Historic Preservation Commission

Special Meeting

~ Agenda ~

,
http://www.townofboone.net/

Jane Shook
828-268-6960

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 **3:00 PMPlanning and Inspections Conference Room**

This meeting will be held in a hybrid format. You can participate in-person at the Planning & Inspections Conference Room at 680 W King Street, Suite C, or online via WebEx (a video conferencing software).

For information on how to watch, listen, and/or participate in the meeting, please see the WebEx Video Conferencing Information Section at the end of this agenda.

I. Call to Order

II. Adoption of Agenda

III. Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels

Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panel Text and Images, Previously Published Final Draft in the HPC Advisory July 10, 2023 Meeting Packet.

Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Update Provided to Town Council

The updated catalog and estimate were provided to Town Council at the August 9, 2023 Council meeting, and are provided as an update for HPC members.

Boone Cemetery Deed Information (E.Plaag; 2014, Revised 2023)

Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels Revised Text and Attachments - August 29, 2023

Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery Inc Attachments

Draft Town Council Meeting Minutes - August 9, 2023

C. Watkins - Memo to HPC - October 3, 2023

Proposed Project Ideas - Revising Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - October 12, 2023

Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order)

Communication - B.Councill - August 8, 2023

Communication with Attachment - M. Moretz - August 8, 2023

Communication - M. Hardy - August 8, 2023

Communication - E. Plaag - August 8, 2023

Communication - E.Plaag - August 9, 2023

Communication - B. Councill - August 10, 2023

Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023

Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023

Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023

Communication - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023

Communication with Attachment - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023

Communication - T. Councill - August 23, 2023

Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023

Communication - D. Stam - August 23, 2023

Communication - B. Council - August 23, 2023

Communication with Attachment - J. Privott - August 24, 2023

Memo with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 25, 2023

Communication - A. Boyce Phillips - August 25, 2023

Communication - M.Moretz - August 25, 2023

Communication - R. Triplett-Johnson - August 28, 2023

Communication - J. McCleese - August 29, 2023

Communication - E. Plaag, Watauga County Historical Society - August 30, 2023

Communication - T.Councill - August 30, 2023

Communication - T. Councill - October 2, 2023

Communication - B. Councill - October 2, 2023

Communication - M.Moretz - October 10, 2023

Communication with Attachment - S. Keefe - October 11, 2023

Communication - S. Blair Tolbert - October 11, 2023

Communication - D. Stam - October 12, 2023

Communication - J. Privott - October 13, 2023

Communication - B.Councill - October 13, 2023

Communication - T. Councill - October 13, 2023

Communication - D. Stam - October 13, 2023

Communication with Attachment - K. Baldwin Deathridge - October 13, 2023

Communication - K. Wilcox Phillips - October 13, 2023

Communication with Attachment - R. Triplett-Johnson - October 13, 2023

Communication (Corrected Addendum to Previous Communication) - R. Triplett-Johson - October 13, 2023

Communication (Corrected to Previous Communication) - J. Privott - October 13, 2023

Communication - R. Triplett Johnson - (Correction to Previous Attachment, Letter Corrected) - October 16, 2023

IV. Other Discussion

V. Adjournment

WebEx Video conferencing Information:

WATCH OR PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING: Individuals who wish to participate in the meeting may do so through WebEx, either online (by computer or smartphone) or telephone. To do so, please email: Jessica Mitchell, Advanced Planning Specialist at jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net or call 828-268-6960 and you will be provided with an email invitation to the meeting. All requests for participation must be completed by 2 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

Staff will moderate the WebEx session to ensure all participants have an opportunity to speak. Individuals who require user assistance registering or joining the WebEx event on the day/night of the meeting can call 828-268-6960 for support.

Panel #1: Boone Cemetery

The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with the Councill family and was once owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. (1795-1877). The earliest known burials here were Councill family members, but other interments soon followed. By the 1880s, locals treated this as the town cemetery, even though it remained on privately owned land. Cemetery neglect and poor maintenance were a recurring problem by the late 19th century.

From its establishment, the cemetery was also racially segregated. Most surviving grave markers are in this west section of the cemetery, which was reserved for White burials. Black burials, the earliest of which had been persons enslaved by the Councill family, were restricted to the east section. Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials.

In 2015, the Town of Boone acquired both sections of the Boone Cemetery to provide for its long-term preservation. Since then, the Town has installed a new perimeter fence and a retaining wall at the east end of the cemetery to prevent erosion, cleared the grounds of overgrowth, cleaned and reset stones, and created cemetery interpretive programs. Occasional burials for relatives of those already buried here still occur with Town approval. You can use the QR code mounted on this sign to locate specific burials. [229 words, not incl. title]

[Photo of Jacob Mast Councill headstone, now missing]

Caption: Local tradition suggests that Jacob Mast Councill (1830-1865), whose gravestone is now missing, was the first burial here following his death during Stoneman's Raid, but other evidence suggests burials likely occurred here for decades before Councill's death. Several nearby headstones point to earlier interments, although the markers likely came later. The clasped hands on Councill's stone are symbolic of matrimony. Image courtesy of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. [70 words]

[QR Code]

[Aerial Image of Boone Cemetery]

Caption: Aerial image of Boone Cemetery, ca. 1950. Image courtesy of the Palmer Blair Collection, Digital Watauga Project. [17 words]

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panel Text and Images, Previously Published Final Draft in the HPC Advisory July 10, 2023

BORN
BLED

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panel Text and Images, Previously Published Final Draft in the HPC Advisory July 10, 2023 Meeting Packet. (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

Panel #2: How to Use the Boone Cemetery

[Located adjacent to Panel #1] The Boone Cemetery contains the graves of many people, Black and White, associated with the founding and early history of Boone. It is regarded as a sacred space deserving of appropriate respect. For families and friends of those buried here, inappropriate behavior in the cemetery can be deeply offensive and upsetting. It can also cause physical harm to you or others, as well as the grave markers. Here are the ground rules for visitors; violators will be treated as trespassers and prosecuted accordingly:###

- The Boone Cemetery is open to the public from dawn until dusk, 365 days a year.***
- Do NOT lean or sit on ANY of the gravestones in the cemetery.
- Children must be accompanied by an adult and shall not roam freely in the cemetery.
- Do NOT attempt to clean, do "rubbings," or otherwise touch grave markers.
- Do NOT remove tributes that you find on a gravesite, including flowers, flags, rocks, coins, or other items left by loved ones.
- Avoid standing directly on burial plots.
- Be quiet and respectful while visiting the cemetery.
- Dogs and other pets are STRICTLY prohibited from the cemetery grounds.
- Sunbathing, picnics, alcohol consumption, and sporting activities are STRICTLY prohibited in all parts of the cemetery.
- Littering, including cigarette butts, is STRICTLY prohibited.
- Vandalism and desecration of gravesites and headstones are violations of NC Statutes 14-127.1 and 14-148. [224 words not including title]

[Image of Rita Sheridan's gravesite] *Caption:* The revered gravestone of Rita Sheridan, a circus performer, was badly damaged through the carelessness—or vandalism—of a visitor to the cemetery and now lies in pieces on the ground. Image courtesy of Eric Plaag. [36 words]

[QR Code] *Caption:* Use the QR code mounted on this sign to find interesting stories about some of the dead who are buried here. [21 words]

See note below. This language appears in the same "Rules and Regulations."
*** I can find no state or local ordinance that actually sets this rule, so one may need to be passed by Town Council. That said, the "Rules and Regulations of the Boone Cemetery, Boone, NC" that were drafted in 2016 included a provision that said, "The cemetery's public hours of access will be dawn to dusk, 365 days per year." I don't know if this was ever passed as an ordinance, but I could not find it in the published Town ordinances.

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Panel #3: A Divided Cemetery

The stone line at your feet marks the boundary that once divided the Black section of the cemetery to the east from the White section to the west. Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the South and likely originated here with the Councill family's pre-Civil War burial practices. Local tradition holds that the Councill family interred those they enslaved in the east section and their family members at the crest of the hill to the west.

Slavery may have formally ended in 1865, but racial segregation did not. In the century that followed, locals usually called the cemetery's east section the "Colored Cemetery" and the west section the "City Cemetery."[1] White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section. Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all.

In 1958, town officials took over maintenance of the privately owned west section and constructed a chain-link fence between the two sections and around the rest of the west section. Boone mayor Gordon Winkler justified the fence as a way to keep college students out, but the east section received no such protections. Instead, officials closed the overgrown east section to new burials, and Black residents were directed to inter their loved ones in the potter's field on the old County Home site three miles west of here, now known as Clarissa Hill Cemetery.[2]

The two sections remained divided by the chain-link fence until 2015, when the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence marking Boone's racial division of its dead. A 2016 ground-penetrating radar survey identified nearly 200 east section graves, each now marked by a flat stone. [297 words]

[QR Code] *Caption:* Use the QR code mounted on this sign to learn more about those buried in the east section. [18 words]

[2015 photograph showing chain link fence in cemetery] *Caption:* This 2015 image shows the chain-link fence separating the historically Black and White sections of the Boone Cemetery. Image courtesy of Eric Plaag. [23 words]

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[1] This footnote is not to be included on the panel, but in case there is any doubt about the racial segregation of the sections, deeds from the early twentieth century clearly referred to the west section as the "white graveyard" and the east section as the "burying grounds for the colored." See, for example, John E. Brown and Bessie A. Brown to F. J. Brown and Mary A. Brown, April 14, 1914, Deed Book 16, Page 391, Watauga County Register of Deeds; and A. D. Blair and Josie Blair to Jerry Lenoir, et al, trustees, May 1, 1919, Deed Book 28, Page 240, Watauga County Register of Deeds.

[2] This footnote is not to be included on the panel, but Winkler acknowledged the specifics and inconsistencies about the fence in an interview in 1979. See Mike McLaughin, "Union Soldiers, Blacks Are Buried in the Town's 'Forgotten' Cemetery," *Watauga Democrat,* August 23, 1979: B12. Winkler and the Democratic candidates for City Council actually campaigned for re-election in 1957 on the fence issue; see "A Statement to the Voters and Citizens of Boone from the Democratic Candidates for Mayor and City Council," *Watauga Democrat,* June 13, 1957: 8. On completion of the fence, see "Good Improvement," *Watauga Democrat,* October 16, 1958: 4. On the Clarissa Hill transactions, see Watauga County to Trustees of the Clairica Hill Cemetary, November 27, 1956, Deed Book 77, Page 466; and Watauga County a Municipal Corporation to Clarica Hill Cemetary, February 4, 1957, Deed Book 79, Page 74, Watauga County Register of Deeds. Burials appear to have begun at Clarissa Hill in 1955.

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Panel #4: Boone's Union Dead

On March 28, 1865, Union troops entered downtown Boone from the west, and Boone's Confederate Home Guard fired upon them from positions in the James W. Councill House, on the site of the present downtown post office. Quickly overwhelmed, the Home Guard scattered toward Howard's Knob. When the skirmish was over, three local residents were dead, several wounded, and 68 Watauga men taken prisoner. Jacob Mast Councill, who did not participate in the fighting, was ambushed by Union troops at his barn a short distance north of here. Councill was the son of Benjamin Councill, Sr., the man who owned this land where the cemetery sits.

A week later, a second wave of Union troops occupied Boone as other detachments seized control of nearby Deep Gap and Blowing Rock. Among those new arrivals were three White soldiers—North Carolina natives William T. Bradley, age 18, and Henry P. Evans, 33, and Kentucky native John E. Maricle, 29. All three men died at Boone from disease. It is impossible to know why they fought for the North, but many who did held Unionist views despite being southerners. Two other Union soldiers from their regiment also died at Boone, but their burial sites are not known.

If we accept the tradition that this eastern part of the Boone Cemetery was already in use in 1865 as a burying ground for those enslaved by the Councill family, then the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been the Councill family's commentary on men whom they perceived were fighting to end slavery.[3] Nevertheless, Benjamin Councill's willingness to allow their burial on his land after the killing of his unarmed son just a few weeks earlier is also striking. [286 words]

[QR Code] *Caption:* Use the QR code mounted on this sign to learn more about Stoneman's Raid and the soldiers buried here. [19 words]

[Angelo Wiser map showing route of Stoneman expedition from Beech Mountain to Boone, March 28, 1865]

Caption: Angelo Wiser's map showing the route taken by Stoneman's men from Beech Mountain to Boone on March 28, 1865. Image courtesy of the Library of Congress. [26 words]

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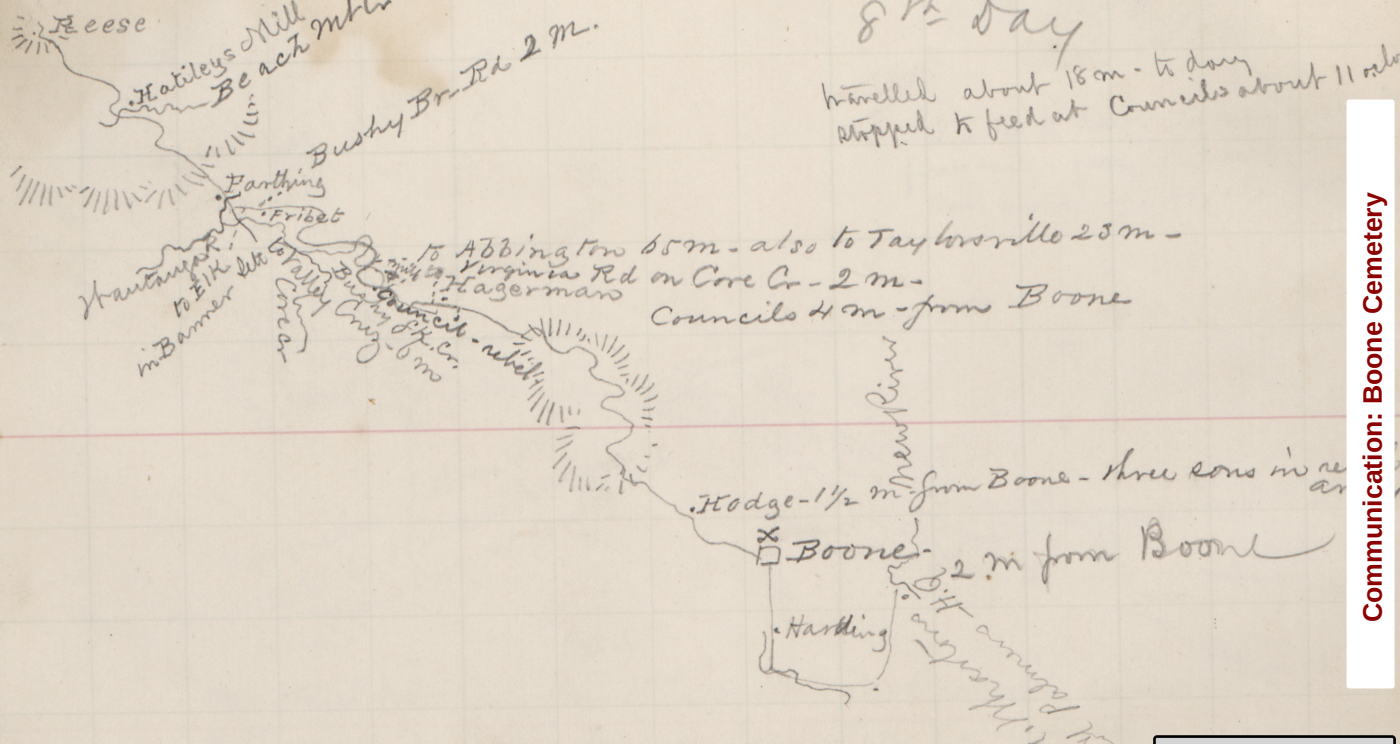
[3] The placement of the Union soldier graves was almost certainly commentary on assumptions about their views on Blacks. Regardless of the reasons these soldiers had joined the Union cause, the southern press routinely ran stories describing invading Union troops as "[N-word] lovers." For two North Carolina examples, see "Fidelity of Southern Slaves," *Wilmington Journal*, 29 December 1864: 1; and "Yankee Letters," *Evening Bulletin* [Charlotte, NC], 1 June 1863: 2. Both of these stories appeared in numerous North Carolina papers. For an example of a similar story from a Tennessee paper, see "More of the Texan Barbarities," *Nashville Daily Union,* 1 March 1863: 1. This was not just a regional sentiment; northern papers also included many articles and editorials from northerners frustrated with the war that used this same epithet to describe abolitionists and some Union troops. One soldier from the 84th Indiana, writing from Shell Mound, Tennessee, complained about this treatment in a letter to the editor in 1864, writing, "There are a few cowardly, sneaking miscreants and home cowards who are constantly calling us traitors, abolitionists, and [N-word] lovers. Now let me tell you we are neither one nor the other; but we are men who responded to our country's call, and who have left our homes, parents, and all the comforts derived therefrom, to support the Constitution and hold sacred that blood bought emblem, the stars and stripes given to us by our forefathers." See "The Army: From the Eighty-fourth Indiana Regiment," *Miners' Journal* [Pottsville, PA], 16 January 1864: 2. [This note is for the benefit of HPC commissioners and not to be included on the interpretive panel.]

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panel Text and Images, Previously Published Final Draft in the HPC Advisory July 10, 2023



Communication: Boone Cemetery

VACKERSIGN
SIGNS FOR PARKS AND TRAILS

2023
SIGN PRODUCT, SERVICE AND PRICE GUIDE

NatureWalk®

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Update Provided to Town Council (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

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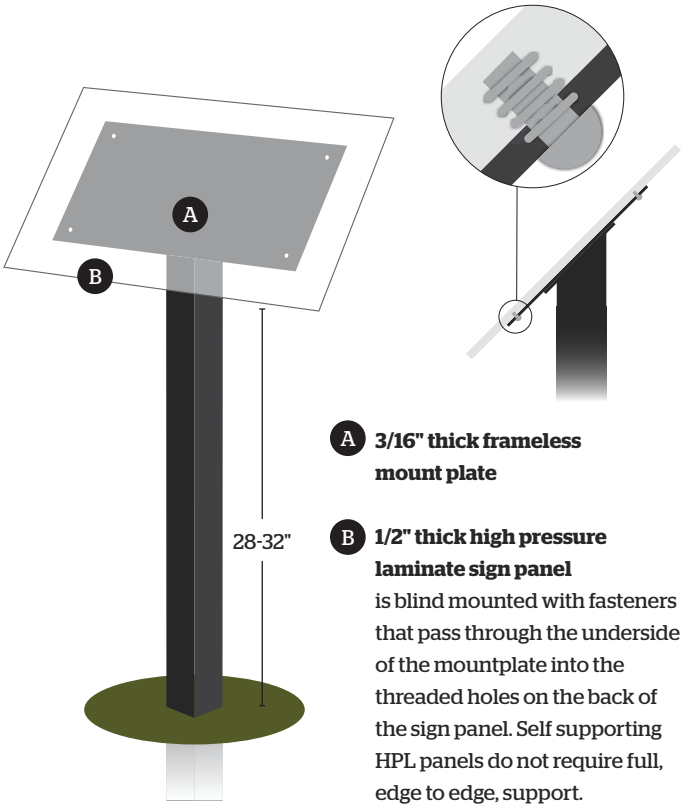
UNDERSTANDING THE OPTIONS

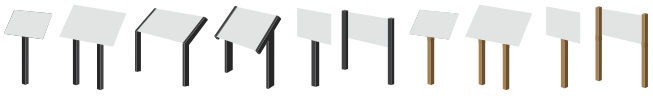
FRAMELESS PEDESTAL MOUNT STYLE

For use with **1/2" thick self supporting high pressure laminate** sign panel



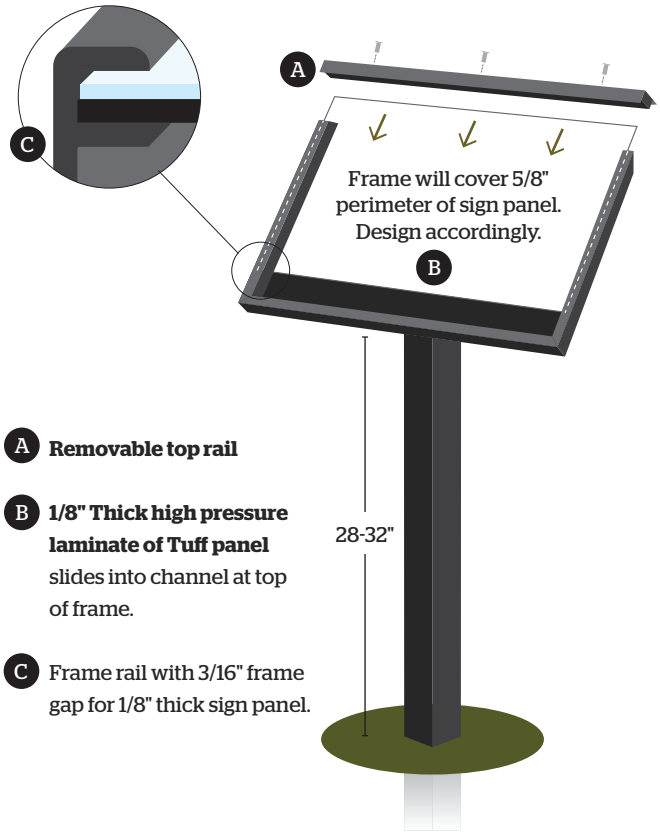
A **3/16" thick frameless mount plate**

B **1/2" thick high pressure laminate sign panel** is blind mounted with fasteners that pass through the underside of the mountplate into the threaded holes on the back of the sign panel. Self supporting HPL panels do not require full, edge to edge, support.



FRAME MOUNT STYLE

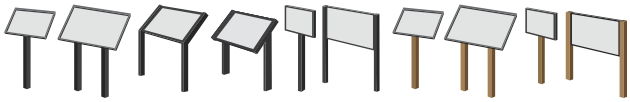
For use with **1/8" thick non-self supporting high pressure laminate or Tuff panel**



A **Removable top rail**

B **1/8" Thick high pressure laminate of Tuff panel** slides into channel at top of frame.

C Frame rail with 3/16" frame gap for 1/8" thick sign panel.



ANGLE OPTIONS

45°

Standard

30°

Custom (+$30)

INSTALLATION AND POST LENGTH OPTIONS

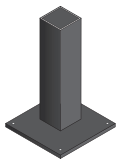
Direct bury installation (above):

Standard post length: 60".

Typical length below grade: 18"-24".

Additional post length is available, $28 per foot.

To be installed with post lengths/footings per your geographical area's recommendations.



Surface mount installation:

6"×6" surface mount plates available.

Standard post length: 40".

$40 each.

AVAILABLE TEXTURE POWDER-COAT COLORS*

*Colors are approximate

- Standard Black
- National Park Service Grey
- National Park Service Dark Brown
- National Park Service Medium Brown
- Forest Green

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Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Update Provided to Town Council (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

SIGN PANEL MATERIAL OPTIONS

Vacker offers two durable sign panel material options to meet your permanent interpretive, map/wayfinding needs as well as an economical mid-grade option for seasonal or short term rotational displays.

1/2" Thick HPL panel mounted to frameless angle mount pedestal

OPTION #1

HPL – HIGH PRESSURE LAMINATE PANEL (EMBEDDED PHENOLIC RESIN)

1/2" Thick (self-supporting) for use with frameless mount plate(s)

1/8" Thick (non self-supporting) for use with a frame

Think outdoor durable kitchen counter top. HD printed papers are impregnated with melamine resins and consolidated at extreme high heat and pressure. The result is a durable, fade resistant panel with unlimited design potential. This panel type, (available in 1/8", 1/4", 1/2", 3/4" and 1" thicknesses), is manufactured by spin-offs of the major laminate counter top manufacturers and Vacker is an authorized reseller for one of the world's leaders in HPL manufacturing. HPL panels are warranted to not delaminate, peel, blister, crack or fade for a 10 year period from the time of purchase, as noted in the Limited Warranty.

HIGH PRESSURE LAMINATE PRICING

Pricing for high pressure laminate sign panels printed from client provided files (signs designed by client). Sign panel design additional—see page 6.

Common sizes	12"×18"			18"×24"			24"×36"			24"×42"			36"×48"		
Per sign based on quantity	1	2	3+	1	2	3+	1	2	3+	1	2	3+	1	2	3+
1/2" Thick HPL (High Pressure Laminate) with threaded holes for frameless mount	$252	$195	$175	$358	$299	$281	$577	$519	$499	$654	$596	$576	$1038	$980	$961
1/8" Thick HPL (High Pressure Laminate) Panel for mount in frame	$179	$120	$101	$241	$178	$165	$367	$309	$292	$409	$352	$333	$619	$561	$542

**Note that pricing can be influenced by quantities and whether the respective sign panel quantities are "originals" (all different) or "duplicates" (all the same). Shipping and any design / file preparation services are additional. Please call or email to request a quotation for your specific project.*

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Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Update Provided to Town Council (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

1/8" Thick Tuff panel in angle mount frame

OPTION #2

TUFF PANEL – TRADITIONAL MARKING FILM / INDUSTRIAL GRADE PROTECTIVE OVER-LAMINATE

1/8" Thick (non self-supporting) for use with a frame

This sign panel type is similar to the graphics you pass each and every day on signs, vehicles, and supermarket floors. What sets it apart is the 8 mil thick industrial grade protective over-laminate. Developed specifically for demanding exterior applications (subways, bus stops, zoos, parks, etc.), it has twice the UV inhibitors than comparable protective films. Independent outdoor & QUA tests have proven 9+ years of UV protection in the Arizona desert. Thicker than comparable protective films, it offers good resistance to scratching and abrasions. This graphic marking film / protective over laminate combination can be applied to polymetal, (aluminum / thermoplastic composite) or aluminum, depending on the application.

TUFF PANEL PRICING

Pricing for high pressure laminate sign panels printed from client provided files (signs designed by client. Sign panel design additional—see page 6.

Common sizes	12"×18"	18"×24"	24"×36"	24"×42"	36"×48"
1/8" Thick TUFF Panel for mount in frame	$92	$140	$185	$215	$310

OPTION #3

SEASONS PANEL

This mid-grade sign panel features a 2 mil thick satin finish, UV resistant protective over-laminate. It is an economical option intended for seasonal or rotational displays like StoryWalks. This sign panel type is intended for display without a protective acrylic sheet, though that's an option with a Storywalk frame if vandalism or tree sap/debris is a significant concern. This panel material is not graffiti resistant.

This sign panel type is available only in 18×24 size at minimum quantities.

	18"×24"
Printed from your prepared files Minimum quantity: 16.	$49
NatureWalk and StoryWalk® backer panel designs Minimum quantity: 8.	$79

1/8" Thick Seasons panel in angle mount frame.

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CUSTOM DESIGN SERVICES

If our standard and semi-custom sign offerings (starting on page 18) don't fit your unique needs, our professional design team can create a custom sign panel layout with your provided text, high resolution photos, illustrations and logos. We can also supplement your content with images and custom illustrations.

BASIC DESIGN SERVICES

Layout development solely from client provided text (edited), high resolution images, illustrations and logos.

Estimated costs for a 18"×24" sign panel
Typically consists of one or two sections with 2-4 photos/illustrations and text.
$175

Estimated costs for a 24"×36" sign panel
Typically consists of a central graphic/map, or multiple panel sections including a total of 5 or more photos / illustrations, and text.
$275

BASIC-PLUS DESIGN SERVICES

Layout development from a combination of client provided text (edited), high resolution images, illustrations and logos, plus Vacker provided high resolution images and illustrations.

Estimated costs for a 18"×24" sign panel
Typically consists of one or two sections with 2-4 photos/illustrations and text.
Starting at $225.

Estimated costs for a 24"×36" sign panel
Typically consists of a central graphic/map, or multiple panel sections including a total of 5 or more photos / illustrations, and text.
Starting at $325.

ESTIMATING BASIC-PLUS DESIGN SERVICES

To estimate Basic-plus Design services, we need to understand the nature of the "plus" services desired. What additional resources do you want us to acquire or develop? For example, if you seek an illustration, what do you want illustrated and what is the communication goal?

CUSTOM DESIGN PROCESS

Visit **vackersign.com/products/interpretive-signs/** to learn about the custom design process.

Custom Illustration: "A Healthy and Diverse Habitat"

Illustration services are available to compliment your client provided text (edited), high resolution images.

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Update Provided to Town Council (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

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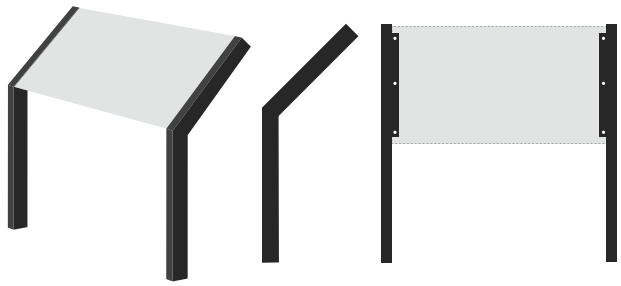
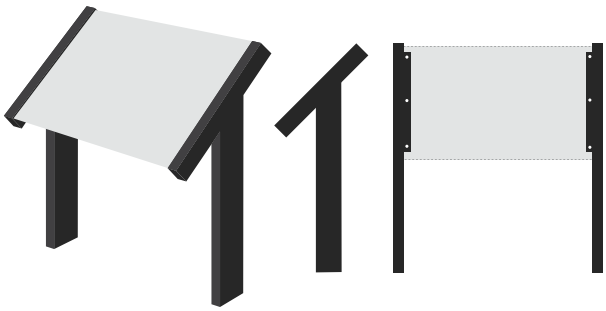


NPS CANTILEVER STYLE FRAMELESS PEDESTAL- POSTS WITH FLANGE

A cantilever frameless pedestal for the angle mounting of self supporting panels (.5" thick high pressure laminate panels). An aluminum mounting flange, with pre drilled holes, is welded to a 3"×3" aluminum cantilevered post. The pre-drilled holes in the flange correspond with tapped or drilled holes in the self supporting panel allowing for fastening by blind mount or thru-bolt.

Flange for Panel Height	
18	$392
24	$409

Pricing based on in ground application. Add $40/ea surface mount plate for surface mount installation.

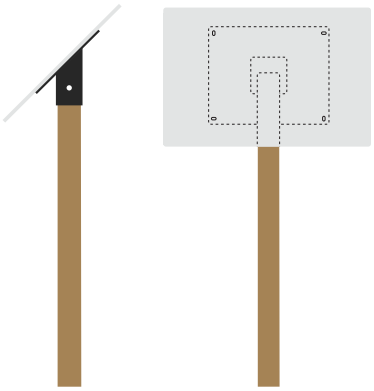


NPS TRADITIONAL STYLE FRAMELESS PEDESTAL - POSTS WITH FLANGE

A traditional style frameless pedestal has 2"×4" support arms with a welded mount flange that extends from the center line of the vertical 2"×6" support posts, resulting in a sturdier look than the cantilever style. The pre-drilled holes in the flange correspond with tapped or thru holes in the self-supporting sign panel allowing for blind mount or thru-bolt.

Flange for Panel Height	*Sign panel additional. See pages 4-5.*
18	$432
24	$447
30	$532
36	$649

Pricing based on in ground application. Add $40/ea surface mount plate for surface mount installation.



ANGLED MOUNT PLATE WITH SLEEVE FOR LUMBER POST(S)

An angled pre-drilled mount plate welded to a sleeve that fits over a recycled plastic lumber or wood 4"×4" post. The pre-drilled holes in the mount plate correspond with tapped or drilled holes in the self supporting panel. Mount plates 12"×12" and larger mechanically attach to the "6×6" plate welded to the 4"×4" sleeve.

Mount Plate Size	
6×6	$87
12×12	$125
12×18	$135
16×20, one plate, 1 sleeve	$156
16×20, one plate, 2 sleeves	$173

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Double unit upright: 4'H×3'W frame, 4'H×3'W bulletin case and tri-fold brochure holder.

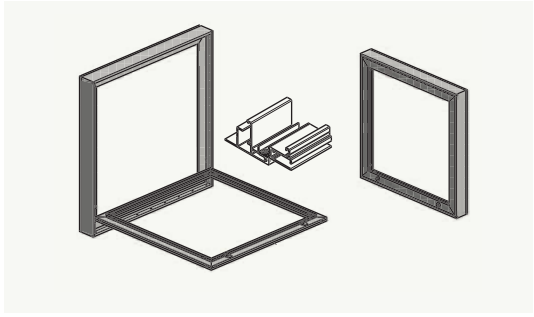
BULLETIN CASES

Like our frames and bases, bulletin cases are constructed of high strength aluminum extrusions and powder coated to ensure a durable finish. They feature a clear acrylic face, keyed-alike locks, a continuous piano hinge, and a galvanized steel back for use with magnets. Bulletin cases can be wall mounted or outfitted with our post systems. Standard case sizes are 18"×24", 24"×36" and 36"×48". Custom sizes are also available.

Bulletin Case	
18×24	$786
24×36	$1,093
36×48	$1393

Upright Posts (set)	
96"	$447
108"	$518

Pricing for multi-unit uprights and configurations available upon request.



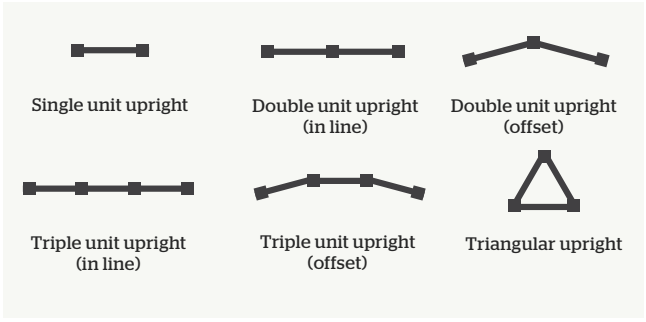
UPRIGHTS AND BULLETIN CASES

Upright exhibits provide for the prominent display of entrance / trail head identification, map, directional and way-finding information. Uprights can include frames, frameless (self-supporting sign panels supported by posts with flange) Components can be mounted in a variety of configurations including: single, double/triple inline, double/triple offset, triangular and hexagon. Components can also be mounted back-to-back.

Hexagon upright with 4'H×3'W frames.

UPRIGHT CONFIGURATIONS

Contact us for pricing.



ALUMINUM BROCHURE BOXES

For mounting to exhibits.

Tri-fold	$152

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VACKERSIGN
SIGNS FOR PARKS AND TRAILS

GUIDE TO PLANNING YOUR INTERPRETIVE SIGN PANEL PROJECT

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1

DEVELOPING AN EFFECTIVE MESSAGE

Whether you plan to do your own sign panel design and provide Vacker with electronic files from which your signs will be printed, or have Vacker design and prepare your files, consider the following "best practices" in developing your message.

ESTABLISH YOUR COMMUNICATION GOALS.

What do you want the visitor to learn? What at the site needs explanation? What questions might the visitor have that would otherwise go unanswered?

Determine the most effective means of communicating your message—usually a combination of text, photographs and/or illustrations.

KEEP YOUR MESSAGE CONCISE AND EASY TO READ.

Keep the message short. Use short sentences and paragraphs.

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CONSIDER THE 3-30-3 RULE.

Visitors are willing to spend varying amounts of time reading / viewing an interpretive sign. Provide something to be gained by visitors who are willing to spend 3 seconds, 30 seconds and 2-3 minutes of their time viewing a sign panel.

Research suggests that the average length of time viewing an interpretive sign is just 45 seconds, with few people willing to invest more than 2 minutes.

An effective title and central photo or drawing can communicate something in 3 seconds. The use of inviting subtitles, short paragraphs and photo captions draws the visitor to content of interest. Highly visual content organized in a logical flow pattern facilitates the visitor in navigating the sign panel in its entirety.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.

Engage your visitors by posing questions and using words like “you”, “your”, “we”, “ours” and “us”.

Use quotations to help personalize a message.

Entice your visitors to be active by looking for something at the site or in the landscape.

Use questions to inspire wonder and curiosity.

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2

DESIGN BASICS

EXPRESS YOUR MESSAGE VISUALLY.

Photos, illustrations, graphics and symbols are more effective than words. Strive for a high reward / low effort ratio. Reward your visitor with information for minimal effort. Where appropriate, use symbols or icons in place of, or to compliment text.

CONSIDER HIERARCHY AND FLOW.

Include a central photo, illustration or diagram to serve as a focal point. Organize content in a logical flow pattern.

OFTEN, LESS IS MORE.

Studies suggest that few people are willing to read beyond 250 words on an interpretive panel.

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Titles 60-72pt

Subtitles 40-48pt.

Paragraph text 24 pt.

Photo captions 18pt

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM TEXT SIZES.

See above graphic for recommended minimum text sizes.

TO THE LEFT.

For paragraphs, use left aligned with ragged right text and no hyphens.

CONSIDER READABILITY.

Avoid use of capital letters in paragraph text, and long lines of text in general. The optimal number of characters per line is 50–60.

Don't use script or fancy font styles. Ensure that text has sufficient contrast to background. Go easy on the eyes in the sun by avoiding white or very light colored backgrounds.

LEAVE SOME AIR.

Avoid crowding. Provide ample space for margins and between lines of text.

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3

IMAGES AND RESOLUTION

When searching and acquiring images to be placed in your sign design, be sure to consider photo resolution. To avoid appearing pixelated, images should be **a minimum of 150 dpi** (dots per inch) at the size they will be placed in the design.

WHY IS IMAGE RESOLUTION IMPORTANT?

Digital images are made up of many pixels (blocks of color), and the number of pixels in the image determines its resolution. The resolution determines how clear the image will look – the higher the resolution, the clearer the image and the better it will look in a design. Low resolution images can appear pixelated (blurry). Because the resolution for the web is much lower (around 72 dpi), **images taken directly from the web or search engines** will usually **NOT** work in printed materials.

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HOW CAN YOU TELL WHAT THE RESOLUTION IS?

Without a photo editing program like Photoshop, it can be difficult to determine the resolution of a photo. While not ideal, it is possible to get a fairly good idea of the resolution of an image by looking at the size of the file.

Although not fool-proof, it is possible to gauge the resolution of an image by looking at the size of the file itself. The more pixels an image contains, the larger the file will be on your computer.

Use these general guidelines for determining the usability of an image:

Less than 125 KB ..... likely not suitable for print
125–500 KB ..... likely usable as a small thumbnail sized photo
500 KB–1 MB ..... likely usable at 2”×3”
1 MB–1.5 MB ..... likely usable at 4”×6”
1.5 MB–2 MB ..... likely usable at 5”×7”
2 MB–3.5 MB ..... likely usable at 8”×10”
5 MB or higher ..... likely usable at 12”×18” or larger

RESOURCES FOR IMAGES

Digital libraries associated with the agencies like the National Park Service, USDA, US Fish & Wildlife Service and other photo deposit websites can be good sources for images. and typically provide the opportunity to download images in a range of file sizes. Images taken **directly from the web or search engines** will usually **NOT** have the resolution needed for an interpretive sign.

COPYRIGHTS

When acquiring images, pay careful attention to copyright details and creative commons license agreements associated with image use. Correct citations and credits are your responsibility.

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4

DETERMINING AN APPROPRIATE SIGN SIZE

Interpretive signs are typically angle mounted with common sizes listed below. A sign should be large enough to accommodate the placement of paragraph text at the **recommended minimum size (24 point)** with visuals placed at a size for easy viewing.

COMMON SIZES	APPROXIMATE CONTENT
12×18"	1 photo/illustration, a short paragraph of text and an agency logo.
18×24"	2-4 photos/illustrations with text.
24×36"	A central image/diagram/ illustration, or multiple panel sections including 5 or more photos/illustrations with supporting text.
24×42	Suited for timelines, panoramic photos.
36×48	More common for uprights.

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SELECTING A MOUNT STYLE AND SIGN PANEL MATERIAL TYPE

DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT YOUR SIGN PANEL WILL BE MOUNTED WITH A FRAME OR FRAMELESS.

Consider that a frame will cover about 5/8" of the panel perimeter. For framed sign panels, keep critical graphics and text a minimum of .5" from the inside edge of the frame. For panels that will NOT be framed, it's suggested that graphic elements (text, photos, drop shadows, or any other elements that are not intended to bleed off the edges, are placed no closer than .5" to finished edges. The standard finishing bevel is 1/8".

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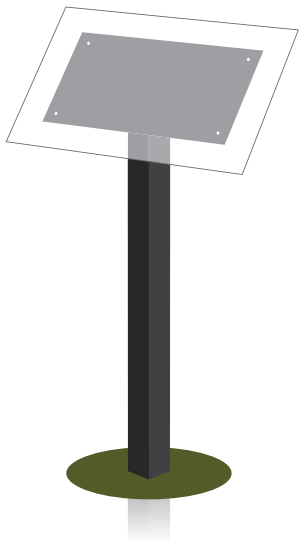
ANGLE MOUNTS

An angle mount sign is intended to be accessible to all (mounted 28-32" from grade) and invites the visitor in. An angled orientation suggests interpretive or educational in nature.

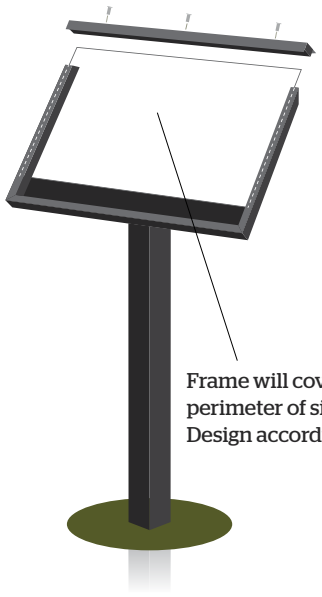
FRAMELESS ANGLED

For use with a **1/2" thick self-supporting high pressure laminate sign panel**.



FRAMED ANGLED

For use with **1/8" thick non-self-supporting sign panel**, in **high pressure laminate** *or* **Tuff Panel**.

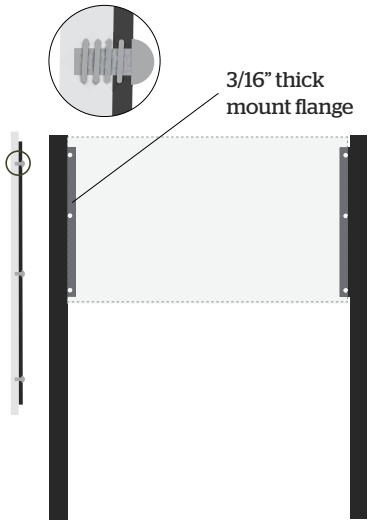


UPRIGHT MOUNTS

Entrance, warning, rule, directional and map signs are typically mounted upright. The vantage point of the visitor / reader should be considered when determining sign and text size. A sign should be large enough to draw the attention of the visitor, and readable from the anticipated vantage point. It is easy to underestimate an appropriate size of an upright sign if the vastness of the environment and vantage point of the reader are not considered.

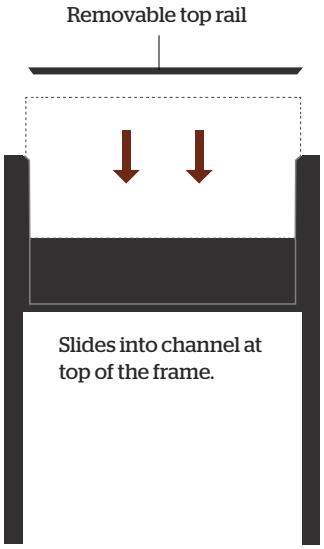
FRAMELESS UPRIGHT

For use with a **1/2" thick self-supporting high pressure laminate sign panel**.



FRAMED UPRIGHT

For use with **1/8" thick non-self-supporting sign panel**, in **high pressure laminate** *or* **Tuff Panel**.



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6

DETERMINE WHO IS GOING TO DESIGN YOUR SIGN PANELS

If you haven't already done so, determine who is going to design your sign panels. Options include doing your sign design and file preparation in-house, contracting with a graphic designer, or utilizing Vacker Sign's design staff.

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NEXT STEPS

FOR PANELS DESIGNED BY IN-HOUSE STAFF OR CONTRACTED GRAPHIC DESIGNER:

- ☐ Forward Vacker's "**File Preparation Guidelines**" and Vacker's "**File Submission Checklist**" to your designer. This will help ensure that your files are properly prepared and that your project will proceed in a timely manner once your project is moved into production. File preparation issues can disrupt the production process and cause delays.
- ☐ Encourage your designer to contact us directly if they have any questions.
- ☐ Request / accept a proposal from Vacker Sign for specific sign products. Please outline desired items by sign panel size, sign panel material type, and mount style (for example: 24"x36"x.125" Tuff Panel to be mounted with NPS traditional style frame with posts for in ground installation) as well as your shipping address.
- ☐ Sign proposal and return by email to confirm acceptance of proposal.
- ☐ Upload production files to us as outlined in Vacker Sign's "**File Preparation Guidelines**". Please reference project name and contact.

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FOR PANELS DESIGNED BY VACKER SIGN:

☐ Determine desired scope of design services and anticipated sign panel sizes:

Basic sign design and file preparation services.

Preparation and file preparation services for interpretive sign panel layout with **client provided** text (edited), high resolution images, illustrations and logos.

Basic-Plus sign design and file preparation services.

Preparation and file preparation services for interpretive sign panel layout with client provided text (edited) high resolution images, illustrations and logos, **plus Vacker created** illustrations and / or **acquired** high resolution images.

☐ Request a proposal from Vacker Sign for desired scope of design services and specific sign products. Please outline desired items by sign panel size, sign panel material type, and mount style (for example: 24"x36"x.125" Tuff Panel to be mounted with NPS traditional style frame with posts for in ground installation) as well as your shipping address.

To estimate Basic-plus Design services, we need to understand the nature of the "**plus**" services desired. What additional resources do you want us to acquire or develop? For example, if you seek an illustration, what do you want illustrated and what is the communication goal?

☐ Sign proposal and return by email to confirm acceptance of proposal.

☐ Organize content in folders and upload to us at spaces.hightail.com/uplink/vackersign.

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INTERPRETIVE SIGN CUSTOM DESIGN

If our standard and semi-custom sign offerings don't meet your unique needs, our professional design team can create a custom sign panel layout with your provided text, high resolution photos, illustrations and logos. We can also supplement your content with images and illustrations from our library of resources.

BASIC DESIGN SERVICES

Layout development solely from client provided text (edited), high resolution images, illustrations and logos.

Estimated costs for a 18"×24" sign panel
Typically consists of one or two sections with 2-4 photos/illustrations and text.
$175*

Estimated costs for a 24"×36" sign panel
Typically consists of a central graphic/map, or multiple panel sections including a total of 5 or more photos / illustrations, and text.
$275*

BASIC-PLUS DESIGN SERVICES

Layout development from a combination of client provided text (edited), high resolution images, illustrations and logos, plus Vacker provided high resolution images and illustrations.

Estimated costs for a 18"×24" sign panel
Typically consists of one or two sections with 2-4 photos/illustrations and text.
Starting at $225*.

Estimated costs for a 24"×36" sign panel
Typically consists of a central graphic/map, or multiple panel sections including a total of 5 or more photos / illustrations, and text.
Starting at $325*.

ESTIMATING BASIC-PLUS DESIGN SERVICES

To estimate Basic-plus Design services, we need to understand the nature of the "plus" services desired. What additional resources do you want us to acquire or develop? For example, if you seek an illustration, what do you want illustrated and what is the communication goal?

Contact us to discuss your Vacker provided high resolution images and illustration needs.

***Cost of sign panel and mount is additional.**

Custom Illustration: "A Healthy and Diverse Habitat"

Illustration services are available to compliment your client provided text (edited), high resolution images.

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CUSTOM DESIGN PROCESS

While we can take care of design and file preparation, we believe that client interaction is paramount to the successful design and implementation of an interpretive panel project. Although every project is unique, a typical project involves multiple interactions and client participation. Contact us for our "**Guide to Planning your Interpretive Project**" for guidance in developing an effective message and other best practices for completing a successful project.

STEP 1

BASIC VS BASIC PLUS

Determine desired scope of design services and anticipated sign panel sizes:

Option 1

Basic sign design and file preparation services.

Design and file preparation services for interpretive sign panel layout with client provided content only.

Option 2

Basic-Plus sign design and file preparation services.

Design and file preparation services for interpretive sign panel layout with client provided text (edited) and a combination of client provided content plus Vacker created illustrations and / or acquired high resolution images. If you seek an illustration, what do you want illustrated and what is the communication goal?

STEP 2

PROPOSAL REQUEST

Request a proposal from Vacker Sign for desired scope of design services and specific sign products (include sign sizes and sign material type and mount style. Sign proposal and return by email to confirm acceptance of proposal.

STEP 3

CONTENT ORGANIZATION

Organize your content by sign panel title. Create a file folder for each sign panel layout to be designed. Name the folder by sign panel title and include all client provided content to be placed in the sign layout:

- ☐ Sign panel text (panel title, subtitles, paragraph text, photo captions, photo credits, etc.) saved as word doc. Text should be "spell checked", proofed, edited and approved by project stakeholders.
- ☐ Create an "images" sub-folder for high resolution images, illustrations, and / or QR codes to be placed in the sign panel layout. To ensure the placement of high quality images, consider the size at which an image will likely be placed in the sign panel layout. Provide images in the largest available file size and save them with a meaningful file name.
- ☐ For agency and / or sponsor logos to be included in the layout, create a "logos" sub-folder and provide any agency sponsor logos in vector (lines and curves) saved as an Illustrator, EPS or PDF file, or as high resolution image files (png, jpg, tiff). Vector art is often available from the department that produces the agency's communication or branding materials. Please be aware that logos pulled from websites and email signatures are often low resolution and not suitable for print.

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CUSTOM DESIGN PROCESS (CONT'D)

STEP 4
COMPRESS

For multiple sign panel projects, Zip/Stuff the folder into a compressed archive.

STEP 5
UPLOAD

Upload your zipped file to us at hightail.com/u/vackersign Please reference project name and contact. If you don't have a zip program, please send a separate Hightail with content for each sign panel title.

STEP 6
THEME INPUT

If desired, provide input regarding the desire for any particular "look" for the panel(s). Input regarding fonts, color palette and format is welcome in an effort to evoke the spirit of the subject matter as well as the unique nature and character of the setting where the panel will be located.

STEP 7
DRAFT LAYOUT

Vacker provides a proposed draft layout of a single panel. Based on client comment, panel layout is revised accordingly. Once the layout of a single panel is approved, subsequent panels are designed and submitted for client review and approval.

STEP 8
REVIEW

While all content should be edited and approved by the client prior to content submission, client reviews panel layouts for any errors or omissions for final layout approval.

STEP 9
FABRICATION APPROVAL

Vacker revises panel as requested. Client reviews and approves panel layouts and authorizes panel fabrication.

hightail.com/u/vackersign

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Vacker Inc.
948 Sherren St. W.
Roseville, MN 55113-4420 US
ckriegler@vackersign.com
www.vackersign.com

Estimate

ADDRESS
Jessica Mitchell
Boone, Town of
680 West King Street, Suite C
Boone, NC 28607 United States

SHIP TO
Jessica Mitchell
Boone, Town of
321 East King Street
Boone, NC 28607 United States

ESTIMATE # 5024
DATE 07/25/2023
EXPIRATION DATE 08/25/2023

SALES REP
Dina Cyrus

DATE		DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	Basic-plus sign design 24x36	Basic-Plus sign design and file preparation services. Prepare custom 24"x36" interpretive sign panel layout with client provided text (pre-edited) high resolution images, illustrations and logos, plus Vacker provided high resolution images and / or illustrations.	4	325.00	1,300.00
	HPL .5-2436	24"Hx36"Wx.5" High Pressure Laminate panel with threaded hole, output from client prepared file.	4	499.00	1,996.00
	Ship Izone 24x36x.125 qty 3-4	HPL Packing and shipping costs via UPS or FedEx	1	148.00	148.00
	Frameless Ped Upright-36	Upright Frameless Pedestal for self-supporting sign panel height of 36". 3"x3"x96" posts with 1.5"Wx34"H welded flange, for in ground installation, black texture powder coat, aluminum construction.	4	533.00	2,132.00
	Brochure holder for tri-fold	Aluminum brochure holder for tri-fold brochures. Black powder coat. Install on specified leg.	1	165.00	165.00
	Ship BD Freight	Aluminum mount packing and shipping costs by freight to location with off-loading capabilities (loading dock or forklift). Additional $70 if Lift gate service is required.	1	360.00	360.00

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with a proposal. Feel free to get back to me with any questions, to request a revision, or if you'd like to proceed with the order. In that case, please sign off and return the proposal to DCyrus@vackersign.com or provide an agency purchase order.
Thanks again,

TOTAL **$6,101.00**

Accepted By

Accepted Date

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Update Provided to Town Council (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

Deed Information Regarding Boone Cemetery Parcel

As of November 10, 2014

Prepared by Eric Plaag, PhD

Please see the following associated plats, which are useful for understanding the information below:

A) Watauga County Plats-in-Deed Book 23, Page 336, "Map of Appalachia" (Kestner Plat), 1913

B) Watauga County Plat Book 14, Page 172, Trustees of the Town of Boone Cemetery, 1998. Tract numbers below are in reference to this plat, which is the "current" plat for this property.

ENTIRE PARCEL

During the 1890s through the 1910s, various *Watauga Democrat* articles and columns made frequent reference to the deplorable condition and lack of maintenance at the cemetery, frequently referring to it as the "city cemetery," "town cemetery," "Boone cemetery," "our cemetery," and similar terms suggesting a community responsibility to the parcel. All deed records, however, seem to indicate that this land was Councill family land from at least the 1860s and remained so until the transactions outlined below.

Deed Book W, Page 57

Dated March 31, 1900

W. B. Councill, Jr., and wife Elizabeth, and G. W Councill to E. S. Coffey

This sale included much of the land later described in Plats-in-Deed Book 23, Page 336, "Map of Appalachia" (Kestner Plat) but then specifically excluded the cemetery from the broader parcel: "The ground included in the above boundary and known as the grave yard is excepted by the grantors hereto."

See also Deed Book T, Page 583, February 10, 1898, G. W. Councill to W. B. Councill, Jr., which references a parcel of land south of the cemetery "beginning at a stake the south west corner of the old grave yard lot as platted out by the administrators of Benjamin Councill at or about the time they made sale of the old Councill lands." A review of the recorded transactions from the sale of these Benjamin Councill lands does not show a transaction involving the cemetery parcel or any lands described as bounding the cemetery, although there are clearly transactions for land in this vicinity. No such plat is recorded, either.

I performed a general survey of the other transactions of W. B. Councill, Jr., G. W. Councill, and many other Councill family members as grantors and grantees (of which there are many dozens), including detailed examination of most of these transactions, but none appear to account for the transfer of the cemetery as a whole to the Town or to any other party.

Communication: Boone Cemetery Deed Information (E.Plaag; 2014, Revised 2023) (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

TRACT ONE (known colloquially as the Driveway Tract)

Information on this parcel was determined by moving forward in time from the 1900 transaction above and the 1913 Kestner Plat, as the 1998 Trustees of the Town of Boone Cemetery Plat indicates, "No title reference found this tract."

Deed Book 16, Page 377

Dated October 23, 1913

Sold to Dr. H. McD. Little by E.S. Coffey and wife Annie E. Coffey.

Noted as Lot #37 (of the 1913 Kestner Plat of the Appalachia Annex to Boone).

Deed Book 34, Page 566

Dated June 9, 1915

Sold to B.H. Watson by H. McD. Little and wife H.A. Little.

Noted as Lot #37 (of the 1913 Kestner Plat of the Appalachia Annex to Boone).

Deed Book 94, Page 232

Dated February 20, 1964

Sold to Viola J. Watson by B.H. Watson (widower)

This transaction included Lots #36 and #37 from the 1913 Kestner Plat.

I could find no further deed record for this parcel (the former Lot #37) after 1964. This suggests that Viola J. Watson and/or heirs never transferred this parcel. It should be noted that B. H. and Viola Watson appear to have transferred the former Lot 36 in a subsequent 1967 transaction to the First Presbyterian Church of Boone (Deed Book 102, Page 147) without reference to the Lot 36 designation, even though Viola was the sole owner of that parcel at the time. This may be the source of confusion within the Watson family; it may be that they believe they disposed wholly of the old Brainard Watson lands at this location as part of this transaction.

Viola J. Watson (1937-2005) was the wife of Brainard Harrison Watson (1915-1979), son of Benjamin Harrison Watson. Both are referred to as "B. H. Watson" in deed records. Viola was living in North Wilkesboro at the time of her death. Her heirs appear to be Stephanie Watson Shumate and husband Cyrus Randall Shumate of North Wilkesboro (as of 2003). Stephanie and Cyrus Shumate's contact information presently appears to be: 226 Forest Rd., North Wilkesboro, NC 28659-9074,

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(336) 667-8836. A search of will records in Wilkes County for Viola Watson has not yet been conducted.

All of the above notwithstanding, see the following:

Book of Record 532, Page 645

Dated June 9, 1999

John H. Councill, Mark W. Hodges, John L. Payne, and Rachel Rivers-Coffey, Trustees, sold Tracts One and Four to the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery, referencing Plat Book 14, Page 172.

This deed notes that there was no deed record for the parcels and that the transaction was made without warranty as to title.

There is the additional complication that the State of North Carolina, the owner of the parcel immediately to the east of Tract One, recently had a building on this site that encroached substantially on Tract One. This building was recently demolished (within the past year or so), and the lot has since been cleared. The adjacent parcel was conveyed to the State of North Carolina in 1971 (Deed Book 122, Page 139); it is not known how long the demolished building encroached on Tract One.

TRACT TWO (known colloquially as the "White" Cemetery Tract)

Deed Book 46, Page 347

Dated July 21, 1937

Sold to James H. Councill, R. D. Hodges, and R. C. Rivers Jr. (trustees of the cemetery lot) by B.J. Councill and wife Blanche and Mrs. J. F. Hardin (widow), 1.02 acres.

Note: Mrs. J. F. Hardin was Matilda/Mattie (sometimes listed as Martha) Councill Hardin, and thus a likely Councill heir.

Note: The measurements of this transaction do not appear to include the boundary of the "colored" or "black" section of the cemetery.

I performed a general survey of the other transactions of B. J. Councill and wife Blanche, Blanche Councill, Mrs. J. F. Hardin, J. F. and Mattie Hardin, and many other Councill family members as grantors and grantees (of which there are many dozens), including detailed examination of most of these transactions, but none appear to account for the transfer of the "colored" or "black" section of the cemetery.

Deed Book 172, Page 441

Dated November 18, 1976

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James H. Councill, as sole surviving Trustee, appoints Mark Hodges and John H. Councill as successor Trustees to R. D. Hodges, Sr., and R. C. Rivers, Jr.

I can find no transaction naming John L. Payne and Rachel Rivers-Coffey as Trustees, although this may not have been required legally. **Furthermore, I can find no transaction transferring Tract Two to the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery.**

TRACT THREE (known colloquially as the Addition to the "White" Cemetery Tract)

Deed Book 80, Page 169

Dated September 16, 1958

Sold to James H. Councill, R.D. Hodges, and R.C. River(s) Jr. (trustees of the cemetery lot) by the State of North Carolina.

This was a Quitclaim Deed transaction. The State of North Carolina (ASTC) had a lappage of boundary lines with Tract 2 and agreed to surrender Tract 3 of roughly 0.13 acres to the cemetery trustees.

Multiple transactions appear to account for the ASTC acquisition of this land south of the cemetery prior to this transaction but are difficult to distinguish because of poor landmark references.

I have searched for other transactions involving James H. Councill and the other trustees of the cemetery lot, other than the two above, but have found none relevant to the cemetery. **Furthermore, I can find no transaction transferring Tract Three to the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery.**

TRACT FOUR (known colloquially at various times as the "Colored" Cemetery Tract or "Black" Cemetery Tract)

For the sliver of land (formerly Lot 45 of the Kestner Plat) adjoining Brown Street (now incorporated as part of Tract Four), see:

Deed Book 28, Page 179

Dated December 12, 1914

Sold to A. D. Blair by John Greene and E. S. Coffey and wife Annie E. Coffey

Transaction included Lots 43, 44, and 45 of the 1913 Kestner Plat of the Appalachia Annex to Boone. No cemetery reference is made in this transaction.

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Deed Book 28, Page 240

Dated May 1, 1919

Sold to Jerry Lenoir, Gus Horton, and June Horton, Trustees by A. D. Blair and Josie Blair, "adjoining the burying ground of the colored people in the town of Boone and is being conveyed for the purpose of enlarging said bur[y]ing grounds for the color[e]d."

This 1919 transaction covered Lot 45 only from the 1913 Kestner Plat of the Appalachia Annex to Boone. There is no independent deed reference for the "said bur[y]ing grounds for the color[e]d."

I have reviewed all transactions for Lenoirs and Hortons between 1900 and 1973, and I find no reference to any transaction involving these Trustees and the actual cemetery. Furthermore, I have reviewed all transactions to the present involving the (Colored) Methodist Episcopal Church of Boone (and any similar variations in name) as well as the Boone Methodist Episcopal Church, and none involve the cemetery. I have also reviewed all transactions to the present in the names of all other trustees named in transactions involving the (Colored) Methodist Episcopal Church of Boone, including W. P. Jones (of Lenoir), Gus Horton, June Horton, W. R. Horton, Hilary Haight [probably Haigler], and Jessie Mitchell, as well as all Haigler/Hagler transactions. No transactions in their names apply to the cemetery.

In addition, I have searched all post-1985 deed records for any reference to the Boone Cemetery, the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery, and just the word "cemetery"; the transactions outlined here were the only relevant ones found.

Also, as an aside, it should be noted that the church that used to be located near the first water tower on Junaluska is frequently referred to in the deed records as the "Colored Methodist Church Lot" and the "Boone Chapel, ME." Transactions related to that lot should not be confused with Tract Four.

Book of Record 532, Page 645

Dated June 9, 1999

John H. Councill, Mark W. Hodges, John L. Payne, and Rachel Rivers-Coffey, Trustees, sold Tracts One and Four to the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery, referencing Plat Book 14, Page 172.

This deed notes that there is no deed record for the parcels and that the transaction is made without warranty as to title.

I have also reviewed numerous articles in the *Watauga Democrat* from the 1890s through the 1910s that reference the neglected condition of the "town cemetery" and frequent efforts to make

Communication: Boone Cemetery Deed Information (E.Plaag; 2014, Revised 2023) (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

improvements there. None of these articles ever attribute ownership to anyone, nor do any reference the "colored section" of the cemetery.

Several interested parties have referenced a possible fund established by Rachel Rivers Coffey, a portion of which would be used for the protection of the cemetery. I have reviewed Paul Armfield Coffey's will, which left an additional $100,000 to the Rachel Rivers-Coffey Memorial Fund with the Watauga County Community Foundation. After contacting the Watauga County Community Foundation and inquiring about the purported intention to make regular donations from the Armfield and Rachel Rivers Coffey Fund to Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery, it appears that no donations were EVER made to that group (JCMC). The old Historic Boone group was in the original Coffey Fund agreement and did receive a grant in 2000, and the Watauga Community Foundation was under the impression that this money would be used, in part, for cemetery upkeep. They have not granted any other funds for cemetery upkeep since then.

I have written to Judge Phil Ginn, the Registered Agent for Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery, to ask for contact information for the appropriate authorized representative(s) who might be able to join discussions about the ownership and future care of the cemetery. Judge Ginn indicates that he has repeatedly asked to have his name removed as the Registered Agent and does not have information regarding deed transactions.

I have also written to Greg Lovins, Vice Chancellor at ASU, for assistance in locating any deed research associated with ASTC's quitclaim transaction in 1958 on Tract 3, as well as advising him of the boundary encroachment by ASU/State of North Carolina relative to Tract 1.

Finally, I have met with both the Junaluska Heritage Association and John L. Payne, as Trustee of the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery group, and both groups have indicated a willingness to work with other interested parties and the Town of Boone in resolving questions about ownership and long-term maintenance of all tracts in the cemetery.

[Edited for clarity on deed references, August 1, 2023. --EWP]

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Revised Draft of Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels
August 29, 2023
Eric Plaag, for the Boone Historic Preservation Commission[1]

REVISED Panel #1: Boone Cemetery

The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with the Councill family and was once owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. (ca. 1807-1877), who likely inherited the land from his father, Jordan Councill, Sr. (1769-1838). The earliest known burials here were Councills and others from intermarried families, but by the 1880s, locals treated this as the town cemetery, even though it remained on privately owned land. Included herein are the graves of veterans from several wars, elected officials, prominent business and civic leaders, and other local citizens. Despite its importance as a community cemetery, though, neglect and poor maintenance were a recurring problem by the late 19th century.

From its establishment, the cemetery was also racially segregated. Most surviving grave markers are in this west section of the cemetery, which was reserved for White burials. While burials for relatives of those already interred here continue to this day in the crowded west section, many local Whites began using Mount Lawn Memorial Park and Gardens when it opened east of Boone in 1950. Local tradition holds that the east section was reserved for Black burials, the earliest of which were likely persons enslaved by the Councills and their extended families. Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials.

In 2015, the Town of Boone acquired both sections of the Boone Cemetery to provide for its long-term preservation. Since then, the Town has installed a new perimeter fence and a retaining wall at the east end of the cemetery to prevent erosion, cleared the grounds of overgrowth, cleaned and reset stones, and created cemetery interpretive programs. [285 words, not incl. title]

[Photo of Jacob Mast Councill headstone, now missing] *Caption:* Some locals claim that Jacob Mast Councill (1830-1865), whose gravestone is now missing, was the first burial here following his death during Stoneman's Raid, but other evidence suggests burials likely occurred here for decades before Councill's death.[2] Several nearby headstones point to earlier interments,

[1] The author thanks Elizabeth Phillips, Jill Privott, and Terry Harmon for their constructive suggestions for revisions and improvements to the draft text panels, many of which are now incorporated.

[2] [This footnote will not appear on the panel.] As I shared with Terry Harmon on August 22, 2023, via email, some sources place Jordan Councill, Sr (d. 1838), and his wife (d. 1864) in this cemetery, but there are no stones to document same. Nevertheless, I have suspected that the cemetery may have "begun" with the burial of Jordan, Sr., here by his children, including his son Benjamin Councill, Sr., who is documented as the later owner of this land (likely inherited from his father, although the will does not provide metes and bounds for the bequests), which would certainly make sense (and explain the weird gaps in grave markers at the top of the hill near the other

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although the markers likely came later. Image courtesy of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. [60 words]

[QR Code] *Caption:* Use the QR code mounted on this sign to learn more about the cemetery and see an inventory of all known burials within the Boone Cemetery. [26 words]

[Aerial Image of Boone Cemetery from ca. 1907] *Caption:* Detail crop showing the Boone Cemetery, ca. 1907. Image courtesy of the Historic Boone Collection, Digital Watauga Project. [18 words]

Councills). By the 1850s, there were some extended family members buried here--primarily Todds, but a few others as well. I understand that Caroline McGhee Todd was the daughter of Willis McGhee, Sr., and Elizabeth "Bettie" Councill (daughter of Jordan Councill, Sr., and brother to Benjamin, Sr.). Two of her children have gravesites whose deaths predate Jacob Mast Councill (both died in 1858), but the stones clearly were not placed here until 1879 at the earliest, when Caroline died, and possibly not until her husband Joe Todd's death in 1903--all appear to be by the same stonemason. Other early marked burials are Sarah A. Councill (Jacob Mast Councill's daughter, 1863, although stone is likely later); John W. Wood (probably the son of Bartlett and Eveline McGhee Wood, and thus the grandson of Bettie Councill, 1858, although stone is likely later); and Charlotte "Lottie" Councill Hardin (daughter of Jordan Councill, Sr., 1843, stone probably much later). Thus, the claim that is sometimes published that the cemetery started with the death of Jacob Mast Councill is almost certainly wrong. As you can see, though, the earlier burials involved several extended Boone families intermarried with the Councills, and by the 1870s, I suspect the White community of Boone viewed the White section as "shared space" even though it was still technically owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. I suspect that something similar occurred with the Black section over time for similar, intermarriage reasons within the Black community; local tradition, as documented on Panel #3, has claimed this for at least 13 years, based on the scholarship of others and prior to my arrival in Boone in September 2011. --EWP

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REVISED Panel #2: How to Use the Boone Cemetery

[Located adjacent to Panel #1] The Boone Cemetery contains the graves of many people, Black and White, associated with the founding and early history of Boone. It is regarded as a sacred space deserving of appropriate respect. For families and friends of those buried here, inappropriate behavior in the cemetery can be deeply offensive and upsetting. It can also cause physical harm to you or others, as well as the grave markers. Here are the ground rules for visitors; violators will be treated as trespassers and prosecuted accordingly:###

- The Boone Cemetery is open to the public from dawn until dusk, 365 days a year.***
- Do NOT lean or sit on ANY of the gravestones in the cemetery.
- Children must be accompanied by an adult and shall not roam freely in the cemetery.
- Do NOT attempt to clean, do "rubbings," or otherwise touch grave markers.
- Do NOT remove tributes that you find on a gravesite, including flowers, flags, rocks, coins, or other items left by loved ones.
- Avoid standing directly on burial plots.
- Be quiet and respectful while visiting the cemetery.
- Dogs and other pets are STRICTLY prohibited from the cemetery grounds.
- Sunbathing, picnics, alcohol consumption, and sporting activities are STRICTLY prohibited in all parts of the cemetery.
- Littering, including cigarette butts, is STRICTLY prohibited.
- Vandalism and desecration of gravesites and headstones are violations of NC Statutes 14-127.1 and 14-148. [224 words not including title]

[Image of Rita Sheridan's gravesite] *Caption:* The revered gravestone of Rita Sheridan, a traveling circus member, was badly damaged through the carelessness—or vandalism—of a visitor to the cemetery and now lies in pieces on the ground. Image courtesy of Eric Plaag. [37 words]

[QR Code] *Caption:* Use the QR code mounted on this sign to find interesting stories about some of the dead who are buried here. [21 words]

See note below. This language appears in the same "Rules and Regulations." [This note will not appear on the panel.

*** I can find no state or local ordinance that actually sets this rule, so one may need to be passed by Town Council. That said, the "Rules and Regulations of the Boone Cemetery, Boone, NC" that were drafted in 2016 included a provision that said, "The cemetery's public hours of access will be dawn to dusk, 365 days per year." I don't know if this was ever passed as an ordinance, but I could not find it in the published Town ordinances. --EWP [This note will not appear on the panel.]

REVISED Panel #3: A Divided Cemetery

The stone line at your feet marks the boundary that once divided the Black section of the cemetery to the east from the White section to the west. Local tradition holds that prior to the Civil War, the Councills and their extended families interred those they had enslaved in the east section and family members at the crest of the hill in the west section.[3] While slavery may have formally ended in 1865, racial segregation of gravesites remained common in many parts of the United States, including here, until at least 1965.

In the century that followed the Civil War, Black burials continued in this east section, the earliest of which is documented to 1898. Until the 1950s, locals typically called the cemetery's east section the "Colored Cemetery" and the west section the "City Cemetery." A wooden fence erected around the White section in the 1890s further amplified this division.[4] White cemetery trustees and town officials occasionally maintained the west section but often neglected the east section entirely. Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments often marked graves in the west section, while fieldstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all.[5]

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[3] [This footnote is not to be included on the panel.] Please see the August 25, 2023, Memo from Eric Plaag to the HPC, which addresses various questions about the traditional claim that Councill slaves were buried here, the segregation of the two sections, and the naming references for the two sections. Since that memo was written, additional information attesting to the traditional attribution of the east section as a burial ground for enslaved members of the Council family has been found. See, for example, Anna Oakes," "African-American Cemetery Presentation March 20," *Watauga Democrat*, March 14, 2014, online, accessed August 26, 2023, https://www.wataugademocrat.com/community/african-american-cemetery-presentation-march-20/article_86713d93-998d-5f29-af0a-ad1ac416bc0c.html; Jesse Wood, "Update: Junaluska Heritage Association Requests Signage, Fencing of Black Section of Cemetery off Howard Street," *High Country Press,* June 19, 2014, online, accessed August 26, 2023, https://www.hcpress.com/news/junaluska-heritage-association-presses-for-signage-fencing-of-black-portion-of-cemetery-off-of-howard-street.html; "Final Report from the Junaluska Heritage Association to the Human Hurt and Hope Fund, Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina," February 4, 2015, [3], online, accessed August 26, 2023, https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwi5s6DOiYCBAxUaMEQIHTDFAp44ChAWegQIBRAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Flib.digitalnc.org%2Frecord%2F24204%2Ffiles%2Fncmemory_302534_000001.pdf&usg=AOvVaw2OolbAM8gWYspSwrre4JOu&opi=89978449, and Mary Giunca, "Reclaiming a Community Treasure," *Appalachian Today*, October 4, 2017, online, accessed August 26, 2023, https://today.appstate.edu/2017/10/04/community-treasure. In addition, the 2010 entry for the Jordan Council Cemetery (specifically the east section) at Find-a-Grave (ID 2359993) states, "The cemetery was originally established for the slaves of the Councill Family, some of the original founders of the town of Boone." See Jordan Council Cemetery, *Find a Grave*, online database, accessed August 26, 2023, https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2359993/jordan-councill-cemetery.

[4] [This footnote is not to be included on the panel.] Since the August 25, 2023, Memo from Eric Plaag was submitted, a second 1907 image, this time taken from south of the cemetery, has been found. The original raw scan and a cropped, brightened, and contrasted version of His-Boo-2-123-006 (old numbering) from the Historic Boone Collection, Digital Watauga Project, are attached.

[5] [This footnote is not to be included on the panel.] Several complaints have been lodged about the use of the term "systemic racism" to explain this disparity in the use of finely engraved headstones. As has been noted in Eric Plaag's recent communications with Town Council, this term is not "trendy," and its use is in fact part of the interpretive commitments of the OAH, AHA, NCPH, and SHA, among many other professional historical and cultural organizations. For a straightforward explanation of systemic racism, see Mary Frances O'Dowd, "Explainer:

In 1958, town officials took over maintenance of the privately owned west section and used taxpayer funds to construct a new chain-link fence around the west section. One official later justified the fence as a way to keep college students out, but the east section received no such protections. Meanwhile, in a further act of segregation, Black residents were directed to inter their loved ones in the "colored cemetery" on the old County Home site three miles west of here, now known as Clarissa Hill Cemetery, instead of at Mount Lawn Memorial Park and Gardens, the racially exclusive cemetery where most Whites were buried after 1950.[6]

The two sections remained divided by the chain-link fence until 2015, when the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence marking Boone's racial division of its dead. A 2016 ground-penetrating radar survey identified nearly 200 east section graves, each now marked by a flat fieldstone. [351 words, not incl. title]

[QR Code] *Caption:* Use the QR code mounted on this sign to learn more about those buried in the east section. [18 words]

[Aerial Image of Boone Cemetery from ca. 1950] *Caption:* Aerial image of Boone Cemetery, ca. 1950. Image courtesy of the Palmer Blair Collection, Digital Watauga Project. [17 words]

[2015 photograph showing chain link fence in cemetery] *Caption:* This 2015 image shows the chain-link fence separating the historically Black and White sections of the Boone Cemetery. Image courtesy of Eric Plaag. [23 words]

What is Systemic Racism and Institutional Racism?" *The Conversation*, February 4, 2020, online, accessed August 29, 2023, https://theconversation.com/explainer-what-is-systemic-racism-and-institutional-racism-131152. The Fair Fight Initiative has put together an excellent primer on systemic racism. See "Systemic Racism," Fair Fight Initiative, online, accessed August 29, 2023, https://www.fairfightinitiative.org/systemic-racism/. For additional resources on systemic or structural inequality, see Meilan Solly, "158 Resources to Understand Racism in America," *Smithsonian Magazine,* June 4, 2020, online, accessed August 29, 2023, https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/158-resources-understanding-systemic-racism-america-180975029/#sectionTwo.

[6] [This footnote is not to be included on the panel.] Former Mayor Gordon Winkler acknowledged the specifics and inconsistencies about the fence in an interview in 1979. See Mike McLaughin, "Union Soldiers, Blacks Are Buried in the Town's 'Forgotten' Cemetery," *Watauga Democrat,* August 23, 1979: B12. Winkler and the Democratic candidates for City Council actually campaigned for re-election in 1957 on the fence issue; see "A Statement to the Voters and Citizens of Boone from the Democratic Candidates for Mayor and City Council," *Watauga Democrat,* June 13, 1957: 8. On completion of the fence, see "Good Improvement," *Watauga Democrat,* October 16, 1958: 4. On the Clarissa Hill transactions, see Watauga County to Trustees of the Clairica Hill Cemetary, November 27, 1956, Deed Book 77, Page 466; and Watauga County a Municipal Corporation to Clarica Hill Cemetary, February 4, 1957, Deed Book 79, Page 74, Watauga County Register of Deeds. Burials appear to have begun at Clarissa Hill in 1955. On the racial exclusivity of Mount Lawn, see "Articles of Incorporation of Mount Lawn Memorial Park and Gardens of Boone, Incorporated," March 25, 1959, Corporation Book C, Page 99. Those articles read, in part, "The objects for which this corporation is formed are as follows: To engage in the business of operating a cemetery for the burial of the dead of the white or Caucasian race…." Mount Lawn acquired the property in 1950; see W. K. and Madge L. Sturdivant to Mountlawn Memorial Park, Inc. (indexed as "Mountain Memorial Park, Inc."), February 7, 1950, Deed Book 86, Page 68.

REVISED Panel #4: Boone's Union Dead

On March 28, 1865, Union troops entered downtown Boone from the west, and Boone's Confederate Home Guard fired upon them from positions in the James W. Councill House, on the site of the present downtown post office. Quickly overwhelmed, the Home Guard scattered toward Howard's Knob. When the skirmish was over, three local residents were dead, several wounded, and 68 Watauga men taken prisoner. Jacob Mast Councill, who did not participate in the fighting, was ambushed by Union troops at his barn a short distance north of here. Councill was the son of Benjamin Councill, Sr., the man who owned this land where the cemetery sits.

A week later, a second wave of Union troops occupied Boone as other detachments seized control of nearby Deep Gap and Blowing Rock. Among those new arrivals were three White soldiers—North Carolina natives William T. Bradley, age 18, and Henry P. Evans, 33, and Kentucky native John E. Maricle, 29. All three men died at Boone from disease and were buried in this east section of what was then the Councill Cemetery; their headstones were ordered and placed in 1879, and ground-penetrating radar confirms three side-by-side burials at this location. It is impossible to know why they fought for the North, but many who did held Unionist views despite being southerners. Two other Union soldiers from their regiment also died at Boone, but their burial sites are not known. Several Confederate veterans, meanwhile, were later buried in the west section.

If we accept the tradition that this eastern part of the Boone Cemetery was already in use in 1865 as a burial ground for those enslaved by the Councills and their extended families, then the decision to locate these White soldiers' graves here raises difficult, perhaps unanswerable questions. Were they intentionally placed in the Black section as a commentary on men who were perceived as fighting to end slavery?[7] Did the Councill family authorize the burial, or was the decision made solely by the Union occupying force without input from the family? Either way, the burial of the soldiers on Benjamin Councill's land just a few weeks after the killing of his unarmed son, buried a short distance to the west, is striking. [370 words]

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[7] [This note is for the benefit of HPC commissioners and not to be included on the interpretive panel.] Regardless of the reasons these soldiers had joined the Union cause, the southern press routinely ran stories describing invading Union troops as "[N-word] lovers." For two North Carolina examples, see "Fidelity of Southern Slaves," *Wilmington Journal*, 29 December 1864: 1; and "Yankee Letters," *Evening Bulletin* [Charlotte, NC], 1 June 1863: 2. Both of these stories appeared in numerous North Carolina papers. For an example of a similar story from a Tennessee paper, see "More of the Texan Barbarities," *Nashville Daily Union,* 1 March 1863: 1. This was not just a regional sentiment; northern papers also included many articles and editorials from northerners frustrated with the war that used this same epithet to describe abolitionists and some Union troops. One soldier from the 84th Indiana, writing from Shell Mound, Tennessee, complained about this treatment in a letter to the editor in 1864, writing, "There are a few cowardly, sneaking miscreants and home cowards who are constantly calling us traitors, abolitionists, and [N-word] lovers. Now let me tell you we are neither one nor the other; but we are men who responded to our country's call, and who have left our homes, parents, and all the comforts derived therefrom, to support the Constitution and hold sacred that blood bought emblem, the stars and stripes given to us by our forefathers." See "The Army: From the Eighty-fourth Indiana Regiment," *Miners' Journal* [Pottsville, PA], 16 January 1864: 2.

[QR Code] *Caption:* Use the QR code mounted on this sign to learn more about Stoneman's Raid and the soldiers buried here. [19 words]

[Angelo Wiser map showing route of Stoneman expedition from Beech Mountain to Boone, March 28, 1865] *Caption:* Angelo Wiser's map showing the route taken by Stoneman's men from Beech Mountain to Boone on March 28, 1865. Image courtesy of the Library of Congress. [26 words]

[J. E. Maricle headstone order application] *Caption:* Headstones for the three Union soldiers were ordered and placed in 1879, nearly 15 years after their deaths. Shown is the headstone for J. E. Maricle. Image is courtesy of the National Archives, Washington, DC. [35 words]

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RECORDED APRIL 10, 1959

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

I, THAD EURE, Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify the following and herete,attached (Three (3) Sheets) to be a true copy of ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF MOUNT LAWN MEMORIAL PARK AND GARDENS OF BOONE, INCORPORATED and the probates thereon, the original of which was filed in this office on the 25th day of March 1959, after having been found to conform to law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal.

DONE IN OFFICE, at Raleigh, this 25th day of March in the year of our LORD 1959.

(SEAL)

THAD EURE
Secretary of State

NO. 86821

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

MOUNT LAWN MEMORIAL PARK AND
GARDENS OF BOONE, INCORPORATED

This is to certify that we, the undersigned, do hereby associate ourselves into a corporation, under and by virtue of the laws of North Carolina, and to this end do hereby set forth:

I.

That the name of this corporation is Mount Lawn Memorial Park and Gardens of Boone, Incorporated.

II.

The period of existance of this corporation is unlimited.

III.

The objects for which this corporation is formed are as follows: To engage in the business of operating a cemetery for the burial of the dead of the white or caucasian race; to purchase, mortgage, sell, and lease land for said purpose; to construct mausoleums, monuments, or other structures; to make, alter, and amend rules for the proper conduct of a cemetery; to do and perform every act or service necessary, expedient, or convenient for the proper operation of a cemetery; to deal in , purchase, and sell memorials of such types as may be allowed by the by-laws of the association; and to do and transact all business generally incidental to the purposes aforesaid.

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels Revised Text and Attachments - August 29, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

IV.

The corporation shall have the authority to issue one thousand (1,000) shares of its stock of the par value of One Hundred ($100) Dollars per share. The minimum amount of consideration for its shares to be received by this corporation before it shall commence business is Three Hundred ($300) Dollars.

V.

The address of the initial registered office of the corporation is at 104½ West King Street in the Town of Boone, Watauga County, North Carolina, and the name of its initial registered agent is William E. Jenkins at such aforesaid address.

VI.

The number of directors constituting the initial Board of Directors of the corporation shall be three directors, and the names and addresses of the persons who shall serve as directors un til the first meeting of shareholders, or until their successors are elected and qualified, are James D. Boone, West Jefferson, North Carolina; Bertha Lou Boone, West Jefferson, North Carolina; and William E. Jenkins, 327 Grand Boulevard, Boone, North Carolina.

VII.

The name and address of each of the incorporators of this corporation is James D. Boone, West Jefferson, North Carolina; Bertha Lou Boone, West Jefferson, North Carolina; and William E. Jenkins, 327 Grand Boulevard, Boone North Carolina.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our names and affixed our seals, this 19th day of March, 1959.

s/ James D. Boone (SEAL)

s/ Bertha Lou Boone (SEAL)

s/ William E. Jenkins (SEAL)

NORTH CAROLINA
ASHE COUNTY

This day personally appeared byfore me the undersigned Notary Public, in and for Ashe County, North Carolina, James D. Boone, Bertha Lou Boone, and William E. Jenkins, each of whom being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That he signed the foregoing Articles of Incorporation and that the statements therein contained are true.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, this 19th day of March, 1959.

s/ Shirley A. Little (N.S.)
Notary Public

My Commission expires:
March 20, 1960.

Original duly verified by all signers, and this is a conformed copy.

This 19th day of March, 1959.

Shirley A. Little
Notary Public (SEAL)

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels Revised Text and Attachments - August 29, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels Revised Text and Attachments - August 29, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

DEEDS—BOOK No. 68

THE GEO.D.GARRARD COMPANY,ST.LOUIS

NORTH CAROLINA—WILKES County.

THIS DEED, Made this seventh day of February, A. D. 19 50., by W. K. and Madge L. Strudivant of Wilkes County and State of North Carolina of the first part, to Mountlawn Memorial Park, Inc., of Watauga County and State of North Carolina of the second part:

WITNESSETH, That said W. K. and Madge L. Sturdivant in consideration of Ten and no/100----Dollars and other valuable considerations DOLLARS to them paid by Mountlawn Memoria Park, Inc., the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, ha bargained and sold, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey to said Mountlawn Memoria Park, Inc., heirs and assigns, a certain tract or parcel of land in ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Watauga County, State of North Carolina adjoining the lands of Highway 421 and others, and bounded as follows, viz.:

Beginning on a white pine on the north bank of Highway 421 and being a corner of the lands of Sallie L. & Lelia M. Ray and runs thence south 85 west with said highway 31 poles to a stake in said highway, thence leaving said highway and runs north 34 east 3.5 poles to a chestnut, thence north 34 west 10¼ poles to a pine, thence north 69 west with the McNeal line 35 poles to a white oak; thence a north-east direction 146.15 feet to a stake, thence in an eastward direction 1174.3 feet to a stake on the line of W. K. Sturdivant and the Ray Sisters thence in a southward direction 200 feet to a white pine, the beginning.

---$11.00 Documentary Stamps---

~~The above described lands were conveyed to grantor by~~ ~~See Book~~ ~~Page~~

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the aforesaid tract or parcel of land, and all privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the said W. K. and Madge L. Sturdivant heirs and assigns, to their only use and behoof forever.

And the said W.K. and Madge I. Sturdivant for themselves and their heirs, executors and administrators, covenant with said Mountlawn Memorial Park, Inc., heirs and assigns, that they are seized of said premises in fee and have right to convey in fee simple; that the same are free and clear from all encumbrances, and that they do hereby forever warrant and will forever defend the said title to the same against the claims of all persons whomsoever,

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said W.K. and Madge L. Sturdivant, have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

W. K. Sturdivant (SEAL)

Madge L. Sturdivant (SEAL)

ATTEST: (SEAL)

(SEAL)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA—Watauga County.

I, , Clerk of the Superior Court, hereby certify that and his wife, personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the annexed Deed of Conveyance.

Let the instrument, with this certificate, be registered.

Witness my hand and official seal, this day of , A. D. 19

, Clerk Superior Court.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, Wilkes County.

~~Justice of the Peace,~~

I, Anna Jean Garwood Notary Public, do hereby certify that W. K. Sturdivant and Madge L. Sturdivant his wife, personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the annexed Deed of Conveyance.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal, this 7th day of February, A. D. 19 50.,

My Commission expires 11-13-50 Anna Jean Garwood (NOTARY SEAL), N. P. (SEAL)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA—Watauga County.

~~Justice of the Peace,~~

The foregoing certificate of Anna Jean Garwood, a Notary Public of Wilkes County, State of North Carolina, is adjudged to be correct. Let the instrument, with the certificates, be registered.

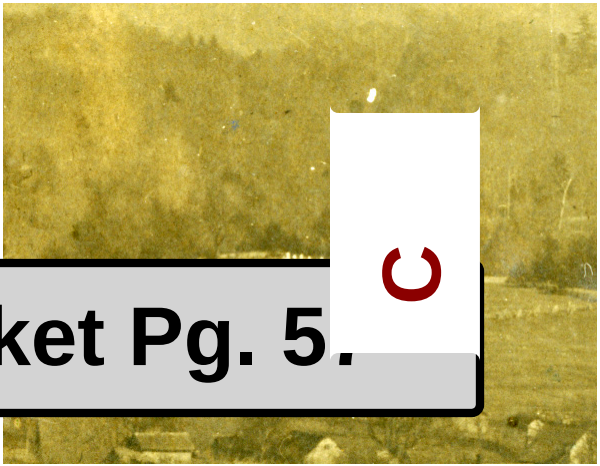
Witness my hand and official seal, this 1 day of June, A. D. 19 50.,

Fred M. Gragg., Clerk Superior Court.

Filed for registration on the 1st day of June, 19 50, at 3:30 o'clock P. M., and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Watauga County, N. C., this 3 day of June, 19 50, at 9:30 o'clock A. M., in Book 68 of Deeds, on page #86., and verified.

Helen Underdown,
Register of Deeds, Watauga County.

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels Revised Text and Attachments - August 29, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)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WEST - VIEW OF A.T.S.C. BOONE, N C.
NEG BYE CAMPBELL. APR. 2, 07

SOSID: 0469818
Date Filed: 10/20/2015 3:47:00 PM
Elaine F. Marshall
North Carolina Secretary of State
C2015 288 00447

State of North Carolina
Department of the Secretary of State

ARTICLES OF DISSOLUTION BY DIRECTORS, MEMBERS, AND THIRD PERSONS FOR NONPROFIT CORPORATION

Pursuant to §55A-14-04 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the undersigned corporation hereby submits the following Articles of Dissolution for the purpose of dissolving the corporation.

1. The name of the corporation is JORDAN COUNCILL MEMORIAL CEMETERY, INC.

2. The names, titles, and addresses of the officers of the corporation are: John L. Payne, President/Treasurer P.O.Box 313, Boone, NC 28607; Rebecca Eggers-Gryder, Vice President/ Secretary, P.O. Box 82, Boone, NC 28607; Frank L. Coffey, Vice Presiden P.O. Box 66, Boone, NC 28607

3. The names and addresses of the directors of the corporation are: EXACTLY SAME AS ABOVE (JOHN L. PAYNE, REBECCA EGGERS-GRYDER, AND FRANK L. COFFEY)

4. Attached is the plan of dissolution as required by N.C.G.S. §55A-14-03.

5. The dissolution of the corporation was authorized on the 17th day of AUGUST, 2015.

6. (*Check a, b, and/or, c, as applicable.*)

a. ✓ Approval of members was not required for the dissolution, and the plan of dissolution was approved by a sufficient vote of the board of directors.
b. _____ Approval of the members was required for the dissolution, and the plan of dissolution was approved as required by Chapter 55A of the North Carolina General Statutes.
c. _____ Approval of the dissolution by some person or persons other than the members or the board of directors was required pursuant to N.C.G.S. §55A-14-02(a)(3), and such approval was obtained.

7. These articles will be effective upon filing, unless a delayed date and/or time is specified _____

This the 29th day of SEPTEMBER, 2015

JORDAN COUNCILL MEMORIAL CEMETERY, INC.
Name of Corporation

Signature

John L. Payne, President
Type or Print Name and Title

Notes:
1. Filing fee is $15. This document and one exact or conformed copy of these articles must be filed with the Secretary of State.

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery Inc Attachments (Boone Cemetery Interpretative

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF JORDAN COUNCILL MEMORIAL CEMETERY, INC.

The undersigned, being all the Directors and Officers of the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery, Inc., a North Carolina non-profit corporation, were present and waived notice of the meeting.

Mr. Payne stated that the purpose of the meeting was to authorize the corporation to convey any interest it might have in Tracts One and Four of the Town of Boone Cemetery by non-warranty deed to the Town of Boone, and to appoint and authorize him as President of the corporation to execute said non-warranty deed.

The further purpose of the meeting was to direct dissolution of the corporation, the corporation having no assets and having never taken any action other than to accept a non-warranty conveyance of said cemetery Tracts One and Four in 1999.

Wherefore, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously passed, **THE BOARD RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

The Corporation, through John L. Payne as President, shall execute a non-warranty deed conveying any interest it might have in Tract One and Tract Four of the Town of Boone Cemetery to the Town of Boone; and

The Corporation shall be, and is hereby, dissolved.

There being no further business to be transacted, the meeting was adjourned by consensus.

Dated: August 17, 2015

FRANK COFFEY, DIRECTOR

REBECCA EGGERS-GRYDER, DIRECTOR

JOHN L. PAYNE, DIRECTOR

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery Inc Attachments (Boone Cemetery Interpretative

0-0469818

FILED
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ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
(NONPROFIT CORPORATION)
OF

EFFECTIVE
ELAINE F MARSHALL
SECRETARY OF STATE
NORTH CAROLINA

JORDAN COUNCILL MEMORIAL CEMETERY, INC

We, the undersigned natural persons of the age of eighteen years or more, acting as incorporators for the purpose of creating a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of North Carolina, as contained in Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina, entitled "Nonprofit Corporation Act", and the several amendments thereto, do hereby set forth:

1. The name of the corporation is: **JORDAN COUNCILL MEMORIAL CEMETERY, INC.**

2. The period of duration of the corporation shall be perpetual.

3. The purpose(s) for which the corporation is organized are:
A. Exclusively charitable, educational and scientific and consist of the following:

(1) To promote and preserve historical sites, materials, cemeteries and publications and to educate the public as to the value of their preservation.

(2) To aid, support and assist by gifts, contributions, or otherwise, other corporations, community chests, funds and foundations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or scientific purposes, no part of the nest shareholder or individual, and no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation.

(3) To do any and all lawful activities which may be necessary, useful or desirable for the furtherance, accomplishment, fostering, or attaining of the foregoing purposes, either directly or indirectly, and either alone or in conjunction or cooperation with others, whether such others be persons or organizations of any kind or nature, such as corporations, firms, associations, trusts, institutions, foundations, or governmental bureaus, departments or agencies.

B. In furtherance, but not in limitation, of the foregoing charitable, educational and scientific purposes, the Corporation shall have the following powers:

(1) To solicit, collect and receive money and other assets, and to administer funds and contributions received by grant, gift, deed, bequest or devise, and otherwise to acquire money, securities, property, rights and services of every kind and description, and to hold, invest, expend, contribute, use, sell, or otherwise dispose of any money, securities, property, rights or services so acquired for the purposes above mentioned.

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery Inc Attachments (Boone Cemetery Interpretative

(2) To borrow money, and to make, accept, endorse, execute and issue bonds, debentures, promissory notes, and other corporate obligations for monies borrowed, or in payment for property acquired or for any of the purposes of the Corporation, and to secure payment of any such obligation by mortgage, pledge, deed, indenture agreement or other instrument of trust, or by other lien upon, assignment of, or agreement in regard to all or any part of the property, rights or privileges of the Corporation.

(3) To invest and reinvest its funds in such mortgages, bonds, notes, debentures, shares of preferred and common stock, and any other securities of any kind whatsoever, and property, real, personal or mixed, tangible or intangible, all as the Corporation's Board of Directors shall deem advisable and as may be permitted by law.

(4) To lease or own real property where such will further the primary purposes of this Corporation.

(5) To obtain information and conduct research, studies and analyses of the problems and history of said communities, and prepare and publish reports, as to any and all matters that may be of use in furthering the purposes of this Corporation.

(6) To conduct educational and other efforts to preserve the history and culture of the area.

(7) To aid, support and assist by gifts, contributions, loans, investments and other lawful forms of assistance other persons or organizations where such assistance will further the primary purposes of this Corporation.

(8) To engage in any and all other activities which will directly or indirectly improve the welfare and economic conditions of said residents and groups, and preserve the culture and history of said community.

(9) To exercise all other rights and powers conferred upon corporations formed under the General Nonprofit Corporation Law of the State of North Carolina, provided, however, that the Corporation shall not engage in any activities or exercise any powers, including those specifically mentioned herein, that are not in furtherance of the specific and primary charitable, educational and scientific purposes of the Corporation.

C. All of the foregoing purposes and powers shall be exercised exclusively for charitable and educational purposes in such manner that the Corporation shall qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as it is currently and shall hereafter be in force and effect.

4. The corporation shall have no members and the board of directors shall be elected or appointed as provided by the bylaws.

