

# The Carolinas Genealogical Society

# Bulletin

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**Cover Picture:** T. P. Dillon & Son Funeral Home in Monroe, North Carolina.

This funeral home was extremely sought out for use and was named frequently on death certificates including those of residents of the County Home. It was reported in *The Monroe Journal* on Friday, February 8, 1918, that –Monroe will soon have an ambulance, Mr. T. P. Dillon having purchased a combination ambulance and hearse to be used in connection with his undertaking business.

# Union County Home (a.k.a. Poor House)

Researched and Submitted by Barbara W. Moore

Union County government has operated several county homes (a.k.a. poor houses) since it was organized in 1842. This can be proven by the census of 1850 that listed inmates living in the poor house. The number of County Homes and their locations have not been sufficiently proven, but I did see additional locations mentioned. Through earlier conversations with other historians and genealogists, I have heard there were possibly four county homes, but this is a research question for a future *CGS Bulletin*.

Because of the months that would be required to research to find proof of all poor houses that have served Union County, I determined that my objective this summer would be to focus on providing the names of persons whose remains are buried in the county-owned cemetery. This cemetery was once accessed by traveling a road to the left side of the home (if you are facing the Home from New Town Road) to an area designated to be the County Home Cemetery. Access to the cemetery is now from Rocky River Road. Of course, this project also required research to determine when the last county home began its operation.

The exact date of the opening of the last county home has always been sketchy and confused. I used the following information to conclude the opening date was in October or November of the year 1911.

In September 1910, a picture of the Lancaster Avenue County home was published in *The Monroe Journal* with the following statement printed beneath the picture: "County Home – Located at Monroe, but will be moved soon west of the city to more homelike surroundings, few miles out in the country."<sup>1</sup>

I also researched the annual statements of Accounts Audited and Allowed by the Board of Commissioners of Union County, N.C. One is for the Fiscal Year Ending November 30, 1911, and the other ending November 30, 1912.<sup>2</sup> I learned from the Annual Statements many interesting facts, but I will only mention a few relating to the new County Home:

In December 1910, the County contracted with Adams and Armfield to search the title for the site of the new County Home, which costs \$5.00; R. W. Elliot was paid \$2 for preparing a plat; and *The Monroe Journal* was paid \$2.50 for notice of sale of County Home.

The following month, the county paid F. H. Wolfe \$2,977.04, the balance owed for the site for the new County Home.

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<sup>1</sup> *Chronicling America Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress, The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, September 27, 1910, page 6.

<sup>2</sup> *The Monroe Journal – Chronicling America Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress.*

On January 2, 1911, the county commissioners awarded the contract for the new county home buildings to be erected on the farm three miles west of town to Mr. G. M. Tucker, the lowest bidder. The contract for four buildings, including plumbing and heating plant was \$20,344.60. It was stated the plan is an ideal one and the home will be second to none other in the state. There will be a main building for the keeper and the white inmates, a building for the colored, an infirmary, and an asylum. The first two will be two stories, the others one story, all steam heated.<sup>3</sup>

The County contracted with Hook & Rogers for plans and specifications and in February 1911 paid the firm \$710.48.

It was the action taken by the Board of Commissioners in April 1911 that indicates construction work promptly began. It was during April that the County paid, in three unequal payments, \$182.80 for plans, *etc.*, for the new county home; G. M. Tucker (contractor) partial payment in the amount of \$3,166 for building the new county home; and H. T. Baucom \$16.20 for expenses incurred while looking after building of the new home. In May, G. M. Tucker was paid \$3,000; and Hook & Rogers, account superintendent of the new county home, was paid \$100. Between May and November, contractor G. M. Tucker was paid an additional \$10,973.75, with the last check being marked as final payment. During the period from July through November 1911, a \$2,095 payment was made to A. R. Willman Company, plumbing contractor, and \$1,795.20 was paid to American Machine and Manufacturing Company, heating contractor.

A particularly interesting note to me was that in September 1911 a barn at the County Home was moved from Lancaster Avenue to its new home on New Town Road by D. C. Coan and Q.R. Long who rebuilt it for the sum of \$97.50.

In December 1911, American Machine Company received its final payment of \$586.86, and Hooks & Rogers was paid \$150 for plans, specifications, details, and Superintendent of County Home Building.

A. R. Wellman & Company received its final payment of \$619.80 in June 1912 for plumbing and for 450 feet of pipe.

Other expenditures in the annual statements were related more to the day-to-day costs and expenditures of County Home operation including mention of purchasing coffins and for digging graves but rarely were names mentioned of the deceased.

