the Northward by Whiteoak River, from the Mouth to the Head thereof; and to the Southward, by a creek that comes out of the Sound, and comes across New River Road, called the Bay Swamp, or Beasley's Creek.<sup>664</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Duplin and Onslow was authorized to be run and established in 1819.

Whereas considerable difficulty hath arisen . . . in consequence of the dividing line between the said counties never having been ascertained, to remedy which, . . . commissioners to run and establish the dividing line between the counties of Duplin and Onslow, as soon as may be practicable after the passage of this act . . . the line so established . . . shall be the permanent line between the said counties of Duplin and Onslow, and shall govern all controversies that shall or may have arisen in either county concerning said line.<sup>665</sup>

<sup>663</sup>S. R., XXIII, 119, 170; XXV, 329; *Private Laws, 1842-43*, Ch. 35; 1848-49, Ch. 225; *Manual, 1913*, p. 731; Battle, p. 20; Onslow County Court Minutes, 1734-37, 1742-45, 1747, 1752, 1790.

<sup>664</sup>S. R., XXIII, 119.

<sup>665</sup>*Laws, 1819*, Ch. 124.

An act to authorize the commissioners of Onslow and Pender counties to have the line between said counties surveyed and established was passed in 1905. No description is given in the law.<sup>666</sup>

An act to appoint commissioners to survey and establish the dividing line between the counties of Onslow and Pender was passed in 1915, because of a dispute as to the location of the lines. No description is given in the law.<sup>667</sup>

An act to appoint commissioners to survey and establish the dividing line between the counties of Onslow and Pender was passed in 1921, because of a dispute as to the location of the lines dividing the two counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>668</sup>

A dividing line between the counties of Jones and Onslow was authorized to be run and established in 1921. No description is given in the law.<sup>669</sup>

If the act of 1819, establishing the boundary line between Duplin and Onslow, was complied with, no record was made in the respective courts of the counties. Therefore an act was passed in 1921 authorizing the dividing line between the said counties to be resurveyed, marked, and a copy filed with the clerks of the superior courts. No description is given in the law.<sup>670</sup>

In 1923 an act was passed amending *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1921*, chapter 27, relative to the boundary line between Onslow and Pender counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>671</sup>

An act was passed in 1924 authorizing the establishment of the dividing line between the counties of Duplin and Onslow, and repealing chapter 28 of the *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1921*, and chapter 43 of the *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1923*, relating to the establishment of the dividing line between the counties of Duplin and Onslow. No description is given in the law.<sup>672</sup>

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<sup>666</sup>*Public Laws, 1905, Ch. 743.*

<sup>667</sup>*Public Laws, 1915, Ch. 129.*

<sup>668</sup>*Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 27.*

<sup>669</sup>*Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 65.*

<sup>670</sup>*Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 28.*

<sup>671</sup>*Public Laws, 1923, Ch. 39.*

<sup>672</sup>*Public Laws, Special Session, 1924, Ch. 92.*

## ORANGE

Orange was formed in 1752 from Johnston, Bladen, and Granville. It was named in honor of William of Orange, who became King William III of England and saved the English people from the tyranny of James II. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Durham, Chatham Alamance, Caswell, and Person counties. The present area is 398 square miles and the population is 23,072. The first courthouse was authorized to be established in 1754 where the western path crosses the Eno River on the land of James Watson. Childsburg was established in 1759. It was changed to Hillsboro in 1766. Hillsboro is the county seat.<sup>673</sup>

. . . , That the upper part of Granville, Johnston, and Bladen Counties, be erected into a County and Parish by Name of Orange County, and the Parish of St. Matthew, and be divided by a Line, beginning on the nearest Part of the Virginia Line to Hico Creek, thence a direct line to the Bent of Eno River, below the Occanechas, near to the Plantation where John Williams now dwelleth; thence down the South side of Eno River, to Neuse River; thence down Neuse River, to the Mouth of Horse Creek; thence a direct line to the Place where Earl Granville's Line crosses Cape Fear River; thence along the said Line, to the Eastern Bounds of Anson County; thence along the dividing Line of Anson County to the End thereof; And that the upper Parts of the said Counties be divided and run accordingly, by the Commissioners . . .<sup>674</sup>

Part of Orange was annexed to Johnston in 1761.

. . . a Line to begin at the South West Corner of Granville County, and running thence to a due South Course to Johnston or Cumberland County Line, which of the said County Lines it may first intersect.<sup>675</sup>

Chatham was formed in 1770 from Orange.

. . . , the Inhabitants of the County of Orange, lying to the South of a Point Sixteen Miles due South of Hillsborough, and bounded as follows, to-wit, Beginning at the aforesaid Point, running thence due West of Guilford County Line; thence South along Guilford County Line to Cumberland County Line; thence along Cumberland and Wake County Lines to a Point due East of the Beginning; thence due West to the Beginning; be erected into a Distinct County, by the Name of Chatham County, and St. Bartholomew Parish.<sup>676</sup>

Guilford was formed in 1770 from Rowan and Orange.

. . . , That a Line beginning at a Point Twenty Five Miles due West of Hillsborough, running thence North to the Virginia Line, then West to a Point due North of the Painted Springs, then South to Anson Line, then

<sup>673</sup>S. R., XXIII, 383, 509; XXIV, 22; XXV, 256, 271, 402, 500; *Manual, 1913*, p. 736.

<sup>674</sup>S. R., XXIII, 383.

<sup>675</sup>S. R., XXIII, 547.

<sup>676</sup>S. R., XXIII, 828.

along Anson and Cumberland Lines to a Point due South of the Beginning, then North to the Beginning, be erected into a Distinct County, by the Name of Guilford and Unity Parish.<sup>677</sup>

Wake was formed in 1770 from Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange.

. . . , the said Counties of Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange, be divided by the following Lines; that is to say; Beginning at Edgecomb Line on Mocossin Swamp, a Mile above James Lea's Plantation, running a direct Line to Neuse River, at the upper End of John Beddingfield's Plantation; then to David Mimm's Mill Creek, between Mimm's Mill and Tanner's old Mill; then the same course continued to the Ridge which divides Cumberland and Johnston Counties; then a straight Line to Orange Line, at the lower End of Richard Hill's Plantation, on Buckhorn; then the same Course continued Five Miles; then to the Corner of Johnston County on Granville Line; then with the same Line and Bute Line to Edgecomb Line; and along Edgecomb Line to the Beginning; be thenceforth erected into a Distinct County and Parish, by the name Wake County and St. Margaret's Parish.<sup>678</sup>

Caswell was formed in 1777 from Orange.

. . . , That from and after the First Day of June next, the Inhabitants of the County of Orange lying to the North of a Point Twelve Miles due North of Hillsborough, and bounded as follows, to-wit, Beginning at the aforesaid Point, running thence due East to Granville County Line, thence North along Granville County Line to the Virginia Line, thence West along the Virginia Line to Guilford County Line, thence South along Guilford County Line to a Point due West of the Beginning, thence due East to the Beginning, be erected into a distinct County, by the Name of Caswell County.<sup>679</sup>

Alamance was formed in 1849 from Orange.

. . . , out of that portion of the county of Orange lying West of a North and South line, running from the Caswell line, South to the Haw River; thence down the meanders of the said river to the Chatham line, said North and South line running nine miles West of the town of Hillsborough, as heretofore surveyed by Edward Benson; said county to be called Alamance; . . .<sup>680</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Orange and Alamance was authorized to be established in 1851.

WHEREAS, by an act supplemental to an act, passed by the last General Assembly, entitled "An Act to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Alamance," it was provided that Edward Benson be appointed, on the part of Alamance county, and Freeman Walker be appointed on

<sup>677</sup>S. R., XXIII, 823.

<sup>678</sup>S. R., XXIII, 819.

<sup>679</sup>S. R., XXIV, 24.

<sup>680</sup>*Laws, 1848-49*, Ch. 14. See appendix, p. 246, for a report of the commissioners to establish Alamance County.

part of Orange county, surveyors, to run and mark the dividing line between the counties of Orange and Alamance; and whereas the said Walker failed to act in the promises, and a dividing line between said counties was run and marked by the said Benson, with the assistance of W. S. Moore, of said county of Orange:

. . . , That the line which has been heretofore run and marked by Edward Benson and W. S. Moore, beginning at a gum sapling on the Caswell line and running due south to a birch bush on the bank of Haw river; thence with the meanders of said river to the Chatham county line, be, and the same is hereby declared the dividing line between the counties of Orange and Alamance.<sup>681</sup>

Durham was formed in 1881 from Orange and Wake.

. . . : Beginning at the north-east corner of Orange county, thence with the Orange and Person line north eighty-seven degrees, west, eight miles, to the corner of Mangum and Little River townships of Orange county; thence south ten degrees west, twenty-five and one-quarter miles, to the Chatham county line, at the corner of Patterson and Chapel Hill townships; thence with the Chatham county line south eighty-seven degrees east, seven miles, to the Wake county line; thence the same course four miles, to a point in Wake county in Cedar Fork township; thence a line parallel to the Wake and Orange line north fifteen degrees east, thirteen and one-half miles, to the corner of New Light and Oak Grove townships; thence continuing the same course two and one-quarter miles, and following the dividing line between said townships to the Granville county line, at the corner of the aforesaid townships; thence with the Wake and Granville line to their corner on Neuse river, in the Orange county line; thence with the Granville line about north nine and three-quarter miles to the beginning.<sup>682</sup>

## PAMLICO

Pamlico County was formed in 1872 from Craven and Beaufort. It was named after the sound of the same name. Pamlico was the name of an Indian tribe in Eastern North Carolina. There was a Pamptecough Precinct in North Carolina as early as 1705, but it was changed to Beaufort about 1712. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Pamlico Sound, Neuse River, and Craven and Beaufort counties. The present area is 341 square miles and the population is 9,706. Court was held at an old store in Vandimere until 1876. In that year, an act was passed authorizing the commissioners to submit to a vote of the people the question of moving the county seat from Vandimere to some other place. Bayboro was made the county seat. It was incorporated in 1881.<sup>683</sup>

<sup>681</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 43.*

<sup>682</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 138.*

<sup>683</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 132; Manual, 1913, p. 744.* Interview with Sam J. Morris, Raleigh, N. C., a lawyer and former resident of Pamlico County.



That a county by the name of Pamlico shall be and the same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Craven and Beaufort counties, within the following bounds, to wit: Beginning at the mouth of South Creek, in the county of Beaufort, at Hickory Point, running thence up South Creek to the mouth of Bailey Creek, and up Bailey Creek to the head thereof, thence a west course to Durham's Creek, and up Durham's Creek to the head thereof, thence a direct line to the head waters of Deep Run and with Deep Run to Upper Broad Creek, in Craven county, and with Broad Creek to Neuse river, thence with Neuse river and Pamlico Sound to the mouth of Pamlico river, and thence up Pamlico river, so as to include Indian Island, to Hickory Point, at the mouth of South Creek, the beginning.<sup>684</sup>

#### Part of Beaufort was annexed to Pamlico in 1874.

That on the First Thursday in March, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, in Goose Creek Island township, in the county of Beaufort, an election shall be under the rules and regulations for the election of members of the General Assembly, for the purpose of allowing the qualified voters of Goose Creek Island township to vote upon the annexation of said township to the county of Pamlico.

... , that portion of Beaufort county known as Goose Creek Island shall, from and after that day, become a portion of the county of Pamlico.<sup>685</sup>

#### Part of Beaufort was annexed to Pamlico in 1875.

... : Beginning at the mouth of Goose creek, and runs up Pamlico river to Lee's creek, then up said creek to the Washington road, then with said road westerly to the township line, then with the township line southerly to the Craven county line, then with the Craven and Pamlico county line to the mouth of Goose creek, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Pamlico county.<sup>686</sup>

#### Part of Craven was annexed to Pamlico in 1875.

That the county line between Craven and Pamlico be so changed to make Broad Creek the dividing line from its mouth to the Beaufort county line.<sup>687</sup>

#### Part of Beaufort was annexed to Pamlico in 1891.

... : beginning at the mouth of Durham's creek and running up the creek to its head, thence south to the dividing line between Beaufort and Pamlico counties, with said dividing line to Goose creek, thence down Goose creek to Pamlico river, thence up said river to the mouth of Durham's creek, the beginning, be and is hereby annexed to the county of Pamlico.<sup>688</sup>

<sup>684</sup>Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 132.

<sup>685</sup>Public Laws, 1873-74, Ch. 152.

<sup>686</sup>Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 129.

<sup>687</sup>Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 182.

<sup>688</sup>Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 307.

## PAMPTECOUGH

Pamptecough was formed in 1705 from Bath. It was named for Pamptecough River. Its name was changed to Beaufort about 1712.

. . . The Precinct of Pamptecough, lying on the north side of Pamptecough River and beginning at Molines's Creek, and Westerly to the head of the river. . . .<sup>689</sup>

## PASQUOTANK

Pasquotank was formed in 1670 as a precinct in Albemarle County. It was named in honor of an Indian tribe in the eastern part of the colony. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Albemarle Sound and Perquimans, Gates, and Camden counties. The present area is 229 square miles and the population is 20,568. It is not known when the first courthouse was built, but from 1737 to 1757 the courthouse was at Brook Field. In 1758 it was moved to Relfe's Point. It remained there until 1762 or probably a little later. From 1765 until 1785 the courthouse was at Winfield. In 1784 the Assembly directed that it be moved to Nixonton, and from 1785 to 1800 Nixonton was the county seat. In 1799 Elizabeth (City) Town was named the county seat and on June 6, 1800, the first court was held there. Elizabeth City was first called Redding, which town was established in 1793. Redding was changed to Elizabeth Town in 1794, and Elizabeth Town was changed to Elizabeth City in 1801. It is the county seat. There is no description of the precinct when it was established.<sup>690</sup>

Camden was formed from Pasquotank in 1777.

. . . , That all that part of Pasquotank County lying on the North East side of the said River [Pasquotank], and of a Line to be run from the Head of the said River a North West Course to the Virginia Line, shall be, and is hereby established a County, by the Name of Cambden.<sup>691</sup>

The lines between Pasquotank and Perquimans and between Camden and Gates were ordered to be run in 1804. Because of the difficulty of establishing and marking the lines in the Dismal Swamp, they had not been previously marked.

, . . . beginning near the fork of Little river, and running northwardly to the south-west corner of a ridge, known by the Middle Ridge, then along

<sup>689</sup>C. R., I, 629.

<sup>690</sup>This is one of the four original precincts established when the Lords Proprietors agreed to the Fundamental Constitutions. C. R., II, 615; S. R., XXIII, 100, 468, 500; XXIV, 630; XV, 389; *Laws, 1792*, Ch. 54; *1793*, Ch. 55; *1794*, Ch. 58; *1799*, Ch. 72; *1801*, Ch. 62; *Manual, 1913*, p. 745; *Battle*, p. 14; *Pasquotank County Court Minutes, 1737-52, 1765-1800*.

<sup>691</sup>S. R., XXIV, 26.

the west side of said ridge, crossing Colonel John Hamilton's turnpike road, to the north-west corner thereof, thence a northwardly course to a ridge in the desert known by Colonel Jesse Eason's Ridge, then a north course to the line that divides this State from the State of Virginia.<sup>692</sup>

In 1818 an act was passed which authorized the boundary line between Pasquotank and Perquimans to be run and marked, No description is given in the law.<sup>693</sup>

In 1909 an act was passed to define the boundary line between Pasquotank and Camden counties.

That the channel of Pasquotank River, from its mouth to its junction with the Dismal Swamp Canal, shall be the dividing line between Pasquotank and Camden counties; and the boundary line of Camden County, from the junction of the Dismal Swamp Canal and Pasquotank River to the Virginia line, shall be and remain as it now is.<sup>694</sup>

## PENDER

Pender was formed in 1875 from New Hanover. It was named in honor of General William D. Pender of Edgecombe, a Confederate soldier who was killed at the battle of Gettysburg. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean and New Hanover, Brunswick, Columbus, Bladen, Sampson, Duplin, and Onslow counties. The present area is 856 square miles and the population is 17,710. The county commissioners were ordered to hold their first meeting at Rocky Point. The act provided for the establishment of the town of Cowan as the county seat. In 1877 an act was passed repealing that section of the law relative to the town, and another law was enacted whereby the qualified voters were to vote on the question of moving the county seat to South Washington or any other place which the majority of the voters designated. Whatever place was selected, the town should be called Stanford. In 1879 Stanford was changed to Burgaw, which was by that law incorporated. It is the county seat.<sup>695</sup>

. . . : Beginning at Rich inlet, on the Atlantic ocean, running thence up the channel of said inlet to the mouth of Foy's creek, thence up said creek to the fork thereof, thence by a direct line to the junction of Old House branch with Island creek, thence down said creek to the north east branch of Cape Fear river, thence down said river to the mouth of Fishing creek, thence by a direct line to the junction of Black river with north west

<sup>692</sup>*Laws, 1804*, Ch. 54.

<sup>693</sup>*Laws, 1818*, Ch. 130. For a report of the commissioners see appendix, p. 273.

<sup>694</sup>*Public Laws, 1909*, Ch. 610.

<sup>695</sup>*Public Laws, 1874-75*, Chs. 91, 136; *1876-77*, Ch. 252; *Private Laws, 1879*, Ch. 23; *Manual, 1913*, p. 750; *Battle*, p. 34.

branch of Cape Fear, thence up the north-west branch of Cape Fear to the Bladen county line, and all that portion of the county of New Hanover lying north of said line be and the same is hereby created into a separate and distinct county by the name of Pender with all the rights, privileges and immunities incident and belonging to the other counties in this State.<sup>696</sup>

An act to authorize the commissioners of Onslow and Pender counties to have the line between said counties surveyed and established was passed in 1905. No description is given in the law.<sup>697</sup>

An act to appoint commissioners to survey and establish the dividing line between the counties of Onslow and Pender was passed in 1915, because of a dispute as to the location of the lines. No description is given in the law.<sup>698</sup>

An act to appoint commissioners to survey and establish the dividing line between the counties of Onslow and Pender was passed in 1921 because of a dispute as to the location of the lines dividing the two counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>699</sup>

In 1923 an act was passed amending *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1921*, chapter 27, relative to the boundary line between Onslow and Pender counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>700</sup>

## PERQUIMANS

Perquimans was formed in 1670 as a precinct in Albemarle County. It was named in honor of an Indian tribe. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Albemarle Sound and Chowan, Gates, and Pasquotank counties. The present area is 261 square miles and the population is 9,773. Hertford, established in 1758 on the land of Jonathan Felp, is the county seat. There is no description of the precinct when it was established.<sup>701</sup>

Gates was formed in 1779 from Chowan, Perquimans, and Hertford.

. . . , that all that part of Hertford County that lies on the North East side of Chowan River, and all that part of Chowan and Perquimons Counties, that lies on the North Side of Katherine, and Warwick Creeks, and

<sup>696</sup>*Public Laws, 1874-75*, Ch. 91.

<sup>697</sup>*Public Laws, 1905*, Ch. 743.

<sup>698</sup>*Public Laws, 1915*, Ch. 129.

<sup>699</sup>*Public Laws, 1921*, Ch. 27.

<sup>700</sup>*Public Laws, 1923*, Ch. 39.

<sup>701</sup>This is one of the four original precincts established when the Lords Proprietors agreed to the Fundamental Constitutions. S. R., XXIII, 100, 484; XXV, 367, 477; *Manual, 1913*, p. 761; *Battle*, p. 14; *Perquimans County Court Minutes, 1735-1759*.

bounded as follows, (that is to say) Beginning at the Virginia line, on Chowan River, thence down the said River to the mouth of Katherine Creek; thence up the said Creek, to the mouth of Warwick Creek, thence up said Creek to the Head, thence a direct line to the Head of the Indian Branch in Perquimons County, thence down said Branch to the Great Dismal Swamp, thence a North east Course to the Virginia line, thence Westerly along said line to the beginning, and all that part of Hertford, Chowan, & Perquimons Counties, included in said lines, shall be and is hereby established a County by the name of Gates.<sup>702</sup>

The lines between Pasquotank and Perquimans, and Camden and Gates were ordered to be run in 1804; because of the difficulty of establishing and marking the lines in the Dismal Swamp, they had not been previously marked.

. . . beginning near the fork of Little River, and running northwardly to the south-west corner of a ridge, known by the Middle Ridge, then along the west side of said ridge, crossing Colonel John Hamilton's turnpike road, to the north-west corner thereof, thence a northwardly course to a ridge in the desert known by Colonel Jesse Eason's Ridge, then a north course to the line that divides this State from the State of Virginia.<sup>703</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Chowan, Perquimans, and Gates was authorized to be established in 1805.

. . . That the said commissioners . . . shall begin the dividing line between the counties of Chowan and Perquimons, at such place on Yeopon river, above Elliot's mills, as they may think proper, due regard being had to the former reputed line, and shall run thence along the said reputed line to Sunday ridge road, and from the said road to the intersection of the line of Gates county, and thence along the said line, as far as it extends on the heads of Chowan and Perquimans counties, and shall make or cause to be made returns of their proceedings to each of the courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the said counties to be deposited and kept among the records thereof: and the said lines when so extended and laid off, shall forever be established and confirmed as the dividing lines between the said counties.<sup>704</sup>

In 1814 the act of 1805, establishing the boundary line between Perquimans, Chowan, and Gates, was amended by naming a new commissioner, which indicated that the line had not been established at that date.<sup>705</sup>

In 1818 an act was passed which authorized the boundary line between Pasquotank and Perquimans to be run and marked. No description is given in the law.<sup>706</sup>

<sup>702</sup>S. R., XXIV, 230. See appendix, p. 259, for a survey of a line made in 1773 between Chowan and Perquimans.

<sup>703</sup>Laws, 1804, Ch. 54.

<sup>704</sup>Laws, 1805, Ch. 27.

<sup>705</sup>Laws, 1814, Ch. 88.

<sup>706</sup>Laws, 1818, Ch. 130. For a report of the commissioners see appendix, p. 273.

The dividing line between Chowan and Perquimans was authorized to be run and marked in 1819.

. . . commissioners to complete running and marking the dividing lines between the counties of Chowan and Perquimons, . . . shall commence running at the bridge in the lane called James Hataway's Senr. and run a direct course to Caleb Goodwin's bridge in Bear swamp, from thence a direct course to where the crane pond crosses the sandy ridge road, thence up the sandy ridge road to where the Gates county line crosses the said road . . . the said commissioners shall cause to be made correct copies of their survey; one of which shall be filed in the Secretary's office and one in each of the Clerks offices of the court of pleas and quarter sessions in the counties of Chowan and Perquimons.<sup>707</sup>

In 1819 the boundary line between Perquimans and Gates had not been established so as to be widely and definitely known. Therefore, an act was passed which authorized the establishment of said line. No description is given in the law.<sup>708</sup>

## PERSON

Person County was formed in 1791 from Caswell. The act was to become effective February 1, 1792. It was named in honor of General Thomas Person, a Revolutionary patriot, a member of the Council of Safety and a trustee of the University of North Carolina. He gave a large sum of money to the University, and a building was erected in his honor, which is called Person Hall. It is in the north central section of the State and is bounded by Granville, Durham, Orange, and Caswell counties, and the state of Virginia. The present area is 400 square miles and the population is 25,034. In 1792 Pitman's was mentioned in an act as the place where the courthouse was to be established. In 1793 Roxboro was established at the courthouse and is now the county seat.<sup>709</sup>

. . . , That from and after the first day of February next, the county of Caswell shall be equally divided by a line already run, beginning on the Virginia line, and running from thence south to the line of Orange County.

That all that part of said county lying west of the line aforesaid, including the four western districts, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Caswell; and that all that part lying east of said line including the four eastern districts, shall be erected into another distinct county by the name of Person.<sup>710</sup>

<sup>707</sup>*Laws, 1819, Ch. 123.*

<sup>708</sup>*Laws, 1819, Ch. 108.*

<sup>709</sup>*Laws, 1791, Ch. 53; 1792, Ch. 50; 1793, Ch. 66; Manual, 1913, p. 756; Battle, p. 26.*

<sup>710</sup>*Laws, 1791, Ch. 53.*



The boundary line between Granville and Person counties was authorized to be established in 1871.

. . . , so much of the boundary line between said counties as runs between Oak Hill township, in Granville county, and Holloway's township, in Person county, and mark the same by some line of objects.<sup>711</sup>

## PITT

Pitt was formed in 1760 from Beaufort. The act was to become effective January 1, 1761. It was named in honor of William Pitt. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Beaufort, Craven, Lenoir, Greene, Wilson, Edgecombe, and Martin counties. The present area is 656 square miles and the population is 61,244. The act establishing the county authorized the courts to be held at the home of John Hardy until a courthouse could be built. It also directed the justices to contract for the construction of the courthouse, prison, and stocks on John Hardy's land on the south side of Tar River, near the Chapel known as Hardy's Chapel.

In 1771 Martinsboro was established on Richard Evans's land, and in 1774 the courthouse, prison, and stocks were moved to Martinsboro. Court was held at the home of John Lessley until the new courthouse, prison and stocks were completed. In 1787 Martinsborough was changed to Greenville. Greenville is the county seat.<sup>712</sup>

. . . , That from and after the First Day of January next, the upper Part of the said County of Beaufort, beginning at the Line between the said County and Tyrrel, running South, South West to Cherry's Run, where the main Road crosses the said Run; thence down the said Run to Tranter's Creek; thence down the said Creek to Pamlico River; thence down the said River to the Fork Point, on the South side of the said River; thence up the Chocowinity Bay and Creek to the Head thereof; thence South. South West to the dividing Line of the said County and Craven; thence along the dividing Lines of Craven, Dobbs, Edgecomb, and Tyrrel; so that all that Part of Beaufort County to the Westward of Cherry Run, Chocowinity Bay and Creek, shall, and is hereby declared to be a separate County and Parish, and shall be called and known by the name of Pitt County, and St. Michael's Parish. . . .<sup>713</sup>

The dividing line between Pitt and Dobbs was authorized to be established in 1764.

. . . the said dividing Line between the Counties of Dobbs and Pitt; from Blount's Ford on Little Contentney Creek, to Luke White's, then up the middle Swamp to William Wilson's, and from thence to the nearest part

<sup>711</sup>*Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 223.*

<sup>712</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 531, 865, 968; XXIV, 781, 867; Manual, 1913, p. 760; Battle, p. 28.*

<sup>713</sup>*S. R., XXIII, 531.*

of Edgecomb County; which said Lines, when run by the Commissioners aforesaid, or any two of them, shall be by them entered on Record in the Courts of Each of the said Counties of Dobbs and Pitt, and shall thereafter be deemed and taken to be the dividing lines between the said Counties.<sup>714</sup>

In 1784 the line between Martin, Edgecombe and Pitt was authorized to be run with the following description:

... , commissioners, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered as soon as may be after the passing of this Act to extend the dividing line between the counties aforesaid, beginning in the old line that formerly divided Edgecombe and Halifax at or near Benjamin Cotton's running thence a direct course to the line that divides Martin and Pitt counties at or near Charles Council's.<sup>715</sup>

Part of Pitt was annexed to Beaufort in 1785.

... all that part of the county of Pitt included in the following bounds, beginning at Craven county line where it crosses Creeping Swamp, and running with Creeping Swamp and Checod Swamp to the mouth of Round Island branch, then a direct course to the mouth of Pitch Hole branch, then with the swamp to Bear creek, then down Bear creek to Tar river, then down the river on the north side to the mouth of Tranter's creek, then up said Creek to Martin county line, then with Martin, Beaufort and Craven lines to the beginning, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall be and remain a part of the county of Beaufort.<sup>716</sup>

Part of Craven was annexed to Pitt in 1787.

... all that part of the county of Craven, included in the following bounds, beginning at the Pitt line where creeping Swamp intersects the same; thence down the run or middle of the said swamp to the run or middle of the Clay-root Swamp, thence down the run of the said Clay-root Swamp to the run of Swift's Creek Swamp, thence up the run of the same to Isaac Gardener's Ford, or part across the same, thence a direct line to the lower landing on Grindal Creek, which is in about half a mile of the said creek, thence down the said Grindal Creek to the river Neuse, then up the meanders of the said river Neuse to the mouth of Great Contentney Creek, thence up the said creek to the mouth of Little Contentney Creek, then up the same to the line of the county of Pitt, be, and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall be and remain a part of the county of Pitt; . . .<sup>717</sup>

Part of Pitt was annexed to Edgecombe in 1801.

... all that part of Pitt county, bounded as follows, shall be added to the county of Edgecomb: Beginning where Edgecomb county-line crosses Coneto Creek, near Samuel Crisp's; then down said creek to Christopher Harrod's plantation; then nearly West to Edgecombe county-line, so as to include James Summerlin; and all that part North of said line shall hereafter be part of the county of Edgecomb.<sup>718</sup>

<sup>714</sup>S. R., XXIII, 629.

<sup>715</sup>S. R. XXIV, 647. In 1894 the lines between Martin and Pitt and between Edgecombe and Pitt were authorized to be run. For a report of these lines, see appendix, p. 270.

<sup>716</sup>S. R., XXIV, 758.

<sup>717</sup>S. R., XXIV, 825.

<sup>718</sup>Laws, 1801, Ch. 68.

Part of Pitt County was annexed to the county of Martin in 1805.

. . . all that part of Pitt county bounded as follows, shall be annexed to the county of Martin, viz. Beginning where the present county line intersects the fork of Trentross creek and Flat Swamp to where the present county line crosseth said swamp; and all that part of Pitt county lying north of the before recited boundaries shall hereafter be part of Martin county. . . .<sup>719</sup>

In 1818 an act was passed authorizing the boundary line between Pitt and Craven to be run and marked as the boundary line was not properly known. No description is given in the law.<sup>720</sup>

The dividing line between Pitt and Greene counties was authorized to be changed in 1895.

. . . beginning in the old county line of Green and Pitt, in the mouth of Middle swamp, then down the various courses of Sandy run to little Contentnea creek; then down the said little Contentnea creek to the old line: . . .<sup>721</sup>

## POLK

Polk was formed in 1855 from Rutherford and Henderson. It was named in honor of Colonel Wiliam Polk "who rendered distinguished service in the Battles of Germantown, Brandywine and Eutaw, in all of which he was wounded." It is in the southwestern section of the State, and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Henderson and Rutherford counties. The present area is 234 square miles and the population is 11,874. The act directed that the court and records should be kept at the home of J. Mills until a courthouse could be erected. It also named commissioners to obtain a site for public buildings, lay out a town by the name of Columbus, and erect a courthouse. Columbus is the county seat.<sup>722</sup>

<sup>719</sup>*Laws, 1805, Ch. 28.*

<sup>720</sup>*Laws, 1818, Ch. 136.*

<sup>721</sup>*Private Laws, 1895, Ch. 145.*

<sup>722</sup>*Laws, 1854-55, Chs. 10, 11; Manual, 1913, p. 766; Battle, p. 27.* An act was passed in 1847 establishing a county by the name of Polk. It was taken from Rutherford and Henderson. The act was repealed in 1848 and the lands taken from these counties were returned to them. The description in this act and that in the act of 1855 are almost identical. ". . . An Act to repeal the act of 1846-47 entitled 'An Act to lay off and establish a county by the name of Polk' be, and the same is, hereby, repealed."

". . . That all that portion of the county of Polk which was taken from the county of Rutherford be, and the same is hereby ceded back to said county of Rutherford. That all that portion of the county of Polk, which was taken from the county of Henderson, be, and the same is hereby, ceded back to said county of Henderson." *Laws, 1846-47, Chs. 26, 27; 1848-49, Chs. 18, 19.* In 1850 an act was passed commanding P. B. Williams, late sheriff of Polk County, to pay to Rutherford and Henderson counties their respective parts of the school funds in his hands. *Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 42.*

. . . , beginning on the top of Sugar-Loaf mountain, at the Henderson Corner, and running nearly east down to the ridge between the waters of Green and Broad Rivers; and with the ridge to Gray's Chapel; and from Gray's Chapel, continuing the same ridge down to the lands of Thomas Miller; thence nearly east, including said lands, to Broad River, thence with main Broad River to Poer's ford; and from Poer's ford with the old road to South-Carolina line; thence with the South-Carolina line to the old Buncombe Corner; and thence with the old Buncombe line to the original point, Sugar-Loaf mountain; . . .<sup>723</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Henderson and Polk was authorized to be established in 1903.

WHEREAS, doubts have arisen concerning the location of the dividing line between the counties of Henderson and Polk, and the citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the line are unable to determine where they shall exercise their rights of citizenship . . .

. . . , who shall proceed to locate the dividing line between the counties of Henderson and Polk, and shall mark the same by permanent monuments; and when they have so determined the proper location of said dividing line, they shall make a report of the same, under their hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of the majority of them, to the County Commissioners of the respective counties of Henderson and Polk, . . .<sup>724</sup>

## RANDOLPH

Randolph was formed in 1779 from Guilford. It was named in honor of Peyton Randolph of Virginia, who was president of the Continental Congress. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Chatham, Moore, Montgomery, Davidson, Guilford, and Alamance counties. Its present area is 801 square miles and its population is 44,554. The act establishing the county authorized the first court and all subsequent courts to be held at the home of Abraham Reese unless otherwise decided upon by the justices of the peace until a courthouse could be built. Commissioners were named to select a site for the county seat. In 1783 the commissioners had failed to erect a courthouse and new commissioners were named. This act directed that court be held at the home of William Bell until the courthouse was completed. In 1785 an act was passed removing the court from the home of William Bell and allowing the justices at each court to decide where the next court would meet until the courthouse was completed. In 1788 a town was established at the courthouse on the land of Thomas Douggan. This town was named Johnstonville in honor of Samuel Johnston. In 1791

<sup>723</sup>Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 10.

<sup>724</sup>Public Laws, 1903, Ch. 430.

an act was passed authorizing the construction of a prison at the courthouse. In 1792 an act was passed authorizing commissioners to select the center of the county and have a new courthouse erected, as the old courthouse was not in the center of the county. In 1796 Asheborough was established as the county seat on the land of Jesse Henley. In 1819 a new courthouse was authorized to be built in Asheborough. Asheboro is the county seat.<sup>725</sup>

. . . the said County of Guilford be divided into two separate and distinct Counties; Beginning on the Anson Line at the Corner of Rowan, thence running North twenty eight miles, then East to the Orange Line, and all that part of the said County of Guilford that lies South of the aforesaid line shall continue to remain a distinct and separate County by the name of Randolph. . . .<sup>726</sup>

The dividing line between the county of Randolph and the counties of Moore and Montgomery was authorized to be run and established in 1829.

Whereas the dividing line between the county of Randolph and the counties of Moore and Montgomery has become so obscure as to occasion frequent disputes between the inhabitants of said counties, and renders it desirable that the said dividing line should be more accurately ascertained and marked;

. . . shall appoint . . . commissioners . . . and authorize them to run, ascertain and mark the line between the county of Randolph and the said counties of Moore and Montgomery; . . . the (said) commissioners . . . shall run and mark that part of said line which is the boundary between the said counties of Randolph and Moore; . . . and run and mark that part of said line which is the boundary between the said counties of Montgomery and Randolph.<sup>727</sup>

An act to empower the commissioners of Randolph and Davidson to establish the dividing line between said counties was passed in 1871.

WHEREAS, The dividing line between the counties of Randolph and Davidson is not sufficiently described in many places whereby it has become expedient, in order to prevent inconveniences and disputes between the inhabitants of said counties, that the said dividing line should be more accurately ascertained and laid off: . . .<sup>728</sup>

No description is given in the law.

<sup>725</sup>S. R., XXIV, 234, 541, 770, 986; *Laws*, 1791, Ch. 71; 1792, Ch. 66; 1796, Ch. 76; 1819, Ch. 122; *Manual*, 1913, p. 767; Battle, p. 25.

<sup>726</sup>S. R., XXIV, 234.

<sup>727</sup>*Private Laws*, 1828-29, Ch. 169.

<sup>728</sup>*Public Laws*, 1871-72, Ch. 10.

## RICHMOND

Richmond was formed in 1779 from Anson. It was named in honor of Charles Lennox, Duke of Richmond and a principal secretary in William Pitt's second administration. He was a staunch friend of the American colonies and made a motion in the House of Lords that the colonies be granted their independence. It is in the south central section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Anson, Stanly, Montgomery, Moore, and Scotland counties. Its present area is 477 square miles and its population is 36,810. The county seat was first called Richmond Court House but in 1784 a town was established there by the name of Rockingham. Rockingham is the county seat.<sup>729</sup>

. . . , the said county of Anson be divided into separate and distinct counties, and that the river Pee Dee be the dividing line; and that all that part of Anson that lies on the southwest side of the said river Pee Dee, shall be, continue and remain, a distinct county, by the name of Anson; and that all that other part of the county of Anson that lies on the northeast of said river, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct county, by the name of Richmond county.<sup>730</sup>

Part of Richmond was annexed to Robeson in 1796.

. . . , That from and after the passing of this act, all that part of Richmond county which lies below the road leading from Campbell's Bridge, on Drowning creek, to the South-Carolina line, be, and the same is hereby added to this county of Robinson. . . .<sup>731</sup>

The act was repealed in 1797.<sup>732</sup>

In 1818 an act was passed which authorized the dividing line between Richmond and Robeson to be run because the line which divides the said counties is "of difficult ascertainment from the decay and destruction of the trees marked upon said line." No description is given in the law.<sup>733</sup>

The dividing line between Richmond and Montgomery was authorized to be established and marked in 1822.

