

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
 RECEIVED JUL 15 1975
 DATE ENTERED SEP 11 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Old Waxhaw Presbyterian Church Cemetery
 AND/OR COMMON Old Waxhaw Cemetery

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER approximately 8 miles north of Lancaster on U.S. 521, left at marker to Waxhaw Presbyterian Church, left on # 35 for 1 mile, cemetery on left
 CITY, TOWN Lancaster
 STATE South Carolina
 COUNTY Lancaster
 CODE 045
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT # 5

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER cemetery

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Old Waxhaw Presbyterian Congregation
 STREET & NUMBER Route # 4
 CITY, TOWN Lancaster
 STATE South Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Lancaster County Courthouse (also Anson County Courthouse, Wadesboro, North Carolina)
 STREET & NUMBER
 CITY, TOWN Lancaster
 STATE South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina
 DATE 1973
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS South Carolina Department of Archives & History
 CITY, TOWN Columbia
 STATE South Carolina

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Waxhaw Cemetery is located on the grounds of the Waxhaw Presbyterian Church. (Although one of the oldest churches, organized in 1755 in upper South Carolina, the present church building was built in 1896 and remodeled in 1942; significant alterations disqualify it for National Register status.) Consisting of approximately 5 acres, Waxhaw Cemetery is located in Lancaster County along the edge of a forest in the historic Waxhaws area. In The Expansion of South Carolina, 1729-1765, Robert L. Meriwether described the Waxhaws: "At Great Falls, halfway between Pinetree Hill and the Catawba towns, a rocky ridge partly closes the Catawba Valley. Above this point on the east side of the river from Camp Creek to Waxhaw Creek, the land is rolling but not rugged...Between the two small streams lay the district called the Waxhaws, composed chiefly of the fanlike system of Cane Creek and its tributaries; the Waxhaw Indians, after whom it was called, abandoned it at the time of the great Indian war and went to the Catawbas."¹ Today the Waxhaws area would generally be considered part of Lancaster County, South Carolina and Anson County, North Carolina.

Waxhaw Cemetery is surrounded by a low stone wall and has several tall oaks in the center of the property. The tombstones date from the 1750s to the present, and many of the old inscriptions are legible; some of the stones have been marred or broken.

The grounds themselves were part of land belonging to Reverend Robert Miller; the land was deeded to the church about 1757.

Waxhaw Cemetery is being nominated to the National Register because of its age and because it conveys a very definite sense of time and place -- the time being the pioneer settlement and developing years of South Carolina; the place being the back country area of the Waxhaws.

1

Meriwether, Robert L. The Expansion of South Carolina, 1729-1765, 1940. p.137.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				Sepulchral Art

SPECIFIC DATES 1750s to present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The historic Waxhaws community was settled by Scotch-Irish immigrants in the 1750s. These settlers established a Presbyterian meeting house (1755) and cemetery as the center of their community. The original meeting house has been replaced by another church structure but the cemetery remains as one of the oldest historic sites in present-day Lancaster County and as a visual reminder of that pioneer settlement. The history of South Carolina has often been affected by the diverse cultural and social differences between the state's lowcountry and upcountry (backcountry). The Waxhaws is representative of one of these backcountry settlements, and the men it produced were especially active in the early development of the state and nation. The most notable of these include Andrew Jackson, William Richardson Davie, and Andrew Pickens. Waxhaw Cemetery is probably the most significant site remaining which is representative of this Waxhaw area. It is also noteworthy for its examples of 18th and 19th Century tombstones.

Military

The cemetery contains the tombstones of six soldiers who were part of the Anson County, North Carolina militia (which included the Waxhaws community). Andrew Pickens, Sr., father of General Andrew Pickens, raised the company of militia in 1754. He died in 1756, and his son, Andrew Pickens, joined the company and went with the militia to battle the Cherokees in 1760. Andrew Pickens later gained fame during the American Revolution with his victories in the backcountry of South Carolina against the British. Both Andrew Pickens, Sr. and his wife Ann are buried at the cemetery.

Tombstone markings show that 38 Revolutionary War soldiers and partisans are buried here. Unmarked graves belong to Continental Soldiers wounded at "Buford's Massacre" on May 28, 1780. "Buford's Massacre" or the Battle of the Waxhaws was a British victory in which Tarleton's forces killed 113 colonists and captured 203. After this battle Tarleton was recognized as a British hero; however, "Tarleton's Quarter" became a synonym for butchery among the Americans. The wounded from this battle were cared for at the Waxhaw Church, and those that died were buried in the cemetery.

