



## Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission

204 East Academy St. ♦ P.O. Box 771 ♦ Asheboro, North Carolina 27204

October 23, 2012

The Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission (HLPC) met in the Meeting Room of the 1909 Historic Courthouse at 145 Worth Street, Asheboro, NC, and the meeting was called to order by Chairman Hal Johnson at 2:00 p.m.

Members present were Hal Johnson, Warren Dixon, Bill Johnson, Marsha Haithcock, Bill Ivey and Mac Whatley. Fran Andrews, Lynn Qualls, Robyn Hankins and Nan Kemp were absent.

### Approval of Minutes

*On motion of B. Johnson, seconded by Whatley, the HLPC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 22 2012, as presented.*

### Request and Approval of Resolution Designating The Billy Trogdon Cemetery (Aka Trogdon Burying Ground) for Cultural Heritage Site Designation

Chairman Hal Johnson stated that Jean Covington-LaCoss, on behalf of the East Coast Allred Family Association (ECAFA) of Asheboro, has requested The Billy Trogdon Cemetery (aka Trogdon Burying Ground) be recognized as a Cultural Heritage Site designation. Such sites are recognized because they provide a tangible link to the past, with the people and events that have made significant contributions to Randolph County history, and thus shaped our present. Mr. Johnson called on Ms. LaCoss to present the information on the request. A slide show of her pictures was shown during her presentation and is included in these minutes.



Ms. LaCoss stated that she had obtained history from others and had also done research on her own. The Billy Trogdon Cemetery is located on the original land of William Trogdon, Jr., born circa 1720 in Maryland. The Trogdon family moved to then Orange County, NC about 1753 and William Trogdon, Jr. appears on the Orange County 1755 Tax List. In 1799 when Randolph County was formed, William Jr.'s land was situated in what later became a part of Randolph County. William Jr. died in 1805 and is buried on his land in the family cemetery: The Billy Trogdon Cemetery. His grave is marked with a still legible hand-inscribed primitive rock and he is buried among children, grandchildren and many relatives.

This family cemetery became, over time, an expansive family cemetery with the graves of many families that had intermarried with the Trogdons. Some of the surnames represented in the cemetery are Trogdon, Allred, Ferree, Hammer, York, Julian, Diffie and likely many more whose graves are not marked or cannot be identified.

In 2002, the East Coast Allred Family Association (ECAFA) began the valiant cause of saving this cemetery. Its then owner, Mr. Alton Garner, deeded the cemetery (.61 acres) to the ECAFA. The ECAFA continues to work tirelessly alongside the Trogdon Family Historical Society to maintain and preserve the cemetery, which stands as a memorial to the history of Randolph County and these many associated founding residents. The Trogdon Family Historical Society has had the cemetery plotted, and based upon this blue print, it is possible this cemetery could possibly hold over 200 graves. Ms. LaCoss stated that they have approximately one-half of the cemetery surveyed, and 76 "marked" graves have been located. These "marked" graves vary from actual fully engraved headstones, including stones obviously made by family members who personally carved full birth and death dates in the stones, to crudely etched initials in a flat stone, or simple unmarked fieldstones used as headstones and footstones. Ms. LaCoss stated that from information that she has found, The Billy Trogdon Cemetery appears to be the largest family cemetery located in Randolph County. They have identified seventeen distinct rows of graves in the cemetery, with the longest row of graves revealing twenty-one marked graves. The oldest grave found in the cemetery is marked as "D.H. 1790." The latest burial they have been able to locate to date is William Trogdon, his death occurring in 1864 (grandson of William, who died in 1805), and who was buried alongside his wife, Elizabeth Gilliam Trogdon. Ms. LaCoss said the plotting, documenting and photographing of each grave or possible site of a grave is an ongoing project and remains a long-term commitment for both the Trogdon Family Historical Society and the East Coast Allred Family Association.

Ms. LaCoss said buried in the cemetery are three men who did not serve during the American Revolution, but are documented to have provided goods or services during the war: William Trogdon, Jr., c1720-1805, William Allred, c1735-1825 and Samuel Trogdon, c1750-1831. These three patriots have been recognized by the Daughters of The American Revolution, as well as, the Sons of the American Revolution. Samuel Trogdon was also named in the December 1796 NC General Assembly act to establish the town of Asheborough on the lands of Jesse Henley. Samuel Trogdon is named in this document as one of the five men named as commissioners that were responsible for having "laid off" the 50 acres to establish the said town. A newspaper article from The

Randolph Tribune dated July 10, 1938, confirms Samuel's place in the history of the establishment of the town of Asheborough.

