

Warren County, North Carolina Minutes to the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Volume II 1787-1792 2000
Warren County, North Carolina Minutes to the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Volume III 1793-1796 2000
Warren County, North Carolina Minutes to the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Volume IV 1797-1800 2001
Warren County, North Carolina Minutes to the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Volume V 1801-1805 2000
Eight Generations After Thomas Cross Christmas (1690-1769)
of Hanover County, Virginia 2000

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“Court minutes are certainly some of the most under appreciated yet revealing public records a researcher can use. No other record gives us a slice of life across all levels of society like the minutes of the county courts. It's all here -- from boundary disputes to family disputes, from trials for murder to trails for bad debts -- and co-mingled with all the other records that give a glimpse of life in the old days. Yet reading these court minutes is a tedious task, for they are almost never indexed and do not always follow a logical sequence. Ginger Christmas-Beattie has done researchers a great favor by transcribing these minutes and providing a thorough index, thereby eliminating all the pain and leaving only the gain.”

David Gammon

Former Book Review Editor for the North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal, editor and compiler of Eastern North Carolina Families, Volume I (collection of genealogies) and compiler and abstractor of more than forty volumes of county records

“Your books are wonderful. They will be a great help in solving some of my research mysteries. Thank you for your hard work.”

Barbara Walker Winge, Retired

Book Reviewer for the Society of Professional Genealogists, Member of D.A.R., Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, Confederate Salt Works Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

“This book, with its full-name index, should be very helpful to Warren County researchers.”

North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal Book Review, Vol. XXV, No. 4 Nov. 1999

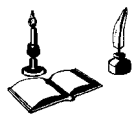
"The first two volumes of the Warren Co., NC Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions provide a wide range of information and are especially user friendly with their FULL name index. These are records which are often overlooked or passed over because of the difficulty and time required to pour over microfilmed copies. Ginger has done the work for you in these easy to read printed volumes.

A "must have" for anyone seriously researching families in Warren County. Thanks, Ginger!"

Linda Shields

“In transcribing the Warren County Court Minutes, Ginger Christmas-Beattie has added tremendously to the original source material available for Warren County researchers.”

Nola Duffy

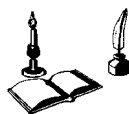


Ancestral Tracks

Warren County, North Carolina Minutes to the
Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Volume I, 1780-1786

Warren County, North Carolina
Minutes to the
Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Volume I
1780-1786

By Ginger L. Christmas-Beattie



Ancestral Tracks
2000

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Dedication:

This book is dedicated to Mary “Lib” Taylor of Norlina, North Carolina for her many hours of Surname editing on this book. I can't say enough about her help. Mary “Lib” was born and bred in Warren County with all her roots in that County. She tirelessly serves as a contact person / resource person to help people that get referred to her from the Warren County Courthouse! She is always doing family group sheets on Warren County families to build her file, and always seems to have at least a little something on any family you ask her about.

Statement from Becky Dozier, David Gammon and Ginger.

~On the Petition of William Park setting forth that he did on the twenty-second day of July, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, undertake, to wit, a Courthouse prison and for the sum of four thousand eight hundred and forty-nine pounds, current money at a time when money was at the depreciation of about twenty for one, and as we now believe that the depreciation of money is much greater, by which means there is a probability of his being much injured, he therefore humbly recommended that the General Assembly would authorize the Court of Warren to lay such Tax as may compensate for such depreciation. Ordered that the Clerk of the Court notify the same to the General Assembly by sending a copy of the above order.

~Court House Tax, six pence to be added to the one shilling Tax, laid by act of assembly total one shilling six pence.

~Tax for wounded officers and solders widows at six pence.

~John Marshall, Tabitha Marshall, and William Marshall came into Court and made choice of Tabitha Marshall, their mother, their Guardian, who with William White, John Wortham, and Dixon Marshall, her securities, executed a bond for that purpose, also the Court doth appoint the said Tabitha Marshall, Guardian to Charles Marshall, Matthew Marshall, and Peggy Marshall, orphans of John Marshall, deceased, who with the aforesaid securities executed a bond for that purpose.

~It appearing to the Court that Thomas Machen, late Clerk of Warren County, is dead by which ordinance the said office became vacant the Court proceeded to the choice of a Clerk and Marmaduke Johnson was unanimously chosen as Clerk and entered into bond with Benjamin Kimball and Samuel Thompson, his securities in the sum prescribed by law and took the oath of allegiance and office and entered into the execution of the same.

