



ETHERIDGE HOMEPLACE: A HISTORY

PENNE SMITH

for Outer Banks Conservationists

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This publication was printed by OUTER BANKS CONSERVATIONISTS on the occasion of a gathering of Etheridge descendents on 6.October.2001 at the Homeplace, Roanoke Island. It was printed as a progress report on research completed on the history of the farmstead.

The descendents were brought together to share stories, history and photographs of their ancestral property in an attempt by OBC to gather additional information that will be helpful in completing the research as well as the restoration/re-construction of the farmstead. Upon completion of the project over the next three to five years, OBC will open the property to the public to interpret life on Roanoke Island in the mid-19th century.

OUTER BANKS CONSERVATIONISTS, INC., a non-profit organization, was founded in 1980 with its primary purpose "conservation of place....the Outer Banks of North Carolina." Over the past 21 years, OBC has restored the Currituck Beach Lighthouse and Keepers' Houses. The lighthouse was opened to the public in 1990.

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The Etheridge Homeplace: Introduction

One of the few intact nineteenth-century farmhouses on Roanoke Island is a two-story frame dwelling located approximately two miles northwest of downtown Manteo. Known as the Etheridge Homeplace, this house is located on a two-and-a-half acre tract, the core of what was a 105-acre farm in 1899.¹ The site surrounding the house is also considered to be part of an even older 150-acre tract acquired by Jesse Etheridge in January 1783.² Of the many structures once on this site—which included slavehouses, barns, animal pens, and outbuildings, as well as a vineyard and cedar allée—only the house, an elm, and three ancient oak trees remain.

According to family tradition, the Etheridge Homeplace comprises part of Jesse Etheridge's original late eighteenth-century house.³ Examination of the house's building elements, its surviving exterior and interior treatments, and an investigation of period maps, however, indicate this house was built between 1845 and 1852. Yet this house, initially a two-story, single-pile timber frame dwelling with a detached kitchen, has features typically seen with much older houses on Roanoke Island, suggesting a conservative building style and construction tradition persevered on the island well into the nineteenth century. It is even possible that this dwelling, which rests on replacement brick piers, stands on or near the foundation of an earlier house.

Between 1885 and 1900 the Etheridge family gradually altered the house's interior and added a two-story rear ell. These changes took place during the time when the house was either owned by Augustus H. Etheridge (1860-1941) or still owned by his mother and stepfather, Fanny Baum Etheridge Dough and Thomas A. Dough. A one-story rear shed extension was also attached to the west elevation of the house at the

¹ Dare County 1899 Tax Records for Nags Head Township (courtesy John F. Wilson IV IV, IV, OBC).

² Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 4, pp. 109-110 [Joseph Mann>Jesse Etheridge, January 7, 1783]; also Dr. Benjamin C. Holtzclaw, "Etheridge of Norfolk County, VA," in Boddie, *Historical Southern Families* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1970 and 1971), vols. XIV and XV, pp. 145-146 (XIV) and 115-121.

³ A. H. Etheridge, "Married Fifty Years," in *Progressive Farmer*, August 1940 (page not given from clipping).

turn of the century; according to family descendants, this was the room of Augustus' older sister, Josephine Etheridge Drinkwater (1849-1917), when she moved in with her brother and his family.⁴ With the extensions, the house's original ceiling was lowered, beaded board sheathing covered the interior walls, and fireplaces were adjusted to incorporate stoves. The extensions to the house reflect both the Etheridge family's late nineteenth-century prosperity in their maritime and agricultural businesses, as well as the fact that the house was home to eight to ten people during those years.⁵

Presently the house, rental property for nearly thirty years, stands empty. After Augustus H. Etheridge's death in 1941, followed by the deaths of his wife Roxana (1870-1943) and daughter Amanda (1888-1945), his grandson Augustus Etheridge inherited the house, where he lived until the late 1960s. Within the past fifty years a bathroom and modern kitchen were added and the rear shed extension was removed. Outbuildings, such as the mule barn and dairy behind the house, were torn down. Farmland was developed for residential purposes. The house, which was briefly sold out of the family, was re-acquired in 1988 by four Etheridge descendants: Lee Zenovah Salet, Natalie Salet, Lou Salet, and John F. Wilson IV. Outer Banks Conservationists, Incorporated, now own it.

In spite of what no longer stands on the complex, there is enough documentation to recreate the built environment once familiar to Augustus H. Etheridge and his family. Photographs, aerial and otherwise, have survived of the farmstead during the early-to-mid-twentieth century. This could not only aid reconstruction of some buildings, but also restoration of the Etheridge Homeplace. These photographs have confirmed family history about outbuildings and structures, as well as the plan of the house and its interior and exterior features.

⁴ Interview with Marguerite Drinkwater Booth, Manteo, NC, July 10, 1999.

⁵ 1870-1880 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township.

The purpose of the following report is intended to provide a history of the site, incorporating both a history of the family that developed it, and contextual issues during this family's recent history. Consequently, understanding the history of the Etheridge Homeplace is to understand the history of Roanoke Island from the early nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. The history of the Etheridge Homeplace and its inhabitants reflects Roanoke Island's eventual turn from subsistence farming to a maritime-driven economy, where agriculture took a lower priority. The house and its surviving artifacts offer mute testimony to the occupations of these people in a time when there were few, if any, choices as to how one's life would be lived. Its history, mingled with artifacts and former outbuildings, poignantly highlights the sometimes cordial but often complex relationships of Roanoke Island's white and African-American inhabitants. Finally the Etheridge House in its form and history is a chronicle of the Outer Banks experience.

Another section of this report will discuss the actual Etheridge House, along with notes on what is known about interior finish, and what can be conjectured about interior furniture, outbuildings, and field patterns. A conjectural list of outbuildings will be based upon two things: census data and late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century photographs of Roanoke Island taken by Victor Meekins (OBHC Collection). Peter Sandbeck will be providing further enlightenment in this area with his eventual structural reports.

Part One: The Etheridge Heritage on Roanoke Island's North End

"Logtown": The North End

The Etheridge Homeplace is located on Roanoke Island's North End, a westward-curving promontory where, at Northwest Point, the Croatan and Roanoke Sounds meet. Less marshy than the southern part of the island, the North End is less than fifteen feet above sea level at its highest point. Where not cultivated, this area abounds with pine trees, oaks, wild dogwoods, and muscadine vines, as well as small yaupon trees and wax myrtle shrubs.⁶ Parts of its eastern coastline consist of elevated, sandy beaches; in other places, earlier fields and pastures have reverted to woodland or become residential developments.

The North End's history of white settlement began with a tragic, mysterious event. Along its eastern shore was the ill-fated sixteenth-century English settlement now known as the Lost Colony. Fort Raleigh, where the settlers lived before their disappearance, is now a national site where considerable archaeology has been executed. The two hundred years following the Lost Colony saw slow colonial settlement. In the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, although pamphlets were dispersed praising Roanoke Island's climate and situation, absentee landlords prevailed; these landowners, Joshua Lamb, Nicholas Paige, George Pordage, and, later, Belcher Noyes, were New England merchants who contracted with island settlers to raise livestock.⁷

The island's way of life was undisturbed for most of the eighteenth century. One exception to the otherwise peaceful existence on Roanoke Island between 1600 and 1776 came during the Native American revolt known as the Tuscarora War. In 1713,

⁶ Bruce Cheeseman, "Four Centuries and Roanoke Island: A Legacy of Geographical Change," (Historical research report for NC Division of Archives and History Research Branch, 1982), pp. 6-7. I urge anyone doing work on the Etheridge site to read this report.

⁷ Cheeseman, pp. 42-43.

a group of Coree and Mattamuskeet Indians sympathetic to the Tuscarora engineered a surprise attack on Roanoke Island, killing or capturing about forty settlers.⁸ Apparently neither this nor attempts beginning in 1715 by North Carolina's government to establish a town on Roanoke Island fazed the northern businessmen, most of whom retained their land claims into the mid-eighteenth century.⁹ Edward Moseley's 1729 copy of William Maule's 1718 map of Roanoke Island shows the landowners and settlers on the North End to include "Mr. Took, Mr. [John] Mann, & c." The settlers who gained a foothold were mainly comprised of the Dough, Ashby, Mann, Daniels, Midgett, Wescott, Etheridge, Farrow, and Baum families; many of their descendants still live on or near Roanoke Island [Insert 1].

After the Revolution the North End was the site of the island's largest farmsteads, which included tracts owned by the Meekins, Baum, Midgett, and Etheridge families. The first church in this area, Roanoke Island Baptist Church, was established here in 1803; its present building, constructed circa 1870, has been considerably altered but retains at its core the original frame meeting house. The North End was also the site of a large Freedmen's settlement during and just after the Civil War. Furthermore, one of the two windmills on the island was located in this vicinity. In the late nineteenth century, Manteo and Wanchese residents called the North End "Logtown", due to its high concentration of log corncribs. By 1935 nearly all these log structures were gone, giving way to "many attractive homes," one of these being "the old-time place with the whitewashed fences and trees" of Augustus H. Etheridge.¹⁰

⁸ Cheeseman, p. 45.

⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 46.

¹⁰ Elizabeth City (NC) Independent, Feb. 12, 1922, p. 3; Dare County Times (Manteo, NC), July 5, 1935, p. 1.

Early History of the Etheridge Family on Roanoke Island

The earliest known citation of Etheridges on Roanoke Island is a fourteen-year tenancy agreement made in 1757 between William Cathcart of Northampton County, North Carolina, and “Adam Everage [sic.], Currituck County . . . Planter.” According to information given by Adam Etheridge III to a government surveyor in an 1852 interview, this “Adam Everage” was apparently his grandfather, Adam Etheridge I. Cathcart leased 1,500 acres of land to Etheridge, extending from Gibson’s Creek (now Doughs Creek), located near Mother Vineyard on Roanoke Sound, west to Croatan Sound. The 1729 Moseley Map indicates that this tract was part of what had been Captain Richard Sanderson’s claimed property from the early eighteenth century. Cathcart’s leased site, approximately where Maurice Baum had his early nineteenth-century plantation, is just south of where Adam Etheridge I’s son, Jesse Etheridge, and his heirs eventually settled. The 1757 lease indicates there were already buildings, paths, and fencing on the property, and that the planter was expected to improve the property. Cathcart stipulated that Adam Etheridge I would pay him three pounds sterling every November 20th as proclamation money (or rent), and that no trees in the tract were to be cut or used unless expressly for the plantation or for an on-site building. Another stipulation was that Etheridge and his family were to “deliver up the premises peaceably and quietly and in good order. . . with all ye Improvements that shall be Erected thereon without demolishing any part thereof” when the lease ended in 1771, or face a fifty-pound fine.¹¹

The agreement tells many things. One is that, contrary to present connotations of the word “planter”—moss-draped allees, a large white house with a stupendously columned porch, and a tall, well-dressed man riding about his demesne—the eighteenth-century usage of the term in this instance describes, basically, a tenant

¹¹ William Cathcart, May 2, 1757, lease to Adam Everage [sic.], Roanoke Island, NC. Currituck County Records, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC [copy of deed is B-11 in Bruce Cheeseman’s research papers, Archives and Records]. Also, Edward Moseley, 1729 Map of Roanoke Island, Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill [copy of map at Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC] and Fulton Map, ca. 1821, SHC, UNC-CH [copy of map also at OBHC, Manteo, NC].

farmer who has the use of grounds and fields for annual cash rent. Jealous of his timber, which was already a rare commodity on Roanoke Island, Cathcart wanted to make sure that any trees cut by Adam Etheridge I would go strictly toward bettering his farm, and not wind up as money in Etheridge's pocket. The request that Cathcart's premises be vacated peaceably and in good order appears, at first glance, unusual. But it was prudent. Cathcart desired the full benefit of Etheridge's work, which meant any improvements on the farm—outbuildings, fencing, house additions—could not be taken apart by Etheridge to be used somewhere else after the lease expired without some sort of remuneration.

It is not presently known if Adam Etheridge I and William Cathcart renewed their understanding in 1771. By 1783, three of Etheridge's sons—Tart, Jesse, and Adam Etheridge II—had settled elsewhere on the North End.

Because the Etheridges tended to use the same names generation after generation, divining which Etheridge is which can be confusing.¹² The Tart Etheridge branch of the family used "Tart" nearly every generation; this practice was echoed by the use of "Adam" in the Jesse Etheridge branch. Often when going over deed and will records, it is difficult to know which Adam is being cited. Thanks to the research of genealogists such as Benjamin Holtzclaw and Elizabeth Baum Hanbury, in addition to deed and census research, the following list of Adam Etheridges was verified, and should be helpful in terms of keeping them all straight:

Untangling the Etheridges: a genealogical chart

Adam I	Adam Etheridge of Currituck County (1710-1790?); patriarch and Roanoke Island tenant farmer ca. 1757-1771. Called "Mortal Adam" in family history. Grandfather of Adam III.
Adam II	Adam Etheridge of Roanoke Island (ca. 1735-1813), son of Adam I and brother of Jesse and Tart Etheridge

¹² As none of the "Tart Etheridges" (according to Holtzclaw, this may have been the maiden name of Adam Etheridge I's wife) are connected with the Etheridge Homeplace and Farm, I will not be classifying them in this report.

Adam III	Adam Etheridge of Roanoke Island (1775- ca.1855), son of Jesse Etheridge; referred to as "Adam Etheridge, Jr.," in 1799 deed transactions, but also referred to as "Adam Etheridge, Sr.," in mid-nineteenth century deeds
Adam x	Adam Etheridge, grandson of Tart Etheridge I and brother of Tart Etheridge III (d. 1823); Tart Etheridge's 1823 will names his brother Adam as chief beneficiary. Possible birth date of Adam x is 1790; Adam x does not appear in later census records, suggesting that he either died or moved from the area
ADE I	Adam Dough Etheridge (1813-1868), son of Adam III Married Frances Baum
ADE II	Adam Dough Etheridge, Jr. (1852-1880), son of ADE I Married Abia (or Abai) Dough
ADE III	Adam Dough Etheridge, III (1873-1940), son of ADE II Married Lillie Johnson
ADE IV	Adam Dough Etheridge, IV (1907-1994), son of ADE III Married Milroe Basnight. The last of this line, ADE IV is not otherwise part of this research report

Currituck County's 1790 census shows Jesse, Tart, and Adam (aka Adam II) Etheridge still living on Roanoke Island.¹³ Other Etheridges on Roanoke Island listed in the census include Jesse Etheridge, Jr., who was, contrary to what title suggests, Jesse Etheridge's *nephew* and Adam Etheridge II's only known son. This Jesse Etheridge, Jr., had married circa 1790 and was dead by 1812. Jesse Etheridge "Sr.'s" own sons were Reuben (ca. 1765-1820), Arthur (ca. 1770-?), who was still alive in 1820, and Adam ("Adam II", 1775-ca.1855).¹⁴ The Fulton Map shows Reuben and Arthur Etheridge's farmsteads near Blackhall Bay in the island's northwestern part.

A few things should be noted about Adam Etheridge II, whose farmstead at Roanoke Island's northernmost point included the Fort Raleigh site, the Lost Colony's location. In his day, Adam II may have been the wealthiest of the three brothers. The 1790 census lists Adam II as having three slaves on his property, where his brothers had none. Towards the end of his life, Adam II sold his slaves to his children; in 1805 Mara Etheridge Dough paid \$300.00 for "one negro boy named March," and Sally Etheridge, his unmarried daughter, paid \$500.00 for Sam, Claramond, and

¹³ First Census of the United States (1790), Currituck County, Edenton District.

¹⁴ Holtzclaw, pp. 119-121.

Tinah.¹⁵ At the same time, Adam II deeded fifty acres at Roanoke Island's North End to Sally, a tract with "houses, buildings, orchards, ways, water courses . . . and appurtenances."¹⁶ His last will and testament, dated October 1812, named his wife, Rosamond, and his daughters, Mary Baum, Mara Dough, Eliza Dowdy, and Sally Etheridge as beneficiaries; other beneficiaries were his grandchildren, Nancy Etheridge, Jeminy Etheridge, and Warren A. Dough. Dough was to receive Adam II's own dwelling place and property after Rosamond Etheridge's death; this tract was situated near Etheridge Point, to the east of what is now Northwest Point.¹⁷ This landmark was not to survive; by the mid-nineteenth century, Etheridge Point had eroded away.¹⁸ Walter Dough, a descendant of Adam Etheridge II and Warren A. Dough, had inherited the Fort Raleigh site by the 1880s; at that time, "the ancient city . . . [was] marked by the outlines of what seems to be a star-shaped fort and is now overgrown by oaks and pines."¹⁹

The Jesse Etheridge Family, 1783-1800

The Etheridge heritage on the North End, as concerns this report, officially begins on January 7, 1783, when Joseph Mann sold Jesse Etheridge his 150-acre parcel of land, complete with "appurtenances, Privileges, and Commodities," indicating that Mann had a farmstead and paths on his land. Apparently there was concern that previous claims to this tract could emerge, as Joseph Mann went on to describe the property as "free and clear & freely and clearly acquitted [sic.] Exonerated . . . from all & all manner of former Gifts, Grants, Bargains, Sales, Leases, Mortgages, Wills, Entails, Joynters, Dowries, Judgments, Executions, incumbrances, and troubles whatsoever." Mann even guaranteed to pay Jesse Etheridge and his heirs one thousand pounds in

¹⁵ Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 9, p. 95 [Etheridge>Dough]; Book 9, pp. 95-95, 103 [Etheridge >Etheridge].

¹⁶ Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 9, p. 100 [Etheridge>Etheridge].

¹⁷ Fulton, "Plan of Croatan and Roanoke Sounds," 1820 (large-scale map).

¹⁸ Cheeseman, p. 65. In his 1888 diary, Joshua Judson Davis (Special Collections and MSS, J. Y. Joyner Library, ECU) mentions an October 7 visit to "Captain Walter Doe," who owned the Fort Raleigh site, and was a descendant of Warren Dough.

the event that a lawful claim to the land emerged, a substantial sum.²⁰ Three months later, Jesse's brother Tart Etheridge acquired a neighboring sixty-nine acre tract from Abraham Baum, which had "houses, messuages, and tenements" onsite.²¹ Neither acquisition had access to waterfront. On May 11, 1787, however, William Daniel sold Jesse Etheridge and Tart Etheridge each an adjacent fifty-acre parcel of land that gave both brothers access to Roanoke Sound. By gaining waterfront access, the Etheridge brothers could not only fish as well as farm, but they could also send produce or livestock to either the mainland or the Outer Banks.²²

The property Jesse Etheridge acquired between 1783 and 1787 formed the basis of what is now known as the Etheridge Homeplace. Notations on the 1820 Fulton Map indicate that Jesse Etheridge or his son, Adam Etheridge III, built the first house closer to Roanoke Sound [Insert 2]. This property was to pass on to at least two Adam Etheridges.

Adam Etheridge III (1775-1850s)

From documentation it appears that Jesse Etheridge, the brother of Tart and Adam II, left his house and farm to his own son ("Adam III") at the turn of the nineteenth century. In 1820, Adam Etheridge III's land holdings were approximately in the same location as his father's—and his son and grandsons' to follow. An 1820 map shows four buildings positioned near Roanoke Sound on Adam III's farm.²³ Adam Etheridge III acquired land not only on Roanoke Island, but along the Outer Banks as well. As early as 1829, Adam III purchased a fifty-acre tract along Bodie Island

¹⁹ J. J. Davis Papers (Roanoke Diary), Manuscripts Collection, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC (October 7, 1888, entry).

²⁰ Currituck County Register of Deeds, 4:109-110.

²¹ Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 4, p. 108 [Baum>T. Etheridge].

²² Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 5, pp. 224 and 225 [Daniels> T. Etheridge; Daniels> J. Etheridge].

²³ Hamilton Fulton, "Plan of Croatan and Roanoke Sounds shewing the proposed situations of the Embankments & Inlet," 1820 (large-scale map, copy at Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC).

²³ Cheeseman, p. 65.

“between the Day Hill and new inlet”.²⁴ This acquisition may have not only been for fishing purposes, but also for livestock; many farmers took advantage of the Banks’ meadows and woodland for their cattle and pigs. In addition to his land holdings, Adam III was also the owner of a small boat, in which he periodically traveled to Ocracoke Inlet, probably to fish but possibly to trade with that island’s natives.²⁵

Etheridge, who had lived to see his island change by forces of politics from a British colony to part of a new nation, also lived to see his land change by forces of nature. Late in life, he related how Roanoke Island and its waters had changed, due to shifting topography and erosion:

In [Adam Etheridge III]’s account, there had been a perceptible change in the depth of water in Roanoke Sound since 1783. From that time until the closing of the inlet, about 28 years, the inlet worked gradually southward for about a mile and finally closed at the place . . . two and one-half miles south of Nag’s Head . . .

Mr. Etheridge states too that he remembers passing through Roanoke Marshes in a boat in the year 1783. There was then but one channel opening through there, and that was not more than sixty feet wide. His grandfather used to say that when he was a boy the opening was so narrow that it could be crossed on a fence-rail.²⁶

Etheridge’s account has been corroborated by evidence from the 1729 map devised by Edward Moseley and John Collet’s 1770 map, both showing how Roanoke Inlet was closing and Croatan Sound’s marshes were being submerged by water from Albemarle Sound.²⁷ By 1853 Roanoke Sound had eroded the eastern boundary of his farm to the point that the water was nearly one hundred feet away from his home.²⁸ This rapid erosion may have been a factor in Adam Dough Etheridge’s deciding to build his home further inland from that of his father’s.

²⁴ Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 18, p. 310 [Markham>Etheridge].

²⁵ Lt. William B. Franklin, 1852 Report to Col. J. J. Aberts and topographic map of Roanoke Island. Record Group 77, Records of the Corps of Engineers, National Archives, Washington, DC.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Cheeseman, pp. 51 and 66 (quoted from Franklin).

²⁸ Ibid.

Adam Etheridge III appears in Roanoke Island's 1850 census as a 75 year-old farmer with a wife, Margaret, a daughter, and three children who may have been either wards or grandchildren.²⁹ He was then tilling ten acres of his 450-acre property, valued at \$400.00; this was the average value of a Roanoke Island farm during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. With the assistance of two oxen, Etheridge cultivated and harvested 60 bushels of corn, 20 bushels of peas and beans, 20 bushels of Irish potatoes, and 75 bushels of sweet potatoes in 1850, all subsistence crops. Etheridge and his family also produced 50 pounds of wool from their 20 sheep and 25 pounds of butter from their one cow.³⁰ Etheridge's production, modest in comparison to his son's and to Roanoke Island standards of that time, suggest he was, as an older man, producing just enough for his family's needs and his own abilities.

William B. Franklin, who surveyed Roanoke Island in 1852, interviewed Adam Etheridge III during this undertaking. Adam III, who Franklin described as "perfectly in possession of his memory and mind", is thought to have been in his late seventies at that time.³¹ The year before, Etheridge had deeded twenty acres of land on Roanoke Island to his son Adam Dough Etheridge, a tract that bordered Samuel Midgett and George Gaylord's land and crossed the island's principal road.³² Neither a last will and testament nor a probate inventory for Adam Etheridge III is known to have survived. He does not appear in the 1860 census, so it is safe to assume that he, an elderly man by nineteenth-century standards (not to mention Roanoke Island standards, which were more exacting), had died between 1852 and 1860.

Adam Dough Etheridge I (1813-1868)

²⁹ 1850 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island District.

³⁰ 1850 Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island District.

³¹ Franklin, 1852 Report. Record Group 77, Records of the Corps of Engineers, National Archives, Washington, DC. In the excerpt from this report in Bruce Cheeseman's 1982 research, Adam Etheridge III recalled crossing Croatan Channel to Roanoke Island as a boy in 1783, remembering it to be much broader at that time; he also discussed erosion along Roanoke Sound throughout his lifetime.

³² Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 26, p. 68 [Etheridge>Etheridge].

In addition to his father's twenty-acre deed, Adam Dough Etheridge I acquired some land at Roanoke Island's North End in the 1850s, but apparently either sold it or transferred his interest to other parties.³³ In 1859, however, both Adam Dough Etheridge and his brother John B. Etheridge were granted land on Bodie Island; in the former case, it was 176 acres "between town creek and New Inlet," an expansive tract.³⁴ Ten years later, Adam Dough Etheridge's estate sale on Bodie Island indicated that, in keeping with Outer Banks farming tradition, he had a number of heifers and steers on this property.³⁵ Etheridge also kept seine lines for fishing, a skiff, drum nets, and oyster tongs at his Bodie Island property.³⁶ He had also had a sizable number of cattle since 1845, when his brand markings were registered with Currituck County; at that time, cattle were branded by nicks clipped in their ears, not by an iron brand.³⁷

William Franklin's 1852 Roanoke Island sketch map shows, at the site of Adam Dough Etheridge's farmstead, a cultivated field with a building site near the field's southeastern corner and, at the field's northwestern boundary, a house [Insert 3]. There was a road directly to the north of the house leading to a farmstead on the Croatan Sound; this road appears to follow the route of what is now Etheridge Road, only the older road may be further south. Adam Dough Etheridge's farm was bordered at its east by the principal road of the island; the 1852 map shows that land east of the road was not being farmed at that time, suggesting this was part of the family's undeveloped land holdings.

Sometime between 1845 and 1852, Adam Dough Etheridge built his house, a two-story, single-pile dwelling he called his "mansion house". In form and plan, this house is similar to the pre-restored Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House (a.k.a.

³³ Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 26, p. 187 [A. D. Etheridge > Francis Barrett]; 28, p. 479 [A. D. Etheridge > Joseph W. Dough].

³⁴ Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 28, p. 480.

³⁵ Dunbar, p. 32; Cheeseman, p. 56.

³⁶ Currituck County Estate Records, Adam Dough Etheridge Estate Sale (July 1869). State Library Collection, North Carolina Division of Archives & History, Raleigh, NC.

³⁷ Currituck County Register of Deeds, Animal Brand Markings, 1832-1958 (Adam D. Etheridge, August 25, 1845: "Mark is crop and under bit the Right [ear] and over Square the left.")

“Drinkwater’s Folly”) and similar to the Meekins Homeplace, two surviving, though altered, North End nineteenth-century houses [Figures 2 and 3].³⁸ Etheridge’s timber frame dwelling, built of heart pine, had a front and rear full-façade shed porch, both porches sheathed with flush cypress boards and with a small enclosed chamber at their north ends.³⁹ These sheathed porches had roots in eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century traditional building practices, when people utilized their porches as additional living spaces rather than as ceremonial passageways or pleasant shelters. Judging from photographs taken in the 1890s and early 1900s, houses on Roanoke Island continued to be used in this manner, where porches were furnished and fully utilized.⁴⁰ Inside, the house’s interior finish was plain. There was no lathing or plastering; walls, with just their timber frames and weatherboards as shelter from the elements, were whitewashed within. There was only one chimney in the house, at the north gable end; the south parlor, where the enclosed wooden stair was, may have had some sheathing and a small chair rail. There was also a side door in the south parlor, possibly leading to a detached kitchen. Otherwise, the house had a front and rear door, both leading to the porches. Windows in place were double-hung sash and small. Yet from what is known about architecture on nineteenth-century Roanoke Island, this was a large and substantial home in its time—indeed, a “mansion house.”