The following article, dated September 26, 1911, along with the above published expenditures, will provide researchers with information to derive a definitive construction

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<sup>3</sup> Chronicling America Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress: The Monroe Journal (Monroe, North Carolina) Tuesday, January 3, 1911, page 1.



completion date, and it certainly provides a detailed description of the County Home and its buildings:

#### Union County's Home for Aged and Infirm – Main Building

The new county home of Union County is perhaps the most complete and up-to-date institution of its kind in North Carolina. The home is situated two and a half miles west of Monroe, on the Waxhaw Road, a little over halfway between Monroe and the famous Tindle place. The farm, which was purchased from Mr. F. H. Wolfe, comprises 214 acres, and the home grounds contain four or five acres. Walks and drives have been laid out by a landscape gardener and the whole appearance, when a little time has elapsed, will be one of beauty. The county commissioners have worked tirelessly in seeing that everything should be done properly and took great pains in deciding upon plans. Before adopting plans, they visited several modern institutions of the kind and exercised long and painstaking care in making their selections. The Journal desires to congratulate them upon the work they have done and it will without doubt meet the hearty approval of the people of the county. By selling the old property lying in town, the cost of the new home will be met, and by adopting modern plans and putting up new buildings and at the same time securing sufficient farming lands, the work of caring for our unfortunate ones will be easier, more complete, and should be cheaper. If Charles Dickens, who wrote one of the most famous novels to ridicule and so reform the work-house system of England, could rise from the dead and view an institution like this designed for the unfortunate of the community, he would have a wonderful example of how far civilization and philanthropy have advanced in these hundred years.

The contract for the building was let to Mr. G. M. Tucker and he has done a job that is a credit to himself, to the commissioners who employed him, and to the people of this good county. The writer of this article has had occasion to examine buildings put up for the State at some institutions and he unhesitatingly says that the new county home building of Union County in arrangement, design, workmanship and material, far surpasses some of them. This does not mean that any unnecessary finery has been put on the home, but that in its simple design, careful workmanship, and the quality of material, is all that could be required, and when most is considered, highly superior. Nothing but honest work throughout could accomplish such results.

There are four buildings, and they set back from the road some three hundred feet. They are of white unit brick, with cement trimmings, steps and porch floors. The style of architecture is colonial, simple and pretty. The main building is of course most prominent as it faces the road. It is 112 feet long and 34 feet deep, with a wing in the rear 60 x 30. To the rear of it is the

building for the colored inmates, situated some seventy feet back. It is 60 x 30, has four wards, baths, closets, heating, *etc.*, like the white building. In the right of the centre (sic) of the two buildings is the building designed for the insane who may from time to time be in the county's care. It has four small wards, two bath rooms, a nurse's room, and all the heating fixtures are arranged in the ceiling far out of reach of the unfortunate inmates. Opposite this building to the left of the entire is the infirmary. It has four wards, nurse's room, baths, *etc.*, with an incinerary (sic) in the rear for the burning for all dangerous on infected articles.

Going back to the main building, it is of interest to describe it more in detail. The main entrance is in the centre (sic) and opens into a lobby or reception room. On each end of the building from this point are six wards, one set for the men, and one for the women. Each has its own baths, tub and shower, closets, *etc.* This is duplicated upstairs. From the central lobby the stairs rise, and from the head of this stairs the keeper's office appears in front, and his living rooms, kitchin (sic), and dining rooms, which are in the ell. When his offices are closed, the inmates cannot pass from one end of the building to the other, but may use the doors in the ends of the building.

In the first floor of the ell is a large dining room for the whites, and in the rear, one for the colored, also the kitchin (sic). The colored inmates come from their building in the rear without coming in contact with the whites at all. In the basement are the boilers, and a laundry 30 x 35, cement floor. The kitchen floor is of reinforced concrete.

The kitchin (sic), boiler room, and all places where fire will be used are shut off by a solid brick wall from the sleeping apartments of the inmates, the one door between being metal covered.

The whole bunch of buildings will be heated from steam from the basement of the main building. The electric lights will be supplied by a generator run by a gasoline engine, and water will be supplied from a well on the premises, forced by the same engine. The rooms are all large and airy, the ventilation perfect. The rooms are plastered, with high wainscoting, painted in mission, and the ceiling painted in old ivory. The inmates of these buildings will not be housed in dungeons, but will have all the abundance of God's good light and air and warmth; and they will have cleanliness which is next to Godliness and they will have sufficient food. Every creature ever born on the earth is entitled to three things, for they are the free gifts of God. All the buildings and furnishing are designed to give them these, and who will say



that they should not have them because they have the money with which to pay!<sup>4</sup>

An article written in *The Monroe Journal* in July 1912 includes that “the old county home building near the graded school is being renovated preparatory for the use by the city high school. Partitions are being removed, the walls repaired and painted and other necessary work putting it in suitable shape to make a fine place for a high school.”<sup>5</sup>

Some of the confusion on the date of occupancy could be compounded by the fact that the Board of County Commissioners advertised to receive bids on Monday, February 2, 1914, for the construction of a sewer system and a sewage disposal plant with necessary appurtenances for the Union County Home. Plans were filed for review at the Register of Deeds office and in the office of H. B. Havelly, Engineer, Monroe, N.C. In August 1914, J. T. Shute was paid \$850 for installing sewer system at County Home. Before a sewer system was constructed, Alex Blount was paid 75 cents for sanitary work in 1911 and 1912.<sup>6</sup> (I did not search in Annual Statements of future years to determine if he continued with this work.) The beautiful grounds of the County Home can be contributed to Leigh Colyor, who designed plans of ornamental grounds for county home, staking out drive, *etc.*, and was paid \$100.<sup>7</sup>

However, toward the end of this research, I located the below article, first printed in the *Waxhaw Enterprise*, which confirms my conclusion of occupancy in 1911:

Mr. W.T. Stewart, keeper of the county home, has moved with his family and inmates into their elegant new quarters, located 3 miles northwest of Monroe. This new county home is modern in every respect and is doubtless unsurpassed in beauty and accommodations by any county home in the state. It has a splendid campus and a commodious building, and resembles in appearance a college and campus. In this home now are 31 inmates.

