



ESTATOEE

PRESERVING OUR APPALACHIAN HERITAGE

Photographs by John Elsgood

150TH COMMEMORATIVE OF THE BATTLE OF BURNSVILLE AND CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENT



Back on April 9th and 10th 1864, after a winter of starvation and deprivation, 50 brave local women raided the Confederate commissary here in town and made off with sacks of flour to feed their hungry families. The following day 75 “bushwhackers”, usually CSA deserters and/or Union sympathizers also called “tories”, staged another raid removing ammunition and 500 lbs. of bacon from the storehouse. Home Guard General John McElroy contacted Governor Vance to help put down the riot as the county had “gone up”.



In honor of this milestone anniversary the Yancey History Association extends a special invitation to attend the commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Burnsville on Friday April 25th, Saturday 26th & Sunday

27th in downtown Burnsville. Acknowledged with a special proclamation by the Town Council, this eventful weekend will feature a full living history day at the McElroy House on Friday and re-enactments of the women’s and men’s raids on town followed by representative skirmishes on the Square on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Participants will include YHA’s costumed volunteers, the men and women of NC 22nd Co.B CSA and 3rd US MI troops, living history craft demonstrators and story

tellers and the townspeople of Burnsville. Hopefully this re-enactment will honor the memory of those caught in the conflict the Civil War brought to Western NC.

NC ROCK ART PROJECT

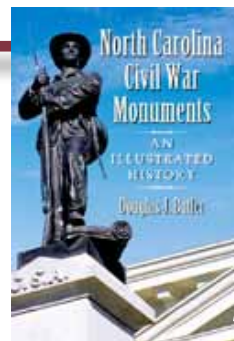
by Scott Ashcraft



Yancey County is home to Gardner Rock, a prehistoric Native American petroglyph boulder carved with hundreds of designs. These ancient carvings may date back up to 2000 years and are most likely attributable to the ancestors of the Cherokee. The boulder is one of North Carolina’s larger examples of rock art, that bears similar petroglyph designs found at other southern Appalachian sites. Randy and Cynthia McIntosh are the gracious landowners who have done much to ensure its long term protection. Scott Ashcraft with the NC Rock Art Project is working with the YHA’s Elaine Dellinger to facilitate new preservation efforts. Plans are underway to join forces with Mtn Heritage High School to formally adopt the petroglyph and act as site stewards. History teacher Steven Ray is spear-heading these efforts. Future plans also include archeological excavations, formal mapping, interpretation and a conservation plan.

SPECIAL PROGRAM AND BOOK SIGNING EVENT

We are please to announce that the author of *North Carolina Civil War Monuments*, Douglas J. Butler, member of the NC Humanities Council speakers bureau, the Road Scholars, will be presenting a program and signing books in the Conference Room at the Lloyd Bailey Annex on Saturday, April 26th from 10:30am til 12:30pm. For more information visit www.northcarolinacivilwarmonuments.com



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES 2014

APRIL

5th - Opening Day/Women and Period Music
 25/26/27 - 150th Commemorative of the Battle of Burnsville and Civil War Re-enactment (3 day event)

MAY

10th - Confederate Decoration Day Tea
 24th - Blue Ridge Heritage Day

JUNE

4th thru Aug 9th - Blue Ridge Pottery Display
 16th-20th - Storytelling Camp with Sherry Lovett

JULY

12th - Veterans Day Display
 Blue Ridge Pottery Display (continues all month)

AUGUST

1st & 2nd - Mount Mitchell Craft Fair
 1st thru 9th - Blue Ridge Pottery Display
 16th - Membership Appreciation Day
 8th thru 30th (Fri & Sat only) Living History Weekends

SEPTEMBER

20th - Quilts Program Presentation
 27th - Old Timey Fall Festival

OCTOBER

12th - Annual General Meeting
 31st - Halloween on the Square

NOVEMBER

1st - Harvest Tea

DECEMBER

6th - Non Profit Day, Town Center/Christmas Parade
 Please check Facebook and Website for changes.



BLACKSMITH EQUIPMENT AND OLD BARN WOOD NEEDED

In preparation of making a Corn Crib and Smithy on the grounds of the McElroy House, we are looking for donation or to acquire any old Blacksmith Tools or Barn Wood for the construction of these additions to the Museum.

