

WHITESIDE FAMILY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

March 2025

Welcome to the “new” look for our newsletter, Once again we are supporting the board in establishing a unified “look” for all WFA publications in that they will all be headed with the “Tree of Life” above. When you see this know that whatever is below comes from the WFA.

WFA Spring Directors Meeting

The WFA will host its Spring 2025 meeting for the directors on Wednesday, April 16 via zoom beginning at 10:00 AM Eastern time. Below is the link needed to access the zoom meeting.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81971345351?
pwd=UtrnXi6ybAtrdK3GwkHqhoScy6YOwa.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81971345351?pwd=UtrnXi6ybAtrdK3GwkHqhoScy6YOwa.1)

Included on the agenda for this meeting will be an extended discussion on the developments in the new website as well as a study of some Whiteside history articles which focus on the Whiteside Families of Rutherford County, NC.

Information on updates in the DNA project will be shared.

The regular reports will be presented by the various directors and officers.

The board has found that meetings via zoom are much more practical than the older practice of travel to a central location for in-person meetings. Time, expense, and travel limitations due to individual situations have made these meetings almost impossible.

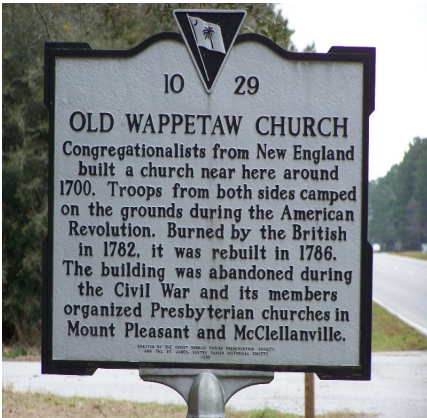
EXCITING NEWS FOR THE WFA

Our new website is almost completely revamped and ready for you to dig deep into Whiteside history. Of special note are the Bill R – Family Origin files discussing conflicting information and resolving issues. (Add link?)

The Foster Clay Whiteside tab leads you to an exhaustive list of Whiteside and Spousal families covering over 9 generations for Family 1000 (Add link)

There are many families under the microscope, click on Current Research Projects to see what is being researched in your family.





Wappetaw Congregational Church

In Awendaw on Ocean Highway (U.S. 17)

0.1 miles north of 15 Mile Landing Road (South Carolina Highway 10-584)

The site is located about 14 miles from Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. It was settled in 1696 by 52 people from New England who landed at Seawee Bay. This group was shipwrecked on Cape Fear on the North Carolina coast and had to spend the winter there before reaching South Carolina.

In 1696, a valiant band of 51 New England Congregationalists settled in the area after fleeing Indian wars and the Salem witch trials. Governor Archdale of Carolina invited the settlers to come after learning that they had been shipwrecked and spent a winter on Cape Hatteras. By 1699 the Congregationalists established churches at Wappetaw and at nearby Cainhoy. The church at Wappetaw became The Wappetaw Independent Congregational Church, distinguishing itself from the Anglican Church of Christ Church Parish, founded in 1707.

The Wappetaw Congregation included the following family (No date given)

Whiteside, Thomas, wife Sarah, children Thomas John, William, Edward, Moses, Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth

DNA PROJECT NEWS

Family Tree DNA retired its current tree builder on September 9, 2024, and all trees not connected to the new experience became read-only.

Family reeDNA has partnered with MyHeritage for tree integration. The purpose is make obsolete the Family treeDNA'S tree and integrate it as a tree that resides on MyHeritage.

This does not mean that MyHeritage is merging with FamilyTree DNA. MyHeritage's tree-building software is much more robust and functional than the FamilyTreeDNA trees.

We of the Whiteside clan can be very proud of our ancestors. This is a story published by the Town of Mount Pleasant, SC Historical Society.

