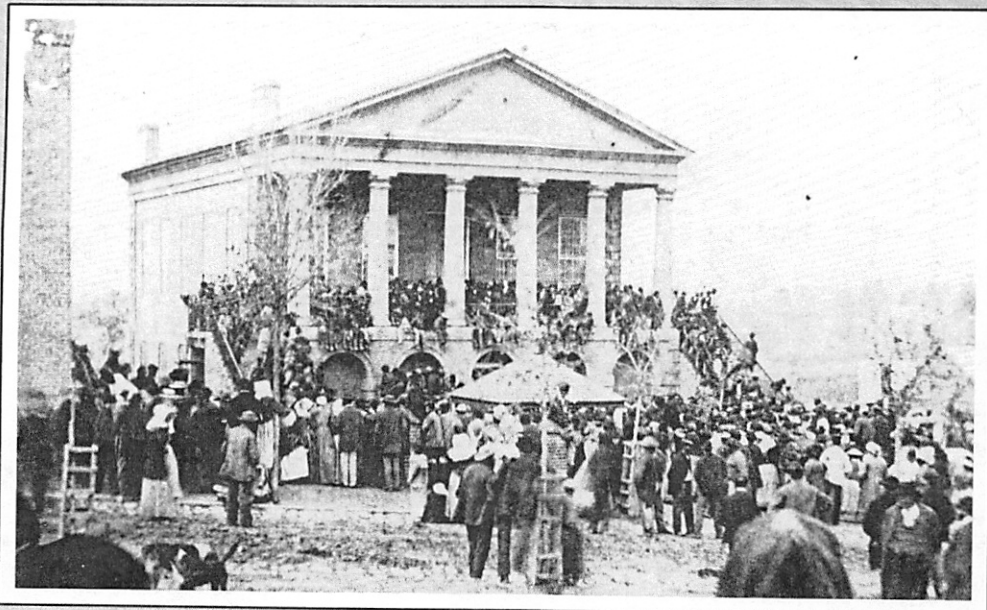


HERITAGE HISTORY OF CHESTER COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA

VOL II

1995



Chester County Court House Built 1852 - Chester, South Carolina

The past is no row of bare facts waiting to be memorized by school children. Nor does it stand in our back yard like an old picket fence slowly and silently rotting. The past is a real world, inhabited by villains and heroes and regular folk passing this way on swift journeys. Their story is our story - the tie that binds each generation to all others.

Bill Moyers

TAYLOR PUBLISHING COMPANY
Dallas, Texas

Sumter Mills Gordon (1873-1948).

William Gordon died on February 19, 1922, and is buried at Bethesda Presbyterian Church. His wife, Susan, died on May 20, 1912, and is also buried at Bethesda. Submitted by: Mrs. Malcolm L. Marion, Jr.

THE SMITH GORDON AND RELATED FAMILIES

My great, great grandfather, Smith Gordon, was born May 5, 1831, in Belfast, Ireland. At the age of 18, he came to the Chester/Fairfield County area with his parents, David Gordon (born about 1790) and Elizabeth (born about 1796) Gordon. Smith married Margaret H. Wilson (born May 14, 1829; died October 11, 1901), who was the daughter of William Wilson (born August 1785; died January 5, 1862) and Margaret Elizabeth McCreight (born August 31, 1802; died January 8, 1871).

Smith served in the Confederate Army in Company 1, Sixth Regiment, South Carolina Infantry. He admirably represented Chester and South Carolina. His records show that he was wounded at Manassas and endured Typhoid Fever. He was one of the fortunates who was able to return to his home and family after the war ended.

Smith and Margaret's son, my great grandfather, David Douglas Gordon, was born September 7, 1856 and died July 23, 1929.

David married Mary Ann Moore (born August 3, 1853; died June 30, 1926), daughter of William A. Moore (born July 9, 1823; died June 18, 1860) and Elizabeth Ann Polly (born October 16, 1828; died June 18, 1855). William and Elizabeth are buried in the Woodward Baptist Church Cemetery.