Please contact Bill Bache 828-682-4200, Bob Wilson 828-682-2609 or John Elsegood 828-682-1554

SAVE THE DATE

THE FIRST BLUE RIDGE HERITAGE DAY IN BURNSVILLE MAY 24, 2014

Join us as Burnsville travels back to a bygone age with a full day of **FREE** family entertainment on **May 24th, 2014, from 10am until 4pm.**

The Yancey History Association/ Rush-Wray Museum has joined with Toe River Arts Council, (TRAC) and their Traditional Arts Program for Students, (TAPS) to offer a day of free entertainment. The Traditional Arts Program for Students, (TAPS) is funded in part by the NC Arts Council, a state agency, and the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area.

The Rush-Wray Museum, (McElroy House), surrounding grounds and Proffitt-Cousins Cabin become the backdrop for Mountain Artisans, Storytellers, Folk Music, Demonstrations and tours.

You are welcome to bring a picnic or enjoy a leisure lunch at any of the fine restaurants in and around town. Please bring your lawn chairs and enjoy a relaxing day with us at the Yancey History Association.

Location is one block off the Burnsville Town Square on West Main, at Academy Street.

If you are interested in participating or need more information please call Linda Elsegood at 828-682-1554, Kate Groff at 828-682-7215 or the YHA office, Wed. thru Sat. at 828-678-9587

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



TAPS participation was made possible by funding from The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

ESTATOEE (es-to-toe-e)

Estootowie in early records. A Cherokee place name, shortened to Estatoe/Estatoah, from which the name Towe of Toe River is derived.

Officers and Staff

Elaine Boone - President
 Elaine Dellinger - Vice President
 Chris Carter - Secretary
 Vivianne Bradley - Treasurer

Board Members:

John Elsegood
 Linda Elsegood
 Judy Fuqua
 Dixie Styles

Bob Wilson - Past President
 Jake Blood - Past President

Lloyd Bailey - Founding Member and Historian

Staff Members:

Marilyn Oakley

Hours:

Wednesday to Saturday
 10am - 4pm

THE IMPORTANCE OF MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the YHA,

Members will receive the following:

- Quarterly newsletters of the ESTATOEE
- 10% discount* at our gift shop (Ce-Nan)
- Free Museum Admission
- Free use of Genealogy library
- Annual meeting and programs

Other membership gifts:

- With Donation of \$250 - Free copy of McElroy House by Michael Hardy
- Silver Business includes a mention on brochures, on the website and on Facebook
- Gold Business membership includes a free advert in the YHA quarterly newsletter a mention on brochures, on the website and on Facebook

Donations above the membership subscriptions are most welcome.

* Some recent publications may not apply

Membership: (tick one box)

- Individual \$20
- Family (2+persons) \$40
- Senior (60+) \$15
- Senior Family (60+) \$30
- Silver Business \$100
- Gold Business \$250

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Method of Payment

Cash Check Paypal on the website

Send cash or check to: Treasurer, Yancey History Association, 3 Academy Street, Burnsville, North Carolina 28714

The YHA website www.yanceyhistoryassociation.org will keep you up to date with activities. The newsletter ESTATOEE will be delivered via email, please ensure we have this information. If you have no email, a copy will be mailed to your address above.

EARLY INDUSTRIES OF THE OLD NORTH STATE

North Carolina began as an agricultural colony and state.

Examples of early rural industries included wagon making, gristmills, cotton gins, saw mills, cane mills, cabinet/furniture making and much more.

One problem affecting commerce through the 17th and early 18th centuries was the limited transportation, with much of the state's products having to travel down river through Charleston and South Carolina or through Virginia.

Steamboats first appeared in North Carolina in 1812, with a local steamboat building business starting in 1818. Between 1818 and 1870 many steamship companies were founded, easing transportation in the eastern portion of the state.

The first railroad was chartered in 1834 and construction began in mid-decade.



1952, Yates Bennett, president of the Yancey Mica Mining Corp., stands alongside a truckload of mica his mining crew removed from the Isom Mica Mine on Celo Mountain. The Isom Mine produced the highest quality muscovite mica in the United States.

Mark Huber picture and caption.

By 1840, the Wilmington & Raleigh Railroad had 161 miles of track in operation.

During the 1820's and 1830's, entrepreneurs created cotton mills, built mills, constructed forges, organized gold mines, opened carriage factories, ran stores and engaged in other business pursuits with agriculture in the lead.

The nation's first Gold Rush propelled that industry and was the state's second largest business during the 1830's.