Between 1850 and 1860, Adam Dough Etheridge increased his farmstead’s production. In 1850, Etheridge raised 200 bushels of corn, 50 bushels of peas, 20 bushels of Irish potatoes, and 100 bushels of sweet potatoes on fifteen acres of his 420-acre farm; he had two horses and one ox as well.⁴¹ In 1860, Etheridge’s farmstead was down to 125 acres, twenty acres of which were being cultivated. At that latter time Etheridge’s real estate amounted to \$700.00; his personal estate was \$4,000.00, indicating a higher than average number of buildings and possessions for a

³⁸ The Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House, moved to another site at the North End, has been substantially altered but surviving interior elements such as wainscoting and transitional Georgian-Federal mantelpieces indicate that it was built circa 1800-1820, and is probably the oldest of the three.

³⁹ Peter Sandbeck and Penne Smith, November 1999 and May 2000 fieldwork at Etheridge Homeplace, Manteo, NC.

⁴⁰ Victor Meekins Photograph Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. Note particularly Meekins’ exterior photographs of the Meekins Homeplace.

⁴¹ 1850 Federal Census, Agriculture Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island.

Roanoke Island farmstead.⁴² Livestock on the farm included one horse, two cows, two oxen, 40 other heads of cattle, twelve sheep, and 35 pigs; except for the oxen, sheep, and horses, livestock probably foraged in Etheridge's uncultivated woods and swampland. With the labor of his five slaves (one of who was a four year-old boy), Etheridge raised 250 bushels of corn, 20 bushels of peas and beans, 50 bushels of Irish potatoes, and 200 bushels of sweet potatoes. In that year, 75 pounds of wool and 25 pounds of butter were also produced, probably owing to the industry of Etheridge's wife, Fanny Baum Etheridge (1826-1894), the daughter of nearby landowner Benjamin Baum, whom he had married by 1848.⁴³ Their household included an eleven year-old daughter Josephine (1849-1917), younger sons Patrick Henry (1850-1920), Adam (1852-1880), and Jesse (1856-1924), and Margaret Grey, a thirty-six year-old servant. Augustus Holly Etheridge, who would be Adam Dough Etheridge's youngest son, was born the following July 1861.⁴⁴

Judging from Adam Dough Etheridge's census documentation and recent findings about his house, the following outbuildings were probably on the site of his farm in 1860:

Census Record

1 horse
 2 cows
 2 oxen
 40 other cattle
 12 sheep
 35 swine
 250 bushels corn
 50 bushels Irish potatoes and

Probable Corresponding Outbuildings

small stable or free-range
 small stable or free-range
 small stable or free range
 free-range (prob. some on Bodie Isl.)
 small animal pen
 free-range
 corncrib (prob. log)

⁴² 1860 Federal Census, Population and Agriculture Schedules for Currituck County, Roanoke Island. Of Etheridge's neighbors, only John A. Midgett (\$15,000 personal estate) had a higher personal estate evaluation.

⁴³ Unfortunately, Currituck County's Marriage Register does not list many Roanoke Island marriages in the early-to-mid nineteenth century, and the Roanoke Island Baptist Church's records do not list any marriages during that time. It is assumed, since Fanny and Adam Dough Etheridge's oldest living child Josephine was born in 1849, that they married in the previous year.

⁴⁴ 1860 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island. The couple's youngest child, Margaret (1862-1870), was not yet born. Also, 1860 Federal Census, Slave Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island; according to data, Adam Dough Etheridge's five slaves were living in one house.

200 bushels sweet potatoes	frame or log potato house
25 lbs. Butter	small dairy ("milk house")
5 slaves	1 slavehouse (on census)
	side kitchen outbuilding (house)

In spite of his side industries of stockraising, fishing, and oystering, Adam Dough Etheridge I listed himself as a farmer on census records. This is a significant indication. Outer Banks historians such as David Stick have noted the strong links between early occupations and regional identities along these barrier islands and Roanoke Island was no exception. Although its inhabitants engaged in fishing and other maritime-related practices, there was a steady tradition of farming on Roanoke Island.⁴⁵ Of North Carolina's Outer Banks communities from Portsmouth Island to the North Outer Banks of Currituck, only the North Outer Banks and Roanoke Island listed farmers in their 1850 and 1860 census results; both of these census returns showed Roanoke Island to have the highest number of farmers.⁴⁶

This tradition of Roanoke Island farming embraced not only North End planters like Esther (or Easter) Meekins or Samuel Baum, but also middling farmers like Adam Dough Etheridge. One of Adam Dough Etheridge's neighbors, Baum's own farm was valued at \$1,000. He was farming thirty cleared acres with one fifty year-old slave, and his five cows and 25 other cattle no doubt roamed through his 191 uncultivated acres. But Baum's produce—150 bushels of corn, and 100 bushels of sweet potatoes—came to a smaller amount than Etheridge's.⁴⁷ Esther (or Easter) Meekins, matriarch of the nearby Meekins Homeplace, cultivated 25 acres, with little woodland or meadow; with the help of a horse and ox, her eleven grown slaves raised 200 bushels of corn, 10 bushels of peas and beans for forage, 15 bushels of potatoes, and 150 bushels of sweet potatoes.⁴⁸

⁴⁵ David Stick, The Outer Banks of North Carolina, 1584-1958 (Univeristy of North Carolina Press, 1958): pp. 72-73. Also, Gary S. Dunbar, Historical Geography of the North Carolina Outer Banks (Louisiana State University Press, 1958), p. 65.

⁴⁶ Dunbar, p. 31.

⁴⁷ 1860 Federal Census, Agriculture Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

These farm productions may seem modest when compared to farmers on North Carolina's mainland, but it should be borne in mind that it was respectable by Roanoke Island's standards. In that year, farm values for the entire island came to \$11,220 for a total of 463 cleared acres and 1,568 unimproved acres. There were a total of twenty horses on the island, and only four mules and twenty-nine oxen.⁴⁹

What specifically happened to Adam Dough Etheridge and his family during the Civil War is not known. Apparently Etheridge, who did not enlist, was able to keep his house and much of his farm, unlike some of his neighbors.⁵⁰ In 1862 Union General Ambrose Burnside executed a strategic attack against coastal North Carolina, an assault that included Roanoke Island. The island was quickly occupied and subjugated by Union troops. One building at the island's North End, referred to as "Mann's House" on a period map, was used as a hospital during the battle; the site of this house was near Adam Dough Etheridge's farm, but appears to be further northeast.⁵¹ Another Roanoke Island building, documented in early twentieth-century photographic postcards, is said to have been General Burnside's headquarters, located at Pork Point just northwest of present-day Manteo. This building, a frame two-story, two-bay side-gable house with a one-story extension at each side, is no longer standing.⁵²

Contemporary accounts by Union soldiers stationed at Roanoke Island describe how their men took advantage of the Islanders' free-range stockraising, appropriating the livestock for themselves. Meals were further bolstered from "other little fixins, all of which we captured from the Secesh in great abundance."⁵³ Some of the soldiers, however, were more observant of local practices and less fixated on creature comforts. Daniel Larned, General Burnside's secretary, described, from his

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ 1890 Federal Census, Special Schedule for Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines and Widows [Civil War], Dare County, Manteo District.

⁵¹ "The Burnside Expedition," from *Harper's Weekly*, 6:270 (March 1, 1862), pp. 134-135.

⁵² Sarah Manning Pope North Carolina Postcards Collection (Dare County volume), Mount Olive, NC.

⁵³ Mary Seaton Dix, "And Three Rousing Cheers for the Privates: A Diary of the 1862 Roanoke Island Expedition," in *The North Carolina Historical Review* (Vol 71, No. 1), pp. 75-76.

interviews with white islanders and African-Americans, then termed “contrabands of war”, what he considered peculiar local speech:

While I write a “rebel” is talking with the General, not a rebel but a native—and such queer talk I never heard. “Tuk” for took, “Coona” for couldn’t—“right smart” for great deal &c. A man came to me the second time inquiring for some person & says “Well Sir I never knowed him no more arter you showed him to me again.” The other day I took some papers out to some contrabands and said I to the mother of some dozen little [black children], “Can you read at all”—“Why Bress de Lor Massa, I dun no “B” from Bulls’ feet; I’s wish to God I did—”⁵⁴

In 1863, the Rev. Horace James was hired by U. S. Major General John Foster to organize settlements in North Carolina for the volume of refugee slaves streaming in to Union-occupied areas; one of these Freedmen’s villages was established on Roanoke Island’s North End. Surviving accounts of this village, which has not survived, describe it as laid out in a grid pattern with small frame houses, garden plots, and approximately 3,000 residents by 1865. This village was near Adam Dough Etheridge’s farm, but apparently, unlike other local farmers, none of his land was appropriated for it.⁵⁵ By 1869, the Freedmen’s settlement had been disbanded.

Adam Dough Etheridge died in May 1868 at the age of fifty-five; because his will was dated October 1867, he had apparently been in ill health for some time and did not expect to live. Augustus Etheridge, then a broken-hearted seven year-old boy, begged his mother and relatives to let him sleep beside his dead father in the “laid-out room” the night before Adam Etheridge’s burial. After some argument, the family decided the request was appropriate, and Augustus was granted his wish.⁵⁶ According to family lore, the “laid-out room” was the south parlor.⁵⁷

⁵⁴ Daniel Reed Larned Papers, 1861-1865, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC: Letter to sister, Monday February 24, 1862.

⁵⁵ Lautzenheiser and Hargrove 1990, pp. 50-53.

⁵⁶ *Dare County Times* (Manteo, NC), March 28, 1941. Also, Interview with Natalie Etheridge Garow, July 9, 1999.

⁵⁷ John F. Wilson IV, conversation with Alma Etheridge Wilson, December 22, 2000.

Adam Dough Etheridge's will, filed June 1869 in Currituck County Court, left life interest in his property to his widow "for the time she shall remain my widow." Etheridge's self-described personal estate included "my Mansion house, all out houses . . . boats, oxen and carts, household and kitchen furniture, farming utensils, [live]stock of all kinds," guns, cows, and a watch.⁵⁸ It is not clear why Etheridge left only some of his children possessions, especially since at least one of the children left out was a minor.⁵⁹ His widow, Fanny Baum Etheridge, contested the will on June 10, 1869, pointing out that there were other children from the union, including their eldest daughter Josephine E. Drinkwater, who were legal heirs as well. In her petition, Fanny Etheridge further requested that she be allotted the third of the farm that included "the dwelling house and all out houses, buildings and improvements" for the rest of her life, regardless of her marital status.⁶⁰

Division of Adam Dough Etheridge's Estate

The resulting inventory of Adam Dough Etheridge's estate sale, which took place in July 1869, is a fascinating document, shedding a great deal of light on the simple material possessions this family had acquired. Fanny Etheridge bought most of the lots. Her effects were as pragmatic as hogs, a horse cart, and a "manuar fork & spade," yet she also acquired books, at least one looking glass, and "trumpery." Other effects acquired by Fanny Etheridge included a box of yaupon tea, then a popular locally produced beverage, and a "weaving Harnis", pieces of which are still

⁵⁸ Currituck County Will Book 5, pp. 2-4 [A. D. Etheridge]. N. B. that although A. H. Etheridge was known later in life as "Gus" or "Augustus," his father's will names him as "Augustine."

⁵⁹ One possible explanation for Etheridge excluding his eldest daughter, Josephine E. Drinkwater, may have been due to her husband. Research by Fielding Tyler at Virginia Beach's Coast Guard Museum and student Bill Bradley, uncovered the fact that Edward Drinkwater had served in the U. S. Navy just after the Civil War and there is no record of the Etheridges having been Union sympathizers, although John B. and Adam Dough Etheridge I did take the Oath of Allegiance after Roanoke Island was captured in 1862.

⁶⁰ Dare County Estates Records, Petition of Fanny B. Etheridge to Probate Court (Judge J. B. Lee presiding), June 10, 1869. Although this petition is now in Dare County records, the case was tried in Currituck County, of which Dare was still a part in 1869. Mrs. Etheridge was awarded 1/3 of the estate including the dwelling house and all outbuildings, plus improvements on the farm. Lawyers J. L. Ball and G. C. Luke represented her.

owned by descendants.⁶¹ Her son, Patrick H. Etheridge, purchased oxen, a bed, a secretary, and a table, but otherwise no fishing or farming implements. Adam Dough Etheridge II and Edward Drinkwater, Fanny Etheridge's son-in-law, bought mullet nets, tools, and some furniture; nets and tools, given that both were fishermen, were hardly surprising choices.⁶² One item in the inventory still known to be in the Etheridge family is a wooden chest, the sort used by seamen, now owned by Roxie Christine Etheridge, Fanny and Adam Dough Etheridge I's great-great granddaughter.⁶³

One of the lot buyers at the estate sale was Thomas A. Dough, the son of Ally Etheridge and Warren A. Dough, who purchased a seine rope.⁶⁴ Whether he and Fanny Etheridge glanced across a crowded estate sale and (like something from a Thomas Hardy novel) were thunderstruck—or were already courting—is not known. But J. C. Meekins married the two on January 7, 1870.⁶⁵ Thomas A. Dough, a fisherman and farmer, was well liked and respected on the island. According to local history, “his smokehouse was supplied with meat, smoked and salt, and likewise with fish and there was enough of everything,” suggesting that he was a responsible steward to his wife and stepchildren.⁶⁶

In 1870 the Etheridge-Dough household, besides husband and wife, included fourteen year-old Jesse Etheridge, Margaret (who died the following year), Augustus, and three servants. Annie Beasley, a sixty-six year-old white woman, was a domestic servant who had previously worked for the Meekins family. There was also Sally Montague, a fifty-one year-old white woman, and Major Simmons, a fourteen year-old black laborer.⁶⁷ Ten years later, the household included, besides Thomas and Fanny Dough, Annie Beasley and Augustus Etheridge, then a twenty year-old who

⁶¹ Dare County Estates Records, Property Sale of Adam Dough Etheridge's Estate, July 13, 1869. State Library Collection, North Carolina Division of Archives & History, Raleigh, NC.

⁶² *Ibid.*

⁶³ During our August 1999 interview, Miss Etheridge allowed me to look inside the chest; within the lid was pencilled “F. B. Etheridge, July 1869.”

⁶⁴ Dare County Estate Records, A. D. Etheridge Estate Sale, July 1869.

⁶⁵ Currituck County Marriage Register, vol B., pp. 7-8.

⁶⁶ *Coastland Times* [Augustus H. Etheridge obituary], March 28, 1941.

helped his stepfather with the farm. There was also Francis Quidley, a servant, a niece named Australia Dough, a black servant and fisherman named Major Mann, and four year-old Alpheus Drinkwater, Fanny Etheridge's grandson.⁶⁸ The Dough-Etheridges belonged to Roanoke Island Baptist Church, founded in 1803.⁶⁹ This church, apparently initially affiliated with the Free Will Baptists, was a simple, front-gable frame building, which, still standing, has since been successively augmented and remodeled. Its tract, marked "Baptists", appears on William Franklin's 1852 map, and its orientation is said to have changed from the northeast to the southwest side when the road was moved a few degrees west some years later.⁷⁰

In contrast to Adam Dough Etheridge's twenty tilled acres, Thomas A. Dough was farming only fourteen cultivated acres in 1880. There were also 100 acres of woodland and an acre and a half of meadow. Production on the farm indicated there were probably the following outbuildings on site at that time; some of these buildings and structures no doubt continued to be used in the early twentieth century by Augustus Etheridge, and others had been built by Adam Dough Etheridge I:

<i>Census Record</i>	<i>Probable corresponding outbuilding</i>
1 horse	small stable
4 dairy cows	small stable or free range
15 cattle	probably free-range
14 sheep (4 lambs)	animal pen
4 swine	open fenced pen or free range
50 chickens	poultry house and/or free range ⁷¹
60 bushels corn	corn crib (probably log)
40 bushels cow peas	forage for cows=in crib or pen

⁶⁷ 1870 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township, NC.

⁶⁸ 1880 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township, NC. Marguerite Drinkwater Booth, Alpheus Drinkwater's daughter, confirmed that he lived at the house for some years because Josephine and Edward Drinkwater had had so many children they couldn't care for them all. However, Alpheus is also listed in the Drinkwater's Virginia Beach, VA, household in 1880.

⁶⁹ Roanoke Island Baptist Church Ledger, 1888-1925, "Ledger of Members", pages not numbered. Thomas A. Dough, Fannie Etheridge Dough, Augustus H. Etheridge, and Alpheus W. Drinkwater are all listed as members in 1888.

⁷⁰ John F. Wilson IV, conversation with Penne Smith Sandbeck, May 2001.

⁷¹ Although enclosure acts were enacted on the mainland by the 1880s, Roanoke Island did not aggressively enforce them until the early twentieth century, when property was damaged.

40 bushels Irish potatoes
 200 bushels sweet potatoes
 butter

storehouse
 storehouse and/or potato barn
 small dairy ("milk house")

As for other structures, Thomas A. Dough maintained a small vineyard and peach and apple orchard. It is not certain where the fruit trees were located, but old scuppernong grape arbors were known to be directly west of the house's fence into the twentieth century.⁷² What is known of the Dough-Etheridge farm suggests that it continued a prosperous, well-managed concern during Thomas Dough's tenure.

⁷² Data taken from 1880 Federal Census, Agriculture Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township, NC.

Part Two: Contextual Issues of the Etheridge Homeplace

The Seafaring Etheridges (1870-1920)

After the Civil War, lifesaving and lighthouse keeping became nearly avocational among Adam Dough Etheridge I's sons. Most of Patrick H. Etheridge's career in the United States Life-Saving Service (U. S. L. S. S.), established in 1873, was at Hatteras. His brother Jesse spent most of his career in the U. S. L. S. S. and as the lightkeeper at Bodie Island. During his brief life another brother, Adam Dough Etheridge II, was a fisherman and boat pilot; his son, Adam Dough Etheridge III spent many years at the U. S. L. S. S. outpost at Kill Devil Hills.⁷³ The work involved long hours, spartan living conditions, and tasks ranging from tedious to dangerous. But the U. S. Lighthouse Board and the U. S. L. S. S. offered the young Etheridge men—as it offered many young men along the Outer Banks—an opportunity to do more than just farm and fish.

The United States Life-Saving Service, incepted in 1871, began planning and building lifesaving stations approximately every four miles along North Carolina's Outer Banks in 1873.⁷⁴ These stations, a part of United States District Number Six, which included, besides North Carolina, the Virginia coast and the South Carolina and Georgia coasts, were run by paid superintendents ("keepers") and volunteer staff known as surfmen. Bodie Island, Nags Head and Oregon Inlet, were the earliest lifesaving station in the Roanoke Island vicinity. Early Outer Banks lifesaving structures were primitive wood huts; the lifesaving stations, circa 1874-1880, following these huts were usually front-gable frame buildings per U. S. L. S. S. guidelines that, with their decorative king posts, shingles and board-and-batten covering, combined Stick Style and Victorian style elements. They usually had small observation towers.⁷⁵ Besides lifesaving stations, there were also lighthouses being constructed along the Outer Banks to guide ships away from treacherous currents and

⁷³ 1880 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County (NC), Nags Head Township, Interview with Alma Etheridge Wilson, Manteo, NC, August 13, 1999.

⁷⁴ Initially, lifesaving stations were farther apart along the North Carolina coast until the late 1870s.

⁷⁵ Ralph Shanks, Wick York, and Lisa Woo Shanks, *The U. S. Life-Saving Service: Heroes, Rescues, and Architecture of the Early Coast Guard* (Petaluma, CA: Costano Books, 1996), pp. 200-220.

shallow banks. Bodie Island, the first lighthouse in the area, was in place by 1851 and its first keeper, John B. Etheridge, was Adam Dough Etheridge I's brother.⁷⁶ This first lighthouse, plagued by foundation and equipment problems was abandoned when the Light House Board bought fifteen acres from former light keeper John B. Etheridge and built a better lighthouse after the Civil War.⁷⁷

Of the next Etheridge generation, the two men who had the most extensive—or at least dramatic—careers in the U. S. L. S. S. were Patrick H. Etheridge and Edward Drinkwater, Adam Dough Etheridge I's son-in-law. Adam Dough Etheridge II was a fisherman, pilot, and surfman at U. S. L. S. S. Station 16 (Bodie Island) before his early death in 1880. His son, Adam Dough Etheridge III, would become the keeper of the Kill Devil Hills Lifesaving Station. During his time at Kill Devil Hills, Etheridge witnessed Orville and Wilbur Wright's first experiments with air gliders as well as their first successful machine-powered flight in December 17, 1903, a day where other observers included Alpheus Drinkwater, John T. Daniels, and Will Dough.⁷⁸ Adam Dough Etheridge III retired to his farm outside of Manteo after his work with the U. S. L. S. S.⁷⁹ Then, Jesse Etheridge was keeper of the Bodie Island Lifesaving Station in the 1880s and ended his career as game warden for the Pea Island Wildlife Refuge.⁸⁰ The youngest Etheridge son, Augustus, is not known to have served in the U. S. L. S. S. or with a lighthouse but his time as Dare County Sheriff (1900-1907; 1908-1910) involved much travel by water and probably involved interaction with both agencies.

⁷⁶ Conversation with John F. Wilson IV (direct descendant of Adam Dough Etheridge I and II), July 1999. Also, David Stick, *North Carolina Lighthouses* (Raleigh: NC Dept of Cultural Resources, 1991 printing), p. 44.

⁷⁷ Stick, pp. 67-68.

⁷⁸ The names of the other observers besides ADE III and Alpheus Drinkwater are courtesy John F. Wilson IV from our May 2001 conversation.

⁷⁹ 1880 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County (NC), Nags Head Township, also David Wright and David Zoby, "Ignoring Jim Crow: The Turbulent Appointment of Richard Etheridge and the Pea Island Lifesavers," in the *Journal of Negro History* 80 (Spring 1995), p. 73; Alma Etheridge Wilson interview, August 1999.

⁸⁰ Joshua Judson Davis Papers (entry for December 2, 1888), Manuscripts Collection, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC; also, obituary (n. d.) for Jesse Etheridge, collection Roxie Christine Etheridge, Manteo, NC.

Documenting—and salvaging—shipwrecks was part of this life and, for some, a source of profit. Edward Drinkwater's will specified that his sons were to receive his share of a shipwreck's proceeds.⁸¹ Volunteers who helped salvage cargo from the *Ezra*, which wrecked off Bodie Island in 1869, included Thomas A. Dough, Patrick H. Etheridge, Jesse B. Etheridge, John Meekins, MacAlister Montagu, and B. B. Dough, all of whom each received \$11.50 for their efforts. One of the Etheridges and Edward Drinkwater even transported the *Ezra's* crew to Norfolk, Virginia.⁸² Occasionally, however, a local waterman might enter into the gray area between salvage and plunder; the British Vice Consul stationed at Norfolk wrote threatening letters to a Roanoke Island inspector, requesting the return of articles from the *Ezra*, apparently with no success.⁸³

Edward Drinkwater (1844-1897)

Born in Yarmouth, Maine, sixteen year-old Edward Drinkwater and his forty-two year-old mother, Colinda, were living on Roanoke Island by 1860, in John A. Midgett's household; possibly, given that Midgett's daughters ages (36 and 18) and Midgett's own (68) age, Colinda was his daughter and Edward his grandson.⁸⁴ There are no records that Drinkwater was a soldier during the Civil War, but he accepted a post with the U. S. Navy just after the war's end, where he served on two ships, the U. S. S. *Clinton* and the U. S. S. *Martin*, for less than a year.⁸⁵ He married Josephine Etheridge, Adam Dough and Fanny Etheridge's oldest child, sometime between 1865 and 1866; within twenty years, they would have thirteen children—one girl and twelve boys. Nearly all of the boys who lived to adulthood—Edward ("Ned"), Horatio, Herman, Watson, Augustus, Clarence, and Alpheus—were either lifesavers themselves, or in maritime-related professions.⁸⁶ Their oldest son, Horatio, was three years old in 1870 when the Drinkwaters were living in the Dare County settlement of

⁸¹ Princess Anne County (VA) Wills, Book 5, pp. 235-236.

⁸² *Dare County Times* (Manteo, NC), August 23, 1935, pp. 1-5.

⁸³ *Ibid.*

⁸⁴ 1860 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island District.

⁸⁵ Bill Bradley, "A Wrecked Ship: A Wrecked Career" (unpublished MSS re Edward Drinkwater in collection of the Virginia Beach Coast Guard Station); also, timeline of Edward Drinkwater taken from William O. Foss, *The Norwegian Lady and the Wreck of the Dictator* (Norfolk, VA, The Donning Company Publishers, 1977), in Virginia Beach Coast Guard Station Collection.

Stumpy Point with Colinda Drinkwater. Patrick H. Etheridge, Josephine's younger brother, and Henry Mann, a twenty-one year-old African American, were working as fishermen and boarding with the Drinkwaters. Edward, head of the household, was stockraising; he had \$300.00 worth of real estate and \$400.00 personal estate at that time.⁸⁷

Edward Drinkwater's first U. S. L. S. S. post was at Oregon Inlet in December 1874, then at Bodie Island's lifesaving station in March 1875 where he served until 1876. His first test of mettle came in 1875 when he received a Letter of Censure from John J. Guthrie, Superintendent of Lifesaving District Number Six; according to Guthrie, Drinkwater and his men were not performing their duties acceptably.⁸⁸ To cover himself, Drinkwater let his surfmen go and hired a new crew. Bodie Island, with its limited land resources, was probably a backwater to this ambitious man, who apparently jumped at the chance to obtain a lifesaving post in the seaside farming community of Princess Anne County, Virginia. Drinkwater assumed the keeper's position at Seatack Lifesaving Station (now in Virginia Beach) in March 1879.⁸⁹

Once he and his family were situated at Seatack, Edward Drinkwater quickly set about establishing himself. In July 1879 he bought a 116 ½-acre tract from William E. Wood, whose easternmost border was the Atlantic Ocean.⁹⁰ He acquired other land surrounding this tract, later the site of Terrapin Hill Farm. In 1881, Drinkwater sold the parcel acquired from Wood to the SeaSide Hotel and Land Company for \$4,000.00.⁹¹ This corporation, which developed Virginia Beach's first resort, the Princess Anne Hotel, was part of the Norfolk-Virginia Beach Railroad and Improvement Company. Drinkwater's one stipulation was that the Seatack

⁸⁶ Clarence Drinkwater is listed in 1900 Princess Anne County Federal Census Records as a farmer.

⁸⁷ 1870 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Croatan Township.