Mr. Stewart has had charge of the home for twelve years and has made a most capable and worthy official in this capacity. The inmates all like him. He has arranged to have everything home-like, so that the unfortunates who have sought refuge there find it a real home instead of a misnamed prison. With a new home, new surroundings and a new farm it will yet be more pleasant for those *whom fickle* fortune may send hither. It is a pleasure for us to state that for the past twelve years the county home has been kept

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<sup>4</sup> Chronicing America Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress, *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, September 26, 1911, page 3.

<sup>5</sup> Chronicing America Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress, *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Tuesday, July 16, 1912, p. 5.

<sup>6</sup> Chronicing America Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress, *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, February 6, 1912, p.2.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

in the right spirit. While it has been managed economically, no pains have been spared to make it comfortable and pleasant for the inmates. We commend Mr. Stewart on the valuable service he has rendered this county. (The Journal adds its endorsement to the above, with the understanding that Mr. Stewart's good wife gets her share of the praise.)<sup>8</sup>

A second reason for confusion of occupancy could be the fact the main building burned in 1929. Thankfully, the fire did not reach the three adjacent buildings of the County Home: the second housing unit, four-room asylum, and infirmary.

On Saturday night, January 12, 1929, the multi-story, main building of the Union County home, consisting of 25 rooms<sup>9</sup>, burned due to a fire, which originated in the boiler room, spreading rapidly throughout the building trapping the sick and aged inmates in their beds. The main building was the only one destroyed by fire.

With neighbors being unable to extinguish the fire, an appeal for help was sent to the Monroe Fire Department. When the firemen arrived, the building was engulfed in flames and smoke. The men entered, without concern for their safety, and carried the 20 inmates through falling embers to safety. James Starnes, Superintendent, who was in bed with influenza, and his son, who was in bed sick with pneumonia, were both carried to safety; most of the 20 inmates also suffered from influenza.

The ambulances followed the firemen from Monroe and brought the injured to Ellen Fitzgerald Hospital although some of the healthier individuals were housed with some of the neighbors of the community. The loss was estimated to be \$100,000.<sup>10</sup>

In a regular session of May 6, 1929, the Board of Commissioners, met to award the contract for the building of the County Home. After reviewing all bids received and reading all quotes into the minutes, action was taken to award the General Contract to G. M. Tucker & Co., the contractor who built the 1911 structure, at a price of \$53,350.00; the heating and plumbing contracts were awarded to W.O. Rawles -- at the bid price of \$7,257.24 for plumbing and at the bid price of \$5,074.00 for heating.<sup>11</sup>

As an interruption to the main subject of this article and to provide information to help with research, I want to interject that as early as 1908 there were restrictions and regulations that all inmates were required to meet to qualify for admittance into the County Home. These were very similar to the current regulations for qualifying for Medicaid assistance for nursing home care. The regulations detailed that every individual applying for admission to the County

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<sup>8</sup> Chronicling America Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress; *The Monroe Journal*, Monroe, North Carolina, Tuesday, October 31, 1911.

<sup>9</sup> Unnamed newspaper column, Heritage Room file, Monroe, North Carolina, January 14, 1929, p.1, column 7.

<sup>10</sup> Asheville Citizen Times (Asheville, North Carolina) Sunday, January 13, 1929, p. 1.

<sup>11</sup> Union County Board of Commissioners, Union County Government Center, Monroe, NC, Docket 6 – 1917-1934, p. 412.



Home of Union County must make application in writing and in form, stating his name, age, duration of his citizenship in the county, family history, the cause of his present condition of poverty, or helpless condition. The individual also had to give a list of his personal property and this must be delivered to the home at the same time the person was admitted. If real estate was owned, this property had to be deeded to the county to be used in caring for the applicant.<sup>12</sup>

North Carolina Legislature adopted a law that effective 1913 all death certificates had to be filed in the Office of the Register of Deeds. Although, there could be individuals buried in the County Home between 1911 and 1913, only death certificates starting in 1913 are recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds. There were also some inmates who lived in the County Home whose families buried their loved ones in locations other than the County Home Cemetery. I have tried not to include those in the following listing.

On August 6, 1969, the Board of Commissioners was told by Pete Jenkins, County Manager, that the county would be out of the county home business within 60-90 days. The Board of Commissioners had discussed for several years the need to close the County Home because of its high cost of operation and maintenance. By that date, eight residents had been placed and arrangements made to place 13 of the remaining 17 residents by the end of August. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, it was announced that the last patient has been removed from the county home and the personal property of the home will be sold at public auction on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Afterwards the buildings remained vacant. In July of 1971, the Union County Commissioners sold 12.9 acres of the county home property along with the buildings to Mr. and Mr. Henry F. Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy F. Moore to operate an assisted living home. The remainder of the county home property was sold at public auction in 1971.