William Smith Gordon, Sr. (born August 29, 1877; died June 7, 1952) was the son of David and Mary Gordon. He married Amanda McElhenny McCaw (born April 24, 1879; died September 30, 1965). Her parents were John M. McCaw (born November 11, 1832; died March 16, 1916) and Amanda Elizabeth McElhenny (born 1849; died June 21, 1926), daughter of John A. and Mary Margaret of Chester. Will and Hennie (as they were called) lived on Saluda Street in Chester in 1910. Grand Daddy worked with the railroad and met my grandmother on his trips to York County. Their children were Nan Elizabeth Davis, Mary Love Elkins, Jen Mills, John Wylie Gordon, and William

Smith Gordon, Jr. (my father). They also had a daughter, Macy, who died in childhood and an adopted son, Willie. Grand Daddy relocated his family to Columbia after Pacific Mills opened.

I remember visits to Will Gordon's brother, John Gordon, who had a grocery store next to his home in Chester. It was at their home where I first saw a color television!

My father, William Smith Gordon, Jr. (Dub) (born December 7, 1919; died February 3, 1985), married Anna Lea McLemore (born October 9, 1923). Their children are Catherine Elizabeth (born June 13, 1942), married to Errol Barry Stutts, and Ginger Lee (born March 17, 1947), married to Michael Allen Stoudenmire. Cathy's children are Angela Lee Stutts, who married Richard Henry Lagroon and Brandon Gordon Stutts, who married Kimberly Marie Coker. Ginger's children are Kyle Michael Stoudenmire and Jacob Gordon Stoudenmire. My mother, Anna Lee resides in Newberry. My family and my sister's live in Columbia.

I have not been able to find where David and Elizabeth Gordon are buried. Smith Gordon down through William Smith Gordon, Sr. and the Wilsons are all buried in the Concord Presbyterian Church Cemetery. I have fond remembrances of family reunion picnics on the grounds of Concord Church, a special place of quaint beauty and history, where ancestral presence is quietly felt.

While searching the paths of my ancestors through Chester, Blackstock, and Fairfield County, I have come to feel a special bond with the areas. I continue to feel the warmth of the people and the land while finding my roots and climbing my family tree. Submitted by: Cathy Gordon Stutts.

THE GRANT FAMILY HENRY WATERS GRANT, JR.

Before the Revolutionary War, two Grant brothers, James and John (who was born in 1750) came to what is now Chester, SC from Virginia. They were of Scotch Irish descent. From court records in 1798, James Grant sold land on Sandy River and bought land on Jewel's Fork of Sandy River. His wife was named Dorcas. They had two sons, James II and Benjamin, and four daughters, Polly, Phoebe, Sarah, and Tabitha. It is from the children of Benjamin, who was born in 1798,

and Lavinia Williams Grant, and his sister Tabitha who married Rock Grant that most of the Chester Grants are descendants. Hence we distinguish between the family branches by calling them the "Tribe of Benjamin" and the "Founded on the Rock Tribe".

During the American Revolution, James and John Grant were members of Captain Francis Kirkpatrick's Company of Volunteer Horsemen.

To Benjamin and Lavinia were born six sons and three daughters: Captain Benjamin Andrew, James Henry, Caroline, Neeley Marion, Jasper Newton, Gaines, Calhoun McDuffie, Cynthia and Sarah.

When the call to arms came in 1861, two of these brothers, Neely Marion and Jasper Newton, answered the call and served for 4 years.

Jasper Newton, born in 1831, married Frances Pressley and lived on Walker Mill Creek below his brother Neely. They had three sons and three daughters. Washington Wallace, Thomas Newton, Jasper Terry, Etta, Phronie and Alphon (Tid). These three brothers married three Pressley sisters.

