

BUCKS TOWNSHIP

This area located in lower Horry County is made up of a half dozen rural communities. It is south of Conway and bounded by the Waccamaw, Great Pee Dee and Little Pee Dee Rivers. Low lying lands along these rivers are shrouded with vast tree covered swamps making the area a prime source of wood for the lumber industry. Several villages based on this industry rose and fell much like the trees themselves. Among these were Bucksville, Bucksport, Port Harrelson, Eddy Lake, Toddville and Pawley Swamp. As these communities lost their sawmills and the shipping that went with them, they were absorbed by those successful in farming. Port Harrelson, Eddy Lake and parts of Bucksville are now considered part of Bucksport.

Many of the present families of lower Horry live on the farms of their ancestors; some having lived in that area since the 1700's. Some of these family names are Singleton, Hucks, Sarvis, Parker, Paul, Thompson, Cannon, Martin, Howell, Dusenbury, Buck, Beaty, Moore, and Harper.

7. EDWARD BEATY HOUSE, Bucksville, S. C., approximately eight miles south of Conway, S. C. two miles east of U. S. 701

Date Built: 1870

Edward Beaty, a prosperous businessman and Postmaster of Bucksville, built this house when the town was the shipping center of Horry County. This dwelling is the most substantial of the few buildings that survived the withering of the town. The house also serves as a fine example of the craftsmanship and skill available among the men whose talent was directed, in the main, toward shipbuilding.

The peg-built story and a half house stands rather high from the ground and has a gabled roof with single dormers in front and back. The steep roof is testament that the builders were New Englanders and accustomed to accomodating heavy snows. This type roof was frequently duplicated in other 19th century buildings in lower Horry. Also notable are the original wainscoting and oyster plaster.

Present Owner: Mrs. W. Wayne (Elizabeth Spivey) Hucks
Mrs. W. P. (Mary T. Spivey) Foxworth

8. BELLS BAY PLANTATION, Bucksport, S. C., approximately ten miles south of Conway, S. C. off of U. S. 701

Date Built: 1858

This is one of the few plantations that crept into Horry County and was originally owned by the Bell family. In 1858, James Elkanah Dusenbury bought the 800 acre plantation from Joseph Thompson. Dusenbury who served in the General Assembly added two smaller parcels to that bought from Thompson for a total of 934 acres.

A house was built by Dusenbury shortly after he bought the plantation. The two story house of heart pine had eight rooms plus a kitchen wing of two or three rooms. Each room of the main house measured twenty by twenty feet, and a central hall divided each floor. During the 1930's the house was carelessly destroyed by a forest fire.

In 1892 C. Ben Dusenbury bought the plantation from Gilbert Potter of New York City who had obtained it from Ben's father, James. In the 1940's, Clarence Henderson of Central Square, N. Y., bought the place and put up two houses one of which he sold to Mr. and Mrs. Vernon T. Pinner.

Present Owner: Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Henderson

9. BUCK CEMETERY, located eight and 1/2 miles southeast of Conway on Bucksville Road (Across the road from Hebron Methodist Church)

Date Built: First grave that of George Olney Buck, son of Henry Buck, in 1865

Land was bought from Hebron Methodist Episcopal Church South, December 2, 1893. The cemetery was enlarged in the 1920's, using the original iron fence on front and two sides, and a brick fence at the back. This work was planned and supervised by Henry Hichborn Buck, then an architectural student at MIT, and a son of Wm. McGilvary Buck. In this family cemetery lie the remains of the Buck family. Inscribed on a tablet on the back wall are the words:

"Here/in the/Buck Family Cemetery/lies Henry Buck/1800-1870/Descendant of/Jonathan Buck/1719-1795/Founder of Bucksport, Maine/In the Year 1762/Pioneer of the Lumber Industry of the South/At Bucksville, S. C. Also here lie/Other Pioneers/and/Their Descendants/securely enshrouded/ In the historic soil of/South Carolina/Beauty and Quietude/Mingling With the Soul/Inspiring whisper of the trees/And the song of birds/ Endow this sacred spot/With an atmosphere of/Eternal rest. Dedicated in grateful remembrance/1943."