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery Inc Attachments (Boone Cemetery Interpretative

5. Said Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Number 3 hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be carrying on or propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution or statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Superior Court of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

6. The street address and county of the initial registered office of the corporation is:

136 N. Water Street
Boone, NC 28607
Watauga County

7. The name of the initial registered agent of the corporation at the above address is:

C. Philip Ginn

8. The number of directors constituting the initial board of directors shall be 4, and the names and addresses (including street and number) of the persons who are to serve as directors until

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery Inc Attachments (Boone Cemetery Interpretative

the first meeting of the corporation or until their successors are elected and qualified are:

John H. Councill, P.O. Box 449, Boone, NC 28607
Mark W. Hodges, 181 Palmer Drive, Boone, NC 28607
Rachel Rivers-Coffey, P.O. Box 526, 145 Cobble Creek Lane, Boone, NC 28607
John L. Payne, 120 Hunting Road, Boone, NC 28607

9. The name and address (including street and number) of each incorporator is as follows:

John H. Councill, P.O. Box 449, Boone, NC 28607
Mark W. Hodges, 181 Palmer Drive, Boone, NC 28607
Rachel Rivers-Coffey, P.O. Box 526, 145 Cobble Creek Lane, Boone, NC 28607
John L. Payne, 120 Hunting Road, Boone, NC 28607

10. The street address and county of the principal office of the corporation is:

747 W. King Street
Watauga County

11. The mailing address (if different from the street address) of the corporation is:

P.O. Box 526
Boone, NC 28607

12. Any other provisions which the corporation elects to include are attached.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands, this the 21 day of June 1998.

John H. Councill, Incorporator

Mark W. Hodges, Incorporator

Rachel Rivers-Coffey, Incorporator

John L. Payne, Incorporator

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery Inc Attachments (Boone Cemetery Interpretative

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF WATAUGA

I, a notary public, do hereby certify that **John H. Councill, Mark W. Hodges, Rachel Rivers-Coffey and John L. Payne** personally appeared before me and acknowledged the execution of the foregoing Articles of Incorporation.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal, this the 21 day of June, 1998.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 10/24/2000

(Seal)

Communication: Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels - Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery Inc Attachments (Boone Cemetery Interpretative

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL
August 9, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 12:02 p.m. at the Council Chambers located at 1500 Blowing Rock Road in Boone. Mayor Tim Futrelle presided. Council members present included Mayor Pro-Tem Edie Tugman, Councilmember Todd Carter, Councilmember Virginia Roseman, Councilmember Dalton George and Councilmember Becca Nenow. Town staff present included Town Manager Amy Davis, Communications Specialist Laney Pilkington, Downtown Boone Development Coordinator Lane Moody, Public Works Director Todd Moody, Planning and Inspections Director Jane Shook, Planning and Inspections Deputy Director Stacey Miller, Long Range and Special Projects Planner Jessica Mitchell, Sustainability and Special Projects Manager George Santucci, Cultural Resources Director Mark Freed, Police Chief Andy Le Beau, Community Resource Officer Kat Eller Human Resources Director Dale Presnell, Deputy Director of Public Utilities Josh Eller, and Finance Director Guy Miller, who attended virtually. Town Attorney Allison Meade was also in attendance.

Others in attendance included Amy Whisnat, Nancy LaPlaca, David Jackson, Eric Plaag, Elaine Conti, Fred Milano, Scott MacIntosh, Travis Hutchins, Jill Privott, Brenda Councill, Pam Williamson, Dave Freireich, Mary Strong, Maria Owens, Zan Valliant, and Stephen Phillips. Virtual attendees included “Chris”, “Greene”, “M.M.”, Sarah Odio, and Edmond Miller.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Futrelle asked for a moment of silence. Afterwards, Mayor Futrelle then asked for a motion to move into Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon the motion of Councilmember Roseman, seconded by Councilmember George, the Boone Town Council voted unanimously to move into closed session.

PURSUANT TO N.C. GEN. STAT. § 143-318.11(A) (1), TO REVIEW, APPROVE AND SEAL CLOSED SESSION MINUTES FROM COUNCIL'S PRIOR CLOSED SESSION(S).

PURSUANT TO N.C. GEN. STAT. § 143-318.11(A) (3), TO CONSULT WITH THE TOWN ATTORNEY IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE BETWEEN THE ATTORNEY AND THE TOWN COUNCIL AND OBTAIN LEGAL ADVICE, CONSIDER AND/OR GIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE ATTORNEY CONCERNING ONE OR MORE POTENTIAL LEGAL CLAIMS.

PURSUANT TO N.C.GEN. STAT. §142-318.11(A)(1), TO PREVENT THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED OR CONFIDENTIAL PURSUANT TO THE LAW OF THIS STATE OR OF THE UNITED STATES, OR NOT CONSIDERED A PUBLIC RECORD WITHIN THE MEANING OF CHAPTER 132 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES; SPECIFICALLY, TO PROTECT INFORMATION EXEMPTED PURSUANT TO G.S. 132-1.7 (PUBLIC SECURITY INFORMATION); AND PURSUANT TO N.C. GEN. STAT.§ 143-318.11 (A)(9), TO DISCUSS AND/OR TAKE ACTION REGARDING PLANSTO PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY.

TENTATIVE AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Futrelle resumed the August 9, 2023 meeting of the Boone Town Council at 1:09pm. He then asked for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Councilmember Roseman asked if there were any adjustments that needed to be made. Mayor Futrelle said he did not. Upon the motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman, seconded by

DRAFT

Communication: Draft Town Council Meeting Minutes - August 9, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

Councilmember George, the Boone Town Council voted unanimously to adopt the August 9, 2023 agenda as presented.

REQUESTED APPEARANCES

Mayor Futrelle began by stating that due to the length of the agenda, order of items may be moved with consent from Council. He went on by asking the presenters for the requested appearances to be mindful of their time. He continued by asking Councilmember's comments to remain topical and relevant to the topics presented. Mayor Futrelle began the request appearances by introducing Mr. David Jackson, the president and CEO of the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce.

DAVID JACKSON - BOONE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. Jackson thanked Council for their time, and began by explaining he was here to present a quick update in regards to the Watauga Economic Development Commission (EDC). After giving a brief history of how the Boone Area Chamber of Commerce took over EDC, he explained that the three main points of discussion for the EDC were as follows: housing, childcare, and workforce development. The main goal of the EDC, Mr. Jackson explained, is to solidify economic infrastructure. He went on to explain how the Chamber is currently working on goals on how to fund the EDC more, and how this year was a foundation year for the partnership of the EDC and the Chamber. He then asked the Council if they had any questions. Councilmember Roseman asked Mr. Jackson about the Blowing Rock childcare program, and asked if they has looked at how similar models could be implemented countywide. Mr. Jackson answered by stating that Blowing Rock is a model which municipalities across the state are looking at as a driver for employee retention. He said that Blowing Rock was fortunate to have an existing building that could be repurposed, as well as staff through the Parks and Recreation programs. He added that he would encourage the Town of Boone to look into this model more. Mayor Futrelle then asked Mr. Jackson to explain more about "buy-ins" from the different municipalities that the EDC serves. Mr. Jackson explained that currently, the EDC is funded by Watauga County solely, as it was a program through the County initially. He added that all municipalities have been told that they can join with no funding necessary; however, he was open to discussing future funding from different municipalities to realize the goal of the EDC. With no further questions, Mayor Futrelle introduced Ms. Sarah Odio with the UNC School of Government Development Finance Initiative.

SARA ODIO - UNC SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INITIATIVE

Ms. Odio thanked Council for their time and for allowing her to appear virtually. She explained that she worked as the Assistant Director of Housing for the UNC School of Government Development Finance Initiative (DFI). Ms. Odio went on to explain that the DFI was in the process of working with Watauga County in order to develop a predevelopment feasibility analysis for an affordable housing project on Brookshire Road. After explaining, the DFI's role in this process, Ms. Odio said that the goal of the presentation today was to learn if the Town would be willing to extend water and sewer service to that area, and what would be needed from the County and future private developers to accomplish this. She went on to state that a final commitment would be needed in early 2024 before a developer is selected. Ms. Odio ended with clarifying that what she is asking for today is that the Town gives a preliminary commitment to extend water and sewer services to the site, and what the conditions for the extension would be, including regulatory requirements. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman expressed uneasiness in regards to making a preliminary commitment to extend water and sewer services to the site because there is no information about the property, such as the elevation, if a pump station is needed, and what the density of the development would be. Ms. Odio clarified that for today, she is just looking for the willingness to extend, not who will cover the cost. Ms. Meade asked Council to have Mr. Todd Moody give insight to the technical concerns Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman had. Mr. Moody said he does not feel that there is an issue to running water and sewer to the proposed site, however, he explained that the current issue is that the Town Code does not allow for it as it stands now. Ms. Meade agreed with Mr. Moody, and stated that under certain ordinances annexation is required for water and sewer extension. Ms. Meade then said that with annexation, requirements under the Town's Unified Development Ordinance would be required. Councilmember Carter said that he personally sees this as a concrete opportunity for affordable housing.

DRAFT

Communication: Draft Town Council Meeting Minutes - August 9, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

Councilmember George reiterated this point, but explained that annexation is extremely important as the Town Code is written to require it. Councilmember Roseman explained that the Council is interested in the opportunity, and is willing to look at different avenues, however more information is required. Mayor Futrelle asked if Council was willing to make a decision. Councilmembers Carter and Roseman reiterated that they want affordable housing within the Town of Boone/Watauga County area, however, not enough information has been given. Mayor Futrelle agreed, and said he would like an open and honest conversation with the County before a tentative agreement is made. Councilmember George reiterated his previous statement, and said that under Town Code annexation is required. Changing the Town Code could take months. Ms. Odio clarified once again that her ask of Council is a "yes to extend IF…" statement. No final commitment is needed today. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman suggested putting this discussion on the next Council meeting's work session. Mayor Futrelle and Councilmember George agreed with Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman. Ms. Odio asked what time the next meeting would be. Mayor Futrelle explained that the next Council meeting would be held on August 23, 2023 at 6:00pm. Ms. Odio thanked Council for their time, and looked forward to further discussion. Mayor Futrelle then stated that there were two additional requested appearances; however, as it was 2:00pm, they would need to postpone those appearances until after the public comment portion of the meeting. Mayor Futrelle then asked for a friendly amendment to the agenda in order to allow for public comment to be held at 2:00pm, and the remaining requested appearances ne held afterwards. Upon the motion of Councilmember Roseman, seconded by Councilmember George, the motion to hold the remaining requested appearances after public comment was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Before public comment, Council had a break at 2:05pm. Council resumed at 2:10pm. Mayor Futrelle then thanked the individuals who came to public comment. He then asked for public comment to begin.

Fred Milano:
Mr. Milano thanked Council for their time, and explained that he was opposed to the proposed mountain bike park at the Winkler's Creek reservoir. He explained that he has been a resident of Boone for forty-seven years, and that the road to the reservoir is dangerous. He also explained that he heard the Town put money towards affordable housing, and that he would like more money put into that rather than money put into a bike park on Winkler's Creek Road, unless there is a better place to put the bike park.

Scott McIntosh:
Mr. McIntosh explained that he has lived in the Winkler's Creek area for twenty years, and while is not anti-development, he feels that the road to Winkler's Creek Reservoir is dangerous. He explained that there had been numerous times where bikers have almost been hit going up that road, and he is nervous that families not from the area will bike up towards the bike park without knowing the road.

Travis Hutchins:
Mr. Hutchins explained he was there on behalf of the Northwest Mountain Bike Alliance, and that after talking with Community Resource Officer Kat Eller, he felt the area above the Jimmy Smith Wastewater Treatment Plant would be good for a multi-use trail. He went on to say that, he saw that it had good access for hikers, bikers, and climbers.

Jill Privott:
Ms. Privott thanked Council, and explained she was a resident of Boone here to present her concerns with the Town and the hurdles the proposed Sesquicentennial Monument has faced. She explained that her mother helped comply the history of Watauga in the 1980s. After explaining her credentials with historic preservation, and her role as the genealogical consultant for the Sesquicentennial Monument committee, she explained her experience with the Boone Historical Preservation Commission. She explained that she felt the questions asked of her during the meeting were not objective, and that the draft meeting minutes she received were not accurate to the discussion held. She felt the meeting minutes from the August 2, 2023 Historic Preservation Commission meeting should not be used to inform the vote from Council. She said the response from the Boone community exceeded the expectations. She also explained she had no monetary gain from the Sesquicentennial Monument. She explained that the families of Boone felt neglected under the planning process of historical recognition, and that their heritage is underrepresented

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in the Town of Boone. She ended with explaining that the project is not meant to narrate the story of Boone, but to offer tributes to the heritage of Boone. She said that the Sesquicentennial Monument committee is willing to work with the Historic Preservation Commission on the wording on the plaques.

Brenda Councill:
Ms. Councill explained that while she is the creator of the Sesquicentennial Monument, she would not be speaking on that today. Rather, she would be speaking in regards to the Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panel Project. She expressed concern over the proposed Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels, and that as a descendent of Jordan Councill, and that the living descendants of Jordan and Benjamin Councill request a review by the descendants and an unbiased review from historians be allowed to be considered. She said that the same review was given to Junaluska residents for the Junaluska monument in the cemetery in Town. She asked Council to review the letters received in their emails in regards to the Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels. She then expressed the concerns of Tracy Councill, who could not make it to the Town Council meeting. She said that she felt the proposed document felt its intent was to paint the Councill ancestors in a racist light. She explained that there is no historical record that explains the reasoning why union soldiers were buried in the black section of the Boone Cemetery, and feels that there should not be any motive ascribed to the action. Ms. Councill explained that all families represented in the cemetery have been contact, and that she expects many to ask that the cemetery panels be reviewed, and that as decedents from the individuals buried there, ask to be part of the review process.

Pam Williamson:
Ms. Williamson read the following remarks:
I am a Boone Town resident and taxpayer here once again to voice strong opposition to changing the Town's Water Ordinance to exempt certain development projects from required annexation in order to receive access to Boone's water resources.

Even the newly drafted language presented in your agenda packet, as written and if approved, will allow developments like a multi-county slaughterhouse to develop their properties with far fewer restrictions than those of us in town who will pay in more ways than one for their benefit.

Specifically, I would like to address Section (B) (2) of the revised language. It says certain economic or industrial properties that are developed with financial assistance from the Town or the County, can be approved by Council for water resources without annexation with only a rudimentary review-just a general development plan. The proposal notes that "In its discretion, the Council may require documentation sufficient to meet the requirements for site-specific plan approval under the town's development ordinance."

I asked this last time, and I'll ask it again. Why wouldn't the Town REQUIRE approval of a site-specific plan in the first place, especially for a multi-county slaughterhouse and processing facility?

Let us look at the Kill-Chill facility that this ordinance change is looking to individually accommodate by not requiring annexation and without a requirement that the Town's development standards will regulate.

This facility would be located at the landfill but would not serve as a local drop-off for yard debris or old microwaves, but rather as a livestock slaughter and processing center serving producers from Ashe, Alleghany, Avery, Caldwell, Mitchell, and Watauga counties. The slaughter facility will serve an estimated 500 producers. There will have to be a large facility and livestock pens, waste disposal, etc.--all of this on a proposed 2-acre site.

I come from a long line of farmers on both sides of my family. I want to support local farmers in particular, but not without important, responsible regulations required to develop this facility The property is owned by the County, but should this amendment be passed by Council, its development will fall squarely within the regulatory oversight of the county's planning department. Meaning no oversight. There are no county zoning regulations other than the County's high-impact regulations, which do not affect slaughterhouses.

In short, if the proposed changes to this ordinance section are approved, and the project is built without requiring

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that it meet the Town's zoning regulations, Boone will have no ability to regulate or require any development standards whatsoever. That means…

-- There will be no local regulations on a slaughterhouse development located in a fast-growing area adjacent to the Town's zoning jurisdiction, residents and businesses;

-- There will be no local regulations or traffic impact analysis on a slaughterhouse serving 6 counties and 500 producers whose access is off a busy and an already congested 421 highway without traffic signals;

-- There will be no local regulations on the volume of sales, processing, or number of livestock held at the site;

-- There will be no local regulations on the development of the project's facility, outdoor livestock yards, offices, or storage areas;

-- There will be no local regulations on the nature or size of the slaughterhouse's buildings and structures;

--There will be no local regulations on waste holding or disposal at the site;

-- There will be no local regulations on noise, smoke, odor, hours of operation or lighting at the site and no regulations on setbacks or landscape buffering.

Boone doesn't expressly even allow slaughterhouses in its zoning jurisdiction, but the Town does regulate other manufacturing facilities. "The assembly, fabrication, finishing or packaging of goods and materials, including the storage and processing of raw materials into other products."

Since this facility is not specifically allowed in Boone's jurisdiction. It would likely fall under Section 14.0 "Manufacturing: all other uses." As such the facility would not be allowed under any circumstances unless approved by the Planning Director who is required, among many other things, to consider the size of outdoor yards to accommodate livestock and storage, establish driveway standards, determine the type, size and nature of the buildings and structures, evaluate traffic generation to and from the site and parking requirements, as well as fully evaluate "the amount and nature of any nuisances generated on the premises, including but not limited to noise, smoke, odor, glare, vibration, fumes, wastewater output, and the impact on adjacent properties created by the proposed use.

Importantly, the Town would also be required to make provisions for public input before approving such a facility.

As Attorney Meade notes in your last discussion, the County can already access Boone's water resources under the Town's existing ordinance by annexing the property into the Town or proposing a conditional district process. Ms. Meade reminds Council that annexation would require that the town provide other town services and would also result in normal utility rates, while utility rates are doubled for users outside the town limits. I would also like to add that under the current proposal, the Town would not collect property taxes on un-annexed property and that the state legislature can quickly pass a local or statewide bill to eliminate those double water rates at any time, leaving these outside uses able to have water and sewer with in-town rates and with no obligation to pay taxes.

Town of Boone residents deserve, and I would think expect, a say in Council's intent to make exceptions to the water ordinance for these and other such uses. In fact, that is clearly the intent of our ordinance as it indicates in its manufacturing requirements. There's no such opportunity under County control.

That's why a conditional district process, already enabled by ordinance, is your answer to making sure Town residents, who own the water resources this proposal concerns, have a say. Besides, it's the right, I would argue only, thing to do.

Eric Plaag:

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Mr. Plaag read the following remarks:

Thank you, Mayor Futrelle, Members of Council, and Town Manager Davis for the opportunity to address you. I want to emphasize that my remarks here are solely my own. I am in receipt of copies of three communications that have been provided to you regarding the Boone Cemetery Panels and the proposed Founders Monument, two of which are from people who are not even residents of the Town of Boone. I have already provided you with a written response to the letter from Mary Moretz, and as I explained, no one at the HPC has ever asserted that Burrell did not exist. Indeed, our August 2020 update to Town Council said exactly the opposite but also expressed a host of concerns about the authenticity of the story that White folks liked to tell about Burrell without much evidence. As I also explained, all four members of the HPC are bound by professional codes of ethics in doing our volunteer historical work for the Town. Examples of those codes can be found at the American Historical Association and the National Council on Public History, among several such organizations of which I am a member.

It is striking and odd to me that the general tenor of these emails suggests-as Mary Moretz alleged-that the work of the HPC is somehow prejudiced and discriminatory toward local families like the Councills. During my tenure as the Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, the HPC has worked hard to bring the Boone Cemetery under the legal control of the Town for its long-term protection; secured well over $100,000 in funding for improvements to the Boone Cemetery and advocated for the proposed cemetery panels acknowledging the Councill family's long association with that cemetery; secured a state historical marker honoring the Wilcox family and initiated a local historical marker program that has acknowledged the contributions of other so-called founding families, including a marker about the Councill family's establishment of the early settlement at Boone known as Councill's Store; conducted a years-long architectural survey of downtown that historically contextualized Boone's founding and development and resulted in a designated historic district to help preserve those important architectural resources, many of them built by those early families; and advocated for the establishment of local historic landmarks at properties associated with the Councill, Linney, Coffey, Wyke, Jones, and Rivers families. To suggest that any member of the HPC is somehow biased and discriminatory against local "founding families," or that we are trying to ignore them and their contributions, is utterly laughable. And that's before even considering the many thousands of volunteer hours that Bettie Bond, Chuck Watkins, and I have given over the past decade to creating public programming, archival documentation, and interpretive content through the Watauga County Historical Society and the Digital Watauga Project, all without any personal compensation whatsoever.

Regarding Mr. Hardy's letter, he raises a fair point that cemetery segregation was a national issue prior to the 1960s, not just a southern one, and I'm sure the HPC would be willing to consider changing "common in the South" to "common in the United States" on that panel. If anything, though, that point only amplifies the observation in the proposed panel text that systemic racism was at the heart of the practices of segregation and exclusion at the Boone Cemetery. Given that both de jure and de facto segregation were rampant throughout the entire United States and for much of its history ignored or enabled by our local, state, and federal governments, that sure seems to fit the definition of "systemic." As for Mr. Hardy's request that Confederate veterans and various other "important people" in the cemetery be highlighted, he may have overlooked the captions on the various interpretive panels that indicate that separate QR codes will direct visitors to websites with not only an inventory of all known burials in the Boone Cemetery but also content on various folks buried in the cemetery. All of that content could not possibly fit on four interpretive panels limited to approximately 300 words apiece.

I want to address the bulk of my remarks, however, to the email from Brenda Councill and various Councill family descendants. What follows is a summary of written remarks I provided to members of Council earlier today. Since 2014, the HPC has sought any and all documentation that further contextualizes the evolution of the Boone Cemetery over time. If the Councill

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family members have any such documentation, we would welcome the opportunity to review it. That said, the HPC is not aware of any documentation whatsoever to demonstrate that the Councill family ever-at any time in history-legally donated the cemetery to the Town of Boone. The sequence of events leading to the Town's acquisition of both the Black and White sections of the cemetery in 2015 is much more convoluted than that. Existing deeds for much of the 20th century showed the White cemetery land as privately owned by cemetery trustees, which is why it had to be deeded by the last set of cemetery trustees to the Town in 2015. Furthermore, no deed of any kind for the bulk of the Black section is known to exist until the trustees' seizure of that land in 1999 and their consequent transfer of it to the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery in 1999.

This fact prompts some commentary on another of the objections that Mr. Hardy raised in his email regarding Town involvement in erecting a fence around the White section in the 1950s. Indeed, locals have been questioning that decision for nearly 45 years. In 1979, when the Watauga Democrat confronted Gordon Winkler about why a fence was put around the white section in the 1950s but not the Black section, they reported, "Winkler was vague on why the black section wasn't included in the fence, but said that he would like to see it cleaned up. Town manager Marvin Hoffman echoed Winkler's sentiments. He said, however, that he isn't certain public funds can be expended at the graveyard because it is essentially private. According to Hoffman, the town has no jurisdiction over who is buried in the cemetery and it is actually controlled by a board of trustees. The town does, however, keep the grass mowed in the cemetery." Again, that was in 1979, 21 years after the fence was erected.

The Councill family in their email also make much of the purported "donation" of land to the Junaluska community, but their claims of generosity seem to be controverted by the known facts. First, nearly all of the land in the lower portion of Junaluska around the Mennonite Brethren Church was acquired by Black residents from B. T. Brannock in the 1910s. Indeed, as the Reverend Ronda Horton noted, when he was a boy about 1900, there were only six Black families living on the entirety of the Junaluska hillside-Troy Councill, Bob Shearer, and four different Hortons. At first, the earliest Black settlers on the Junaluska hillside after the Civil War-Troy Councill, for example-appear to have been sharecropping or renting land from the Councill family rather than owning it outright. Troy Councill told us as much in his own words in October 1873, when his statement was taken for the Southern Claims Commission about the events of Stoneman's Raid. Describing himself as 47 years old at the time of his statement, Troy Councill said, "When I was freed I belonged to Jordan Councill. I live now on Sally Councill's land." He died in 1901. In 1907, William Ballard Councill-Sally Councill's grandson-sold all 20 acres known as the "Troy Place" to J. M. Moretz; there is no record of Troy Councill ever owning or conveying land in Watauga County. The other, circa 1900 landowners referred to by Ronda Horton all appear to have PURCHASED their land after 1890. That said, if the Councill families have documentation that further contextualizes this story, the HPC would be delighted to review it.

The letter from Brenda Councill and other Councill descendants also makes the claim that the HPC has "branded the entire Councill family as racists." I'm not aware of anything in the cemetery panel text or any other report of the HPC that asserts such a thing. It also seems odd to me that the Councill descendants never came forward to the HPC, either in writing or at any of our public meetings, during the entirety of our discussion of the Councill's Store marker, nor have they participated in any of the numerous HPC meetings over the past several years regarding the proposed cemetery panels. Now, they ask to be treated as the JHA was when the Junaluska marker was being considered, but I will note for the record that the JHA prepared a written request and report for an historical marker and presented it to the HPC to initiate that project. We then worked together with the JHA for nearly a year to create the final report and marker text. The JHA was proactive in telling the story of Junaluska, but the HPC was also rigorous in reviewing the content they provided and-in line with our ethical and professional obligations as historians-insisted on copious documentation for any statements or conclusions expressed in the final version of the Junaluska marker report.

With this in mind, I want to be sure the Councill descendants understand the implications of

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those ethical and professional standards when interpreting the contributions of the Councill family to the history of our town. For example, several of the earliest Councill family members were prominent slaveholders in a region where 90% of White settlers did not enslave people. Jordan Councill, Jr., was the largest of them, with 13 enslaved people in 1850 and 11 in 1860. When we tell his story, those standards require us to note those facts, rather than just celebrating him as "the father of Boone." Similarly, when we tell the story of another prominent Councill family member-Judge William Ballard Councill, the grandson of Jordan Councill, Jr.-we are obligated to say more than just blithely praising him as a member of the NC legislature and a prominent jurist. We also have to note that his first election to the NC House was in 1898 as a Democrat, a year in which that contest was dominated statewide and in Watauga County by an overt effort by the Democrats to disenfranchise Black voters. Indeed, the primary issue on which the Democrats ran in 1898 was literally white supremacy; that actual term dominated the party's 1898 platform. Judge Councill, as the party's standard-bearer for the NC House race, signed on to that platform, representing it in the general election. Then, in 1900 as a member of the NC House, Judge Councill campaigned hard for an educational qualification amendment to the North Carolina constitution, making it illegal for those who could not read or write to vote in the state. Such measures, on their face, were part of a concerted attempt to suppress the Black vote for decades to come. And it worked for nearly 70 years. Any retelling of Judge Councill's story needs to recount the significance of his actions as our county's political representative, not just praise him for being one.

It's ironic to me that the letters you received from Michael Hardy and the Councill descendants have asked for a "truthful, unbiased," and "more inclusive" interpretation of the Councills and other town founders. The HPC has attempted to provide exactly that. I have said it before, and it seems warranted today to say it again: If you only want discussions about the history of your community, your family, and the organizations with which you associate to make you feel proud and patriotic, you probably aren't doing the hard work that comes with actually researching, studying, and analyzing history. In fact there's a word for that type of narrative-hagiography-meaning an uncritical or excessively reverential treatment of a subject. We have an ethical obligation when we narrate the history of our people, our places, and our organizations to confront the nuances, complications, and paradoxes they embraced, even if it makes us uncomfortable. History is more interesting precisely because of its contradictions, its acts of injustice, and the failures of the historical actors who often broke their promises and ignored the opportunities available to them in those moments of moral and ethical conflict. We are at our wisest when we confront and acknowledge those human failings, then aim not to repeat the mistakes of those who have come before us. True justice, true equality, and true progress-the alleged hallmarks of a representative democracy-are impossible without that kind of integrity in speaking about our shared past.

Councilmember George read the following statements for William Brinkler, who was unable to make it to the meeting:

1. Consideration of All Environmental impacts
2. Potential studies:
   - Threatened and endangered species
   - Watershed
   - Archaeological
   - Wildlife
     - Salamanders/hellbenders
     - Native Brook trout
     - Native Grouse
     - Note all other common game - Deer, Bear, Turkey, etc.
   - Wetland
   - Phase 1 Environmental
   - Cultural and Historical

3.Permitting

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- Grading and erosion control
- Parking / surfaces
- Watershed

4. Traffic / Site Access
   - This property is only accessible from a narrow road (welcome to the Mtns. right!)
   - DOT Traffic Study
   - Curb cut for entrance - safe access in & out
   - Impacts to Flannery Fork road maintenance (specially gravel section)
   - Impacts to Payne Branch road maintenance (specially gravel section)
   - Impacts to bike and pedestrian traffic (lots of road bikes and runners use the roads in this area)
5. Impact on local community i.e. neighbors, adjoining property ownersa.
   - Winkler's Creek
   - Payne Branch
   - Flannery Fork
   - Deck Hill
   - Flat Top
6. Operational Considerations
   - Trail access and security
   - Hours of operation
   - Seasonal restrictions, if any
   - Trail maintenance
   - Watershed buffers
   - Trash collection and removal
   - Parking lot maintenance
   - Restrooms?
   - Funding? Endowment or?
7. Other/Miscellaneous
   - Town owned property but not in town proper - located in county. Does this require county approval? Any other state ordinances or approvals?
   - Concerned with the old existing dam - this should a major safety concern
   - Swimming, boating, camping, and Fishing - will this be allowed? How it will be monitored and enforced?
   - Who is providing insurance?
   - Are there other locations suitable for the park?
   - Cost/Benefit - Risk/Reward Analysis

Rebecca Triplett-Johnson:
Ms. Triplett-Johnson, who provided public comment virtually, spoke to the Council in regards to the Sesquicentennial Monument. She encourage Council to review the recording of the August 2 Boone Historic Preservation Commission. She explained that during that meeting, members of the Sesquicentennial Monument were put into a place of defense, not in a place for information. Furthermore, she explained that on the proposed monument, there were spaces available for continued information in order to remain inclusive. She noted that during the August 2 meeting, the chair of the Historic Preservation Commission pointedly asked if there was a member of the Sesquicentennial Monument committee who was African American, which immediately turned the project into one of race. She continued on that the monument was labeled as "pay to play" and that the genealogy of the families was historically inaccurate. She explained that local families felt mistreated during the process. She continued on by explaining that the reason more people are not coming forwards to participate is because every time a press release is in the process of being prepared for the project, it is shut down or the committee is told to hold off. She explained that the feedback received by the committee from the public in regards to the project has been positive, and that the only negative commentary has come from those who do not like the project. She encouraged Council to read the letters they have received, and to look at them through the lens and purpose the monument is meant to exude. She ended with stating that the monument is meant to honor those who came before us by placing it in a historically valued area.

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Mayor Futrelle thanked all who provided public comment, and then closed the public comment portion of the meeting. He then thanked the remaining requested appearances for their patience, and asked to move forward with the remaining requested appearances.

REQUEST APPERANCES

RAFTELIS FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS, INC. - WATER & SEWER SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEE ANALYSIS REPORT

Mayor Futrelle introduced Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc.. Ms. Elaine Conti thanked Council for their time, and introduced herself and Ms. Diane Leeton. Afterwards, Ms. Conti gave a brief presentation in regards to the Water & Sewer System Development Fee Analysis Report. The full presentation can be found on August 9, 2023 Boone Town Council Agenda Packet Page 7 through Page 27. Ms. Conti then asked if there was any questions. Councilmember Carter commented on the fact that the Town would like to keep it the same as the previous year. Ms. Meade clarified, and said that the Town can keep the rates the same for the remainder of this fiscal year, and reevaluate the rates for next year. Ms. Conti then clarified for Council that there is a difference between monthly rates and system development fee rates. She then explained that the reason the proposed rates of increase are a higher percentage is due to the Town not raising rates for years. Councilmember Carter then asked Ms. Conti if the monthly rates need to be looked at every five years. Ms. Meade answered, and said that a rate study does not have to be done every five years for monthly rates, it is done as often as Council requests. However, the system development fee, by statute, needs to be evaluated every five years. Councilmember Roseman asked if the eight dollar solid waste fee was shown in the proposed rates. Ms. Davis explained that this analysis was conducted for just water and sewer fees. Mayor Futrelle then asked if there were any further questions. With no further questions, Council thanked Raftelis for their time, and moved to the final requested appearance.

NANCY LA PLACA - UPDATE ON NRLP HEARING AT NCUC

Mayor Futrelle then introduced Ms. Nancy LaPlaca, and asked her to present on her Update on NRLP Hearing at NCUC. The full presentation can be found on August 9, 2023 Boone Town Council Agenda Packet Page 31 to Packet 51. Ms. LaPlaca then asked if Council had any questions. With no further questions, Council thanked Ms. LaPlaca for her time, and then moved to the next item on the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING - SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEE REVIEW & ANALYSIS

Mayor Futrelle opened the public hearing for the System Development Fee Review and Analysis. He asked if anyone would like to speak. With no one in attendance, Mayor Futrelle asked for a motion to approve the resolution, found on August 9, 2023 Agenda Packet Page 28. Upon the motion of Councilmember Carter, seconded by Councilmember Roseman, the motion to approve the resolution to adopt an updated system development fee review and analysis in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 162 A passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Futrelle read the following board vacancies:

The Town of Boone is currently soliciting applications from people who would like to serve on the following boards:

POSITIONS OPEN

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
One regular position, Three alternate positions

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION
Four regular positions, One student position

CULTURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD

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One student position

DOWNTOWN BOONE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
One position

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Two regular positions

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
One position

PLANNING COMMISSION
Two regular positions

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
Two regular positions

The next application deadline will be September 1, 2023, by 5 p.m. If you qualify for any of the positions and would like to apply, please contact Town Clerk Nicole Harmon at 268-6200 or e-mail Nicole.harmon@townofboone.net for more information. You may also visit the Town's Web site at www.townofboone.net to view information about the various boards and to download an application form.

Councilmember Roseman made a friendly amendment to the board vacancies, and noted that the position available on the Human Relations Commission is a student position.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD VACANCIES

The Town of Boone is currently soliciting applications from people who would like to serve on the following boards:

POSITIONS OPEN

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
One regular position, Three alternate positions

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION
Four regular positions, One student position

CULTURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD
One student position

DOWNTOWN BOONE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
One position

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Two regular positions

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
One position

PLANNING COMMISSION
Two regular positions

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
Two regular positions

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The next application deadline will be September 1, 2023, by 5 p.m. If you qualify for any of the positions and would like to apply, please contact Town Clerk Nicole Harmon at 268-6200 or e-mail Nicole.harmon@townofboone.net for more information. You may also visit the Town's Web site at www.townofboone.net to view information about the various boards and to download an application form.

Councilmember Roseman made a friendly amendment to the board vacancies, and noted that the position available on the Human Relations Commission is a student position.

ADOPTION OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Futrelle asked for a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Dalton noted that on Agenda Packet Page 158 at the bottom for the minutes for the July 12 Regular Meeting of the Boone Town Council, it is noted that consensus from Council was given to Attorney Meade to bring back a more narrow ordinance to a later meeting. Councilmember Dalton asked for the minutes to reflect that consensus was not given, as he did not voice in favor of the approved decision. Upon the motion of Councilmember George, seconded by Councilmember Carter, the motion to approve the items on the consent agenda, with the changes proposed by Councilmember George, passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION - LIONS CLUB

TOWN OF BOONE PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNITION OF THE BOONE AREA LIONS CLUB

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council of Boone, N.C. recognize the many contributions of the Boone Area Lions Club throughout the Town of Boone; and

WHEREAS, the Boone Area Lions Club was chartered in 1936, the fifth Lions Club in North Carolina and the first civic club in Watauga County, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Lions Clubs is "uniting service around five global cause areas - diabetes, vision, hunger, the environment, and childhood cancer, overcoming challenges [they] see in [their] communities and around the world.; and

WHEREAS, the Boone Area Lion's Club has placed American Flags in downtown Boone for every one of seven Federal Holidays and other special occasions for 50 years; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 businesses in Boone subscribe to this effort to have flags displayed in front of their businesses; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of Lions Club member volunteers, over the years, have placed US flags on the streets of Boone in the early morning hours on these occasions, as well as taking the flags down at the end of the holiday; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council of Boone call upon the people of this municipality to embrace this significant civic volunteer effort of the Boone Area Lions Club to help us commemorate our national holidays and other special occasions in such a visible way, helping to make Boone, N.C. a vibrant community in which to live, work and visit.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Boone Council hereby offers its gratitude, recognition, and continued support of the efforts of the Boone Area Lions Club for this endeavor. This the 9th day of August 2023

_____ Tim Futrelle, Mayor

ATTEST: _____ Nicole Harmon, Clerk

CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION - BLACK BUSINESS MONTH

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TOWN OF BOONE BLACK BUSINESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the history of Black-owned businesses in the US dates as far back as the 1700's; and,

WHEREAS, the period of 1900-1930 saw great success in Black-owned business districts such as Black Wall Street in Tulsa, Oklahoma; and,

WHEREAS, since that time social, structural, and political inequalities have created unique challenges for Black businesses; and,

WHEREAS, in 2004, August was designated National Black Business Month to celebrate the success of Black entrepreneurs in the US; and,

WHEREAS, we acknowledge and support the entrepreneurial efforts of Black business owners in the Town of Boone and surrounding communities; and,

WHEREAS, we desire to see these businesses grow and thrive; and,

WHEREAS, we desire to see additional Black-owned businesses develop in the Town of Boone and surrounding communities; and,

WHEREAS, we encourage the patronage and support of the Black-owned businesses in the Town of Boone and surrounding communities; and,

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved that I, Tim Futrelle, Mayor of the Town of Boone, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 2023 as Black Business Month in the Town of Boone and ask that all citizens commit to its observance.

This the 9th day of August 2023

_____ Tim Futrelle, Mayor

ATTEST: _____ Nicole Harmon, Clerk

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE - BOONE BOO!

TOWN OF BOONE

Ordinance _____

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A ROAD CLOSURE FOR AN ANNUAL CELEBRATION

WHEREAS, The Boone Town Council acknowledges a long tradition of providing an annual Fall Celebration for its citizens which is open to everyone and is provided as a benefit to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Boone Town Council acknowledges that its citizens realize a financial benefit from holding annual events; and

WHEREAS, the Boone Town Council wishes to ensure the health and safety of all participants and spectators; and WHEREAS, the Boone Town Council acknowledges that the annual downtown Boone Boo! celebration requires approximately thirty (30) minutes to install signage, and traffic control, and also requires approximately thirty (30) minutes for removing signs, traffic control, and litter;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Town of Boone pursuant to the authority granted by G.S. 20-169 that they do hereby declare a temporary road closure during the day(s) and times set forth below on the following described portion of a State Highway System route: Date(s): Tuesday, October 31, 2023 Times: 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Route Description: King Street (U.S. Route 421) between Hardin Street and Poplar Grove Connector, and SR 1102 (Water St./North Water St.) This ordinance to become effective when signs are erected

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giving notice of the limits and times of the parade, and implementation of adequate traffic control to guide through vehicles around the parade route.
Adopted this _____day of _____, 2023 _____ The Honorable Tim Futrelle, Mayor Attest: _____, Town Clerk

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION - DISPOSITION & RETIREMENT OF POLICE CANINE

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY BY PRIVATE SALE

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Boone desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the Town; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council that:

1. The following described Animal (property) is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the Town: one retired Malinois service canine known as Centa.

2. The Boone Town Council authorizes the disposition of a retired service canine to the trained handler, Corporal Joseph Stout, upon the handler's agreement to accept custody of and assume all liability and responsibility for the care of the remainder of the retired service canine's life.

3. Transfer of Ownership of the retired service canine will go to his trained handler, Police Corporal Joseph Stout is trained and equipped to care for Centa. The handler's agreement to accept custody of the retired service animal will complete the Transfer of Ownership.

4. That Corporal Stout has done an outstanding job working as a canine handler with Centa since she was originally donated to the police department

5. The minimum price to be accepted for the property is $1.00.

6. The Town Clerk shall publish notice summarizing this Resolution in accordance with G.S.160A-26

7. The sale may be consummated not earlier than 10 days from the date of the publication.

ADOPTED this ____ day of August, 2023. Tim Futrelle, Mayor ATTEST: Nicole Harmon, Town Clerk

CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION - END OVERDOSE IN WATAUGA DAY

Town of Boone, North Carolina Mayoral Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Town of Boone, North Carolina does affirm and acknowledge the harm and hardship caused by drug overdose; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the purpose of International Overdose Awareness Day as remembering loved ones lost to overdose and ending the stigma of drug-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, we resolve to play our part in reducing the toll of an overdose in our community, which claimed the lives of more than 14 1 residents of Watauga County last year, together with countless more affected forever; and

WHEREAS, we affirm that the people affected by overdose are our sons and daughters, our mothers and fathers, our brothers and sisters, and deserving of our love, compassion, and support;

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THEREFORE, I, Tim Futrelle, Mayor, do hereby proclaim August 31st, 2023, as End Overdose in Watauga Day in Boone, North Carolina, and encourage all residents to consider being trained in the use of life-saving overdose reversal medication and having it available to use.

This the ____ day of August, 2023. _____

1 Source for 2022 overdose deaths by county: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/prov-county-drug-overdose.htm Homestead Recovery Center Center: (828) 355-9943 homesteadrecoverync.org

www.mrjc.us Location: 482 State Farm Rd. Boone, NC 28607
AppHealthCare Narcan/Naloxone training and distribution 336-372-5641 ext 1116

Olive Branch Ministry/ Faith-based Harm Reduction Our mission is simple: Extend Hope. Extend Life. Narcan/Naloxone training and distribution Mobile SSP/Syringe Service Program (828) 278-4445

_____ Tim Futrelle, Mayor ATTEST: _____(SEAL)
Nicole Harmon, Clerk

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Police Department:
Crime Prevention 010-500-300-513103 $1,000
Miscellaneous Revenue 010-000-000-489900 $1,000
Walmart Spark Good Community Grant program award.

Travel and Training 010-500-300-521101 $200
Contributions/Donations 010-000-000-482200 $200
Donation by Simmons Family to Police Department. To be used for training.

Downtown Boone Development Association:
General Fund 050-450-000-598010 $80,000
Downtown Streetscapes Projects 010-411-000-549105 $80,000
MSD Projects 050-450-000-553104 (80,000)
Transfer from MSD 010-000-000-498050 (80,000)
Transfer for continuing streetscape projects approved by DBDA at their 7/25/23 meeting.

Transfer to General Fund 050-450-000-598010 $80,000
Downtown Streetscapes Projects 010-411-000-549105 $38,633.54
Street/Sidewalk Construction Supplies 010-600-405-514303 $41,366.46

MSD Appropriated Fund Balance 050-450-000-499900 (80,000)
Transfer from MSD 010-000-000-498050 (80,000)
Transfer to repay for Public Works to replenish the Downtown Streetscapes Project line to continue streetscape projects approved by DBDA at their 7/25/23 meeting

COUNCIL MATTERS

Mayor Futrelle called for a break at 4:32pm. Council resumed at 4:43pm.

Mayor Futrelle noted that to be courteous of those in the audiences' time, the items within Council Matters will be moved. Mayor Futrelle opened the conversation in regards to the Discussion Regarding Proposed Mountain Bike Park at Winkler's Creek Reservoir.

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DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK AT WINKLER'S CREEK RESERVOIR

Mayor Futrelle asked for Mr. Eric Woolridge to present on the item, Discussion Regarding Proposed Mountain Bike Park at Winkler's Creek Reservoir. Mr. Woolridge thanked Council for their time, and explained he was there to provide clarification for the Winkler's Creek Reservoir resolution, as well as give an update in regards to the proposed project. Mayor Futrelle noted that public comment was given in regards to the safety concerns around the project. He went on to state that this project would still be a multi-use trail system. Mr. Woolridge gave a brief overview of the progress of the proposed project. He explained that he and his team note that the design for the project needs to have an emphasis on multi-use for the trails, and that a plan is owed to Council before a final commitment is given. He went on to say that he had been able to go to the Boone TDA, where they approved a scope of work. The scope of work will include public meetings where public comment will be received, with the results from the meetings will be brought back to Council. Additionally, the scope of work will include committee meetings, and Mr. Woolridge asked if Town Council would be willing to have a Councilmember liaison, as well as a Town Staff member. Councilmember Tugman asked about funding for the project. Mr. Woolridge said that a plan is needed first before funding is secured. Councilmember Carter noted that he wants the narrative to be focused on community use, not just tourism use. Mr. Woolridge agreed, however noted that due to the Boone TDA's involvement in the project, a tourism aspect is necessary. Councilmember Roseman stated that she wants members from the community that will be affected by this project, namely the Winkler's Creek community, have a large voice during the process. Councilmember George asked for a timeline for engaging people within the planning process of this project. Mr. Woolridge explained that he is hoping to have a public meeting regarding the project in November or December of this year. Discussion ensued in regards to funding of the project. Mayor Futrelle then asked which Councilmember would like to join the future committee for the project. Council gave consensus that Councilmember Nenow would join the committee.

CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 50 REGARDING WATER & SEWER EXTENSIONS

Ms. Meade gave a brief overview of the third draft of the proposed amendment to Chapter 50 of the Town of Boone's code in regards to water and sewer extensions. Per Council's direction, she has drafted a narrower ordinance, and explained that this ordinance does not approve connections to water and sewer extensions without annexation; rather, it gives Council the authority to approve after subsequence hearings. She explain that the proposed amendment is written that this would only apply to properties which are government-owned, and that it would only be used for public utility purposes, or if it is developed with financial assistance from Watauga County or the Town pursuant to the authority for economic development that is granted by North Carolina General Statute 158-7.1, which would include the aforementioned municipalities leasing the property. It is not understood to include the provision of the utility itself. She explained that the proposed amendment includes that a general plan is required to be presented to Council, and that Council would reserve the right to request any other information such as a site specific plan. She ended the overview with explaining that the final paragraph provides Council with 'guardrails' in regards to subsequence change of the development. Any water and sewer granted under this carve out would be limited to the development site as presented in the general site of the development plan to Council, and that if the use of the site is substantially changed or if the property is sold to a non-government entity, the director must give notice and disconnect. She explained that this sentence is found in Section 50.291 (2b). Councilmember Roseman asked if this would pertain to the proposed affordable housing project which was presented to Council earlier in the meeting. Ms. Meade explained that affordable housing projects normally do not fall under economic development, so the intention of this ordinance would not be for the proposed project. Councilmember George noted a movement in Asheville which shows that affordable housing is considered economic development through a local bill. Councilmember Carter read North Carolina General Statute 158-7.1(a) and 158-7.1(d2.1). Ms. Meade noted that a caveat could be added that the carve out would not be used for residential use. Councilmembers Carter and Roseman stated that they could see how it could be used for affordable housing, but Councilmember Carter noted that he would be ok with the caveat being added. Councilmember George noted that he still agreed with the current ordinance, and that he still agreed with the requirement of annexation or conditional zoning. Ms. Meade stated that she said it would

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be up to Council to make the final decision, however she noted that she was nervous about the Town annexing in the landfill. She also noted that Ms. Williamson brought up good points during the public comment session. Councilmember Carter spoke in favor of not annexing the landfill property, due to the concerns brought up in previous conversations. Councilmember George noted that with annexation, the Town would not be running the facility or owning the landfill. Rather, it would be the Town bringing the property into its corporate limits, similar to other County properties that are found within Town limits. Ms. Meade stated that Councilmember George was right, there would not be current liability for the Town under current law. However, her concern is for the future where federal law could potentially change in regards to brownfields. Discussion ensued. Mayor Futrelle then asked for Dr. Jim Hamilton to speak in regards to the proposed Kill-Chill facility. Dr. Hamilton thanked Council for their support of the facility, and understands that there are issues that must be worked out. He explained that he is hoping to have the funding to break ground in October, and that if there is additional costs for annexation he would like Council to be open to not having to annex in the facility. He noted that he does have plans for the facility that he would be happy to bring to Council to review. Discussion ensued in regards to agriculture in the High Country. Ms. Meade reiterated that approval of one project does not mean approval of all projects, that the proposed change to Chapter 50 requires Council approval for all projects that would fall under this section, gave clarification. Councilmember Roseman made the motion that Council approve the ordinance to amend the Town of Boone Code of Ordinance Section 50.291 regarding extension and connection of water and sewer outside Town limits with the revisions presented at the Council meeting, and that final sentence of Section 50.291 (2b) be included as presented. Councilmember Carter seconded the motion. Upon the motion of Councilmember Roseman, seconded by Councilmember Carter, the motion carried four to one with Councilmember George voting against the proposed changes.

DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION REGARDING THE STATE OF THE HOMELESS SITUATION IN BOONE

Chief Andy LeBeau and Community Liaision Officer Kat Eller gave a presentation in regards to the Homeless Situation in Boone. The full presentation can be found on August 9, 2023 Agenda Packet Pages 186 to 252. Chief LeBeau thanked the intern with the social work program through the Boone Police Department and the Emergency Housing Specialist with the Hospitality House, Mr. Russell Letourneau, Officer Eller, Councilmember Carter, and Executive Director of the Hospitality House Ms. Tina Krause, for their help with the data and review of the presentation. Chief LeBeau also thanked Mr. Moody and the Public Works Department for their help with the clean ups of the homeless camps in Boone. After giving the presentation, Ms. Krause explained that this presentation was a joint effort, and was meant to shine light on homelessness within Watauga County and the surrounding counties. She went on to explain that funding and resources through the COVID-19 pandemic are not available anymore, such as hotel vouchers, and gave a brief overview of the mission of the Hospitality House. She also explained that over 75% of individuals in the Hospitality House have significant mental health issues, and 20% experience physical disabilities which is causing stagnant stays within shelters. She emphasized that many agencies within the surrounding counties have not reopened after the COVID-19 pandemic, and that in order to find housing for individuals experiencing homelessness, it is necessary to work together. Councilmember Carter echoed those sentiments, and explained that there is a more elderly population that is experiencing homelessness than there was in the past. He explained that the Hospitality House has partners in other counties where homeowners lease their residences to the Hospitality House in order to provide homes, however, there are none in Watauga County. He emphasized that if people want to be a part of the solution, the police department, Hospitality House, and others will need to work together. Mayor Futrelle then asked Mr. Stephen Phillips, a member of the public, to speak. Mr. Phillips explained that he can attest to the frustration residents feel in regards to the homeless camps, as he has property in town has a homeless camp. He explained that needles were found within this camp, and it is a danger to those in those camps and to residents surrounding the property. Ms. Mary Strong, a licensed social worker, explained that she had experienced homelessness in the past, and that the majority of people who experience homelessness do not choose to be homeless. She explained that there are solutions which the community could do to help mitigate problems, such as having a community clean-up where those experiencing homelessness are offered a meal in return for cleaning the site. She emphasized that community members are ready to help find a solution and are willing to work together. Councilmember Roseman noted the idea of a tent city, and asked if there was

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Town property where tents could be put up. Mayor Futrelle asked if anyone else would like to speak in regards to the presentation. Ms. Zan Valliant asked if the IRC property could be used as a tent city. Ms. Meade explained that because it is a brownfield site, that would not be possible. Councilmember Carter noted that tent cities are not a good solution, and that he would prefer individuals be housed instead of living in a tent, especially in a climate like Boone's where it can get below freezing. Chief LeBeau voiced in agreement with Councilmember Carter, and explained that a tent city would require supervision with resources they do not have. Ms. Maria Owens stated that she was not sure of any solution, but explained that people experiencing homelessness need one-on-one interactions and to be treated like people. Councilmember George explained that he felt that this Council has done a good job with outside agency funding and the social work internship program through the Police Department, with the understanding of eventually funding a social work position within the department. He also agreed with humanizing people as the first step towards a solution. He ended his statement by saying that the idea that because Boone offers services to people is bringing homeless individuals to Boone can be agreed upon on the surface. However, he explained that the idea of treating someone like a human creates an unintended consequence is the wrong perspective to have. Mayor Futrelle agreed. Mayor Futrelle then asked if Mr. Jordan Sellers could speak.

DISCUSSION REGARDING CREATION OF MULTI-USE TRAIL ABOVE SKATE PARK

Mr. Sellers gave a quick refresher on the Rivers Street Trail Project. He explained that Council had signed a resolution of support in June for the project, and explained that the Rivers' House had been identified as a possible Boone trailhead for the Northern Peaks State Trail. He explained that he is currently pursuing funding opportunities for trail design and plans. He went on to explain that the Blue Ridge Conservancy is prepared to spend money on this project, and wanted to give Council that update. He clarified that he was not at the meeting to ask for funding, he was there to give an update. He noted that to build just a trail, it would most likely be between $40,000 and $60,000, and that he is planning to apply for grants to help cover some of the funding. Mayor Futrelle thanked Mr. Sellers, and then moved to continue the discussion in regards to the creation of multi-use trails above the skate park.

Officer Eller gave a brief overview of the potential for the creation of multi-use trails located on the Town of Boone's property above the skate park. She explained that after the cleanup of the homeless camp on the property, she saw that there was great potential to utilize that area for multi-use trails. She explained that the proposed trail would connect the Greenway Trail area to the neighborhoods of White Laurel and Bradford and the Hospitality House. Officer Eller then asked Mr. Travis Hutchins to speak. He explained that he is the current president of the Northwest NC MTB Alliance, and gave his support for the project. After a discussion regarding the proposed project, how they will bring a proposed design to Council if approved, and how the trails would be accessible, Officer Eller asked Council if they had any questions. Councilmember Carter noted that since the fence went up in that area, it has been dangerous for high school kids to walk from the high school to Center 45 as they now walk on the road. He asked if this trail system would provide access from the Greenway for the residents of Bradford and White Laurel. Officer Eller said that that would be the hope. Councilmember Carter asked how much of the trails would be in Town. Officer Eller said that the Town property ends right at the end of the White Laurel neighborhood, so the trail would end there. Councilmember George voiced concern in regards to the timing of the proposed project. He explained that they had just displaced people who were living on the property, and that the optics of the project were not good, and that he believes the vision for the project is great for the future. Councilmember Carter agreed, and explained that many other projects are currently being discussed. He explained that it is Town property, and that he felt everyone should have a say to what happens on Town property. Councilmember Carter then explained that he did not want the communities of the Hospitality House, Bradford, and White Laurel to be used as a scapegoat for the project. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman noted that this project would not be finished within a few months, it would be completed in a year or more. Officer Eller explained that there were safety issues with the homeless encampment above the skate park, which is why the cleanup happened. Councilmember Roseman noted that through personal experience with her coworkers who live in the White Laurel area, there have been times where they have not been able to make it to work because of a lack of a reliable vehicle. She explained that she did not immediately think of the proposed

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project for recreational use, she thought of it as access. Councilmember Carter noted that he was upset because there had been no concern or help given to that neighborhood in regards to access when the fence was installed for three years, and that he had been fighting for a way to provide access for years. He explained that he his plea for access had been ignored for years, and that he does not want these neighborhoods to be used as the main selling point for this project. Mayor Futrelle explained that now was a time where Council could capitalize on the opportunity. Councilmember Carter clarified that he was not against the project, he was against the use of recreation as the lead in for this proposed project. Officer Eller explained that she had talked with the property owner years ago in regards to the fence, but there is only so much the Boone Police Department can do with private property. Councilmember George explained that he knew that the people behind the proposed project genuinely cared, however, he would prefer to ruminate over the idea first and come back to the project at a later date. He also explained that a member of the community had died there recently, and he felt it was not a good time to be thinking of recreational projects. Councilmember Carter agreed, and then noted how he did not understand why projects were coming to Council for use of public land without Council knowing prior to the meeting. Mr. Dave Freireich of Harmony Lanes spoke in favor of the project to connect Boone. He noted that he is not anti-homeless, and explained he does not think anyone for the project is anti-homeless, however Harmony Lanes is for connecting the community to allow everyone to get around with dignity. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman asked for clarification on where the end point of the trail would be. Mr. Freireich showed Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman where Town property began and where it ended. Additional discussion ensured in regards to accessibility of the Greenway for high school students in the proposed project area. Mayor Futrelle stated that he is in favor of moving forwards with the project, and asked what was needed of Council. Mr. Hutchins explained that they just need permission to look into the feasibility of the proposed project. Councilmember Roseman asked Councilmembers George and Carter if they would like to table this discussion for the next year. Councilmember Carter expressed frustration in regards to the use of public land without Council receiving notice prior to the discussions. Councilmember George expressed similar sentiments to Councilmember Carter's. Discussion ensued regarding proposed projects placed on public land. Mayor Futrelle then asked Council what they would like to do. Councilmember Roseman acknowledged Councilmember Carter's and Councilmember George's sentiments on the project and the optics, however she explained she knows what the project could do for the community. She explained that she would like to see a trail to and from the Greenway which provides access first, and to discuss the addition of recreational trails on the property at a later date. Chief LeBeau went to Council and explained that Officer Eller works at his direction, and that he apologizes for the optics. He explained that the proposed project was never meant to be disrespectful to everyone involved with the land. Councilmember Roseman if there was consensus to advise the group presenting to look at the creation of an expedited pathway to connect the community in that location to the Greenway, and to look in the future at increasing the trail system on the property. Mayor Futrelle asked the trail group if they would be interested in looking at the opportunity, as that was not the main intention of the proposed project which was brought forth to Council. Mr. Hutchins said that he is ok with the first portion of the project be constructed as a direct trail, and feels it is reasonable given the circumstances. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman clarified, and asked if the proposed project would begin at the end of Brookhollow Road, go across the ridgeline, and end at the Greenway. Mr. Hutchins said yes. Councilmember Carter noted that he is not against the project, however, the proposed access point would not be used by the residents of Brookhollow Road due to the boulders and the steep terrain. He explained that high school students would be able to navigate the terrain, but many residents of the Hospitality House and the neighborhoods in that area would not. He did not want to pretend that the project would be used for impoverished people in the community. Councilmember Nenow noted that this is Boone, and as Boone is located in the mountains there are very little flat properties. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman modified Councilmember Roseman's ask for consensus, and added that access is the most important part of the project. However, at the same time it must be a safe environment. Having a recreation area around the access means there will be more traffic. She said that she would like to see an exploration of primary access, with recreation associated with it so that it makes it safer. She then asked if there was consensus. Mr. Moody noted that the Town had just submitted the Bike/Pedestrian project for New River Hills, and that the proposed trail would be on the same side of the river as the proposed project. He explained that it would be by Southern Agriculture Pesticides, with a pedestrian bridge across New River Hills. If that were to happen, he explained that it might make a place for people on the Greenway. However, he noted that this possibility could take years. Councilmember Carter voiced agreement with what Mr. Moody said, and that he was not against the project. However, he does not

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want it to be marketed for impoverished individuals, as that access would not be accessible for all. Upon the revised motion of Councilmember Roseman, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman, the motion to approve the creation of a direct trail on town property beginning at the entrance of Brookhollow Road and ending at the Greenway Trail, with the primary access point of the trail be tied with recreational benefits, passed with a vote of three to two, with Councilmember Carter and Councilmember George not in favor. Mayor Futrelle thanked the presenters, and called for a break at 8:15pm.

TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

Council resumed at 8:34pm. Mayor Futrelle then asked Ms. Davis to give the Town Manager's update. Ms. Davis gave a brief update in regards to a discussion had with Mr. Jason Smith, the biologist for District 7 in regards to the deer in Boone. She explained that he found the ratio between the bucks and the does had reached an unhealthy point, and that the biological capacity of deer in Boone was more than can be tolerated. She explained that Mr. Smith suggested that a regular hunting open on September 9, and encouraged Council to review the opportunity in lieu of waiting for the archery season. She explained that Council needs to decide what message to put out. Councilmember Roseman expressed concern about where hunters can and cannot hunt, and that it needs to be spelled out.

MAYOR UPDATE

Mayor Futrelle noted that he will email Council his Mayor's update.

TOWN ATTORNEY UPDATE

Ms. Meade did not have an Attorney's update.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Councilmember Carter said that there was no meeting for the AppalCART board in July. He said the Human Relations Commission had outlined specific things which each month will be highlighted for through the month of December. Councilmember Carter then asked Ms. Davis what the formal request policy for funds for commissions were with the Town. Ms. Davis said that funds had been allocated for the commission.

Planning Matters

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL/ CONTRACT WITH QUANTUM CONSULTANTS

Ms. Jane Shook gave a brief overview of Quantum Consultants and the proposed contacts between the Town of Boone and Quantum Consultants for the Comprehensive Plan update. She noted Mr. Nate Baker was available via WebEx if Council had any questions regarding the contract. Councilmember George stated that he looked forward to working with Quantum Consultants, and that he was excited to see the addition of two small area plans added into the contracts. Councilmember Roseman noted that she felt the proposed price was a bigger jump than she expected for the Comprehensive Plan update. Ms. Meade noted that while the price had increased overall, Quantum Consultants had reduced the price for the update of the Comprehensive Plan so that they could add the two small area plans at a more reasonable price. Councilmember Roseman asked Ms. Shook if she was happy with the proposal. Ms. Shook stated that she, Ms. Jessica Mitchell, and Ms. Meade had met with Quantum Consultants prior, and that they all were in agreement with the proposal and contracts. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman made the motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign the contracts with Quantum Consultants as presented in the total amounts of $125,000 and $100,000. Councilmember Roseman seconded the motion. Upon the motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman, seconded by Councilmember Roseman, the motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign the contracts with Quantum Consultants was passed unanimously.

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REQUEST FOR HPC TO CONTINUE WITH BOONE CEMETERY INTERPRETATIVE PANEL PROJECT

Mayor Futrelle asked for Ms. Mitchell and Dr. Eric Plaag to present in regards to the Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panel project. Ms. Mitchell gave a brief overview of the proposed language for the panels, the information for the proposed signage, and the quote for the price of the proposed signage. She explained that the Historic Preservation Commission had been working on this project for six months, and the text presented to Council was voted on to bring to Council for Council consideration during the July Historic Preservation Commission Advisory meeting. Ms. Mitchell noted that after the agenda packet had been published, the Town had been made aware that additional community input and review was requested by community members of the draft text panels. Ms. Mitchell explained that she and Dr. Plaag were in attendance to answer any questions Council may have in regards to the draft text. Councilmember George asked which portion of the proposed language has been causing the most tension. Dr. Plaag stated that the project had been worked on previously two or three years ago, where certain panel subjects were discussed. However, the project had been put on hold for other matters. He explained that the project had been noticed to the public for public input for years, and that the first instance of the public wanting to provide feedback from his recollection was within the last forty-eight hours. He explained that within the past six months, the members of the Historic Preservation Commission had been wordsmithing the panel text. He explained that draft number four is what has been presented to Council today. He went on to explain that there was no concern from the members of the Historic Preservation Commission in using the term "systemic racism" in the proposed text, however there was a debate in regards to drawing conclusions about the text on panel number three for the burying of three white union soldiers on land within the Boone Cemetery that was reserved for enslaved people of the Councill family. Dr. Plaag gave a brief overview of the discussion had regarding the contextualization of that decision being made. He went on to discuss that the language for the installation of the fence between the black section and white section of the cemetery was researched thoroughly as well. He stated that a request for more context for the fence installation was requested, and that it was included in the footnotes of the proposed panel text. He noted that the footnotes would not appear on the panels, however, they are meant to provide context for the members of Council and members of the Historic Preservation Commission understand how the conclusions came about. He explained that one compliant from the members of the Councill family was that the Historic Preservation Commission had not done enough to highlight the positive contributions of the Councill family. However, the job of the Historic Preservation Commission is to follow the current historical code of conduct which contextualizes individuals fully. He noted that Benjamin Councill is not responsible for the decision made by Mayor Winkler and/or the Town Aldermen to erect a fence between the different sides of the cemetery. However, it is a fact that there is a white side and black side of the cemetery. He ended by explaining that the Historic Preservation Commission is meant to interpret the history of the cemetery overtime, and that he has tried to make it clear over four years that the cemetery was never Jordan Councill's land, it is Benjamin Councill's land. It was never the Jordan Councill cemetery. Mayor Futrelle asked in regards to the interpretive panels, what else is needed from Council. Dr. Plaag asked for Council to allow the Historic Preservation Commission to change a few lines of text brought forth by the public on the interpretive panels. He explained that he would like to bring back to the Historic Preservation the falling text changes: changing the phrase "Cemeteries in the South" to the "Cemeteries in the United States" and changing the word "flagstone" to the word "fieldstone". Dr. Plaag asked Ms. Mitchell if there were other phrases that the public deemed to be problematic in the text. Ms. Mitchell explained that from her interpretative, anything that referenced the Councill family is where the public comment concerns were stemming from. She said that for today, moving forward she would like to bring the proposed text back to the Historic Preservation Commission, and once the changes were made, that she would bring the proposed text back to Council to review. Mayor Futrelle noted he did not think it was necessary to bring it back to Council for review. Dr. Plaag noted one other issue that has been brought to light is the the Councill family donated the land to the Town, however there is no documentation of this happening. He explained that the Historic Preservation Commission is open to receive documentation of this donation, however, no historical record has been presented as of today. Council unanimously approved the text given to them today, and gave direction to the Historic Preservation Commission that the panels be modified by how the Commission sees fit to do.

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Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman asked about the inclusion of a QR code on the panels, in order to give the public additional information on the cemetery. Discussion ensued regarding the implementation of a QR code and public presentations on the materials. Dr. Plaag noted that Ms. Shook has asked if it would be appropriate to respond to the individuals who have sent concerns and individuals who have made comments at today's meeting and say that the Historic Preservation Commission was taking one more look at the proposed text and that they welcome further documentation that tells the story of the cemetery. Mayor Futrelle voiced in agreement. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman asked for clarification in regards to if Historic Preservation Commission is not inviting further conversation. Councilmember Roseman asked for it to state that documentation that can verify a fact, and Councilmember Carter asked for it to be narrowed to documentation of the Councill family donating the land to the Town.

PRESENTATION OF THE HPC'S ADVISORY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE "SESQUICENTENNIAL MONUMENT" BY ARTIST BRENDA COUNCILL/COUNCILL FINE ART STUDIO, LLC

Ms. Mitchell explained that the Historic Preservation Commission discussed the recommendation for the proposed Sesquicentennial Monument from the Historic Preservation Commission. She explained that the full discussion had can be found within the draft meeting minutes for the August 1 Historic Preservation Commission Advisory meeting, and that the recommendations from the Historic Preservation Commission was to not place the proposed monument on the pad located to between the Downtown Boone Post Office and Melanies. Councilmember George noted that this has been an ongoing topic of discussion for Council, and that he felt sending the proposed monument to the Historic Preservation Commission was a good compromise. He felt that the chapter of the monument being put on public land is now closed, and while he recognizes the importance of the founding families of Boone, sending the monument to the Commission was an act of Council to justify putting the proposed monument on public land. However, he feels now that the decision is clear. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman agreed with Councilmember George. She went on to say that if the group of people in support of the monument could find a piece of land to place the monument on, that may be the best course of action. She explained that she felt it would be best to put the proposed monument on the patio in front of the Daughter's of the American Revolution Garden located at Strawberry Hill. Councilmember Carter agreed with the sentiments made by Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman and Councilmember George. Dr. Plaag emphasized that this proposed monument was treated as a hybrid quasi-judicial case and a proposal because the Historic Preservation Commission had to do it that way. He stated that he was troubled by Ms. Brenda Councill's position that once it was installed on Town property, she as the owner had the right to be in control of the language being placed on the monument in the future. He went on to say that he suggested to Ms. Councill that there may be a path forward for this later on in the future, however if it was to ever be placed on Town property, the text on the panels needs to be an accurate comprehensive story of the founders of Boone, and not in essence a subscription way of getting content placed on a monument. He explained that that discussion was not taken well by members of the Monument Committee, but the Historic Preservation Commission members were in agreeance and thus the monument was rejected from their perspective. Councilmember Roseman agreed, and said that the proposed monument was sent to the Historic Preservation Commission to decide if the text on the monument was historically accurate. She went on to say that she was in agreeance with Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman that the monument should have been placed on the patio, and that should a better home be found later on, discussions could have been had in regards to moving it. Councilmember Carter noted that if a monument is proposed to be placed on Town property, it needs to be historically accurate, and so he asked Council if they would be comfortable with a historically inaccurate monument being placed at Strawberry Hill. Mayor Futrelle suggested that if it comes up at a later date, a discussion could be had. However, right now he is looking for a motion. Mayor Pro-Tugman moved that the Town of Boone decline the gift of the Sesquicentennial Monument proposed by Ms. Brenda Councill. Councilmember George seconded the motion. Upon the motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman, seconded by Councilmember George, the proposed gift of the Sesquicentennial Monument by Ms. Brenda Councill was declined unanimously, with Councilmember Roseman abstaining from the vote. Mr. Mark Freed wanted to clarify to Council in regards to the comments made about the Cultural Resources Department during public comment in regards to this

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project, that it be made clear that the Cultural Resources Department did not approve the monument originally. He explained that it was evident that he did not approve the monument as he brought it first to Council to discuss and that no approval was given by the department as a whole.

CONSIDERATION OF CASES HEARD AT THE JULY 24, 2023 PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Shook explained that she would like to table the discussion involving Case PL05640-040822 Lighting Design Standards - UDO Text Amendment for a later date. Council agreed. Ms. Shook then asked Council to make a decision for Case PL06422-012523 Kelpat Terrace - General Use Zoning Map Amendment. Council agreed. After Ms. Shook gave a brief overview of the case heard, Councilmember Roseman made the motion that the proposed amendment to the Town's zoning map is consistent with the Town's comprehensive plan and any other adopted plans of the Town that are applicable because of Comprehensive Policy 2.3A Community and Comprehensive Policy 2.3.3 Housing and Neighborhoods A, E, and F. Councilmember George seconded the motion. Upon the motion of Councilmember Roseman, seconded by Councilmember George, the Case PL06422-012523 Kelpat Terrace - General Use Zoning Map Amendment passed unanimously. Councilmember Roseman then made the motion that the Town Council approves the proposed amendment to the Town's Zoning map and believes approval of Ordinance PL06422-012523 is reasonable and in the public interest because there is no longer B1 zoning and will bring the parcel into alinement with its current use. Upon the motion of Councilmember Roseman, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman, the motion passed unanimously.

NAMING OF PEDESTRIAN WAY - DANA FOLK WAY AND DIRECTION TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Before discussion, Ms. Davis asked for a motion to approve the budget amendment for Quantum Consulting found on August 9 2023 Agenda Packet Page 372. Upon the motion of Councilmember Carter, seconded by Councilmember George, the budget amendment move $150,984 from Appropriated Fund Balance- General Fund Line Item 010-000-000-499900 to UDO/Comp Plan Update Line Item 010-411-000-549134 was approved unanimously.

Councilmember George then discussed his request to direct the Historic Preservation Commission to name the pedestrian way Dana Folk Way. He explained that Councilmember Carter had discussed this possibility with members of the Junaluska community, and they had expressed support. Councilmember George went on to give a brief history of Mr. Dana Folk. He explained that he requested this topic be brought to the Historic Preservation Commission for further historically accurate language to be placed on a marker. He explained that the history of the alleyway itself should be explored as well. He ended with giving Council a few examples of what he felt would be a good way to go about naming the alleyway. He explained that Mr. Moody had expressed the potential need for easements if the sign was bolted into the walls, however many of the options found in the packet were not bolted into the walls, but he would ask the Historic Preservation Commission to advise on the aesthetics. Councilmember George noted he is willing to discuss the proposed name, but he is unwilling to name the alleyway "Folk Way" as this would be in honor of the individual Dana Folk. Discussion ensued regarding the design. Council then gave consensus to direct the Historic Preservation Commission to look into the history and give recommendations for Dana Folk Way.

CONSIDERATION OF COMPENSATION PACKAGE OF TOWN OF BOONE ABC GENERAL MANAGER AND FINANCE OFFICER

Ms. Davis introduced the letter from Mr. Charlie Wallin, which can be found on August 9 2023 Agenda Packet Page 176, and explained that Council will need to discuss whether or not to write a letter of approval for the proposed salaries for the general manager and the finance officer of the Boone ABC store. She explained that this is due to N.C. General Statute §18B-700(g1) and N.C. General Statute § 7A-101. If the salary is higher than that which is mandated in the N.C. General Statutes, as letter of approval must be submitted to the ABC Commissions for their records. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman noted if the statutory recommendation is appropriate, she does not believe Council should oppose the statute and that they should not make more than the Clerk of

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Court. Ms. Meade clarified, and said that is not against the statute to have salaries above a certain amount, it is if the amount goes above the salary of the Clerk of Court, Council must specifically approve the salaries. Councilmember George asked Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman if she meant that this barrier was put in for a reason, and we should be hesitant of crossing it. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman agreed. Councilmember Carter stated that the staff had already received some of the pay from the salary increase, and asked if Council was changing their pay rate. Ms. Meade said that they would have to go to their overall salary and adjust if not approved. She explained that it was the fault of the ABC Board for not coming to Council ahead of time. Councilmember Carter explained that he felt responsible because Council had approved a ten percent cost of living increase, in which Ms. Davis clarified and said that the Town does not pay the staff of the ABC store, and that they are independent of the Town. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman explained that she does not want to demean the people working these jobs, however it feels that it is out of order. Mayor Futrelle then asked for a motion. Upon the motion of Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman, seconded by Councilmember Carter, Council voted unanimously to decline writing a letter of approval to be submitted to the ABC Commission.

APPOINTMENT TO DBDA BOARD

Councilmember Roseman nominated Vanessa White to the vacant position on the Downtown Boone Development Board to fill the remainder of Megan Mason's tem. Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman seconded the motion and Council voted unanimously in favor.

APPOINTMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Councilmember George nominated Ryan Robinson to fill a vacant position on the Sustainability Committee. Upon the nomination by Councilmember George, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Tugman, Council voted unanimously in favor of the board appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Futrelle asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon the motion of Councilmember Roseman, seconded by Councilmember Carter, the August 9 2023 meeting of the Boone Town Council adjourned at 9:48pm.

Nicole Harmon, Town Clerk

Tim Futrelle, Mayor

DRAFT

Communication: Draft Town Council Meeting Minutes - August 9, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

Memo To: Historic Preservation Commission Members and Appropriate Town Staff Members

From: Chuck Watkins

Subject: The Boone Cemetery

Date: 10/3/2023

The intent to provide interpretation for the Boone Cemetery has blossomed into unintended and unnecessary controversy. Among these forms of controversy are:

1. Who is and who is not a "real" historian.
2. What are facts and what are opinions as regards the panels' text.
3. The validity of oral history.
4. Individuals may be profiting from the sale of historical information.
5. The subject of the panels – is it the Boone Cemetery or is it Racism at the Boone Cemetery?
6. Who owns local history – descendants of early settlers or more recent arrivals to the area?

This is not a comprehensive list but should suffice to make the point that people who all have essentially the same purpose should seek common ground rather than to wrangle for interpretive primacy. One way to do that is to reduce the number of proposed panels. Four has turned out to be too many and threatens to turn what is sacred space into an outdoor display area. Moreover, that number has resulted in a duplication of thought and a wading into a level of detail that is inappropriate for signage of this type. Various studies in excellent museums demonstrate that, on average, visitors spend between eight seconds (Tate UK) and 27 seconds (Metropolitan Museum of Art) looking at works of art, and that shorter labels hold visitor interest more than do long labels. More detailed information may be conveyed via other formats such as QR codes.

Here is what I propose, though the specific wording is not definitive, nor is the particular length. My primary goal is to present the material that most people seem to agree on and to eliminate that on which they don't. I recommend that the text ultimately be revised and vetted by all interested parties.

Welcome to the Boone Cemetery

The land for the Boone Cemetery was originally owned by the Councill family, and the earliest known burials were Councill family members and their slaves. By the 1880s, locals treated the property as the town cemetery, even though it remained private property. As was the practice throughout the United States, the Boone Cemetery was segregated. Blacks were buried on the east side and Whites were interred in the western portion, and at times a fence separated the two areas. By the 1950s, the cemetery had fallen into disuse as both Black and White residents developed new burial spaces outside of Boone's downtown. In 2015 the town of Boone acquired the Boone Cemetery to ensure its care and protection. In this cemetery lie the remains of many of Boone's most important and prominent civic and cultural leaders of their time, including B.B. and D.D. Daugherty, brothers and founders of today's Appalachian State University, writer John

Communication: C. Watkins - Memo to HPC - October 3, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

Preston Arthur, and veterans of the nation's wars, including those who fought on both sides of the Civil War. (173 words)

Visiting the Cemetery

The Boone Cemetery is open to the public year-round from dawn to dusk. Visitors are reminded that this is sacred space, and not an area for recreation or sport. Pets are not permitted, and children must be accompanied by an adult. Interfering with a grave, including such things as attempting to perform the "rubbing" of a gravestone, the removal of any grave goods or leaning against a stone is forbidden. Visitors are further reminded that the desecration of gravesites in any form is a violation of North Carolina law. (89 words)

Communication: C. Watkins - Memo to HPC - October 3, 2023 (Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels)

Here are some proposals and thoughts concerning the Boone Cemetery sign/marker project

1. Three signs/markers be created
    a. **Rules** (placed outside of main gate)
    b. **Welcome and historic overview** (placed outside or just inside main gate)
    c. **Segregated cemetery** (placed at the crest of the hill near the light post with the White section to the left and the Black section to the right. Possibly straddling the dividing line)

2. The **content for the website** associated QR codes, and brochures, is not ready. As I understand it there is a plan for a digitized grave registry, and other historical content to be linked to the cemetery. Who is working on this? Is there a rough timeline?

3. **Names of notable people** buried in the cemetery, as there was much interest in this, we may be well served to pick 6 people or so from a broad spectrum to highlight on the Welcome to Boone marker. Suggestions were:
    a. B.B. and D.D. Daugherty, brothers and founders of today's Appalachian State University
    b. John Preston Arthur
    c. veterans of the nation's wars, including those who fought on both sides of the Civil War
    d. Who else? Have we received any public comments?
    e. Should we solicit names from the JHA or other local historical groups?

4. There seems like there is a great deal of interest in this project.To ensure the citizens of Boone and concerned parties have time for consideration and input I propose we:

    a. Finalize the rules marker and have made and posted at the gate
    b. Finalize the wording for the two historical markers and post them online so they can be easily publicly viewed. Where exactly would this info be posted? Is there an existing site? Any idea when this might be ready?
    c. Wait for back end historical data to go live, and any public comments concerning the marker working to be addressed by the HPC before the permanent markers are manufactured and placed. What is a reasonable timeframe?

Rules Marker

- This Property is owned by The Town of Boone
- Desecration of gravesites in any form is a violation of North Carolina law.
- Open to the public year-round from dawn to dusk
- Visitors are reminded that this is sacred space, and not an area for recreation or sport
- Be respectful of other visitors
- Many grave markers are old, heavy, and fragile.
    - Do not sit, stand or lean on any grave marker
    - Do not attempt to perform a "rubbing" of a gravestone
    - Do not attempt to clean grave markers
- Do not remove or disturb any grave goods left on the graves, including; flags, flowers, small stones, or other artifacts left by mourners
- Children should be supervised
- Pets must be on a leash, and cleaned up after
- For other information contact ###########

WELCOME MARKER

Welcome to the Boone Cemetery

This land was originally owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. (1795-1877). The first recorded burial was ### to be followed by other Councill family members, and those people enslaved by them. As was common practice throughout the United States, the Boone Cemetery was segregated. Blacks were buried on the east side and Whites were interred in the western portion.

By the **1880s**, Although still privately owned, locals treated the property as the town cemetery with burials outside of the Councill family members taking place in both sections of the cemetery.

By the **1950s**, the cemetery had fallen into disuse as both Black and White residents developed new burial spaces outside of Boone's downtown.

In **2015** the town of Boone acquired the Boone Cemetery to ensure its care and protection. Burials and interments have continued throughout the years, and are still permitted in the cemetery.

Many of Boone's earliest and most prominent residents lie within this cemetery including

- B.B. and D.D. Daugherty, brothers and founders of today's Appalachian State University
- John Preston Arthur
- veterans of the nation's wars, including those who fought on both sides of the Civil War
- Add to this list

>FOR MORE INFORMATION on the history of this cemetery, and the stories of some of those buried here > QR or Visit the Jones House (If this is where more can be found)

>DIRECT PEOPLE TO THE OTHER MARKER

A Divided Cemetery

The stone line at your feet marks the boundary that once divided the Black section of the cemetery to the east from the White section to the west.

Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the South and likely originated here with the Councill family's pre-Civil War burial practices.

Slavery may have formally ended in 1865, but racial segregation, and the segregation of this cemetery, did not. In the century that followed, locals usually called the cemetery's east section the "Colored Cemetery" and the west section the "City Cemetery."

Over the years cemetery trustees and town officials often maintained the privately held west section but often neglected the east section.

In 1958, town officials took over maintenance of the privately owned west section (was all of it still privately owned?) and constructed a chain-link fence around the west section.

<< Aerial photo from 1950 from previous version should be used. Is there another picture showing the discrepancy?

In 2015 the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence that had physically and symbolically divided the cemetery.

Typical of the ### known burials in the White western section to your left, are graves marked by a headstone bearing the names, relevant dates and often an epitaph of the deceased.

In the black, eastern section of the cemetery to the right there are 6? ### grave stones, and records of the names of the 68? ## people that were buried here in unmarked graves.

in 2016 a ground penetrating radar survey was conducted and nearly 200 unmarked graves were identified. Unable to identify these as belonging to a particular person, each was marked by a flat stone. The names of those whom are known to be buried here are recorded on a memorial marker nearby

General observations and thoughts

- The dividing line in the cemetery, and the disparity of grave markings (or lack of) is stark. Placing the “divided cemetery” marker straddling that line so visitors can see the stark contrast to the right and left tells a potent visual story. The one side looks full, the other looks like an empty field.
- The stone markers laid down over the unmarked graves in the eastern section are about 30% overgrown. With grass. In another year, the grass will have completely overtaken the makers and they will be back to being unmarked graves
- Having markers in the Eastern side that protrude above ground would help them be more visible. Even if we don’t know who is in each grave, something more permanent should mark their last resting place
- We should give some thought into the integration of the Cemetery markers and historical data into the rest of the town’s network of historic markers and structures and possible future historical walking tour, like Blowing Rock.

Although not marker related, there are some current maintenance issues with the boone cemetery, most of which could be resolved with limb clippers.

HARDIN

WILLIAMS

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels/Review Requested

From: Brenda Councill
To: Jane Shook <jane.shook@townofboone.net>, Tim Futrelle <tim.futrelle@town...
Date: 8/8/2023 9:45 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels/Review Requested

Mayor Tim Futrelle, Council members, Jane Shook, Director-Planning and Inspections Dept.

Re: Boone Cemetery Panels/REQUEST to TABLE

Thank you for your continued service and attention to matters of public concern.

The below undersigned are concerned about the narrative currently contained in the the recent document (now public) of the *Boone Cemetery Panels* in process of being approved at the August 9 Town Council meeting.

The living descendants of Jordan and Benjamin Councill request that a review by the descendants and an unbiased group of historians including researchers, preservationists, authors and local oral historians of note be allowed to be considered. We understand and note that the same respect, process and consideration was given to Junaluska residents and descendants when the Junaluska panel and monument in the cemetery and town were planned and placed.

The recent oral history and written documents by these living descendants will reveal interesting *facts* that have been overlooked and disregarded. A recent conversation among 2 historians revealed that one required a court document to prove and authenticate ownership of the original land owned by the Council family. As that historian would know that the courthouse fires would have rendered that document lost to fire. Further disputing that the claim of "donated land" given for the benefit of the freed slaves (became Junaluska) was proven. The story of the Jordan Councill Cemetery, (long maintained by The Councill Family) deserves an honest review. And Oral History as documentation must be considered

There is an especially important email, I would like to share from one Councill family member that directly ascertains the cemetery land and Junaluska parcels were donated by The Councill Family. Proven benevolent and progressive actions by The Councill Family to aid the Junaluska residents is also revealed. Branding the entire Councill family as “racists” will not stand at this juncture given the contrary evidence we will forward.

We very much hope that the story of the Boone cemetery can be presented in a truthful and unbiased way for the generations to follow. It is important that we review the panels and provide contextual historical facts that help all visitors to open the conversations about race relations, then and now.

Communication: Communication - B.Councill - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Brenda Mauney Councill
Jefferson Bostwick Councill,III
Bonny White Councill and descendants
Elizabeth Howell (Councill) Cleary and descendants
Barbara Brandt (Councill) Webb and descendants
Anne (Councill) Dennis and descendants
Tracy Councill and descendants
Martha (Councill) Leak and descendants
Petition names pending:
Fredrick Moore Councill and descendants

Communication: Communication - B.Councill - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - Fwd: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Materials for Town Council Meeting on Wednesday

From: Amy Davis
To: Jessica Mitchell;
Date: 8/8/2023 2:14 PM
Subject: Fwd: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Materials for Town Council Meeting on Wednesday
Attachments: Boone Town Council Documents.pdf

>>> Mary Moretz 08/07/2023, 06:36 PM >>> Dear Ms. Davis and Ms. Pilkington,
I am attaching a letter, already sent to the Mayor and Council Members, and attachments that I was unable to send to them via the portal.

Please provide the above named with the attachments prior to the meeting, if possible,or at the meeting.

Thank you very much.

Your truly,
Mary E. Moretz

Communication: Communication with Attachment - M. Moretz - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Mary Etta Moretz
1419 Deerfield Road
Boone, NC 28607
maryemoretz@gmail.com

August 7, 2023

Dear Mayor Futrell and Members of the Boone Town Council:

I am frustrated and frankly, insulted, that the efforts to honor our founders with a sculpture by renowned artist Brenda Councill has been delayed over and over again. After the tacit approval by Mark Freed regarding its placement and presence, it was held hostage by the criteria of a non-existent Public Arts Policy.

Pardon me, but it reeks of prejudice and discrimination against those of us who are local, mountain descendants. There are those who consider us to be rubes, hillbillies, ignorant and lacking in intellect. Yes, there are many groups who suffer from bias. Yes, I have been referred to as "you people" by so-called educated persons who would never refer to Blacks, Hispanics or members of the LGBTQ in such terms. Yes, I do have a chip on my shoulder.

In spite of the careful verification by celebrated historians, the wording on the sculpture does not meet the requirements of certain historians, who, as I understand it, make their living by tracing clients' histories. Maybe if we paid such individuals, such objections would disappear.

Even a high-school dropout is able to look up wills, deeds, census reports and other documents. Even an elderly hillbilly such as myself can do so. (Please do not tell ASU the truth about my perceived ineptness or they may rescind the honor they recently bestowed upon me.)

I understand that at least one person has even questioned the existence of Burrell, the enslaved herder of Benjamin Howard, who spent many days in the Boone Valley under the shadow of the mountain called Howard's Knob.

Perhaps Benjamin Howard did not exist either, even though he is my NSDAR proven Patriot ancestor. Perhaps we should rename his mountain, street and creek to something else. Perhaps his will, which is registered in Wilkes County, is a forgery. Perhaps the will of his daughter, Mary, is also a forgery.

In the event that these wills are not forgeries, I am providing copies of transcripts of the wills for your consideration either by the Town Manager or myself at the meeting on August 9. Both mention Burrell by name. The typewritten transcripts are provided since the actual copies are difficult to read, but the originals can be easily obtained via the: Wilkes County NcArchives Wills.....Howard, Benjamin April 8,1828; and Wilkes County NcArchives Wills.....Howard,Mary"Polly" June21,1836.

Cordially,

Mary Etta Moretz

Communication: Communication with Attachment - M. Moretz - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Wilkes County NcArchives Wills.....Howard, Benjamin April 8, 1828
****
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http://www.usgwarchives.org/copyright.htm
http://www.usgwarchives.org/nc/ncfiles.htm
****

File contributed for use in USGenWeb Archives by:
Joseph Howard jhhoward@comcast.net October 4, 2008, 3:34 pm

Source: Wilkes County Nc Will Book 4, P.119
Written: April 8, 1828
Recorded: November 1828

Benjamin Howard (1742-1828) Will
Written: 8 April 1828
Proved: November Term 1828
Wilkes County NC Will Book 4, p. 119

In the name of God, Amen. I Benjamin Howard of the County of Wilkes and State of North Carolina being of Sound mind and Memory, do make and Ordain this my last Will and Testament, that is to say, after all my just debts and funeral expenses are paid the Residue of my Estate I do give as follows.

1st. to my Daughter Descretion Isbell I do give my Negroe Woman Bets Valued at three Hundred & fifty Dollars.

2d. My Daughter Polly Howard I do give my Negroe man Burrel valued at Two Hundred Dollars.

3d. To my Son George Howard I do give my Negroe boy Abe valued at six Hundred Dollars.

4th. To Benjamin Howards Heirs I do give my Negroe boy Alexander Valued at Five Hundred Dollars.

5th. To my Daughter Sarah Counsil I do give my Negroe Girl Amanda and her Child John Thomas Valued at three Hundred & Twenty-five Dollars.

6th. To my Daughter Rebecca Dyer I do give my Negroe Girl Fanny valued at three Hundred and fifty Dollars, also my Negroe Girl Mead(?) Valued at three Hundred Dollars.

7th. To my Daughter Rachel Council I do give my Negroe Boy Joshua Valued at three Hundred and Twenty-five dollars also my boy Joseph Valued at six Hundred Dollars.

8th. To my Daughter Nancy Calloway I give my Negroe Woman Jenny & her Boy Austin valued at Seven Hundred and fifty Dollars.

9th. to my Son George Howard I give One Hundred Acres of Land in Ashe County North Carolina Valued at Two Hundred Dollars it being the upper part of my three Hundred Acre Tract on the main Road leading through it.

10th. To my son Cornelius Howard I give my Sugar Camp Tract of Land in Ashe County Containing fifty Acres for Extra Services, also Two Hundred Acres of Land of my Rich Mountain Tract in Ashe County, also a certain part of my home Plantation Beginning where the conditional line between him the said Cornelius Howard and myself crosses the fence, then with said fence till it joins my Cotten patch fence, then Nearly South East to a big White Oak Stump at the head of a gut(?) proceeding out of the Tobacco ground, then with the top or side of the Ridge to the creek at the point of Rocks, the [i.e., then] down said Creek to a Cross fence betwin Cornelius Howard and Polly Howard to the

Communication: Communication with Attachment - M. Moretz - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

River, then up the River to the Mouth of the creek. Also one Hundred Acres of land that slaves(?) formally lived on lying on the South side of the Yadkin River.

11th. To my Daughter Polly Howard I give a part of my home Plantation Beginning at a cross fence on the bank of the River near where a Spring leaks out, then down the River to a black Walnut & White Oak it being my Corner, then North with James Browns line, then nearly West Including the Reedy Branch and where Abraham Beach now lives then Round with the lines to the Conditional line Between myself and Cornelius Howard Supposed to be Between three and five hundred Acres. Also I give my old Waggon and Gears to Polly for Extra Services.

12th. To my Grand Daughter Prudence Calloway, I give my Horse called Buck.

13th. To my Grand Son William Howard Son of Polly Howard my mule colt and the colt that my Mare Mercury is now in fold with if it lives.

14th. I give my Mare Mercury to Rachel Council.

15th. I give my Motherless Colt to my Daughter Rebecca Dyer.

16th. To my Daughter Descretion Isbell I give my Beads, Beadsteads and furnature.

17th. The Balance of my Estate both Real and Personal after all my just debts are paid out of it and my daughter Polly Howard takes good care of me as long as I live I do give and Bequeath the Residue to her to have and to hold unmolisted.

18th. I do nominate Constitute and Appoint Polly Howard, Joseph Calloway and Benjamin Howard, son George Howard my executors to this my last Will and Testament and I the said Benjamin Howard do revoke and disannull all, every other Will heretofore made by me and Publicky declare them to be void and of none effect, in Presence of Almighty God and the undersigned Witnesses this to be my last Will and Testament. Sealed with my seal and dated this 8th day of April 1828.

his Benjamin X Howard mark (seal)

Attest[ed to] Benj Beach Int(?) [illegible] Pennel(?) North Carolina, Wilkes County, November Term 1828 The foregoing Will was duly Proven in Open Court by the oath of Benj. Beach Test R. Martin Clk

File at: http://files.usgwarchives.org/nc/wilkes/wills/howard680nwl.txt

This file has been created by a form at http://www.genrecords.net/ncfiles/

File size: 5.1 Kb

Communication: Communication with Attachment - M. Moretz - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Wilkes County NcArchives Wills.....Howard, Mary "Polly" June 21, 1836
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Joseph H. Howard jhhoward@comcast.net May 21, 2007, 10:24 am

Source: Clerk Of The Court's Office In Wilkesboro, Nc
Written: June 21, 1836
Recorded: July 1836

Some of Mary's descendants state that the father of her children was William Dula.

Mary “Polly” Howard (1768-1836)
Will
Wilkes County NC
Written: 21 June 1836
Probate: July 1836
Source: Clerk of the Court's Office in Wilkesboro, NC

In the name of God, Amen. Know all men by these present that I, Mary Howard, of the county of Wilkes and State of North Carolina, being feeble in body but of a sound and disposing mind, do ordain this my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made.

Viz, I appoint my son, William Howard and Larkin G. Jones my only executors. I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Prudence, and her children, three negroes, viz, Burrel, Milly, and her daughter Myra, which said negroes it is my will that my son William Howard shall keep in his possession and take care of until the youngest child of my daughter, Prudence, becomes of age if he shall remain a citizen of this state; but in the case of his revmoving out of the state, it is my will that Dr. L. G. Jones takes the said negroes in charge for the especial use of my said grandchildren and to be put in their possession as soon as the youngest child of my daughter, Prudence, becomes of age. The negro man, Isaac, I will to my son, William Howard, until all my debts are paid; then I wish him to be hired out by my said executors and his wages given to my daughter, Prudence, to assist her to raise her family and not to be placed in the hands of her husband. All the remainder of my property I give and bequeath to my son, William Howard; viz, the tract of land whereon he now lives, the negro boy, Larkin, the negro woman, Nance and her children and all my stock of every kind and all my household and kitchen furniture; and my son, William Howard, is to pay all the debts that I owe; and it is further my will that the negro man, Isaac, be not sold nor sent out of the country but as soon as the youngest child of my daughter, Prudence, becomes of age to be placed in the possession of the heirs of Prudence Calloway. In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my seal and hand this twenty-first day of June, A.D. 1836, done in the presence of Ike Norton and William Bradley.

Signed Mary Howard

File at: http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/wilkes/wills/howard301gwl.txt

This file has been created by a form at http://www.genrecords.org/ncfiles/

File size: 2.9 Kb

Communication: Communication with Attachment - M. Moretz - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Online Form Submittal: Planning & Inspections

From: <noreply@civicplus.com>
To: <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/8/2023 7:58 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Online Form Submittal: Planning & Inspections

Planning & Inspections

Select the staff member you wish to contact:

Planning Administration	*Field not completed.*
Building Inspections	*Field not completed.*
Planning	Jessica Mitchell, Long-Range/Special Projects Planner
Name	Michael C Hardy
Email	*Staff has email address on file.*
Phone	*Staff has phone number on file.*
Contact Preference	Email
Message	Dear Ms. Mitchell: Recently, I had a chance to peruse proposed verbiage for three signs for the Councill/ Boone Town Cemetery. The information is interesting, but unfortunately shows a degree of historical ignorance. For example, Panel #3: “A Divided Cemetery,” states that “Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the South.” A more accurate statement would be “Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the United States.” An often-referenced fact is that, until the 1950s, about 90 percent of all public cemeteries in the U.S. employed a variety of racial restrictions. That is not exclusively Southern cemeteries but all cemeteries in the United States, with a plethora of examples. In 1912, John Gaskill sued Forest Home Cemetery for refusing to bury his wife next to their four children buried at Forest Home Cemetery near Chicago. Forest Home had recently adopted an all-white internment policy. Eden Cemetery in Philadelphia opened in 1902 because of segregation at the other city cemeteries. Mount Auburn Cemetery in Baltimore was the only place a “person of color” could be buried. Exclusionary cemetery policies were not limited to Whites prohibiting Blacks from being buried in certain cemeteries. Old Burying Point in Salem, Massachusetts, did

Communication: Communication - M. Hardy - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

not allow the Irish to be buried within its walls.

The same panel paragraph states, “Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all.” Obviously the writer of these panels has never visited the countless cemeteries across Watauga County to see the multitude of “flagstones” (more properly, fieldstones) that mark graves. It was not “systemic racism,” that led to these graves being marked with fieldstones (flagstones are paving or roofing material), it was both poverty and a simplistic way of life. The “finely carved” reference would seem to indicate that the “White” section of the cemetery resembled something from Charleston or Savannah, instead of the many plain and unadorned stones that actually cover the Councill/Boone Town Cemetery.

Furthermore, this panel states that “White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section” and that “The two sections remained divided by the chain-link fence until 2015, when the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence marking Boone’s racial division of its dead.” Since the Black Cemetery was still privately owned, why would the town of Boone assume responsibility for its upkeep? Was the decision to install a fence separating the two cemeteries, one under the care of the town and the other private, exclusively that of Mayor Winkler, or did the town council also become involved?

In section one, it is stated that “Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials.” It would be appropriate to add that the west section continued to be used by local Whites until 1950, when the Mount Lawn Cemetery was established east of Boone. (Although it is acknowledged that occasional burials might still take place at the Councill/Boone City Cemetery.)

Furthermore, there is no mention of the Confederate veterans buried in this cemetery, of which there are about a dozen.