⁸⁸ Wright and Zoby, "Ignoring Jim Crow" in *Journal of Negro History*, p. 68.

⁸⁹ Bradley, p. 2.

⁹⁰ Princess Anne County (VA) Register of Deeds, Book 55, p. 282. Also Princess Anne County Register of Deeds, Book 76, p. 81 and Book 84, p. 348 (Josephine Etheridge>Annie L. Drinkwater, Herman Drinkwater, Edward Drinkwater, ca 1905-1910).

⁹¹ Princess Anne County Register of Deeds, Book 55, pp. 282-283; also James M. and Frederick S. Jordan, *Virginia Beach: A Pictorial History* (Richmond: Hale Publishing, 1974), pp. 40-41, and 57-58.

Lifesaving Station and the attached house where he and his family were living were not included in the transaction. Apparently, Drinkwater owned Seatack at that time.⁹² This building, a front-gable frame structure, was of the same style and format as other 1870s lifesaving stations, from its upper story's board-and-batten covering to the elaborately decorated front gable. Later photographs show the elongated rear extension where the Drinkwaters, large and small, lived.⁹³

For unknown reasons, Edward Drinkwater left the Seatack Lifesaving Station in 1886 but returned in 1888. During those two years, he established and managed a hunting club in Virginia Beach called, appropriately enough, the Drinkwater Club. His tenure at Seatack was cut short by a disaster. In 1891, during a terrific storm, the Norwegian ship *Dictator* went aground north of the Seatack station; only ten of the seventeen people on board survived the wreck and storm. Drinkwater came under heavy criticism for not choosing to use a life-car to rescue the passengers; later research has justified his caution, due to the violent nature of the storm and his apparent concern that the life-car might cause more casualties than recoveries. However, contemporaries at the time howled for his head—and got it. Edward Drinkwater was dismissed from the U. S. L. S. S. in 1891, and died six years later, unpardoned and unreinstated.⁹⁴

Patrick H. Etheridge (1850-1920)

The anecdote most associated with “Captain Pat” took place when he was Keeper of the Hatteras Lifesaving Station in the 1890s. During a turbulent storm the steamship, *North Eastern*, ran aground on shoals near the station. As Etheridge was preparing to put the rescue boat in, a civilian protested, “Why man, you will never get back, with a storm like this blowing you away from the beach.” According to the story, the

⁹² Princess Anne County Register of Deeds, 55:282-283.

⁹³ Virginia Beach U. S. Coast Guard Station Collection. The small quarters helps to explain why Alpheus Drinkwater, according to his daughter, was “farmed out” to Manteo, NC, where he spent most of his childhood and adult life.

⁹⁴ Bradley, pp. 1-9; Fielding L. Tyler, “Stand By Your Oars: A History of the Seatack/Virginia Beach Live-Saving/Coast Guard Station (unpublished MS, Collection of the Virginia Beach Coast Guard Station, 1999), pp. 5-7.

Keeper, assembling his crew, heartily replied, "The regulations do not say anything about coming back. They say, 'Go'!"⁹⁵

Apparently the very model of a 'modern' lifesaving service keeper, Patrick H. Etheridge's first permanent post was as a surfman at the Creeds Hill Station, located northeast of Cape Hatteras. By 1884, Etheridge was Creeds Hill's keeper; the following year he received a Gold Lifesaving Medal of Honor for his successful rescue, along with Hatteras keeper Benjamin Dailey, of passengers from the shipwrecked barkentine, *Ephraim Williams*.⁹⁶ Etheridge went on to other successful rescues during his years at Hatteras and, from 1908 to 1915, his last posts at New Inlet Station and Bodie Island Station. Contemporaries recalled him as a cheerful, no-nonsense man of great courage and longtime thrifty habits, qualities that served him well guarding one of North Carolina's most treacherous outposts.⁹⁷ His only son, Walter G. Etheridge, followed him into a career with the U. S. Coast Guard, retiring after twenty-nine years with the Coast Guard and four years with the U. S. Navy.⁹⁸

By 1910, as his maritime career was winding down, Patrick Etheridge was residing progressively more at home, an 1880s two-story, side-gable farmhouse near that of his younger brother, Augustus.⁹⁹ Both Patrick Etheridge and his nephew Adam Dough Etheridge III had built similar dwellings, their rectilinear form, weatherboarding, and narrow roof pitch with shaped rafter tails comparable to government-regulation lighthouse keepers' house designs. "Captain Pat's" house is still standing and was purchased in 1999 by his great-grandson, Walter Etheridge Daniels. The Adam Dough Etheridge III House, once a short walk away, was moved one-half mile west to land once owned by John B. Etheridge.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁵ Thomas Barnett, "Hatteras Reminiscences of the Days of Cap'n Pat," in *Dare County Times* (Manteo, NC), June 12, 1946, p. 1.

⁹⁶ Joe Mobley, *Ship Ashore: The U. S. Lifesavers of Coastal North Carolina* (Raleigh: NC Dept. of Cultural Resources, 1994), pp. 107, 111.

⁹⁷ Barnett, "Hatteras Reminiscences," p. 1.

⁹⁸ *Greensboro (NC) Daily News*, May 19, 1946 (page not numbered; North Carolina Collection Files, Wilson Library, UNC-Chapel Hill)

⁹⁹ 1910 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Nags Head Township.

¹⁰⁰ Conversations with John F. Wilson IV, Manteo, NC, November 2, 1999, January 19, 2000, and May 2001.

The Other Side of the Family: Richard Etheridge and Pea Island

Richard Etheridge (1842-1900), an African American, was raised a slave on John B. Etheridge's farm. John B. Etheridge, a brother of Adam Dough Etheridge I, also had land holdings on Bodie Island, where he served as lighthouse keeper before the Civil War. According to family history, Richard was treated—almost—as one of their own; this treatment, combined with the fact that Richard Etheridge could read and write, a fact unusual for enslaved and free blacks alike, has given rise to the tradition that he was John B. Etheridge's illegitimate son. There has been no conclusive research in this matter, but it does appear that Richard Etheridge was, regardless of his parentage, a talented and literate young man who as an avid waterman easily navigated Roanoke Island's sounds, bays, and marshes.¹⁰¹

What would have happened to Richard Etheridge—whether John B. Etheridge would have manumitted him, or he would have continued to serve as a cherished family retainer—was made irrelevant by the Civil War, which gave him the opportunity to seek his own freedom. After Roanoke Island was taken over by Burnside's men in 1862, John B. Etheridge and his brother, Adam Dough Etheridge I, took oaths of allegiance to the Union, something many area landowners considered a prudent decision under the circumstances.¹⁰² In August 1863, eight months after Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, Richard Etheridge enlisted in one of the four freedmen's brigades organized by Colonel Edward A. Wild on Roanoke Island. This was an act of great courage; if captured by the Confederate Army, Etheridge and his African-American brigadiers, considered slaves by the enemy, would not have been imprisoned but executed.¹⁰³ Etheridge served for just over three

¹⁰¹ 1870 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Nags Head Township; also, conversation with John F. Wilson IV, Manteo, NC, July 12, 1999, and U. S. Pension Records [Richard Etheridge], National Archives, Washington, DC.

¹⁰² David Wright and David Zoby, *Fire On The Beach* (Scribner's 2000), p. 53. I can't say enough what a wonderful resource this book is. Everyone in the Etheridge family, and every Outer Banker should read it. JPSS

¹⁰³ Wright and Zoby, *Fire On The Beach*, pp. 54-55.

years until his left ankle was seriously dislocated.¹⁰⁴ Scholars David Wright and David Zoby, who have done the most research to date on Richard Etheridge, traced his military career with the Thirty-Sixth U. S. Colored Troop from Point Lookout, Maryland, to the 1864 Battle of Chaffin's Farm in Virginia. By the time of his September 1866 discharge, he was a Regimental Commissary Sergeant in Brazos Santiago, Texas.¹⁰⁵

Upon returning to Roanoke Island, Richard Etheridge married and built a dwelling on the North End, where he worked as a fisherman. In 1870, he and his wife Frances had an infant daughter, Oneida; Orphia Alexander, a forty year-old African American servant, and her daughter Victoria lived with the Etheridges.¹⁰⁶ In 1875, Richard Etheridge joined the surfmen crew at Bodie Island's lifesaving station, then supervised by Edward Drinkwater. When Drinkwater cleaned house in 1876, Etheridge was let go; however, he went back to the Bodie Island station in 1879 when Marcus Midgett was the keeper.¹⁰⁷

While Richard Etheridge worked as a surfman, because of the limited months of full-time employment, he continued to fish and to work his farm. In 1880 Etheridge, with a team of eight African American laborers and one ox, raised 25 bushels of corn, four bushels of wheat, ten bushels of potatoes, and 100 bushels of sweet potatoes on his cultivated land. He was also cultivating a half-acre apple orchard. His three pigs and three cattle apparently roamed his 27 acres of woodland; Etheridge also had sheep and poultry, along with one cow.¹⁰⁸ By this time his daughter was ten, and his mother, Rachel Etheridge, had moved in with them. Other lodgers at Etheridge's home included Fanny Fisher, a servant, and Lizey Wright, an African American

¹⁰⁴ 1890 Federal Census, Special Schedule for Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and Widows (Civil War), Manteo, NC.; however Wright and Zoby's research states that Etheridge was discharged in 1866, not 1865. Also, the Special Schedule lists Etheridge as having been in Company E. Troop 37, not Troop 36.

¹⁰⁵ Wright and Zoby, "Ignoring Jim Crow," *Journal of Negro History*, 80, pp. 70-72; also *Fire On The Beach*, p. 120.

¹⁰⁶ 1870 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township.

¹⁰⁷ Wright and Zoby, *JNH*, pp. 68-69, and 77 (ftn. 10).

¹⁰⁸ 1880 Federal Census, Agriculture Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township.

schoolteacher.¹⁰⁹ In spite of crowded living conditions Richard Etheridge, a landowner who also had a permanent part-time job, was one of Roanoke Island's more fortunate ex-slaves at that time.

The repercussions of a shipwreck off Pea Island launched Richard Etheridge into history. Investigation into the November 30, 1879, wreck of the *M & E Henderson*, a schooner, concluded that the Pea Island Lifesaving Station, then run by George C. Daniels, was at fault due to negligence and truancy. Because the *Henderson* mishap was on the heels of some other infamous area shipwrecks—the *Nuova Ottavia* and the *Metropolis*—the U. S. L. S. S., desiring to make an example, dismissed Daniels and two of his crew. Commended for his good reputation and fluent reading and writing skills, Etheridge's name came up as the best prospect for a new Pea Island keeper.¹¹⁰ While Etheridge was a controversial appointment, it should be borne in mind that the early North Carolina lifesaving stations were comprised of “checkerboard” crews—mostly white surfmen, but some African Americans as well. However, there had never been an African American keeper before. Upon his being approved, Etheridge reported for duty on February 1, 1880—and the four white surfmen under him left immediately, leaving him with only two black surfmen.¹¹¹ Frank Newcomb, Assistant Inspector to U. S. L. S. S. General Superintendent Sumner I. Kimball, immediately replaced the departed crewmen with other African-Americans, including William C. Bowser from Bodie Island, and Henry Daniel and George Midgett, two fishermen from Roanoke Island.¹¹² William Davis, who was already stationed at Pea Island, had also served in the same troop with Etheridge during the Civil War.¹¹³ The new crew and keeper—the first completely African American lifesaving station in the United States—served the following two months without incident.

¹⁰⁹ 1880 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township.

¹¹⁰ Wright and Zoby *JNH*, pp. 69-70.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 71-72.

¹¹² *Ibid.*

¹¹³ 1890 Federal Census, Special Schedule for Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, and Widows (Civil War), Dare County, Manteo, NC.

What happened in May 1880 at the Pea Island Lifesaving Station says much about the tense nature of race relations at that time—as well as jealousy among extended family members. The station burned on May 29, three days after Etheridge, whose crew was off-duty until September, had inspected the buildings. Frank Newcomb came to the area to investigate. His report to General Superintendent Kimball identified, from white and black testimony, three white suspects—William P. Clark, Patrick H. Etheridge, and Adam Dough Etheridge II. At the time, Clark and Patrick Etheridge were substitute surfmen at the Bodie Island Station where Adam D. Etheridge II was serving full-time. In untangling testimony, it emerged that Adam D. Etheridge II and William Clark actively conspired to burn Pea Island Station, with Patrick Etheridge as a passive accomplice, their motive being that Richard Etheridge would surely be dismissed. Then, according to their logic, they would then be in line to take over the Pea Island Station, and Patrick Etheridge would be made a permanent surfman there.¹¹⁴ If the irony of Richard Etheridge's probable kinship to them ever occurred to Patrick or the second Adam D. Etheridge, it was lost in their rationale that as an African American his appointment was unfair and blocked promotion for them.

Presented with the investigation's findings, General Superintendent Kimball decided, partly on then District Number Six Superintendent Joseph W. Etheridge's recommendation, not to take disciplinary action against the Etheridge brothers or Clark.¹¹⁵ Adam D. Etheridge II died later that year in an unrelated circumstance. Patrick H. Etheridge soon found a place at the Creeds Hill Station, and commenced his trajectory with the U. S. L. S. S. Richard Etheridge and his crew returned to Pea Island in September 1880, and built another station within a month. Etheridge understood (as he no doubt had to begin with) that any slip-up on the part of the Pea

¹¹⁴ Wright and Zoby *JNH*, pp. 72-74. Also, David Wright and David Zoby, "The Pea Island Lifesavers," in David Stick, *An Outer Banks Reader* (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 1997), pp. 111-114. Wright and Zoby, in the latter article, are more explicit about what happened although they do not name names.

¹¹⁵ Wright and Zoby *JNH*, p. 73. Their quote from Joseph W. Etheridge indicates that he did not deny Richard Etheridge's abilities but felt, given the tenor of the times, that having a black lifesaving crew in that part of the world was a bad enough idea to begin with, and that prosecuting the arsonists would lead to more serious trouble. Incidentally, J. W. Etheridge was not directly related to this family. He may have been the "Joseph Etheridge" in Joshua Judson Davis' 1888 diary of Roanoke Island [excerpts in Appendix B] who lived in Bertie County.

Island Station could jeopardize their standing. Therefore, he and his crew kept meticulous records, maintained the station carefully, and drilled extensively.¹¹⁶

Among their rescues was the *E. S. Newman*, which ran aground during a hurricane in October 1896. Etheridge, unwell for some time, nevertheless mustered his men and volunteers to save the entire crew, which involved tying two of his men with rope, and using them as towlines between ship and shore.¹¹⁷

Etheridge died at the station four years later, probably from malaria. After his passing, the station continued for forty-seven more years, during which time the Pea Islanders continued their record of distinguished service. In 1931 the station was rebuilt two miles south of the old station site with \$30,000 from government funds. The new complex included a story-and-a-half frame building with quarters for the men and a guest room, all with electric lighting and hot and cold water. There was also a separate kitchen/dining building on the grounds and water cisterns. Nine crew members and a cook, Robert J. Wise, were at the station in 1936. The keeper at the time, George Edward Pruden, had served at Pea Island for twenty-two years. These men, along with earlier Pea Island surfmen, were inspirational to young African American men on Roanoke Island and the surrounding coast. One of the later surfmen, William Bowser, recalled swimming at Pea Island as a child with his other friends, all of whom idolized the crew: "We all wanted to be just like them," he said.¹¹⁸

¹¹⁶ Wright and Zoby *JNH*, p. 74.

¹¹⁷ Wright and Zoby *JNH*, pp. 75-76; Mobley, p. 98.

¹¹⁸ Wright and Zoby *JNH*, p. 76. *Dare County Times*, July 17, 1936, pp. 1 and 4.

African Americans Associated with the Etheridge Family (1840-1935)

Like other southern United States communities, Roanoke Island's North End had white and black residents before and after the Civil War; the issues of slavery and emancipation colored both sides' existence, although African Americans remained in mostly dependent relationships to whites for years after the war. Before the war, there were approximately 171 slaves and 24 free blacks on Roanoke Island, most of who lived at the North End. Of those free blacks, all but three families were part of white households, indicating, as elsewhere, these African Americans were completely dependent upon whites for livelihood and shelter.¹¹⁹

The Civil War and Roanoke Island's occupation was an upheaval for whites and blacks alike, the whites losing their labor force and the blacks quickly moving to opportunities offered by the Freedmen's settlement. By 1865, the Freedmen's camp had 591 houses and 3,091 residents.¹²⁰ A year later, as the U. S. government began shutting down the camps, the Roanoke Island encampment decreased to 1,700 people.¹²¹ By that time, some of the difficulties the African Americans experienced may have made the Union Army look less like saviors and more like their previous masters. According to an impassioned 1865 letter by Richard Etheridge to the Freedmen's Bureau Commissioner, the soldiers "break into our houses, act as they please, steal our chickens, rob our gardens" with neither intervention nor reprimand.¹²² After the Freedmen Camp dispersed in 1867 three hundred African Americans stayed on the island, most settling in the northwestern community known as California.¹²³ By 1891 California had an established church, the Church of the Disciples, suggesting that the new community was a close-knit and interdependent one.¹²⁴

¹¹⁹ 1860 Federal Census, Slave and Population Schedules for Currituck County, Roanoke Island District.

¹²⁰ Cheeseman, p. 81.

¹²¹ Cheeseman, p. 85.

¹²² Wright and Zoby, *JNH*, p. 71.

¹²³ Cheeseman, p. 85.

There is little known about the blacks that worked for the Etheridges. Adam Dough Etheridge I had five slaves, but it is assumed that they soon quit his farm during the Union occupation. In 1880 his widow and her second husband, Thomas A. Dough, had only one African American servant and laborer, Major Mann, living in their household. Only one other servant has been significantly associated with the family. In 1888, when Augustus H. Etheridge had his wedding reception at the homeplace, he recalled "Aunt Crissy, our old colored cook" helping to prepare dinner with his mother.

"Aunt Crissy," was Crissy, or Christaina, Bowser (1830?-1920?), a black woman who lived in a frame cabin on the Etheridge farm [Figure 3]. She first appears in the 1870 census as a domestic servant for Peter G. Gallop, a fisherman who lived on the North End; by 1872, Gallop was also postmaster to the new village of Manteo.¹²⁵ There were several Bowsers who were free blacks in the area as early as 1860; in that year Louisa Bowser, a seventeen year-old mulatto, was a servant for Adam Etheridge III's widow.¹²⁶ Earlier still, William Bowser and Vicy Bowser were servants in Adam Etheridge III's 1850 household.¹²⁷ It is not presently known how these Bowsers were related to one another.

In 1880 Crissy Bowser was no longer in the Gallop household; she was listed as a fifty year-old black woman, a housekeeper who lived alone near the Etheridge farmstead.¹²⁸ At that time, she worked a two-acre field for cash rental. On these two acres, Bowser raised no subsistence crops, but instead kept one pig and four chickens; her small farm was worth fifty dollars.¹²⁹ She worked for Thomas and Fanny Dough, then Augustus Etheridge, as a cook until 1900-1910. After that she lived quietly on the Etheridge farm until her death.

¹²⁴ *The Economist and Falcon* (Elizabeth City, NC), Sept. 15, 1891, p. 3.

¹²⁵ 1870 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township. Also 1872 Branson's Business Directory.

¹²⁶ 1860 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island.

¹²⁷ 1850 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Currituck County, Roanoke Island.

¹²⁸ 1880 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Twp.

A photograph of an elderly African American woman taken by Victor Meekins at the turn of the twentieth century is thought to be Crissy Bowser [Figure 3]. The old woman in the photograph, her head covered by a scarf and gnarled hands in lap, sits in front of a board-and-batten cabin with a stoop but no porch.¹³⁰ Family history recounts that “Aunt Crissy” would sit in front of her cabin with her legs across the door, barring the entrance; from what could be seen from the door, she apparently had little furniture and no bed.¹³¹ When she died, she was laid out in one of the Etheridge storehouses and then buried by her cabin, under an ancient oak tree now known as the “Crissy Oak.”¹³²

Another African American woman important to Etheridge family history was a midwife named Catherine “Puss” Woodley (1866-1940?), the wife of farm laborer Henry Woodley.¹³³ Henry Woodley’s ancestors had been slaves and then laborers for a number of Roanoke Island families, including the Midgett family; according to a Midgett descendant, the Woodleys went to the Freedmen’s Colony in 1862 but returned to their farm near Ashby’s Harbor (later Skyco) by 1865.¹³⁴ Catherine Woodley was born just after the Civil War, probably in the Freedmen’s Colony, but it is not known who her parents were; her maiden name may have been Pruden.¹³⁵ According to some Etheridge family members, as a young woman Catherine Woodley had a child out of wedlock between 1884 and 1886. Furthermore, according to longtime family tradition, the father was Augustus Etheridge, but this has not been definitely proven and—youthful indiscretion aside—would seem to be contrary to the characters of both.¹³⁶ The child, a boy, is thought to have been George Edward “Ed” Pruden, who was keeper of the Pea Island Lifesaving Station in the 1930s. Pruden was being treated at the Marine Hospital in Norfolk in the late 1930s when one of Augustus Etheridge’s grandchildren saw him and remarked upon the

¹²⁹ 1880 Federal Census, Agriculture Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Twp.

¹³⁰ Victor Meekins Photography Collection (No. 149), Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC.

¹³¹ Interviews with Louis Midgett (July 1999) and Alma E. Wilson (August 1999).

¹³² Interviews with Louis Midgett (July 1999) and Natalie Etheridge Garow (July 1999).

¹³³ 1920 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County (NC), Nags Head Township.

¹³⁴ *Ibid.*

¹³⁵ Interviews with Natalie Etheridge Garow, Marguerite Drinkwater Booth, and John F. Wilson IV, July 1999.

strong resemblance Pruden bore to her grandfather, whereupon she was told the family story.¹³⁷ It is not known if Catherine and Henry Woodley had children of their own.

The connection between Catherine Woodley and the Etheridges was a positive one, as she delivered nearly all the Etheridge children and grandchildren born between 1890 and 1935; surviving adults remember her fondly. Louis Midgett, Patrick H. Etheridge's grandson, was delivered by Woodley, as was his father in 1896. He now owns the small wooden basin she used for washing newborn infants.¹³⁸ "Puss" also delivered Marguerite Drinkwater Booth, Edward and Josephine Etheridge Drinkwater's granddaughter, as well as all of Adam Dough Etheridge III's children and his daughter Alma's son, John F. Wilson III.

As a child, Mrs. Booth remembered seeing the older black woman walking on sandy and graded roads from one appointment to another as a common occurrence. On one such occasion, Mrs. Booth recalled saying, "Aunt Puss, please bring me a baby," to which Catherine Woodley laughed.¹³⁹

¹³⁶ Interviews with Natalie Etheridge Garow and John F. Wilson IV, July 1999.

¹³⁷ *Ibid.*

¹³⁸ Louis Midgett Interview, July 1999.

¹³⁹ Interview with Marguerite Drinkwater Booth, July 10, 1999.

At the Ends of the Earth (1875-1900)

Manteo, incorporated in 1899, had unofficially been a village since 1870 when Dare County was formed; by 1873 it had a post office.¹⁴⁰ There were five stores in Manteo by 1888 and six firms shipping fish to Virginia and the northeast, increasing financial opportunities for North End's fishermen-farmers.¹⁴¹ Issues of the 1880s and 1890s Elizabeth City Economist, then the closest thing Roanoke Islanders had to an outside newspaper, were plastered with advertisements from fish dealers in Norfolk, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York, vying for finny produce and offering stencils for shippers' fish boxes. Thomas A. Dough, Augustus Etheridge, and other family members engaged in this business. Surviving tin templates belonging to descendants are stencils for such New York City dealers as J. H. W. Ransom and Company and Kingsland and Comstock, both of whom were located at the famous Fulton Fish Market, and C. V. Sparks and Company, a Philadelphia dealer.¹⁴² Shad was a popular catch, as were rockfish, blue fish, mullet, mackerel, terrapin, and crabs.¹⁴³ These catches could vary in value from year to year, depending upon supply. An 1889 visitor to the island, working on Captain Sam Daniels' steamboat *Ella*, recounts catching fourteen and a half boxes' worth of shad off the Roanoke Marshes one day, but that "Shad are so plentiful and so low that no one wishes to buy at .06 and .12 cents."¹⁴⁴

Seafood was a profitable but perishable business, especially since transportation was by boat, which, being slow, increased the chance that by its final destination the fish might be less than fresh. After 1866, steamboats from Elizabeth City or Norfolk ensured faster travel to market. Ice, needless to say, was a precious commodity for preserving fish and, increasingly, oysters. Before an early twentieth-century ice plant

¹⁴⁰ Dunbar, p. 104. Also, David Stick, The Outer Banks of North Carolina, 1584-1958 (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 1958), p. 316.

¹⁴¹ Joshua Judson Davis Papers (February 17, 1888 entry), Manuscripts Collection, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC; also, George A. Nowitzky, Norfolk, the Marine Metropolis of Virginia: and the Sound and River Cities of North Carolina (Norfolk, 1888), p. 207.

¹⁴² Etheridge Homeplace Collection, Manteo, NC.

¹⁴³ Cheeseman, p. 88. Also Elizabeth City Economist, Sept. 21, 1880, p. 3, and April 8, 1890, p. 3.

was built in Manteo, fishermen relied upon Roanoke or Croatan Sound occasionally freezing over, come winter, for supplies. Once ice was cut, it would be stored in icehouses and covered with sawdust until needed.¹⁴⁵

In spite of Roanoke Island's lively maritime commerce, it was a remote place having little contact with the greater world, other than the occasional mail boat or passenger ship usually en route to the resort of Nags Head; according to a mainlander, it was harder to reach than Boston.¹⁴⁶ Until turn-of-the-twentieth-century road improvements, travel from Roanoke Island to the mainland was usually by one's own boat. In 1883 when Augustus Etheridge joined the Eureka Lodge in Elizabeth City, his mode of transport to Masonic meetings was his sailboat; time of arrival was often dependent upon wind conditions.¹⁴⁷ North End schoolteacher Joshua Judson Davis made his way around the island more by sailboat and canoe than on foot; in spite of continual observations about Elizabeth City's grander society, he nonetheless enjoyed a lively social life, replete with camp revivals at Colington Island and dances at Nags Head.¹⁴⁸ In 1880 Elizabeth City's mail boat to Roanoke Island was discontinued for a time in favor of a steamboat from Norfolk that would run three times a week to Manteo.¹⁴⁹ Apparently this arrangement was not a good one; two months later, a reporter complained, "We are in need of a tri-weekly Mail between here and Elizabeth City, our political news comes slow."¹⁵⁰ By the late 1880s Roanoke Island had reverted to its earlier mail boat arrangement.