By 1860, there were 3,689 manufacturing establishments of various types, in the state.

Some of these operations included copper mines, cotton mills, flour mills, gold mines, saw/planing mills, iron-works, machinery-steam, woolen mills, paper mills, oil mills, rice mills, tobacco, plank road building, boat building, wagons, horseless carriages, furniture making, mica mining, gem mining, medicines, and tool making.

The Civil War gave a boost to a lot of these manufacturing facilities and gave way to expansion of the states industries.

For more information on Early Industries in North Carolina go to www.historync.org/

Research: Linda Vickers Elsegood

A SPECIAL THANKS

to SOMETHING SPECIAL and DAVID BOONE WOODCARVING for joining as SILVER BUSINESS MEMBERS.

MAJOR UPGRADES AND IMPROVEMENTS

In the recent months we have undergone major improvements to both the McElroy House and Lloyd Bailey Annex.

We have finished phase two of electrical work which included outside trenching to give power to the Proffitt Cousins Cabin and the Smithy and Corn Crib (hopefully to be erected on the grounds this year) and allow outside entertainment. New power sockets in the McElroy House for heating and making a power source available in some of the rooms that had no power before. This will enable the use of the kitchen for events that involve catering.

We now have an ADT security system in place with security cameras to enable us to provide extra security and monitoring for Exhibitions, Collections and the shop area.

In the upcoming months we will be moving the Archaeological Exhibit from the McElroy House back into the Lloyd Bailey Annex where we are extending the exhibition areas to make the visitor/members experience a more complete tour.

We are planning on extra parking which will include more handicap spaces at the back of McElroy House.

By popular demand the Membership Appreciation Day and Children's Storytelling Camps will return to our Events Calendar.

This would not have been possible without the your membership.

**EVENTS FOR AUGUST TO NOVEMBER FOR THE
YANCEY HISTORY ASSOCIATION
KEEP THIS CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**



April

Opening Day Ceremony
Women and Period Music
150th Commemorative of the Battle
of Burnsville and Civil War Re-enact-
ment (3 day event)

May

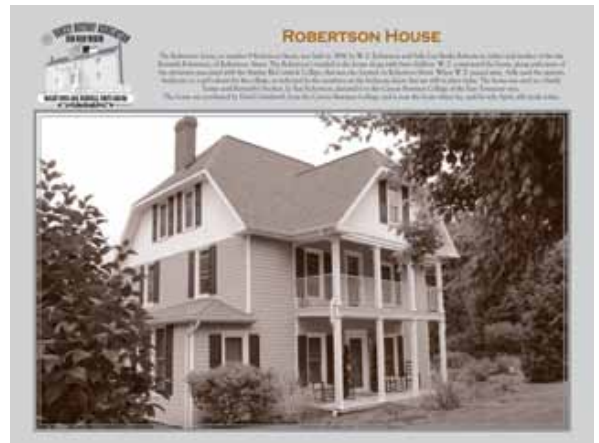
Confederate Decoration Day Tea
Blue Ridge Heritage Day

June

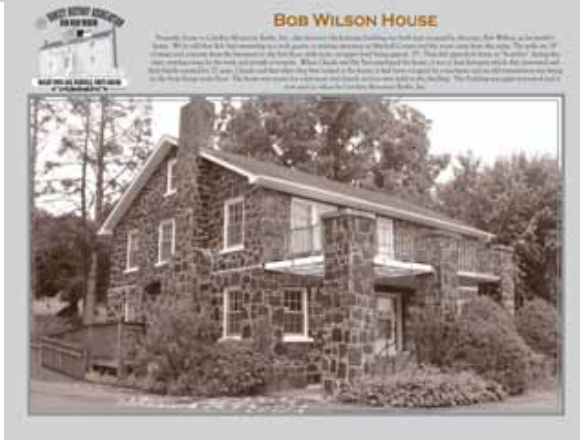
Children's Storytelling Camp
Blue Ridge Pottery Exhibition



Pages from our
First Fundraising
YHA Calendar
March thru April.
With a story behind
each photograph.
A few copies are still
available and we have
reduced the price to
\$5 plus postage
available through our
website or come in to
our gift shop to pick
up your copy



March



May



April

June



ESTATOOE

Quarterly Newsletter

Yancey History Association
3 Academy Street
Burnsville
NC 28714

www.yanceyhistoryassociation.org