Present Owner: Buck Cemetery, Inc.

10. BUCK HOUSE (BUCKSVILLE PLANTATION, UPPER MILL FARM), located eight miles from Conway, south off U. S. 701

Date Built: About 1830

This two story frame structure, with gable roof and two large end chimneys, was built by Henry Buck (1800-1870) who came to South Carolina from Bucksport, Maine. He bought land on the Waccamaw River and became one of the largest planters in the South. He brought the first saw mill to South Carolina, and built three mills in his lifetime: Upper Mill, at his home site; Middle Mill, at Bucksville, which he had founded; and Lower Mill, which later developed into the thriving community of Bucksport. All that remains of the mills today are the red brick chimneys of the first two mills rising 75 to 100 feet.

Present Owner: Mrs. Henry Lee Buck, Jr.

11. BUCKSPORT, Bucks Township on Waccamaw River

Date Built: unknown

Bucksport grew up immediately before the turn of this century and was active as a lumber milling village until the 1930's. During World War II, the water front docks were used by the United States Coast Guard, and the D. V. Richardson Company store was converted for use as a barracks for the men. Today Bucksport has become a popular stopping place for yachts plying the Intracoastal Waterway.

Present Owner: ~~unknown~~ Mrs & Mrs. John A. Branton

12. COWFORD SPRINGS, (Bucksport, S. C., one mile west of U. S. 701)

I. Foot logs were used for crossing the deep water in this swamp until the 1920's.
Date Built: unknown

Cowford Springs, so named from Cowford Swamp and Mineral Springs, was the site where men from the lower part of Horry County met to join the army at the beginning of the War Between the States. At the first call for troops by Governor Pickens, a company was organized at Cowford Springs in 1861. Samuel Smart was made Captain of a company of about eighty men. They uniformed and armed themselves with shot guns and rifles, then boarded a boat at Bucks Mill which carried them to Georgetown. From Georgetown they were sent to Camp Lookout on the coast near Murrells Inlet. This company of men later joined the 26th Regiment of the South Carolina Volunteers. ~~There are~~ ~~INDIAN~~ ~~ROCKS~~ ~~which indicate~~ ~~that INDIANS used this spring before the white man came.~~
Present Owner: ~~unknown~~ ~~GOODWIN~~ ~~MARTIN~~ have been found here.

13. BUCKSVILLE, Bucks Township on the Waccamaw River

Date Built: unknown

Bucksville, located on the Waccamaw River, was the main shipping center for Horry County during the last half of the nineteenth century. According to the "South Carolina Gazetteer and Business Directory" published in 1883, Bucksville had the largest population of any town in Horry. At this time there was a regular line of schooners plying between Bucksville, New York, and Baltimore carrying naval stores and lumber. Also forty or fifty vessels sailed to points as far away as the West Indies and South America. At its height Bucksville had three churches, two hotels, several sawmills and a bank. All that remains of the town today are the Middle Mill chimney and a few houses.

Present Owner: varied

14. CHARLES DUSENBURY HOUSE, (Port Harrelson) approximately twelve miles south of Conway, S. C., east of U. S. 701 on Port Harrelson Road

Date Built: before 1880

Charles Dusenbury and his bride, Rosa Saye, moved into this house in December 1880. It was probably built by a Mr. Williams, a lumber magnate of lower Horry. Dusenbury was the local Postmaster and a farmer, and also an organizer of Waccamaw Presbyterian Church. Col. James Saye Dusenbury, the first Horry man to graduate from West Point, was born in this house in 1881.

An "L" shaped floor plan was employed in building the two story dwelling. This particular floor plan was quite commonly used in houses of this and later periods. The "L" shape plan allowed the kitchen and dining rooms to extend from the rear of the house, and these rooms were sometimes connected to the living quarters by a covered porch. The main portion of this house is capped by a hipped roof with attractive fretwork highlighting the cornice. This was one of the first houses to have running water upstairs. It is the sole surviving dwelling house of the long vanished town of Port Harrelson.