Washington Wallace Grant who was born in 1852, married Sara Jane Wilson. They had two daughters and four sons: Addie Dela, Granddaddy Henry Walker, Lonnie Clawson, Paul, Jess, Annie Mae Faust.

The lives of the Grant family have always been closely associated with the church. The first church was organized and built at Armenia in 1843 by James Grant. When Washington and Sarah Jane Grant moved from the Armenia farm to the town of Chester, they moved their letter from the Armenia Methodist Church to Bethel Methodist. Their great-granddaughter, Susan Hasty, is the fifth generation to belong to this church.

Henry Walker, who was born in 1877, married Clara Cordelia Stroud of the Richburg community. She was the daughter of Wade Hampton Stroud and Ovaline Killian Stroud. They lived and farmed in the Rodman community. The land on which the Oakley Hall School stood was donated by Walker and Clara Grant. They had three sons and one daughter; Henry Waters, William Heath, Boyce Stroud and Nancy.

Henry Waters Grant was born on March 22, 1903. He attended Oakley Hall School, Wofford Fitting School and the University of South Carolina. In 1934, he married my mother Myrtle Elizabeth Boyter of Gastonia, NC. For a time they lived with his parents at the homeplace before building a small home

and grocery business of their own. Myrtle spoke of living without electricity and of the beautiful hand painted oil lamps her mother kept on a shelf in the dining room. While living at Rodman they had two children, Helen, born August , 1937 and Henry Waters, who lived only three days. In 1942, the family moved to Saluda Street in Chester.

Helen graduated from Chester High School and Winthrop College, and taught school for thirty two years, retiring in 1994.

In January, 1958, she married Wilson Hasty of Rockingham, NC and a Citadel graduate. She later married Amos Gantt, who was born in Cleveland County, NC. He served for four years in Europe with the 89th Infantry Division during World War II. While serving in Europe he was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery in combat. After the war, he graduated from NC State. He became a manager with Winn Dixie, and later became a Colonia Store manager in Chester. He is presently a Director with Leroy Springs and Co.



Henry Waters Grant, Jr.

We have one daughter, Susan Grant Hasty. Susan was born on April 18, 1959. She graduated with honors from Chester High School. She accepted a scholarship to Converse and graduated in 1981. She is musically gifted in both piano and organ. She taught English at Chester Middle School, was active in church work and civic activities. She married the Rev. Kenneth Joel Kovas of South Bend, Indiana, on June 9, 1990. Ken is the United Methodist Minister in the South Carolina Conference. Just a few days after their wedding, they reported to their first charge in the Walterboro district. While there Susan taught school and graduated with honors from The Citadel with a Masters Degree in Guidance Counseling. They are presently

living at Lake Wylie and serving Good Samaritan United Methodist Church. She is working as a counselor at Webb School in Gastonia. Submitted by: Helen Grant Gantt.

THE ARTHUR PIERCE GRANT FAMILY

Arthur Pierce Grant (10/26-1879-10/25/1973) was the first child of Pierce Grant (4/25/1860-9/16/1931) and Mary A. Darby Grant (1/25/1859-3/24/1892). On January 14, 1903, Arthur married Martha May "Mattie" Elliott (10/26/1884-8/23/1974). This marriage of almost 71 years bore six children: Mary Russell, Arthur Heyward, Annie Cornelia, Clarence Melvin, James Clyde, and Thomas Lindsay Grant.

Mary Russell Grant (5/1/04-10/31/86) was a bookkeeper and lived with her parents in and around Chester, SC all her life. She was not married.

Arthur Heyward Grant (1/19/06-1/25/82) married Elizabeth Stewart Montgomery (7/21/07-1/16/93) on June 7, 1930. Heyward worked for a number of years in the retail grocery business and later at the Hoescht Celanese Plant in Rock Hill, SC. At various times Stewart worked in retail sales. They had two daughters: Betty Stewart and Doris Delia Grant.

