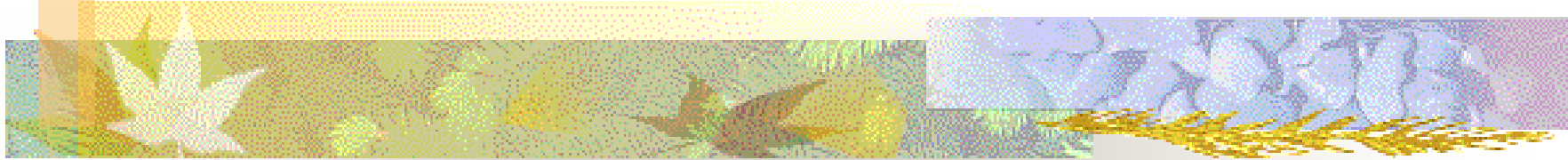


History of Davie County



Davie County Public Library

Early History

- Native Americans lived in this area as early as 9,000 years ago
- Hunters of mammoths, mastodons, wild horses & camels



Early History



- Spears, arrowheads, and tools found along the Yadkin River

Native American History

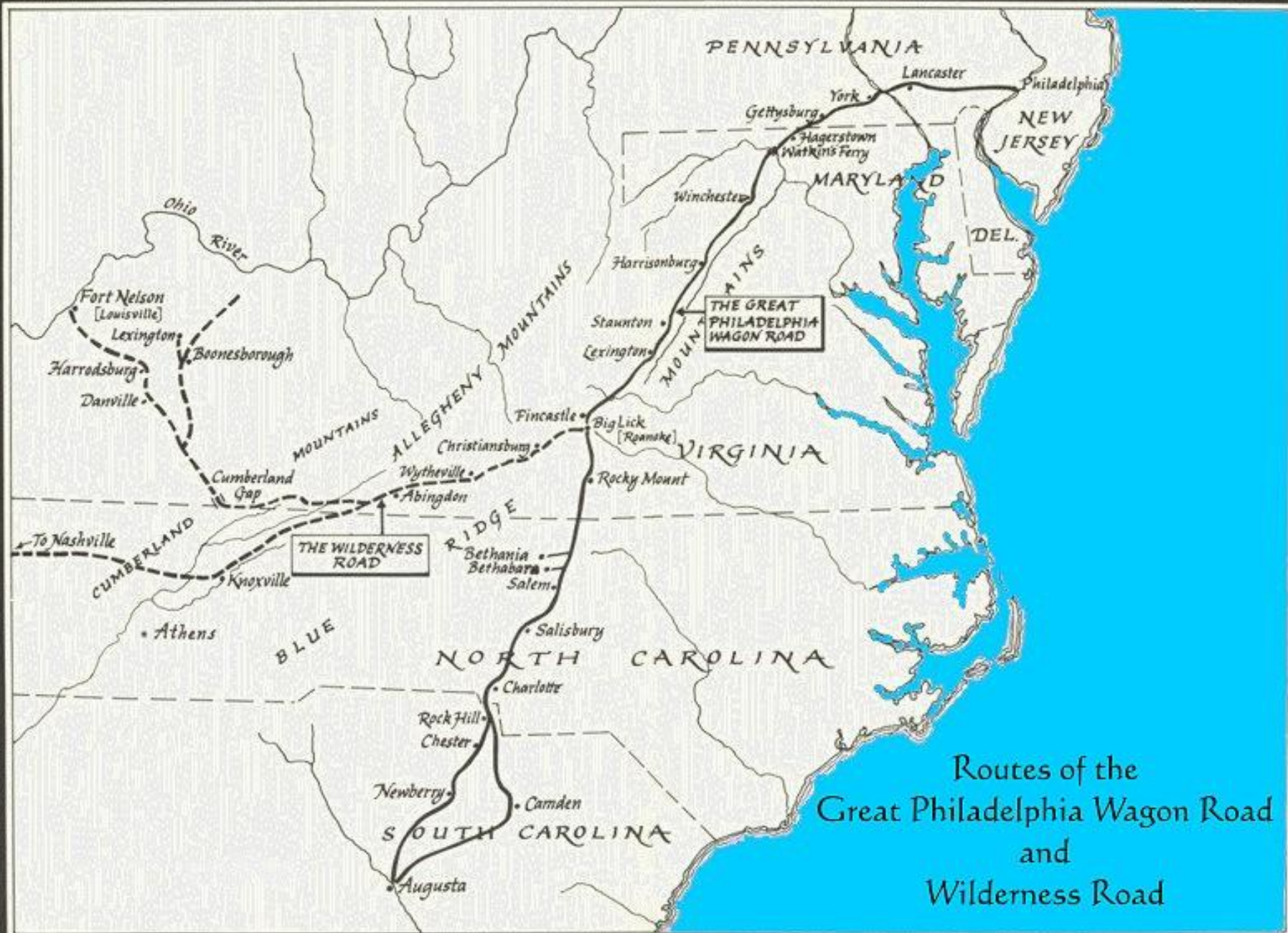
- Eastern Sioux date back 6,000 years
- Hunting grounds
- Yadkin = “big trees”
- Fish falls
(rock dams)