Present Owner: ~~Mrs. Fred Brown~~

15. EDDY LAKE, Bucks Township on road between Port Harrelson and Bucksport

Date Built: unknown

Eddy Lake, another lumber oriented village, was located near Bucksport on a road between Port Harrelson and Bucksport. The sawmill town was the headquarters for the lumber businesses of the Laidlaws, Officers and Littles. The village reached its peak shortly before World War I. All signs of this hamlet have completely disappeared.

Present Owner: varied

16. HARPER-DUSENBURY HOUSE, (Toddville) approximately six miles south of Conway, S. C. on U. S. 701

Date Built: 1930

Joseph Franklin Harper, a prominent educator, built this house ^{in the early 1930's} on property that had belonged to his wife's family since the early 1800's. Harper's wife, Salley Dusenbury, was a daughter of Ulric A. Dusenbury. The two story house is built with a gabled double piazza on the front, and a double piazza extending along the kitchen wing. The house had since passed to Harper's daughter, the present owner, who had married a cousin.

Present Owner: Mrs. Leo Ellis Dusenbury

17. SAMUEL HARPER HOUSE AND FARM, (Bucksport) approximately ten miles south of Conway on ~~Port Harrelson Road~~

Date Built: 1880

Samuel S. Harper, a Confederate veteran and farmer, put up this dwelling house on lands acquired from William F. Singleton. The home is one of large rooms and high ceilings. The steep roof has an attractive feature in the gables. Each of the gables is covered with small diamond shaped shingles. Brewster T. Harper later removed the kitchen wing ~~as it was not convenient for his wife.~~ This land is part of two tracts granted to Thomas Young in 1786. The Singleton parcel along with purchases from the Bucks, Shelleys and Moores completed Harper's holdings.

Present Owner: Mr. and Mrs. J. Ernest Harper

18. Hebron Methodist Church, (Bucksville) approximately eight miles south of Conway, S. C. on Bucksville-Port Harrelson Road

Date Built: 1848

Hebron succeeds an earlier church that was established near here circa 1760. This red-painted edifice in the Greek revival style was constructed of heart pine and cypress. The windows, doors and shutters were a gift of a sea captain and were made in New England. The floor boards extend the width of

the church, and the walls are made of the old oyster plaster. Some of the builders of the church were New England shipwrights brought to Bucksville for its then blossoming shipping and lumber industries. The Honduras mahogany pulpit was placed between the front doors of the church permitting the rear doors of the church to be used by servants. The seating arrangement was divided between the men and women by a partition through the center pews, with a separate section for servants between the rear doors.

The churchyard continues to be used as a graveyard.

Present Owner: Hebron Methodist Church

19. THE SHIP "HENRIETTA"

Date Built: Launched in 1875

It was from Bucksville that the largest seagoing vessel built in South Carolina was launched in 1875. This ship was built for Henry Buck by a Master Mariner, J. C. Nickels from Searsport, Maine, who sent his master builder, Elisha Dunbar with a crew of ships' carpenters, riggers and blacksmiths to Bucksville to construct the vessel. The full-rigged "Henrietta", named for Mr. Nickels' wife, was 201 feet long, 39 feet wide, and 24 feet deep, registering 1203 tons. The "Henrietta" was so large they had great difficulty in "warping" her down the river to Georgetown. She was taken to Charleston to have her masts placed in her, and afterwards she never returned to South Carolina, as she drew too much water for its harbors. She was operated mainly in trade with the Orient and Australia. In 1894 she was overtaken by a typhoon in Kobe Harbor; all hands were saved, but the "Henrietta" was a total loss.

Present Owner: none

20. MIDDLE MILL, (Bucksville) approximately eight miles south of Conway, S. C., east of U. S. 701

Date Built: 1870

Middle Mill was the second Buck family mill and was located between Upper Mill and Lower Mill (Bucksport). Middle Mill has the distinction of being the first steam powered mill in South Carolina. The chimney remains from the mill and is a square, brick tower with double walls measuring sixteen by sixteen feet at its base. It is more than 100 feet tall and stands as a sentinel over old Bucksville.