. . . ; beginning at Campbell's Bridge, (formerly Monroe's,) on Drowning creek, and running to Peedee river, at or near Colson's Ferry, and passing the several water courses at the places where the original line crossed

<sup>729</sup>S. R., XXIV, 287, 613; *Manual*, 1913, p. 773; Battle, p. 28.

<sup>730</sup>S. R. XXIV, 287.

<sup>731</sup>*Laws*, 1796, Ch. 38.

<sup>732</sup>The act was repealed for the following reason: ". . . Whereas the before recited act was passed without the knowledge, and contrary to the wish of those inhabitants annexed to the county of Robeson, and thereby subjected them to many inconveniences in attending courts and general musters, and by their petition have prayed to be restored to the county of Richmond: . . ." *Laws*, 1797, Ch. 13.

<sup>733</sup>*Laws*, 1818, Ch. 14.



them, respectively; and the said commissioners and surveyor shall be allowed such compensation, per day, as the said Courts may deem necessary for their services; and each county paying their own commissioners and surveyor; and when said line shall be so run and established, it shall be thereafter considered the permanent dividing line between said counties.<sup>734</sup>

An act to re-mark and renew the dividing line between Richmond and Robeson counties was passed in 1832.

. . . , beginning at Campbell's, formerly Overstreet's bridge, and on the west bank of Lumber river, or at any other place where the present dividing line is known, and running thence with the present and existing line to the termination thereof in the South Carolina State line, and along the said line the said commissioners shall mark trees and other objects calculated to perpetuate said boundary line, keeping as near the old marked line as possible.<sup>735</sup>

Scotland was formed in 1899 from Richmond.

. . . ; Beginning at a point in the line between the states of North Carolina and South Carolina, where the county of Robeson and county of Richmond in the state of North Carolina converge on the said state line; thence in a northerly direction with the line between the counties of Richmond and Robeson in the state of North Carolina to Cumberland county; thence with the line between Richmond and Cumberland counties to Moore county; thence with the line between Moore and Richmond counties to a line between Beaver Dam and Spring Hill townships in Richmond county; thence with the line between the townships of Beaver Dam, Rockingham and Mark's Creek townships in Richmond county, and being the dividing line of said townships from the townships of Spring Hill, Laurel Hill and Williamson's in the said county of Scotland to the line between the state of North Carolina and South Carolina; thence with said state line to the beginning.<sup>736</sup>

## ROBESON

Robeson was formed in 1787 from Bladen. It was named in honor of Colonel Thomas Robeson, a soldier of the Revolution. He was one of the leaders at the battle of Elizabethtown which was fought in September, 1781. By this battle the Tories in the southeastern part of the State were crushed. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Scotland, Hoke, Cumberland, Bladen, and Columbus counties. The present area is 944 square miles and the population is 76,855. The courthouse was erected on land which formerly belonged to John Willis. A lottery was used to dispose of the lots and to establish the town. In 1788, Lumberton was established. It is the county seat.<sup>737</sup>

<sup>734</sup>*Private Laws, 1822, Ch. 60.*

<sup>735</sup>*Private Laws, 1832, Ch. 149.*

<sup>736</sup>*Public Laws, 1899, Ch. 127.*

<sup>737</sup>*S. R., XX, 267; XXIV, 838; Manual, 1913, p. 778; Battle, p. 26.*

... Beginning on Drowning creek where South Carolina line crosses said creek, thence up said creek to the mouth of the Great Swamp, thence a direct line to a point on the main road five miles westwardly of the bridge on said Great Swamp as the road now runs, thence running a straight line to Cumberland county touching at Stewart's mills on Rockfish; and all that part of the late county of Bladen lying east of said line, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Bladen, and all that other part of the said county of Bladen lying west of said line, shall henceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Robeson. . . .<sup>738</sup>

Part of Bladen was annexed to Robeson in 1788.

... , all that part of the county of Bladen west of the Great Swamp, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall remain part of the county of Robeson: and that the dividing line between the said two counties shall be and forever remain as herein described, viz: Beginning at the line dividing this State from South Carolina where it crossed Drowning Creek, and the said Drowning Creek to be the line (as it now is) to the mouth of the aforesaid Great Swamp, thence up the meanders of the east side of the said swamp to the head thereof commonly called the Galberry, and thence a direct line to the head of Gilley's Branch, and down the meanders of said branch of Rockfish Creek, and thence to the nearest point to the Cumberland line.<sup>739</sup>

Part of Robeson was annexed to Cumberland in 1791.

... Beginning at the mouth of the Colecamp branch, thence up said branch to the main road from Lumberton to Fayetteville, thence a direct line to the bridge across Great Rockfish, below Leggit's plantation, thence up said Rockfish to this line of Cumberland county, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall be and remain part of the county of Cumberland. . . .<sup>740</sup>

Part of Richmond was annexed to Robeson in 1796.

... , That from and after the passing of this act, all that part of Richmond county which lies below the road leading from Campbell's Bridge, on Drowning creek, to the South-Carolina line, be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Robinson. . . .<sup>741</sup>

The act was repealed in 1797.<sup>742</sup>

In 1818 an act was passed which authorized the dividing line between Richmond and Robeson to be run because the line which divides the said counties is "of difficult ascertainment from the decay and destruction of the trees marked upon said line." There is no description given in the law.<sup>743</sup>

<sup>738</sup>S. R., XXIV, 838.

<sup>739</sup>S. R., XXIV, 988.

<sup>740</sup>Laws, 1791, Ch. 39.

<sup>741</sup>Laws, 1796, Ch. 38.

<sup>742</sup>The act repealing this law reads as follows: "... Whereas the before recited act was passed without the knowledge, and contrary to the wish of those inhabitants annexed to the county of Robeson, and thereby subjected them to many inconveniences in attending courts and general musters, and by their petition have prayed to be restored to the county of Richmond: . . ." Laws, 1797, Ch. 13.

<sup>743</sup>Laws, 1818, Ch. 14.

An act to re-mark and renew the dividing line between Richmond and Robeson counties was passed in 1832.

. . . , beginning at Campbell's, formerly Overstreet's bridge, and on the west bank of Lumber river, or at any other place where the present dividing line is known, and running thence with the present and existing line to the termination thereof in the South Carolina State line, and along the said line the said commissioners shall mark trees and other objects calculated to perpetuate said boundary line, keeping as near the old marked line as possible.<sup>744</sup>

Hoke was formed in 1911 from Cumberland and Robeson.

Beginning at the southwest corner of Blue Springs Township, in Robeson County, on Lumber River, and running thence up said Lumber River, the same being the boundary line between the counties of Robeson and Scotland, and continuing with the run of said Lumber River to the west corner of Cumberland County; thence north thirty-nine degrees east with the line dividing Cumberland and Moore counties to the Harnett County line; thence with the line of Cumberland and Harnett counties to the run of Hector's Creek; thence down the run of Hector's Creek to where it empties into Lower Little River; thence a direct line to the head of Little Rockfish Creek in Seventy-first Township, the same being a spring in A. B. McFadyen's field; thence down the run of Little Rockfish Creek to the central plank road, near the residence of D. A. Blue; thence a direct line to Black's Ford on Stewart's Creek; thence the various courses of Stewart's Creek to Big Rockfish Creek; thence a direct line southwesterly to the crossing of the public roads at Graham's Mill on Mill prong of Big Raft Swamp, in Robeson County; thence a direct line, nearly west, to the beginning.<sup>745</sup>

## ROCKINGHAM

Rockingham was formed in 1785 from Guilford. It was named in honor of Charles Watson Wentworth, Marquis of Rockingham, who was a leader of a party in the British Parliament which advocated American independence. He was Prime Minister when the Stamp Act was repealed. It is in the north central section of the State and is bounded by Caswell, Guilford, and Stokes counties and the state of Virginia. The present area is 572 square miles and the population is 57,898. The first court was to be held at the home of Adam Tate, at which time the justices were to decide on the place for holding future courts until the courthouse could be erected. In 1787 an act was passed which directed the courthouse to be erected on the land of Charles Mitchell on the east side of Big Rock House Creek. In 1796 an act was passed authorizing the purchase of land from Robert Galloway & Company, where the public buildings were situated,

<sup>744</sup>*Private Laws, 1832, Ch. 149.*

<sup>745</sup>*Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 24.*

and the laying out of Wentworth. In 1797 an act was passed suspending operations on the Wentworth courthouse. In 1798 commisisoners were named to establish Wentworth on land given by Robert Galloway for that purpose. The first court was held at Wentworth in May, 1799. Wentworth is the county seat.<sup>746</sup>

. . . , the said county of Guilford be divided by an east and west line, beginning at Haw river bridge, near James Martins; and that all that part of the late county of Guilford, which lies to the south of said line, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Guilford; and all that other part of the said county of Guilford, which lies north of the said dividing line shall henceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Rockingham.<sup>747</sup>

## ROWAN

Rowan was formed in 1753 from Anson. It was named in honor of Matthew Rowan who was a prominent leader before the Revolution and who for a short time after the death of Governor Gabriel Johnston was acting governor. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Davidson, Stanly, Cabarrus, Iredell, and Davie counties. Its present area is 517 square miles and its population is 69,206. The county seat was first called Rowan Court House. It has been called Salisbury since about 1755. Salisbury is the county seat.<sup>748</sup>

. . . , That Anson County be divided by a Line, to begin where Anson Line was to cross Earl Granville's Line, and from thence, in a direct Line, North, to the Virginia Line, and that the said County be bounded to the North by the Virginia Line, and to the South by the Southermost Line of Earl Granville's Land: And that the upper part of said County, so laid off and divided be erected into a County and Parish, by the Name of Rowan County, and St. Luke's Parish; and that all the Inhabitants of the Westward of the said Line, and included within the before mentioned Boundaries, shall belong and appertain to Rowan County: . . .<sup>749</sup>

The boundary line between Rowan, Mecklenburg, and Tryon was authorized to be run in 1770.

. . . , to run the Dividing Line between the said County of Rowan, and the Counties of Mecklenburg and Tryon; beginning at Cold Water, where John Patterson's Upper Line crosses the Creek; thence due West until it intersects the Cherokee Indian Line; which said Line, when run by the Commissioners aforesaid, or a Majority of them, shall by them be entered

<sup>746</sup>S. R., XXIV, 745, 798, 989; *Laws, 1796*, Ch. 56; 1797, Ch. 76; 1798, Ch. 76; *Manual, 1913*, p. 783; *Battle*, p. 28.

<sup>747</sup>S. R., XXIV, 745.

<sup>748</sup>C. R., V, 25, 348, 355; S. R., XXIII, 390, 399, 866; XXV, 270; *Manual, 1913*, p. 788; *Battle*, p. 21.

<sup>749</sup>S. R., XXIII, 390.

on Record in the Court of each of the said Counties, and shall hereafter be deemed and taken to be the Dividing Lines between the said Counties.<sup>750</sup>

Guilford was formed in 1770 from Rowan and Orange.

. . . , That a Line beginning at a Point Twenty Five Miles due West of Hillsborough, running thence North to the Virginia Line, then West to a Point due North of the Painted Springs, then South to Anson Line, then along Anson and Cumberland Lines to a Point due South of the Beginning, then North to the Beginning, be erected into a Distinct county, by the Name of Guilford and Unity Parish.<sup>751</sup>

Surry was formed in 1770 from Rowan.

. . . , The said County of Rowan be divided by a Line, beginning at a Point Forty Two Miles North of Earl Granville's Line, on Guilford County Line; thence running North to the Virginia Line; thence Westwardly along the Mountains to the Ridge that divides the Waters of Yadkin and the Catawba Rivers; thence along the said Ridge to the North West Corner of Rowan County; then East along Rowan county Line to the Beginning, be thenceforth erected into a Distinct county and Parish, by the name of Surry County and St. Jude's Parish.<sup>752</sup>

Part of Rowan was annexed to Surry in 1773.

. . . , the dividing line between the Counties of Rowan and Surry shall begin at a Point in the Line dividing Rowan and Guilford Counties, Thirty Six Miles North from the South East Corner of Rowan, thence running a due West Course to the Ridge dividing the Waters of the Yadkin and Catawba Rivers, which Line is to be parallel to Earl Granville's South Boundary Line (excepting where the Bounds of the Parish of Dobbs interfere, which Parish is hereby intended and declared to be included in Surry County) and by the said dividing Ridge and the Mountains to the Virginia Line; and all that Part bounded to the Northward by the line before described to be marked, shall be, and is hereby annexed to, and made Part of Surry County.<sup>753</sup>

Burke was formed in 1777 from Rowan.

. . . , beginning at the Catawba River, on the Line between Rowan and Tryon Counties; thence running up the Meanders of said River to the north End of an Island, known by the name of the Three Cornered Island; thence North to the Ridge that divides the Yadkin and Catawba Waters; then Westerly along the Ridge to the Mountain which divides the Eastern and Western Waters, commonly known by the Name of the Blue Mountain. And that all that Part of the late County of Rowan which lies to the East of the said dividing Line, shall continue and remain a distinct County by the Name of Rowan; and all that other Part of the said County of Rowan which lies West and South of the said dividing Line, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct County, by the name of Burke.<sup>754</sup>

<sup>750</sup>S. R., XXIII, 831.

<sup>751</sup>S. R., XXIII, 823.

<sup>752</sup>S. R., XXIII, 844.

<sup>753</sup>S. R., XXIII, 906. For a report of commissioners to run the line between Surry and Rowan, see appendix, p. 274.

<sup>754</sup>S. R., XXIV, 28.

Iredell was formed in 1788 from Rowan.

. . . beginning where Coddle Creek enters Mecklenburg, and running up the east fork of said creek to the road leading from Beatie's Ford to Salisbury, from thence a straight course to Alexander McKorkle's, Senior, from thence to the south fork of the Yadkin River at the mouth of a branch in Margaret Dobbin's Meadow, and from thence due north to the Surry line; that all that part of the said county of Rowan lying westwardly of the said dividing line, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Iredell.<sup>755</sup>

Davidson was formed in 1822 from Rowan.

. . . , That all that part of the county of Rowan lying north of the following line, to-wit: beginning on the east bank of the Yadkin river, where the same is crossed by the Surry line; thence down the said river to the ferry of Thomas P. Ives; thence a straight line to a point at the end of ten miles, in a line running north, forty-five degrees east from the Court House, in Salisbury, thence to the mouth of Abbot's creek; and thence, down the river, to the Montgomery line, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Davidson, with all the rights, privileges and immunities of the other counties of this State.<sup>756</sup>

An act to amend an act establishing Davidson County in 1822 was passed in 1834. This act established the boundary line between the two counties.

. . . , That the dividing line between the counties of Rowan and Davidson, beginning on the east bank of the Yadkin river, where the same is crossed by the Surry line, run as described in said act, to where it intersects Potts' Creek, thence down said creek to the Yadkin river, thence down said river to the Montgomery line, anything in said law to the contrary notwithstanding; Provided, that this act shall not take effect before the first day of January, eighteen hundred and thirty-six.<sup>757</sup>

An act to amend the act establishing Davidson in 1822 was passed in 1835. This act established the boundary line between Rowan and Davidson.

. . . That the Yadkin river shall hereafter be the dividing line between the counties of Rowan and Davidson, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.<sup>758</sup>

An act to alter, in part, the dividing line between the counties of Surry and Rowan was passed in 1835.

. . . that from and after the passage of this act, the main branch of the Yadkin river, from the point at which, in running south, it again crosses the present line of division between said counties, to the point where it intersects said line at Henry Mock's plantation on said river, shall be and the same is hereby established as the boundary between said counties; and

<sup>755</sup>*G. R.*, XXIV, 980.

<sup>756</sup>*Private Laws, 1822*, Ch. 47.

<sup>757</sup>*Private Laws, 1834-35*, Ch. 60.

<sup>758</sup>*Private Laws, 1835*, Ch. 83.



that all that part of Surry lying south of said boundary, be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Rowan, and that part of Rowan, lying north of said boundary, be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Surry, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.<sup>759</sup>

Davie was formed in 1836 from Rowan.

. . . , beginning at the junction of the North and South Yadkin rivers; thence, up the South Yadkin river, to the Iredell county line; and all that part of the present county of Rowan, lying and being north of said river, shall hereafter constitute a separate and distinct county, to be called and known by the name of Davie, in honor of the revolutionary patriot, William R. Davie; . . .<sup>760</sup>

## RUTHERFORD

Rutherford was formed in 1779 from Tryon. It was named in honor of Griffith Rutherford, one of the most prominent of the Revolutionary patriots. He led the expedition that crushed the Cherokees in 1776 and rendered other important services both in the Legislature and on the battlefield. It is in the southwestern section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Polk, Henderson, McDowell, Burke, and Cleveland counties. Its present area is 566 square miles and its population is 45,577. The act establishing the county provided that the first court be held at the home of Joseph Walker and the justices were to decide on the most convenient place to hold succeeding courts until a courthouse could be erected. Commissioners were named to select a place for the county seat. In 1781 an act was passed stating that the original act had not been complied with, and new commissioners were appointed. In 1782 another act was passed stating that the previous commissioners had failed to erect a courthouse and that the last named commissioners had selected the land of James Holland in the fork of Shepard's Creek. The act authorized the commisisoners to purchase fifty acres of land from James Holland and erect the buildings. In 1784 an act was passed which stated that the place selected by the commissioners was not convenient; therefore, new comisioners were named to survey the county, locate the center, purchase land and erect the public buildings. The courthouse, prison, and stocks were not finished in 1785. In 1787 Rutherford was established on the land purchased for the county seat. Two acres were reserved for the public buildings. Rutherfordton was incorporated in 1793 and is the county seat.<sup>761</sup>

<sup>759</sup>*Private Laws, 1835, Ch. 82.*

<sup>760</sup>*Laws, 1836-37, Ch. 4.*

<sup>761</sup>*S. R., XXIV, 236, 645, 771, 934; Laws, 1792, Ch. 65; 1793, Ch. 47; Manual, 1913, p. 795; Battle, p. 26.*

. . . , the County of Tryon shall be divided into two distinct Counties, by a Line beginning at the South Line, near Broad River, on the dividing ridge between Buffalo Creek and Little Broad River, thence along said ridge, to the Line of Burke thence along said Line unto the old Cherokee line, thence a due West course into the top of a dividing ridge between the Eastering and Westering Waters, thence along said ridge unto the old line Claimed by South Carolina, and all that part of the said County which lies on the East side of the said line shall be called, and known by the name of Lincoln County, and all that part of the County which lies on the other or West side thereof, shall be called and known by the name of Rutherford County.<sup>762</sup>

### Part of Burke was annexed to Rutherford in 1787.

Whereas by reason of a ledge of mountains that divide the waters of first Little Broad river from the waters of Silver and Cain creeks, it is extremely difficult for the inhabitants on the south side of the said ledge to attend at the courthouse of the county of Burke; and whereas the inhabitants on the south side of the ledge aforesaid have signified their desire to be annexed to the county of Rutherford;

. . . , all that part of the county of Burke lying to the south-east of the aforesaid mountains so as to include all the waters of first Little Broad river, shall be, and the same is hereby annexed to and declared to be within the county of Rutherford; . . .<sup>763</sup>

The dividing line between Burke and Rutherford was authorized to be established in 1788.

. . . that the line as laid out, marked and extended by Joseph M'Dowell, Junior, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, viz: Beginning at the west point of the line that formerly divided the above said counties, thence west to the Indian boundary as in the Act of Assembly of the seventeenth of May, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three; which line is hereby established to be the dividing line between the counties of Burke and Rutherford; . . .<sup>764</sup>

Buncombe was formed in 1791 from Burke and Rutherford.

. . . , That all that part of the counties of Burke and Rutherford, circumscribed by the following lines, viz. Beginning on the extreme height of the Apalachian mountain, where the southern boundary of this state crosses the same, thence along the extreme height of said mountain to where the road from the head of Catawba-river to Swannanoe crosses, then along the main ridge dividing the waters of South-Toe from those of Swannanoe unto the great Black mountain, then along said mountain to the north east end, then along the main ridge between South-Toe and Little-Crabtree to the mouth of said Crabtree creek, then down Toe river aforesaid to where the same empties into the Nollichucky river, then down the said river to the

<sup>762</sup>S. R., XXIV, 236.

<sup>763</sup>S. R., XXIV, 845.

<sup>764</sup>S. R., XXIV, 957.

extreme height of the Iron mountain and cession line, then along said cession line to the southern boundary, then along the said boundary to the beginning, is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Buncombe.<sup>765</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Buncombe in 1794.

. . . , all that part of the county of Rutherford, west of a line beginning at the Sugar-Loaf Mountain; from thence a direct line to the Hongary Mountain; and along said mountain to Green-River, crossing the same; and from thence a direct line to the South-Carolina boundary, and all that part lying to the west of the line aforesaid, shall be annexed to, and considered a part of the county of Buncombe. . . .<sup>766</sup>

Part of Burke was annexed to Rutherford in 1807.

. . . the dividing line between the said counties of Burke and Rutherford, shall begin at a white oak tree that stands near the forks of the public road above James Jones's, in the line heretofore run between said counties and the public road that leads up second Broad River, shall be the line between said counties, as far as Joseph Goodbread's, thence a south-west course to the dividing ridge that divides the waters of Cove and Crooked Creeks, thence the ridge that divides the waters of Catawba and Broad Rivers, to the Buncombe county line. And the line as herein mentioned shall be the dividing line between the said counties of Burke and Rutherford; . . .<sup>767</sup>

In 1809 the act of 1807 annexing part of Burke to Rutherford was amended to read as follows:

. . . That a line shall extend from the White Oak mentioned in the above recited act, on the old east and west line, to a stake; thence crossing Little Rock Creek, to the south side of the tract whereon Widow Smith lives; thence crossing Big Rock Creek, to the north side of Moses Black's buildings; thence to a place called the Dye-Stone; thence to the north side of Levi Trout's buildings; thence between the plantations of Perminter Morgan and Henry Carter, to the south side of the tract of William Morris, senior; thence with a spur of the mountain, to the dividing ridge between Crooked Creek and Montford's Cove Creek, to the Hickory-Nut Mountain; thence along the ridge to the Round Mountain; thence due west to the Buncombe line; and all that part lying northwardly of said line, be, and the same is hereby declared to be in the County of Burke, and the part southwardly thereof shall continue, as heretofore, within the County of Rutherford, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.<sup>768</sup>

In 1816 commissioners were named in a legislative act to run, ascertain and mark the boundary line between Rutherford and Buncombe counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>769</sup>

<sup>765</sup>Laws, 1791, Ch. 52.

<sup>766</sup>Laws, 1794, Ch. 28.

<sup>767</sup>Laws, 1807, Ch. 71.

<sup>768</sup>Laws, 1809, Ch. 14.

<sup>769</sup>Laws, 1816, Ch. 115.

Cleveland was formed in 1841 from Rutherford and Lincoln.

. . . , beginning at a point in the South Carolina line, and running a North Course so as to pass within fourteen miles, East of Rutherfordton, until it strikes the Burke County-line, thence with the dividing-line of Burke and Rutherford, to the Lincoln-line, thence to the thirteen mile-post, on the Lucas Ford Road, thence to the twelve mile-post, on the new Post-Road, leading from Rutherford to Lincolnton, thence to the twelve mile-post, leading from Lincolnton to Qwinn's Ferry, thence to the twelve mile-post, leading from Morganton to Yorkville, South Carolina, thence with Road passing the Abernathy's Store, by the Gold Mine, at King's Mountain, to the South Carolina line, then with it to the beginning.<sup>770</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Cleveland in 1842.

. . . , That all that portion of Rutherford County lying between the Counties of Lincoln and Cleaveland, be ceded to, and made a part of the county of Cleaveland.<sup>771</sup>

McDowell was formed in 1842 from Rutherford and Burke.

. . . , beginning at a point two miles south of the corner of Burke and Rutherford, in said line; from thence a direct course to Cove Creek, at a point two miles south of John Bradley's; thence to, and with the dividing ridge between Rock House Creek and Stoney Creek, crossing Second Broad River at the mouth of Rock House Creek; thence a direct course to the Burke line, at or near Conway's Knob; thence with the Burke and Rutherford line, to a point on the South Mountains, two and one half miles east of Cane's Creek; thence a direct line crossing the top of the Pilot Mountain, to the mouth of Shadrick's Creek; thence a direct course to the top of Linville Mountain, and with the said mountain to the Yancey line; thence with the Yancey line, to the Buncombe line, and with said line to the beginning; be and the same is hereby created into a separate and distinct County by the name of McDowell.<sup>772</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to McDowell in 1844.

. . . , beginning on the McDowell and Rutherford corner, on the top of the Blue Ridge, on the Buncombe line, and running with the Buncombe line to the top of Pisgah; thence a direct course, crossing the Broad river, to Cunningham's Camp, on the Bald mountain; thence with the dividing ridge that separates the waters of Broad and Buffaloe rivers, to the Stone mountain, thence along the top of the said Stone mountain to the McDowell line; and the McDowell line, as it at present runs, be, and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall hereafter form and constitute a part of McDowell County.<sup>773</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Henderson in 1844.

. . . , That all that portion of the county of Rutherford lying west of a line beginning at a point on the dividing line between the county of Hender-

<sup>770</sup>*Public Laws, 1840-41, Ch. 9.*

<sup>771</sup>*Public Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 7.*

<sup>772</sup>*Public Laws, 1842-43, Ch. 10.*

<sup>773</sup>*Laws, 1844-45, Ch. 30.*

son and Rutherford, on the top of the Sugar Loaf Mountain, running thence S. 10 degrees E. to the South Carolina line; then West with said line to the Henderson county line; then commencing at the beginning point and running another line on the dividing ridge between Fall creek and Reedy Patch creek to Broad River at Paris Gap; then north 5 degrees east to the McDowell county line; then with said line to the Buncombe line; then with the said line to Henderson line, be, and the same is hereby ceded to and made a part of Henderson county.<sup>774</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Cleveland in 1845.

. . . , commencing at a point on the South Carolina line, three miles west of where the Rutherford and Cleaveland line intersects said line, and running thence a direct course to the junction of Main and Second Broad Rivers; thence a direct course to a point on the dividing line between Rutherford and Cleaveland, two miles north of where Drury Dobbins now resides, be ceded to and made a part of the county of Cleaveland. . . .<sup>775</sup>

Polk was formed in 1855 from Rutherford and Henderson.

. . . , beginning on the top of Sugar-Loaf mountain, at the Henderson Corner, and running nearly east down to the ridge between the waters of Green and Broad Rivers; and with the ridge to Gray's Chapel; and from Gray's Chapel, continuing the same ridge down to the lands of Thomas Miller's; thence nearly east, including said lands, to the Broad River, thence with the main Broad River to Poer's ford; and from Poer's ford with the old road to South-Carolina line; thence with the South-Carolina line to the old Buncombe Corner; and thence with the old Buncombe line to the original point, Sugar-Loaf mountain; . . .<sup>776</sup>

Part of Rutherford was annexed to Burke in 1871.

. . . : beginning at the corner where Rutherford, McDowell and Burke unite, and running along the top of the ridge of the South mountain as the line now runs to the corner where Rutherford, Cleveland and Burke unite, thence by a direct line to the beginning, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall form a part of the county of Burke.<sup>777</sup>

## SAMPSON

Sampson was formed in 1784 from Duplin. It was named in honor of Colonel John Sampson, who was a member of Josiah Martin's council. It is in the eastern section of the State, and is bounded by Wayne, Duplin, Pender, Bladen, Cumberland, and Johnston counties. The present area is 963 square miles and the population is 47,440. The act establishing the county directed that the first court be held at the home of James Myhand, at which place the justices were to decide where all subsequent

<sup>774</sup>*Laws, 1844-45, Ch. 24.*

<sup>775</sup>*Public Laws, 1844-45, Ch. 23.*

<sup>776</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 10.*

<sup>777</sup>*Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 129.*

courts were to be held until a courthouse could be erected. Commissioners were named to select a central location, purchase land, and erect the public buildings. It is probable that the courthouse was called Sampson Court House until 1818. In 1818 an act was passed establishing Clinton on the public lands of the county. Clinton is the county seat.<sup>778</sup>

. . . beginning on the line that divides Duplin from New Hanover county where the main road crosses Bultail, a branch of Rockfish creek; and running thence a straight line to the lower bridge on Stewart's creek, from thence a direct line to Goshen swamp at the mouth of Young's swamp, thence due-north to the Wayne line; and all that part of the said county of Duplin which lies west of the above line, shall be established into a separate and distinct county by the name of Sampson.<sup>779</sup>

Part of New Hanover was annexed to Sampson in 1795.

. . . , all that part of New Hanover county lying west of a line beginning where the Sampson county line crosses Black river, thence down said river to Benjamin Robertson's lower mill branch, thence a direct course to Stewart's Ferry, on South river, and thence up the same to the point of beginning, in the Sampson line aforesaid, be, and the same is hereby annexed to the county of Sampson, and shall be to all intents and purposes considered as a part thereof.<sup>780</sup>

In 1803 the boundary line between Sampson and Johnston had not been established. Therefore, an act was passed naming commissioners to establish the line and file a report in each county. No description is given in the law.<sup>781</sup>

In 1804 the Legislature again named commissioners to establish the line between Sampson and Johnston. No description is given in the law.<sup>782</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Sampson and Cumberland was indicated as the navigable part of Black River by an act passed 1828.

. . . to appoint . . . commissioners for each county, to examine into the expediency and practicability of clearing out and rendering navigable that part of Black River which is the dividing line between said counties, . . .<sup>783</sup>

A supplementary act to an act passed in 1828, concerning the dividing line between the counties of Sampson and Cumberland

<sup>778</sup>S. R., XXIV, 642; *Laws, 1818*, Ch. 90; *Manual, 1913*, p. 800; Battle, p. 23.

<sup>779</sup>S. R., XXIV, 642.

<sup>780</sup>*Laws, 1795*, Ch. 24.

<sup>781</sup>*Laws, 1803*, Ch. 73.

<sup>782</sup>*Laws, 1804*, Ch. 55. In 1888 commissioners were appointed to survey the line between Johnston and Sampson counties. See appendix, p. 268, for this report.

<sup>783</sup>*Laws, 1828-29*, Ch. 64.



as marked by the navigable part of Black River, was passed in 1830.

. . . , That the provisions of the afore said act shall extend to Bladen county, on said Black or South river, above Mallet's mills to Cumberland county line.<sup>784</sup>

Part of New Hanover County was annexed to Sampson in 1847.

. . . That, that portion of New Hanover county, lying north of a direct line, running from the lower corner of Sampson county on Black River, to the corner of Duplin, Sampson and New Hanover, near Harrel's Store, be, and the same is hereby annexed and made a part of Sampson County.<sup>785</sup>

Part of New Hanover was annexed to Sampson in 1870.

. . . beginning at Faison's Cove, on the east bank of Black river, thence to the corner of Sampson and Duplin counties on the New Hanover county line, thence with the present Sampson county line to Black river, thence down said river to the beginning, be and the same portion of the county of New Hanover aforesaid is hereby annexed to the county of Sampson to form and to constitute a portion of the territory of said county.<sup>786</sup>

Part of New Hanover was annexed to Sampson in 1872.

. . . :beginning at Beatty's bridge, on the east side of Black River, thence to the head of White Oak, thence to the head of W. J. Newton's mill pond, thence to the head of B. B. Newkirk's mill pond, thence down his mill and creek to the Duplin county line, thence with the Duplin and New Hanover county line to the Sampson county line, thence with the Sampson and New Hanover line to Black River, thence across Black River with the Sampson and New Hanover line to South River, the Bladen county line, thence down South River to the mouth thereof, thence down Black River to the beginning, be and the same portion of the county of New Hanover aforesaid is hereby annexed to the county of Sampson, to form and constitute a portion of the territory of said county: . . .<sup>787</sup>

## SCOTLAND

Scotland was formed in 1899 from Richmond. It was named for the country of Scotland, the northern portion of the British Isles. It is in the southeastern section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Richmond, Moore, Hoke, and Robeson counties. The present area is 317 square miles and the population is 23,232. Laurinburg is the county seat.<sup>788</sup>

<sup>784</sup>*Private Laws, 1829-30, Ch. 111.*

<sup>785</sup>*Private Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 128.*

<sup>786</sup>*Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 231.*

<sup>787</sup>*Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 144.*

<sup>788</sup>*Public Laws, 1899, Ch. 127; Manual, 1913, p. 805. A law establishing the county was passed in 1895, provided the people voted for the same. Public Laws, 1895, Ch. 163.*

. . . ; Beginning at a point in the line between the states of North Carolina and South Carolina, where the county of Robeson and the county of Richmond in the state of North Carolina converge on said state line; thence in a northerly direction with the line between the counties of Richmond and Robeson in the state of North Carolina to Cumberland county; thence with the line between Richmond and Cumberland counties to Moore county; thence with the line between Moore and Richmond counties to a line between Beaver Dam and Spring Hill townships in Richmond county; thence with the line between the townships of Beaver Dam, Rockingham and Mark's Creek townships in Richmond county, and being the dividing line of said townships from the townships of Spring Hill, Laurel Hill and Williamson's in the said county of Scotland to the line between the state of North Carolina and South Carolina; thence with said state line to the beginning.<sup>789</sup>

## STANLY

Stanly was formed in 1841 from Montgomery. It was named in honor of John Stanly who for many years was a member of the Legislature and several times speaker of the House of Commons. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Montgomery, Richmond, Anson, Union, Cabarrus, and Rowan counties. The present area is 399 square miles and the population is 32,834. Albemarle is the county seat.<sup>790</sup>

. . . , That a County shall be, and the same is hereby laid off, and established in the territory now comprehended in the Western limits of Montgomery County, in manner as follows, viz: That the Rivers Pedee and Yadkin, as now running through the County of Montgomery, shall be the dividing line between the County of Stanly and Montgomery; and all that part of the present County of Montgomery lying and being West of the said Rivers, Pedee and Yadkin, shall hereafter constitute a separate and distinct County, to be called and known by the name of Stanly; . . .<sup>791</sup>

## STOKES

Stokes was formed in 1789 from Surry. It was named in honor of Colonel John Stokes, a soldier of the Revolution, who was desperately wounded at the Waxhaw Massacre when Colonel Buford's regiment was cut to pieces by Tarleton. After the war Washington appointed him a judge of the United States district court of North Carolina. It is in the north central section of the State and is bounded by Rockingham, Forsyth, and Surry counties and the state of Virginia. The present area is 459 square

<sup>789</sup>*Public Laws, 1899, Ch. 127.*

<sup>790</sup>*Laws, 1840-41, Chs. 13, 14; Manual, 1913, p. 806; Battle, p. 30.*

<sup>791</sup>*Laws, 1840-41, Ch. 13.*

miles and the population 22,656. When Stokes was taken from Surry the old courthouse was ordered to be sold, and the proceeds were to be equally divided between Surry and Stokes and applied towards the erection of new courthouses. The act ordered the first court to be held at the home of Gray Bynum, and all subsequent courts were to be held where the justices designated until the courthouse could be erected. Commissioners were named to select the site and have the public buildings erected. In 1790 Germantown was laid out on land deeded to the county from Michael and Henry Fry. Germantown remained the county seat until 1849 when Forsyth was taken from Stokes. The act establishing Forsyth county directed that the first court of Stokes after the passage of the act be held at Germantown, at which time the justices were to determine a location for the new courthouse and jail. In 1851 Crawford was established as the county seat. In 1852 Crawford was changed to Danbury. Danbury is the county seat.<sup>792</sup>

. . . beginning on the line dividing this State from the State of Virginia, at a point equidistant from the nearest parts of the counties of Rockingham and Wilkes, and running from thence until it intersects the Rowan County line, so as to leave an equal number of acres in each county. . . . That all that part of the said county lying west of said line, shall be erected into a distinct county by the name of Surry county; and all that part lying east of said line, shall be erected into another distinct county by the name of Stokes county.<sup>793</sup>

Forsyth was formed in 1849 from Stokes.

. . . , the county of Stokes shall be divided into two distinct counties, by a line beginning at the South West corner of Rockingham county, and running thence West to the Surry county line. . . .

That all that part of the said county, lying North of said line, shall be erected into another distinct county by the name of Stokes county; and all that part lying South of said line, shall be erected into another distinct county by the name of Forsyth county; in honor of the memory of the Col. Benjamin Forsyth, . . .<sup>794</sup>

The dividing line between Surry and Stokes was authorized to be surveyed and established in 1893. No description is given in the law. This law was amended in 1895 as to the time the survey should be made.<sup>795</sup>

<sup>792</sup>S. R., XXV, 13, 96; Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 24; 1850-51, Ch. 335; 1852, Ch. 32; *Manual*, 1913, p. 807; Battle, p. 26.

<sup>793</sup>S. R., XXV, 13.

<sup>794</sup>Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 23.

<sup>795</sup>Public Laws, 1893, Ch. 417; 1895, Ch. 71.

