

# WILSON'S HERITAGE

The Newsletter of the Wilson County Historical Association

Volume 9, Number 3

Spring 2020

## Marcus Witcher, PhD to Give BB&T Lecture

On Tuesday, **March 24, 2020, at 7:00 PM**, in the Campion Center (the old Ragan Writing Center) on Barton College campus Dr. Marcus Witcher will give the BB&T Lecture in American History on the campus of Barton College. Dr. Witcher's topic will be related to Ronald Reagan and the end of the Cold War.

Dr. Witcher is the Arkansas Center for Research and Economics' Scholar-in-Residence and is affiliated with the University of Arkansas State History program. In addition to being an engaging and enthusiastic educator, Dr. Witcher specializes in political, economic, and intellectual history from 1920 to the present. His specialization is Modern American Conservatism and his manuscript *Getting Right with Reagan: Conservatives and the Fortieth President 1980-2016* is currently under review.

Dr. Witcher earned his B.A. in history from the University of Central Arkansas in 2011 and received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Alabama in 2017. It is our honor to welcome him to Barton College.

## A Message from the Association President

**B. Perry Morrison, Jr.**



My, how time does fly! We had a terrific crowd back on October 17 for Dr. George Rable's lecture on the American Civil War. Special Thanks Dr. Katie Deal at Barton College for luring Dr. Rable all the way from Alabama for the visit.

Our Winter meeting will occur a bit after February this year, as we have amended our schedule to accommodate Dr. Marcus Witcher from the University of Central Arkansas, who will be talking about Ronald Reagan and the end of the Cold War. That lecture will take place on **Tuesday, March 24, at 7:00 PM** in the Campion Center at Barton College. I will send out an announcement via e-mail as the date approaches, but if you do not receive an email, please be in touch with me at [pmorrison@nccomplaw.com](mailto:pmorrison@nccomplaw.com)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 A Message from the Association President
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At our spring (annual) meeting we will welcome Ansley Herring Wegner, Director of North Carolina's historical marker program, on **Thursday, May 14 at 5:30 PM** in the Assembly Room at the Wilson Public Library. Ansley lives in Raleigh now, but she grew up in Wilson, and we are excited to welcome her home. Also, please stay tuned as we dedicate four historical markers this spring! Once again, many thanks to the Wilson County Tourism Authority for funding these markers.

## New Historical Markers Feature African American History

Four new Wilson County Historical Association markers are on order and this year will focus on contributions of African Americans to our local history. Historical markers to Frank S. Hargrave, M.D., Charles H. Darden, Operation Dixie, and the Wilson Normal and Industrial Institute (aka “Wilson Independent School”) will be dedicated this spring.

Dr. Frank Hargrave was the Chief of Staff at Mercy Hospital and in 1914 served as President of the National Medical Association. Charles H. Darden was a community leader and organizer who established the first funeral business in Wilson catering to African Americans. A local high school was named for him in acknowledgement of his contributions to Wilson, and a middle school now bears his name.

Operation Dixie was a 1946 effort largely dominated by African American female tobacco workers who sought unionization and improved working conditions. History has noted that this movement served as a framework for the later push for civil rights. Finally, the Wilson Independent School was formed by African American community leaders after teacher Mary Euell was slapped by Superintendent Charles L. Coon on April 9, 1918.

The Wilson County Historical Association thanks the Wilson County Tourism Authority for its funding of these historical markers



FRANK S. HARGRAVE, M.D.

### DARDEN MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

Funeral Directors — Ambulance Service



Home Office Darden Mutual Burial Association

612-14-16 East Nash St.