Early Settlers

- English, German, and Scot-Irish began arriving around 1746
 - From Pennsylvania along the Great Wagon Road
- 1750 Anson County formed Western half of NC
 - Population estimated 200-300
 - 1753 Rowan County formed from Anson

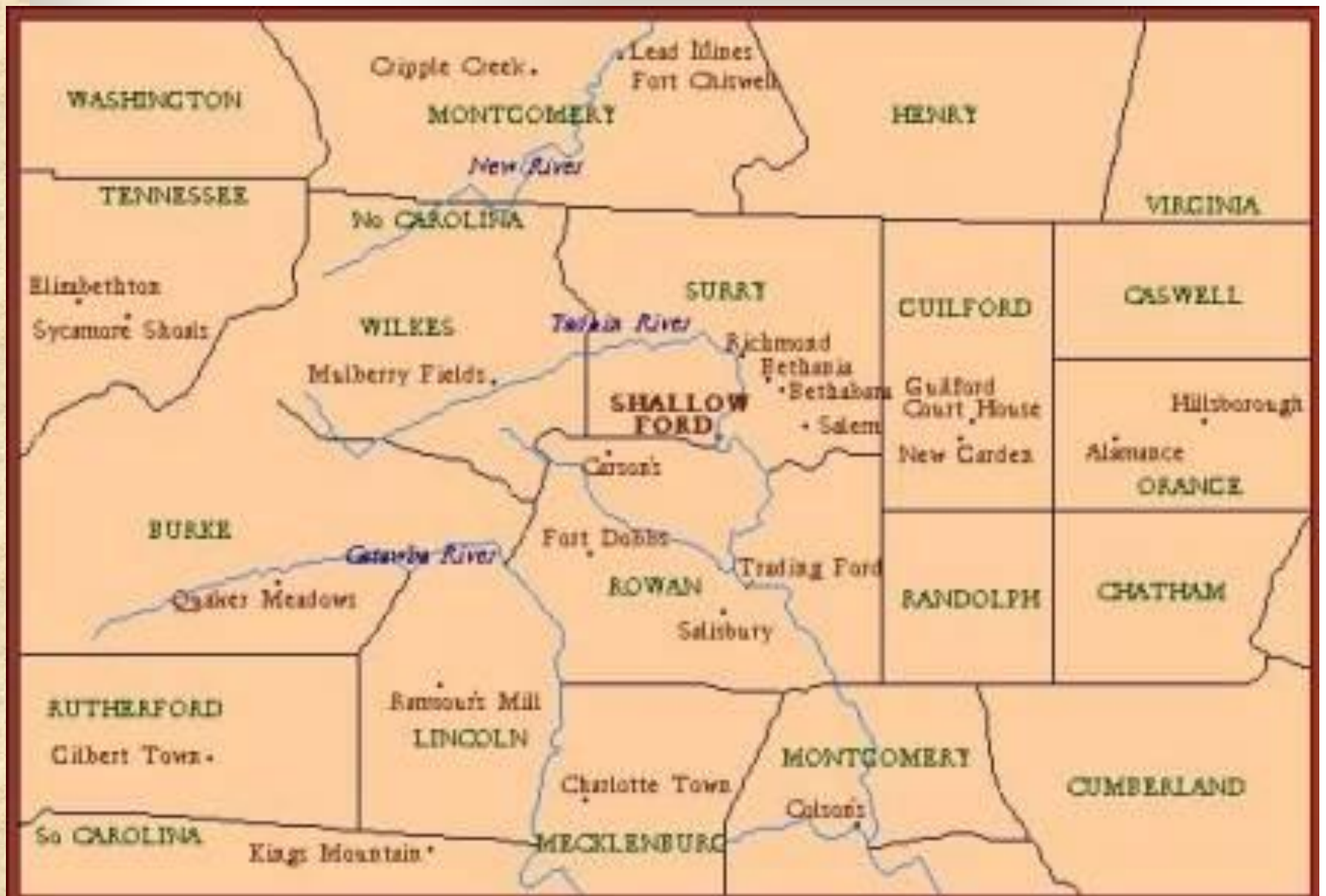


Routes of the
Great Philadelphia Wagon Road
and
Wilderness Road



Early Settlers

- Morgan Bryan family arrived in 1748
 - Quakers from Pennsylvania
 - Purchased 5,000 acres in NE Davie
 - Controlled “Shallow Ford” entrance into Forks of the Yadkin
 - Water was shallow enough for wagons to cross





Early Settlers

- Squire Boone family arrived in 1751-1752
 - Friends of Morgan Bryan family
 - Daniel Boone was 6th child of 11, born 1734
 - Farmers as well as hunters and fishermen
 - Squire & Sarah buried in Joppa Cemetery

Daniel Boone

- Avid hunter
- Wagoner & blacksmith in French & Indian Wars 1754-1763
- Married Rebecca Bryan 1756
- 1773 moved to Kentucky
- Died 1820, buried in KY





Daniel Boone

- Wilderness Road, gateway to the West
- Opportunity to purchase land and hunt
- Means to pay off debt
- Died in 1820, buried in Frankfort, KY



American Revolution

- Both Tories & patriots in Davie
 - Pearson & Bryan fistfight to determine allegiance of Forks of the Yadkin Militia
- Samuel Bryan led Tory unit of 800
 - On the way to SC to join Cornwallis in July/Aug 1780, attacked by Major William R. Davie