## SULLIVAN, TENNESSEE

Sullivan (now Tennessee) was formed in 1779 from Washington (now Tennessee). It was named in honor of John Sullivan. This territory was ceded to the federal government and accepted April 2, 1790. The act establishing the county provided for the first court to be held at the home of Moses Lancy, at which time the justices were to decide the place for future courts until a courthouse, prison, and stocks were erected. In 1787 an act was passed repealing a part of the act relative to the courthouse. It provided for the court to be held at the home of Joseph Cole at which time the justices were to decide upon a place for holding future courts until the public buildings were erected. It is possible that this act was not complied with before the territory was ceded to the federal government. The present area is 428 square miles and the population is 69,085. Blountsville is the county seat.<sup>796</sup>

. . . , by a line beginning at the Steep Rock; thence running along the dividing ridge that divides the waters of the Great Canawee and Tennessee, to the head of Indian creek; thence along the ridge that divides the waters of Holstein and Wataga, to the mouth of Wataga; thence a direct line, to the highest part of the Chimney Top mountain, at the Indian boundary; And that all that part of said county of Washington which lies northwardly of said dividing line, shall be erected into a new and distinct county, by the name of Sullivan County; and that all that other part of said County which lies southwardly of said dividing line, shall continue and remain a distinct county, by the name of Washington.<sup>797</sup>

Hawkins (now Tennessee) was formed in 1787 from Sullivan (now Tennessee).

. . . , the said county of Sullivan be divided in the following manner, beginning where the boundary line between the commonwealth of Virginia and the State of North Carolina crosses the north fork of Holston's river, thence down said fork to its junction with the main Holston's river, thence cross said river due south to the top of Bayes mountain, thence along the top of the said mountain and the top of the dividing ridge between the waters of Holston's river and French Broad river to its junction with Holston's river, thence down said river to Holston to its junction with the Tennessee river, thence down the same to the Suck where the said rivers run through Cumberland mountain, thence along the top of said mountain to the aforesaid boundary line, and thence along said line to the beginning: And that all that part of Sullivan county on the east side of the north fork of Holston's river, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Sullivan; and all that other part which lies west of said north fork of

<sup>796</sup>S. R., XXIV, 300, 357; *Counties of Tennessee*, p. 40; *Manual*, 1913, p. 811.

<sup>797</sup>S. R., XXIV, 300.

Holston shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Hawkins: . . .<sup>798</sup>

Part of Washington was annexed to Sullivan in 1788.

. . . : Beginning at the head of Indian Creek where the line divides Washington and Sullivan counties, thence a strait line south of David Hughes's, thence a strait line south of Francis Hodge's to the Walagea river, thence down the meanders of said river to its junction with Holston river, thence up the line which divides Washington and Sullivan counties to the first station, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall be and remain a part of the county of Sullivan: . . .<sup>799</sup>

## SUMNER, TENNESSEE

Sumner (now Tennessee) was formed in 1787 from Davidson (now Tennessee). It was named in honor of General Jethro Sumner, a soldier of the Revolution. This territory was ceded to the federal government, and accepted April 2, 1790. The first court was to be held at the home of John Hamilton at which time the justices were to decide on the place for the future courts to be held until the courthouse was erected. In 1796 an act was passed naming commissioners to select a site for the county seat and providing that the town should be called "CA IRA," which name was corrupted into "Cairo" and incorporated in 1815. In 1797 the act of 1796 was repealed and new commissioners named to select a site, buy land, and erect a courthouse, prison, and stocks. This act was also repealed in 1799. In 1804 Gallatin was established in honor of Albert Gallatin. The present area is 552 square miles and the population is 32,719. Gallatin is the county seat.<sup>800</sup>

. . . beginning where the county line crosses the west fork of Stone's River, down the same to the junction with the main Stone's River, thence a direct line to the mouth of Drake's lick Creek, thence down Cumberland river to the mouth of Kaspus creek, thence up the said creek to the head of the Wartrace fork, thence a northwardly course to the Virginia line, at a point that will leave Red-River, old Station, one mile to the east; and all that part of Davison that lies to the west of the said line, shall continue and remain the county of Davison; and all that part of the said county of Davison that lies east of the said dividing line, shall thenceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Sumner: . . .<sup>801</sup>

<sup>798</sup>S. R., XXIV, 830.

<sup>799</sup>S. R., XXIV, 974.

<sup>800</sup>S. R., XXIV, 826; *Counties of Tennessee*, p. 86 ff.; *Manual*, 1913, p. 122.

<sup>801</sup>S. R., XXIV, 826.

## SURRY

Surry was formed in 1770 from Rowan. The act was to become effective April 1, 1771. It was named in honor of Lord Surry, prominent member of Parliament who protested the taxing of American colonies by Parliament. It is in the north central section of the State and is bounded by the state of Virginia and Stokes, Yadkin, Wilkes, and Alleghany counties. The present area is 538 square miles and the population is 41,783. The act erecting the county provided for the court to be held "constantly" at Gideon Wright's until the courthouse could be constructed. Commissioners were named to select the place and have the courthouse, prison, and stocks erected. By 1774 some of the commissioners were named to finish the building. In 1779 the courthouse was established at Richmond on land of Colonel Martin Armstrong and William Sheppard. In 1789 Surry was divided and Stokes was formed from it. When this was done the old courthouse was inconvenient for either county. Therefore, the act dividing the county specified that the court was to be held at the home of Richard Horn until a courthouse, prison, and stocks could be erected at a central place. Another act passed that year directed that the old courthouse be sold and the money be equally divided between Surry and Stokes, the proceeds to be used on their respective courthouses. In 1790 Rockford was established on fifty-three acres of land deeded by Thomas and Moses Ayres for that purpose. Commissioners were named to erect public buildings. In 1851, when Yadkin was formed from Surry, the act named and directed commissioners to locate the center of the county and fix the county seat. It also named commissioners to acquire fifty acres of land by purchase or donation and erect the courthouse. The law also stipulated that the town was to be named Dobson. Dobson is the county seat.<sup>802</sup>

. . . County of Rowan be divided by a Line, beginning at a Point Forty Two Miles North of Earl Granville's Line, on Guilford County Line; thence running North to the Virginia Line; thence Westwardly along the Mountains to the Ridge that divides the Waters of Yadkin and the Catawba Rivers; thence along the said Ridge to the North West Corner of Rowan County; then East along Rowan county Line to the Beginning, be thence-

<sup>802</sup>This is one of the counties which was established during a session of the General Assembly which convened the last part of one year and extended into the next year. *S. R.*, XXIII, 844, 978; XXIV, 305; XXV, 13, 15, 112; *Laws, 1850-51*, Ch. 41; *Manual, 1913*, p. 812; *Battle*, p. 24. During this session of the Assembly which began December 5, 1770, a bill creating a new county was introduced on December 17. It is not absolutely clear, but this new county probably was Surry county. The bill creating Surry county did not pass both houses of the Assembly and receive the assent of the governor until January 26, 1771. *C. R.*, IX, 293, 296, 347, 380, 384.



forth erected into a Distinct County and Parish, by the Name of Surry County and St. Jude's Parish.<sup>803</sup>

Part of Rowan was annexed to Surry in 1773.

. . . , the dividing line between the Counties of Rowan and Surry shall begin at a Point in the Line dividing Rowan and Guilford Counties, Thirty Six Miles North from the South East Corner of Rowan, thence running a due West Course to the Ridge dividing the Waters of the Yadkin and Catawba Rivers, which Line is to be parallel to Earl Granville's South Boundary Line (Excepting where the Bounds of the Parish of Dobbs interfere, which Parish is hereby intended and declared to be included in Surry County) and by the said dividing Ridge and the Mountains to the Virginia Line; and all that Part bounded to the Northward by the Line before described to be marked, shall be, and is hereby annexed to, and made Part of Surry County.<sup>804</sup>

Wilkes was formed in 1777 from Surry and the District of Washington. The act was to become effective February 15, 1778.

. . . : Beginning at a Point Twenty Six Miles due West of Surry Court House, thence North to the Virginia Line, thence West along the said line to the Ridge that divides the Waters of Holston and New Rivers, thence along the said Ridge to Burke County Line, thence Eastwardly along the Line that divides the Counties of Surry and Burke to Rowan County Line, thence along Rowan County Line to a Point due South of the Beginning, thence North to the Beginning, be erected into a distinct County, by the Name of Wilkes.<sup>805</sup>

Stokes was formed in 1789 from Surry.

. . . beginning on the line dividing this State from the State of Virginia, at a point equidistant from the nearest parts of the counties of Rockingham and Wilkes, and running thence until it intersects the Rowan county line, so as to leave an equal number of acres in each county.

II. And be it further enacted, That all that part of the said county lying west of said line, shall be erected into a distinct county by the name of Surry county; and all that part lying east of said line, shall be erected into another distinct county by the name of Stokes county.<sup>806</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Surry in 1792.

. . . , all that part of Wilkes county that lies east of the following line, shall be, and the same is hereby annexed to the county of Surry; beginning on the line that divides Wilkes and Surry counties, where the ridge that divides the waters of Mitchell's river from those of Elkin, thence along the said ridge to the extreme height of the Appalachian mountain, then along the extreme height of the said mountain, to the Virginia line.<sup>807</sup>

<sup>803</sup>S. R., XXIII, 844.

<sup>804</sup>S. R., XXIII, 906. For a report of commissioners to survey the line between Surry and Rowan, see appendix, p. 274.

<sup>805</sup>S. R., XXIV, 143.

<sup>806</sup>S. R., XXV, 13.

<sup>807</sup>Laws, 1792, Ch. 43.

### Part of Stokes was annexed to Surry in 1796.

... , all that part of the county of Stokes lying south of the Yadkin river be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Surry, to all intents and purposes whatsoever; . . .<sup>808</sup>

In 1811 an act was passed altering the line between Stokes and Surry.

... , That after the county line intersects the southern boundary of the lands formerly belonging to Samuel Kirby, senior, now Joseph Wilson, it shall run thence along the southern and western boundaries of said land, to the Yadkin river; thence up the river until it intersects the present line between the two counties.<sup>809</sup>

In 1825 an act was passed repealing the act of 1811 and directing that the dividing line between Stokes and Surry be established. No description is given in the law.<sup>810</sup>

An act to alter in part the dividing line between the counties of Surry and Rowan was passed in 1835.

... That from and after the passage of this act, the main branch of the Yadkin river, from the point at which, in running south, it crosses the present line of division between said counties, to the point where it again intersects said line at Henry Mock's plantation on said river, shall be and the same is hereby established as the boundary between said counties; and that all that part of Surry lying south of said boundary, be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Rowan, and that part of Rowan, lying north of said boundary, be, and the same is hereby added to the county of Surry, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.<sup>811</sup>

### Yadkin was formed in 1850 from Surry.

... , That a county be, and the same is hereby laid off and established out of that portion of the county of Surry, which lies South of the Yadkin river, and also including that portion of the county of Surry known and called by the name of Little Surry, said county to be called Yadkin; . . .<sup>812</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Surry and Wilkes was authorized to be run and established in 1861. No description is given in the law.<sup>813</sup>

### Part of Surry was annexed to Alleghany in 1869.

... :beginning at the county line on the west end of Saddle mountain and running eastwardly on the highest ground to the west end of Beardrive ridge, thence a straight line to Pine Knob, thence a straight line to the top of the High Piney spur in the Alleghany and Surry line, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county . . .<sup>814</sup>

<sup>808</sup>*Laws, 1796*, Ch. 36.

<sup>809</sup>*Laws, 1811*, Ch. 78.

<sup>810</sup>*Private Laws, 1825*, Ch. 91.

<sup>811</sup>*Laws, 1835*, Ch. 82.

<sup>812</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51*, Ch. 40.

<sup>813</sup>*Private Laws, 1860-61*, Ch. 75.

<sup>814</sup>*Public Laws, 1869-70*, Ch. 8.

### Part of Surry was annexed to Alleghany in 1870.

. . . :beginning at the corners of the counties of Wilkes, Surry and Alleghany and running eastwardly in a direct line to a large flint rock near the Hanes' field, thence northwardly to the county line at Aaron Woodruff's, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>815</sup>

### Part of Surry was annexed to Alleghany in 1875.

. . . :Beginning in the county line at Aaron Woodruff's, running eastwardly to the main top of the Tyre ridge, then a straight line to the county line on the west end of Saddle Mountain, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>816</sup>

The dividing line between Surry and Stokes was authorized to be established in 1893. No description is given in the law. It was amended in 1895 relative to the time the survey should be made.<sup>817</sup>

## SWAIN

Swain was formed in 1871 from Jackson and Macon. It was named in honor of David L. Swain, governor of North Carolina and president of the University of North Carolina. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state of Tennessee and Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Cherokee, and Graham counties. The present area is 544 square miles and the population is 12,177. The first court was ordered to be held at Cold Spring Meeting House. Special commissioners were named to select a site for the courthouse, provided all the commissioners could agree on a certain place. If they could not agree, the county commissioners were to submit the question of selecting a place to the voters. The county commissioners were to lay out a town by the name of Charleston which was to be the county seat. In 1889 Charleston was changed to Bryson City in honor of Colonel Thad Dillard Bryson. Bryson City is the county seat.<sup>818</sup>

. . . :beginning on the line of the state of Tennessee where the Tennessee river crosses said line; thence up said river to where the Cherokee county line leaves the same; thence with the line of said county to the point at which the road leading from the waters of Nantahala river to the waters of Cheowee river across said line; thence with said road to within one-fourth mile of Captain N. S. Jarrett's mill nearest his present residence; thence crossing Nantahala river on a straight line to the Shallow

<sup>815</sup>*Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 21.*

<sup>816</sup>*Public Laws, 1874-75, Ch. 160.*

<sup>817</sup>*Public Laws, 1893, Ch. 417.* This act was amended in 1895 by changing the time limit for the survey from 1893 to 1895. *Public Laws, 1895, Ch. 71.*

<sup>818</sup>*Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 94; 1889, Ch. 4; Arthur, p. 208; Manual, 1913, p. 817; Battle, p. 32.*

ford on Tennessee river; thence crossing the said river last named and running with the dividing ridge to the Jackson county line on the top of Cowee mountain, so as to include the waters of Tabors creek and Alarka creek in the new county hereby created; thence with the line of the said county of Jackson to a spur of the said Cowee mountain and running thence with said spur to the Tuckasegee river so as to include the waters of Conley's creek in the county created by this act; thence crossing said river on a direct line, and running thence on the same to the Oconeeluffy river to a point opposite the mouth of Adam's creek; thence up the last named river to the mouth of Soco creek; thence with the dividing ridge between said Oconeeluffy river and Soco creek and following said main dividing ridge to the Tennessee line on the top of Smoky mountain; thence with said Tennessee line to the beginning; be and the same is hereby created into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Swain, . . .<sup>819</sup>

The boundary line between Cherokee and Swain counties, near the residence of Jefferson George, was authorized to be changed in 1872.

That the county line between Cherokee and Swain, near the residence of Jefferson George, be changed as follows: Commencing on the top of the ridge above the meadows where the present line now runs west, and run due north to the top of the divide between the waters of the Handpole branch and Ledbetter's creek, thence north to the top of the ridge to the county line.<sup>820</sup>

An act changing the line between the counties of Swain, Graham, and Macon was passed in 1874.

That the line between the counties of Swain, Graham and Macon shall be changed as follows: beginning on the beginning corner of Swain near the head of the Big Meadows; thence with said Swain line down the mountain to Nantihala river; thence down the river to the mouth of the Hand Pole branch; thence up the said branch to where it forks, and with the North Fork of said branch to its head; and thence with the old original lines between Macon and Cherokee back to the beginning so as to include the boundary, where Jeff. George now lives.<sup>821</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Swain and Jackson was authorized to be changed in 1887.

That the dividing line between the counties of Swain and Jackson be changed from the following point, to-wit: Beginning at the point where the Swain and Jackson line runs to the Tuckasegee river above the mouth of Carley's creek and below the Thomas farm, and thence down the Tuckasegee river as it meanders to the point where the present Swain and Jackson line crosses said river; and all that part of Jackson that is on the west side of the said river and included in said boundary shall be and remain as a part of Swain county.<sup>822</sup>

<sup>819</sup>*Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 94.*

<sup>820</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 154.*

<sup>821</sup>*Public Laws, 1873-74, Ch. 93.*

<sup>822</sup>*Public Laws, 1887, Ch. 180.*

## TENNESSEE

Tennessee (now in the state of Tennessee) was formed in 1788 from Davidson. Its territory was ceded by North Carolina to the United States and accepted April 2, 1790. The name "Tenassee" was first mentioned in a historical record as the ancient capitol of the Cherokees by Sir Alexander Cummings. It was from this source that the name was derived which was given to the Tennessee reservation, later to the county, and finally to the state. The act establishing the county provided for the first court to be held at the home of Joseph Fitzworth, at which place the justices were to decide the place for future courts until a courthouse was erected. Commissioners were named to select a site and have the public buildings constructed. After the third session of court the courts met at Clarksville where the courthouse was later built. In 1796 Tennessee gave its name to the state of Tennessee and its territory was divided into Montgomery and Robertson counties, the county seats of which are Clarksville and Springfield respectively.<sup>823</sup>

. . . beginning on the Virginia line, running south along Sumner county to the dividing ridge between Cumberland river and Red river, then westwardly along the said ridge to the head of the main south branch of Sycamore creek, then down the said branch to the mouth thereof, then due south across Cumberland river to Davidson county line; and all that part of Davidson county that lies to the east of said line, shall continue and remain the county of Davidson; and all that part of the said county of Davidson that lies west of the said line, shall be erected into a county by the name of Tennessee. . . .<sup>824</sup>

## TRANSYLVANIA

Transylvania was formed in 1861 from Henderson and Jackson. Its name is derived from two Latin words, *trans* meaning "across" and *sylva* meaning "woods." It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Jackson, Haywood, and Henderson counties. The present area is 379 square miles and the population is 12,241. The first court was ordered to be held at the home of B. C. Langford. Commissioners were named to select a site for the public buildings within five miles of W. P. Poor's store and to acquire land and lay out Brevard. Brevard is the county seat.<sup>825</sup>

. . . , That a county by the name of Transylvania be laid off and established out of the counties of Henderson and Jackson with the following boundary, to wit: beginning at the standing stone, on the South Carolina

<sup>823</sup>S. R., XXIV, 972; *Counties of Tennessee*, p. 72, 73; John Trotwood Moore, editor, *Tennessee, The Volunteer State, 1769-1923*, I, 51, 137, 275; *Manual*, 1913, p. 818.

<sup>824</sup>S. R., XXIV, 972.

<sup>825</sup>*Public Laws, 1860-61*, Chs. 10, 11; *Manual*, 1913, p. 818.

line, near the head waters of Green river and Little river, and runs with the Blue Ridge to Green river gap, thence a straight line to the top of Hickory mountain, thence a straight line to the top of the mountain, west of William Sintel's, thence with the main ridge to the top of the high point on the mountain near the Hadden farm, thence a straight line to the mouth of a branch between the Hadden and Justus farms, thence down the French broad river to the mouth of Bryson's creek, thence a straight line to the top of Pisgah mountain, thence a west direction with the Haywood line to the Jackson line to a point on the Blue Ridge between the head of Indian creek and Toxaway, and running with the dividing ridge between Indian creek and Toxaway river to said river, thence south to the South Carolina line, thence with the South Carolina line to the beginning.<sup>826</sup>

The boundary line between Jackson and Transylvania counties was authorized to be changed in 1862.

. . . , That that part of the line which now divides the counties of Jackson and Transylvania, from the Tennessee mountains to the South-Carolina line, be so amended as to run from the Tennessee mountain to the top of the Hog-back mountain, thence a direct course to the top of the Bear-pen mountain, thence direct to the top of Ayres' ridge, thence down that ridge to the White Water river, thence down that river to the line of the State of South-Carolina, and thence with that line to present dividing line between said counties.<sup>827</sup>

## TRYON

Tryon was formed in 1768 from Mecklenburg. The act was to become effective April 10, 1769. It was named in honor of William Tryon, governor of North Carolina, 1765-1771. The act establishing the county named commissioners to select a place "whereon to erect court house, prison and stocks." In 1770, another act was passed naming new commissioners because the previously named commissioners had failed to act. In 1774, still another act was passed naming new commissioners because the last named had failed to act "by reason of southern boundary lines." The commissioners reporting to the court, July 26, 1774, said they had met and were of the opinion that the place "called the Cross Roads on Christopher Mauney's land between the head of Long Creek, Muddy Creek, and Beaver dam Creek, . . . is the most central and convenient, . . ." The county court minutes state that the court was held in the courthouse of said county, January 24, 1775, and January 18, 1779. In 1777, a law was enacted naming five of the six commissioners who had selected the place for the courthouse "to contract with workmen to build court house, prison and stock, for the use of the said county at the place they think most convenient on that tract

<sup>826</sup>*Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 10.*

<sup>827</sup>*Private Laws, 1862-63, Ch. 4.*



of land purchased by the late commissioners for that purpose, and to cause the same to be built within the term of two years." In the fall of 1777, an act levying additional taxes for completing the courthouse was passed. Tryon was abolished in 1779, and Lincoln and Rutherford were formed from it.<sup>828</sup>

. . . , the said County of Mecklenburg shall be, and is hereby divided into Two distinct Counties and Parishes, by a Line beginning at Earl Granville's Line; where it Crosses the Catawba River; and the said River to be the Line to the South Carolina Line; and all that Part of the said County which lies to the Eastward of the said dividing Line shall be a Distinct County and Parish, and remain and be called by the Name of Mecklenburg County, and St. Martin's Parish; and that all that Part of the County lying to the Westward of the said dividing line shall be one other distinct County and Parish, and be and remain by the Name of Tryon County and St. Thomas's Parish.<sup>829</sup>

The boundary line between Tryon and Mecklenburg was established in 1774.

II. And whereas sundry disputes have arisen relative to the Boundary line between the said County of Tryon and the County of Mecklenburg, to prevent which for the future, be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the River Catawba be and is hereby declared the Boundary line between the said counties.<sup>830</sup>

Lincoln and Rutherford were formed in 1779 from Tryon.

. . . , the County of Tryon shall be divided into two distinct Counties, by a Line beginning at the South Line, near Broad River, on the dividing ridge between Buffalo Creek and Little Broad River, thence along said ridge, to the Line of Burke thence along said Line unto the old Cherokee line, thence a due West course into the top of a dividing ridge between the Eastering and Westering Waters, thence along said ridge unto the old line Claimed by South Carolina, and all that part of the said County which lies on the East side of the said line shall be called, and known by the name of Lincoln County, and all that part of the County which lies on the other or West side thereof, shall be called and known by the name of Rutherford County.<sup>831</sup>

## TYRRELL

Tyrrell was formed in 1729 from Chowan, Bertie, Currituck, and Pasquotank. It was named in honor of Sir John Tyrrell, who at one time was one of the Lords Proprietors. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Dare, Hyde, and Washington counties and the Albemarle Sound. The present area is 399 square miles and the population is 5,556. It is quite

<sup>828</sup>S. R., XXIII, 769, 803, 964; XXIV, 19, 137; *Manual, 1913*, p. 819; Battle, p. 23; Tryon County Court Minutes, 1769-79.

<sup>829</sup>S. R., XXIII, 769.

<sup>830</sup>S. R., XXIII, 964.

<sup>831</sup>S. R., XXIV, 236.

evident that a courthouse was not built until some time between 1740 and 1751. Prior to this date courts were held in private homes, but generally at the home of William Frayley, (also spelled Frailes, Frylies or Fryleys). In 1751, court was held at the courthouse on Kindrick's Creek. Between 1774 and 1776, court was held at the home of Benjamin Spruill. Between 1777 and 1800 court was held at the courthouse on Scuppernong River. In 1793, Elizabeth Town was laid out on John Hassell's land. In 1799, commissioners were named to erect the public buildings in Elizabeth Town. On July 28, 1800, the first court was held in Elizabeth Town. In 1801, Elizabeth Town was changed to Columbia, which was recorded as the county seat in 1802. Columbia is the county seat.<sup>832</sup>

. . . That part of Albemarle County, lying on the South-side of Albemarle Sound, and Moratuck River, being Part of [Chowan, Pasquotank, Bertie, and Currituck] the several Precincts before mentioned, bounded to the Westward by Thomas Hoskin's upper Line, beginning at his upper Corner Tree, on Rainbow banks, on Moratuck River, and by a Line running South from his outer Corner Tree, to the Southward by the Bounds of Albemarle County, to the Eastward by the Sound, between Roanoke Island, and Croatan, and to the Northward by Albemarle Sound and Moratuck River, as high as the Rainbow Banks, in Moratuck River, shall be, and the same is hereby declared to be erected into a Precinct, by the Name of Tyrrell Precinct, . . .<sup>833</sup>

The boundary line between Tyrrell and Beaufort and between Tyrrell and Edgecombe was authorized to be established in 1741.

. . . shall begin at the upper Corner Tree of Jenkin Henry's Line, on the South Side of Roanoke River, and from thence, run a direct Line to the Mouth of Cheek's Mill Creek, on Tar River; and the said Commissioners, as soon as the said Line is finished, shall, under their Hands return the Courses thereof into each of the Courts of the aforesaid Counties, which shall be recorded by the Clerks of the said several Courts; And the said Line so run, shall, for ever after, be deemed the Boundary Line between Tyrrell and Edgecomb Counties, and between Edgecomb and Beaufort Counties, from Tyrrell County as far as Tar River.

III. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Flat Swamp which, heretofore, was the Boundary of Albemarle and Bath Counties, shall, to the Head of the said Swamp, and from the Head thereof, by a direct Line between Tyrrell and Edgecomb Counties, forever, be the Boundary Line between Tyrrell and Beaufort Counties.<sup>834</sup>

The survey of the boundary line between Tyrrell and Beaufort and between Tyrrell and Edgecombe was authorized to be

<sup>832</sup>S. R., XXIII, 112; XXIV, 252; XXV, 212; *Laws, 1798*, Ch. 41; 1796, Ch. 55; 1798, Ch. 90; 1799, Chs. 36, 37; 1801, Ch. 62; *Manual, 1913*, p. 820; *Battle*, p. 19.

<sup>833</sup>S. R., XXV, 212.

<sup>834</sup>S. R., XXIII, 168.

continued in 1748 because sufficient funds had not been provided in the previous act.

. . . for finishing the said Line . . . , already begun and carried on, to the Mouth of Cheek's Mill Creek, in Beaufort County, on Tar River, and from thence shall run, with a straight Line to Contentnee, at the Mouth of Tosneat Swamp, and thence up the main Stream of Contentnee, opposite the Mouth of Cypress Swamp, on Tar River; which said Line, when run by the Commissioners aforesaid, shall be by them entered on Record, in the Court of Edgecomb County aforesaid, and shall hereafter be deemed and taken to the true Bounds of the said County. . . .

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Clause and Clauses of the Act, intituled, An Act for ascertaining the boundary Line between Tyrrell County, and Beaufort County, and between Edgecomb County, Tyrrell County, and Beaufort County, so far as relates to running the Boundary Line between Edgecomb County, and Beaufort County, is and are hereby repealed and made void, as if the same had never been made.<sup>835</sup>

Martin was formed in 1774 from Halifax and Tyrrell.

. . . , Beginning at the mouth of Kehukee Creek, on Roanoke River, and running a direct Line to Edgecombe County Line, where it crosses the Tar River road that leads by Nicholas Loyd's; thence down Edgecombe Line, to Pitt County Line; thence along Pitt Line, to Beaufort County Line; thence along Beaufort Line, to the Head of Welch's Creek, near Stewart Hamilton's plantation; thence down Welch's Creek, to Roanoke river; thence up the River to the beginning; and all that part of the said Counties, included within the said Bounds, be thenceforth erected into a distinct County and Parish, and called and known by the Name of Martin County, and Parish of St. Martin.<sup>836</sup>

The boundary line between Hyde and Tyrrell was authorized to be established in 1784.

. . . , and that they [commissioners named in the act] or any four of them shall meet on or before the first day of December, seventeen hundred and eighty-five, and jointly proceed to run and mark the said line as follows: Beginning where the counties of Beaufort, Martin and Tyrrel corner, thence a direct course to Long Shoal river, and thence the same course continued to Pamptico Sound.<sup>837</sup>

Washington was formed in 1799 from Tyrrell.

. . . , beginning at Bull-point, thence running a direct line to the centre of the Indian swamp, where the road crosses; from thence running a direct line to the west end of lake Phelps; thence running a direct course to Hyde county line. . . . commissioners to run the said dividing line, and that all that part of Tyrrell, lying westwardly of said line shall be erected into a separate and distinct county, known by the name of Washington county.<sup>838</sup>

<sup>835</sup>S. R., XXIII, 287.

<sup>836</sup>S. R., XXIII, 976.

<sup>837</sup>S. R., XXIV, 705.

<sup>838</sup>Laws, 1799, Ch. 36.

## Part of Tyrrell was annexed to Washington in 1801.

. . . , That from and after the passing of this act, all that part of Tyrrel lying and being on the South and West side of Indian Swamp, and the canal beginning at the present dividing line of said counties, in such places as shall make a straight course to the center of the Indian Swamp Bridge, thence in a straight direction to the mouth of the canal, thence up said canal to Lake Phelps, thence a South course to Hyde county-line, shall remain and constitute a part of Washington county.<sup>839</sup>

Dare was formed in 1870 from Currituck, Tyrrell, and Hyde.

That a new county is hereby laid off and established, to be formed out of portions of Currituck and Tyrrel and Hyde counties, bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning in the north of Long Shoals river at a point on the north side of said river known as Rawls' Point, thence running up said river to the dividing line between the counties of Hyde and Tyrrel, thence running west said line to Alligator river, thence running the various courses of said river to its mouth, thence running a course across the Albemarle and Currituck sounds so as to strike a point on the Currituck sound known as Long Point of Marsh, thence running a northeast by east course to the Atlantic ocean, thence running south along the sea beach to Hatteras inlet, thence running a direct course across the Pamlico sound to the place of beginning.<sup>840</sup>

An act amending the act to lay off and establish the county of Dare was passed in 1873.

That an act entitled an act to lay off and establish the county of Dare, passed by the Legislature of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine and one thousand eight hundred and seventy, be amended by striking out the words "as Long Point of Marsh, thence running northeast by east course to the Atlantic ocean" which occur in the eleventh and twelfth lines of section first of said act, and insert the words, "known as south-west point of the Long Point of Marsh, thence about an east course to the southern boundary of a tract of land belonging to Moore and Griffith, at the head of Kitty-hawk Bay, thence along the said boundary line to the Atlantic ocean."<sup>841</sup>

In 1911 an act was passed to establish the boundary line between Washington, Chowan, and Tyrrell counties because the boundary line between the counties was indefinite and uncertain.

That the true boundary line between the counties of Chowan on the one side, and Washington and Tyrrell on the other side, is hereby declared to be the middle of the Albemarle Sound, a straight line parallel to the shores of said counties.<sup>842</sup>

<sup>839</sup>*Laws, 1801, Ch. 70.*

<sup>840</sup>*Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 36.*

<sup>841</sup>*Public Laws, 1872-73, Ch. 127.*

<sup>842</sup>*Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 116.*

The boundary line as established by agreement in 1890, between the counties of Hyde and Tyrrell, was validated by an act passed in 1921.

. . . : Beginning at a post marked Hyde and Tyrrell, which stands on the east bank of Pungo Lake at the mouth of the tributary nearest the State Canal leading from Pungo Lake to Pungo River, running thence through State lands in an easterly direction and in a straight line to another post marked Hyde and Tyrrell, which stands on Long Ridge and on the north-west bank of the Dunbar Canal eight hundred and ninety-eight poles from a marked pine standing on the same side of canal at last described post near John A. Dunbar's home, running thence about sixteen degrees west (time bearing as of above date), one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three poles to another pole marked Hyde and Tyrrell, which stands at the head of New Lake Fork or Creek where Squyars Canal enters therein, thence with said New Lake Fork or Creek and the Alligator River with all the windings thereof to where the Dare County line strikes said Alligator River.<sup>843</sup>

## UNION

Union was formed in 1842 from Anson and Mecklenburg. It is in the south central section of the State and is bounded by the state of South Carolina and Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Stanly, and Anson counties. The present area is 643 square miles and the population is 39,097. Commissioners were named in the act to select a site, lay out a town by the name of Monroe, and erect a courthouse. Monroe is the county seat.<sup>844</sup>

. . . : Beginning at the corner of Anson and Mecklenburg, on the South Carolina line, and runs East on the South Carolina, eleven miles; thence East of a parallel of the county line, so that it shall be thirteen miles East of the Cabarrus corner, on Rocky River; thence up the various courses of the Rocky River to the corner of Anson and Mecklenburg; thence with the Cabarrus line, three Miles; thence a direct line to where the Providence road crosses Six Mile Creek; thence with the meanders of the creek, to the South Carolina line; thence with the South Carolina line to the beginning; . . .<sup>845</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Union and Cabarrus was authorized to be established in 1887.

WHEREAS, doubts have arisen concerning the location of the dividing line between the counties of Union and Cabarrus, and the citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the line are unable to determine where they shall exercise their rights of citizenship and pay their taxes: . . .

<sup>843</sup>*Public Laws, Special Session, 1921*, Ch. 43. In 1890 commissioners were appointed to survey the line between Hyde and Tyrrell. See appendix, p. 267, for this report.

<sup>844</sup>*Laws, 1842-43*, Chs. 12, 13; *Manual, 1913*, p. 825.

<sup>845</sup>*Laws, 1842-43*, Ch. 12. In 1889 commissioners were appointed to survey the line between Mecklenburg and Union Counties. See appendix, p. 272, for this report.

. . . , who shall proceed to locate the dividing line between the counties of Union and Cabarrus and shall mark the same by permanent monuments, . . .<sup>846</sup>

The dividing line between Anson and Union was authorized to be surveyed and established in 1905 and a copy filed in the register of deeds office in each county. No description is given in the law.<sup>847</sup>

## VANCE

Vance was formed in 1881 from Granville, Warren, and Franklin. It was named in honor of Zebulon Baird Vance, a member of Congress, governor of North Carolina, and United States senator. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Warren, Franklin, and Granville counties and the state of Virginia. The present area is 269 square miles and the population is 29,961. The act directed the county commissioners to select a site in Henderson for the erection of the courthouse. Henderson is the county seat.<sup>848</sup>

That a new county is hereby laid off and established to be formed out of portions of Warren, Franklin and Granville counties, and bounded as follows; Begin at a point on the south bank of Tar river in Granville county, just opposite the point where the dividing line between Fishing Creek and Kittrell's townships strikes said river; thence down said river to a point in Franklin county opposite the place where King's creek empties into said river; thence across said river north twenty-three and one-half degrees east to a pine tree near the old Moss house; thence due east to a rock on the road leading from Duke's store to Nat. Macon's place, about half-way between the Alston and the old Perry places; thence down said road to Duke's store; thence in a direct line to the point where the Millford road crosses the Warren and Franklin counties' line; thence in a direct line to Coley's X roads in Warren county; thence in a direct line to the point where Nutbush creek crosses the Virginia and North Carolina state line; thence along said State line to Big Island creek; thence up said creek to the line between Townesville and Sassafras Fork townships; thence along the boundary line between said townships, and between Henderson and Oxford townships, and Kittrell and Fishing Creek townships, south to the beginning.<sup>849</sup>

The act changing the boundary line between the counties of Vance and Franklin was passed in 1909.

That chapter one hundred and thirteen of the Public Laws of one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one be amended by striking out, after

<sup>846</sup>*Public Laws, 1887, Ch. 255.*

<sup>847</sup>*Public Laws, 1905, Ch. 713.*

<sup>848</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 113; Manual, 1913, p. 826.*

<sup>849</sup>*Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 113.*



the word "thence," in line fourteen of said act, the words "in a direct line," and inserting in their place the following: "down and with the Millford Road."<sup>850</sup>

## WAKE

Wake was formed in 1770 from Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange. The act was to become effective March 12, 1771. It was named in honor of Margaret Wake, wife of William Tryon. It is in the east central section of the State and is bounded by Johnston, Harnett, Chatham, Durham, Granville, and Franklin counties. The present area is 866 square miles and the population is 109,534. The first courthouse was erected at what is known as Bloomsbury. It was called Wake County Court House until 1792, when Raleigh was established and made the capital of the State. Raleigh is the county seat.<sup>851</sup>

. . . , the said Counties of Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange, be divided by the following Lines; that is to say; Beginning at Edgecomb Line on Mocossin Swamp, a Mile above James Lea's Plantation, running a direct Line to Neuse River, at the upper End of John Beddingfield's Plantation; then to David Mimm's Mill Creek, between Mimm's Mill and Tanner's old Mill; then the same course continued to the Ridge which divides Cumberland and Johnston Counties; then a straight Line to Orange Line, at the lower End of Richard Hill's Plantation, on Buckhorn; then the same Course continued Five Miles; then to the Corner of Johnston County on Granville Line; then with the same Line and Bute Line to Edgecomb Line; and along Edgecomb Line to the Beginning; be thenceforth erected into a Distinct County and Parish by the name of Wake County, and St. Margaret's Parish.<sup>852</sup>

In 1805 the boundary line between Franklin and Wake was authorized to be established according to the act which established Granville county, and all the laws respecting the boundaries since that date were repealed. No description is given in the law.<sup>853</sup>

In 1806 another act was passed authorizing the same line to be established. No description is given in the law.<sup>854</sup>

In 1808 this line was again authorized to be established. No description is given in the law.<sup>855</sup>

<sup>850</sup>*Public Laws, 1909, Ch. 890.* The act referred to was the one creating Vance County. See note 844.