There is no mention of other important people to the history of Watauga County, like John Preston Arthur, Thomas J. Coffey, B.B. Dougherty, D.D. Dougherty, and a host of others. Are future plaques going to be added for these references?

While adding interpretive signage to a historical cemetery is a commendable project, it is vital to tell the whole history, and trendy catchphrases like “systemic racism” should be avoided at all costs. Terms like “systemic racism,” which oftentimes are simply our own misconstrued interpretations of past historical events, paint a negative picture of a complicated history, a history that often cannot be boiled down into trendy phrases. The Councill/Boone Town Cemetery deserves a more inclusive interpretation.

Communication: Communication - M. Hardy - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Kindest Regards,
Michael C. Hardy
2010 North Carolina Historian of the Year

Email not displaying correctly? View it in your browser.

Communication: Communication - M. Hardy - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Materials for Town Council Meeting on Wednesday

From: Eric Plaag
To: Amy Davis <Amy.Davis@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/8/2023 1:58 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Materials for Town Council Meeting on Wednesday
Cc: <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net>, Dalton George <Dalton.George@townofboone...

Thank you, Amy. For the record, no one on the HPC that I am aware of has ever suggested that Burrell did not exist. The HPC's statement on Burrell (along with supporting materials that were provided by the HPC) are part of the agenda item from August 20, 2020, that begins on packet page 437 here: https://link.edgepilot.com/s/16f87e52/LUH7oBg_VkWvKjTX4Kezjw?u=https://boonenc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1%26ID=1534%26Inline=True. The text on the third page of this statement, in fact, reads, "That said, the concerns of the HPC should not, under any circumstances, be construed as an assertion that Burrell did not exist or that he did not serve as Benjamin Howard's enslaved cowherd in the valley where the Town of Boone now lies."

I am copying Mayor Futrelle and the members of Town Council (as well as Laney Pilkington) on this email, and I encourage them to review the HPC's statement on Burrell from 2020 in preparation for tomorrow's discussion.

I'm not sure which specific individuals are the "certain historians" to which Ms. Moretz refers, but I will remind the Mayor and members of Council that the four current members of the HPC--Bettie Bond, Chuck Watkins, Riley Ziegler, and myself--are all professional historians who are bound to the ethical standards of the professional historical associations with which we are associated. We have followed those standards in providing the feedback requested by Town Council regarding the monument proposed by Brenda Councill. In addition, our service to the Town of Boone is voluntary, uncompensated, and incredibly time-consuming, yet three of the four of us have a combined service time to the HPC that I understand well exceeds 30 years. I say this in the event that Ms. Moretz wishes to amend her comments, which read as ungracious, if not outright libelous, and--weirdly--suggest that exactly what is proposed for Brenda Councill's monument--text inclusion in exchange for payment--is unethical and corrupt.

My words here are my own, but I ask that Town staff provide Bettie, Chuck, and Riley with a copy of this email, as well as a copy of Ms. Moretz's letter, as soon as possible.

Best,

Eric

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.

Communication: Communication - E. Plaag - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/84e07339/kx-AEneE7ke7G1f4_oBipQ?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

On Tue, Aug 8, 2023 at 12:17 PM Amy Davis <Amy.Davis@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Eric,
> I wanted to share this with you in advance of tomorrow's Council meeting. Jane mentioned you may be attending.
> Thank you,
> Amy
> Amy Davis, Town Manager
> Town of Boone
> 567 West King Street
> Boone, NC 28607
> (828)268-6200
> www.townofboone.net
> >>> Mary Moretz 08/07/2023, 06:36 PM >>> Dear Ms. Davis and Ms. Pilkington,
> I am attaching a letter, already sent to the Mayor and Council Members, and attachments that I was unable to send to them via the portal.
> Please provide the above named with the attachments prior to the meeting, if possible,or at the meeting.
> Thank you very much.
> Your truly,
> Mary E. Moretz
>
> "The Town of Boone is an equal opportunity provider and employer."
>
> Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.

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Communication: Communication - E. Plaag - August 8, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Prepared Remarks for Public Comment

From: Eric Plaag
To: Amy Davis <amy.davis@townofboone.net>, <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net>, D...
Date: 8/9/2023 11:31 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Prepared Remarks for Public Comment
Attachments: Plaag Remarks to Council, 8-9-2023, full.pdf

Dear Mayor Futrelle, Members of Town Council, Town Manager Davis, and Town Staff,

Attached you will find the longer version of my prepared remarks for the public comment session at today's Town Council meeting. In the interest of saving time when I speak, I have trimmed about a third of what I am sending to you here, but I wanted you to have the additional material, as it adds important context for your consideration.

Best,

Eric

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/8346b902/u0hn2uI7BEybDyee6wisew?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

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Communication: Communication - E.Plaag - August 9, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Eric Plaag
Prepared Remarks for Public Comment to Town Council
August 9, 2023

Thank you, Mayor Futrelle, Members of Council, and Town Manager Davis for the opportunity to address you. I want to emphasize that my remarks here are solely my own. I am in receipt of copies of three communications that have been provided to you regarding the Boone Cemetery Panels and the proposed Founders Monument, two of which are from people who are not even residents of the Town of Boone. I have already provided you with a written response to the letter from Mary Moretz, and as I explained, no one at the HPC has ever asserted that Burrell did not exist. Indeed, our August 2020 update to Council said exactly the opposite but also expressed a host of concerns about the authenticity of the story that White folks liked to tell about Burrell without much evidence. As I also explained, all four members of the HPC are bound by professional codes of ethics in doing our volunteer historical work for the Town. Examples of those codes can be found at the American Historical Association and the National Council on Public History, among several such organizations of which I am a member.

It is striking and odd to me that the general tenor of these emails suggests—as Mary Moretz alleged—that the work of the HPC is somehow prejudiced and discriminatory toward local families like the Councills. During my tenure as the Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, the HPC has worked hard to bring the Boone Cemetery under the legal control of the Town for its long-term protection; secured well over $100,000 in funding for improvements to the Boone Cemetery and advocated for the proposed cemetery panels acknowledging the Councill family's long association with that cemetery; secured a state historical marker honoring the Wilcox family and initiated a local historical marker program that has acknowledged the contributions of other so-called founding families, including a marker about the Councill family's establishment of the early settlement at Boone known as Councill's Store; conducted a years-long architectural survey of downtown that historically contextualized Boone's founding and development and resulted in a designated historic district to help preserve those important architectural resources, many of them built by those early families; and advocated for the establishment of local historic landmarks at properties associated with the Councill, Linney, Coffey, Wyke, Jones, and Rivers families. To suggest that any member of the HPC is somehow biased and discriminatory against local "founding families," or that we are trying to ignore them and their contributions, is utterly laughable. And that's before even considering the many thousands of volunteer hours that Bettie Bond, Chuck Watkins, and I have given over the past decade to creating public programming, archival documentation, and interpretive content through the Watauga County Historical Society and the Digital Watauga Project, all without any personal compensation whatsoever.

Regarding Mr. Hardy's letter, I'll say that he raises a fair point that cemetery segregation was a national issue prior to the 1960s, not just a southern one, and I'm sure the HPC would be willing to consider changing "common in the South" to "common in the United States" on that panel. If anything, though, that point only amplifies the observation in the proposed panel text that systemic racism was at the heart of the practices of segregation and exclusion at the Boone

Communication: Communication - E.Plaag - August 9, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Cemetery. Given that both de jure and de facto segregation were rampant throughout the entire United States and for much of its history ignored or enabled by our local, state, and federal governments, that sure seems to fit the definition of "systemic." As for Mr. Hardy's request that Confederate veterans and various other "important people" in the cemetery be highlighted, he may have overlooked the captions on the various interpretive panels that indicate that separate QR codes will direct visitors to websites with not only an inventory of all known burials in the Boone Cemetery but also content on various folks buried in the cemetery. All of that content could not possibly fit on four interpretive panels limited to approximately 300 words apiece.

I want to address the bulk of my remarks, however, to the email from Brenda Councill and various Councill family descendants. The HPC and I have urged various members of the Councill family since 2014, when we first began researching the cemetery for the Town, to provide us with any documentation they might have regarding a formal donation of the property to the Town. To date, none has actually been provided. Nevertheless, if the Councill family members have any such documentation, we would welcome the opportunity to review it. To my knowledge, though, there is no surviving evidence/documentation that the Councill family ever formally donated the land for any part of the cemetery to the Town. More importantly, Jordan Councill, Jr., wouldn't have been the donor of the cemetery land in such a case because he wasn't the owner of the parcel; his brother Benjamin Councill, Sr.--the eldest of the Jordan Councill, Sr., male children--was. The cemetery sat squarely within Benjamin, Sr.'s mid- to late-nineteenth-century holdings. Indeed, the only documented Councill family transaction regarding the cemetery is a 1937 deed in which BJ Councill, Blanche Councill, and Mattie Councill Hardin (BJ and Mattie were the children of Jacob Mast Councill, son of Benjamin, Sr.; Blanche was BJ's wife) transferred the historically White section of the cemetery to three designated trustees for the cemetery who were functioning as a private entity, NOT on behalf of the Town. Those trustees also acquired a strip of land on the south side of the White section in 1958 because of an overlapping boundary issue with ASTC. In 1976, the sole surviving trustee, James H. Councill, appointed Mark Hodges and John H. Councill as successor trustees to the two other deceased trustees.

That's the end of any formal transfers involving the White section of the cemetery prior to 1998, when a new group of trustees claimed control of the entire cemetery (Black and White sections) under the name "Trustees of the Town of Boone Cemetery," in turn conveying the Black section and the driveway parcel on Howard Street (without any predecessor deed documentation to justify doing so) to an entity it called the "Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery." Oddly, those trustees never bothered to transfer the two White parcels to this new entity. When all four parcels were finally transferred to the Town of Boone in 2015 (BOR 1819, Page 622), the grantors who completed the transaction were listed as both the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery and the trustees of the Town of Boone Cemetery (at that point, John Payne, Rebecca Eggers-Gryder, and Frank Coffey). This was the first moment in history when the Town of Boone ever had a documented ownership stake of any kind in the cemetery land.

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This fact prompts some commentary on another of the objections that Mr. Hardy raised in his email regarding Town involvement in erecting a fence around the White section in the 1950s but not around the Black section. As the deed record clearly demonstrates, the Town had no ownership interest in any part of the cemetery at that time, so the expenditure of Town funds (in addition to the maintenance that went on for years before and after that) was for improvements on private land. While that expenditure was provided for the White section, no such considerations were made for the Black section of the cemetery. Indeed, locals have been questioning that decision for nearly 45 years. In 1979, when the Watauga Democrat confronted former mayor Gordon Winkler about this, they reported, "Winkler was vague on why the black section wasn't included in the fence, but said that he would like to see it cleaned up. Town manager Marvin Hoffman echoed Winkler's sentiments. He said, however, that he isn't certain public funds can be expended at the graveyard because it is essentially private. According to Hoffman, the town has no jurisdiction over who is buried in the cemetery and it is actually controlled by a board of trustees. The town does, however, keep the grass mowed in the cemetery." Again, that was in 1979, 21 years after the fence was erected.

In short, existing deeds for much of the 20th century showed the White cemetery land as privately owned by cemetery trustees, which is why it had to be deeded by the subsequent cemetery trustees to the Town in 2015. And contrary to claims that the Councill descendants have made, there certainly is no documentation that the Councill family ever formally donated any part of the cemetery to anyone, even if historically the Black section was likely first used to bury those enslaved by the Councill family, and the white section was likely first used to bury Councill family members. The only surviving deed documentation for the Black section is that the Trustees of the Boone Chapel ("Methodist Episcopal Church, Colored," as the denomination was called in the day) purchased the eastern extreme of the Black section in 1919 for the purposes of expanding the Black cemetery; no deed of any kind for the bulk of the Black section is known to exist until the trustees' seizure of the land in 1999 and their consequent transfer of it to the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery in 1999.

The Councill family in their email also make much of the purported "donation" of land to the Junaluska community, but their claims of generosity seem to be controverted by the known facts. First, nearly all of the land in the lower portion of Junaluska around the Mennonite Brethren Church was acquired by Black residents from B. T. Brannock in the 1910s. Indeed, as the Reverend Ronda Horton noted, when he was a boy about 1900, there were only six Black families living on the entirety of the Junaluska hillside—Troy Councill, Bob Shearer, and four different Hortons. At first, the earliest Black settlers on the Junaluska hillside after the Civil War—Troy Councill, for example—appear to have been sharecropping or renting land from the Councill family rather than owning it outright. Troy Councill told us as much in his own words in October 1873, when his statement was taken for the Southern Claims Commission about the events of Stoneman's Raid (for the record, the Watauga County Courthouse fire, alluded to by the Councill descendants, was also in 1873). Describing himself as 47 years old at the time of his statement, Troy Councill said, "When I was freed I belonged to Jordan Councill. I live now on Sally Councill's land." He died in 1901. In 1907, William Ballard Councill—Sally Councill's grandson—sold all 20 acres known as the "Troy Place" to J. M. Moretz; there is no record of

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Troy Councill ever owning or conveying land in Watauga County. The other, circa 1900 Black Junaluska residents referred to by Ronda Horton appear to have purchased their land. W. B. Councill SOLD June Horton the parcel for his home in the 1890s. Elbert Horton purchased his Junaluska land in 1903 from B. T. Brannock. B. J. Councill sold another sharecropper plot known as the Sylva Place to the Watauga County Board of Education for construction of a Black school in 1907. Emma Horton first bought her land in 1897. Guss Horton purchased his 10 acres located along the east side of Wyn Way up through where my brother's house now is in 1909.

The letter from Brenda Councill and other Councill descendants also makes the claim that the HPC has "branded the entire Councill family as racists." I'm not aware of anything in the cemetery panel text or any other report of the HPC that asserts such a thing. It also seems odd to me that the Councill descendants never came forward to the HPC, either in writing or at any of our public meetings, during the entirety of our discussion of the Councill's Store marker, nor have they participated in any of the numerous HPC meetings over the past several years regarding the proposed cemetery panels. Now, they ask to be treated as the JHA was when the Junaluska marker was being considered, but I will note for the record that the JHA prepared a written request and report for an historical marker and presented it to the HPC to initiate that project. We then worked together with the JHA for nearly a year to create the final report and marker text. The JHA was proactive in telling the story of Junaluska, but the HPC was also rigorous in reviewing the content they provided and—in line with our ethical and professional obligations as historians—insisted on copious documentation for any statements or conclusions expressed in the final version of the Junaluska marker report.

With this in mind, I want to be sure the Councill descendants understand the implications of those ethical and professional standards in interpreting the contributions of the Councill family to the history of our town. For example, several of the earliest Councill family members were prominent slaveholders in a region where 90% of White settlers did not enslave people.

Benjamin Councill—whose land we're talking about at the cemetery—was listed as enslaving 4 people in 1850 and 6 people in 1860.

Jordan Councill, Jr., whose lands included the Junaluska hillside, was listed as enslaving 13 people in 1850 and 11 people in 1860.

Jesse Councill was listed as enslaving 3 people in 1850 and 2 people in 1860.

Sarah Councill was listed as enslaving 7 people in 1850.

James W. Councill was listed as enslaving 3 people in 1860.

There are also very prominent but problematic Councill family figures in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. One is Judge William Ballard Councill, grandson of Jordan Councill, Jr., Boone attorney and later judge, who was elected to the NC House as the Democratic candidate in 1898. That contest was dominated statewide and in Watauga County by an overt effort by the

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Democrats to disenfranchise Black voters. Indeed, the primary issue on which the Democrats ran in 1898 was literally white supremacy; the North Carolina Democrats' 1898 platform read, in part, "We denounce all enactments of the last two legislatures by which cities and towns in the state have been turned over to negro domination….We favor a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, and rule by the white men of the state….We call upon every believer in honor, honesty, and economy, upon every advocate of white supremacy,…to unite with us in our contest with the Republican party—the great enemy of our principles—and aid us in redeeming the nation from the clutches of greed and injustice, and the state from the scandal and incompetence which now afflict it." Boone's *Watauga Democrat*—literally, as its name implies, the mouthpiece for local Democrats—frequently ran editorials in 1898 espousing the benefits of white supremacy and Black disenfranchisement, often with the N word used to describe Black citizens. One editorial from the *Watauga Democrat*, describing the contest as one between the "negro party" and the "White man's party," argued, "The various classes that compose the negro party [include] 130,000 pap-sucking and prejudice-guided men who were Populists two and four years ago, McKinley office-holders and their Republican henchmen, and such other scalawags, add traitors to their race, who expect to get office or pay in return for selling their birthright." Judge Councill, as the party's standard bearer for the NC House race, signed on to that platform, representing it in the general election.

His racism did not end there. In 1900, Judge Councill took over the seat of Judge L. L. Greene, who you may remember from the Hayes Bryan Greene Cemetery marker, but before doing so, he campaigned hard for an educational qualification amendment to the North Carolina constitution, making it illegal for those who could not read or write to vote in the state. Such measures were, on their face, a racist attempt to suppress the Black vote. As the Morganton Herald explained at the time, "The proposed amendment to the constitution will not prevent any white man from voting however illiterate he may be unless he neglects to register before 1908. All persons who could vote in 1867 or any time prior to that date, and all lineal descendants of such may register without being able to read or write." 1867, of course, is the year before Black men were legally granted citizenship by the ratification of the 14th Amendment.

It's ironic to me that the letters you received from Michael Hardy and the Councill descendants have asked for a "truthful, unbiased," and "more inclusive" interpretation of the Councills and other town founders. I have said it before, and it seems warranted today to say it again—particularly in light of the national debate taking place over book bans and curriculum revisions: If you only want discussions about the history of your community, your family, and the organizations with which you associate to make you feel proud and patriotic, you probably aren't doing the hard work that comes with actually researching, studying, and analyzing history. In fact there's a word for that type of narrative—hagiography—meaning an uncritical or excessively reverential treatment of a subject. We have an ethical obligation when we narrate the history of our people, our places, and our organizations to confront the nuances, complications, and paradoxes they embraced, even if it makes us uncomfortable. History is more interesting precisely because of its contradictions, its acts of injustice, and the failures of the historical actors who often broke their promises and ignored the opportunities available to

Communication: Communication - E.Plaag - August 9, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

them in those moments of moral and ethical conflict. We are at our wisest when we confront and acknowledge those human failings, then aim not to repeat the mistakes of those who have come before us. True justice, true equality, and true progress—the alleged hallmarks of a representative democracy—are impossible without that kind of integrity in speaking about our shared past.

Communication: Communication - E.Plaag - August 9, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Cemetery Interpretive Panels/Review

From: Brenda Councill
To: Jessica Mitchell <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>, Tim Futrelle <tim.f...
Date: 8/10/2023 5:05 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Cemetery Interpretive Panels/Review

To: Mayor Futrelle and the Historic Preservation Committee

Re: Request to review Cemetery Panels authored by Chairman Eric Plaag

In reference to the exchanges in the *August 9th Town Council meeting* we (a concerned group of families and historians) are formally requesting an opportunity to review panel verbiage prior to its finalization by Chairman Eric Plaag. This motion made by the Mayor to authorize the panels be returned to Chairman Plaag allowing HPC final editing and wording. Chairman Plaag stated he would welcome additional information from all the families.

At what time frame will these families be given to present this information? We feel that there should be no rush to conclude these panels by any deadline.

It should be noted that our representative group was unable to access and read a Panel Draft document/agenda packets from previous HPC meetings until Friday Aug. 4. Where would one "access" the working draft of these panels if not on the TOWN website?

Our group is not just the Councill Family, so Chairman Plaag is incorrect in his assumption that this is a singular or elite group. You may be unaware of a Dougherty descendant letter? Furthermore excoriating the Councils in general and me personally with a decidedly hostile, threatening and disrespectful manner is wholly inappropriate and calls into question the governance of the TOWN Council in allowing personal attacks to be communicated publicly. Additionally, defaming ancestors like Judge Councill, son of my great, great, great grandfather Dr. William B. Councill was especially disdainful.

We will issue documents, oral history evidence that should be acknowledged and considered by Chairman Plaag. And that information will be assembled in a timely manor. Just as we may request documentation on verbiage intact currently.

A few points to consider at this juncture:

Chairman Plaag chooses Benjamin Councill and not Jordan Councill (inferring that JC should not be credited with original ownership of that land? Why?) stating that The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with The Councill Family. The Jordan Council Will (Ashe County, 1838) is easily accessible. Chairman Plaag speaks of an existing deed/ transfer of this acreage acknowledges Benjamin Councill as owner and the Will clearly indicates the inheritance. Numerous sources cite the Councill land holdings.

Communication: Communication - B. Councill - August 10, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

- "Memories of Early Days in Boone",Watauga democrat, May 26,1938 PG. 4
- "Bryan's Diary Reveals Two Saloons in Boone in 1857", Watauga Democrat June 23,1949
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  Can we ascertain that the privately owned east section was neglected by the owners instead of stating that Gordon Winkler was likely responsible for the prejudicial claim of purposeful intent to ignore the east section.

  And please see: statements from descendant ***Martha(Councill) Leak,6/17/23:***

  I have talked to my older brother, Fred about the cemetery - he remembered a little more than I did. Below is what little we know, but I am not sure where to send this information.

  Jordan Councill or Jordan Councill, Jr. gave the land for the cemetery. I am not sure which one. The Councill family looked after the cemetery from the beginning.

  My father, James Hardin Councill, looked after having it mowed and cared for during the years that I lived in Boone. (1934 - 1956 when I married and moved away). My brother Fred spent many hours mowing the property before he joined the Air Force.

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  Please send me a copy of the proposed wording for the cemetery plaque. I might have some additions or clarifications.

Communication: Communication - B. Councill - August 10, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

I hope this helps to understand how much the Councill family was involved for many decades. - Martha Councill Leak 2023

This is a small segment of our discovery.
Enclosed please find the original correspondence from Historian Michael C. Hardy for consideration of edits to the panels. As Hardy, the Council Family descendants and other representative families will request that the these points and other narratives be included to tell a balanced history. We will gather our information in the next few weeks.

Respectfully,

The Councill family (12 members)
And other families referenced in the above correspondence

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

Recently, I had a chance to peruse proposed verbiage for three signs for the Councill/ Boone Town Cemetery. The information is interesting, but unfortunately shows a degree of historical ignorance. For example, Panel #3: "A Divided Cemetery," states that "Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the South." A more accurate statement would be "Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the United States." An often-referenced fact is that, until the 1950s, about 90 percent of all public cemeteries in the U.S. employed a variety of racial restrictions. That is not exclusively Southern cemeteries but all cemeteries in the United States, with a plethora of examples. In 1912, John Gaskill sued Forest Home Cemetery for refusing to bury his wife next to their four children buried at Forest Home Cemetery near Chicago. Forest Home had recently adopted an all-white internment policy. Eden Cemetery in Philadelphia opened in 1902 because of segregation at the other city cemeteries. Mount Auburn Cemetery in Baltimore was the only place a "person of color" could be buried. Exclusionary cemetery policies were not limited to Whites prohibiting Blacks from being buried in certain cemeteries. Old Burying Point in Salem, Massachusetts, did not allow the Irish to be buried within its walls.

The same panel paragraph states, "Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all." Obviously the writer of these panels has never visited the countless cemeteries across Watauga County to see the multitude of "flagstones" (more properly, fieldstones) that mark graves. It was not "systemic racism," that led to these graves being marked with fieldstones (flagstones are paving or roofing material), it was both poverty and a simplistic way of life. The "finely carved" reference would seem to indicate that the "White" section of the cemetery resembled something from Charleston or Savannah, instead of the many plain and unadorned stones that actually cover the Councill/Boone Town Cemetery.

Furthermore, this panel states that "White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section" and that "The two sections remained divided by the chain-link fence until 2015, when the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence marking Boone's racial division of its dead." Since the Black Cemetery was still privately owned, why would the town of Boone assume responsibility for its upkeep? Was the decision to install a fence separating the two cemeteries, one under the care of the town and the other private, exclusively that of Mayor Winkler, or did the town council also become involved?

In section one, it is stated that "Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials." It would be appropriate to add that the west section continued to be used by local Whites until 1950, when the Mount Lawn Cemetery was established east of Boone. (Although it is acknowledged that occasional burials might still take place at the Councill/Boone City Cemetery.)

Communication: Communication - B. Councill - August 10, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Furthermore, there is no mention of the Confederate veterans buried in this cemetery, of which there are about a dozen. There is no mention of other important people to the history of Watauga County, like John Preston Arthur, Thomas J. Coffey, B.B. Dougherty, D.D. Dougherty, and a host of others. Are future plaques going to be added for these references?

While adding interpretive signage to a historical cemetery is a commendable project, it is vital to tell the whole history, and trendy catchphrases like “systemic racism” should be avoided at all costs. Terms like “systemic racism,” which oftentimes are simply our own misconstrued interpretations of past historical events, paint a negative picture of a complicated history, a history that often cannot be boiled down into trendy phrases. The Councill/Boone Town Cemetery deserves a more inclusive interpretation.

Kindest Regards,

Michael C. Hardy

2010 North Carolina Historian of the Year

Communication: Communication - B. Councill - August 10, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Cemetery Interpretive Panels/Review

From: Eric Plaag
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/11/2023 4:03 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Cemetery Interpretive Panels/Review
Cc: Amy Davis <amy.davis@townofboone.net>, Jane Shook <jane.shook@townofboon...
Attachments: Remarks to Council, 8-9-2023, reduced.pdf

Spoken remarks are attached.

Best,

Eric

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/c86bf4a5/Z80XmxMJj0mM0VjUNkwW_Q?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

On Fri, Aug 11, 2023 at 3:42 PM Eric Plaag <> wrote:

> Thank you, Jessica. I will work on some draft language for a brief but informative response (from the Town Manager) to this most recent communication, which I hope will be helpful text for crafting the official response. I will try to get that to you on Monday.
>
> For the next HPC meeting packet, please include copies of all of this correspondence you have received so far, my reply to Town Council members regarding Mary Moretz's letter, a copy of my spoken remarks (which I will provide shortly) from the public comment period, the 2014 deed record report I prepared for the cemetery discussions, and--if possible/available--draft minutes from the relevant sections of the public comment period and the relevant agenda item from the August 9 TC meeting.
>
> Best,
>
> Eric

Communication: Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/c86bf4a5/Z80XmxMJj0mM0VjUNkwW_Q?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

On Fri, Aug 11, 2023 at 3:21 PM Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Hello,
>
> I am sharing this communication that I received earlier today regarding the Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels.
>
> Eric, please feel free to contact me next week to discuss responses to the public comment communications received. Jane and I have discussed this, as she will be out of the office next week, and I have the individuals identified that we can respond to.
> Also, since this communication is directed towards the HPC, I will also share this communication with them before the end of the day.
>
> Please let me know if you have any concerns regarding this communication.
>
> Thank you,
> Jessica
>
> ***Jessica Mitchell***
> **Long-Range/Special Projects Planner**
> jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net
> **Office** 828.268.6960
>
> Town of Boone
> Planning & Inspections
> 680 West King Street, Suite C
> Boone, NC 28607
>
> Disclaimer: The information provided herein is only informal advice. This email is not a final decision, is not binding on the Town, and is not appealable. A binding decision or interpretation may only be provided in response to a proper written application. If you wish to obtain a final and binding decision or interpretation from the Town, you must specifically request such a decision or interpretation and submit the required written application and fee. Please contact the Planning and Inspections Department for more information.
>
> Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.
>
> "The Town of Boone is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Communication: Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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>>> Brenda Councill <> 8/10/2023 5:05 PM >>>
To: Mayor Futrelle and the Historic Preservation Committee
Re: Request to review Cemetery Panels authored by Chairman Eric Plaag

In reference to the exchanges in the *August 9th Town Council meeting* we (a concerned group of families and historians) are formally requesting an opportunity to review panel verbiage prior to its finalization by Chairman Eric Plaag. This motion made by the Mayor to authorize the panels be returned to Chairman Plaag allowing HPC final editing and wording. Chairman Plaag stated he would welcome additional information from all the families.

At what time frame will these families be given to present this information? We feel that there should be no rush to conclude these panels by any deadline.

It should be noted that our representative group was unable to access and read a Panel Draft document/agenda packets from previous HPC meetings until Friday Aug. 4. Where would one "access" the working draft of these panels if not on the TOWN website?

Our group is not just the Councill Family, so Chairman Plaag is incorrect in his assumption that this is a singular or elite group. You may be unaware of a Dougherty descendant letter?
Furthermore excoriating the Councils in general and me personally with a decidedly hostile, threatening and disrespectful manner is wholly inappropriate and calls into question the governance of the TOWN Council in allowing personal attacks to be communicated publicly. Additionally, defaming ancestors like Judge Councill, son of my great, great, great grandfather Dr. William B. Councill was especially disdainful.

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A few points to consider at this juncture:

Chairman Plaag chooses Benjamin Councill and not Jordan Councill (inferring that JC should not be credited with original ownership of that land? Why?) stating that The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with The Councill Family. The Jordan Council Will (Ashe County, 1838) is easily accessible. Chairman Plaag speaks of an existing deed/ transfer of this acreage acknowledges Benjamin Councill as owner and the Will clearly indicates the inheritance. Numerous sources cite the Councill land holdings.
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Communication: Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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Communication: Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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Communication: Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Kindest Regards,

Michael C. Hardy

2010 North Carolina Historian of the Year

Links contained in this email have been replaced by AT-NET's Cloud Email Security. If you click on a link in the email above, the link will be analyzed for known threats. If a known threat is found, you will not be able to proceed to the destination. If suspicious content is detected, you will see a warning.

Communication: Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Eric Plaag
Prepared Remarks for Public Comment to Town Council
August 9, 2023

Thank you, Mayor Futrelle, Members of Council, and Town Manager Davis for the opportunity to address you. I want to emphasize that my remarks here are solely my own. I am in receipt of copies of three communications that have been provided to you regarding the Boone Cemetery Panels and the proposed Founders Monument, two of which are from people who are not even residents of the Town of Boone. I have already provided you with a written response to the letter from Mary Moretz, and as I explained, no one at the HPC has ever asserted that Burrell did not exist. Indeed, our August 2020 update to Town Council said exactly the opposite but also expressed a host of concerns about the authenticity of the story that White folks liked to tell about Burrell without much evidence. As I also explained, all four members of the HPC are bound by professional codes of ethics in doing our volunteer historical work for the Town. Examples of those codes can be found at the American Historical Association and the National Council on Public History, among several such organizations of which I am a member.

It is striking and odd to me that the general tenor of these emails suggests—as Mary Moretz alleged—that the work of the HPC is somehow prejudiced and discriminatory toward local families like the Councills. During my tenure as the Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, the HPC has worked hard to bring the Boone Cemetery under the legal control of the Town for its long-term protection; secured well over $100,000 in funding for improvements to the Boone Cemetery and advocated for the proposed cemetery panels acknowledging the Councill family's long association with that cemetery; secured a state historical marker honoring the Wilcox family and initiated a local historical marker program that has acknowledged the contributions of other so-called founding families, including a marker about the Councill family's establishment of the early settlement at Boone known as Councill's Store; conducted a years-long architectural survey of downtown that historically contextualized Boone's founding and development and resulted in a designated historic district to help preserve those important architectural resources, many of them built by those early families; and advocated for the establishment of local historic landmarks at properties associated with the Councill, Linney, Coffey, Wyke, Jones, and Rivers families. To suggest that any member of the HPC is somehow biased and discriminatory against local "founding families," or that we are trying to ignore them and their contributions, is utterly laughable. And that's before even considering the many thousands of volunteer hours that Bettie Bond, Chuck Watkins, and I have given over the past decade to creating public programming, archival documentation, and interpretive content through the Watauga County Historical Society and the Digital Watauga Project, all without any personal compensation whatsoever.

Regarding Mr. Hardy's letter, he raises a fair point that cemetery segregation was a national issue prior to the 1960s, not just a southern one, and I'm sure the HPC would be willing to consider changing "common in the South" to "common in the United States" on that panel. If anything, though, that point only amplifies the observation in the proposed panel text that systemic racism was at the heart of the practices of segregation and exclusion at the Boone

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Cemetery. Given that both de jure and de facto segregation were rampant throughout the entire United States and for much of its history ignored or enabled by our local, state, and federal governments, that sure seems to fit the definition of "systemic." As for Mr. Hardy's request that Confederate veterans and various other "important people" in the cemetery be highlighted, he may have overlooked the captions on the various interpretive panels that indicate that separate QR codes will direct visitors to websites with not only an inventory of all known burials in the Boone Cemetery but also content on various folks buried in the cemetery. All of that content could not possibly fit on four interpretive panels limited to approximately 300 words apiece.

I want to address the bulk of my remarks, however, to the email from Brenda Councill and various Councill family descendants. What follows is a summary of written remarks I provided to members of Council earlier today. Since 2014, the HPC has sought any and all documentation that further contextualizes the evolution of the Boone Cemetery over time. If the Councill family members have any such documentation, we would welcome the opportunity to review it. That said, the HPC is not aware of any documentation whatsoever to demonstrate that the Councill family ever—at any time in history—legally donated the cemetery to the Town of Boone. The sequence of events leading to the Town's acquisition of both the Black and White sections of the cemetery in 2015 is much more convoluted than that. Existing deeds for much of the 20th century showed the White cemetery land as privately owned by cemetery trustees, which is why it had to be deeded by the last set of cemetery trustees to the Town in 2015. Furthermore, no deed of any kind for the bulk of the Black section is known to exist until the trustees' seizure of that land in 1999 and their consequent transfer of it to the Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery in 1999.

This fact prompts some commentary on another of the objections that Mr. Hardy raised in his email regarding Town involvement in erecting a fence around the White section in the 1950s. Indeed, locals have been questioning that decision for nearly 45 years. In 1979, when the Watauga Democrat confronted Gordon Winkler about why a fence was put around the white section in the 1950s but not the Black section, they reported, "Winkler was vague on why the black section wasn't included in the fence, but said that he would like to see it cleaned up. Town manager Marvin Hoffman echoed Winkler's sentiments. He said, however, that he isn't certain public funds can be expended at the graveyard because it is essentially private. According to Hoffman, the town has no jurisdiction over who is buried in the cemetery and it is actually controlled by a board of trustees. The town does, however, keep the grass mowed in the cemetery." Again, that was in 1979, 21 years after the fence was erected.

The Councill family in their email also make much of the purported "donation" of land to the Junaluska community, but their claims of generosity seem to be controverted by the known facts. First, nearly all of the land in the lower portion of Junaluska around the Mennonite Brethren Church was acquired by Black residents from B. T. Brannock in the 1910s. Indeed, as the Reverend Ronda Horton noted, when he was a boy about 1900, there were only six Black families living on the entirety of the Junaluska hillside—Troy Councill, Bob Shearer, and four different Hortons. At first, the earliest Black settlers on the Junaluska hillside after the Civil

Communication: Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

War—Troy Councill, for example—appear to have been sharecropping or renting land from the Councill family rather than owning it outright. Troy Councill told us as much in his own words in October 1873, when his statement was taken for the Southern Claims Commission about the events of Stoneman's Raid. Describing himself as 47 years old at the time of his statement, Troy Councill said, "When I was freed I belonged to Jordan Councill. I live now on Sally Councill's land." He died in 1901. In 1907, William Ballard Councill—Sally Councill's grandson—sold all 20 acres known as the "Troy Place" to J. M. Moretz; there is no record of Troy Councill ever owning or conveying land in Watauga County. The other, circa 1900 landowners referred to by Ronda Horton all appear to have PURCHASED their land after 1890. That said, if the Councill families have documentation that further contextualizes this story, the HPC would be delighted to review it.

The letter from Brenda Councill and other Councill descendants also makes the claim that the HPC has "branded the entire Councill family as racists." I'm not aware of anything in the cemetery panel text or any other report of the HPC that asserts such a thing. It also seems odd to me that the Councill descendants never came forward to the HPC, either in writing or at any of our public meetings, during the entirety of our discussion of the Councill's Store marker, nor have they participated in any of the numerous HPC meetings over the past several years regarding the proposed cemetery panels. Now, they ask to be treated as the JHA was when the Junaluska marker was being considered, but I will note for the record that the JHA prepared a written request and report for an historical marker and presented it to the HPC to initiate that project. We then worked together with the JHA for nearly a year to create the final report and marker text. The JHA was proactive in telling the story of Junaluska, but the HPC was also rigorous in reviewing the content they provided and—in line with our ethical and professional obligations as historians—insisted on copious documentation for any statements or conclusions expressed in the final version of the Junaluska marker report.

With this in mind, I want to be sure the Councill descendants understand the implications of those ethical and professional standards when interpreting the contributions of the Councill family to the history of our town. For example, several of the earliest Councill family members were prominent slaveholders in a region where 90% of White settlers did not enslave people. Jordan Councill, Jr., was the largest of them, with 13 enslaved people in 1850 and 11 in 1860. When we tell his story, those standards require us to note those facts, rather than just celebrating him as "the father of Boone." Similarly, when we tell the story of another prominent Councill family member—Judge William Ballard Councill, the grandson of Jordan Councill, Jr.—we are obligated to say more than just blithely praising him as a member of the NC legislature and a prominent jurist. We also have to note that his first election to the NC House was in 1898 as a Democrat, a year in which that contest was dominated statewide and in Watauga County by an overt effort by the Democrats to disenfranchise Black voters. Indeed, the primary issue on which the Democrats ran in 1898 was literally white supremacy; that actual term dominated the party's 1898 platform. Judge Councill, as the party's standard bearer for the NC House race, signed on to that platform, representing it in the general election. Then, in 1900 as a member of the NC House, Judge Councill campaigned hard for an educational qualification amendment to the North Carolina constitution, making it illegal for those who

Communication: Spoken Remarks - E. Plaag - August 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

could not read or write to vote in the state. Such measures, on their face, were part of a concerted attempt to suppress the Black vote for decades to come. And it worked for nearly 70 years. Any retelling of Judge Councill's story needs to recount the significance of his actions as our county's political representative, not just praise him for being one.

It's ironic to me that the letters you received from Michael Hardy and the Councill descendants have asked for a "truthful, unbiased," and "more inclusive" interpretation of the Councills and other town founders. The HPC has attempted to provide exactly that. I have said it before, and it seems warranted today to say it again: If you only want discussions about the history of your community, your family, and the organizations with which you associate to make you feel proud and patriotic, you probably aren't doing the hard work that comes with actually researching, studying, and analyzing history. In fact there's a word for that type of narrative—hagiography—meaning an uncritical or excessively reverential treatment of a subject. We have an ethical obligation when we narrate the history of our people, our places, and our organizations to confront the nuances, complications, and paradoxes they embraced, even if it makes us uncomfortable. History is more interesting precisely because of its contradictions, its acts of injustice, and the failures of the historical actors who often broke their promises and ignored the opportunities available to them in those moments of moral and ethical conflict. We are at our wisest when we confront and acknowledge those human failings, then aim not to repeat the mistakes of those who have come before us. True justice, true equality, and true progress—the alleged hallmarks of a representative democracy—are impossible without that kind of integrity in speaking about our shared past.

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Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Cemetery Interpretive Panels/Review

From: Eric Plaag
To: <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net>, Dalton George <Dalton.George@townofboone...
Date: 8/14/2023 10:33 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Cemetery Interpretive Panels/Review
Cc: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>, Jane Shook <jane.sh...
Attachments: WD, 6-9-1898, p1--Dem Party Platform.pdf; WD, 10-20-1898, p2, WBC as candidate.pdf; WD, 9-22-1898, p3, WBC as candidate.pdf; WD, 2-8-1900, p3, Councill amendment copy.jpg; WD, 6-28-1900, p3, editorial on purpose of 1900 amendment copy.jpg; WD, 3-2-1899, p1, WBC remarks on Amendment.pdf; Raleigh Morning Post, 6-7-1900, p5, Councill on Election Law Committee.pdf; Jordan Councill Sr will, p1.jpg; Jordan Councill Sr will, p2.jpg; Jordan Councill Sr will source info.png; WD, 5-26-1938, p4, Floyd recollections.pdf; WD, 5-26-1938, p1, Floyd recollections.pdf; WD, Cent Ed, Sect 3, 6-23-1949, p1.pdf; Lenoir NT, 3-10-1921, p3, Daniel Boone Oak.pdf; WD19790823pB12.jpg; Installation of Fence, WD, 10-16-1958, p4.pdf

Dear Mayor Futrelle,

Town staff have shared with me your most recent email exchange with members of the Councill family.

In the interest of public record and historical documentation, I am sending you my personal response to the allegations contained in the Councill family's most recent email dated August 11, 2023.

1) The email makes reference to "finalization by Chairman Eric Plaag." As you know, I have no power alone to finalize anything produced by the HPC, nor did Town Council instruct as such on August 9. This entire project has been a collective effort by the HPC, and we voted unanimously to send forward the draft panel text to Town Council. We will also collectively consider any additional changes at our September meeting.
2) It would be helpful if either you or Amy indicated to the Councill family members that WRITTEN documentation (in the form of copies of primary and secondary historical sources) should be submitted to Jessica for the HPC's review no later than Friday, August 25, 2023, for inclusion in our packet for our September meeting, at which time any received documentation will be evaluated before the HPC finalizes the panels.

3) The Councill family has alleged that they were "unable to access and read a Panel Draft document/agenda packets from previous HPC meetings until Friday, August 4." They then go on to imply that the work of the HPC on this project was withheld from the Town website until that date. You may wish to clarify for them that information and records of the recent discussions

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about the cemetery panel project may be found in the packets and minutes for the following HPC dates: March 9, 2021; May 11, 2021; June 8, 2021; January 4, 2022; March 8, 2022; July 5, 2022; August 2, 2022; September 6, 2022; October 4, 2022; November 1, 2022; December 6, 2022; February 7, 2023; March 7, 2023; April 4, 2023; May 2, 2023; June 6, 2023; July 10, 2023 (minutes not yet online). Many of these packets contain draft copies of the interpretive panel language being considered.

4) I was very specific in the relevant section of my remarks on August 9 in saying that I was responding to the August 8 email submitted by the Councill family members. There is no reference in that email to a Dougherty descendant, nor have I received any communication sent to the Town by anyone identifying themselves as a Dougherty descendant. If such correspondence exists, I request the opportunity to review it.

5) At no time have I ever "excoriated the Councills" or Brenda Councill (presumably the "me personally" referenced in the August 11 email, which came from her email address), nor have I been "decidedly hostile, threatening, and disrespectful." At no point in our HPC meetings or in my communications and remarks to Town Council have I personally attacked or engaged in ad hominem about members of the Councill family. This is in stark contrast to the factually errant and libelous allegations repeatedly made about me personally by Brenda Councill, Mary Moretz, Jill Privott, Rebecca Triplett-Johnson, Michael Hardy, and the various Councill family signatories. Stating historically documented facts about long-dead historical figures (including Judge William Ballard Councill) is not "defamatory," nor is it "hostile, threatening, and disrespectful." It's telling the documented truth, which is the business that the historians on the HPC are engaged in at the Town's request.

With that in mind, I am providing you with a copy of the Democratic Party platform for 1898, as published in the *Watauga Democrat*, along with articles referencing Judge Councill's campaign for the NC House in 1898 as the Democratic candidate. I've also included articles referencing E. F. Lovill's and Judge Councill's public remarks on the 1900 constitutional amendment proposal, as well as a *Watauga Democrat* editorial (June 28, 1900) clearly stating what the purpose of the amendment was. The full text of the initial amendment draft out of the House in 1899 called for a literacy test for voting eligibility, providing an exemption to that requirement that was clearly designed to protect White suffrage in the case of illiteracy but not extend the same to Black men. The amendment also prohibited office holding to atheists. Judge Councill made lengthy remarks on the floor of the NC House that were quoted in the *Watauga Democrat* on March 2, 1899, and that included the following: "If I felt that in voting to submit this amendment to the people that I was voting to disfranchise any White citizens of this State, I would unhesitatingly cast my vote against the amendment, but feeling that I do not, and feeling that the brave, true, and intelligent constituency I represent will sustain me in doing what I believe, and what I think they believe, to be right, I cast my vote for the amendment." Judge Councill was also serving on the NC House Committee on Election Law at the time the final version of the 1900 amendment was put forward for a vote in August 1900. That constellation of facts speaks for itself.

If you have any doubt about my emphasis on the consequences and significance of the 1900 constitutional amendment, you can read about it here: https://link.edgepilot.com/s/5992cf75/a2Qck2ON2EG9LiPlouAiMQ?u=https://calendar.eji.org/racial-injustice/aug/02 and here: https://link.edgepilot.com/s/765e8f29/so20xiViKEitv1KQdoZuHw?

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u=https://www.fayobserver.com/story/news/2023/03/24/ncs-constitution-has-a-racist-rule-will-voters-repeal-literacy-tests/70035467007/. **For the record, the relevant provisions of this amendment remain in our state constitution, further amplifying that how we talk about our history has a direct bearing on events today.** To review, see Article VI, Sections 4 and 8, here: https://link.edgepilot.com/s/6fd92873/KeoGC4oUIEuPInx-UCpHbQ?u=https://www.ncleg.gov/Laws/Constitution/Article6.

6) The will of Jordan Councill, Sr., is attached. It makes no mention of the cemetery, but it is quite clear in further documenting his role as an enslaver, along with his wife Sarah and daughter Louisa. The HPC has no documentation whatsoever that the cemetery even existed during Councill, Sr.'s lifetime, and as the Councill family descendant email notes, he left ALL of his lands to his children with no carve out for a public cemetery. Given that Benjamin Councill (Councill, Sr.'s eldest son) is documented as owning the parcels surrounding the cemetery in the late nineteenth century, when the cemetery did exist, the HPC and I have concluded that the land was most likely his. No one on the HPC has EVER disputed that the cemetery is on land that historically belonged to the Councills. Indeed, the panel text says as much, quite clearly.

7) The recollections of John Floyd (WD, May 26, 1938, pp 1, 4, attached), cited by the Councill descendants in their recent email, make no mention of the Boone Cemetery whatsoever. Furthermore, the correspondent incorrectly lists the birth order of Jordan Councill, Sr.'s, sons. The recollections of W. L. Bryan ("Bryan's Diary Reveals…," WD, Centennial Edition, Section 3, June 23, 1949, p1), cited by the Councill descendants, make no mention of the Boone Cemetery whatsoever. The article on the Daniel Boone Oak ("The Daniel Boone Oak," Lenoir News-Topic, March 10, 1921, p3) also makes no mention of the Boone Cemetery whatsoever.

Since the published sources the Councill descendants referenced in their most recent email offered no new insights about the land on which the cemetery sits or the history of the cemetery itself, I respectfully ask that they focus any future source submissions on written sources that are relevant to the issue(s) at hand. It would also be helpful if they were to provide copies of the original sources they submit, rather than simply referencing them.

8) The Councill descendants and Michael Hardy have objected to the use of the term "systemic racism." The Mayor, members of Town Council, and members of the HPC might be interested in these efforts by the American Historical Association to explore its own role in "systemic racism": https://link.edgepilot.com/s/2a21d925/Xx6Rse-qWUyAYlLXhudzOA?u=https://www.historians.org/research-and-publications/perspectives-on-history/december-2021/exploring-systemic-racism-and-the-aha-a-university-of-michigan-history-lab-collaboration. You may also wish to review this statement by the National Council on Public History on the killing of George Floyd that directly acknowledges "systemic racial oppression" and commits to doing the work of ending it in the historical profession and society more broadly: https://link.edgepilot.com/s/be150685/DdbRfDw6E0_rW6wCAdJW_g?u=https://ncph.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/NCPH-Statement-on-the-Killing-of-George-Floyd.pdf. Or you might want to review the Organization of American Historians' June 2020 statement on recent acts of racial injustice, in which it said, "All of us at the Organization of American Historians are deeply saddened and angered by these deaths, and recognize the structural and systemic racism and antiblackness that continue to threaten specific members of our community and our entire social fabric": https://link.edgepilot.com/s/bad6262b/iWkAJ_4RC0G1Yciv9-lXFw?u=https://www.oah.org/2020/06/05/statement-on-recent-events-of-racial-injustice/, as well as its statement on Critical Race Theory from September 2020, and how it helps us "examine and

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understand systemic racism and its many consequences": https://link.edgepilot.com/s/af472206/yM8-BnymxEGZIDAXXvko5g?u=https://www.oah.org/site/assets/files/8924/oah_wh_conference_response.pdf. Or you might want to review this repetition of the OAH statement listing the other professional organizations who subsequently signed onto it, including the American Studies Association, the Society of Civil War Historians, and the Southern Historical Association: https://link.edgepilot.com/s/5c6d5dc2/VjMr-OMXrk6dpN_EUPAWTQ?u=https://www.mla.org/Resources/Advocacy/Executive-Council-Actions/2020/Joint-Statement-on-the-Recent-White-House-Conference-on-American-History.

In short, the term "systemic racism" is not "trendy," as Mr. Hardy alleges. It is widely embraced by professional, credentialed historians throughout the country, and those historians have collectively made a commitment to historical interpretations that address this fundamental element of the American story. As a decades-long member of the AHA, OAH, NCPH, and SHA, I have also pledged to that same commitment.

9) Regarding the fencing of the White section of the cemetery, the comments by former Mayor Gordon Winkler and Town Manager Marvin Hoffman that I referenced in my remarks on August 9 can be found at Mike McLaughin, "Union Soldiers, Blacks Are Buried in the Town's 'Forgotten' Cemetery," *Watauga Democrat*, August 23, 1979, 12B. A copy is attached. I didn't say it the other night because I didn't want to beat the horse further, but the article goes on to say, "In the end, Hoffman isn't certain what should be done to remedy what is essentially a case of segregation and neglect on account of race." Even in 1979, Town officials understood what this was.

10) I have already exhaustively documented that both sections of the cemetery were privately owned until 2015. The maintenance of the White section using Town resources and funds on private land was certainly inappropriate, and Manager Hoffman acknowledged as much in 1979. In 1999, the trustees of the White section claimed ownership control over the Black section, without benefit of any deed documentation, strongly suggesting that they believed the Black section to also be part of the original Councill cemetery holdings. It's not clear to me why the Councill family members continue to dispute this without evidence to back up their challenges.

As for the installation of the fence, the only contemporaneous newspaper documentation we have found is from the October 16, 1958, issue of the *Watauga Democrat* as an editorial (attached). This makes clear that the decision to "[make] available the cash for this worthy civic project" was a decision of the Town Council. It also makes clear that maintenance of the cemetery was "by public subscription until late years when the city took over the job of mowing the grass." Nevertheless, both parts of the cemetery remained PRIVATELY owned until 2015, as the HPC and I have repeatedly documented. The proposed panels say exactly that. The recollections of Martha Councill Leak, included in the Councill descendants' most recent email, offer nothing to dispute what the HPC has said, aside from the unsourced claim, "Jordan Councill or Jordan Councill, Jr., gave land for the cemetery. I'm not sure which one," which is likely incorrect (as previously documented).

The HPC and I remain open and willing to consider any written documentation that is provided for our consideration prior to the posting deadline for our September advisory meeting. I ask that Jessica Mitchell, who is copied on this email, make copies of this email and all attached documentation available to HPC members and place same in our packet for our September

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advisory meeting.

Best,

Eric

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/6724ae27/zABAecqUY0OtKEWpYIGAdg?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

On Fri, Aug 11, 2023 at 5:03 PM Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Eric,
>
> I wanted to share the Mayor's response with you. Amy was included on the original email.
>
> Thank you,
> Jessica
>
> ***Jessica Mitchell***
> **Long-Range/Special Projects Planner**
> jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net
> **Office** 828.268.6960
>
> Town of Boone
> Planning & Inspections
> 680 West King Street, Suite C
> Boone, NC 28607
>
> Disclaimer: The information provided herein is only informal advice. This email is not a final decision, is not binding on the Town, and is not appealable. A binding decision or interpretation may only be provided in response to a proper written application. If you wish to obtain a final and binding decision or interpretation from the Town, you must specifically request such a decision or interpretation and submit the required written application and fee. Please contact the Planning and Inspections Department for more information.
>
> Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.
>
> "The Town of Boone is an equal opportunity provider and employer."
>
> Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.
> >>> Tim Futrelle <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net> 8/11/2023 4:13 PM >>>

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Ms. Council,

I too am disappointed we were not able to come to a better solution, concerning the monument, both through process and outcome. The council did however indicated openness to placement in other locations. In regards to the panels, Dr. Plaag did state in his remarks that he welcomed further documentation. He has expressed that historical accuracy is imperative to the HPC. I look forward to continuing to work toward resolution in search of a win-win. Also, I have copied our Town Manager Amy Davis to be aware of our communications. Thank you.

Tim Futrelle
Boone Mayor

Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 10, 2023, at 5:05 PM, Brenda Councill <> wrote:
>
> To: Mayor Futrelle and the Historic Preservation Committee
> Re: Request to review Cemetery Panels authored by Chairman Eric Plaag
>
> In reference to the exchanges in the *August 9th Town Council meeting* we (a concerned group of families and historians) are formally requesting an opportunity to review panel verbiage prior to its finalization by Chairman Eric Plaag. This motion made by the Mayor to authorize the panels be returned to Chairman Plaag allowing HPC final editing and wording. Chairman Plaag stated he would welcome additional information from all the families.
>
> At what time frame will these families be given to present this information? We feel that there should be no rush to conclude these panels by any deadline.
>
> It should be noted that our representative group was unable to access and read a Panel Draft document/agenda packets from previous HPC meetings until Friday Aug. 4. Where would one "access" the working draft of these panels if not on the TOWN website?
>
> Our group is not just the Councill Family, so Chairman Plaag is incorrect in his assumption that this is a singular or elite group. You may be unaware of a Dougherty descendant letter? Furthermore excoriating the Councils in general and me personally with a decidedly hostile, threatening and disrespectful manner is wholly inappropriate and calls into question the governance of the TOWN Council in allowing personal attacks to be communicated publicly. Additionally, defaming ancestors like Judge Councill, son of my great, great, great grandfather Dr. William B. Councill was especially disdainful.
>
> We will issue documents, oral history evidence that should be acknowledged and considered by Chairman Plaag. And that information will be assembled in a timely manor. Just as we may request documentation on verbiage intact currently.
>
> A few points to consider at this juncture:

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Chairman Plaag chooses Benjamin Councill and not Jordan Councill (inferring that JC should not be credited with original ownership of that land? Why?) stating that The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with The Councill Family. The Jordan Council Will (Ashe County, 1838) is easily accessible. Chairman Plaag speaks of an existing deed/ transfer of this acreage acknowledges Benjamin Councill as owner and the Will clearly indicates the inheritance. Numerous sources cite the Councill land holdings.
- "Memories of Early Days in Boone",Watauga democrat, May 26,1938 PG. 4
- "Bryan's Diary Reveals Two Saloons in Boone in 1857", Watauga Democrat June 23,1949
- "The Daniel Boone Oak", Lenoir News-Topic March 10,1921 PG.3

- We request that "systematic racism" be removed from the Panel descriptive. As referenced and suggested by historian Michael C. Hardy, "*While adding interpretive signage to a historical cemetery is a commendable project, it is vital to tell the whole history, and trendy catchphrases like "systemic racism" should be avoided at all costs. Terms like "systemic racism," which oftentimes are simply our own misconstrued interpretations of past historical events, paint a negative picture of a complicated history, a history that often cannot be boiled down into trendy phrases. The Councill/Boone Town Cemetery deserves a more inclusive interpretation. "*

- We request that other families be considered and recognized on the panels, Michael C. Hardy states, *"Furthermore, there is no mention of the Confederate veterans buried in this cemetery, of which there are about a dozen. There is no mention of other important people to the history of Watauga County, like John Preston Arthur, Thomas J. Coffey, B.B. Dougherty, D.D. Dougherty, and a host of others. Are future plaques going to be added for these references?*

  Panel #3- "Furthermore, this panel states that "White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section" and that "The two sections remained divided by the chain-link fence until 2015, when the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence marking Boone's racial division of its dead." Since the Black Cemetery was still privately owned, why would the town of Boone assume responsibility for its upkeep? Was the decision to install a fence separating the two cemeteries, one under the care of the town and the other private, exclusively that of Mayor Winkler, or did the town council also become involved?

  The Winkler family descendants may shed some light on this assumption. An April 3, 1997 (PG.16) article in the Mountain Times states that graduate students are working to restore the Historic Cemetery. The article describes early efforts to apply for national historic designation. Additionally, "Part of the cemetery, where only a few neglected markers remain, is outside of the fenced area. " says Joanna Yount.

  Can we ascertain that the privately owned east section was neglected by the owners instead of stating that Gordon Winkler was likely responsible for the prejudicial claim of purposeful intent to ignore the east section.

  And please see: statements from descendant ***Martha(Councill) Leak,6/17/23:***

  I have talked to my older brother, Fred about the cemetery - he remembered a little more than I did. Below is what little we know, but I am not sure where to send this information.

  Jordan Councill or Jordan Councill, Jr. gave the land for the cemetery. I am not sure which one. The Councill family looked after the cemetery from the beginning.

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My father, James Hardin Councill, looked after having it mowed and cared for during the years that I lived in Boone. (1934 - 1956 when I married and moved away). My brother Fred spent many hours mowing the property before he joined the Air Force.

I remember my Dad being very excited when the town of Boone took over the responsibility for the maintenance of the property. That assured him the cemetery would continue to be cared for after his death.

Please send me a copy of the proposed wording for the cemetery plaque. I might have some additions or clarifications.

I hope this helps to understand how much the Councill family was involved for many decades. - Martha Councill Leak 2023

This is a small segment of our discovery.
Enclosed please find the original correspondence from Historian Michael C. Hardy for consideration of edits to the panels. As Hardy, the Council Family descendants and other representative families will request that the these points and other narratives be included to tell a balanced history. We will gather our information in the next few weeks.

Respectfully,

The Councill family (12 members)
And other families referenced in the above correspondence

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

Recently, I had a chance to peruse proposed verbiage for three signs for the Councill/ Boone Town Cemetery. The information is interesting, but unfortunately shows a degree of historical ignorance. For example, Panel #3: “A Divided Cemetery,” states that “Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the South.” A more accurate statement would be “Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the United States.” An often-referenced fact is that, until the 1950s, about 90 percent of all public cemeteries in the U.S. employed a variety of racial restrictions. That is not exclusively Southern cemeteries but all cemeteries in the United States, with a plethora of examples. In 1912, John Gaskill sued Forest Home Cemetery for refusing to bury his wife next to their four children buried at Forest Home Cemetery near Chicago. Forest Home had recently adopted an all-white internment policy. Eden Cemetery in Philadelphia opened in 1902 because of segregation at the other city cemeteries. Mount Auburn Cemetery in Baltimore was the only place a “person of color” could be buried. Exclusionary cemetery policies were not limited to Whites prohibiting Blacks from being buried in certain cemeteries. Old Burying Point in Salem, Massachusetts, did not allow the Irish to be buried within its walls.

The same panel paragraph states, “Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all.” Obviously the writer of these panels has never visited the countless cemeteries across Watauga County to see the multitude of “flagstones” (more properly, fieldstones) that mark graves. It was not “systemic racism,” that led to these graves being marked with fieldstones (flagstones are paving or roofing material), it was both poverty and a simplistic way of life. The “finely carved” reference would seem to indicate that the “White” section of the cemetery resembled something from Charleston or Savannah, instead of the many plain and unadorned stones that actually cover the Councill/Boone Town Cemetery.

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Furthermore, this panel states that “White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section” and that “The two sections remained divided by the chain-link fence until 2015, when the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence marking Boone’s racial division of its dead.” Since the Black Cemetery was still privately owned, why would the town of Boone assume responsibility for its upkeep? Was the decision to install a fence separating the two cemeteries, one under the care of the town and the other private, exclusively that of Mayor Winkler, or did the town council also become involved?

In section one, it is stated that “Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials.” It would be appropriate to add that the west section continued to be used by local Whites until 1950, when the Mount Lawn Cemetery was established east of Boone. (Although it is acknowledged that occasional burials might still take place at the Councill/Boone City Cemetery.)

Furthermore, there is no mention of the Confederate veterans buried in this cemetery, of which there are about a dozen. There is no mention of other important people to the history of Watauga County, like John Preston Arthur, Thomas J. Coffey, B.B. Dougherty, D.D. Dougherty, and a host of others. Are future plaques going to be added for these references?

While adding interpretive signage to a historical cemetery is a commendable project, it is vital to tell the whole history, and trendy catchphrases like “systemic racism” should be avoided at all costs. Terms like “systemic racism,” which oftentimes are simply our own misconstrued interpretations of past historical events, paint a negative picture of a complicated history, a history that often cannot be boiled down into trendy phrases. The Councill/Boone Town Cemetery deserves a more inclusive interpretation.

Kindest Regards,

Michael C. Hardy

2010 North Carolina Historian of the Year

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Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first objective should be to keep that right, and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive these papers and be capable of reading them."—Thomas Jefferson.

BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1958

Good Improvement

The Boone community cemetery, hedged in for years by hemlocks and pines, choke cherries and the like, is now enclosed by a new woven-metal fence, its posts set deep in concrete, and designed to last for generations.

This improvement is due to the action of the town council in making available the cash for this worthy civic project. The city fathers are due the thanks of the people of the town, particularly of those who have a personal interest in the cemetery for their generosity in this regard. Russell D. Hodges, chairman of the cemetery committee, is also due thanks for his help in getting the fence erected.

Originally set aside by the Councill family for the use of all the people of the community, the Boone cemetery has been operated all through the years without the sale of plots in its crowded borders. Upkeep had been by public subscription until late years when the city took over the job of mowing the grass. When Mountlawn Memorial Park was opened and lots made available, the Boone cemetery was closed to any new families. With the new fence and all, the plot is now in the best shape it has been in years. Some gravestones need resetting and the place will be in first class condition.

Boone cemetery contains the remains of the founders of the community, and of many others who came along to contribute their share to its development. Its value as an historical spot is becoming greater year after year. That the premises are to be secure in the future, and that the grass is to be kept cut at city expense, is a source of pride to those interested in the plot.

Homecoming

Homecoming festivities which take place at Appalachian State Teachers College, have come to be one of the high spots of the autumn season for the alumni of the institution and for the county and townspeople in general.

We look forward to the gay parade, with a half dozen bands, the colorful floats and the fellowship with the throngs along the curbs as the gay marchers proceed along the street. Then there's the kick of the football, the cheers of the stands, and half-time ceremonies which mean so much to those who've come back to their Alma Mater, and to others, who've never attended classes here, but who love the institution for all it has accomplished.

The class meetings, the gatherings of the old-timers, the reminiscing and the fellowshipping are all enjoyable parts of the homecoming day program which reaches its climax with the gay dance Saturday evening.

Homecoming crowds are growing larger and larger as the years go by. Prosperous conditions, and fast travel enable former students to go great distances for the week end, and still get back home in time for some resting on Sunday afternoon before the start of another week's work.

Folks along the street ways look forward to the gaiety of homecoming, to the meeting of old friends who studied here in the days gone by, to seeing members of faculties of other days and enjoying the many festivities.

The town welcomes the homecoming visitors, and is glad that when they converge on the campus they will find the college growing, with the prospect that within a decade the student population will have been doubled. The Alumni will find satisfaction in this.

End Of Rail Travel

In a dozen years railroads of the United States are apt to stop running all passenger trains, except those used by commuters in the vicinity of the great centers of population.

Long-journey travelers are expected to go by airplane, some by bus and some by private automobile, while the railroads carry only mail and freight.

Anyway, these are the conclusions of an official government study of railroading, made public by the Interstate Commerce Commission and reported in Grit.

Railroad men have told us, however, that it's not so much the bus and the airplanes as the private automobiles which have sounded the death knell for the choochoos. Rail travel has been on the decline for over ten years and inter-city passenger trains just can't last.

This is sad news for railroad devotees, for those who've done a lot of grinding over the country on smoky, cinder-strewn coaches and in the green dim environs of the Pullman sleeping car.

There's a fascination about railroading—about going to sleep in Salisbury and waking up in Washington, or dozing at Harriman and greeting morning at Cincinnati; of breakfasting in a spotless diner, or sipping cool drinks in a club car with good company while the wheels click merrily over the rail joints.

But, the same thing that took the local trains out of business is red-penciling the schedules of the cross-country lines, namely lack of speed. Railroads have consistently adhered to forty mile schedules in an airplane age. We've always leaned to the notion that a return to mass transportion of individuals would solve parking problems in many centers of population. Small light trains and fast schedules could make it impractical for many folks to take the car to town. We don't know. But pretty soon, it seems, if you want to course down a polished rail, you're gonna have to rely solely on Tweetsie.

Quiz Programs

(Muskegon (Mich.) Chronicle)

It looks as though the epoch of the quiz programs with their unusual contestants and fabulous rewards, which have provided a steady fare of TV entertainment for several years, is coming to an end.

First there was the back-stage hassle over a game known as "Dotto," as a result of which the program had an extremely short life. Then similar arguments caused "The $64,000 Challenge" to lose its sponsor.

Much of this came about because of disgruntled contestants. But it confirmed what thousands of people had long suspected—that many of these programs are somewhat doctored in the interests of maximum drama and entertainment.

There always was some leeway, it seems, to get rid of a contestant who might turn out to be unwanted, or to help along the success of one whose popular appeal was in the ascendancy.

Thus it was something like a present-day TV wrestling match, on a higher level and with cash awards of dazzling size. These in themselves were enough to keep an audience coming back to see who'd get rich in this Land of Easy Street that the quiz programs had created.

And many of these same thousands had a feeling all along that it was more than a little ridiculous to be passing out huge sums in this way.

Anyway, those who had hoped to become rich and famous by memorizing baseball record books, or by a similar process in some other category, may have to reconcile themselves to the old-fashioned pre-TV-quiz notion of working for a living.

Fall Planting

Stretch's Sketches

By "STRETCH" ROLLINS

That Old Feeling On New Cars

SHOWROOMS OF AUTO dealers have taken on a new elegance with the advent of the 1959 models, and dealers seem to radiate a special pride in displaying them.

First showing of new cars has always been a high spot for me, even when, as is usually the case, I am not able to be in the market for one of them. It is comparable to the first game of the football season and the first day of spring.

A psychiatrist would no doubt diagnose the case as wishful thinking, born of a frustration complex which had its inception in early childhood when I had my little heart set on dazzling all the kids in the block with the latest thing in kiddie cars, but being the youngest in a family of fourteen was so far down the list that by the time my father got to my name I was in high school and never got over it.

Our hypothetical head shrinker, of course, wouldn't bother to clutter up his scientific intellect with any minor details, such as finding out if I was an only child, had kiddie cars to burn, and got so sick of using the silly little things as a means of locomotion that I jolly well did shove one into the fire now and then.

AND WHEN I SEE a jalopy of ancient vintage wheezing by on its way to the nearest car clinic, or standing in delapidated dignity in some junkyard, I can't help thinking of the forgotten glory that was hers when she first hit the showroom. Boy, she was something, then!—every whit as new and smart as the 1959 job you looked at today.

ON THE OTHER HAND, I sometimes look at a streamlined, souped-up, futuristic shiner that just rolled off the assembly line and envision how forlorn and outdated it will be a few years hence, replaced by an even faster, slicker, more beautiful child of some designer's brain.

Ah, well—time, as someone has so aptly stated, marches on.

AUTOMOTIVE ADAM AND EVE?—In the year 1886, it is said there were only two automobiles in Kansas City—but one day they managed to have a head-on collision!

WORLD SERIES POST MORTEMS—Words they had to eat: Leo Durocher, former Dodger and Giant manager: "Milwaukee will take this one in four straight." Lew Burdette, Braves pitcher who beat the Yankees three times in last year's Series: "I wish we had those Yankees in our league." Fred Haney, Braves manager: "Lew can do it again."

Best quips—Same Lew Burdette, when asked what he hit for his home run in the second game: "A long ball." Gil McDougald, Yank second baseman, on the do-or-die sixth game: "I was as nervous as a long-tailed cat in a room full of rocking chairs!"

From Early Democrat Files

Sixty Years Ago

October 20, 1898

Mrs. Sarah Crowder has been right ill for several days and remains not much improved.

Assistant District Attorney Spencer Blackburn will speak at Shulls Mills next Monday and at other points in the county later on.

Last Monday at Banner Elk marked the opening of the county canvass in Watauga. The candidates, or most of them, both political parties, were on hand, and the best of feelings seemed to prevail.

Reports say that the campaign between Spainhour and Harshaw for Solicitor is funny and spicy and causes a lot of merriment.

The Indian uprising in Minnesota is about quelled and peace is made again. Uncle Sam will now furnish bacon and bread to hte Indians as usual until they want to kill a few more white people.

General Fitzhugh Lee will be the first to land on western Cuba at Havana by November 1.

Special dispatches from Jackson, Miss., say that yellow fever is gaining headway in that State and Louisiana, and that Governor MacLaurin and State officials have deserted the capital.

Instructions have been sent to the United States Military Commission in Cuba, fixing December 1 as the date when Spanish control over the islands must cease. The commissioners have notified the Spaniards that all ports and customs receipts, and the management of municipal affairs will pass into the hands of the American military commander on the island.

There is much sympathy expressed for Mrs. McKinley, who left Washington for Canton, Ohio, Saturday night to attend the funeral of her brother, who was killed, supposedly by a jealous woman, Friday evening.

Thirty-Nine Years Ago

October 16, 1919

Mr. Joseph Dougherty, well known in Watauga, died at his home in Knoxville, Tenn., last Thursday of blood poison.

Bingham Brothers have moved their mercantile business from Adams to Vilas, and are now located in the building owned by Mr. Jack Smith.

Capt. Allison is here, superintending the construction of a siding leading from the lumber yards of the Carolina Hardwood Co., via the wholesale grocery to depot street.

There is no road in the county that needs improvement worse than the one leading from Vilas to Valle Crucis, and it is hoped that the good roads commission will see its way clear to do something about it before work is suspended.

Mr. J. C. Mast of Sugar Grove was in town Tuesday. He intends to move to his Maryland farm by the first of the year, but thinks of making a business trip there, with a number of others, who will look over the farm market in that fertile region.

Dr. Dula of Lenoir was in town Monday and told the Democrat that all Watauga lacked of having a visit from an airplane was a suitable place to land this side of the ridge. He had contracted with the aviator to make the flight, and the two ascended to an altitude of 2,000 feet out from Lenoir, and Mr. Aviator decided after a look of this section through his glasses, that he would not take the risk, and returned to Lenoir, where he had been making flights for the Caldwell County Fair.

Mr. John W. Hodges has purchased a lot near the depot from Mr. W. L. Bryan, and will erect a large building thereon to accommodate his increasing wholesale feed and grain business.

Mr. John W. Greene of Valle Crucis has moved into the Mrs. Lizzie McGhee old home, recently purchased.

Fifteen Years Ago

October 21, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Agle of Kingsport, Tenn., announce the birth of a son, James Heath, on Wednesday, October 13, at City Hospital, Gastonia.

Mrs. Joseph Conderman, a summer resident of Boone, left Friday for her home in Miami, Fla. Mrs. Conderman remarked that each fall, the day after she closed her home here and left for sunnier climes, it snowed—and true to tradition, Saturday brought quite a trace of snow to the mountains.

The new library at the high school is now being used by the students and faculty. It has been made part of the study hall and class room. A work room and a conference room adjoin the main reading room. The rooms are equipped with light adjustable shelves. The walls are a soft green. A new librarian's desk has just arrived and a card catalog has been ordered.

By furnishing black walnut logs that can be made into gunstocks to carry the fight to Hitler and Hirohito, Western North Carolina farmers have found a new way to contribute to the war effort.

Considerable work has already been done in the Critcher building near the Democrat office, looking to the installation of a hosiery plant for the Baker-Commack Co., of Burlington, which will serve to train workers till the big new building can be completed.

KING STREET

By ROB RIVERS

Friendliness . . Comments By Visitors

Boone is rapidly becoming known as the friendly town. hasn't always been so, and the files of the Democrat an speeches of the civic leaders have been filled with entreat the folks to show a little more concern for the stranger the gate—for his happiness and for his appraisal of this bea vaulted region. . . We are happy that there is the cherry the cordial greeting and the pleasant word on every hand our visitors come to the hills. . . . And they're taking n the friendliness and the courtesies and the kindness of people. . . . We often get letters commenting on this quality, the last coming from Mount Airy. . . Although w in the first person, the letter is signed by Cleo, Pam an Taylor. . . . We're glad they like our town and we lik letter they sent to us addressed "Dear People of Boone," follows:

"Over the past week I was a visitor in your city. Being from home and not knowing too many people, caused notice your citizens more. . . . I came up with Miss Jean for the NCEA meeting. While she was at the meeting I the day up town. . . . My first stop was at a Gulf Station friendliness they showed us made us feel good. My nex was to park on your Main Street, and I couldn't get the me work. While I was wondering what to do a policeman ca and fixed the meter and gave us two hours free time. . . started to leave, a man in a truck was courteous enough t and let me back out. . . . Maybe these are small deed wouldn't have been noticed by lots of people, but to visitor, they meant a lot, and made me hope that some may have the privilege of coming back again."

We hope so too and appreciate your kind words.

And since we've generally become known as the frie town, we hope that before many more years we'll also be as the cleanest community in the State. . . . Cleanlines courtesy are twin civic attractions, or virtues.

• • • •

The Fall Colors . . And Some Things We H

Cool nights and continued dry weather perhaps hasten coloring of the leaves and the bright displays of hedgero forest were gorgeous during the week end. . . . The should get better during the current week as the autum approach their peak. . . . The people, generally, especially who operate tourist facilities, are hoping for at least two good week ends of fall travel.

We've seen a lot of people during the last few days having a lot of fun on the highway overlooks, and on the paths, now covered lightly with gold and crimson, fit f feet of the Queen. We've been interested in some of the ments we've heard as we've helped gaze from high point the oceans of hills, wrapped in crazy quilts of fantastic gai

"Are the leaves always this color?" asked the fellow wh backdropped by all the shades of the spectrum.

"Does the wind blow every day like this?" queried the with the thin breezed-out locks.

"Where's the Colorama I've been reading about in the from the hills?" asked the studious looking fellow, wn practically swamped in the brillance of the leaves, who "I don't see so much in it, but the kids wanted to come, drug along."

Another fellow allowed as how "With all the reds a russets I'm seeing down in that valley, the oaks are n cutting. A lot of money could be made right there."

But most of the folks are awed with the majesty of th in the fall, and the grandeur of the views from the promen and the peaks, down the winding creek bottoms and acro crag-rimmed draws, and wish they might gaze forever beauties of the flaming fronds.

There was an old man who stood on the Parkway ov near Blowing Rock and gazed long over the bright hills, li row on row, till they were lost in the distance. . . . He dr the beauty of each painted leaf, of each wispy cloud whi gered a summit, and of each gray cliff which stuck throu panorama of brightness and of beauty. . . . He propped h against an auto and looked again, as a mariner might con t for sails, and spoke, not to the bystander, but to the great of the universe: " Such couldn't come 'cept from the bou love and the power and the canvas and the paint pots blessed Lord."

Uncle Pinkney

HIS PALAVER

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

I see by the papers where Congressman Carroll Kearns of Pennsylvania has introduced a bill to put the Star Spangled Banner in the key of A flat so folks won't stumble over them high notes near the end.

I'm in favor of anything that'll help the Star Spangled Banner git back in good standing in this country. We got kids in school today that can sing all five verses of Elvis Pressley's "Hound Dog" that ain't never heard of the Star Spangled Banner.

As usual, they referred the Kearns bill to a congressional committee. That means it'll cost the taxpayers about $10,000, whether we git it settled in A flat or F sharp. The committee will ask a handful of guvernment clerks to make a report on the matter. The report will run to about 200 pages and cost about $10,000, which is about par fer the congressional report course.

Abe Lincoln asked his secretary onct to find out something about a saddle horse advertised fer sale in the papers. Six weeks later he got a 150-page report on the horse. After reading the first two paragraphs, Abe throwed the report in the wastebasket and called fer his secretary. He told him that fer all he knowed, the horse could be dead by now, and furthermore he just wanted to know the g bad points about the horse report on how many hairs horse's tail.

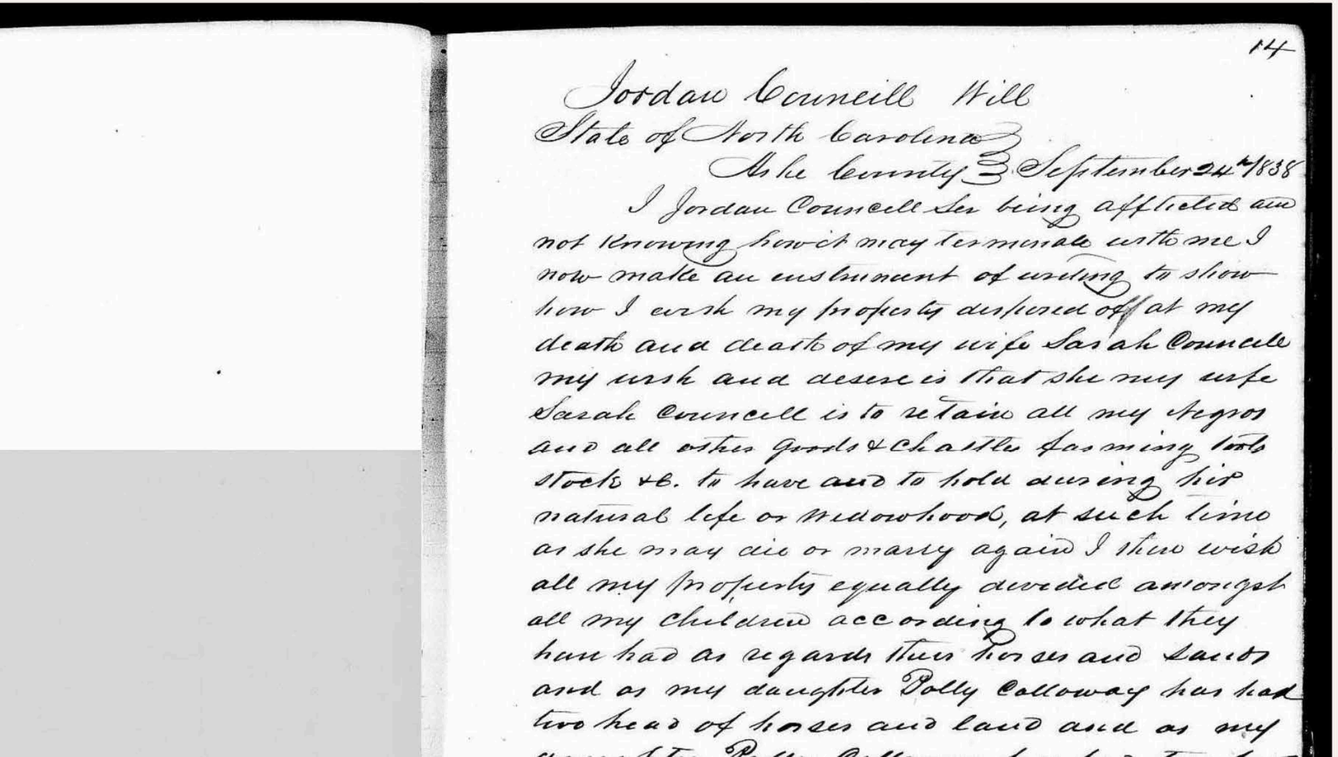
And I see where they're tating that business about pay fer teachers. I consi self a living example of t duct of low paid teachers. favor of raising a teache high enough that they won more ignorant folks like the next generation.

But I think it's about tim politicians git back on the platform again. When I young man no candidate c in office unless he run on form of relief fer the It never helped the farme but it made him feel im I been feeling mighty n here of late since the po is all running after the sch The next candidate that vote has got to have a p his platform calling fer big better relief fer the far

One other item in the caught my fancy this week automobile manufacturer f troit says the automobile h a "great moral force" in th try. I can't figger that o Maybe it stopped horse but aside from that I c nothing its done fer mo

Yours truly,
UNCLE PIKNEY

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))



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Jordan Councill Will

State of North Carolina
Ashe County } September 24th 1838

I Jordan Councill Sen being afflicted and not knowing how it may terminate with me I now make an instrument of writing to show how I wish my property disposed of at my death and death of my wife Sarah Councill my wish and desire is that she my wife Sarah Councill is to retain all my negros and all other goods & chattle farming tools stock &c. to have and to hold during her natural life or widowhood, at such time as she may die or marry again I then wish all my property equally devided amongst all my children according to what they have had as regards their horses and land and as my daughter Polly Calloway has had two head of horses and land and as my

Jordan Councill
North Carolina, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998
Detail Related Source

Source Citation

Ashe County, North Carolina Wills; Autho
North Carolina. County Court of Pleas an
Quarter Sessions (Ashe County); Probate
Place: Ashe, North Carolina

Description

Notes: *Wills, 1880-1871*

Source Information

Ancestry.com. *North Carolina, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015. Original data:North Carolina County, District and Probate Courts.

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Packet Pg. 141

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made equal one with the other according to this valuation and when they are all made equal and there is an overplus I wish it equally divided amongst my children, to my Girls Children and there heirs and not to be disposed of without the consent of my daughters by there husband. and for it to belong to them & there heirs. and should my wife Sarah Councell thinks fit to have a division of any of the property sooner. she can call the heirs together and dispose of it as she and them agree among ourselves. and should there not be property enough to make the Girls equal to my sons according to this valuation made in this instrument of writing my intention is that the boys are not to pay any thing back to the Estate In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this day and date before written.

Signed & Sealed & presence
of us attest
Markus Bledsoe
James Burton Junr

Jordan Councell Sen

Samuel Songs Will.

In the name of God amen I Samuel Song of the County of Ashe and State of North Carolina being in my proper mind do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (to wit)

I Give and bequeath to my beloved wife Polly Song one third of the tract of land on Rock Creek bough of William Phipps in ashe County during her natural life & then to be disposed of as hereinafter directed and one sorrel mare and one cow and calf and all the household furniture. I will to my son Morgan Song one tract of land in the State of Virginia and Grayson County Containg One Hundred & fifty acres on Rock Creek. I will to my daughter Rhoda Dancover one tract of land in Grayson County on the west side of Point lookout mountain containing two Hundred acres more or less. I will to my daughter Sally Carico, one note on Barna Carico for about twenty six dollars, I will to my daughter Sally Sandrith one note on Barna Carico for about nine or ten dollars amount I will to my daughter Charlotte Sandrith Twenty five dollars in money. I will to my son Emanuel Song three Dollars in money. I will to my daughter Polly Song one hundred dollars in money & one Cow & Calf I will to my daughter Rhoda Song one hundred and ten dollars in money, I will to my daughter Lucinda Song one Hundred & ten dollars in money, I will to my son [illegible] and my son Joseph Song the Phipps tract of land in ashe County to be equally devided between them when they become of age also my two rifle guns. the balance of my property not herein enumerated I wish to be sold at public sale and the proceed

A GASOLINE HOBO

BL W, L. ENGLAND
The Ex-Dope Editor Who is Touring the United States in an Automobile

More About Chico

Chamber of Commerce literature about Chico is quite convincing. Had I believed it all, certainly today in Chico I'd be instead of here in Los Angeles, but one learns eventually to take most C of C stuff with a grain of salt. I recall a pamphlet on the vast mineral resources of Caldwell county written some years ago, emphasizing particularly the gold mining industry near Lenoir. Anyone having ever visited the gold fields of Caldwell, I'm sure, will appreciate the expression—"a grain of salt;" but at this place I investigated many of the statements and found them true, as a rule. As proof that this locality expects no freezing weather all water pipes are exposed; that is, if open construction answers the purpose. Water mains are sometimes bracketed up along the curb and occasionally they get to where they're going as part of a fence. This arrangement naturally is very convincing, but I'm here to tell you it does get cold out here of a night and when the sun goes behind a cloud—but about the weather later.

The largest oak tree in the world is located in the suburbs of this city. It is said that a thousand people can comfortably stand in the shadow of its spreading limbs. The old gent and I visited this historical landmark; it was truly a wonderful tree, but we had our doubts abt 998 more people actually getting under it, especially if some were fat.

Harvesting Rice

Besides being a prune and almond center, Chico also has a number of rice storehouses. During harvest time it is a congregating point for those seeking work, but Willows, soms 50 miles south west, is considered the real center of the rice growing business.

After a few days stay in Chico the old g. and I thought we'd take a shot at helping gather what he liked in pudding form and what I liked with good old chicken gravy, so we dropped down the valley a ways and found the cutting pretty well over with, but threshing in full blast. We put in one day and that was quite sufficient. Next morning a steady rain began which we learned later damaged the crop considerable as threshing and sacking is all done in the open.

Although I've eaten my share of rice and read stories about its cultivation, still I had no idea what it even looked like. Well in the field before cutting, at a distance anyway, it has the appearance of oats. The cutting is done with binders—some horse drawn, but the majority pulled by tractors. Some of the fields look as if they might extend clear across the valley—nothing but rice as far as you can see. The bundles are left where they fall from the binder to be picked up later by a wagon and hauled to the threshing machine, which is tractored from one place to another in the field. Many machines can be seen all operating at the same time apparently in one field. They can be spotted by the blowers, which remind one of geysers playing in Yellowstone—only rice straw or chaff is shot in the air instead of water. These blowers are long, smoke-stack affairs and swing in any direction—their object being to throw the straw in a crescent-shaped pile as far as possible from the machine. The machine itself has all the earmarks of a wheat thresher and no doubt would handle other grains equally as well as rice. Like oats, rice comes from the thresher still in a shuck which is removed later by what is called a milling machine. The farmer, however, sells his crop by the sack just as it comes from the thresher.

A big tractor pulls the thresher to a certain point. It backs off and a belt is put on. In just about two minutes everything is in operation.

The machine I worked with kept seven two-horse teams busy hauling in the bundles. One man drives and another walks and pitches on the bundles—my job was "walk and pitch," so you can easily understand why one day in the Rice Harvest was sufficient. The teams keep circling around the thresher until such a time arrives when they become unable to keep the rice-eater fed up to capacity. Under the exigency of such an occasion, expediency being a rice boss'es middle name, a move is ordered. These moves take place about every hour or hour and a half, according to the quantity of grain.

As in all this harvesting business on the Pacific coast, there seemed to be no snaps in the rice field, without it was bag-stamper—he seemed to have it pretty easy. At any rate I thought so then when I'd come in at intervals from walking and pitching. This W & P job paid 4 bucks but was easily worth the ten which the tractor-driver said he got. The sack-sewer got seven and the teamsters five. Every crew has a shack and grub is furnished but each fellow carries his own bed. Blood poisoning from rice straw and dust seemed to be quite prevalent—that was another reason why the o. g. & yrs. truly decided rather abruptly to crank up and move south.

Rice Cultivation

Although I took quite a dislike to rice after ricing just as I did to prunes after pruning, still it might be worth while to mention something about how they raise it.

As mentioned before the valley at this point is about 65 miles wide and is level. Drainage ditches make a checker board of all the fields. As I gathered, these sections are cultivated and sewed. Then each section is flooded with water pumped from irrigation ditches and kept flooded until the grain is formed. Then the water is drained off and the ground allowed to dry so binders can operate in the fields without miring up. A rice field is nothing more than a big swamp or marsh and all sorts of swampy growths come to maturity with the rice. Many rice fields appear to be nothing but cat-tails but the rice farmer has to put up with this and figure on it, just as the wheat farmer must figure on a certain percentage of tares and the corn raiser on weeds. The corn farmer has the advantage however of being able to chop out the weeds.

Naturally a veritable swamp for 6 or 7 months out of every year is not a desirable place to live in or near, in my opinion. I was told that malaria was the favorite disease throughout the rice section and that quinine was required thereabouts in car load lots. So to those who may pine, or are pining, for the rice pots of Calif., take my advice and be satisfied with the red clay of Caldwell. No land there is too poor to grow peas and, after all, peas are just as satisfying as rice.

Many of the big rice growers are Japs—a fact which is worrying Californians no little just at present. And rice is not the only industry the "Yellow Peril" has made a success of. After all, though, to me the "Japanese Question," which is always news on off days for murders, is not nearly so important as the newspapers would have one believe. These little yellow men have brains as well as muscle and use both about 12 hours every day. This system has always been successful. The American laborer clamors continuously for shorter hours and more pay while the Jap puts in long hours and saves what he makes. Personally, however, I don't like 'em and think the last one should be loaded on ships and sent back to Tokio. In a case like this, though, I hate to think what the American restauranter would start charging for a meal. In Pacific coast towns I visited grub came just twice as high where there was no Jap competition.

(To be Continued)

"THE DANIEL BOONE OAK"

(By J. M. Downum)

(This article was written soon after the "Daniel Boone Oak" died, but was not published. I thought it might be of interest to your readers.)

The once magnificent tree known as "Daniel Boone Oak" stands alone in the pasture lands of Mr. R. M. Green, in Boone. The traditional cabin of Daniel Boone was located a short distance from this tree on the lands of the Doughertys, of the Training School, and they have recently sold it to the Training School. Through the efforts of Col. W. L. Bryan of Boone, with some little assistance from others, a monument builtof stone and cement was erected in 1913 on the site where the cabin stood. The inscription on the west side of this monument states that Daniel Boone camped here from 1760 to 1769.

Both the land where the cabin is reported to have stood and where the tree stands was owned by the late D. B. Dougherty, father of the Dougherty brothers and Mrs. R. M. Greene. The original owner of the land was Jordan Councill, from whose son, Jordan Councill, Jr., Mr. D. B. Dougherty bought the land while much or all of it was still timbered land. Mr. Dougherty in clearing the land fortunately displayed this worthy sentiment for the things of the past and left this tree which tradition calls the "Daniel Boone Oak." Arthur's "History of Watauga" says that this section was settled in 1755, and as Daniel Boone came through this country at intervals from 1760 to 1769 the tradition may be at least fairly reliable. Direct descendants of the original owner of the land on which the tree and the monument stand are living in Boone. Messrs. B. J. and J. D. Councill of Boone are great-grandsons of the first Jordan Councill, who first owned the land, and as their great-grandfather was doubtless living here when Boone camped on his land he very likely knew something of Boone's doings. This tradition, thus coming down from father to son, is more reliable than some so-called history.

This tree, which is a white oak, measures 22 feet around at the ground and 15 around 2½ feet above the ground, and the limbs spread 35 to 40 feet. From which one could easily believe that it stood in the days of Daniel Boone, 150 years ago, a sufficiently large tree to serve as a place to hang his deer on to skin them.

In running the railroad into Boone this "Boone oak" came within the right of way of the railroad. It stands just to the right of the railroad as you approach the depot.

Once a beautiful, symmetrical, spreading oak, standing as a fit representative of the great past outdoor life when Indians roamed over these valleys and mountains and Daniel Booneand his companions hunted the deer ad other game in this region, now only its dead stump remains, its limbs lopped off, a bare reminder of its former grandeur and an emblem of the decadent things of the past. What stories of that past could it tell could we but rightly interpret its language.

It is to be regretted that efforts were not put forth in time to save this historic tree. As this was not done the next best thing is to preserve sections of it for our museums and in souvenirs, and incase the stump in cement that it at least be preserved as a faint momento of its former self.

HARDING INHERITS A PLACE TO BE BURIED

By a peculiar land grant, President Warren G. Harding becomes owner of a one-acre tract of land just west of Lancaster, Ohio, that he may use for his burial ground only. According to court record at Lancaster the tract was deeded 100 years ago by Nathaniel Wilson, a pioneer fanmer, to President Andrew Jackson and to his successors in office, to be used as their burial ground only.

President Harding is the 23rd President to be notified of his burial privilege. The donor died in 1836.

PRESIDENT WILSON TO FORM LAW PARTNERSHIP

President Wilson formally announced last week that he would resume the practice of law in a partnership with Bainbridge Colby, retiring secretary of state. Offices will be maintained in New York and Washington.

OUT ON THE FARM

By Mrs. H. D. L. Clarke

Midwinter comes, with sleet and snow;
The sleet does fall, the wind does blow,
But in our homes we are snug and warm,
Especially if we are on the farm.

The old man he sits around the hearth
Which has been his home ever since his birth;
His sight grows dim, his steps grow slow,
And if we see him to the farm we must go.

You are always greeted with a handshake and smiles,
Though the home in the country may beseveral miles.
The wood fire is burning to keep you warm—
Everything is merry out on the farm.

The children are rosy, and full of glee;
Their eyes just sparkle, at you and me;
They are always cheerful, with no fear of harm,
In their plentiful home out on the farm.

The cows are lowing, the calves they play,
Looking forward to a sunny day;
The sheep in the stalls are dry and warm—
This is the way stock is cared for, out on the farm.

DON'T RISK NEGLECT

Don't neglect a constant backache, sharp, darting pains or urinary disorders. The danger of dropsy or Bright's disease is too serious to ignore. Use Doan's Kidney Pills as have your friends and neighbors. Ask your neighbor! A Lenoir case.

Mrs. W. H. Dingler, N. Main St., says: "About two years ago I had a bad spell of kidney trouble. It started with severe pains in my loins and I had severe headaches. This made me so nervous I could hardly stand any noise. My kidneys also acted irregularly and caused me annoyance. Doan's Kidney Pills gave me relief; they eased the headaches, took away the pains and regulated my kidneys. In fact, they made me feel a great deal better."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Dingler. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

"German royalty marrying out of its sphere," sounds like an undeserved promotion.—Wall Street Journal.

For Torpid Liver

"Black-Draught is, in my opinion, the best liver medicine on the market," states Mrs. R. H. Whiteside, of Keota, Okla. She continues: "I had a pain in my chest after eating—tight, uncomfortable feeling—and this was very disagreeable and brought on headache. I was constipated and knew it was indigestion and inactive liver. I began the use of Black-Draught, night and morning, and it sure is splendid and certainly gives relief."

Thedford's BLACK-DRAUGHT

For over seventy years this purely vegetable preparation has been found beneficial by thousands of persons suffering from effects of a torpid, or slow-acting liver. Indigestion, biliousness, colic, coated tongue, dizziness, constipation, bitter taste, sleeplessness, lack of energy, pain in back, puffiness under the eyes—any or all of these symptoms often indicate that there is something the matter with your liver. You can't be too careful about the medicine you take. Be sure that the name, "Thedford's Black-Draught," is on the package. At all druggists.

Accept Only the Genuine.

J. 79

Do you know why it's toasted

To seal in the delicious Burley tobacco flavor.

LUCKY STRIKE CIGARETTE

The American Tobacco Co.

2,000,000 MEN WORK ALL THE TIME TO SUPPORT RATS

You can save $2 by killing a rat. The United States government says so. "The country produces $2,000,000,000 worth of food annually to feed our rats," W. R. Bell of the biological survey declares. "In another way, 2,000,000 men in the United States are devoting their labor to maintaining 100,000,000 rats."

Bell then sent out the following rat facts: That they have caused more deaths than all wars. They carry bubonic plague and other diseases almost as fearful. They are man's most dangerous animal or insect enemy. They breed five or six times a year, producing about ten each litter.

Check that Cold and Get Rid of that Cough

It is dangerous to let them run. A tonic laxative of direct and positive action upon the mucous membranes is what you need.

For Two Generations

Pe-ru-na has proved the reliable treatment for ridding the system of all catarrhal poisons. It aids digestion, stimulates the liver and bowel action, enriches the blood, tones up the nervous system and soothes the inflamed and congested mucous linings

Honest and dependable is the verdict of thousands.

Sold Everywhere
Tablets or Liquid

WANTED

Experienced Top Knitters and Loopers

Girls over 14 years of age

For the new Hosiery Mill in Lenoir

Write

Lenoir Branch, Hickory Hosiery Mills

Lenoir, N. C.

TAX NOTICE

I will be at the following named places on the dates mentioned and ask that you meet me and settle your taxes:

GRANITE FALLS	March 9
RHODHISS (Morning)	" 10
OLD GRANITE MILL (Afternoon)	" 10
SHERRILL'S STORE	" 11
HUDSON	" 12
NORTH CATAWBA	" 14
KING'S CREEK	" 15
YADKIN VALLEY (Steele's Store)	" 16
BUFFALO COVE (J. M. Cottrell's)	" 17
RICHLANDS (Afternoon)	" 18
PATTERSON	" 19
COLLETTSVILLE	" 21
MORTIMER	" 21
GLOBE	" 22
MULBERRY (Coffey's Store)	" 23
GAMEWELL	" 24
DUDLEY SHOALS	" 25

J. A. TRIPLETT, Sheriff.

Truck and Transfer Service

Haul Anything, Anywhere, at Any Time

Moving a Specialty. Long or short distances. Special service to Blowing Rock

SMITH-KIRBY TRANSFER COMPANY

Phones 1602 and 213

The Call of the Road

Comes With Springtime

....and....