Betty Stewart Grant (12/17/31) married Sanford Keith McDonald (7/19/28) on April 11, 1954. they have one son, Heyward Keith McDonald (9/23/57). Sanford was employed by the Health Department for many years. Sanford, Betty and Keith currently operate a large cattle farm in southeastern Chester county.

Doris Delia Grant (4/21/35) married Robert Henry Lindsay, Jr. (9/30/35) on October 11, 1958. Robert is employed by Duke Power Company. They have two sons: David Michael (12/8/60) and Robert Scott Lindsay (10/4/64).

David Michael Lindsay married Pamela Horton on August 1, 1992. Michael is employed by a surveying firm and Pamela by the Piedmont Medical Center in Rock Hill, SC.

Annie Cornelia "Kitty" Grant (12/26/07) married William Gordon Carlton (6/15/02)-12/16/59) on October 12, 1952. Cornelia worked in retail sales and Gordon in mechanical and electrical work. Cornelia has a step-daughter, Ann Smith Carlton (4/12/39) who married Thomas Horace Cromer. They have one son Thomas Horace Cromer, Jr.

Clarence Melvin Grant (1/29/10-3/10/29) died of pleurisy at age 19. He was not married.

James Clyde (Jake) Grant (6/30/13-10/17/94) married Annie Catherine Matthews (11/19/23) on March 19, 1949. They have one daughter, Ada Susan Grant (5/10/58). Jake was a member of the Civilian Conservation Corp, Company 1417, at Rodman, SC, in the 1930s. He was also a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in the European Theater. He retired from the Hoescht Celanese plant in Rock Hill, SC.

Thomas Lindsay Grant (4/12/20-9/26/80) married Mary Elizabeth Proctor (11/5/26) on July 15, 1951. They have one daughter, Janet Elizabeth Grant. Lindsay was a Veteran of the U.S. Army, having been stationed in Alaska during World War II. Later he owned and operated a grocery and service station on Saluda street in Chester.

Janet Elizabeth Grant (2/27/45) married Michael Hope Gentry (6/19/52) on November 12, 1976. They have three daughters: Holly Ryan (12/21/77), Lindsay Hope (2/23/81), and Mikki Elizabeth Gentry (9/13/91). Michael is employed by Springs Industries.

ASA BOYD GRANT AND ANNIE MAE DOVE GRANT

Asa Boyd Grant (3/8/02) is the third and youngest child of Pierce Grant (4/25/1860-9/16/1931) and Anna Jackson Darby (4/16/1869-9/27/1923). On December 23, 1923, he married Annie Mae Dove (1/27/08-6/9/85), the second of 13 children of Sam Dove (12/18/1882-8/31/1963) and Minnie Dye Dove (12/11/1888-2/25/1966).

Mr. Grant was born and still lives in the home initially built by his father in the late 1870s. This early log home forms the core of the present house, which has had extensive renovations. Mr. Grant farmed with his father and acquired the farm and home upon his father's death. Mr. Grant continued to farm and work at other jobs on occasion, but in 1936 and began full-time work in the Springsteen plant of Springs Mills. He continued to farm and worked at other Springs plants in Chester until forced to retire due to ill health in 1962.

Meanwhile, to supplement the family income, Mrs. Grant sold farm produce and dairy products, and exercised her excellent skills in cooking cakes, cookies, pastries, and bread which were sold at the Chester County Club Market and directly to a large customer

case from the early 1930s until her retirement in the early 1980s. Her fame as a cook and caterer was well known through Chester and adjoining counties. With the assistance of Mr. Grant, her two sons and a number of loyal assistants, she catered thousands of wedding receptions, social events, and dinners, and for a number of years catered the weekly luncheons of the Chester Rotary Club.