<sup>851</sup>This is one of the counties which was established during a session of the General Assembly which convened the last part of one year and extended into the next year. A bill to establish Wake County was introduced in December 1770. It passed second reading on December 26 and on January 2, 1771, it passed third reading in the lower house and was ordered to be engrossed. On January 5, 1771, this bill passed third reading in the upper house and was ordered to be engrossed. *C. R.*, VIII, 299, 336, 341, 347, 386, 401; *S. R.*, XVIII, 196, 805; XIX, 266, 689; XXII, 543, 544; XXIII, 819; Moses N. Amis, *Historical Raleigh and Sketches of Wake County*, p. 23; Hope Summerell Chamberlain, *History of Wake County*, p. 36 ff.; *Manual, 1913*, p. 827; Battle, p. 24.

<sup>852</sup>*S. R.*, XXIII, 819.

<sup>853</sup>*Laws, 1805, Ch. 26.* In 1806 another act was passed authorizing the same line to be established. See next footnote.

<sup>854</sup>*Laws, 1806, Ch. 53.*

<sup>855</sup>*Laws, 1808, Ch. 77.*

In 1810 the boundary line between Franklin and Wake was authorized to be established and a copy filed in the Secretary of State's office, Raleigh, North Carolina. No description is given in the law.<sup>856</sup>

Durham was formed in 1881 from Orange and Wake.

. . . ; Beginning at the north-east corner of Orange county, thence with the Orange and Person line north eighty seven degrees, west, eight miles, to the corner of Mangum and Little River townships of Orange county; thence south ten degrees west, twenty-five and one-quarter miles, to the Chatham county line, at the corner of Patterson and Chapel Hill townships; thence with the Chatham county line south eighty-seven degrees east, seven miles, to the Wake county line; thence the same course four miles, to a point in Wake county in Cedar Fork township; thence a line parallel to the Wake and Orange line north fifteen degrees east, thirteen and one-half miles to the corner of New Light and Oak Grove townships; thence continuing the same course two and one quarter miles, and following the dividing line between said townships to the Granville county line at the corner of the aforesaid townships; thence with the Wake and the Granville line to their corner on Neuse river, in the Orange county line; thence with the Granville line about north nine and three-quarter miles to the beginning.<sup>857</sup>

Part of Wake was annexed to Durham County in 1911.

. . . : Beginning on the Durham County line at the corner of Oak Grove and Cedar Fork townships in Wake County, continuing thence along the old line between said townships about two and three-quarter miles, more or less, to a point four hundred and forty yards east to the place where the said line crosses the Morrisville and Oxford road; thence in a northeasterly direction about four miles, running in the same direction as and about four hundred and forty yards east of the Morrisville and Oxford road, to a point in the line between Barton's Creek and the Oak Grove Townships in the county of Wake, four hundred and forty yards east of the Morrisville and Oxford road; thence north about four miles with the line between Bartons Creek and Oak Grove townships in Wake county to the Neuse River and thence up the meanderings of the said Neuse River to the Durham County line.<sup>858</sup>

## WARREN

Warren was formed in 1779 from Bute. It was named in honor of Joseph Warren, a soldier of Massachusetts who fell while fighting at Bunker Hill. It is in the northeastern section of the State and is bounded by Northampton, Halifax, Franklin, and Vance counties and the state of Virginia. The present area is 445 square miles and its population is 23,150. The act establishing the county specified that the first court was to be

<sup>856</sup>*Laws, 1810*, Ch. 46. For a report of a survey of Franklin and Wake line, see appendix, p. 262.

<sup>857</sup>*Public Laws, 1881*, Ch. 138.

<sup>858</sup>*Public Laws, 1911*, Ch. 47. For a survey of the line between Durham and Wake, see appendix, p. 264.

held at the courthouse of Bute; it also provided that subsequent courts were to be held at a place decided upon by the justices of the peace until a courthouse could be erected. Commissioners were named to select a site at the center of the county, purchase land and have the courthouse, prison, and stocks erected. In 1779 another act was passed establishing Warrenton. This act provided that the courts were to be held at the home of Thomas Christmas until the courthouse was built. Warrenton is the county seat.<sup>859</sup>

. . . , That from and after the passing of this Act the County of Bute shall be divided into two distinct Counties by a direct line from the Granville line to Halifax or Nash County line as the case may be, leaving in each part or division an equal quantity of Acres as near as can be ascertained, and in order that the same may be ascertained with as much precision as possible. . . to measure the lines of said County on every side and to run the dividing line so as to make each respective division as convenient to the respective persons residing therein as possible, which said lines when run by the commissioners, or a majority of them, shall be entered on the Record of each County, and all that part or division which lies North of said line & adjacent to Virginia shall be a distinct County by the name of Warren, and all that part or division that lies South of said line shall be a distinct County by the name of Franklin; . . .<sup>860</sup>

### Part of Granville was annexed to Warren in 1786.

. . . Beginning at the point where the line of division between Warren and Granville counties shall touch the line of division between this State and the State of Virginia, and running thence west along the said line to Nutbush creek, thence up said creek as it meanders to the mouth of Anderson's swamp, thence up the said swamp to the fork, thence up the south fork of the said swamp to Stark's mill, thence by a line to be run due south until it shall touch the aforesaid line of division between Warren and Granville, be, and the same is hereby annexed to and shall remain a part of the county of Warren: . . .<sup>861</sup>

Vance was formed in 1881 from Granville, Warren and Franklin.

That a new county is hereby laid off and established to be formed out of portions of Warren, Franklin and Granville counties, and bounded as follows; Begin at a point on the south bank of Tar river in Granville county, just opposite the point where the dividing line between Fishing Creek and Kittrell's townships strikes said river; thence down said river to a point in Franklin county opposite the place where King's creek empties into said river; thence across said river north twenty-three and one-half degrees east to a pine tree near the old Moss house; thence due east to a rock on the road leading from Duke's store to Nat. Macon's place, about half-way between the Alston and the old Perry places; thence down said

<sup>859</sup>S. R., XXIV, 227; *Manual, 1913*, p. 834.

<sup>860</sup>S. R., XXIV, 227.

<sup>861</sup>S. R., XXIV, 866.

road to Duke's store; thence in a direct line to the point where the Millford road crosses the Warren and Franklin counties' line; thence a direct line to Coley's X Roads in Warren county; thence in a direct line to the point where Nutbush creek crosses the Virginia and North Carolina state line; thence along the said State line to Big Island creek; thence up said creek to the line between Townesville and Sassafras Fork townships; thence along the boundary line between said townships; thence between Henderson and Oxford townships, and Kittrell and Fishing Creek townships, south to the beginning.<sup>862</sup>

The boundary line between Northampton and Warren was authorized to be established in 1883, because disputes had arisen due to the fact that the line was not properly marked. No description is given in the law.<sup>863</sup>

## WASHINGTON DISTRICT

The District of Washington was officially recognized in 1776 as a part of the governmental structure of North Carolina. On August 22, 1776, the inhabitants living along the Watauga, Holston, and Nolachucky rivers petitioned the Council of Safety saying that since they "are within the Bounds of this State" they wanted to be officially annexed to North Carolina, and wanted to be allowed to set up courts and to elect their representatives in the General Assembly. This petition was favorably acted upon and their representatives took their seats in the Provincial Congress at Halifax on November 19, 1776.<sup>864</sup>

<sup>862</sup>Public Laws, 1881, Ch. 113.

<sup>863</sup>Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 42.

<sup>864</sup>In this petition it is stated that six years prior to this date when these persons settled along these rivers they believed that they were within the bounds of Virginia, but had since found that they were not. They said they needed some form of orderly government for protection and for the proper recordation of their official business. *C. R.*, X, 708-710. On August 7, 1777, William Sharpe and Waightstill Avery wrote Richard Caswell: "Having concluded peace with the Overhill Cherokee, we now by express transmit to your Excellency a full Journal of our proceedings and all the transactions during the Treaty; . . .

"By the little sketch of a map inclosed you will also discover the bounds of the pretended purchases under which the Watauga and Nolachucky people claim the whole district of Washington; and that the Indians have now given up about thirty miles down the River of Holston further than these pretended purchases extend. We have extended our Boundary line with the Overhills by several courses about thirty miles south of the Virginia line, and into a Ridge of the Mountains called the Unacoy or great Iron Mountain, which circumscribes the claims of those Indians on the South and East.

"Your Excellency will also discover from this map, that there is, a piece of land of considerable extent lying between the Ridge aforesaid, & the Blue Ridge of the Appalachian Mountains which divides the eastern from the western waters, and which was the boundary between us and the Indians.

"This piece of land lying between the two Ridges, and extending from the north east corner of the map to the Towns in the middle Settlements, is claimed by the Indians inhabiting those Towns. And as it is of great importance for us to gain possession of so much of this land as to open roads and gain an easy and quick communication from our Frontier Counties to the District of Washington, on our own land; join our Settlements heretofore detached, and lay open a passage to the Overhill country; for these reasons, and in order that the remaining part of the Boundary Line may be established by consent of the Chiefs from every Town claiming a right; so as to leave no occasion of disputes hereafter; we have proposed a Treaty with the Middle Settlements, as in the Talk sent to those Indians and recorded in the Journal, and have left the time and place to Your Excellency and the General Assembly. Completing the Line will put it in the power of the latter to make laws for the effectual prevention of encroachments on the Indian lands; and it is become more necessary to extend and finish the Indian Line because that some Inhabitants have already settled down on the very head waters of the Nolachucky, Watauga, and New Rivers. . . ." *C. R.*, X, 702, 708-10, 925, 926, 951, 1001; *S. R.*, XI, 566-67.

Washington (now Tennessee) was formed in 1777 by changing the name of Washington District to Washington County.

. . . Beginning at the most North Westerly Part of the County of Wilkes, on the Virginia line; thence running with the Line of Wilkes County, to a Point Thirty-Six Miles South of the Virginia Line; thence due West, to the Ridge of the great iron Mountain which heretofore divided the Hunting Grounds of the Overhill Cherokees, from those of the Middle Settlements and Valleys; thence running a South Westerly Course, along the said Ridge, to the Unacoy Mountain, where the trading Path crosses the same from the Valley to the Overhills; thence South with the Line of this State, adjoining the State of South Carolina; thence due West, to the great River Mississippi; thence up the said River the Courses thereof, to a Point due West from the Beginning; thence due East with the line of this State, to the Beginning; And it is hereby declared, that all that Part of this State comprehended within the Lines aforesaid shall from henceforth be and remain the County of Washington, and shall be, and is hereby declared to be Part of the District of Salisbury. . . , and it is hereby Declared, That all that Part of this State lying West of Rowan county, and South of the County of Washington, shall be, and is hereby declared to be Part of the County of Burke.<sup>865</sup>

Wilkes was formed in 1777 from Surry and the District of Washington.

. . . : Beginning at a Point Twenty Six Miles due West of Surry Court House, thence North to the Virginia Line, thence West along the said Line to the Ridge that divides the Waters of Holston and New Rivers, thence along the said Ridge to Burke County Line, thence Eastwardly along the Line that divides the Counties of Surry and Burke to Rowan County Line, thence along Rowan County Line to a Point due South of the Beginning, thence North to the Beginning, be erected into a distinct County, by the Name of Wilkes.<sup>866</sup>

## WASHINGTON, TENNESSEE

Washington (now Tennessee) was formed in 1777 from the District of Washington. It was roughly the territory west of Wilkes County between Wilkes and the Virginia line and the hunting grounds of the Cherokee Indians and the Mississippi River which had been allowed three representatives in the General Assembly of North Carolina in 1776. It was named in honor of George Washington. The territory was ceded to the United States and accepted April 2, 1790. The act establishing the county provided that the first court be held at the home of Charles Robertson, as well as all subsequent courts until the county seat was selected. It named commissioners to select a

<sup>865</sup>S. R., XXIV, 141.

<sup>866</sup>S. R., XXIV, 143.

site and have public buildings erected. The present area is 329 square miles and the population is 51,631. In 1779 Jonesboro, named in honor of Willie Jones, was established as the county seat. Jonesboro is the county seat.<sup>867</sup>

... Beginning at the most North Westerly Part of the County of Wilkes, on the Virginia Line; thence running with the Line of Wilkes County, to a Point Thirty Six Miles South of the Virginia Line; thence due West, to the ridge of the great iron Mountain which heretofore divided the Hunting Grounds of the Overhill Cherokees, from those of the Middle Settlements and Valley; thence running a South Westerly Course, along the said Ridge, to the Unacoy Mountain, where the trading Path crosses the same from the Valley to the Overhills; thence South with the Line of this State, adjoining the State of South Carolina; thence due West, to the great River Mississippi; thence up the said River the Courses thereof, to a Point due West from the Beginning; thence due East with the Line of this State, to the Beginning; And it is hereby declared, that all that Part of this State comprehended with the Lines aforesaid shall from henceforth be and remain the County of Washington, and shall be, and is hereby declared to be Part of the District of Salisbury.

... , That all that Part of this State lying West of Rowan county, and South of the County of Washington, shall be, and is hereby declared to be Part of the county of Burke.<sup>868</sup>

Sullivan (now Tennessee) was formed in 1779 from Washington (now Tennessee).

... by a line beginning at the Steep Rock; thence running along the dividing ridge that divides the waters of the Great Canawee and Tenessee, to the Head of Indian creek; thence along the ridge that divides the waters of Holstein and Wataga, to the mouth of Wataga; thence a direct line, to the highest part of the Chimney Top mountain, at the Indian boundary; And that all that part of said county of Washington which lies northwardly of said dividing line, shall be erected into a new and distinct county, by the name of Sullivan county; and that all that other part of said county which lies southwardly of said dividing line, shall continue and remain a distinct county, by the name of Washington.<sup>869</sup>

Davidson (now Tennessee) was formed in 1783 from Washington (now Tennessee).

... , that all that part of this State lying west of the Cumberland mountain and south of the Virginia line, beginning on the top of Cumberland mountain where the Virginia line crosses, extending westward along the said line to Tennessee River, thence up said river to the mouth of Duck River, then up Duck River to where the line of marked trees run by the commissioners for laying off land granted the Continental line of this State intersects said river (which said line is supposed to be in thirty five degrees

<sup>867</sup>C. R., X, 925, 951, 1001; S. R., XXIV, 141, 309, 880; *Counties of Tennessee*, p. 44; *Manual*, 1913, p. 839.

<sup>868</sup>S. R., XXIV, 141.

<sup>869</sup>S. R., XXIV, 300.



fifty minutes north Latitude) thence east along said line to the top of Cumberland mountain, thence northwardly along said mountain to the beginning, shall after the passing of this Act be, and is hereby declared to be a distinct county by the name of Davidson.<sup>870</sup>

Part of Washington was annexed to Sullivan in 1788.

. . . : Beginning at the head of Indian creek where the line divides Washington and Sullivan counties, thence a strait line south of David Hughes's, thence a strait line south of Francis Hodge's to the Walagea river, thence down the meanders of said river to its junction with Holston river, thence up the line which divides Washington and Sullivan counties to the first station, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall be and remain a part of the county of Sullivan: . . .<sup>871</sup>

Part of Washington (Tennessee) was annexed to Wilkes in 1792.

Whereas a part of Washington county was by the cession act retained in this state, and although remaining in the said state the inhabitants thereof are deprived of the benefit of the laws and government of the same for want of being annexed to some other county:

. . . , Beginning at the most southwardly part of Wilkes county line on Burke county line, and running due west to the dividing ridge between the waters of Watauga and Doe-rivers, then along the extreme height of said ridge to the line of the ceded territory, then along the said line to the Virginia line, and along the Virginia line to the old line of Wilkes county; and that all the land north and east of the aforesaid line shall be, and the same is hereby annexed to the said county of Wilkes; . . .<sup>872</sup>

## WASHINGTON

Washington was formed in 1799 from Tyrrell. It was named in honor of George Washington. It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Tyrrell, Hyde, Beaufort, Martin, and Bertie counties, and the Albemarle Sound. The present area is 336 square miles and the population is 12,323. The courts were ordered to be held at Lee's Mill until a courthouse could be erected. Plymouth, already in existence when the county was established, was incorporated in 1807. In 1823 the courthouse was moved from Lee's Mill to Plymouth. In 1873 the General Assembly authorized that the county seat be moved from Plymouth to McKey's Ferry provided the people approved the same by popular vote. Plymouth is the county seat.<sup>873</sup>

<sup>870</sup>S. R., XXIV, 540.

<sup>871</sup>S. R., XXIV, 974.

<sup>872</sup>Laws, 1792, Ch. 32.

<sup>873</sup>Laws, 1799, Ch. 36; 1807, Ch. 48; *Private Laws*, 1823, Ch. 67; 1873-74, Ch. 31; *Manual*, 1913, p. 840; *Battle*, p. 25.

. . . , beginning at Bull-point, thence running a direct line to the centre of the Indian swamp, where the road crosses; from thence running a direct line to the west end of lake Phelps; thence running a direct course to Hyde county line.

. . . , Commissioners to run the said dividing line; and that all that part of Tyrrell, lying westwardly of said line shall be erected into a separate and distinct county, known by the name of Washington county.<sup>874</sup>

Part of Tyrrell was annexed to Washington in 1801.

. . . , That from and after the passing of this act, all that part of Tyrrel lying and being on the South and West side of Indian Swamp, and the canal beginning at the present dividing line of said counties, in such place as shall make a straight course to the centre of the Indian Swamp Bridge, thence in a straight direction to the mouth of the canal, thence up said canal to Lake Phelps, thence a south course to Hyde county-line, shall remain and constitute a part of Washington county.<sup>875</sup>

In 1811 the boundary line between Beaufort and Washington counties was authorized to be established and a record made in each county. No description is given in the law.<sup>876</sup>

An act to establish the boundary line between the counties of Washington and Beaufort was passed in 1832. No description of the line was given.<sup>877</sup>

In 1851 an act was passed which stated that the dividing line between Washington and Beaufort having not heretofore been sufficiently described, either by actual survey or by known and fixed boundaries, it became expedient, in order to prevent disputes between the inhabitants of said counties in relation to county affairs, that the said dividing line should be more accurately ascertained. No description was given in the act.<sup>878</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Washington and Beaufort was authorized to be settled and fixed in 1911.

That the boards of county commissioners of the counties of Washington and Beaufort shall appoint two commissioners, one on the part of the county of Washington, and one on the part of the county of Beaufort, who shall settle, determine, run and mark the dividing line between said counties, from the western to the eastern terminus thereof.<sup>879</sup>

In 1911 an act was passed to establish the boundary line between Washington, Chowan, and Tyrrell counties because the boundary line between the counties was indefinite and uncertain.

<sup>874</sup>*Laws, 1799, Ch. 36.*

<sup>875</sup>*Laws, 1801, Ch. 70.*

<sup>876</sup>*Laws, 1811, Ch. 77.*

<sup>877</sup>*Private Laws, 1832, Ch. 42.*

<sup>878</sup>*Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 44.*

<sup>879</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1911, Ch. 314.*

That the true boundary line between the counties of Chowan on the one side, and Washington and Tyrrell on the other side, is hereby declared to be the middle of the Albemarle Sound, a straight line parallel to the shores of said counties.<sup>880</sup>

## WATAUGA

Watauga was formed in 1849 from Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell, and Yancey. It was named for an Indian tribe. It is in the north-western section of the State and is bounded by the state of Tennessee and Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell, and Avery counties. The present area is 320 square miles and the population is 18,114. The first court was ordered to be held at the home of George Council, at which time justices of the peace were to decide upon a place for future courts until the courthouse was erected. Commissioners were named to select a site for a county seat "which site shall be between Reuben Bartley's and a point one-half mile west of Willie McGee's east and west direction, and between John Pennell's and Howard's Knob north and south direction." They were to acquire the land and lay out a town and erect the public buildings. In 1851 a superior court was established for Watauga, and it directed that court was to be held in the courthouse at Boone. Boone, named in honor of Daniel Boone, is the county seat.<sup>881</sup>

. . . , That a county be, and is hereby, laid off and established by the name of Watauga, to be composed of parts of the counties of Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell and Yancy, beginning at the State line in Lemuel Wilson's plantation, and running with the State line in Northern direction two miles; thence running as near as may be, in a direct line, (so as to leave Thomas Sutherland in the county of Ashe) to the top of the Big Bald mountain; thence to the mouth of Elk creek, on the South fork of New river; thence down the river to the mouth of a creek that runs through Samuel Cooper's plantation; thence to the Deep Gap of the Blue Ridge; thence along the dividing ridge between the waters of Stoney fork and Lewis's fork waters of the Yadkin river, to where the road leading from Wilkesboro' to the Deep Gap, crosses the top of the Laurel Spur; thence to Elk creek at the Widow Hampton's; thence to the top of the White Rock mountain; thence to the top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Spring; thence along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the top of the Grand mother mountain; thence with the line of Burke county to the corner of McDowell county; thence to the State line where it crosses the Yellow mountain; thence with the State line to the beginning.<sup>882</sup>

<sup>880</sup>*Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 115.*

<sup>881</sup>*Laws, 1848-49, Chs. 25, 26; 1850-51, Ch. 51; Manual, 1913, p. 344; Arthur, p. 188; Battle, p. 14.*

<sup>882</sup>*Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 25.*

Mitchell was formed in 1861 from Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke and McDowell.

. . . , That a county by the name of Mitchell shall be and the same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke and McDowell counties with the following boundaries; beginning at the top of Grandfather mountain, thence with the top of the Blue Ridge to the Bear Wallow Gap, thence to the Three Knobs, thence to Big Crabtree creek, thence down said creek to Toe river, thence down said river to the Tennessee line, thence with the Tennessee line to Elk river, thence to place of beginning; and the said county of Mitchell, . . .<sup>883</sup>

An act amending an act to establish a county by the name of Mitchell was passed in 1861.

. . . , That an act passed at the late session of the General Assembly, entitled an act to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Mitchell, be so amended as to run from the top of the Grand Father Mountain, with the old Watauga line, to the Blue Ridge; thence with the said Yancey line, and according to said act, around to the beginning. . .<sup>884</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Watauga in 1869.

. . . : Beginning at the County line in a low gap on the dividing ridge with the main top of the said ridge to the top of the Round Knob, thence down a small branch to the lower end of Michajah Hendrick's apple orchard, thence west up the Swift Ford Branch, to the County lines again, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Watauga County. . .<sup>885</sup>

Part of Caldwell was annexed to Watauga in 1871.

. . . : beginning at the fairview on the Caldwell and Watauga turnpike road on the top of the Blue Ridge, thence a straight line to the top of the Grandfather mountain, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall form part of Watauga county.<sup>886</sup>

Part of Wilkes and Ashe was annexed to Watauga in 1877.

. . . beginning on the top of the Wolf Knob near the widow Tempy Mikels where the Watauga and Wilkes county line intersects, running a north course to the top of the Blue Ridge at the dividing line between the lands of Leander Robbins and Enoch Treplits, and thence a north course to the top of Huson's Ridge, then a north course to the ford of Gap creek near the mouth of Alexander Green's lane, thence a north-west course to the top of the Big Ridge to the Ashe county line.<sup>887</sup>

Avery was formed in 1911 from Mitchell, Watauga, and Caldwell.

Beginning at the highest point of Grandfather Mountain, the corner of Watauga, Caldwell and Mitchell counties, and running a direct line to the

<sup>883</sup>*Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 8.*

<sup>884</sup>*Private Laws, First Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 22.*

<sup>885</sup>*Public Laws, 1868-69, Ch. 218.*

<sup>886</sup>*Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 202.*

<sup>887</sup>*Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 167.*

Hanging Rock Mountain; then with the dividing ridge to the Turnpike Road in the gap of Bower's Mountain; thence a direct course to the eastern prospect on the eastern end of Beech Mountain; then a direct course to the Buckeye Spring; then down and with the meanders of Buckeye Creek to Beech Creek; then with the meanders of Beech Creek to Watauga River; then with the meanders of the Watauga River to the Tennessee line; then with the Tennessee line to the Grassy Ridge Bald; then a direct line to Spear Top; then with the main height of Yellow Mountain to the highest point on Little Yellow Mountain; then a direct line to Pine Knob; then to the mouth of Gouge's Creek on Toe River; then south forty degrees east to Bald Ground on Humpback Mountain at the McDowell County line; then with the McDowell County line to the Burke County line; then with the Burke County line to the Caldwell County line; then with the Burke and Caldwell line to the highest point on Chestnut Mountain; then a direct course to Anthony Creek so as to include all of Carey's Flats; then to the beginning.<sup>888</sup>

The boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Watauga was directed to be changed in 1915.

That chapter twenty-five of the laws of North Carolina, ratified the twenty-seventh day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine, creating the county of Watauga, be and the same is hereby amended, by striking out the eleventh line of said act, which reads as follows: "to the mouth of Elk Creek on the south fork of New River" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "to the ford of Elk Creek near Alex. Blackburn's residence; thence down and with the meanders of Elk Creek to the south fork of New River."<sup>889</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Caldwell and Watauga was authorized to be run and established in 1921.

... , to run and establish a dividing line between the counties of Caldwell and Watauga, and as soon as may be practicable after the passage of this act.<sup>890</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Caldwell and Watauga was authorized to be established in 1925.

The dividing line between the counties of Caldwell and Watauga shall hereafter be as follows:

Beginning at the top of White Rock Mountains and running thence to the top of Blue Ridge Mountains at the point nearest to the Yadkin Spring and runs south forty-four degrees thirty minutes west, fifty feet to the center of the Lenoir and Blowing Rock highway, thence with the center of the said highway as follows: North forty-four degrees west two hundred and fifty feet; north forty-seven degrees west four hundred and twenty-two feet; north thirty-five degrees west, one hundred and twenty-four feet; north sixty degrees west, one hundred and fifty-four feet; north seventy-two degrees-thirty minutes west one hundred feet; north eighty degrees west, one hundred

<sup>888</sup>Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 33.

<sup>889</sup>Public Laws, 1915, Ch. 34.

<sup>890</sup>Public Laws, 1921, Ch. 75. For a surveyor's report on this line, see appendix, p. 255.

and fifty feet; north seventy degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; south eighty degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; north seventy degrees west, one hundred feet; north forty-nine degrees west, two hundred and fifty feet; north seventy-two degrees west, one hundred feet; south seventy-four degrees west, two hundred and eighty-five feet; north seventy-one degrees west, one hundred feet; north forty-six degrees west, one hundred and fifteen feet; north sixty-six degrees west, one hundred feet; south fifty degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; south sixty-two degrees west, one hundred feet; south eighty-five degrees west, one hundred feet; north eighty-three degrees, west one hundred feet; south seventy-nine degrees and thirty minutes west, two hundred feet; north sixty-seven degrees west, one hundred fifty feet; north forty-nine degrees west, one hundred feet; north forty degrees and thirty minutes west one hundred and fifty-seven feet; to a point in said highway near the residence of Washington Clarke on the water divide of the Blue Ridge, from which point a twelve foot maple bears south seventy degrees and ten minutes west, thirty-five and six-tenths distant and a twelve foot spanish oak bears south twenty-nine degrees and ten minutes west, twenty-two and four-tenths distant; thence with the top of said water divide of the Blue Ridge approximately as follows: south seventy-nine degrees no hundredths minutes west, eighty-eight feet to an iron stake; north sixty-eight degrees west one hundred and seventy-one and five-tenths feet to an iron stake, three feet from the northwest corner of an old building; north eighty-two degrees west, one hundred and seventy-one feet to an iron stake; north forty-three degrees west, two hundred and fifty-seven and five-tenths feet to an iron stake; north forty-seven degrees and thirty minutes west two hundred and one and seven-tenths feet to a point on a rock in the rear of Skyland Inn; north fifty degrees and thirty minutes west, one hundred and fifty-two and two-tenths feet to an iron stake; north sixty-three degrees and thirty minutes west, fifty-one feet to a stake, one and five-tenths feet from a small maple; north sixty degrees and thirty minutes west, eighty-four and eight-tenths feet to an iron stake; north seventy-five degrees and thirty minutes west, one hundred and ten and six-tenths feet to an iron stake; south eighty-nine degrees and thirty minutes west, two hundred and thirty-nine and four-tenths feet to a large rock near to the Weeden residence and near Grandview, thence a straight line to the top of Grand Father Mountain to the highest peak thereof, the lands of Everett Pitts shall be in Watauga County.<sup>891</sup>

## WAYNE

Wayne was formed in 1779 from Dobbs. It was named in honor of Anthony Wayne, one of Washington's most trusted soldiers. His courage amounted almost to rashness, and the soldiers called him "Mad Anthony Wayne." It is in the eastern section of the State and is bounded by Greene, Lenoir, Duplin, Sampson, Johnston, and Wilson counties. The present area is

<sup>891</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1925, Ch. 520.* See also report of county line survey between Caldwell and Watauga counties, North Carolina, surveyed by Samuel B. Howard, Consulting Engineer, November 20, 1924, and January 23, 1925. On file in State Department of Archives and History.



555 square miles and the population is 58,328. The act establishing the county provided that the first court should be held at the home of Josiah Sasser at which time the justices were to decide on a place for all subsequent courts until a courthouse could be erected. By 1782 the commissioners had failed to comply with this act and new commissioners were named. In 1787 an act was passed establishing Waynesborough on the west side of the Neuse on the land of Andrew Bass "where the courthouse now stands." In 1845, and again in 1847, acts were passed moving the courthouse from Waynesborough to Goldsboro provided the people voted for the same. Goldsboro is the county seat.<sup>892</sup>

. . . the said county of Dobbs be divided, and that William Caswell, Charles Markland, William McKinnie, Senior, Etheldred Ruffin, and Benjamin Cobb, or a majority of them, be, and they are hereby appointed commissioners for running the dividing line, who are hereby directed to run the lines of the said county of Dobbs so that they ascertain the middle part of said county, which when discovered, they shall run a line a north and south course through the middle part of said county; and then all that part of said county which lies eastwardly of the dividing line, shall continue and remain a distinct county, by the name of Dobbs; and that all the other part shall be a distinct county, by the name of Wayne, . . .<sup>893</sup>

In 1792 an act was passed naming commissioners to run the boundary line between Johnston and Wayne counties and file a copy of the proceedings in each county. No description is given in the law.<sup>894</sup>

Part of Glasgow was annexed to Wayne in 1793.

. . . That from and after the passing of this act, all that part of Glasgow county, lying situated and bounded as follows, beginning where the Wayne county line crosses the fourth prong of Bear-creek, then down the said fourth prong to the fork, then up the north prong to where the Wayne county line crosses the same, and then with the said county line to the beginning, be added to and made a part of Wayne county.<sup>895</sup>

The boundary line between Duplin and Wayne had not been established in 1806; therefore the Legislature authorized the line to be established according to the acts which established the said counties. No description is given in the law.<sup>896</sup>

In 1824 the Legislature again authorized the dividing line between Duplin and Wayne to be established. No description is given in the law.<sup>897</sup>

<sup>892</sup>S. R., XXIV, 290, 474, 875; *Private Laws, 1844-45*, Ch. 21; 1846-47, Ch. 130; *Manual, 1913*, p. 846; *Battle*, p. 26.

<sup>893</sup>S. R., XXIV, 290.

<sup>894</sup>*Laws, 1792*, Ch. 34.

<sup>895</sup>*Laws, 1793*, Ch. 30.

<sup>896</sup>*Laws, 1806*, Ch. 52.

<sup>897</sup>*Private Laws, 1824*, Ch. 45.

In 1826 the line between Duplin and Wayne was again authorized to be run, as many disputes had arisen concerning its location. No description is given in the law.<sup>898</sup>

Because of the uncertainty of the existence of the true boundary between Duplin and Wayne counties an act was passed in 1831 authorizing the establishment of said line.

. . . , That the said line shall commence at a pine stump near the house of John Elliot, it being the dividing corner between the counties of Sampson, Wayne and Duplin, and shall run thence south along the dividing line between said counties of Duplin and Sampson 300 poles; thence south eighty east 1540 poles to near the head of the pocoson branch, called Thunder Swamp, thence north 56 east 700 poles to a blazed black gum, on the run of the North East, just below the mouth of a Calf Pasture branch; thence down the meanders of the North East, south 60 east, about ten miles, to the mouth of Sandy Run branch, at Carrol's Point; thence up the Sandy Run branch as it meanders, north, 45 east 320 poles, to a pine at the head of the same; thence a direct line to a pine, the corner of Wayne, Lenoir and Duplin counties.<sup>899</sup>

An act which provided for running and establishing the dividing line between the counties of Wayne and Duplin was passed in 1833.

. . . beginning at the pine stump, according to the description laid down in the several acts of Assembly dividing counties and forming the counties of Wayne and Duplin.<sup>900</sup>

Wilson was formed in 1855 from Edgecombe, Nash, Johnston, and Wayne.

. . . , Beginning at a lightwood stake in the Pitt county line; thence a direct line to Pender's hill; thence a direct line to Town creek, at the mouth of Col. David Williams's mill branch; thence up said mill branch to the mill; thence a direct line by William Adams's, Sen'r., to the Nash line; thence a straight line to Turkey creek bridge, near the Pridgen old place; thence with the road to Mocasins creek bridge; thence down the said creek to the junction of Mocasins and Turkey creeks; thence a direct line to the Red Hill, (Henry Horn's old place); thence a direct line to the Wayne county line, at the Juniper swamp; thence the Wayne and Johnston line north, to a point in a direct line from the Red Hill to Ruffin's bridge; thence a direct line to Ruffin's bridge, diverging north at the house of Jacob Hooks, so as to leave the dwelling house of said Hooks in the county of Wayne; thence from said Ruffin's bridge down Contentnea creek to the Greene county line; thence to Greene county line to the beginning; . . .<sup>901</sup>

<sup>898</sup>*Private Laws, 1826, Ch. 117.*

<sup>899</sup>*Private Laws, 1831-32, Ch. 101.*

<sup>900</sup>*Private Laws, 1833-34, Ch. 86.*

<sup>901</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 12.*

An act to settle the dividing line between the counties of Wayne and Wilson was passed in 1859.

. . . , That the act passed at the session of 1854-'55, to lay off and establish a county by the name of Wilson, be amended as follows: strike out the words "thence a direct line to Ruffin's bridge, diverging north at the house of Jacob Hooks, so as to leave the dwelling house of said Hooks, in the county of Wayne," and insert "thence a direct line to a large pine near the mouth of Jacob Hook's lane, north of Jacob Hook's dwelling house, thence a direct line to Ruffin's bridge."<sup>902</sup>

An act authorizing the dividing line between the counties of Wayne and Greene to be run and established was passed in 1861.

. . . beginning at the corner in the north prong of Bear Creek (or at a point as near said corner as may be established), and run a north course to Great Contentnea Creek, according to an act of the General Assembly, passed at the session of 1779, entitled an act for dividing the county of "Dobbs," and that the line thus established by said commissioners shall be held and considered as the dividing line between the said counties of Wayne and Greene.<sup>903</sup>

An act reviving an act passed at the session of the Assembly of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, establishing the line between the counties of Wayne and Greene, was passed in 1872.

. . . , beginning at the corner in the north prong of Bear creek (or at a point as near said corner as may be established) and run a north course to Great Contentnea creek, according to an act of the general assembly passed at the session of one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, entitled an act for dividing the county of Dobbs; that the line thus established by said commissioners, shall be held and considered as the dividing line between the said counties of Wayne and Greene.<sup>904</sup>

An act re-enacting an act to run and establish the dividing line between the counties of Greene and Wayne was passed in 1880.

. . . be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to run and establish the dividing line between the counties of Greene and Wayne according to an act of general assembly passed at the session of seventeen hundred and seventy-nine, entitled an act for dividing the county of Dobbs, and that the line thus established by said commissioners shall be held and considered as the dividing line between the said counties of Greene and Wayne.<sup>905</sup>

<sup>902</sup>*Private Laws, 1858-59, Ch. 102.*

<sup>903</sup>*Private Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 76.*

<sup>904</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 84.*

<sup>905</sup>*Public Laws, Special Session, 1880, Ch. 31.*

An act to change the dividing line between Duplin and Wayne counties was passed in 1883.

That the center of the waters of the North East river in its present course from where the dividing line of said counties enters said river near its source to a point below Goodson's bridge, where said dividing line leaves said bridge, be the dividing line between said counties of Duplin and Wayne.<sup>906</sup>

An act to provide for the appointment of surveyors to locate and establish the dividing line between Wayne and Wilson counties was passed in 1911.

Whereas there is now and has been for several years past doubt as to the exact location of the dividing line between Wayne and Wilson counties; and whereas it is desirable that the said dividing line be located and established so that there can be no further controversy as to the correct line between said counties; now, therefore, . . . to proceed to locate and establish the dividing line between Wayne and Wilson counties: . . .<sup>907</sup>

## WICKHAM

Wickham precinct was formed in 1705 from Bath. Its name was changed to Hyde about 1712.