The Moores [no relation to this author] named their facility Elizabethan Gardens and they have continued to operate it under that name. The center building at Elizabethan Gardens (Assisted Living Center), 1812 New Town Road, was slightly renovated with new windows and an awning but it is the 1929 building that replaced the burned structure.

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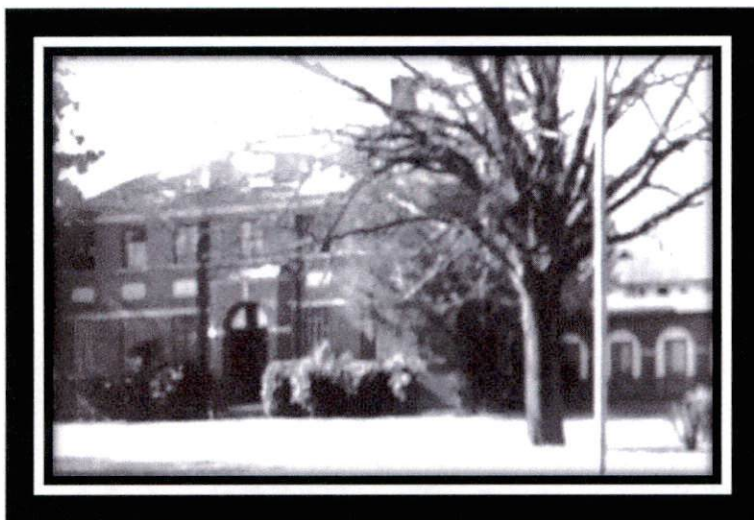
<sup>12</sup> *Chronicling America Historic American Newspapers, Library of Congress; The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, February 25, 1908, page 3.



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*Union County Home – 1911-1929*

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*County Home – 1929 to 1969*

*[Closed its operation]*

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*Elizabethan Gardens – 1971-2022*

*(Former county home building; now an Assisted Living Center)*

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1911 dormitory built at rear of main building. [It is not in use. Private Property. No trespassing] Photo thanks to county staff.

Old farm building remaining on original county home property. Private Property. No Trespassing. Photo thanks to County staff.



Remains of large barn on old County Home property. Private Property. No Trespassing. Picture thanks of county staff.



## Burials at the Union County Home Cemetery

Researched and submitted by Barbara W. Moore

The 1911-1969 Union County Home, 200 acre-plus-site, provided a private, quiet cemetery for those residents who did not have another place to be buried. However, headstones were not available unless privately purchased. The graves were marked with slate stones removed from the farmland. There were only two graves that were known to be marked with tombstones. One was Sallie E. Griffin – June 6, 1850 – December 16, 1928; the other is Margarett Davis – May 5, 1851 – April 24, 1923.<sup>13</sup>

On the reverse side of picture of William Liles is a list of names along with death dates. The names have been typed and labeled as persons buried in the County Home. Death Certificates did not prove this to be accurate for most of the individuals, but search will continue.

All members of the genealogy and history community as well as the residents of our County, owe deep gratitude to the Union County Board of Commissioners, Union County Manager Mark Watson, and the county staff for undertaking the cleaning and preservation of the county-owned cemetery. These individuals worked relentlessly to identify the exact site and mark the location of the Cemetery, which was/is hidden from view, with access through Rocky River Estates [subdivision]. The Union County Home Cemetery is .86 of an acre and was 3,001 feet from the middle of the Cemetery to the County Home.

At the beginning of 2022, it was difficult to locate the exact location and all but impossible to examine the site. At this time, it can be located and stones marking some of the graves are visible. The County staff removed brushes, briars, and small trees that were less than four inches in diameter, to make it accessible. Its location will be listed on Page 12 with the start of the listing of known persons buried in the site. If I confirm other burials after this publication, these will be added in a future Bulletin.

The County has contracted to have the Cemetery probed with radar detection equipment to more exactly locate graves. This process could not be started until mid-to-late September. Afterwards, the County will mark the locations of graves, install a fence around the Cemetery, and will locate a sign providing clear information about the Cemetery. The project is not completed at this time but is ongoing. It will most likely be completed by the end of this fiscal year. We will include a picture of the completed project in the next Bulletin; and, of course, it will be posted on our CGS website – <https://carolinassociety.org>.

The death certificates are filed in the Register of Deeds Office, Union County Government Center, and copies will be filed in The Heritage Room.

The below list will serve as an index and will not be repeated in **Surname Index**.

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<sup>13</sup> Tombstones, Union County Home Cemetery, Cresthaven Drive, Monroe Township.