Present Owner: Mrs. Elizabeth Spivey Hucks
Mrs. Mary T. Spivey Foxworth

21. MINERAL SPRINGS CHURCH, (Bucksport) one mile west of U. W. 701 on Mineral Spring Road

Date Built: 1830

Mineral Springs Church affords modern Horry County an opportunity to observe the capabilities of the people of early Horry. The church is one of the earliest known community efforts of the small farmers. These people were of the kind created by the Independent Republic's geographic isolation. The church was of the historical period of which so little has survived, making the little structure one of the more valuable Horry buildings. Except for a new exterior, the church remains virtually as it was when constructed.

Mineral Spring was organized as a nondenominational place of worship and also used as the community school. In 1872, it was accepted into the Methodist Episcopal Conference. Near the church is the spring, once thought to be health giving, from which the church took its name. The spring and community were once known as Cowford Spring, as were a creek and a lake nearby. The name Cowford is represented on James Cook's maps of 1770. Old Mineral Spring closed recently after 140 years of service. Z

Present Owner: Mineral Spring Church

22. ^{Uplands} ~~MOORE-STALEY~~ HOUSE AND FARM, (Bucksport) approximately ten miles south of Conway, S. C. on U. S. 701 and Port Harrelson Road
↓ Moore - Staley House Uplands Farm
Date Built: 1898

The house was built by a farmer George L. Moore. The present kitchen and dining rooms of the house were the original Moore house. Brooks Thompson added a large story and a half section capped by an abbreviated Mansard roof around 1920. The property passed to James R. Holbert, an accountant, who made some changes in the house, and the grounds underwent considerable landscaping with the addition of several small pools. W. Laird Staley, a teacher, acquired the house and farm in 1935 from Holbert, and a large porch was enclosed and a complementing roof placed over the Moore wing. The Staleys also added to the grounds by extensive planting. The farm was a part of a grant made to Thomas Young in 1787, and sold to Moore in 1898, by Chester Albright of Philadelphia.

Present Owner: Mrs. W. Laird Staley
Mrs. W. Laird (Bertha P.) Staley

23. PARKER GRAVEYARD, (Pawley Swamp) approximately four miles south of U. S. 378 on Pee Dee Road

Date Built: 1800

This graveyard served the Pawley Swamp area predominantly in the nineteenth century. As churches became organized in the latter half of that century, the local people began using churchyards for burial grounds and this graveyard declined in use. It was used by the Parkers and their relatives, the McCrackens and Pauls. Other local families also were interred here.

24. PAUL-HARPER HOUSE AND FARM, (Bucksport) approximately ten miles south of Conway, S. C. on Port Harrelson Road

2.4- Paul - Harper House and Farm

Date Built: house 1918; farm 1815

This house was built by Henry O'Neil Paul, a millwright. It has since been remodeled and a kitchen wing removed. Notable is the fan-shaped ceiling of the front porch.

The farm was assembled from parcels bought from J. Warren Sing and R. L. H. Branton. The Sing tract, where the present house is located, was once a part of Bells Bay Plantation. The Branton portion had been a grant to William Smith in 1815.

Present Owner: Mr. and Mrs. J. Ernest Harper

25. PAWLEY SWAMP

Date Built: unknown

Pawley Swamp, formerly spelled Pauley, never flourished as a lumber mill community as there were no bluffs among the swamps of the Little Pee Dee River for such operations. However, around 1900 turpentine was gathered in this area and hauled by wagon to the various mill towns along the river. Since the early 1800's Pawley has been a community of small farmers.

Present Owners: ~~unknown~~ Varied

26., PEE DEE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH, (Pawley Swamp) located at the intersection of Pee Dee and Pawley Swamp Roads

Date Built: 1890

This small frame church was the first of the Primitive Baptist denomination in Horry County. The land for the church was deeded to its trustees by Moses A. Martin and Samuel Smart, Sr. This particular sect does not use musical instruments for accompaniment, but rather favors the natural sound of the voice alone. Pee Dee Church has suffered little alteration and retains much of its rough simplicity.