INTERESTING COASTAL SOUTH CAROLINA STORY

Mamie P. Whitesides Elementary School is named for Miss Mary Pinckney Whitesides, more fondly known as Miss Mamie. She was born May 3, 1884, and was the youngest of John Frazier Whitesides and Abigail Legare Whitesides' five children. Miss Mamie's place of birth was Whitesides Plantation, located in Christ Church Parish, S.C., but her mother and four children moved to 209 Pitt Street following the horrific deaths of Mamie's father John (43) and sister Carrie (6) as a result of the 1885 Cyclone. John and Carrie were swept to their deaths by a raging sea. John desperately tried to save his daughter, who was drowning in the swirling water. Mamie's mom and children clung for their lives, huddled together on a bedstead until the storm's fury subsided, and they were able to reach shore. Mamie P. Whitesides, a former teacher and principal of Mount Pleasant Academy, dedicated her life with over fifty years of service in public education. Her death was February 17, 1970. The recognition of having the school named for her was a great honor. The first Mamie P. Whitesides Elementary School welcomed students in 1956 and was built to house 350 students, grades one through seven. The cost of the building was \$186,628. That building has been used as a transitional school since the new school was built. The present Whitesides designed for 800 students opened in 2010-2011 school year at the cost of \$24.9 million and was the recipient of a 2011 Excellence in School Building and Design Honor Award. William H. Royall, Jr. was the first principal and was followed by Sid Gosnell, Thomas Ferguson, Thomas Lee, Dave Schlachter, and Lona Pounder. One main goal of MPW is to engage students in a program of academic excellence that will prepare them to be independent, responsible citizens.

This marker is in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, in Charleston County. It is on U.S. 17 near opposite Long Point Road, on the right when traveling north.

Wills 1760-1771: **Thomas Whiteside** 1685-1762 Married **Sarah Vance**
Children: **Edward, Thomas, John, Moses, Willia, Sarah, Mary, and Elizabeth.**

Thomas Whiteside was elected vestryman in 1755
1781, the British occupied the church when **Thomas Whiteside** (son of above) was elected vestryman.

Moses Whiteside was elected vestryman in 1797 and Board of Trustees in 1809.

John Whiteside was appointed to the building committee in 1820.

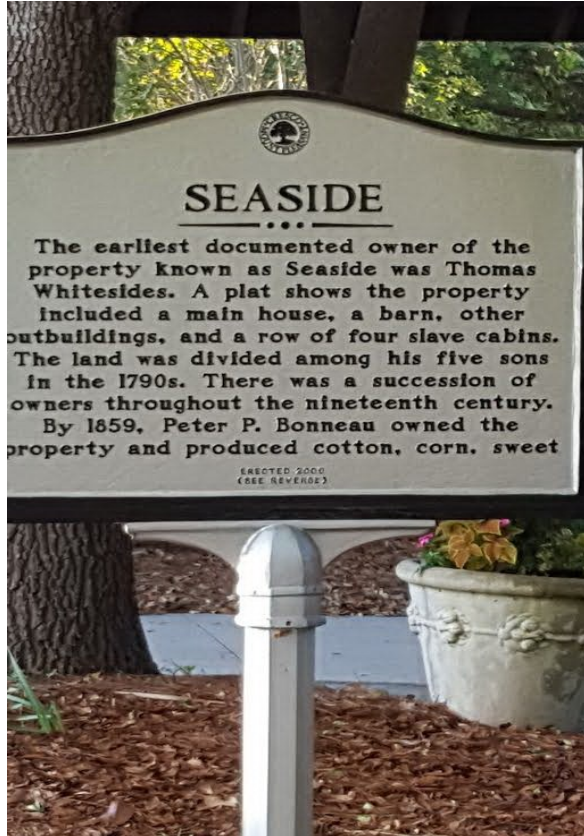


The earliest documented owner of the property known as Seaside was Thomas Whiteside. A plat shows the property included a main house, a barn, other outbuildings, and a row of four slave cabins. The land was divided among his five sons in the 1790s. There was By 1859, Peter P. Bonneau owned the property and produced cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, butter, and wool, typical products grown on Christ Church Parish farms. During the 1890s, owner Theodore Stoney divided the land into small parcels, sold chiefly to African American farmers, now the com-