**County Home Cemetery**  
 Rocky River Estates [Subdivision]  
 0 Cresthaven Drive, Monroe, North Carolina

Turn into Subdivision on Deerfield Drive, turn left on Cresthaven Drive, the cemetery will be on the right of cul-de-sac as you make circle to return to Deerfield Drive. The County's plan is to clearly identify location with clearly delineated sign.  
 Tax parcel #093501207, recorded January 1970

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>M/F</u>	<u>Race</u>
Alexander, Frank	1/17/1929	M	W
Allen, Mary Elizabeth	4/23/1934	F	B
Allen, Rose	9/24/1927	F	B
Anderson, Lindy	11/29/1920	F	W
Anderson, Sam	3/9/1924	M	B
Barrett, Void	6/13/1923	M	B
Barrett, Walter	6/2/1934	M	B
Baskin, Carrie	11/10/1937	F	B
Benton, George	1/22/1929	M	B
Bivens, Ben	6/1/1933	M	B
Blackburn, Teresa	7/12/1922	F	W
Blackmon, Alec	11/12/1918	M	B
Blackmon, Jennie	10/15/1925	F	W
Blakeney, Noah	11/2/1920	M	B
Blount, Richards	11/10/1927	M	B
Brewer, Jackson	2/24/1923	M	B
Broom, Mary	5/28/1916	F	W
Buchanan, Winefield	10/30/1920	M	B
Burns, Lee	6/13/1917	M	B
Burr, Mary	6/10/1933	F	W
Caldwell, Geo.	2/26/1926	M	B
Carver - Still born of Plato Carver	1/8/1931	F	W
Carver, Bula	1/7/1931	F	W`
Cauthen, Filda	8/15/1925	F	B
Courtney, Emaline	7/16/1934	F	W
Cox, Otis	2/27/1929	M	W
Creech, Preacher	9/3/1924	M	B
Crook, Tom	8/29/1928	M	B
Crump, Lee	9/9/1928	M	W
Crump, Levina (Mrs)	4/27/1929	F	W
Crunder, Jonas	3/25/1939	M	B
Cunningham, Shedrick	1/12/1943	F	B
Cunningham, Shelby (Infant)	1/2/1927	M	B
Cureton, Filda	8/15/1925	F	B



Cuthbertson, Jim	9/17/1927	M	W
Cuthbertson, Noah	6/23/1926	M	B
Cuthbertson, Orange	3/19/1915	M	B
Davis, Columbus	5/28/1916	M	B
Davis, Margurette	4/14/1923	F	W
Davis, Sarah	3/30/1921	F	B
Ezzell, Richard	9/28/1921	M	B
Faulk, Harriett	3/20/1917	F	W
Firms, Tom	9/19/1937	M	B
Foard, Samuel N.	10/16/1939	M	W
Ford, Nellie	10/14/1925	F	W
Ford, Robert	6/7/1933	M	W
Ford, Susan	1/24/1929	F	W
Forest, Sarah	11/26/1921	F	B
Fortner, John	5/25/1933	M	W
Foster, Eliza	10/7/1926	F	B
Fowler, Jane Cuthbertson (Mrs.)	11/11/1935	F	W
Fox, Mary	9/6/1917	F	W
Fox, Mary	2/13/1935	F	B
Frazer, Sarah	2/2/1935	F	B
Funderburk, Alf	3/1/1920	M	B
Furr, Robert	7/19/1920	M	W
Glenn, Matt	11/10/1917	M	B
Gludden, Mary Ann	9/25/1939	F	B
Grady, Joe	12/26/1936	M	B
Green, Brooks	4/15/1927	M	B
Griffin, Benjamin Franklin	3/13/1945	M	W
Griffin, Calvin	2/9/1916	M	W
Griffin, Mary E.	9/26/1927	F	W
Griffin, Sally	12/17/1928	F	W
Gurley, Lucy	4/30/1917	F	W
Haley, Irene	9/21/1936	F	B
Hamilton, Alex	3/3/1919	M	B
Harrington, Malissa	5/3/1934	F	W
Harris, Jim	2/8/1922	M	B
Hartaway, Harry	10/8/1913	M	B
Harwood, Venie	10/8/1925	F	W
Hasty, Roxie	2/3/1923	F	W
Helms, Lindsey	10/13/1935	F	W
Honeycutt, Nettie	4/25/1925	F	W
Houe, Lonnie	9/29/1927	M	B
Houston, Jexie	4/24/1915	F	B
Hunnicutt, Ellis	9/2/1930	M	W
Hunnicutt, Sis	5/2/1926	F	W
Hunnicutt, William	11/13/1924	M	Indian
Huntley, Will	1/5/1918	M	B
Ingram, Lizzie	8/31/1925	F	B
Irby, Margaret	4/20/1930	F	W
Ivey, Emeline	11/18/1918	F	B

