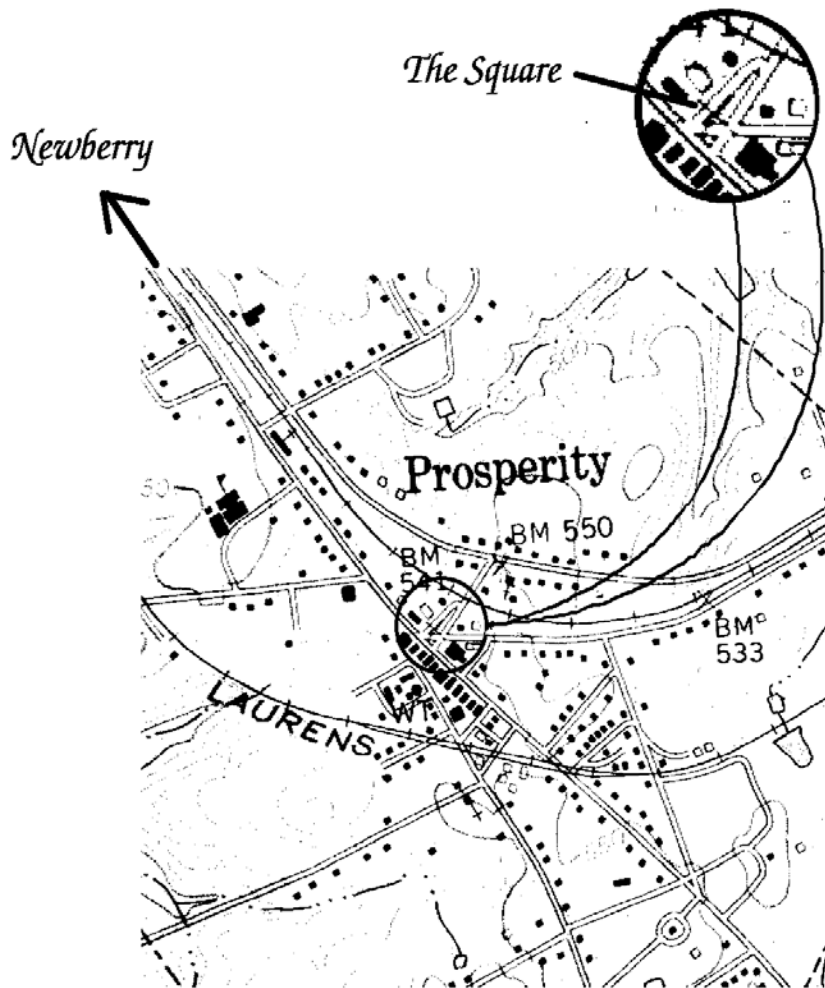


# **Tour of Taylor Sites**

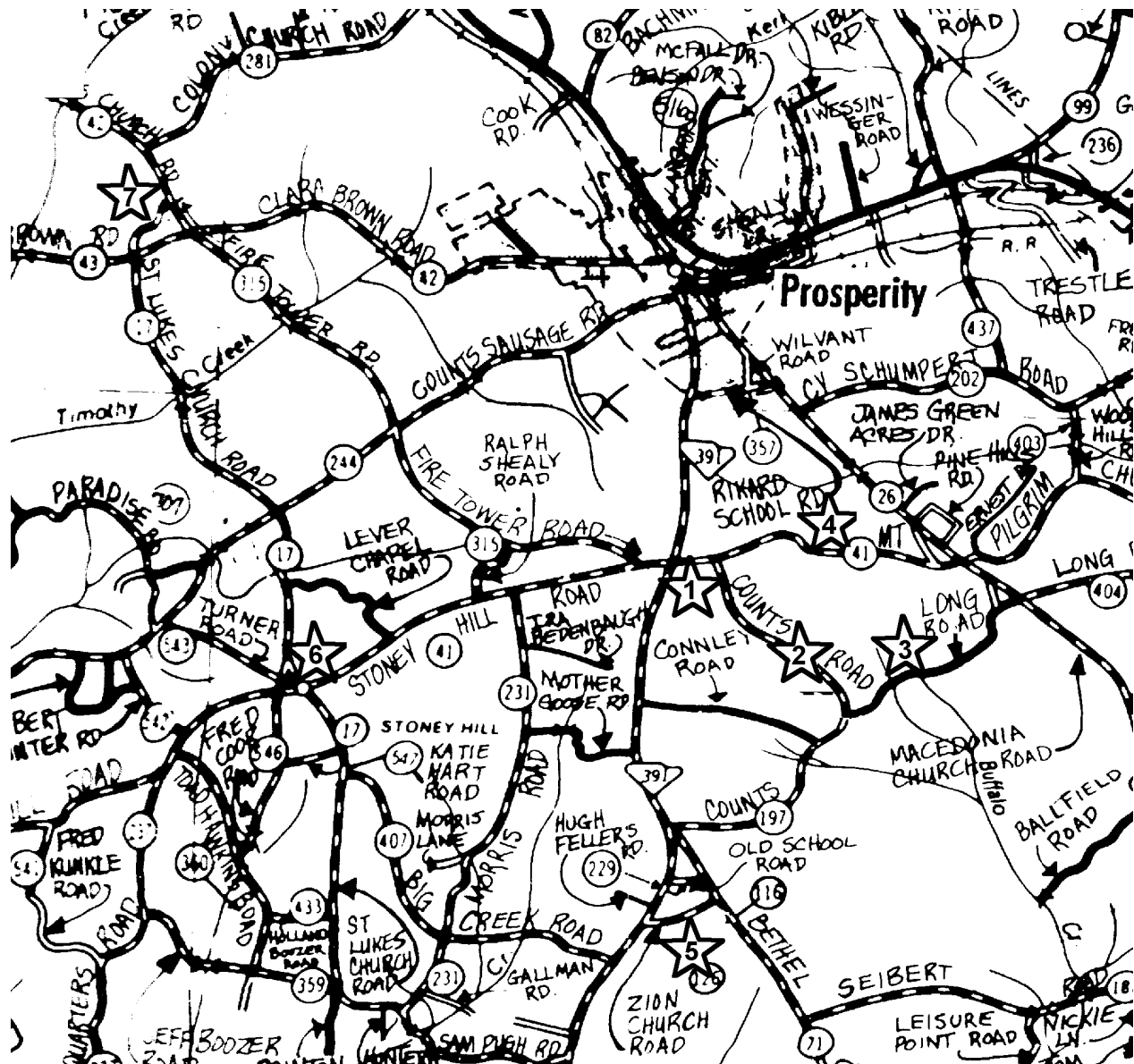
## **Saturday, June 22, 2002**

**Meet at the Square in Downtown  
Prosperity, South Carolina**



**Dress comfortably - walking shoes**

## Important Locations for Taylor Descendants



1. William Taylor Homeplace
2. Robert & James A. Taylor's Farms
3. Henry Dominick Grave
4. Ann Taylor Homeplace
5. Zion Methodist Church
6. St. Luke's Lutheran Church
7. Chapman-Summers Cemetery

# The William Taylor Family

William W. Taylor was born in Ireland, probably in the county of Armagh in the Protestant North, in about 1795. He emigrated to the US and ended up in Newberry County, South Carolina before 1815. Family tradition says that he came when he was age 11. He married Elizabeth Dominick, the daughter of a prominent local resident Henry Dominick, a revolutionary war veteran of German ancestry. They settled South of Prosperity (Then called Frog Level) in the community of Stoney Battery.

They had the following children:

- Margaret Anna Taylor (Ann) - born about 1815
- Robert Taylor - born about 1822
- Isabella Taylor - born about 1824
- George W Taylor - born 1825
- Lavinia Amanda Taylor (Viney) - born 1828
- James A Taylor - born about 1829
- Noah Taylor - born 1831
- Israel Taylor - born about 1835

Elizabeth died around 1835, and William died in 1848. He apparently had been successful. The inventory of his estate included slaves and a good deal of land. Total value was estimated at over \$3,000, a large sum for the time. Many of the Taylor descendants are also Hawkins descendants. Three of William's children (Isabella, Noah, Israel) married three of the children of Peter Watson Hawkins (Simeon, Nancy, Frances).