The Jury Lists of South Carolina, 1778-1779

Edward Whiteside Number 28 Pinckney Street Charleston, South Carolina, USA
Thomas Whiteside

Seaside In Mount Pleasant on Long Grove Road
at Riviera Road



This article was originally published in a newsletter in 2021. But considering all that has happened in this area of NC in the last year, it seems appropriate to repeat its presentation. Many thanks to Judie Schiel for sending it to us.

Is There Really a Forgotten Town Under the Lake?

This fall I was a guest for a month at the Rumbling Bald Resort at Lake Lure, NC. On a nice day I decided to go for a walk and saw an old cemetery up on a small hill. It is the Buffalo Cemetery. I love looking for related family in old cemeteries. I was not at all surprised to find Whiteside graves there as I know my grandmother, Ruth Whiteside Jones, had family that came to North Carolina and Virginia. I have studied this family and am a member of the Whiteside Society. The Town of Buffalo is now in the depths of Lake Lure. The people who once lived there were proud, self-sufficient people happily living in the community of Buffalo in the beautiful Hickory Nut Gorge of NC.

There is no known record of how many people lived in the Town of Buffalo but judging by the church records of the Whiteside Valley Church of 1918 with 98 members, it can be assumed that the entire town was about 150 people. A dam was built to generate electricity in the early 1900's, and just after the completion of the dam the town was flooded. From what I could find online much of the town was torn down and relocated as were parts of the church. The graves in the small graveyard were re located on beautiful little hill overlooking Lake Lure. (Info from the book "Precious Memories; Bill's Creek Community, Lake Lure, North Carolina", by Virginia Dare Dalton Wilson). (cont) 3 Whiteside Family Page 4. What buildings were not moved remain under the lake today. I wish I could take a boat out on a clear day to the very center of the lake and look to the mountain that looks exactly like a Buffalo and I could look down and see the location of the town. Maybe next year.

The Town of Buffalo was in what was known as Whiteside Valley. It was centered on farming and mining. This town was often a brief stop for those heading through Hickory Nut Gorge on the Drovers' Road to Asheville, NC. The Whiteside Valley Church was organized July 7, 1892. When it was known that plans for the lake to be built were going to flood the area in the 1920's, the church members began to look for another property and ending up tearing down the original church, using the materials to build on and repair the old Chimney Rock Church site. Tradition says the steeple from the original Whiteside Valley Church was used on the new church. There are numerous first-hand accounts of workers removing building from what is now our lake. One of the workers who helped removing the left over material from the town and building the lake was offered land in exchange for his work and said "You couldn't farm it, you can't grow anything on it, you can't put cows on it...it's worthless" William Joe Jay Kiser ("Strawberry Kiser") 1903-1979 Reported by Grandson Todd Kiser. It is interesting fact that he was also the one who left the jeep truck in the Town of Buffalo at about the center of the lake.

The Whiteside Church was named after, J. M. Whiteside, the Pastor for many years. The Church is now Chimney Rock Baptist Church. Chimney Rock Baptist Church was organized July 7, 1872. and met in a log schoolhouse on Rock Creek that was built near what is now near the middle of Lake Lure. The church was disbanded about 1902 when it was last mentioned in the Association's minutes. Many of its members united with Whiteside Valley Baptist Church around 1892. In May 1926, the church was sold to Carolina Mountain Power due to the Lake Lure dam being built. On August 29, 1928, the Whiteside Valley church became Chimney Rock Baptist, and is still located on that site. "Chimney Rock School #10 was a building with three classrooms and an auditorium that was built near what is now near the middle of Lake Lure. In 1925 the school was discontinued because of the flooding taking place for the lake. Chimney Rock School was located next to Barzilla's Ledbetter store which also sat along the river valley.