### **THE BILLY TROGDON CEMETERY REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS**



**William Trogdon  
April 11  
1805**



**S T  
11 of May  
1831  
(Samuel Trogdon – Son of William died 1805)**



**W A  
3 May  
1825  
(William Allred)**

**THE BILLY TROGDON CEMETERY**  
**Sampling of Headstones – Page 1**



**Susanah Trogdon**  
**B 23 A 1788**  
**D 4 A 1843**  
**(Susannah Ferree Trogdon)**



**Samuel Trogdon**  
**who died September 1853**  
**aged 69 years 9 months 7 days**  
**(Samuel Jr., was Susanah's husband)**



**M T**  
**B Feb 2 1806**  
**D A 19 1840**



**Daniel Free**  
**Born June 3, 1820**  
**Died March 12, 1850**

**THE BILLY TROGDON CEMETERY**  
**Sampling of Headstones – Page 2**



**L A**  
**Sept 23 1834**



**E Tro**  
**W B April 19 1778**  
**D Ju 1849**  
**(Elizabeth Gilliam Trogdon)**



**J x F**  
**14 July 1828**  
**D A 19 1840**



**A T**  
**Nov 11**  
**1801**  
**(Abigail Julian Trogdon)**

**THE BILLY TROGDON CEMETERY**  
**Sampling of Headstones – Page 3**



**R x H x Feb 3  
1834**



**Levisa Burrow  
December 28 of May 1851  
Aged 2 years 8 months fifeteen days**



**William Trogdon was born  
Sept 4<sup>th</sup> 1774 in Rest Oct 8<sup>th</sup>  
1864 90 years 1 mo and 7 days**



**IH: TR  
B 21 JI 1822  
D 7 JI 1843**

Mr. Ivey asked Mr. Johnson to review the standards the HLPC has set for cemeteries. Chairman Johnson responded that monuments, including cemeteries and private cemeteries at least 100 years old containing participants of the War of Regulation (1768-1771), the American Revolutionary War and/or the Civil War, are the terms established in the ordinance creating the HLPC.

Ms. LaCoss was asked if she knew how the cemetery was named. She responded that the first person that surveyed the property in 1938 had given it the name of Trogdon Burying Ground. Other indicators came from a book written by W.F. Willard in the 1920s and a 1905 letter written by someone else that referred to it as the Trogdon Burying Ground. The property originally was deeded to Billy Trogdon. The ECAFA needed a name in order to have it deeded and decided to identify it as The Billy Trogdon Cemetery (aka Trogdon Burying Ground) based off of that information.

Ms. LaCoss introduced Glenda Trogdon Allen, who came from Missouri and is a descendent of those buried in the cemetery. She spoke in favor of this request.

Chairman Johnson stated the site is on private property and crossing other private property to get to the cemetery is necessary. If anyone wishes to visit they are encouraged to contact Ms. LaCoss to set up an appointment.

*On a motion of Hankins, seconded by Ivey, the Commission voted unanimously to approve a Resolution of Recognition for the The Billy Trogdon Cemetery (aka Trogdon Burying Ground), ca. 1790, as follows:*

***WHEREAS,** The Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission desires to recognize those Cultural Heritage Sites that provide a tangible link to the past, with the people and events that have made significant contributions to Randolph County history, and thus shaped our present; and*

***WHEREAS,** The Billy Trogdon Cemetery (aka Trogdon Burying Ground), ca 1790 is one of Randolph County's largest family cemeteries and contains the graves of Revolutionary War patriots recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution; and*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that official recognition as a Cultural Heritage Site as requested by the East Coast Allred Family Association and approved in public meeting by the Historic Landmark Preservation Commission, is given to:*

***THE BILLY TROGDON CEMETERY (aka Trogdon Burying Ground), ca. 1790***

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission, appropriate history and photographs placed on the Commission's historical website, and a suitable copy presented to the recipient.*

**Review of Designated Landmarks and Cultural Heritage Sites to Date**

Chairman Johnson stated the HLPC has been an active commission since its inception in 2008, and he reviewed all the designations.

**HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATIONS**

- Randolph County Historic Courthouse (12-4-08)
- Sandy Creek Primitive Baptist Church (4-6-09)
- County Rest Home 1921 (4-9-09)
- Franklinsville Mill (4-14-09)
- Trinity Museum / Winslow House (9-15-09)
- Col. Andrew Balfour Cemetery (10-5-09)

- 1911 Pisgah Covered Bridge (3-1-10)
- Mt. Shepherd Archeological Pottery Site (6-7-10)
- Charles W. McCrary House ca 1929 (9-9-10)
- J. Frank McCrary House ca 1933 (9-9-10)
- Sunset Theater ca.1929 (9-9-10)
- 1852 Hank's Masonic Lodge no. 128 (11-9-10)
- Asheboro Municipal Building (2-10-11)
- Austin Lawrence House (6-6-11)
- John Wesley's Stand (11-7-11)
- Marmaduke Swaim Robins Law Office (11-10-11)
- Fisher Estate Gatekeeper's House, 1888 (5-10-12)

#### CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES

- 1885 Patterson Cottage/ Liberty Museum (5-26-10)
- 1789 Richland Lutheran Church and Cemetery (5-26-10)
- 1905 Liberty Train Depot (5-26-10)
- 1920 Parkers Mill Bridge (5-26-10)
- c. 1760 Mill Creek Friends Meeting and Cemetery (5-26-10)
- Old Asheboro Municipal Cemetery (5-26-10)
- 1951 Randolph High School (1-25-12)
- The Billy Trogdon Cemetery (aka Trogdon Burying Ground) (10-23-12)

#### **Adjournment**

*At 2:54 p.m., on motion of Whatley, seconded by Dixon, the HLPC voted unanimously to adjourn.*

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Hal Johnson, Chairman

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Amanda Varner, Clerk to the HLPC