~John Macon, Esquire, came into Court and made oath that James Ransom made and delivered, on the twenty-fifth day of December 1778, to his several children, herein after mentioned as follows, to his daughter Betty Ransom one Negro girl named Hannah, to his son Seymour Ransom one Negro boy named Caesar, to his daughter Abigail Sugars Ransom one Negro girl named Penny, and to his daughter Druscilla Ransom one Negro girl named Jenny and on motion the same is ordered to be recorded.

~Ordered that it be recommended to the General Assembly that Mary Hudson, widow of James Hudson, who died in the country's service leaving the said widow and three children in depressing circumstances, be allowed twenty pounds apiece, for their support.

~Nathaniel Baxter came into Court and recorded his mark as follows, on under half crop in the right ear and a crop and two slits in the left.

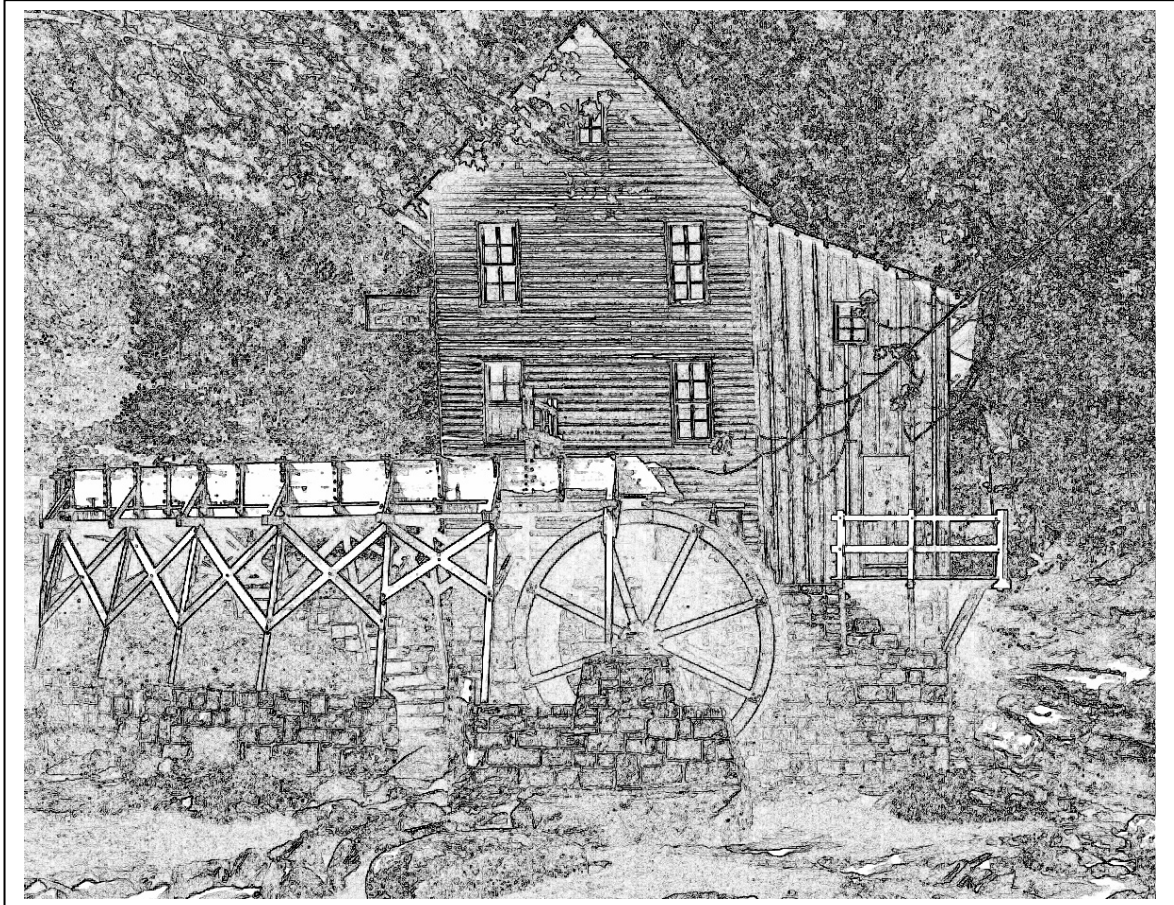
~Ordered that Shadrack Lambert, aged eight years last September, be bound to Lewis Patrick, until he attain the age of twenty-one years, his said Master to learn him to read and write and the business of a Planter.