Easter

YOU WANT YOUR AUTOMOBILE IN TIP-TOP RUNNING SHAPE

It is an even bet your car is not in the best of shape. You have been thinking of having it overhauled for the Spring days that are now with us.

Our repair department is now ready to serve you. We are able to give your car a complete overhauling or to do any special work on it you may want or need.

BRING IT IN NOW AND LET US FIX IT UP

Willard BATTERY Service

This week we are giving special prices on Willard Storage Battery Service. We have just put in a Willard service station with a special factory man in charge.

COME IN AND LOOK AT OUR LINE OF CARS—NOW ON DISPLAY

Hudson Essex Buick Dodge

CALDWELL MOTOR CO.

Phone 1 Lenoir, N. C.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

PASSES INTO HISTORY

First Year of Baptist University at an End

CROWD AT THE CONCERT

Many Unable to Gain Admittance Even to the Building—Dr. McConnell Preaches the Commencement Sermon—President Blasingame Retires and Dr. Vann, His Successor is Introduced to the Audience

The first commencement of the Baptist Female University has passed into history, marking the close of a year wonderfully successful from every standpoint and adding an epoch to the history of education in North Carolina. Not in the annals of this State, nor perhaps in this country of ours, has an institution of its kind made such rapid strides to the front in one short year. Yet in its infancy, when, by the law of precedence, similar institutions had but reached the experimental stage, it is already upon a firm foundation, and today it stands upon the threshold of a future roseate with promise of limitless success. Its reputation as a seat of learning has extended far beyond the most sanguine hopes of its promoters, and the dormitory facilities are not equal by half to the clamor of young women, far and near, for admission.

With the close of the present session an important change takes place. Dr. Blasingame, who has been at the head of the institution since its inception, retires, and Dr. Vann takes the presidency.

At the close of last evening's program the retiring president addressed the audience. He reviewed briefly the past year, which, he said, had been fraught with much pleasure to him. He thanked heartily the faculty for its earnest co-operation, and the friends of the university for their warm support. He felt that he had done his duty and was amply rewarded by the results of the year's work.

President Jones, of the Board of Trustees, then addressed the assemblage. Mr. Jones thanked Dr. Blasingame and the faculty, on behalf of the trustees, for their labors, and expressed his satisfaction at the satisfactory condition of affairs generally. The college, he said, was on a sound financial basis, and the receipts had slightly exceeded the expenditures. He then introduced the new president, Dr. Vann, who made a brief but most excellent address that was well received.

Commencement Sermon

Yesterday morning at 11 o'clock Rev. J. C. McConnell, D. D., a prominent Baptist divine of Lynchburg, delivered the commencement sermon. The auditorium was well filled with students and their friends.

The exercises were opened by an invocation by Rev. R. T. Vann.

Miss Ecloff and Miss Broughton sang a duet—"O, Where is That Land?"

Scripture reading from twenty-second chapter of Proverbs by Rev. Dr. Poteat of Philadelphia, followed.

Prayer was then offered by Rev. G. F. Smith of Edenton Street Methodist Church of this city.

"Lift up Thine Eyes" was sung by Misses Daisy Moring, Vass and Barnes.

President Blasingame then introduced Dr. McConnell.

Dr. McConnell spoke first of his pleasure in being asked to take part in the first commencement of the Baptist Female University. He said that he was especially interested in the university, as he was born in the mountain section of North Carolina, and all advance movements here were noted and watched with pleasure by him. His text was Exodus xx. 15—"Miriam, the Prophetess, the sister of Aaron."

"Miriam, Moses and Aaron," Dr. McConnell said, "made their exodus from Egypt at the same time. The brothers and sister went hand in hand from bondage into freedom. The people of North Carolina, however, seem to have taken the advice of Pharaoh to Moses when he said, 'Go but a little way and leave the women and children behind.' In the educational exodus the men have gone from the Egypt of ignorance and up to the last few years not thought of bringing their sister into the new land of promise and of richer liberty."

Dr. McConnell sketched the life of Miriam, showing how she cared for her infant brother, aided him in his later work, criticised with an elder sister's freedom his marriage, suffered when she would take from his glory, and finally, when death claimed her, had a monument raised to her memory.

He thought that all women might learn from her first the infinitude of compassion; next, the appreciation of freedom and the great knowledge that right alone is the true might.

In the course of his sermon Dr. McConnell said that a woman had a right to marry or not, as she chose, but the man who had the opportunity of marrying, the health and the means, and did not marry, ought to be dealt with by the church and the State.

The speaker paid glowing tributes to woman and her work, and defined Christian education as the higher development of the highest faculties of mind and heart.

Upon conclusion of the sermon the congregation arose and sang "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," after which Rev. Thomas E. Skinner pronounced the benediction.

Closing Concert

In the evening one of the largest audiences that has ever assembled under one roof in Raleigh attended the annual concert.

Previous to the hour announced, every seat in the auditorium was taken, and when the hour arrived the vestibule and halls were thronged with ladies and their escorts, while the overflow was compelled to remain on the veranda.

The opening number was "Homage to Verdi," a double piano quartette, in which the following young women took part: Misses Estelle Johnson, Helen Pope, Huldah Josey, Mary Wallace, Lily Morgan, Lula Myatt, Rosina Dowell and Ruth Pope.

The opening chorus—Gaul's "Hail Lovely June"—was excellently sung by the students of the music department, and this was followed by the "Valse Arabesque" on the piano, by Miss Emma Rogers.

An enjoyable offering was Miss Lula Briggs' rendering of Mascagni's "Ave Maria," and in the selection which came next—"Fantasie Faust"—Master Hubert Poteat exemplified his unusual abilities as a student of the violin.

The soft soprano and sweet alto voices of Misses Mary Berry and Ruth Pope were heard to advantage in the charming song—"Oh, that We Two were Maying," and Miss Mary Norris sang very sweetly "Villanella."

A piano solo—"Gazelle"—by Miss Mary Buxton, preceded the offering of the violin class. This number was a two-part concerto—"Romance" and "Gavotte"—which reflected credit upon the students who took part. They were Misses Mary Broughton, Della Forbes, Hattie Johnson, Eloise McMinn, Ethel Norris, Hubert Poteat, James Thomas, Jessie Wyatt, Emma Cooper, Lilly Lee, Elizabeth Pittman and Vera Walters. The four last named began the study of the violin only twelve weeks ago.

Mendelssohn's charming melody—"I Would That My Love"—which followed, was sung with pleasing effect by Misses Daisy Moring and Ethel Norris. Miss Ruth Pope's rendering of "Whispering Wind," and Miss Estelle Johnson's selection, "Valse Chromatique," were both enjoyable instrumental numbers, and they were followed by Master James Thomas, whose playing of "Berecuse" and a "Hungarian Melody," by Bella, on the violin, was finished and artistic.

Then the audience was treated to a solo from Miss Daisy Moring, who sang "Nymphs and Fawns" in her usual faultless style.

A creditably rendered piano solo by Miss Estelle Timberlake, assisted by Miss Julia Brewer, brought to completion the program, save the final chorus.

At this juncture, however, the audience received a pleasant surprise in the nature of a vocal solo by Mrs. Henri Appi, and a violin solo by Professor Appi. Each received an encore and gracefully responded.

The concert was brought to a close with a two-part chorus—"Lightly My Bark,' and "Summer," sung with vigor and harmony by the music students.

It was a most successful evening—a fitting close to the college year—and the pleasure it afforded will linger long in the memory of those who were present.

MR. SORRELL WITHDRAWS

The County Convention Meets Saturday at Metropolitan Hall.

The Wake County Democratic Convention meets in Metropolitan Hall Saturday at noon. Mr. Armistead Jones, chairman of the County Executive Committee, will call the convention to order.

The convention promises to be a most interesting one. The contest over the senatorship and the nominations of county commissioners are attracting a good deal of interest.

Mr. A. M. Sorrell yesterday withdrew as a candidate for county commisioner. Next to Mr. Pegram, Mr. Brewer and Mr. Mial, Mr. Sorrell received a larger vote than any of the other candidates. He would have had all of seventy-five votes on the first ballot. Mr. Sorrell's letter of withdrawal is given herewith:

"To the Democratic Voters of Wake County:

"I take this method of withdrawing as a candidate for county commissioner before the approaching county convention on June 9, 1900. I thank the people for the liberal support they gave me in their primaries on Saturday, June 2. I received a flattering vote, that has made me anxious all the rest of my life to be a tried and true Democrat. I shall support with as much loyalty the whole ticket as any man in Wake county. I have failed to receive a majority of the votes, and I don't want my name considered for one moment in the convention for the position of county commissioner. I have tried to do my duty to Wake county, and I now want to do my duty to my party.

"A. M. SORRELL."

A BEQUEST OF $2,000.

To the Kittrell Colored College—Parson Leak a Doctor of Divinity.

The commencement exercises at the Kittrell College (colored) have just closed. There were eleven graduatees and the diplomas were presented by Bishop Lee.

The trustees received a check for $2,000, which was bequeathed to the institution by a lady in Massachusetts.

The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon Rev. R. H. W. Leak, of this city, by the trustees. The trustees are about four years behind the Raleigh newspaper man, who gave the distinguished colored preacher the title of Doctor that many years ago. It is truly Dr. Leak now.

A colored citizen of Raleigh who attended the commencement at Kittrell, writes:

"This school has grown in popularity so as to commend itself as few other schools, ruled and governed by men of the race, has done. Every year increased interest is shown by the patrons and friends of this grand and noble institution of learning. The commencement this year eclipsed all former efforts. This scholastic year has been very successfully managed.

"The faculty, and students alike, have striven to show the usefulness and worth of the institution. The truthfulness of this is shown by the number of graduates turned out, and how they successfully mastered their essays, musical treats and orations, etc.

The largest enrollment crowns the efforts of the school this year.

INCORPORATED YESTERDAY

Raleigh Athletic Association Is Granted Letters Patent.

The Secretary of State yesterday incorporated the Raleigh Athletic Association.

One thousand dollars is named as the amount of capital stock with the privilege of increasing it to $50,000. The principal office will be in Raleigh and the incorporators are T. B. Womack, K. P. Battle, Jr., J. T. Jones, Sherwood Higgs, H. T. Smith, W. J. Andrews, J. O. Lithford, T. W. Habel, W. Durham, R. C. Rivers and Perrin Busbee.

The object of the association is to promote athletics in all branches, have base ball clubs, foot ball, golf, tennis, la cross, polo and kindred sports; have bicycle and gun clubs; conduct swimming and aquatic sports; track athletic, bicycle and horse racing, gymnastics and boxing meets; operate gymnasiums, skating rinks.

The association has the right to conduct swimming pools and athletic grounds, hold game meets, contests and races; to charge admission to same; to fix and collect initiation fees and dues from any club or organization under the association; to offer prizes; hold property real and personal, etc.

Told of His Fate

Tom Jones, the preacher murderer, was told yesterday that his doom was sealed and that he must hang August 31st.

B. C. Beckwith, Esq., the negro's attorney, carried the momentous tidings, which apparently had no more effect on the ignorant man than if he had called him to dinner.

Jones was asked to tell the story of the crime, but declined, though he has previously made a confession.

Revising Jury List.

The county commissioners were in session again all day yesterday, and, as on the previous day, the entire session was taken up by the work of revising the jury lists. This work will be completed today, and then the commissioners will take up other matters.

SOLONS COMING IN

Senator E. L. Travis First to Arrive.

COMMITTEES MEET TODAY

Prominent Members of the Legislature Comprising Committees on Election, Law and Constitutional Amendment Meet Tonight to Consider Those Two Matters—Senator Travis Says a Three Day's Session Is Sufficiently Long.

Senator E. L. Travis of Halifax is the first member of the legislature to arrive to attend the special session of the general assembly, which convenes next Tuesday.

Senator Travis is chairman of the Senate Committee on Constitutional Amendment, and he arrived yesterday to attend a joint meeting today of the Senate and House committees on the amendment.

Many prominent members of the legislature are expected here today to attend meetings of the committees of both houses on election laws and the amendment. These committees will meet tonight probably for the first time. They will be in session several days in order to submit reports to the general assembly, which convenes Tuesday.

It is understood that Mr. George Rountree, representative from New Hanover in the House, is working on the proposed amendment to the suffrage amendment. This work was entrusted to Mr. Rountree, who is chairman of the House Committee on the Constitutional Amendment, and who is regarded as one of the ablest constitutional lawyers in the State.

The election committees, of which Mr. R. B. Glenn is the House chairman and Mr. H. W. Stubbs the Senate chairman, will consider some proposed changes in the election law.

Senator Travis said last evening, speaking of the special session of the general assembly:

"The only change to be made in the constitutional amendment is the addition of a section providing that if any part of it is unconstitutional the whole amendment shall fail. The committees will discuss this matter thoroughly. We hope to get it in shape so that the legislature can pass it without delay if it sees fit.

"I have no idea that the legislature will take up any other matter," Mr. Travis remarked. "I don't think the members of the legislature will be willing to let down the gates for the transaction of any general business. I see no reason why all business should not be transacted in three days or possibly four. All the members of the legislature from whom I have heard are coming next week. I notified all the members of the Suffrage Committee to be here today."

Senator T. J. Jerome of Union spent the day in the city yesterday. Senator Jerome is inclined to think that the legislature will devote several days to the transaction of private business. "I have one or two bills which I will introduce—one of these providing for the enlargement of the corporate limits of the town of Monroe. I am willing to vote to consider only important public matters and to bar all private bills, but I know that many members will have private bills to bring up before the assembly."

The following are the members of the House and Senate Committees on Election Laws and the Constitutional Amendment:

Senate Committee on Election Law—R. B. Glenn, E. L. Travis, F. I. Osborne, J. C. Black, James Brown, R. H. Speight, T. G. Skinner and J. Franks.

Senate Committee on Constitutional Amendment—E. L. Travis, R. B. Glenn, G. Cowper, R. A. P. Cooley, F. I. Osborne, W. C. Fields, F. A. Daniels and F. M. White.

House Committee on Election Law—H. W. Stubbs, chairman; Francis D. Winston, Herriott Clarkson, W. B. Council, J. Frank Ray, James O. Carr, Henry Gilliam, Locke Craig, Frank Thompson, S. M. Gattis, J. B. Leigh, Dan Hugh McLean, B. B. Nicholson, R. L. Stevens, S. L. Patterson, J. S. Davis of Haywood.

House Committee on Constitutional Amendment—George Rountree, chairman; W. R. Allen, L. S. Overman, Walter Moore, G. H. Currie of Bladen.

THE WHITE RIBBON

Annual Convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union

The eighteenth annual convention of the North Carolina Woman's Christian Temperance Union is called to meet in the city of Asheville, June 14-18, inclusive.

In the beginning of our national life as a society twenty-six years ago, the brave women who led the crusade bands systematized a work against the legalized saloon that has not only found favor in every State of the Union, but is an organized force in every civilized country of the world.

The basis of representation in the State convention is one delegate from each local union and one for every twenty members thereof. Presidents of local union and State members are ex-officio members of the annual meeting. Every union should send its full quota this year.

Asheville with its picturesque setting amid the "Alps of America" is the most inviting city to our eastern constituency and the pride of the western. In opening her doors she has honored our organization and a full convention alone can reflect our appreciation of her kindness.

The program in course of preparation promises to be one of special interest. Reduced railroad rates will be secured, though summer rates will be as cheap perhaps and give passengers more time.

All friends of the temperance cause are invited to attend the convention and aid us in our efforts to so educate public sentiment against the liquor traffic as to speedily banish every saloon from the State.

MARY E. CARTLAND, Pres.
C. E. CRAVEN, Cor. Sec.
MARY M. WAVIS, Rec. Sec.

FOREST-TEMPEST

Horse with a Human Brain to Exhibit in Raleigh.

Mr. J. E. Lee of Baltimore was a Raleigh visitor yesterday. Mr. Lee is the advance agent and assistant manager of a horse. Sounds rather funny, but this horse is not one of your mediocre, every-day beasts of burden. "Forest-Tempest"—that's his name—is a horse with a human brain. Mr. Lee claims that this wonderful animal can do anything accomplished by a human being, and a great deal more than some of them. This animal will be exhibited in Raleigh shortly. The date has not been fixed, and Mr. Lee was here yesterday arranging for the appearance of his star. It's not every horse that can boast an advance agent, and Raleighites may expect something unusual.

Engagement Declared Off

New York, June 6.—Kid McCoy announced today that his battle with Tom Sharkey, which was to have been decided at Coney Island on June 15, has been postponed indefinitely.

Special Census Statistics of Manufacturing and Mechanical Industries

Capt. John P. Leach, chief special agent of statistics for manufacturing in the cities of Raleigh and Durham, has opened a bureau at the Park Hotel, this city. He will be assisted by one or more special agents. It is the purpose of Mr. North, the chief statistician for manufacturers, to complete the taking of these special statistics within eighteen days. Proprietors of manufacturing establishments of every kind, conducted within the corporate limits of the two cities, are requested to notify Chief Special Agent Leach as it is important that complete returns be made of all such industries.

Occoneechee Picnic.

On Wednesday, June 12th, the Sunday-schools of Christ Church and Church of the Good Shepherd will have their picnic at Occoneechee Farm. This is the prettiest place in the State for picnics and all are assured of having a delightful time.

The following will be the prices:

Sunday-school scholars ..... 25c.
Sunday-school teachers ..... 50c.
Children, outside Sunday-school... 50c.
Adults, outside Sunday-school....$1.00

Tickets on sale at Woollcott's store. Only a limited number of about 150 will be sold to outsiders. If you want to go and have a day's pleasure ket a ticket at once.

Trains leave Raleigh, 8:15 p. m.
Leave Occoneechee 6.00 p. m.

Notice.

Having been appointed trustee in a deed of trust executed by Thos. Pescud, Esq., on the 26th day of May 1900, I hereby give notice to all persons indebted to him to make immediate payment to me. The estate must be settled as expeditiously as possible, and debts which are not paid promptly will be either reduced to judgment and collected by legal process or be exposed to sale at public auction. All creditors of said Pescud are hereby notified that they must file with the clerk of the Superior Court statements of their claims verified as prescribed by section 6, chapter 453, Acts of General Assembly of 1893.

H. E. LITCHFORD, Trustee.
June 5, 1900.—30 days.

Wanted.

A position as book-keeper; graduate of Eastman's Business College. References furnished as to character, experience and ability. Address, K., care Morning Post.

For Sale

A six-passenger Bus that has only been used about one month. Will sell cheap for cash or on time. Something nice to meet trains with. Address H. D. Ellington, Smithfield, N. C. tf

FOR SALE

Scholarships in leading business universities of the South, at special rates. Inquire Box 54, Raleigh, N. C.

Prof. D. L. Lee, President Lee's Practical Business College and Textile School, is now extending to the young men everywhere a special inducement in the new textile school which he has just opened in Charlotte.

The new Textile School, which Prof. Lee opened in Charlotte on April 16th, is proving to be a great success. Inquiries from all parts of the United States are coming in, in regard to the school, and he has decided as an advertising medium to give to all pupils who purchase a scholarship before May 20th, a $150 scholarship for $75. This does not bind the pupil to enter at that time, but to purchase the scholarship, make a payment on same and enter at his earliest convenience.

This department is in charge of Prof. W. B. Hunter of Philadelphia, who has been connected with some of the largest mills in the North. We have a night school for pupils who work in the mill during the day.

For further information, address
D. L. LEE,
President Lee's Practical Business College & Textile School, Charlotte, N. C.

WHERE THE TRAVELERS STANDS

It is 36 years old March, 1900.
Its assets now amount to $27,760,511.56.
It has an excess of security to policy-holders of $4,020,683.95.
Its premium income exceeds $6,089,810.45
Its interest income is more than $1,271,768.96.
It has paid to the families of policy-holders (life and accident) $19,545,549.87.
It has paid to policy-holders themselves (including endowment, cash surrender values, and accident indemnities) $20,189,370.92.
It grants every conceivable form of sound life insurance at the lowest sure rates.

Its premium rates are enough to be on the safe side. Security is the first guide to real insurance.

Its management measurably controls cost by faithful attention to its elements—mortality, interest, and expense. Care is taken to select healthy lives; intelligent caution and foresight control its investments; no expense is incurred which may reasonably be avoided, and it protects its policy-holders to the fullest extent.

Its life policy contracts are incontestable after two years for any cause, except fraud and non-payment of premiums, and liberal cash, loan, and paid-up values are granted after three years.

It pays losses promptly. No deserving claimant has to ask twice.

Also it is the pioneer accident company in this country, known wherever the English language is spoken as the largest, safest, and the best.

The Insurance Commissioners of Connecticut, Missouri, Illinois, Nebraska, and Wisconsin declare in the report of their examination that:

Solid and worthy claims are paid promptly—on an average, not later than thirty days after death or accident—nor has the company been unduly tenacious in resisting unworthy claims or those about which there seemed to be some doubt.

WALTER BREM, State Special Agent.
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

DOBBIN & FERRALL { At.... TUCKER'S STORE.

MEN'S OXFORDS

MADE BY
BOYDEN SHOE CO.,
IN SMART, SNAPPY STYLES.
Russian Calf, Patent Ideal Kid
Patent Leather and Vici Kid
$5.00 A PAIR.

Great Reduction Sale.

In order to reduce our enormous stock of Clothing and Gents' Furnishings, we offer the following special bargains for one week:

Men's Suits, formerly $20, now $12
Men's Suits, formerly $15, now $10
Men's Suits, formerly $10, now $ 6

Two hundred Shirts, former price, $1, now 60c. These goods are first-class in every particular—latest styles, colors, and all are of popular tailoring.

Full line of Hats and Gents' Furnishings at greatly reduced prices. I am a money-saver. If you don't believe it, call and be convinced, whether you buy or not.

J. ROSENGARTEN
Next door to W. E. Jones. 214 Fayetteville St.

SPRING GREETING

A Hope Realized—A Promise Fulfilled.

That is what every sale we make means. We anticipate your wants and wishes, then we make the prices irresistible. There is only one class, and that the FIRST, in our spring and summer collection of

MEN'S AND BOYS'
CLOTHING!

Your responsibility ends and ours begins when you buy of us. We are right behind every transaction we make. COME AND LOOK. *If you want to buy right, if you want to be treated right, if you want to save money, make our store your trading home.*

DUNLAP—ALL STYLES IN MEN'S HATS. SPLIT AND ROUGH STRAWS IN LADIES' HATS.

OUR FURNISHING DEPARTMENTS

Are complete for the Easter Trade. Do you want the up-to-date? If so, you can find it at

CROSS & LINEHAN,
Up-to-Date Clothiers and Furnishers.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Watauga Democrat. (Boone, Watauga County, N.C.)

Part of Watauga Democrat (Boone, N.C.) / About this page

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preservation is the first
ture." For this reason
who is ill desires to be-
ecome well. Those who
pure or impoverished

state.—B. S. EDWARDS, Pub-
lisher of the Review, Wyant,
Ill. For sale by dealers.

The Executive Committee Meets.

A meeting of the Democrat
ic Executive Committee of
Watauga county was held in
Boone on last Monday, in ac
cordance with previous no
tice, and nearly every town-
ship in the county was repre-
sented.

It was agreed to hold a
county convention on March
the 17th to appoint delegates
to the State and Judicial con
ventions; the township pri-
maries to be held at each vo-
ting place on Saturday, the
10th day of March.

Other details relative to or
ganization for coming cam-
paign, were discussed, and J.
S. Williams was elected Secre
tary to the committee.

W. B. Councill, jr., and
Capt. E. F. Lovill made in-
teresting and instructive
talks to those present in re-
gard to the Constitutional
Amendment to be voted up-
on at the next election.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

iness of such corporation
shall be at the general office
to be situated at or near the
Elk Knob Mountain near the
Stringers Fork of the North
Fork of New River in Watau
ga county State of North
Carolina, the present Post
Office of which place is Suth
erlands,

IV. That the corporation
shall exist and endure for the
period of sixty (60) years.

V. That the capital stock
of such corporation shall be
twenty five ($25,000) thou
and dollars.

VI. That the number o
shares shall be two hundred
and fifty ($250) dollars o
the par valve of one hundred
($100.00) dollars each.

In witness whereof we, a
incorporators, have hereun
to set our hands and seals
This the 30th day of Decem
ber, A. D 1899.

E. F. ZINNS, [seal].
JOSEPH BACH, [seal].
J. A. ZINNS, [seal].
EDMUND BACH, [seal].

State of Wisconsin,
County of Milwaukee

Personally appeared b
fore me the above mentione
persons, Joseph Bach, J. A.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Watauga Democrat.

VOL. XI. BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH, 2, 1899. NO. 9.

Lenoir Topic: The "war for humanity" has degenerated into brutal wholesale murder of defenceless people. McKinley's administration is not only piling up an enormous debt, in addition to the iniquitous stamp tax which is draining the resources of the people, but it is staining the fair name of this country with the innocent blood of fellow beings. The blood of Able is "crying from the ground," and this nation may be justly branded with the mark of Cain for this butchery of the helpless Filipinos. If this inexcusable butchery is not stopped our people will find themselves an outcast among the nations of the earth crying out "My punishment is greater than I can bear."

Stop Coughing

Every cough makes your throat more raw and irritable. Every cough congests the lining membrane of your lungs. Cease tearing your throat and lungs in this way. Put the parts at rest and give them a chance to heal. You will need some help to do this, and you will find it in

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

From the first dose the quiet and rest begin: the tickling in the throat ceases; the spasm weakens; the cough disappears. Do not wait for pneumonia and consumption but cut short your cold without delay.

Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Plaster should be over the lungs of every person troubled with a cough.

Write to the Doctor.

Unusual opportunities and long experience eminently qualify us for giving you medical advice. Write freely all the particulars in your case. Tell us what your experience has been with our Cherry Pectoral. You will receive a prompt reply, without cost.

Address, DR. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

PROFESSIONAL.

W. B. COUNCILL, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Boone, N. C.

W. B. COUNCILL, M. D.
Boone, N. C.
Resident Physician Office on King Street north of Post Office.

E. F. LOVILL. J. C. FLETCHER.

LOVILL & FLETCHER.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
BOONE, N. C.
Special attention given to the colletion of claims.

DR. J. M. HOGSHEAD,

Cancer Specialist,

BANNER'S ELK. N. C.
No Knife; No Burning Out.
Highest refereuces and endorsments of prominent persons successfully treated in Va., Tenn. and N. C. Remember that there is no time too soon to get rid of a cancerous growth—no matter how small. Examination free, letters answered promptly, and satisfaction guaranteed.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Following is the full text of the Constitutional Amendment Bill as it passed the House on the 18th inst:

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That article VI of the Constitution of North Carolina be, and the same is here by abrogated, and in lieu thereof shall be substituted the following article of said Constitution:

ARTICLE VI.

Suffrage and Eligibility to Office—Qualifications of an Elector

Section 1. Every male person born in the United States and every male person who has been naturalized, twenty one years of age and possessing the qualifications set out in this article, shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people in the State, except as herein otherwise provided.

Sec. 2. He shall have resided in the State of North Carolina for two years, in the county six months, and in the precinct, ward or other election district, in which he offers to vote, four months next preceeding the election: Provided, that removal from one precinct, ward or other election district, to another in the same county, shall not operate to deprive any person of the right to vote in the precinct, ward or other election district, from which he has removed until 4 months after such removal. No person who has been convicted, or who has confessed his guilt in open court upon indictment, of any crime, the punishment of which now is, or may hereafter be, imprisonment in the State prison shall be permitted to vote unless the said person be restored to citizenship in the manner prescribed by law.

Sec. 3. Every person offering to vote shall be at the time a legally registered voter as herein prescribed and in the matter provided by law, and the General Assembly of North Carolina shall enact general registration laws to carry into effect the provisions of this Article.

Sec. 4. Every person presenting himself for registration shall be able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language; and, before he shall be entitled to vote, he shall have paid, on or before the first day of March of the year in which he proposes to vote, his poll tax, as prescribed by law, for the previous year. Poll taxes shall be a lien only on assessed property and no process shall issue to enforce the collection of the same except against assessed property.

Sec. 5. No male person, who was on January 1, 1867, or at any time prior thereto, entitled to vote under the laws of any State in the United wherein he then resided, and no lineal descendant of any such person shall be denied the right to register and vote at any election in this State by reason of his failure to possess the educational qualification prescribed in section four of this article: Provided, he shall have registered in accordance with the terms of this section prior to December 1, 1908. The General Assembly shall provide for a permanent record of all persons, who register under this section, on or before November first, one thousand nine hundred and eight; and all such persons shall be entitled to register and vote in all elections by the people of this State, unless disqualified under section two of this Article: Provided, such persons shall have paid their poll tax as required by law.

Sec. 6. All elections by the people shall be by ballot, and all elections by the General Assembly shall be viva voce.

Sec. 7. Every voter in North Carolina, except as in this Article disqualified, shall be eligible to office, but before entering upon the duties of the office he shall take and subscribe the following oath: "I, ———, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina, not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as ———. So help me God."

Sec. 8. The following classes of persons shall be disqualified for office: First, all persons who shall deny the being of Almighty God. Second, all persons who shall have been convicted, or confessed their guilt on indictment pending, and whether sentenced or not, or under judgment suspended, of any treason or felony, or any other crime for which the punishment may be imprisonment in the penitentiary, since becoming citizens of the United States, of corruption or malpractice in office, unless such person shall be restored to the rights of citizenship in a manner prescribed by law.

Sec. 9. That all of the provisions of the Constitution relating to suffrage, registration and elections, as contained in this act, amending the Constitution, shall go into effect on the first day of July, 1902, if a majority of the qualified voters of the State so declare at the next general election.

Sec. 10. This amendment shall be submitted at the next general election to the qualified voters of the State, in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as is provided in the law regulating general elections in this State, and in force May 1, 1899; and at said election those persons desiring to vote for such amendment shall cast a written or printed ballot with the words "For Suffrage Amendment" thereon; and those with a contrary opinion shall cast a written or printed ballot with the words "Against Suffrage Amendment" thereon.

Sec. 11. The said election shall be held and the votes returned, compared counted, and canvassed, and the result announced, under the same rules and regulations as are in force for returning, comparing, counting and canvassing the votes for members of the General Assembly, in force May 1st, 1899, and if a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the said amendment, it shall be the duty of the Governor of the State to certify said amendment under the seal of the State to the Secretary of State, who shall enroll the said amendment so certified among the permanent records of his office.

Sec. 12. This act shall be in force from and after its ratication.

———

Mr. Councill, of Watauga, who voted for the foregoing amendment, made the following statement:

"Mr. Speaker: In casting my vote for this amendment I am influenced by the highest considerations for the future welfare of every citizen in North Carolina. I am a firm believer in the truth that good government can only be attained through the exercise of intelligent suffrage, and the adoption of this amendment looks to this end.

"If, Mr. Speaker, any question of wisdom of submitting this amendment should be made, I point to the conditions through which Eastern North Carolina has passed within the past few years as a complete answer as to its necessity.

"In submitting this amendment we do not disfranchise any citizen of this State. We simply allow the people to say whether or not any standard of suffrage shall be fixed, by which future government in North Carolina is to be influenced.

"It will doubtless be urged by some that the adoption of this amendment means the disfranchisement of white citizens of this State.

"Such a position, Mr. Speaker, is unfounded and I assert that it will only be made by those who are the natural enemies of good government.

"If I felt that in voting to submit this amendment to the peoble that I was voting to disfranchise any white citizens of this State, however lowly in rank, I would unhesitatingly cast my vote against the amendment, but feeling that I do not, and feeling that the brave, true, and intelligent constituency I represent will sustain me in doing what I believe, and what I think they believe, to be right, I cast my vote for the amendment."

I have been afflicted with rheumatism for 14 years and nothing seemed to give any relief. I was able to be around all the time, but constantly suffering. I had tried everything I could hear of, and at last was told to try Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I did and was immediately relieved and in a short time was cured. I am happy to say it has not yet returned.—JOHN EDGAR, Germantown, Calif. Sold by M. B. Blackburn.

Andrew Carnegie has given $100,000 to found a public library in Atlanta, Ga.

Letter from the State Capitol.

Editor Democrat.

The legislative proceedings for the past week have been of a very interesting nature, as matters of general importance have been dealt with One measure of interest to the State at large and especially so, to the people of Richmond county is the bill passed making a new county out of the eastern part of Richmond county to be called Scotland, with Laurinburg as the county site. The native population of this section is largely of Scotch descent therefore the county is to be called for their ancestral home over the seas.

The investigation of the case of the Wilsons who were removed from the office of Railroad Commissioners by Governor Russell also attracted attention. The committee on the part of both houses, charged with looking into the matter and reporting to the legislature, has taken all the evidence to be offered, and made a report to the effect that both Maj. J. W. Wilson and S. Otho Wilson were wrongfully deprived of their offices and should be reinstated which of course carries with it their salaries for the past eighteen months since they were removed. Action on the report was postponed until next Tuesday when it will come up for final action. I find that there is considerable opposition among the members to adopting the committee's report and there may be a lively fight over it.

A Road law applying to Watauga, Ashe and Alleghany counties was passed during the week. It is the old law substantially, with some amendments, but without any special tax feature. The greatest interest was taken in the discussion of and final action on the constitutional amendments. The act submitting the amendments to the people was voted on yesterday, and the galleries and lobbies were crowed by intensely interested spectators. All the democratic members had been urged to be present, and as many were sick, and some known to be opposed to the bill, its supporters were very careful to be sure of a sufficient member being present to secure the required three-fifths vote in favor of the measure. Some very strong and touching speeches were made by advocates of the bill, notably Rountree and Winston, and they were loudly cheered by the spectators and members. Several republican members spoke against the bill, among them, Isaac Smith, and two other negro members from eastern counties. The roll call showed 79 votes in favor of the measure which was 7 more than actually required to submit to the people. The result was greeted by great demonstrations of enthusiasm in the crowded hall. Only a very few democrats voted against the bill, while nearly or quite all the populists voted aye, but the republicans were solidly against it. To-day the bill went to the Senate and after a very interesting discussion it was passed by the very decisive vote of 42 to 6. Senators Glenn, Fields and others made strong speeches, and again the galleries were packed, many ladies being present both days and taking a lively interest in the discussions.

Next week will be a busy one as a great many important measures are yet to be acted upon, and the legislators seem anxious to get through and go home. It is thought now that the new Board of Directors will get control of the Penitentiary Monday as Capt. Day has agreed to surrender to them but reserves the right to bring suit in the courts to test the legality of the new board, and for the office of Superintendent and the salary belonging thereto. Much interest is manifested here as the final result, as Capt. Day is considered a hard hand to deal with when he gets stirred up.

CORRESPONDENT.

Feb. 18th, 1899.

For Turn-pike Charters.

Editor Democrat.

Why not get W. B. Councill, while at Raleigh, to see about charters for turnpike roads in Watauga county? No county can have too many good roads, and we need a turnpike leaving turnpike at W. D. Edmisten's down New River to Three Forks church, from there following the Wilkesboro road to Wilkes county line. Then one from Boone via. J. P. Councill's to connect with Elk Park turnpike at Taylor's on Watauga River. Twenty per cent. on the hundred dollars worth of property, and 60 cents on the poll will build these roads in two years. All roads leading to turnpikes should be greatly improved, and the people of our county would have good roads leading to Lenoir, Elk Park and Wilkesboro. Hope these improvements can be made, Yours truly,

A. J. CRITCHER.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

This remedy is intended especially for coughs, colds, croup, whooping cough and influenza. It has become famous for its cures of these diseases over a large part of the civilized world. The most flattering testimonials have been received, giving accounts of its good work; of the aggravating and persistant coughs it has cured; of severe colds that have yielded promptly to its soothing effects, and of the dangerous attacks of the croup it has cured, often saving the life of the child. The extensive use of it for whooping cough has shown that it robs that disease of all dangerous consequences. Sold by M. B. Blackburn.

Presiden McKinley has sent a message to Congress asking that provision be made for a submarine cable telegraph between this country and the Philippine Islands, by way of the Sandwich Islands, and Guam. It is probable that such a bill will be passed by this or the next Congress.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Y[illegible] Eighteen Eighty-Eight

VOL. XLIX, NO. 46 — BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1938 — $1.50 PER YEAR

WILL OBSERVE POPPY DAY 28TH

Money Raised Will Be Devoted to Support of Disabled World War Veterans

Poppy Day will be observed here on Saturday, May 28th, and the ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary will sell these bright war memorial flowers to raise funds to help support disabled veterans and their families.

What is Poppy Day?

Poppy Day is a day observed throughout the United States by wearing memorial poppies in honor of World War dead. It will be observed this year on May 28th, the Saturday before Memorial Day.

What is the Memorial Poppy?

The Memorial Poppy is a replica of the poppies which grew on the battlefields of France and Belgium during the World War.

Why was the poppy chosen as the memorial flower?

The poppy was chosen as the memorial flower for the World War dead because it grew where they fell, the one touch of beauty in the desolate battle areas.

Who makes the Memorial Poppy?

Memorial Poppies are made by disabled World War veterans working in government hospitals and in convalescent workrooms maintained by the American Legion Auxiliary.

Who distributes the Memorial Poppy?

Women of the American Legion Auxiliary, working as unpaid volunteers, distribute poppies throughout the United States.

What is done with the money contributed for the poppies?

Every penny is used to support the work of the American Legion and Auxiliary for the welfare of the disabled veterans, their families and the families of the dead.

Who wears the Memorial Poppy?

Every American who wishes to honor the war dead and aid the war's living victims.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY HERE 29TH

I. G. Greer and Singing Class From Orphanage Will Feature Program

I. G. Greer, superintendent of the Thomasville orphanage, and a singing class from that institution will feature the program at the county-wide Sunday School rally at the Baptist church here Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and Attorney A. H. Casey of North Wilkesboro, and others will also speak.

The following speakers will appear at the 11 o'clock hour at the various churches of the county, and the two o'clock meeting will be attended by members of all the Sunday schools:

Antioch, Grace Honeycutt; Beaver Dam, Bert Farthing; Bethany, G. W. Rowe; Bethel, Charles Williams; Blowing Rock, Chas. E. Hagaman; Brushy Fork, A. J. Greene; Cool Springs, Earl Colvard; Cove Creek, D. J. Whitener; Elk Knob, Clyde R. Greene; Forest Grove, J. W. Norris; Gap Creek, Mrs. Baxter Linney; Howards Creek, Cleve Gross; Laurel Springs, W. M. Thomas; Meat Camp, Mattie Lou Harmon; Middle Fork, D. E. Broome; Mt. Calvary, M. J. Williams; Mt. Gilead, Rev. Tipton Greene; Mt. Lebanon, I. G. Greene; Oak Grove, Roy Dotson; Poplar Grove, Rev. G. M. Watson; Proffits Grove, Rev. Philip Fletcher; Rich Mountain, Bedford Greene; Shulls Mills, Troy Danner; South Fork, A. Y. Howell; Three Forks, Virginia Weber; Timbered Ridge, N. M Greene; Union, H. R. Eggers; Willowdale, Wade E. Brown; Willow Valley, James Farthing; Zion Hill, Morris Eggers; Stony Fork, N. L. Harrison.

WATAUGANS IN FRANCE

Messrs. Marvin Deal and Lynwood Blair of Cove Creek, of the U. S. navy, are now stationed in Ville Franche, France, as members of the crew of Admiral Lackey's flagship Omaha, which has been cruising in the waters of the Mediterranean. Lester Deal, a brother to Marvin, is in a CCC camp in the state of Oregon.

TO DECORATE GRAVES

All persons who have relatives buried at the Ray cemetery are requested to meet there on Decoration Day for the purpose of working and decorating the graves.

"Testing Time," the newest volume of fiction to have been written by David P. Allison, Boone author, is now on sale at the Walker Jewelry store.

Gets WPA Vote

Lawrence Edward Smith, WPA worker employed on a St. Louis park project, is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the seat in congress now held by Thos. C. Hennings, Jr. Smith has been promised the support of the 26,-009 fellow WPA workers in the city and is confident of victory in the primaries.

AGED CITIZEN IS VICTIM ROBBERS

P. R. Shull Is Beaten and Robbed of Fifty Dollars; Two Are Held in Jail

P. R. (Tip) Shull, well-known resident of Laurel Creek township, was brutally beaten about the head and robbed of $50 in the kitchen of his home Saturday night, and Frank Ward and Marvin Warren are being held in the county jail as his assailants. They will be given a preliminary hearing Monday.

Mr. Shull, it is related by the sheriff, who made the arrests, was seated on the porch of his home at dusk, when two men, whom he believed to be Ward and Warren, walked along a driveway leading to the rear of his home. He thought little of the incident, it is stated, but soon afterward went into the kitchen to close a window, on account of a thunderstorm. Just as he entered the room he was seized by the collar, a pistol pressed against his side, and he was commanded to be quiet. Mr. Shull grabbed the pistol and almost succeeded in wresting it from the hands of his adversary, when the second man came in and he was felled with a blow from the butt of the gun. The money was taken from his person.

Sheriff's officers secured the services of a fingerprint expert from Lenoir and found the fingerprints of Ward on the window pane where entrance to the building was made. Tracks outside the house appeared to have been made by the shoes the accused were wearing. The prisoners denied knowledge of the affair.

Marked Terrapin Still Inhabits Horton Farm

A small dry-land terrapin, bearing the inscription, "D. J. H., June 5, 1911," on its shell, was found Friday on the farm of Mr. Frank Horton at Vilas, less than a quarter mile from the point where Don J. Horton, a brother, made the marks of identification on the crustacean twenty-seven years ago.

This is the third time the small turtle has been found since it was marked, and during the long period of time, has traveled arround within a radius of less than a quarter of a mile.

Demonstration Club Market to Open Here

The Watauga County Home Demonstration Market will be open in the building next door to Daniel Boone Shoe Shop Saturday, May 28, at 9 a. m. Country produce, canned and baked goods will be offered for sale.

BOONE GIRL TO FINISH AT MARS HILL COLLEGE

Mars. Hill, May 22—Martha Moore of Boone, is among the 150 students of Mars Hill College to be graduated in the final commencement exercises to be held Friday morning, May 27. This is the largest graduating class in the college's history.

Besides other honors, Miss Moore is a former president of the French honor club, officer of the Clio Literary Society, and a honor student for the two years she has been at Mars Hill.

W. N. RAGAN DIES AT JOPLIN, MO.

Former Resident of Watauga Succumbs to Sudden Illness; Funeral Details

William Newton Ragan, a native Wataugan, but for many years a resident of Golden City, Mo., died at Joplin, Mo., May 13, from an illness of only a few hours. Mr. Ragan was in Joplin transacting business at the stockyards when he became ill, and went to a hotel room for a rest. He expired within a few hours from what is believed to have been a heart attack. He was 72 years old.

Funeral services were conducted from the Presbyterian church at Golden City May 16, Rev. D. E. Jones having charge of the rites, and interment was in the I. O. O. F. cemetery there. A large crowd gathered to pay their respects and there was an impressive floral offering.

Mr. Ragan was a son of John and Sarah Ragan and was born near Boone April 6, 1866. He was married to Miss Maggie Greene, daughter of L. A. and the late Mrs. Greene August 26, 1891. To them were born four children: Mrs. Docie McCoy of Eagleville, Mo.; Clarence Ragan, Robinson, Kansas; Lucy, who died in infancy, and Eston Ragan of Tulsa, Okla. The wife and mother died February 6, 1904. Six brothers and one sister also survive.

Mr. Ragan was converted in early manhood and united with the Baptist church, living a true Christian life. He was married in 1903 to Miss Rozella Fair. He and his family had lived in Missouri since 1900. He retired from active farming in 1921, but continued to live on the farm. He derived much pleasure from helping others and doing things for the betterment of his community.

Nutritionist Will Be Here This Week

Miss Sallie Brooks, assistant extension nutritionist, will be in the county Wednesday and Thursday, May 25-26, for demonstrations in pie-making. The meeting on the 25th will be in the home economics department of the Cove Creek high school and the one on the following day will be at the Boone high school home economics department, which is located in the basement of the Lovill Home dormitory. The meetings will start promptly at 2 o'clock ,and ladies of the county are asked to attend the place nearest them.

Esso News to Give Publicity to State

"Esso Road News," organ of the Standard Oil Co., which is distributed to the traveling public throughout the nation, is to devote one page of the July number to North Carolina, dealing more specifically with information of interest to tourists, and Mr. H. W. Wilcox, local bus terminal manager, has been asked to supply some material on this section.

Mr. Wilcox is asking that the publication use some pictures of this region, and he asks that anyone having good pictures, which might be used, to leave them with him or with Rob Rivers at The Democrat office.

ATTENDS CONVENTION OF SPORTS WRITERS

Mr. Eugene Wike, publicity director at Appalachian College, has returned from Silver Springs, Florida, where he was in attendance last week at the convention of the Southern Sports Writers' association.

The event is an annual one and this year came as a part of the program of the Governor's Hospitality committee.

Mr. Wike was honored by delivering the principal address at the banquet session of the convention, and drew an interesting comparison between the resorts of the mountains and Florida.

DATE OF TONSIL CLINIC AT THE ROCK CHANGED

A tonsil clinic will be held at Blowing Rock on May 31 and June 1, instead of May 24 and 25, as was previously announced by Dr. M. C. Warfield.

HUGE TREES FELLED

Mr. Don J. Horton recently cut a poplar tree on his farm, which scaled 7,000 feet of lumber. The huge tree was seven feet in diameter, of great height, and the annual rings on the sawn logs indicated the tree was 350 years old. Another poplar was felled which was six and a half feet in diameter and which contained 5,-000 feet of lumber.

Let Us Have Peace

Here, in the Suresne cemetery, near Paris, a Gold Star mother weeps beside the grave of her boy twenty years after he left home to make the world safe for democracy.

DAN GRAHAM MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED

The interdenominational tent meeting which was to have been started here Sunday by Rev. Dan Graham, Blountville, Tenn., evangelist, has been postponed for a few days, according to information given The Democrat Tuesday afternoon.

As workmen were erecting the large tent, the high wind tore the canvas to such an exteat that it was necessary to order a complete new section, which will require several days for delivery. Definite announcement will be made soon as to the actual start of the service. Meantime, all the citizens of the county who are interested in the meeting, are asked to gather at the courthouse Thursday of this week at 2 o'clock.

SUMMER TERM PROSPECTS GOOD

Appalachian College Will Draw Hundreds From Many States; Opens June 7

The summer term of Appalachian College, which opens June 7th, is destined to be the most widely attended session in the history of the institution, officials believe. Already it is said that reservations for more than 250 have been made at the dormitories, and a large number of students have indicated their desire to find quarters in private homes of the town. It is quite likely that near one thousand will inhabit the local campus during the first summer term.

Preliminary information is to the effect that students this year will come from more different states than at any previous session.

MEETING CLOSED

Rev. R. C. Eggers and Rev. D. M. Edmisten recently closed a series of revival services at the Poplar Grove Baptist church. Large crowds attended the services and there were 21 additions to the church by baptism.

TO PAINT HOTEL

Wilson Brothers & Vannoy have been awarded the contract for painting the Green Park hotel, popular Blowing Rock hostelry. The structure is the largest frame building in the county, it is said.

PARKING LAWS TO BE ENFORCED HERE

Crowded Condition of Streets Presents Serious Problem to Police Department

The matter of parking automobiles in the business section of the town has become one of the most acute problems with which the city governing body has to contend, according to Chief of Police S. D. Ollis, who states that parking regulations will be rigidly enforced beginning with the first day of June.

One hour parking time will be allowed between the Pastime Theatre and Smithey's store, and no double parking will be tolerated. On the north side of the street, cars and trucks will park parallel with the curb. Mr. Ollis rquests the full cooperation of the people in handling the traffic problem.

Spanish War Vets To Gather Sunday

Under the sponsorship of Wilkesboro Post No. 13, veterans of the Spanish-American war the annual picnic will be held at the fish hatchery near Boone on Sunday, May 29.

All veterans of the Spanish-American, Civil and World wars are urged to attend, and the general public is invited to come and bring well filled baskets of food. The program will begin at 11 o'clock, and the picnic lunch will follow the speaking.

Jos. M. Mabry of Charlotte, departmental commander of Spanish war veterans, will be present and speak, while Capus White, past state commander, and Mrs. White, of Greensboro, will have a part in the service.

The four oldest veterans in this county have been invited to attend: Elihu Luther, Newton Banner, W. H. Blackburn, Moses Triplett and Lemuel Greene.

New Church To Be Built At Mt. Vernon

Dirt has been moved for the erection of a new church building for the Mount Vernon Baptist congregation, which will be located just to the rear of the present edifice, and work is now going forward on the foundation. The building will be constructed of native stone and will contain modern Sunday school rooms, in addition to the auditorium. Plans call for a steam heating unit in the basement.

Memories of Early Days in Boone Related in Letter of Tennesseean

Memories of old times about Boone and Watauga county fill seven pages of closely written script from John Floyd, Nashville attorney and realtor, to his cousin, Mrs. L. M. Lowe, proprietor of the Caro-Jean inn in Boone. In sending her these personal memories of a Watauga county youth, Mr. Floyd suggests she enter them in the What Do You Remember contest on her behalf and she has done so.

These letetrs of Mr. Floyd's are printed now both because of their real interest and because they are an excellent example of the type of material it is hoped to receive in the contest. A number of other entries have been received locally and judges for the contest will be announced shortly.

I will write to you some reminiscences of Boone during the years I lived there. I think I have a very pretty clear recollection of what Boone was in those days.

My father moved his family from Shulls Mills to Boone in the spring of 1874—I think it was in March. I think Mr. Wm. Shull, Lumas' father, drove the farm wagon that carried our household goods and my mother and younger children. I think the older children walked over the Pine Hill road that passed the homes of Capt. Wm. Hodges and the Rev. Larkin Hodges. The wagon went by what was called the Whiteoak Flat road, which I think ran up the Laurel Creek valley. The hills were steep and Mr. Shull had a balky mare in his team. She was a fine looking animal named "Lace." So we were delayed on the journey, but reached Boone before dark.

(Continued on page four)

THRONGS ATTEND FIRST DISPATCH OF MAIL BY AIR

857 Pieces of Mail Flown From County Last Thursday in Presence of 300 Onlookers; Mayor and Others Make Brief Remarks to Gathering

More than 300 persons gathered at Pond Bottom farm near Boone last Thursday at 11:40 to witness the arrival of the first air mail ship in this area, to hear brief addresses by leading citizens and to watch the dispatch of 857 pieces of mail.

The occasion was in observance of National Air Mail Week, and Pilot John W. Terrell of Lenoir, was greeted by Maror W. H. Gragg. Superintendent W. H. Walker briefly reviewed the advancement of the state and section in transportation facilities, and Uncle Newt Banner, 95-year-old veteran of the Civil war, was recognized as perhaps the oldest mail carrier in the United States. Uncle Newt made the same trip 74 years ago in three days. Terrill flew over it in 50 minutes.

Postmaster Hartzog believes that no other town and county of equal size observed air mail week in such a fine way. The volume of mail from this county may best be appreciated by giving the amounts gathered at other points. At North Wilkesboro there yere 181 letters; Lenoir, 156; Winston-Salem, 1,791, while all of Buncombe county contributed 3,123 pieces.

Hartzog Thanks People

Mr. Hartzog, who is duly appreciative of the co-operation given the postoffice department in this connection, gave the following statement to the press:

"I desire to thank the people of Watauga county for their fine co-operation in the observance of National Air Mail Week—the postmasters, committee members and clubs throughout the county. Especial praise is due Sugar Grove, Valle Crucis, Deep Gap, Shulls Mills, Laxon and Zionville for the large number of letters mailed. I feel that the record established in this county will do much toward the eventual establishment of a regular mail service for this area."

Work Progresses On Many New Buildings

THEATRE MAY BE OPEN BY THE END OF JUNE

A large crew of workmen is now engaged in the rapid construction of the new home of the Pastime Theatre, which is destined to be one of the finest show houses in this section of the state. Approximately half of the brick have been laid, and it is the purpose of the management to have the building ready for occupancy by the end of June.

DIXIE STORE TO HAVE NEW BUILDING

Prof. Chappel Wilson is rushing to completion the new store building alongside Caro-Jean inn, which will be ready for occupancy by the Dixie store within the next few days. The building is of one story brick construction and designed especially for the needs of the grocery establishment. Shelving is being put in and other finishing touches added, so that the stocks may be moved with the minimum loss of time.

No announcement has been made as to who will occupy the portion of the Hahn building which the Dixie store is now using, but it is understood that a lease has been signed.

NEW GROCERY STORE WILL BE OPENED SOON

Mr. J. E. Clay has finished the construction of his store building near the courthouse, and announcement will be made soon of the opening therein of a complete line of groceries and feeds. The structure is well built and handsomely finished.

WORK PROGRESSES ON WADE BROWN BUILDING

Attorney Wade E. Brown is making rapid progress in the construction of his law offices and apartment building almost opposite The Democrat office. The concrete walls for the basement have been pcured, and actual laying of brick will begin by the first of the week. The first floor of the building will be used for offices while a modern apartment will occupy the second floor.

ATTENDS CONFERENCE

Rev. E. D. Butt of Valle Crucis, is attending a conference of the Episcopal church at [illegible]

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

The Watauga Democrat
The RIVERS PRINTING COMPANY

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(Payable in Advance)

R. C. RIVERS, Jr., - Publisher

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc., are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

Entered at the Postoffice at Boone, N. C., as Second Class Mail Matter.

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1938

COMING ALONG NICELY, THANK YOU!

So far it looks as if our friends are going to do their part heartily to make the Fiftieth Anniversary and Progress Edition of the Watauga Democrat a big event in the history of our county. We feel justified in replying to the innumerable queries of "How're you doing?"—"Coming along nicely, thank you!"

Most of the business houses have indicated their willingness to co-operate with special and generous advertising for the issue. And out-of-county firms doing business in the county are manifesting interest in the edition as an advertising opportunity. Resort support gives promise of being good. Of course, we are not forgetting that it is a long way from a promise to the fulfillment but we believe these promises will be redeemed fully.

In another column you'll find Mr. Floyd's interesting memories of Boone and Watauga county. We are printing them to show you the kind of matter which, piled up, can win you the cash prizes of five, three or two dollars offered in the What Do You Remember Contest. Everybody remembers something. If not, ask others and send in the information exactly and carefully.

In a large measure it's up to you whether this edition shall be merely an event for the Watauga Democrat or a milestone in the progress of our community. We prefer to believe that the community will back us to back the community to the world.

LAYMAN'S DAY PROGRAM AT MABLE M. E. CHURCH

"Why Go to Church?" is the subject of a laymen's day program to be given at Mable Methodist church next Sunday, May 29, beginning at 11 o'clock. The full program is as follows:

Song.
Prayer.
Scripture, Psalms 84.
Talk—"Incomparable Institution," Gordon Spainhour.
Talk—"Communion With God," Mrs. J. E. Combs.
Talk—"Ministry of the Word of God," Maude Williams.
Talk—"Ministry of the Sacrament," Madge Williams.
Song.
Talk—Ministry to Broken Hearts," Elizabeth Bingham.
Talk—"Spiritual Renewal," Ruth Henson.
Talk—"Development of Talents," Laura Presnell.
Talk—"Message of Pastor," Ruby Bingham.
Special music or song.
Talk—"Rebuke to Sin, Redemption of Sinner," Edgar Bingham.
Talk—"Co-operation in Achievements," Mrs. Bert Mast.
Talk—"Influence of Example, Worshipful Giving," Marie Parker.
Special music or song.
Talk—"An Exalted Fellowship," Mrs. E. J. Moody.
Talk—"Preservation of the Sabbath, of Society, of Civilization," Stanley Harris, Jr.
Doxology. Benediction.

The public is invited to hear these fine talks from these young lay boys and girls. This program was given at Henson's Chapel last Sunday.

DON J. HORTON, Lay Leader.

FEMININE SPARKS

Pittsburgh. — Isadore Bluestone added two girls to the staff of attendants at his gas station. New business is booming.

Predicting the movement will spread, Bluestone said:

"Eight of ten who are served by the girls say they like the idea and the service, too."

OPEN FORUM

Readers are invited to contribute to this department. Profit may be derived from these letters. Name of writer must accompany all manuscript and brevity is urged.

WE THANK YOU!

Mr. Robert Rivers,
Editor Democrat,
Boone, N. C.
Dear Mr. Rivers:

I hasten to congratulate you on the approaching Fiftieth Anniversary of your paper, The Democrat. I think it fitting that you get out the special edition commemorating the event. I wish to join with you in anticipating the gala occasion and trust that it will bring joy to your heart.

May I wish for you many years of increasing usefulness in your work with the paper. You and your force of workers have been kind to the preachers and the churches in giving publicity service to us all.

Your editorials have been of a high order and of unbiased opinion. I sincerely wish for you and your paper many happy and useful years in this good county.

Sincerely yours,
J. C. CANIPE.

Boone, N. C.
May 20, 1938.

Fireside Philosophy

By C. M. Dickson

Divinity is one thing that just anybody shouldn't "doctor."

Generosity of a bachelor to tell a man of a family how to rear children.

Dickson

Under our Bulwarks of Freedom one cannot be punished for believing as he pleases, but under the Divine Law he can be damned for not believing, whether he likes it or not.

No one knows how sweet it is to drink from the cup of success until he sips from the cup of adversity.

It seems that no orthodox minister can be entirely consistent and at the same time preach a "hell-eliminating" doctrine.

A religion without the spirit is synonymous in meaning with the earth without the sun—it is dead.

Jealousy is as deadly to the spirit, perhaps, as leprosy is to the body.

The gravity of any particular sin is determined by its history and its tendency.

How limited is the knowledge, and how dimmed is the vision of him who has never seen or known anything outside of a book.

The odds is the difference in a mill-site that isn't worth a dam, and a dam that isn't worth a site—so far as grinding is concerned.

"I just didn't think," and "Just because" are two inexcusable attempts to alibi mistakes and misfortunes.

The man who attempts to live by "bread alone" finds himself unable to resist either floods or drouths.

In order to accommodate those who do not enjoy long church services, it might be a good idea to sing just one verse of a short meter song and "abridge" the Lord's Prayer.

Scholars may reason themselves into realms of material success, but this will not admit them into St. Peter's kingdom.

It's really easier to start a person up hill toward success than it is to keep him from running downhill away from it—all other things being equal.

LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

ADVENT CHRISTIAN

Dr. F. E. Warman, Pastor

Neither Sunday School nor preaching service will be held in the church next Sunday morning. We are dismissing on account of the Fifth Sunday conference meeting at the camp ground, and also the decoration services at the fish hatchery. The Sunday night services will be held as usual:

6:45—Young Peoples' meeting.
7:30—Sermon, "The Rich Man and Lazarus."
Lazarus."

CALENDAR OF LUTHERAN SERVICES

Mt. Pleasant:
Services 1st Sunday of each month at 11 a. m. Sunday School at 10 a. m., Jacob Burkette, superintendent.

Holy Trinity, Deep Gap, N. C.
Services 2nd Sunday in each month at 11 a. m. Sunday School to be organized.

Mt. Zion, Meat Camp:
Services every 3rd Sunday at 11 a. m. Sunday School to be organized.

Old Mt. Pleasant:
Services every 4th Sunday at 11 a. m. Sunday School 9:45 a. m., Dale Norris, superintendent.

To all these services we most cordially invite the public.

J. ALONZO YOUNT, Pastor.

MEMORIES OR EARLY DAYS IN BOONE

(Continued from page one)

The house we moved into was the home in which one of the pioneer families had lived, namely, the Councill family. It was situated about a hundred yards or more from the present home of Mrs. Ben J. Councill. The house was a typical home of pioneer times—substantially built of logs—a large living room, a half-story room above a large front porch, and a lean-to shed containing two or three rooms. There was another log house in the yard which, I suppose, had been used as a kitchen or work room. There was an immense fireplace in the living room of the main building, the largest I think I ever saw. I suppose it must have been at lest sixty feet across.

I remember several members of the Councill family who had been reared in the house: Mr. Jesse Councill, the eldest of them, lived with a daughter and grandchildren on the farm east of Boone, where Mr. Jerry Ray afterward lived. Mr. Councill was quite old and feeble then, but was able to walk to Boone frequently.

Mr. and Mrs. Jordan Councill were both living then with their son, Dr. W. B. Councill, in Boone. Mr. Jordan Councill was an elderly man, too, and retired from active life, but his memory had not failed and he could have given the full history of Boone to that date. I believe the land on which Boone is built the greater part of it had belonged to him. I was a small boy then and do not recall much of anything that I heard him say. Mr. Benjamin Councill owned the house mentioned into which we moved. He was a younger brother of Mr. Jesse Councill and Mr. Jordan Councill. He lived on Brushy Fork and was at that time one of the most prosperous citizens of the county. I remember their sister also, Mrs. Eliza Baird (Mrs. Rittenhouse Baird), the mother of Mrs. Simon Shull. I remember she visited us once, at least, while we lived at the house described.

Mr. Ransom Hayes, the other pioneer citizen who formerly owned part of the ground on which Boone was built, had passed away before we moved to Boone, but some of his children were living there at that time: Mrs. Harvey Dougherty, Mrs. W. L. Bryan and Mr. George Hayes. Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty and family lived at the home afterward owned and occupied by Hon. L. L. Greene. Mr. George Hayes owned the home and farm afterward owned by Capt. E. F. Lovill.

The Coffey hotel had been built not long before my father moved to Boone, and even at that time summer visitors were attracted to Boone. The first summer we lived in Boone three of the daughters of former Governor Holden were guests at the Coffey hotel and made themselves popular with Boone people.

The original courthouse in Boone, located where I understand the Linney home now stands, had been burned not long before we went to Boone to live, and the new courthouse, which stood about a hundred feet east of the present courthouse was in the course of erection at that time.

Prof. J. S. Hill had moved from Mt. Airy not long before and was teaching a private school at the Masonic hall, which had been built not a great while before. In the autumn of 1874, Prof Hill taught the public school at a little log schoolhouse about a mile from Boone on the road toward Blowing Rock. That was the first school I ever attended. Prof. Hill was a scholar and an excellent teacher. I think that was about the beginning of free public schools in Boone after the Civil War. Money was so scare in those days that few people ever had any more money than to pay taxes. The funds provided for the public school mentioned were sufficient to carry it only two or three months. The citizens of the village and the county were progressive people, at least some of them were, and in a few years the schoolhouse between Boone and where the state college now stands, was built. I think by the Three Forks Baptist association, and Prof. J. F. Spainhour opened school there about 1878 or 1879. Prof. Spainhour was a fine teacher and had a good school as long as he remained there. After he gave up the school in Boone, there were intermittent school terms at the schoolhouse where he taught during the years that I remained there (until 1886). I suppose Prof. Spainhour did as much for the cause of education as any man who ever lived in Boone or Watauga county. I think he has always felt a strong attachment to Boone and Watauga.

I remember with much pleasure our neighbors, the friends of my parents, my brothers and sisters, and of my own.

When we moved to Boone our neighbors and future friends were as follows, beginning at the east nearest to where we lived, the familes of: Mr. Isaac Wilson, Mr. Albert Wilson, Dr. W. B. Councill, Mr. D. B. Dougherty, Mrs. Sallie Councill, Rev. Mr. Turner, Mr. W. C. Coffey, Mr. T. J. Coffey, Mr. Jas. Councill, Prof. J. S. Hill, Dr. J. G. Rivers, Mr. Jule Elliott, Mr. J. D. Brown, Mr. W. L. Bryan, Sheriff Jack Horton, Mr. Harvey Dougherty, Mr. Thos. Greer, Waitsell Gragg and Rev. Mr. Hall. The two last mentioned families lived near where the railroad station now stands.

Some of the best people of the community lived in the country a mile or two from Boone. Among them were the families of Mr. Henry Hardin, Mr. Robert Shearer, Mr. Azer Hartley, Mr. Henry Pearson, Mr. Sherrill, Mr. Joshua Winkler, all of whom lived east of Boone. West of the town were the homes of W. W. Presnell, Mrs. Mary Hodges, Mr. Holden Moody, Maj. Harvey Bingham, Mr. Riley Hodges, Mr. John Gragg, Capt. E. F. Lovill moved to Boone a few years after 1874.

There was not a church building in Boone in 1874, but the Methodist and Baptist denominations held regular services in the Masonic hall, and later I think, in the courthose after it was finished. Some years after 1874 the Baptists, Episcopalians and Methodist built churches there.

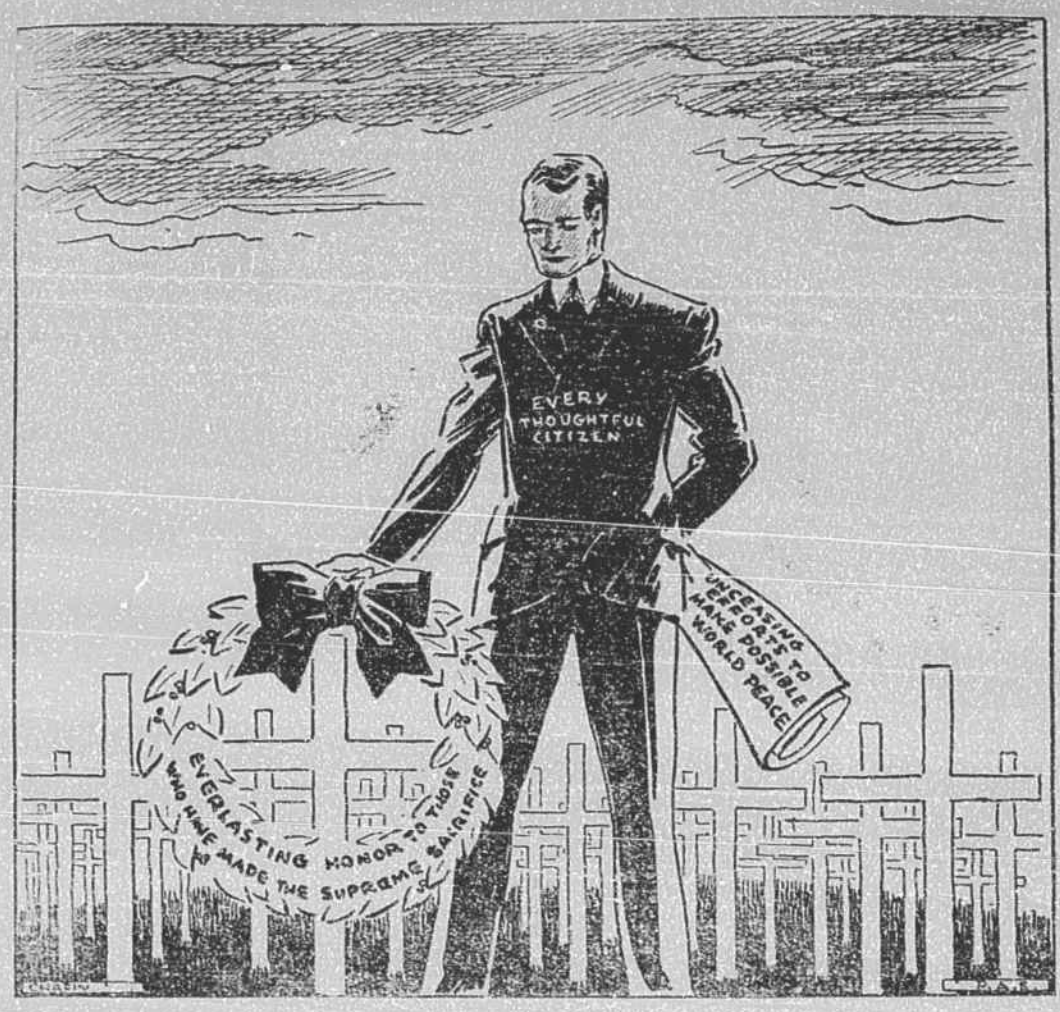
My father built with his own hands a home about a quarter of a mile north of the courthouse at the foot of Howard's Knob in 1875, where he and his family lived until his death in 1885. The following year the family moved to Tennessee. My home was in Boone, therefore, from 1874 to 1886—twelve years.

I am sure there were superior people included in the families mentioned. Most of them had something better than riches—character. There was culture in the community, too, although the Blue Ridge, and other mountains, and steep and rough roads made it difficult to communicate with other towns and cities north, south, east or west. Such books and magazines as were available were circulated, being loaned by owners to friends who cared to read them.

Court week was a great occasion in those days. It brought many visitors from other towns and counties to Boone, as well as crowds of county people. Also political speakers used to draw crowds to Boone. I remember hearing Hon. Zeb Vance and Hon. Tom Settle speak in joint debate, but I regret that I cannot remember much they said, as I was a young boy.

I have many pleasant recollections of older people in Boone, who were our friends and neighbors, and of boys and girls who were my schoolmates and playmates during the years that I lived in Boone, and I have grieved many times when I have learned that one of them had passed away.

Significance of Memorial Day



COLLEGE PROFESSOR SAYS VIRGINIA DARE STONE MAY BE GENUINE

Atlanta, May 21.—Dr. Haywood J. Pearce, Jr., of Emory University, said today inquiry indicated the "Virginia Dare Stone" purporting to clear up the mystery of the Lost Colony could be genuine, "but we are still determined to make sure before we even let 'ourselves believe.'"

The stone was brought to Emory last fall by a man who said he found it on the east bank of Chowan River in North Carolina near the Albemarle Sound, said Dr. Pearce, and ever since has been subjected to closest study.

In a radio interview over station WSB with Wright Bryan, city editor of the Atlanta Journal, Dr. Pearce outlined steps taken to determine the stone is genuine.

The stone, he asserted, is quartz, and geologists said the inscription could have withstood the more than 300 years weathering to which it would have been subjected if genuine. He added such stone was common in the region where the rock was found and that "there's every reason to believe the Roanoke colonists might have possessed" stone-cutting tools.

The historian said language of the period was erratic and in a state of transition and usage, "but we've found precedents in the spelling and usage of the period for all cases but five" in the inscription on the rock. Most of these could be explained, he added, but the thing that presents more difficulty in the woman's signature with three initials. There are numerous instances where women used two initials in signing documents but I haven't yet been able to find an instance where three occurred."

The stone inscription asked the finder to show it to John White, governor of Virginia, who sailed away for supplies after the colony was founded on Roanoke Island and then returned to find it had disappeared. It was signed E. W. D., taken to mean White's daughter, Eleanor White Dare, mother of Virginia Dare, first white child born in America.

It purported to be a message that the Roanoke colonists were besieged with misery and korry after White left and that half died. Then, the message says, the savages brought word of a ship, but the colonists did not believe it to be Governor White. Soon, it is said, savages killed all but seven of the colonists, murdering Ananias Dare. It closes with an offer of a reward to any person showing the stone to Governor White.

Dr. Pearce said the region where the stone was found had been looked over and "we've asked all persons . . . to preserve carefully any relic they may stumble across and we're still working on the problem ourselves. It's the old story—all along, it's looked too good to be true."

He cited as items to be considered the fact that the stone was found in a region some distance from rock exposure, the mechanics involved in inscribing it, its disclosure at a time last year when a celebration was under way commemorating the settlement of Roanoke Island, and the unprecedented spelling and usage of some of the words.

OPPOSITION

Albequerque, N. M.—When strikers picketed a hotel, G. A. M. Wilson joined them with a placard proclaiming:

"These guys are all wet: this is a good hotel and the customers are all satisfied."

Visit the Boone Bargain House—Examine our stock. We guarantee satisfaction or your money refunded.

SPECIAL NOTICES

USED ICE BOXES for sale cheap. See C. C. Cooke at New River Light & Power Co. 1c

OWENS MACHINE SHOP CO. has installed a large electric welder and an expert man to do the work. Also new lathe 13 feet long to handle any work. Get your work done at home. 1p

FOR SALE—Large cabinet model Columbia Victrola, with large number of records, including several by I. G. Greer. Cheap. Mrs. B. F. Williams, Boone, N. C. 1c

TRANSPLANTED tomato plants—2 dozen 25c postpaid; 5 dozen 50c postpaid. Varieties: Earliana, Bonnie Best, Stone, Marglobe. Archie Ogilvie, Oakwoods, N. C. 1tc

USED FURNITURE

2 used Cast Ranges in good condition ..... $20.00 and $25.00
1 green Kitchen Cabinet, practically new $17.50
3 used Victrolas ..... $10.00 and up
2 used Davenports $8.00 and $10.00
3-piece Davenport Suite $15.00
Large Oak Buffet $10.00

HIGH LAND FURNITURE CO.
Depot Street Boone, N. C.

GENERAL BUILDING—Let us help you plan and give you an estimate on your building needs. W. C. Greene, Boone. 5-1-38

FOR SALE—7-room house in Boone, close in, with large garden. Will sell at sacrifice. Box 744, care Watauga Democrat. 4-7-tf

DR. C. G. BAUGHMAN, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist of Elizabethton, Tenn., will be at the Hagaman Clinic in Boone the first Mondays in each month for the practice of his profession. 4-7-tf

EYES EXAMINED—Glasses fitted. Complete modern examination room over Bank. Wednesday and Thursday each week. Other days by appointment. Glasses complete 7.50 to $10.50. Dr. Wellman, Mountain City, Tenn. 8-15

FREE!—If excess acid causes you pains or Stomach Ulcers, Indigestion, Heartburn, Belching, Bloating, Nausea, Gas Pains, get free sample Udga, at Boone Drug Co. 5-5-12p

FOR SALE—6-room house and one acre of land, near home of W. R. Lovill, in the Green Heights section of Boone. This property will be sold most reasonably. Prices of real estate are advancing rapidly in Boone. Now is the time to buy. See Mr. Thomas at Rich Mountain Mortgages, Northwestern Bank Building, Boone, N. C. 5-19-tfc

BARGAINS IN NEW FURNITURE

2-piece Tapestry Living Room Suite $35.00
Simmons Inner-spring Mattress $19.50
Kitchen Cabinets $15.00, $25.00, $35.00
Wool Rugs, 9x12 ..... $25.00-$39.50
Heavy Fibre Rugs, 9x12 ..... $10.00
3-piece Crushed Mohair Living Room Suite, a real value $69.50
Special prices for cash sales or Easy terms to responsible parties.

HIGH LAND FURNITURE CO.
Depot Street Boone, N. C.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Watauga Democrat.

VOL. X. BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE, 9, 1898. NO. 25.

DEMOCRATIC STATE PLATFORM.

The Democratic party of North Carolina in convention assembled in Raleigh, N. C., on this day, May 26th, 1898, do hereby approve, endorse and ratify the last Democratic National and State platform, and pledge our earnest support to the principles therein expressed.

We denounce the Republican party for the passage of the Dingley tariff bill, which has increased the burdens of taxation upon our consumers and given the trusts and monopolists greater power to rob the people.

Believing that under our present method of general taxation more than three-quarters of our national revenues are paid by people owning less than one-quarter of the property of the country, we protest against such inequality and injustice, and in order to remedy, to some extent, this great wrong, we favor an income tax, and favor all constitutional methods to sustain it.

We denounce the Republican party for its defeat of the Teller resolutions declaring our national bonds payable in silver as well as gold, and denounce it for its determined purpose of more thoroughly fastening the single gold standard upon our people, and for its avowed hostility to the free and unlimited coinage of silver, as well as gold, at the ratio of 16 to 1 into full legal tender money.

We denounce the Republican party for its determination to issue bonds at this time, and we denounce the Republican war tax bill which lately passed the House of Representatives as unjust, unequal in its burdens, unnecessary and vexatious, and we demand that the silver seigniorage be coined; that an income tax be levied, and that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to issue the necessary amount of full legal tender greenbacks, or United States treasury notes, in order to meet the expenses of the war with Spain and to supply the revenue deficit under the Dingley bill.

While we deplore the war with Spain we pledge our earnest support to the government in all honorable ways to effect a speedy and successful conclusion of hostilities.

We favor a union of the silver forces of the country in the Congressional elections, and cordially invite all voters, without regard to past political affiliations, to unite with us in supporting our candidates for Congress who favor the free coinage of silver, thus giving practical force and effect to the recommendation of our Democratic National chairman, Hon. James K. Jones, and to the Congressional committee.

That we admire and commend without stint the great and gallant fight made by Hon. William J. Bryan in the last national campaign for the success of our party and the principles of our platform.

We denounce the scandal, extravagance, incompetency and corruption of the present Republican State administration.

We denounce all enactments of the last two legislatures by which cities and towns in the State have been turned over to negro domination, and we pledge ourselves to enact such laws as will give security and protection to the property and people of every town and community in the State.

We denounce the placing of negroes on committees to supervise white schools and we pledge ourselves, if restored to power, to enact such legislation as will make this impossible.

We denounce all legislation enacted by the legislatures of 1895 and '97 for carrying out the base and partisan designs of the Republican party.

We denounce the placing of ignorant, irresponsible and corrupt men in office.

We oppose the removal by corporations of suits or cases from our State to the federal courts, and favor legislation to prevent it.

We favor fair and just election laws.

We favor a government of the people, by the people and for the people—economy in expenditure, the abolition of unnecessary offices, decency in administration, constant improvement of our educational system, charity to the unfortunate, and rule by the white men of the State.

We favor the extension of the powers of the railroad commission, and closer scrutiny into their affairs in order to ascertain, establish and maintain such rates as shall be fair and just to the people and to the transportation and transmission corporations.

We condemn free passes.

We favor the election of United States Senators and railroad commissioners by the people.

We favor the enactment of such legislation as will encourage capital to make investments within our State, and guarantee that the same shall be justly protected.

We call attention to the wise, economical, honest and honorable administation of the affairs of our State for 20 years prior to the present Republican administration, and promise the people a return of wise, honest, economical and honorable administration under Democratic success. We call upon every believer in honor, honesty and economy, upon every advocate of white supremacy, upon every advocate of equal and just taxation, upon every advocate of the income tax and opponent of plundering tariff taxation, upon every advocate of the restoration of silver, and opponent of the single gold standard and the present issue of bonds as threatened by the Republican party, upon every opponent of government by injunction, and advocate of the jurisdiction of State courts over cases arising in the Srate against corporations doing business therein; upon every lover of decency and good government and opponents of the present prevailing conditions, to unite with us in our contest with the Republican party—the great enemy of our principles, and aid us in redeeming the nation from the clutches of greed and injustice, and the State from the scandal, and incompetence which now afflict it.

Widespread Want in Spain.

London, May 30.-The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Telegram says:

"Widespread distress is reported in various parts of the interior, more especially in the province of Catalonia, where food prices have risen considerably, while a number of working people have been thrown out of employment. This week several factories at Mauresa, nothest of Barcelona, will have to be closed, as a result of which hundreds of families will be plunged into misery.

"The local government is endeavoring to alleviate want by opening soup kitchens. According to a dispatch from Murceria, capital of the province of that name, riots occurred yesterday (Sunday) in this city of Mula owing to the scarcity of food, especially bread. Details of the outbreak have not yet been received, but it is known that the local authorities and a number of wealthy individuals have arranged to have cheap bread baked for the poor.

"The views of a considerable number of Spaniards respecting the conduct of the war are expressed today by El Nacional as follows:

"Without plan, without purpose, without earnestness we are frittering away the one advantage which the enemy's lack of military education gave us We neither boldly take the offensive nor confine ourselves strictly to defensive. Admiral Cervera displays a system of strategy which warrants the belief that we are making ready for a protracted war, so as to tire out the enemy; but Captain Aunon, minister of marine, with his usual breeziness, declares that he can not prolong the conflict."

During the summer of '91, Mr. Chas. P. Johnson, a well known attorney of Louisville Ky., had a very severe attack of summer complaint. Quite a number of different remedies were tried, but failed to afford any relief. A friend who knew what was needed procured him a bottle of Chamberlain's colic, cholera and diarrhoea remedy, which quickly cured him and he thinks, saved his life. He says that there has not been a day since that time that he has not had this remedy in his household. He speaks of it in the highest praise and takes much pleasure in recommending it whenever an opportunity is offered. For sale by M. B. Blabkburn.

A man never sees all that his mother has been to him till it's too late to let her know that he sees it.—W. D. Howells.

Good-by, "Sweetheart."

This is from the Indianapolis Journal: The Second Regiment of Missouri Volunteers, in command of Colonel Chaffee, passed through Indianapolis yesterday morning on its way to Chickamauga. As the train pulled slowly out the girls began the tactics of shaking hands with each soldier leaning out of a car window as he passed. The evolution met with its usual success to the girls in all instances save one. A girl about 17 years old, described, of course, as very pretty by those who saw the incident, was shaking hands with all the soldiers on her side of the train and as the last car rolled by she raised her hand to the man in the last window. He took it and heartily pressed it and as she withdrew he slipped off two rings which she wore. When she came to from her disconcertion and called to him to give back her rings the train had gathered speed and was fast leaving her behind. The soldier, holding the rings high in the air, cried with an exultant laugh: "Good-bye, sweetheart; take care of yourself," mocking the expression that the soldiers' fair admirers are wont use. The girl quickly left the station when she saw that her rings were gone irretrievably, and her name could not be secured. One of the rings was set with diamonds and worth probably $35, and the other was a plain gold band. It cannot be stated whether or not either of the rings signified an engagement.

It was suggested that though it was a "good-humored" theft, the girl would probably bs inclined to cheer for Spain until she is consoled for the loss of her jewelry.

Cuba's Tutelar Divinity.

General Lee is the especial tutelar divinity of the Cubans, says a correspondent of the New York Times. They have an idea that the gallant Southerner is responsible for the part the United States is now taking in the war, and that the deliverance of Cuba will be his work. When he reached the hotel last night the Cuban refugees, senores, senoras and senoritas clustered around him. They monopolized him. No American could get near him for some time. Gomez or Garcie could not have been given a warmer or a more noisy welcome. There was a chatter and rattle of Cubano (it can not be called Spanish, for the Cubans jabber too fast to speak the Castilian), which quite started everybody. Gen. Lee's Spanish forsook him, and he replied as best he could in English.

A fair Cuban rushed up to him holding an open book or portfolio, in which was an allegorical sketch of the United States and Cuba-an American soldier protecting a Cuban woman. As soon as she got the General's eye she poured forth a golden shower of Spanish. Gen. Lee looked at the picture, but could not find appropriate Spanish words to express his opinion. He began with "Esta muy," but could get no further, and concluded most lamely in English: "Pretty—very pretty." The senorita replied with another golden shower of words, and gave place to another fair Cuban of golden and exhaustless speech.

Army one Navy Worns.

Just now when the papers are filled with terms which peaceful laymen know nothing about it is well to be informed concerning their meanings. The following glossary used in the army and navy will be of interest. First is the relative rank of officers in the two branches:

ARMY.

1. General, or Commander in Chief.
2. Lieutenant general.
3. Major general.
4. Brigadier general.
5. Colonel.
6. Lieutenant colonel.
7. Major.
8. Captain.
9. First lieutenant.
10. Second lieutenant.

NAVY.

1. Admiral.
2. Vice admiral.
3. Rear admiral.
4. Commodore.
5 Captain.
6. Commander.
7. Lieutenant commander.
8. Lieutenant.
9. Master.
10. Ensign.

DIVISIONS OF THE ARMY.

Squad—a subdivision of a company, commanded by sergeant or corporal.

Platoon—Half a company, commanded by a lieutenant.

Company—Not more than 100 men, commanded by a captain.

Battalion—Four companies, commanded by a colonel.

Regiment—Three battalions, commanded by a colonel.

Brigade—Two or more regiments, commanded by a brigadier general.

Division—Two or more brigades, commanded by a major general.

Corps—Two or more divisions, commanded by lieutenat general.

DIVISIONS OF THE NAVY.

Squadron—A detatchment of a fleet employed on any particular service.

Flotilla—A fleet of small vessels, under one commander.

Found the Ends.

An Irishman who was out of work went on board a vessel that was in the harbor and asked the captain if he could find him work on the ship. "Well," said the captain, at the same time handing the Irishman a piece of rope, "if you can find three ends to that rope you shall have some work." The Irishman got hold of one end of the rope, and, showing it to the captain, said, "That's one end, your honor." Then he took hold of the other end and, showing it to the captain as before said, "And that's two ends, your honor." Then, taking hold of both ends of the rope, he threw it overboard, saying, "And, faith, there's another end to it, your honor." He was engaged.—Pearson's Weekly.

A dispatch from Oshkosh, Wis. says the first applicant for a pension in the Spanish war is Mrs. Hoak, widow of a private, who was mustered in on Friday last. He was taken sick on Saturday and died on Sunday of stomach trouble. The pension is claimed under the act of 1862 as a childless widow. Twelve dollars a month is the allowance if granted.

Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away.

To quit tobacco easily and forever, be magnetic, full of life, nerve and vigor, take No-To Bac, the wonder-worker, that makes weak men strong. All druggists, 50c or $1. Cure guaranteed. Booklet and sample free. Address Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or New York.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

WINE OF CARDUI

FOR **ALL WOMEN**

Nine-tenths of all the pain and sickness from which women suffer is caused by weakness or derangement in the organs of menstruation. Nearly always when a woman is not well these organs are affected. But when they are strong and healthy a woman is very seldom sick.

Mr ELREE'S Wine of Cardui

Is nature's provision for the regulation of the menstrual function. It cures all "female troubles." It is equally effective for the girl in her teens, the young wife with domestic and maternal cares, and the woman approaching the period known as the "Change of Life." They all need it. They are all benefitted by it.

For advice in cases requiring special directions, address, giving symptoms, the "Ladies' Advisory Department," The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

THOS. J. COOPER, Tupelo, Miss., says "My sister suffered from very irregular and painful menstruation and doctors could not relieve her. Wine of Cardui entirely cured her and also helped my mother through the Change of Life."

WINE OF CARDUI

PROFESSIONAL.

W. B. COUNCILL, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Boone, N. C

W. B. COUNCILL, M. D.
Boone, N. C.
Resident Physician. Office on King Street north of Post Office.

E. F. Bingham, M. D., Amantha, N. C.
Dr. G. D. Bingham, Amantha, N. C.

Bingham & Bingham.
Associated Practicing Physicians.
☞Calls promptly attended at all hours. 2-17-98.

E. F. LOVILL. J. C. FLETCHER
LOVILL & FLETCHER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
BOONE, N. C.
☞*Special attention given to the colletion of claims.*☜

WILLIAM R. LOVILL.
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Sutherlands, N. C.
Practices in the State and Federal courts.

DR. J. M. HOGSHEAD,
Cancer Specialist,
BANNER'S ELK. N. C.
No Knife; No Burning Out.
Highest refferences and endorsments of prominent persons successfully treated in Va., Tenn. and N. C. Remember that there is no time TOO SOON to get rid of a cancerous growth—no matter how small. Examination free, letters answered promptly, and satisfaction guaranteed.

JOHN W. DYER,
BLACKSMITH and WHEELRIGHT
(ST. JUDE, N. C.)
I make a specialty of repairing wagons, hacks, buggies, etc.
☞Wagons made to order on short notice: Nothing but the best material used and satisfaction guaranteed. A trial is all I ask.

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Watauga Democrat. (Boone, Watauga County, N

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tle tadpoles through the pe-
ds of childhood, and when the deer was mentioned, she did not say, It was I who said, "Seeds may grow for the birds, grain and fruit for the other creatures, but the food of the little fawn comes only with the sweet mystery of motherhood.

How beautiful the soul of this good lady and how complimentary her presence to Watauga county.

S. M. DUGGER.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.

The candidates for the General Assembly and for county officers of both political parties will address the people of Watauga county in the various townships at the following times and places, to-wit:

Shawneehaw,	Banner's Elk.	July 12,	1900.
Beech Mt.,	Loggy Gap,	" 13,	"
Laurel Creek,	School house,	" 14,	"
Beaver Dams,	Bethel,	" 17,	"
Cove Creek,	Mable,	" 18,	"
North Fork,	Thomas School house	" 19,	"
Meat Camp,	Elk knob Academy,	" 20,	"
Bald Mt.,	Elk X Roads	" 21,	"
Stony Fork,	Stony Point School H.	" 24,	"
Elk,	Profit's Store	" 25,	"
Blue Ridge	Harsling's Store	" 26,	"
Blowing Rock,	Blowing Rock,	" 27,	"
Watauga,	Shull's Mills,	" 28,	"
Boone,	Boone,	" 31,	"

L. H. Michael,
Chm. Rep. Ex. Com.
J. C. HORTON,
Chm. Dem. Ex. Com.

Right Rev. J. M. Horner, D. D., will preach at the following places:

Blowing Rock,	July 1,	a. m.
Boone,	"	" p. m.
Valle Crucis,	"	2, a. m.
St. John's,	"	3, a. m.
Todd,	"	5, a. m.

Holy communion will be celebrated at the morning services. All are cordially invited.

M. G. LEDFORD.

DR. W. H. WAKEFIELD,

—OF CHARLOTTE, N. C.—

Will be in Blowing Rock, at Watauga Hotel on Monday, July 16th, for one day only.

His practice is limited to Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat.

Notice of Dissolution of Partnership.

The firm of Banner Bros.,

Chm. Dem. Ex. Com.

The condition of North Carolina, should the amendment to the constitution fail to be adopted, would indeed be horrible. All the states in the south that have a heavy negro vote, have enacted laws for the purpose of eliminating the negro from politics, and should North Carolina fail, what would be the result? We would have, naturally, an influx of negroes from South Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, and, in fact, from all the other states, into North Carolina that would fill her from center to circumference with a horde of hungry coons seeking protection within our borders that would be a lasting disgrace to the State and a menace to the Anglo Saxons here. We know nothing of negro rule in western North Carolina, but let this measure fail, and we will, too late to amend it, be overridden by insolent and corrupt negroes, who will come even to our much loved Watauga, asking for office and power; should their numbers be sufficient, our county offices will be filled by negroes. This is no scare crow, but an actual fact, and deserves the most serious consideration of every white voter in Watauga county. Defeat the amendment, and the negro gets *full control* in North Carolina. These are stubborn facts, and the opposition to the amendment well know it. Listen not to their deceptive arguments that are made only for the purpose of adding sheckles to the store of office holding and office-seeking republicans, but think for your selves, and when you do that, North Carolina is forever wrenched from the hands of the negro party. These are the conditions.

Mrs. Calvin Zimmerman, Milesburg, Pa., says. As a speedy cure for coughs, colds, croup and sore throat One Minute Cough Cure is unequal ed. It is pleasant for child-

them in the future.

Very Truly,

M. B. BLACK

Jan. 11.

"After suffreing from piles for fifteen years, I was cured by using two boxes of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve," writes W. J. Baxter, North Brook, N. C. It heals everything. Beware of counterfeits. COFFEY BROS. PHILLIPS & SON.

The nation holds open the front door of the saloon while the devil tends the back door that leads to the gutter, the brothel and hell.

A Fast Bicycle Rider

Will often receive painful cuts, sprains or bruises from accidents. Bucklen's Arnica Salve, will kill the pain and heal the injury. It's the cyclist's friend. Cures chafing chapped hands, sore lips, burns, ulcers and piles. Cure guaranteed. Only 50c. Try it. Sold by Blackburn.

YOUNG MEN WANTED,

With fair Education and Good Character to

—LEARN TELEGRAPHY—

Railroad accounting and Typewriting.

This is endorsed by all leading railway companies as the only perfect and reliable institution of its kind. All our graduates are assisted to positions. Ladies also admitted. Write for free catalogue. (Fall term opens August 15th.)

GLOBE TELEGRAPH CO

6 14. Lexington, Ky.

A Word, Please.

Friends, did you know that it will not pay you to forget that we are always in the lead for

Low Prices.

Our motto always is under buy, under sell, cash down.

We have been forced in some instances to advance our prices to meet tariff tolls monopoles and trusts, but do so reluctantly and shall guard your interests to the best of our ability.

WE ARE NOW SHOWING

A nice line of goods. Fall stock of shoes just coming in. Prices right. Nice line of

READY MADE CLOTHING

Dry Goods,
Notions,
Staple Drugs,
and Groceries

Wilton 6th
Bred by S. W. Anderson
He is registered in the Am
is as good blood as there is
fly. His sire and dam was
land. Those having goo
them to this bull. Terms $2
insured.
VALLE CR

FOR SA

My farm conte
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Mountain 2½
west of Boone,
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North Carolin
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Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order)) - August 21, 2023

The Watauga Democrat.

Entered at the Postoffice at Boone, N. C., as second-class mail matter.

LOCAL NEWS.

—Western bacon for sale at Taylor and Mast's.

—Judge L. L. Greene is at home on a short visit. Glad to see him.

—A nice line of new dress goods just in at Taylor and Mast's.

—A full supply of timothy, clover, red-top and orchard-grass seed at Taylor & Masts.

—Thos. F. Parker, of Linville, offers a first-class boiler and engine for sale. See notice.

—We still want all the chickens, eggs and butter that we can get. Taylor and Mast.

—J. W. McGhee asks us to say that he will open the public school at Sands on next Monday.

—Attorney W. B. Councill is the happy father of another boy-baby. The little one arrived on Wednesday night of last week.

—Mr. W. L. Bryan is progressing very nicely indeed with his new residence, and, when completed, it will be a very handsome structure.

—Mr. Walter Gentry, wife and sister, Miss Sallie, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mrs. Nathan Horton. They left for home on Monday.

—Mr. J. J. Glenn, of Sugar Grove, raised a sweet potato this year that measured 13¾ inches in circumference and 12 inches in length.

—Moretz and Farthing are now delivering the lumber for a new store house in Boone. It will be erected just opposite the DEMOCRAT office.

—Alex. Edmisten, of Blowing Rock, is having erected what will be about the best residence on the mountain. Wonder what the intentions of this worthy young man are?

--Deputy Collector J. L. Hayes captured a buggy load of corn whiskey on Beaver Dams Monday night, the property of Frank Gooden. The horse, buggy and whiskey are all here, and will, of course, go under the hammer.

—We are informed that Solicitor Spainhour and Moses Harshaw will measure swords in public debate at Blowing Rock to-night. The campaign between these two candidates promises to be very interesting, and we urge that all who can will hear them at some point in the county.

—John P. Robbins, Sr., died at the home of his son on Buffalo Cove on last Friday morning, at the advanced age of 80 years. Mr. Robbins was truly a good old man, and leaves a multitude of relatives and friends to mourn his death. He was buried on Saturday at 11, a. m.

—Mr. D. Robinson, of New York, Secretary for Vassas Bros., was in town on a flying trip last week. He only spent one night here, but called in to inform the DEMOCRAT that the outlook for Democracy was never brighter in the Empire State, and he predicts a democratic landslide at the November election.

—We failed to state in our last issue that young friend Fred. Crowder had the misfortune to break his arm while repairing the Boone and Blowing Rock telephone line. He was on the top of a pole, when it turned out and threw him to the ground with the above result. He is now, we are pleased to say, rapidly improving.

—Dr. Charles Carter, of Blowing Rock, who is so well known by our people, died at the home of his son, in Philadelphia, last week, of paralysis. The Dr. left his mountain home some time since for the purpose of procuring the most skilled medical treatment, but there was no relief for him, only in death. His departure brings sadness to many hearts in our county.

—J. D. Bryan is indeed a fortunate man. He has sold his patent car-coupler to a New Jersey firm for the handsome sum of $26,800. He started to-day (Thursday) for Johnson City, Tenn., where he is to receive a good payment, and will, perhaps, go on to New Jersey before his return. He is to be congratulated on his inventive talent.

—"There are not enough Harshaws on earth to scare me out of the race for Solicitor, but I am in the hands of the Democratic party, and if they so advise, I will come out of the race." These are the words of Solicitor Spainhour in his speech at the Democratic Convention on last Saturday; and by this simple assertion, has gained for himself hundreds of votes in Watauga.

—Rev. Mr. Spillman, who conducted a Sunday School Convention at Three Forks last week, preached a sermon in the Baptist church here on Sunday night that was indeed an intellectual feast. Mr. Spillman happened to be present at our Democratic primary on last Thursday and gave us a few hints as to negro rule in the eastern part of the State. Our people are much pleased with this learned gentleman.

People's Party Convention.

At a meeting of the People's Party of Watauga county, held in Boone on the 17th day of Sept. 1898, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we adopt and re-affirm the principles of the People's Party as set forth in the St. Louis platform and in the State platform of North Carolina,

Resolved, That we believe it unwise to put out a county ticket this year, but advise our people to vote for the most available men, who, if elected, to the offices, will work for the interests of the people and not for party.

L. N. PERKINS, Chm.
B. F. Teaster, Sec.

OBITUARY.

Died of fever infant child of H. A. and Emma Dobbin, born Sept. 10th, '97, died Sept. 9th, '98, aged twelve months, lacking one day. This little one has been planted on high where the angels dwell. May the grieved ones lead such a life that when they are called they may meet this dear little one with the rest of the family, and that the family will be united as one family in Heaven.

A FRIEND.