Present Owner: Pee Dee Primitive Baptist Church

√ 27. PORT HARRELSON, located twelve miles south of Conway, S. C., three miles southeast of U. S. 701

Date Built: unknown

Port Harrelson was another village that passed from the scene with the failure of the lumber industry. The town was alternately called Bull Creek and Yauhannah; the latter being of Indian origin and spelled Euhany or Euhanee. There was also a ferry crossing at this point as early as the middle of the 1700's. The little town was located on Bull Creek at Cowford Lake. This creek connects the Great Pee Dee and Waccamaw Rivers. The chief Francis Marion and his men were supplied provisions from the plantations lower down the river during the Revolution. They camped in this ~~area~~ area.

business of the town according to the 1883 "South Carolina Gazetteer and Business Directory" was naval stores and shingles. There were also several sawmills here as early as the 1850's that shipped lumber to the West Indies. Over the period of its prosperity, Port Harrelson was the address of a number of State Legislators, among them were Henry L. Buck, James E. Dusenbury and Pinckney A. Parker. When the town supported a population of two hundred, there were two Methodist Churches, Mineral Spring and Trinity, and also Pine Green High School. Community

The only building that remains from the original village is the Charles Dusenbury House. The name Port Harrelson survives, however, as the voting precinct for the Bucksport area.

Present Owner: varied

28. ROAD'S END, (Bucksport) on the banks of the Waccamaw River off of U. S. 701 ten miles south of Conway, S. C.

Date Built: ^{C. 1860} ~~unknown~~

Road's End was built by Henry Buck. His son, Henry Lee Buck, and his wife Georgia V. Bell Buck, who were married in 1866, lived here and their six children were born here. This property was sold and resold, and in 1898 it was bought by Mr. D. V. Richardson of Whiteville, N. C., who had large lumber interests in Horry County. He married the Buck's youngest daughter, Jessamine "Miss Jessie", in 1901, and brought her back to be mistress of her former home. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson were known for their gracious living and hospitality.

Present Owner: ~~James H. Street~~ Mr. & Mrs. John A. Branton

29. SARVIS GRAVEYARD, (Bucksport) approximately ten miles south of Conway, S. C. on Jack's Branch adjacent to the Sarvis-Thompson Farm

Date Built: 1825

The earliest marked grave dates from 1826. Though begun for the Sarvis family, others in the immediate neighborhood were buried here as late as 1910.

Present Owner: ~~unknown~~ Mr. Lewis Thompson

30. SARVIS-MORRIS HOUSE AND FARM, (Bucksville) approximately eight miles south of Conway, S. C. off Port Harrelson Road

Date Built: house 1911, farm 1770

Captain Moses Floyd Sarvis, CSA, prominent civil engineer and farmer, built this story and a half dwelling to replace an earlier house that had been destroyed by fire. The earlier home, much larger than the present one, was built by Cornelius B. Sarvis circa 1840. Sarvis was a legislator and also the builder of the Sarvis-Thompson House. The present kitchen and dining

rooms date from the period of the earlier house but were not actually a part of that house. The house and adjacent farm passed to Capt. Sarvis' daughter, the present owner, on his death in his 100th year.

The farm was part of a King's grant to Richard Green, Sr. and has remained continuously in the Green-Sarvis-Morris family for more than 200 years.