Of particular note, during World War II thousands of pounds of delicious fruit cake was prepared, sealed in metal cans, and shipped all over the United States and to all theaters where U.S. servicemen were stationed. This writer remembers this annual event very vividly because I believe that I sealed every one of those cans -- manually.

In recognition of her many talents, Mrs. Grant was chosen as woman of the year in Chester County for 1968-69.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant have two sons: Walter Ervin and Marvin Boyd Grant, and two grandsons: Walter and Howard. Submitted by: Walter Ervin Grant.

THE CLARENCE JACKSON GRANT FAMILY

Clarence Jackson Grant (2/24/1885-5/25/1931) was the second son and child of Pierce Grant (4/25/1860-9/16/1931) and Mary A. Darby (1/25/1859-3/24/1892). On August 6, 1903, Clarence married Lillian "Lilly" Elliott (?/1893-12/19/1952), the sister of "Mattie" Elliott. Clarence and "Lilly" had three children: Thelma Lee, who died on May 6, 1905, before her first birthday, Mollie Vernice, and Lillian Elliott Grant.

Mollie Vernice (12/22/05-?) first married Baxter Crenshaw, who died on December 13, 1927. They had one child who died in infancy, and a son, William G. Crenshaw, who died in Florida in May 1992. Baxter was a carpenter's mate in the U.S. Navy and died as a young man of tuberculosis, one of the scourges of the day. Vernice later married Lacy B. Holden. They had two children: Lacy Holden, Jr. was born in 1933 and died in 1987, and Elizabeth Holden, who died in April 1993. Vernice died several years after the birth of Lacy, Jr. but the exact date is not know. Of Vernice's three children, there are nine grandchildren.

Lillian Elliott Grant (12/24/07-11/13/67) married Edmond D. Thomas (1/29/05-6/10/74). They had three children: Margaret,

Patsy Marie, and Edmond David Thomas, II.

Margaret married Raymond Haggard and lives in Concord, NC. Patsy married Burl Helms and lives in Monroe, NC. Edmond II married Joyce Walters and lives in Charlotte, NC. Of Lillian's three children, there are eight grandchildren, ten great grandchildren, and six great, great grandchildren.

Edmond, Sr. was supervisor with the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company (A&P) in Charlotte, NC. Edmond and Lillian are buried at Forest Lawn cemetery in Charlotte, NC.

Clarence was employed by the Coca Cola Company in Chester. He died at the age of 46 of a suspected aneurysm. "Lilly" subsequently married the Reverend Russell T. Porter, a Baptist minister of Tampa, FL. Clarence and "Lilly" are buried in Evergreen Cemetery with their infant daughter, Thelma, their daughter Vernice, her husband, Baxter Crenshaw, and their infant child. Submitted by Walter Ervin Grant.

MARVIN BOYD GRANT AND JACQUELINE SMITH HUDSON

Marvin Boyd Grant (3/1/42), the younger son of Asa Boyd Grant (3/8/02) and Annie Mae Dove Grant (1/27/08-6/9/85) married Jacqueline (Jackie) Smith Hudson daughter of Robert Edgar Hudson (1/13/10-3/12/73) and Janie Sue Brakefield Hudson (5/10/14 - 9/17/89) on September 20, 1965 at Armenia Methodist church in Chester County where they have been life long members.

Marvin and Jackie graduated from Chester high School in 1960 and 1962, respectively. Marvin attended Clemson University and subsequently served a 2 year tour in the U.S. Army at Ft. Lewis, WA, Dugway Proving Grounds, UT and also in Okinawa. In 1966, he entered the Charleston Naval Shipyard Apprentice Program in Charleston, SC and moved steadily upward to become a Production Superintendent of the Marine Machine Shop during which time he received numerous commendations including the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. He retired in 1994 with the imminent closing of the shipyard from the position of Project Superintendent.

He and Jackie enjoy traveling and motorcycle dirt riding with Marvin active in volunteering time to the motorcycle trails in the Frances Marion National Forest. They re-

side in Goose Creek. Submitted by: Walter Ervin Grant.