Men, women and children who are troubled with sores, humors, pimples, etc., may find permanent relief in Hood's Sarsaparilla.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

Our County Convention came off Saturday and a very large and enthusiastic crowd of the Democrats were on hand. It was, by far, the largest convention ever assembled in Boone. The convention was organized by calling Hon. E. F. Lovill as temporary chairman and J. W. McGhee secretary. On taking the chair Capt. Lovill made a rousing speech for 30 minutes. The committee on resolutions and permanent organization made their reports as follows: L. D. Lowe, Esq., permanent chair, R. C. Rivers and W. B. Miller permanent secretaries. Whereupon the following resolutions were read and adopted.

The Democrats of Watauga county in convention assembled do resolve

1st, That they hereby affirm the National platform as enunciated by the Chicago convention

2nd, That we endorse the platform adopted at the State convention held on the 26th of May last

3rd, That we denounce and condemn the present scandalous and disgraceful administration of the affairs of the State by the present Republican administration

4th, We declare that the recent legislation of the Republican party in the State has been destructive to the best interests of the people that it has been a disgrace to the name of the old North State, destructive to social order and a menace to our civilization

5th, That we deplore the unhappy condition of the people of the Eastern section of the State and promise to do all that lies in our power to relieve them of the disgrace put upon them by the Republican party. And promise that the appeal made to the white people of the West will not be made in vain

6th, And we ask a united Democracy combined with the Populist and liberal Republicans to use all means to restore the State and place her under control of the Anglo-Saxon race

7th, That we condemn the management of the public school fund of the county by the Republican party and declare that the same has been ruthlessly squandered and placed in jeporady and we condemn the board of education for its wilful disregard of the rights of the public in its secret investigations of the conduct of the County Supervisor of education which was held behind closed doors excluding the public from the hearing of the same in violation of the spirit of our institutions, destructive to liberty and in violation of the law

8th, That it is the sense of this convention that much of the recent speeches of the Hon. R. Z. Linney and Moses Harshaw in this court house was in violation of public decency not calculated to improve public morals and was grating on the ears of all decent people

9, That we heartily endorse the action of the Senatorial Convention of the 30th dist., in the nomination of the Hon. W. C. Fields and declare him to be a christian gentleman, an incomptible servant of the people, and that his election will be a just tribute to a man whose past acts have only reflected honor upon his constituents

10th, That we recommend to the Democratic Convention for the 8th, district, to be held at Wilkesboro on Sept. 27th, for Congress that noble statesman and patriot Capt. E. F. Lovill, of Watauga, and that the delegates to said Convention use every fair means for his nomination.

The Convention called for a speech from Solicitor J. F. Spainhour and for 40 minutes he stormed the Republican laws and the administration of State affairs in a masterly manner. It was a telling speech and caused some of the Republicans present to openly denounce the whole Radical outfit. Spainhour made a happy hit and set himself right before the people. A strong man and a strong speech. Contrast this speech with that of Harshaw and no one could hesitate how or for whom to vote. We have never listened to a more effective speech on certain laws of the late Republican legislature. The speech was bold, aggressive, logical and democratic to the core. No man need doubt Spainhour's position now. We are proud of Spainhour's speech and position.

The following are the nominees of the Convention, and we now enthusiastically say it is a winning ticket and will be handsomely elected on the 8th day of next November.

For House, W. B. Councill, jr.; sheriff, Joe B. Clarke; clerk, John Bingham; treasurer, D. F. Baird; register, J. M. Moretz; coroner, W. D. Cook; surveyor, John C. Greer; for commissioners, W. C. Coffey, W. C. L. Hulcher and John Green.

For justices of the peace in Boone township, J. W. Holsclaw, A. W. Beach and Joe S. Winkler. For constable, Boone township, James G. Hodges.

WAR, WAR, WAR.

I will sell you goods cheap for CASH,

—WAR OR NO WAR.—

So if you don't believe it, come and see for yourself: I have the largest and best selected stock of new and stylish goods ever seen in this section, and at

Bottom PRICES.

For instance, I will sell you 2 pint cups for 5 cts.; ½ gal. covered bucket 5 cts.; 3 gal. open bucket, 25 cts.; 10 qt. dish pan 20 cts.

Clothing.

Boy's suits $2.50 and up; mens' suits $2.90 and up; men's fine shirts, late styles, 50 cts. and up; men's fur and straw hats cheap.

Men's, ladies' and children's shoes at any and all prices.

Groceries,

Coffee, sugar, oat meal, canned tomatoes, peaches, oysters, sardines, potted ham etc. always on hand.

HARDWARE.

Hoes, shovels, bull-tongue and calf-tongue plows, Farmer's Friend repairs, Oliver points and No. 52 Chattanooga points, etc.

DRY GOODS.

Calicoes 4½ cts. and up, fine cashmeres 17 cts. and up. A nice lot of shirt waist goods just in, and, in fact, almost anything you call for.

WANTED. Wheat, rye, corn, eggs, feathers, beeswax, chickens wool, etc. at highest market prices: also roots and herbs.

Thanking you all for past patronage, I am,

YOURS ANXIOUS TO PLEASE,

Will W. Holsclaw.

Vilas, N. C., 4-7-98.

The State Normal and Industrial College.

Offers the young women of the State thorough professional, literary, classical, scientific, industrial education. Annual expenses $90 to $130. Faculty of 30 members. More than 400 regular students. Has matriculated about 1,500 students, representing every county in the State except two. Practice and Observation School of about 200 pupils. To secure board in dormitories, all free-tuition applications must be made before August 1.

Correspondence invited from those desiring competent trained teachers.

For catalogue and other information, address

PRESIDENT McIVER, GREENSBORO, N. C.

A Dollar's Worth You Want?

—O—

IF YOU HAVE A DOLLAR TO SPEND, REMEMBER that I am still at my old stand prepared to save you money on any purchase made. This is no idle tale, but a positive fact, and if you want me to furnish farther evidence, bring along the "ALL MIGHTY DOLLAR" and test its purchasing power in my store and be surprised.

Do You Need Clothing?

I can fit you up in a suit of clothes (good ones) for less money than any man in town. Heavy winter overcoats, etc., at about cost.

Groceries?

I carry the best line in town. Sugar, coffee, rice, oatmeal, etc., always on hand. The best variety of canned goods to be found in the county, and at starvation prices.

REMEMBER, your trade is what I want, and you can save money on anything to be found in a General line by giving it to me.

Yours truly,

Apr. 19. **M. B. BLACKBURN,**

Trinity College

Offers full course in English Language and literature, Ancient and Modern Languages, History and Sociology, Mathematics, Philosophy, Bible, Law and Commerce. Women admitted to all courses of study. The largest endowed institution of learning in the State. Board from $6.50 to $10.00 per month. Tuition $50 a year. Next session opens September 8, 1898, For catalogue address

JOHN C. KILGO,
DURHAM, N. C.

War Cannons Thunder
—AND—
Low Prices Talk.

Friends, let me give you a few dots on my stock of merchandise that may be of interest to you.

READY MADE CLOTHING.

"The best stock in the county," is claimed by many, but this is no idle talk. I HAVE IT, and at prices that will move them.

For instance, I can fit you out in a neat suit from $3.00 up.

DRY GOODS.

I have a fancy stock, and can sell them at prices that are hard to duplicate. I will sell you best Fruit of the Loom domestic at 5 cts per yard; best cotton plaids at 5 cts per yard, and anything in this line at correspondingly low prices.

LADIES' HATS.

A very handsome line on hand, and at catchy prices. Trimmed ones at 50 cts. and up, and untrimmed ones at prices almost too low to mention.

A very handsomee and complete line of gent's furnishing goods of nearly all styles and prices.

SHOES.

My stock in this line is decidedly ON TOP. I can fit you in anything from the "plowman's brogue" to a shoe fine enough for the most fastidious. How do I sell them? At prices to suit you.

HARDWARE.

A full line consisting of plows, shovels, hoes pitch forks, etc., also a full line of shelf hardware, at prices that will suit you. A large lot of nails on hand.

HATS.

A beautiful stock on hand and can fit any head. If you need anything in this line, call on me.

☞My store is the place to buy cheap goods.

Z. B. BUCHANAN.

NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND MECHANIC ARTS.

Will re open September 1, 1898, with improved equipments in every department. Twenty three experienced specialists in Faculty. Full course in Agriculture, Science, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. Expenses very moderate. For catalogue address

PRES. A. Q. HOLLADAY,
RALEIGH, N. C,

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Taylor & Mast.

"Friends and Customers we send this to you,
With many thanks and good wishes too;
And will endeavor to give you more
For your money's worth than ever before."

BARGAINS!

The trading public is forever casting about in pursuit of bargains in merchandise, and some find them, while others fail. We take this method of informing our customers and friends that we are now better than ever before prepared to offer you extra bargains in

General Merchandise.

When we make an assertion in these columns we intend to do just what we say. We do not say one thing and do another.

We have a nice, new stock of goods, and are selling them at popular prices. Our stock consists of a general line of goods, and, as we buy our goods just right, we are prepared to sell them at low figures.

We want to buy all your good

PRODUCE,

Such as

Corn,
Rye,
Oats,
Bacon, etc.

and will pay you the highest market price for same.

☞Let us say in conclusion that we cannot sell on time. Our goods are marked at pay down prices, and we cannot sell them on time.

Thanking our friends for past favors and soliciting a continuation of their patronage, we are Resp.

TAYLOR & MAST.

Valle Crucis, 2-17-98

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Packet Pg. 152

Watauga Democrat.

THURSDAY, Oct. 20, 1898.

Democratic Nominees.

FOR JUDGES OF SUPERIOR COURT.

First District—George H. Brown, Jr., of Beaufort.

Second District—Henry R. Bryan, of Craven.

Fifth District—Thomas J. Shaw, of Guilford.

Sixth District—Oliver H. Allen, of Lenoir.

Seventh District—Thomas A. McNeill, of Robeson.

Eleventh District — W. A. Hoke, of Lincoln.

For Solicitor, 10th Dist., J. F. Spainhour, of Burke.

For Congress, 8th Dist., Edward F. Lovill.

LEGISLATIVE TICKET.

For Senate, 30th District, William C. Fields.

For House William B. Councill, Jr.

WATAUGA COUNTY TICKET.

For Sheriff, J. B. Clarke,
For C. S. C. John Bingham.
For Treas. D. F. Baird.
For Register of Deeds, J. M. Moretz.
For Coroner, W. D. Cook.
For Surveyor, J. C. Greer.
For County Commissioners W. C. Coffey, W. C. L. Hulcher and John Green.

TOWNSHIP TICKET.

For Magistrates in Boone Township, J. W. Holsclaw, A. W. Beach and J. S. Winkler.

For Const. Jas. Hodges.

Our Republican workers are busily engaged circulating reports on Democratic candidates, all of which are ridiculous, and low in their order. We would hate a Democrat who would get so low and dirty as to electioneer against the Republicans by telling base lies and getting them started to help defeat him; such conduct of either party is degrading and dishonest. Reports have been started that "W. B. Councill Democratic candidate for the Legislature, has said that he rather sleep with Cling Horton, col., than the poor white Radicals." Another report is going the rounds that Councill said that "he could buy enough poor white Radicals and negroes with ½ plug of tobacco each, to elect him." Whoever started such ridiculous reports is mean and unscrupulous, and if he is a candidate he is unworthy of the support of the most humble voters of the county. All who know W. B. Councill, jr, knows that he never made use of any such reports. He is in sympathy with the poor people and we venture the statement that no man in Watauga county has done more to help and accomodate poor men than Will Councill. Many a man of this county know, by actual experience, the facts in this case. Will is liked by this class of men as well as by all of our citizens. These ridiculous reports are circulated to drive these voters from him, but they will fail. Will Councill will be elected by a handsome majority, and will make us an honest, capable member.

President McKinley has issued positive orders that Porto Rico must be turned over to the United States by the 18th inst. If the island is not evacuated by the Spanish by the 18th, our military will take command of the island.

We hear good news from Capt. Lovill who is now canvassing Burke and Caldwell. The many friends of Capt. Lovill are extremely anxious for his election. Should we succeed he will be the only man elected West of the Blue Ridge to Congress throughout all these counties. Watauga will be justly proud of Capt. Lovill in Congress. He will help our section in many ways as the Capt. is a worker and will take great pride in working for our section—for all the people, without regard to party. Many of the Republicans are going to help elect him and they will feel proud of him as their representntive in Congress.

Col. W. H. Lucas, of Hyde county, has been among us this week. He campaigned with Capt. Lovill in Caldwell and says that the Capt. is making his campaign on a high plane and has large crowds to speak to, and much interest is being manifested among the people. Col. Lucas comes from the negro ridden east and can tell our mountain people all about negro office holding down there. Many of our people, we hope, have heard Mr Lucas on the various issues now before the country. He gives us a hopeful account of the State, says it will elect a Democratic Legislature and Judges. The Populists have well nigh abandoned the fusionists with Republicans and there are Republicans who will not vote with their party this year on account of the negro influence in the party.

The county canvass is on in full force. The people will hear the claims of each man who is asking for votes, and as a general thing they will vote according to their understanding of the issues. We still think that the masses of the people are honest and desire to vote for the best interest of our common country. Every voter ought to be as honest in their politics as they are in other matters. The only argument our Republican workers make is to get uninformed voters to believe that if the Democrats get in power again they will disfranchise the poor white and negro voters. We learn that our old friend Ed. Miller is going around all over the county telling certain people that if they don't want to be disfranchised to vote against the Democrats. Ed. knows better than this and if people believe Ed's. talk it proves conclusively that they are ignorant. If they will read the State Constitution they will find that it prohibits the Legislature from changing the law only in certain ways in this regard. Two-thirds of the Legislature must vote on this measure. Then it has to be submitted to the voters of all the people and they have the right to reject the proposition or vote for it as they choose. The other way to change the State Constitution is by a convention wherein the voters of the State have the sole right to speak in the matter.

SCROFULA.

One of America's most famous physicians says: "Scrofula is external consumption." Scrofulous children are often beautiful children, but they lack nerve force, strong bones, stout muscles and power to resist disease. For delicate children there is no remedy equal to

Scott's Emulsion

of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda. It fills out the skin by putting good flesh beneath it. It makes the cheeks red by making rich blood. It creates an appetite for food and gives the body power enough to digest it. Be sure you get SCOTT'S Emulsion.

50c. and $1.00; all druggists.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

AN OBNOXIOUS LAW.

Morganton Herald.

Among the many disreputable acts of the fusion legislature of '97 was the placing upon the statute books by that body of one of the most inhuman and unjust laws of recent times, and little is publicly known of the existence of such a sacrilegious provision—for we hold that the hacking to pieces of a human corpse without the consent of kinfolks amount to sacrelege.

The law referred to is Chapter 203 of the laws of 1897, and provides that officers having charge of dead bodies required to be buried at public expense shall deliver such bodies to the professors of anatomy of the several medical colleges of the State for the purposes of dissection to instruct medical students.

Of course, for the proper dissemination of medical science the dissecting table is necessary, and bodies for the purpose can be otained in a proper manner. But the fact that relatives of a deceased inmate of a public institution are too poor to pay the burial expenses should not make it mandatory upon the officials of that institution to hand over the body to colleges to be disseyered with a knife.

In the hospital for the insane at this place there are many unfortunate beings whose immediate relatives are unable to pay the cost of burial when their days are ended, and under this law the officials are required to deliver them up "for the promotion of medical science," instead of giving the remains peaceful repose in the customary way.

Let the colleges obtain their material for study in a manner that does not trespass upon the ties of kinship, and let the people elect a Democratic legislature next month to repeal this obnoxious law.

What is the matter with our Republican orators. None of them will agree to a joint canvass with the Democrats. The Democrats are anxious to have a joint canvass and are always ready to meet the Republicans on the stump or anywhere and discuss with them in a gentlemanly manner. Are these fellows afraid to meet us? Is your cause so bad you don't want to come in contact with men who will expose your evil doings as a party in the old North State. Come to the front and give an account of your stewardship.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

General Fitzhugh Lee will be the first to land on western Cuba at Havana by Nov. 1st.

Alleghany Star: Rev. A. McKnight announces himself as an independent candidate for the Senate in this district. He does not state whether he is a Democrat or Republican. The Republicans of Ashe and Watauga don't vote for independents much.

Say "No" when a dealer offers you a substitute for Hood's Sarsaparilla. There is nothing "just as good." Get only Hood's.

It now seems that the Philippines will be turned over to Uncle Sam with Porto Rico and Cuba.

DENTISTRY.

I am now located at Banner Elk for the practice of Dentistry, and will appreciate the patronage of the people. I will go to any point in the county where the amount of work will justify me.

R. D. JENNINGS.

NOTICE.

Letters Testamentary in the estate of Charles Carter, M. D., formerly of Blowing Rock, Watauga county, North Carolina, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims to present same without delay to WARREN CARTER and MARY CARTER Executors, 4023, Ogdon St., Philadelphia, Penn., or to their attorney, JOSEPH KENWORTHY, 920, Walnut St., Philadelphia, Penn.

Notice of Seizure.

Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of Sept., 1898 near Sweetwater, N. C., the following personal property was seized for violation of Internal Revenue Laws of the United states, to-wit: One buggy and harness and about 10 gallons of corn and rye whiskey in kegs and about four bushels of meal. Any person claiming said property is hereby notified to appear before the undersigned at his office in Asheville, N. C., or J. L. Hayes, D. C., Boone, N. C., within 30 days from date here of and make claim and give bond in manner and form prescribed in section 5460, Revised statutes, otherwise the said property will be declared forfeited to the United states. This Sept. 22, 1898.

H. S. HARKINS,
Col. Int. Rev. 5 Dist.
per J. L. HAYES, D. C.

NOTICE.

By virtue of an execution issued from the Superior Court of Watauga county on Sept. 26, 1898, in favor of Henry Taylor and against A. J. Mast, for the sum of $21.06 with interest and cost of this action, I will on Monday, Nov. 21, 1898, (it being Monday of court) offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash at the court house door in the town of Boone, the following described land, it being the excess of said A. J. Mast's homestead: All of the lands of said A. J. Mast lying on the North-west side of the branch adjoining the said Mast's homestead containing 20 acres more or less. Hour of sale from 11, a. m., to 2, p. m. This Oct. 20, '98.

W. H. CALAWAY, Shff.

NOTICE.

By virtue of an execution issued from the Superior Court of Watauga county, on Aug. 20, 1898, in favor of Wm. Vuncannon and against J. A. Cook for the sum of $200.00, with interest and cost, I will proceed to sell to the highest bidder for cash at the court house door in the town of Boone, N. C., on Monday, Nov. 21, 1898, (it being Monday of Superior Court) the following described tracts or parcels of land to wit: One tract situated on Beech Mt. and Deik's ridge, Watauga county, adjoining the lands of J. C. Potts, J. R. Lowe, S. W. Culver, H. Bridges and others, containing 20 acres more or less. Also the said J. A. Cook's interest in a tract of land in said county and State on the Horse Bottom ridge, adjoining the lands of A. T. Banner and others, being a part of the Jacob Townsend 50 acre tract, containing 50 acres more or less, as shown by the judgment roll. This Oct. 20, 1898.

W. H. CALAWAY, Shff.

PUBLIC SPEAKING and TAX-GATHERING.

I will attend at the following times and places for the purpose of collecting the taxes for the year 1898, to wit:

Shawneehaw, at Banner Elk,	Oct.	17,	1898.
Beech Mountain, Trivett's store,	"	18,	"
Laurel Creek, voting place,	"	19,	"
Beaver Dam, Bethel Church,	"	20,	"
Cove Creek, Mouth of North Fork,	"	21,	"
North Fork, Thomas' School House,	"	22,	"
Meat Camp, Elk Knob Academy,	"	25,	"
Bald Mountain, Elk X Roads,	"	26,	"
Stony Fork, Stony Point,	"	27,	"
Elk, Hamby's Store,	"	28,	"
Blue Ridge, Harston's store,	"	29,	"
Blowing Rock, Blowing Rock,	Nov.	3,	"
Watauga, Shull's Mills,	"	4,	"
Boone, Court House,	"	5,	"

WILLIAM H. CALAWAY, Sheriff Watauga Co.

☞N. B. The candidates will be on hand. Everybody come out.

R. K. HARRIS & SON.

Marble Dealers, (HICKORY, N. C.)

☞NOTHING BUT THE BEST MATERIAL USED, AND SATISFACTION ALWAYS GUARANTEED.☜

Before buying anything in our line consult your own interest and give us a call. Estimates furnished on application for any work desired. Call or write. 4-28.

Don't Forget That

—MORETZ & FARTHING—

Are still in business at the

OLD STAND.

And are yet able to surprise their many customers at how low goods can be sold. We have increased our stock in

ALL DEPARTMENTS,

And can accommodate you better than ever before

Don't be satisfied until you have examined our goods and prices. We will save you money every time.

It is easy for our competitors to say they "won't be undersold; will sell as cheap" etc.

That Spells Nothing.

Too many customers have been deceived by such gossip.

Come to men who don't know high prices and never did, would not sell high if we could.

Yours truly

Moretz & Farthing

Sale, Sale Sale,

—o—

NOT AT AUCTION,

—o—

BUT AT AUCTION PRICES.

—o—

For instance, listen at some of my prices:
Good leather horse collars at 50 cts.,
three packages rolled oats 25 cts.

Three one pint tin cups for 5c
Two gallon bucket 15c.
Three gallon bucket 20 cts. etc., etc.

Here is a red hot lot. See it:
One quire good note paper, 25 envelopes, lead pencil with rubber, pen stock and 2 points all for 10 cents.

We carry a general line of standard patent medicines.

Our line of general merchandise is full and complete, and we are anxious for your trade. Your attention is called to the fact that we carry a full and complete line of

READY MADE CLOTHING,

No, we can not sell you any goods on time, but will buy all your good produce, and save you money on what you buy from us.

☞Wheat, rye, corn, beeswax, wool, feathers, chickens, eggs, etc., wanted. Give us your trade.

VERY TRULY,

J. B. PHILLIPS & SON.

Tetter, Salt-Rheum and Eczema.

The intense itching and smarting, incident to these diseases, is instantly allayed by applying Chamberlain's Eye and Skin Ointment. Many very bad cases have been permanently cured by it. It is equally efficient for itching piles and a favorite remedy for sore nipples, chapped hands, chilblains, frost bites and chronic sore eyes. 25 cts. per box.

Dr. Cady's Condition Powders, are just what a horse needs when in bad condition. Tonic, blood purifier and vermifuge. They are not food but medicine and the best in use to put a horse in prime condition. Price 25 cents per package.

Address WILBUR R. SMITH, LEXINGTON, KY.,
For circular of his famous and responsible
COMMERCIAL COLLEGE OF KY. UNIVERSITY
Awarded Medal at World's Exposition.
Refers to thousands of graduates in positions. Cost of Full Business Course, including Tuition, Books and Board in family, about $60. Shorthand, Type-Writing, and Telegraphy, Specialties. The Kentucky University Diploma, under seal, awarded graduates. Literary Course free, if desired. No vacation. Enter now. Graduates successful. In order to have your letters reach us, address only, WILBUR R. SMITH, LEXINGTON, KY.

WELL, YES.

I am still at the old stand ready to serve you to some unusual good bargains in

DRY GOODS

BOOTS,
SHOES,
HATS, Etc.

I will sell you standard Domestic by the bolt at 5½ cts. per yard; good jeans at 15 cts. and up to 50, and other goods at correspondingly low prices.

IN GROCERIES

I have a full and complete line, and my prices on coffees are hard to duplicate.

Hardware.

In this department I am full up. on both shelf and heavy goods. Nails, scythes and snaths, etc., etc. at low prices.

I also carry a full line of glass ware, tinware, etc. Come to me and I will do you right.

☞Wanted: chickens, eggs beeswax, feathers, corn rye, etc. Very truly,

W. F. SHERWOOD.

July 28, 1898.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE.

PATENTS

TRADE MARKS, DESIGNS, COPYRIGHTS &c.

Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain, free, whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Oldest agency for securing patents in America. We have a Washington office. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice in the

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN,

beautifully illustrated, largest circulation of any scientific journal, weekly, terms $3.00 a year; $1.50 six months. Specimen copies and HAND BOOK ON PATENTS sent free. Address

MUNN & CO.,
361 Broadway, New York.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Packet Pg. 153

1849 1949 Watauga County CENTENNIAL 100

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

1849 1949 Watauga County CENTENNIAL 100

An Independent Weekly Newspaper—Established in the Year 1888

CENTENNIAL EDITION | BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1949 | WATAUGA'S 100th ANNIVERSARY

ASTC Had Its Beginning In 3-Grade Watauga Academy

College Approved By American Association

College Grows from Small Academy to One Of South's Leading Teacher's Colleges

In the year 1899, this Northwest North Carolina community was a secluded wilderness. Many years before, in the eighteenth century, Daniel Boone had trailed across the mountains from Piedmont Carolina into Kentucky, camping for nine years within what is now the corporate limits of the town of Boone. But through all the intervening years the approaches to these highlands in the Appalachians had remained but trails. Cities were distant and almost inaccessible. There were no colleges, no high schools, and but few other schools of any kind.

In that year, just before the turn of the century, two young men of Watauga County, Messrs. D. D. and B. B. Dougherty, determined that educational facilities should be improved. In the fall of that year, the Dougherty brothers began school work in Boone—Watauga Academy, conducted in the old town building just to the rear of the present Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Dougherty taught the school at a combined salary of $25.00 per month, while B. B. Dougherty acted as county superintendent. In January, 1900, the school was moved to the new building erected through their efforts, upon a site donated by Messrs. D. B. Dougherty and J. F. Hardin in what is now the center of the college campus, a building which burned in 1946. B. B. Dougherty was added to the faculty and the teacher training center of educational development for the "Lost Provinces" was launched at Boone.

The original building housing the school was 30 by 40 feet. There was one room below and one above, with a covered stairway on the outside. The windows and doors below were all gone. The equipment consisted of a small homemade teacher's desk and homemade seats. At the time the school moved into the new building, only two classrooms were finished. The passing of each summer for four years marked the completion of an additional room.

At the time of the opening of the school in 1899, the school term in Watauga County was ten weeks, the public school teachers had not studied, as a rule, above the seventh grade, and teachers' salaries were from $15 to $25 per month. Public school property was valued at less than $5,000. The county was isolated; the roads were poor. It took three or four days to make a trip to the nearest depot and return. There were no railroads; no telegraphs; no telephones.

Joint Principalship

The joint principalship of D. D. and B. B. Dougherty lasted four years, after which time the school was made a state institution. D. D. Dougherty carried on the administrative side of the school and taught, while B. B. carried on his work as superintendent, teaching in the spring after the public schools had closed. He also taught in the summer session. During these four years, the town school was taught in connection with the Watauga Academy by Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Dougherty, who received a joint salary of $25 per month for four months each year.

A summer school was regularly maintained. Many teachers in Watauga and adjoining counties attended. Courses were given in methods of teaching arithmetic, spelling, history, geography, and the like. Committees from the larger schools sought out and employed the teachers trained at the Academy. There was a great educational awakening in Western North Carolina.

Captain E. F. Lovill and B. B. Dougherty, with W. R. Lovill as typist, one Sunday in the home of Captain Lovill, of Boone, wrote a bill to establish a state institution in Northwestern North Carolina. There were no resolutions by teachers' assemblies, no requests from any source to write the bill.

Bill Passed In 1903

In the same year, 1903, Honorable W. C. Newland, of Caldwell County, introduced the bill in the House of the General Assembly of North Carolina. The measure, after a hard fight before the Committee on Education, was reported favorably to the House. Here Hon. R. A. Doughton of Alleghany County, with his powerful influence, joined Mr. Newland in his arguments for the bill. It was passed by a good majority. However, in the Senate the measure was turned down by the Committee on Education, but Senators Clyde R. Hoey of Cleveland County, R. B. White of Franklin County, and E. J. Justice of McDowell County, all young men who distinguished themselves later as orators and as statesmen, signed a minority report and carried the bill to the floor, where, on the last day of the session, each made a speech in behalf of the bill. The bill passed by only one vote. A new state institution, Appalachian Training School, was thus established in 1903.

Two sections of the original bill are as follows:

"Section I. That W. C. Fields and A. S. Carson of the County of Alleghany; J. D. Thomas and T. C. Bowie of the County of Ashe; Adolphus Taylor and W. P. Horton of the County of Wilkes; F. P. Moore and J. M. Barnhardt, of the County of Caldwell; Moses H. Cone and E. F. Lovill of the County of Watauga; J. R. Prichard and T. A. Love of the County of Mitchell; and J. B. Ray and E. F. Watson of the County of Yancey, are hereby created a body politic and corporate under the name of the Appalachian Training School for Teachers, and as such may sue and be sued, implead, and be impleaded in all the courts of the State, may purchase and hold real estate, receive donations, and do all things useful and necessary to carry out the true intent and meaning of this act.

"Section 2. That the said board of trustees shall meet in the town of Blowing Rock, in the County of Watauga, in the month of May, after the passage of this act, at the call of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of North Carolina, and shall organize by electing a president, a secretary, and a treasurer, and shall meet annually thereafter at a time and place to be fixed by said board."

Other sections stated that $2,000 should be appropriated annually for maintenance; that $1,500 should be appropriated for buildings when a like amount was paid by private contributors; and that tuition should be free to those who pledged themselves to teach in the public schools of the State for two years.

Dr. J. Y. Joyner, state superintendent of public instruction, in accordance with the provisions of the charter, called a meeting of the board of trustees. Captain E. F. Lovill was elected president of the board, a position which he held until his death in 1925. F. P. Moore, J. M. Barnhardt, and Moses H. Cone were elected to the executive committee.

Located At Boone

Citizens from Jefferson, Globe, Blowing Rock, Montezuma, Valle Crucis, and Boone offered inducements to have the school located in the respective communities. The Boone people offered, with other things, the Watauga Academy, equipment and grounds. The trustees voted to locate the school in Boone.

As the appropriations for buildings were made for the first six years on condition that a like amount should first be contributed by private citizens, B. B. Dougherty was elected financial agent. He immediately began a campaign for donations. Practically everyone in Boone vacinity helped. He then canvassed the county with great success. The financial agent was so pleased with the desire of the Watauga people for something better than they had known that he visited the adjoining counties. Everywhere he received small, but many donations. At one time he gave $50; at another time he gave $500, a huge amount in 1903. Hon. R. Z. Linney of Taylorsville also gave $500. A visit by Mr. Dougherty to Washington, Philadelphia, and New York were successful. In the end, people from nearly every state east of the Mississippi made small contributions.

The trustees of the new school met in Boone in June, 1903, and elected B. B. Dougherty superintendent, D. D. Dougherty principal, and W. C. Coffey treasurer.

For the first ten years, the curriculm of the school included public school courses, high school courses, and teacher-training courses. Within those ten years, practically all the teachers of Watauga County studied at Appalachian and many teachers from adjoining counties came to better prepare themselves for their work.

In 1908, buildings on the campus were the Academy, the wood building which burned in 1946; the brick administrative building, now used by the department of home economics; Lovill Home, a wood structure which stood where the hospital now stands; and Newland Hall, the wood structure now called Newland Annex. The faculty in 1908 consisted of D. D. Dougherty, mathematics; B. B. Dougherty, pedagogy and Latin; A. Masters, grade work; Annie Weeden, English and French; and Sallie Seinknechdt, music.

Becomes Junior College

In 1921, the school was advanced to a two-year state normal school, and in 1925, the legislature changed the name to Appalachian State Normal School and greatly increased the appropriations for both maintenance and permanent improvements. In the same year, Superintendent B. B. Dougherty was elected president and Principal D. D. Dougherty was elected business manager and treasurer. To climax that eventful year, the college was elected a member of the American Association of Teachers Colleges.

When, four years later, 1929, the plant and property had reached a value of more than $1,000,000, the legislature revised the charter and changed the name to Appalachian State Teachers College, increased the appropriation for maintenance, and authorized trustees to "confer or cause to be conferred such degrees as are usually conferred by similar institutions in America." B. B. Dougherty was continued as president and D. D. Dougherty was renamed business manager and treasurer. However, on June 10, 1929, D. D. Dougherty died, leaving his work to his wife and son, D. B. Dougherty. Mrs. Dougherty died January 21, 1945, and D. B. became business manager, the position that he holds today.

By the early 1930's, the student body of the college could no longer be considered local in character. Students representing counties from all over the state and other states had found their way to Boone and Appalachian State Teachers College was rapidly becoming one of the leading teacher-training institutions in the region.

Huge Appropriation In 1947

During the 1947 session of the legislature, Appalachian was granted a $2,000,000 appropriation for permanent improvements the largest appropriation that the college has ever received. The money is to be used for the construction of a music and arts building, a dormitory for women, doubling the capacity of the demonstration school, doubling the facilities of the library, a dormitory for men, fifteen homes for faculty members and families, and an apartment house. It is estimated that these additions will double the boarding population of the college. This will enable the college to take in more students in addition to relieving the crowded conditions.

Because of the high costs of construction and the shortage of essential materials the past two years, no new buildings were completed. However, a service building, to house the service plant and laundry, is at present under construction and it is anticipated that other bids will be let in the near future.

The 1949 legislature made a supplement to the 1947 appropriation by granting an additional $593,400, and appropriated $983,000 for additional permanent improvements. The new appropriation provides for four all- weather tennis courts at a cost of $13,000; roads, walks, and drives, $10,000; venetian blinds for all buildings, $13,000; flourescent lighting for all buildings, $13,000; five faculty homes, $65,000; and a new men's gymnasium, $750,000. The grand total appropriation for permanent improvements now stands at $3,591,900. The present plant is valued at approximately two million dollars; thus, when the present building program is completed, the value to the college in dollars and cents will be approximately doubled. A new athletic field is also being planned.

As Appalachian celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year, the residents of Boone, and particularly Dr. B. B. Dougherty, who remains as the energetic and magnetic president of the institution which he helped found, can be proud of the outstanding teachers college in the state and one of the outstanding institutions of the South.

Gets National Approval

In 1942, graduate work was inaugurated at ASTC, and in 1948, the first master's degree, the master of arts, was conferred upon Harold C. Quincy, local high school instructor. To the surprise of everyone except perhaps Dr. Dougherty himself, on the basis of granting one degree, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education in March approved the Appalachian Graduate School at the annual convention of that association in St. Louis, Mo. Approval by the AACTE is the highest recognition that a graduate school of a teachers' college can receive. Appalachian is the only teachers college so approved in North Carolina and one of the few in the South. Graduate work taken at Appalachian will be recognized in any state of the Union. A full program of graduate work leading to the master's degree was organized and put into the curriculum at the beginning of the 1948 summer school, in which a total of 274 graduate students were enrolled. It is estimated that a much larger group of graduate students are in the present enrollment of the college, the present term having begun on June 10. The college has eighteen candidates who expect to receive the M. A. degree at the close of the current session. Graduate work of ASTC is especially planned for teachers who are now in service and for those who expect to become teachers. Professor Chappel Wilson, head of the department of education, and director of the graduate school, was in St. Louis to see the attainment of another great step in Appalachian State Teachers College's climb to the top. Graduate degrees are given in the major field of education with minors in English, social studies, biology, and library science. The degree is given in seven fields of preparation: school superintendents, principals, supervisors, supervisors of student teaching, school librarians, secondary school teachers, and elementary school teachers.

Over 1,000 Students

The total registration of the year 1948-49 (not including summer school) amounted to approximately 1,060. For the fall quarter, 1948, 965 students enrolled, representing seventy-one counties of North Carolina, ten other states, one from Puerto Rico, and one from Cuba. Other states represented were South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Indiana, New Jersey, and New York. The faculty during the regular year numbers approximately sixty-five. During the 1948 summer school, eighty-nine of the state's one hundred counties were represented at the college, along with students from fifteen other states and Puerto Rico.

The present administrative staff of the college consists of President Dougherty; Dr. J. D. Rankin, dean; Herman R. Eggers, registrar; Bernard Dougherty, business manager; Miss Helen Burch, dean of women; and Chappel Wilson, director of the graduate school.

Governor Kerr Scott last week appointed eight new members of the board of trustees of the college and reappointed one old member. The trustees, whose terms expire May 1, 1953, are William J. Conrad, Jr., Winston-Salem; W. W. Mast, Boone; Mrs. J. M. Lackey, Taylorsville; Fred N. Colvard, Jefferson; C. C. Faw, Sr., North Wilkesboro; D. W. M. Roberts, Lenoir; B. C. Brock, Mocksville; Mrs. Harry B. Caldwell, Greensboro; and Sam Jones ,Statesville.

THE ORIGINAL WATAUGA ACADEMY

Bryan's Diary Reveals Two Saloons In Boone In 1857

W. L. Bryan, Esq., Boone's first mayor, left a portion of his dairy which gives some interesting facts about the community in those days. The following is taken verbatim from the diary:

In 1857 I came to Boone to live. Jordan Councill and Ransom Hayes gave the town site. The middle branch was the line between them, Councill giving from it to the blacksmith shop branch and Hayes donating from the middle branch to the one running above the Blackburn house. Councill and Hayes lived outside the town limits and both ketp boarders.

Mr. Bryan then tells of a few houses existing 92 years ago:

The first house as you go west on the left side was Levi Hartley's drink saloon.

2. House on same side, Elisha Greene and J. W. Councill hotel building, not finished when the Civil War broke out.

3. Bart Wood dwelling house.

4. J. H. Tatum of North Iredell County, store house.

5. J. C. Councill brick house, has been used for printing.

6. Jordan Councill's dwelling, called Sumpter house.

7. A small store room by Crisp's shoe and boot shop (a whiskey shop).

8. On the corner, known as Jesse McCoin house. But the Sumpter Crisp and McCoin house all belonged to Jordan Councill. Sumpter and McCoin worked in Jordan Councill's tan yard.

9. George and Joe Grubb, brothers, blacksmith shop near the present county jail.

10. W. F. Fletcher dwelling house, never finished. Torn down by General Kirk.

11. A small log dwelling occupied by Ellington Cousins, colored.

12. On the other side of the street was Jack Horton's store and office and just above that point the old Jack Horton dwelling.

13. B. J. Crawley's store and dwelling house.

14. J. W. Councill's dwelling with a store room in west corner of building.

15. J. W. Councill warehouse built by John C. Blair.

16. Blacksmith shop.

17. First jail built by John Cameron, but would not hold the prisoners.

18. Ransom Hayes brick house built by Joe Gains, size 20 by 40 feet, one story high, with brick partition through the middle, both gables run up and chimneys at each end of house. Built in 8 days by one man. Cost $70 for laying brick or building house, everything furnished.

Lott Green (Amos' son) was put in jail to see if the iron cage would hold a man and Lott sprung the iron door and got out without help of tools. A little later on another jail was built for the county by Elisha Green (Amos' son), a bother of Lott Green, the man who got out of the first jail. It was built out of white pine hewn logs, with the same iron cage in it.

These two first jails were burned by General Stoneman's men when he made his raid through the south near the close of the war in 1865. The raid was followed up by Col Kirk, who stockaded the courthouse and fortified the Deep Gap and Blowing Rock gaps of the Blue Ridge, but left and went back to Tennessee with General Stoneman after General Lee's surrender in Virginia.

Summer School in 1899

L. M. Farthing, late sheriff of Watauga County, was one of the pioneers in teacher training in this section and opened a summer school at Sutherland Seminary May 1, 1899, according to the Democrat of that time. Special instruction was given school teachers in the common school branches, pedagogy, and psychology.

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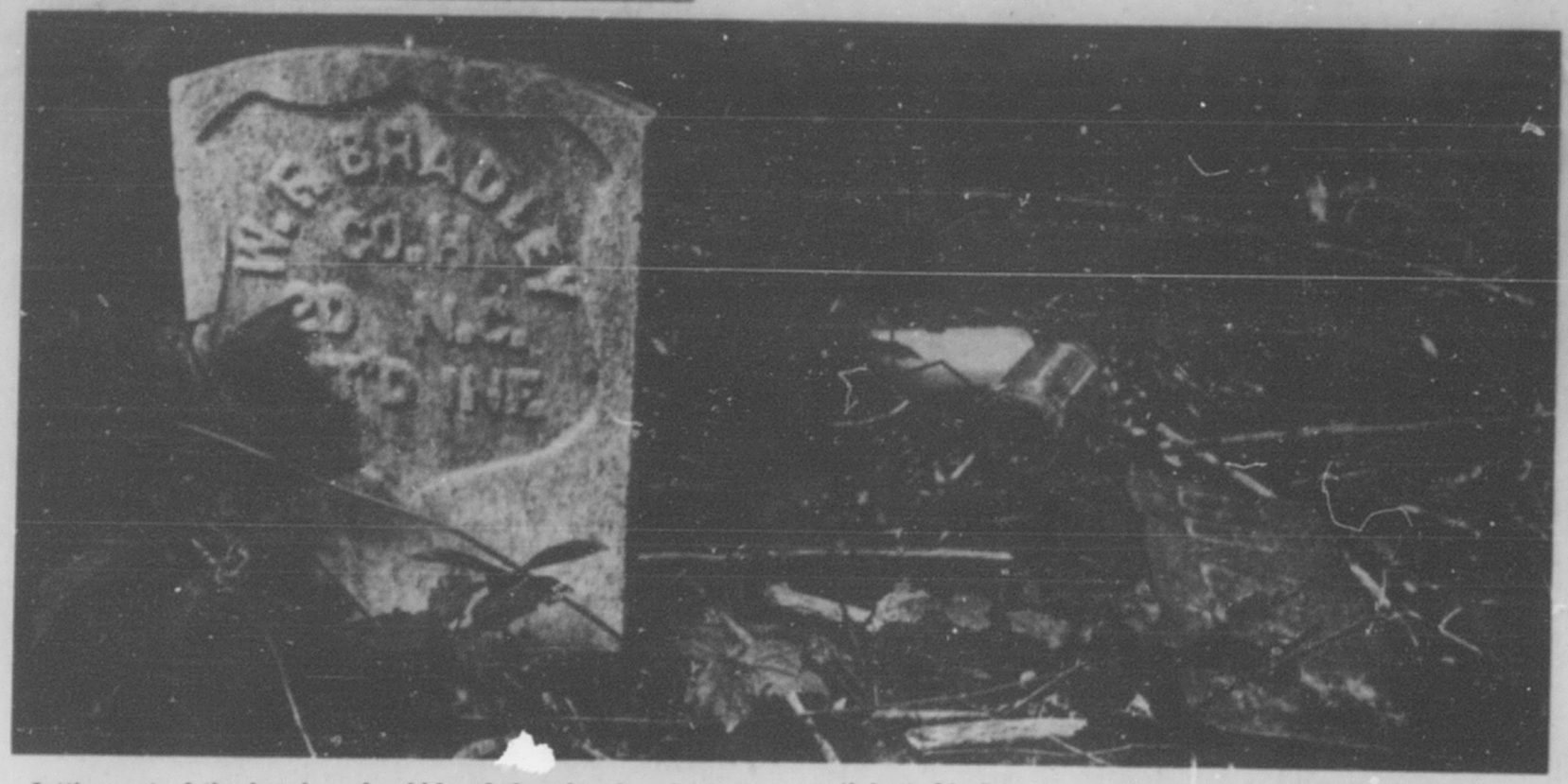
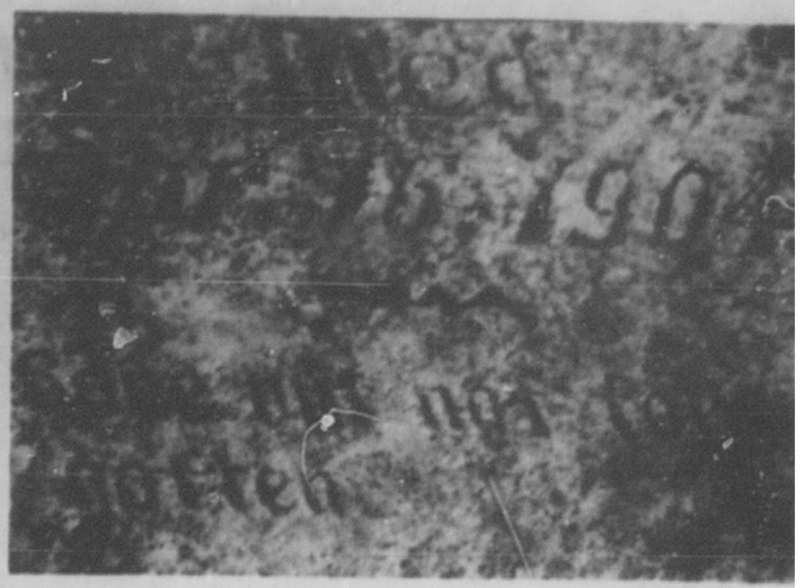
Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))



Jutting out of the brush and rubble of the abandoned black cemetery, this stone marks the grave of a Union soldier who participated in Stoneman's Raid near the end of the Civil War.



This marker, which lies sideways in a sunken, unkept grave makes an ironic comment on the state of Boone's abandoned black graveyard. (Staff photos by Walt Summerville)

Union Soldiers, Blacks Are Buried In The Town's 'Forgotten' Cemetery

BY: MIKE McLAUGHIN

On the grassy knoll above Plemmons Student Union lies a patch of sacred ground known as the Boone City Cementery.

Some of our most noted and dignified town fathers lie within, their graves marked with expensive stones, some of them stained with age.

In a patch of woods at the far end of the Boone City Cementery lies another graveyard. Those who have been laid to rest in this cementery are less noted, their achievements none too memorable.

In fact, they have been fenced away from the rest of the town cementery and forgotten.

The patch of grown is grown up in trees and brambles. Sunken graves are marked with flat rocks or pieces of slate, or not marked at all.

Up until the mid-fifties the piece of land served as a burial ground for the town of Boone's black community.

It was at this time that the town constructed a fence around the white section of the graveyard and the black section was abandoned for a site in another part of town.

Gordon Winkler, then mayor of Boone, said the fence was constructed to keep ASU students from cutting through the graveyard to get to campus, sunbathing, or loitering on the property.

There are a few gravestones in the black cementery, the most recent date 1954.

The oldest date back to the Civil War and, ironically, mark the graves of white Union soldiers, participants in Stoneman's Raid.

Winkler was vague on why the black section wasn't included in the fence, but said that that he would like to see it cleaned up.

Town Manager Marvin Hoffman echoed Winkler's sentiments. He said, however, that he isn't certain public funds can be expended at the graveyard because it is essentially private.

According to Hoffman, the town has no jurisdiction over who is buried in the cementery and it is actually controlled by a board of trustees.

The town does, however, keep the grass mowed in the cementery and it is listed as the property of the town of Boone on the tax maps.

In the end, Hoffman isn't certain what should be done to remedy what is essentially a case of segregation and neglect on account of race.

"It's a situation that has existed for a long time," Hoffman said. "If there was some expression of opinion it would give the town board guidance as to what should be done."

Aside from a town clean-up, there is also a possibility that private organizations might take an interest in restoring the old graveyard. Hoffman noted that the restoration would be a good project for area civic organizations.

As it stands, more than 20 years have rendered the graveyard a wooded thicket.

A time-marred gravestone lies sideways in a sunken grave. The old-fashioned marker reads "Fannie-Wife of Kelley Horton, Born: Dec., 1864; Died: April 16, 1904, Gone But Not Forgotten."

tips for consumers from your BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU™

HOME SECURITY SYSTEMS

Summer is vacation time for most people, but not for burglars who prey on unprotected houses and apartments. The Better Business Bureau urges every consumer to consider investing wisely in property protection and burglary prevention equipment. There is a wide range of security products, from specially designed locks to electronic alarm systems. Here are some guidelines to keep in mind before investing.

Before Buying

Community police or public safety departments are ready to advice consumers on home security measures, and they are a good place to start for basic, practical information and help. Ask department representatives if it is possible for them to check out the home or apartment. Be prepared to invest in properly designed door and window locks, proper entrance lights, and entrance door peep holes if they have not already been installed. Security can depend on the kind and quality of basic equipment and a few more dollars may mean more protection.

Security Alarms

There is a wide range of alarm equipment available to consumers, from small, battery operated "buzzer" units for doors and windows to electric alarm systems for an entire property. Professionally installed alarm systems are of two basic types: exterior and interior. Exterior systems are recommended for most consumers. They sound either a "local" or "silent" alarm if someone attemps to enter a home. A local alarm arouses the neighborhood, but its effectiveness depends on whether anyone is home to hear it and if it scares the intruder. A silent alarm is activated in the police department or security company's monitoring facility, and gives the police the opportunity of arresting the intruder in the home. However, any connection to the outside makes use of the the telephone line, which can be cut. A silent alarm system may involve charges on a monthly or per call basis, so be sure check this out before having one installed.

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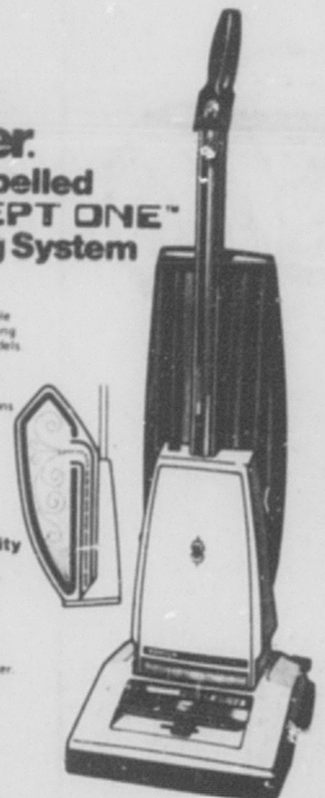

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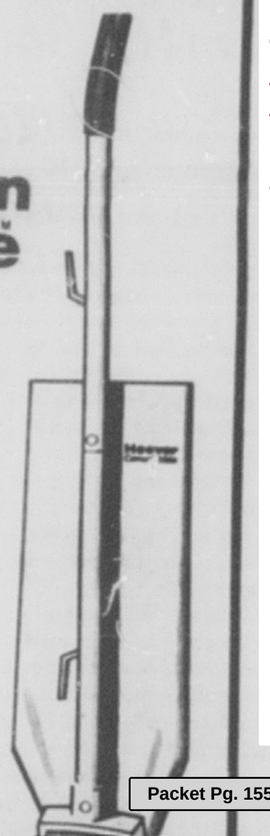

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - One more news item on fence

From: Eric Plaag
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/19/2023 8:15 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - One more news item on fence
Attachments: WD, 6-13-1957, p8, campaign, cemetery fence.pdf

Hi Jessica,

Here is one more historical newspaper relic regarding the cemetery fence. I referred to this in my footnote, but it's probably a good idea to have a copy of it in the packet.

Best,

Eric

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
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Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses

Dinner Given For Miss Mast

The Dogwood Room in Charlotte, was the setting of dinner Thursday night which paid compliment to Miss Arlene Mast.

Hostesses were members of Miss Mast's bridge club.

Miss Mast will marry Ray McKinney, son of B. C. McKinney of Kannapolis, on June 30. She is the daughter of Mrs. Edward B. Mast of Boone and the late Mr. Mast.

Pink dogwood was used to decorate the private dining room.

Shrimp dinners were served.

Miss Mast wore a blue and white organza party frock with matching accessories. Her gift from the group was a covered silver butter dish.

In observance of the occasion, the organist played wedding music throughout the evening.

Present were Mrs. Richard Bingham, Miss Flora Buens, Miss Florence Lutz, Mrs. Ruth Easterbirg, Mrs. Max Price, Miss Marian Kelly, and Miss Nancy Ballinger.

Some crops and shrubs need so-called trace elements — boron, iron, etc.

Wilson-Madron Wedding Vows Said

MRS. RICHARD TRUETT WILSON

Miss Joyce La Gloria Madron, daughter of Mrs. Paul Eve Madron of Black Mountain, was married Saturday, June 8, at 4:00 p. m. to Mr. Richard Truett Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wilson, Sr. of Marion.

The double ring ceremony was performed by Rev. Jesse Blalock, grandfather of the groom, at the Cove Creek Baptist Church.

The church was set with a background of native greenery and palm trees with baskets of white gladiolus and white candles in candelabras.

Miss Rebecca Austin, pianist, and Mrs. Gene Wilson, Jr., vocalist, presented a program of wedding music. Mrs. Wilson's selections included "I Love Thee," "At Dawning," and "The Lord's Prayer."

Given in marriage by her grandfather, Mr. E. F. Sherwood, the bride wore a gown of white chantilly lace and tulle over satin. The molded bodice of lace was fashioned with a high neckline. The long sleeves ended in points over the hands. The full skirt of many layers of tulle had deep inset panels of lace which extended around the cathedral train. Her veil of tiered illusion was attached to a crown of seed pearls and orange blossoms. She carried a Bible topped with a white orchid and showered with streamers and lily of the valley.

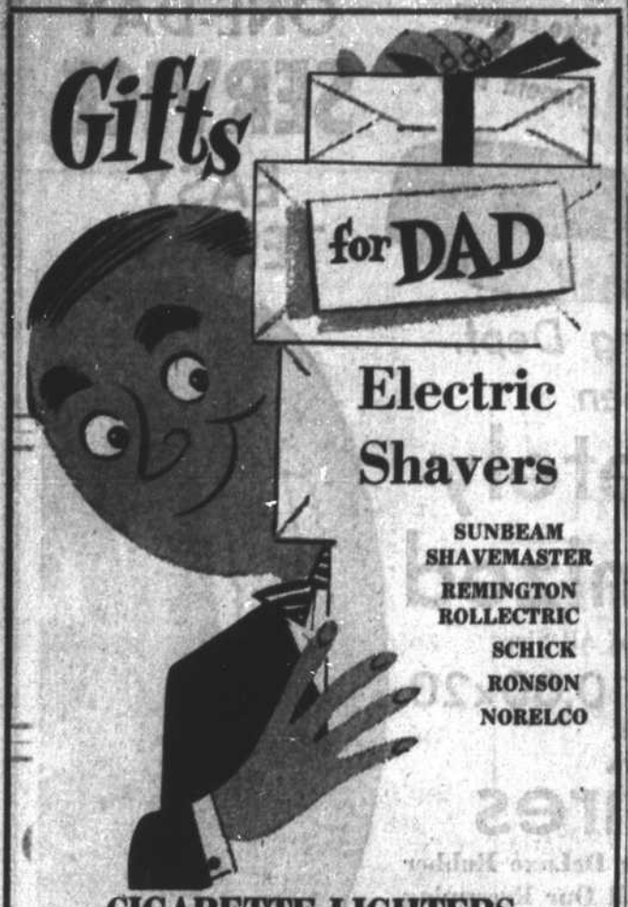
Mary Carolyn Madron, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. Doris Ann Vance and Evelyn Kathryn Clay, friends of the bride, were bridesmaids. These attendants wore dresses of white lace over yellow taffta with a matching headdress of colonial boquets of yellow roses.

Mr. J. E. Wilson, Jr., father of the groom, was best man. The ushers were Gene Wilson of Boone, Bruce Stephens of Atlanta, Georgia, Edward Lakey of Booneville, and Larry Davis of Atlanta, Georgia.

After the reception held at the home of the bride's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Sherwood, the couple left for a wedding trip through the smokies.

The couple will make their home at Marion, North Carolina, temporarily.

The bride is a graduate of Cove Creek High School and ASTC, majoring in physical education. The bridegroom is a graduate of Spruce Pine High School and ASTC where he also majored in physical education.



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A STATEMENT
To The Voters and Citizens
OF BOONE
FROM
The Democratic Candidates For Mayor and City Council

We have been nominated by the Democratic Party to run for office again and we wish to make the following statements concerning past actions of our party and to tell you of our future plans:

We have tried to be saving with the taxpayers' money and yet, at the same time, be progressive by doing the many things we are called upon by you to do.

To begin with, we think our tax rate is reasonable.

Our water and sewer charges are the lowest, or among the lowest, in the entire State. Many new water lines, including hydrants, have been built without floating bonds. These things have greatly reduced your insurance payments.

Streets have been built without assessment to property owners; also greatly needed sidewalks and widening of some streets has been carried out.

A great improvement was made in the appearance of the Town with purchase of new street lights and new street signs.

The following property has been purchased: Lot adjoining City Hall for $1500.00, garbage dump property $3500.00, tobacco warehouse property $40,000.00. All of this is paid for except a balance due of $10,000.00 on tobacco warehouse property, which will be used for future parking facilities.

Our indebtedness of $244,478.95 on June 30, 1943, has been reduced to $96,000.00 with other bills paid and a small balance as of June 30, 1957. None of the $75,000.00 bond money has been spent yet.

Financial support has been given to local Health Department and local Library and Band. The Recreation Program has been given financial support to be carried forward by some of our leading men and women.

Our Fire Department has been equipped with needed supplies and is in best shape in its history.

Much needed garbage and street equipment has been paid for so that we could more efficiently serve your needs. The old garbage dump has been removed from your midst.

A radio system has been installed so that you may call police, sheriff, or a patrolman on short notice.

All qualified Town employees have been put under Social Security.

The operation of the IRC plant was made possible because we provided them with water and sewer facilities, and we are now helping get these facilities to the new plant to be occupied by Shadowline, Inc.

The above is part of what we have been doing with your tax money, and details are available to any who want the figures.

Recently a Bond Issue was approved to expand and improve our Water System. So far none of this has been spent, but we are in the midst of plans to spend this money for much needed expansion of our system to meet the needs of a progressive and growing community. All plans are approved by competent engineers and the State Health Dept.

We recently received petitions from every established club in our City asking that we purchase the Horn in the West property. We asked any person to advise us if they objected to this purchase, and after negligible objections, it is our intention, if elected, to proceed with the purchase of said property.

After careful figuring and consideration, we believe we can give you the same services as now given and carry out the above plans without raising your taxes, water and sewer rates.

We owe $3350.00 balance on parking meters payable $100.00 per month, and if elected, we plan to continue to keep the parking meters in operation which we think is the best and logical way to regulate the flow of traffic.

Perhaps the most knotty and perplexing problem we have is the traffic and parking situation. This is certainly not confined to Boone alone but is a universal problem. If elected we plan to modernize our traffic lighting system and secure the services of a qualified traffic expert to help plan more efficient operation of our available street space. A committee from Merchants and Chamber of Commerce groups, and any other interested citizens will be asked to help us with these plans and make suggestions.

If returned to office we plan to put a modern fence around our City Cemetery and have it mowed and trimmed regularly.

We think the operation of office, Police, Fire, Street, Water and Garbage departments are operating efficiently and well—if you think so, vote for us to continue in office.

We want to thank all who have cooperated so splendidly in the past, as what has been done has been accomplished with your fine cooperation.

Gordon H. Winkler
Candidate for Mayor

Howard Cottrell, Wayne Richardson, Grady Tugman
Candidates for Aldermen

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 14, 2023, August 21, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Benjamin Councill Deed/Donation of Land for Boone City Cemetery

From: Eric Plaag
To: Terry Harmon
Date: 8/22/2023 6:26 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Benjamin Councill Deed/Donation of Land for Boone City Cemetery
Cc: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>

I will just add, of course, that if the 1795 date for Benjamin is not correct and the ca. 1807 date is, then he becomes the third eldest male child of Jordan, Sr. (behind Jesse and Jordan, Jr., sequentially), although I don't think it matters much in the grand scheme of things.

Best,

Eric

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/8babb779/PhhcYeVxD02KMCMYCVdSRQ?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

On Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 6:19 AM Eric Plaag <> wrote:

> Hi Terry,
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> Thank you for your thoughts on the panels. They will be shared with the HPC for consideration.
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> The "deeded/donated" claim--often incorrectly attributed to Jordan Councill, Sr., or Jr., is one that appears frequently in secondary source materials, probably because it has been repeated so many times without attribution that it has taken on a life of its own. The truth is much more nuanced. As I've explained repeatedly elsewhere, there is no primary source evidence for this, and the primary source evidence we do have suggests otherwise (see the aforementioned 1937 deed). My belief, based on the available documentary record, is that Benjamin Councill originally used the land, perhaps in tandem with his siblings and children, as a family plot and (separately, to the east) for burials of enslaved folks. This would follow common burial traditions from the antebellum period among southern slaveholding families. Some sources place Jordan Councill, Sr (d. 1838), and his wife (d. 1864) in this cemetery, but there are no stones to document same. Nevertheless, I have suspected that the cemetery may have "begun" with the burial of Jordan, Sr., here by his eldest son Benjamin, which would certainly make sense (and

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

explain the weird gaps at the top of the hill near the other Councills). By the 1850s, there were some extended family members buried here--primarily Todds, but a few others as well. I understand that Caroline McGhee Todd was the daughter of Willis McGhee, Sr., and Elizabeth "Bettie" Councill (daughter of Jordan Councill, Sr., and brother to Benjamin, Sr.). Two of her children have gravesites whose deaths predate Jacob Mast Councill (both died in 1858), but the stones clearly were not placed here until 1879 at the earliest, when Caroline died, and possibly not until her husband Joe Todd's death in 1903--all appear to be by the same stonemason. Other early marked burials are Sarah A. Councill (Jacob Mast Councill's daughter, 1863, although stone is likely later); John W. Wood (probably the son of Bartlett and Eveline McGhee Wood, and thus the grandson of Bettie Councill, 1858, although stone is likely later); and Charlotte "Lottie" Councill Hardin (daughter of Jordan Councill, Sr., 1843, stone probably much later). Thus, the claim that is sometimes published that the cemetery started with the death of Jacob Mast Councill is almost certainly wrong. As you can see, though, the earlier burials involved several extended Boone families intermarried with the Councills, and by the 1870s, I suspect the white community of Boone viewed the white section as "shared space" even though it was still technically owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. I would guess that something similar occurred with the Black section over time for similar, intermarriage reasons within the Black community.

The 1795 date for Benjamin, Sr., originates with Find-a-Grave (Carole Conrad is credited as the source, and you have commented on the entry but not objected to that date) and several user-posted Ancestry items. Councill's death notice in the *Wilmington North Star* does not offer an age: https://link.edgepilot.com/s/a9f74689/kQfBTt2RrUeQsweML5Pwww?u=https://www.newspapers.com/image/55385859/?terms=%2522benjamin%2520council%2522%26match=1. That said, 1860 and 1870 Census records seem to support the 1807 date. The 1850 Census suggests 1806. We could certainly either a) add a question mark after the 1795 date, or b) change the date to "Ca. 1807?" Do you and/or the Councill family representatives have a preference? Please let us know ASAP.

One thing that is clear is that the headstone order forms from 1879 clearly refer to the land where the Union soldiers are buried as the "Council [sic] Cem." I am attaching copies of them for you. Correspondence behind the applications for these may be available in Record Group 92.8.1 General Records at NARA, but I have not made a trip there to explore who ordered the markers and whether any additional context is provided.

The recent oral history of Junaluska (Susan E. Keefe, ed., *Junaluska: Oral Histories of a Black Appalachian Community*, 2020) definitively states that the Black section of the Councill Cemetery originally "began as a burial ground for blacks enslaved by Jordan Councill, Sr., and later Jordan Councill, Jr" (see pp. 30-31). You might check with the authors for the source of their claim, but I imagine it is embedded in the traditions of the Junaluska community that grew out of the memories of those who had been enslaved by the Councills and others. And of course the deed from 1919 (DB 28, Page 240) specifically states that the land being purchased was "adjoining the burying ground of the colored people in the town of Boone and is being conveyed for the purpose of enlarging said burying grounds for the colored." As James McQueen, Sr. (1923-2002), explained in a 1974 interview (Keefe, 100), the Black part of the cemetery was a "back portion of the Town cemetery" that Black folks were allowed to use for their burials "for years and years," but it wasn't owned by the Boone Chapel trustees (as the other sliver referenced above was). Troy Councill, who most certainly was enslaved by the Councills (he tells us so in his Southern Claims Commission testimony), died in 1901 "in the suburbs of the village" (WD, 3-28-1901, p3), at which time there would have been nowhere else for him to have been buried in

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

town other than the Black section of the cemetery. A cursory review of some of the other names and dates on the monument (i.e., confirmed burials) in the Black section of the cemetery reveals others who were likely enslaved at one time by the Councills and other white Boone families. GPR studies have confirmed at least 165 burial spots in the Black section of the cemetery--the unidentified among them more than double the number of documented burials (all of which postdate 1898). In short, I am personally comfortable that there is ample community memory and tradition connecting the origins of the Black section of the cemetery to those enslaved by the Councills.

Best,

Eric

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On Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 4:32 PM Terry Harmon <> wrote:

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> I don't know if it could be helpful or not, but I have a document summarizing all the deeds I have found concerning Benjamin Councill, Sr. A few of these are particularly early and pertain to property in Boone, although perhaps not the cemetery itself:
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> On November 26, 1853, Benjamin Councill and his brother-in-law, Phineas Horton, agents for the heirs of Jordan Councill, deceased, deeded (Watauga County Deed Book G, pages 43-44) an unindicated number of acres to Demarcus Hodges for $66. This land was situated on Howard's Knob and was bounded in part by the property lines of Jordan Councill, Jeremiah Green, and Lenoir. *[On December 7, 1852, William Hodges had deeded to his son, Demarcus Hodges, two tracts of land (acreage unstated) – one of them bounded by the lines of Joseph Hagaman and Jordan Councill.]*
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Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Dougherty, who lands adjoined one another. Councill's tract, known as "the old Councill tract," had been conveyed to him by his father, Jordan Councill, Sr., and Dougherty's tract, which adjoined the Town of Boone and was known as "the Elijah Chambers tract," was one he had purchased from Jordan Councill. The division line between the two tracts had never been properly defined, thus this agreement. A portion of this line was bounded by "the Lenoir tract," then owned by the heirs of Jacob Councill, deceased.

Regarding the proposed Boone Cemetery panels, I would like to share the following suggestions:

Panel #1 states Benjamin Councill, Sr.'s birth year as 1795, but my records indicate he was born in **1807**. I don't have a supporting source document in my tree on Ancestry, but I may have something at home from his daughter's (Polly Councill Horton's) Bible that states his birth year. I'll take a look and get back to you. We do know that the tombstone of Benjamin's sister, Charlotte Hardin, in the Boone Cemetery, states her birthdate as April 1795, which would seem to preclude Benjamin being born that same year.

Panel #2 states, **"...the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been the Councill family's commentary on men whom they perceived were fighting to end slavery."** I have wondered about that myself, and it could very well be, but it also might not be, so I think it's better left unsaid. However, if it *is* going to be stated, I would suggest it be reworded as follows: "...the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been a commentary on men perceived to be fighting to end slavery." We have no way of knowing if the Councill family, in particular, had any say in the burial of these soldiers. Maybe they did, but in the absence of records that prove it, I would suggest not attributing supposed commentary about the burials to any particular individual or family, and therefore indicting them.

Likewise, Panel #2 also states: **"Nevertheless, Benjamin Councill's willingness to allow their burial on his land after the killing of his unarmed son just a few weeks earlier is also striking."** Even if Benjamin did own the land where the cemetery sits, I think it's a leap to state he was the one who allowed the Union soldiers to be buried there. We have no way of knowing if he was consulted about the matter or if burials there even required his approval. Even if he was consulted about the matter, how do we know for sure he allowed it? Maybe he actually opposed it and it happened anyway. I'm not trying to make an argument for Benjamin's character either way; maybe he was a very gracious and forgiving person, or maybe he was a real jerk. I never knew him, so I can't attest to that. :) But to the point, I don't think we can definitively state (or even portray) that he had the opportunity to give input about who could be buried there.

Finally, Panel #1 states, **"Black burials, the earliest of which had been persons enslaved by the Councill family..."** (a definitive statement) seems less definitive when compared to Panel #4's statement: **"If we accept the tradition that this eastern part of the Boone Cemetery was already in use in 1865 as a burying ground for those enslaved by the Councill family...."** Since the latter panel states this is a tradition (rather than documented fact), I would recommend rewording the sentence on Panel #1 so that the two statements are consistent. Perhaps: "Tradition states that the earliest black persons buried here had been enslaved by the

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Councill family." Does anyone happen to know where this has traditionally been stated and by whom?

Thanks for considering these suggestions.

Terry

On Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 2:11 PM Eric Plaag <> wrote:

> Hi Terry,
>
> To my knowledge, there is no such deed in either Ashe or Watauga County, nor should there be. Members of the Councill family, later acting as trustees for the cemetery, continued to claim ownership over the parcel throughout the 20th century. The earliest documented transaction for the white portion of the cemetery was by BJ and Blanche Councill and Mrs. J. F. (Matlda/Mattie/Martha) Hardin to James H. Councill, R. D. Hodges, and R. C. Rivers, Jr., as trustees of the cemetery lot. That was in 1937. BJ Councill and Martha Councill Hardin, as you know, were the children of Jacob Mast Councill and grandchildren of Benjamin Councill, and this transaction suggests that they still saw the land as owned by them as the Benjamin Councill, Sr., and Jacob Mast Councill heirs, probably via inheritance rather than formal transfer. I don't know who has remarked that Benjamin Councill "deeded/donated the land for what became the Boone City Cemetery," but the correct way of expressing it is that Benjamin Councill, Sr., LIKELY began using a portion of his land for burials--both enslaved and free--and over time it was used by others in the community (many of the earliest burials were of extended families of the Councill line, typically by marriage). Deeding/donating of the land to anyone other than Councill family members or trustees of private cemetery groups obtaining their ownership from Councill family heirs did not occur until 2015--when the land was finally transferred to the Town of Boone.
>
> Examination in 2014 of many dozens of Councill family deeds from the 1870s through the 1930s placed this parcel within holdings that had been Benjamin Councill's (many of these transactions documented land that bordered the cemetery, typically excluding it from inclusion in the transfer). It is for this reason that the cemetery was been described on Panel #1 as "historically associated with the Councill family and was once owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. (1795-1877)."
>
> I am attaching the deed research summary that I provided to Town Council in 2014. I hope it is helpful. Please let me know if you have any other questions.
>
> If you have documentation that contradicts or further clarifies the conclusions of the HPC, please provide it to Jessica Mitchell at Planning & Inspections prior to this Friday, August 25, at noon, so that it can be included for consideration by the HPC in early September.
>
> Best,
>
> Eric
>
> Eric Plaag, PhD

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
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ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/8babb779/PhhcYeVxD02KMCMYCVdSRQ?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

On Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 11:01 AM Terry Harmon <> wrote:

> Good morning Eric. I have seen it remarked that Benjamin Councill (my 3x great-grandfather) deeded/donated the land for what became the Boone City Cemetery, but in looking through the Old Index Books on the Register of Deeds website, I am not finding a deed. Of course, I could be overlooking it. Do you happen to have a copy of that deed or some other documentation pertaining to his donation?
>
> Thanks,
> Terry

Links contained in this email have been replaced by AT-NET's Cloud Email Security. If you click on a link in the email above, the link will be analyzed for known threats. If a known threat is found, you will not be able to proceed to the destination. If suspicious content is detected, you will see a warning.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Ewins. H. P.

Pvt. Co. F., Regt. 2nd

N. C. Mtd. Inf.

Cemetery Council Cem.

City or Town Boone.

County and State Watauga. N. C.

Grave —

died April 13th 1863.

Headstone supplied 18

by S. G. Bridges.

Contract dated Nov. 29th 1879

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological

Maricle. J. E.

Pvt. Co. H, Regt. 2nd

N. C. Mtd Inf.

Cemetery Council Cem.

City or Town Boone.

County and State Watauga N. C.

Grave —

died April 18th 1866.

Headstone supplied 18

by S. G. Bridges.

Contract dated Nov. 22nd 1872

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Bradley. W. F.

Pvt. Co. H, Regt. 2nd
N. C. Mtd Inf.

Cemetery Council. Cem.

City or Town Boone.

County and State Watauga N. C.

Grave —

died April 10th 1863.

Headstone supplied

by S. G. Bridges. 18

Contract dated Nov. 29th 1878.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Benjamin Councill Deed/Donation of Land for Boone City Cemetery

From: Terry Harmon <>
To: Eric Plaag <>
Date: 8/22/2023 10:20 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Benjamin Councill Deed/Donation of Land for Boone City Cemetery
Cc: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>

Thank you Eric.

The preference for Benjamin's birth year would be 1807. Although the author of "Hodges Councill of Virginia And Descendants" (published in 1941) does not indicate his source, Benjamin's birth year is stated as 1807 on two pages of that volume (images forthcoming in a separate email), and as you mentioned, two out of three census records point to 1807 being the most likely year. In my notes, I have a very specific birthdate for Benjamin - March 15, 1807 - although, sadly, I cannot find my source for that. I made an additional note along the way that the Councill Family Bible stated Benjamin's birthdate as March 7, 1807. Again, sorry to say that I don't have a copy of this. I'm not even sure what Councill Bible this refers to, although it may be the one referenced by John Preston Arthur in his History of Watauga County within his sketch of the Councill family as "the family Bible in the possession of Mrs. J. S. Williams." (Mrs. J. S. Williams was a great-niece of Benjamin.) Arthur then proceeds to list certain dates for Jordan Councill, Sr. and his children Jordan, Jr. and Sarah - presumably from that Bible - but unfortunately, no dates for Benjamin.

In terms of the cemetery beginning as a cemetery for enslaved persons, as stated in the Junaluska history, it's impossible to say that with certainty since those early fieldstones have no dates. I agree with you that the Councills used the cemetery both as a family plot and a burying ground for slaves, but there is no way to prove who was buried there first - a white family member or a black slave. And even though I have no doubt Councill slaves were buried there, there's no way to know for certain that the earliest black burial was a *Councill* slave. Although it seems reasonable that, since the land was owned by the Councills, the earliest black burial would have been one of their slaves, there's no way to prove it. I don't think there's any problem using terms like traditionally believed, probably, likely, may have, could have, etc. My hesitation is the use of declarative/definitive statements in the absence of documentation. So again, I would suggest for Panel #1 replacing **"Black burials, the earliest of which had been persons enslaved by the Councill family..."** with something like **"Tradition states that the earliest black persons buried here had been enslaved by the Councill family"** or maybe even better, **"Black burials, the earliest of which are believed to have been persons enslaved by the Councill family..."** In essence, **"are believed to have been"** versus **"had been."**

Thanks again. I do appreciate the work that has been done on this and am glad the cemetery will have panels that help interpret its history.

Terry

Communication: Communication - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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Communication: Communication - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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Communication: Communication - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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Panel #2 states, **"...the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been the Council family's commentary on men whom they perceived were fighting to end slavery."** I have wondered about that myself, and it could very well be, but it also might not be, so I think it's better left unsaid. However, if it *is* going to be stated, I would suggest it be reworded as follows: "...the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been a commentary on men perceived to be fighting to end slavery." We have no way of knowing if the Councill family, in particular, had any say in the burial of these soldiers. Maybe they did, but in the absence of records that prove it, I would suggest not attributing supposed commentary about the burials to any particular individual or family, and therefore indicting them.

Communication: Communication - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Likewise, Panel #2 also states: **"Nevertheless, Benjamin Councill's willingness to allow their burial on his land after the killing of his unarmed son just a few weeks earlier is also striking."** Even if Benjamin did own the land where the cemetery sits, I think it's a leap to state he was the one who allowed the Union soldiers to be buried there. We have no way of knowing if he was consulted about the matter or if burials there even required his approval. Even if he was consulted about the matter, how do we know for sure he allowed it? Maybe he actually opposed it and it happened anyway. I'm not trying to make an argument for Benjamin's character either way; maybe he was a very gracious and forgiving person, or maybe he was a real jerk. I never knew him, so I can't attest to that. :) But to the point, I don't think we can definitively state (or even portray) that he had the opportunity to give input about who could be buried there.

Finally, Panel #1 states, **"Black burials, the earliest of which had been persons enslaved by the Councill family..."** (a definitive statement) seems less definitive when compared to Panel #4's statement: **"If we accept the tradition that this eastern part of the Boone Cemetery was already in use in 1865 as a burying ground for those enslaved by the Councill family...."** Since the latter panel states this is a tradition (rather than documented fact), I would recommend rewording the sentence on Panel #1 so that the two statements are consistent. Perhaps: "Tradition states that the earliest black persons buried here had been enslaved by the Councill family." Does anyone happen to know where this has traditionally been stated and by whom?

Thanks for considering these suggestions.

Terry

On Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 2:11 PM Eric Plaag <> wrote:

> Hi Terry,
>
> To my knowledge, there is no such deed in either Ashe or Watauga County, nor should there be. Members of the Councill family, later acting as trustees for the cemetery, continued to claim ownership over the parcel throughout the 20th century. The earliest documented transaction for the white portion of the cemetery was by BJ and Blanche Councill and Mrs. J. F. (Matlda/Mattie/Martha) Hardin to James H. Councill, R. D. Hodges, and R. C. Rivers, Jr., as trustees of the cemetery lot. That was in 1937. BJ Councill and Martha Councill Hardin, as you know, were the children of Jacob Mast Councill and grandchildren of Benjamin Councill, and this transaction suggests that they still saw the land as owned by them as the Benjamin Councill, Sr., and Jacob Mast Councill heirs, probably via inheritance rather than formal transfer. I don't know who has remarked that Benjamin Councill "deeded/donated the land for what became the Boone City Cemetery," but the correct way of expressing it is that Benjamin Councill, Sr., LIKELY began using a portion of his land for burials--both enslaved and free--and over time it was used by others in the community (many of the earliest burials were of extended families of the Councill line, typically by marriage). Deeding/donating of the land to anyone other than Councill family members or trustees of private cemetery groups obtaining their ownership from Councill family heirs did not occur until 2015--when the land was finally transferred to the Town of Boone.

Communication: Communication - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Examination in 2014 of many dozens of Councill family deeds from the 1870s through the 1930s placed this parcel within holdings that had been Benjamin Councill's (many of these transactions documented land that bordered the cemetery, typically excluding it from inclusion in the transfer). It is for this reason that the cemetery was been described on Panel #1 as "historically associated with the Councill family and was once owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. (1795-1877)."

I am attaching the deed research summary that I provided to Town Council in 2014. I hope it is helpful. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

If you have documentation that contradicts or further clarifies the conclusions of the HPC, please provide it to Jessica Mitchell at Planning & Inspections prior to this Friday, August 25, at noon, so that it can be included for consideration by the HPC in early September.

Best,

Eric

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/e7c96286/KtmEpLcTJkeQVj95xUwYcA?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

On Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 11:01 AM Terry Harmon <> wrote:

> Good morning Eric. I have seen it remarked that Benjamin Councill (my 3x great-grandfather) deeded/donated the land for what became the Boone City Cemetery, but in looking through the Old Index Books on the Register of Deeds website, I am not finding a deed. Of course, I could be overlooking it. Do you happen to have a copy of that deed or some other documentation pertaining to his donation?
>
> Thanks,
> Terry

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Communication: Communication - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Councill Family Bible

From: Terry Harmon <>
To: Eric Plaag <>, Jessica Mitchell <jessica.mitchell@tow...
Date: 8/22/2023 3:50 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Councill Family Bible

In fact, this may have even been the family Bible of Benjamin and his wife, Temperance Shull Councill, passed on to their son.

On Tue, Aug 22, 2023 at 3:47 PM Terry Harmon <> wrote:

> Hi Eric. I finally found my source document regarding Benjamin Councill's birthdate. This is from the family Bible belonging to Benjamin's son, James Patterson Councill. You'll see the first entry in the left column states "Benjamin Councill was born March the 7 day 1807."
>
> Sent from my iPhone

Communication: Communication with Attachment - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

ginia and ×

85105&hid=1021948996439&_phsrc=LUA10320&_phstart=default

this record match the person in your tree?

f Virginia and his descendants Hodges Council of Virginia and descendants

Some of the following is taken from "History of Watauga Co. N. C." 1915 by John Preston Arthur.

1 Jordan Council 1769-1839 lived in what is now Watauga Co. N. C. before 1800 A. D. He m. about 1797 Sally, b. 1771, dau. of Benjamin Howard & his wife Prudence Sater of Maryland. They had:

x 1 Jordan Council b. 1799
x 2 Jesse Council d. before 1877
3 Sarah Council b. 1802 m. Alfred Martin of Yadkin Co.
4 Charlotte Council m. John Hardin & had:
1 Jordan Council Hardin m. —— & had:
1 Geo. Williams Hardin of Johnson City, Tenn. m. —— & had:
1 Mary Hardin, supplied some of this, m. Leonidas W. McCown of Johnson City, Tennessee.
x 5 Benjamin Council b. 1807 m. twice
6 Louisa Council m. Geo. Phillips, m. 2d R. Baird
7 Elizabeth Council m. Willis McGhee
8 Nancy Council m. Colonel Euclid Baird
9 Rebecca Council m. Phineas Horton
10 Polly Council m. —— Calloway

1 Jordan Council 1799-1875 m. 1823 Sarah 1802-1877, sister of Senator Geo. Bower, they had:

1 John C. Council b. 1824
x 2 James Willis Council b. 1826, C. S. A., Lt., Co. D, 9 Reg. N. C.
x 3 Dr. William Bower Council b. 1829, C. S. A., State Senator
4 Elizabeth A. Council b. 1831 m. 1853 Col. Geo. N. Folk, C. S. A.
5 Geo. Rosseau Council 1849-1891 m. Anna M. Carter

1 Jordan's son
2 Jesse Council m. Sallie, dau. of Daniel Dixon & had:
1 Sarah Council m. Jesse Ray, they had:
1 Jeremiah Council Ray d. 1931, his dau.
1 Sally Ray, r. Boone, N. C. supplied some of this.

[5] Listed in Military Records.

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Communication: Communication with Attachment - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

of Virginia and ×

15985105&hid=1021948996439&_phsrc=LUA10320&_phstart=default

Hodges Councill of Virginia and his descendants

2 Nancy Councill m. Thomas Green
3 Elizabeth Councill m. Albert P. Wilson
4 Louise Councill m. Burnett D. Ferguson
5 John Howard Councill d. in the Civil War
6 Jordan Councill d. in the Civil War

[105]

1 Jordan's son
5 Benjamin Councill 1807-1877 m. Elizabeth Mast. Issue:
1 Jacob M. Councill b. 1830 d. 1865 in the Civil War "by Stoneman's men." m. Sally, dau. of Jacob Lewis & had:
1 Mary Councill m. Geo. W. Blair
2 Benjamin J. Councill 18— 1938 m. Blanche Hagaman. Issue:
1 James Hardin Councill m. Margaret Moore, they had:
1 Tracy Councill 1899-1936 m. Grace McNinch b. 1900, r. Charlotte, N. C., supplied some of this. They had:
1 Grace McNinch Councill
2 John Hardin Councill
3 Mattie Councill m. John Hardin of Boone, N. C.
2 Joseph Carson Councill m. Mattie Gilbert in Texas, they had:
1 William Porter Councill, r. Shreveport, La.
2 Lewis Councill, r. Nocogdoches, Texas
3 Sallie Councill m. Eben, son of Jehiel Smith & moved to Texas—both dead in 1915
4 Elizabeth Councill m. Holland Hodges
5—Benjamin b. 1807 m. 2d Temperance 1804-1883, sister of Philip & Jos. Shull. They had:
5 Jordan Councill b. 1842 d. in Civil War m. Polly Horton
6 Benjamin Councill 1845-1906 m. Susan Adams, m. 2d Delia, dau. of Daniel Bradley
7 Polly Council 1846-1936 m. 1869 Jas. W. Horton
8 James P. Councill b. 11/30/1848 in Vilas, N. C. d. 1922 in Ky. m. 1866 Sarah E. Horton b. 6/26/1848 in Vilas, N. C. d. 1917 in Limestone, Tenn. They had:
1 Joseph Belle Council 1871-1932
2 John Lundun Council b
3 Rebecca Elizabeth Cou b. 1876
4 Myrtie Awilda Council Buchanan b. 1878
5 Addie May Council Reese b. 1880

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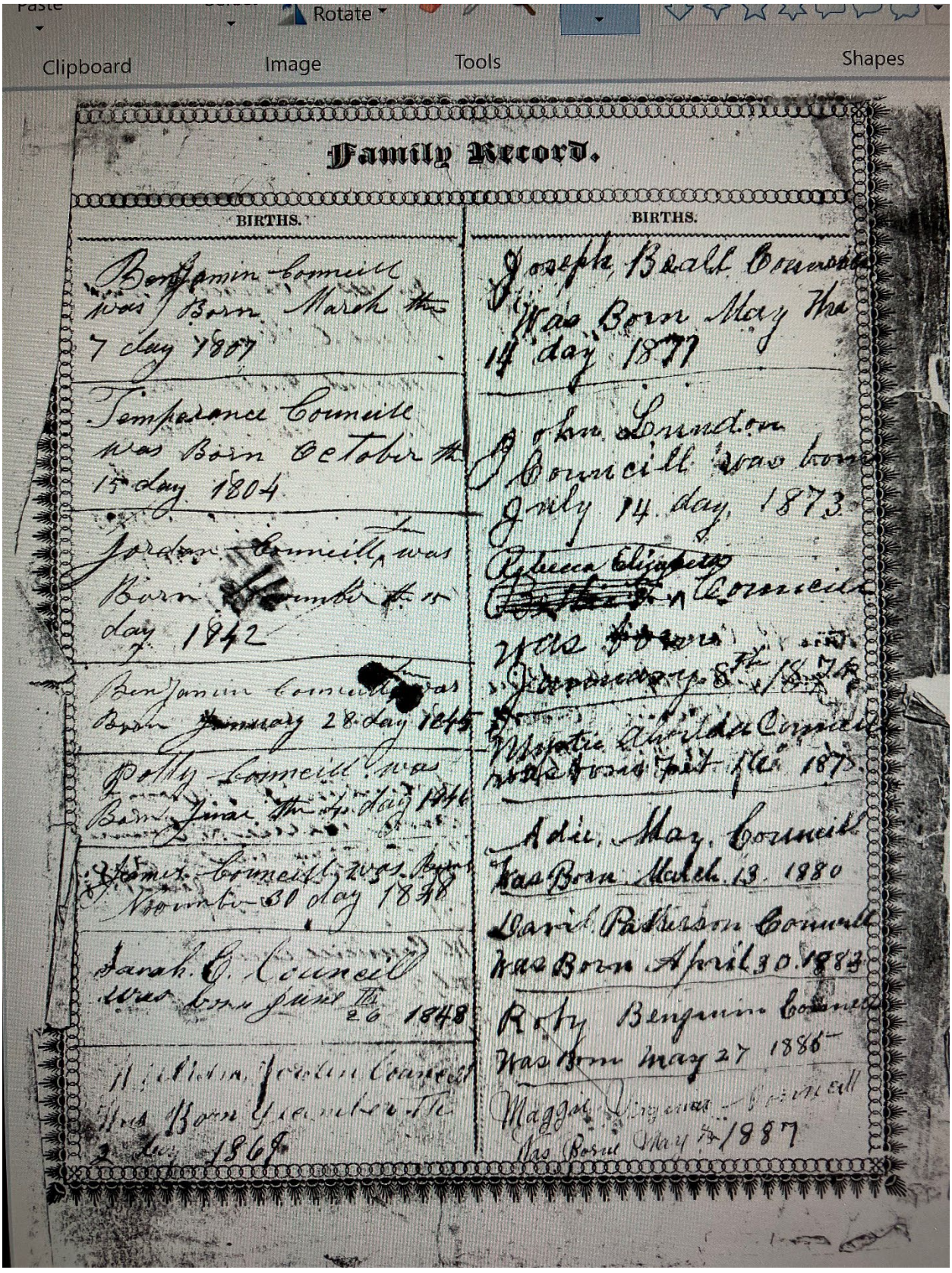
Communication: Communication with Attachment - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Communication: Communication with Attachment - T. Harmon - August 22, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))



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Family Record.

BIRTHS.

Benjamin Council was Born March the 7 day 1807

Temperance Council was Born October the 15 day 1804

Jordan Council was Born [illegible] 15 day 1842

Benjamin Council was Born January 28 day 1845

Polly Council was Born June the 9 day 1846

Thomas Council was Born November 30 day 1848

Sarah C. Council was born June the 26 1848

William Jordan Council was Born September the 2 day 1868

BIRTHS.

Joseph Beall Council was Born May the 14 day 1877

John London Council was born July 14 day 1873

Rebecca Elizabeth Council was born February 8th 1876

Nicholas Clarkson Council was born Oct the 1877

Addie May Council was Born March 13 1880

Carl Patterson Council was Born April 30 1883

Roby Benjamin Council was Born May 27 1886

Maggie Virginia Council was Born May the 1887

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - A request regarding the Draft Cemetery Panels

From: Tracy Councill
To: <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>, Tim Futrelle <tim.futrelle@townofboo...
Date: 8/23/2023 10:37 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - A request regarding the Draft Cemetery Panels

Please see last page t
correct reference t
social media post.

Dear Mr. Futrelle and Ms. Mitchell,

I am pasting in below an email I sent last week to the Historical Society, asking some questions about the Draft Cemetery Panels. In the intervening few days, a post has been made on Digital Watauga, giving a different account of the history of the cemetery—notably attributing ownership of the Black side to Green Horton in the late 1800's, based on a news article from the 1980s. I have also heard from longtime residents of Boone that for a time, the three gravestones for the Union soldiers were piled near the entrance of the cemetery, which makes me wonder whether their present location, which the Draft makes much of, is certain. It is true that the cemetery was vandalized in the 1970's and 1980's. Again, I would ask that a more careful review of the narrative be undertaken, not relying on one scholar's point of view, but one that takes into account other, equally valid, sources and points of view.
Thank-you for your consideration.
Tracy Councill

Dear Mr. Plaag and the Watauga County Historical Society,

The proposed interpretive panels for the Boone Cemetery have recently come to my attention. True, I am not active in the Historical Society, so I am late to the discussion. Even so, I would like to share with you my impression of the draft, pointing out a few areas where the document seems to go beyond historical fact. Though I no longer live there, I grew up in Boone, have a house there, pay taxes, and visit often. I have family there, and I do care about the community. My mother, Rebecca Shoemake Councill, was an active member of the Historical Society for many years, and Bettie Bond knew her well.

I have hesitated to address the authors of the document directly, because I expect they will seek to dismiss me, since I am not a trained historian. I ask that someone on your committee read the draft document again, with an eye for its emphasis and tone, which seem to go beyond the historical record at times.

I grew up knowing that my Councill ancestors owned slaves, but I was not raised to preserve that racist mindset. As a modern person I cannot imagine owning another human being, though that was surely what my forbearers did. I do not for a second seek to defend that practice, nor do I idealize the Councills who did so. I have no issue with acknowledging slavery and systemic racism in the history of our community, and that of the Boone Cemetery.

That said, there are parts of the proposed narrative that seem to go beyond historical fact. Here are the parts of the narrative that I would ask you to look at again:

Communication: Communication - T. Councill - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with the Councill family and was once owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. (1795-1877). The earliest known burials here were Councill family members, but other interments soon followed. By the 1880s, locals treated this as the town cemetery, even though it remained on privately owned land. ***Cemetery neglect and poor maintenance were a recurring problem by the late 19th century.***

What is the relevance/evidence that the Boone cemetery was neglected in the late 19th century? Is there a record of it being neglected? If not, why bring it up?

From its establishment, the cemetery was also racially segregated. Most surviving grave markers are in this west section of the cemetery, which was reserved for White burials. Black burials, the earliest of which had been persons enslaved by the Councill family, were restricted to the east section. *Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials.*

Segregated cemeteries were not exclusive to the Councill family, the South, or even the 19th century. The amount of discussion it receives in the cemetery panel document implies that the segregation of the cemetery was not to be expected, and was particular to the Councills. It makes sense to point it out, but the historical context of the practice as generalized in the United States should also be made clear.

The stone line at your feet marks the boundary that once divided the Black section of the cemetery to the east from the White section to the west. and likely originated here with the Councill family's pre-Civil War burial practices. Local tradition holds that the Councill family interred those they enslaved in the east section and their family members at the crest of the hill to the west. Slavery may have formally ended in 1865, but racial segregation did not. In the century that followed, locals usually called the cemetery's east section the "Colored Cemetery" and the west section the "City Cemetery." *White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section.* ***Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all.***

Segregated burial practices were not particular to the Councills, but naming them again here gives it emphasis. Is there some way in which the Boone cemetery is different from cemeteries of that era in other parts of North Carolina?

If we accept the tradition that this eastern part of the Boone Cemetery was already in use in 1865 as a burying ground for those enslaved by the Councill family, then the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been the Councill family's commentary on men whom they perceived were fighting to end slavery. Nevertheless, Benjamin Councill's willingness to allow their burial on his land after the killing of his unarmed son just a few weeks earlier is also striking.

Attributing a vengeful motive to the Councills in burying the white Union soldiers on the Black side of the cemetery is conjecture that goes beyond historical fact.it seems that Benjamin Councill did bury the Union soldiers on his land, as is pointed out, whereas many times soldiers from opposing sides were left in fields, buried in mass graves, etc. This may have been done with animosity as you say, or with some degree of respect--we really don't know.

I submit these concerns with all due respect.
Tracy Councill

--
Tracy Councill, MA, ATR-BC, LCPAT
Program Director, Tracy's Kids Art Therapy
Artist, Art Therapist

301-335-1811

Communication: Communication - T. Councill - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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Communication: Communication - T. Councill - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Facebook Post Link

From: Tracy Councill
To: <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/23/2023 11:17 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Facebook Post Link

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--

Tracy Councill, MA, ATR-BC, LCPAT
Program Director, Tracy's Kids Art Therapy
Artist, Art Therapist

301-335-1811

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Communication: Communication - T. Councill - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - The Latest on the Cemetery

From: Eric Plaag
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/23/2023 12:30 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - The Latest on the Cemetery
Cc: <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net>
Attachments: Screen Shot 2023-08-23 at 10.14.30 AM.png; Screen Shot 2023-08-23 at 10.13.57 AM.png; Screen Shot 2023-08-23 at 10.14.13 AM.png; Screen Shot 2023-08-23 at 10.17.01 AM.png; Screen Shot 2023-08-23 at 10.12.45 AM.png; Screen Shot 2023-08-23 at 10.14.42 AM.png; Screen Shot 2023-08-23 at 10.13.11 AM.png; Bliss, Individuals Buried in the Black Section.pdf; DB R, Pg 549.pdf; DB R, Pg 550.pdf; Screen Shot 2023-08-23 at 12.03.54 PM.png

At the Watauga History Hunters Facebook group, Michael Hardy has posted a blurb of what I am guessing is his "alternative" history of the Boone Cemetery. Copies are attached. As part of this statement, he references a 1997 report by Adam Bliss (also attached). Brenda Councill has in turn made a post and several comments attacking the HPC once again and revering the "description of scholarly intent" offered by Mr. Hardy.

The following information, posted by Facebook user "Cameron R. Walters," apparently undercuts some of Mr. Hardy's most recent claims about the origin of the Black section of the cemetery. That post reads in part:

The [Bliss] report does NOT "state that the property for the Black section of the cemetery was granted by Green Horton in 1894," as Michael indicated in his post. What it does say, on page 19, is "Green Horton may be the Green Horton named as Grantee in 1894 deed for what may be the Black Section of the Cemetery."

The referenced deed, found in Deed Book R, Page 549, for land acquired by Greene Horton from J. B. Councill, is clearly NOT for the land that makes up the Black section of the Boone Cemetery. It is a one-acre parcel "adjoining the lands of Dr. W. B. Councill and others, bound as follows, viz, Beginning on a rock, T. W. Thomas corner running South 63 degrees East with his line 17 poles to a chestnut tree, thence north 11 degrees east 9 poles to a stake, then north 63 degrees west 17 poles to a stake at the road, then south 22 degrees west 9 poles to the beginning."

If you actually plot these parcel lines, the northwest corner of the parcel would be "a stake at the road." There is not, nor has there ever been, a road at the northwest corner of the Black section of the cemetery (which would have been the northeast corner of the white section). Furthermore, 17 poles is about 280 feet for the long sides (northeast and southwest) of the lot boundaries. The CURRENT length of the northeast line of the Black section is about 114 feet, while the southwest line is 149 feet--substantially short of the dimensions listed in the deed. In fact, the entire Black section as shown in Plat Book 14, Page 172--INCLUDING the additional sliver on Brown Street purchased in 1919 by the Boone Chapel trustees--is 0.425 acres, less than half the amount of land referenced in the Greene Horton deed.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Please add all of this information to the packet for next month as well.