Jackson (single name)	2/24/1920	M	B
Jackson, Malinda	12/10/1933	F	B
Johnson, Vinnie Harwood	10/8/1925	F	B
Jones, Lonnie	4/1/1937	M	B
Jones, Martha	7/22/1921	F	B
Keziah, Thomas	8/4/1933	M	W
Kitchen, John	12/1/1920	M	W
Kitchen, Mary Ann (Mrs)	4/8/1915	F	W
Laney, Andrew	9/23/1928	M	B
Latiker, B	1/13/1922	M	B
Leonard, Frances	12/12/1926	F	W
Liles, William	9/7/1943	M	W
Lowery, Idell	1/22/1943	F	B
Lowery, Sy	4/17/1929	M	B
Lucas, Henrietta	11/28/1925	F	B
Lungram, Kale	10/25/1919	M	B
Lyndsay, Jeff	12/25/1913	M	B
Mabry, Fannie Frances	9//21/1926	F	W
McCorkle, Hartwell	4/16/1927	M	B
Mcluiller, Joe	2/16/1929	M	B
McManes, Jane	1/28/1922	F	W
McManes, Tom	9/15/1924	M	B
McMillen, Robert	2/5/1915	M	B
McNair, George	3/20/1917	M	B
Medlin, Daniel	4/29/1919	M	W
Medlin, Geneva	2/13/1937	F	W
Miller, Davis	1/13/1923	M	W
Miller, Emeline	8/9/1924	F	W
Mobley, Prudie	7/12/1916	F	B
Morgan, Enoch	10/29/1927	M	B
Nance, Angeline	4/13/1929	F	B
Neal, Ellis	7/14/1929	M	W
Parker, Mariah	2/5/1915	F	B
Patterson, Theresa	9/8/1934	F	W
Permenter, Edward	6/24/1941	M	W
Permenter, Franklin	1/31/1918	M	W
Permenter, Ida	10/20/1933	F	W
Phillips, Sandford	11/24/1920	M	W
Pope, Maggie (Mrs.)	10/7/1948	F	W
Porter, Lethia	3/29/1914	F	B
Porter, Rufus	11/25/1925	M	W
Potts, Janie	8/21/1916	F	B
Presley, Casseas	9/21/1925	M	W
Presley, Russell Fred	5/7/1924	M	W



Raley, Robt	12/8/1926	M	W
Ramsey, Annie	12/18/1924	F	W
Ramsey, Tom	11/2/1927	M	W
Ramsey, William (Bill)	9/21/1944	M	W
Ray, Emily	4/12/1928	F	W
Reed, Watt	2/12/1920	M	B
Richardson, Margurett	2/8/1928	F	W
Robinson, Ruth	9/4/1930	F	B
Rogers, Lesev	10/6/1936	F	W
Rorie, Green	10/6/1916	M	B
Rorie, Sam and/or James	11/6/1936	M	B
Rushing, Sandy	10/20/1936	M	B
Sadler, Frank	5/27/2017	M	B
Sanders, Sarah	3/7/1931	F	B
Sassen, Dennis	3/17/1917	M	W
Sassen, Elizabeth	8/1/1917	F	W
Sikes, Thomas	11/14/1918	M	B
Smith, Ernest	7/20/1944	M	B
Smith, Roy	8/12/1931	M	
Smith, Toby	2/8/1922	M	B
Snipes, Lester	2/6/1918	M	W
Spivey, Steve	2/21/1919	M	B
Staton, John	11/9/1923	M	B
Stewart, James	2/23/1939	M	B
Stewart, Tom	8/29/1925	M	B
Stitt, Geo	2/26/1927	M	B
Stitt, Jim	6/4/1914	M	B
Stocks, Lizzie	10/26/1929	F	B
Thomas, Eliza	1/24/1936	F	B
Thomas, Lewis	7/12/1924	M	B
Timmons, Mary	5/2/1938	F	B
Truesdale, Janies	7/7/1923	F	B
Vaughn, Melton	12/27/1936	M	B
Vickery, William	6/27/1930	M	W
Walden, John	9/12/1924	M	W
Williams, Bert	11/19/1923	M	B
Williams, Jack	4/3/1933	M	W
Williams, Mary	1/2/1929	F	W
Williams, Oliver	12/28/1933	M	B
Wilson, John	9/30/1932	M	B
Winchester, Ceazer	9/7/1923	M	B
Youngblood, Peter	12/2/1918	M	Germa n

## Death Notices found for Some County Home Residents and other News

- **Solomon Rickett, an old colored man known in Monroe for years has died at the county home.** [This notice was published on Tuesday, January 16, 1912, and does not have a death certificate in Union County.]<sup>14</sup>
- Paid to T. P. Dillon \$5 for coffin and robe for M. Honeycutt.<sup>15</sup>
- Mr. W. E. Stewart, keeper of the county home, tells *The Journal* that he has lost nearly three hundred chickens this spring, both young and old, from limber neck. When he moved to the new home, he had about ninety fine hens and they are nearly all gone.<sup>16</sup>
- **Mr. Thomas Lathan, a good old man and a Confederate soldier, died at the county home on the 25<sup>th</sup> [October]. Mr. Lathan had the distinction of having heard, the first gun fired at Fort Sumpter and the last one at Appomattox. Probably no other soldier in the Confederate armies had the same experience.**<sup>17</sup>
- Paid to T. P. Dillon \$5.36 for coffin, robe, etc., for Lethia Porter.<sup>18</sup>
- Two inmates of the county home, Henry Crump and Prudie Mobley, colored, died this week. Crump died Monday at the age of 70 years. Heart dropsy was the cause of his death. Prudie Mobley, a negress, was 35 years of age, and her death was also attributable to heart dropsy. Crump was buried at Antioch and Prudie was buried at the county home.<sup>19</sup>
- Aunt Margaret Broom, who lives at the county home, is 72 years old. She was born and raised near Wingate. She has a Bible that was printed in 1828 and a testament that was printed in 1846. She prizes both books as highly that she would not take a fortune for them. Aunt Margaret is very active for one of her age and takes great pains in keeping herself and her room clean, and is of great help at the home.<sup>20</sup>
- Mr. W. E. Stewart, who is keeper at the county home, says they now have 38 inmates, which is the largest number on record since 1906. All of them are enjoying good health; except "Lindy" who has been suffering with pneumonia for several weeks. Everybody at the county home, especially "Rush" misses Mrs. Stewart who died a couple of months ago.<sup>21</sup>
- **TWO WELL-KNOWN COUNTY HOME CHARACTERS DEAD**  
Lindy Anderson, Said to be One of First Inmates, and Sandford Phillips Pass Away  
Writing of the death of two aged inmates, Mrs. Rosser Wolfe says:  
Uncle Sandford Phillips and Lindsay Anderson died recently at the county home, there being but five days difference in the time in which they expired. Uncle Sandford was a good and faithful old man, never shirking work, and always ready and willing to help. Words cannot express how much we miss him, and I feel sure that he has gone to his reward.