The Precinct of Wickham beginning at the said Molines's Creek, so including all the Lands and Rivers from said Creek to Matchepungo Bluff; . . .<sup>908</sup>

## WILKES

Wilkes was formed in 1777 from Surry and the District of Washington. The act was to become effective February 15, 1778. It was named in honor of John Wilkes who was a violent opponent of the Tory party in England. He was not allowed to take his seat in Parliament to which he had been elected. The Americans imagined that he was suffering in the cause of liberty and named this county in his honor. It is in the north-western section of the State and is bounded by Yadkin, Iredell, Alexander, Caldwell, Watauga, Ashe, Alleghany, and Surry counties. The present area is 765 square miles and the population is 43,003. The act establishing the county stipulated that the first court was to be held at the home of John Brown. Commisisoners were named to select a place centrally located for the erection of the courthouse, prison and stocks. The second court was held June 1, 1778, in the "bent of the Yadkin." The

<sup>906</sup>*Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 335.*

<sup>907</sup>*Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 80.*

<sup>908</sup>*C. R., I, 629.*

next day it was held at Mulberry Field Meeting House. On June 3 the commissioners who were to select a site for the county seat reported as follows: "We, the commissioners appointed by act of Assembly to lay out and appoint the proper place in the county of Wilkes where to erect a courthouse, prison, pillory and stocks of the said county, have met and materially considered the same, do adjudge and appoint the place where the Mulberry Meeting House stands as the most central, suitable and proper place whereon to locate public buildings." In September, 1778, court was held at the courthouse at Wilkes. In 1795 an act was passed naming commissioners to locate a place and have a courthouse erected. In 1799 an act was passed repealing the act of 1795 and naming new commissioners to select a site for the erection of a courthouse, pillory, and stocks. It also named commissioners to purchase fifty acres of land on which to lay out a town and to erect public buildings. By 1801 Wilkesborough had been laid out at the courthouse. In 1823 an act was passed authorizing a new courthouse to be erected on the public square in Wilkesborough, as the old one was unfit for use. In 1825 the Assembly authorized a new courthouse to be erected in the center of the public square in Wilkesboro. Wilkesboro is the county seat.<sup>909</sup>

. . . : Beginning at a Point Twenty Six Miles due West of Surry Court House, thence North to the Virginia Line, thence West along the said Line to the Ridge that divides the Waters of Holston and New Rivers, thence along the said Ridge to Burke County Line, thence Eastwardly along the Line that divides the Counties of Surry and Burke to Rowan County Line, thence along Rowan County Line to a Point due South of the Beginning, thence North to the Beginning, be erected into a distinct County, by the Name of Wilkes.<sup>910</sup>

Part of Burke was annexed to Wilkes in 1789.

. . . , all that part of Burke county that lies North of the following line, be and the same is hereby annexed to the county of Wilkes; and that the said county line be established as follows, to-wit:

Beginning on Iredell county line at the Whetstone hill on the Spring road, and running up said road to the lower Little river, thence up said river to Holmes's creek, thence up said creek to Lambert's fork, thence up said fork to the head thereof, then a north course to the top of the Brushy mountain, being Wilkes line.<sup>911</sup>

<sup>909</sup>S. R., XXIV, 142, 178; *Laws*, 1795, Ch. 52; 1799, Ch. 50; 1801, Ch. 92; 1825, Ch. 61; *Private Laws*, 1823, Ch. 68; *Manual*, 1913, p. 851; Battle, p. 28; Wilkes County Court Minutes, 1778-85, 1796-97.

<sup>910</sup>S. R., XXIV, 142.

<sup>911</sup>S. R., XXV, 43.

### Part of Wilkes was annexed to Surry in 1792.

. . . , all that part of Wilkes county that lies east of the following line, shall be, and the same is hereby annexed to the county of Surry; beginning on the line that divides Wilkes and Surry counties, where the ridge that divides the waters of Mitchell's river from those of Elkin, thence along the said ridge to the extreme height of the Appalachian mountain, then along the extreme height of the said mountain, to the Virginia line.<sup>912</sup>

### Part of Washington (Tennessee) was annexed to Wilkes in 1792.

Whereas a part of Washington county was by the cession act retained in this state, and although remaining in the said state the inhabitants thereof are deprived of the benefit of the laws and government of the same for want of being annexed to some other county:

. . . , Beginning at the most southwardly part of Wilkes county line on Burke county line, and running due west to the dividing ridge between the waters of Watauga and Doe-Rivers, then along the extreme height of said ridge to the line of the ceded territory, then along the said line to the Virginia line and along the Virginia line to the old line of Wilkes county; and that all the land north and east of the aforesaid line shall be, and the same is hereby annexed to the said county of Wilkes; . . .<sup>913</sup>

### Parts of Burke and Wilkes were annexed to Iredell in 1793.

. . . , beginning at Iredell county line on the Catawba-river, thence up said river about three miles to Uriah Davis, thence nearly a north course about two miles to the bent on lower Little river in James Fox's land, thence up said river to the lower end of John Barnes's land, thence nearly a northeast course along the dividing ridge between Grassy and Muddy forks to Iredell line between Black-Oak ridge and Brushy mountain, thence a south course along said line to the beginning and all the land included by said line is hereby annexed and added to the county of Iredell.<sup>914</sup>

### Ashe was formed in 1799 from Wilkes.

. . . , That all that part of the county of Wilkes, lying west of the extreme height of the Apalachian mountains, shall be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county by the name of Ashe.<sup>915</sup>

In 1811 an act was passed amending the act of 1793 adding part of Wilkes and Burke to Iredell.

. . . Commissioners to extend the line between the counties of Burke and Iredell from the Three-cornered Island, in the Catawba river, to the bent of Lower Little river, in James Foxe's land, agreeable to the act of one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, for establishing the same.<sup>916</sup>

<sup>912</sup>*Laws, 1792, Ch. 43.*

<sup>913</sup>*Laws, 1792, Ch. 32.*

<sup>914</sup>*Laws, 1793, Ch. 31.*

<sup>915</sup>*Laws, 1799, Ch. 36.*

<sup>916</sup>*Laws, 1811, Ch. 79.*



### Part of Iredell was annexed to Wilkes in 1815.

. . . ;beginning at a place known by the name of Kemp's cabin, or where the present line crosses the road leading from Statesville to Wilkesborough, on Hunting creek waters, or within one half mile of said place as may seem best to said commissioners, and not depart more than one half mile from a direct line from the following points, running nearly west to Lewis Dishman's, thence to the wolf pit, on the road leading from Randolph Maberry's to Thomas Cook's, thence varying said line so as to include Joseph Queens' house, on rocky creek in the county of Wilkes, thence to the top of Archus mountain, north of John Smith's, sen. thence crossing the Cove Gap road, near Hugh Campbell's house, thence to Benjamin Bentley's plantation, whereon he now lives, thence to the dividing ridge between the counties of Wilkes and Iredell: and that from and after the passing of this act, all that part of the county of Iredell within the above prescribed bounds be annexed to and made a part of the county of Wilkes, . . .<sup>917</sup>

### Part of Wilkes was annexed to Ashe in 1835.

. . . , All that part of the county of Wilkes, lying north and north-west of a line to be drawn from the extreme height of a Nob called Dockery Nob, running so as to include all the inhabitants, lying north of a direct line from said Nob to a point running north-east, so as to strike the now dividing line at five and half miles distance from Dockery Nob, running a north-eastwardly course until it strikes the Ashe county line, be added to Ashe county.<sup>918</sup>

### Caldwell was formed in 1841 from Burke and Wilkes.

. . . , beginning at Lovelady Ford, on the Catawba River, in the County of Burke, from thence to Corpening's Bridge, on Lower Creek, thence to John's River, at the upper end of the plantation of the late John Perkins, crossing the same, to and with the dividing ridge between Warrior Creek and Wilson's Creek, to the Yancy line, thence with said line to the Ashe line, and with the Ashe line to the dividing Ridge between Buffalo and Elk Creek, thence with said ridge to the Yadkin River, at the mouth of Elk Creek, crossing the same to and with dividing Ridge between Beaver Creek, and King's Creek, to the top of Brushy Mountain, at the Burke line, thence with the said line to the Corner of Iredell County, and with said line to the Catawba River, thence with the River to the beginning, be, and is hereby erected into a separate and distinct County, by the name of Caldwell.<sup>919</sup>

### Alexander was formed in 1847 from Iredell, Caldwell, and Wilkes.

. . . :beginning on the Wilkes and Iredell line, where the same crosses the Cove Gap Road, and running thence a Westerly or North Westerly direction, as the case may be, so as to strike the top of the main ridge of the Brushy Mountain, near James Robinett's, leaving the said Robinett's

<sup>917</sup>*Laws, 1815, Ch. 18.*

<sup>918</sup>*Laws, 1835, Ch. 81.*

<sup>919</sup>*Laws, 1840-41, Ch. 11.*

house on the south side of said line; thence with the main dividing ridge of said mountain to a point two miles east of Coxe's Knob, provided the said knob be found on the main ridge; if not, then to a point two miles east of a line, running the nearest and most direct course from the top of said knob to the top of the main ridge of said Brushy Mountain; thence a direct line to the mouth of the branch on the main road near Steel's Old Mill; thence a south westerly direction to a point on the Catawba River, one mile, in a direct line, below the mouth of upper little River; thence down the said Catawba River to Nimrod Pendergrasse's; thence a north east direction to the Ferry Road; thence with the Ferry Road to the Mountain Road; thence a direct line to the eleven mile post, on the Statesville Road; thence a direct course to Robert G. Martin's; thence direct to the Wilkes line, one and a half miles west the widow Jane Redman's; thence with the said Wilkes and Iredell line to the beginning; . . .<sup>920</sup>

Watauga was formed in 1849 from Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell, and Yancey.

. . . , That a county be, and is hereby, laid off and established by the name of Watauga, to be composed of parts of the counties of Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell and Yancy, beginning at the State line in the Lemuel Wilson's plantation, and running with the State line in a Northern direction two miles; thence running as near as may be, in a direct line, (so as to leave Thomas Sutherland in the county of Ashe) to the top of the Big Bald mountain; thence to the mouth of Elk creek, on the South Fork of New River; thence down the river to the mouth of a creek that runs through the Samuel Cooper's plantation; thence to the Deep Gap of the Blue Ridge; thence along the dividing ridge between the waters of Stoney fork and Lewis's fork waters of the Yadkin river, to where the road leading from Wilkesboro to the Deep Gap, crosses the top of the Laurel Spur; thence to Elk creek at the Widow Hampton's; thence to the top of the White Rock mountain; thence to the top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Springs; thence along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the top of the Grand mother mountain; thence with the line of Burke county to the corner of McDowell county; thence to the State line where it crosses the Yellow mountain; thence with the State line to the beginning.<sup>921</sup>

The boundary line between the counties of Wilkes and Caldwell was authorized to be changed in 1857.

. . . , That that portion of the boundary line between the counties of Wilkes and Caldwell from Day's gap in the White Rock mountain to the Watauga line, be so altered, run and established as to leave the whole of Sampson's gap road in Caldwell county.<sup>922</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Surry and Wilkes was authorized to be run and established in 1861. No description is given in the law.<sup>923</sup>

<sup>920</sup>Public Laws, 1846-47, Ch. 22.

<sup>921</sup>Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 26.

<sup>922</sup>Private Laws, 1856-57, Ch. 48.

<sup>923</sup>Private Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 75.

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Watauga in 1869.

. . . : Beginning at the County line in a low gap on the dividing ridge with the main top of the said ridge to the top of the Round Knob, thence down a small branch to the lower end of Micajah Hendrick's apple orchard, thence west up the Swife Ford Branch, to the County lines again, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Watauga County.<sup>924</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Alleghany in 1869.

. . . : beginning at the county line on the Grandfather mountain and running a straight line to the Airbellows in the county line, be and the same is hereby annexed to and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>925</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Alleghany in 1871.

. . . : beginning in the county line at the Airbellows running a straight line to Ellis Knole; thence a straight line to the county line at Abram Brown's place in Francis Bryan's field, be and the same is hereby annexed to, and shall form a part of Alleghany county.<sup>926</sup>

The boundary line between Wilkes and Ashe counties was authorized to be changed in 1877.

. . . , That the dividing line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe be changed so as to run from a point twenty rods south of Phillip's Gap, on the Blue Ridge; north sixty degrees; east to the top of the Blue Ridge, near the widow Callaway's, so as to include in Ashe county the dwellings of James Burge and Rufus Holdaway.<sup>927</sup>

Parts of Wilkes and Ashe were annexed to Watauga in 1877.

. . . : Beginning on the top of the Wolf Knob near the widow Tempy Mikels where the Watauga and Wilkes county line intersects, running a north course to the top of the Blue Ridge at the dividing line between the lands of Leander Robbins and Enoch Treplits, and thence a north course to the top of Huson's Ridge, then a north course to the ford of Gap creek near the mouth of Alexander Green's lane, thence a north-west course to the top of the Big Ridge to the Ashe county line.<sup>928</sup>

The boundary line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe was authorized to be changed in 1879.

The boundary line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe shall hereafter run as follows: Beginning at the Mulberry Gap, running thence west (to) Ziadock's Knob; thence west to Daniel Mill's; thence north-west to the Ashe county line.<sup>929</sup>

<sup>924</sup>*Public Laws, 1868-69, Ch. 218.*

<sup>925</sup>*Public Laws, 1869-70, Ch. 6.*

<sup>926</sup>*Public Laws, 1870-71, Ch. 125.*

<sup>927</sup>*Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 153.*

<sup>928</sup>*Public Laws, 1876-77, Ch. 167.*

<sup>929</sup>*Public Laws, 1879, Ch. 295.*

The dividing line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe was authorized to be changed in 1885.

That the dividing line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe be changed so as to run as follows: beginning at Mulberry gap of the Blue Ridge and running southward with the northeast side of the Mulberry road to the top of Chestnut Knob, thence westward to John Wingler's new gate, thence to Isham Patrick's, thence to the Panther tree on the Wilkesboro and Jefferson road, and thence to the top of Little Lump, and thence to the old line at Phillip's gap.<sup>930</sup>

The act changing the dividing line between the counties of Wilkes and Ashe in 1885 was repealed in 1887 and the original line was designated as the boundary line. No description is given in the law.<sup>931</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Alleghany in 1891.

That the dividing line between the counties of Wilkes and Alleghany be changed as follows: Beginning in the county line on the top of the Blue Ridge at the Abe Brown place, near Francis Bryan's, running south with the Ridge road one mile, then westward to the top of Stony Knob, then south-west to the top of Buck Peak, then westward to Martin's lane gap, then by way of the little falls to the top of Stone mountain, then north to the Alleghany line; all that portion of Wilkes county cut off by the line herein established is hereby attached to the county of Alleghany and shall hereafter form a part of the said county of Alleghany.<sup>932</sup>

Part of Wilkes was annexed to Ashe in 1891.

. . . Beginning at J. W. Galloway's in the Ashe county line and running south east to the main top of the Big Lump in Wilkes county, thence north east to the top of Elk Spur, thence north to the Ashe county line so as to include R. M. Miller, Thomas Griffin and H. L. Burgess, junior, in the county of Ashe, and that all that portion of Wilkes county cut off by the line herein established be and the same is hereby attached to and shall form and constitute a portion of Ashe county; . . .<sup>933</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes was authorized to be surveyed and located in 1895.

. . . , appointed commissioners to run and make the dividing line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes, from Mulberry gap, by way of Ziadock's knob, Daniel Miller's and to the old county line, . . .<sup>934</sup>

An act changing the county line between Alleghany and Wilkes counties was passed in 1899.

That the line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes be changed as hereinafter set out, so as to cut off a small portion of Alleghany county

<sup>930</sup>*Public Laws, 1885, Ch. 109.*

<sup>931</sup>*Public Laws, 1887, Ch. 177.*

<sup>932</sup>*Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 166.*

<sup>933</sup>*Public Laws, 1891, Ch. 572.*

<sup>934</sup>*Public Laws, 1895, Ch. 341.*

to Wilkes, to-wit: Beginning on the top of Grandfather mountain and running thence to the Gaither rocks; then near east to a Chestnut tree in the county line in E. A. Long's field; then near east to the bend in the Grassey Gap road, known as the big winds, in J. J. Miller's field; thence to the low gap in the mountain near Isaac Holloway's residence; thence near east with top of the mountain with the dividing waters to the Cherry Lane township line.<sup>935</sup>

An act to restore the old boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes counties was passed in 1901.

That the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes shall be restored to the top of the Blue Ridge as follows: Beginning at the Alleghany County line on the top of the Blue Ridge, thence in a southwesterly direction with the main height of the Blue Ridge to the Watauga county line.<sup>936</sup>

Part of Wilkes County was annexed to Alleghany in 1903.

That the line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes be and the same is hereby changed so as to include J. A. Stamper and his farm in the county of Alleghany.<sup>937</sup>

The boundary line between Wilkes and Alleghany counties was authorized to be changed in 1905.

That the line between Wilkes and Alleghany Counties be changed so as to include the whole of F. H. Alexander's and C. N. Hunt's mountain farm in Alleghany County, to-wit, beginning in present county line on the top of Raven Rock Ridge, running thence down said ridge to Wild Cat Trap; thence northeasterly to the branch in Big Laurel in Air Bellows road; thence a straight line to the Mahogany Rock on the top of the Blue Ridge in present county line.<sup>938</sup>

The boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes was authorized to be changed in 1907.

That the boundary-line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes be and the same is hereby changed as follows, to-wit: Beginning on the top of the Rattlesnake Mountain in the boundary-line of the counties of Ashe and Wilkes, and running southwest to the main height of the Cross Mountain; thence a southward direction to Ellis Bore's store and in the line of the counties of Ashe and Wilkes.<sup>939</sup>

In 1909 the boundary line between Wilkes and Ashe counties was authorized to be changed by repealing part of the act of 1907.

That chapter nine hundred and eighty-seven of the Public Laws of one thousand nine hundred and seven be amended as follows: In section one,

<sup>935</sup>Public Laws, 1899, Ch. 567.

<sup>936</sup>Public Laws, 1901, Ch. 714.

<sup>937</sup>Public Laws, 1903, Ch. 389.

<sup>938</sup>Public Laws, 1905, Ch. 668.

<sup>939</sup>Public Laws, 1907, Ch. 987.

line five, insert after the words "Cross Mountain" the following: "so as to include the present lands of Charles and T. F. Miller in Ashe County."<sup>940</sup>

The act of 1903 was repealed in 1909, which put the land of J. A. Stamper in Wilkes County. No description is given in the law.<sup>941</sup>

An act defining and making certain the dividing line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes, on the Blue Ridge mountain, near Roaring Gap was passed in 1909.

That the division line between the counties aforesaid, at the place named herein, shall hereafter be as follows: "Beginning in the recognized line between said counties, on top of the Blue Ridge, near a big gate, and about two hundred yards west of Roaring Gap Hotel, running then south six hundred feet, and then eastward to the southwest corner of H. E. Fries' lot, and then to southeast corner of the same, and then east to the Surry County line."<sup>942</sup>

An act was passed in 1911 which provided for the establishment of the line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes at certain disputed points.

The General Assembly in 1891, by chapter 166, passed an act to change the dividing line between the counties of Alleghany and Wilkes, and because the said line had never been run there were disputes about certain points called for in said act. Therefore the Assembly authorized the line to be run according to the above mentioned act. No description is given in the law.<sup>943</sup>

Part of Ashe was annexed to Wilkes in 1911.

That the boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes counties is hereby changed as follows: All the lands of James M. Calloway now lying in Ashe County are hereby transferred to the county of Wilkes, and hereafter said lands shall be assessed for taxes and taxes shall be paid thereon to the county of Wilkes.<sup>944</sup>

Part of Ashe was annexed to Wilkes in 1913.

That the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes be, and the same is, hereby changed so as to include the lands of James Bowlin and Samuel Miller, which are now in Ashe County, in the county of Wilkes.<sup>945</sup>

Chapter 222 of the *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1909*, and chapter 132 of the *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1911*, relative to the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes were repealed in 1913.<sup>946</sup>

<sup>940</sup>*Public Laws, 1909*, Ch. 222.

<sup>941</sup>*Public Laws, 1909*, Ch. 821.

<sup>942</sup>*Public Laws, 1909*, Ch. 73.

<sup>943</sup>*Public Laws, 1911*, Ch. 30.

<sup>944</sup>*Public Laws, 1911*, Ch. 77.

<sup>945</sup>*Public Laws, 1913*, Ch. 82.

<sup>946</sup>*Public Laws, 1913*, Ch. 16.



An act defining and fixing the county line between the counties of Wilkes and Alleghany was passed in 1929.

. . . : Beginning in the present county line at a stone monument five hundred yards southwest of Bryans Knob and running east seven hundred yards to a stone monument, southeast of Bryans Knob; thence north twenty-eight degrees east in a line near the top of the mountain about five hundred yards to a stone monument in the present Wilkes and Alleghany line; thence east on a line near the top of the mountain five hundred yards to a stone monument near the present Wilkes and Alleghany line.

And another slight change on said mountain near the foregoing, as follows:

Beginning at a stone monument in the Wilkes and Alleghany line at a point west of the residence of Clarence Linebach and running south three hundred feet to a stone monument; thence south eighty-seven degrees east five hundred feet to a stone monument in the Wilkes and Alleghany line; thence south eight hundred and fifty feet; thence northeast five hundred feet to a stone monument in the Wilkes and Alleghany line.

Sec. 2. The lands lying north of said line on and upon the said mountain shall hereafter constitute a part of the County of Alleghany and the land south of said line a part of the County of Wilkes, and that otherwise than herein stated no alteration is made by this act.<sup>947</sup>

The boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes was authorized to be changed in 1931.

That the boundary line between the counties of Ashe and Wilkes, be, and the same is hereby, changed so as to include all the A. L. Miller land lying South of the public road running along the top of the Blue Ridge Mountain, except the A. L. Miller residence which is not in Ashe County, in the county of Wilkes.<sup>948</sup>

An act repealing chapter 425 of the *Public-Local Laws of North Carolina, 1931*, relative to the boundary line between Ashe and Wilkes was passed in 1933. No description is given in the law.<sup>949</sup>

An act was passed in 1939 to correct uncertainty in the location of the line between the counties of Wilkes and Alleghany.

Beginning on a locust in the county line and on the South bank of the old State road; runs South fifty degrees West sixty poles to a hickory on the West bank of Roaring Branch, thence South sixty-seven degrees West thirty-two poles to a large white pine; thence South forty-eight degrees West twenty and two-tenths poles to a stake; thence North eighty-seven and one-fourth degrees west Twenty-one poles to a Spanish oak, Chatham's corner, in the Wilkes-Alleghany County line.<sup>950</sup>

<sup>947</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1929, Ch. 211.*

<sup>948</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1931, Ch. 425.*

<sup>949</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1933, Ch. 122.*

<sup>950</sup>*Public-Local Laws, 1939, Ch. 464.*

## WILSON

Wilson was formed in 1855 from Edgecombe, Nash, Johnston, and Wayne. It was named in honor of Louis D. Wilson, many times a member of the Legislature from Buncombe County, a soldier of the Mexican War who died near Vera Cruz of fever, and the benefactor of the poor of his native county. It is in the east central section of the State and is bounded by Pitt, Greene, Wayne, Johnston, Nash, and Edgecombe counties. The present area is 373 square miles and the population is 50,219. The court was ordered to be held at Benjamin Borden's store in Wilson, a village already established, until a courthouse could be built. Commissioners were to acquire a site within one-fourth of a mile of the town of Wilson and erect a courthouse. The caption of the act incorporating Wilson read as follows: "An act to incorporate Tisnot Depot and Hickory Grove in the county of Edgecombe into a town by the name of Wilson." Wilson is the county seat.<sup>951</sup>

. . . : Beginning at a lightwood stake in the Pitt county line; thence a direct line to Pender's hill; thence a direct line to Town Creek, at the mouth of Col. David Williams's mill branch; thence up said mill branch to the mill; thence a direct line by William Adams's, sen'r., to the Nash line; thence a straight line to Turkey creek bridge, near the Pridgen old place; thence with the road to Mocasine creek bridge; thence down said creek to the junction of Mocasine and Turkey creeks; thence a direct line to the Red Hill, (Henry Horn's old place); thence a direct line to the Wayne county line, at the Juniper swamp; thence the Wayne and Johnston line north, to a point in a direct line from the Red Hill to Ruffin's bridge; thence a direct line to Ruffin's bridge, diverging north at the house of Jacob Hooks, so as to leave the dwelling house of said Hooks in the county of Wayne; thence from said Ruffin's bridge down Contentnea creek to the Greene county line; thence the Greene county line to the beginning; . . .<sup>952</sup>

An act to settle the dividing line between the counties of Wayne and Wilson was passed in 1859.

. . . , That the act passed at the session of 1854-'55, to lay off and establish a county by the name of Wilson, be amended as follows: strike out the words "thence a direct line to Ruffin's bridge, diverging north at the house of Jacob Hooks, so as to leave the dwelling house of said Hooks in the county of Wayne," and insert "thence a direct line to a large pine near the mouth of Jacob Hook's lane, north of Jacob Hook's dwelling house, thence a direct line to Ruffin's Bridge."<sup>953</sup>

<sup>951</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55, Chs. 12, 13; Manual, 1918, p. 856.*

<sup>952</sup>*Public Laws, 1854-55, Ch. 12.*

<sup>953</sup>*Private Laws, 1858-59, Ch. 102.*

### Part of Edgecombe was annexed to Wilson in 1883.

That the line between the counties of Wilson and Edgecombe shall be as follows: commencing at the Rake Straw place, thence running north in a straight line to the bridge on Williamston branch, on the road leading from upper Town Creek church to Temperance Hall church, thence up said branch to the head of same, thence northwest a straight line to the Sharpsburg road, near E. G. Hales, thence down said road to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, thence down the said Wilmington and Weldon Railroad to the Wilson county line.

Sec. 2. That the portion of said territory on the north side of Town creek shall be annexed to Toisnot township, in Wilson county, and that portion on the south side of said creek shall be annexed to Gardner's township, in Wilson county.<sup>954</sup>

An act to provide for the appointment of surveyors to locate and establish the dividing line between Wayne and Wilson counties was passed in 1911.

Whereas there is now and has been for several years past doubt as to the exact location of the dividing line between Wayne and Wilson counties; and whereas it is desirable that the said dividing line be located and established so that there can be no further controversy as to the correct line between the said counties; now, therefore, . . . to proceed to locate and establish the dividing line between Wayne and Wilson counties: . . .<sup>955</sup>

## YADKIN

Yadkin was formed in 1850 from Surry. Its name is derived from the Yadkin River which runs through it. It is supposed to be an Indian name. It is in the north central section of the State and is bounded by Forsyth, Davie, Iredell, Wilkes, and Surry counties. The present area is 335 square miles and the population is 20,658. The first court was ordered to be held at Dowellton, at which time the justices were to adjourn to any place they wished until a courthouse could be erected. Commissioners were named to select a site for the courthouse as near the center of the county as possible. Also, they were to acquire the land and lay off a town by the name of Wilson. In 1852 an act was passed changing Wilson to Yadkinville. Yadkinville is the county seat.<sup>956</sup>

<sup>954</sup>Public Laws, 1883, Ch. 396.

<sup>955</sup>Public Laws, 1911, Ch. 80.

<sup>956</sup>Public Laws, 1850-51, Chs. 40, 41; 1852, Ch. 34; *Manual*, 1913, p. 857; Battle, p. 14. The law provided for the people to express their wishes for or against the erection of Yadkin County, and the vote was 1,562 for, and 551 against the new county. *Fayetteville Observer*, May 20, 1851.

"In Obedience to an Act of the last General Assembly of the State of North Carolina; I Henry G. Hampton Sheriff of Surry County did cause polls to be opened and held at the different Election precincts in Said County on the first Thursday in May A. D. 1851, and on the comparing the returns of the Votes polled at said Election at the Court house in the Town of Rockford in Said County on the Second day of May 1851, find that there were one thousand five hundred and Sixty one (1,561) Votes polled at Said Election for Division; and five hundred and fifty (550) Votes polled against Division. . . ." Secretary of State's Papers. These papers are in archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh. Note difference of one vote in these figures.

. . . , That a county be, and the same is hereby laid off and established out of that portion of the county of Surry, which lies South of the Yadkin river, and also including that portion of the county of Surry known and called by the name of Little Surry, said county to be called Yadkin; . . .<sup>957</sup>

Part of Yadkin was annexed to Forsyth in 1911.

That all that portion of Yadkin County included within the boundaries hereinafter set out, shall be and hereby is annexed to and made a part of the county of Forsyth. Said boundaries are as follows: Beginning on the line between the counties of Yadkin and Forsyth at the northeast corner of the Little Yadkin Township, on the Yadkin River; thence down said river a distance of one mile; thence a straight line to the point where the public road from Lewisville to West Bend, sometime called the Nading's Ferry road, crosses the county line; thence northwardly with the county line to the beginning.<sup>958</sup>

Part of Yadkin was annexed to Forsyth in 1927.

Whereas, all of Little Yadkin Township, Yadkin County, which is all of Yadkin County lying east of the Yadkin River and adjoining Forsyth County, is separated from the remainder of Yadkin County by a natural boundary line, which is the Yadkin River; and

Whereas, the board of county commissioners of Forsyth County and the board of county commissioners of Yadkin County, each are unanimously in favor of transferring said territory from Yadkin County to Forsyth County, and large majority of the residents of said territory are in favor of said transfer; and

Whereas, it has been agreed by and between the respective boards of commissioners of said counties, that said territory might be transferred and annexed to Forsyth County on the conditions and terms hereinafter embodied in this act: Now, therefore, . . .

That all that territory known and designated as Little Yadkin Township, Yadkin County, which is all that portion of Yadkin County lying east of the Yadkin River and adjoining Forsyth County, be and the same is hereby transferred from the said Yadkin County and annexed to the county of Forsyth, and the boundary line between said counties of Forsyth and Yadkin be and the same is hereby changed and fixed so that the Yadkin River shall be the boundary line between said counties.<sup>959</sup>

## YANCEY

Yancey was formed in 1833 from Burke and Buncombe. It was named in honor of Bartlett Yancey, an eloquent orator, many times a member of the Legislature, speaker of the State Senate, and member of Congress. He was also one of the earliest advocates of the public school system of North Carolina. It is in the western section of the State and is bounded by the state

<sup>957</sup>Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 40.

<sup>958</sup>Public-Local Laws, 1911, Ch. 588.

<sup>959</sup>Public-Local Laws, 1927, Ch. 490.

of Tennessee and Mitchell, McDowell, Buncombe, and Madison counties. The present area is 311 square miles and the population is 17,202. The act establishing the county named and authorized commissioners to purchase land, lay out a town, and erect a courthouse. Burnsville, named for Captain Otway Burns of Beaufort, North Carolina, who won fame in the War of 1812, is the county seat.<sup>960</sup>

. . . : beginning on the extreme height of the Black Mountain; running thence along said mountain to Ogle's improvement; thence along the dividing ridge to Daniel Carter's fork field; thence a direct course to the mouth of Big Ivy creek; thence, with the Warm Spring road, by Barnard's station, to the three forks of Laurel; thence a direct line, so as to include James Allen's house to the Tennessee line; thence with said line to county of Ashe; thence with the line of said county to the Grandmother mountain; thence a direct course to the extreme height of the Humpbacked mountain; thence with the Blue Ridge to where it intersects the Black mountain; thence with the ridge of said mountain, to the beginning, be, and the same is hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, by the name of Yancy, with all the rights, privileges and immunities of the other counties in this State.<sup>961</sup>

Watauga was formed in 1849 from Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell, and Yancey.

. . . , That a county be, and is hereby, laid off and established by the name of Watauga, to be composed of parts of the counties of Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell and Yancy, beginning at the State line in the Lemuel Wilson's plantation, and running with the State line in a Northern direction two miles; thence running as near as may be, in a direct line, (so as to leave Thomas Sutherland in the county of Ashe) to the top of the Big Bald mountain; thence to the mouth of Elk creek, on the South fork of New river; thence down the river to the mouth of a creek that runs through the Samuel Cooper's plantation; thence to the Deep Gap of the Blue Ridge; thence along the dividing ridge between the waters of Stoney fork and Lewis's fork waters of the Yadkin river, to where the road leading from Wilkesboro to the Deep Gap, crosses the top of the Laurel Spur; thence to Elk creek at the Widow Hampton's; thence to the top of the White Rock mountain; thence to the top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Springs; thence along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the top of the Grand mother mountain; thence with the line of Burke county to the corner of McDowell county; thence to the State line where it crosses the Yellow mountain; thence with the State line to the beginning.<sup>962</sup>

Part of Yancey was annexed to Buncombe in 1849.

. . . , All that portion of the county of Yancy in the vicinity of Barnett's Station beginning at a point one mile east of said Station, and run-

<sup>960</sup>*Private Laws, 1833-34, Chs. 83, 84, 85; Arthur, p. 178; Manual, 1913, p. 858; Battle, p. 32.*

<sup>961</sup>*Laws, 1833-34, Ch. 83; Burke County Court Minutes, 1830-34. In 1838 the court of pleas and quarter session appointed commissioners to establish the line between Burke and Yancey. For a description of this line see appendix, p. 251.*

<sup>962</sup>*Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 24.*

ning with the top of the mountain to the top of the main Walnut mountains; thence with the top of the said mountain to the Hopewell Gap, at the old Allin road; then with the line of the counties of Yancey and Buncombe, to a point due south from the beginning; thence north to the beginning; shall be, and the same is hereby attached to and made a part of the county of Buncombe; . . .<sup>963</sup>

Madison was formed in 1851 from Buncombe and Yancey.

. . . : Beginning on the Paint Rock on the Tennessee line, and running with that line East to the top of the ridge that divides the waters of Ivy and Laurel from the waters of Caney River; then, with the top of said ridge, by way of Ivy Gap and Point Gap, and passing the same to a ridge that divides the waters of Big Ivy from those of Little Ivy, being a spur of the Black Mountain; thence with the top of that ridge to the junction of Big Ivy and Little Ivy; thence a direct course to the mouth of Sandy Mush Creek; thence up the said creek to the forks thereof; thence with the top of the ridge that divides the waters of Big and Little Sandymush Creeks, to the Haywood line; thence with said line to the line of the State of Tennessee and with the same to the beginning; . . .<sup>964</sup>

Mitchell was formed in 1861 from Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke, and McDowell.

. . . , That a county by the name of Mitchell shall be and same is hereby laid off and established out of portions of Yancey, Watauga, Caldwell, Burke and McDowell counties with the following boundaries: beginning at the top of Grandfather mountain, thence with the top of the Blue Ridge to the Bear Wallow Gap, thence to the Three Knobs, thence to Big Crabtree creek, thence down said creek to Toe river, thence down said river to the Tennessee line, thence with the Tennessee line to Elk river, thence to place of beginning; and the said county of Mitchell, when it is laid off and established, shall be, and it is hereby, invested with all the rights, privileges and immunities with the other counties of the State.<sup>965</sup>

An act amending an act to establish a county by the name of Mitchell was passed in 1861.

. . . , That an act passed at the late session of the General Assembly, entitled an act to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Mitchell, be so amended as to run from the top of the Grand Father Mountain, with the old Watauga line, to the Blue Ridge; thence with the said Yancey line, and according to said act, around to the beginning.<sup>966</sup>

An act adding part of Mitchell to Yancey was passed in 1861.

. . . , That the boundary lines of the county of Mitchell shall be so amended as to stop on Toe River, at the mouth of Big Rock Creek, thence with the big ridge that divides Rock Creek and Brummett's Creek to the State line at the point where the Yancey and McDowell turnpike road crosses said line, as heretofore directed by law.

<sup>963</sup>Laws, 1848-49, Ch. 16.

<sup>964</sup>Public Laws, 1850-51, Ch. 36.

<sup>965</sup>Public Laws, 1860-61, Ch. 8.

<sup>966</sup>Private Laws, 1861, Ch. 22.



. . . , That all of the county of Mitchell between the mouth of Big Rock Creek and the Tennessee line be re-annexed to the county of Yancey and constitute a part thereof.<sup>967</sup>

Part of Yancey was annexed to Mitchell in 1872.

That all that portion of Yancey county lying on the north side of Taw river, be, and the same is hereby attached to the county of Mitchell.<sup>968</sup>

The dividing line between the counties of Mitchell and Yancey was authorized to be established in 1889.

WHEREAS, doubts have arisen concerning the location of the dividing line between the counties of Mitchell and Yancey; and whereas, the citizens living in the immediate vicinity of the line are unable to determine where they shall exercise the rights of citizenship and pay their taxes:

. . . the boards of commissioners . . . , to appoint one commissioner with one surveyor . . . , who shall proceed to locate the dividing line between said counties of Mitchell and Yancey from the ford of Big Crabtree creek up to the east fork of the same to its head, thence a direct course to the Bear Hollow gap on top of the Blue Ridge in the line of McDowell county, and shall mark the same by permanent monuments; and when they have so determined the proper location of the said dividing line, . . .<sup>969</sup>

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<sup>967</sup>*Private Laws, Second Extra Session, 1861, Ch. 34.*

<sup>968</sup>*Public Laws, 1871-72, Ch. 36.*

<sup>969</sup>*Public Laws, 1889, Ch. 289.*

# **APPENDIX I**



## INTRODUCTION

The material in this section consists of reports of commissioners and surveyors who were acting under specific acts of the General Assembly or who were acting under instructions issued by justices of the peace of the counties. The justices of the peace in issuing instructions, however, were acting under chapter III of the *Public and Private Laws, 1836-37*, in which it was provided that “. . . whenever there shall be any dispute concerning the dividing line between counties, it shall be lawful for the county courts of each county interested in the adjustment of said line, a majority of the Justices consenting thereto, to appoint one or more Commissioners on the part of each county, to settle and fix the line in dispute; and their report, when ratified by a majority of the Justices of each county, shall be conclusive of the location of the true line, and shall be recorded in the Register's office of each county, and in the office of the Secretary of State.”

Most of the reports included are from the files in the Secretary of State's office, where they were placed in compliance with the provisions of the laws. In all cases proper documentation is given for use of those who are interested in consulting copies filed with the Secretary of State.