Phones 2060 - 2942 - 2648



## The Town of Neverson in Old Fields Township

James A. Bailey and Margaret B. Bailey

Neverson Williams was a visionary who developed a plan sometime before 1907 to establish a town named Neverson in Old Fields Township, Wilson County.<sup>1-6</sup> Williams owned property located in two counties, Nash and Wilson, on the county lines between Bailey and Sims, North Carolina.<sup>7</sup> The land not only included rich farm and timber land, but also a mammoth outcrop of granite which would become one of the most productive granite quarries in the United States. Actually, prior to the Civil War, there was a corn mill in the same location where Williams established the quarry near Neverson.<sup>8</sup>

The first newspaper reference to Neverson appeared in an article detailing railroad expansion in North Carolina and the development of the Norfolk and Southern Railway. On January 20, 1876, Elizabeth City and Norfolk Railroad were incorporated and in 1882 the name became Norfolk and Southern Railway. In 1907 Norfolk and Southern consolidated with three eastern North Carolina railroads to form one system named Norfolk and Southern. It extended the railroad from Raleigh beyond Wilson. Although, a section of the railway was incomplete from Moccasin Creek, west of Bailey to Wilson, Neverson was one of the stops between these two towns. The newspaper reported, "It will be along in August, probably, before the first passenger train goes from Raleigh to Wilson, and then there will be new names for travelers to study. First, leaving Raleigh there is Pamlico Junction, just in the edge of the city, then along in order come Knightdale, Eagle Rock, Wendell, Zebulon, Middlesex, Bailey's, Neverson and Wilson."<sup>9-10</sup> Four months later, on October 24, 1907, a Norfolk and Southern Railway schedule of arrivals and departures along the route was published in the *News and Observer*. Williams made arrangements with the railroad company to construct a depot at the location. The train did not routinely stop at Neverson unless they had cargo to unload. However; travelers could flag down the train with a white handkerchief and it would stop for passengers. Published train schedules included an "f" beside the time indicating that the train must be flagged down in order for the train to stop.

In addition to passenger trains routinely traveling through Neverson, a mail train also ran through Neverson in the mornings. The mail was placed in a large heavyweight sack which was attached to a support post positioned outside beside the tracks. To pick up and deliver the mail, the train did not have to stop. As the train passed by the train depot, a clerk in the mail car threw out a mail bag containing the mail for delivery, reached out of the slowly traveling train while grasping a mail catcher and grabbed the mailbag left for pick up on the support post. On April 10, 1908 Shug Allen, Williams's daughter, was appointed postmaster of Neverson. She served as Neverson's postmaster until August 31, 1911.<sup>11-12</sup> One of her duties would have been to hang the mailbag on the support beside the tracks as well as retrieve the mail the mail clerk in the mail car tossed from the train as the train passed through Neverson. Within four months of Williams' daughter being appointed postmaster, Neverson had finally become a familiar location for some travelers. On Wednesday, February 12, 1908, a combined total of sixty-five passengers boarded and departed the train at Neverson.<sup>13</sup>

Sometime in 1908 another train stop, Simm's Siding, was added between Wilson and Neverson. Siding referred to a section of track used for low speed trains where there were few if any signals. It would have been used for storage, loading and unloading. Yet, according to a Norfolk & Southern Railway train schedule published in the Sunday edition of the *News & Observer* on June 21, 1908, Simm's Siding became a stop. It was located a couple of miles east of Neverson and was only a thirty-minute train ride from Wilson. The ride from Simm's Siding to Neverson was only a four-minute train ride. To encourage travel to a July 4<sup>th</sup> double-header baseball game in Raleigh, Norfolk & Southern offered a special fare of \$1.25 for round-trip train fare from any one of the following stops to the Raleigh train stop: Simm's Siding, Neverson, Bailey, Middlesex or Zebulon.<sup>14</sup> Fares cost less for passengers boarding from stops that were located closer to the train's destination, Raleigh and children's fares were half the price of adult fares.<sup>15</sup>

Education was another priority of Williams in 1908. He was concerned about the education of children in the community and built a school in Neverson. The small one-room school was a clapboard structure located on Highway 264 in Neverson. Williams bequeathed the property where the school was located to his daughter, Shug Williams and her husband. Williams' granddaughter and author's maternal grandmother, Oda Williams Allen, eventually inherited the property. She always described the house she inherited as the one-room school house her grandfather, Neverson Williams, built in the town of Neverson.<sup>25</sup> During that same year, when Simms Siding was added as a train stop, Williams was quarrying rock on his land near the Neverson train stop. James Mulligan, a highway contractor, visited the Williams' quarry where Williams was working. Mulligan, who had the contract for macadamizing the roads of Wilson Township was interested in the quality of stone at the Neverson quarry. He negotiated a contract with Neverson and made his first blast at the rock quarry on February 18, 1908. The deep detonation was heard in Wilson about ten miles from the quarry. Mulligan said "he has been in the business of building roads for many years, and that rock at the Williams quarry is the best for that purpose – in fact the best he [Mulligan] ever saw."<sup>16-17</sup>