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Water Grist Mill



Foreword:

The words and signatures of our forbearers who lived in Colonial America are found in remote archives and now on microfilm. Every genealogist's dream is to find these references in printed, easy to access form. Ginger L. Christmas-Beattie encountered the Court Records of Warren County, North Carolina on microfilm and recognized the need to make these fact-rich records more available.

The Minutes Book is a guide to the Court Records. Here are glimpses into everyday lives of early residents of the area. The Sheriff, Wyatt Hawkins, filed papers on February 13, 1783, objecting to the use of his house as the only place of confinement of debtors and others. The lists, of many men called to Jury duty, gives names and dates of when they resided in Warren County.

Bute County was the earliest designation for this area in the north central part of North Carolina. The name Franklin County was bestowed on that same area in 1778; from that Warren County was broken out in 1779. Later, in 1781 Vance County was also formed from the parent County.

Ginger L. Christmas-Beattie began her research into her antecedents as a young mother in the 1970's. She edited, and issued a Christmas Family Newsletter for four years, 1981-1985. This effort brought about a network of family members, and widened the need for finding primary sources. After consulting the Court records for personal research and finding it to be such a rich resource, Ginger decided to copy the minute's book with the idea of indexing and printing the information.

In these volumes, fully indexed, a researcher can find persons by name, or peruse the subjects treated to learn more about the era. These colonists lived lives with order imposed upon them by the crown, located so far away. Those rules of order and government eventually gave those same people and their descendants the pattern for a new, self-government, and the founding of a new country. The difficulties of existence in a new untamed environment also fitted them for the changes soon to come.

The Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions 1780-1786 found in this, Volume I of the series. Volume II will contain 1787-1792, Volume III will contain 1793-1796, Volume IV will contain 1797-1800, and Volume V contains 1801-1805. The copy is a verbatim transcription of the microfilm of the originals, found in North Carolina State Archives.

Many thanks is conveyed to Mary Lib Taylor of Norlina, North Carolina for her help in interpretation of names and hard to read information.

An earlier printed work, on Bute County, North Carolina Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Session, was done by Brent Holcomb.

Judith Goldmann

Preface:

After many years of research in the North Carolina area, I have found that printed records are rare and the microfilmed records are poor at best. After many years of transcribing these records for my personal

use I have begun to feel the need to open this information up to a wider reading community. As a Genealogist for nearly 30 years, I can appreciate the need for fully transcribed microfilm of the original Court records. Genealogy is the gathering of family records through many sources. I am submitting this publication in good faith with many years of experience in genealogy, as complete and as close to the original Court documents as humanly possible. The page numbers within this publication matches the original microfilm archive page numbers.

Even with the utmost care and meticulous practices, many of the original films and documents are poor in quality with varying degrees of penmanship legibility. Although we have exhaustive hours transcribing old documents and cross checking information, errors and omissions are certain to be found.

Minutes to the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions is the lowest Court of record in the Warren County, North Carolina area. This Court met every three months throughout the year. From a researcher's point of view the names of more people will appear here more than any other single source of records and some names will only appear here.

There are: Deeds that are proved and recorded: ~Randolph Hazelwood and Ann, his wife, acknowledged a Deed of gift to Sarah Hazelwood, their daughter, at whose motion the same was ordered to be recorded; Administration of wills that are presented and proved: ~The Last Will and Testament of Joseph Harris, deceased, was presented in Court and proved by the oaths of Stephen Marshall and Samuel Marshall, witness thereto, Joel Harris and Moses Harris, Executors therein named, qualified accordingly to who Letters Testamentary are granted; Intestate records: ~Ordered that James Paine, Esquire, Thomas Miller, and William Noyal Norsworthy make division of the Estate of Henry Shearin, deceased, according to the Nuncupative will of the said deceased, and make return thereof to the next Court; The construction of the Courthouse, County roads and Bridges across waterways: ~Ordered that William Johnson, Esquire, clear the land for the Courthouse, prison, and common, also the street adjoining the same, and to bring in his account to the Court for performance thereof. ~Wyatt Hawkins, Sheriff, came into Court and objected to his own house, as sufficient jail their being no other place as a confinement for debtors and others. ~Ordered that John Scott and Thomas Christmas be appointed to contract with proper persons to grub and clear the public lots for the Courthouse and report the same to the next Court; The licensing of taverns and eating houses: ~Ordered that James Gregory have leave to keep an Ordinary at his house in Warren County, who entered into and executed a bond with Edmond Kerney, his security, for the same.; Tax officials and their Districts among other things: Davis Nicholson, being appointed Collector in Capt Clanton's District, entered into and executed a bond for that purpose with Young Mc Lemore and James Nicholson his securities.