These several reports should add value to the information contained in the first part of the book. It may, however, in some cases cause more or less confusion in the minds of the reader unless he always keeps in mind the fact that the reports were made under authority directly from the General Assembly or indirectly from the General Assembly through the justices of the peace. In any case the material is included for whatever value it may have in trying to determine the boundary line changes.

## REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS TO ESTABLISH ALAMANCE COUNTY

The report of the commissioners for the division of Orange County was offered to the court & ordered to be recorded & filed in the Clerks office  
14th May 1849

The commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of North Carolina the Session of 1848 & 1849,) to wit)

John Stockard James A. Craig Jesse Gant John Scott Absolem Harvey John S. Fogleman Peyton P Moore George Hurdle & William A Carrigan met at David Mebanes with the Surveyors named in said Act of Assembly (viz) Edward Benson of Alamance & Freeman Walker of Orange Freeman Walker refusing to act with Edward Benson & the Commissioners  
Minutes June Term A. D. 1850

Stanford Moore of Orange County was chosen to act in the place of Freeman Walker after qulifying Stanford Moore & Edward Benson Surveyors & Philip Crawford & John Dixon chain carriers & John Benson to mark the dividing line we proceeded to run & mark the Said dividing line of Orange & Alamance Counties designating the line as beginning on the Caswell line and running due South

Beginning at a gum Saplin on the Caswell line Runing near Shadrick Wards a little west of the House & Spring East of William McCadams 1/4 West of Wm Wards of James 1/4 East of William Wards Ssr (Constable) 1/4 East of James Birds House Close East of Widow Birds old place 1/4 of a mile East of William Vincents House 200 yards West of Revr Daniel Kerrs & Reeves old Houses 1/4 & 1/2 West of Widow Faucetts near her Spring West of Revr Thomas Lynches at the end of his lane West of Zadock Rices 1/2 East of William Mebanes Quarter 1/2 mile East of Green D Jordans 1/4 West of Thomas Faucetts (of Wm) near his spring East of Lemeuel H Mebanes 1/2 miles East of James Mebane 1/4 West of G A Mebane (Mason Hall) 1/4 of mile East of John Thomson (Miller) 100 yds of the House West of Hugh Wilsons 1/4 of mile East of Wilie Mebanes old place 1/4 mile East of David Mebanes at his House West of Col Paisley Nelsons 3/4 mile & East of Mount Willing road for one mile crossing the Mount Willing Road running west of it East of Hebron Church Close West of Hugh Kirkpatrick's 1/4 mile East of Richard Jones near his Barn 100 yds East of Jonathan Jones 1/4 mile West of Mount Willing Close, 60 yds East of Nancy Pughs John Moores old place 1/4 mile west of Elijah Lashley Close, 100 yds West of Solomon Kings 1/4 mile East of James Thompsons 3/4 West of Dr Alexander Morrows 1/2 mile West of Wm Bingham's 1/2 mile West of Bethlehem Church 1/4 mile East of Alex Webbs Store 1/4 mile East of Thomas Faucetts (Tailor) Close 100 yds west of James Crawfords between his house & Kitcheon West of Widow Pickard 1/2 mile East of John Morrow over his Spring Crossing Cane Creek three times West of Joseph Crawford 1/2 mile East of Robert Alstons Quarter 1/2 to a Birch bush on the bank of Haw River then with the River to the Chatham line Thence west with the Chatham line one mile to the original or straight N & S Line dividing the counties of Orange & Alamance making the Straight N & S Line runing straight to the Chatham Line 25 miles & 24 chains

While the Surveyors were running the N & S dividing Line Freeman Walker & others measured nine miles due west from Hillsborough & did not reach the dividing Line by forth four yards

On the 21st day of May A D 1849 the commissioners with Silas M Link Surveyor began on the center of the north & south Line & run & measured due west to the Guilford line making that line Fifteen miles & forty seven chains after getting the center of that line and adding 610 Acres to the Southern Side for the Territory South of Haw River & East of a north & south line dividing the counties found the center to be in Joseph M. Free-lands Field N. E. of Col. John Hardens House the Commissioners with som difficulty procured Seventy five Acres of land whereon they have laid off a Court House square with Streets running to the same from the four cardinal points of the compass (to wit) N. S. E. W. the lands were bought from three persons with some incumbrance on a part and Cost as follows for the wood land \$15 pr acre the owners to have the privilege of taking off the rail & saw logs timber leaving the under growth and clear land at \$6 per Acre with the privilege to the owners of moving their fences . . .

Commissioners: Jno Stockard Jesse Gant John Scott Absolem Harvey John S Fogleman Peyton P Moore G Hurdle Wm. A. Carrigan; Surveyors: Edward Benson Wm S. Moore<sup>1</sup>

#### REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS TO ESTABLISH THE BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN ALAMANCE AND CHATHAM COUNTIES IN PURSUANCE OF THE ACT OF 1895

*To The Hon. The Secretary of State, of North Carolina:*

The undersigned beg leave to report: That W. A. Lineberry (designated as Alson Lineberry in the act herein mentioned) of Chatham, County and John M. Coble of Alamance County, Commissioners appointed by act of the General Assembly of North Carolina, entitled "An Act to locate county line between Alamance and Chatham counties" ratified March 13th 1895, with E. A. Thorne, of Halifax County, who had been selected as "Third Man" with surveyors, W. L. Spoon of Alamance County and H. H. Siler of Chatham County and chain carriers, John R. Adams of Alamance County and Hugh W. Johnson of Chatham County, together with axemen, met by appointment in the town of Hillsboro, Orange County, on the 8th day of April 1895, and entered upon the discharge of their duty in locating the county line between Alamance and Chatham counties as prescribed in said act. They began about twenty five feet North of the present court house in Hillsboro this being the site of the former court house in 1771, there being no dissent, and proceeded due South sixteen miles, finding no evidences of a former Survey. Here the Commissioners disagreed, and the "Third Man" decided that they proceed due West, and they so did to Haw river. Reaching the river, they, for two days and a half, made diligent and careful search on both sides and up the river for two miles, for a monument or mark of the Alamance corner on the Chatham line, and found none. They also sought information by consulting a number of old men who had long lived in the neighborhood, and found no satisfactory evidence of a corner or line. They then erected a stone corner on the right bank of said river, ten feet below the mouth of Martha Jones's spring branch, marked Cor. A in

<sup>1</sup>Minutes of the court of pleas and quarter sessions, Alamance County, 1849-1856, pp. 74-76.



C line, with a mulberry, a sycamore and a birch as marked witnesses. This at the point when they first reached the river. They then proceeded from said corner stone to run a due West line and mark the same by four chops on trees on both sides of the line, and by erecting stone monuments marked A & C. on each side of public roads where the line crossed them, to the Randolph county line (formerly Guilford county) where they erected a stone corner, with a hickory, a dogwood and a sweetgum as marked witnesses the stone being marked C & A. And the said John M. Coble and E. A. Thorne do declare the said line so run, located and marked from the said stone corner on the right bank of Haw river to the said stone corner on the Randolph county line, the true location of the county line between Alamance and Chatham counties, and they do by virtue of the powers given them by said act of the General Assembly, so locate and fix the county line between said counties. And they do further declare that the line as heretofore thought to be located between the said counties is incorrect and so found to be to the advantage in territory and population of Alamance county.

Respectfully submitted.

Witness our hands and seals this 29th day of May 1895

Jno. M. Coble (Seal)

E A Thorne (Seal)

Mr. W. L. Spoon and H. H. Siler, do hereby attest the signatures of John M. Coble and E. A. Thorne, and also certify that the county line between Alamance and Chatham counties was run located and marked as set out in the foregoing report.

Witness our hands this 29th of May 1895

Wm. L. Spoon.

H. H. Siler.

I, W. A. Lineberry, one of the commissioners appointed to locate the county line between Alamance and Chatham, in accordance with an act of the General Assembly, ratified 13th March, 1895, do hereby enter my solemn protest to, and dissent from, the report of E. A. Thorne and J. M. Coble upon their location of said county line, for that the said Thorne and Coble have not located said line in accordance with said act of The General Assembly. And, That in violation of said act they have refused to locate the said line according to the original survey of 1770, establishing the county of Chatham.

Witness my hand and seal this the 29th day of May, 1895

W. A. Lineberry (Seal)

State of North Carolina:

This is to certify that we W. A. Lineberry (Alson Lineberry as designated in the Act herein mentioned) and John M. Coble, Commissioners appointed by act of the General Assembly of North Carolina, entitled "An Act to locate county line between Alamance and Chatham counties" ratified, March 13th 1895 did, under the provisions and by authority of said Act, select as the "Third Man" E. A. Thorne, of Halifax County North Carolina: Witness our hands, this 29th May 1895

W. A. Lineberry

Jno. M. Coble<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>A copy of this report is filed in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

## REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS WHO HAD THE LINE BETWEEN ALEXANDER AND CALDWELL COUNTIES SURVEYED IN 1848

*To the Courts of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of  
Caldwell & Alexander, Counties:*

We; Peter Ballew on the part of Caldwell & James H. Newlan on the part of Alexander, report that running the necessary Traverses. We commenced at a stake 2 miles from the extreme height of Cox's Knob near Jonathan Land's fence & run & marked a line South 7 degrees West about 5 miles to the mouth of the Branch above Paynes' Mill on the East side of Steel's Fork of Middle Little River

Then We run S 12° E (crossing said River several times) and by an Error in the graduation of the Compass & reversing the Course, which will cause a difference; a thing perhaps not generally noticed; we fell into our first Traverse 2 miles before we reached the River. Chagrined!! we resolved to rectify the Error. We therefore commenced on the Box Elder on the Catawba River; 1 mile below the mouth of Upper Little River & re-run & re-marked the line over again. The last line is East of the first. We therefore report the last run line from the mouth of the Branch South 12 degrees East 8 3/4 miles to the Box Elder on the Catawba River as the true line

Given under our hands & seals this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 1848.

P. Ballew (Seal)

J. H. Newland Commissioner<sup>3</sup>

(Endorsed)

County line between Alexander & Caldwell counties

Filed 20<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1848.

## CHANGE IN THE BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN THE COUNTIES OF DAVIDSON AND FORSYTH, 1921

*To the Board of County Commissioners of Forsyth County  
and Davidson County:*

We, D. W. Harmon and N. R. Kinney, Civil Engineers, having been duly appointed and commissioned by the Board of Commissioners of the Counties of Forsyth and Davidson to make a survey and locate a new boundary line between the Counties of Davidson and Forsyth, in compliance with Section 1 of an Act entitled AN ACT TO CHANGE THE BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN THE COUNTIES OF DAVIDSON AND FORSYTH, passed at the Regular Session of the Legislature of 1921, beg to submit herewith the following report:

That we met on the dividing lines between the two Counties of Davidson and Forsyth and made a survey of said line, and we prepared three maps of same, one to be deposited with the Secretary of State, one to be deposited with the Board of Commissioners of Forsyth County and one to be deposited with the Board of Commissioners of Davidson County; said map

<sup>3</sup>A copy of this report together with map is on file in the office of Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

or plot is attached hereto, showing the new boundary made under the provisions of said Act, which survey and map shows that an area of ten square miles or 6400 acres has been taken from the County of Davidson and attached to the County of Forsyth. We respectfully suggest that said map be put upon record both in the Counties of Davidson and Forsyth.

Respectfully submitted,

N. R. Kinney }  
D. W. Harmon } Civil Engineers.<sup>4</sup>

This June 6, 1921

### THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN BERTIE AND HERTFORD COUNTIES, 1902

*To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners of Hertford County:*

We Jesse H. Mitchell and A. I. Parker of Hertford County and Charles Bond and William R. Rayner of Bertie County, Commissioners appointed to locate and establish the line between the Counties of Hertford and Bertie; organized by electing Jesse. H. Mitchell, Chairman, and Charles Bond., Secretary.

In obedience to an order of the County Commissioners of the two Counties after being duly sworn to do equal right and justice between the two Counties — Proceeded on the 8th, day of April 1902, to locate and establish the line in dispute as follows:

Having employed J. D. Parker., Surveyor, We proceeded to make a preliminary survey of the line, from the Northampton County line, to the Chowan river pocosin.

We entered into an agreement to begin at a Stake, on the James Rutland plantation, on the Northampton County line and run South 83 1/2° East to a White Oak on the Thomas Outlaw plantation Near Stony Creek; thence North 89° East to a small Sweet gum Standing on the East bank of Mare Branch, near the Chowan river pocosin; And we have caused the said line to be run, marked and processioned as above described. For a more complete description of same we refer to the annexed map which form a part of this report

Charles Bond }	Commissioners of	J. H. Mitchell. }	Commissioners of
W R Rayner }	Bertie County	A. I. Parker }	Hertford County.

Approved by the Board of Commissioners of Hertford County, N. C.  
December 1st 1902, (First Monday)

J. G. Majette  
Chairman

Jas P. Freeman  
Ex Officio Clerk,

North Carolina, Hertford County

CLJas P Freeman, Register of Deeds of Hertford County, and State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing instrument is a true

<sup>4</sup>A copy of this report together with the map is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

and correct copy on record in my office in Book "21" page 541 etc Witness my hand and official Seal of my Said office, This 11th day of December 1904.

Jas P. Freeman  
Register of Deeds.<sup>5</sup>

Filed Jan'y 13, 1904  
J Bryan Grimes  
Secty of State

## BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN THE COUNTIES OF BURKE AND YANCEY, 1838

Scale of one hundred poles to an inch.

State of North Carolina May 30<sup>th</sup> 1838

Whereas We Benjamin Burgin and David Chandler Commissioners appointed by the County court of Burke and State aforesaid and John G Phillips Josiah G Wise and Abner Jervis Commissioners appointed by the County Court of Yancey to act in conjunction with the above commissioners to run & mark the line between the Said Counties. We the above commissioners met on the above mentioned day at the Ashe line on the Grandfather Mountain and were duly Sworn according to law &c it was agreed upon by bye Said Commissioners, to adopt the following mode of marking Viz. beginning corner and each other corner or Station to be marked with a blazd two Chops above & two below & the pointers with a blaze & a cross above, and the line to be marked with three Chops.

Beginning on the Ashe line on a Fir tree and Rock on the Grandfather Mountain and runs South forty degrees West Two Hundred & fifty four poles to a Fir tree in a low Gap on Said Mountain, then South Thirty four poles to a Fir tree, then South twenty degrees West One thousand poles to a Rock & pine on the top of the Grandmother Mountain, then South thirty five degrees West Three Hundred & twenty poles to a Chesnut, then Same course three Hundred & twenty poles to a bunch of Cherry Sprouts, then the same course three hundred & twenty poles to a Chesnut, then the Same course, three [Hun]dred & twenty poles to a large forked [Che]snut in a White Oak flat, then the Same [cou]rse three hundred & twenty poles to a large [Ch]esnut near a Spring, then the Same course [thr]ee hundred & twenty poles to a Chesnut, [th]e Same course three hundred & twenty [po]les to a Service bush, then the Same [c]ourse three hundred & twenty poles [cr]ossing Camp Creek to a Spruce pine, [Illegible] Same course three Hundred & twenty poles crossing Lynville river three times in a bend to a White Oak, Same course three Hundred & twenty poles to a mountain birch, the Same course three Hundred & twenty poles, to a Small crooked chesnut, on the Side of the Humpbacked Mountain, the Same course twelve poles to a chesnut on the top of the [Illegible] Mountain where it joins the blue ridge, then South twenty eight degrees east, Thirteen poles to a small chesnut, then South fifty Seven degrees east Six poles to a Water Oak, then South Sixty four degrees east Twenty eight poles to two Small chesnuds, then South thirty Seven degrees east fourteen poles to a large Chesnut, then South thirty four degrees east fifteen poles to a Spanish Oak in a low gap, then South Eighty degrees east twenty Six poles to a Chesnut

<sup>5</sup>A copy of this report is filed in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

Oak, then South forty One degrees east twenty two poles to a black Oak, then South fifteen east twelve poles to a White oak, then South fifty five degrees east fifty Six pole[s] [t]o a Chesnut, then South fifteen degrees east Sixty poles to a Chesnut then South thirty degrees West twenty poles to a White Oak, then South Seven degrees east forty five poles to a Chesnut, then South forty Seven degrees West fifty Six poles to a Chesnut—Then South thirty one degrees West One hundred & nine poles to a Spanish Oak, then West Thirty Two poles to a Chesnut then South Seventy Six degrees West thirty Six poles to a chesnut then South Twenty one degrees West thirty Two poles to a Chesnut, then South fifty eight degrees West Twenty poles to a locust, then West eighteen poles to a Hickory, then South forty degrees West Ninety four poles to a black Oak, then South Seventy Six West fifteen poles to a chesnut, then South forty degrees West Twenty poles to a Locust, then North Seventy Nine West forty poles to a Hickory, then South Seventy five West forty two poles to a White Oak, then South fifty nine West Twenty poles to a Hickory, then South Twenty One degrees West fifty poles to a White Oak, then South Sixty eight degrees West forty Seven poles to a White Oak, then South Eighteen degrees West fourteen poles to a Locust, then South Twenty five degrees West forty eight poles to a White Oak then South four hundred & Sixty poles to a Spanish Oak near the pine Spring, then the Same Course Twenty Six poles to a black Gum, then South fifteen degrees east forty Six poles to a black Oak, then South Seventy degrees West Sixty four poles to a Chesnut Oak then South th[irty] five degrees West Sixty four poles to a locust, then South Seventy five degrees West Seventy eight poles to a White Oak, then South thirty five degrees West One hundred & twelve poles to a Chestnut, then South Seventy degrees West eighty Six poles to a White Oak, then North Sixty Seven degrees West One hundred & thirty four poles to a Small black Oak, then North thirty Seven degrees east twenty Six poles to a White Oak, then North Twenty five degrees West thirty five poles to a small Hickory, then North fifty degrees West eighty eight poles to a Chesnut Oak, then North eighty degrees West thirty four poles to a White Oak, then West thirty four poles to a black Oak then North thirty five degrees West Sixteen poles to a Spanish Oak, then West Twenty two poles to a White Oak, then North Sixty five degrees West thirty two poles to a rock at the Yellow Mountain road, then North Sixty three degrees West eighteen poles to a Chesnut, then West thirty four poles to a Chesnut, then North Eighty five West, One hundred & eighteen poles to a Hickory, then South thirty eight degrees West Sixty poles to a Hickory, then South eighteen degrees West forty four poles to a White Oak then South fifty degrees West forty eight poles to a black Walnut, then South fifteen degrees east forty four poles to a White Oak then South eighteen degrees West Sixty eight poles to a Chesnut, then South thirty degrees east fourteen poles to a Chesnut, then South One hundred & forty poles to a Small Chesnut Oak, then South forty five degrees West, twenty Six poles to a Chesnut, then South twenty five degrees West twenty poles to a black Oak, then South fifty degrees West fifty poles to a Spanish Oak, then South thirty two poles to a White Oak, then South Nine degrees West twenty poles to a Chesnut, then South forty five degrees West twenty Six poles to a White Oak, then South twenty degrees West fifty one poles to a Locust, then South fifty five degrees West twenty eight poles to a hickory, then

West thirty poles to a black Oak, then South forty five degrees west, Ninety Seven poles to a White Oak, then South eighty five degrees West twenty four poles to a White Oak, then South Sixty degrees West forty eight poles to a White Oak, then South eighty degrees West thirty eight poles to a White Oak, then South fifty degrees east ten poles to a large Chesnut, near the Turkey Cove road then South Seventy two degrees West, thirty poles to a white Oak, then West Twelve poles to a Chesnut, then South Seventy degrees West Two Hundred & thirty four poles to a White Oak, then South Seventy five degrees West, One Hundred & thirty eight poles to a White Oak, then South Twenty five degrees West Twenty poles to a White Oak, then South fifty degrees West thirty four poles to a Chesnut at Gillespies Cowpen, then South eighty five degrees West thirty four poles to a White Oak, then South Seventy five degrees West One hundred & four poles to a black pine,—then North Sixty degrees West twenty eight poles to a White Oak, then West forty eight poles to a White Oak, then North Sixty degrees West forty Seven poles to a white Oak then West thirty nine poles to a Spanish Oak, then South fifty three degrees West fifty four poles to a White Oak, then North Sixty five degrees West One hundred & Six poles to a Water Oak, then South Seventy Seven degrees West forty poles to a White Oak then South thirty degrees West thirty four poles to a White Oak then South twenty degrees east Sixty four poles to a Chesnut, then South One Hundred & eighteen poles to a Spanish Oak, then South thirty degrees West Sixty four poles to a Hickory, Then South Seventy five degrees West Sixty eight poles to a White Oak then South Twenty degrees West thirty poles to a Chesnut, then South fifty five degrees West eighty eight poles to a White Oak, then South eighty degrees West Sixty poles to a Small Chesnut, then South Sixty degrees West forty eight poles to a Chesnut Oak, then South ten degrees west forty three poles to a Chesnut, then South Twenty three degrees west One hundred & fifty four poles to a black Gum, then South Sixty five degrees West, Eighty poles to a White Oak, then West Twenty poles to a black Gum, then North Sixty five degrees West Seventy five poles to a Chesnut then South Seventy degrees west fifty four poles to a Chesnut, then South Seven degrees West Seventy five poles to two Small White Oaks, then South forty two degrees West Ninety poles to a White Oak, then South Ten degrees west, fifteen poles to a Spanish Oak, then South forty five degrees West forty poles to two Small White Oaks, then South Seventy five degrees West thirty eight poles to a Hickory, then South Seventy five degrees West Sixty Six poles to a White Oak, then West One Hundred & eight poles to a Spanish Oak, then South fifty degrees West fifty poles to a Hickory, then South forty two degrees east fifty five poles to a Maple, then South ten degrees east fifty two poles to a Chesnut, then South thirty four degrees West twenty eight poles to a Hickory then West fifty two poles to a Maple, then South Sixty three degrees West twenty eight poles to a black Oak, then South twenty five degrees west, thirty four poles to a Chesnut, then South Sixty degrees west Ninety poles to a Chesnut then South Ten degrees west forty eight poles to a Small Chesnut then South forty degrees west thirty poles to a Locust then South Twelve degrees west Sixty Six poles to a Sourwood, then South Twenty five degrees west Sixty poles to a Service bush, then South fifty three degrees west forty eight poles to a Chesnut, then South Twenty eight poles to a White Oak, then South forty



five degrees west forty four poles to a Hickory, then South Sixty eight poles to a Spanish Oak then South thirty degrees east forty one poles to two Maples, then South Sixty degrees east One hundred & four poles to a White Oak, then East Twenty poles to a Chesnut, then South fifty five degrees east Twenty poles to a white Oak, then South Thirty Seven degrees east forty two poles to a White Oak, then South eight degrees west forty poles to a rock & white Oak, then South thirty five degrees west fifty Six poles to a Chesnut, then South Twenty poles to a Hickory, then South thirty five degrees west twenty poles to a Spanish Oak, then South fifty degrees west Sixty poles to a Chesnut, then West Ten poles to a Chesnut, then South Thirty four poles to a Chesnut, then South thirty degrees west twenty poles to a Locust in a low gap at the head of Buck Creek, then South twenty five degrees west eighteen poles to a White Oak, then South thirty two degrees west thirty four poles to a white Oak, then South fifteen poles to a white Oak, then South forty degrees west One Hundred & five poles to a Chesnut, then South Ten degrees west fifty poles to a Chesnut, then South twenty eight degrees east thirty two poles to a Locust, then South forty five degrees west Sixty four poles to a black Gum, then South thirty degrees west, Seventeen poles to a black gum, then South Sixty Six degrees west Sixty two poles to a Chesnut, then South Twenty Six degrees west fifty four poles to two Sourwoods, then South Sixty eight degrees west Ninety poles to a black pine then South Seventy three degrees West fifty four poles to a Chesnut, then South eight degrees west Seventeen poles to a Chesnut then South Twenty degrees west forty Six poles to a Hickory, then South forty five degrees east ten poles to a Chesnut, then South thirteen degrees west twenty eight poles to a Chesnut, then South forty degrees west forty poles to a Hickory then South Twenty Seven west forty eight poles to a Locust, then South thirty three degrees west Seventy poles to a Locust.

Then South fifty five degrees west Sixteen poles to a white Oak, then South Sixty eight poles to a black Gum, then South fifty degrees west forty Two poles to a black Gum, then South fifteen degrees east Twenty four poles to a Maple, then South Twenty five degrees west Sixty three poles to a black pine near the Curtis bear Wallow, then North Sixty five degrees west Ninety Six poles to a Spanish Oak, then South thirty degrees west One Hundred poles to a Chesnut, then South fifty degrees west One Hundred & twenty two poles to a Spanish Oak, then South Sixty five degrees west thirty four poles to a Chesnut, then South thirty degrees west Sixty two poles to a pine, then South fifty eight degrees west Twenty Six poles to a Chesnut then South forty eight degrees west eighty poles to a Chesnut, then South eighty degrees west forty Six poles to a Chesnut, then South Twenty five degrees west forty poles to a Chesnut, then South eighty degrees west twenty Six poles to a pine, then South forty five west Seventy eight poles to a Chesnut, then South Seventy five west thirty poles to a Chesnut, then South thirty poles to a rock then West Sixty poles to a Chesnut, then South fifty degrees west Sixty eight poles to a Spanish Oak & rock, then South thirty degrees west eighty Six poles to a black Oak, then South Seventy five west forty four poles to a Spanish Oak, then South fifty five degrees west eighty two poles to a large Spanish Oak, then South Sixty three degrees west One hundred & two poles to a Chesnut, then South thirty two degrees west forty poles to an Ash, then

South Sixty five degrees west One hundred & twenty poles to a Spanish Oak, then South fifty degrees west fifty eight poles to a pine, then South fifteen degrees west forty poles to a Chesnut, then South fifty degrees west Seventy eight poles to a Chesnut then South thirty degrees west One hundred poles to two Small Chesnuts, then North Sixty Seven degrees West Four hundred poles to a rock on the top of the high Nob of the Blue Ridge where it intersects the black Mountain and divides the Waters of Tow River and Swananna.

Adolphus Chandler	} Chain	B. Burgin Com <sup>a</sup>
and Hector McNeil		G Chandler Com <sup>a</sup>
Thomas Davenport	} Markers	Josiah G. Wise Com <sup>a</sup>
and William A McCall		J. G. Phillips Com <sup>a</sup>
		A. Jervis, Com <sup>b</sup>

### A REPORT OF THE MEETING TO ESTABLISH A DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN THE COUNTIES OF CALDWELL AND WATAUGA, 1922

In accordance with an act of the General Assembly of 1921 (attached herewith), the following representatives met on July 14, 1922, at Green Park, NC., to decide upon the dividing line between Watauga and Caldwell Counties; from Watauga County; W. T. Van Dyke, Blowing Rock, N. C. G. W. Robbins, Shulls Mills, N. C.; from Caldwell County; James H. Isabell, Lenoir, N.C. J. C. Sherrill, Lenoir, N.C.; from the N. C. Geological Survey; T. F. Hickerson, Chapel Hill, N.C.

The boundary line of Watauga County as given in the *Public Laws of North Carolina, 1848-49 and 1870-71* is described as follows:

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That a county be, and is hereby, laid off and established by the name of Watauga, to be composed of parts of the counties of Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell and Yancey, beginning at the State line in Lemuel Wilson's plantation, and running with the State line in northern direction two miles; thence running as near as may be, in a direct line, (so as to leave Thomas Sutherland in the county of Ashe) to the top of the Big Bald Mountain; thence to the mouth of Elk creek, on the south fork of New River; thence down the river to the mouth of a creek that runs through Samuel Cooper's plantation; thence to the Deep Gap of the Blue Ridge; thence along the dividing ridge between the waters of Stoney fork and Lewis's fork waters of the Yadkin River, to where the road leading from Wilkesboro to the Deep Gap, crosses to the top of the Laurel Spur; thence to Elk creek at the Widow Hampton's; thence to the top of the White Rock Mountain; *thence to the top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Spring; thence along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the Fairview on the Caldwell and Watauga turnpike road on the top of the Blue Ridge*, thence a straight line to the top of the Grandfather Mountain; thence along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the top of Grandmother Mountain; thence with the line of Burke County to the corner of McDowell County; thence to the State line where it crosses the Yellow Mountain; thence with the State line to the beginning.

<sup>a</sup>A copy of this report together with map is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

The supposed points of contention (italicized above) are in the vicinity of Green Park, near Blowing Rock, NC. But the committee agreed unanimously that these points and lines are quite definite.

"The top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Spring" is very clearly the top of the Gap in the Blue Ridge, located in front of the Green Park Hotel at a distance of 50 feet from the center of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock highway. From this point the line follows the water divide of the Blue Ridge beginning in a direction of South 43° 25' West (magnetic bearing) and running from the point where this line intersects the extreme height of the ridge, on which the Cannon and Blair houses are situated, in a meandering, but very definite, direction along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the Fairview, a well known point in the center of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock highway near the Blowing Rock hotel.

There was no contention or uncertainty about the location of the boundary line as defined by the acts of 1848-49 and 1870-71, but the representatives from Watauga stated they would not be satisfied with this line as it runs near the Green Park; their contention being that a new line should be run as follows: From the top of White Rock Mountain to the Yadkin Spring; thence to the "Rock"; thence to the "Fairview"; thence to the top of Grandfather Mountain. The main argument for the new line was that it should be moved further away from the Green Park Hotel so that law breakers at the hotel could not so easily evade the sheriff of Watauga. This proposed new line, however, would take considerable territory from Caldwell and add it to Watauga; and the representatives of Caldwell were not willing to grant this on the grounds that they had no such authority and that the intent of the act of 1921 was to reestablish as near as may be the old lines as per the acts of 1848-49 and 1870-71.

The commissioners were unable to agree upon the location of a dividing line between the two counties and appealed to the representative of the North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey for his opinion and decision.

It is the opinion and decision of the representative of the North Carolina Geological Survey that the boundary line between Caldwell and Watauga Counties is the line authorized by the acts of 1848-49 and 1870-71, and that said line is clearly marked, established and recognized as follows:

"The top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Spring is very clearly the top of the Gap in the Blue Ridge, located in front of the Green Park Hotel at a distance of fifty feet from the center of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock highway. From this point the line follows the water divide of the Blue Ridge beginning in a direction of South 43° 25' West (magnetic bearing) and running from the point where this line intersects the extreme height of the ridge, on which the Cannon and Blair houses are situated, in a meandering, but very definite, direction along the extreme height of the Blue Ridge to the Fairview, a well known point in the center of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock highway near the Blowing Rock hotel."

Respectfully,

Approved:

Joseph Hyde Pratt  
Director

/s/ T. F. Hickerson.

Engineer for the North Carolina  
Geological and Economic Survey?

<sup>1</sup>A copy of this report is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

SURVEY OF LINE BETWEEN CALDWELL AND WATAUGA  
COUNTIES, 1925

In Two Parts

Part No. 1

Beginning on top of a large rock on the top of White Rock Mountain. This also is a corner of Wilkes County. The Magnetic Course is north Eighty-nine degrees and thirty minutes west, crossing a creek at 4,000 feet and marked at crossing with a planted stone and to the top of a high ridge 6,300 feet from the beginning; thence along a ridge 1,010 feet; thence crossing a creek at 700 feet; thence 850 feet to the top of a low ridge; thence across a deep hollow, 960 feet to the top of a high ridge marked with a planted stone; thence 1,330 feet along the top and side to the point of a ridge; thence crossing Rock House creek marked with a planted stone 720; thence 700 feet to the point of a high ridge and marked with a planted stone; thence 1,520 feet crossing a long hollow to another ridge and along this ridge 1,230 feet; thence 980 feet across a hollow and branch; thence 730 feet to the point of a ridge; thence 640 feet crossing a hollow; thence 1,380 feet to the top of a ridge; thence along said ridge 1,040 feet; thence 400 feet to the Richland road which is marked by a pile of stones; thence 1,120 feet to the top of a high ridge where the bearing was checked by backsight on White Rock mountain and a foresight on Green Park hotel; thence across the land known as the Ramsaur place, 4,200 feet to the top of a high ridge; thence 565 feet down the side of a ridge; thence 860 feet across deep hollow to the top of a ridge; thence across a very deep hollow 3,100 feet to the top of a ridge; thence 265 feet to a point on the ridge marked with a planted stone; thence 1,900 feet to a point below Green Park Hotel; thence 1,850 feet; thence crossing the head of the Yadkin River, 850 feet to the Golf Course; thence 900 feet and through the Green Park Hotel to a point in the stone walk at a distance of 50 feet from the center of the Lenoir and Blowing Rock highway and 45.8 feet from the front door of the hotel, being approximately 5.49 miles.

The bearing in the above description is of December 1927, and is referred to the Magnetic meridian.

## CALDWELL AND WATAUGA, 1928

Part No. 2

Beginning on the top of the Blue Ridge Mountains at the point nearest to the Yadkin Spring, (which point has been defined by the Geological Survey in a report made to the Counties of Caldwell and Watauga dated July 14, 1922 and reads in part as follows: "The top of the Blue Ridge at the nearest point to the Yadkin Spring" is very clearly the top of the gap in the Blue Ridge, located in front of Green Park Hotel at a distance of 50 feet from the center of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock highway.) and runs South forty-four degrees and thirty minutes west, fifty feet to the center of the Lenoir and Blowing Rock highway; thence with the center of the said highway as follows: North forty-four degrees west, two hundred and fifty feet; North forty-seven degrees west, four hundred and twenty-two feet; North thirty-five degrees west, one hundred and twenty-four feet; North sixty degrees west, one hundred and fifty-four feet; North seventy-two degrees and thirty minutes west, one hundred feet; North eighty degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; North seventy degrees west, one

hundred and fifty feet; South eighty degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; North seventy degrees west, one hundred feet; North forty-nine degrees west, two hundred and fifty feet; North seventy-two degrees west, one hundred feet; South seventy-four degrees west, two hundred and eighty-five feet; North seventy-one degrees west, one hundred feet; North forty-six degrees west, one hundred and fifteen feet; North sixty-six degrees west, one hundred feet; South fifty degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; South sixty-two degrees west, one hundred feet; South eighty-five degrees west, one hundred feet; North eighty-three degrees west, one hundred feet; South seventy-nine degrees and thirty minutes west, two hundred feet; North sixty-seven degrees west, one hundred and fifty feet; North forty-nine degrees west, one hundred feet; North forty degrees and thirty minutes west, one hundred and fifty-seven feet, to a point in said highway near the residence of Washington Clark, on the water divide of the Blue Ridge, from which point a twelve inch maple tree bears South seventy degrees and ten minutes west, thirty-five and six-tenths feet distance, and a twelve inch Spanish Oak tree bears South twenty-nine degrees and ten minutes west, twenty-two and four-tenths feet distance; thence with the top of said water divide of the Blue Ridge approximately as follows: South seventy-nine degrees west, eighty-eight feet to an iron pipe stake; North sixty-eight degrees west one hundred and seventy-one and five-tenths feet to an iron pipe stake, three feet from the northwest corner of an old building; North eighty-two degrees west, one hundred and seventy-one feet to an iron pipe stake; North forty-three degrees west, two hundred and fifty-seven and five-tenths feet to an iron stake; North forty-seven degrees and thirty minutes west, two hundred and one and seven-tenths feet to a point on a rock in the rear of Skyland Inn; North fifty degrees and thirty minutes west, one hundred and fifty-two and two-tenths feet to an iron pipe stake; North sixty-three degrees and thirty minutes west, fifty-one feet to a stake, one and five-tenths feet from a small maple; North sixty degrees and thirty minutes west, eighty-four and eight-tenths feet to an iron stake; North seventy-five degrees and thirty minutes west, one hundred and ten and six-tenths feet to an iron pipe stake; South eighty-nine degrees and thirty minutes west, two hundred and thirty-nine feet and four-tenths to a large rock near the rear of the Weeden residence and near Grand View; Thence South eighty-five degrees and thirty minutes west, a straight line to the top of the Grandfather mountain, to the highest peak thereof. This line was marked by stone set as mounments at road crossings and at several prominent places along the route on ridges.

The bearings in the above description were calculated from angles and are referred to the Magnetic Meridian as of Jan. 23, 1925. The declination of the Magnetic Needle at this time was one degree and twenty-three minutes west, approximately.

Very respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sam'l B. Howard

Consulting Engineer.

This the 6th day of February, 1928<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup>Report of county line survey between Caldwell and Watauga counties, North Carolina, as amended by the North Carolina General Assembly Session of 1928. A copy of this report is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.



REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONSIDER THE  
BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN CHOWAN AND  
PERQUIMANS COUNTIES, 1773

Your Committee having taken into Consideration the Boundary Line of Chowan and Perquimons Counties as referred by the House do report

that it appears to your Committee by the affidavit of William Ashley that he has been acquainted with the reputed dividing Line of the Counties of Chowan and Perquimons for Fifty Years past that it always has been deemed and taken to run from the Mouth of Yeopim River to a Water Grist Mill formerly the property of James Egerton thence through a large body of Pecoson Land to a Plantation of William Jackson and the Place called the Horse Pasture that the said Ashley and all the Inhabitants to the Line aforesaid for Fifty Years past to the best of his knowledge have done public Duties and paid their Taxes to the Sheriffs of Chowan County.