The island was not a completely healthy place; as with many coastal communities at that time, malaria and typhoid fever were constant visitors. During a particularly grim outbreak in 1880, there was no resident doctor on the island.¹⁵¹ If sick, island

¹⁴⁴ Joshua Judson Davis Papers (April 12, 1889 entry), Manuscripts Collection, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC.

¹⁴⁵ Interview with Louis Midgett, July 10, 1999.

¹⁴⁶ *Daily Economist* (Elizabeth City, NC), August 14, 1906, p. 1.

¹⁴⁷ "He Braved Every Obstacle For His Masonry [Augustus H. Etheridge]," n. d. but probably 1940. Clipping from unknown Masonic publication, courtesy Louis Midgett.

¹⁴⁸ J. J. Davis Papers, ECU.

¹⁴⁹ *The Economist*, July 13, 1880, p. 3.

¹⁵⁰ *The Economist*, Sept. 21, 1880, p. 3.

¹⁵¹ *Ibid.*

residents either resorted to local caregivers, such as midwives, or took their chances by boat.

For special goods to augment their simple lives, Roanoke Island looked to the two cities of Elizabeth City and Norfolk. For example, when Augustus Etheridge recalled his 1888 marriage to Roxana Etheridge (1870-1943) over fifty years later, he wrote:

After the ceremony that Sunday night we returned to the home we still occupy. A delicious wedding supper, country style, was served. All the delicacies and accessories were prepared by my mother and our old colored cook, Aunt Crissy. The bride's cake, however, was baked in Norfolk, Va.¹⁵²

Roxana Etheridge's wedding cake reveals an important detail of late nineteenth-century life on Roanoke Island. By the late 1880s, steamers and improved mainland roads had not only aided local commerce, but also opened a new world of material goods to island inhabitants. Lumber and window sash, instead of being recycled from older houses, could be obtained from mainland cities either directly or through Manteo's dry goods stores. However, Norfolk was not only the repository of fashionable wedding cakes; it was also the source for fashionable marble tombstones. When Fanny Etheridge Dough died in 1897, her family placed a marker made in Norfolk over her grave. Just as significantly, in 1906 Thomas A. Dough's own grave marker was made by C. B. Mason, an Elizabeth City artisan; gradually, this town, a four and a half-hour steamship voyage, became the more immediate marketplace for Roanoke Island's inhabitants [Figures 4 and 5].

¹⁵² Augustus H. Etheridge, "Married Fifty Years," in *The Progressive Farmer* (clipping dated August 1940, courtesy Billy Parker, OBC, Manteo, NC).

Augustus Holly Etheridge and the turn of the twentieth century

In Augustus Etheridge's lifetime, Roanoke Island went from a remote site only accessible by boat to an industrious Outer Banks community linked to major cities by improved roads and new bridges spanning once-impossible distances. In this transformed world Etheridge witnessed and participated in, steamships and sailboats gave way to automobiles; furthermore, his two nephews, Adam D. Etheridge III and Alpheus W. Drinkwater, witnessed the first man-powered flight at nearby Kitty Hawk in 1903. Manteo became a regional commercial hub, even providing a movie theater by 1922.¹⁵³ And the North End's overgrown Fort Raleigh, long cherished by islanders, became a state-owned historic site in 1934, spurring development of a nearly continuous outdoor dramatic presentation, "The Lost Colony," in 1937.¹⁵⁴ With his natural energy and progressive outlook, Augustus Etheridge was an active participant in the greater world coming to Manteo.

His adventurous spirit came forth early. Sometime between 1879 and 1881, Augustus Etheridge embarked upon an exceptional coming-of-age experience for any young man, let alone one from an isolated rural island. He spent about a year in Texas, where he worked on a ranch and "lived the life of a cowboy."¹⁵⁵ But given his strong ties to his family and home, he did not choose to stay a cowboy. Upon his return to Roanoke Island, a series of transactions ensued whereby Augustus gradually acquired more of his family's farm while he worked as a fisherman. In August 1881, his brother, Jesse Benjamin Etheridge (1856-1924) deeded him one-fifth of the tract that had belonged to their late brother, Adam Dough Etheridge II (1852-1880).¹⁵⁶ Three years later, Jesse B. Etheridge sold another parcel of land to his younger brother, that being a fifty-acre tract bordering the Adam Dough Etheridge I farm's southern

¹⁵³ Elizabeth City Independent, June 9, 1922, p. 7.

¹⁵⁴ Conversation with John F. Wilson IV, May 2001. Fort Raleigh, purchased by the Roanoke Colony Memorial Association in April 1894, had its first "Lost Colony" pageant on the site in 1921 from a script written and produced by Mabel Evans Jones. It was transferred to the National Park Service from state ownership, two years after Paul Green's play, *The Lost Colony*, was first performed at the site. Green's play, except during World War II, has been continually performed at the site's outdoor theater.

¹⁵⁵ Dare County Times, 3/28/1941[Augustus Etheridge obituary].

boundary.¹⁵⁷ In 1889, Jesse B. Etheridge and B. B. Dough sold Augustus Etheridge “all our right title and interest in... the Adam Etheridge Sr. tract of land, the same being the tract of land conveyed to Jesse Etheridge by Joseph Mann. . .” This 150-acre tract comprised four-fifths of the Adam Dough Etheridge I farm; Augustus Etheridge would own the entire tract by 1906.¹⁵⁸

In 1888 Augustus Etheridge brought his bride, the daughter of Charles S. Etheridge, into the family homestead, which included Thomas and Fanny Dough and young Alpheus Drinkwater, who lived part-time with in his parents’ overcrowded Virginia Beach household and part-time with his grandparents. Augustus and Roxana Etheridge had three children, Amanda (1888-1945), Thomas Dixon (1891-1953), and Fannie (1897-1957?). After 1897, the year of Fanny Etheridge Dough’s death, Thomas A. Dough stayed with the family and apparently had his own room, as well, until he died in 1906. His will thanked Augustus, who “has kept, supported, attended to and kindly *heated* [author’s emphasis] me in my declining years.”¹⁵⁹ This raises the possibility that the rear ell’s west room, which had a flue for a heat stove, may have been created at the end of the nineteenth century for Dough.¹⁶⁰

During this time the house was substantially enlarged by the addition of a two-story rear ell that housed a kitchen and dining room on the first floor. This ell was constructed with a combination of new circular sawn timbers and older hewn timbers recycled from an unknown building. Inside, tongue-and-groove wainscoting and manufactured beaded board siding covered the old whitewashed timbers and weatherboards; Alpheus Drinkwater is said to have put some coins underneath the

¹⁵⁶ Dare County Register of Deeds, Book A, p. 583 [J. B. Etheridge>A. H. Etheridge].

¹⁵⁷ Dare County Register of Deeds, Book B, p. 181 [J. B. Etheridge> A. H. Etheridge].

¹⁵⁸ Dare County Register of Deeds, Book C, p. 290 [B. B. Dough et ux. and J. B. Etheridge>A. H. Etheridge]. Also Dare County Estates Records, Will Book 1, p. 133 [Thomas A. Dough Will, March 1906].

¹⁵⁹ Dare County Estates Records, Will Book 1, p. 133 [Thomas A. Dough Will, March 1906].

¹⁶⁰ Exterior and interior elements of this part of the house are consistent with late nineteenth-century construction (prominent gable returns, nailed framing, six-over-six double-hung sash windows, beaded board interior sheathing, narrow pine flooring). Family members could not recall anyone permanently living in that room, unlike the front of the second floor.

new wall coverings as a prank. Thomas Dough and Augustus Etheridge, probably with the help of local carpenters, “finished” the house’s roofline with new gable returns, and added the type of deeper eaves found on new houses then being constructed in Manteo. In order to heat the house more efficiently than had the old fireplaces, the carpenters removed the large exterior north end chimney. Then brick flues for stove heat were built at the house’s south end and at the new two-story rear ell while the house’s finest parlor received a newer, smaller fireplace. The enclosed box stair was done away with and a Victorian style open staircase was constructed, using a few elements from the former stair plus railings of the 1850s period salvaged from another unknown structure. The original center hall plan was maintained. Etheridge and his stepfather went the extra mile, probably at the urging of the more fashion-conscious female residents, by having some of the wainscoting comb-grained, a painting treatment that simulated oak.¹⁶¹

In 1898, Augustus Etheridge is listed as owning 105 acres, two horses, twelve cows, three hogs, twelve sheep, and household furniture valued at 50 dollars. Overall, Etheridge’s personal property was valued at \$675.00, more than his brothers or nephew, whose farms were subordinate to their careers with the United States Life-Saving Service. According to local history, Augustus Etheridge was also working part-time as a surfman but this has not been verified.¹⁶²

In 1900 Augustus Etheridge was appointed county Sheriff, a post he held until his resignation in 1906.¹⁶³ Llewellyn Cudworth, who defeated Etheridge, a Democrat, in the first election, quickly realized that being a sheriff was too much work and too little income for his liking. After Cudworth’s resignation, Etheridge agreed to the appointment.¹⁶⁴ By all accounts Etheridge was a good sheriff, his cordial nature,

¹⁶¹ Smith and Sandbeck, November 1999 and May 2000 fieldwork at Etheridge House, Manteo, NC. Additional information courtesy Peter Sandbeck, August 30, 2001.

¹⁶² *Dare County Times*, March 28, 1941

¹⁶³ *Dare County Times* (3/1941) and 1902-1905 North Carolina Directory, Dare County.

¹⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

attention to detail, and tirelessness made him beloved to most islanders.¹⁶⁵ Being a sheriff in Dare County at the turn of the twentieth century had as much to do with managing the county's accounts as enforcing its laws. Etheridge spent much of his time traveling throughout the county by boat and making regular visits to communities, ledger in hand, to collect quarterly taxes.¹⁶⁶ These taxes, besides what was owed state and Federal government, provided money for the new county courthouse and revenue for county schools, including teachers' pay and boarding.¹⁶⁷

Although a popular official, something within the Dare County system disturbed Augustus Etheridge so deeply that he issued a public letter, announcing he would not run for sheriff in 1907.¹⁶⁸ This announcement was followed two months later by Etheridge with an editorial in the Elizabeth City newspaper titled "Something Gone Wrong In Dare County Politics". Reading between the lines of Etheridge's editorial, the basic trouble may have been that Dare County Democrats had voted for, or helped to vote in, several Republican officials.¹⁶⁹ Between whatever made him leave office and disappointment about the election, Etheridge was clearly ready to leave politics—and his home—for a while.

In 1907 Augustus Etheridge left his North End farm for Virginia Beach. His move to Virginia was in order to take advantage of an event offering potentially greater commercial opportunities than Manteo. The Jamestown Exposition, celebrating the four hundredth anniversary of colonial America, opened in Norfolk that spring, where a large complex outside of town (now the site of the Norfolk Naval Station) included buildings dedicated to respective states, government agencies, the arts, history, and industry. Visited by the President, congressmen, and foreign dignitaries, the Exposition was on a greater scale than a state fair, and an ambitious venture for the

¹⁶⁵ Daily Economist, September 4, 1906, p. 1; also Independent (Elizabeth City, NC), Jan. 11, 1924, p. 9 [Editor's page], and Sept. 5, 1924, p. 7.

¹⁶⁶ Ibid.

¹⁶⁷ Daily Economist, August 15, 1906, p. 1; also Independent, Sept. 5, 1924, p. 7.

¹⁶⁸ Daily Economist (Elizabeth City, NC), Sept. 4, 1906, p. 1.

¹⁶⁹ Daily Economist (Elizabeth City, NC), Nov. 21, 1906, p. 1.

Hampton Roads cities.¹⁷⁰ Activity in Norfolk, Hampton, Portsmouth, and Virginia Beach was at fever pitch; new hotels were opening or just completing construction, and boarding houses were anticipating an onslaught of visitors. Augustus Etheridge's sister Josephine Drinkwater was still operating her Virginia Beach farm, where she also ran a boarding house.¹⁷¹ Etheridge became the proprietor of her business. His card was found at the Etheridge Homeplace in September 2000:

JAMESTOWN EXPOSITION
DRINKWATER COTTAGE
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.

A. H. ETHERIDGE, PROPRIETOR

OPPOSITE PRINCESS ANNE HOTEL
TWO MINUTES WALK TO OCEAN

GOOD SURF BATHING
CLOSE TO DEPOT

Drinkwater Cottage's new proprietor probably helped his sister, along with her sons Watson and Clarence, operate her farm. Etheridge also started a small business as a poultry, egg and clam dealer, opening an account with Virginia Beach's Bank of Princess Anne [Figure 6].¹⁷² Unfortunately, the venture may not have been as lucrative as he had hoped, especially with a daughter away at school; sometime that fall Etheridge returned to Roanoke Island, where he was re-appointed Sheriff from 1908 until 1910.

In 1910 Josephine Etheridge Drinkwater divided her Virginia Beach farm and land holdings between her children and moved to Roanoke Island's North End with her

¹⁷⁰ In the end, because of construction delays, the Exposition lost a good deal of money and its backers' goals of furthering business in Norfolk, Portsmouth, and other Hampton Roads communities were never completely realized.

¹⁷¹ 1900 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Princess Anne County (VA), Seaboard Township.

¹⁷² *Ibid.*; also Etheridge family papers (collection John F. Wilson IV IV, IV, Manteo, NC); also *Dare County Times*, March 28, 1941.

son Watson.¹⁷³ Augustus Etheridge had deeded fifty acres of his property, adjacent to the former Charles Etheridge farm, to Mrs. Drinkwater in 1909, and she and her son were apparently there to be among family and to farm.¹⁷⁴ At first, Josephine and Watson Drinkwater were not living with Augustus Etheridge and his family, but possibly in the small house on the Charles Etheridge property later moved by Thomas D. Etheridge.¹⁷⁵ According to family history, Mrs. Drinkwater moved in with the Etheridges after she left Virginia Beach, but this apparently did not occur until closer to her death in 1917. After her death, the small farm she bought from her brother was then divided between her sons Alpheus, who had settled in Manteo, and Watson, who later moved to Norfolk.¹⁷⁶

Etheridge ran as Dare County's Democratic representative to the North Carolina State Legislature in 1913 and served two terms. From surviving correspondence, much of Etheridge's business in those four years involved protecting Dare County's interests in terms of hunting, fishing, and stockraising. He fought the 1913 bill to enforce livestock enclosures, and won. In 1915, when the stock law bill passed in the legislature, he was able to have Dare County exempted; this would have been a boon for poor farmers who were hard-pressed to construct barns or pens for their hogs and cattle.¹⁷⁷ A 1913 petition signed by sixty-seven Dare County residents requested the acting county game laws be repealed and new laws enacted to prohibit out-of-state hunters from "shooting wild fowl (sic.) afloat," but did not pass during that term.¹⁷⁸ What did, however, pass was a law prohibiting dutch and pound nets, which apparently were taking too many fish from local operators, in certain parts of Roanoke Sound.¹⁷⁹ Other legislation during his first term included protecting oyster harvesting seasons, and fishing in the Albemarle Sound.¹⁸⁰

¹⁷³ Princess Anne County (VA) Register of Deeds, Book 84, p. 348; also 1910 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township.

¹⁷⁴ Dare County Register of Deeds, Book X, pp. 33 and 233.

¹⁷⁵ 1910 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Dare County, Nags Head Township.

¹⁷⁶ Dare County Register of Deeds, Book X, pp. 33 and 233; also Dare County Times, March 28, 1941.

¹⁷⁷ Independent, Sept. 5, 1924, p. 7.

¹⁷⁸ Etheridge family papers, Manteo, NC.

¹⁷⁹ Public Laws and Resolutions of the State of North Carolina Passed by the General Assembly, 1913 Session (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1913), p. 206.

¹⁸⁰ 1913 Public Laws and Resolutions, pp. 76, 79, and 129.

After 1917, Augustus Etheridge only sought public office one more time, and that was as Dare County Sheriff in 1924. After a highly publicized election, which he did not win, he retired from public life. The last seventeen years of his life revolved around his farmstead and his family, all of who lived nearby except for his daughter Amanda, who taught school in Pitt County. His son, Thomas Dixon Etheridge, who operated a grocery in the 1920s and ran a restaurant after World War II, moved a house belonging to the late Charles Etheridge to family property in the early 1920s, where it became the kitchen of his impressive Craftsman bungalow. Fannie Etheridge Dough, his youngest daughter, lived in a Craftsman style farmhouse with her husband Leland Dough, a farmer-fisherman, and their daughter Elizabeth.¹⁸¹ The Dough House, still standing, is now owned by the late Elizabeth Dough Groce's estate; it is also close to the site of Adam Etheridge III's dwelling. In 1935 Augustus Etheridge gave his granddaughter, Roxie Etheridge Atkinson, and her husband a small lot bordering that of her father Thomas D. Etheridge. Thomas Basnight and Worden Dough, two Manteo carpenters, built a one-story frame Craftsman cottage for the Atkinsons, which is still standing and in good condition.¹⁸²

Surviving early twentieth-century documentary photographs show the Etheridge Homeplace, including the adjacent houses of his children, to be meticulously maintained. An allee of cedars lined the drive from the highway to the house. The house itself had a replacement porch by the 1930s and a new south chimney by the 1940s, but most of its earlier finish was maintained. There was post-and-board fencing around the house and its domestic outbuildings, which included a small frame dairy behind the kitchen; elm trees on the front lawn had painted trunks, and there was a small vegetable garden near the footpath to Thomas Etheridge's house.¹⁸³ Other footpaths led to the family cemetery and the late nineteenth-century I-houses built by Patrick H. Etheridge and Adam Dough Etheridge III. The nineteenth-century

¹⁸¹ *Dare County Times*, August 10, 1935, p. 10.

¹⁸² *Dare County Times*, July 5, 1935, p. 3; also Robert H. Atkinson, 3/26/1935 letter to Amanda Etheridge, Fountain, NC (Etheridge Family Collection).

scuppernong arbor was still in place a short distance from the kitchen; Etheridge, like other islanders, especially those who settled in the Mother Vineyard area, made his own wine. Augustus Etheridge's property along the Roanoke Sound was split between Fannie Etheridge Dough and Thomas Etheridge after his 1941 death.

Augustus Etheridge, who spent his retirement days involved with his farm, his beloved Masons, and civic life, is remembered fondly by his grandchildren and great-nieces and nephews, whom he affectionately termed as "varmint." ¹⁸⁴ Surviving letters of Thomas D. Etheridge's daughter, Roxie E. Atkinson, are priceless in establishing the intimacy and humor this family enjoyed. Friends and relatives often showed up for "dinner" at noon, when Roxana Etheridge, known as "Kneemamy" to her grandchildren, served fresh vegetables and butterbeans, pork, and local delicacies such as Hanover salad. ¹⁸⁵ In the winter, hog killings were held at Thomas Etheridge's house; while the men killed, scalded, and butchered the hogs, the women would gather inside to cook and socialize. ¹⁸⁶ Grandchildren were warned to shut gates behind them, or "Woe be unto you . . ."; consequently, they either crawled under the fences or jumped over them. ¹⁸⁷ A field trip to see the *Trenton* steamship dock was a big event; Amanda Etheridge, when she was in town from teaching school, would take the children to watch. ¹⁸⁸ However, the *Trenton* was decommissioned in 1936, the victim of "Good Roads" progress. ¹⁸⁹ With the 1924 highway connecting the island from north to south, followed by the Baum Bridge connecting Roanoke Island to the Outer Banks by 1930, businesses and development increased. Progress could occasionally impede upon history, as when the Roanoke Highway cut into the site of

¹⁸³ Interviews with Natalie Etheridge Garow, Louis Midgett, and Marguerite Drinkwater Booth (7/1999).

¹⁸⁴ Interview with Natalie Etheridge Garow, July 1999.

¹⁸⁵ Garow, Midgett, and Booth Interviews. Mrs. Booth informed me that Hanover salad consisted of mustard greens, kale, and other salad greens.

¹⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁸⁷ Garow Interview.

¹⁸⁸ Booth Interview.

¹⁸⁹ *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, July 24, 1936, Section 2, p. 4.

Fort Raleigh.¹⁹⁰ With these improvements, the outside world was becoming more and more accessible—and the traditional ways of the North End were challenged.¹⁹¹

Sadly, there was division in this very close family. Augustus Etheridge's will stipulated that his wife receive a life interest in all his property, after which his unmarried daughter, Amanda, would inherit the house. The remainder of the property was to be divided a number of ways between his three children, including the Roanoke Sound tract, where Thomas would get half and his sisters one-fourth.¹⁹² When Amanda Etheridge, a retired schoolteacher, inherited the homeplace, she made some substantial changes, including moving some of the upstairs partitions and putting in a small bathroom.¹⁹³ Amanda Etheridge's death in 1945 created family conflict when, among other matters, Thomas Etheridge's son Augustus G. Etheridge (1922-1979) was left the family homeplace. As a result, Fannie E. Dough contested Amanda Etheridge's will for several years.¹⁹⁴

During his tenure of the house, Augustus G. Etheridge ("Gus") and his wife Carolyn raised two children, Roxie Christine and Gus. Alterations to the property included removing a packhouse near the south fence perimeter, the fencing itself, Crissy Bowser's cabin, and the storehouse where Bowser was laid out. By 1969, Gus and Carolyn Etheridge had built a brick ranch just north of the house; when they moved they took several pieces of family furniture, including a Victorian hall stand, Fanny Etheridge Dough's chest, and several early twentieth-century "store-bought" veneered furniture items with them. Roxie Christine Etheridge now owns these pieces of furniture. The old house was rented for a number of years and neglected. 1988 had acquired the house acquired by four cousins, all direct descendants of Adam Dough Etheridge I: Lee Zenovah Salet, Lou Salet, Natalie Salet, and John F. Wilson

¹⁹⁰ *Elizabeth City Independent*, Sept. 26, 1924, p. 10.

¹⁹¹ *Stick, Outer Banks*, p. 53.

¹⁹² *Dare County Estates*, Will Book 2, p. 203 [Last Will and Testament of Augustus H. Etheridge].

¹⁹³ Interviews with Natalie Etheridge Garow, Louis Midgett, and Marguerite Drinkwater Booth (7/1999).

¹⁹⁴ *Dare County Estates*, Caveat to Amanda Etheridge Will filed by Fannie Etheridge Dough, 6/28/1946; also, *Minute Docket* 6, p. 201 (May 1980).

IV. The Etheridge Homeplace was given to Outer Banks Conservation, Inc., by these cousins, and presently awaits restoration.

Amanda Etheridge, School Teacher (1888-1945)

Nineteenth-and early twentieth-century schoolteachers were some of rural Roanoke Island's unsung heroes. Often instructing children of all ages in primitive conditions with few texts or aids, these teachers, usually of modest means, lived with local families and saw pupils expand or dwindle, depending upon the season. In 1933, less than ten years after North Carolina's public education reforms had resulted in larger schools and staff for most children, Manteo journalist Victor Meekins bemoaned the loss of the "old deestic' skule."¹⁹⁵ For most of the teachers, who had struggled in district schools like Augustus Etheridge's oldest daughter Amanda, there was probably no such nostalgia. And yet Amanda Etheridge, having straddled those two worlds during her teaching career, combined both good fellowship and modern methods in her work.¹⁹⁶

Born at the family homeplace, Amanda Etheridge probably attended the North End school, a small weatherboarded building that once stood next to the Roanoke Island Baptist Church. The year she was born, her cousins Adam D. Etheridge III, Peggy Etheridge, and Alpheus Drinkwater were students at North End School as were neighbors Marchant Meekins and J. S. Midgett. The instructor, who soon turned the school over to Van Buren Etheridge's daughter Garnett, complained that his charges, "have never had the proper culture and refinement, hence they are usually course (sic.) in their manners and behavior."¹⁹⁷ Much, however, was expected of Amanda Etheridge. In 1905, instead of attending the Elizabeth City female seminary, she entered Chowan College, then one of North Carolina's preeminent schools for would-be teachers. Coursework between 1905 and 1908 included English, History, Geometry, Algebra, Science, and Latin for high school credit. Her college credits were the daunting subjects of Astronomy, Chemistry, and Philosophy.¹⁹⁸ Some of Miss Etheridge's exam books, including biology notebooks with diagrams of

¹⁹⁵ David Stick, *An Outer Banks Reader*, pp. 286-288.

¹⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁹⁷ J. J. Davis Papers, ECU (March 9 and 10, 1888 entries).

amoebae, an exam essay on seventeenth and eighteenth-century English literature, and a course paper on the poet Sidney Lanier have survived to attest her rigorous education.¹⁹⁹

Although she probably began her career teaching on Roanoke Island in 1908, Miss Etheridge's earliest known assignment was at the public school in Columbia, North Carolina, in 1912-1913. She was ill that year, possibly with malaria, and missed her family a great deal.²⁰⁰ By the early 1920s, after at least one year teaching at Creswell in Washington County, Amanda Etheridge was teaching seventh grade at Chicod, a rural school in eastern Pitt County; she was a good enough instructor to be approached by other area schools who needed science teachers.²⁰¹ But she stayed at Chicod until sometime between 1929 and early 1931, when she accepted a job at the Fountain School in western Pitt County.²⁰² During the early 1930s, correspondence from her niece, Roxie Etheridge Atkinson (1914-1993) has survived; much of it concerns family matters but, occasionally, hints emerge as to the level of Miss Etheridge's dedication to her work, such as when she missed her niece's 1931 wedding because of school duties.²⁰³ Other papers that were in Amanda Etheridge's collection, from a 1935 Fountain High School student newspaper, to teachers' handbooks, state public education bulletins, and notes for school plays, reveal a woman actively involved in her work and desirous of keeping up with the latest practices.²⁰⁴

¹⁹⁸ Margaret Hight, Chowan College, Jan. 24, 1933, Letter and transcript to Amanda Etheridge, Fountain, NC (Etheridge Family Collection).

¹⁹⁹ Etheridge Family Collection.

²⁰⁰ North Carolina Year Book (Raleigh: News & Observer, 1913), Tyrrell County directory. Also, Amanda Etheridge, March 7, 1913 Letter to Augustus Etheridge, Raleigh, NC (Etheridge Family Papers).

²⁰¹ John Carroll, Chairman Pitt County Board of Education, February 10, 1922, letter to Amanda Etheridge, Chicod, NC (Etheridge Family Papers). Also, 1920 Federal Census, Population Schedule for Creswell town, Washington County: Miss Etheridge, listed as a teacher, boarded with the Hopkins family, who had once run a hotel in that town; Magnolia Hopkins, a daughter-in-law who lived at the same house, also taught school with Miss Etheridge.

²⁰² Etheridge Family Papers.

²⁰³ Ibid.

²⁰⁴ ibid.

Amanda Etheridge transferred to the Manteo public schools sometime between 1936 and 1940, the year before her father died, and spent her last years teaching on Roanoke Island and living in the house her grandfather built nearly one hundred years before.