Thanks,

Eric

Eric Plaag, PhD
Pronouns: He/Him/His
703 Junaluska Rd.
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 773-6525
ericplaag@gmail.com
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/b801cfbb/VegZrCV_hkOeO-L01nNDbQ?u=http://www.carolinahistorical.com/

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Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Watauga History Hunters

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Michael C. Hardy
Admin · 17h ·

Boone Cemetery – There is probably no more historic cemetery in Watauga County than the Boone Cemetery. Local tradition has it that this cemetery started as the Councill Family Cemetery. The Councills were, of course, early and important leaders in Watauga County. The first recorded burial in the cemetery is Charlotte Hardin (1795-1843), followed by the children of Joseph B. and Carolina Todd (Maggie E. Todd, 1853-1858 and Joe C. Todd 1855-1858) and another child, John W. Wood (1855-1858). There are of course many unknown burials as well. Given the cemetery's location, with Councill's Store (an early name of the community) becoming Boone in 1850, the cemetery has for many years been viewed as the Boone Cemetery (as it was called in the 1937 WPA Cemetery Survey of Watauga County). There is also oral tradition that the Councill family slaves were buried in a separate plot in the cemetery, but that is unsubstantiated. A 1997 report by Adam Bliss, "Individuals Buried in the Black Section of the Old Boone Town Cemetery," states that the property for the Black section of the cemetery was granted by Green Horton in 1894. The WPA survey does list a separate Boone Cemetery for Blacks. This cemetery contains the graves of three Federal soldiers who died in April 1865. The earliest recorded African-American buried in this section of the cemetery per the 1937 WPA survey is Fannie Horton, who died in 1904.

While there are no elaborately marked graves here, no tall obelisks, no crypts or mausoleums, there are numerous final resting places of important people. There are at least four Civil War-era graves in the cemetery. Jacob M. Councill was a member of the home guard and was killed in the skirmish of Boone by Federal soldiers on March 28, 1865. W.F. Bradley, H. P. Ewins, and J.E. Maricle were Federal soldiers who died of disease while a part of an occupation force that came later. There are also several Confederate veterans buried in the cemetery, including Alfred P. Eller, William T. Blair, Henry W. Hardin, James W. Councill, Jordan C. McGee, Joseph B. Todd, J.C. Rivers, Thomas J. Coffey, William C. Coffey, Calvin J. Cottrell, William B. Councill, and Daniel B. Dougherty.

Numerous elected officials are buried in the cemetery, including state senators William B. Councill, Robert C. Rivers, state representatives Joseph B. Todd, John W. Hodges, Dr. Hannibal M. Little, William F. Miller, and Stacy Eggers. Mayors include J. M. Moretz and William P. Moody. Clerk of Court Henry Blair and Boone Chief of Police Hill Hagaman are buried here as well.

Historians buried in the cemetery include John Preston Arthur, Oscar L. Brown, and Frederick E. Warman.

Educators include Floe Bingham, Virginia S. Bingham, B.B. Dougherty, D.D. Dougherty, Mazie Jean Jones Levenson, Andrew M. Morton, Joyve Gragg Pipes, James D. Rankin (President of ASTC), and Miriam Bingham Smith.

Veterans include Lt. Robert H. Bingham (KIA Saipan, WWII); Lt. Robert K. Bingham, Jr.; Lt. Col.

About

Welcome to the official facebook page for the Watauga History Hunters. Our mission is to uncover and preserve the history of Old Watauga County.

Public
Anyone can see who's in the group and what they post.

Visible
Anyone can find this group.

Boone, North Carolina

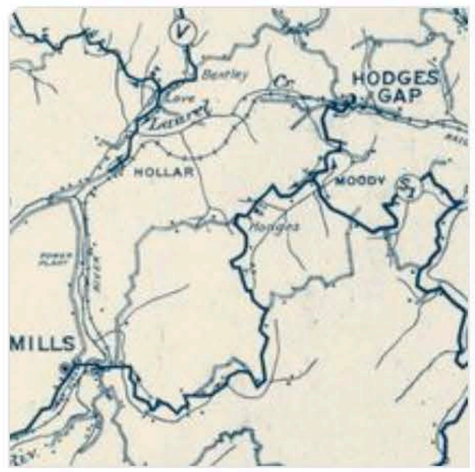
Learn more

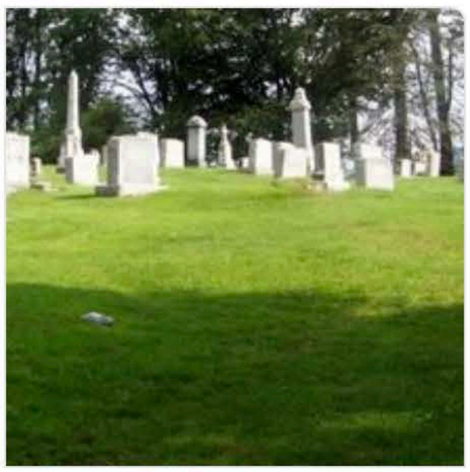
Upcoming events

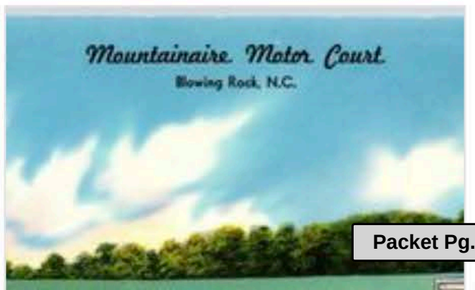
THIS FRIDAY AT 5:30 PM
Local History Dinner
Foscoe Grandfather Community Center
Foods · Shared to Watauga History Hunters

See all

Recent media







Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

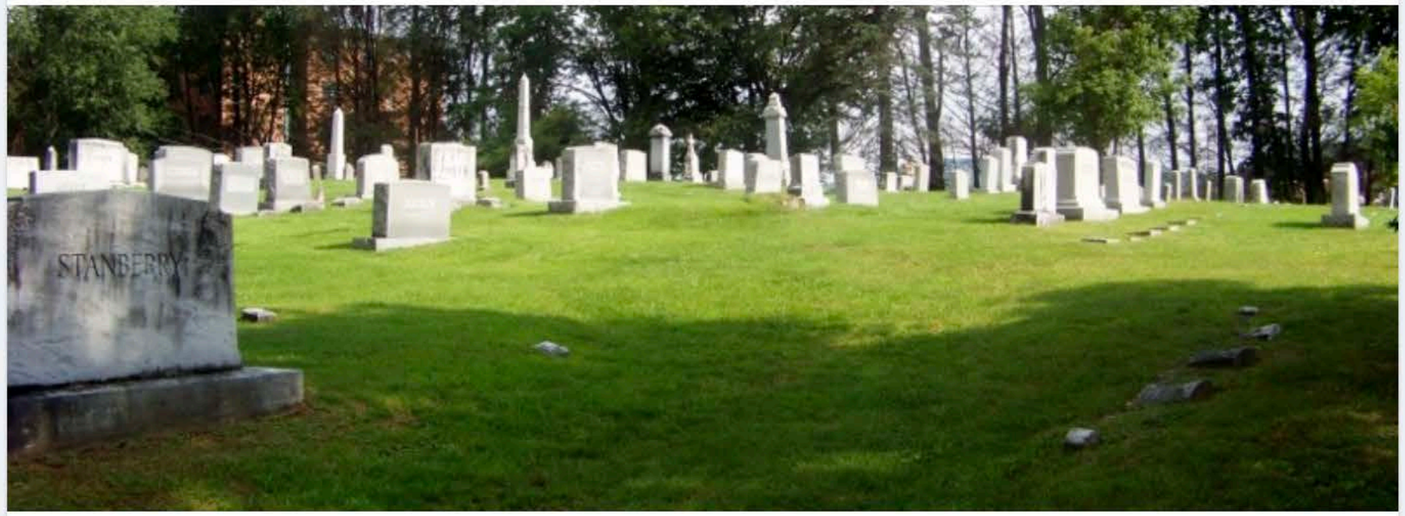
ASTC), and Miriam Bingham Smith.

Veterans include Lt. Robert H. Bingham (KIA Saipan, WWII); Lt. Robert K. Bingham, Jr.; Lt. Col. Olen C. Cook; John H. Councill, Sr.; Henry G. Farthing; Lt. Roy E. Fox; SSgt. Theodore R. Grayson; SSgt. Paul D. Hagaman (mortally wounded at Burma); James P. March, Sr.; Pvt. Alonzo C. Payne; SSgt. Edgar L. Payne; TSgt. Claude Ragan; Cpl. Albert Watson; Wagoneer Benjamin F. Williams; William G. Winkler; Seaman Charles L. Young, Jr., and John Adams.

Newspaper editors include Paul Coffey, Rachel Rivers Coffey, Lucinda Jane Rivers, and Bob Rivers.

Also here are US District Attorney and Judge Frank Linney and missionary Marguerit King.

This list is undoubtedly incomplete, but since there is no published history of the cemetery, this is a good place to start.



105 35 comments 14 shares

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Write a public comment...

Vickie Hawkins
Very interesting! What was the reason for three children dying in 1858? Was there an epidemic of some sort?

Like Reply Share 15h

↳ Michael C. Hardy replied · 1 Reply

Steve Shirley Coffey
Is the william c coffey,william clayton coffey

Like Reply Share 14h

↳ Judy Clark Sherron replied · 2 Replies

View more comments

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Boone, North Carolina

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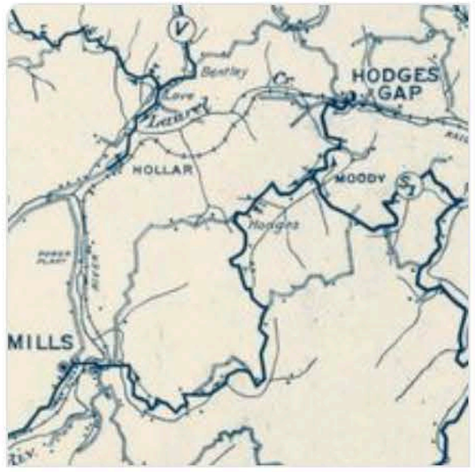
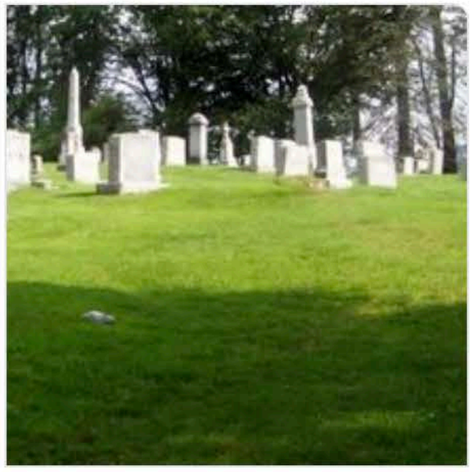
Upcoming events

THIS FRIDAY AT 5:30 PM
Local History Dinner
Foscoe Grandfather Community Center
Foods · Shared to Watauga History Hunters

See all

Recent media





Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Michael's Post

Like Comment Share

Top comments

Vickie Hawkins
Very interesting! What was the reason for three children dying in 1858? Was there an epidemic of some sort?

Like Reply Share 15h

Michael C. Hardy Author Admin
Vickie Hawkins that is the same question I had. Needs more research.

Like Reply Share 15h

Steve Shirley Coffey
Is the william c coffey,william clayton coffey

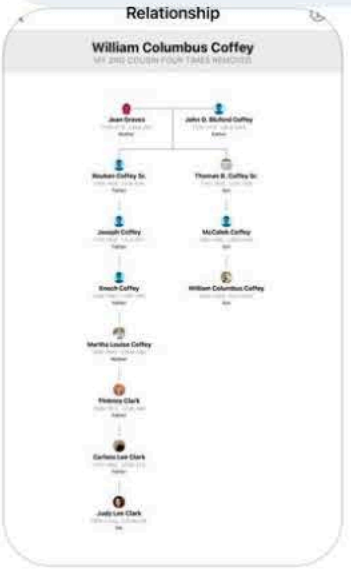
Like Reply Share 14h

Michael C. Hardy Author Admin
Steve Shirley Coffey https://www.findagrave.com/.../william-columbus-coffey

FINDAGRAVE.COM
William Columbus Coffey (1839-1920) - Find a...

Like Reply Share 13h

Judy Clark Sherron
Steve Shirley Coffey



Like Reply Share 13h

Rich Bowers
Very timely article - hopefully the committee reads it

Like Reply Share 16h

Michael C. Hardy Author Admin
Rich Bowers we can hope...

Like Reply Share 16h

Brenda Mauney Councill
The is a description of scholarly intent unlike the Boone Historic Preservation commission who wants to display signage that is racially provocative and ina
Families whose ancestors and family plots are there deserve peace and respect not

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Like Reply Share 16h

Brenda Mauney Councill
The is a description of scholarly intent unlike the Boone Historic Preservation commission who wants to display signage that is racially provocative and inaccurate. Families whose ancestors and family plots are there deserve peace and respect not social commentary by the chairman of the BOONE HPC! Call and write MAYOR Tim Futrelle now! Stop the rewriting of Boone's history!

7

Like Reply Share 15h

Bonny Councill
Brenda Mauney Councill I concur!

Like Reply Share 2h

Brenda Mauney Councill
Bonny Councill thanks for the support!

Like Reply Share 2h

Ben Blackburn
My uncle, Manly B. Blackburn and his family are buried there also. Uncle Manly was once Register of Deeds for Watauga County as well as Clerk of Superior Court for Watauga County.

7

Like Reply Share 17h

Brenda Mauney Councill
Ben Blackburn please help STOP the interpretive panels underway written by the chairman of the Boone Historic preservation commission. Michael's scholarly review is what we need!!! Call or write the Mayor please!

Like Reply Share 15h

Beth Dixon Layton
I have not been there in a long time, but I love visiting there. Others who are buried there include Jeff and Elizabeth Stanbury, longtime members of Boone (United) Methodist Church and his sister, Esther Boone, beloved piano teacher.

2

Like Reply Share 15h

Gay Underwood
Beth Dixon Layton Ester Boone taught me piano back in the 50's.

Like Reply Share 12h

Beth Dixon Layton
Gay Underwood and me in the 60s

Like Reply Share 12h

Minnie Snead
Gay Underwood she taught my sisters and me in the 40s

Like Reply Share 1h

James Russell Gragg
Thanks for your hard work on this and for sharing this information!

5

Like Reply Share 16h

Brenda Mauney Councill
James Russell Gragg please be aware of Michael's scholarly review which will

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Brenda Mauney Councill
James Russell Gragg please be aware of Michael's scholarly review which will refute the Boone Historic Preservation Commission chairman's inaccurate signage that is to be installed at the cemetery! Please help a concerned group stop this action by the HPC. Call or write Boone's Mayor Futrelle

Like Reply Share 15h

Jayne Gragg Williams
James Russell Gragg some may be our relatives

Like Reply Share 12h

Sharon Blair Tolbert
Thank you for sharing this information.
Many of my Blair ancestors are buried in the Boone Cemetery.
My great great grandparents Henry Blair (as you mentioned) and Mary Steele Blair among them.
I have always cherished visits to that sacred space.

3

Like Reply Share 15h

Sandra Blankenship
Robert Peurifoy---Worked so hard taking tombstone pictures for the cemetery. I have cropped many ASU & ASTC year book pictures for the cemetery.

Like Reply Share 15h

Brenda Mauney Councill
Sandra Blankenship Michael's scholarly history will contrast the chairman of the BOONE Preservation Commission who is intent on placing interpretive panels that are inaccurate and racially provocative! Call or write the Mayor of Boone before this is allowed to move forward.

Like Reply Share 15h

Sandra Blankenship
Ben Blackburn-----This is fir you.

Like Reply Share 15h

Ben Blackburn
Sandra Blankenship Uncle Manly Blackburn and the Watauga Democrat newspaper editor, Rob Rivers, Sr., were neighbors and best friends although they belonged to opposite political parties. It was jokingly said that one month before and after an election if they met on the street one would cross to the other side to keep from speaking.

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 2, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Michael's Post

Ben Blackburn
Sandra Blankenship Uncle Manly Blackburn and the Watauga Democrat newspaper editor, Rob Rivers, Sr., were neighbors and best friends although they belonged to opposite political parties. It was jokingly said that one month before and after an election if they met on the street one would cross to the other side to keep from speaking.

Like Reply Share 13h 2

Clara Woodby
Brenda Tunnell is this where Granny- Virginia (Vera) Cook Tunnell and her parents are buried?

Like Reply Share 15h

Brenda Tunnell
Clara Woodby Yes , it is xx

Like Reply Share 10h

Janis Odom
Wonderful research. Thank you for sharing. I am in Tennessee. Had ancestors in Watauga I can't find. Always love to read Watauga history. Maybe one day my ancestor will be on someone's radar of facts that I have been unable to locate. Thank you again, good work.

Like Reply Share 2h 2

Joanie Buchanan
Thank you for sharing!!

Like Reply Share 16h

Mae Anderson
Thank you for sharing!

Like Reply Share 13m

Tracy Councill
It seems the history of the Boone cemetery is complicated! Thank-you for sharing this info.

Like Reply Share 13h

Pam Fisher
My grandparents Austin E. (long-time Watauga County Clerk of Court) & his wife MaeBelle Casey South; her parents William Thomas and Laura Elizabeth Gunlock Casey ; my paternal grandfather Len Storie (or Story) and his youngest son Bill are all buried there. There may be room for me beside them somewhere!

Like Reply Share 10h

Lorene Morrow
My father Fred A, Greene is there as well as my brother Fred A. Greene Jr. and a spot for me and one more. Dad died in 1947.

Like Reply Share 16m

Shirley Coffey
Thank you!

Like Reply Share 16h

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Watauga History Hunters

Most relevant

Brenda Mauney Councill
15h ·

Michael's scholarly description will refute The BOONE PRESERVATION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN's incendiary and inaccurate DRAFT of "interpretive panels" that will be placed soon. WE all must stop the proposed panels. Call the Mayor of BOONE now! A cemetery is sacred and meditative and not for social commentary on our ancestors buried here.

9 2 comments 1 shar

Like Comment Share

Write a public comment...

Angie Christine Dotson
What is this even about? 4

Like Reply Share 13h

Brenda Mauney Councill Author
The town of boone is going to install interpretive panels that are not appropriate for a cemetery. They are full of social commentary by the HPC historic preservation commission, namely the current Chair. I can send the DRAFT or you can contact jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net

Like Reply Share 2m

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and

Cameron R. Walters
Just now ·

Regarding Michael Hardy's earlier post referencing the Adam Bliss report, you can find the report here: https://digital.ncdcr.gov/.../individuals-buried.../976775

This report does NOT "state that the property for the Black section of the cemetery was granted by Green Horton in 1894," as Michael indicated in his post. What it does say, on page 19, is "Green Horton may be the Green Horton named as Grantee in [an] 1894 deed for what may be the Black Section of the Cemetery."

The referenced deed, found in Deed Book R, Page 549, for land acquired by Greene Horton from J. B. Councill, is clearly NOT for the land that makes up the Black section of the Boone Cemetery. It is a one-acre parcel "adjoining the lands of Dr. W. B. Councill and others, bound as follows, viz, Beginning on a rock, T. W. Thomas corner running South 63 degrees East with his line 17 poles to a chestnut tree, thence north 11 degrees east 9 poles to a stake, then north 63 degrees west 17 poles to a stake at the road, then south 22 degrees west 9 poles to the beginning."

If you actually plot these parcel lines, the northwest corner of the parcel would be "a stake at the road." There is not, nor has there ever been, a road at the northwest corner of the Black section of the cemetery (which would have been the northeast corner of the white section). Furthermore, 17 poles is about 280 feet for the long sides (northeast and southwest) of the lot boundary. The CURRENT length of the northeast line of the Black section is about 114 feet, while the southwest line is 149 feet--substantially short of the dimensions listed in the deed. In fact, the entire Black section as shown in Plat Book 14, Page 172--INCLUDING the additional sliver on Brown Street purchased in 1919 by the Boone Chapel trustees--is 0.425 acres, less than half the amount of land referenced in the Greene Horton deed.

549

to the above released premises, or to any part or parcel thereof forever.
In Witness Whereof the said G.H. Blair & wife Mary N. D. Edmisten and wife A.A. Joe B Todd & wife Eliza have hereunto set our hands and seals this the 29th day of September in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and ninety four Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence of us Thos L Critcher.

G.H. Blair Seal
M.A. Blair Seal
W.N.D. Edmisten Seal
A.A. Edmisten Seal
Joe B Todd Seal
Eliza Todd Seal

North Carolina
Watauga County
The execution of the foregoing instrument was this day proven before me by the oath and examination of Thos L Critcher the Subscribing Witness thereto. Let the same with this certificate be registered This 29th day of September 1894.

Joe B Todd clerk
Superior Court

Reg Oct 2d 1894

Horton Greene Deed from Councill J.B. Filed Oct 2d 1894 at 9 A.M.

State of North Carolina
County
This Deed, made this 30th day of Mar 1894 by J.B. Councill of Rowan County and State of No. of the first part, and Greene Horton of Watauga County and State of No. of the second part. Witnesseth. That said J.B. Councill party of the first part in consideration of Fifty Dollars

550

running South 63d East with his line 17 poles to a chestnut tree, thence North 11d East 9 poles to a stake, then North 63d West 17 poles to a stake at the road, then South 22d West 9 poles to the beginning containing one acre more or less.
To Have And To Hold the aforesaid tract or parcel of land and all privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging to the said Greene Horton his heirs and assigns to their only use and behoof forever.
And the said J.B. Councill Covenants that he is seized of said premises in fee and has a right to convey the same in fee simple, that the same are free and clear from all encumbrances, and that he will warrant and defend the said title to the same against the claims of all persons whatsoever. In Testimony whereof, the said J.B. Councill hereunto set his hand and seal the day and year first above written

Witness J.D. Hood J.B. Councill

North Carolina
Rowan County
The execution of the foregoing instrument was this day proven before me, by the oath and examination of John D. Hood the Subscribing witness thereto. Witness my hand and official seal. This 4 day of April 1894.

W.G. Holcom Clerk Superior Court Rowan County

North Carolina
Watauga County
The foregoing certificate of W.G. Holcom C.S.C. of Rowan County, is adjudged to be formal and sufficient. Let the instrument with the certificate be registered. Witness my hand and seal this 2 day of October 1894.

Joe B Todd clerk Superior Court

Reg Oct 4th 1894

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Anyone can see who's in the group and what they post.

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Local History Dinner
Foscoe Grandfather Community Center
Foods · Shared to Watauga History Hunters

See all

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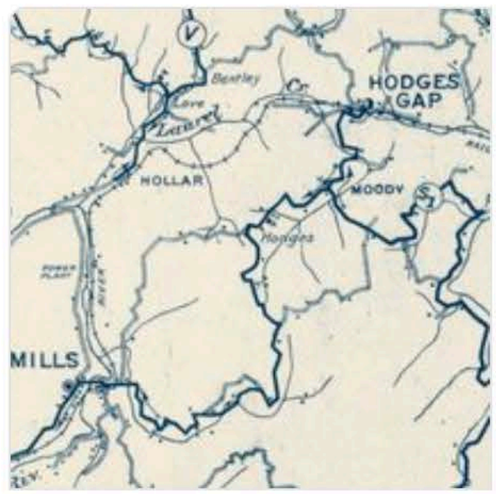

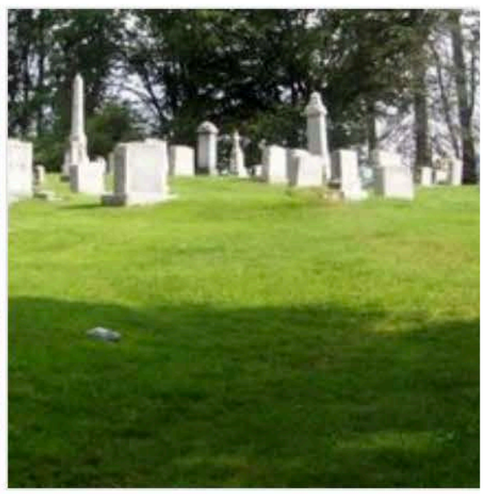

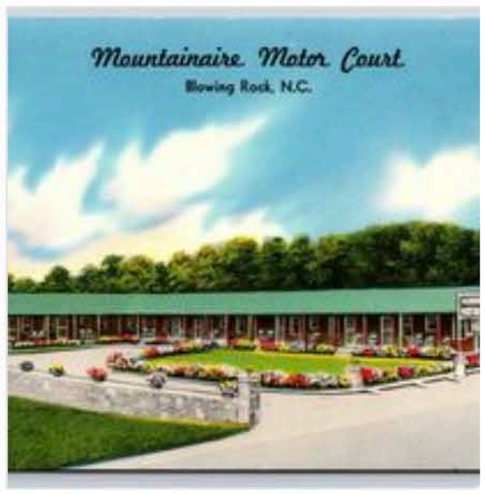

See all

Communication: Communication with Attachments - E.Plaag - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Dougherty descendent about the cemetery

From: Doris Stam
To: <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/23/2023 3:46 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Dougherty descendent about the cemetery
Cc: <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>

Mayor Futrelle,

Let me register my concern over the tone and wording of the proposed cemetery panels written by Eric Plaag. The project seems to be limited in the audience for which it is written, speculative in interpretation, and significantly lacking in a broader based description of the cemetery. What is the purpose of these panels? If it is to give a history of the cemetery, then the panels are lacking.
To ignore so many significant leaders in the area who are buried in the cemetery is to ignore history.

To malign the name of Gordon Winkler seems in extremely bad taste.

Michael C. Hardy's letter offers some very helpful comments to carefully consider.

I appreciate Pres. Nathan Hatch's wording and balance when he announced Wake Forest University's decision on May 7, 2021, to rename some school buildings, but not all of them. I will paste some of the remarks here:

"At Wake Forest, we are passionate about seeking knowledge and pursuing truth. The calling of *Pro Humanitate* is to use that knowledge and truth to better the lives and communities around us. Today, that community is our own." Hatch said in the email. "These actions do not address the full story of Wake Forest's history, but are the principal way the University intends to come to terms with its antebellum heritage." .. "In leaving the Wait name on the chapel that shares a foundation with the newly named May 7, 1860 Hall, we acknowledge the inherent contradictions that summon our intellect and moral conviction," Hatch wrote. "The complexity and contradictions create a tension that invites engagement with our story and the people whose lives are remembered and honored."

Communication: Communication - D. Stam - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

The planned memorial will help address this tension and tell the story of May 7, 1860. It will offer a context for the record of Samuel Wait as the founder of the University who had enslaved persons serving his household."

Mr. Plaag does not seem to be aware that there are other simple flat gravemarkers, not only in the area originally separated.

In focusing on "systemic racism" Mr. Plaag distorts with a view to isolate certain individuals when the story of race relations is much more nuanced, and full of many people's stories. There is a paradox of tar heel politics and history, as one historian has called it, where the good and bad are often mixed such that history cannot be viewed simply. It is more complex.

I find the wording unbalanced.

It is significant to consider that the Doughertys were bound by the state that Appalachian [a state-supported school since 1903] was for "white students," until the UNC system desegregated. It is unfair to indict them with the sweeping "systemic racism" implied by the cemetery panel wording.

Eric Plaag may have a phd. degree, but that is not a license for authority. It is sad to me that he has ignored and alienated many people who care about Watauga County history.

Please have the wording, and purpose, re-evaluated.

Wanting the best for Boone,
Doris Perry Stam

grandparents in Boone cemetery: Rev. O. Lester and Clara Dougherty Brown
great-grandparents in Boone cemetery: D. D. and Lillie Shull Dougherty
great-great-grandparents in Boone cemetery: Daniel Baker and Ellen Bartlett Dougherty
my parents are buried at mount lawn cemetery

my paternal grandparents are buried in Valle Crucis at the Taylor Mast cemetery [Dr. H. B. Perry, Sr. was a county native and doctor in the county for 50 years. His wife, Doris Taylor Perry, was the daughter of C. D. Taylor and grand-daughter of Henry Taylor, who started and ran what we know of as Mast Store]

other extended family are buried in the Boone cemetery

Communication: Communication - D. Stam - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels

From: Brenda Councill
To: Tim Futrelle <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net>, Amy Davis <Amy.Davis@townof...
Date: 8/23/2023 6:00 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels

Mayor Futrelle,

Re: Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels

After attending and listening to the WEBEX record of the August 9th Council meeting specifically, the "action request", regarding *Cemetery Interpretive Panels*, ***you*** stated to Chairman Plaag, (HPC):

"You do not need to come back…we will just say, hey, its good for you to change it and then you change it and we're good." You further stated to Chairman Plaag that, **" we are going to give direction that we are ok with these panels… and that you change them as you see fit… we trust you as far as the changes are concerned".**

This is ***alarming*** since information by our independent researchers, historians and scholars will be forthcoming and will be ongoing. The imposed **August 25th** deadline for the peer reviewed dictate is not realistic as Chairman Plaag admits that this process has been an ongoing project and he authored the panels based on his research which includes *unverified statements and commentary.* It is the commentary that is opinion-based and most concerning. We can all agree the history and ownership of the cemetery is complex. Targeting individuals, families and their descendants implies great insensitivity.

Giving Chairman Plaag free rein as you stated would allow this composition to proceed with no public input. This action is not equitable and is unfair to the ALL families who have loved ones buried here. **The DRAFT was published to the public,** (if one could navigate the Town's website) **on August 5th. No minutes** (when available) **from previous meetings included a DRAFT?**

The rush to erect these panels in their present state has been challenged by numerous individuals, families and groups. As the chairman of Council and Mayor, we ask collectively that the cemetery panels be tabled for further review and reconsidered in a manner that is appropriate to **a sacred and meditative space.** The verbiage and commentary in its present form must be open for discussion. As heard in the WEBEX record Mayor Pro Tem Tugman…***" I just really hoped that we could create a bridge… an historic bridge for the folks who seem not to be able to grasp…I am sorry, I am saying that badly…to believe that there are conflicts in the historic documentation that your committee has come forward with…"***

Communication: Communication - B. Councill - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Especially offensive to ALL was the WEBEX record of the comments alluding to a **"Halloween Tour"** that excited some Council members as a **"reason"** to quickly erect these disrespectful panels.

1.) When was the first DRAFT of the Cemetery Interpretive Panels released to the public and in what format was this available? The question was asked in prior emails and has *not* been answered

2.) Please let us know collectively what "social media platforms" Chairman Plaag refers to in his comments? He clearly stated his outreach was significant.

3.) Please include any "outreach appeals" that were published to the public requesting information by Chairman Plaag or town entities regarding specific families, collection of oral narratives or interactive
presentations, discussing sensitivities on subjects and histories important to the record of Boone's cemetery panels? We have heard from Winkler, Dougherty, Moretz, Howard, Boone, Councill, Critcher, Greene and other
descendants that have never received any correspondence or outreach.

If Chairman Plaag is confident in his declaration of history and his inference of irrefutable research, (WEBEX recording), then his narrative should stand the "test" of other intrepid volunteers and professionals conducting and recording cemetery facts at this stage and the recent past. Many others academics, historians and families who have completed respected research, thesis, analysis of burials and public interaction over many decades should be presented. I see no footnotes regarding their research. *Again, commentary and opinion have NO place in this meditative space!*

We the undersigned have addressed prior concerns in detail and request *again* that this project be tabled and reviewed in a **reasonable time frame** and not in the **Sept. 5th HPC meeting**.

Respectfully,

Brenda Mauney Councill
Jefferson Bostwick Councill, III
Bonny White Councill and Heirs
Elizabeth Howell *Councill* Cleary and Heirs
Barbara Brandt *Councill* Webb and Heirs
Carrie Councill
Martha *Councill* Leak and Heirs
Anne *Councill Dennis* and Heirs

enc: 08/10/23 LTR to Mayor
Historian Michael C. Hardy LTR to Mayor and HPC

On Aug 11, 2023, at 4:13 PM, Tim Futrelle <Tim.Futrelle@townofboone.net> wrote:

Communication: Communication - B. Council - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Ms. Council,

I too am disappointed we were not able to come to a better solution, concerning the monument, both through process and outcome. The council did however indicated openness to placement in other locations. In regards to the panels, Dr. Plaag did state in his remarks that he welcomed further documentation. He has expressed that historical accuracy is imperative to the HPC. I look forward to continuing to work toward resolution in search of a win-win. Also, I have copied our Town Manager Amy Davis to be aware of our communications. Thank you.

Tim Futrelle
Boone Mayor

Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 10, 2023, at 5:05 PM, Brenda Councill <> wrote:
>
> To: Mayor Futrelle and the Historic Preservation Committee
>
> Re: Request to review Cemetery Panels authored by Chairman Eric Plaag
>
> In reference to the exchanges in the *August 9th Town Council meeting* we (a concerned group of families and historians) are formally requesting an opportunity to review panel verbiage prior to its finalization by Chairman Eric Plaag. This motion made by the Mayor to authorize the panels be returned to Chairman Plaag allowing HPC final editing and wording. Chairman Plaag stated he would welcome additional information from all the families.
>
> At what time frame will these families be given to present this information? We feel that there should be no rush to conclude these panels by any deadline.
>
> It should be noted that our representative group was unable to access and read a Panel Draft document/agenda packets from previous HPC meetings until Friday Aug. 4. Where would one "access" the working draft of these panels if not on the TOWN website?

Communication: Communication - B. Councill - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Our group is not just the Councill Family, so Chairman Plaag is incorrect in his assumption that this is a singular or elite group. You may be unaware of a Dougherty descendant letter?
Furthermore excoriating the Councils in general and me personally with a decidedly hostile, threatening and disrespectful manner is wholly inappropriate and calls into question the governance of the TOWN Council in allowing personal attacks to be communicated publicly. Additionally, defaming ancestors like Judge Councill, son of my great, great, great grandfather Dr. William B. Councill was especially disdainful.

We will issue documents, oral history evidence that should be acknowledged and considered by Chairman Plaag. And that information will be assembled in a timely manor. Just as we may request documentation on verbiage intact currently.

A few points to consider at this juncture:

Chairman Plaag chooses Benjamin Councill and not Jordan Councill (inferring that JC should not be credited with original ownership of that land? Why?) stating that The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with The Councill Family. The Jordan Council Will (Ashe County, 1838) is easily accessible. Chairman Plaag speaks of an existing deed/ transfer of this acreage acknowledges Benjamin Councill as owner and the Will clearly indicates the inheritance. Numerous sources cite the Councill land holdings.
- “Memories of Early Days in Boone”,Watauga democrat, May 26,1938 PG. 4
- “Bryan's Diary Reveals Two Saloons in Boone in 1857”, Watauga Democrat June 23,1949
- “The Daniel Boone Oak”, Lenoir News-Topic March 10,1921 PG.3

- **We request that “systematic racism” be removed from the Panel descriptive.** As referenced and suggested by historian Michael C. Hardy, "*While adding interpretive signage to a historical cemetery is a commendable project, it is vital to tell the whole history, and trendy catchphrases like “systemic racism” should be avoided at all costs. Terms like “systemic racism,” which oftentimes are simply our own misconstrued interpretations of past historical events, paint a negative picture of a complicated history, a history that often cannot be boiled*

Communication: Communication - B. Councill - August 23, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

down into trendy phrases. The Councill/Boone Town Cemetery deserves a more inclusive interpretation. "

- We request that other families be considered and recognized on the panels, Michael C. Hardy states, *"Furthermore, there is no mention of the Confederate veterans buried in this cemetery, of which there are about a dozen. There is no mention of other important people to the history of Watauga County, like John Preston Arthur, Thomas J. Coffey, B.B. Dougherty, D.D. Dougherty, and a host of others. Are future plaques going to be added for these references?*

  Panel #3- "Furthermore, this panel states that "White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section" and that "The two sections remained divided by the chain-link fence until 2015, when the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence marking Boone's racial division of its dead." Since the Black Cemetery was still privately owned, why would the town of Boone assume responsibility for its upkeep? Was the decision to install a fence separating the two cemeteries, one under the care of the town and the other private, exclusively that of Mayor Winkler, or did the town council also become involved?

  The Winkler family descendants may shed some light on this assumption. An April 3, 1997 (PG.16) article in the Mountain Times states that graduate students are working to restore the Historic Cemetery. The article describes early efforts to apply for national historic designation. Additionally, "Part of the cemetery, where only a few neglected markers remain, is outside of the fenced area. " says Joanna Yount.

  Can we ascertain that the privately owned east section was neglected by the owners instead of stating that Gordon Winkler was likely responsible for the prejudicial claim of purposeful intent to ignore the east section.

  And please see: statements from descendant ***Martha(Councill) Leak,6/17/23:***

  I have talked to my older brother, Fred about the cemetery - he remembered a little more than I did. Below is what little we know, but I am not sure where to send this information.

  Jordan Councill or Jordan Councill, Jr. gave the land for the cemetery. I am not sure which one. The Councill family looked after the cemetery from the beginning.

  My father, James Hardin Councill, looked after having it mowed and cared for during the years that I lived in Boone. (1934 - 1956 when I married and moved away). My brother Fred spent many hours mowing the property before he joined the Air Force.

  I remember my Dad being very excited when the town of Boone took over the responsibility for the maintenance of the property. That assured

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him the cemetery would continue to be cared for after his death.

Please send me a copy of the proposed wording for the cemetery plaque. I might have some additions or clarifications.

I hope this helps to understand how much the Councill family was involved for many decades. - Martha Councill Leak 2023

This is a small segment of our discovery.
Enclosed please find the original correspondence from Historian Michael C. Hardy for consideration of edits to the panels. As Hardy, the Council Family descendants and other representative families will request that the these points and other narratives be included to tell a balanced history. We will gather our information in the next few weeks.

Respectfully,

The Councill family (12 members)
And other families referenced in the above correspondence

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

Recently, I had a chance to peruse proposed verbiage for three signs for the Councill/ Boone Town Cemetery. The information is interesting, but unfortunately shows a degree of historical ignorance. For example, Panel #3: "A Divided Cemetery," states that "Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the South." A more accurate statement would be "Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the United States." An often-referenced fact is that, until the 1950s, about 90 percent of all public cemeteries in the U.S. employed a variety of racial restrictions. That is not exclusively Southern cemeteries but all cemeteries in the United States, with a plethora of examples. In 1912, John Gaskill sued Forest Home Cemetery for refusing to bury his wife next to their four children buried at Forest Home Cemetery near Chicago. Forest Home had recently adopted an all-white internment policy. Eden Cemetery in Philadelphia opened in 1902 because of segregation at the other city cemeteries. Mount Auburn Cemetery in Baltimore was the only place a "person of color" could be buried. Exclusionary cemetery policies were not limited to Whites prohibiting Blacks from being buried in certain cemeteries. Old Burying Point in Salem, Massachusetts, did not allow the Irish to be buried within its walls.

The same panel paragraph states, "Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all." Obviously the writer of these panels has never visited the countless cemeteries across Watauga County to see the multitude of "flagstones" (more properly, fieldstones) that mark graves. It was not "systemic racism," that led to these graves

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being marked with fieldstones (flagstones are paving or roofing material), it was both poverty and a simplistic way of life. The "finely carved" reference would seem to indicate that the "White" section of the cemetery resembled something from Charleston or Savannah, instead of the many plain and unadorned stones that actually cover the Councill/Boone Town Cemetery.

Furthermore, this panel states that "White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section" and that "The two sections remained divided by the chain-link fence until 2015, when the Town acquired the entire cemetery and removed the fence marking Boone's racial division of its dead." Since the Black Cemetery was still privately owned, why would the town of Boone assume responsibility for its upkeep? Was the decision to install a fence separating the two cemeteries, one under the care of the town and the other private, exclusively that of Mayor Winkler, or did the town council also become involved?

In section one, it is stated that "Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials." It would be appropriate to add that the west section continued to be used by local Whites until 1950, when the Mount Lawn Cemetery was established east of Boone. (Although it is acknowledged that occasional burials might still take place at the Councill/Boone City Cemetery.)

Furthermore, there is no mention of the Confederate veterans buried in this cemetery, of which there are about a dozen. There is no mention of other important people to the history of Watauga County, like John Preston Arthur, Thomas J. Coffey, B.B. Dougherty, D.D. Dougherty, and a host of others. Are future plaques going to be added for these references?

While adding interpretive signage to a historical cemetery is a commendable project, it is vital to tell the whole history, and trendy catchphrases like "systemic racism" should be avoided at all costs. Terms like "systemic racism," which oftentimes are simply our own misconstrued interpretations of past historical events, paint a negative picture of a complicated history, a history that often cannot be boiled down into trendy phrases. The Councill/Boone Town Cemetery deserves a more inclusive interpretation.

Kindest Regards,

Michael C. Hardy

2010 North Carolina Historian of the Year

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Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.

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Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Requested Response to HPC Cemetery Intepretive Panels

From: jill privott
To: "tim.futrelle@townofboone.net" <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net>, "edie.tug...
Date: 8/24/2023 6:05 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Requested Response to HPC Cemetery Intepretive Panels
Cc: Brenda Councill , "mchardy@michaelchardy.com"
...
Attachments: Jill Privott Cemetery Panel Response.pdf

Ms. Mitchell,
Please find attached my review of the Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels to be forwarded to the HPC and for your perusal. This is a response to an email from Town Manager Amy Davis requesting research for consideration. As you will see upon review, there is cited research that updates/corrects facts contained in the panels, and this should prove helpful to the HPC. I also look forward to the review by the HPC and a response to the content. I look forward to receiving a response from the town regarding the receipt of this research and confirmation it has been forwarded to the HPC.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Privott
753 Forest Hill Dr.
Boone NC 28607
828.719.7590 cell/text

Communication: Communication with Attachment - J. Privott - August 24, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jill Privott
753 Forest Hill Dr.
Boone NC 28607
828.719.7590

To: Historic Preservation Commission, Boone, NC

Re*: The following is a response to Town Manager, Amy Davis, The Town of Boone's email inviting a response to the HPC's pending Boone Cemetery Panels.*

Personal Background: As state Historic Preservation DAR chair, my exposure both nationally and state-wide to historic markers, waymarkers and signage has encompassed private property, municipalities, and federal property placement. Involvement in the process of these numerous placements/monitorings has developed a strong working knowledge of acceptable historical working/wording practices on a national level. Personal cemetery survey experience and evaluations of state-wide DAR chapter historic cemetery surveys encompassing many ethnicities lend direct knowledge and best practices to the subject at hand. The incorporation of this experience with professional genealogy standards enables the following analysis, corrections, observations and input to the recommended cemetery panels for the Boone Cemetery, Boone, NC.

Reporting Method: Each panel review and any suggestions for changes will follow a parliamentary style of reads, citations and rationale for offered changes. Reads is how it currently reads; citations with supporting documentation where applicable; rationale the reasoning. Red will note a suggestion for change.

_

Panel 1:

Reads: The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with the Councill family and was once owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. who likely inherited the land from his father, Jordan Councill, Sr. (1769-1838).

Citations: Jordan Councill Will; 24 Sep1838; Ashe County, NC; North Carolina, U.S., Wills and Probate Records,1665-1998, Ancestry.com

Rationale: The addition of provable land conveyance in a will allows for a more complete and thorough history. With a burned courthouse and the allocation of the

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land not being exact the word likely is a qualifier. However, a review of all known deeds for Benjamin points to this being likely.

Reads: Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials and the west section continued to be used by local Whites until 1950, when the Mount Lawn Cemetery was established east of Boone.

Citations: Michael C. Hardy Letter

Rationale: Per Michael C. Hardy's recommended changes. The panels are here to convey a full history of the property's use, adding this fills a void of the cemetery's full history and use.

Reads: Local tradition suggests that Jacob Mast Councill, whose gravestone is now missing, was the first burial here……with the following citation wording can be updated since there is proof of burials prior to Jacob Mast.

Citation: Greer, Chloe; North Carolina Cemetery Surveys of 1937 Combined: The Historical Records Survey 1937, NC Digital Collections.

Rationale: The NSDAR utilizes national standards of cemetery survey and in 2022 North Carolina chapters across the state were involved in over 19 projects 6 of which were African American or enslaved cemeteries. With this backdrop in mind, the 1937 Cemetery Survey is a baseline reference to help with missing funerary markers. Upon your review, you will see proof of many headstones that are now missing but this source gives proof of early inscriptions and therefore wording needs to be updated in the panels in several places. Also, you will see the "Negro" side listed as well.

Panel 3:

Reads: Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the South and likely originated here with the Councill family's pre-Civil War burial practices. South should read United States.

Citation: Per Michael C. Hardy's recommended changes.

Rationale: I agree with Mr. Hardy's substantiated well-cited sources, and this also has been my exposure in cemeteries outside the South. This is a more accurate description.

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Reads: Local tradition holds that the Councill family interred those they enslaved in the east section and their family members at the crest of the hill to the west.

Rationale: Where is this "tradition" cited or documented orally? If it can't be substantiated by either previous method, then this needs to be removed. The fact that Blacks and Whites are segregated and that the Councills buried slaves here is already well-established in the work and seems redundant. Additionally, I would use caution in assuming all buried slaves here were owned by the Councills. Is it provable that all the slaves buried there were owned only by the Councills? This needs to be portrayed accurately.

_Reads: White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section.

Rationale: Where is this cited? If it can't be then it is an opinion or assumed and needs to be deleted. Also, you may want to ask locally, my understanding is that the east side was considered to be private property and therefore was fenced off from the west side- if this is true then it would have been presumed to be maintained privately. Further research may be required.

Reads: Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all. This sentence should be struck and reworded with the information below in mind.

Citation: Article on the historic development and use of headstone materials and more: https://atlaspreservation.com/pages/american-gravestone-evolution-part-2

Rationale: While I agree with Mr. Hardy's comments on this section regarding the use of a catchphrase of systemic racism there are equally important issues with the mischaracterization of funerary markers as it pertains to the period of the cemetery. Mr. Hardy does touch on a part of this when he cites there are cemeteries all over the county (and in the country) that have only fieldstone (this is the correct term if they are rocks) markers. The extensive cemetery work and research I have been involved in has documented the quantity of pre-industrial period headstones to be far less. Even with notable persons of station and affluence, there can be an absence of headstones due to the cultural practice of marking graves with headstones not developing till a later time. In short, early first-generation stones

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were selected for their workability. Many early local stone markers were called scratch stones with minimal markings that were laboriously scratched into the hard surface. In the absence of the pre-industrial revolution, working hard stone was not easy and it was not till that time that headstones became more affordable and common. The labor factor of carving as well as the Appalachian region being a poorer area contributed to many people being unable to afford fancy carved headstones. The poverty factor affected headstone affordability among a broad group of people. Of course, more so with people of color since many were in a lower economic stratum. While the observation that there is a disparity in the style of the headstones is acceptable, the reasoning noted does not present a full picture of the differences as noted here. A rewording of this sentence should be done for a more accurate portrayal of the disparities in the east and west sections of the cemetery.

Panel 4:

Reads: If we accept the tradition that this eastern part of the Boone Cemetery was already in use in 1865 as a burying ground for those enslaved by the Councill family, then the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been the Councill family's commentary on men who they perceived were fighting to end slavery.

Citation: Greer, Chloe; North Carolina Cemetery Surveys of 1937 Combined: The Historical Records Survey 1937, NC Digital Archives Collections.

Rationale:

First part of sentence:

1) John Logan Grimes' transcription of his existing headstone in the 1937 survey cited is recorded in the "Negroes" section as having died 4-2-1936, aged 82. This places the oldest proven burial (to date) on the east side as the year 1854. The sentence needs to be changed to reflect this new evidence.

2) The first sentence citation 3 at the bottom of the page (*that reads as shown below*) and is presented as a reason of substantiation to what is written in the actual panel is a personal opinion and should never be the basis of a historical marker's premise nor influence wording – it is biased. The "Councill family's commentary" of interpretation can only be known by them and should not be presented decades later by someone who did not even know them. While the citations for feelings of

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the times regarding Union soldiers and Blacks are documented they cannot conveniently/automatically be ascribed to the thinking of all individuals living in that period - regardless of who they are. This is again conjecture. As Mr. Hardy so aptly points out, these were complex times with varied attitudes, feelings and actions that may never fully be known or understood by modernity. The panel itself states this concept perfectly when it says, "It is impossible to know why they fought….". The same standard of unknowing neutrality should be used with all interpretations of other panel subject matter.

> *"The placement of the Union soldier graves was almost certainly commentary on assumptions about their views of Blacks."*

2nd part of sentence:

With the previous citation/rationale premise of standard in mind, the portion of the sentence (*shown below)* should be struck due to a biased interpretation of motive.

"*then the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been the Councill family's commentary on men whom they perceived were fighting to end slavery."*

Summary: I would like to commend the HPC for promoting much-needed attention to the history and preservation of a historic cemetery. Frequently, I find these are forgotten gems of history. During my review of the panel, I earnestly tried to offer additional helpful information that would enhance the project.

With Watauga being a burned courthouse county, these headstones are the only vital records in existence. My mother, Sanna Gaffney, spent countless hours recording all of Watauga County's cemetery inscriptions on index cards (which I still have). She understood the extreme importance of capturing this vital information for posterity.

At the same time, I encourage you to remember that with all the imperfections of history and people, this is a sacred place where individuals come today to honor their loved ones. Do not lose sight of the consecrated nature of the burying ground to the drive of the project. Life is about balance. Yes, today we have inclusively incorporated long-overlooked marginalized people in history, and this does need to be a focus, however, in the quest for inclusivity we cannot exclude. Again, balance. There is history that has not been included in the panels and this reads as an incomplete work. There couldn't have been a Union

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without a Confederacy, the two are inextricably intertwined. And yet, there is no mention of Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery even though it would fit into the narrative.

I offer the following in a constructive and respectful way since I think that you all may not be aware of this when you are dealing with non-HPC individuals. The requested proof standards of the HPC appear to be unbalanced when it comes to what is accepted for internal standards versus external (non HPC members). There seems to be a duplicitous standard of proof acceptability as it regards oral histories, traditions, et al. This not only sends mixed messages and creates confusion but does not meet scholarly standards for most disciplines. Perhaps a more evenly applied expectation would be helpful to those navigating your system of review.

In general, the panels have some very interesting information, and speak to inclusivity, but fall short of a complete narrative. I am left wondering, not fully informed. The temper/content of the writing is heavy with commentary of opinions and not objectively written with historical balance. More time needs to be given to these panels so that community and family input can be an advantage in achieving a completer and more unbiased story. I have included my phone number and email and invite any inquiries or dialogue. Please accept this as a constructive peer review.

Respectfully,

Jill Privott

828.719.7590

jprivott@hotmail.com

Communication: Communication with Attachment - J. Privott - August 24, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Memo To: Boone Historic Preservation Commission

From: Eric Plaag, Chairperson, Boone Historic Preservation Commission

Date: August 24, 2023

RE: Ownership, Union Soldiers, and Fences at the Boone Cemetery

As you know, several individuals have objected to the draft language for the Boone Cemetery interpretive panels that discuss the racial division of the cemetery and the use of fencing in the 1950s to physically divide the two sections of the cemetery. With this in mind, I am providing a summary of the known, documentable history of ownership, the Union soldier graves, and fencing at the Boone Cemetery. Copies of cited references are also included as attachments to this memo unless they have been previously provided to Planning and Inspections staff.

Regarding attribution of the ownership of the various parcels that make up the Boone Cemetery, I strongly recommend reviewing the summary of deed transactions that I completed in 2014 (previously provided).[1] The short version is that the Boone Cemetery was started on the Council family property probably sometime before the American Civil War, and local tradition indicates that it likely consisted of two sections—one for White members of the Council family and their extended families by intermarriage (located to the west), and a second section (located to the east) primarily for Black individuals, at least some of whom were likely enslaved by the Council family or extended families by intermarriage at death and (for some later interments) had been enslaved by those same families. My personal suspicion, because it makes the most sense, is that the cemetery was created in 1838 upon the death of Jordan Council, Sr., who is alleged (without documentation) to be buried here. Jordan Council, Sr.'s will in Ashe County (which covered this area at that time, pre-Watauga County, and has previously been provided) appears to have given the land on which he was buried to his son Benjamin Council, Sr. While the deed record is incomplete (Jordan Council, Sr.'s will does not provide metes and bounds descriptions for its bequests, and many deeds for early Watauga County were destroyed in the 1873 courthouse fire), there are some clues in surviving deeds that point to the land on which both sections of the cemetery are located being the land of Benjamin Council, Sr. One such clue is the sale of land in the vicinity of the cemetery sold by G. W. Council to W. B. Council in 1898. In this deed, G. W. Council describes the land being transferred as "Beginning at a stake the southwest corner of the old graveyard lot as platted out by the administrators of Benjamin Council at or about the time they made sale of the old Council lands…."[2] This referenced plat does not appear to survive. I have also reviewed the will and the estate accounts of Benjamin Council, Sr. (attached), and have found no direct references to the cemetery.[3]

[1] See Eric Plaag, "Deed Information Regarding Boone Cemetery Parcel," November 10, 2014, edited for deed reference clarity August 1, 2023.

[2] G. W. Council to W. B. Council, February 10, 1898 (filed March 12, 1898), Deed Book T, Page 583.

[3] Benjamin Council, Sr., apparently died intestate, as no will is recorded in Watauga County, Wills, 1873-1923, Volume A, *North Carolina Probate Records, 1735-1970*, online database, FamilySearch.org. See Watauga County,

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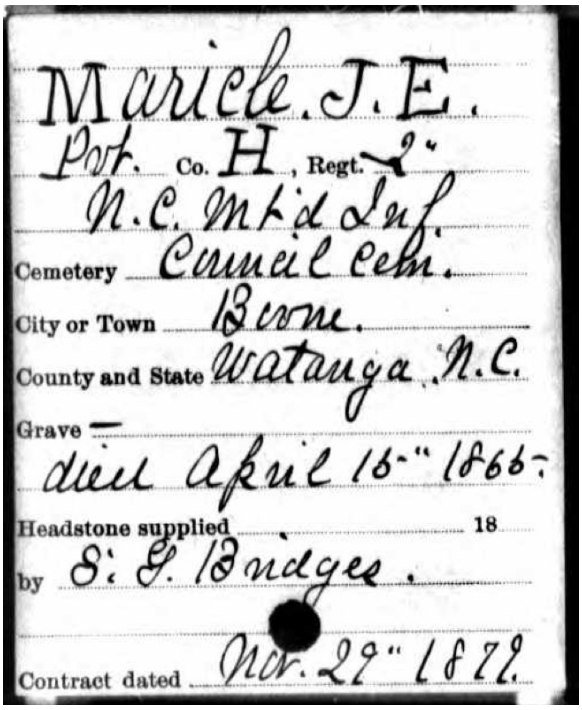

Maricle. J. E.
Pvt. Co. H, Regt. 2nd
N. C. Mtd Inf.
Cemetery Council Cem.
City or Town Boone.
County and State Watauga N. C.
Grave —
died April 18th 1865.
Headstone supplied 18
by S. G. Bridges.
Contract dated Nov. 29th 1879.

Headstone order form for John E. Maricle, one of the three Union soldiers buried in the Black section of the Boone Cemetery. Image courtesy of Ancestry.com.[4]

In April 1865, soldiers from the Second North Carolina Mounted Infantry who died from disease at Boone during Federal occupation after Stoneman's Raid were buried in this second section. There is no known, surviving documentation on the decision to bury their bodies here; one possibility, as described in the draft panel text, is that Benjamin Councill, Sr., allowed the burials and was involved in the selection of the location (in the Black section). Another possibility is that Benjamin Councill, Sr., had no choice in the matter, and the bodies were simply placed here by a Federal burial detail without much consideration of location.[5] There are probably dozens of other possible explanations arising from the circumstances in Boone in April 1865, and without additional evidence, we will not know with certainty what occurred. We do know with certainty, however, that the soldiers were buried on land considered to be part of the Councill Cemetery, as evinced by the headstone order forms from 1879 (copies previously

Administrator, Executor, and Guardian Records, 1873-1926, Volume A, *North Carolina Probate Records, 1735-1970*, online database, FamilySearch.org. For account records of the probated estate, see "Estate of Benjamin Councill," Watauga County, Accounts, 1873-1903, Volume A, *North Carolina Probate Records, 1735-1970*, online database, FamilySearch.org. For settlement documentation carried over from the Jacob Mast Councill estate to Benjamin Councill, Sr.'s estate, mislabeled in part as being for J. M. Councill, see Watauga County, Settlements, 1873-1925, Volume A, *North Carolina Probate Records, 1735-1970*, online database, FamilySearch.org.

[4] "J. E. Maricle [indexed under J. E. Mariele]," *US Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans, 1861-1904,* database online, (Lehi, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007). The other soldiers are indexed as W. F. Bradley (real name William T. Bradley) and H. P. Ewins (real name Henry P. Evans).

[5] I am grateful to Terry Harmon for suggesting the possibility that Benjamin Councill, Sr., may not have had agency in the Union soldier burial decision.

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provided), when the Union soldier graves were permanently marked on private land owned by the Councill descendants.

Both sections of the cemetery continued to be owned by Councill family descendants until 1937, when B. J. Councill, his wife Blanche, and his sister Mattie/Martha Councill Hardin conveyed the White cemetery parcel ONLY to James H. Councill, R. D. Hodges, and R. C. Rivers, Jr., as private trustees for the cemetery. No deed transferring the bulk of the Black section of the cemetery to any other party has ever been located, despite numerous unsourced claims to the contrary. This arrangement continued until the late 1990s, when a new group of trustees essentially reformed itself into two entities—an extension of the original group of trustees controlling the White section and the other (known as Jordan Councill Memorial Cemetery) claiming for itself, without deed precedent, the Black section and the driveway parcel at the northwest end of the White section adjoining Howard Street. These two entities then transferred all four of the parcels comprising the entirety of the cemetery to the Town of Boone in 2015. This was the first time that the Town had any legal control over the cemetery, despite numerous, unsourced, and misinformed claims to the contrary.

The earliest known reference to attempts to fence in the Boone Cemetery appeared in June 1896, when a blurb in the *Watauga Democrat* (hereafter, WD) described a "move on foot to put a nice paling around the grave yard here."[6] Lumber for the new fence was being cut by early October and completed by March 1897, apparently funded through a subscription effort by individual donors.[7] By May, however, the WD editors were complaining that no effort had been made to actually erect the fence, a problem that persisted until October 1897, when "those who have friends and relatives buried there" were invited to turn up on October 12 with their tools to do the work.[8] Completing the work would take until March 1898.[9] A year later, the editors of the WD were again complaining that the cemetery was being neglected by Boone's citizens: "Would it not be the proper thing for the citizens of Boone to set a day in the near future to clear away the grass and weeds from the town grave yard?...The writer observed this week that briars were growing near, if not entirely on the graves of some of our best citizens. This will never do."[10]

It is not clear from the description whether this early fence surrounded just the white section or the entirety of both sections of the cemetery, but fortunately, Digital Watauga possesses photographic evidence that answers this question. An image taken circa 1907 from across town near Greene Heights shows a clear view of the cemetery in the distance, its fence enclosing just

[6] "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, June 25, 1896: 3. Copies of WD articles from 1888 to 1965 are generally not attached to this memo, as they are easily downloadable for free from the Chronicling America and Digital NC websites.
[7] "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, October 1, 1896: 3; "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, March 4, 1897: 3.
[8] "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, May 13, 1987: 3; "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, October 7, 1987: 3.
[9] "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, March 10, 1898: 3.
[10] "Local News," *Watauga Democrat,* June 8, 1899: 3. Complaints about the failure to maintain the cemetery appeared from time to time over the next 58 years, typically as part of financial appeals by the owners and/or trustees, until the Town took over maintenance of the cemetery in 1958.

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the White section of the cemetery on all four sides. At the east end, the fence passes over the crown of the hill, almost exactly where the later chain link fence would be erected in 1958, with the land of the Black portion of the cemetery falling away to the east beyond the fence.

Detail crop from His-Boo-1-19-001 (old numbering), taken circa 1907, showing the fenced White section of the Boone Cemetery from a point in the vicinity of Greene Heights on the west side of Boone. Image courtesy of the Historic Boone Collection, Digital Watauga Project.

The fence apparently did not hold up well. In 1923, The Worth While Club began exploring various cemetery improvements, including consulting with "those in charge of the cemetery for permission to build a fence around it."[11] This effort appears to have stalled, however, as the editors of the WD called on local citizens in September 1924 to step up to get the fence erected: "Say, good people, are you satisfied with the condition of the town cemetery? If so all right, if not let's get together and raise enough money to put it under a strong fence and put the grounds at least in keeping with our progressive town…. If we fail it will not be the first time, and we expect to put it up to our people, and you may look for the 'old man' in the near future."[12] Whether this attempt at erecting a new fence was ever successful is not known, but

[11] "Ladies Club Plans Big Improvement," *Watauga Democrat*, December 6, 1923: 1.
[12] "Local Affairs Town and County," *Watauga Democrat*, September 11, 1924: 3.

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circumstantial evidence suggests that it was not. In 1933, for example, J. S. Stanbury and B. J. Councill, "who constitute the committee in charge of the town cemetery," not only urged the individual subscribers who had made financial pledges to care for the cemetery to submit their funds. They also asked "that citizens refrain from pasturing cattle on the cemetery lot." This request followed the decision a year earlier to close the "Boone community cemetery" to any new burials other than "citizens of the town who have relatives interred there."[13]

It should be noted here that WD references to the "town cemetery," "city cemetery," "Boone cemetery," "our cemetery," "community cemetery," etc., throughout the period from 1918 until about 1948 were typically to the White section of the Boone Cemetery. The Black section, by contrast, was typically referred to as the "colored cemetery," "colored community cemetery," or "negro cemetery," especially after 1918. The earliest such reference is the 1918 obituary for Beverly Williams, whereas an 1898 death notice for Isaac Faucett, referring to him as "one of our oldest and most highly respected colored men" in Boone who was "buried on Monday in the grave yard here," makes no distinction between the two sections but does implicitly acknowledge that Black folks were being buried at the cemetery—almost certainly in the Black section—at least that early.[14] Similarly, the 1937 WPA inventory of the "Negro" cemetery at Boone Cemetery indicates a standing stone (no longer extant today) for Fannie Horton, who died in 1904.[15] Troy Councill, who was most definitely enslaved by the Councill family (he tells us as much in his Southern Claims Commission testimony), died in 1901 "in the suburbs of the village" of Boone, at which time there would have been nowhere else for him to have been buried in town other than the Councill cemetery, again almost certainly in the Black section.[16] In short, documented burials of local citizens in the Black section of the cemetery date at least to 1898.[17] Local tradition argues for a much earlier date, connecting Black burials

[13] "Ask for Aid in the Upkeep City Cemetery," *Watauga Democrat*, June 15, 1933: 1. Note that this reference to a cemetery committee predates the 1937 deed transfer of the White section of the cemetery by the Jacob Mast Councill children to the cemetery trustee group. This committee actually appears to have been a subcommittee appointed by four women—Lillie Bell Shull Dougherty, Blanche Councill, Ida Ann Farthing Moretz, and Cora Hagaman Qualls—who were the actual committee "in charge of the upkeep of the cemetery for some time." See "Cemetery Will Not Accommodate Any New Plots," *Watauga* Democrat, May 26, 1932: 1. The cemetery was again being used as a cow pasture in 1949. See Rob Rivers, "King Street," *Watauga Democrat*, March 31, 1949: 1.

[14] "Respected Colored Man Passes," *Watauga Democrat*, October 3, 1918: 3; "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, October 13, 1898: 2.

[15] Chloe Greer, "Boone Cemetery," Historical Records Survey of North Carolina, 1937 (attached). Fannie Horton's gravestone is also referenced in the 1979 McLaughin article cited below.

[16] *Watauga Democrat,* March 28, 1901: 3; and Troy Councill witness statement, Sally L. Councill, Case #10384, December 19, 1871, Southern Claims Commission—Barred and Disallowed Claims, NARA M1407, National Archives and Records Administration, available online at Fold3.com, online database, https://www.fold3.com/image/662239.

[17] Much of the documentation work for burials in the Black section of the Boone Cemetery was conducted by the researchers for the JHA using obituary notices in the WD and death certificates, which are not generally available for Watauga County prior to 1914 (about a dozen scattered records exist for 1909 and 1913, none of them Black). For these records, see Ancestry.com, "Watauga County," *North Carolina, US, Death Certificates, 1909-1976*, database online, (Lehi, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007).

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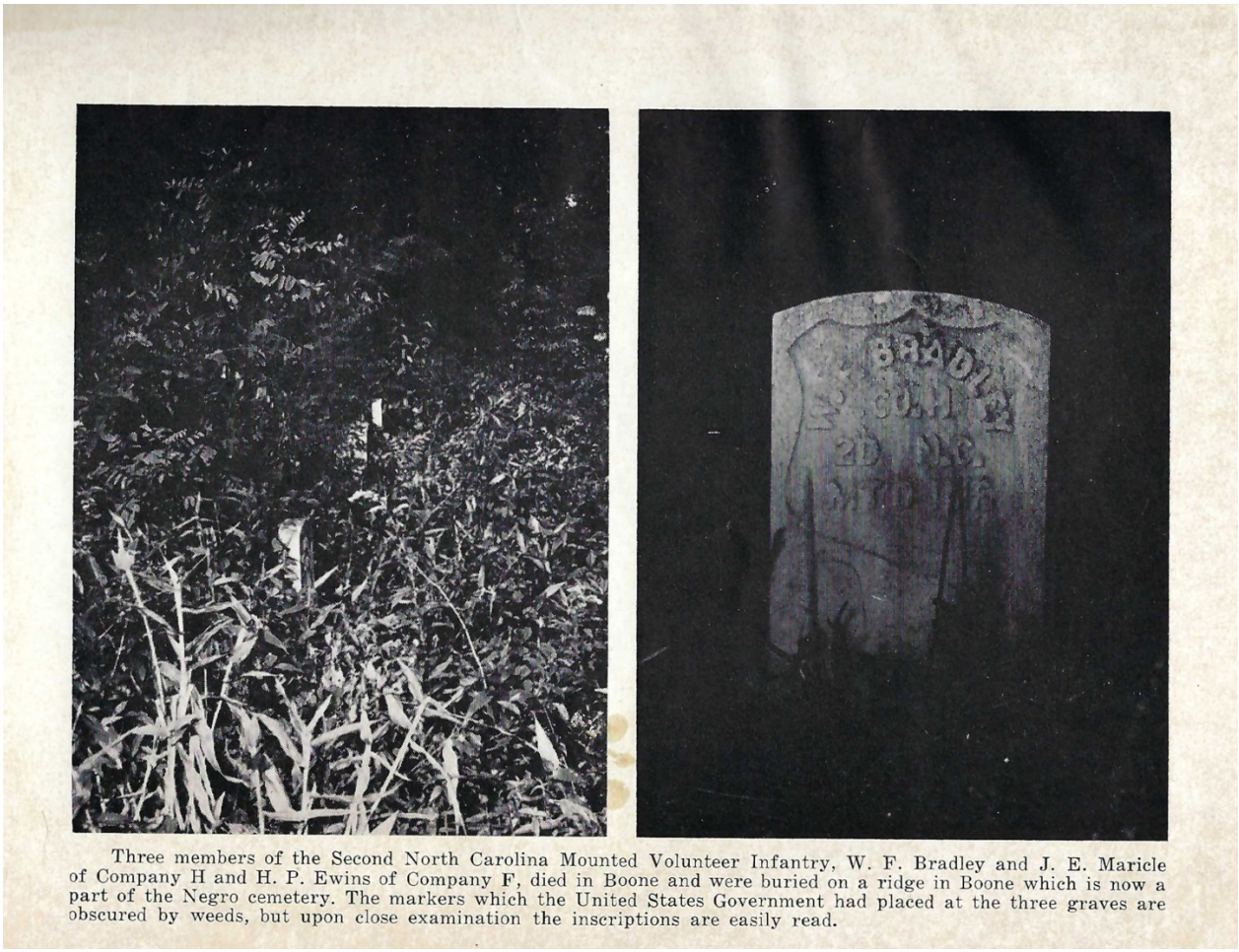
in the east section to those enslaved by the Councill family and their extended families by marriage.[18]



Three members of the Second North Carolina Mounted Volunteer Infantry, W. F. Bradley and J. E. Maricle of Company H and H. P. Ewins of Company F, died in Boone and were buried on a ridge in Boone which is now a part of the Negro cemetery. The markers which the United States Government had placed at the three graves are obscured by weeds, but upon close examination the inscriptions are easily read.

Images showing all three stones in place "on a ridge in Boone which is now a part of the Negro cemetery" in Ina Van Noppen's *Stoneman's Last Raid* (1961).

Recently, Tracy Councill has submitted correspondence to the Town questioning the certainty of the location of the replacement Union soldier stones in the Black section of the cemetery. Tracy Councill references the fact that the original stones were at one time in the early 2010s piled in the northwest corner of the White section of the cemetery. While it is true that this vandalism did take place likely in the mid to late 2000s, available documentation on the location of these stones clearly demonstrates that the Union soldier gravesites and stones were

[18] Several recent correspondents have challenged this reference to local tradition without documentation. Susan E. Keefe, Ed., *Junaluska: Oral Histories of a Black Appalachian Community*, (Jefferson, NC: McFarland and Company, 2020), 30-31, definitively states that the Black section of the Councill Cemetery originally "began as a burial ground for blacks enslaved by Jordan Councill, Sr., and later Jordan Councill, Jr." As James McQueen, Sr. (1923-2002), explained in a 1974 interview (Keefe, 100), the Black part of the cemetery was a "back portion of the Town cemetery" that Black folks were allowed to use for their burials "for years and years," but it wasn't owned by the Boone Chapel trustees, aside from small sliver of land (Lot 45 of Appalachia, discussed below) acquired in 1919 to expand the Black section.

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originally placed in the Black section of what was considered to be the "Council [sic] Cem[etery]" in 1879, when the headstones were originally ordered (see description above).

Other documentation includes two photographs in Ina Van Noppen's *Stoneman's Last Raid* (1961) showing all three stones upright and in place "on a ridge in Boone which is now a part of the Negro cemetery"; a 1979 WD article (actually cited in the draft panel footnotes) describing and showing in two photographs the presence of those stones in the Black section of the cemetery; and two photographs accompanying another 1979 WD article (attached) discussing the "neglected Black graveyard" and the cemetery cleanup by three Boy Scouts, one of whom—Chris Wilcox (son of Kenneth Wilcox) is quoted in the article.[19] Furthermore, the replacement Union soldier stones were placed in the vicinity of the Black section of the cemetery matching what is visible in those images and paired with the 2016/2017 GPR study, which showed three, side-by-side graves at the precise location of the current stones. For those familiar with the documentation on these stones and their original placement, there is no doubt that they were originally in an area of the cemetery that was outside the fence boundary established in the 1890s and in the same area where Black burials are documented as taking place as early as 1898.

In the early 1950s, concerns once again percolated about the care of the White section of the cemetery. Writing an editorial for the WD in 1953, R. C. Rivers, Jr. (who was also a cemetery trustee), made an appeal for funds to "keep the premises mowed and in sightly condition during the summer," noting that the "committee in charge of the Boone cemetery" had made such a request an annual rite. The editorial went on to say,

> A gift of the Councill family to the neighborhood, the cemetery is operated strictly in the old-fashioned way. No one actually owns a plot, but bodies were interred wherever a space appeared to be available. Not long before the death of B. J. Councill, he executed a deed to James Councill, Russell Hodges, and Rob Rivers, as trustees of the burying ground, and they have attempted to carry out the trust the best they could.[20]

This editorial provides important context for the Boone community's understanding at that time of what was typically meant by "the Boone cemetery." Rivers explicitly refers to the private ownership of the cemetery, under the care of trustees since 1937 (i.e., "not long before the death of B. J. Councill") via executed deed. This deed (DB 46, Page 347, attached) clearly delineates the boundaries of the white section of the cemetery, the dimensions closely corresponding to those laid out in the 1999 plat (PB 14, Page 172, also attached). Moreover, this deed makes absolutely no reference whatsoever to the Black section of the cemetery, not even as an adjoining parcel, even though burials were clearly taking place there on a regular basis; the Junaluska Heritage Association has documented a total of 28 burials in the Black

[19] Ina Woestemeyer Van Noppen, *Stoneman's Last Raid*, (Raleigh: North Carolina State College Print Shop, 1961), insert opposite page 22; Mike McLaughin, "Union Soldiers, Blacks Are Buried in the Town's 'Forgotten' Cemetery," *Watauga Democrat*, August 23, 1979: 12B;
[20] "The Community Cemetery," *Watauga Democrat*, April 23, 1953: 4.

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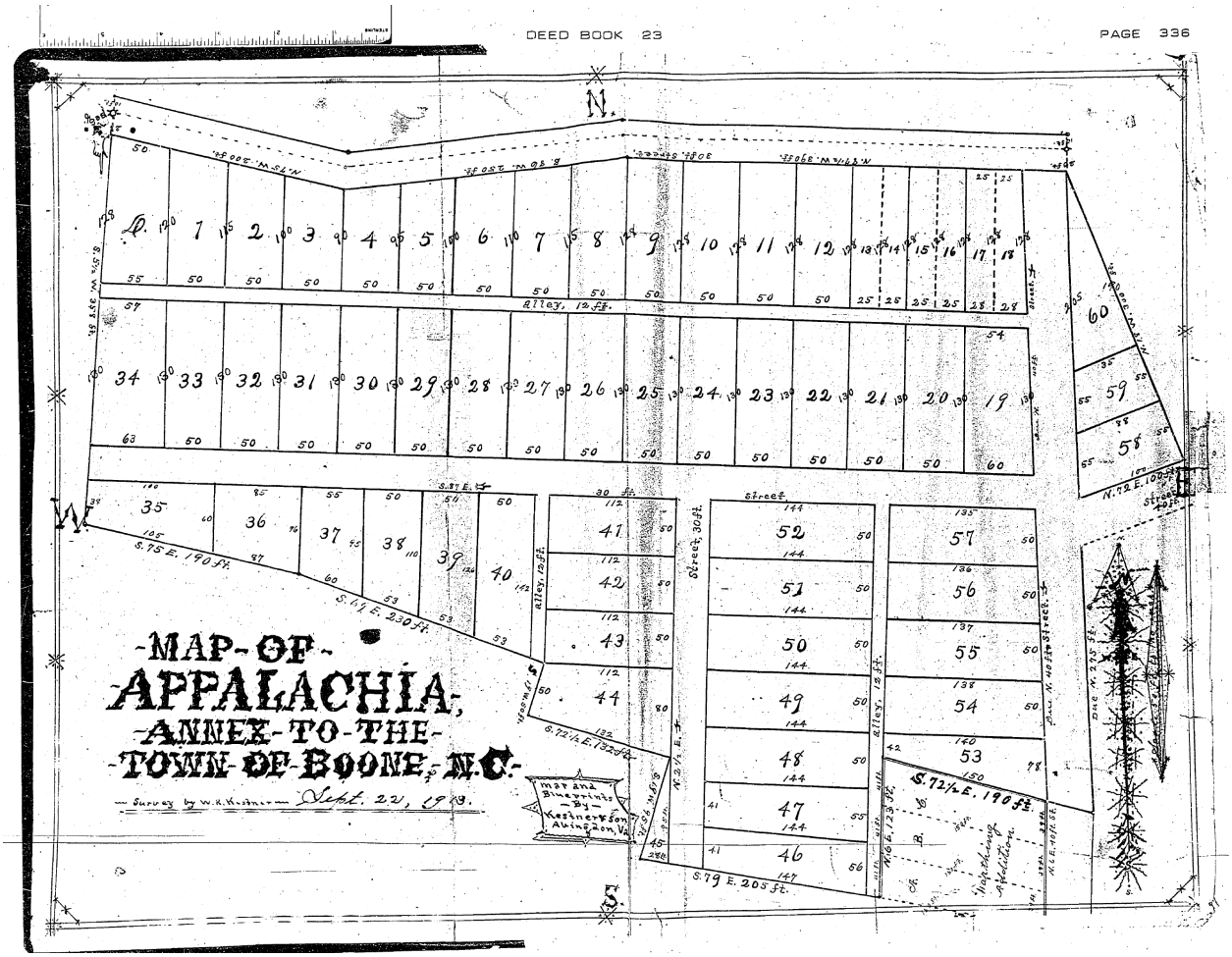
section between 1919 and 1937 alone. The deed does, however, make reference to the "Brown heirs line" at the southwest corner of the Black section of the cemetery. Cross referencing to a parcel deeded to John E. Brown and Bessie A. Brown in 1914 (DB 16, Page 391, attached), we see a clear reference to the parcel then directly south of the Black section of the cemetery. It also avoids any direct mention of the Black graveyard but explicitly references meeting at the same corner noted above—"corner of the white grave yard." Oddly, it also refers to this southern boundary line of the Black section of the cemetery as "a line of field formerly owned by E. S. Coffey," failing to mention that it was actually the Black section of the cemetery.



Map of Appalachia, showing E. S. Coffey's new subdivision in 1913, from Plats-in-Deed Book 23, Page 336. The White and Black sections of the cemetery sat where the map title is. The street immediately east is present-day Brown Street. The street immediately to the north of Lots 36 to 41 is Howard Street.

Fortunately, we have other context for understanding the Black section of the cemetery during the early twentieth century. It is true that E. S. Coffey owned much of the land to the north and east of the Black and White sections of the cemetery, having obtained at least part of it in 1900 from W. B. Councill, Elizabeth, and G. W. Councill in March 1900 (DB W, Page 57, attached). This land was described as 16 acres "adjoining the lands of B. J. Councill, J. F. Hardin, and D. B. Dougherty," and it included a specific exclusion of "the ground included in the above boundary

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and known as the grave yard." Coffey eventually developed this land in 1913 into a subdivision known as "Appalachia" that was annexed into the Town of Boone (see Plats-in-Deed Book 23, Page 336, above). Some of Coffey's own deeds of sale make clear references to "the grave yard lot" when they adjoin the White section, but no such references when they adjoin the Black section.[21] Nevertheless, there is clear evidence that other White citizens in Boone did recognize the existence and presence of the Black section of the cemetery about this same time. In 1919, for example, AD and Josie Blair sold their Lot 45 in Appalachia, "adjoining the burying ground of the colored people in the town of Boone and is being conveyed for the purpose of enlarging said burying grounds for the colored" (DB 28, Page 240, attached), to three Black trustees—Jerry Lenoir, Guss Horton, and June Horton, all of whom had relatives buried in the Black section of the cemetery by that time.

It is in this context that we also have to consider a claim made by Michael Hardy in recent days on the Watauga History Hunters Facebook page.[22] Inaccurately quoting the source he cites, Hardy claims that a 1997 report by Adam Bliss (previously provided) attributes the acquisition of the Black section of the cemetery to Green[e] Horton via an 1894 deed (DB R, Page 549, previously provided). There are several problems with this claim. While it is true that the Greene Horton parcel, once plotted using the listed metes and bounds, does bear a passing resemblance to the shape and cardinal orientation of the Black section of the cemetery, what exists presently of the Black section of the cemetery is well less than half the size of the parcel Greene Horton acquired. Moreover, the calls for this deed place the northwest corner of the parcel at "a stake at the road," with absolutely no mention of the existing White section of the cemetery. The 1907 photograph referenced above, the Kestner plat used by Coffey for Appalachia, and dozens of later photographs show absolutely no evidence of a road at or near the northwest corner of the Black section and the northeast corner of the White section of the cemetery, other than a 12-foot alley that Coffey created in his Appalachia layout in 1913 where no such "alley" is visible in the 1907 photograph. No deed documenting a subsequent sale or transfer of the Greene Horton parcel by Greene Horton has been found.

However, J. B. Councill, the same seller, executed a deed just three months after the Greene Horton deed (DB R, Page 474, attached), selling to the trustees of the Boone Chapel a quarter-acre parcel "adjoining the lands of Greene Horton, Dr. W. B. Councill, and others bounded as follows, viz, beginning on the northwest corner of Greene Horton's lot, on the road leading up

[21] See E. S. Coffey and Annie Coffey to H. McD. Little, October 23, 1913, DB 16, Page 377 (Lots 36 & 37); E. S. Coffey and Annie Coffey to Jesse F. Robbins, October 23, 1913, DB 15, Page 564 (Lot 40); E. S. Coffey and Annie Coffey to R. F. Tate, October 23, 1913, DB 22, Page 128 (Lots 38 and 39); and John Greene, E. S. Coffey, and Annie Coffey to A. D. Blair, December 12, 1914, DB 28, Page 179 (Lots 43, 44, & 45). The description in this last deed for Lot 44, which bounded the Black section to the north, gives as its southwest corner point "a stone East of the Grave Yard lot," thus neglecting to mention the existence of the Black section of the cemetery directly to the south of its boundary. E. S. Coffey and Annie Coffey to D. F. Horton and Sue A. Horton, October 23, 1913, DB 18, Page 256, does not reference the White cemetery lot even though Lot 35 in this transaction adjoins it. Coffey also sold land west of the White section of the cemetery that made clear reference to the "grave yard lot" as its eastern boundary. See E. S. Coffey and Annie E. Coffey to B. H. Watson, June 19, 1913, DB 16, Page 30.

[22] This Facebook group is not affiliated in any way with the Digital Watauga Project or the Watauga County Historical Society, despite the assertions of some to the contrary.

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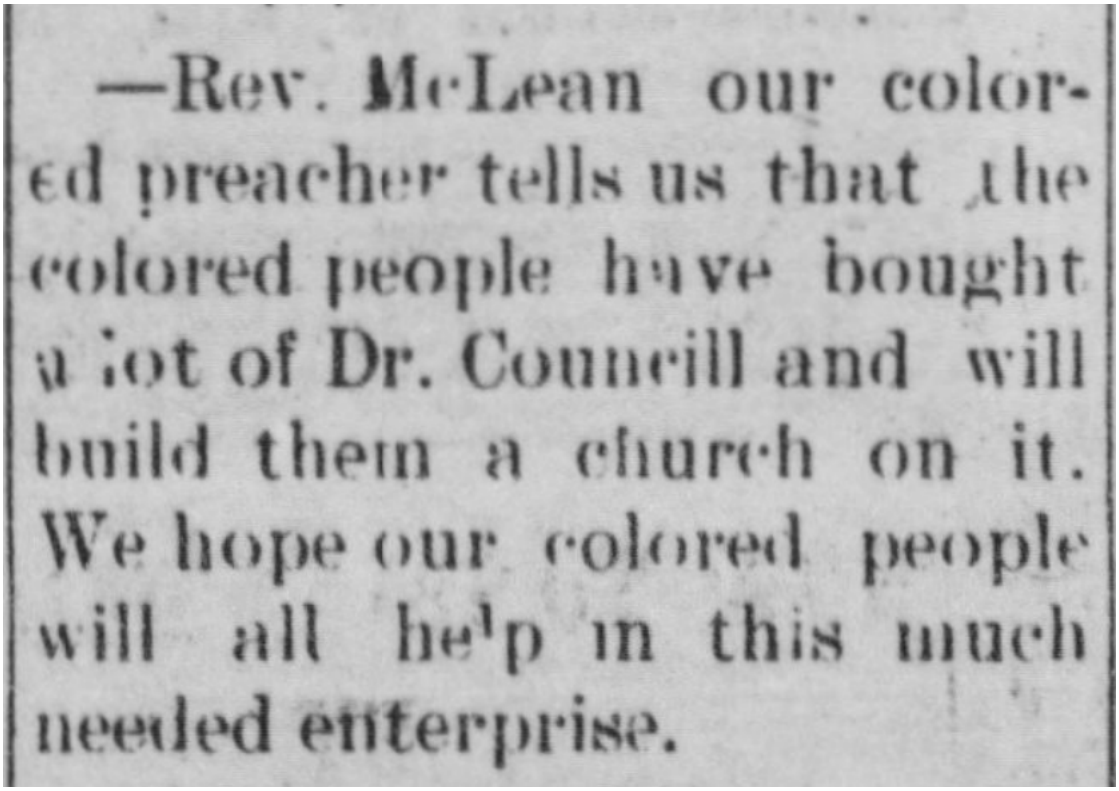
the Rich Mountain to Howard's Knob," with the south line of the property adjoining Greene Horton's parcel. This lot was intended for the construction of a new church building, as described in WD coverage that same week.[23] This parcel was later re-recorded at DB W, Page 380, the original having been presumed lost, with the new deed again referencing Greene Horton's lot to the south. These two lots were located near the lower water tower along Junaluska Road and adjacent to the older route of Junaluska Road (sometimes historically referred to as the "Mountain Road" or "Junaluska Turnpike"), and in the 1894 description of the Greene Horton parcel, the northwest corner would indeed be at the old road going up the mountain in 1894 (before R. Z. Linney's development of the road into the Junaluska Turnpike). Deed tracing reveals that Maebelle Casey South later acquired the original Greene Horton one-acre parcel under a 1933 judgment against several Hagler family members, and the two lots (now owned by Larry Grimes and Jonathan Pittman, respectively) immediately south of the old Boone Chapel parcel (now owned by Dana Folk) are basically the remnants of the Greene Horton parcel, although they have been reconfigured.[24]


—Rev. McLean our colored preacher tells us that the colored people have bought a lot of Dr. Connell and will build them a church on it. We hope our colored people will all help in this much needed enterprise.

Blurb from the "Local News" section of the WD on June 21, 1894, regarding the purchase of the lot immediately north of Greene Horton's parcel.

We have wandered a bit from our discussion of the Boone Cemetery to address the various unsourced protests being made about the Black section of the cemetery by some folks concerned about the language on the proposed interpretive panels. As was noted earlier,

[23] "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, June 21, 1894: 3.

[24] Edgar Brown, Commissioner, to Mrs. A. E. South, August 28, 1933, DB 44, Page 174. How the Haglers acquired any interest in the parcel is not clear. See also "Commissioner's Sale," *Watauga Democrat*, July 20, 1933: 7.

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though, by the 1950s, concerns about the condition of the White section of the cemetery were percolating again, even as aerial photographs taken at the time (see Palmer Blair photo taken in June 1950, below and previously provided) show the White section as reasonably well manicured and the Black section completely overgrown. These concerns about the White section were amplified further with the creation of Mountlawn Memorial Park in East Boone in 1950, which a 1954 WD editorial by Rivers claimed had caused the "city cemetery…[to fall] into disuse" and start "operating in the red." The trustees of the cemetery were again asking that subscribers make their contributions immediately. Other urgent appeals followed over the next two years.[25]

Detail crop from a June 1950 Palmer Blair aerial image taken from the northeast showing the stark difference in conditions between the Black section (left) and the White section (right). Image courtesy of the Palmer Blair Collection, Digital Watauga Project.

Finally, in 1957, the cemetery trustees found public support. In a long statement printed in the WD "to the Voters and Citizens of Boone from the Democratic Candidates for Mayor and City Council," those candidates pledged as part of their platform to "put a modern fence around our City Cemetery and have it mowed and trimmed regularly." Those candidates included Gordon H. Winkler, candidate for mayor; and Howard Cottrell, Wayne Richardson, and Grady Tugman, candidates for Aldermen.[26] Rob Rivers, trustee for the cemetery and the editor of the WD, lauded the completion of the fence in a 1958 editorial:

> The Boone community cemetery, hedged in for years by hemlocks and pines, choke cherries, and the like, is now enclosed by a new woven-metal fence, its posts set deep in concrete, and designed to last for generations.

[25] Rob Rivers, "King Street: The City Cemetery," *Watauga Democrat,* July 1, 1954: 4; Rob Rivers, "King Street: The City Cemetery…Some Money Needed," *Watauga Democrat,* June 28, 1956: 4.
[26] "A Statement to the Voters and Citizens of Boone from the Democratic Candidates for Mayor and City Council," *Watauga Democrat,* June 13, 1957: 8.

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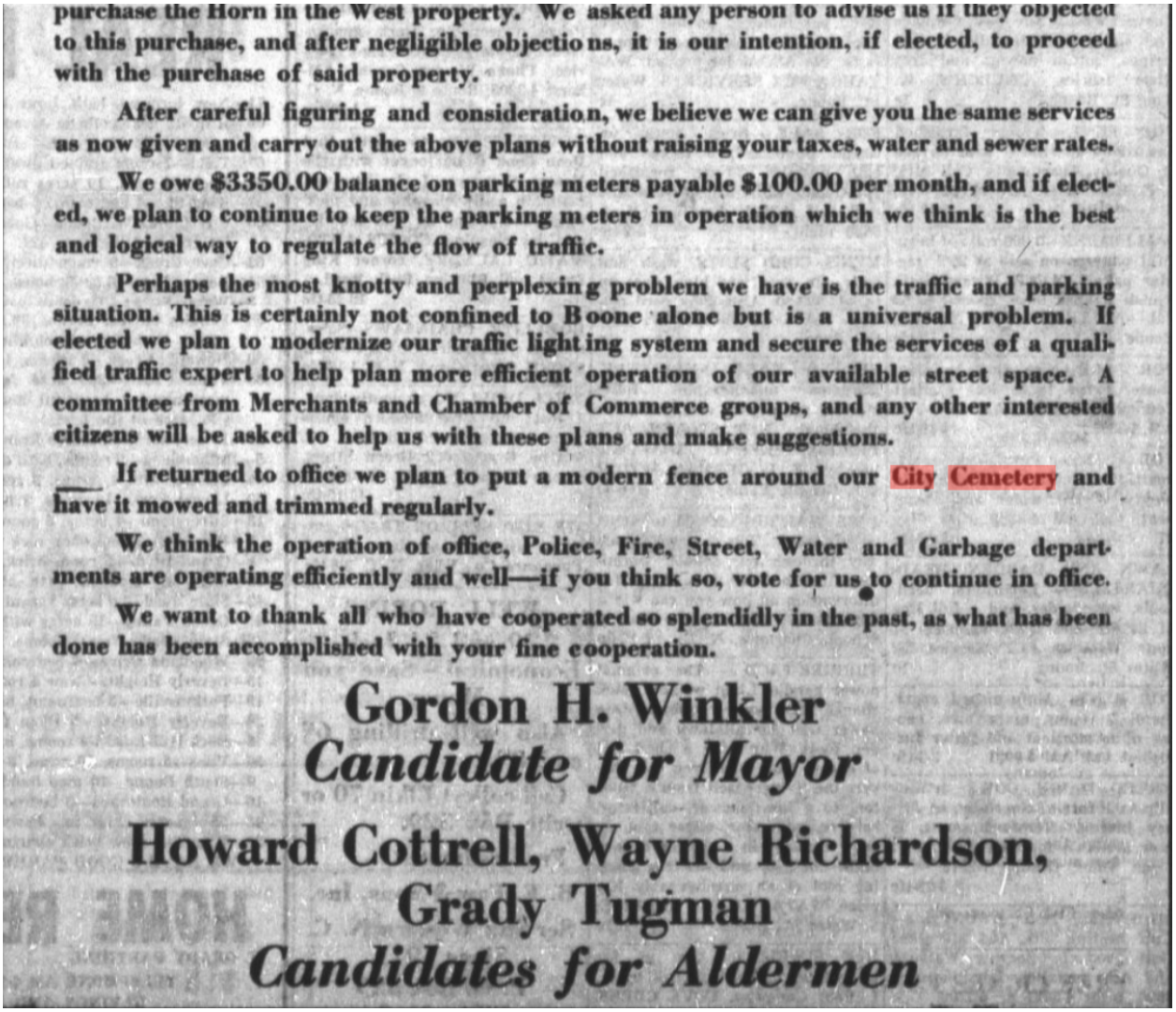
This improvement is due to the action of the town council in making available the cash for this worthy civic project…. Originally set aside by the Councill family for the use of all the people of the community, the Boone cemetery has been operated all through the years without the sale of plots in its crowded borders. Upkeep had been by public subscription until late years when the city took over the job of mowing the grass.[27]



purchase the Horn in the West property. We asked any person to advise us if they objected to this purchase, and after negligible objections, it is our intention, if elected, to proceed with the purchase of said property.

After careful figuring and consideration, we believe we can give you the same services as now given and carry out the above plans without raising your taxes, water and sewer rates.

We owe $3350.00 balance on parking meters payable $100.00 per month, and if elected, we plan to continue to keep the parking meters in operation which we think is the best and logical way to regulate the flow of traffic.

Perhaps the most knotty and perplexing problem we have is the traffic and parking situation. This is certainly not confined to Boone alone but is a universal problem. If elected we plan to modernize our traffic lighting system and secure the services of a qualified traffic expert to help plan more efficient operation of our available street space. A committee from Merchants and Chamber of Commerce groups, and any other interested citizens will be asked to help us with these plans and make suggestions.

If returned to office we plan to put a modern fence around our City Cemetery and have it mowed and trimmed regularly.

We think the operation of office, Police, Fire, Street, Water and Garbage departments are operating efficiently and well—if you think so, vote for us to continue in office.

We want to thank all who have cooperated so splendidly in the past, as what has been done has been accomplished with your fine cooperation.

Gordon H. Winkler
Candidate for Mayor

Howard Cottrell, Wayne Richardson,
Grady Tugman
Candidates for Aldermen

Excerpt from "A Statement to the Voters and Citizens of Boone from the Democratic Candidates for Mayor and City Council," *Watauga Democrat*, June 13, 1957: 1.

The decision presented certain ethical, if not legal, complications, given that those officials spent Town funds not only to erect a fence around a privately owned cemetery, but also to provide maintenance for that privately owned property "regularly." But the decision also completely excluded the Black section of the old Councill cemetery, which for decades off and

[27] "Good Improvement," *Watauga Democrat*, October 16, 1958: 4.

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on had been fenced out from the White section and neglected by both the trustees and town government. Instead, by 1955, burials for members of the Black community were increasingly taking place west of Boone "in the colored cemetery near the county home"—another example of de facto if not de jure segregation practiced in the community.[28] Only ten individuals are documented as having been buried in the Black section of the Boone Cemetery after 1953, according to the monument erected by the JHA. Interestingly, on all occasions for which an obituary was printed by the WD for a Black individual buried in the Black section of the cemetery between 1953 and 1963, the burial was acknowledged as taking place in "the city cemetery"—a shift in terminology that further amplified that Rob Rivers, the editor of the WD and a trustee for the cemetery, believed that the Black section was part of the community cemetery, even if it was fenced out as its own section and excluded from town maintenance.[29]

Noting that town officials extended nearly one hundred years of racial division between the two sections with an intentional and knowing act of segregation and race-based expenditure of Town funds in 1957 is not—as one correspondent to the Town this week has said—"in extremely bad taste." It's historical fact. It's also important contextually for understanding and interpreting for the public why the cemetery sections remained physically segregated until they were acquired by the Town in 2015.[30] The proposed cemetery interpretive panels are not the first time in town history that this issue has surfaced. In 1979, nearly 45 years ago, a reporter for the WD, Mike McLaughin, characterized the decision to erect the 1957 fence as "essentially a case of segregation and neglect on account of race," a characterization with which the town manager at the time, Marvin Hoffman, appears to have agreed, although he hoped in the moment for "some expression of opinion…as to what should be done" to rectify the situation. When he interviewed Gordon Winkler, McLaughin characterized Winkler as being "vague on why the black section wasn't included in the fence, but said that he would like to see it cleaned up."[31] Those responses, too, are an important part of the story. The panels, in the limited space they provide, are an attempt to crystalize this complicated story to its essential elements.

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[28] "Whittington Rites Monday," *Watauga Democrat*, April 28, 1955: 5 (second section). On the Clarissa Hill transactions, see Watauga County to Trustees of the Clairica Hill Cemetary, November 27, 1956, Deed Book 77, Page 466; and Watauga County a Municipal Corporation to Clarica Hill Cemetary, February 4, 1957, Deed Book 79, Page 74, Watauga County Register of Deeds.

[29] "Lee Anderson Dies on Sunday," *Watauga Democrat*, July 3, 1958: 1; "Heart Attack is Fatal to Negro," *Watauga Democrat*, July 1, 1954: 4 (second section); "John Adams Is Attack Victim," *Watauga Democrat*, April 8, 1954: 4. John Grimes is listed on the monument as being buried there in 1958; his obituary indicates burial at Clarissa Hill. See "John H. Grimes Succumbs at 44," *Watauga Democrat*, January 10, 1957: 2 (second section). See also "Clay Folk Has Fatal Attack," *Watauga Democrat*, June 10, 1948: 5, in which the term "community cemetery" is used. The headstones for John Adams and Granville Jackson still stand in the Black section of the cemetery.

[30] In full disclosure, I was also contacted by a descendant of Gordon Winkler who agreed that the decision was a poor one and probably based in the segregation practices of the time (1957), but she made a fair point about the marker calling out Winkler by name: "If you're going to call one town official out, call them all out." While this memo attempts to do that, I wish to make abundantly clear that Winkler was individually named in the draft panel text solely because he was the elected official serving in 1957 who was interviewed about the decision in 1979 and not in an effort to single him out from the aldermen who ran on the same platform and commitment regarding the fence.