Present Owner: Mrs. Samuel Calhoun Morris

31. SARVIS-THOMPSON HOUSE AND FARM, (Bucksport) approximately nine miles south of Conway, S. C., east of U. S. 701 on the Bucksville-Port Harrelson Road

Date Built: 1825

The original house was built by Cornelius B. Sarvis, land surveyor, farmer, and State Legislator, on property belonging to his wife's family. She was a daughter of Capt. Richard Green, Jr. who served in the Revolution. Capt. Moses F. Sarvis, builder of the Sarvis-Morris House, was born here in 1836. The property passed to Julius S. Thompson who rebuilt the main section of the house from the materials of Trinity Methodist Church of Port Harrelson. Thompson bought the old church building around 1910 after the congregation had disbanded. The old Sarvis rooms, the present kitchen and dining room, remain intact and are connected to the main house by a covered passageway. The passageway, now enclosed, contains the old kitchen well. Thompson's newer two story portion contains eight large rooms seven of which are bedrooms. Each of the four lower rooms has its own fireplace with openings in the chimneys to accommodate heaters in the upper four rooms.

The farm dates from the pre-Revolutionary grant of Richard Green, Sr. Among the farm buildings put up by the Thompsons' is one of the oldest and largest tobacco barns in Horry County. Built around 1910, the tobacco barn is covered with cypress shingles. It originally burned wood logs to cure the tobacco. The house and farm have remained in the Thompson family for five generations.

Present Owner: ~~Mrs. Fred~~ ^{Richard} Thompson ^{Deceased} (Sidney F. Thompson)

32. TODDVILLE

Date Built: unknown

This small farming village made overtures to industry but remained agricultural. The turpentine business managed to thrive here when the sap was brought in by wagon and cart to be distilled and shipped to other points. There was a cotton gin, a grist mill, a general store and a saloon where the settlers of the vicinity could secure needs and services which they could not provide on their farms.

The Methodist Church history indicates that a meeting house was built in this area in the 1750's. That meeting house was the forerunner of the present Union Church.

Present Owner: ~~unknown~~ varied.

33. WACCAMAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, (Bucksport) approximately ten miles south of Conway, S. C. on U. S. 701

Date Built: 1898

Waccamaw Church was indeed a product of the lumber industry that once dominated lower Horry. It is a model of wood workmanship and an exhibition of the fine quality wood that was shipped from this area to distant ports. The church was built mainly by those families who owned the mills.

The lumber was cut from Bells Bay Plantation and sawed at Eddy Lake Mills. The handsome church was constructed entirely of wood with the exception of the windowpanes. Some of the pews have backs made from a single piece of wood. The paneling of the walls and ceiling is of natural heart pine and has darkened considerably with time. The hand carved pulpit is attributed to Ole Andersen, a Norwegian shipbuilder.

The churchyard was a gift of Benjamin Franklin Moore and buffers the backwaters of the Waccamaw River.

Present Owner: Waccamaw Presbyterian Church

34. WOODBOURNE PLANTATION, leave Bucksport by boat going south to Bull Creek to junction with Little ~~River~~, landing is on right, site is 1/2 mile on road Bull Creek
Tip-Top

Date Built: 1845-46

Swamp land, forming a peninsula between two rivers was granted to John Alston in 1735, and in 1845 J. Motte Alston began clearing, reclaiming from river and forest, 450 acres of first class rice land. On this property he built his home described by him as "painted red with a slate roof of 7 gables, and 12 rooms, all built and painted by my man, Richmond. I bought Richmond and his wife from my father for \$1500 cash, and he proved himself faithful to the end." The lime was burned on the seashore (shell-lime) and the plastering was done by the plasterers of J. Motte Alston's father. In 1848, J. Motte Alston married Mary Ann Fitzsimons and in 1849 they moved into the house. In 1858 Woodbourne was sold to Henry Buck of Bucksville. It remained in the Buck family until it was acquired by the Richardson family. It is now the property of The Georgia-Pacific Lumber Company.

Present Owner: The Georgia-Pacific Lumber Company

35. ADRIAN

Date Built: unknown

Adrian, once a thriving commercial center in Horry County, was named for Adrian, Michigan by a worker helping to build the railroad. It was nicknamed Sodom because two Holiness preachers who had been rejected here followed the Biblical injunction and shook the dust from their feet as a curse against the place. At one time there was a Post Office and a shipping shed here, as well as stores operated by G. W. Sessions, G. T. Sessions, B. R. King, C. A. Cartrette, B. T. Dorman, J. W. Dorsey and