Part Three: The Etheridge Homeplace Site and Roanoke Island

Understanding the Etheridge Homeplace's significance is to travel between two periods of development on the island that the house, in its nearly 150-year history, has encompassed:

"The houses are all poor, but large—nothing but clapboards & Shingles. . . . The best place I have seen yet, and one that comes the nearest to civilization was in the middle of the woods. It was a two story house, two rooms on each floor, & no walls or lathing—only the rough beams—every window had over half the panes broken out. A man with three children lived there. They were the strangest looking beings I ever saw. . . . I saw two or three doves—some poor cattle. . . . Yet this man is considered a rich man."

Daniel Larned, Secretary to U. S. General Ambrose Burnside;
Letter to "Sister" re Roanoke Island, 1862²⁰⁵

"John, the house was spotless. The fence was painted every year, and the trees were whitewashed."

Marguerite Drinkwater Booth describing the Etheridge
Homeplace, circa 1920-1945, to John F. Wilson IV IV, IV,
July 10, 1999

The Adam Dough Etheridge House

The house itself is at its core a humbly built structure, a rare example of the sort of structures Roanoke Island's eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century settlers lived in [Figure 7]. To see today's Manteo, where early twentieth-century Victorian I-houses coexist with modest bungalows, Cape Cods, and spiffed-up vacation homes, it is hard to imagine the sandy roads, ox-carts, free-range pigs and chickens, and unpainted, rough dwellings that comprised this island less than one hundred and fifty years ago.

²⁰⁵ Letter, February 1862, Daniel Larned Papers, Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

As late nineteenth-century innovations and materials became more available on Roanoke Island, even the Etheridges must have seen their sturdy, no-frills farmhouse as shabby, for they made substantial changes to it at the turn of the twentieth century. As the Etheridges changed their homeplace from the 1890s until the 1950s, it took on new interior finish, later additions, a modified roof and chimneys, and modern interior elements and conveniences [Figure 8]. Nothing too radical occurred to the house's basic form in those sixty years. However if brought back from the dead and faced with the 1890s tongue-and-groove sheathing, oil stoves, a Victorian style open stair, and new wood-veneer furniture, Adam Dough Etheridge might not have recognized his unplastered center passage "mansion house." Period houses, such as the L. J. Pugh House in Wanchese, suggest the sort of Victorian style decoration and comfort Adam Dough Etheridge's descendants aspired to [Figure 9].

Stripped of later alterations, the Etheridge Homeplace's original core is a timber-frame two-story, asymmetrical three-bay side-gable dwelling.²⁰⁶ Adam Dough Etheridge I was actively farming, fishing, buying land, and with a small family by 1849. Therefore it is estimated, considering the style and construction of the house's main block, that it was built between 1845 and 1850; the house appears on William Franklin's 1852 map, so it was in place by then. It has always been a two-story dwelling. Hewn and pit-sawn timbers frame the house, which is on a very low foundation resting on replacement brick piers. Most of the rafters are hewn, or hewn and pit-sawn. A few boards show reciprocating saw marks, indicating that at some point (not yet known) the Etheridges had access to lumber from a water- or steam-powered saw when building the house. Given the low elevation of Roanoke Island, it is unlikely that these reciprocal-sawn pieces were produced there; clearly, they were brought from another place, possibly Portsmouth Island or Elizabeth City, two of the region's most lively trading areas.²⁰⁷ In the house's spacious unfinished attic a small original window with a sliding lower sash pierces each gable end. These most likely

²⁰⁶ Peter Sandbeck's forthcoming analysis of the house will be more in-depth than the following description, which I have written as a sketch to provide some sense of this house's remarkable survival in 21st-century Manteo.

²⁰⁷ Peter Sandbeck, conversation with Penne Smith, September 27, 2000.

were intended for ventilation rather than indicating any living space in the attic. The attic's loose floorboards show both reciprocal saw marks and circular saw marks.²⁰⁸

Older elements pointing to the house's antebellum provenance begin with the wide flush sheathed cypress boards of the front and back porch wall. Surviving notches in the second floor's framing indicate the rafters that comprised the front and rear shed porch shelters. Additional evidence has been found to confirm the presence of small original "porch chambers" or enclosed rooms at the north ends of the front and rear porches. These were entered via doors in the front and rear walls of the house's north room. The porches' support posts have not survived, but approximations can be made from further study of the site and research on contemporary buildings in the area. Inside, the partitions forming a center passage are evident; flooring cuts and whitewash traces of the stair's slope on ceiling joists indicate the location of the original enclosed stair, which occupied space in the south parlor. Remarkably, many of the nail patterns and much early whitewash have survived on the timbers downstairs, indicating that, like the house Daniel Larned saw in 1862, there was no lathing or plastering in the house. Instead, the outside weatherboards and framing were whitewashed within. The absence of whitewash in certain places reveals that Adam Dough Etheridge's house was not entirely plain; some sort of chair rail and, possibly in the south parlor, sheathing along the east wall was originally in place. Upstairs, there is no trace of whitewash; as it was private space, it may never have been whitewashed. The house's plain window surrounds are original; some of the house's original pegged double-hung sashes were found in the attic.

Beyond the north parlor, what has been the dining room since the turn of the twentieth century was built in the place of the rear shed porch; portions of the porch sill and flush board sheathing are still in place.²⁰⁹ The old kitchen behind the dining room was built between 1860 and 1870, possibly even as late as 1880 or 1890, with

²⁰⁸ I am indebted to Peter Sandbeck's revisions (ca. August 2001) here, which follow in the next seven paragraphs.

²⁰⁹ Ibid.

mortise-and-tenon framing like the rest of the house.²¹⁰ There are reused timbers in the framing that may have come from the preceding kitchen building, thought to be at the house's south elevation. Like the rest of the downstairs, the kitchen was whitewashed.

There are earlier houses on Roanoke Island's North End that the builders of the Etheridge Homeplace emulated and learned from. Although many of these houses are gone, at least two dwellings survive in altered form, one being the Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House [Figure 10] and the other, the Meekins Homeplace [Figure 17]. Photographs taken of the Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House before its early 1940s move and successive alterations show that it was very similar, in basic form, elements, and plan, to the Etheridge Homeplace. Both houses, two-story, three-bay timber frame side-gable dwellings, had flush-sheathed front and rear porches (although the Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House's rear porch was also altered in the late nineteenth century when a board-and-batten attached rear kitchen was built) sheltered by wide shed roofs [Figure 11]. Both had single chimneys as sources of heat, and both had side-gable entrances, indicating a side dependency, probably a kitchen, having been in place [Figures 12 and 13]. Both houses' roofs had been altered at the turn of the twentieth century by prominent projecting gable returns and small attic windows; interior brick chimney flues were built for additional heat at that time. The Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House probably predated the Etheridge Homeplace by at least twenty years. Surviving elements from its initial building period, as observed in the 1940s photographs, include a raised six-panel front door, molding trim of earlier nineteenth-century vintage, and the house's handsome double paved shoulder exterior end chimney, with its unusual common-bond pattern at the lower shoulder. Drinkwater descendants altered the interior but kept the house's early Federal mantelpieces that further establish its 1820-1830 building date. Given the short space from 1820 to 1850, it is probable that some of the same carpenters worked on both houses. These 1940s photographs will be important resources as a restoration plan for the Etheridge Homeplace is further formulated. Original

²¹⁰ Ibid.

surviving moldings and beaded weatherboards on the nearby Meekins Homeplace indicate that it, too, predated the Etheridge Homeplace by two or three decades.

Most knowledge about the house's interior finish and furnishings are from the early twentieth century, rather than the mid-nineteenth century. Augustus Etheridge's great-niece, Alma E. Wilson, has provided a floor plan of the house complete with known twentieth-century furnishings (see Etheridge Family file), beginning with the south parlor, which had Augustus Etheridge's desk, a Victorian hall stand, and a glass and wood cabinet. Fortunately, Adam Dough Etheridge's wonderful estate inventory (see Appendices) has survived; this will be invaluable as the house is restored to its mid-nineteenth century appearance and the question of furnishings arises.

The Etheridge Homeplace Site

None of the Etheridge Homeplace's outbuildings—nineteenth or twentieth century—survive. Photographs from the 1940s show that there were a number of outbuildings and structures on site; according to family members, these included a mule barn, a small dairy house, a privy, a smokehouse, a packhouse, and fencing [Figures 14 and 15; see also Insert 4]. Earlier census records and Adam Dough Etheridge I's will indicate that earlier buildings on site included corncribs, potato houses, animal pens, a stable for the horse, a small dairy, and at least one slavehouse. The appearance of these structures can be ascertained from later documentation.

Family documentaries and oral history recall the Etheridge Homeplace as well constructed and lovingly maintained. However, compared to agricultural complexes on the mainland, Roanoke Island farmsteads were simple at best. Early twentieth century photographs of Manteo show that outbuildings were often not painted and that fencing could either be sturdy or haphazard [Figure 16]. But many practices and traditions were as prevalent on the island as on the mainland. Well sweeps, due to the low water table, would have been in place during the nineteenth century as well as the twentieth. Trees on farm property immediately surrounding the house were usually

whitewashed [Figure 17]. The practice of whitewashing is said to have stemmed from either safeguarding travelers (making roadside trees visible at night) or to preserve trees from insect or bird infestation.

Certain uses of a house, such as the porch, extended from the eighteenth into the twentieth century. The Etheridge House's flush porch boarding indicates that, as with many antebellum houses, the porch was considered part of the house's living quarters. Documentary photographs of Roanoke Island families at the turn of the twentieth century show them actively using their porches. Side-chairs and rocking chairs could be set out, where their owners would read and socialize [Figure 18]. More elaborate furniture, such as chaises-longues, was found on Roanoke Island porches as well [Figure 19]. And, like the Meekins Homeplace, small enclosed rooms at the ends of the porches provided much-needed additional sleeping spaces for family and visitors.

The Etheridges' agricultural area was separated from the house by a fence, and partly screened from the house by a circle of elm, walnut, and pecan trees. Augustus Etheridge kept all outbuildings whitewashed but it is probable that these buildings would have been or were unpainted during the time of his stepfather and, before that, his father. Surviving period outbuildings—which are extremely rare and mostly found on the mainland—were of vertical nailed board or board-and-batten construction [Figures 20, 21, 22]. Livestock was often not enclosed; pigs and cattle roamed through woodland belonging to either the farmer or his neighbors; branding marks—usually notches cut in the ears—helped the farmers figure out whose cow was whose. Some animals like sheep, poultry, or milk cows, because of their vulnerability, may have had enclosed quarters, either open pens or small stables. Marvelous documentary photographs from the turn of the century showing sheep pens and hog pens were taken by Roanoke Island journalist D. Victor Meekins [Figures 23 and 24]; these structures were simple post and board fences, with hay and corn shucks strewn within. Some free-range animals might only be restricted by the simplest of post-and-wire fencing [Figure 25].

Archival collections at Manteo's Outer Banks History Center reviewed for this report provided a wealth of information for site interpretation. Most extraordinary is the OBHC's Victor Meekins Photography Collection. Meekins, a native Roanoke Island journalist who later founded Dare County's first newspaper, roved the island at the turn of the century with his camera; his photographs of outbuildings, houses, animal sheds, barns, and animal pens are remarkable documentaries of island life less than a century ago. The Ambrose Collection, also at OBHC, documents early twentieth-century buildings and outbuildings on the Dare County mainland, which is also important for understanding Roanoke Island and its buildings.

Another important future resource, if the Etheridge Homeplace becomes a local historic site representative of Roanoke Island's agrarian past, will be investigating documentary photographs from surrounding counties to ascertain what outbuildings would actually have existed in the mid-nineteenth century. A quick reconnaissance drive of Roanoke Island by the author in 1999 revealed that only a few nineteenth or twentieth century agricultural or maritime outbuildings have survived. It may be that investigation of outbuildings in Tyrrell and eastern Washington Counties, as well as outbuildings in northern Hyde County, will be essential toward restoring the Etheridge Homeplace site. One especially important resource will be the surviving outbuildings on the Meekins Homeplace site. All of these resources will be helpful if the Homeplace and farmstead are restored and reconceived from a mid-nineteenth century standpoint.

As twentieth- and twenty-first century innovations, as well as the resulting development from an increased local and resort population transform Manteo and Roanoke Island, its earlier landscape is rapidly diminishing. Where buildings and landmarks have not been torn down or removed, they have sometimes been restored or renovated in such a way that original character is lost. Neo-traditional style dwellings and commercial buildings new to the island revive past architectural decoration and form, but often at the expense of authenticity. In this light, a reconstructed Etheridge Homeplace, complete with reconstructed outbuildings, can

only approach the long-gone farmstead. However, if carefully and sensitively executed in such a way to approximate the past rather than to make the past better than it actually was, such a site could provide a valuable service to residents and outsiders alike. Such a restored site would depict Roanoke Island's true heritage—that of simple farmers and fishermen, isolated from most of the world, who nevertheless lived fully in their quiet, hardworking existence.

ILLUSTRATIONS TO TEXT

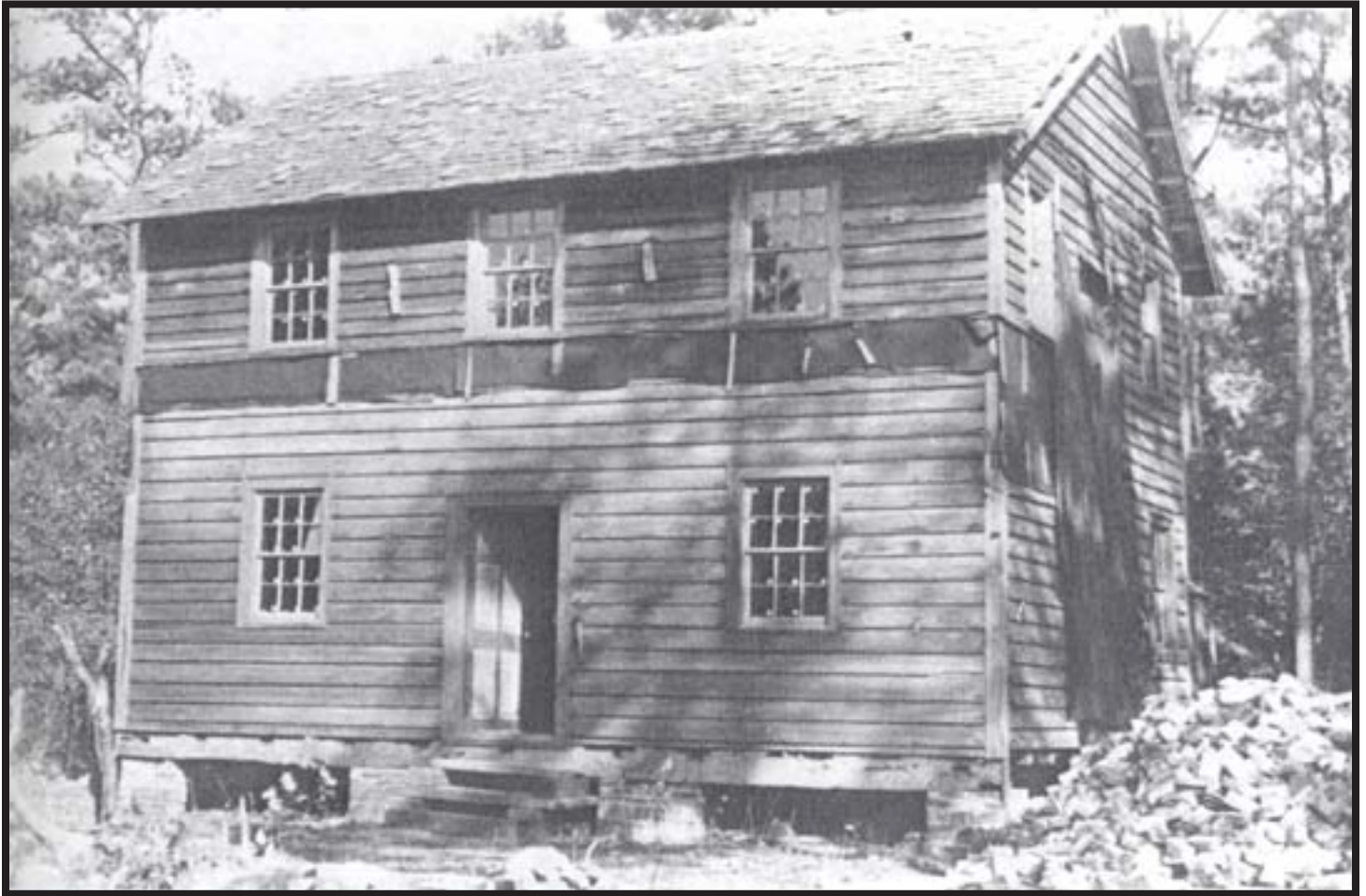


Fig. 1: Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House, front elevation, ca. 1945 (at present site; original porch removed). Paneled door is original. Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC.



Fig. 2: Meekins Homeplace, side elevation ca. 1915. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC



Fig. 3: Christaina ("Crissy") Bowser, ca. 1910. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. N.B. The simple stoop entrance and rough board-and-batten exterior in the background; this has been assumed to have been Crissy Bowser's cabin on the Etheridge Farm.



Fig. 4: Thomas A. Dough, Grave Marker. Etheridge Family Cemetery, Manteo, NC (Penne Smith, 1999 photograph)



Fig. 5: Detail of Thomas A. Dough Grave Marker (Penne Smith, 1999 photograph)

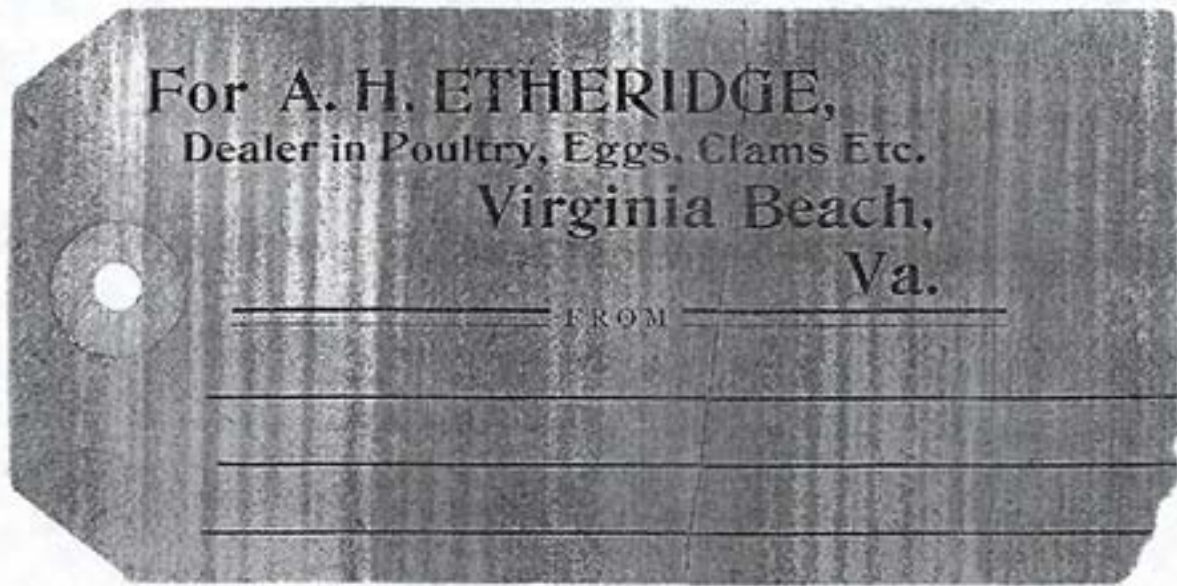


Fig. 6: Aufustus H. Etheridge Business Card, 1907. Etheridge Family Collection, Outer Banks Conservationists, Inc.



Fig. 7: Front elevation of Etheridge House, May 1999 (Penne Smith, photographer)



Fig. 8: 1890s rear ell of Etheridge House, May 1999 (Penne Smith, photographer)



Fig. 9: Capt. L. J. Pugh House, Wanchese, NC, July 1999 (Penne Smith, photographer) This graceful Victorian farmhouse may have been what the Etheridge 1890s renovation aspired to.



Fig. 11: Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House, front and side elevations, ca. 1940. Roger Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC



Fig. 13: Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House, rear and side elevations, ca. 1940. Roger Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. N.B. the door surround at the side elevation.



Fig. 14: United States Coast Guard, 1957 aerial map of Roanoke Island, detail of Etheridge Homeplace farmstead. Cartography Division, National Archives, College Park, MD

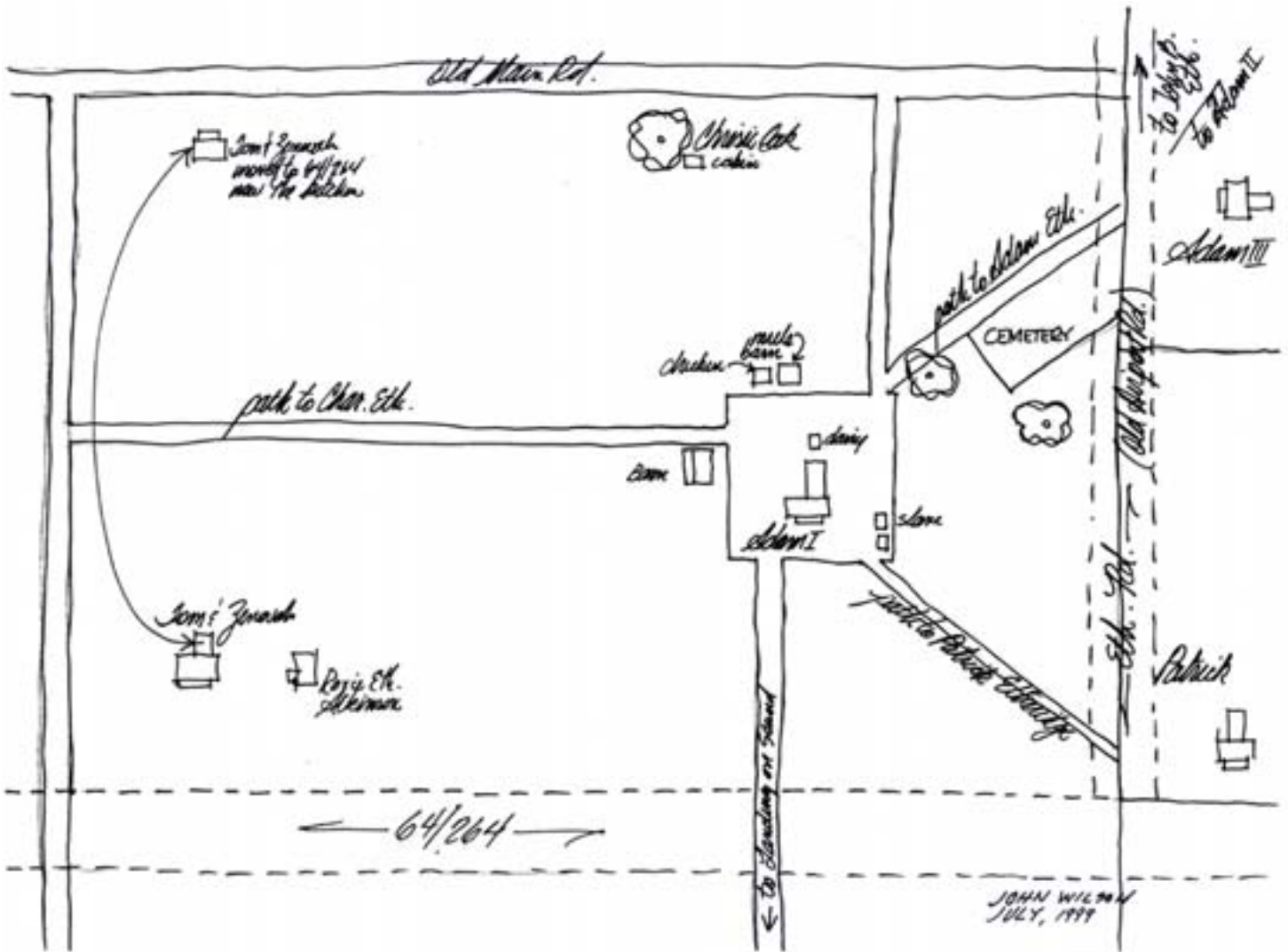


Fig. 15: John F. Wilson, IV, Sketch of Etheridge Homeplace and outbuildings, based upon recollection and oral history, August 1999. Outer Banks Conservationists, Inc., Manteo, NC.

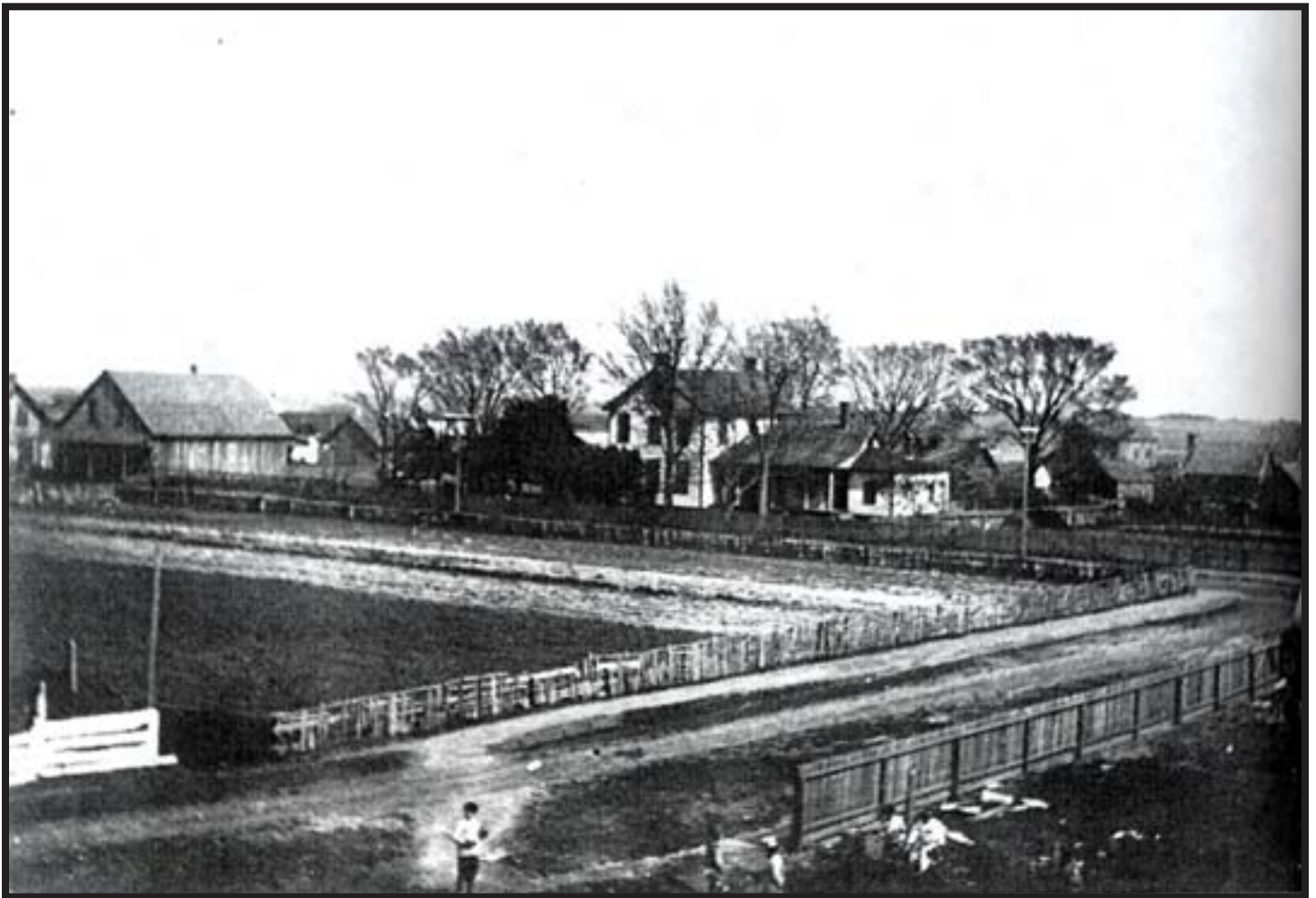


Fig. 16: Manteo, early twentieth century. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. Note the number of unpainted buildings, variations of fencing, and large outbuildings.