[31] McLaughin, "Union Soldiers," cited supra.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA—Watauga County

THIS DEED, Made this 14 day of April, 1914, 191..., by John E. Brown and Bessie A. Brown of Watauga County, and State of North Carolina, of the first part, to F.J.Brown and Mary A. Brown his wife, of Watauga County, and State of North Carolina of the second part, WITNESSETH:

That said John E.Brown and wife Bessie A. Brown, in consideration of ONE THOUSAND Dollars, to them paid by F.J.Brown and wife Mary A. Brown, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do bargain, sell and convey to said F.J.Brown and wife Mary A. Brown and their heirs and assigns, a certain tract or parcels of land in Boone Township, Watauga County, State of North Carolina, adjoining the lands of Thomas Day and others, bounded as follows, viz:

FIRST TRACT: B E G I N N I N G on a stake, Thomas Day's S. W. corner, running West 100 feet; thence a Northward direction 193 feet to a stake; thence East 100 feet to a stake, Thomas Day's corner; thence South 193 feet to the beginning, containing 1/2 acre, more or less.

SECOND TRACT: B E G I N N I N G on a stake in North West corner of first tract, running East-ward with the Northern line of first tract ten poles to the North East corner of Thomas L.Day's lot, in the State property line; thence in a Northward direction twenty (20) poles to line of field formerly owned by E.S.Coffey; thence Westward fifteen (15-1/2) and one half poles with said line to the corner of the white grave yard; thence Southward seventeen (17) poles to the beginning, containing one and one half acres, more or less.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the aforesaid tracts or parcels of land and all privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the said F.J.Brown and wife Mary A. Brown heirs and assigns, to their only use and behoof forever.

And the said John E. Brown covenant to and with the said F.J.Brown and wife Mary A. Brown, their heirs and assigns, that they are seized of said premises in fee, and have a right to convey the same in fee simple; that the same are free from all encumbrances, and that they will warrant and defend the said title to the same against the claims of all persons whatsoever.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, The said John E. Brown and wife have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

John, E. Brown, (Seal)

Bessie A. Brown, (Seal)

Attest:

NORTH CAROLINA, Watauga County.

I, J. W. Blair, do hereby certify that John E. Brown and Bessie A. Brown, his wife, personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the annexed Deed of Conveyance; and the said Bessie A. Brown being by me privately examined, separate and apart from her said husband, touching her voluntary execution of the same, doth state that she signed the same freely and voluntarily, without fear or compulsion of her said husband or any other person, and that she doth still voluntarily assent thereto.

This April 15, 1914., 191...

J. W. Blair, (SEAL)

Notary Public.

NORTH CAROLINA, County.

The execution of the foregoing instrument was this day before me by, the, for the purposes therein expressed.

Let the same, with this certificate, be registered.

This day of, 191...

NORTH CAROLINA—Watauga County.

The foregoing certificate of J. W. Blair, a N. P. of Watauga County, is adjudged to be correct and sufficient. Let the instrument, with the certificates, be registered.

Witness my hand and official seal, this 18 day of April, 1914., 191...

W. D. Farthing, Clerk Superior Court.

Filed for registration at 11 o'clock A. M., April 18, 1914, 191... and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Watauga County, April 18, 1914., 191...

W. R. Gragg, Register of Deeds.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA—Watauga County

THIS DEED, Made this 30th day of April 1919 192__, by A.D.Blair and Josie Blair of Watauga County and State of N.C., of the first part, to Jerry Lenoir, Guss Horton, and June Horton, Trustees, of ____ County and State of Watauga, of the second part, WITNESSETH:

That said A.D.Blair and Josie Blair, in consideration of Ten and 50/100 Dollars, to them paid by parties of the second part, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do bargain, sell and convey to said parties of the second part their sucessors ~~ZZ~~ heirs and assigns, a certain tract or parcel of land in Boone Township, Watauga County, and State of N.C., adjoining the lands of the burying ground of the colored people in the town of Boone and is being conveyed for the purpose of enlaging said buring grounds for the colord, and others, bounded as follows, viz.:

Being lot no.45 of the Kensor survey, Beginning on a stone on the west of College Street south East corner of lot no .44 running South 19° West 95 ft. to a stone in E.S.Coffey's old line, thence South 79° East 28 feet with said old line to a staone on the West side of College Street, thence North 2-1/2° East 95 feet with the West side of College St. to a staone, the beginning corner.

To HAVE AND TO HOLD the aforesaid tract or parcel of land and all privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the said Jerry Lenoir, Gus Horton, and June Horton, sucessors heirs and assigns, to their only use and behoof forever.

And the said parties of the first part covenant to and with the said parties of the second part sucessors heirs and assigns, that they are seized of said premises in fee, and have a right to convey the same in fee simple; that the same are free from all encumbrances, and that they will warrant and defend the said title to the same against the claims of all persons whomsoever.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said A.D.Blair and Josie Blair have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

A.D.Blair (Seal)

Attest: Josie Blair (Seal)

NORTH CAROLINA, Watauga COUNTY.

I, G.P.Hagaman, N.P., do hereby certify that A.DBlair and Josie Blair his wife, personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the annexed Deed of Conveyance; and the said Josie Blair being by me privately examined, separate and apart from her said husband, touching her voluntary execution of the same, doth state that she signed the same freely and voluntarily, without fear or compulsion of her said husband or any other person, and that she doth still voluntarily assent thereto.

This 1st day of May 1919, ~~1921~~

($eal) G.P.Hagaman

Notary Public.

NORTH CAROLINA, ____ COUNTY.

The execution of the foregoing instrument was this day ____ before me by ____, the ____, for the purposes therein expressed. Let the same, with this certificate, be registered.

This ____ day of ____, 192__

NORTH CAROLINA—WATAUGA COUNTY.

The foregoing certificate of G.P.Hagaman, N.P. of Watauga County, is adjudged to be correct and sufficient. Let the instrument, with the certificates, be registered.

Witness my hand ____, this 13 day of Sept. 1921

A.W.Smith, Clerk Superior Court.

Filed for registration at 12 o'clock M., Sept. 13, 1921, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Watauga County, Sept.13, 1921

E.M.Harman, Register of Deeds.

Communication: Memo with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

NORTH CAROLINA :

WATAUGA COUNTY :

THIS INDENTURE, made this the 21st day of July, 1937, between B. J. Councill and wife, Blanche Councill, and Mrs. J. F. Hardin (Widow), of the County of Watauga and State of North Carolina, parties of the first part, and James H, Councill, R. D. Hodges and R. C. Rivers, Jr., Trustees of said county and State, parties of the second part,

W I T N E S S E T H:

That the said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar ($1.00) to them in hand paid by the parties of the second part, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have granted, released, confirmed and quitclaimed, and by these presents do grant, release, confirm and quitclaim unto the said James H. Councill, R. D. Hodges and R. C. River,Jr., Trustees and their successors, all the right, claim, interest and property in and to the tract of land hereinafter described, to be held by them and to be used as a cemetery;

BEGINNING on a stake 91 ft. South of center of Howard Street in the B. H. Watson east line, running S. 23° 30' W. 189 ft. to a stake at the Northwest corner A. S. T. C. lot in the J. T. C. Wright line; thence S. 70° 23' E. 250.5 ft. to a stake in corner A. S. T. C. lot and Brown heirs line; thence N. 17° 37' E. 177.5 ft. to a stake in S. E.corner W. R. Winkler lot and Mrs. W. R. Johnson's line; thence N. 67° 20' W. 236.3 ft. to the beginning, containing one and two one hundredths acres, more or less.

It is understood and agreed that upon the death or removal from Watauga County of either of the trustees above named the two remaining or surviving trustees shall immediately elect a successor of the deceased trustee, who shall hold under this deed from the date of his election, and said trustees shall make a record of such election and have the same recorded in the the office of the Register of Deeds for Watauga County.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, together with all the appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining to them, the said James H. Councill, R. D. Hodges and R. C. Rivers, Jr., Trustees, and their successors forever.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said B. J. Councill and wife, Blanche Councill, and Mrs. J. F. Hardin (widow) have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.

B. J. Councill (SEAL)

Blanche Councill (SEAL)

Mrs. John F. Hardin (SEAL)

NORTH CAROLINA :

WATAUGA COUNTY :

I, A. E. South, C. S. C., do hereby certify that B. J. Councill and wife, Blanche Councill, and Mrs. J. F. Hardin (widow), personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing quitclaimed deed; and the said Blanche Councill, being by me privately examined; separate and apart from her said husband, touching her voluntary execution of the same, doth state that she signed the same freely and voluntarily without fear or compulsion of her said husband, or any other person, and that she doth still voluntarily assent thereto. Let the same with this certificate be registered.

Witness my hand and notarial seal, this 21st day of July, 1937.,

A. E. South, C. S. C.

Filed for registeration on July 22, 1937 at 9 A. M. and duly recorded July 22, 1937.,

Helen Underdown, Register of Deeds.,

Communication: Memo with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

appeared before me this day, and acknowledged the due execution of the annexed deed of Conveyance, and the said Melissa being by me privately examined Seperate and apart from her said husband touching her voluntary execution of the Same, doth State that She Signed the Same freely and voluntarily, without fear or Compulsion of her said husband or any other person and that she doth Still voluntarily assent thereto

This 19th day of June 1894

H. C. Martin justice
of the Peace.

North Carolina }
Watauga County }

The foregoing Certificate of H. C. Martin J.P. of Watauga County is adjudged to be correct and Sufficient Let the instrument with the Certificates be registered. Witness my hand and Seal this 25th day of June 1894

Jos B Todd Clerk
Superior Court

Reg June 25th 1894

State of North Carolina
Watauga County

This Deed, made this 27th day of June 1894, by J B Comeiel M.D. of Rowan County and State of North Carolina of the first part, and W P Jones J Lenoir and W R Horton Trustees of the M.E. church, (col) of Boone M.E. of Watauga County and State of North Carolina of the Second part Witnesseth That Said J B Comeiel M.D. party of the first part in Consideration of the Sum of Fifteen ($15.00) Dollars to them paid by parties of the Second part, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have Bargained and Sold and by these presents, do bargain Sell and Convey to Said Trustees and their Successors a certain tract or parcel of land, Situate in Boone Township County of Watauga State of North Carolina adjoining the lands of Greene Horton Dr W. B. Comeiel and others bounded as follows, viz;

Beginning on the North west ~~Side~~ Corner of Greene Hortons lot, on the road leading up the Rich Mountain To Howards Knob, and running

North 100 ft to a Stake, thence east 100 ft to a Stake, thence South 100 ft to a Stake in said Greene Hortons line, thence west with said line to the beginning and containing one fourth of an acre more or less.

To Have And To Hold the aforesaid tract or parcel of land and all privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the said Trustees (above mentioned) and their Successors to their only use and behoof

And the said J. B. Comeiel M.D. Covenant that he is Seized of said premises in fee, and has a right to convey the same in fee simple. That the same are free and clear from all incumbrances, and that he will Warrant and defend the said title to the same against the claims of all persons Whatsoever.

In Testimony Whereof the said J. B. Comeiel M.D. party of the first part has hereunto set his hand and Seal, the day and year first above written

Witness G. H. Comeiel
H. B Comeiel

J. B. Comeiel M.D. Seal

North Carolina,
Holanga County } The execution of the forgoing instrument was this day proven before me by the oath and examination of G. H. Comeiel the Subscribing Witness thereto, Let the same with this Certificate be registered, this 27th day of June 1894

Joe B Todd clerk
Rey June 30th 1894 Superior Court.

Greer Irish & wife Deed to Jones J. C. Filed July 3 1894 at 2 00 Pm

We Irish Greer & wife Barbara Greer of the County of Holanga & State of N Carolina have this day Bargained Sold and do hereby Convey unto J. C. Jones his Heirs forever for the consideration of Six Hundred and fifty Dollars to us paid the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, a Tract of Land in the State of N.C. Holanga Co Cove Creek Township, lying on the head waters

To the above released premises, or to any part or parcel thereof forever.
In Witness Whereof the said L.H. Blair & wife Mary W. W.D. Edmisten and wife A.A. Joe B Todd & wife Eliza have hereunto set our hands and seals this the 29th day of September in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and Ninety four Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence of us Thos L. Critcher.

L.H. Blair Seal
W.A. Blair Seal
W.W.D. Edmisten Seal
A.A. Edmisten Seal
Joe B. Todd Seal
Eliza Todd Seal

North Carolina
Watauga County

The execution of the foregoing instrument was this day proven before me by the oath and examination of Thos L Critcher the Subscribing Witness thereto. Let the same with this certificate be registered This 29th day of September 1894.

Joe B Todd Clerk
Superior Court

Rec Oct 2nd 1894

Horton Greene
Deed from
Council J.B.
Filed Oct
2nd 1894
at 9 A.M.

State of North Carolina
County

This Deed, made this 30th day of Mar 1894 by J.B. Council of Rowan County and State of N.C. of the first part, and Greene Horton of Watauga County and State of N.C. of the second part. Witnesseth. That said J.B. Council party of the first part in consideration of Fifty Dollars to them paid by Greene Horton the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged. have Bargained and Sold, and by these presents do bargain sell and convey to said Greene Horton and his heirs a certain tract or parcel of land in Boone, County of Watauga State of North Carolina adjoining the lands of Dr W.B. Council and others. bounded as follows viz.
Beginning on a rock, J W Thomas corner

running South 63° East with his line 17 poles to a chestnut Tree, thence North 11° East 9 poles to a Stake. Then North 63° west 17 poles to a Stake at the road, then South 22½ west 9 poles to the beginning containing one acre more or less.
To Have And To Hold the aforesaid tract or parcel of land and all privileges and appertenances thereto belonging to the said Greene Horton his heirs and assigns to their only use and behoof forever. And the said J.B. Comnicill Covenant that he is seized of said premises, in fee and has a right to convey the same in fee simple, that the same are free and clear from all incumbrances, and that he will warrant and defend the said title to the same against the claims of all persons whatsoever. In Testimony whereof, the said J.B. Comnicill hereunto set his hand and seal the day and year first above written

Witness J.M. Horah — J.B. Comnicill

North Carolina
Rowan County }

The execution of the foregoing instrument was this day proven before me, by the oath and examination of John M Horah the subscribing witness thereto. Witness my hand and official seal, this 4 day of April 1894.

W.G. Watson Clerk Superior Court Rowan county.

North Carolina
Watauga County }

The foregoing certificate of W.G. Watson C.S.C. of Rowan county, is adjudged to be correct and sufficient. Let the instrument, with the certificate be registered. Witness my hand and seal this 2nd day of October 1894

Jos B Todd clerk
Superior Court.

Reg Oct 4th 1894

of sale invested in me by the Mortgagees of the aforesaid mentioned mortgage and no further
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the day and year above written
Witness W. B. Blackburn L.S. (Seal)

North Carolina Watauga County
The execution of the foregoing deed of conveyance was this day duly acknowledged before me this day by W. B. Blackburn L.S. the grantor thereto for the purposes therein expressed. Therefore let the same with this certificate be registered.
This December 8th 1897

F. J. Greene
Judge 10 Judicial Dist.

Deed from G. W. Bowmaill To W. Bowmaill Filed 12 Mar 1898.

North Carolina
Watauga County.

This deed made this the 10th day of February 1898 by G. W. Bowmaill of Watauga County and State of North Carolina of the first part, and W. B. Bowmaill Jr. of said State and County of the second part, Witnesseth: That the said G. W. Bowmaill party of the first part. in consideration of one hundred and fifty dollars to him paid by said W. B Bowmaill Jr the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged has bargained and sold and by these presents do bargain sell and convey unto said W. B. Bowmaill Jr. and his heirs. the following described tract or parcel of land situated in Watauga County. State of North Carolina. adjoining the lands of D. B. Dougherty and W. B. Bowmaill Jr. Begining at a stake the south west corner of the old grave yard lot as platted out by the administrators of Benjamin Bowmaill at or about the time they made sale of the old Bowmaill lands, then running west course keeping with the line fence on the ridge between W. B. Bowmaill Jr. and said G. W. Bowmaill to the D. B. Dougherty and G. W. Bowmaill compromise line at D. B. Dougherty's land, then with the said compromise line now the dividing line between G. W. Bowmaill and the said Dougherty to the turnpike road. then an

east course with said road to said W. B. Councills Jr line as established by his deed from the adminis-
sators of Benjamon Councill. then with said
line in north course to the begining. said tract of
land being all D own on the south side of the
old graves yard field containing by estimate
from six to eight acres.
To have and to hold said land and all
privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to
the said W. B. Councill Jr. and his heirs and
assigns forever. And the said G. W. Councill
covenants that he is lawfully seized of said premises
in fee and has a good right to convey the same
in fee simple and that he will warrant and
defend the title to the same against the claims
of all persons whatsoever.
In witness whereof, the said G. W. Councill
hereunto sets his hand and Seal the day and
year first written.

Geo. W. Councill (Seal)

North Carolina, Watauga County.
I W. B. Blackburn, C.S.C. Of Watauga County
do hereby certify that G. W. Councill personally
appeared befor me this day, and acknowledged the
due execution of the annexed deed of conveyance,
therefore let the same together with this certificate
be registered. This the first day of March 1898.

W. B Blackburn
Clerk of the Superior Court.
Watauga County.

Deed from H. W Banner & wife To Martha Banner Filed for reg March 14th 1898

State of North Carolina
Watauga County.

This deed, made this 12th day of March 1898.
by H. W. Banner & wife Bettie W. Banner of Watauga
County, and State of North Carolina to Martha
Banner of Watauga County, and State of N. C.
Witnesseth: That said H. W. and Bettie W Banner
in consideration of Three Thousand & five Hundred
dollars, to them paid by Martha Banner, the
receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, has
bargained and sold and by these presents do
bargain, sell and convey to said Martha Banner

of the within instrument and the said Martha Jo
being by me privately & examined separate and apart
from her said husband touching the voluntary
execution of the same doth state that she signed
the same freely and voluntarily without fear or
compulsion of her said husband or any
other person and that she doth still
voluntarily assent thereto Witness my hand
and private seal This 25th day of Nov 18[illegible]
North Carolina } J.O. Stinson J.P. [illegible]
Watauga County } The foregoing Certificate of J.O.
Stinson a Justice of the Peace for Watauga
County is adjudged to be correct and in due
form and according to law Therefore let this
instrument with the certificate be registered
This 30th day of March 1900

John A Bingham C.S.C.

Deed
from
W.B. Bowmen
&others
To
E.S. Coffey
Filed March
31st 1900
Reg. April
4th 1900

State of North Carolina
Watauga County } Deed.
This Deed made this 31st day of March 190[illegible]
ley and between W.B. Bowmen Jr. & wife Eliz
beth & J.W. Bowmen of Boone in the County
of Watauga and State of North Carolina of the
first part and E.S. Coffey of Boone in
the County of Watauga and State of N.C. of
the second part Witnesseth That the said par
of the first part for and in consideration of
the sum of Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars
in hand paid by the said party of the sec
part the receipt of which is hereby acknowledg
hath bargained and sold and by these pre
ents doth grant and convey unto said part
of the second part All that certain tract
parcel of land lying and being near the to
of Boone in Boone Township Watauga Co
unty N.C. adjoining the lands of B.J. Bowmen
Jr, J.F. Hardin & D.B. Dougherty the a

Communication: Memo with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

lying to the right of the old road leading from Boone towards Story Studnis and being that part of the Seamside tract upon which the old Seamside residence was and now known as the K. W. Seamside land and Bounded as follows Viz: Beginning on a rock in the middle of the old road bed D B Dougherty's Corner and runs S. 4° W. 31 poles to a stake thence S. 72° E. with J. F. Studnis line 66 poles to a stake at the road leading from J. F. Studnis residence towards Luzon & thence N. 8° E 14 poles with the road thence N. 30° E 16 poles with the road thence N. 14° W with said road 16 poles to a stake at the forks of the old road thence N. 80° W with the middle of the old road 66½ poles to the Beginning 16 acres more or less. (The ground included in the above bounday & known as the Seam yard is excepted by the grantors hereto) To Have and to Hold the foregoing described lands and premises with the appurtenances unto the said party of the second part his heirs and assigns forever. And The said parties of the first part doth Covenant to and with the said party of the second part that they seized of said premises in fee and have good right to convey the same that the same are free from all incumbrances except as herein described and that they will warrant and defend the title so conveyed against all persons whatsoever claiming the same. In Testimony Whereof the said parties of the first part hath hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written Signed Sealed and delivered in the Presence of

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W. B. Councill Jr.
Elizabeth Councill
Geo. W. Councill

North Carolina }
Wilkes County } I John H Bingham Esq. do hereby certify that Geo. W. Councill & W. B. Councill Jr. and Elizabeth Councill his wife personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the annexed deed of conveyance and the said Elizabeth Councill being by me privately examined apart and apart from her said husband touching her voluntary assent to the same doth state that she signed the same freely and voluntarily without fear or compulsion of her said husband or of any other person and that she doth still voluntarily assent thereto. Let the deed with this certificate be registered.
This 31st day of March 1900

John H Bingham Esq.
Per W. W. Pharris D.C.

State of N.C.
Grant
TO
John Mortz & John Miller
Reg. Apl 4 1900

State of North Carolina
Know ye That we for and in consideration of the sum of Five Dollars for every hundred acres hereby granted paid into our Treasury by John Mortz & John Miller hath given and granted and by these presents do give and grant unto the said John Mortz & John Miller a tract of land containing Two hundred acres lying and being in the County of Ashe on the waters of Meat Camp Creek Beginning at a Chestnut John Mortz old corner thence West crossing the Creek 60 poles to a Buckeye and Beech thence North 140 poles to a Spanish Oak on the side of the Snake Mountain thence North thirty East 60 poles to a Beech on the top of the ridge thence West up the ridge 24 poles to four Beeches on the ridge thence North

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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY RIVERS PRINTING COMPANY
R. C. RIVERS, JR., PUBLISHER

An Independent Weekly Newspaper
Established in 1888. Published for 45 years by the late Robert C. Rivers, Sr.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In Watauga County: One year, $2.50; six months, $1.50; four months, $1.00; Outside Watauga County: One year, $3.00; six months, $1.75; four months, $1.25.

Entered at the postoffice at Boone, N. C., as second class mail matter, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS—In requesting change of address, it is important to mention the OLD, as well as the NEW address.

"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first objective should be to keep that right, and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive these papers and be capable of reading them."—Thomas Jefferson.

BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1958

Good Improvement

The Boone community cemetery, hedged in for years by hemlocks and pines, choke cherries and the like, is now enclosed by a new woven-metal fence, its posts set deep in concrete, and designed to last for generations.

This improvement is due to the action of the town council in making available the cash for this worthy civic project. The city fathers are due the thanks of the people of the town, particularly of those who have a personal interest in the cemetery for their generosity in this regard. Russell D. Hodges, chairman of the cemetery committee, is also due thanks for his help in getting the fence erected.

Originally set aside by the Councill family for the use of all the people of the community, the Boone cemetery has been operated all through the years without the sale of plots in its crowded borders. Upkeep had been by public subscription until late years when the city took over the job of mowing the grass. When Mountlawn Memorial Park was opened and lots made available, the Boone cemetery was closed to any new families. With the new fence and all, the plot is now in the best shape it has been in years. Some gravestones need resetting and the place will be in first class condition.

Boone cemetery contains the remains of the founders of the community, and of many others who came along to contribute their share to its development. Its value as an historical spot is becoming greater year after year. That the premises are to be secure in the future, and that the grass is to be kept cut at city expense, is a source of pride to those interested in the plot.

Homecoming

Homecoming festivities which take place at Appalachian State Teachers College, have come to be one of the high spots of the autumn season for the alumni of the institution and for the county and townspeople in general.

We look forward to the gay parade, with a half dozen bands, the colorful floats and the fellowship with the throngs along the curbs as the gay marchers proceed along the street. Then there's the kick of the football, the cheers of the stands, and half-time ceremonies which mean so much to those who've come back to their Alma Mater, and to others, who've never attended classes here, but who love the institution for all it has accomplished.

The class meetings, the gatherings of the old-timers, the reminiscing and the fellowshipping are all enjoyable parts of the homecoming day program which reaches its climax with the gay dance Saturday evening.

Homecoming crowds are growing larger and larger as the years go by. Prosperous conditions, and fast travel enable former students to go great distances for the week end, and still get back home in time for some resting on Sunday afternoon before the start of another week's work.

Folks along the street ways look forward to the gaiety of homecoming, to the meeting of old friends who studied here in the days gone by, to seeing members of faculties of other days and enjoying the many festivities.

The town welcomes the homecoming visitors, and is glad that when they converge on the campus they will find the college growing, with the prospect that within a decade the student population will have been doubled. The Alumni will find satisfaction in this.

End Of Rail Travel

In a dozen years railroads of the United States are apt to stop running all passenger trains, except those used by commuters in the vicinity of the great centers of population.

Long-journey travelers are expected to go by airplane, some by bus and some by private automobile, while the railroads carry only mail and freight.

Anyway, these are the conclusions of an official government study of railroading, made public by the Interstate Commerce Commission and reported in Grit.

Railroad men have told us, however, that it's not so much the bus and the airplanes as the private automobiles which have sounded the death knell for the choochoos. Rail travel has been on the decline for over ten years and inter-city passenger trains just can't last.

This is sad news for railroad devotees, for those who've done a lot of grinding over the country on smoky, cinder-strewn coaches and in the green dim environs of the Pullman sleeping car.

There's a fascination about railroading—about going to sleep in Salisbury and waking up in Washington, or dozing at Harriman and greeting morning at Cincinnati; of breakfasting in a spotless diner, or sipping cool drinks in a club car with good company while the wheels click merrily over the rail joints.

But, the same thing that took the local trains out of business is red-penciling the schedules of the cross-country lines, namely lack of speed. Railroads have consistently adhered to forty mile schedules in an airplane age. We've always leaned to the notion that a return to mass transportion of individuals would solve parking problems in many centers of population. Small light trains and fast schedules could make it impractical for many folks to take the car to town. We don't know. But pretty soon, it seems, if you want to course down a polished rail, you're gonna have to rely solely on Tweetsie.

Quiz Programs

(Muskegon (Mich.) Chronicle)

It looks as though the epoch of the quiz programs with their unusual contestants and fabulous rewards, which have provided a steady fare of TV entertainment for several years, is coming to an end.

First there was the back-stage hassle over a game known as "Dotto," as a result of which the program had an extremely short life. Then similar arguments caused "The $64,000 Challenge" to lose its sponsor.

Much of this came about because of disgruntled contestants. But it confirmed what thousands of people had long suspected—that many of these programs are somewhat doctored in the interests of maximum drama and entertainment.

There always was some leeway, it seems, to get rid of a contestant who might turn out to be unwanted, or to help along the success of one whose popular appeal was in the ascendancy.

Thus it was something like a present-day TV wrestling match, on a higher level and with cash awards of dazzling size. These in themselves were enough to keep an audience coming back to see who'd get rich in this Land of Easy Street that the quiz programs had created.

And many of these same thousands had a feeling all along that it was more than a little ridiculous to be passing out huge sums in this way.

Anyway, those who had hoped to become rich and famous by memorizing baseball record books, or by a similar process in some other category, may have to reconcile themselves to the old-fashioned pre-TV-quiz notion of working for a living.

Fall Planting

Stretch's Sketches

By "STRETCH" ROLLINS

That Old Feeling On New Cars

SHOWROOMS OF AUTO dealers have taken on a new elegance with the advent of the 1959 models, and dealers seem to radiate a special pride in displaying them.

First showing of new cars has always been a high spot for me, even when, as is usually the case, I am not able to be in the market for one of them. It is comparable to the first game of the football season and the first day of spring.

A psychiatrist would no doubt diagnose the case as wishful thinking, born of a frustration complex which had its inception in early childhood when I had my little heart set on dazzling all the kids in the block with the latest thing in kiddie cars, but being the youngest in a family of fourteen was so far down the list that by the time my father got to my name I was in high school and never got over it.

Our hypothetical head shrinker, of course, wouldn't bother to clutter up his scientific intellect with any minor details, such as finding out if I was an only child, had kiddie cars to burn, and got so sick of using the silly little things as a means of locomotion that I jolly well did shove one into the fire now and then.

AND WHEN I SEE a jalopy of ancient vintage wheezing by on its way to the nearest car clinic, or standing in delapidated dignity in some junkyard, I can't help thinking of the forgotten glory that was hers when she first hit the showroom. Boy, she was something, then!—every whit as new and smart as the 1959 job you looked at today.

ON THE OTHER HAND, I sometimes look at a streamlined, souped-up, futuristic shiner that just rolled off the assembly line and envision how forlorn and outdated it will be a few years hence, replaced by an even faster, slicker, more beautiful child of some designer's brain.

Ah, well—time, as someone has so aptly stated, marches on.

AUTOMOTIVE ADAM AND EVE?—In the year 1886, it is said there were only two automobiles in Kansas City—but one day they managed to have a head-on collision!

WORLD SERIES POST MORTEMS—Words they had to eat: Leo Durocher, former Dodger and Giant manager: "Milwaukee will take this one in four straight." Lew Burdette, Braves pitcher who beat the Yankees three times in last year's Series: "I wish we had those Yankees in our league." Fred Haney, Braves manager: "Lew can do it again."

Best quips—Same Lew Burdette, when asked what he hit for his home run in the second game: "A long ball." Gil McDougald, Yank second baseman, on the do-or-die sixth game: "I was as nervous as a long-tailed cat in a room full of rocking chairs!"

From Early Democrat Files

Sixty Years Ago

October 20, 1898

Mrs. Sarah Crowder has been right ill for several days and remains not much improved.

Assistant District Attorney Spencer Blackburn will speak at Shulls Mills next Monday and at other points in the county later on.

Last Monday at Banner Elk marked the opening of the county canvass in Watauga. The candidates, or most of them, both political parties, were on hand, and the best of feelings seemed to prevail.

Reports say that the campaign between Spainhour and Harshaw for Solicitor is funny and spicy and causes a lot of merriment.

The Indian uprising in Minnesota is about quelled and peace is made again. Uncle Sam will now furnish bacon and bread to hte Indians as usual until they want to kill a few more white people.

General Fitzhugh Lee will be the first to land on western Cuba at Havana by November 1.

Special dispatches from Jackson, Miss., say that yellow fever is gaining headway in that State and Louisiana, and that Governor MacLaurin and State officials have deserted the capital.

Instructions have been sent to the United States Military Commission in Cuba, fixing December 1 as the date when Spanish control over the islands must cease. The commissioners have notified the Spaniards that all ports and customs receipts, and the management of municipal affairs will pass into the hands of the American military commander on the island.

There is much sympathy expressed for Mrs. McKinley, who left Washington for Canton, Ohio, Saturday night to attend the funeral of her brother, who was killed, supposedly by a jealous woman, Friday evening.

Thirty-Nine Years Ago

October 16, 1919

Mr. Joseph Dougherty, well known in Watauga, died at his home in Knoxville, Tenn., last Thursday of blood poison.

Bingham Brothers have moved their mercantile business from Adams to Vilas, and are now located in the building owned by Mr. Jack Smith.

Capt. Allison is here, superintending the construction of a siding leading from the lumber yards of the Carolina Hardwood Co., via the wholesale grocery to depot street.

There is no road in the county that needs improvement worse than the one leading from Vilas to Valle Crucis, and it is hoped that the good roads commission will see its way clear to do something about it before work is suspended.

Mr. J. C. Mast of Sugar Grove was in town Tuesday. He intends to move to his Maryland farm by the first of the year, but thinks of making a business trip there, with a number of others, who will look over the farm market in that fertile region.

Dr. Dula of Lenoir was in town Monday and told the Democrat that all Watauga lacked of having a visit from an airplane was a suitable place to land this side of the ridge. He had contracted with the aviator to make the flight, and the two ascended to an altitude of 2,000 feet out from Lenoir, and Mr. Aviator decided after a look of this section through his glasses, that he would not take the risk, and returned to Lenoir, where he had been making flights for the Caldwell County Fair.

Mr. John W. Hodges has purchased a lot near the depot from Mr. W. L. Bryan, and will erect a large building thereon to accommodate his increasing wholesale feed and grain business.

Mr. John W. Greene of Valle Crucis has moved into the Mrs. Lizzie McGhee old home, recently purchased.

Fifteen Years Ago

October 21, 1943

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Agle of Kingsport, Tenn., announce the birth of a son, James Heath, on Wednesday, October 13, at City Hospital, Gastonia.

Mrs. Joseph Conderman, a summer resident of Boone, left Friday for her home in Miami, Fla. Mrs. Conderman remarked that each fall, the day after she closed her home here and left for sunnier climes, it snowed—and true to tradition, Saturday brought quite a trace of snow to the mountains.

The new library at the high school is now being used by the students and faculty. It has been made part of the study hall and class room. A work room and a conference room adjoin the main reading room. The rooms are equipped with light adjustable shelves. The walls are a soft green. A new librarian's desk has just arrived and a card catalog has been ordered.

By furnishing black walnut logs that can be made into gunstocks to carry the fight to Hitler and Hirohito, Western North Carolina farmers have found a new way to contribute to the war effort.

Considerable work has already been done in the Critcher building near the Democrat office, looking to the installation of a hosiery plant for the Baker-Commack Co., of Burlington, which will serve to train workers till the big new building can be completed.

KING STREET

By ROB RIVERS

Friendliness . . Comments By Visitors

Boone is rapidly becoming known as the friendly town. hasn't always been so, and the files of the Democrat ar speeches of the civic leaders have been filled with entreat the folks to show a little more concern for the stranger the gate—for his happiness and for his appraisal of this bea vaulted region. . . We are happy that there is the cherry the cordial greeting and the pleasant word on every hand our visitors come to the hills. . . . And they're taking n the friendliness and the courtesies and the kindness of people. . . . We often get letters commenting on this quality, the last coming from Mount Airy. . . Although w in the first person, the letter is signed by Cleo, Pam ar Taylor. . . . We're glad they like our town and we lik letter they sent to us addressed "Dear People of Boone," follows:

"Over the past week I was a visitor in your city. Being from home and not knowing too many people, caused notice your citizens more. . . . I came up with Miss Jean for the NCEA meeting. While she was at the meeting I the day up town. . . . My first stop was at a Gulf Station friendliness they showed us made us feel good. My nex was to park on your Main Street, and I couldn't get the me work. While I was wondering what to do a policeman ca and fixed the meter and gave us two hours free time. . . started to leave, a man in a truck was courteous enough t and let me back out. . . . Maybe these are small deed wouldn't have been noticed by lots of people, but to visitor, they meant a lot, and made me hope that some may have the privilege of coming back again."

We hope so too and appreciate your kind words.

And since we've generally become known as the frie town, we hope that before many more years we'll also be as the cleanest community in the State. . . . Cleanlines courtesy are twin civic attractions, or virtues.

• • • •

The Fall Colors . . And Some Things We H

Cool nights and continued dry weather perhaps hasten coloring of the leaves and the bright displays of hedgero forest were gorgeous during the week end. . . . The should get better during the current week as the autum approach their peak. . . . The people, generally, especially who operate tourist facilities, are hoping for at least two good week ends of fall travel.

We've seen a lot of people during the last few days having a lot of fun on the highway overlooks, and on the paths, now covered lightly with gold and crimson, fit f feet of the Queen. We've been interested in some of the ments we've heard as we've helped gaze from high point the oceans of hills, wrapped in crazy quilts of fantastic gai

"Are the leaves always this color?" asked the fellow wh backdropped by all the shades of the spectrum.

"Does the wind blow every day like this?" queried the with the thin breezed-out locks.

"Where's the Colorama I've been reading about in the from the hills?" asked the studious looking fellow, wn practically swamped in the brillance of the leaves, who "I don't see so much in it, but the kids wanted to come, drug along."

Another fellow allowed as how "With all the reds ar russets I'm seeing down in that valley, the oaks are n cutting. A lot of money could be made right there."

But most of the folks are awed with the majesty of th in the fall, and the grandeur of the views from the promen and the peaks, down the winding creek bottoms and acro crag-rimmed draws, and wish they might gaze forever beauties of the flaming fronds.

There was an old man who stood on the Parkway ov near Blowing Rock and gazed long over the bright hills, li row on row, till they were lost in the distance. . . . He dr the beauty of each painted leaf, of each wispy cloud whi gered a summit, and of each gray cliff which stuck throu panorama of brightness and of beauty. . . . He propped h against an auto and looked again, as a mariner might con t for sails, and spoke, not to the bystander, but to the great of the universe: " Such couldn't come 'cept from the bou love and the power and the canvas and the paint pots blessed Lord."

Uncle Pinkney

HIS PALAVER

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

I see by the papers where Congressman Carroll Kearns of Pennsylvania has introduced a bill to put the Star Spangled Banner in the key of A flat so folks won't stumble over them high notes near the end.

I'm in favor of anything that'll help the Star Spangled Banner git back in good standing in this country. We got kids in school today that can sing all five verses of Elvis Pressley's "Hound Dog" that ain't never heard of the Star Spangled Banner.

As usual, they referred the Kearns bill to a congressional committee. That means it'll cost the taxpayers about $10,000, whether we git it settled in A flat or F sharp. The committee will ask a handful of guvernment clerks to make a report on the matter. The report will run to about 200 pages and cost about $10,000, which is about par fer the congressional report course.

Abe Lincoln asked his secretary onct to find out something about a saddle horse advertised fer sale in the papers. Six weeks later he got a 150-page report on the horse. After reading the first two paragraphs, Abe throwed the report in the wastebasket and called fer his secretary. He told him that fer all he knowed, the horse could be dead by now, and furthermore he just wanted to know the g bad points about the horse report on how many hairs horse's tail.

And I see where they're tating that business about pay fer teachers. I consi self a living example of t duct of low paid teachers. favor of raising a teache high enough that they won' more ignorant folks like the next generation.

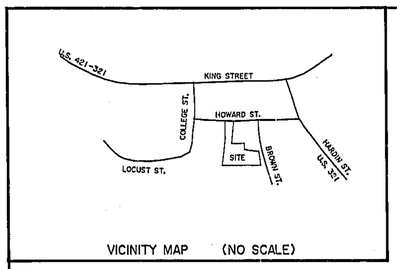
But I think it's about tim politicians git back on the platform again. When I young man no candidate c in office unless he run on form of relief fer the It never helped the farme but it made him feel im I been feeling mighty n here of late since the po is all running after the sch The next candidate that vote has got to have a p his platform calling fer big better relief fer the far

One other item in the caught my fancy this week automobile manufacturer f troit says the automobile h a "great moral force" in th try. I can't figger that o Maybe it stopped horse but aside from that I c nothing its done fer mo

Yours truly,
UNCLE PIKNEY

Communication: Memo with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Plat Book 014 page 172



VICINITY MAP (NO SCALE)

I C. NEAL BARE, P.L.S. CERTIFY THAT THE SURVEY SHOWN HEREON, IS OF AN EXISTING PARCEL OR PARCELS OF LAND AND DOES NOT CREATE A NEW STREET OR CHANGE AN EXISTING STREET.

C. Neal Bare

C. NEAL BARE, P.L.S. L-2425

N.C.G.S GRID NORTH
N.A.D. 1983

NORTH CAROLINA, Watauga
THIS INSTRUMENT WAS PRESENTED FOR REGISTRATION AND RECORDED IN THIS OFFICE IN BOOK 014 PAGE 172.
THIS 6th DAY OF April 1999
AT 4:40 P M.
Wanda C. Scott Eva Lee Moore
REGISTER OF DEEDS BY DEPUTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Watauga

I, Carolyn Hodges, REVIEW OFFICER OF Watauga COUNTY, CERTIFY THAT THE MAP OR PLAT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATION IS AFFIXED MEETS ALL STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR RECORDING.

4-6-99 Carolyn Hodges
DATE: REVIEW OFFICER

HOWARD STREET

N 84°58'00"E 35.66' COMPUTED POINT
S 87°02'10"E 158.71'
EXISTING RAILROAD SPIKE
N 89°34'42"E 41.03'
EXISTING RAILROAD SPIKE
5/8" N.I.R.

TRACT ONE
0.091 ACRE
PAVED DRIVE
NO TITLE REFERENCE FOUND THIS TRACT

N 15°12'53"E 73.29'
S 04°10'24"W 91.43'

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOONE
DEED BOOK 102, PAGE 147

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEED BOOK 122, PAGE 139

CAMPBELL BROADCASTING, INC.
BOOK OF RECORDS 191, PAGE 127

3/4" E.I.P.
GATE
N 68°23'13"W 37.28'
5/8" N.I.R.
S 68°54'36"E 108.00'
3/4" E.I.P.
S 68°54'36"E 65.65'
5/8" N.I.R.
S 84°48'30"E 11.15'
5/8" N.I.R.
S 02°09'01"W 19.00'
5/8" E.I.R.
S 73°50'59"E 100.00'
5/8" N.I.R.
TIE: S 06°25'17"W 37.39'

N 21°53'51"E 190.15'
151.23'

TRACT TWO
AREA = 0.878 ACRES
REFERENCE: DEED BOOK 46, PAGE 347

P.H. VANCE, SR. HEIRS
DEED BOOK 115, PAGE 296

3/4" E.I.P.
16.73'
22.16'
P.O.B.
5/8" N.I.R.
TIE: N 89°09'28"E 1411.90'
NOT TO SCALE
COMBINED FACTOR 0.9998653 APPLIED TO TIE ONLY

N.C.G.S. STATION " COLLEGE"
N.A.D. 1983 COORDINATES
N= 907810.642
E= 1208579.207

N.A.D. 1983 COORDINATES
N= 907831.395
E= 1209990.954

TRACT THREE
DEED BOOK 80, PAGE 169
AREA = 0.130 AC.
S 72°37'34"E 245.73'
N 72°20'34"W 252.95'

TRACT FOUR
AREA = 0.425 ACRE
NO TITLE REFERENCE FOUND THIS TRACT

S 16°57'18"W 152.86'
EXISTING MOTOR GRADER BLADE
S 03°05'09"W 143.54'
N 72°37'34"W 149.28'
S 04°11'26"W 24.00'
5/8" N.I.R.
5/8" N.I.R.

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

DEED BOOK 90, PAGE 56

BROWN STREET

TOTAL AREA = 1.524 ACRES
BY COORDINATES

40 0 40 80 120
GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET

LEGEND

Existing Iron Pipe	● EIP
New Iron Pipe	⊙ NIP
P. K. Nail	△ P.K.
Point	• PT.
Concrete Monument	⊡ C.M.
New Iron Rebar	○ NIR

This Plat Was Prepared Without The Benefit Of A Title Report, Which May Reveal Additional Conveyances, Easements, Rights of Way, Or Building Restriction Lines, Not Shown Hereon. All Property Ownerships Were Taken From Current Tax Records Only.

I, C. NEAL BARE P.L.S., CERTIFY THAT THIS MAP WAS DRAWN UNDER MY SUPERVISION FROM AN ACTUAL SURVEY MADE UNDER MY SUPERVISION; THAT THE RATIO OF PRECISION AS CALCULATED BY LATITUDES AND DEPARTURES IS 1: 10,000 : (THAT THE BOUNDARIES NOT SURVEYED ARE SHOWN AS BROKEN LINES PLOTTED FROM INFORMATION FOUND IN BOOK AS SHOWN PAGE); THAT THIS MAP WAS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH G. S. 47-30 AS AMENDED.

WITNESSED MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 3RD. DAY OF DECEMBER A. D. 1998.

SIGNATURE C. Neal Bare
P.L.S. L-2425

NORTH CAROLINA PROFESSIONAL SEAL L-2425 LAND SURVEYOR CLAYTON N. BARE

Clayton N. Bare
12-03-98

SKYLINE SURVEYORS, P.A.
786 WEST KING STREET, P.O. BOX 442 BOONE, N.C. 28607 704-262-3353

TITLE: BOUNDARY SURVEY
DONATED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOONE

CLIENT: TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF BOONE CEMETERY

TOWNSHIP	COUNTY	STATE	TAX MAP NUMBER:
NEW RIVER	WATAUGA	N.C.	2910-07-2775-000

APP. BY	DRAWN BY	DATE	SCALE:	COM. FL	GRAVE	BY
C.N.B.	C.N.B.	8/25/98 FIELD 12/03/98 OFFICE	1"=40'	FB:		SLH
			Job No.: 598-132			SHEET

Plat Book 014 page 172

Dinner Given For Miss Mast

The Dogwood Room in Charlotte, was the setting of dinner Thursday night which paid compliment to Miss Arlene Mast.

Hostesses were members of Miss Mast's bridge club.

Miss Mast will marry Ray McKinney, son of B. C. McKinney of Kannapolis, on June 30. She is the daughter of Mrs. Edward B. Mast of Boone and the late Mr. Mast.

Pink dogwood was used to decorate the private dining room.

Shrimp dinners were served.

Miss Mast wore a blue and white organza party frock with matching accessories. Her gift from the group was a covered silver butter dish.

In observance of the occasion, the organist played wedding music throughout the evening.

Present were Mrs. Richard Bingham, Miss Flora Buens, Miss Florence Lutz, Mrs. Ruth Easterbirg, Mrs. Max Price, Miss Marian Kelly, and Miss Nancy Ballinger.

Some crops and shrubs need so-called trace elements — boron, iron, etc.

Wilson-Madron Wedding Vows Said

MRS. RICHARD TRUETT WILSON

Miss Joyce La Gloria Madron, daughter of Mrs. Paul Eve Madron of Black Mountain, was married Saturday, June 8, at 4:00 p. m. to Mr. Richard Truett Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wilson, Sr. of Marion.

The double ring ceremony was performed by Rev. Jesse Blalock, grandfather of the groom, at the Cove Creek Baptist Church.

The church was set with a background of native greenery and palm trees with baskets of white gladiolus and white candles in candelabras.

Miss Rebecca Austin, pianist, and Mrs. Gene Wilson, Jr., vocalist, presented a program of wedding music. Mrs. Wilson's selections included "I Love Thee," "At Dawning," and "The Lord's Prayer."

Given in marriage by her grandfather, Mr. E. F. Sherwood, the bride wore a gown of white chantilly lace and tulle over satin. The molded bodice of lace was fashioned with a high neckline. The long sleeves ended in points over the hands. The full skirt of many layers of tulle had deep inset panels of lace which extended around the cathedral train. Her veil of tiered illusion was attached to a crown of seed pearls and orange blossoms. She carried a Bible topped with a white orchid and showered with streamers and lily of the valley.

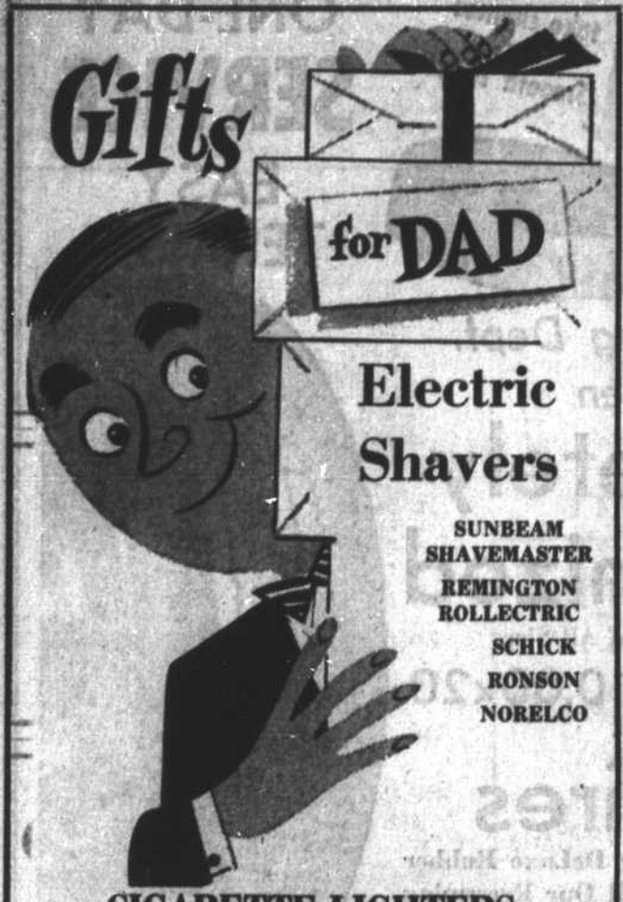
Mary Carolyn Madron, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. Doris Ann Vance and Evelyn Kathryn Clay, friends of the bride, were bridesmaids. These attendants wore dresses of white lace over yellow taffta with a matching headdress of colonial boquets of yellow roses.

Mr. J. E. Wilson, Jr., father of the groom, was best man. The ushers were Gene Wilson of Boone, Bruce Stephens of Atlanta, Georgia, Edward Lakey of Booneville, and Larry Davis of Atlanta, Georgia.

After the reception held at the home of the bride's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Sherwood, the couple left for a wedding trip through the smokies.

The couple will make their home at Marion, North Carolina, temporarily.

The bride is a graduate of Cove Creek High School and ASTC, majoring in physical education. The bridegroom is a graduate of Spruce Pine High School and ASTC where he also majored in physical education.



Electric Shavers
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SHAVEMASTER
REMINGTON
ROLLECTRIC
SCHICK
RONSON
NORELCO

CIGARETTE LIGHTERS
ZIPPO—RONSON—RONSON MAXIMUS

PEN and PENCIL SETS
BY SHEAFFER

MEN'S TOILETRIES SETS
KING'S MEN—OLD SPICE—MAX FACTOR

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A STATEMENT
To The Voters and Citizens
OF BOONE
FROM
The Democratic Candidates For Mayor and City Council

We have been nominated by the Democratic Party to run for office again and we wish to make the following statements concerning past actions of our party and to tell you of our future plans:

We have tried to be saving with the taxpayers' money and yet, at the same time, be progressive by doing the many things we are called upon by you to do.

To begin with, we think our tax rate is reasonable.

Our water and sewer charges are the lowest, or among the lowest, in the entire State. Many new water lines, including hydrants, have been built without floating bonds. These things have greatly reduced your insurance payments.

Streets have been built without assessment to property owners; also greatly needed sidewalks and widening of some streets has been carried out.

A great improvement was made in the appearance of the Town with purchase of new street lights and new street signs.

The following property has been purchased: Lot adjoining City Hall for $1500.00, garbage dump property $3500.00, tobacco warehouse property $40,000.00. All of this is paid for except a balance due of $10,000.00 on tobacco warehouse property, which will be used for future parking facilities.

Our indebtedness of $244,478.95 on June 30, 1943, has been reduced to $96,000.00 with other bills paid and a small balance as of June 30, 1957. None of the $75,000.00 bond money has been spent yet.

Financial support has been given to local Health Department and local Library and Band. The Recreation Program has been given financial support to be carried forward by some of our leading men and women.

Our Fire Department has been equipped with needed supplies and is in best shape in its history.

Much needed garbage and street equipment has been paid for so that we could more efficiently serve your needs. The old garbage dump has been removed from your midst.

A radio system has been installed so that you may call police, sheriff, or a patrolman on short notice.

All qualified Town employees have been put under Social Security.

The operation of the IRC plant was made possible because we provided them with water and sewer facilities, and we are now helping get these facilities to the new plant to be occupied by Shadowline, Inc.

The above is part of what we have been doing with your tax money, and details are available to any who want the figures.

Recently a Bond Issue was approved to expand and improve our Water System. So far none of this has been spent, but we are in the midst of plans to spend this money for much needed expansion of our system to meet the needs of a progressive and growing community. All plans are approved by competent engineers and the State Health Dept.

We recently received petitions from every established club in our City asking that we purchase the Horn in the West property. We asked any person to advise us if they objected to this purchase, and after negligible objections, it is our intention, if elected, to proceed with the purchase of said property.

After careful figuring and consideration, we believe we can give you the same services as now given and carry out the above plans without raising your taxes, water and sewer rates.

We owe $3350.00 balance on parking meters payable $100.00 per month, and if elected, we plan to continue to keep the parking meters in operation which we think is the best and logical way to regulate the flow of traffic.

Perhaps the most knotty and perplexing problem we have is the traffic and parking situation. This is certainly not confined to Boone alone but is a universal problem. If elected we plan to modernize our traffic lighting system and secure the services of a qualified traffic expert to help plan more efficient operation of our available street space. A committee from Merchants and Chamber of Commerce groups, and any other interested citizens will be asked to help us with these plans and make suggestions.

If returned to office we plan to put a modern fence around our City Cemetery and have it mowed and trimmed regularly.

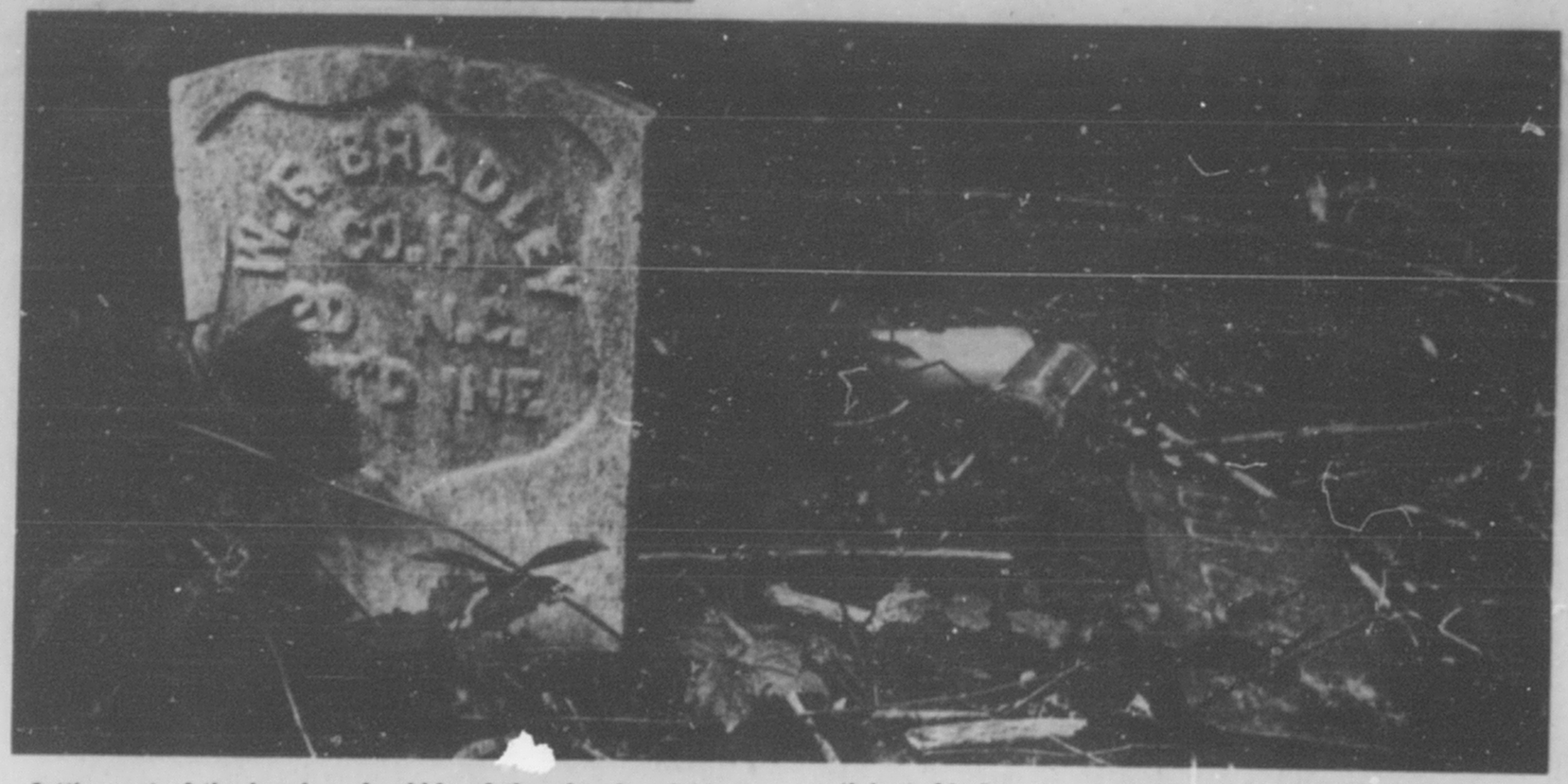
We think the operation of office, Police, Fire, Street, Water and Garbage departments are operating efficiently and well—if you think so, vote for us to continue in office.

We want to thank all who have cooperated so splendidly in the past, as what has been done has been accomplished with your fine cooperation.

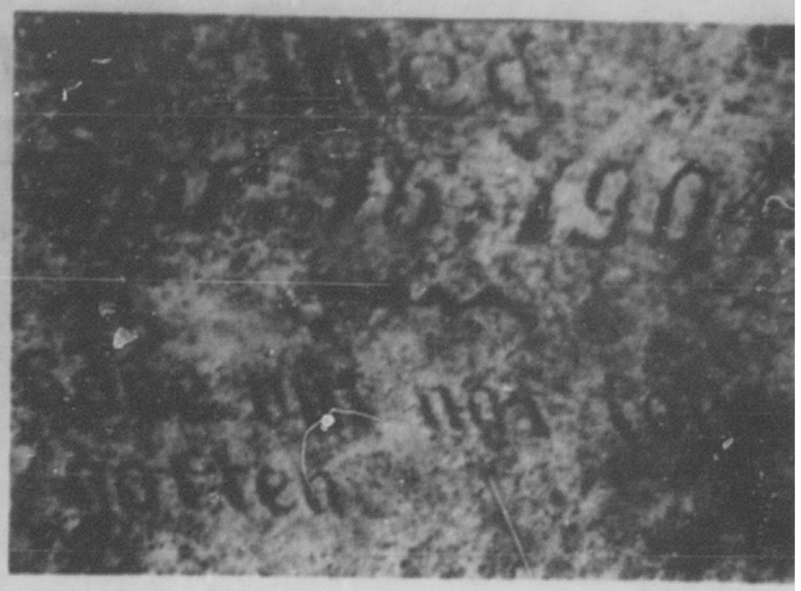
Gordon H. Winkler
Candidate for Mayor

Howard Cottrell, Wayne Richardson, Grady Tugman
Candidates for Aldermen

Communication: Memo with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))



Jutting out of the brush and rubble of the abandoned black cemetery, this stone marks the grave of a Union soldier who participated in Stoneman's Raid near the end of the Civil War.



This marker, which lies sideways in a sunken, unkept grave makes an ironic comment on the state of Boone's abandoned black graveyard. (Staff photos by Walt Summerville)

Union Soldiers, Blacks Are Buried In The Town's 'Forgotten' Cemetery

BY: MIKE McLAUGHIN

On the grassy knoll above Plemmons Student Union lies a patch of sacred ground known as the Boone City Cementery.

Some of our most noted and dignified town fathers lie within, their graves marked with expensive stones, some of them stained with age.

In a patch of woods at the far end of the Boone City Cementery lies another graveyard. Those who have been laid to rest in this cementery are less noted, their achievements none too memorable.

In fact, they have been fenced away from the rest of the town cementery and forgotten.

The patch of grown is grown up in trees and brambles. Sunken graves are marked with flat rocks or pieces of slate, or not marked at all.

Up until the mid-fifties the piece of land served as a burial ground for the town of Boone's black community.

It was at this time that the town constructed a fence around the white section of the graveyard and the black section was abandoned for a site in another part of town.

Gordon Winkler, then mayor of Boone, said the fence was constructed to keep ASU students from cutting through the graveyard to get to campus, sunbathing, or loitering on the property.

There are a few gravestones in the black cementery, the most recent date 1954.

The oldest date back to the Civil War and, ironically, mark the graves of white Union soldiers, participants in Stoneman's Raid.

Winkler was vague on why the black section wasn't included in the fence, but said that that he would like to see it cleaned up.

Town Manager Marvin Hoffman echoed Winkler's sentiments. He said, however, that he isn't certain public funds can be expended at the graveyard because it is essentially private.

According to Hoffman, the town has no jurisdiction over who is buried in the cementery and it is actually controlled by a board of trustees.

The town does, however, keep the grass mowed in the cementery and it is listed as the property of the town of Boone on the tax maps.

In the end, Hoffman isn't certain what should be done to remedy what is essentially a case of segregation and neglect on account of race.

"It's a situation that has existed for a long time," Hoffman said. "If there was some expression of opinion it would give the town board guidance as to what should be done."

Aside from a town clean-up, there is also a possibility that private organizations might take an interest in restoring the old graveyard. Hoffman noted that the restoration would be a good project for area civic organizations.

As it stands, more than 20 years have rendered the graveyard a wooded thicket.

A time-marred gravestone lies sideways in a sunken grave. The old-fashioned marker reads "Fannie-Wife of Kelley Horton, Born: Dec., 1864; Died: April 16, 1904, Gone But Not Forgotten."

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tips for consumers from your BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU™

HOME SECURITY SYSTEMS

Summer is vacation time for most people, but not for burglars who prey on unprotected houses and apartments. The Better Business Bureau urges every consumer to consider investing wisely in property protection and burglary prevention equipment. There is a wide range of security products, from specially designed locks to electronic alarm systems. Here are some guidelines to keep in mind before investing.

Before Buying

Community police or public safety departments are ready to advice consumers on home security measures, and they are a good place to start for basic, practical information and help. Ask department representatives if it is possible for them to check out the home or apartment. Be prepared to invest in properly designed door and window locks, proper entrance lights, and entrance door peep holes if they have not already been installed. Security can depend on the kind and quality of basic equipment and a few more dollars may mean more protection.

Security Alarms

There is a wide range of alarm equipment available to consumers, from small, battery operated "buzzer" units for doors and windows to electric alarm systems for an entire property. Professionally installed alarm systems are of two basic types: exterior and interior. Exterior systems are recommended for most consumers. They sound either a "local" or "silent" alarm if someone attemps to enter a home. A local alarm arouses the neighborhood, but its effectiveness depends on whether anyone is home to hear it and if it scares the intruder. A silent alarm is activated in the police department or security company's monitoring facility, and gives the police the opportunity of arresting the intruder in the home. However, any connection to the outside makes use of the the telephone line, which can be cut. A silent alarm system may involve charges on a monthly or per call basis, so be sure check this out before having one installed.

Interior systems go off if an intruder is inside a home, but they would be

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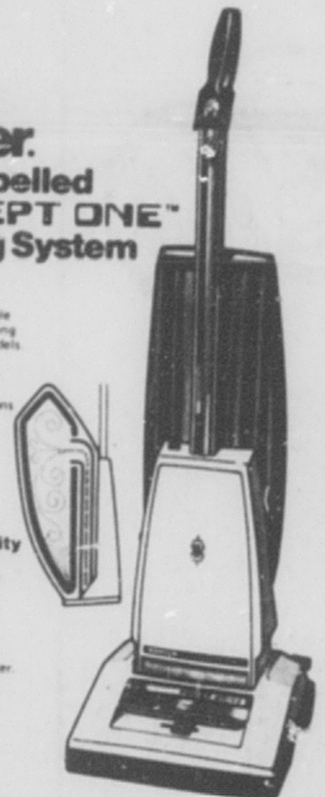

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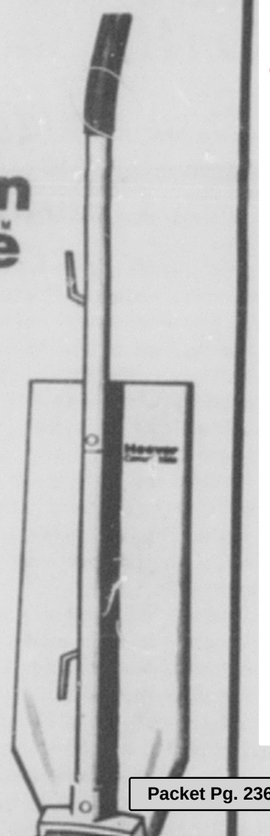


Communication: Memo with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Scouts Take On Neglected Black Graveyard

Cemetery Almost Reclaimed By Nature

BY DEE DEE SMITH

It sits quietly back from the hustle-bustle of the town and the college campus surrounds it.

It went for the most part unnoticed, an overgrown cemetery marked with simple, oft unmarked stones. Nature has reclaimed some of the graves, concealing their location for all time.

Behind the ASU campus, adjacent to the fenced and manicured Boone City Cemetery, lies the cemetery, until quite recently forgotten.

Interred there are the remains of black members of an earlier Boone community and white Union soldiers who parted with life in Stoneman's Raid.

Their graves are the earliest identifiable graves to be found. The last grave dates 1954, when the cemetery was deserted.

Three Boy Scouts have taken it upon themselves to see that the cemetery is no longer forgotten. Chris Wilcox, Mark Danner and Marcus Trathen are combining forces to clear the trees and undergrowth, to level the sunken graves, to plant flowers and shrubbery, and build an entrance to the cemetery.

"We each read about the cemetery and thought it would be a good Eagle Scout project," Chris said. "When we looked at it, we found out there was enough work for all three of us."

"We didn't think anyone else would do it," Mark added, "or that the town would ever get around to it."

Though Eagle Scout projects are usually individualized, the three decided to work together. They divided the responsibilities and got to work, each of them overseeing a different aspect of the project, land clearing, landscaping, and entrance building, but each helping the other, with their portions of the project.

They have been joined in their labors by other members of their scout troops and members of the black community.

Much of their effort to date has been in clearing the land. They have taken out numerous trees, letting the sun shine where it hasn't shone in 20 years.

When the land is cleared, the town will deliver dirt for the scouts to use to even up the graves where the pine coffins have given way to nature.

Their work comes from their own time. Their expenses from the same source. They hope, when the time comes, that someone from the community will donate shrubbery and flowers to brighten up the spot, grass seed to cover the barren ground, gravel and railroad ties to build an entrance, marble slabs to mark the still identifiable unmarked graves.

"When I first saw it, it was just like a forest," Mark said.

"Yep," Chris added, "it was just like going up behind the school and walking in the woods."

"The fence was put up to separate it," Mark said, referring to the fence surrounding the adjacent, white Boone city, "nobody cared about it."

The boys have enjoyed their project. They feel it is worthwhile; that the cemetery deserves some recognition.

Marcus plans to write the governor to see if the cemetery can be declared a local historical site.

And they have learned from their involvement. They have learned that the Civil War touched Boone. They have learned leadership skills, organizational skills and the pride of working with their hands.

"It's always good to get out and work a little and organize things because it really does take a lot of work to get different organizations in town together," Marcus said. "It gives me a chance to be in a leadership role."

The scouts will continue their work on Saturdays as long as the weather allows. In spring they hope to plant grass and shrubs and flowers and turn the maintenance of the cemetery over to the town of Boone.

With that, they will have completed the bulk of their requirements for becoming an Eagle Scout, a life-long status limited to those who are truly dedicated to scouting.

They will also have performed an important community service contributing to the preservation of the history of Boone.

"I have respect for any graveyard," Mark said, "it should be cleaned up the way the rest of them are. They should have equal rights. I'm sure they'd do the same for me."

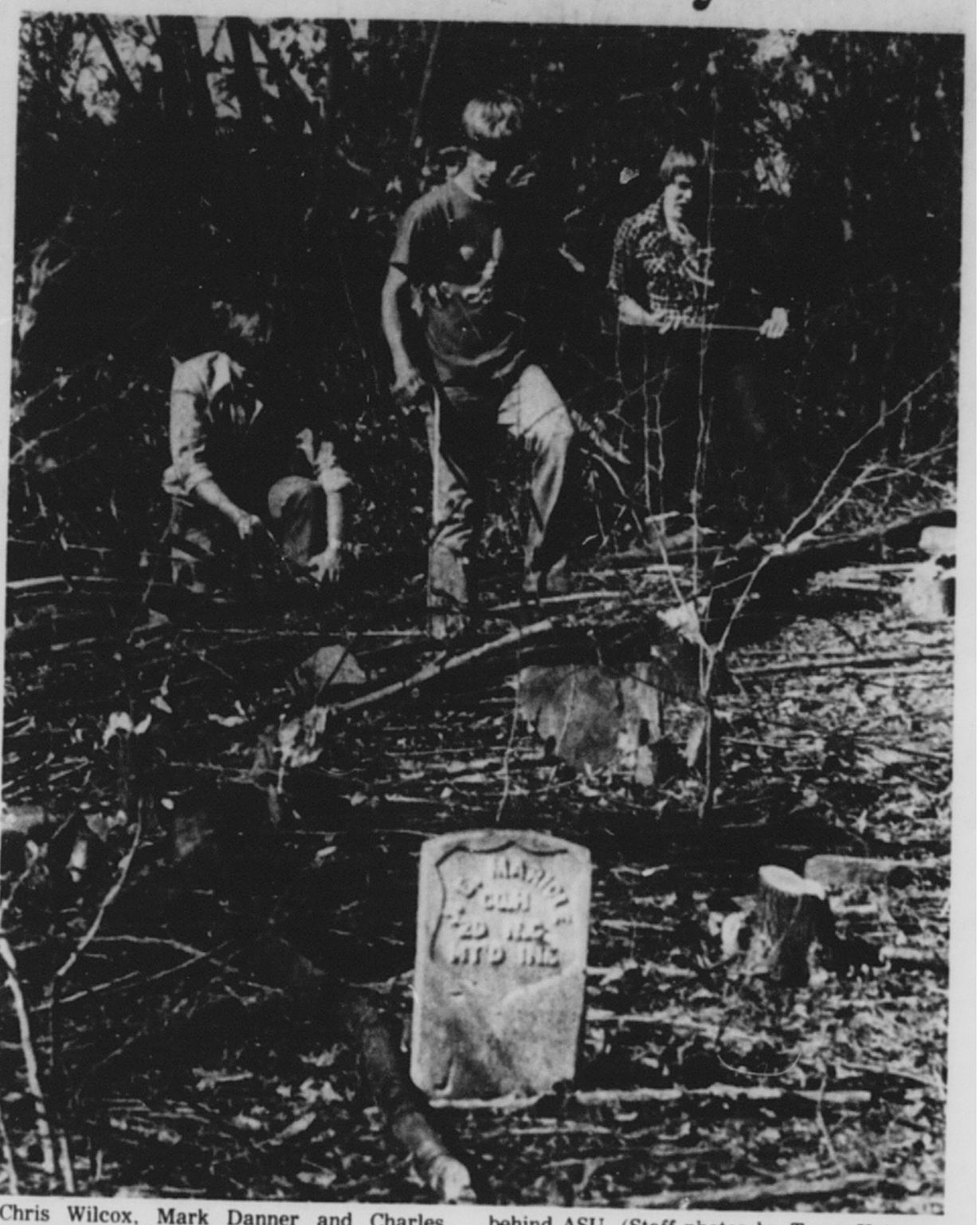
Mark is a member of Boy Scout Troop 109, and the son of Arvil Sale.

Chris, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wilcox, is a member of Troop 100.

Marcus is a member of Scout Troop 109 and the son of Dr. and Mrs. William T. Trathen.

All three boys attend Watauga High School.

Only a few marked headstones have withstood the test of time.



Chris Wilcox, Mark Danner and Charles Clawson clear the land at the black cemetery behind ASU. (Staff photos by Terry Ketron)

'Self-Indulgence' Series Will Open At Real Gallery In Boone

Ms. Susan Sharpe will have a coffee reception at noon on November 2nd to mark the opening of her "Self-Indulgence" series at Will the Real Gallery Please Stand Up. Her exhibit will include paintings, sculpture pieces, and quilts.

Ms. Sharpe's paintings derive especially from her use of family photographs that reflect the strong influence her family experiences have had upon her life. She is one of ten children who grew up on a farm in Alamance County. According to Ms. Sharpe, "Most of my work is either a confirmation of my family or, as with the Family Photo Album, an attempt to exErcise it from my life." Her sculpture pieces combine a variety of different materials, including wood, metal, and molded paper. In contrast to the representational emphasis of her paintings, her sculptures are spontaneous-intuitive pieces.

Sharpe, an MAAE degree candidate at ASU, is also an active member artist in Handseds Crafts Association and a teacher of weaving and drawing at Caldwell Community College, Watauga Division. Her show will be on exhibit through November 9th. The public is cordially invited.

Gas Lines Again?

Gasoline lines have disappeared only temporarily and will return, along with major oil shortages, once the nation emerges from its current economic downturn, the CIA predicted. The real crunch probably will come in 1981 or 1982, a CIA official told a House Intelligence subcommittee.

Individuals Have Four Distinct Selves

The struggle to understand yourself never ends--because you keep changing as you experience new things.

Some researchers feel that you are really four people--which helps add to the identity confusion.

For example, there's the "real," you. That's the one that's hardest to know, because that's the one that changes most often. Everything that happens to you affects the "real" you.

The "second you" is the person you think you are--that is, your self-image.

The "third you" is the person you would like to be, that is, your ideal self.

And last but not least, there is the "public you." That's the person that you let other people see.

Good mental health requires that you be comfortable with all four of these selves.

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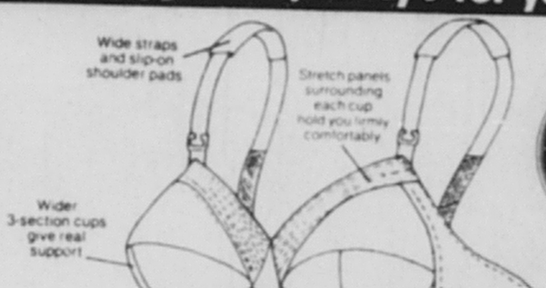

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Communication: Memo with Attachments - E. Plaag - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Watauga County In the Probate Court

In the Matter of the Administration of the estate of Wm Hartley Decd } Before J. H. Hardin Probate Judge

Finley E Hartley being Sworn doth say that Wm Hartley late of said County is dead without leaving any Will and Testament and that under the waiver of the Widow J H Hardin is the proper person entitled to letters of administration on the estate of the said William Hartley Decd Further that the value of said estate so far as can be ascertained at the date of this application is about $150,00 and that Mirah Hardin F. E. Hartley Clarina Marlow wife of Lafayett Marlow Alice Gilbert wife of Wm Gilbert Leason Hartley the Post office address of all of whom is Boone N.C. Lena Hartley minor of 18 or 19 Years old Post office Address is also Boone N.C. Harrison Hartley residence Harmansville Coose Co. Oregon Burton Hampton Minor of Abram Hampston Decd and Grandson of William Hartley Decd Post office Boone N.C. are entitled as heirs and distributees thereof

F. E. Hartley

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 15th day of Oct. 1878

J H Hardin Probate Judge

On reading and filing the foregoing and annexed Application of F. E. Hartley for the appointment of an administrator of said Estate on motion it is ordered by the Probate Court that J H Hardin be and hereby is appointed administrator of said estate who comes into Court and presents his bond as such with George R Councill as Surety which bond was accepted and letters of administration were issued to said Admr.

J. H. Hardin
Probate Judge

Watauga County In the Probate Court

In the Matter of the Administration of the estate of Benjamin Connaile Decd } Before J H Hardin Probate Judge

James P Connaile and James H Horton being duly Sworn doth say that Benjamin Connaile late of said County is dead without leaving any will and testament and that they the said parties are among the proper persons entitled to letters of administration on the estate of the said Benjamin Connaile further that value of said estate is about $1000,00 so for as can be ascertained at the date of this application and that Martha H Connaile Benjamin Connaile minor heirs of Jacob Connaile Decd & Edwood C Blair a minor heir of Mary E Blair a grand son of said B Connaile Decd whose Post office address is Boone N.C. And Joseph C Connaile P.O Boone N.C. and Sarah Smith Post office Address Nacogdoches Nacogdoches Co Texas Elisabeth Hodges wife of Holland Hodges P.O. Boone N.C. Benj. Connaile Mary J Horton wife of James H Horton and James P Connaile the last three named Post office Address is Pigeon Grove N.C. are entitled as heirs and distributees thereof

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 26th day of Oct. 1877

James P Connaile
James H Horton

J H Hardin
Probate Judge

On reading and filing the annexed and foregoing application of J P Connaile & J W Horton for the appointment of an administrator of the estate of said estate on motion it is ordered by the Probate Court that James P Connaile & James H Horton be and hereby is appointed administrators of said estate who comes in to Court and presents his bond as such with G R Connaile Jackson Adams & David Adams as Sureties which bond was accepted and letters of administration were issued to said Admrs.

J H Hardin
Probate Judge

Watauga County In the Probate Court

In the Matter of the Administration of the estate of Wm Hartley Dcd

Before J. H. Hardin Probate Judge

Finley E Hartley being Sworn doth say that Wm Hartley late of said County is dead without leaving any Will and Testament and that under the waiver of the Widow J H Hardin is the proper person entitled to letters of administration on the estate of the said William Hartley Decd Further that the value of said estate so far as can be ascertained at the date of this application is about $150,00 and that Mirah Hardin F. E. Hartley Clarina Marlow wife of Lafayett Marlow Alice Gilbert wife of Wm Gilbert Leason Hartley the Post office address of all of whom is Boone N.C. Lena Hartley minor of 18 or 19 Years old Post office Address is also Boone N.C. Harrison Hartley residence Harmansville Coose Co. Oregon Burton Hampton Minor of Abram Hampston Decd and Grandson of William Hartley Decd Post office Boone N.C. are entitled as heirs and distributees thereof

F. E. Hartley

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 15th day of Oct. 1878

J H Hardin Probate Judge

On reading and filing the foregoing and annexed Application of F. E. Hartley for the appointment of an administrator of said Estate on motion by the Probate Court it is ordered that J H Hardin be and hereby is appointed Administrator of said estate who comes into Court and presents his bond as such with George R Councill as Surety which bond was accepted and letters of administration were issued to said Admr.

J. H. Hardin
Probate Judge

Watauga County In the Probate Court

In the Matter of the Administration of the estate of Benjamin Connaile Decd

Before J H Hardin Probate Judge

James P Connaile and James H Horton being duly Sworn doth say that Benjamin Connaile late of said County is dead without leaving any will and testament and that they the said parties are among the proper persons entitled to letters of administration on the estate of the said Benjamin Connaile further that value of said estate is about $1000,00 so far as can be ascertained at the date of this application and that Martha H Connaile Benjamin Connaile minor heirs of Jacob Connaile Decd & Edward C Blair a minor heir of Mary E Blair a grand son of said B Connaile Decd whose Post office address is Boone N.C. And Joseph C Connaile P.O Boone N.C. and Sarah Smith Post office Address Nacogdoches Nacogdoches Co Texas Elisabeth Hodges wife of Holland Hodges P.O. Boone N.C. Benj. Connaile Mary J Horton wife of James H Horton and James P Connaile the last three named Post office Address is Pigeon Grove N.C. are entitled as heirs and distributees thereof

James P Connaile
James H Horton

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of Oct. 1877

J H Hardin
Probate Judge

On reading and filing the annexed and foregoing application of J P Connaile & J W Horton for the appointment of an administrator of the estate of said estate on motion it is ordered by the Probate Court that James P Connaile & James H Horton be and hereby is appointed administrators of said estate who comes in to Court and presents his bond as such with G R Connaile Jackson Adams & David Adams as Sureties which bond was accepted and letters of administration were issued to said Admrs.

J H Hardin
Probate Judge

Packet Pg. 239

1877 Sale
Estate of Benj Councill Decd

Inventory of the sale of the personal property made of said estate on the 15th & 16th days of November 1877 as follows (Viz)

Note	To Holden Moody	1 Hog (Boar)	$5.00
"	" John Green	1 Calf (Steer)	$3.80
	" B. F. Baird	3 Heifer Calves	9.20
	" B. J. Councill (Sen)	3 Steer "	7.00
Note	" William Young	1 Milch Cow (Red)	13.10
"	" William Coffey	1 " "	14.25
"	" Isaac Dougherty	1 " " (Brindle)	14.50
"	" William G. Shell	1 " " (Bottom Horn)	12.10
	" B. J. Councill (Sen)	1 Heifer (Red)	12.00
Note	" E. H. Dougherty	1 Milch Cow and Calf	23.00
"	" Robert Mast	1 Milch Cow. Red white face	11.50
	" B. J. Councill (Sen)	1 " " & Calf (Brin)	20.10
	" J. J. Glen	1 " " (Spotted) J. Brown Boy	15.00
Note	" Joel Moody	1 " " (White Spot)	17.00
	" J. C. Councill	1 " " Black	16.00
	" B. J. Councill (Sen)	1 Heifer (Road)	8.70
Note	" Thomas Ray	1 Bull (White)	18.50
	" B. J. Councill (Sen)	2 Red Steers (Spotted)	18.00
Note	" H. H. Harden	1 Milky Yearling	6.50
Note	" Thomas Ray	1 Heifer (Red)	6.60
"	" "	1 " (Black)	6.25
	" B. J. Councill	2 Steers (Roan)	15.75
	" " (Sen)	2 " Dark	14.25
Note	" Thomas Ray	1 Heifer (Brindle)	6.25
"	" "	1 Steer (White)	8.25
	" B. J. Councill (Sen)	1 Heifer Mutilated	7.85
	" " "	2 Steers (White face)	17.00
Note	" Thomas Ray	1 Yoke Steers	39.50
	" J. J. Coffey	1 Mule (Mare) Yearling	2 2.25
	" " "	1 " Horse "	2 2.00
Note	" J. A. Gragg	1 Mule (Clay bank)	44.00
" X	" G. R. Councill	1 " Black	49.25
"	" Robert Stuver	1 Mule Horse	40.25
" X	" G. R. Councill	1 " Mare	50.75
"	" Thomas Ray	1 Jack Ass	15.50
"	" William Yoder	1 Mare (Clay bank)	85.00
	" Wm H. Harden	1 Wind Mill	3.25
			$701.65

Estate of Benj Councill Decd Continued

	To amt Brought Forward from page 102		$701.65
	" W. B. Dougherty	2 Wagon Wheels	$2.00
Note	" W. W. Dresnell	4 Head Shute 1st choice	8.31
"	" John Green	4 " " 2d choice	8.06
"	" Alexander Townsend	8 " " 3d "	5.00
"	" E. H. Dougherty	6 " " 4th "	3.00
"	" J. H. Hardin	20 bus Buckwheat	9.00
"	"	1 Wagon	16.25
Cash	" G. H. Blair	1 Jack Screw X	.85
Note	" Thomas Ray	1 Flat Rake	.65
	" B. J. Councill	1 Forge Head	1.00
	"	2 Corn Tubs	.50
	" G. H. Blair	1 Tub	.50
	" J. W. Green	2 Soggrum Tubs X	.75
Cash	" J. D. Adams	a lot of old Tubs X	.15
	"	2 old Tubs	.15
	" & Savoy Dysfit	2 Barrels	.35
	" Jordan Cook	A lot of wagon Irons 119 lbs 4 1/2	$ 5.37 1/2
	"	A Sugar bar 39 lbs 40 "	1.75 1/2
	"	A Bar of Iron 23 1/2 lbs Iron	1.06 1/2
	" B. F. Baird	A Dirt Scraper	.10
	" G. Rivers	1 set of Gearing with Trace	3.50
	" J. G. Rivers	2 set of "	2.95
	" Jordan Cook	3 set of Shad Harness	3.00
	"	4 set " "	3.00
	" E. H. Dougherty	2 Horse Collars X	.30
Cash	" Holden Moody	1 set Trace chains & Hip Strap	.62 1/2
	"	1 Blind Bridle	.75
	" G. Rivers	1 Bridle Bit	.20
	" Wm F. Stalcher	1 Riding Bridle	.36
	" J. G. Rivers	1 Leather Line X	.35
Cash	" Lawson Lawrence	1 Mans Saddle	2.50
	" J. G. Rivers	1 Mans Saddle	5.90
Note	" Noah F. Mast	1 Woman's "	.35
	" J. W. Councill	1 Mans Saddle & Woman Saddle	8.00
	" J. G. Rivers	1 Side Saddle	20.25
Note	" Holland Hodges	1 Wagon Bed	3.55
	" Noah F. Mast	1 2 Horse Plow	.30
	" J. H. Hardin	1 Axe	.30
	" B. J. Councill	2 Axes	.40
	" Thomas Ray	1 Axe	1.30
	" Jordan Cook	1 Steel Trap	$ 1.65 1/2

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Estate of Benj Councill Dec'd Continued

To amt Carried over from opposite page $816.82½

	To	B. F. Baird 1 Stud Trap	.15
Cash	"	Micheal Mitchel a Lot of old Iron ×	.60
	"	Jordan Cork 2 Cag Wheels	.35
Cash	"	F. D. Shull a lot of Scythes ×	.25
"	"	C. H. Dougherty 1 Scythe and Snead ×	.10
Note	"	Noah F. Mast 2 Shovel plows	.70
Cash	"	G. L. Parker 2 Lots Shovel plows ×	1.10
	"	Jordan Cork 2 Single Trees	.10
Cash	"	J. J. Shull a lot of Medicines ×	.90
"	"	F. D. Mast Bullock plow & Stock	.37½
	"	Wm. F. Fletcher 1 plow	.25
Cash	"	N. H. Shipley a lot of Hoes	.10
	"	J. W. Councill 1 Spade & 2 Hoes	.80
Note	"	J. H. Hardin 2 Shovels	.25
Paid	"	B. J. Councill for Thomas Dunnidge	.50
	"	J. G. Rivers 1 Log Chain	2.25
Cash	"	J. W. Green 1 Cross Cut Saw ×	2.50
"	"	Lawson Lawrance 3 Reap Hooks ×	.80
"	"	W. H. Green 2 Reap Hooks ×	.30
	"	B. J. Councill 1 Iron plane	.10
	"	" " 1 Jointer	.15
Note	"	Jesse Moody 3 Sabres	.30
	"	B. J. Councill (Sen) 1 Saw & draining Knife	1.25
	"	Jordan Cork 3 Bells	.75
Cash	"	W. W. Driscoll a lot of Augers	.15
	"	J. W. Councill 3 Augers	2.10
	"	B. J. Councill (Sen) 1 Broad Axe	.60
Cash	"	Silleon Ward 4 Chisels, Screwplane	1.00
		Total amt of 1st Sale	$838.70

J. P. Councill & J. W. Horton & J. P. Councill Administrators of the estate of & J. W. Silleon Benj Councill Decd make oath in due form of law that the foregoing Contains a just and true report of the Sale of personal estate of the Decd, as Made therein stated &c in respect to the 1st Sale —

James H. Hardin
Probate Judge

2nd Sale Estate Benj Councill Dec'd Continued

Inventory of the Sale of the personal property of said Estate as Made on the 14th & 15th days of Dec 1877 as follows (Viz)

Cash	To	Thos Shull 1 Hay Stack		$3.25
	"	J. B. Taylor 1 " "	3½ cts due	4.00
"	"	" " 1 " "		3.50
"	"	"A. J." Mast 1 " "		2.80
Note	"	Nancy Loudermick 1 Hay Stack		1.75
Cash	"	Harlow Calaway 1 " "		2.95
Note	"	A. J. Mast ½ of " "		1.25
	"	" 1 " "		5.25
"	"	"J." W. Councill 10 Bu Corn	31¼ per bu	3.10
Note	"	Newton Banner 10 " "	35 " "	3.50
Note	"	10 " "	" " "	3.50
	"	Jas. W. Councill 10 " "	33 " "	3.30
	"	Newton Banner 10 " "	34 " "	3.40
Note	"	10 " "	33 " "	3.30
	"	Richard Hodges 10 " "	33 " "	3.30
	"	Jas W Councill 10 " "	38 " "	3.80
Cash	"	Wm F. Shull 1 Hog Skin		.26
	"	" 1 "		.30
	"	Paid "Benj" Hols & law 1 Side Harness Leather	8 ½ lbs 33¼	2.67½
	"	" " 1 "	9½ lbs 33¼	3.18¾
	"	" " 1 "	16 lbs 34½	5.55½
	"			63.22
Note	"	"L. L. Green 1 " "	89½ at 4¼	3.78
	"	B. J. Councill ½ at Tire (2 Horse)		.25
Cash	"	W. F. Shull 1 Spining Wheel		.35
	"	B. J. Councill (Sen) 1 " "		.20
	"	" 1 " "		.25
	"	B. F. Baird 1 Small Wheel		1.56
	"	B. J. Councill (Sen) 1 " "		.05
	"	James Osborn 1 " "	25 lb wool	2.50
Cash	"	D. C. Dougherty 10 gals Sorghum		.62½
	"	B. J. Councill (Sen) 1 Small Pot		.15
	"	1 oven (old)		.87
Cash	"	Larkin J. Hodges (2) " 1 Good 10 Cracker		10.00
	"	Tempe Councill 1 Cane Mill		38.00
	"	B. J. Councill (Sen) ½ interest in Corn	machine running	2.05
	"	Joseph Shull ½ interest in wind Mill		3.50
	"	B. J. Councill (Sen) Black Smith Tools		$67.74

Carried over

Conversation Area with Attachments, if Any. August 24, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Estate of I Benj Councill Dcd Continued

	To amt Brought forward from opposite page		$178.74
	" B. J. Councill (col) 1 work Bench		.85
	" D. B. Dougherty 1 Scythe & Cradle		.40
	" " " 2 Reap Hooks		.25
Cash	" James Perry 1 Grind Stone		2½
	" P. F. Batts 1 Large Grind Stone		1.80
Note	" Elijah Isaacs 5 Bu Wheat	1.26 per Bu	6.30
	" J. C. Councill 5 " " "	1.21½	6.07½
	" " " 5 " " Buck Wheat	50¢	2.50
			$178.18
	" J. C. McGhee 5 " " "	47¢	2.35
	" " " "	48¢	2.40
	" J. G. Rivers 5 Bu Rye	51¢ per Bu	2.55
	" J. J. Coffey 5 " " "	52½¢ " "	2.62½
	" " " " "	52½¢ " "	2.62½
	" J. G. Rivers 10 Bu Corn	45¢ per Bu	4.50
	" "Robert Hodges 1 " " "	46¢ " "	4.60
	" Wiley Hodges 1 " " "	80¢ " "	.80
	" Wiley Hodges 10 " " "	80¢ " "	8.00
	" J. G. Rivers 10 " " "	49¢ " "	4.90
	" Wiley Hodges 10 " " "	49½¢ " "	4.95
	" Wiley Hodges 10 " " "	50¢ " "	5.00
	" J. C. Councill 10 " " "	50¢ " "	5.00
	" Richard Hodges 10 " " "	49¢ " "	4.90
	" Richard Hodges 10 " " "	50¢ " "	5.00
Note	" L. N. Hardin 10 " " "	" " "	8.07½
"	" " " " 10 " "	50¢ " "	5.00
"	" " " " 10 " "	51¢ " "	5.10
"	" Richard Hodges 10 " "	51¢ " "	5.10
	" J. J. Coffey 10 " "	50¢ " "	5.00
	" " " " 10 " "	" " "	5.00
Note	" H. N. Hardin 10 Bu Corn	50½¢ " "	5.05
	" J. J. Coffey 1 Hay Stack		1.70
	" W. B. Councill 1 " "		8.40
Note	" Holden Moody 1 " "		8.98
			$207.14
"	" W. W. Dorsett 1 " "		4.30
	" W. W. Dorsett 1 " "		3.65
"	" Holden Moody 1 " "		2.65
	" J. G. Rivers 1 " "		4.76½
	" G. B. Councill 1 Hay Stack		2.80
	" W. B. Councill 1 " "		2.80
	" Geo. B Councill 1 " "		3.25
			$307.14

To amt Carried over

Estate of I Benj Councill Dcd Continued

	To amt Brought forward from opposite page		$330.74
	" Roby Hagaman 1 Hay Stack		3.45
	" " " " 1 " "		4.22
	" " " " 1 " "		3.66
	" " " " 1 " "		4.12½
	" Jos C. Councill 1 " "		4.16
	" Roby Hagaman 1 " "		3.70
	" " " 1 " "		4.80
	" Jas G. Rivers 1 " "		4.71
	" Roby Hagaman 3 " "		7.85
			$347.92
	" J. C. McGhee 1 Oat Stack	10¢ per Bu	
	" J. J. Coffey 1 " "	16⅔¢ " "	
	" " " 1 " "	18¢ " "	
	" J. C. McGhee " "	18¾¢ " "	
	Total amt of last Sale except the Oats		$347.92

J. N. Horton & J. P. Councill Administrators of the Estate of Benj Councill Dcd Makes Oath in due form of law that the foregoing is a just and true report of said Sale of said Estate & that is last Sale of said Estate

March 2nd 1878

Jas D Councill
Jas N Horton

Jas H. Hardin
Probate Judge

Communication: Memo and Attachments, E. Piaia, August 28, 2023 (Public Comment)

Estate of Benj Comeille Decd Continued

State of North Carolinia
Wilkes County

To the Judge of Probate for said County, We the undersigned Administrators of the Estate of Benj Comeille Dec'd beg leave to report the following Amounts of Personal property and effects of said Estate that Came into our hands to wit:

Amt of property sold Nov. 16th 1877 $1182.42
and December 17th and 18th 1877
With about the sum of 25.60
to be accounted for in Oats sold but not delivered —

One Due Bill on Wm Horton Dead for prin $2.00
with interest from July 11th 1862
One Note on Jacob Townsend for — $62.14
with interest from Aug 1st 1877 Credited Nov 20th 1877
one Note on M. G. Hagaman for prin $1.25
with interest from Oct 19th 1875 Doubtful
One Note on H. Dougherty & Co for (prin) $9.50
With interest from July 12th 1874
One Note on Robt Munday for (prin) $2.18
with interest from Dec 3rd 1849 Doubtful Cr $1.00
One Note on Wm H. Dugger for (prin) $15.28
with interest from Oct 9th 1850 Doubtful
One Due Bill on Dougherty and mast for - prin $2.00
with interest from May 4th 1874, Doubtful
One Note on John Teaster for (prin) $29.00
with interest from Dec 1st 1859 "Doubtful"
One Note on Eli M. Presnell for (prin) $3.28
with interest from May 21st 1856 Doubtful
one Note on Ezekiel Baird for prin $1.90
with interest from Nov 26th 1858 Doubtful
one Note on J. C. Arrent for (prin) $5.00
with interest from Sept 26th 1867 Cr $4.00 Doubtful
One Note on James Brown for (Prin) $4.00
with interest from Nov 15th 1859 Doubtful
One Note on Napoleon Banner for — (Prin) $10.68
with interest from Oct 5th 1857 More than Doubtful
One Note on Palmer Laird for (Prin) $15.26
with interest from Jany 4th 1860 Cr $4.00 March 6th 1868 Doubtful

Estate of Benj Comeille Decd Continued

one Note on Alex Baird for (Prin) $3.50
with interest from Aug 28th 1860 Doubtful
one Note on Wm B. Comeille for (Prin) $25.00
with interest from Nov 1st 1860
one Note on E. B. Musgrave & Elijah Dolson for (Prin) $17.40
with interest from Aug 15th 1844 Cr $4.00 March 28th 1847 Doubtful
one Note on Levi Moody for (Prin) $6.00
with interest from April 13th 1852 More than Doubtful
one Note on Gilbert Norris for (Prin) $3.79
with interest from Dec 9th 1845 Doubtful
one Note on J. H. Mast for (Prin) $20.00
with interest from Nov 8th 1872 "good"
one Note on Stephen Delaine for (Prin) $4.96
with interest from Dec 27th 1858 Doubtful
one Note on Jesse Hanley for (Prin) $4.39
with interest from Aug 24th 1859 Doubtful
One Note on John P. Combs for (Prin) $10.23
with interest from Nov 22nd 1859 "good"
one Note on Harrison Johnson for (Prin) $2.54
with interest from June 11th 1860 "good"
one Note on Thos. Lore for (Prin) $8.50
with interest from March 30th 1866 Doubtful
one Note on Bartlett Johnson for (Prin) $2.00
with interest from Sept 7th 1867 Doubtful
one Note on Wm F. Fletcher for (Prin) $4.25
with interest from Dec 28th 1858 Cr May 25th 1862 $3.75 Doubtful
One Note on George Hayes for (Prin) $20.00
with interest from Feb 5th 1875 "good"
One Note on James Langford & Jonathan M. Smith for $8.00 prin
with interest from Feb 19th 1859 Doubtful
one Note on J. M. Comeille & B Comeille for (prin) $16.50
with interest from July 28th 1854 Cr Nov "1855" $10.00 $2.00
One Note on A. J. Critcher for (Prin) $6.88
with interest from April 11th 1877 "good"
One Note on Wm Williams for (Prin) $5.36
with interest from Feb 22 1861 Williams Dead
One Note on Wm Banner and John Horton for (Prin) $1.00
with interest from June 29th 1868 Doubtful
One Note on Ike Pennington & Wesley Lore for $2.00
with interest from April 7th 1860 Doubtful
One Note on Mark Holsclaw for (Prin) $47.51
with interest from Sept 20th 1861 Doubtful

Communication Areas with Attachments - E Packet - August 25, 2020 (Public Comment)

Estate of Benj Councill Decd Continued

One Note on Joel N. Dyer for Doubtful (Prin)	$ 23.69
with interest from Nov 20th 11 1855 Cr $ on Nov 26th 1860	
and $15.04/100 March 14th 1854	
One Note on Isaac Hagaman for (Prin) Doubtful	$ 36.22
with interest from Dec 22nd 11 1841 Cr $30.11, Sept 8th 1863	
One Note on John Henson & Morgan Swift for (Prin)	$ 2.00
with interest from Oct 6th 11 1840 Doubtful	
One Note on Wm A. Townsend for (Prin)	$ 25.00
with interest from Feb 24th 11 1859 Cr. on three notes Oct 16th 1862 $28.00	
One Note on Wm A. Townsend for (Prin)	$ 25.00
with interest from Feb 24 1860 Doubtful	
One other Note on Wm A Townsend for (Prin)	$ 25.00
with interest from Feb 24th 11 1861 Doubtful	
One Note on Wm B. and Jordan Councill for (Prin)	$ 8.75
with interest from July 2nd 11 1861 Cr Nov 2nd 11 1853 on Doubtful	
One Note on Jordan Councill payable to J. Adams for	$ 50.28
with interest from July 2nd 11 1860 Cr. Nov. 15th 1860, $ 41.57 Dou	
One other Note on Jordan Councill Decd for Prin	$ 100.00
with interest from April 1st 1857 Credit to the amt of $84.35 Doubtful	
Amt of Notes on Sundry persons Dead and re-	
moved out of this State without interest —	$ 552.68
of the above Doubtful Notes without interest the	
whole amount is — — — — —	$ 826.28
The Notes above those thought to be solvent	
amount to the sum of — — —	$ 164.76
Also one Note on Bartlett Wood for (Prin)	$ 10.00
With interest from May 16th 11 1854 Doubtful	
— Recapitulation —	
To amt of Sales November 16th 11 1877 December	
17th 11 and 18th 1877 — — —	$ 182.43
With about the sum of —	$ 25.00
to be accounted for Cash sold but not Delivered	
Solvent Notes on Sundry persons without interest	$ 164.76
	$ 372.19
Doubtful Notes without interest " "	$ 826.28
Doubtful " on Sundry persons " "	20.77
Notes on Sundry persons dead and removed	
out of the State without interest " " " "	$ 552.68
Notes to the amt of $ 294.68 without interest on J. Horton	
" " " " " $ 77.58 " " on A.N. Adams	
One Note on M. Bledsoe & others No interest	$ 41.00

Doubtful

J. D. Councill
J. N. Horton

Estate of Benj Councill Decd Continued

J. D. Councill and J. N. Horton Administrators of the estate of Benj Councill Decd Maketh oath in due form of law that the foregoing Contains a just and true report of the amount of personal property and effects of said estate that come in their said hands to date hereof March 2nd 1878

Jas H. Hardin
Probate Judge

Inventory of the sale of Real estate sold by the Administrators of Benjamin Councill Deceased Since the 2 day of March 1878.