 - Cornwallis marched through Davie in pursuit of American General Nathaniel Greene

American Revolution

- Richmond Pearson, patriot
 - Fistfight with Samuel Bryan over allegiance of Yadkin Militia
 - Fought Cornwallis 1780-1781 on march through NC
 - Lived at “The Shoals” in Cooleemee as planter, merchant
 - Town name from “Kulami” Indians of Alabama (place where white oaks grow)



Davie County

- Carved out from Rowan County in 1836
- Named for Major William R. Davie
- County seat is Mocksville
- Courthouse on town square





Mocksville

- Mocks Old Field in late 1700s
- 250 acres owned by Andrew Mock
- Post Office formed in 1810
- Town of Mocksville incorporated 1839 by NC General Assembly
 - Thomas McNeely one of original commissioners
 - Town limits set at ½ mile in each direction of court house



Peter Stuart Ney

- Appeared in Mocksville 1823
- Taught at area schools, including Mocksville Academy until his death in 1846
- Excellent schoolmaster, well respected
- Buried in Rowan County

Peter Stuart Ney

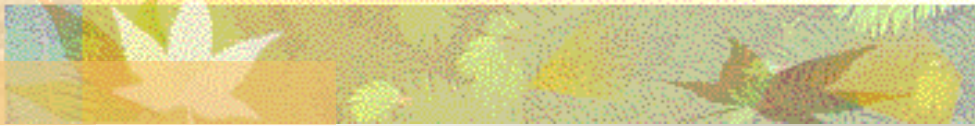
- Was he Michael Ney, Marshall of the Armies for Emperor Napoleon?
- No conclusive proof





Cooleemee Plantation

- Peter Hairston purchased the plantation from Jesse Pearson in 1817
- By 1860, 4,200 acres
- House in shape of Greek cross; huge dimensions
- J.E.B. Stuart visited in 1854; his sister married Hairston
- Still in Hairston family