The Boyd Grant Family. Seated: Ervin, Boyd, Annie Mae, Marvin. Standing: (From left) Helen, Walter, Howard, Jacqueline.

PIERCE GRANT AND HIS DESCENDANTS

Pierce Grant (4/25/1860-9/16/1931) was the sixth of eight children born to Neely Marion Grant (10/29/1826-9/10/1907) and Caroline Pressley (5/4/1829-3/13/1892). Pierce Grant was married twice, first to Mary A. "Molly" Darby (1/25/1859-3/24/1892), the daughter of Zadok Darby (10/16/1821-8/27/1896) and Nancy T. Darby (12/18/1831-6/13/1912). Of this union, there were three children: Arthur Pierce, Clarence Jackson, and Nannie Ruth Grant.

Arthur Pierce Grant (10/26/1879-10/25/1973) married Martha May "Mattie" Elliot (10/26/1884-8/23/1974) on January 14, 1903.

This marriage of almost 71 years bore six children: Mary Russell, Arthur Heyward, Annie Cornelia, Clarence Melvin, James Clyde, and Thomas Lindsay Grant.

Clarence Jackson Grant (2/24/1885-5/25/1931) was married to Lillian "Lilly" Elliott, the sister of "Mattie" Elliott Grant. (After Clarence died of an apparent heart aneurysm, "Lilly" married the Reverend R. T. Porter, a Baptist minister of Tampa, FL.) Clarence and "Lilly" are buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Chester.

Nannie Ruth Grant (6/24/1890-9/26/1918) was married to James Chalmers Lee, Sr. (10/30/1891-6/25/1966) on December 25, 1913. From this marriage there was one son, James Chalmers "J.C." Lee, Jr. (12/13/15-12/31/82). After Ruth's early demise, Chalmers Sr. married Joanna Grant, the daughter of Neely Marion Grant (10/29/1826-9/10/1907) and Mary Jane Hohen (8/28/1874-11/12/1946).

James Chalmers Lee, Jr. married Nora Wade (6/20/1918). There were no children. For many years J.C. owned and operated an independent auto repair shop on Saluda Street in Chester.

Pierce Grant's second wife was Anna Jackson Darby (4/16/1869-9/27/1923), the sister of his first wife, Mary A. Darby. They also had three children: an infant son, who died in 1897, Annie Estill, and Asa Boyd Grant.

Annie Estill Grant (6/15/1898-9/10/1946) was married to Paul Lee (6/11/1896-1/6/1987). The marriage ended in divorce. Annie is buried in Armenia cemetery beside her parents.

Asa Boyd Grant (3/8/02) married Annie Mae Dove (1/27/08-6/9/85) on December 23, 1923. There are two sons: Walter Ervin Grant (6/12/29) and Marvin Boyd Grant (3/1/42).

Pierce Grant was a farmer all his life. His farm was located 2 miles south of Armenia Church on Armenia road. On this land he built a log house and other farm buildings about the time he married Mary Darby. Here all of his children were born and raised.

The house was enlarged a number of times and my Grandfather remained there all his days. Upon his death, the farm was acquired by my father, Asa Boyd Grant, who still lives there in his ninety-third year. The original logs that Grandfather placed in the house are still visible, and his original log barn, which was built without the use of nails, is still in use today, although it now has a noticeable list after more than 100 years of continuous use. Pierce Grant and his wives Mary and Anna are buried just inside the gate of the cemetery at Armenia Methodist Church, where he was a life long member. Submitted by: Walter Ervin Grant.