That it also appears to your Committee by two certain Patents granted to Richard Skinner in the Year 1718, by the Lord Carteret, Palatin that the Lands mentioned therein are declared to be situate in Perquimons County adjoining Bear Swamp, the one of which Begins at a Pine in a Meadow at William Woodleys Corner Tree.

That it further appears by the Affirmation of Caleb Eliot one of the people called Quakers that the said Corner Tree has been deemed and taken by the Inhabitants adjacent since the Time he came of Age, and always before, as far as he ever knew to be the reputed Boundary of the said Counties

*Boundary Line between Chowan and Perquimans*

Resolved that it is the Opinion of your Committee that there is greater presumption, that the last mentioned Boundary appearing from the Patents and Affirmation aforesaid is the true reputed ancient Boundary of the said Counties, but whether to continue the same will be most convenient and proper in the modern situation of their respective Inhabitants is a matter we submit to the further Consideration of the House.

Corn<sup>s</sup> Harnett

Alex: Martin

J Edwards

This plott represents the dividing line between the Counties of Chowan & Perquimans Vizt Begining on the North shore of the Albemarle Sound at the Mouth of Yeopim River, thence up the Middle of sd River to its source, thence up the Mill Creek to Wilders Mill; thence up the main channell of the Mill pond & swamp to Hathaways Bridge on Baines Road; thence N, 17°, W 569 Chains to a Cypress at Caleb Goodwins Bridge on the Cat Tail Swamp; thence N, 4°, W, 309 Chains to the Crane pond where it crosses the Sandy Ridge Road; thence along the Sandy Ridge Road by various courses 639 Chains to Gates County line,—run & marked pursuant to an act of the General assembly of the State of North Carolina passed at last Session,—under the direction of the Commissioners named in the sd act by

J Bailey S.C.C



Agreeable to an act of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina passed in 1819 intituled an act to appoint Commissioners to complete running & marking the dividing line between the Counties of Chowan & Perquimans;—We the Subscribers have proceeded to have s<sup>d</sup> line run & marked, as represented in the above plott; which the Secretary will please to file in his office, as directed in the before recited act.

J Skinner  
Wm Goodwin  
Willis Elliott  
John Nixson<sup>9</sup>

### BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN COLUMBUS AND BRUNSWICK COUNTIES, 1875

We the Commissioners and Surveyors appointed by the Commissioners of Columbus and Brunswick jointly and severally to locate and mark the county boundary between the two Counties aforesaid; Beg leave to submit the following report, Commencing with the act of the Legislature on the Waccamaw River at the mouth of Juniper Creek; thence up said Creek to the mouth of Big Swamp, and up Big Swamp to the Clear branch, and up the Clear branch to the head; thence a direct line from a Stake and Cypress pointers, in the head of Clear branch running North forth four West Six (613) hundred and thirteen chains to a cypress and pointers on the Waccamaw Lake at the mouth of Big Creek; thence the North East edge of Said Lake up to the original Brunswick and Bladen line; thence the said old County line North Sixty five East Seven hundred and Seventy two chains to the twenty five mile post, or oposite thereof; as the map hereunto annexed will more fully show—

J A Thompson  
Jas Williamson  
Will. W. Drew  
Franklin Galloway<sup>10</sup>

### REPORT ON THE DUPLIN AND LENOIR COUNTY LINE, 1930

At a Court of Pleas & Quarter Session began & held for the County of Duplin at the Court house in Duplin on the 3rd Monday in Jany 1824 it being the 19th day of s<sup>d</sup> Month

*	*	*	*	*
Friday Morning				
Court met according to adjournment				
*	*	*	*	*
Report of the Committee appointed on Running the dividing line Between Duplin & Lenoir Returned & ordered to be recorded <sup>11</sup>				
*	*	*	*	*
Data on the above mentioned Line:				
*	*	*	*	*

<sup>9</sup>A copy of this report together with the map is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

<sup>10</sup>A copy of this report together with the map is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

<sup>11</sup>Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Duplin County, 1823-1828 (January 19, 1824).

We Edward Alberson of the County of Duplin and Joel Hines & Job Leary of the County of Lenoir three of the commissioners with Samuel Davis County Surveyor of Duplin & Stephen Herring Surveyor of Lenoir with Thomas Fleetwood Hardy & Calvin Davis of Duplin County & John Leary, W<sup>m</sup> Hines & Alford Ellis of the county of Lenoir chain carriers and markers did on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of Nov., 1823 convene at a pine the corner of Wayne & proceed to run and mark the lines agreeable to the above plan as follows viz:

South sixty East 1350 poles to some small pines near Croom's old road, thence South 25 East crossing the road at the mile post [No.] 6 810 poles to a lightwood stump on the ridge between Matthew's Branch Pond and Trent, then South 5 East 1780 poles to a stooping pine on the Beaverdam of Tuckyebo. then South 42 East 400 poles to the corner of Jones, which line we have marked with three chops:

### DESCRIPTION OF THE LINE, 1930<sup>12</sup>

Beginning at a monument, the corner of Wayne, Lenoir, and Duplin counties, and running thence S. 58°-52, 58' E. 22, 721 ft. to a monument (passing a monument near the highway, Temporary State Route III, at 2,144 ft.; a monument near second crossing of the highway at 7,413 ft.; a monument near Rouse's Mill Road at 15,341 ft.; a monument at 18,935 ft.); thence S. 23°-34, 28' E. 14,673 ft. to a monument between Big Pond and the head of Trent River (passing a monument at 966 ft.; a monument near Potter's Path at 6,452 ft.; a monument near Brushy Pond Road at 9,491 ft.; a monument near Lightwood Knott Road at 13,609 ft.); thence S 1°-57, 28' E. 31,404 ft. to a monument in the Pocosin at the head of Beaverdam (passing a monument near an old road at 3,763 ft.; a monument near the Dr. Maxwell Road at 4,585 ft.; a monument near a road at 10,848 ft.; a monument at 11,585 ft.; a monument near the Old New Bern Road at 13,612 ft.; a monument near the Dick Stroud Road at 15,148 ft.; and another monument near the same Road at 15,984 ft.; a monument at the northern corporate limit of Pink Hill at 18,341.0 ft.; two monuments in Pink Hill at 19,083 ft., and 20,637 ft.; a monument in the southern corporate limit of Pink Hill at 20,833.9 ft.; two monuments near the Beula-ville Road at 26,338 ft. and 26,498 ft.; a monument near a road at 28,557 ft.); thence S. 41°-02, 68' E. 6,846 ft. to a monument at the Jones, Lenoir, Duplin county corner (passing a monument near a road at 2,931 ft.).

The county line has been revised at Pink Hill in order that all the town may lie within Lenoir County, as follows: Beginning at monument (at 18,341.0 ft.) in northern corporate limit of Pink Hill, thence S. 88°-02. 72' W. 501.4 ft.; thence S. 1°-47, 28' E. 2,492.9 ft.; thence N. 88°-02, 72' E. to monument (at 20,833.9) in southern corporate limit of Pink Hill.

### The situation around Pink Hill

After your surveyors had completed the survey as hereinbefore described there appeared some dissatisfaction to it among the citizens of the town of Pink Hill. A delegation from Pink Hill was granted a hearing before a joint meeting of the County Commisisoners of Duplin and Lenoir Counties

<sup>12</sup>This description was written by L. Polk Denmark from the report of the surveyors on the retracing of the Duplin-Lenoir County Line.

on February 9th 1931 at Kenansville, N. C., at which meeting the joint decision of the County Commissioners was that Duplin County should cede to Lenoir County a strip of land, beginning at the point at which the city limits of Pink Hill cut the county line on the north and running from thence at right angles to the county line a sufficient distance to allow a line parallel to the county line to be tangent to the city limits, said line to run south far enough to intersect a line running west at right angles from the southern intersection of the county line with the city limits.

Your surveyors proceeded to the field and in accordance with the above instructions placed a monument on the county line S 1 deg 57.28 min E—18341.0 ft. from the monument near the head of Trent River and Mathews Branch, and running from thence S 88 deg 02.72 min W—501.4 ft. to another monument; thence S 1 deg 57.28 min E—2492.9 ft. to another monument; thence N 88 deg 02.72 min E—501.4 ft. to monument on the county line which is 20833.9 ft. measured S 1 deg 57.28 min E from the monument near the head of Trent River and Mathews Branch. The area of the land so ceded is 28.8 acres.<sup>13</sup>

### FRANKLIN AND WAKE COUNTY LINE, 1915

April 6, 1915—Tuesday

J. A. Mills, E. C. Beddingfield, W. H. Chamblee, Franklin & E. T. Scarborough County Commissioners ordered the County Surveyor, W. P. Massey, to run the line between Franklin and Wake counties at the point near S. H. Scarborough's to Oak Grove Church.

May 4, 1915—May meeting—The report of W. P. Massey, County Surveyor, reported his findings was read and ordered filed, and clerk to the board directed to send copy of the report to the County Atty for Franklin County and the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners for said County.

Report of Survey of Wake and Franklin County Line  
North Carolina, Wake County. Neuse, N. C., R. F. D. No. 2, May 4, 1915

#### Report of Survey

*To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners.*

By an order of your board on April 6, 1915, I proceeded to make a Survey of the line between Wake and Franklin Counties. Beginning on April 20, 1915 at the residence of the late Henry Parry at Riley's Cross Roads, running thence N 56° 30' W—10 miles to a point at forks of Roads on north side of Oak Grove church.

Found in Wake County the Wesley Pulley lands, 100 Clem Mitchell land, J. E. Denton, Mrs. Barham, S. T. Barham, J. M. Ellington Dec. John Pace and Junie Jones and others, amounting to about 1200 acres who have been paying taxes in Franklin County.

Respectfully submitted

W. P. Massey<sup>14</sup>

<sup>13</sup>From the report of the surveyors on the retracing of the Duplin-Lenoir County line, August 1, 1930, by B. A. Waldenmaier and Meriwether Lewis. Copy of this report is on file in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

<sup>14</sup>Minutes of the Wake County Board of Commissioners, Raleigh, pp. 143, 167.

## BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN FRANKLIN AND WAKE COUNTIES, 1915

Report signed by E. C. Beddingfield as Comr. for Wake County and P. G. Alston, Commissioner for Franklin County, gives this as the boundary line established by a joint commission in Oct., 1915, between Wake County and Franklin County, to-wit:

Beginning at a marked black-gum on W. J. Gay's land on the west prong of Moccasin Creek; thence by magnetic calls of 1915, N 1° 45' W. 116.32 Gunter Chains to a large rock planted near Riley, from which the center of the cross roads, bears N. 22-½° E., distance 3.25 Chains, and a marked post-oak bears N. 65° E., distance 60 links, and another post-oak bears S. 78° E. distance 68 links.

Thence N. 76° 5' W. (passing through the Perry House) 187.50 Chains to an iron stake and pine pointers on Ollie Barham's land, and 9.50 Chains past Little River.

Thence N. 31° 45' W. 275.00 Chains to a rock with red-oak, dogwood, pine and three white-oaks as pointers on K. P. Hill's land, formerly Moore land.

Thence N. 61° 30' W. 561.75 chains to a rock with hickory, two red-oaks and a post-oak pointers, corner Granville County, in Wake County line.

These lines were marked by stakes and posts at the several road crossings, and it was ordered that stones be set by these stakes.

Surveyed by Jos. T. Inscoc, Castalia, N. C., October, 1915.<sup>15</sup>

## REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS TO ESTABLISH THE BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN CLEVELAND AND GASTON COUNTIES, 1890

This Map represents an Old road, the Original dividing line between the counties of Gaston and Cleveland; as run by W<sup>m</sup> A. Grier and I. B. Falls Commissioners Appointed by Said Counties respectively, Beginning at the present intersection of the Old Yorkville and Dixon roads; thence along said Old road, and terminating at its intersection with King's Creek.

This being Surveyed by R. H. Garrett at Said Commissioners request.

King's Mountain N. C.

June 10<sup>th</sup> 1890.

R. H. Garrett

Surveyor.

*To the Hon. Boards of Commissioners of the Counties of Cleveland and Gaston, of the State of North Carolina.*

We the undersigned I. Boyce Falls of Cleveland County and W. A. Grier of Gaston County, Commissioners appointed by the respective Boards of County Commissioners for the Counties of Cleveland and Gaston, to ascertain the true boundary line between the Counties of Cleveland and Gaston, running adjacent to, and North & West of the property now Known as the Catawba Gold Mine, formerly, the Kings Mountain Gold Mine, do submit the following report of our investigation.

We find that the old Burke road, Known as the County line road has been changed several times, from the place where the said road, was located at the time the Counties were laid off, and that the said old road bed is

<sup>15</sup>Minutes of Franklin County Board of Commissioners, Book 211, pages 466-468.

the true and original line between the said Counties and that said old road bed is easily designated, by worn depressions in the surface of the ground,

And upon the evidence of William Falls, John M. Patterson and L. J. Dixon, who testify that the old road bed was the road in use at the time, the Counties were laid off and we have fixed the line with the said old road bed. And further, we requested R. H. Garrett to survey the line of said old road bed as decided upon by us, and to make a plot of same, which plot and description marked "A" in red ink, we affix to this our report, and make it a part of the same, June 12<sup>th</sup> 1890.

I. Boyce Falls

W. A. Grier

Registered in the office of Register of Deeds for Gaston Co. N. C. in Record of official Reports Pages 496-497 & 498.

This July 9, 1890

John O. Rankin

Reg. of Deeds

North Carolina }  
Gaston County }

I, John O. Rankin, Register of Deeds and Clerk ex officio to the Board of County Commissioners of Gaston County N. C. do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true copy of the Report of the Commissioners appointed by Cleveland and Gaston Counties respectively to fix a portion of the boundary line between said Counties, (together with my certificate of registration)

And I do further certify that the Board of County Commissioners of Gaston County, did, at their regular meeting on July 7, 1890, Order said Report to be recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for Gaston County and that a copy of the same be sent to the Secretary of State for registration.

Witness my hand and official seal of Gaston County, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 1890.

John O. Rankin

Reg. of Deeds &

Exofficio Clerk to the Board  
of County Commissioners of  
Gaston County N. C.<sup>16</sup>

(Endorsed)

Gaston & Cleveland Line

### DURHAM-WAKE COUNTY LINE, 1914

Survey of the new Boundary lines between the counties of Durham and Wake in the State of N. C., thereby adding to Durham County all of that portion of Oak Grove Township of Wake County to the County of Durham as hereinafter described.

"Beginning at a Forked Red Oak on the south bank of Neuse River in Barton's Creek Township line and running thence with said line S. 19° —

<sup>16</sup>A copy of this report together with map is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

3.67 mi. to a point 33 chains from the Point where said line crossed to the east side of Morrisville—New Light Road, Cornering on a white oak about 10 inches in diameter at the Ground; thence S. 39° W leaving the old Oak Grove to the east 2.34 mi. to a flint stone (2) feet east of the Raleigh and Leesville road; thence to and across said road N 86  $\frac{3}{4}$  west 436 to the head drain of Sycamore Creek; thence down said Creek as it meanders to Pointers in Cedar Fork township line of Wake County 106 feet up the Creek from a branch running into said Creek from the east; thence with said Cedar Fork Township line 2.7 miles to A Pine the Corner of Cedar Fork Township of Wake County; thence along the eastern boundary of Durham County as described in the act creating Durham County to Neuse River; thence down said River to the beginning—Nov. 15, 1912.

E. C. Belvin County Surveyor for Durham County

Approved By Wake County Comm.<sup>17</sup>

### THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN GASTON AND CLEVELAND COUNTIES, SURVEYED IN 1918.

#### IN THE MATTER OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE COUNTIES OF GASTON AND CLEVELAND CONCERNING THE TRUE LOCATION OF THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN SAID COUNTIES, PROVIDED FOR AND DESIGNATED BY SECTION 1, CHAPTER 31 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA, 1917.

Whereas, By an order of the Commissioners of Gaston County and the Commissioners of Cleveland County made and adopted at the regular meeting of said Commissioners, respectively, on the first Monday of September, 1918, we, the undersigned, to wit, A. M. Lovelace, County Surveyor of Cleveland County, and A. W. Hoffman, Surveyor of Gaston County, were appointed Commissioners under the provisions of Section 1,322 of the Revisal and were ordered to proceed to settle and fix the dividing line in dispute between the Counties of Gaston and Cleveland, and whereas, in pursuance of said Sections 1,322 and 1,323 of the Revisal and of the order aforesaid, we, the undersigned Commissioners met and proceeded with our duties.

Now, therefore, we respectfully report that after making the necessary surveys we have fixed, settled and established the dividing line in dispute between the Counties of Gaston and Cleveland and established the corners thereof as follows, to wit,

Beginning at a stone, the corner of No. 4 and No. 5 Townships in Cleveland County at Ebenezer Church, and running thence a straight line South 56 degrees, 18 minutes, East 9,650 feet to West end of Southern Railway Culvert East of L. A. Kiser's residence; thence through culvert and down meanders of branch to wit, South 71 degrees East 663 feet; South 47  $\frac{1}{4}$  degrees East 1,128 feet to an iron stake in branch at first poplar on west bank of branch; thence a straight line South 6 degrees 38 minutes West 6,020 feet to an iron stake in North edge of Kings Mountain and Dallas old road, West of Sylvanus Mauney's residence and East of Sylvanus Weav-

<sup>17</sup>Minutes of the Wake County Board of Commissioners, 1868, p. 58.



er's residence; thence a straight line South  $\frac{1}{2}$  degree East 17,990 feet to an iron pin in rock on top of first Mountain Southwest of the pinnacle of Kings Mountain, with old pointers; thence a straight line South 9 degrees West 9,575 feet to an iron pin in the public road in the North and South Carolina line, the former corner between Gaston and Cleveland Counties.

Respectfully submitted, this the 17th day of September, 1918.

A. M. Lovelace,  
A. W. Hoffman,  
Commissioners.

#### NORTH CAROLINA GASTON COUNTY.

By order of the Board of Commissioners of Gaston County in regular session on the first Monday of October, 1918, the foregoing report was duly ratified and is hereby ratified by the signature of the majority of said Commissioners, and it was further ordered that upon the ratification of said report by the majority of the Commissioners of Cleveland County the same shall be recorded in the Register's office of Gaston County, and also in the Register's office of Cleveland County and in the office of the Secretary of State.

Witness the hands of said Commissioners, this the 7th day of October, 1918, attested by the Clerk to the Board and the official seal of the Board hereto affixed.

ATTEST:—

O. B. Carpenter,  
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners  
of Gaston County.

R. K. Davenport,  
R. G. Rankin,  
R. L. Stowe,  
J. W. Kendrick,  
A. P. Rudisill.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

#### NORTH CAROLINA CLEVELAND COUNTY.

By order of the Board of Commissioners of Cleveland County in regular session on the first Monday of October, 1918, the foregoing report was duly ratified and is hereby ratified by the signature of the majority of said Commissioners, and it was further ordered that upon the ratification of said report by the majority of the Commissioners of Gaston County the same shall be recorded in the Register's office of Cleveland County, and also in the Register's office of Gaston County, and in the office of the Secretary of State.

Witness the hands of said Commissioners, this the 7th day of October, 1918, attested by the Clerk to the Board and the official seal of the Board hereto affixed. It is certified that the Board of Commissioners of Cleveland County, as now constituted, is composed of only four members.

ATTEST:—

J. J. Lattimore,  
Clerk to the Board  
of Commissioners of  
Cleveland County.

E. C. Borders,  
L. C. Palmer,  
G. W. Peeler,  
D. S. Lovelace,<sup>18</sup>

<sup>18</sup>A copy of this report is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT ON THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN  
HYDE AND TYRRELL COUNTIES, 1890

*To the Honorable the Boards of County Commissioners of the  
Counties of Hyde and Tyrrell,—Gentlemen:*

In compliance with orders made by your respective Boards to settle the disputed line between Hyde and Tyrrell, we, the undersigned, first proceeded to the head of Welch's Creek the beginning point of said line, but finding that the survey would be very costly if commenced at that point,—we then agreed to establish a line with the beginning point on Pungo Lake, as near on the original line as could be ascertained from old surveys and proceeding thence, with due regard to the rights and conveniences of private land owners, to a tributary of Alligator river. According to said agreement, we did on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June A. D. 1889, accompanied by a surveyor, go to the disputed section and set posts, and employed the said surveyor, Mr. J. H. Wahab, to make a survey from the centre post to the post set on New Lake Fork or Creek. But taking into consideration the cost of the survey, and the fact that the remainder of the line will run through State lands not subject to taxation, we do not deem it expedient to survey said remainder of line at this time, all interests being subserved by simply calling for a direct line from the beginning to the centre post.

Therefore, by authority vested in us by your Honorable Boards and subject to your ratification, we do hereby declare that the dividing line between the Counties of Hyde and Tyrrell shall begin at a post marked "Hyde and Tyrrell" which stands on the East bank of Pungo Lake at the mouth of the tributary nearest to the State canal leading from Pungo Lake to Pungo river,—running thence through State lands in an Easterly direction, and in a straight line, to another post marked "Hyde and Tyrrell" which stands on Long ridge and on the North West bank of the Dunbar Canal, eight hundred and ninety eight poles from a marked pine standing on same side of canal as last described post near John A. Dunbar's house,—running thence South 16° West (true bearings) eighteen hundred and sixty three poles to another post marked "Hyde and Tyrrell", which stands at the head of New Lake Fork or Creek where the Squyars Canal enters therein,—thence with said New Lake Fork or Creek and the Alligator river, with all the windings thereof to where the Dare County line strikes said Alligator river.

On the ratification of this report, we would suggest to your Honorable Boards that three stone posts with suitable inscriptions carved thereon, be purchased by the two counties, and that we be empowered to place them at the three guiding points called for in the foregoing report.

Respectfully submitted

This March 20<sup>th</sup> 1890

Asa J. Smith. } Boundary Commissioners  
C E Tatem } of Hyde & Tyrrell Counties

Then was the foregoing report approved and ratified by the Board of County Commissioners of Hyde County. This April 7<sup>th</sup> 1890.

Asa J. Smith Chr  
B. B. Fulford  
J. G. Harris  
N C. Williams

{ County Commissioners

(Indorsed)

Hyde & Tyrrell Dividing Line. Commissioners Reports of Boundary of Hyde & Tyrrell Counties. Approved April 7th 1890

Eph Leigh, *Chair*.

Recorded May 7, 1890, Book 19 of Deeds Page 483 &c in office Reg of Deeds Hyde Co, N. C

L. H. Swindell, Reg of Deeds<sup>19</sup>

Smithfield, N. C.

June 4th, 1888.

Secretary of State:

Raleigh, N. C.

Enclose find a copy of report made by a commissioner from Sampson Co. & one from Johnston County to establish a line between the two counties. The line had been in dispute. The report was approved by Board County Com'rs, of this County to day.

Respectfully &c  
J. D. Morgan,  
Register of Deeds for  
Johnston County N. C.<sup>20</sup>

### COMMISSIONERS' REPORT OF THE SURVEY OF THE JOHNSTON AND SAMPSON COUNTY LINE, 1888

State of North Carolina  
Johnston & Sampson County  
To the Board of County Commissioners

We the undersigned Commissioners being free holders of said counties in obedience to and order of said Court. After being duly sworn to do equal rights and justice between the contending counties proceeded on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1888. To establish the Line in dispute as follows, that is to say— We began at a sifress in the run of Black Mingo near the corner of Bud Jernigan & N. T. Barefoot's Land corner—and runs South 35 ½ E— 342 Poles to the Fayetteville & Smithfield Road—near the Raford Holmes School House. We have caused said Line to be run and marked as above described— all of which is respectively reported—

This May 16<sup>th</sup> 1888—

Arthur Lee }  
D. G. Johnson } Commitioneer  
T. R. Fulghum: Co. Sur.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>19</sup>A copy of this report is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

<sup>20</sup>A copy of this report is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

<sup>21</sup>A copy of this report together with a map of the line is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

## COMMISSIONERS' REPORT ON MARKING THE LINE BETWEEN JONES AND CRAVEN COUNTIES, 1842

State of North Carolina

The undersigned Commissioners appointed on the part of Craven and Jones Counties to run the line between said Counties from the Head of Deep Gully North fifty degrees West, beg leave to report that they have Run and Marked the same this day.—In testimony whereof we have to duplicates hereof set our hands and Seals this first day of April 1842.—

Stephen Ernul

Surveyor.

Thomas Bratcher

Elijah Bratcher

Chain Bearers.

M. C. Bagg (Seal)

William S. Blackledge (Seal) Craven.

Nathan Foscue (Seal)

Nat. Maples (Seal) Jones.

The above report returned and ratified by the Court of Jones June Term 1842 and ordered to be recorded in Said County and Sent to the Secretary of State's office

Recorded in Jones County

H H Hammond CCC

(Endorsed)

Report of the Commissioners for running a dividing line between the Counties of Craven & Jones Counties. 1842

Recd 27th Sept 1842<sup>22</sup>

## BUNCOMBE AND McDOWELL COUNTY LINE, 1925

Beginning on the high top of Crosses Mountain, a corner of Township No. 7 and runs with the line of said Township No. 7 and with the top of said Crosses Mountain, North 46 deg. West 230 poles to a hickory on a knob; thence a direct line North 45 deg. West and passing the corner of Townships No. 7 and No. 9, and with the line of No. 9 of said McDowell County 764 poles to a high knob on top of the Blue Ridge in the Buncombe County line above the head waters of Glade Creek; thence South 21 deg. 45 min. West, and with the high top of the Blue Ridge as it meanders and with the said Buncombe County line and between the head waters of the Broad River on the East and the Swannanoa River on the West and the waters of Cane Creek on the West and Flat Creek, a tributary of the Broad River on the East to the Pisgah top North of Hickory Nut Gap, the corner of Henderson County; thence with the Henderson County line and past the Northeast corner of said county and passing by the Silver Springs South 58 deg. East to the top of Cedar Cliff Mountain; thence North 45 deg. 45 min. East 202 poles to the high top of Ball Mountain known as Harris' view; thence North 26 deg. 45 min. East and with the said Rutherford County line and passing between the head waters of Rock Creek on the West and Buffalo Creek on the East 750 poles to the top of Weedy Mountain; thence down said mountain with the top North 1 deg. West 142 poles to a knob 30 poles from Mt. Pleasant Church; thence North 35 deg. West and passing by Mt. Pleasant Church at 30 poles and 180 poles in

<sup>22</sup>A copy of this report is filed in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

all to the top of ridge leading up to the top of Stone Mountain; thence on with the top of said mountain North 24 deg. West 38 poles to the top of a knob; thence North 122 poles to the top of said mountain to a high cliff known as the Devil's Hat; thence North 9 deg. East 77 poles to a large rock and pointers; thence on with the top North 72 deg. 30 min. East with County marked line 30 poles to a Chestnut-Oak old county marked corner; thence on with the top of said Stone Mountain with marked line North 77 deg. East 68 poles; thence leaving said mountain, North 83 deg. East and crossing the road at 208 poles and laurel fork of Cedar Creek at 246 poles and Cedar Creek at 342 poles, and road at 384 poles, and branch at 472 poles at Elliott's upper place and passing through the low gap of mountain between main Cedar Creek and the Laurel Branch at 714 poles and crossing the North prong of Cedar Creek just below the mouth of a branch at 910 poles and road at 912 and 1032 poles in all to a stone and pointers on a ridge above old Dalton place now owned by Mills Davis, the corner of Township No. 7; thence leaving Rutherford County line and running with the Southern line of Township No. 7 North 53 deg. West 462 poles to Vest Gap; thence on the same course and crossing Jackson Creek at 150 poles and road leading from Old Fort to Bat Cave at 152 poles and 320 poles to the top of Caruther's knob now called Brushey Mountain, total distance 782 poles; thence North 63 deg. West and crossing Old Major Mountain road at 88 poles and passing below R. C. Nanney's house and 266 poles in all to the top of Dutchman Mountain; thence North 77 deg. West and crossing the waters of Crooked Creek twice 414 poles to the Big Spring in the Big Spring Cove; thence North 70 deg. West and coming to the top of Crosses Mountain at 73 poles and 189 poles in all with the top of Crosses Mountain to the place or point of BEGINNING.

All lines between Broad River Township No. 8 and Township No. 7 and No. 9 of McDowell County are marked with three chop-s on the trees and all corners are witnessed by trees marked with a blaze and two chops above and two below. The Henderson and Rutherford County line is marked as of old with a blaze and two chops above and all corners with three chops.

Respectfully submitted.

L. A. HANEY }  
O. L. ISRAEL, } SURVEYORS

Identified and approved This April 11th, 1925.

(See Plat Book No. 7, page No. 42 for Map of Broad River Township)<sup>23</sup>

### DIVIDING LINES BETWEEN MARTIN AND PITT AND BETWEEN EDGECOMBE AND PITT COUNTIES, 1894

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
PITT COUNTY.

*To the Board of Commissioners of Pitt County  
and Martin County*

We the undersigned Commissioners appointed by your said Board to wit: John B. Kilpatrick and S. A. Gainor by the Board of Commissioners

<sup>23</sup>Minutes of McDowell County Board of Commissioners, Book 13, page 220. This report was sent to the author by E. F. Goldston.

of Pitt County, and W. A. Haislep and R. L. Roberson by the Board of Commissioners of Martin County to settle and fix the dividing line in dispute between the said Counties of Pitt and Martin, after being duly sworn by D. C. Moore an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said Pitt County, except R. L. Roberson who having been sworn before Powell an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Martin, Proceeded on the 5th day of June 1894 to settle and fix make and establish the said line in dispute between the Counties of Pitt and Martin whereupon we have caused the said line to be surveyed by John B. Kilpatrick County surveyor of Pitt County and Sylvester Peel County surveyor of Martin County and we do hereby fix settle and make the following as an established line between the said Counties the following mentioned points to wit,

Beginning at a stake in Joseph H Wards field formerly Wallace Andrews field and running South 64° East One Thousand eight hundred & sixty four (1864) poles to a willow tree standing in a cypress stump, where the cypress tree stood in the run of Flat Swamp up the swamp from the crossing of the Public Road near J. B. Everetts.

All of which is hereby respectfully submitted under our hands and seals, this the 13th day of June 1894.

S. A. Gainor	}	Commission on the part of
John B. Kilpatrick		Pitt County.
W. A. Haislep	}	Commissioners on the part
Rufus L. Roberson		of Martin County.

*To the Board of Commissioners of Pitt County  
& Edgecombe County:*

We the undersigned Commissioners appointed by your said Board to wit, James T. Howard by the Board of Commissioners of Edgecombe County and John B. Kilpatrick and Samuel A. Gainor by the Board of Commissioners of Pitt County to Settle and fix the dividing line in dispute between the said Counties of Pitt & Edgecombe after being duly sworn by D. C. Moore an acting Justice of the Peace in and for Pitt County proceeded on the 26th day of May 1894 to settle and fix make and established the said line in dispute between the Counties of Pitt and Edgecombe Whereon can have caused the same to be surveyed by John B. Kilpatrick County Surveyor in the County of Pitt and do hereby fix settle and make the following as an established line between the said Counties between the following mentioned points to wit:

Beginning at a Black Gum in Crisp Creek and running South 64° East Seven Hundred and Sixty poles (760) to a stake in Joseph H. Wards field formerly Wallace Andrews.

All of which is respectfully submitted under our hands and seals this 13th day of June A. D. 1894

J. T. Howard	}	Comr. on part Edgecomb
John B. Kilpatrick		Comr. on Pitt County
S. A. Gainor		Comr. on Pitt County

Approved and ordered to be registered.

Council Dawson, Chm  
Co Comrs. Pitt County



State of North Carolina  
Pitt County.

I, James J. Perkins Register of Deeds of the aforesaid County of Pitt do hereby certify that the above are true copies of the reports of the Committees appointed to make the dividing lines between Martin and Pitt and Pitt and Edgecombe Counties as doth appear of record in my office in Book "66" page 330 and 331. This the      th day of September 1897

J. J. Perkins

Register of Deeds Pitt Co. N. C.<sup>24</sup>

(Seal)

# REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN MECKLENBURG AND UNION COUNTIES, 1889

*To the Hon. Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County:*

We the undersigned Commissioners appointed on the part of Mecklenburg and Union Counties to Superintend the Surveying and locating the line between the Counties of Mecklenburg and Union, met on the 23rd day of July 1889, according to agreement, and after being duly sworn, proceeded to survey and establish the dividing line as aforesaid. Beginning at a stone on the south bank of Six Mile Creek at the point where the Providence road crosses said creek, a known corner, and running with the dividing line between said counties. N 46 ½ E 17 miles and 18 poles crossing the Old Union road, the Potter road, the Davis mine road, the Charlotte and Monroe road, the old Camden road, Carolina Central Rail Road, Crooked Creek, Cheraw road, Goose Creek, Lawyers road, Blair road, the new Charlotte road, Duck Creek, the old Rocky river road, and Long branch to a stone in the line of Cabarrus Co from which one W. O. bears S 51 ¼ E 28 poles, and another W. O. bears, S 59 ½ E. 27 poles. The above described line and corner is ascertained by an actual Survey made by our County Surveyors C. A. Spratt of Mecklenburg and M. D. L. Biggers of Union. From the said beginning to the Cabarrus line measuring a distance of three miles on the Cabarrus line from a large rock in Rocky river at the mouth of Clear Creek, at the points where the line crosses public roads, Stones are set up.

Witness our hands and seals this 17th day of August 1889.

M. D. L. Biggers  
Chas. A. Spratt.  
Surveyors

W. E. Ardrey (Seal)  
J. A. Biggers (Seal)  
M. E. Crowell (Seal)  
T. J. Orr. (Seal)

Commissioners

On motion the foregoing report is adopted and ordered to be spread upon the minutes of this Board and a certified copy of the same transmitted by the Clerk of this Board to the Secretary of State.

By order Bd of Comrs of Mecklenburg Co., Sept 3rd /89

T L. Vail Chr.

<sup>24</sup>A copy of this report is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

State of North Carolina  
Mecklenburg County

I, J. W. Cobb Register of Deeds for said Co do certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the report and survey made by Comr<sup>s</sup> appointed on part of this and Union County as filed and recorded in this office

Witness my hand and the Seal of Said County Comr<sup>s</sup> at office  
Charlotte This Sept. 9th 1889.

J. W. Cobb  
Reg. Deeds.<sup>25</sup>

(Seal)

### REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS TO RUN THE LINE BETWEEN PASQUOTANK AND PERQUIMANS COUNTIES, 1819

We the Commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina at their Session in the year 1818—To run mark and complete the division line, Between the counties of Pasquotank and Perquimons.

Report as Followeth—That we have employ[ed] Mr Exum Newby Junr as Surveyor and four assistants and have with him carefully seeked into the most equitable and advantageous Division between the said counties—And Accordingly we commenced to run the line, at or near the fork of Little River, at a Maple and a center of maples, and run from thence, North 52° West 30 1/2 Chains to Park Street, enclosing a circle in the center of Parkville thence round the northeastern segment of said circle to a point bearing North 30° West from the center, which course we run Five miles four furlongs and five chains to Jones,s Turnpike Road, marking the same and a black gum on the north west side of the said turnpike, a few chains west of the Middle Ridge, Thence North 19° West three miles three furlongs and two chains to the uppermost corner of Perquemons County, and a corner of Gates County—which is the Course to Easons Ridge.

All of Which We Respectfully Submit

Given under our hands & Seals at Parkville the 30<sup>t</sup> October 1819—

	A Albertson	(Seal)
	Rob <sup>t</sup> Perry	(Seal)
Annexed to the Plat	Stephen White	(Seal)
	John Overman	(Seal)
	W <sup>m</sup> Perry	(Seal)

### *Pasquotank and Perquimans*

To the Commissioners for compleeting the line between the counties of Pasquotank & Perquimons,

Agreeable to your Instructions I have compleeted the running of said line, a field book of which foloweth, Viz. Beginning at a Maple a center of Three other Maples near the fork of Little River and running N° 52 W. 30 1/2 chains to the circular Street in Parkville, thence around its N. Eastern Segment to a point bearing N° 30 W. from its center, which course

<sup>25</sup>A copy is filed in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh. From original report.

I then ran 5 M. 4 furlongs & 5 chains to Jones' Turnpike where I marked a Gum, to the West of Middle Ridge, thence N° 19 W. (Being the course for Eason's Ridge) 3 M. 3 furlongs & 2 chains to the point where the Gates County line intersects Pasquotank

A platt of which is herewith Submitted October 30<sup>th</sup> 1819

Exum Newby (Surveyor)

(Endorsed)

Report of the Commissioners appointed to run the dividing line between the Counties of Pasquotank & Perquimmons—

Jn H. Courmons 14 Dec. 1819. Read & ordered to be filed in the Secretary's Office.—

By order

P. Henderson C C C<sup>26</sup>

### *Perquimans, Gates and Pasquotank County Lines*

. . . The Court having taken into consideration the order of the County Courts of Gates & Pasquotank Countys, as to the running of the County Lines & particular the Lines of this County which Enters from the heard of little river such a Boundary as the Comr shall think proper have not hitherto been run, do order that Josiah White, Joseph Reddick Esquire of Gates and Benjamin Perry Esquire be requested to act as Commissioners to have the lines of this County laid out in such manner as to be inserted into a public Law for the purpose and that the Representatives of this County be requested to have such a Law passed at the next General Assembly agreeable to the report of the said Commissioners, Ordered that the Little river be held by the County as the Boundary so far as the same runs into the Dismal.<sup>27</sup>

### BOUNDARY LINES BETWEEN SURRY, ROWAN, AND GUILFORD COUNTIES, 1771

#### *To the Worshipful Chairman and Other the Justices of the Court of Surry County.*

We, the subscribers, Commissioners appointed by act of Assembly for running the Boundary lines between the said County of Surry and the Counties of Rowan and Guilford in Conformity to the said Act have run the same accordingly and are as follows Viz—

Beginning at a post oak standing in a hollow at a small distance from the Reedy Fork of Haw River and on the N.W. side, being the corner of Rowan County and Surry County, Running from thence N.° 3 miles to the Reedy Fork of Haw River, thence 4 miles to the waters Belews Creek, Thence thence crossing said Creek to William Hannah's 7 miles, then crossing said Creek again at 10 miles at a eleven miles crossing it again at a very high hill, at 40 poles crossing said creek at a fall and a fish trap at 13 miles and three-quarters crossed said creek again above John

<sup>26</sup>A copy of this report together with a map of the line is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

<sup>27</sup>Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Perquimans County, November, 1793.