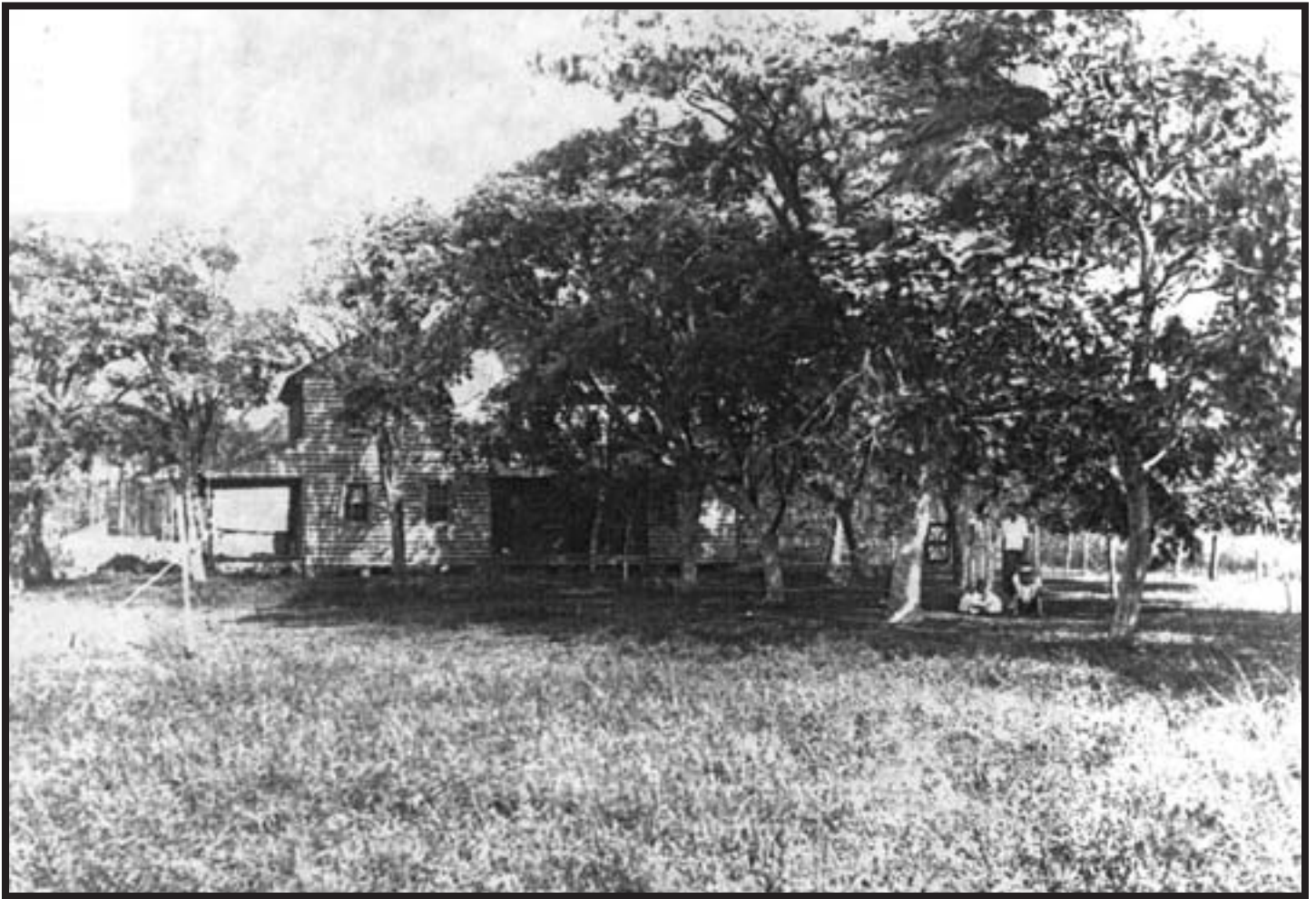


Fig. 17: Meekins Homeplace, ca. 1915-1920. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. Note well sweep in foreground, as well as handsome gate behind group in photograph. Some of tree trunks appear to have been whitewashed.

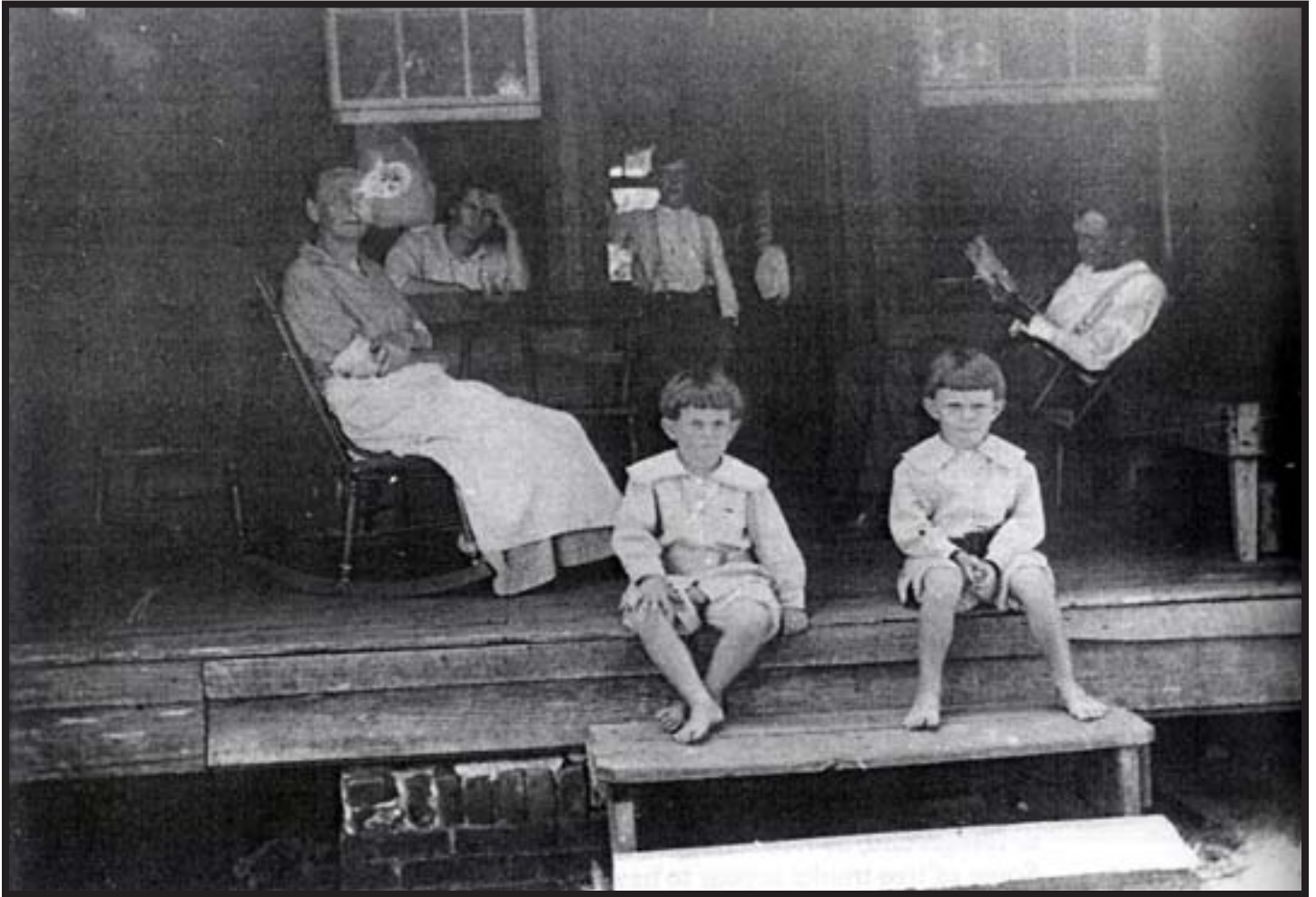


Fig. 18: Meekins Family on side porch, ca. 1915-1920. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. This photograph powerfully illustrates how porches on Roanoke Island continued as highly utilized living spaces into the twentieth century.



Fig. 19: Girls on Porch, ca. 1915-1920. Another example of Roanoke Island's use of porches as an extension of interior living space---note the couch in the background and the plant stand. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC.



Fig. 20: Barnyard Scene, ca. 1915-1920. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. Note the simple vertical board outbuildings, some of which may have been board-and-batten.

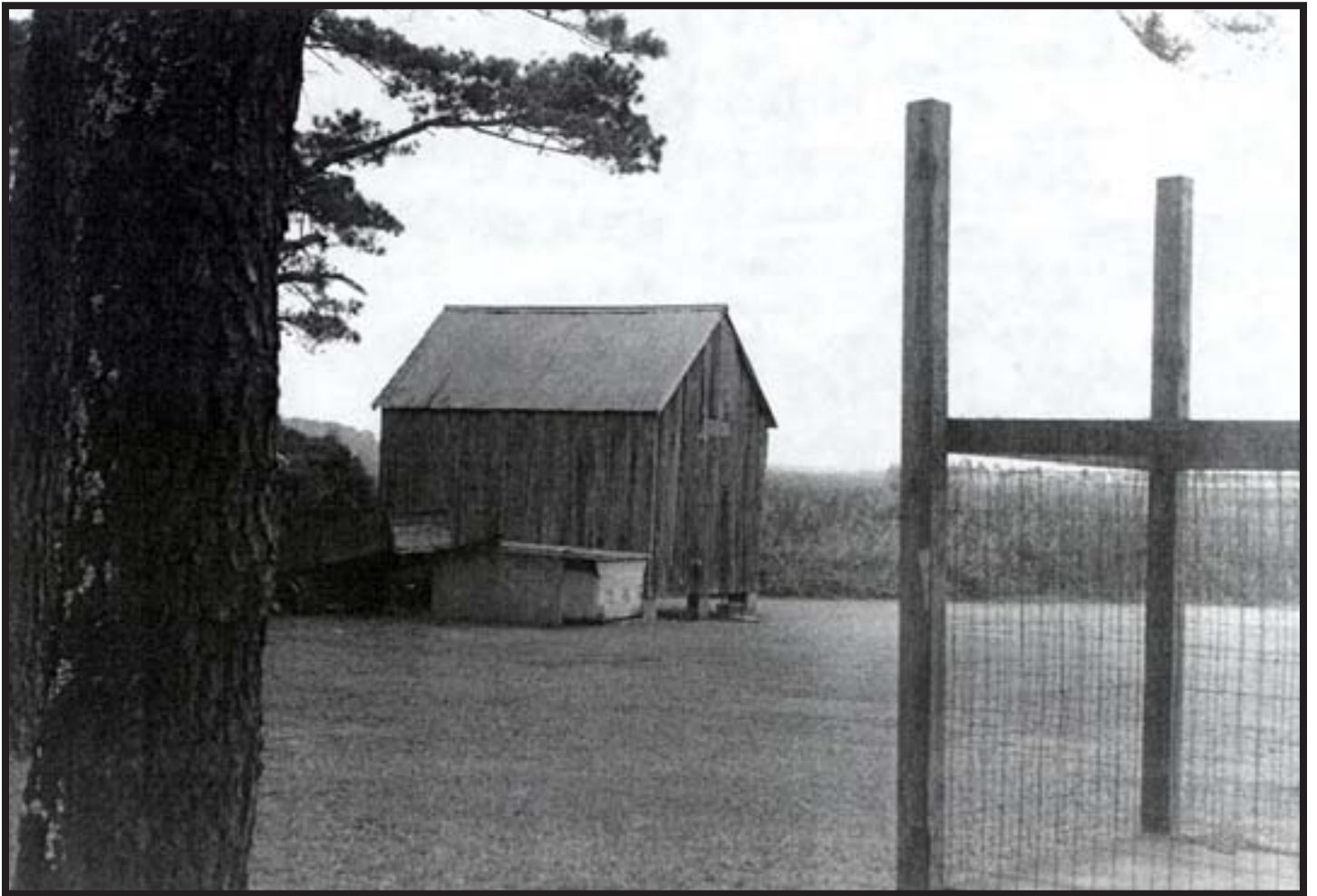


Fig. 22: Outbuilding, Caroom Point, Mashoes, NC. Penne Smith, photographer, July 1999.



Fig. 23: Sheep Pen, ca. 1915-1920. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. This pen stood at the Meekins Homeplace Farm at Roanoke Island's North End, near the Etheridge Homeplace. It is entirely plausible that the Etheridges would have built a similar pen.

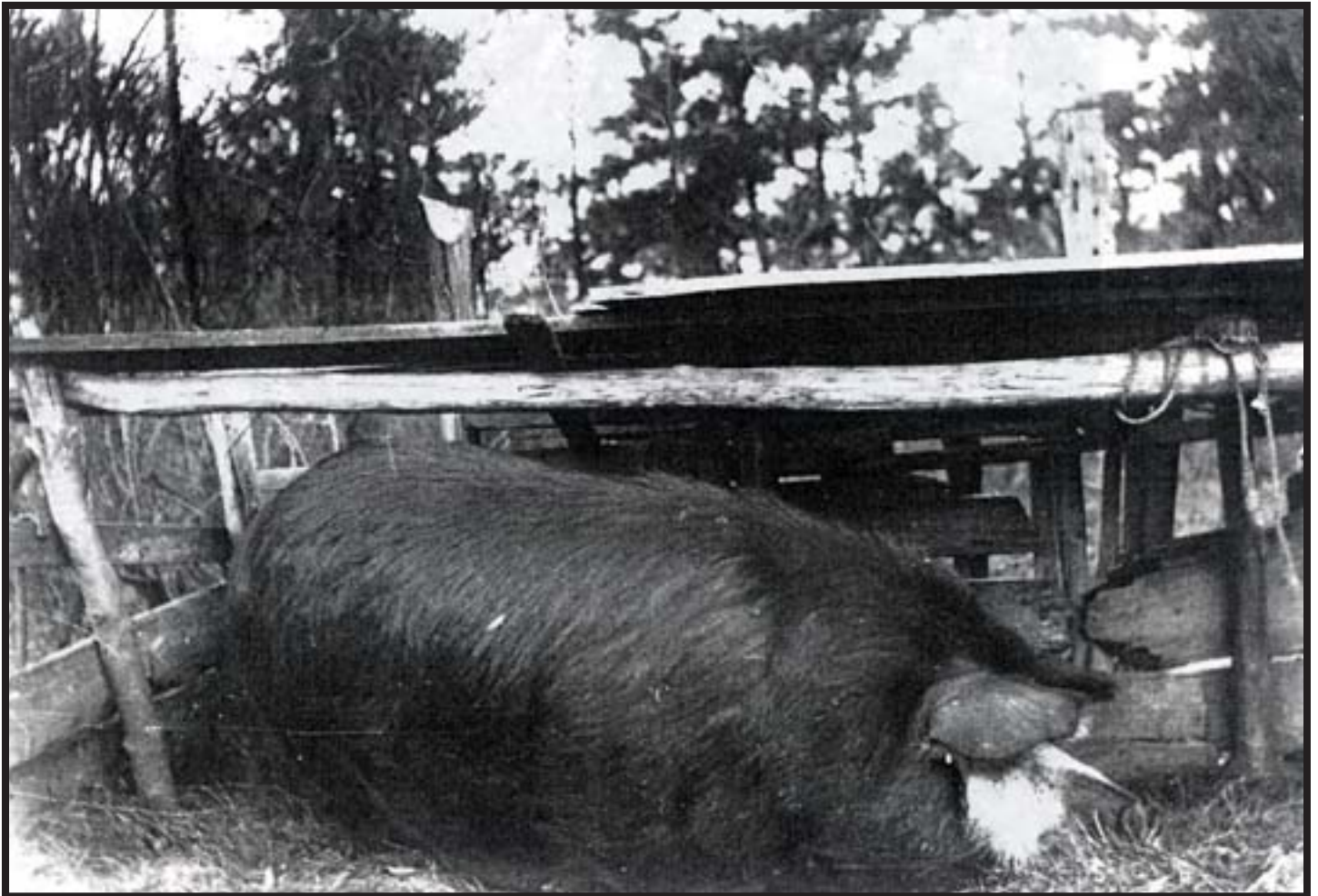


Fig. 24: Hog in hog pen, ca. 1915-1924. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. Once a free-ranging animal on Roanoke Island, hogs were increasingly confined by the turn of the twentieth century.



Fig. 25: Meekins Homeplace, ca. 1915-1920. D. Victor Meekins Collection, Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC. An example of simple whitewashed post-and-wire fencing.

APPENDIX A

Appendix A

ESTATE OF ADAM DOUGH ETHERIDGE (1813-1868)

1. TRANSCRIPTION OF PROPERTY SALE OF ADAM DOUGH ETHERIDGE'S ESTATE, JULY 13TH 1869

[N. B. that I have listed items in order of possessors, rather than in the order in which they appear in the estate sale inventory/JPS 8-1999]

Fanny B. Etheridge

1 Horse	\$50.00
1 Horse cart & wheels	\$10.00
1 ½ cotton gin	\$20.00
lot empty barrels	\$.28
1 lot old rope	\$.28
1 cest [chest]	\$.05
1 set cart harnis [harness]	\$.80
1 frough [?] & harnis	\$ 1.00
1 Manuar [manure] fork & spade	\$.25
1 lot Hoes	\$.50
1 reed Hog	\$ 1.00
3 Hogs	\$ 3.00
1 Hog	\$ 2.00
2 Pigs	\$ 3.25
1 lot [trumpery?]	\$.50
1 mill	\$ 5.00
1 lot rope	\$.40
2 baskets	\$ 1.10
1 lot Buckets Tin	\$.50
1 lot Buckets wood	\$.50
1 juge & Tin boiler	\$.10
1 lot Barrels	\$.25
1 lot Stone Jars	\$ 1.00
1 lot Sundries	\$.25
1 lot Barrels	\$.25
1 lot Wool	\$.25
1 lot Wool	\$.25
1 sauce pan	\$ 1.00
1 saucgage (sausage?) mill	\$ 1.00
1 lot Sundries	\$.28
1 lot yeapoun (yaupon) tea	\$ 1.00
1 lot Sundries	\$.75

1 Keg & half bushel	\$.50
1 lot Tools	[\$ 5.00?]
1 Hammer	\$ [can't read]
1 Brace & Bits	\$ [can't read]
1 [Tar paulling?]	\$.60
1 Bed spred & Pillow	\$10.00
2 Beds & stead	\$20.00
6 Stools	\$ 1.00
1 Lot Bed clothes	\$10.00
1 lot Books	\$.20
1 Bed stead	\$.05
1 Big Wheel	\$ 1.10
1 lot weaving Harnis	\$ 1.00
1 Chest	\$ 1.00
1 Chest	\$.60
1 [can't read] leather	\$ 1.70
1 [chest?]	\$.25
1 lot Sundries	\$.25
1 cot stool	\$.15
5 chirs	\$ 2.50
7 stool chirs	\$ 3.00
1 Rocking chir	\$ 2.00
1 Sofa	\$ 5.00
1 candel stan & 5 sticks	\$ 1.00
1 lot Crockery ware	\$ 4.00
1 lot Books	\$ 1.00
1 lot Sundries	\$ 1.00
4 smal waiters	\$ 1.00
1 lot Books	\$.28
1 Timepiece	\$ 2.00
3 Spit toons	\$ [can't read]
1 looking Glass	\$ 1.00
1 lot Carpeting	\$ 2.00
1 Bed & stead	\$10.00
1 Chest	\$.50
3 Chambers	\$.72
1 Chest & contents	\$ 2.00
1 [can't read]	\$.28
1 Table wash bole & pitcher	\$ 1.00
1 lot Baskets	\$.50
1 lot spun Cotton	\$ 1.00
1 Sundries	\$ 2.00
1 Gun	\$13.00
1 lot Sundries	\$.25
1 lot Sundries	\$.50
Tongs shovels & Andirons	\$ 2.00

2 chairs	\$ 1.00
1 sittee	\$.50
1 lot Crockery ware	\$ 2.00
1 lot Sundries	\$ 2.00
1 [chest?] & contents	\$ 4.00
1 lot Baskets	\$.25
1 loom	\$ 3.50
1 lot Sundries	\$ 1.00
1 lot wood ware	\$ 1.50
1 lot Sundries	\$.10
1 lot Iron ware	\$ 2.75
1 lot Pot ware	\$ 2.00
Stool & Bucket	\$.50
1 lot Sundries	\$.25
1 lot Axes	\$ 1.00
2 pairs Cards & Bellows & Box	\$.25
1 copper kittel [kettle]	\$ 1.00
1 Bucket & wash bole	\$ 1.00
1 Table	\$.05

P. H. Etheridge

1 yoak of Oxen	\$69.00
1 Bed & stead	\$12.00
1 secreatary	\$ 5.00
1 Table	\$ 4.00

Jesse Etheridge, Sn

1 Milch cow & calf	\$10.00
1 Dry cow	\$ 8.00
1 Dry Hieffer	\$ 5.00
1 red Hieffer	\$ 5.00
1 corn sheller	[can't read]
1 lot net lines	\$.50
1 lard Tank	\$.25
1 Barrel of Bottels	\$.20
6 chirs	\$.25
1 lot Picturs	\$ [can't read]
1 Chest	\$ 5.00
1 silver watch	\$ 5.00
1 sive [sieve]	\$.20

Jesse T. Etheridge

1 ox cart & wheels yolk	\$16.50
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Adam Etheridge

1 cart body	\$.75
1 Mullett net	\$ 1.00
1 lot Plains	\$ 1.50
Tool chest & contents	\$ 2.50
1 curving [cunning?] knife & fixtures	\$.40
1 lot nets	\$ 5.25
3 chirs [chairs]	\$.20
1 chir	\$.15
1 lot Books	\$ 3.00
2 Friction cogs	\$.08

Edward Drinkwater

1 anvil	\$10.00 (?)
1 mullit net	\$ 2.00
1 lot Sundries	\$.75
1 lot pot Iron	\$ 1.00
1 lot paint	\$.25
1 lot Tools	\$ 2.10
1 Oven	\$ 1.00
1 Wheel & cords [?]	\$.50
1 lot Cotton	\$ 1.50
1 Table	\$ 16.75
1 looking Glass	\$ 1.05
1 [can't read—looks like "Salsa"]	\$.50
1 Rocking Chair	\$ 1.00

J. B. Etheridge

1 cros cut saw	\$ 2.00
For rent: The Tuttel House at Nags Head known As the Tuttel House	\$ 6.50

M. Hubbard (paid)

1 whip saw	\$.25
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Wm. Hayes sn (paid)

1 Brier Hook	\$ 1.50
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T. M. Guard (paid)

1 Grubing [sic.] Hoe	\$.60
2 Blocks	\$.20
1 rubber bucket	\$ 1.10

T. A. Dough

1 lot sein rope	\$ 1.05
-----------------	---------

David Owns (Col.) (paid)

1 washing mill	\$.35
----------------	--------

2. ADAM DOUGH ETHERIDGE ESTATE SALE AT BODIES ISLAND, JULY 17, 1869

Spencer Etheridge

1 filly	[\$10.00?]
---------	------------

R. D. Cadugan

1 Stear	[\$ 4.00?]
1 Cow & calf	\$ 16.00
1 Stear	\$ 7.00

Edward Drinkwater

1 Cow	[\$can't read]
1 [boat?] ax	\$.50

J. H. Meekins

1 Heifer	\$ 6.00
----------	---------

P. H. Etheridge

1 Heifer	\$ 5.50
1 Heifer	\$ 2.75
1 Gun	\$ 1.00

Jesse Etheridge

1 Heifer	\$ 3.25
1 [1/2 ?] Sein	\$20.00
1/3 Hasser [?]	\$ 5.00

1/3 Ship Alston [<?]	\$ 5.00
1 spy Glass	\$ 5.00
1 web of drum neta	\$ 8.00

Jesse T. Etheridge

1 skiff boat	\$25.00
--------------	---------

Widow [Fanny B. Etheridge]

1 Demajohn	\$ 5.00
4 Sacks	\$.25
1 Hatchet	\$.50
1 pare Oyster tong	\$.05
2 Dinejon & juge	\$.50

3. ESTIMATION OF ADAM DOUGH ETHERIDGE'S 1869 CROP, STOCK, & PROVISIONS ON HAND, JULY 13, 1869

30 Bbls of Corn \$4	\$120.00
1000x Fodder	\$ 10.00
3 Bbls Flour \$9	\$ 27.00
2 [barrels?] Pork \$35	\$ 70.00
600 lbs. Bacon .40	\$120.00
50 Coffee 25	\$ 12.50

APPENDIX B

Appendix B: JOSHUA JUDSON DAVIS PAPERS
743.1-743.3

Special Collections and Manuscripts Department
J.Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University
Greenville, North Carolina

[Partial transcription to follow, by Penne Smith July 1999; this is, as the below explains, only part of J. J. Davis' Roanoke Island diary, and focuses on his Manteo and North End experiences]

J. J. Davis: Diary, 1888-1889 (item 743.1a)

In this year, Davis was a school teacher on Roanoke Island. Transcription is centered upon Davis' experiences in Manteo, and contact with Etheridge family members in addition to events that were special to Roanoke Island natives. Davis taught briefly at the north end of the island, where the Etheridge family lived, lived with the Mann family, and attended Manteo's Methodist Church. After mid-September 1888, Davis relocated to near Wanchese, at the southern end of Roanoke Island, where he taught school and boarded with the Daniels family.

p. 62 *February 17, 1888 (Saturday)* [In this passage, Davis describes his leaving Elizabeth City, NC, for Roanoke Island aboard the steamer, the *Lizzie Burrus*, and his boarding with the Mann family in Manteo] Mr. Mann's family consists of his wife –Sarah—and 2 sons Stewart and Arthur. Stewart is nearly grown.