May 6th 1877	First Tract sold to Benj. J Councill on for the sum	$ 815 00
	for which he executed his note 6 months after date.	
May 5th 1879	Second Tract sold to W.T. Shull for the sum of	$ 360.00
	for which he executed his note 6 months after date.	
May 5th 1879	Third Tract sold to B.J. Councill on for the sum	$ 570 00
	for which he executed his note 6 Months after date	
	(Said Tract was bid off by David Adams and Benj for	
	Said Benj J. Councill on)	
July 7th 1879	Fourth Tract sold at the second sale to W.T. Hays	
	for the sum of $805.00 for which he executed his note	$ 805 00
	9 Months after date with Joseph Hays surety	
Feb 7th 1882	The amount found due under by the Administra-	
	tors arising from the sale of the James Cotterland	
	as found by Report of E.H. Ewell Referee	$ 1386 14
		$ 3936.14

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 15 day of January A.D. 1884.
Joe B Todd C.C.C.

J.D. Councill
J.N. Horton

Packet Pg. 244

Inventory of the Estate of Phineas Horton as rendered by Nathan Horton Admr

By	Note on Phineas Horton Sr. Principal	$75.00
"	" " J W & Jordan Connaill Confederate Currency	200.00
"	Receipt " John Horton	159.62
"	Note on B J Connaill Worthless	50.00
To	1 Note on E.C. Bartlett dated Jany 1865	$300.00
	on which on various Credits to the amt (206.65)	
To	Int on same to Jan 1877	93.65
To	Judgement in favor of Phineas Horton dec'd vs J W Horton & H A Dobbins obtained & Stated upon the Superior Court docket at Fall Term 1876 docketed Nov 2nd 1875	7.55 62 65.15
	Tho Principal Money	599.45
	Int to Jan 15 1877	160.84

Nathan Horton
Administrator

April 4th 1884. By Vouchers

May 27 1879	By	one	note payable to Wm Gragg		$61.00
" 6 "	"	"	Receipt from C A Cobb Atty		$10.00
April 4 1881	"	"	" " J Neal "		$25.00
Oct 27 1876	"	"	acct paid Mary W Broom		$42.00
	"	"	Tax Receipts 1879 & 80		$22.37
	"	"	Receipt from R M Douglas		$109.94
	"	"	acct from Coffey & Bro		$49.39
	"	"	Amt paid for 3 Tomb Stones		$33.75
	"	"	" " [illegible]		$21.00
	"	"	Receipt from John Horton		$159.62
	"	"	" from J L Green Atty		$5.00
March 9 1885	"	"	" " N. R. Horton		$87.50
	"	"	" Tax 1877 A.J. McBride		$21.90
April 15 1881	"	"	Note & interest (1857) Richard Green		$130.51
					$767.98

The Estate of Benjamin Council Dec'd Continued from Page 111

Jan. 14" 1884	By Vouchers &c		
April 25th 1878	A. B. Wood	amount	$ 11 00
Feb 12 1879	J. C. McGhee	(act)	63 88
May 5 1880	J. C. Horton	note	293 82
March 29 1880	Lucy Millsapps	note	13 80
March 29 1880	Lucy Millsapps	note	24 60
March 29 1880	Lucy Millsapps	note	13 92
" " 1880	Joshua Winkler	note	94 87
Feb 9 1880	M. R. Banner	(ballance on note)	2 37
Jan. 23 1880	J. H. Smith	note	6 82
Jan. 17 1880	B. F. Baird	act	46 55
Feb 19 1880	Wm Robesclow	note	42 22
July 3rd 1878	Wm Robesclow	note	56 77
Feb. 19 1880	Wm Robesclow	(act)	8 61
Jan. 15 1878	G. A. Entcher	(act)	3 33
Jan. 16 1880	Nathan Horton	(Admr. of P Horton Dec'd)	15 65
Nov. 28 1878	G.J. Coffey & Bro	(act)	3 97
June 10 1878	Phebe Shull	(note)	21 35
" " 1878	Rhoda Shull	note	28 65
Dec. 26 1878	David Adams	Note	5 00
Aug. 9 1879	J. I. Shull	note	87 88
June 17 1878	Allen Adams		10 75
Jan. 3rd 1880	Joseph Hayes	act	2 50
Dec. 8 1879	Joshua Winkler	note	29 25
Feb. 27 1879	C A Cobb	(act)	8 00
Dec 31 1878	W. R. Danner	(act)	17 25
June 6 1878	Elijah Isaacs	act	12 40
July 14 1878	Elijah Isaacs	"	8 75
April 8th 1878	A.D. Cowles	"	1 05
March 4 1878	Elijah Isaacs	2 act Same date	2 62
March 27 1878	J. C. Mast	act	19 22
July 12 1878	J. C. McGhee	act	116 00
March 22 1878	Carol Adams	note	15 00
May 9 1878	David Norris	witness tickes	11 40
Jan. 22 1879	B.J. Council Jr	act	5 00
Aug. 30 1878	John Green (Clerk Sup Ct)	act	50
June 30 1880	W. H. Presnell	for Repository Deed	9 65
Nov 7 1878	W. L. Bryans	note	17 71
Nov. 30 1878	John Glubb	act	2 50
March 29 1878	J.J. Coffey & Bro	act	33 00
" " 1878	J.W. Kale	act	12 50

See Page 209

Communication Homepath Attachment 1 (Page 3 of 3) Packet Pg. 245 (Public Comment and Responses (Chronological Order))

In the Matter of Geo. Mitchell Infant

As rendered by his Guardian Jonathan H Brown

Dec 28th 1883.	Am Note on Eli Brown principal $15.00. Dated the 15th March 1882. subject to a credit of $2.50, November 9, 1881.	$2.50,	$15 00
	To Cash Received Nov 10th 1882		$46.00,
	" " " Dec 5th 1883		2.00
	By Cash Paid J H Hardin probate Judge November 9th 1881 This was paid by Eda B~~[illegible]~~		
January 10th 1885	By Shirt, Hose, Socks & Monday Shoes		$1.85.
	" Tax Receipts for the years 1883 & 84		53.
	" 4 days Tending said Mitchell in 1884 at 75 per day		$3.00,
	" Clerks fee		25.
Dec 1886 13th	" Tax Receipts for 1885		50.
Feb 7 1887	" Tax Receipt for 1886		50.
April 11 "	" Receipt from Dr J B Connell services		$10.00,
June 23rd "	" Receipt from J & M McElhee nursing Mitchell		$15.00.
May 20 "	Clothing Boarding &c by Guardian		$17.00,
Aug 29 "	Receipt from J & M McElhee for balance nursing Mitch		$10.00
July 1st 1895	By Amt of Com allowed Guardian		4.58
" " "	By Amt paid Todd Ex Clerk		50
" " "	By Amt paid Blackburn		58
	By amount paid in Clerks office less commission & Clerks fees this July 1st 1895		32 58

July 1st 1895 J.H. Brown Designed the Guardianship this day

Oct 16 1897 By Sent Pd over to John Wilkerson present Guardian $28.45

" " Commission & M.B. Blackburn's fees .13

See page 427

Brought forward from pages 111 & 185

March 19 1878	Jacob Thielbyorr	note	$ 17.20
Dec. 28 1877	Henry Taylor	(note)	42 41
Dec 14 1878	Henry Taylor	(acct)	10,00
June 6th 1878	Isaac Dougherty & Co	(acct)	5 75
Jan. 1st 1879	W. B. Councill	note	103 28
Jan. 1st 1879	Dr. W. B. Councill	(acct)	50 00
Nov. 17 1877	Alex. Townsend	(acct)	2 45
Oct. 29 1879	J. N. Garthing	(acct)	43 48
Feb. 8 1879	A. E. Bonner	ballance on note	11 00
April 5 1881	W. G. Bryan	acct	2 42
Jan. 21 1882	H. Bingham	atty Receipt	150 00
" " 1882	H. Bingham	" "	10 00
Dec 28 1878	J. H. Hardin C.C.C.	"	36 69
Sept. 29 1880	N. C. Garthing Co. Surveyor		7 00
April 3 1880.	A. G. McBride Sheff.	Receipt	114 96
March 1 1880	R. E. Bluker	(Publisher) "	5 00
Feb. 12 1880	D. L. Councill	Admr. "	292 10
April 26 1878	J. M. Todd	atty "	5 00
March 16 1878	A. G. McBride	Sheff. "	60 00
Feb. 7 1878	W. B. Councill	"	10 00
May 13 1881	A. D. Cowles	acct	8 30
June 11 1878	J. H. Hardin	C.C.C. Receipt	50 00
May 12 1883	C. A. Tilley	att for "	10 00
Jan. 31st 1881	J. H. Hardin	C.C.C. "	25 00
Nov. 6 1879	Thos. L. Smyth	atty "	20 00
May 8 1879	Thos. L. Smyth	" "	10 00
March 29 1880	J. H. Hardin	C.C.C. " "	204 15
May 8 1879	A. G. McBride	Sheff. "	95 00
July 7 1879	J. H. Hardin	C.C. "	300 00
June 13 1881	J. B. Connelly	C.C.C. of Iredell Co.	407 59
Oct. 1st 1883	Thos. L. Smyth	atty Receipt	300 00
Jan. 8 1880	J. H. Hardin	C.C.C. "	120 00
Oct. 25 1880	Thos. L. Smyth	atty for (Receipt)	300 00
Oct. 31 1877	B. F. Baird	note "	100 68
Sept 24 1877	J. M. Todd	atty "	5 00
May 24 1879	W. F. Shull	Receipt	8 00
June 15 1880	G. W. Hayes	note	61 65
Nov. 10 1882	Eli Brown	Receipt	7 21
June 18 1878	A. G. McBride	Sheff. 2 State Receipt	28 67
May 11 1882	G. A. Folk	atty Receipt	72 00
" 9 1879	G. A. Folk	" "	17 00
" 14 1881	G. A. Folk	" "	20 00

See next page

Communication Notice with Attachments, E-Packet, August 25, 2020 (Packet Page)

Superior Court Watauga County

Per the exattes of James P. Councill and James W. Norton administrators of the estate of Benjamin Councill deceased.

To James H. Harden Clerk and Probate Judge of said County. The undersigned respectfully beg leave to submit the following fact for your consideration

1. That the amount of assets that came into their hands from sale of real estate was 255.00

On sale of personal estate. Amount collected on debts notes and accounts a majority of which were contracted prior to the late war 145.39

The amount paid out to Creditors of said deceased 209.16

Amount still in hands of the undersigned in money and uncollected notes is 180.23

There are two judgements one in favor of Holder & Brooks against the said deceased and others The other in favor of L. F. Teal against the said deceased and others

and the undersigned are advised that they ought not to pay them off at this time. There are also several debts uncollected. From the above facts the undersigned respectfully ask your Honor to extend this time for the final settlement of this said estate for twelve months from the date hereof

29th day of April 1880

J. P. Councill
J. W. Norton
Administrators of the estate of Benj. Councill deceased

Years allowance of Mary Hagaman former wife of J E Farthing Dec'd

State of North Carolina
Watauga County

We the undersigned freeholders met at the residence of D W Hagaman to wit Simon Ward E S Harmon and J E Harmon in order to allot and lay off a one years allowance for Mary Hagaman former widow of J E Farthing and now the wife of D W Hagaman met according to order and after being duly sworn according to law by B Green J.P. proceeded to value and lay off one years allowance as the law directs.

Article the 1st one note of hand on Jacob Wagner Wm B Baird and John Walker of one hundred and forty one dollars and fifty cents each	$141.50.
interest	13.00.
one note on J W Farthing dated 3rd April 1882.	38.00.
4 Head of Cattle	7.00
7 Sheep	7 50.
5 Bee stands	52.00.
4 beds & furniture	9.00.
2 bureaus	12.00.
Table & Cooking utensils	7 00
1 loom & 2 wheels	2 00
1 saddle	
This July the 8 1885	$289.00

B Green J.P.

E S Harmon
Simon Ward
J E Harmon

Minor Heirs 2 males & 1 female to wit J W Farthing
J E Farthing & M E Farthing.

May 8 1880	G. N. Folk atty	Receipt	$ 10 00
Nov. 18 1880	G. N. Folk	"	$ 10 00
April 2 1878	G. N. Folk	"	$ 5 00
Nov. 7 1878	G. N. Folk	"	$ 5 00
May 26 1883	G. N. Folk	"	$ 10 00
July 20 1883	G. N. Folk	"	$ 15 00
Nov. 10 1882	A. J. McBride Sheff	Fee Receipt	12 56
" " "	A. J. McBride "	" "	1 96
" 15 1881	" " "	" "	27 00
Jan. 1st 1881	" " "	" "	1 67
Jan 1st 1881	" " "	" "	1 67
Jan. 1st 1881	" " "	" "	27 65
Dec 15 1881	" " "	" "	1 87
" " 1881	" " "	" "	1 88
Nov. 26 1877	" " "	" "	3 02
" " "	" " "	" "	34 19
" " "	" " "	" "	11 33
Dec 3 1878	" " "	" "	6 67
" " "	" " "	" "	24 00
Nov. 26 1877	" " "	" "	4 53
May 8 1879	" " "	" "	10 67
" " "	" " "	" "	4 67
Jan 15 1879	" " "	" "	17 00
Nov. 11 1883	R. F. Ewing & others atty fees	Receipt	$ 100 00
Jan 14 1884	L. L. Greene atty fees	"	86 10
April 16 1880	J B Todd	acct	15 72
Nov 1879	S R Connell	"	5.00.
March 29/80	B F Bacon	"	94.87.
Nov. 1878	S R Connell	"	5.00
	Nov 6th 1885. Vouchers filed		1883 50
Nov 6/85	Jos B Todd C.C. Receipts		[illegible]
	E A Alley	"	29 00.
	Thos S Smythe	"	25 00.
	J F Morphew	"	25 00.
	L W Fairbanks	"	7 50.
	Jay Receipts for the years 1883, 1884 & 1885		22 38.
	L L Greenes Notes & Int		71 94
Oct 29/1878			
	By amt paid J W Horton on acct		$ 17.10
Jan 29/1879	" " " Mary S Horton for Sarah		$ 20 00
May 15-1887.	" Holland Hodges Receipt paid by J W Horton for		$ 25 00

List of Notes in the hands of B. Council at the time of his death, as Admr. of Jacob Council Dec'd

Sept. 14th 1878	B. G. Gilliard July 1st 1875,	$5.75
	Jacob Lewis Present date	$105.58
	Demarcus & Wm. Vandike July 1st 1875	1.27
	J. H. McGhee & Wm. Vandike " "	$17.12
	A. C. Allen & Daniel Morris " "	3.90
	L. L. Spence & Jehial Eagles "	27.61
	D. B. Dougherty & J. G. Rivers "	32.34
	J. B. Todd vs B. F. Baird "	25.20
	J. C. McGhee & J. B. Todd "	85.12
	J. G. Rivers vs H. W. Hardin "	61.10
	Eli Brown & Jonathan Holmes "	13.00
	John Gibson & H. W. Hardin "	127.37
	E. J. Critcher "	27.75
	Henry Elrod & John Elrod "	75.28
	H. W. Hardin vs B. F. Baird "	18.64
	H. W. Hardin "	16.87
	H. H. Pauley "	2.52
	L. A. Scruggs & Robt. Weaver "	8.70
		$576.42
		334.62
		$910.04
	L. L. Council additional acct	102.19
		$1107.23
	Liviana Wilson note	20.00
		$1127.23
	By J. L. Spence's bid at Sale	31.00
		$1157.23
	Tax receipt	5.00
		$1160.23
	Supposed to be included in (107.25) receipt Book of B. Council	107.25
		$1268.07
		$1874.85
		1160.38
		$714.47

List of Vouchers in the hands of the Admr's of B. Council Dec'd (found since his death)

An account against L. L. Council		$387.70	Credit	$247.78
	Balance due			$141.78
	Interest to date			72.89
One receipt of Jordan Council		Jan. 5th	1867	60.00
" Tax Receipt		Nov. 25	72	4.17
" " "		" "	"	7.82
" " "		Dec. 14th	1874	10.48
" " "		Nov. 14	1876	4.30
" " "		Aug. 2	1875	2.80
" " "		Nov. 14	1876	2.33
" " "		Aug. 2	1875	7.90
" " "		Dec. 14	1874	3.33
" " "		Dec. 2	1871	3.03
" " "		Oct. 4	1870	9.75
" " "		" "	"	4.06
" " "		Dec. 2	1871	24.38
" " "		Oct. 4	1870	13.56
" " "		" "	"	3.82
" " "		" "	"	4.38
" " "		" "	"	6.65
" " "		Nov. 16	1875	.57
Account Jesse Council		May 13th	1871	5.00
Tilley [illegible]		April 15th	1875	2.00
				$334.64

Estate of J. M. Councill Dec'd

Amt. of Property that went into the hands of Benj. Councill admr of J. M. Councill

First sale amt, due 26 Oct, 1866	$ 764.05
Interest thereon	$ 544.24
Note on Jacob Lewis Bal.	53.33
Interest thereon	52.24
Scruggs & Spears note Bal	5.00
Interest thereon	3.20
A. W. Hardins note	7.75
Interest thereon	8.82
A. W. Pusley note	2.00
Interest thereon	2.52
Second sale amt,	57.47
Interest thereon	41.37
J. H. Spencers Receipt	102.25
Interest thereon	73.57
A. L. Councill acct	43.00
Interest thereon	20.64
Book accts	8.00
Interest thereon	0.00
Rent on Elk Farm &c	30.00
Interest thereon	10.80
Book accts collected	17.31
Do. do not collected &c	52.37
	$ 1894.85
By Vouchers & Claims thereon allowed	1263.09
	$ 631.76
By Cash on 766.85	38.86
	$ 592.90

From: Anna Boyce Keplar
To: <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/25/2023 2:53 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery

I suggest that ALL people who GREW UP in Boone (Watauga?) be invited to a meeting with HPC and Boone Officials to share our memories of growing up in the 1920's, 1930's, 1940's, 1950's, 1960's, etc. Thank you for letting me share my thoughts.

Anna Boyce Phillips

Communication: Communication - A. Boyce Phillips - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - Fwd: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Information for HPC Meeting - September 5, 2023

From: Amy Davis <amy.davis@townofboone.net>
To: Jessica Mitchell; Eric Plaag; Jane Shook
Date: 8/25/2023 3:08 PM
Subject: Fwd: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Information for HPC Meeting - September 5, 2023

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached email thread from Mary Moretz.

I am having email issues today so please let me know if you can't view the text.

Have a great weekend!

Best,
Amy

Amy Davis, Town Manager
Town of Boone
567 West King Street
Boone, NC 28607
(828)268-6200
www.townofboone.net

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Mary Moretz <>
> **Date:** August 25, 2023 at 1:49:16 PM EDT
> **To:** Amy Davis <amy.davis@townofboone.net>
> **Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Information for HPC Meeting - September 5, 2023**
>
> Amy,
> It is fine with me if you share my letter, but please add the following:
>
> All of us are products of our time and place.
> If we go back thousands or even hundreds of years in history and we could trace our lineage, each of us would find that we are descendants of slaves and descendants of slave owners. That doesn't make it right, but we humans are a nasty species. (Actually,

Communication: Communication - M.Moretz - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

according to historians and anthropologists, before slavery, enemies were slaughtered, each and every one of them, and it was only after humanity was better at having a more secure and plentiful food supply that slaves were taken.)

The Town Council voted unanimously to name a street after Burrell and one for Martin Luther King, Jr. Roberta and I went to Sam Furgiuele's office and discussed this with him. Sam was on the Council at that time. Both Roberta and I had every opportunity to express our opinions at a lengthy meeting, and we agreed that it would be wonderful to honor both African Americans. It has come to my attention that a person or persons say that it should never have been done and imply(s) that the Junaluska citizens would have preferred streets named for other people. They may in fact want another street named for a more recent member of their community, which is certainly possible, and if they so desire, I feel that many of us would support this effort.

Apparently, there are people who are so narcissistic that they feel that only they should be allowed to bring up any historical figure or fact, and that only they have the ability to correctly interpret information.

On Fri, Aug 25, 2023 at 12:35 PM Amy Davis <Amy.Davis@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Thank you, Mary, would you like me to share your email?
>
> Best,
> Amy
>
> > On Aug 25, 2023, at 9:49 AM, Mary Moretz
> > <> wrote:
> >
> > ï»¿
> > Dear Amy,
> > I am trying to stay out of this one!
> >
> > However, I do not believe in sweeping history under the rug but it is unnecessary to say certain things on signage. Boone is not Tulsa or Wilmington! Watauga County was formed during great discord in America and not long before the Civil War. The Town of Boone was chartered during Reconstruction. We are in the South. Some things are understood and don't have to be put on a sign. We could say that the Doughterty brothers were racist because they were. BB and Rivers started the local paper to promote segregation, etc. Are we going to put that on a sign, too? Perhaps we should expand our reach and go to the Washington Monument and put up a sign about George Washington's many slaves, etc., etc.
> >
> > I personally prefer a more positive approach. We cannot undo the past but we can honor all founders of our area, not just those who came from Europe. Yes, I am speaking of Burrell. He spent much more time here

Communication: Communication - M.Moretz - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

than did Daniel Boone, probably years and years in total. It is amazing that we know the little that we know about him considering his background. We cannot undo the past or get brownie points with God by calling out the sins of others. Some people are just too sanctimonious! Each of us needs to look in the mirror for we have "all fallen short of the glory of God."

It is important how we treat people now. A man from Kenya who is college educated and speaks several languages went to the dedication of the Historic Murals at the restored Appalachian Theatre in October. Two women, one who is on the HPC, ***I believe,*** stopped him and asked him what he was doing there! Unbelievable.

Bigotry is bigotry whether it is directed at Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, those of any and all sexual orientations, or *even* local folks.

You have a hard job but I know that you are up to the task. I remember what a bright student you were!!!

Best wishes,
Mary E. Moretz

On Thu, Aug 24, 2023 at 10:33â€¯AM Amy Davis <Amy.Davis@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Good afternoon,
>
> The Boone Historic Preservation Commission will review the cemetery panels discussed on August 9, 2023, at its September 5, 2023, advisory meeting.
>
> Please submit any peer-reviewed information your family or supporters have for consideration to jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net no later than August 25, 2023.
>
> Have a great evening!
>
> Best,
>
> Amy

Communication: Communication - M.Moretz - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Amy Davis, Town Manager

Town of Boone

567 West King Street

Boone, NC 28607

(828)268-6200

www.townofboone.net

<2C138F46267F464885484BA4BA8CE4D6[25046920].png>

"The Town of Boone is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.

Communication: Communication - M.Moretz - August 25, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels-Time Sensitive Letter

From: RJ Triplett-Johnson
To: <Amy.Davis@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/28/2023 4:47 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels-Time Sensitive Letter
Cc: <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>, <Edie.Tugman@townofboone.net>, <tim....
Attachments: --- Cemetery Panels Letter pdf.docx

This email is being sent to members of the Boone Town Council, HPC and others involved with the Boone Cemetery Panels project. Please see attached time sensitive letter.

My family and I look forward to a timely response.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Triplett-Johnson
336-957-6566 cell, 336-818-2563 landline
rjwatersong@gmail.com

Communication: Communication - R. Triplett-Johnson - August 28, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Mayor Futrelle,

Boone Town Councill

Ref: Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels

This letter is to address the disturbing and questionable handlings of the purposed Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels during the most recent August Town Council meeting and throughout the development process of the project.

What was described to be a beautiful, heartfelt project that should have everything to do with honoring all those buried within the entire cemetery and the history, has instead been allowed to become nothing but dishonorable, distracting and disjointed of purpose to the interred and to their descendants, past and present.

During the August meeting, discussion about the Panels and the gathering of information turned instead into an attack on certain family histories and on particular individuals in attendance. There was absolutely no call for such unprofessional action by Mr. Plaag, nor that those in charge of the meeting allowed him to carry on and on in this manner while also abusing the three minutes allotted each speaker. I was embarrassed for the Boone I used to know and reside in as a property owner.

Gathering of information pertaining to history of the cemetery and those interred within should have, from the start, been a collaboration of the committees and any living ancestors and historians who wished to participate. This inclusive group should have been welcomed and integral to the process in order to gain important data including three invaluable points of reference sought after and used by most historians: published sources, genealogical sources/first-hand accounts, ex. letters, diaries, bibles and oral histories passed from generation to generation. Instead, there seemed to have been a deliberate choice not to inform or include anyone other than the chosen few on the committee. The project had little to no public awareness and was finally brought fully into view when only a few days were left before a final vote was to be taken. At that time, anyone with questions, doubts, addendums, etc., were overlooked, talked over and dejected by Mr. Plaag and the few in attendance who were forceful in rushing for a final vote.

Anyone who has a true and respectful acknowledgement of the value of history knows that researching the past takes as long as it needs to in order to gain as much information as possible from as many sources available. No rush to vote and rush to erect any Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panel should move forward until every ancestor, family representative and historian who chooses to participate in the project is allowed to become informed, involved and included without fear of being humiliated, disrespected and excommunicated while sharing fruits of their family trees or daring to question or disagree with those who feel that one history is the only history and that only one historian should be validated. There should be no need to rush and every reason to table all votes for as many months needed to insure everyone has ample time and chance to retrieve and present individual histories, including written and oral, and to participate in respectful discussions.

Communication: Communication - R. Triplett-Johnson - August 28, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

As if enough exhaustive disrespect had not already occurred during the August Council meeting, it was then excitedly brought up and agreed to by Council that the Cemetery Panels should be erected quickly in order to have them play a significant role in Halloween festivities. How dare anyone assume that ancestors of those lying in the their final resting place in Boone Cemetery would be happy and comfortable with being left out of the project development; that those who put themselves in charge don't care about being respectful and inclusive of every family's knowledge of their own history; that our ancestors are looked upon as little more than a Halloween haunted attraction because the timing to erect the panels will be good for tourism. To use a very historic idiom, it would be of no surprise that due to the mishandling of the Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panel project, many within the Boone Cemetery are turning over in their graves, especially the historians.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Triplett-Johnson

Descendent of Relatives Interred in Boone Cemetery

Communication: Communication - R. Triplett-Johnson - August 28, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Online Form Submittal: Planning & Inspections

From: <noreply@civicplus.com>
To: <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 8/29/2023 11:34 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Online Form Submittal: Planning & Inspections

Planning & Inspections

Select the staff member you wish to contact:

Planning Administration	*Field not completed.*
Building Inspections	*Field not completed.*
Planning	Jessica Mitchell, Long-Range/Special Projects Planner
Name	Jonathan M. McCleese
Email	*Staff has email address on file.*
Phone	*Staff has phone number on file.*
Contact Preference	Email
Message	Ms./Mrs. Mitchell My name is Jonathan McCleese, I am a Michigan native/resident and I am proud to be a blood-relative of Mr. Daniel B. Dougherty & his sons – the founding fathers of what we now know as Appalachian State University. I was recently made aware of three informational panels being considered for placement in the Councill / Boone Town Cemetery, where Daniel B. Dougherty and several of his descendants (my cousins) are interred. I am writing today because I am sincerely concerned about the proposed verbiage for these panels, which contain language that is seemingly intended to perpetuate a divisive, historically inaccurate narrative of history rather than accurately stating historical fact. One example of such language is proposed for Panel #3: “A Divided Cemetery,” which states that “Racial segregation of gravesites was common in the South.” * The fact is that racial segregation in cemeteries was not unique to "the South," and nearly all public cemeteries in the United States were segregated to some degree at one time.

Communication: Communication - J. McCleese - August 29, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

This was the case at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit in the 1920s, where they stated in their book of regulations, "The cemetery is limited without exception to the use of the Caucasian race."
** The problem was not limited to Whites excluding African-Americans from burial in certain cemeteries. In 1960, officials at White Chapel Memorial Park in Troy, MI, stopped the burial of a Native-American, WWI Veteran (George Vincent Nash) as the casket was being lowered into the ground; when asked for comment by a local newspaper, cemetery officials said, "the cemetery is restricted to members of the Caucasian race and the Nash family knew that... Almost every cemetery has it's restrictions and the Supreme Court has held them to be legal." Mr. Nash was buried elsewhere several weeks later.
*** Segregation in cemeteries remained legal in this part of the North until the Michigan State Supreme Court's 1966 ruling that cemeteries could not restrict plot purchases by race.

It seems to me that a more factual statement for the panel might say "Racial segregation of gravesites was once common throughout the entire United States."

In the second paragraph on the same panel, it says, "Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all."
* All of my family roots come from the American South, and I travel annually to visit the burial places of my kinfolk. Despite my ancestors all being white, not all of them have "finely carved monuments;" in fact, many are simply marked with what the signage calls "flagstones" (or more accurately, "fieldstones"), most without any identifying carvings.
** The primary reason was the economic reality for a majority of people in the South, whites & blacks, in the late-19th & early-20th centuries; it is completely dishonest to lay the blame totally or primarily on "systemic racism."

Panel #3, in it's entirety, seems to focus on highlighting past discrimination, some of which is certainly real, but a cemetery is not the place to cast judgment on the dead or criticize them & their neighbors for being people of their time & place; that is what installing these panels with the currently proposed language will do.

Those visiting the graves of their kinfolk do not want to see their final resting place utilized for their disparagement. Instead, why not use Panel #3 to talk about the contributions of some prominent citizens who helped make Boone the college town that it is today? You could list their names and tell below why

Communication: Communication - J. McCleese - August 29, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

they are listed (author, newspaper editor, Confederate Vet., WW2 Vet., mayor, college founder, etc).

Thank your for your time. Councill / Boone Town Cemetery, like all cemeteries, should be a place where the dead rest in honor and dignity, plain & simple. I truly hope that you will take the high road and use these panels to provide fact-based information while celebrating the positive contributions to your community made by those interred within.

Sincerely,
Jonathan M. McCleese
(Lincoln Park, MI)

Email not displaying correctly? View it in your browser.

Communication: Communication - J. McCleese - August 29, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Boone Cemetery Panels

From: Watauga County Historical Society
To: Tracy Councill
Date: 8/30/2023 7:59 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Boone Cemetery Panels
Cc: <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>, <tim.futrelle@townofboone.net>, <sai...

Dear Tracy Councill,

Thank you for your email. I apologize that I have not responded sooner; your email went to our spam folder and was not seen on this account until this morning.

While Bettie Bond (President of the WCHS) and I (Treasurer of the WCHS and Chairperson of the Digital Watauga Project) are also members of the Boone Historic Preservation Commission (a Town of Boone commission), the Watauga County Historical Society and the Digital Watauga Project (the principal project of the WCHS) have no direct association whatsoever with the Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels project. This work has been done solely at the request of the Boone Town Council and is being completed by the members of the Boone Historic Preservation Commission. That said, the additional response that follows below consists of my own comments and observations and is not an official statement of the WCHS or Digital Watauga.

First, I urge you to review the numerous things I have already written in response to recent critiques of the July draft of the interpretive panels; these will be published as part of the public packet for the September 5 HPC meeting and should be available at the Town of Boone website by the end of this week. Within these materials, you will find documentation of the long, recurring pattern of cemetery neglect and poor maintenance complained of by editors of the *Watauga Democrat* from at least the 1890s and trustees of the cemetery throughout the 20th century, as well as how this neglect and concern over "maintenance" was leveraged to prompt decisions to enclose the White section of the cemetery with fencing on at least two occasions (1898 and 1957). There are also photographs showing the maintenance disparity between the Black and White sections of the cemetery over a long period of time.

I'll note that in your correspondence with Mayor Futrelle and Ms. Mitchell, you referred to a discussion that occurred "on Digital Watauga." This discussion actually appeared on a Facebook group called "Watauga History Hunters," administered by Michael Hardy. This FB page is not in any way affiliated with the WCHS or Digital Watauga. I will also note that Michael's claims regarding the Greene Horton deed not only inaccurately cite what was printed in the 1997 Bliss report but also are incorrect on their face. The Greene Horton deed was for land immediately south of the old Boone Chapel parcel in the Junaluska community. Not only do its size and calls not correspond to the Black section of the cemetery, there is also no evidence that this parcel was ever used in any way as a burial ground for Black residents of Boone.

You have also apparently raised questions in your communications with the Mayor and Ms. Mitchell regarding the accuracy of the location of the three Union grave markers. While it is true that the original Union soldier grave markers were vandalized and moved around, likely beginning

Communication: Communication - E. Plaag, Watauga County Historical Society - August 30, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses

in the mid to late 2000s, available documentation on the original location of these stones clearly demonstrates that the Union soldier gravesites and stones were originally placed in the Black section of what was considered to be the "Council [sic] Cem[etery]" in 1879, when the headstones were originally ordered (copies of these order forms will be accessible in the HPC packet for September 5). Other documentation includes two photographs in Ina Van Noppen's *Stoneman's Last Raid* (1961) showing all three stones upright and in place "on a ridge in Boone which is now a part of the Negro cemetery"; a 1979 WD article (actually cited in the July 2023 draft panel footnotes) describing and showing in two photographs the presence of those stones in the Black section of the cemetery; and two photographs accompanying another 1979 WD article discussing the "neglected Black graveyard" and the cleanup of the Black section of the cemetery by three Boy Scouts, one of whom--Chris Wilcox (son of Kenneth Wilcox)--is quoted in the article. Furthermore, the replacement Union soldier stones were placed in the vicinity of the Black section of the cemetery matching what is visible in those images and paired with the 2016/2017 GPR study, which showed three, side-by-side graves at the precise location of the current stones. For those familiar with the documentation on these stones and their original placement, there is no doubt that they were originally in an area of the cemetery that was outside the fence boundary established in the 1890s and in the same area where Black burials are documented as taking place as early as 1898.

Finally, while I am the author of the original draft of the cemetery panels (September 2022), these panel drafts have been revised on at least four occasions since then, based on feedback provided at public HPC meetings by ALL members of the Boone Historic Preservation Commission (including Bettie Bond, Chuck Watkins, James Sharp, Riley Ziegler, and myself) as well as Town staff. It also seems important, given the assertions in your email, to highlight that the purpose of the cemetery panels is to interpret an historical resource that has been Town-owned since 2015 but that was privately owned by the Councill family for nearly 100 years (and perhaps longer in the case of most of the Black section), then by private trustees acting in concert with members of the Councill family (at least one of the trustees for many years, in fact, was a Councill descendant) for nearly another 80 years. It would be odd indeed to interpret such an historic site without discussing the Councill family and its centuries-long connection to the cemetery (both sections).

I thank you again for your input. The latest draft of the cemetery panels, to be discussed at the September 5 meeting, clarifies some of the language in the panels and provides additional historic context for understanding both sections of the cemetery overall.

Respectfully,

Eric Plaag

On Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 4:00 PM Tracy Councill <> wrote:

> Dear Mr. Plaag and the Watauga County Historical Society,
>
> The proposed interpretive panels for the Boone Cemetery have recently come to my attention. True, I am not active in the Historical Society, so I am late to the discussion. Even so, I would like to share with you my impression of the draft, pointing out a few areas where the document seems to go beyond historical fact. Though I no longer live there, I grew up in Boone, have a house there, pay taxes, and visit often. I have family there, and I do care about the community. My mother, Rebecca Shoemake Councill, was an active member of the Historical Society for many years, and Bettie Bond knew her well.

Communication: Communication - E. Plaag, Watauga County Historical Society - August 30, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses

I have hesitated to address the authors of the document directly, because I expect they will seek to dismiss me, since I am not a trained historian. I ask that someone on your committee read the draft document again, with an eye for its emphasis and tone, which seem to go beyond the historical record at times.

I grew up knowing that my Councill ancestors owned slaves, but I was not raised to preserve that racist mindset. As a modern person I cannot imagine owning another human being, though that was surely what my forbearers did. I do not for a second seek to defend that practice, nor do I idealize the Councills who did so. I have no issue with acknowledging slavery and systemic racism in the history of our community, and that of the Boone Cemetery.

That said, there are parts of the proposed narrative that seem to go beyond historical fact. Here are the parts of the narrative that I would ask you to look at again:

The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with the Councill family and was once owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. (1795-1877). The earliest known burials here were Councill family members, but other interments soon followed. By the 1880s, locals treated this as the town cemetery, even though it remained on privately owned land. ***Cemetery neglect and poor maintenance were a recurring problem by the late 19th century.***

What is the relevance/evidence that the Boone cemetery was neglected in the late 19th century? Is there a record of it being neglected? If not, why bring it up?

From its establishment, the cemetery was also racially segregated. Most surviving grave markers are in this west section of the cemetery, which was reserved for White burials. Black burials, the earliest of which had been persons enslaved by the Councill family, were restricted to the east section. *Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials.*

Segregated cemeteries were not exclusive to the Councill family, the South, or even the 19th century. The amount of discussion it receives in the cemetery panel document implies that the segregation of the cemetery was not to be expected, and was particular to the Councills. It makes sense to point it out, but the historical context of the practice as generalized in the United States should also be made clear.

The stone line at your feet marks the boundary that once divided the Black section of the cemetery to the east from the White section to the west. and likely originated here with the Councill family's pre-Civil War burial practices. Local tradition holds that the Councill family interred those they enslaved in the east section and their family members at the crest of the hill to the west. Slavery may have formally ended in 1865, but racial segregation did not. In the century that followed, locals usually called the cemetery's east section the "Colored Cemetery" and the west section the "City Cemetery." *White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section.* ***Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all.***

Segregated burial practices were not particular to the Councills, but naming them again here gives it emphasis. Is there some way in which the Boone cemetery is different from cemeteries of that era in other parts of North Carolina?

If we accept the tradition that this eastern part of the Boone Cemetery was already in use in 1865 as a burying ground for those enslaved by the Councill family, then the decision to locate these White soldiers here may have been the Councill family's commentary on men whom they perceived were fighting to end slavery. Nevertheless, Benjamin Councill's willingness to allow their burial on his land after the killing of his unarmed son just a few weeks earlier is also striking.

Communication: Communication - E. Plaag, Watauga County Historical Society - August 30, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses

Attributing a vengeful motive to the Councills in burying the white Union soldiers on the Black side of the cemetery is conjecture that goes beyond historical fact. Benjamin Councill did bury the Union soldiers on his land, as is pointed out, whereas many times soldiers from opposing sides were left in fields, buried in mass graves, etc. This may have been done with animosity as you say, or with some degree of respect--we really don't know.

I submit these concerns with all due respect.
Tracy Councill

Tracy Councill, MA, ATR-BC, LCPAT
Program Director, Tracy's Kids Art Therapy
Artist, Art Therapist

301-335-1811

Communication: Communication - E. Plaag, Watauga County Historical Society - August 30, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Boone Cemetery Panels

From: Tracy Councill <>
To: Watauga County Historical Society <>
Date: 8/30/2023 9:22 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Boone Cemetery Panels
Cc: Bettie Bond <bondjj@appstate.edu>, <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>, r...

Dear Eric,

Thank-you for your response. I believe that the history of the Boone cemetery is complicated and not well documented. What I am asking is not that the committee exclude the Councills from the telling of that history, but rather that they present a picture of the history in context. The custom of funerary practice in the United States was mostly segregated--by race and sometimes religion and ethnicity--not only in the cemetery in Boone, and not only in the South—but in the United States at large well into the 20th century. When the panels repeatedly attribute segregated burial practices to the Councills, without commenting on the broader context, readers might believe that this segregation was unique to the Boone cemetery.

As you know, much of the history of Boone was lost when the courthouse burned late in the 19th century, so much important proof is gone. There is a nuance of experience that I would like to put forward for your consideration. I am not sure when the cemetery became the Boone cemetery, and I understand so far we do not have documentation of that, but I wonder whether it was a very long time ago—maybe from the beginning. Certainly many of the graves do not belong to Councills—not even many of the early graves.

When I was a child (I was born in 1957), I never heard that referred to as anything but the Boone Cemetery. I was told that the Councills gave the land for the cemetery to Boone, but it was never referred to as the family cemetery that evolved into a community cemetery. I was familiar with family cemeteries that belonged to relatives in other places, but the cemetery in Boone was never characterized that way. I wonder whether ownership was transferred to the town very early on, or in a casual, undocumented fashion. I truly wish my parents were still alive, because they would know more, but I do not recall my dad, my grandmother or my great-uncle ever saying they or their family owned the cemetery. I know my great uncle cut the grass there sometimes, but my impression was that it was something he was doing for the town—not that he considered it the family cemetery. I do know my parents and grandparents were distressed by the vandalism and neglect there during my childhood, but they did not feel they had the authority to do anything about it. I admit, I was a kid, and to me these were boring discussions at Sunday dinner, but the idea that the Councill family was in charge of that cemetery for as long as you say just doesn't ring true. I would like to ask some of the trustees if they are still alive, or their children, to see if they recall more of the history.

I did get the Digital Watauga and Watauga History Hunters FB pages mixed up in my comment, but I was able to correct that in my subsequent communication to the Town. I remember when Chris Wilcox did his Eagle Scout project. I am glad there is documentation to support where the Union soldiers were buried. Since their gravestones had been moved and piled by the entrance at one point, I'm sure it took some work to figure it out.

The biggest issue I have with the panels is the attribution of a vindictive motive to Benjamin Councill in burying the Union Soldiers on the Black side, absent any historical record of his thoughts. At the time, Boone was under Union occupation, and Jacob Mast Councill had been killed by Union soldiers not long before. It may well have been that the Union commander (I think his name was Kirk) decided where the Union soldiers would be buried. It seems unlikely the Union forces would have consulted Benjamin Councill at all. The Union may not have wanted their soldiers buried next to slaveholders, and preferred them to be beside the slaves. My point is, we just simply do not know. While we can try to figure it out, the account presented in the panels does not give any evidence that I can see to support its conjecture.

Communication: Communication - T.Councill - August 30, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

I also think the overall tone of the panels—established by repetition and speculation—implies that my ancestors were unusually racist. Not for one second do I defend slavery and segregation. The Civil War era was incredibly fraught and complicated. My ancestors participated in an institution that was deeply wrong, immoral, and eventually illegal, but they were not unique. I hope the story of the Boone Cemetery can be told in a way that recognizes the larger context of its beginnings, and is more inclusive of the many influential residents of Boone who have been laid to rest there over the years.

Sincerely,
Tracy Councill

On Wed, Aug 30, 2023 at 7:59 AM Watauga County Historical Society <> wrote:

> Dear Tracy Councill,
>
> Thank you for your email. I apologize that I have not responded sooner; your email went to our spam folder and was not seen on this account until this morning.
>
> While Bettie Bond (President of the WCHS) and I (Treasurer of the WCHS and Chairperson of the Digital Watauga Project) are also members of the Boone Historic Preservation Commission (a Town of Boone commission), the Watauga County Historical Society and the Digital Watauga Project (the principal project of the WCHS) have no direct association whatsoever with the Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels project. This work has been done solely at the request of the Boone Town Council and is being completed by the members of the Boone Historic Preservation Commission. That said, the additional response that follows below consists of my own comments and observations and is not an official statement of the WCHS or Digital Watauga.
>
> First, I urge you to review the numerous things I have already written in response to recent critiques of the July draft of the interpretive panels; these will be published as part of the public packet for the September 5 HPC meeting and should be available at the Town of Boone website by the end of this week. Within these materials, you will find documentation of the long, recurring pattern of cemetery neglect and poor maintenance complained of by editors of the *Watauga Democrat* from at least the 1890s and trustees of the cemetery throughout the 20th century, as well as how this neglect and concern over "maintenance" was leveraged to prompt decisions to enclose the White section of the cemetery with fencing on at least two occasions (1898 and 1957). There are also photographs showing the maintenance disparity between the Black and White sections of the cemetery over a long period of time.
>
> I'll note that in your correspondence with Mayor Futrelle and Ms. Mitchell, you referred to a discussion that occurred "on Digital Watauga." This discussion actually appeared on a Facebook group called "Watauga History Hunters," administered by Michael Hardy. This FB page is not in any way affiliated with the WCHS or Digital Watauga. I will also note that Michael's claims regarding the Greene Horton deed not only inaccurately cite what was printed in the 1997 Bliss report but also are incorrect on their face. The Greene Horton deed was for land immediately south of the old Boone Chapel parcel in the Junaluska community. Not only do its size and calls not correspond to the Black section of the cemetery, there is also no evidence that this parcel was ever used in any way as a burial ground for Black residents of Boone.
>
> You have also apparently raised questions in your communications with the Mayor and Ms. Mitchell regarding the accuracy of the location of the three Union grave markers. While it is true

Communication: Communication - T.Councill - August 30, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

that the original Union soldier grave markers were vandalized and moved around, likely beginning in the mid to late 2000s, available documentation on the original location of these stones clearly demonstrates that the Union soldier gravesites and stones were originally placed in the Black section of what was considered to be the "Council [sic] Cem[etery]" in 1879, when the headstones were originally ordered (copies of these order forms will be accessible in the HPC packet for September 5). Other documentation includes two photographs in Ina Van Noppen's *Stoneman's Last Raid* (1961) showing all three stones upright and in place "on a ridge in Boone which is now a part of the Negro cemetery"; a 1979 WD article (actually cited in the July 2023 draft panel footnotes) describing and showing in two photographs the presence of those stones in the Black section of the cemetery; and two photographs accompanying another 1979 WD article discussing the "neglected Black graveyard" and the cleanup of the Black section of the cemetery by three Boy Scouts, one of whom--Chris Wilcox (son of Kenneth Wilcox)--is quoted in the article. Furthermore, the replacement Union soldier stones were placed in the vicinity of the Black section of the cemetery matching what is visible in those images and paired with the 2016/2017 GPR study, which showed three, side-by-side graves at the precise location of the current stones. For those familiar with the documentation on these stones and their original placement, there is no doubt that they were originally in an area of the cemetery that was outside the fence boundary established in the 1890s and in the same area where Black burials are documented as taking place as early as 1898.

Finally, while I am the author of the original draft of the cemetery panels (September 2022), these panel drafts have been revised on at least four occasions since then, based on feedback provided at public HPC meetings by ALL members of the Boone Historic Preservation Commission (including Bettie Bond, Chuck Watkins, James Sharp, Riley Ziegler, and myself) as well as Town staff. It also seems important, given the assertions in your email, to highlight that the purpose of the cemetery panels is to interpret an historical resource that has been Town-owned since 2015 but that was privately owned by the Councill family for nearly 100 years (and perhaps longer in the case of most of the Black section), then by private trustees acting in concert with members of the Councill family (at least one of the trustees for many years, in fact, was a Councill descendant) for nearly another 80 years. It would be odd indeed to interpret such an historic site without discussing the Councill family and its centuries-long connection to the cemetery (both sections).

I thank you again for your input. The latest draft of the cemetery panels, to be discussed at the September 5 meeting, clarifies some of the language in the panels and provides additional historic context for understanding both sections of the cemetery overall.

Respectfully,

Eric Plaag

On Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 4:00 PM Tracy Councill <> wrote:

> Dear Mr. Plaag and the Watauga County Historical Society,
>
> The proposed interpretive panels for the Boone Cemetery have recently come to my attention. True, I am not active in the Historical Society, so I am late to the discussion. Even so, I would like to share with you my impression of the draft, pointing out a few areas where the document seems to go beyond historical fact. Though I no longer live there, I grew up in Boone, have a house there, pay taxes, and visit often. I have family there, and I do care about the community.

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My mother, Rebecca Shoemake Councill, was an active member of the Historical Society for many years, and Bettie Bond knew her well.

I have hesitated to address the authors of the document directly, because I expect they will seek to dismiss me, since I am not a trained historian. I ask that someone on your committee read the draft document again, with an eye for its emphasis and tone, which seem to go beyond the historical record at times.

I grew up knowing that my Councill ancestors owned slaves, but I was not raised to preserve that racist mindset. As a modern person I cannot imagine owning another human being, though that was surely what my forbearers did. I do not for a second seek to defend that practice, nor do I idealize the Councills who did so. I have no issue with acknowledging slavery and systemic racism in the history of our community, and that of the Boone Cemetery.

That said, there are parts of the proposed narrative that seem to go beyond historical fact. Here are the parts of the narrative that I would ask you to look at again:

The land for the Boone Cemetery is historically associated with the Councill family and was once owned by Benjamin Councill, Sr. (1795-1877). The earliest known burials here were Councill family members, but other interments soon followed. By the 1880s, locals treated this as the town cemetery, even though it remained on privately owned land. ***Cemetery neglect and poor maintenance were a recurring problem by the late 19th century.***

What is the relevance/evidence that the Boone cemetery was neglected in the late 19th century? Is there a record of it being neglected? If not, why bring it up?

From its establishment, the cemetery was also racially segregated. Most surviving grave markers are in this west section of the cemetery, which was reserved for White burials. Black burials, the earliest of which had been persons enslaved by the Councill family, were restricted to the east section. *Following the Civil War, the east section continued to be used by local Blacks until the 1950s, when Clarissa Hill Cemetery was established west of Boone for Black burials.*

Segregated cemeteries were not exclusive to the Councill family, the South, or even the 19th century. The amount of discussion it receives in the cemetery panel document implies that the segregation of the cemetery was not to be expected, and was particular to the Councills. It makes sense to point it out, but the historical context of the practice as generalized in the United States should also be made clear.

The stone line at your feet marks the boundary that once divided the Black section of the cemetery to the east from the White section to the west. and likely originated here with the Councill family's pre-Civil War burial practices. Local tradition holds that the Councill family interred those they enslaved in the east section and their family members at the crest of the hill to the west. Slavery may have formally ended in 1865, but racial segregation did not. In the century that followed, locals usually called the cemetery's east section the "Colored Cemetery" and the west section the "City Cemetery." *White cemetery trustees and town officials maintained the west section but often neglected the east section.* ***Under the economic realities of systemic racism, finely carved monuments marked graves in the west section, while flagstones marked most east section graves if they were marked at all.***

Segregated burial practices were not particular to the Councills, but naming them again here gives it emphasis. Is there some way in which the Boone cemetery is different from cemeteries of that era in other parts of North Carolina?

If we accept the tradition that this eastern part of the Boone Cemetery was already in use in 1865 as a burying ground for those enslaved by the Council family, then the decision to locate these White soldiers here may

Communication: Communication - T.Councill - August 30, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

have been the Councill family's commentary on men whom they perceived were fighting to end slavery. Nevertheless, Benjamin Councill's willingness to allow their burial on his land after the killing of his unarmed son just a few weeks earlier is also striking.

Attributing a vengeful motive to the Councills in burying the white Union soldiers on the Black side of the cemetery is conjecture that goes beyond historical fact. Benjamin Councill did bury the Union soldiers on his land, as is pointed out, whereas many times soldiers from opposing sides were left in fields, buried in mass graves, etc. This may have been done with animosity as you say, or with some degree of respect--we really don't know.

I submit these concerns with all due respect.
Tracy Councill

Tracy Councill, MA, ATR-BC, LCPAT
Program Director, Tracy's Kids Art Therapy
Artist, Art Therapist

301-335-1811

Communication: Communication - T.Councill - August 30, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels

From: Tracy Councill <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/2/2023 9:44 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels

Dear Jessica,
I will be out of town and unable to join the meeting tomorrow, but I wanted to submit the thoughts below for consideration by the committee.
Thank-you,
Tracy

The draft Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels might be better titled "Racism in the History of Boone and its Burial Practices." The panels and their footnotes focus on the history of segregated burial practices in Boone from its early days through the modern era. Focusing as they do on 1. the practice of slavery, 2. segregated burial, 3. the internment of three Union Soldiers on the Black side of the cemetery subsequent to Stoneman's Raid and speculating without historical documentation as to the motives for their placement there, and 4. calling into question decisions made by business and civic leaders in the 1950's and 1970's, the panels focus on racist institutions and behavior that are partly based in fact, and partly in conjecture. In the panels and their footnotes, it is difficult to follow the thread of the story that is being told, particularly in the parts that deal with the 1950's-1970's.
We must all hear and understand the history of slavery and racism in Boone and in America if we are ever to improve our society and achieve true racial equality. Nonetheless, the Cemetery Panels, by focusing exclusively on racism, omit the stories of many who worked for the betterment of the community and tell only part of the story of Boone's history. If the intention is to talk about the Boone Cemetery, the panels should not focus exclusively on race, because that is not the only story contained there. There are folks interred there who came to the area on the early railroads, taught in one-room schoolhouses, who died of and cared for people in the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1919, who served in America's many wars, and who brought trade, industry and education to the town. Are these stories not also part of Boone's history?
I am white, so I am sure I was mostly unaware and not the target of racism in my hometown from the 1950's to the 1980's. From 1980-84 I served as the first Arts Coordinator for Watauga County. In that role, I was the first Executive Director of the Watauga Arts Council. Though in those days we operated on a shoestring, we put on performances, art exhibits, and festivals that included everyone in the community that we could recruit to participate. It was our true and sincere intent to be inclusive of all races, faiths, educational levels and economic classes, and to provide accessible, affordable and inclusive arts experiences. If you read the draft Cemetery Panels as a lens onto the history of Boone, you might conclude that Boone has never progressed from the shameful days of slavery and Jim Crow. There is no effort in the documents to shine a light on any sort of progress, and almost no mention of individuals interred there who shaped the community over the decades between the Civil War and the 1970's. The present draft should be set aside until the purpose of the project can be clarified. If the intent is to educate the public about slavery and racism in Boone, let that be made clear. If the intent is to present the history of the Boone cemetery and try to understand our community through the lives of those buried there, that is a somewhat different

Communication: Communication - T. Councill - October 2, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

project. Race and racism will and should be an important piece of the puzzle, but not the whole story.

I submit these thoughts with all due respect, and with great sadness and trepidation. Although my name is Councill and I am descended from Boone's biggest slave-holding family, not for one moment do I defend the institution and practice of slavery. I am ashamed, sorry and appalled at what my ancestors did, and through my modern eyes I am at a loss to explain it. I understand that the path to racial reconciliation can only be found by confronting and accepting the truth of what happened and its impact on our society, even until today. I do not seek to suppress that story. I only seek to find a way to document a fair and balanced history of our community.

Tracy
Tracy Councill, MA, ATR-BC, LCPAT
Program Director, Tracy's Kids Art Therapy
Artist, Art Therapist

Communication: Communication - T. Councill - October 2, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - HPC- Oct. 3/ Appeal LETTER

From: Brenda Councill
To: Anna Boyce Phillips <>, Mary Moretz <...
Date: 10/2/2023 10:17 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - HPC- Oct. 3/ Appeal LETTER
Bc: Jessica Mitchell

Re: Cemetery Interpretive Panels

Tracy Councill sends this and will probably not be in attendance at the HPC- Oct. 3 meeting. You will have received prior correspondence from her and The Councill Family descendants remain active in "stopping the Cemetery Panel project" until an alternative narrative is drafted by authors, researchers, historians of note in this region. And that living descendants of all families interred in the sacred ground be represented and respected in this project going forward.

Please read our collective correspondence:
https://link.edgepilot.com/s/9af0e5fd/NGCuKfYZ6kSRXjaLuQR9Gw?u=https://boonenc.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_Meeting.aspx?ID=3566

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tracy Councill <>
Subject: Meeting on October 3
Date: October 1, 2023 at 10:25:15 PM EDT
To: Brenda Councill <>, Jill Privott <>, Michael hardy <>

Dear Friends,

The draft **Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels might be better titled "Racism in the History of Boone and its Burial Practices."** The panels and their footnotes focus on the history of segregated burial practices in Boone from its early days through the modern era. Focusing as they do on 1. the practice of slavery, 2. segregated burial, 3. the internment of three Union Soldiers on the Black side of the cemetery subsequent to Stoneman's Raid and speculating without historical documentation as to the motives for their placement there, and 4. calling into question decisions made by business and civic leaders in the 1950's and1970's, the panels focus on racist institutions and behavior that are partly based in fact, and partly in conjecture. In the panels and their footnotes, it is difficult to follow the thread of the story that is being told, particularly in the parts that deal with the 1950's-1970's.

Communication: Communication - B. Council - October 2, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

We must all hear and understand the history of slavery and racism in Boone and in America if we are ever to improve our society and achieve true racial equality. Nonetheless, the Cemetery Panels, by focusing exclusively on racism, omit the stories of many who worked for the betterment of the community and tell only part of the story of Boone's history. If the intention is to talk about the Boone Cemetery, the panels should not focus exclusively on race, because that is not the only story contained there. There are folks interred there who came to Boone on the early railroads, taught in one-room schoolhouses, who died of and cared for people in the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1919, who served in America's many wars, and who brought trade, industry and education to the town. Are these stories not also part of Boone's history?

I am white, so I am sure I was mostly unaware and unaffected by racism in my hometown from the 1950's to the 1980's. From 1980-84 I served as the first Arts Coordinator for Watauga County. In that role, **I was the first Executive Director of the Watauga Arts Council.** Though in those days we operated on a shoestring, we put on performances, art exhibits, and festivals that included everyone in the community that we could recruit to participate. It was our true and sincere intent to be inclusive of all races, faiths, educational levels and economic classes, and to provide accessible, affordable and inclusive arts experiences. *If you read the draft Cemetery Panels as a lens onto the history of Boone, you might conclude that Boone has never progressed from the shameful days of slavery and Jim Crow. There is no effort in the documents to shine a light on any sort of progress, no mention of individuals interred there who shaped the community over the decades between the Civil War and the 1970's.* The present draft should be set aside until the purpose of the project can be clarified. If the intent is to open a discussion of slavery and racism in Boone, let that be made clear. If the intent is to present the history of the Boone cemetery and try to understand our community through the lives of those buried there, that is a somewhat different project. Race and racism will and should be an important piece of the puzzle, but not the whole story.

I submit these thoughts with all due respect, and with great sadness and trepidation. Although my name is Councill and I am descended from Boone's biggest slave-holding family, not for one moment do I defend the institution and practice of slavery. I am ashamed, sorry and appalled at what my ancestors did, and through my modern eyes I am at a loss to explain it. I understand that the path to racial reconciliation can only be found by confronting and accepting the truth of what happened and its impact on our society, even until today. I do not seek to suppress that story. I only seek to find a way to document a fair and balanced history of our community.
Tracy

Tracy Councill, MA, ATR-BC, LCPAT

Communication: Communication - B. Councill - October 2, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Program Director, Tracy's Kids Art Therapy
Artist, Art Therapist

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Communication: Communication - B. Councill - October 2, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission - Request for Information

From: Mary Moretz <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/10/2023 3:52 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission - Request for Information

Dear Jessica,
I have seen Dr. Chuck Watkin's proposed verbiage for the signage at the Boone Cemetery and I think it is excellent. It says just enough and it is correct.
Thank you,
Mary E. Moretz

On Wed, Oct 4, 2023 at 3:10 PM Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Hello,
>
> You had contacted me previously regarding the HPC's project with the Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels. I am sharing information from the HPC's discussion on that topic from yesterday's Advisory meeting.
>
> During the HPC Advisory meeting yesterday (10/3/2023), there was a discussion regarding the Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels to recognize any historically significant individual(s) buried in the Boone Cemetery. This request includes the following information to be provided: (1) name of historically significant individual(s), (2) brief description that can direct to further information (not an exhaustive history of an individual). The idea is to include a list of names and descriptions in one of the proposed interpretative panels, with future resources supplementing the list of historically significant names. The HPC requests that anyone interested in the HPC's project submit names and a limited written description (less than a sentence) to me (jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net) **no later than Friday, October 13th**. Staff is preparing meeting material, and this deadline will provide Staff time to incorporate any attachments into the packet in time for the HPC Special Meeting on October 17th.
>
> Meeting information for the HPC Special Meeting on October 17th will be shared in the coming week.
>
> For questions regarding this request, please contact me.
> Respectfully,
> Jessica

Communication: Communication - M.Moretz - October 10, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell
Advanced Planning Specialist
jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net
Office 828.268.6960
Town of Boone
Planning & Inspections
680 West King Street, Suite C
Boone, NC 28607

Disclaimer: The information provided herein is only informal advice. This email is not a final decision, is not binding on the Town, and is not appealable. A binding decision or interpretation may only be provided in response to a proper written application. If you wish to obtain a final and binding decision or interpretation from the Town, you must specifically request such a decision or interpretation and submit the required written application and fee. Please contact the Planning and Inspections Department for more information.
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"The Town of Boone is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.

Communication: Communication - M.Moretz - October 10, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - Recommendations for HPC

From: Susan Keefe <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/11/2023 9:59 AM
Subject: Recommendations for HPC
Cc: Roberta Hagler Jackson <>, "Plaag, Eric" <...
Attachments: Significant persons in the Historic Black Cemetery in Boone.docx

Attached is a list of prominent members of the Junaluska community buried in the Historic Black Cemetery in Boone. This was requested from the Junaluska Heritage Association by the HPC at their last meeting.

Susan Keefe
Secretary, Junaluska Heritage Association

--
Susan E. Keefe, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita of Anthropology
Department of Anthropology
Appalachian State University
Boone, NC 28608

Communication: Communication with Attachment - S. Keefe - October 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Significant persons in the Historic Black Cemetery in Boone:

Polly Grimes (1827-1917) was a free person of color who bore 13 children all of whom stayed in the Boone area. She is remembered with pride in Junaluska, and her descendants make up one of the oldest and largest extended families in the community.

Rev. Coy Williams (1899-1944) was born in Boone and taught in the black school in Junaluska for many years. He entered Gammon Theological Seminary and Clark University in Atlanta, Georgia, and became pastor of Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church in Winston-Salem.

Ralph Horton (1904-1932) was a Junaluska native and a teacher in the black school. His life was cut short when he was shot and killed by a lynching mob in the Mabel community, Watauga County.

Communication: Communication with Attachment - S. Keefe - October 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

From: SHARON TOLBERT <>
To: <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/11/2023 3:11 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Blair ancestors at Boone cemetery

To whom it may concern:
Concerning my ancestors buried in the Boone cemetery.
I request consideration for recognition of my great great grandparents,
Henry Blair and Mary Steele Blair.
They were the builders of the Blair Farm house and 3 remaining farm buildings.
All these structures were built in 1844 and are the oldest existing structures in the Boone city limits.

In addition for consideration would be some of their children and spouses.
i.e. my great grandparents, George Henry Blair & Mary Adelaide Rousseau Blair and my great aunt, Nancy Rebecca Blair Horton & her husband Colonel William Horton.

Thank you,
Sharon Blair Tolbert
Owner of the Henry Blair Farm
Sent from my iPhone

From: SHARON TOLBERT <>
To: <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/11/2023 3:55 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Correction on Horton ancestors

Jessica, it just occurred to me and my memory reminded me that Nancy, Rebecca Blair Horton and her husband Colonel William Horton are buried at the Horton cemetery.
They are NOT at the Boone cemetery. Please forgive my mistake.
Thanks - Sharon Blair Tolbert

Sent from my iPhone

Communication: Communication - S. Blair Tolbert - October 11, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission - Request for Information

From: Doris Stam <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/12/2023 10:08 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission - Request for Information

Significant for the history of Boone: persons buried in the Boone Cemetery---from Doris Perry Stam, great-granddaughter of D.D. and Lillie Dougherty.

Dauphin Disco "D.D." Dougherty (1869-1929) and Lillie Shull Dougherty (1874-1945) began a school in 1899 with his single brother, Blanford Barnard "B.B." Dougherty (1870-1957), which grew into a state supported regional high school, then a teachers' college, which became Appalachian State University in 1967. B.B. Dougherty was President of Appalachian from 1921 until 1955.
Daniel Baker "D.B." Dougherty (1833-1902) and Ellen Bartlett Dougherty (1845-1876).
D.B. was co-owner and editor of the Watauga Democrat from 1889-1899. He urged his sons to return to Boone and open a high school, rallying local support for the endeavor through the newspaper he edited.
John Preston Arthur (1851-1916), unmarried, moved to Boone from Asheville. His books on Western North Carolina, and Watauga County, contain important regional history from primary sources. He died penniless and broken-spirited. Local people in Boone had befriended the troubled man, commissioned the county history, and later paid for his burial.

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 2:49 PM Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Hello,
>
> I am sending this as a reminder for the deadline set for tomorrow, Friday, October 13th. It would be preferable if any items could be sent in by mid-day tomorrow; however, the cut off time will be 5 PM. Please see the original email below regarding the information request for those who are interested.
>
> For those who have already sent in material, it will be included in the upcoming HPC Special Meeting packet, which will be posted soon.
>
> Respectfully,
> Jessica

Communication: Communication - D. Stam - October 12, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell
Advanced Planning Specialist
jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net
Office 828.268.6960
Town of Boone
Planning & Inspections
680 West King Street, Suite C
Boone, NC 28607

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>>> Jessica Mitchell 10/4/2023 3:07 PM >>>
Hello,

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For questions regarding this request, please contact me.
Respectfully,
Jessica

Communication: Communication - D. Stam - October 12, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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Communication: Communication - D. Stam - October 12, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - BOONE CEMETERY REQUEST RESPONSE

From: jill privott <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>, Amy Davis <Amy.Davi...
Date: 10/13/2023 10:39 AM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - BOONE CEMETERY REQUEST RESPONSE

Ms. MITCHELL PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL HPC COMMITTEE MEMBERS and Town of Boone Council

HPC Members,

This is in response to a request for a list of names to be included or recognized and coupled with Dr. Charles Watson's recommendation of the final draft for the Boone Cemetery panel. I want to express my gratitude for Dr. Watson's consensus approach to the differences of opinion regarding the wording and quantity of panels for the cemetery project. After attending the HPC meetings and listening to letters from Mayor Protem Eddie Tugman, comments from HPC members and others I feel it necessary as this project appears to come to a reconciliation that a correction and clarification is needed. While a hyper-focus has been placed on the issue being the Councill family not wanting their family history presented in a truthful light and to exclude the slavery narrative this was far from correct. My exposure to all of the family representatives has only been that the narrative not contain opinion/conjecture thereby mischaracterizing history. A review of the rewritten Boone Cemetery material (made only after this was addressed with the Town Council) clearly shows many corrections to the opinion and conjecture included in the statements, dates, and grammar presented in the original cemetery panel language. Citizens and descendants' contributions lent to the credibility and accuracy of the project. All the family ever wanted was an objective and more accurate presentation. More importantly, many of the opposers to the original wording were not solely concerned about the lack of objectivity in the wording but also deeply concerned about the quantity and style of the panels being intrusive and disrespectful to the cemetery at large. As has been stressed,, this is a place of reverence and dignity.
Again, I want to commend Dr. Watson's revision of wording and recommendation to reduce the number of panels to one. This meets the concerns I expressed regarding the panels not following best practices of being succinct and not turning the cemetery into a sideshow. In closing, I strongly endorse Dr. Watson's revision read at the October meeting - I thought it was perfectly executed.
The individual names mentioned are key contributors to the establishment of the town and its history. However, the only other one sentence I would add would be something to the effect: In (put year here)the Junaluska Heritage Association placed a marker in honor of all African Americans known to be buried in the cemetery including enslaved and once-enslaved people. This is just a general type of inclusion I would like to see. With this added I feel the cemetery panel is inclusive and fairly represents the history of the cemetery and Boone. QR codes can go into more detail about the history albeit it should read objectively as outlined in the last revisions before Dr. Watson's final draft. I thank the HPC for understanding that they represent the Town of Boone and own no project that citizens do not have a right to participate in as taxpayers.

Respectfully,
Jill Privott
Boone Resident

Communication: Communication - J. Privott - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels/HPC

From: Brenda Councill <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>, Tim Futrelle <tim.f...
Date: 10/13/2023 1:26 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Panels/HPC
Cc: Nathan Miller <>

Jessica,
Please find The Councill Family descendants response to a request by the HPC to "suggest" family descriptions for placement in the cemetery.
Please forward to ALL Town Council members and appropriate staff.

To: The Town of Boone and Historic Preservation Committee

Re: Boone Cemetery Interpretive Panels/Chuck Watkins Memo/HPC

The memo from **Chuck Watkins (10/03/23 HPC meeting)**, proposing brevity and general statements, on (1) panel is acceptable to the undersigned.

Collectively we have been advocating eliminating the excessive commentary and particularly racially provocative phrases authored by Chair, Eric Plaag. HPC member, *Chuck Watkins* has supported seeking **"common ground"** after he read the numerous correspondence and documentation issued by prominent historians, researchers, preservationists and families including oral histories opposing Eric Plaag and Betty Bond's commentary.

This is a reverent and sacred space and **no family or group has primacy over another** and no single historian should have jurisdiction over the descendants of those individuals buried within. Archived statements made by Chair, Eric Plaag seemingly on behalf of the Junaluska community "*not old dead white men again*" and other *racial pejoratives and verbal bullying* will not be tolerated and will be challenged legally if these actions continue.

We as descendants of the Councill's interred in the cemetery do not advocate any further highlight of their contribution on signage. Again, ***no* family** other than the references made in *Chuck Watkins* Introductory paragraph should be introduced.

- **We do not support "listing individuals", as someone will be left out.**
- **No organization, individual or group should continue to advocate the display of individual names on any placard, sign display or permanent feature within the hallowed ground.**

Communication: Communication - B.Councill - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

- **QR codes and/or brochures may exclaim the many contributions to the town that individuals and families have made.**

Additionally, the current graphic design and marker choice needs review. ***They are invasive and have a temporal aesthetic.*** A vertically permanent bronze, aluminum (machined or cast), stone, (granite, or cast aggregate) choice promotes a permanent installation and adheres to “best practices” used for permanent marker and public art placement standards. References to specific historic cemetery informational markers in Old Salem, Charleston, Atlanta and Savannah are NOT invasive to the sacred space.

It is unfortunate that the Town of Boone has not regarded these standards and maintenance schedules as (2) prominent public art installations ”gifted" to the town were poorly designed and are deteriorating because of lack of knowledge or ignorance of these standards.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this matter.

Brenda Mauney Councill
Jefferson Bostwick Councill, III
Bonny White Councill and descendants
Elizabeth Howell (Councill) Cleary and descendants
Barbara Brandt (Councill) Webb and descendants
Anne (Councill) Dennis and descendants

Enc: Chuck Watkins Memo

Memo To: Historic Preservation Commission Members and Appropriate Town Staff Members
From: *Chuck Watkins*
Subject: The Boone Cemetery
Date: 10/3/2023

The intent to provide interpretation for the Boone Cemetery has blossomed into unintended and unnecessary controversy. Among these forms of controversy are:

--Who is and who is not a “real” historian.

--What are facts and what are opinions as regards the panels’ text. The validity of oral history.

--Individuals may be profiting from the sale of historical information.

--The subject of the panels – is it the Boone Cemetery or is it Racism at the Boone Cemetery?

--Who owns local history – descendants of early settlers or more recent arrivals to the area?

This is not a comprehensive list but should suffice to make the point that people who all have essentially the same purpose should seek common ground rather than to wrangle for interpretive primacy. One way to do that is to reduce the number of proposed panels. Four has turned out to be too many and threatens to turn what is sacred space into an outdoor display area. Moreover, that

Communication: Communication - B.Councill - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

number has resulted in a duplication of thought and a wading into a level of detail that is inappropriate for signage of this type. Various studies in excellent museums demonstrate that, on average, visitors spend between eight seconds (Tate UK) and 27 seconds (Metropolitan Museum of Art) looking at works of art, and that shorter labels hold visitor interest more than do long labels. More detailed information may be conveyed via other formats such as QR codes.

Here is what I propose, though the specific wording is not definitive, nor is the particular length. My primary goal is to present the material that most people seem to agree on and to eliminate that on which they don't. I recommend that the text ultimately be revised and vetted by all interested parties.

Welcome to the Boone Cemetery

The land for the Boone Cemetery was originally owned by the Councill family, and the earliest known burials were Councill family members and their slaves. By the 1880s, locals treated the property as the town cemetery, even though it remained private property. As was the practice throughout the United States, the Boone Cemetery was segregated. Blacks were buried on the east side and Whites were interred in the western portion, and at times a fence separated the two areas. By the 1950s, the cemetery had fallen into disuse as both Black and White residents developed new burial spaces outside of Boone's downtown. In 2015 the town of Boone acquired the Boone Cemetery to ensure its care and protection. In this cemetery lie the remains of many of Boone's most important and prominent civic and cultural leaders of their time, including B.B. and D.D. Daugherty, brothers and founders of today's Appalachian State University, writer John

Preston Arthur, and veterans of the nation's wars, including those who fought on both sides of the Civil War. (173 words)

Visiting the Cemetery

The Boone Cemetery is open to the public year-round from dawn to dusk. Visitors are reminded that this is sacred space, and not an area for recreation or sport. Pets are not permitted, and children must be accompanied by an adult. Interfering with a grave, including such things as attempting to perform the "rubbing" of a gravestone, the removal of any grave goods or leaning against a stone is forbidden. Visitors are further reminded that the desecration of gravesites in any form is a violation of North Carolina law. (89 words)

Communication: Communication - B.Councill - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission - Request for Information

From: Tracy Councill <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/13/2023 1:54 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission - Request for Information

I would be much happier with the text Chuck Watkins has proposed than with the original draft panel text. I have outlined the many reasons in my previous communications. How can I register that comment with the committee?
Tracy Councill

Tracy Councill, MA, ATR-BC, LCPAT
Program Director, Tracy's Kids Art Therapy
Artist, Art Therapist

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 2:49 PM Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Hello,
>
> I am sending this as a reminder for the deadline set for tomorrow, Friday, October 13th. It would be preferable if any items could be sent in by mid-day tomorrow; however, the cut off time will be 5 PM. Please see the original email below regarding the information request for those who are interested.
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> For those who have already sent in material, it will be included in the upcoming HPC Special Meeting packet, which will be posted soon.
>
> Respectfully,
> Jessica

Communication: Communication - T. Councill - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net
Office 828.268.6960
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>>> Jessica Mitchell 10/4/2023 3:09 PM >>>
Hello,

You had contacted me previously regarding the HPC's project with the Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels. I am sharing information from the HPC's discussion on that topic from yesterday's Advisory meeting.

During the HPC Advisory meeting yesterday (10/3/2023), there was a discussion regarding the Boone Cemetery Interpretative Panels to recognize any historically significant individual(s) buried in the Boone Cemetery. This request includes the following information to be provided: (1) name of historically significant individual(s), (2) brief description that can direct to further information (not an exhaustive history of an individual). The idea is to include a list of names and descriptions in one of the proposed interpretative panels, with future resources supplementing the list of historically significant names. The HPC requests that anyone interested in the HPC's project submit names and a limited written description (less than a sentence) to me (jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net) **no later than Friday, October 13th**. Staff is preparing meeting material, and this deadline will provide Staff time to incorporate any attachments into the packet in time for the HPC Special Meeting on October 17th.

Meeting information for the HPC Special Meeting on October 17th will be shared in the coming week.

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Respectfully,
Jessica

Communication: Communication - T. Councill - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

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Communication: Communication - T. Councill - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission - Request for Information

From: Doris Stam <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/13/2023 2:13 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission - Request for Information

I want to go on record as approving Chuck Watkins' wording proposal.
Doris Perry Stam

On Fri, Oct 13, 2023 at 1:21 PM Doris Stam <> wrote:

> Thank you!!
>
> On Fri, Oct 13, 2023 at 8:17 AM Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net> wrote:
>
> > Hello,
> >
> > I have received your email and will share this with the Historic Preservation Commission in the meeting packet for the HPC Special Meeting on October 17th. I will be in touch with further meeting information for the October 17th meeting.
> >
> > Thank you,
> > Jessica
> >
> > *Jessica Mitchell*
> > **Advanced Planning Specialist**
> > jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net
> > **Office** 828.268.6960
> > Town of Boone
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Communication: Communication - D. Stam - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

third parties.
>>> Doris Stam <> 10/12/2023 10:07 PM >>>
Significant for the history of Boone: persons buried in the Boone Cemetery---from Doris Perry Stam, great-granddaughter of D.D. and Lillie Dougherty.

Dauphin Disco "D.D." Dougherty (1869-1929) and Lillie Shull Dougherty (1874-1945) began a school in 1899 with his single brother, Blanford Barnard "B.B." Dougherty (1870-1957), which grew into a state supported regional high school, then a teachers' college, which became Appalachian State University in 1967. B.B. Dougherty was President of Appalachian from 1921 until 1955.
Daniel Baker "D.B." Dougherty (1833-1902) and Ellen Bartlett Dougherty (1845-1876).
D.B. was co-owner and editor of the Watauga Democrat from 1889-1899. He urged his sons to return to Boone and open a high school, rallying local support for the endeavor through the newspaper he edited.
John Preston Arthur (1851-1916), unmarried, moved to Boone from Asheville. His books on Western North Carolina, and Watauga County, contain important regional history from primary sources. He died penniless and broken-spirited. Local people in Boone had befriended the troubled man, commissioned the county history, and later paid for his burial.

On Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 2:49 PM Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net> wrote:

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> Jessica
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For questions regarding this request, please contact me.
Respectfully,
Jessica

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Communication: Communication - D. Stam - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - from JHA, for Oct 17 meeting

From: kristen baldwin deathridge <>
To: "jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net" <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/13/2023 3:22 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - from JHA, for Oct 17 meeting
Attachments: JHA support letter_draft_Oct2023.pdf

Jessica,

This is Kristen Baldwin Deathridge writing to you from my personal email account, as I am submitting material to you as a citizen, not as a representative of App State.

After discussion at the most recent JHA meeting, Andrea Burns and myself volunteered to draft a letter representing the JHA's comments and concerns at this time to pass on to the HPC

Please let me know if you have any questions and thank you for your work,

Kristen

Communication: Communication with Attachment - K. Baldwin Deathridge - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological

October 13, 2023

Members of the Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission:

We are writing on behalf of the Junaluska Heritage Association (JHA). As you know, the JHA represents the historically Black community here in Boone. Its members also include some white residents of Boone, as well as professors of history and anthropology at Appalachian State University who have been invited to work with the Junaluska community.

We have deeply appreciated the work of the HPC and Town regarding the historic Boone cemetery, particularly since 2015. It is because of the painstaking collaborative efforts of the JHA, the HPC, and the Town of Boone that the cemetery has been restored and renewed as a place of reflection and historical significance. With the unveiling of the Historic Black Cemetery marker in 2017 commemorating the unmarked graves of African American community members, together with the 2022 placement of field stones on unmarked Black grave sites, the final resting places of many members of Boone's Black community have now been given as much respect as those marking the founding families of the town and the university. Still, we also acknowledge that more can and should be done to remember and interpret the history of this important site, so that both residents and visitors can better understand Boone's history, and the lives of those who are buried here.

As members of the JHA, we have been closely following the public discussion surrounding the proposed interpretive panels that the HPC wants to install at the cemetery. We have yet to formally weigh in on these conversations, since we have generally concurred with the interpretation on the panel drafts proposed by the HPC, including the most recent draft submitted with the October 6, 2023 packet. We understand and appreciate that this interpretation is grounded in current, sound scholarship, and represents years of careful research and writing on the part of the HPC.

Due to the recent public objections and other concerns raised regarding the content of the interpretive panels, we understand that there's a proposition to fully rework the panels, and possibly shorten the interpretation in order to make the text more accessible to all audiences. On the one hand, we agree that making the interpretive language more accessible is a good goal. On the other hand, we are also concerned that this approach may lessen the more full and complicated history that the JHA wishes to communicate.

Communication: Communication with Attachment - K. Baldwin Deathridge - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological

We do have a couple of specific recommendations for the HPC to consider in their discussion. In content that interprets the Black portion of the cemetery, it may be helpful to note that before placement of the fieldstones, there were at least 167 unmarked burials. This can help visitors understand some of the scope of the community. We also recommend that one panel, or perhaps part of one panel, still be dedicated to describing acceptable behaviors and guidelines for access to the cemetery. We recognize that there are cultural differences among visitors and that what may be understood as respectful actions can vary; we would prefer clarity for visitors on these points.

Moving forward, the JHA requests that its members be consulted about any proposed revisions to the interpretive panels before all HPC public meetings. You may email all textual changes to Ms. Roberta Jackson, at jacksonrh@retired.appstate.edu, as some of our members have difficulty accessing and sifting through the longer meeting packets. We do not wish to slow down the process, as it is our strong desire to have the panels installed as soon as it is feasible. However, we also want to ensure that the voices of the Junaluska community, and the members of the JHA, are heard and considered throughout this process, and that the complex history of the site be given its full consideration.

Thank you for your consideration, and we again appreciate your commitment to remembering and interpreting Boone's rich history.

Sincerely,

Kristen Baldwin Deathridge and Andrea Burns, on behalf of the Junaluska Heritage Association

Communication: Communication with Attachment - K. Baldwin Deathridge - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological

Town of Boone
Planning and Inspections Department

Memorandum

To: Historic Preservation Commission

From: Jessica Mitchell, Phone Call Received from Kim Wilcox Phillips

Date: 10/13/2023

Subject: Family Member of Historic Significance in Boone Cemetery – Wilcox Family

---

I received a phone call from Ms. Phillips where she explained to me the details of a member of her family that is historically significant buried at the Boone Cemetery. The description provided below is my transcription from our phone conversation, which Ms. Phillips agreed for me to include in the meeting packet.

She also shared a message from Ms. Anna Boyce Phillips, who expressed support for Member Watkins's memo containing the revised text.

Family Description from Ms. Phillips

Her great-grandfather was General Grant Wilcox, born in Ashe County and whose family started the Wilcox Drug Company. She explained that the Ginseng Trade marker in Downtown Boone represents his contribution. In 1900, he moved the business to Watauga County, where they operated a cash business and bought leaves, bark, berries, and roots for medicinal purposes. As a cash business, it was helpful to the people of the area during the Depression era. The Wilcox Drug Company was in operation until the mid-to late 1980s. Grant Wilcox, son Charles (Charlie) Wilcox, Ms. Phillips's father, Kenneth Wilcox, and her brother Chris Wilcox have carried on the business as it changed over the years. Kenneth Wilcox sold the business, and Chris Wilcox now has North American Natural Resources. The Wilcox family has also been involved with the local Christmas tree industry with Christmas wreaths, garland, and trees operating as Appalachian Evergreen Company, which is still in operation today by Chris Wilcox. Appalachian Evergreen Company started between the 1940s and 1950s.

680 West King Street, Suite C, Boone, NC 28607
828.268.6960
www.townofboone.net

Communication: Communication - K. Wilcox Phillips - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological Order))

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Plaque

From: RJ Triplett-Johnson <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/13/2023 4:58 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Plaque
Attachments: Boone Cemetery Plaque letter ++.docx

Members of Boone Town Council and Boone Historic Preservation Committee

Attached is our letter in reference to the Cemetery Plaque project.

Communication: Communication with Attachment - R. Triplett-Johnson - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological

October 12, 2023

Dear Historic Preservation Commission and Boone Town Council Members,

This letter addresses the planned Boone Cemetery Plaque project and the ongoing debates of public awareness, content and context.

Although it has been stated during a previous HPC meeting that the public was made aware of this project, to this date media outlets have not been provided with any press release or statements from HPC allowing the public, including ancestors of those buried within the cemetery, to have input and inclusion into the project. This lack of public awareness, whether planned or overlooked, has given way to a great void of information pertinent to the accuracy and overall purpose of the project. Without a full overview of information, including but not limited to, ancestral history of those interred combined with research material from multiple sources and historians, there can never be a complete and accurate representation of facts. While it is agreed that several stages of this project have been ongoing over the course of time as stated by HPC, knowledge of this project has been limited only to those involved within HPC and a few outside individuals who were made aware when being invited to participate in the research and development. Statements about the project were said to have been included on the HPC website but for those who do not frequent computers or do not follow HPC would otherwise have no knowledge of the project without a complete and proper dissemination of information to all media, including print, radio, t.v., handouts, etc., and community outreach to churches and other local areas rich with ancestors and their valuable histories. Along with afore mentioned media, leaflets could have easily been distributed at churches, schools, groceries, libraries, post office and businesses where the general public would have access. This would allow for the project to be explained and dates for community discussion meetings with HPC to be listed allowing those interested to have time to gather valuable historic information in a reasonable and productive time frame for presentation to HPC. It is outstanding and appropriate that this inclusion and awareness from HPC was prominent within the Junaluska community, also rich with valuable ancestral history. It is a gaping chasm created by HPC through their exclusion and tepid interest of everyone else's input that has left this once positive project to devolve into its current state of disarray and disrespect to those whose purpose it was to honor. Only until a complete and thorough press release and media blitz is done by HPC with the sole purpose to bring this project awareness to the communities and families it will represent, there should be no further movement of the project. And to give a deadline of only a few weeks when pressed on this matter in which to provide historic input for the project is further proof that there is no true wish by HPC for complete inclusion and input from everyone who should be made aware and involved. This slight window of time is in no way productive. At this point in the project the main goal and elbow grease of HPC should be put solely into community outreach and conversation in actions representing only the truest respect and interest to hearing the public and together creating the most appropriate plaque for the most appropriate reason. Community outreach and family/individual research through files, documents, etc., takes time. But unless and until they are even made aware of the project then their own research cannot begin. HPC has put a deadline for input on a project without the wherewithal to appropriately inform the public that the project exists. For these reasons, the deadline set forth by HPC during last meeting for any community input should be deemed inactive and

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Content of the plaques have somehow mutated into an overflow of information too lengthy to hold the readers interests and too filled with unnecessary and sometimes inciteful and unproven components. HPC, represented by Eric Plaag, has continued to disregard and disrespect input and concern from others outside HPC during conversation when concern about this context is brought to their attention. What should have always been a plaque representing 'general history and facts' of the cemetery has instead become a contentious collection of billboards. At no time should any individual or family within the cemetery be singled out above all others; no socio-economic hierarchy be made; no bias of any kind be made that would communicate patronizing any family, ethnicity or religion. This plaque project should only stand in time to honor, respect and bring reverent dignity to all who are buried within the hallowed grounds of the site. Content and context fitting to that outcome is simple and without injury of words. There is no reason for this plaque to be anything else for any other purpose or standard.

Following and attached is the letter sent to HPC and Boone Town Council from Mr. Chuck Watkins. Part of his letter includes an excellent example of the short, direct and inclusive text that should be used for this plaque. Nothing further is needed.

Welcome to the Boone Cemetery

The land for the Boone Cemetery was originally owned by the Councill family, and the earliest known burials were Councill family members and their slaves. By the 1880s, locals treated the property as the town cemetery, even though it remained private property. As was the practice throughout the United States, the Boone Cemetery was segregated. Blacks were buried on the east side and Whites were interred in the western portion, and at times a fence separated the two areas. By the 1950s, the cemetery had fallen into disuse as both Black and White residents developed new burial spaces outside of Boone's downtown. In 2015 the town of Boone acquired the Boone Cemetery to ensure its care and protection. In this cemetery lie the remains of many of Boone's most important and prominent civic and cultural leaders of their time, including B.B. and D.D. Daugherty, brothers and founders of today's Appalachian State University, writer John Preston Arthur, and veterans of the nation's wars, including those who fought on both sides of the Civil War. (173 words)

Visiting the Cemetery

Communication: Communication with Attachment - R. Triplett-Johnson - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological

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You should have already read his letter and all other letters submitted to HPC and Boone Town Council in their entirety. You are encouraged to do so again. You will find direct requests from families inside and outside of Boone who have valid ancestral interest and history along with data referencing word count specific for pedestrian and historical marker research, and over all dissatisfaction as to how this project has been handled and how the general public who should be involved are not being given opportunity of awareness and inclusion, and those who are currently involved are being disrespected in manners not becoming or professional of those in public office or representation of committee of public interest.

This letter is presented to HPC and Boone Town Council as response to our request for further input reflecting concern and sharing constructive conversation with suggestion while meeting afore mentioned deadline in which to do so. Our points, concerns and requests are valid and should be held valuable to this project in every future step. Actions and decisions from Mr. Plaag should have never reached the level they have and we hope this letter and our continued conversation allows for much better and much more professional future interaction with HPC as we all work together in a positive manner to achieve the same goal of erecting an appropriate cemetery plaque with general information and direct link to broader historic content on a companion website.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Triplett-Johnson and family

(Decedents of and Interested Family Members of Hardin-Triplett-Brown-McNeil-Councill)

Doris Perry Stam

Communication: Communication with Attachment - R. Triplett-Johnson - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses (Chronological

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Plaque

From: RJ Triplett-Johnson <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/13/2023 5:10 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Re: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Boone Cemetery Plaque
Attachments: Boone Cemetery Plaque letter ++.docx

Hi Jessica

We appreciate that. I also sent along the letter on your Town site page with additional signatures. I am attaching that copy to this email as an addendum to the previous letter. Please forward this addendum along to everyone. As always, your kindness and efforts are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely
Rebecca Triplett-Johnson and family

On Fri, Oct 13, 2023 at 4:59 PM Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net> wrote:

> Hello,
>
> I have received your email and document and will share this with the Historic Preservation Commission in the meeting packet for the HPC Special Meeting on October 17th. I will be in touch with further meeting information for the October 17th meeting.
>
> Thank you,
> Jessica
>
> *Jessica Mitchell*
> **Advanced Planning Specialist**
> jessica.mitchell@townofboone.net
> **Office** 828.268.6960
> Town of Boone
> Planning & Inspections
> 680 West King Street, Suite C
> Boone, NC 28607
>
> Disclaimer: The information provided herein is only informal advice. This email is not a final decision, is not binding on the Town, and is not appealable. A binding decision or interpretation may only be provided in response to a proper written application. If you wish to obtain a final and binding decision or interpretation from the Town, you must specifically request such a decision or interpretation and submit the required written application and fee. Please contact the Planning and Inspections Department for more information.
> Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.
>
> "The Town of Boone is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Communication: Communication (Corrected Addendum to Previous Communication) - R. Triplett-Johnson - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments

Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to public records requests pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Law, resulting in monitoring and potential disclosure of this message to third parties.
>>> RJ Triplett-Johnson <rjwatersong@gmail.com> 10/13/2023 4:58 PM >>>
Members of Boone Town Council and Boone Historic Preservation Committee

Attached is our letter in reference to the Cemetery Plaque project.

Communication: Communication (Corrected Addendum to Previous Communication) - R. Triplett-Johson - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments

October 12, 2023

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Visiting the Cemetery

Communication: Communication (Corrected Addendum to Previous Communication) - R. Triplett-Johson - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments

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Sincerely,

Rebecca Triplett-Johnson and family

(Decedents of and Interested Family Members of Hardin-Triplett-Brown-McNeil-Councill)

Doris Perry Stam

Communication: Communication (Corrected Addendum to Previous Communication) - R. Triplett-Johnson - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments

Jessica Mitchell - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Fw: BOONE CEMETERY REQUEST RESPONSE Corrected

From: jill privott <>
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>
Date: 10/13/2023 5:23 PM
Subject: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Fw: BOONE CEMETERY REQUEST RESPONSE Corrected

HI Jessica,
Please find attached a corrected letter submitted earlier today. I apologize for the needed corrections but am out of town trying to do this on my phone in an area with limited wifi service. I appreciate you resubmitting this letter.
As to the meeting notification, I am requesting to attend any in-person or webex meetings or workshops. I realize I would not be able to speak unless asked but by state open meeting laws am able to attend all meeting types.

Best,
Jill Privott

From: jill privott
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2023 10:39 AM
To: Jessica Mitchell <Jessica.Mitchell@townofboone.net>; Amy Davis <Amy.Davis@townofboone.net>
Subject: BOONE CEMETERY REQUEST RESPONSE

Ms. MITCHELL PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL HPC COMMITTEE MEMBERS and Town of Boone Council

HPC Members,

This is in response to a request for a list of names to be included or recognized and coupled with Dr. Charles Watkins' recommendation of the final draft for the Boone Cemetery panel. I want to express my gratitude for Dr. Watkins' consensus approach to the differences of opinion regarding the wording and quantity of panels for the cemetery project. After attending the HPC meetings and listening to letters from Mayor Protem Eddie Tugman, comments from HPC members and others I feel it necessary as this project appears to come to a reconciliation that a correction and clarification is needed. While a hyper-focus has been placed on the issue being the Councill family not wanting their family history presented in a truthful light and to exclude the slavery narrative this was far from correct. My exposure to all of the family representatives has only been that the narrative not contain opinion/conjecture thereby mischaracterizing history. A review of the rewritten Boone Cemetery material (made only after this was addressed with the Town Council) clearly shows many corrections to the opinion and conjecture included in the statements, dates, and grammar presented in the original cemetery panel language. Citizens and descendants' contributions lent to the credibility and accuracy of the project. All the family ever wanted was an objective and more

Communication: Communication (Corrected to Previous Communication) - J. Privott - October 13, 2023 (Public Comments and Responses

accurate presentation. More importantly, many of the opposers to the original wording were not solely concerned about the lack of objectivity in the wording but also deeply concerned about the quantity and style of the panels being intrusive and disrespectful to the cemetery at large. As has been stressed,, this is a place of reverence and dignity.
Again, I want to commend Dr. Watkins' revision of wording and recommendation to reduce the number of panels to one. This meets the concerns I expressed regarding the panels not following best practices of being succinct and not turning the cemetery into a sideshow. In closing, I strongly endorse Dr. Watkins' revision read at the October meeting - I thought it was perfectly executed. The individual names mentioned are key contributors to the establishment of the town and its history. However, the only other one sentence I would add would be something to the effect: In (put year here)the Junaluska Heritage Association placed a marker in honor of all African Americans known to be buried in the cemetery including enslaved and once-enslaved people. This is just a general type of inclusion I would like to see. With this added I feel the cemetery panel is inclusive and fairly represents the history of the cemetery and Boone. QR codes can go into more detail about the history albeit it should read objectively as outlined in the last revisions before Dr. Watkins' final draft. I thank the HPC for understanding that they represent the Town of Boone and own no project that citizens do not have a right to participate in as taxpayers.

Respectfully,
Jill Privott
Boone Resident

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October 12, 2023

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Communication: Communication - R. Triplett Johnson - (Correction to Previous Attachment, Letter Corrected) - October 16, 2023 (Public

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Following is a portion of and attached is the full letter sent to HPC and Boone Town Council written by Mr. Chuck Watkins. This part of his letter includes an excellent example of the short, direct and inclusive text that should be used for this plaque. Nothing further is needed for the cemetery plaque.

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Rebecca Triplett-Johnson and family (A decedent of and representative of our family decedents Hardin-Triplett-Brown-McNeil-Councill ancestors)

Doris Perry Stam

Tracy Councill

Anna Boyce Winkler Phillips

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