The most notable Revolutionary War soldier buried here is General William Richardson Davie. Born in England in 1756, he was taken by his father to the Waxhaws settlement in 1763. He graduated from Princeton College in 1776, studied law, and was licensed to practice in 1780. Davie joined the command of General Allen Jones in Camden (1777-78) and was later wounded while serving in Major Pulaski's division near Charleston. He commanded troops in a skirmish with the British under General Gates near Charlotte. In 1781 he was appointed commissary

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEP 2 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE one

general for the Carolina campaign.

Retiring from the military in 1782, Davie established a farm at Halifax, North Carolina. He became a noted defense lawyer in his region and served in the North Carolina legislature from 1786 to 1798. While in the legislature he helped establish the University of North Carolina. In 1798 he served as Governor of North Carolina. An active Federalist, Davie was appointed by President Adams as peace commissioner to France in 1799. He negotiated a treaty with the Tuscarora Indians in 1802. He retired from public life in 1805 and died in 1820.

Political Affairs

President Andrew Jackson's father, Andrew Jackson, Sr., came to the Waxhaws in 1765, an immigrant from Northern Ireland who had traveled through Pennsylvania and Virginia. One of the earliest Waxhaw settlers, the elder Jackson died in 1767 and is buried in the Waxhaw Cemetery along with President Jackson's two brothers, Robert and Hugh. Members of both sides of President Jackson's family are buried here, although his mother, who died in Charleston while nursing American soldiers of the Revolution, is not.

Andrew Jackson was born in the Waxhaws in 1767 and grew up in the Waxhaws area. He attended school in the community until 1780 when he joined Major (later General) Davie's dragoons and was made a mounted messenger and orderly. In 1784 he taught school in the Waxhaw settlement and in 1785 began reading law at Salisbury, North Carolina. In 1787 he was admitted to the bar at Wadesborough, 40 miles east of the Waxhaws, and in 1788 he crossed the Appalachian mountains and established a career in Tennessee. The only major site in South Carolina associated with Andrew Jackson's early life besides the Waxhaw Cemetery is that of his birthplace; however, some historians question this and debate whether or not he was born in North or South Carolina.(No structure remains on site.)

In addition to President Jackson, other noted South Carolinians from the Waxhaws include Stephen D. Miller, Governor of South Carolina (1828-1830) and U. S. Senator (1830-1833); James H. Witherspoon, Lt. Governor of S. C. (1826-1828); and William Richardson Davie, Governor of North Carolina in 1798 (see Military Significance). Witherspoon and Davie are buried at the Waxhaw Cemetery.

Sepulchral Art

The tombstones of Waxhaw Cemetery, among the oldest in the South Carolina upcountry, are examples of 18th and 19th Century grave markings as well as visual reminders of the age and history of the Waxhaw Community. Many of the 18th Century tombstones are marked with bas-relief carvings illustrating the lives of the deceased. These stones are flat, vertical tombstones with rounded or scrolled tops. Much of the lettering is clearly carved and is still legible.

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 1 1975
DATE ENTERED	SEP 11 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE two

One notable carving is on the tombstone of John Crockett, born on a ship in 1730 while crossing the Atlantic Ocean. At the top of the tombstone, above the inscription, is a bas-relief carving of a sailing ship. Other tombstones feature coats-of-arms, decorative carvings, and faces of the deceased.

The vertical 18th Century stones with rounded tops are distinguishable from the flat, horizontal 19th Century slabs and massive monuments erected in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, such as the Davie enclosure.

An unusual tomb within the cemetery is the Leckie Enclosure, where the wife, son, and aunt of Robert Leckie, contractor of Landsford Canal in Chester County, is buried. The enclosure is built of coursed stone of irregular sizes. It has no formal entrance and can only be climbed into by protruding rocks set into the wall as steps.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 1 1975
DATE ENTERED	SEP 1 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE three

- Howe, George. History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina. Vol. I. Columbia, South Carolina: Duffie and Chapman, 1870.
- Howe, George. History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina, Vol. II. Columbia, South Carolina: W. J. Duffie, 1883.
- Meriwether, Robert L. The Expansion of South Carolina, 1729-1765. Kingsport, Tenn.: Southern Publishers, Inc., 1940.
- Shaw, Ronald E. Andrew Jackson -- 1767-1845. Dobbs Ferry, New York: Ocean Publications, Inc., 1969.
- Works Progress Administration. South Carolina, A Guide to the Palmetto State. New York: Oxford University Press, 1941.
- State Newspaper. Magazine Sect. May 15, 1955. Columbia, South Carolina.
- North Carolina Archives: Index to Records.