Southerland's, then crossed Dan River at the upper end of Lads Island through the lower end of Lads old clearing, thence crossing Dan River twice at Neals Bent at a white oak on the north bank, then across the Dannupper Road where a branch crosses said road about 4 miles from Carmichaels Ford on Dan River, Thence by William Crumps on Bever Island Creek, crossing the same 26 miles crossing the forks of said Creek, thence by Charles Smiths whose house is in Guilford about thirty yards thence to the Virginia line to sundry white oak saplings about three quarters of a mile below Francis Holts on a small branch that runs into Crookit Creek, in all 22 miles one half a six pole.

Beginning again for the dividing line between Rowan and Surry at the aforesaid Post Oak, running west crossing a branch of Dan River East of Robert Walkers Esquire, thence East of his house about one-quarter of a mile, crossing the easternmost Branch of Muddy Creek, thence through the Moravian Tract, crossing the fork of the road that from Bethabara Salisbury and about one and half mile from Bethabara, then crossing the Moravian Mill Creek at 2 and half mile from said roads, crossing Muddy Creek at about six miles from said roads at 2 miles to Christopher Smiths Plantation, thence through George Robinsons Plantation and his yard to a mulberry house in Rowan, thence crossing the Shallowford Road at two oaks, the one marked Rowan the other Surry, thence about 5 miles to the Yadkin through Benjamin Stewards old field on the N<sup>w</sup> bank of the Yadkin, crossing Yadkin by Joseph Gentrys land about a quarter of a mile above his house in Rowan, thence by William Rideings Senr in Surry, Then crossing the Road that leads from Isaac Frees to Salisbury at two oaks Blazed and Marked Rowan Surry on the North side of the road leaving John Ridings in Surry, then crossing the North East fork of Forbushes Creek about half a mile south of John Logins Plantation in Surry, Thence through Widow Elliotts Improvement, Thence crossing the several branches of Deep Creek through Michael Bakers Plantation whose house is in Surry, thence and about Nine miles from the River, thence by Joseph Englands house in Rowan, then crossing several other small branches of Deep Creek, then crossing a large branch of said Creek about 300 yards below William Mitchels about seven miles from Michael Bakers, thence about two miles to high level land where a new West Kabbin stands Hewed Logg in Surry, thence threw the Forked Meadow, so called, thence to the new cut waggin road that leads to the Forks Knobs about 4 miles S. E. of them to two white oaks standing on each side of the road on Barron Ridge marked Rowan Surry in cappital letters and about mile from the last crossing of Deep Creek and about 46 miles West of the Beginning.-----

JOHN DUNN  
MART ARMSTRONG  
ANTHONY HAMPTON

} COMMISSIONERS<sup>28</sup>

<sup>28</sup>This copy was made from Will Book I, pp. 5, 6 and 7, Surry county, and certified by Luther N. Byrd and duly attested by John G. Llewellyn, deputy clerk of the Superior Court of Surry county, August 21, 1941.

## REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS TO LOCATE MITCHELL COUNTY SEAT

*To the Secretary of State of North Carolina—Sir:*

The undersigned Commissioners appointed by the General Assembly by an act entitled "an act to Amend the County lines of Mitchell County" ratified September 4<sup>th</sup> 1861, to select and determine upon a permanent seat of Justice in and for said County have the honor to report that they have proceeded to the performance of their duties under said act and, after carefully examining all the locations proposed by the citizens of the different sections of said county have this the seventeenth (17<sup>th</sup>) of October A. D. 1861 duly and lawfully located said seat of Justice at the cross roads between the residences of Alexander Wiseman and Eben Childs and performed all the other acts required of them by said act of the General Assembly.

Jn <sup>o</sup> S Brown	}	Commissioners <sup>29</sup>
John B. Palmer		
Moses Young		
W C Ennis		

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT ON MARKING THE BOUNDARY LINE  
BETWEEN WILKES AND ALEXANDER COUNTIES

STATE OF N. CAROLINA } WILKES COUNTY	To the Worshipful the Justices of the Court of
---	--

Pleas and Quarter Session fall term 1853 we the undersigned Commissioners appointed by the Courts of Pleas & quarter Session of the Countys of Wilkes and Alexander to Run mark and Establish the Boundary line between Said Countys according to act of Assembly passed at the Session of 1852 & 3 Ask leave to Report we have Established Said line as follows to wit Beginning at a Small chesnut on the top of the mountain at John Ellisons old place Runing North 30 degrees West 116 poles to a hickry tree thence with the top of the Mountain the various distances as Said down in the plat herunto annexed to a chesnut opposite and near to John Bentleys thence South 65 degrees West 210 poles to the ten mile post on the Cove Gap Road thence South 57 degrees West 300 poles to the Clanton old place leaving the House in the County of Wilkes thence with the Extream hight of the Mountain to Benjamin H Kilbys leaving the dwelling House & buildings thare with connected in the County of Wilkes thence with the top of Said Brushy Mountain to Fergusons Road in the old County line all of which is Respectfully Submitted August 10<sup>th</sup> 1853

Jas. C. Horton } Azal Sharpe	Commissioners
---------------------------------	---------------

A Return of the Proceedings of the Commissioners who ware appointed to Run the Deviding line between the County of Surry & Wilkes (to wit) Beginning on Rowan County line about half a mile below Daniel Rashes at a White Oak Standing in the head of a Branch of Hunting Creek thence North Crossing the mulbery Field Road abot haft a mile below Hamlins

<sup>29</sup>A copy of this report is on file in the office of the Secretary of State and in the archives of the State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

Old Store House thence through Solomon Spark's Plantation leaving the s<sup>d</sup> Sparks's House in Surry County thence Crossing the Brushey mountain at the head of the north fork of Swan Creek thence Crossing the Yadkin River a little below Capt Parks's & through the Lower end of Carrols Plantation on the north side of s<sup>d</sup> River thence Crossing the Big Elkin at the long Sholes thence Crossing the south fork of Mitchels River abot half a mile above Riggs s Road, thence crossing Mitchels River a little below John Scott's Crossing the Top of the Poiney nobb to the main Ridge of mountains abot Two miles west of Fishes Peak, thence to the Virginia Line. The above line being Run Exactly Twenty six miles west of Surry Courthouse agreeable to act of Assembly By—

Commissioners	}	Robt Lanier
		Henry Spier
		Joseph Herndon

The within Return is Duly Recorded in Clerks Office in Page 1st &c.

Pr W<sup>m</sup> Lenoir C. C.

County Line

#### DESCRIPTION TAKEN FROM MAP OF THE LINE BETWEEN WILKES AND ALEXANDER COUNTIES

Beginning at a small chestnut on the top of the mountain at John Ellisons old place and running north 30° west 116 poles to a point; thence north 16 poles to S. O.; thence north 30° west 12 poles to S. O.; thence north 75° west 40 poles to a Sourwood; thence north 35° west 108 poles to five Chestnut Oaks; thence north 50° west 46 poles to a Chestnut; thence north 80° west 88 poles to a Chestnut; thence north 75° west 16 poles to a Black-oak; thence south 50° west 14 poles to a Hickory; thence south 35° west 60 poles to a Peach tree; thence west 18 poles to a chestnut oak; thence north 60° west 142 poles to a Chestnut; thence west 62 poles to a Chestnut; thence south 75° west 190 poles to a Chestnut; thence west 14 poles to a Stake; thence north 55° west 44 poles to a S. O.; thence north 35° west 16 poles to a Chestnut; thence south 65° west 210 poles to 10 mile Post on the Cove Gap Road; thence south 57° west 428 poles to a Chestnut Saplin on the top of the Mountain leaving the house of the Clanton place in the county of Wilkes; thence west 26 poles to a Hickory; thence north 73° west 46 poles to a Stake; thence north 20° west 80 poles to a White Oak; thence north 50° west 57 poles to a Hickory; thence north 80° west 20 poles to a Stake; thence north 60° west 63 poles to a White oak; thence north 70° west 60 poles to a Chestnut; thence north 80° west 26 poles to Benj. H. Kilbey's; thence west 64 poles to a Chestnut; thence north 45° west 64 poles to a Persimmon; thence south 80° west 40 poles to a Chestnut Oak; thence south 44 west 76 poles to three Chestnuts; thence south 80° west 16 poles to a Stake; thence west 68 poles to a hickory; thence north 55° west 52 poles to two chestnuts; thence south 48° west 32 poles to a Spanish-Oak; thence south 8° west 23 poles to a Stake; thence south 20° west 28 poles to a Black Oak; thence south 50° west 60 poles to a Stake; thence north 70° west 92 poles to a Stake; thence south 60° west 54 poles to a Hickory; thence south 43° west 40



poles to a Stake in J. Russels field; thence south 60° west 60 poles to a Chestnut-oak; thence west 60 poles to a Stake; thence north 47° west 20 poles to a Walnut Tree; thence north 80° west 48 poles to a chestnut-oak; thence south 80° west 54 poles to a Stake in J. Russels Orchard; thence west 54 poles to a Sourwood; thence south 50° west 28 poles to a Sourwood; thence west 54 poles to a Spanish-oak near the public road; thence south 80° west 52 poles to a chestnut-oak; thence south 40° west 140 poles to a Persimmon; thence south 70° west 42 poles to Three Sourwoods; thence north 73° west 110 poles to the top of the Onion Mountain; thence south 48° west 54 poles to a Large Black-Oak; thence north 80° west 78 poles to a pine; thence south 48° west 48 poles to a White Oak in Boons Gap; thence north 70° west 40 poles to a chestnut; thence south 55° west 50 poles to a chestnut; thence north 72° west 30 poles to a Stake; thence south 80° west 20 poles to chestnut-oak; thence south 70° west 94 poles to a Chestnut; thence south 35° west 40 poles to Forgasons Road.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>30</sup>Wilkes County Miscellaneous Material 1777-1867, 1880, N. D.

## **APPENDIX II**



## INTRODUCTION

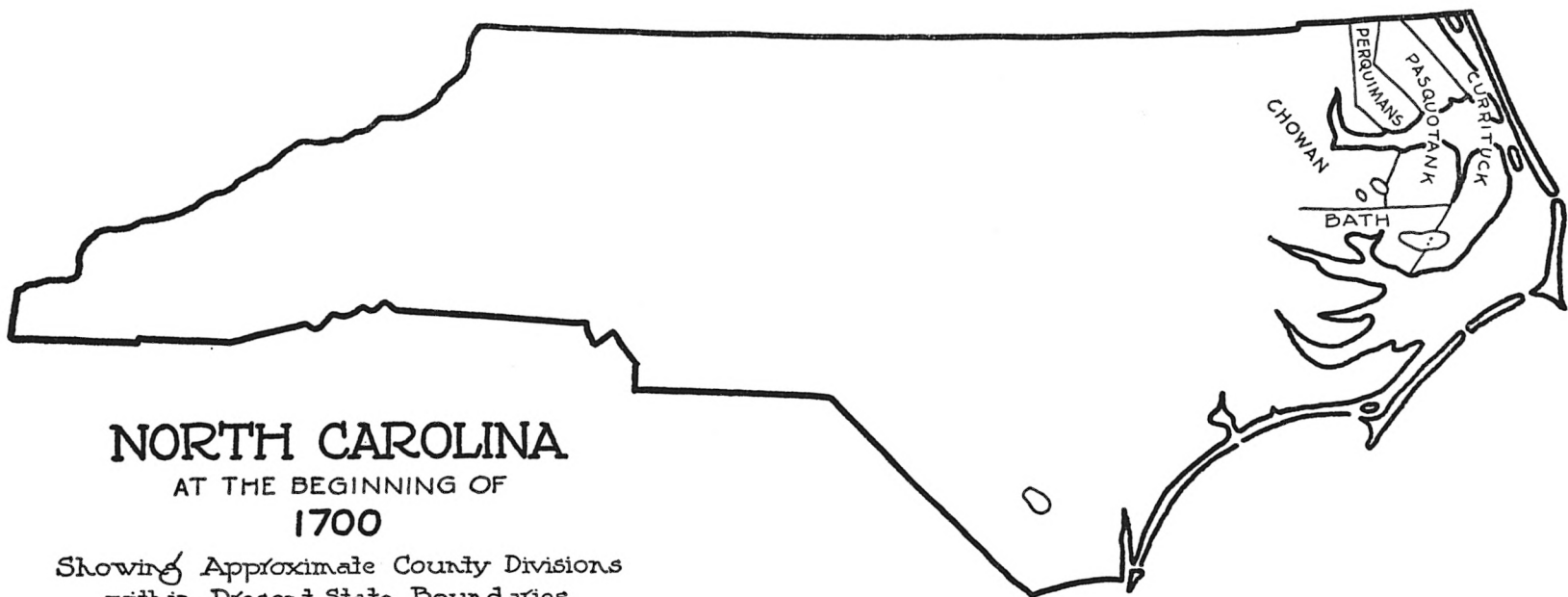
The chart here reproduced is based on material contained in the first part of the book. It was made and copyrighted in 1940 and has been widely distributed among schools, county and state officials, historians, genealogists, and other interested persons. In a chart of this kind it is impossible to include all the information dealing with the formation of the counties which a person would like to have. It is also impossible to include or even to suggest the many changes made in the county boundary lines. No attempt, therefore, has been made to include such information.

The eleven maps included were made primarily to suggest to the reader a general outline of the formation of the counties within the present state boundaries. The periods designated by the maps were decided upon purely on the grounds of convenience and with the additional fact that within certain periods so designated the State showed a decided growth. In the period between 1665 and 1700 only one additional county or precinct was added, but between 1700 and 1740 thirteen counties were added. In following the organization of these new counties it is evident that the settlers followed the sea coast and the water courses. It was between 1740 and 1760 that a movement toward the west began to become more evident. During this period there was a rapid expansion in settling new territory, and thirteen additional counties were created. During the Revolution, or between 1775 and 1780, fourteen new counties were created. This was the period of the greatest expansion in the history of the State so far as the formation of new counties was concerned. Another notable expansion in the formation of the counties took place between 1850 and 1870 when eleven new counties were organized. Between the years 1870 and 1900, nine new counties were created. Since 1900 three new counties have been created, making the one hundred counties. If it were possible to indicate the many boundary line changes affecting the more than one hundred counties which have existed in the history of North Carolina it would require more than eleven charts as well as many colors and types of lines to indicate the changes. Even if such a possibility existed no one would be certain that the line so indicated would be accurate because of the inability to know in detail the terrain of the State with the many rivers, creeks, swamps, hills, and valleys and other designated landmarks such as trees, stumps, and individual property designations—as evidenced by the following taken from a description of the line between Iredell and Wilkes coun-

ties in 1815: "... on the road leading from Randolph Maberry's to Thomas Cooks's; thence varying said line so as to include Joseph Queen's house on Rocky Creek in the county of Wilkes; thence to the top of Archus Mountain, north of John Smith's, Sen. . . ." From this quotation it is easy to conclude how indefinite were the boundary lines indicated by the laws. These maps will, however, serve a very definite purpose, even though there are defects in the data included.

The map showing the counties in what is now the state of Tennessee should add value to the study. These seven counties were formed between 1776 and 1790 by the General Assembly of North Carolina. The immigration across the mountains of North Carolina is indicated by the map and shows a definite growth and expansion of the State.

No effort has been made to deal with the state boundary lines between North and South Carolina, between North Carolina and Tennessee, and between North Carolina and Virginia. Each of these lines would require a very full study. The North Carolina-South Carolina line has been investigated, studied and written upon by Dr. Marvin Lucian Skaggs. Dr. Skaggs's study is entitled, *North Carolina Boundary Disputes Involving her Southern Line*, and was published in 1941. Those persons interested in this boundary line should consult Dr. Skaggs's study.



# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1700

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
L Polk Denmark



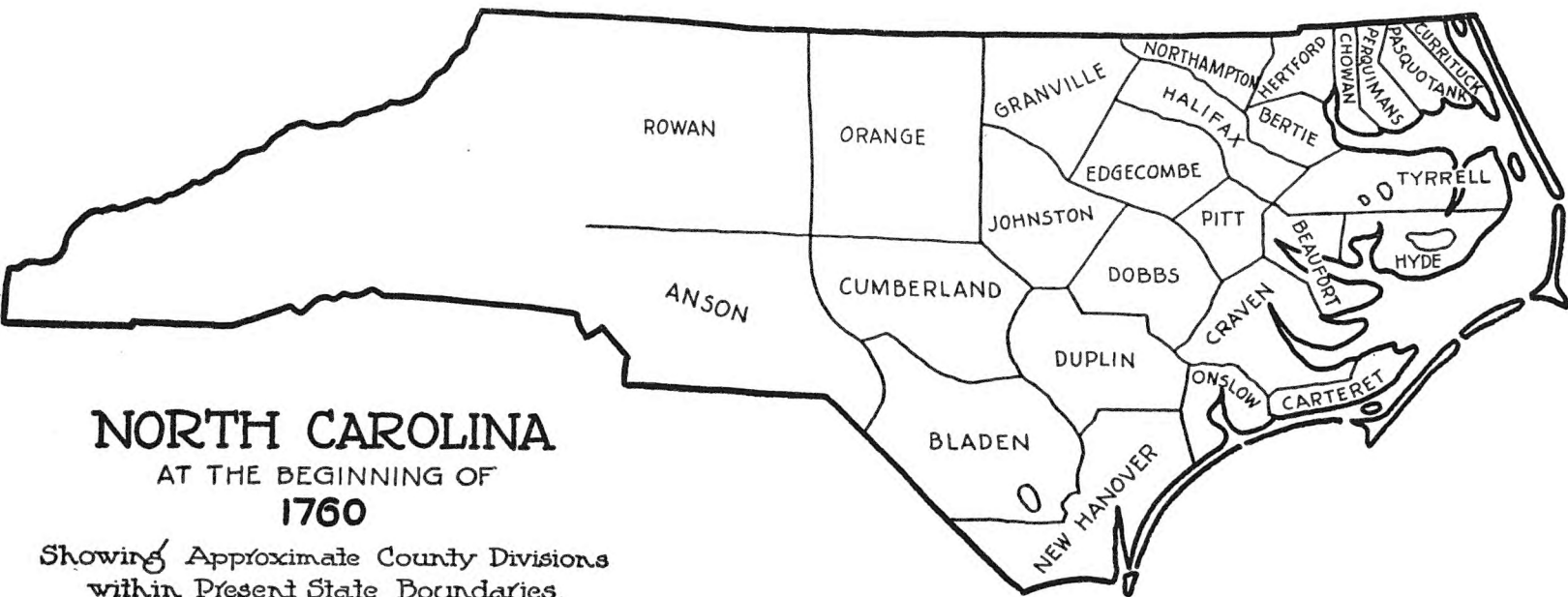
# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1740

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark



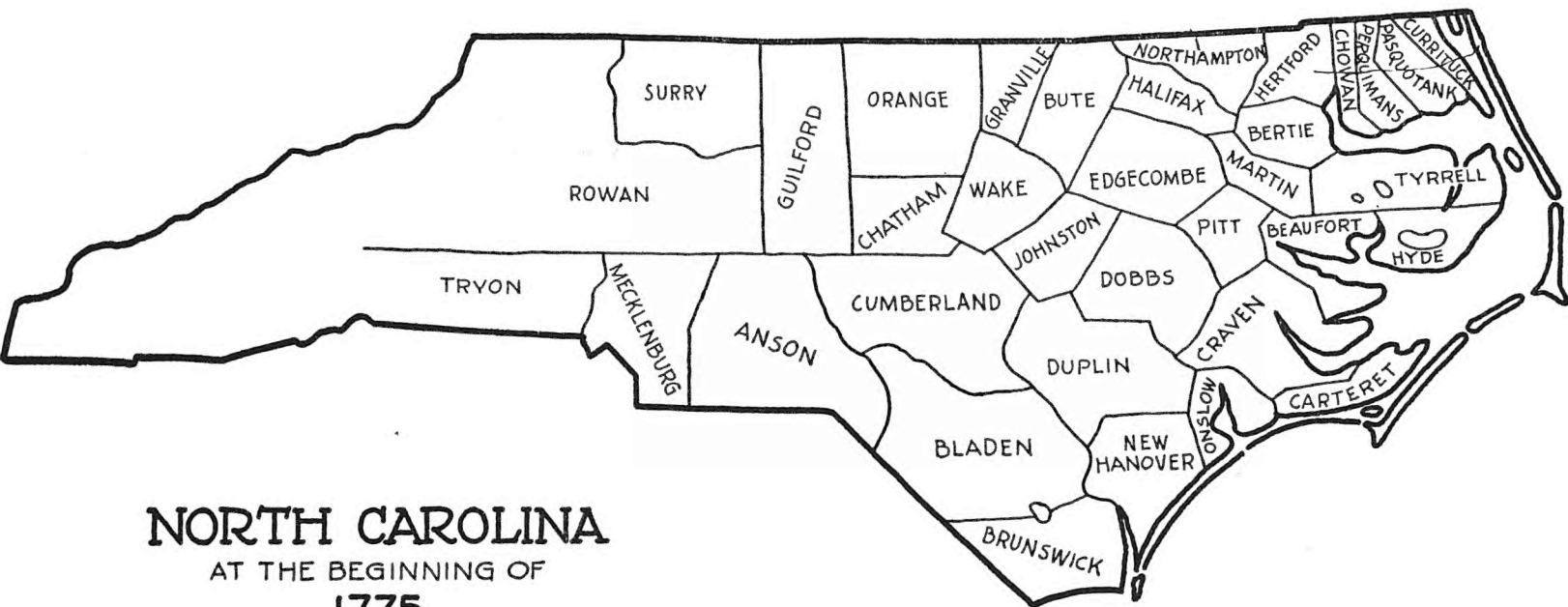


# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1760

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark



# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1775

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark

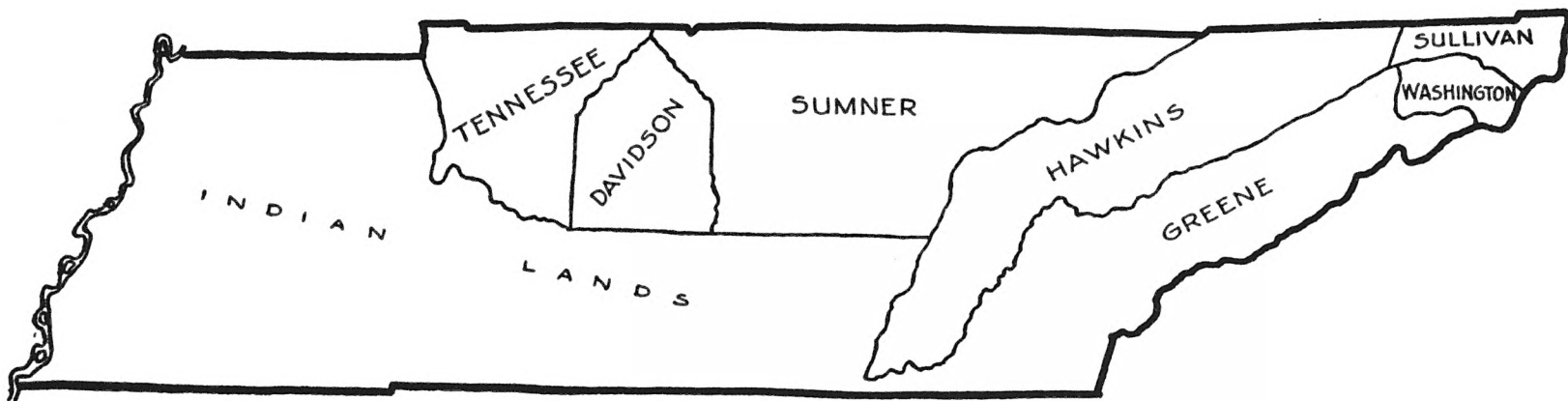


# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1780

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark

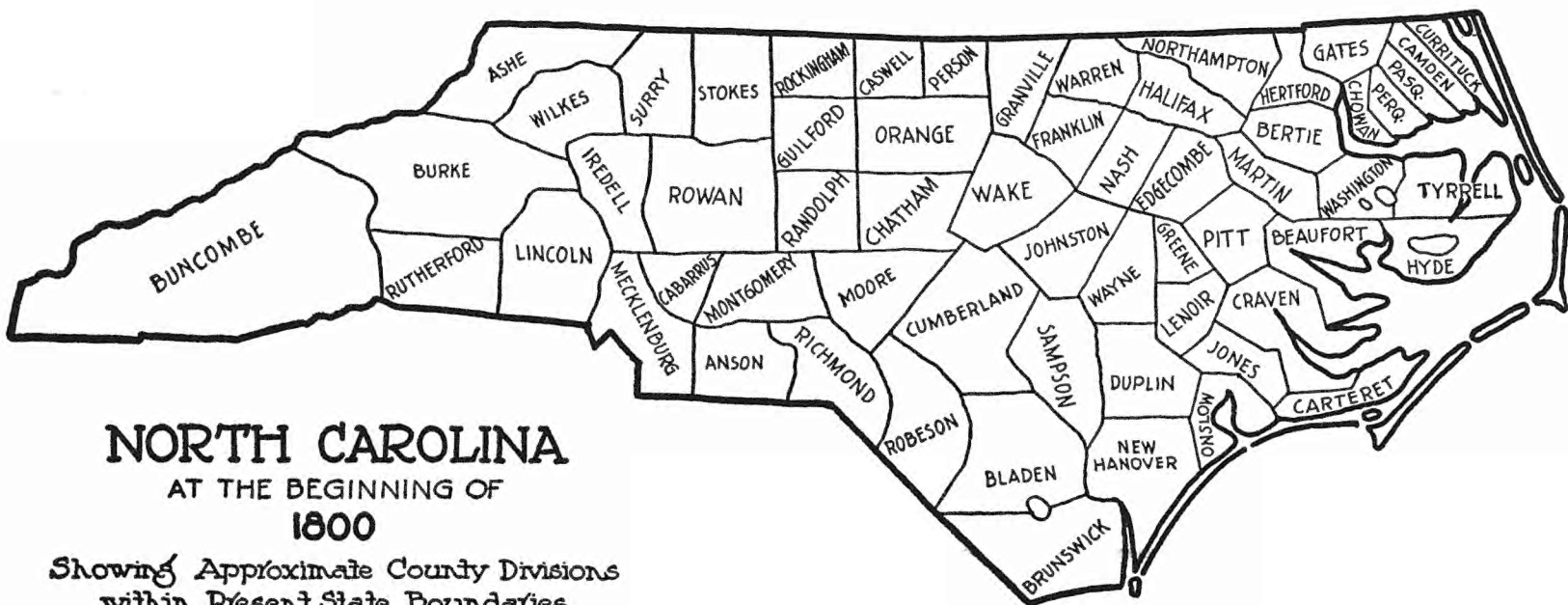


# TENNESSEE

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1790

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark



# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1800

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark





# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1840

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark



# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF  
1850

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark



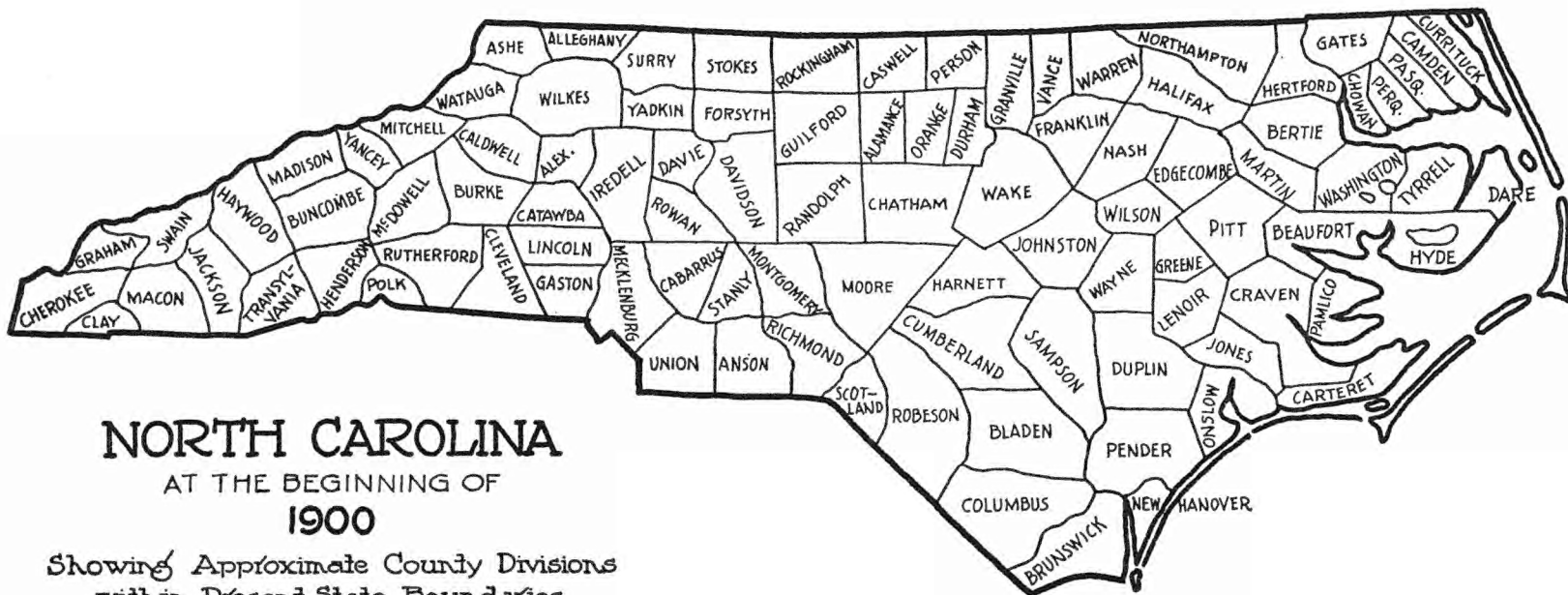
# NORTH CAROLINA

AT THE BEGINNING OF

1870

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark



Map by  
L. Polk Denmark

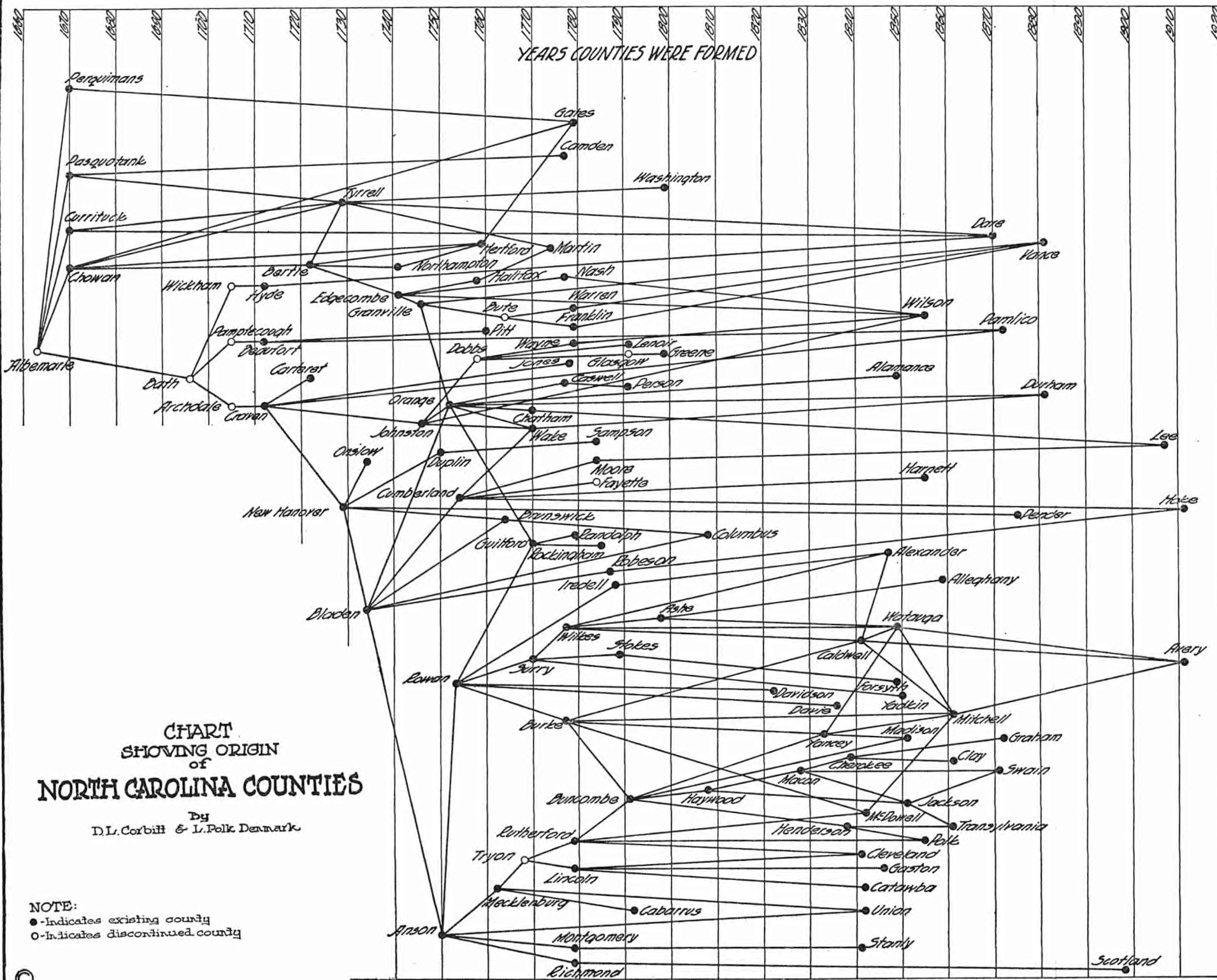


# NORTH CAROLINA

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF  
1912

Showing Approximate County Divisions  
within Present State Boundaries.

Map by  
L. Polk Denmark.



# COUNTIES AND YEARS FORMED

Albemarle	1663	Iredell	1789
Alamance	1849	Jackson	1851
Alexander	1847	Johnston	1746
Alleghany	1859	Jones	1778
Anson	1750	Lee	1907
Archdale	1705	Lenoir	1791
Ashe	1799	Lincoln	1779
Avery	1911	Macon	1828
Bath	1696	Madison	1851
Beaufort	1712	Martin	1774
Bertie	1722	McDowell	1842
Bladen	1734	Mecklenburg	1762
Brunswick	1764	Mitchell	1861
Buncombe	1791	Montgomery	1779
Burke	1777	Moore	1784
Bute	1764	Nash	1777
Cabarrus	1792	New Hanover	1729
Caldwell	1841	Northampton	1741
Camden	1777	Onslow	1734
Carteret	1722	Orange	1752
Caswell	1777	Pamlico	1872
Catawba	1842	Pamlico	1705
Chatham	1770	Pasquotank	1670
Cherokee	1839	Pender	1875
Chowan	1670	Perquimans	1670
Clay	1861	Persimmon	1791
Cleveland	1841	Pitt	1760
Columbus	1808	Polk	1855
Craven	1712	Randolph	1779
Cumberland	1754	Richmond	1779
Currituck	1670	Robeson	1787
Dare	1870	Rockingham	1785
Davidson	1822	Rowan	1753
Davis	1836	Rutherford	1779
Duplin	1750	Sampson	1784
Durham	1881	Scotland	1899
Dobbs	1758	Stanly	1841
Edgecombe	1741	Stokes	1789
Fayette	1784	Surry	1770
Forsyth	1849	Swain	1871
Franklin	1779	Transylvania	1861
Gaston	1846	Tyron	1768
Gates	1779	Tyrrell	1729
Glasgow	1791	Union	1842
Graham	1872	Vance	1881
Granville	1746	Wake	1770
Greens	1799	Warren	1779
Guilford	1770	Washington	1729
Halifax	1753	Watauga	1840
Harnett	1855	Wayne	1779
Haywood	1808	Widham	1705
Henderson	1838	Wilkes	1777
Herford	1739	Wilson	1855
Hoke	1911	Yadkin	1850
Hyde	1712	Yancey	1833

**NOTE:**  
Date shown is that of Assembly  
which authorized formation of County.

To determine the origin of any desired county:—(1) Locate from the above list the date the county was formed. (2) Find this date on the line at the top of the chart. (3) Follow down from this point until the county is located. (4) The lines connecting the counties to the left indicate the origin of the county. Seven Tennessee counties which were created by North Carolina are not included in this chart.





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