WALTER ERVIN GRANT AND MATTIE HELEN ANTHONY GRANT

Walter Ervin Grant (6/12/29) is the elder son of Asa Boyd Grant (3/8/02) and Annie Mae Dove Grant (1/27/08-6/9/85). On May 22, 1954 he married Mattie Helen Anthony (10/24/25) in the First Baptist Church of Spartanburg, SC. Helen is the daughter of Paul Combee Anthony Sr. (3/28/1896-10/16/1970) and Bertie Earle Poole Anthony (8/1/1900). They have two sons: Walter Anthony Grant, born 6/8/56, in Annapolis, MD

and Howard Ethan Grant, born 2/20/59 in Dayton, OH.

Ervin graduated from Chester High School in 1945, received a B.S. degree in chemistry from Wofford College in 1948 and an M.S. degree in chemistry from Clemson University in 1951. He is also a 1975 graduate of the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. He was first employed by the U.S. Navy in Annapolis, MD in 1951, by the U.S. Air Force at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, near Dayton, OH in 1958, and by the Defense Intelligence Agency at Washington, DC in 1963. He retired in 1993 after 42 years of continuous government service, during which time he received numerous awards, including the Director's highest award for Exceptional Civilian Service.

Helen graduated from Spartanburg High School in 1942 and Cecil's Business College in 1943. She was employed for a number of years as a bookkeeper for Western Union in Spartanburg and later by several firms in Annapolis, MD. After the birth of their children she became a devoted mother and homemaker.



The Walter Ervin Grant Family. Seated: Ervin and Helen. Standing: Howard and Walter.

Walter Anthony Grant married Leslie Ann Blanton (3/15/58) on October 21, 1989 in the church of the Redeemer in Mesa, AZ.

Leslie is the daughter of Charles R. and Carol Blanton of Mesa. They have two children; Calvin Boyd (1/16/92) and Bethany Marie (8/12/93). Walter graduated from Woodson High School in Fairfax, VA, in 1974, received a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1978, and an M.S. degree from Georgia Tech in electrical engineering in 1979. He has been employed in research and development by various facilities of the Motorola Corporation in or near Mesa since 1980.

Howard Ethan Grant graduated from

Woodson High School in Fairfax, VA in 1977, received a B.A. degree in business administration from Old Dominion University in 1981, and a B.A. degree in journalism from the University of Maryland in 1984.

He is currently employed by the city of Anaheim, CA.

Ervin and Helen reside in Annadale, VA. Submitted by: Walter Ervin Grant.

THE GREGORY FAMILY FROM COLONIAL TIMES

Isaac Gregory of Scotland landed in Virginia about 1658 and may have been the first Gregory "off the boat".

Tradition is that Roger Gregory was husband of Mildred Washington, sister of George Washington's father, Augustine Washington.

Mildred Washington Gregory owned in 1726 Hunting Creek Plantation which she sold to Augustine. Today it is known as Mount Vernon. Roger Gregory is listed in the brochure at Mount Vernon.

The records of King and Queen County Virginia were destroyed during the Civil War and positive documentation is missing.

Issac Gregory married Alse Gerard of the Tidewater section of Virginia. The Gerard family intermarried with the Washington family.

Issac Gregory with his wife Alse and children moved to Brown's Creek Union District (later South Carolina). Issac received a 200 acre Land Grant from Governor William Tryon recorded on 26 October 1767. He received a 200 acre Royal Land Grant and still another 200 acre Grant located on the south sides of Broad River and Brown's Creek in Union District.

Issac and all six of his sons participated in the American Revolution 1781-1788. Issac died in March 1797. Gerard Gregory, born (1763-1803) was the youngest son of Issac and Alse. His wife was Freelove Gregory who died about 1828. Their son Benjamin J. Gregory, Esquire (1786, died 7 June 1853). Benjamine J. married Eliabeth Crosby Jeter 11 June 1811 and assumed the Jeter family wealth. One of their nine sons and one daughter was Benjamin Franklin Gregory, born 1819 died 1877. He married Leah Wilks (born 1822, died 1879) of Chester county, SC. Benjamin F. lost everything following the War Between the States and died, a poor man. Benjamin's son