<sup>14</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Tuesday, January 16, 1912, p. 5. [No death certificate filed in the Register of Deeds]

<sup>15</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, January 16, 1912.

<sup>16</sup> *The Monroe Journal*, (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, July 9, 1912

<sup>17</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, November 4, 1913, page 5

<sup>18</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Friday, January 1, 1915, p.2

<sup>19</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Friday, July 14, 1918, p. 5

<sup>20</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Tuesday, March 9, 1920, p.1

<sup>21</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Friday, December 15, 1916



Lindy was a shining light at the home and there is no one to take her place. She was enjoying good health until a week ago when she was taken sick. It is said that she and her mother was (sic) the first inmates of the county home, which was then a little framed building somewhere close to Lee's Mill on Richardson Creek.<sup>22</sup>

- **DAN MILLER, AGED WHITE MAN, DIES AT COUNTY HOME**

The death of Daniel Miller, an aged inmate of the county home is reported. He is said to have been seventy-five years old. He had been an inmate of the home for several years. Interment was in the county home cemetery.<sup>23</sup> [No death certificate for Daniel Miller.]

- **Mrs. Emeline Courtney**, age about 75 years, died at the County Home this morning at five o'clock. She had been in the House since June 23, 1934. Interment will be tomorrow at the County Home cemetery. John Courtney of Monroe is a stepson.<sup>24</sup>
- T. P. Dillon paid \$5.00 for coffin and robe for **Carrie Little** at county home.<sup>25</sup>
- **DIES IN COUNTY HOME** – "Honest Industrious and Pious Old Lady Who Preferred to Live Alone Hears Plaudit" ---

Miss Margaret Broom was born near Wingate, September 1, 1848 and died in the County Home, February 18, 1922, thus being seventy-three years five months and seventeen days old. Her parents were very poor and illiterate and died when she was quite young, therefore her early opportunities were almost a blank. But she inherited true principles of honesty, industry, and piety, and these were outstanding qualities through all her long life, Honest – she wanted not a penny she had not earned.

Industrious – she did an eminent amount of hard labor and made her own support until disabled by age and infirmity.

Pious – she was, a member of Meadow Branch Baptist church which she joined at an early age and was always present both at Sunday school and church service when able to attend. Considering her ability, she was exceedingly liberal with her means and was never satisfied without contributing to every worth cause presented.

She preferred to live alone and most of her life was so spent in her own little home. But there was never a blot upon her good name. When age and infirmity made it no longer possible for her to care for herself and no other satisfactory provision could be made, she reluctantly went to the County Home where she spent the last two and one-half years of her life. Here, she was better cared for perhaps than she had ever been through life and was contented and happy. She was especially fond of Mrs. Wolfe, the present mistress of the home, whose kindness she greatly appreciated.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at her old home church by the pastor, Rev. J. E. Hoyle, and her body laid to rest in the Williams cemetery by that of her sister Martha, who was killed by a train several years ago.

A touching incident at the funeral was the presentation to the church of a little well-worn purse containing five dollars which Margaret had saved up and requested that it be applied on the new church building now in the course of erection at Wingate. May it be said of her "She hath done what she could!"

<sup>22</sup> *The Monroe Journal*, (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, December 7, 1920, p 1.

<sup>23</sup> *The Monroe Journal (Monroe, North Carolina) Friday, January 19, 1923, page 1.*

<sup>24</sup> Clipping from unnamed newspaper. Monday, July 16, 1934, page 4.

<sup>25</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina), Tuesday, January 27, 1914, p. 11.

Doubtless she returned to the Master her one talent many times multiplied and heard from him the welcome plaudit: "Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord." A FRIEND.<sup>26</sup>

- **Mr. Daniel Rodgers**, an old soldier, died in the county home last Thursday morning. The remains were taken to the home place in Buford for burial and the funeral was held by Rev. Mr. Preslar. He was eighty-three years old last March and was never married. He became feeble some time ago and went to the county home of his own volition. He has only a sister living and she resides in Lincoln County. He was severally wounded in the war and carried a Minnie ball to the grave. He was a good old man and a good soldier.<sup>27</sup>

- **DEATH OF MRS STEWART – A GREAT LOSS**

**Beloved Matron of the County Home Died in Charlotte Hospital Thursday Morning –Woman of Remarkable Value.**

Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Stewart, wife of Mr. W. T. Stewart, died in a hospital in Charlotte Thursday morning. The news of her death was a shock to the people of the community, for few knew that she had been taken to the hospital.