Following are some places related to the Taylor family. Refer to the map to match the numbers on the text with the numbers on the map.

## 1. William Taylor Homeplace

At the intersection of Stoney Hill Road and 391 is the homeplace of William W. Taylor. The house was in the Southeast corner of the intersection a short distance from the road. An 1841 survey said the William Taylor was living at this location at the time. This area was what was then called Stoney Battery. When the land was sold after William's death, this tract was described as the "homeplace." Ann bought the homplace.

## 2. Robert and James A. Taylor's Farms

Robert was given land by his father William because he had helped farm the homeplace. This land was on what is now Counts Road. It was on the East side of the road, probably about 6/10 mile from Pilgrim Church Road on a level spot. James farmed near Robert, probably on the West side of the road. His land was probably obtained from the settlement of his father's estate. Both James and Robert sold out in the 1850s and moved to Columbia County, Florida and remained there the rest of their lives.

## 3. Henry Dominick Grave

Henry was of German heritage, was a revolutionary soldier, and was born in South Carolina, contrary to some reports. He and his wife are buried on the hill in the area where he lived. Margaret Fellers married Henry after Henry's first wife Agnes, her sister, died. Elizabeth, their daughter, married William W. Taylor. Henry apparently never liked William and showed it in later actions. When he gave land to his other sons-in-law, he refused to give land to William and went to considerable legal effort to set up Elizabeth to where she could own land and then gave

the land to her. Turn from Counts Road onto Long Road. Go down the hill and across the creek. There will be a logging road on the left. Although the road is generally passable, you probably will want to park and walk up the road. About a tenth of a mile along the road, there is a hill to the left with a chainlink fence on top. The cemetery is inside the fence.

#### **4. Ann Taylor Homeplace**

In the 1850s, Robert, James, Viney, and Ann sold out and went to Columbia County, Florida. After some time, Ann did not like Florida, supposedly because of the snakes, and returned to Newberry County. When she returned, she moved to this location with her teenage son George. She lived here with him until she died. Turn off Macedonia Church Road (SR 26) and head West (left) on Mt. Pilgrim Church Road. About a mile down the road, shortly before a large curve, there is a little dirt driveway on the right that is next to an overgrown clearing. This is the site where the house was located.

#### **5. Zion Methodist Church**

This is the church where Margaret Anna (Ann), daughter of William and Elizabeth, is buried. She attended church here and William may have attended as well. She lived at home with William during the later years of his life. Family tradition has it that her father William is buried beside her. Based on this, a grave marker was placed there in the 1950s. The tombstone is incorrect, however. The Taylor reunion had hired a researcher to find information about William. Her report found William to have been a sergeant in the Revolutionary War. This was probably to make the family happy, but it is totally wrong. The William Taylor in her report died before Noah and Israel were born. Using the report information the relatives obtained a veteran tombstone and placed it there. Some family members (including me) would like to replace it.

#### **6. St. Luke's Lutheran**

St. Luke's is important for two different things related to the family. George Taylor, son of William died in 1847, shortly before his father. He attended here and is buried in the Cemetery. Secondly, for the many Taylor's who are descendants of Peter Watson Hawkins, this is his home church. He and his wife Mary were charter members when the church was founded in 1828. His son Jacob grew up in the church there. After Peter moved his family to Tennessee in 1844, Jacob returned to South Carolina to attend a seminary to become a minister. He served as pastor of St Luke's three times during the last of the 19th century. He died while serving there the third time.

#### **7 Chapman-Summers Cemetery**

This is another location important to the Taylors who are also Hawkins descendants. It is on Firetower Road just Northwest of the intersection with St. Luke's Church Road. Traveling Northwest, it is on the left, about 1/10 mile beyond the intersection. It is normally very overgrown. This cemetery has several Hawkins, the most prominent of which are Peter and Prudence Hawkins. They were the grandparents of Peter Watson Hawkins and were early settlers of the area. Although the graves are unmarked, Caesar Duval and his wife are buried here. Their daughter Mary was the wife of Peter Watson Hawkins. Caesar was born in Bolougne, France in 1758. He served as a French soldier during the revolution and had an exciting story. Their graves are in the corner of the cemetery near Sam Paysinger's grave.