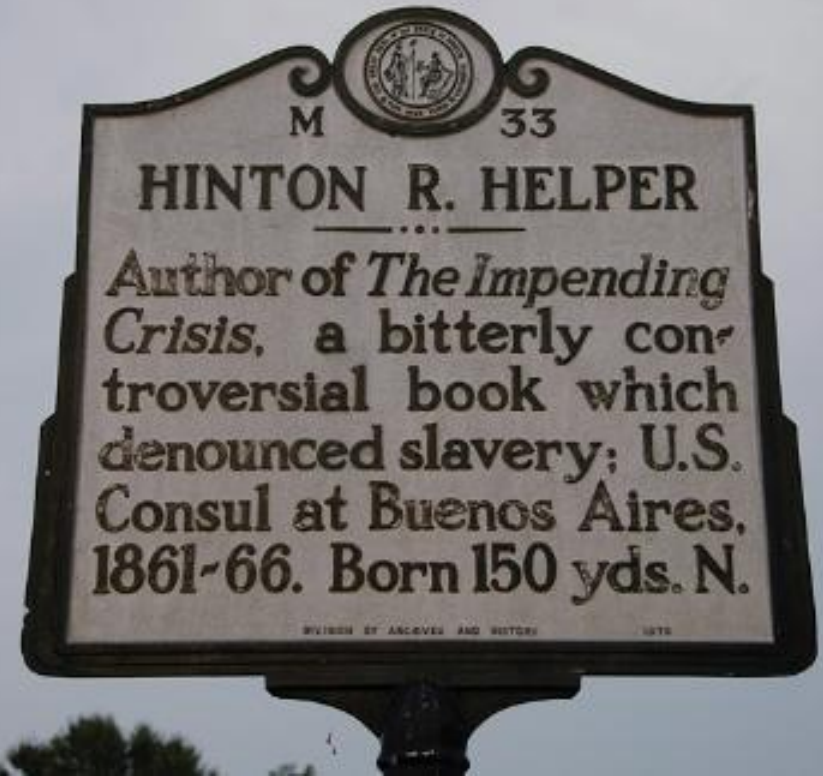
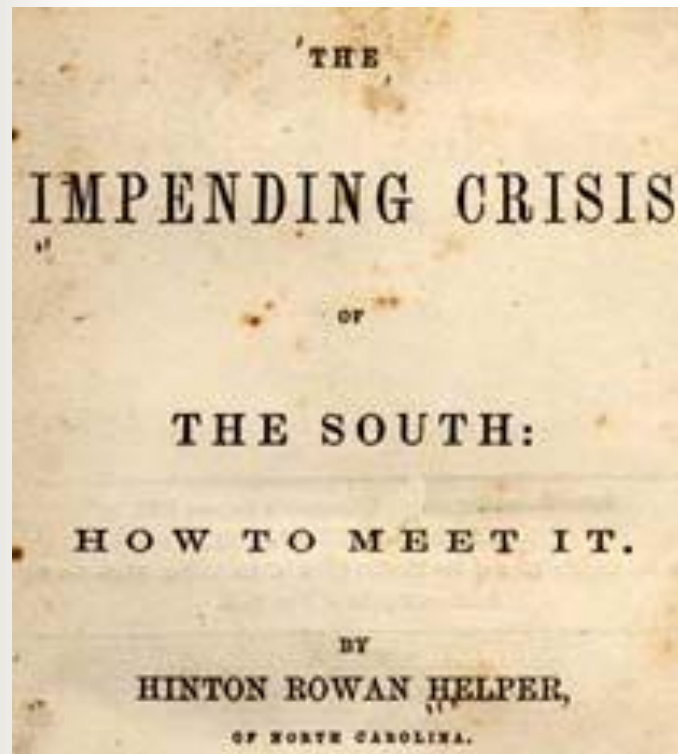




Hinton Rowan Helper

- In 1857 wrote *The Impending Crisis*, an anti-slavery book
 - Based on economics, not morals or ethics
 - Influential in election of Lincoln
 - Later wrote books with racist viewpoint
 - Became mentally unstable and died in 1909

Hinton Rowan Helper





Civil War

- NC voted to secede from the Union on May 20, 1861
- Almost half of Davie County men served in the military (about 1,400 of 3,000)
- Soldiers often had to supply their own horses, weapons, and food

Civil War

- Union General George Stoneman marched through Mocksville in April 1865
 - Salisbury Confederate Prison
 - Little destruction occurred



World War II

- Colonel Thomas W. Ferebee
 - Bombardier, Enola Gay
 - Dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima Japan August 6, 1945





Davie County Today

- 264 square miles in area
- 40,000 population and growing
- Business base, farming, and retirement
- Good school system & community college