My home is on the north side of what might be called Church Street and is the first house right of the M.E. [Methodist Episcopal] Parsonage.

* * * *

At present Manteo has only 5 stores viz: Evans & Mann, Genl Mds., Jno. Hassell, Genl Mds., Evans Bros., Genl Mds, J. M. Gray, Genl Mds., and Mrs. Harvey Goodwin's Millenery [sic.]. The place of late is beginning to become more progressive and has been laid out in squares & now begins to take some shape.

p. 63 *February 7, 1888* [JJD describes Manteo's new Methodist Church building] "It is ceiled and painted in a very tasty style and is well furnished."

March 9, 1888 [Monday] I saw Mr. Jno. Ward and he told me that Miss Garnett Etheridge and Miss Bertie Evans were both expecting to begin a school on the island during the summer or fall.

This, of course, will down me, so my hopes of success here are very limited. Nevertheless I will try a while.

I started school this morning with only 13 pupils as follows.

Males. Geo. T. Wescott, Sam'l M. Midgett, Otho C. Ward, Edward Ward, J. E. Goodwin Jr., A. W. Drinkwater, Chas. B. Quidley, McCagey W. Ethridge, Clarence M. Ethridge.

Females. Mamie Ethridge, Jessie Ward, Addie Quidley, Matilda H. Ethridge The scholars are none too far advanced.

March 10, 1888 (Tuesday) The children here I find have never had the proper culture and refinement, hence they are usually coarse [sic.] in their manners and behavior.

p. 65 *July 15, 1888 (Sunday)* A crew of us concluded to go over to Collington [sic.] to attend the closing of a 'camp meeting' which has been in session for several days at that place, conducted mostly by the Methodist in the old fashioned way.

Mr. Joseph Ethridge—a gentleman from Colerain¹ who is spending his summer at Manteo—Mr. Bill Casey, Stewart Mann, and I went over in Mr. Casey's canoe. We had a good breeze and made the seven miles in little over an hour. When we reached the landing there was, at least, 75 crafts of different kinds moored in the harbor.

The meeting was held on the side of a hill and the ground was shaded by live oaks covered in grapevines. There was about 15 camps on the ground.

The people of this section are simple and uncultivated and are generally homely

July 16, 1888 (Monday) My second week of school. I enrolled six new scholars to-day, viz. Marchant Meekins, J. S. Midgett, Lizzie Midgett, Adam D. Ethridge, Peggy Ethridge, Jonnie Homer.

p. 68 *July 18, 1888 (Wednesday)* I received a letter from Mr. Jno. Ward, directing me to see Mr. Jno. Goodwin and saying that there was some misunderstanding about the schoolroom with Mr. Ethridge the other committee.

Mr. Ward stated that the whole trouble came from Mr. V. B. Ethridge who wants the house for his daughter Miss Garnett.

July 21, 1888 (Saturday) The stores here do not close until 11 o'clock p.m.

p. 70 *July 29, 1888 (Sunday)* We ascended the banks in front of Capt. Van Buren Ethridge's house where the bank is covered by a beautiful natural grove of live oak, holly, etc. which are so thickly covered by grape vines as to form a very shady nook. This island is the natural home of the grape and in some places the woods are tangled with luxurious vines. . . .

July 30, 1888 (Monday) There are large lot of fine melons in the town now. This is a fine country for melons etc.

¹ Bertie County, NC.

August 3, 1888 (Friday) At night Messrs. George and Willis Griffin, J. H. Ethridge, Will Lennon, Charles Evans, and myself hired Mr. Casey's boat and went to Nag's Head. There we found a large crowd of excursionist [sic.] from Edenton, Plymouth, and other points up that way.

About 9 o'clock the music in the Ball-room began, and in a few moments the beau and belle were gliding in the "dreamy waltz". After a little waltzing and a square dance by the children they changed to what they call a Mother Hubbard dance. At first sight I concluded that it had the right name.

The procession consisted of men dressed in Mother Hubbards and womens nightgowns with bustles al la mode [sic.]: next was their partners, young ladies, dressed in tasty evening costumes with bustles to equal the men's.

After witnessing the first set I pronounced it a rediculous [sic.] hop: such as might be expected in a semi-civilized, or at a house of doubtful character If this is what people visit summer resorts for, deliver me from such.

August 25, 1888 [this is an excerpt from an entry Davis wrote, describing Manteo in 1888. As the content of Davis' entry is more hyperbolic than keen-eyed scrutiny, I've excerpted the most unusual and telling part]

Nothing is nicer than to rise early in the morning [and] sail about two miles to Balast Point, in the bracing morning air and return in a few hours with a fine bunch of trout and croakers. Or after the days work is over to take a boat row about twenty yards from the warf [sic.] and enjoy an excelent [sic.] salt bath.

August 27, 1888 (Monday) Weather cool and rainy, but most of the farmers are done saving their fodder.

Farming here is very limited, as very few of the people raise enough corn for food. Their chief dependence is fishing, etc.

August 31, 1888 (Friday) Weather threatening but very little rain.

Miss Birtie Evans, the young lady who is to begin teaching here about September 20, arrived here a few days ago. . . . accompanied by two other young men and young ladies.

September 3, 1888 (Monday) Weather rainy and stormy. My school is becoming discouraging to me. It is scarcely paying my board.

September 10, 1888 (Monday) When I went to my school this morning I found only eight scholars. This was more than I could stand so I determined to give up the ship. So with this end in view I called on Miss Garnet Ethridge who expects to begin school here when I am done, to let her know that my position was now vacant. Mr. Jones the County Superintendent of Public Instruction advised me to go to the south end and try for a school and as I see nothing better at present I made arrangements with Mr. Lennard Hassell to take me to the south end to morrow.

September 14, 1888 (Friday, Manteo) I went to see Miss Garnett Ethridge and Mr. Jno W. Ward about the school I have just given up etc. Mr. Ward was getting his boats and nets ready to mullet fish etc. It was just spendid [sic.] to see Miss Carry Ward hang net! Eh! Saw a Mr. Shepherd who is canvassing the island for a \$14.00 steam washer. I believe [sic.] most of the families have domestic washers of their own.

September 15, 1888 (Saturday) I read during the morning. In the evening Capt. S. M. Daniels came up in a sail-boat to take me to my new home.

We had a fine sail down reaching home about 8 o'clock just as a heavy rain began to fall.

Capt. Sam's family consists of himself, wife, and six girls from 14 to 6 years of age.

[N. B. Most of Davis' subsequent entries in his Roanoke Island diary are from Wanchese, "named after the famous Indian who went to Eng. With Manteo (JJD, Sept. 16, 1888)." Entries and information pertinent to Etheridge/Manteo/Roanoke Island context from this section of the diary to follow.]

September 18, 1888 (Tuesday) Capt. Sam left for Eliz. City this morning in his schooner "Ella Creef." Weather gusty and rainy. My school increased to 25. Many of the scholars haven't any books and that gives me a chance to put in the improved text books and class off my scholars very well. I expect to do a good quarter work here.

September 19, 1888 (Wednesday) Some of the fishermen are making large catches of spots and blue fish. Capt. Sam has an ice-house and keeps ice and buys fish most of the season. He is also a boat builder and mechanic and has a very fine canoe set up under his shelter now. He told me when she was finished she would be worth \$150.00.

September 27, 1888 (Thursday) Most of the people here are fishermen. They go out with their nets before day. There is very little farming done in this section.

October 2 (Tuesday), 1888 The weather was moderated during the day and we had a heavy rain at night.

Some of the neighbors here had a rumpus about buying fish today but no one was hurt.

October 6, 1888 (Saturday) I wrote to Dr. Payne, Supt. Of Nashville Normal College (Peabody) and also to Miss M. L. Overman. In the evening I went to Mr. E. R. Daniels store and then to Mr. Jeff Haymans. On the way to Haymans I met my old chum Chas. Morgan who is on his way to the treasurers for his pay for teaching a 4 ½ months school at Stumpey Point. He stopped with Mr. Baily Daniels at night and I went over and had a long talk with him.

October 7, 1888 (Sunday) This morning I went over to see Morgan again and he asked me to take him and his trunk up to Manteo so that he could take the boat for home tomorrow.... In a few moments we were on Capt. Sam's road cart jogging along towards Manteo chatting about old times so dear.

His trunk was on the westward side and we went over there for it. This was my first view of Croatan Sound.

After reaching Manteo we concluded to go to the old City of Raleigh and in a few moments our pony was taking us toward that historic old spot now owned by Capt. Walter Doe.

We found the Capt. At home and he showed us the cite of the ancient city. It is marked by the outlines of what seems to be a star-shaped fort and is now over grown by oaks and pines.

We strolled over the ground, cut three canes, and then cut the following inscription on some hollies (J. J. D. Oct. 88) (C. M.).

We bought a mess of grapes of Capt. Doe for 5 cts. and I don't think we lost any money.

Our next point of interest was the high sand-hills on the eastward side of the island. Here we stopped as we returned and I climbed the highest tree on their summit which gave me a fine view of the island. We each took a pine burr [sp?] from here for a mememto.

I left Morgan at Manteo and returned home about dark.

November 15 1888 (Thursday) The people are now housing their potates [sic.] as our first frost came this week.

The hunters killed 16 geese today.

November 24, 1888 (Saturday) The gale continues. The tide is so low that I walked across the mouth of Mill Creek dry shod and eat a "mess" oysters, on the north side. Many persons are along the shore picking up oysters. Some have sacks and other carts. In the evening Capt. Sam, Jas. Best, and Jno. Ansil and I took the horse and cart and went down and picked up a load of as fine oysters as I ever saw but the wind would almost blow us off the ground. The surf is the highest it has been known for years and the water is 2 ft. deep in the Light House yard at Boddies Island. The boats that were anchored in the channel are now on dry ground. I found a king-crab shell to day.

December 2, 1888 (Sunday) Bill Gilbert [family friend of JJD's from Pasquotank Co. who was then working near Wanchese] took me over to the beach today to look for the first time at the curiosities of a Life Saving Station.

After a fine sail over we found ourselves in the hospitable care of Capt. Jessy Ethridge of Boddie's Island station. The Capt took me through the station and showed me all the different means that U. S. has provided for the rescue of unfortunat seamen.

After taking dinner with him we went out along the beach to gather curiosities in the shape of seaweed, shells, etc.

When we went to our boat to start for the Bodie's Island light tower we found that the tide had quietly slipped away and left our boat upon the dry sand. This was a pitiful situation indeed. I pulled off my shoes and tried very hard to get our boat off but it was no good.

My next plan was to send Bill Gilbert back to the station, which was about a mile and ask the crew to come and put us afloat. This they did and we steered for the lighthouse where we soon landed in the care of Capt. Gallop the keeper. In a few moments we were climbing the 230 steps that lead to the lense [sic.]. We amused ourselves by looking at each other through the lense and

taking telescopic views from our perch of 150 high. In sight were 11 steam and sail ships ploughing the blue waters of the Atlantic, whose waves were singing a quiet lullaby as they bathed the sparkling sand at our feet.

As it was about time to light the lamp we stayed until the sun had gone and the keeper then lighted his friendly beacon.

Night was now near at hand and, after winding our way back to the ground, we bid adieu to the keeper and crew and left for home where we landed about 7 o'clock p.m. just in time to go to the rehearsal at the church.

December 13, 1888 [Thursday; JJD's South End school had finished Dec. 11th]

List of Pupils in School on South End

Males

Arthur S. Daniels
 Floyd “”
 Luther H. “”
 Albert H. “”
 Wm. W. “”
 Theodore “”
 Geo. G. “”
 Baron DeKalb “”
 Marvin L. Gallop
 Charley Pugh
 Bartlet F. Garrison
 Wm. B. Tillett
 Chas. C. “”
 Josephus Baum
 Emerson Ethridge
 Thos. R. Creef
 Baxter Garrison

Females

Mary H. Daniels
 Belle V. “”
 Celia A. “”
 Annie E. “”
 Zoradia W. “”
 Jennie S. “”
 Minnie “”
 Levonia A. “”
 Ethel “”
 Mary L. “”
 A. V. “”
 Eleazar Gallop
 Martha A. “”

Chloe Brice
Josephine Greene
Nannie W. Smith
Armecia Garrison
E. E. Johnson

December 14, 1888 (Friday; JJD's boat to Elizabeth City was delayed by bad weather and he was briefly in Manteo) Very cold with wind blowing a gale front NW. Capt. Jno. Daniels promised me he would leave tonight if the wind fell.

The people are preparing a tableau for Christmas. The schools of Misses Bertie Evans and Garnett Ethridge are doing well. The keeper of Croom's Point Light House is here weather-bound like myself.

[After spending Christmas in Elizabeth City, JJD taught at Okisko in Pasquotank County until March 1889, and briefly returned to Roanoke Island in April 1889]

Tuesday April 2, 1889 The weather is beautiful. Capt. Sam [Daniels, Wanchese, NC] and I took the "Ella" (his vessel) around to Billy Creek and carried 14 ½ boxes of fish to the Marshes on freight. Shad are so plentiful and so low that no one wishes to buy at .06 and .12 cents

We concluded not to risk buying and Capt. chartered to run shad from Billy Creek on freight.

While we were at the Marshes a negro preached in one of the freight sheds. He was as ignorant as a bat and he got there you bet.

I wrote to Bragg asking him to send my mail here etc.

Wednesday April 3, 1889 Capt. Sam and I worked on the rigging until the fishermen came in with a full catch of shad and then we had a fine breeze to the Marshes. There were at least 100 sail at the Marshes Wharf all loaded with shad. Some of the canoes had taken as high as 300 today.

Thursday April 4, 1889 A stiff breeze today. Capt. Shaw and Jno. Russell went to the Old Dominion Steamboat wharf and got 24 fish boxes. It was too windy to fish. In the evening Capt. Sam went to the Marshes after ice. I went ashore and got my clothes intending to go home tomorrow.

Friday April 5, 1889 We live down here on shad-roe, oysters, and corn bread and I think I am fattening.

The fishermen caught only a small lot of good shad today.

I left Billy Creek this evening, went to the Marshes with Capt. Sam, and then to the M. E. Roberts for Eliz. City where we landed about 2 o'clock Saturday morning.

APPENDIX C

Appendix C

Transcriptions from 1920 US Census, Population Schedule for Nags Head Twp., Manteo/Roanoke Island
Section: African-Americans and their occupations on Roanoke Island

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

O=owned home

R=rented

B=black

Mu=mulatto (as written in census)

NOL=no occupation listed; however, this doesn't mean he/she didn't have a job (midwife, for example?)

____=same last name (a daughter or son, unless indicated otherwise)

<? = Query. These census records were very difficult to read so there may be some mistakes with spelling of names, and age numbers.

* = Same dwelling as previous household

name in bold=we either know a lot about this person, or we know that he/she is still alive as of 3/2000

African Americans in Roanoke Island 1920 Census: Ages, Occupations, and Ownership of Homes

- No. 25 M. S. Simmons, O, BM 48, Farm Laborer;
Lizzie Simmons (wife), BF 43, NOL
- No. 39 (Theo S. Meekins, W, household) Mary J. Harris, BF, 38, Servant
- No. 79/82 Geo. A. Wise, O, BM 36, Laborer, US Navy Yard (b. VA)
Mary Wise (wife), BF 32, Washerwoman (at home)
Addie M. ____, BF 14
Haywood C. ____, BM 13
- No. 80/93 Gus Woodley, R, BM 66, House Laborer
Sarah Woodley (wife) BF 53, Cook, Private Family
Hazie Harris (niece) BF 13
- No. 81/94 (William R. Knights, W, household) Maggie Allen, BF 15, Servant
- No. 83/96 Geo. E. Pruden, O, MuM 35, Petty Officer, USCG
Phyllis (or Owallie?) (wife), MuF 29, NOL
George A. ____, MuM 12
Edward F. ____, MuM 10
Charlie G. ____, MuM 7
William B. ____, MuM 5
Alma C. ____, MuF 3 7/12
Joseph B. ____, MuM 10/12
- No. 84/97 Dennis B. Daniels, O, BM 27, Fisherman
Elsie (wife) BF 28, NOL
James C. ____, BM 9
Sadie L. ____, BF 7

- George M. ____ (Brother) BM 18, Fisherman
- No. 85/98 Lemuel Wood, O, BM 44, Truck Farmer
Lauretta (wife), BF 52, NOL
John ____, BM 9
- No. 87/101 Dave Collins, O, BM 44, Laborer, Canning Factory
Mary C. (wife), BF 37, NOL
Liddy A. ____, BF16
Olivia L. ____, BF 9
John A. ____, BM 7
Lethia C. ____, BF 3
(Fannie?) ____, BF 19 (<?)
- No. 88/102 Sam Hayes (Hoyie?), O, BM 70, Farm Laborer
Cara A. (wife), BF 44, NOL
Lucinda ____, BF 27, Servant Private Family
(Fairelnor?) ____, BF 16
Mary Anne ____, BF 14
William ____, BM 12
Addie I. ____, BF 6
Cecil (?) ____, BM 3
- No. 89/103 John W. McPhuson (Phearson?), O, BM 44, Farm Laborer
Frances (wife), BF 45, NOL
Pruton (Pruden?) ____, BM 18, General Laborer
- No. 90/104 Maggie Harrison, O, BF 34, Cook Private Family
- No. 91/105 John W. Woodley, O, BM 48, General Laborer
Amelia A. (wife), BF 36, NOL
Amelia P. ____, BF 15
- No. 92/106 Jerry (<?) Scarborough, O, BM 43, House Laborer
Martha (wife), BF 35, NOL
William R. ____, BM 11
Lemuel C. ____, BM 3
- No. 93/107 Joe C. Sykes, O, BM 58, Farm Laborer
Mimie J. (wife), BF 31, NOL
Octavia L. ____, BF 11
Henry N. ____, BM 9
Martha L. ____, BF 3 ½
Onella Z. ____, BF 9/12

[I left out two families here; Kinchen or Buckum Jones and Noah Scarborough. Get their particulars the next time I look at the 1920 Census microfilm)

- No. 96/110 Levi Tillett, O, BM 44, Surfman USCG
Bertha (wife), BF 43, NOL
Rosalyn (<?) ____, BF 21, Servant, Dry Goods

- Rosa A. ____, BF 18, NOL
 Levi W. ____, BM 17, Chauffeur, Ice Wagon
 Rufus M. ____, BM 16, Sailor, Merchant Marine
 William A. ____, BM 15
 Leon (<?) D. ____, BF 9
 Alfred I. ____, BM 8
 Elliova (<?) ____, BF 1 6/12, granddaughter
 James L. ____, BM 1/12, grandson
- No. 97/111 James E. Daniels, O, BM 33, Labor/Fishing
 Willie O. (wife), BF 28, NOL
 William O. ____, BM 10
- No. 98/112 John L. Eberon (<?), R, BM 35, Laborer Boiler Factory
 Arvilla (wife) BF 28, Pressing/at home
 Luda (Lula?) B. ____, BF (#?)
 Randolph R. ____, BM 3 (<?)
 Jasper H. ____, BM (under two)
- No. 99/113 Theo R. Meekins, O, BM 31, Laborer/Farm
 Lilly O. (wife), BF 18, NOL
 William R. ____, BM 2
 Maggie L. ____, BF (under 1)
- No. 100/114 Charlie Gregory, O, BM 66 (<?), Laborer/Farm, wid.
 Mamie ____, BF 18, Laundress/Private Family
 Charlie ____, BM 17
 Harry ____, BM 17
 Lacy L. ____, BF 11
 Harris O. ____, BM 7
- No. 101/115 Charlie Baker, R, BM 26, Laborer/Shipyard
 Nancy J. (wife), BF (28?), NOL
 Paul ____, BM 14 (<?)
 William E. ____, BM 12 (<?)
 Mary L. ____, BF 3
 Lilly ____, BF (under one)
 Maria ____, BF (under one)
- No. 103/117 George W. McClure (McClees?), O, BM 34, Fireman, US Mail Boat
 Cara D. (wife), BF 34 (<?), NOL
 Gratham (<???) M. ____, BF 12
 Cara R. ____, BF 12
 William R. ____, BM 10
 James K. ____, BM 8
 Charlie T. ____, BM 6
 Nancy E. ____, BF 5
- No. 104/118 Joseph B. Dozier, O, BM 39, Deck Hand, US Mail Boat
 Amalia (Amelia?) (wife) BF 39, NOL
 C. H. (son) ____, BM 14

- Josephus B. ____, BM 12
Catherine L. ____, BF 6
- No. 105/119 Richard Pigford, O, BM 66, General Laborer
Martha A. (wife), BF 66, NOL
John ____, BM 36, Teacher at high school
Lela F. ____, BF 26, NOL
- No. 107/121 William H. Farrow, R, BM 44, Fisherman/Laborer; wid.
Mauda ____, BF 12
Samuel ____, BM 10
- No. 108/122 Sarah F. Baxter, O, BF 55, House Servant (notation has “single/widow”)
- No. 109/123 Ephraim A. Daniels, O, BM 35, Farm Laborer
Helen E. (wife), BF 16, NOL
Ester A. ____, BF 7
Mary E. ____, BF 5
Albert L. Prutton (Pruden?), Brother-in-Law, BM 13
- No. 110/124 Cordellia Latham (<?), O, BF 27, Laundress/Private Family
David O. ____, BM 8 (<?)
Walter H. ____, BM 4 ½
- No. 111/125 Joe S. Woodley, O, BM 48, Farm Laborer
Mary J. Woodley (wife), BF 45, NOL
- [Gap here is due to listings of white families; Jeff Hayman and Augustus H. Etheridge’s families are among these, indicating the census taker was then at the North End of Roanoke Island]
- No. 135/152 Henry Woodley, R (<?), BM 54, Farm Laborer
Catherine (wife), BF 54, NOL
- No. 146/164 Charles E. Bowser, O, MuM 32, Fisherman
Dasie (Daisy?) (wife), MuF 21, NOL
- No. 148/167* Benson Scarborough, O, MuM 50, House Laborer, wid.
Mattie ____, MuF 25, Cook / Steamer
- No. 149/167* William H. Dough, O, BM 45, General Laborer
Ella (wife), BF 46, NOL
Hazil E. White, Granddaughter, BF 4 ½
- No. 150/168 Johnson B. Ashby, O, BM 65, Fisherman
Sarah F. (wife), BF 52
Harriett ____, BF 21, Cook/ Private Family
Saddie ____, BF 17, Laundress
Lizzie ____, BF 11
Belle V ____, BF 11

Robert _____, BM 7

George, "Son-In-Law", BM 1 4/12

- No. 151/169 Major H. Scarborough, O, BM 35, Fisherman
Celia J. (wife), BF 45, NOL
Adgie B. _____, BF 15
- No. 152/170 Alfred Prutten (Pruden?), O, BM 47, Laborer/ Lumber Mill, wid.
- No. 153/171 Wright W. Mann, O, BM 37, Fisherman
Mary F. (wife), BF 24, NOL
William L. _____, BM 7
Margaret L. _____, BF 6
Sylvia R. _____, BF 3 1/12
Alva B. _____, BM 2/12
- No. 154/172 Lawrence Davenport, O, MuM 51, Ship Carpenter
Ida B. (wife), MuF 42, NOL
Ester A. _____, MuF 18
Priscilla A. _____, MuF 13
Lawrence V. _____, MuM 9
Henry W. _____, MuM 6
- No. 155/173 Henry Mann, O, BM 57, Fisherman
Mary E. (wife), BF 64, NOL
Elizabeth Golden, Granddaughter, BF 12
Abraham Golden, Grandson, BM 5
- No. 156/174 Sabrina Williams, O, BF, 100
- No. 157/175 General Dickens , R, BM 34, Teacher/ High School
Annie (wife), BF 32, NOL
Eula C. _____, BF 2 6/12
Isabelle _____, BF 2/12
- No. 158/176 Quinton (Hinton?) Dozier, O, MuM 38, Laborer/Lumber Mill
Maria S. (wife), MuF 35, NOL
Adelia A. _____, MuF 8
Almeda E. _____, MuF 6
Marvin L. _____, MuM 2 ½
Nica (Mica?) Ashby, Cousin, MuF 15
- No. 159/177 William C. Daniels, O, BM 62, Farm Laborer
Arvida (wife), MuF 56, NOL
Henry D. _____, BM 37, NOL
(John?) L. _____, BM 19, NOL
- No. 160/178 James Gibbs, O, BM 27, Fisherman
Verda (Vida?) (wife), BF 26, NOL
Earline _____, BF 5

- No. 161/179 Tom Scarborough, R, MuM 44, House Carpenter
 Cara (wife), MuF 35, NOL
 Carrie Wise (daughter) MuF 19, Servant/Private Family, wid.
 Lillie Scarborough (daughter) MuF 18, NOL
 Thomas _____, MuM 14
 Lloyd _____, MuM 11
 Emerson____, MuM 10
 James M. ____, MuM 7 6/12
 Robert C. Wise (grandson), MuM 2 ½
 Alphonso B. Wise (grandson) MuM 1 3/12
- No. 162/180 Spence J. Wescott, O, BM 66, Farm Laborer
 Nancy N. (wife), BF 62, NOL
 Rufus _____, BM 20, Fisherman
- No. 163/181 Benjamin Golden, O, BM 69, Ship Carpenter
 Harma A. (wife), BF 50, NOL
 Annie E. _____, BF 21, NOL
 George K.____, BM 17, Laborer/Canning Factory
 Mildred B. ____, BF 16
 Alerta (Alberta?) ____, BF 10
 Richard A. _____, BM 8
- No. 164/182 Franklin Spruill, O, BM 71, Drayman/General Merchandise
 Jane E. (wife), BF 68, NOL
- No. 165/183 Henry Simmons, O, BM 51, Servant/ Private Yacht, wid.
- No. 166/184 Richard Daniels, O, BM 38, House Carpenter
 Quilly (Lilly?) (wife), BF 27, NOL
 Clifton _____, BM 8
- No. 167/185 John J. White, O, MuM 46, Surfman USCG
 Sabrie A. (wife), MuF 42, NOL
 Willie E. _____, MuM 17
- No. 168/186 Daniel Hopkins, O, BM 63, Laborer/ Navy Yard
 Betsy (wife), BF 53, NOL
 Daniel Jr.____, BM 33, NOL
- No. 169/187 Joseph H. Tillett, O, MuM 36, Ship Carpenter
 Arvilla E. (wife), MuF 34, NOL
 Harris R.____, MuM 17
 Leon C.____, MuM 15
 Pucer (<?) B.____, MuM 13
 Joseph H. _____, MuM 10
 Daisy E.____, MuF 8
 William L.____, MuM 7
 Delma H. ____, MuF 5
 Cecil A. _____, MuM 1 5/12
 Nancy Simmons, Mother, MuF 52, NOL, wid.