Three weeks ago, Mrs. Stewart suffered a severe attack of colic, having been subject to such attacks nearly all her life at times. She began to get well, but continued to suffer and Dr. Stevens made a close examination and found that there was a mass somewhere in the upper part of the abdomen and immediately advised her to go to a hospital and have a more complete examination. This she did on Friday. The surgeons decided that an operation was necessary at once and it was performed on Sunday morning. They found a large abscess in the rear of the stomach a very unusual place. The wound from the operation was healing nicely and there was every indication that the worst was over. But pneumonia, induced by the effect of ether on the lungs, set in and the good woman died at eight o'clock Thursday night.

The funeral was held at the county home this morning at ten o'clock by Dr. Gurney and the remains were buried in Monroe cemetery.

Dr. Stevens, the county physician, who knew intimately the work of Mrs. Stewart, who with her husband, has been in charge of the county home for fifteen years, well expressed the sentiment of the community when he said that the death of Mrs. Stewart is "a calamity to the county." It has been common knowledge that no one in a similar position has been more beloved by the dependent people to whose service she gave all her time and thought. Few visitors to the Home ever went away without carrying the recollection of her devotion and the love and confidence with which the inmates of the Home bore her. The old and the sick regarded her as little less than angelic. Kindness and love with firmness when needed and always good judgement made them as little children in her hands and nothing was too much for her to undertake in carrying out the duties and responsibilities that rested upon her. It used to be customary to frequently change the keepers of the Home. But while Mrs. Stewart lived there

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<sup>26</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Tuesday, February 21, 1922, p. 1.

<sup>27</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Tuesday, February 21, 1922, p. 1.



was never any thought of change and no one so much as suggested that her place could be so well filled by another. Among those who weep for the loss of this good woman there will be of grief more genuine than that of the old and feeble and sick who have received her ministrations as inmates of the Home.

Mrs. Stewart was the daughter of the late Mr. A. J. Nelson of Buford township, and was 53 years old. She leaves her husband, a son, Mr. Sid Stewart, and a daughter, Mrs. M. L. Threatt, Mr. B. B. Nelson of Mecklenburg County, is her brother, and Mesdames W. M. Starnes and J. M. Starnes of Buford township, and Henry Nisbet of Jackson township, are her sisters.<sup>28</sup>

- Mrs. Rosser Wolfe, keeper of the county home, wishes to publicly thank the ladies of the First Baptist church here for the good dinner sent the inmates of the home today.<sup>29</sup>
- Alex Neal, [Ellis is written on death certificate] an inmate of the county home died this morning at 2 o'clock, aged 77 years. He had been at the county home for a number of years. He was a native of Lancaster county and had no near relatives, however, he had many friends who were kind to him in his declining years. Interment was made in the county home cemetery this afternoon.<sup>30</sup>

## Superintendents of the County Home – New Town Road

Mr. W. T. Stewart – 1900 - 1918

Mr. Ellis Goodwin appointed December 1918-Resigned December 1919

Mr. Rosser Wolfe appointed December 1919; salary raised to \$800 annual

Mr. James Starnes – was serving in 1929 when fire at county home

Mr. Charles P. Bivens – abt. 1929 to 1932

Mr. Synder Carter – Feb. 6 -1933 – about 1943

Mr. John B. Helms – 1943-1967

Mrs. Evelyn Helms (John B) –1967- 1969

**Query: CGS Member Haywood Lee is seeking information on Joseph I. Lee. He was in the 1900 Census of Union County but not in the 1910 Census. If you have information, contact him through the CGS Members only section of the webpage: <https://carolinassociety.org>**

<sup>28</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina), Friday, September 22, 1916, p. 1.

<sup>29</sup> *The Monroe Journal* (Monroe, North Carolina) Friday, July 16, 1922, p. 5.

<sup>30</sup> *The Monroe Enquirer* (Monroe, North Carolina) July 15, 1929, p. 4.



**SURNAME INDEX**

Adams	2	Honeycutt	16	Rawls	7
Anderson	16	Hook	3	Rickette	16
Armfield	2	Hoyle	17	Rodgers	18
Baucom	3	Jenkins	8	Rogers	3
Bivens	19	Lathan	16	Shute	6
Blount	6	Lee	19	Starnes	19
Broom	16, 17	Miller	16	Starnes	7
Carter	19	Mobley	16	Stevens	18
Colyor	6	Moore	8	Stewart	6, 7, 16, 18, 19
Courtney	17	Neal	19	Threatt	19
Crump	16	Nelson	19	Tucker	3, 4
Dillon	16, 17	Nisbet	19	Willman	3
Elliot	2	Phillips	16	Wolfe	2, 4, 17, 19
Goodwin	19	Porter	16		
Havely	6	Preslar	18		
Helms	19				

Cemetery Listing 12-15

*AND THE WORK CONTINUES!*