- No. 170/188 Robert Tillett, O, BM 36, Fisherman
Malinda Tillett, Mother, BF 74, NOL, wid.
- No. 171/189 Frank Tillett, O, BM 50, Laborer/Lumber Mill
Virginia D. (wife), BF 35, NOL
Martha ____, BF 18
Hazil ____, BF 16
Maxie ____, BF 15
Murrel ____, BM 12
Lloyd C. ____, BM 10
- No. 172/190 Kitty Bowser, O, BF 81, NOL, wid.
Foster ____ (grandson), BM 14
Cecil L. ____ (grandson), BM 11
- No. 172/191* Melvin Bowser, R, BM 35, Merchant/Groceries
Lucy (wife), BF 27, NOL
Melvin ____, BM 8(<?)
- No. 173/192 Piedmont Thomas, O, BM 50, Laborer/Farm
Mary (wife), BF 49, NOL
Catherine ____, BF 15
- No. 174/193 Robert G. Bowser, O, BM 47, Oysterman, wid.
Sallie J. ____, BF 25, NOL
Robert B. ____, BM 23, NOL
Charlie ____, BM 19, NOL
Gladys A. ____, BF 16
Clayton E. ____, BM 15
Magalina ____, BF 11
Lloyd V. ____, BM 8
Elanor ____, BF 6
- No. 175/194 Joseph G. Bowser, O, BM 43, Fisherman
Annie (wife), BF 39, NOL
Ruth E. ____, BF 19
Irene ____, BF 12
Elizabeth ____, BF 10
Boyd ____, BM 8
Dorothy ____, BF 6
Hazil ____, BF 4 7/12
Annie ____, BF 1 ½
- No. 176/195 Henry C. Baum, O, BM 60, Fisherman
Hurry (Honey?) J. (wife), BF 51, NOL
- No. 176/196* Abram (Abroom?) Roberts, R, BM 29, Laborer/ Lumber Mill
Violet A. (wife), MuF 25, NOL
William A. ____, MuM 8

Charlotte ____, MuF 4 10/12
Violet A. ____, MuF 3 8/12

- No. 176/197* George B. Wescott, O, BM 23, Fisherman
Willie E. (wife), BF 23, NOL
Mabel C. ____, BF 4 ½
Rufus B. ____, BM 2 ½
- No. 177/198 Luther Mann, O, BM 30, Fisherman
Amy E. (wife), BF 25, NOL
Luther M. ____, BM 4
- No. 191/213 John F. Wise, O, BM 44, Shoe Cobbler
Edna M. (wife), BF 25, NOL
- No. 195/217 Spencer Graham, O, BM 45, Farmer
Mary L. (wife), BF 42, NOL
Benjamin Wesley, Lodger, BM 35, Surfman USCG
Clarence Winn, Lodger, BM 35, Surfman, USCG
Henry L. Golden (<?), "Son-In-Law," BM 35, Fisherman

APPENDIX D

Appendix D

Finding Aids: List of Files Created for Etheridge Homeplace Report

FOLDER ONE: ETHERIDGE HOUSE, MANTEO

Etheridge House, OBC Correspondence: Peter Sandbeck, 7/12/1998 letter to OBC re Etheridge House, with field notes and recommendation for initial research; Penne Smith, 5/6/1999 draft for Etheridge House and Cemetery project explanation/contract; Penne Smith, revised draft for Etheridge House and Cemetery project, 8/1999; Penne Smith, 6/24/1999 fax sent to Lloyd Childers, OBC, re research questions.

Etheridge House, OBC tpps: Copy of Time-Product-Payment Schedule for Etheridge Project, revised 8/1999; second tpps, 1/2000.

Etheridge House, OBHC Information/Leads: [on inner page of file holder, transcribed notes from conversation with M. L. Dowd, Manteo, NC, 7/8/1999 re Etheridge genealogy]; Brochure, "Outer Banks History Center" [OBHC]; 5/8/1999 notes from conversation with Lois Bradshaw and Wynne Dough, OBHC; John Wilson, information re David Wright (co-author of Journal of Negro History article about Richard Etheridge); 7/1999 rough sketch map of Etheridge House and Farm based on conversations with Louis Midgett, Natalie Etheridge Garow, and Marguerite Drinkwater Booth [N. B. that this is not final map]; David Zoby's address (send him copy of your report and see what he knows about the Bowser and Woodley families); JPS, notes from meeting with John Wilson, IV, and Bill Parker, 7/10/1999 [includes citation of A.H. Etheridge tag from ca. 1907 when he was apparently a poultry and seafood dealer in VA Beach].

FOLDER TWO: ETHERIDGE HOUSE/SITE FIELDWORK & DOCUMENTATION

Photographs (taken by Penne Smith, 1999): 5/1999 visit to Etheridge House (mostly exterior elevations and details; some of cemetery); 7/1999 visit to Etheridge House (exterior and interior details; photograph of Natalie Etheridge Garow; photographs of comparable buildings in Manns Harbor, Mashoes, and Outer Banks); 8/1999 Manteo visit with Roxie Christine Etheridge (photograph of RCE at large oak tree, plus copies of documentary photos in RCE's possession); sketch map of Caroom's Point, Mashoes, in folder.

Photographs (taken by Penne Smith, 2000)

NC-SHPO 1974 File of Etheridge House: Copy of form filled out about house ca. 1974, including 1973 Coastland Times article about house; Reid Thomas, NC-SHPO Eastern Office, 4/8/1998 letter to Lloyd Childers, OBC, re visit to Etheridge House and recommendation re further research.

Etheridge Cemetery: Tillett-Younts "Dare County Cemeteries" (1983) record of Etheridge Cemetery; is incomplete.

JDP 1994 File on Etheridge House: copy of 1994 NC-SHPO yellow data form composed by Leslie Giles and J. Daniel Pezzoni, erroneously called "John B. Etheridge House." Includes contact sheet, floor plan, and entry draft.

JPS 1999 File on Etheridge House: 1994 NC-SHPO blue data form compiled by Penne Smith.

Wilson Map: 8/1999 sketch map drawn by John Wilson, IV, based on successive interviews with Etheridge descendants and documentary photographs [to be used in conjunction with 1939 aerial photograph to create final map].

FOLDER THREE: ETHERIDGE HOUSE / COMPARABLE REGIONAL ARCHITECTURE

Pezzoni 1994: Copy of "Manteo Historic Architectural Survey Report," by Daniel Pezzoni, 1995 (from 1994 fieldwork).

1970s SHPO files on comparable Roanoke Island Buildings: Photocopies of Estelle Meekins House, Drinkwater's Folly (aka Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House), Wanchese House (appears to be Pugh House), and Wanchese misc. buildings.

Photograph, 1937: Photograph by Steve Leavenworth of 2-story side-gable, unknown location, on Roanoke Island, ca. 1937-38. Photograph to be used in final report.

Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House: Copies of documentary photographs from OBHC to be used in final report.

N. B. to cross-reference this file with **Photographs**.

FOLDER FOUR: ETHERIDGE FAMILY

Etheridge Genealogy Obtained from family: Genealogical tables (photocopied except one sheet) with notations by Penne Smith ("JPS"), 1999.

Miscellaneous Etheridge Genealogy: Tables created by Penne Smith over summer 1999 (photocopy in file); section from Mrs. John Bennett Boddie's *Historical Southern Families* (Balto., 1971, vols XIV and XV) pertaining to Etheridge family on Roanoke Island, NC, 1780-1820s; photocopy, 1790 Federal Census for Edenton District, Currituck County (printed transcription, n. d., provided by John Wilson, IV); photocopy, excerpt of Adam Ethridge [sic.] will, ca. 1813, Currituck Co. Will Book 3, p. 24 (this Adam, after some investigation, appears to have been a great-uncle of Adam Dough Etheridge I); photocopies, "Descendants of Daniel M. Etheridge" and "Descendants of John Tyler

Etheridge," archives of Outer Banks History Center, Manteo, NC [at this time, this particular genealogical information appears to be N/A]; Bill Parker, notes to Penne Smith re upcoming 7/1999 interview with Louis Midgett (son of Elma Etheridge Midgett).

Adam D. Etheridge (1813-1868), Last Will and Testament: Transcribed copy of Adam Dough Etheridge's Last Will and Testament (Currituck County Will Book 5, pages 2, 3, 4) made by ADE on October 11, 1867, and witnessed by Stephen Gaylord and M. V. B. Gilbert. This will is notable in that it provides for only Patrick Henry, Adam, and Augustine Holly Etheridge, plus Margaret Etheridge (who died in childhood) but not for ADE's other children, Josephine Etheridge Drinkwater or Jesse B. Etheridge, who was still a minor. ADE's provisions for his wife Fanny are contingent upon her remaining a widow.

Adam D. Etheridge Estate Sale (1869): Transcribed copy of court case in 1869 where Fanny Baum Etheridge, ADE's widow, contested the terms of his will (Dare County Estates Records, State Library, Division of Archives and History). Also, photocopy of ADE Estate Sale, July 1869, with an accompanying transcription of estate sale where items are listed under buyers, rather than in order of auction; this is especially important for future interpretation of the Etheridge farmstead in the 1860s and 1870s.

Thomas A. Dough 1880 Census Info: Photocopy of 1880 Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule for Nags Head Twp., Dare County, NC, with records for Richard Etheridge, Francis A. Meekins, Charles S. Etheridge, and Thomas A. Dough, all Roanoke Island inhabitants. Thomas Dough, at that time, had been married to Fanny Baum Etheridge for about ten years, and was managing the Etheridge farmstead.

Census Records re Etheridge Family/ Roanoke Island: Transcriptions from Federal Census, Population and/or Agricultural Schedules 1840-1920 pertaining to Adam Dough Etheridge Family, persons connected to Etheridge family, or nearby residents.

Richard Etheridge (JNH 1995): Photocopy of article about Richard Etheridge, "Ignoring Jim Crow: The Turbulent Appointment of Richard Etheridge and the Pea Island Lifesavers," by David Wright and David Zoby (*Journal of Negro History* 80 [Spring 1995]: 66-80). Richard Etheridge (1842-1900) was born a slave, and also the natural son of John B. Etheridge, a white landowner at Roanoke Island's North End. As such, Richard Etheridge, who entered the USLSS, was cousin to Adam D. Etheridge, Jr., and Patrick H. Etheridge (Adam Dough Etheridge's sons; ADE was JBE's brother), two of the white surfmen who attempted to sabotage his lifesaving station at Pea Island in May 1880. Also, photocopy of "The Pea Island Lifesavers," also by Wright and Zoby that was printed in May-June 1995 issue of *Coastwatch*.

A. H. Etheridge: Miscellaneous transcriptions and photocopied information pertaining to Augustus (or Augustine) Holly Etheridge (1860-1941). Includes *Coastland Times* 3/28/1941 obituary, which has vital biographical information about AHE, his parents, siblings, and descendants; a clipping about AHE (photocopy of original loaned by Louis Midgett, AHE's great-nephew) from a Masonic publication ca. 1940; photocopy,

"Representatives in State Legislature from Dare County since the County was formed in 1870" (to 1963); transcriptions from the *News and Observer* (microfilm, 1912-1914) re Dare County elections; there's a discrepancy in this as to who won the 1912 election (M. D. Hayman, rather than AHE) and that is to be verified; notes by JPS of collection of AHE documents in John Wilson, IV's possession.

Augustus H. Etheridge: Public Office: *Elizabeth City Daily Economist* clippings, 9/4/1906, p. 1; 11/21/1906, p. 1; 8/14/1906, p. 1; 8/15/1906, p. 1. North Carolina General Assembly, *Public Laws and Resolutions 1913 Session* (pp. x, Chapter 29, Chapter 43, Chapter 45, Chapter 84, Chapter 85, and Chapter 113), and North Carolina General Assembly, *Public-Local Laws, 1913 Session*. This folder also includes election letters in 1924 written in A. H. Etheridge's behalf (*Elizabeth City Independent*, 1/11/1924, p. 9, 9/5/1924, p. 7, and 10/17/1924, p. 9).

Progressive Farmer, Aug. 1940 : [Photocopy of clipping] Augustus H. Etheridge, "Married Fifty Years," *Progressive Farmer*, Aug. 1940. This gives a great deal of family and contextual history in a short essay. Note from Bill Parker to Penne Smith re Louis Midgett and Natalie Etheridge Garow (great-nephew and granddaughter of AHE) is on page.

Amanda Etheridge (1888-1945), Surviving Records/Correspondence: Inventory of articles pertaining to Amanda Etheridge found by John Wilson, IV, in the Etheridge House attic. Includes transcription of Amanda Etheridge's transcript from Chowan College and letters from Roxie E. Atkinson, ca. 1932-1933.

Alma E. Wilson: Floor plan for Etheridge House: Photocopy of annotated floor plan of Etheridge House from 1920-1945 by Alma Etheridge Wilson (Adam D. Etheridge III's daughter).

Etheridge House/Farm, ca. 1930s-40s: Enlarged photocopied photographs of Etheridge House/Farm, ca. 1930-40, with 1990s map of Manteo and N. end, Roanoke Island (area is highlighted).

FOLDER FIVE: ETHERIDGE HOUSE: CURRITUCK AND DARE COUNTY DEED RECORDS

1783: A. Baum>Tart Etheridge; J. Mann>Jesse Etheridge (Currituck): Transcriptions of Currituck County Register of Deeds, Book 4, pp. 108, 109-110 [transactions whereby Jesse and Tart Etheridge acquired land that eventually became the core of the Adam Dough Etheridge, then the Augustus H. Etheridge, farm].

Miscellaneous Wills, Currituck Co.: Transcribed wills from Currituck County Register of Deeds providing context to history of Etheridge family.

Currituck County Deed Records: Transcribed deed and deed citations from Currituck County Register of Deeds, 1750s-1869; includes deed between William Cathcart and Adam Etheridge, May 2, 1751, a copy of which is in Bruce Cheeseman's research files at NC Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC (Document not found at Currituck Court House).

Dare County Deed and Estates Records: Transcriptions and photocopies of Dare County deeds, 1870-present.

Dare County 1898-99 Tax Records: Selection of pertinent tax records, courtesy John Wilson, IV.

FOLDER SIX: ROANOKE ISLAND: HISTORY

Daniel Larned, 1862: Daniel Reed Larned, Letter to "Sister", 2/24/1862. Daniel Reed Larned Papers, 1861-1865, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress [transcription courtesy of John Barden, former Researcher at Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens, New Bern, NC].

David Stick, excerpts from *OB of NC* and OBR: Photocopied selections pertinent to Roanoke Island history from David Stick, *The Outer Banks of North Carolina, 1584-1958*, and *An Outer Banks Reader* (UNC Press, 1998).

Payne, *Place Names of the OB*: Photocopied excerpts from Roger L. Payne, *Place Names of the Outer Banks*.

Dunbar, excerpts: Photocopied excerpts from Gary Dunbar, *Historical Geography of the North Carolina Outer Banks*.

J. J. Davis Papers, ECU-JYJ: Transcription from Joshua Judson Davis Papers, Special Collections and Manuscripts Dept., J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University. This transcription is from JJD's diary from 1888-1889, during which time Davis taught school on Roanoke Island.

Franklin 1852: Partial transcription of William B. Franklin's 8-23-1852 letter to General Commander J. J. Abert (now on microfilm, National Archives Record Group 77, Vol. 4, page 184).

Harper's Weekly 1862 reprint: Facsimile of March 1, 1862, edition of *Harper's Weekly*, which details battle of Roanoke Island, complete with two maps of Roanoke Island and the greater Albemarle/Pamlico Sounds. Query: Mann's house is at the approx. site of either the Etheridge House or the Dough-Hayman-Drinkwater House. May merit further investigation.

FOLDER SEVEN: ROANOKE ISLAND: HISTORY (CONTINUED)

Alpheus Drinkwater/Marguerite Drinkwater Booth: Photocopy of article about Alpheus Drinkwater; sketch map of Etheridge farm by John Wilson, IV, and Penne Smith, from information given by Marguerite Drinkwater Booth, Louis Midgett, and Natalie Etheridge Garow; interview notes, Marguerite Drinkwater Booth, 7/11/1999.

Alma Etheridge Wilson, Interview Notes: Notes from interview with Alma E. Wilson (John Wilsons III and IV in attendance for part of interview), 8/1999.

Natalie Etheridge Garow, Interview Notes: Notes from interview with Natalie E. Garow, 7/1999.

Louis Midgett: Interview Notes: Notes from telephone interview and 7/11/1999 interview with Louis Midgett; also, photocopy of article reprinted in Stick, *Outer Banks Reader*.

Roxie Christine Etheridge, Interview Notes: Notes from interview with Roxie C. Etheridge, great-granddaughter of Augustus H. Etheridge, 8/1999.

Thomas Dixon Etheridge: Photocopy of 1926 Elizabeth City Independent advertisement for T. D. Etheridge's grocery, Manteo.

Patrick H. Etheridge: Dare County Times, "Hatteras Reminiscences [sic.] of the Days of Cap'n Pat," 6/12/1940, p. 1.

Walter Grover Etheridge: Article on WGE, *Greensboro (NC) Daily News*, May 14, 1946. WGE was one of Patrick H. Etheridge's sons.

Roanoke Island Baptist Church: *News and Observer*, 3/26/1944 article about Roanoke Island Baptist Church records.

Mother Vineyard (wine): *Durham Morning Herald*, 7/16/1950 article about small wine industry at Mother Vineyard (NE of Manteo).

Baum Bridge, 1926: *Charlotte Observer*, 12/12/1926 article by D. V. Meekins about the Baum Bridge linking Manteo to Outer Banks.

Elizabeth City Independent: 8/13/1926 article (part of special issue re Dare County) about businesses in Manteo.

Sea Shelters 1988: Barbara Wolter, "Etheridge homeplace saved," *Sea Shelters*, March 1988 (copy courtesy John Wilson, IV).

D. V. Meekins Photo. Coll. OBHC (1900-1920): Photocopies of prints taken from D. Victor Meekins' glass negatives. This selection shows Roanoke Island landmarks, personages (one is said to be Crissy Bowser, the Etheridge family's cook and

housekeeper, near the end of her life), livestock, and lifeways at the turn of the twentieth century.

Roger Meekins Photos (OBHC), Dare Co., ca. 1950: Photocopies of prints taken by Roger Meekins, including aerial photography, people, and island work.

Randall Holmes Coll, OBHC: Photographs in R. Holmes collection include postcard of Goose Wing Lodge (where Etheridges vacationed in early 20th c), Bodie Island, and a print of the Mashoes Wharf in mainland Dare County, ca. 1910-1940.

FOLDER EIGHT: B. CHEESEMAN, ROANOKE ISLAND RESEARCH REPORT

Entire contents of this file folder are pertinent sections of "Historical Research Report, Four Centuries and Roanoke Island: A Legacy of Geographical Change," by Bruce Cheeseman (Research Branch, Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives & History, NC Dept. of Cultural Resources, Sept. 1982). Includes excerpt of William B. Franklin's 1852 report that has interview with Adam Etheridge (ca. 1775-1860s), father of ADE.

FOLDER NINE: LAUTZENHEISER/HARGROVE 1991 (SITE 31DR61)

Entire contents of this file folder consist of the 1991 report Loretta Lautzenheiser and Thomas Hargrove compiled for Test Site 31 DR 61. Includes good maps, and research on the Freedmen's Colony (as Patricia Click's book on said colony is not yet out, this is the most complete analysis of issue to date).

FOLDER TEN: FREEDMEN'S PAPERS, ROANOKE ISLAND (NATIONAL ARCHIVES)

Photocopies and transcriptions, courtesy Patricia Click (forwarded by John Wilson, IV, 7/1999), including; Frances Etheridge, Manteo, NC, Widow's Pension [was wife of Richard Etheridge], 1900-1902; transcriptions, Freedmen's Papers, National Archives [Sarah E. Dough, Thomas A. Dough, L. I. Etheridge, Nancy Gaylord, Martin Hubbard, Matilda Miller, and John Wescott, Petitioners]; sketches of property plats.

FOLDER ELEVEN: DARE COUNTY DIRECTORIES

Dare County Business Directories, 1869-1915

FOLDER TWELVE: DARE COUNTY, MISCELLANEOUS

OBHC, Ambrose Coll., Buffalo City: Early twentieth-century photographs of Buffalo City, a lumber mercantile village south of East Lake.

Bill Colonna (ca. 1986): Buffalo City: Oral history (transcribed) re Buffalo City and Dare County.

Brown/Atkinson (Atlantic White Cedar Research, Dare Co.): Photocopy of historic data research section from report re Atlantic white cedar clearcutting in Five Gators Study Area, Dare County, NC.

Elizabeth City, F&F: Citations from *Fisherman & Farmer* (Elizabeth City, NC), 1899-1901, re fish dealers and the *Hattie Creef* (steamer between Manteo and Elizabeth City).

FOLDER THIRTEEN: NEW RESEARCH FOLLOWS THIS FILE (Y2K RESEARCH)

Etheridge House Correspondence 2000: 4/7/2000 fax from Penne Smith Sandbeck to Julie Pouillot, Virginia Lifesaving Museum, Virginia Beach, VA, re Edward Drinkwater;

FOLDER FOURTEEN: VIRGINIA BEACH (DRINKWATERS)

Drinkwater Records/Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach Register of Deeds: Transcriptions of pertinent deeds and wills of Drinkwater family, 1870s-1910s.

Princess Anne County Census Records (Seaboard/Drinkwaters), 1880 and 1900: Census records of Edward Drinkwater family, Virginia Beach, 1880-1900.

Edward Drinkwater, Jr. (United States Lifesaving Service, Virginia Beach Roster): photocopy courtesy of Virginia Lifesaving Museum, Virginia Beach, Va.

OCG/VaB, Edward Drinkwater, Sr.'s Sons: Photocopies on Virginia Lifesaving Museum's documentations of Horatio, Alpheus, Edward, Jr.

OCG/VaB: Edward Drinkwater, Sr.: Two unpublished MSS, one a 1994 college paper, re Edward Drinkwater's career; photocopy of page from 1876 ULSSS directory, showing ED at Bodie Island; OCG page transcript with highlights of ED's career; OCG printout of lifesavers (D).

OCG/VaB, Seatack info: "Stand By Your Oars" (unpub. MS, Fielding L. Tyler, 1999), pp. 1-7; photocopies of Seatack ULSS Station documentary photographs.

Jordan, VA Beach: A Pictorial History: Photocopies of Virginia Beach 1880s map and documentary photographs.

Mansfield, Princess Anne County and Va Beach: Photocopies of Virginia Beach documentary photographs and some pertinent 1880s information.

FOLDER FIFTEEN; ROANOKE ISLAND 1800-1900

Gangewer 1862: Excerpts from Gangewer's 1862 diary (Roanoke Island campaign), NCHR 71:1, 1994.

Roanoke Island Baptist Church: Transcript from partial contents of Roanoke Island Baptist Church's Ledger Book, ca. 1888-1925.

Mobley: Excerpts from Joe Mobley, *Ship Ashore* (NCDAH, 1994).

Nowitzky: Selection from *Norfolk: Marine Metropolis of Virginia and the Sound and River Cities of North Carolina* (1888).

FOLDER SIXTEEN: ROANOKE ISLAND, 1900-1925

1924 Roanoke Island Highway: Eliz. *City Independent* 9/26/1924, p. 10.

Meekins 1924 Red Cross Rebuttal: Eliz. *City Independent* 11/21/1924, p. 9.

Fort Raleigh 1906: Eliz. *City Daily Economist* 12/3/1906, p. 1.

J. H. White Development 1906: Elizabeth *City Daily Economist*, 12/3/1906, p. 4.

John H. Small Steamboat 1906: Elizabeth *City Daily Economist* 9/26/1906, p. 1, and 11/13/1906, p. 1.

New Manteo Methodist Church, 1906: Eliz. *City Daily Economist* 8/23/1906, p. 1.

Miscellaneous: Eliz. City articles about Manteo or Roanoke Island, 1900-1925.

FOLDER SEVENTEEN: ROANOKE ISLAND, 1925-1950

Roanoke Island WPA Camp: *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, 7/17/1936, p. 5.

Manteo Street Signs: *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, 3/23/1941, Section 2, p. 15.

NVP/Manteo: *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot*, 8/14/1942, Section 2, p. 4.

Wechter 1975: Excerpt from Nell W. Wechter, *Some Whisper of Our Name* (1975).

1926 Af-Am Schools, NE NC: Eliz. *City Independent*, 1/22/1926, p. 8.

1926 Freeze: Eliz. *City Independent* 1/1/1926, p. 1.

Trenton Decommissioned 1936: *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot* 7/24/1936, Section 2, p. 4.

Baum Bridge 1926: *Charlotte Observer*, 12/12/1926 (found at UNC-Chapel Hill's North Carolina Clippings, Wilson Library).

Miscellaneous, 1925-1950.

FOLDER EIGHTEEN: AFRICAN AMERICANS ON ROANOKE ISLAND

1860 Census: Transcription of 1860 US Census, showing free blacks on Roanoke Island and who their employers were, when known.

1860 Slave Schedules: 1860 US Census, Slave Schedules for Roanoke Island.

1920 Census: 1920 US Census, highlighting African Americans on Roanoke Island. Transcription of this is also in file.

Crissy: Copy of 1880 Agriculture Schedule, Roanoke Island, where Crissy Bowser is listed.

MAPS

(N. B. that these are all photocopies)

1. Photocopy, Daniels Ridge Plat, 1996 (includes Etheridge Farm)
2. Photocopy, Fulton 1820 Map, as it appears in Lautzenheiser/Hargrove 1991.
3. Photocopy, 1912 US Coast & Geodetic Map of Albemarle Sound Area (this map shows plat of Manteo on-site), Roanoke Island detail. OBHC.
4. Photocopy of 1877 US Coast & Geodetic Map of Albemarle Sound Area, Roanoke Island detail. OBHC.
5. Photocopy, 1851 sketch map of Roanoke Island showing field patterns, marsh, and woodlands. OBHC.
6. Photocopy, Fulton 1820 Map Series, Plan of Roanoke and Croatan Sounds. OBHC.
7. Photocopy, Moseley-Maule Map of Roanoke Island, ca. 1729. OBHC.
8. Photocopy, Fulton 1820 Map Series, Roanoke Island. OBHC.
9. Photocopy, Sketch Map (1850s?) of Roanoke Island, n.s. OBHC.
10. Photocopy, NC County Road Survey Maps, 1930 map of Roanoke Island highways. J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University.
11. Photocopies, enlargements of 1953 Manteo U. S. G. S. Topo Map (7.5 minute series) around Etheridge Farm area.



This printing is dedicated
to the memory
of

ROXIE ETHERIDGE ATKINSON

without whose generosity and vision the Homeplace
would not be in public ownership today.