Not only was Williams a successful farmer, quarry owner and founder of Neverson, he was also an active politician. A month before the vote on prohibition in 1908, the Anti-Saloon League met in Wilson and Williams, a man of respectable character and an honorable Neverson citizen, was appointed as one of the members to serve on the Wilson County committee. Wilson County citizens voted for prohibition and the law was passed and went into effect January 1909.<sup>18</sup> Ironically, although Williams served on the prohibition committee in 1908, in 1896 he had been arrested for selling whisky to minors.<sup>19-20</sup>

Furthermore, during prohibition, he was well known for his famous Nash County brandy. "He had it in his brandy house, where it had been for ...many years – apple brandy, good old Nash brandy of his own manufacture; rich and mellow brandy with a jar of honey standing hard by. None but those who stood in close with Neverson were even allowed to enter that brandy house and gaze on the oak bound keg and that jar of honey."<sup>21</sup> In fact, his brandy was so good that in February 1909 a thief entered the Williams' brandy house located near Neverson and took a keg of brandy.

Despite his dealings in alcohol, on June 1908, Williams was elected as a delegate to attend the State Democratic Convention in Charlotte representing the town of Neverson. Then in 1909 North Carolina Governor Robert Brodnax Glenn appointed Williams as a delegate to the Farmers' National Congress.<sup>22-24</sup>

The school which was located in Neverson was perhaps among the first designated public schools built in Wilson County. The date of construction for the school is unknown; however, according to an early reference to Neverson School in a North Carolina newspaper article, the school had been constructed by November or December in 1908. A 1908 headline in a Raleigh newspaper reported, "The quiet town, Neverson, on the Norfolk and Southern has something to talk about."<sup>26</sup> Ernest Allen, a young soldier stationed at Fort Washington on the Potomac River, secretly met his sweetheart, Florence Smith at Neverson School. Florence lived in Neverson with her parents and left home around noon to meet Ernest at Neverson School not far from where she lived. School was in session that day and the students witnessed the marriage. Rev. Benjamin W. Tippet, a Neverson School teacher and Free Will Baptist minister, performed the marriage. With the help of J. W. Williams, Allen obtained a marriage license the previous week after three men signed and swore that the couple was of marriageable age. On the day of their marriage, three witnesses, Shug Allen, J. L. Williams and R. T. Boykin, signed the marriage document as witnesses to the marriage which took place in Neverson. Additionally, all three witnesses listed their residences as Neverson on the marriage document. However, shortly after the two were married, Florence's father, George Smith, learned of the marriage and was outraged. Florence was only sixteen-years-old. Consequently, her father threatened to bring charges of perjury to those who signed the affidavit.<sup>27-28</sup> However, apparently, Mr. Smith, Florence's father, must have accepted the marriage because in the 1910 US Census, Florence was recorded as Ernest Allen's wife.<sup>29</sup>

For the next two years, Neverson School did not make the newspaper headlines but by 1910, another article did report Wilson County was collecting a special tax for Neverson School.<sup>30</sup> Then six years later, in June 1916, a western North Carolina newspaper reported one of the last references found about Neverson School. The school was offering classes in the evening. It was noted fourteen students were enrolled at Neverson School in “moonlight school” classes.<sup>31</sup> Moonlight schools enrolled adults in night classes who wanted to learn to read and write. It was called a moonlight school because classes met when the moonlight was bright enough for the students to find their way at night to and from the school along back paths and lanes.

Although the quarry most certainly subsidized Williams’ personal and political objectives like Neverson School and establishing the town of Neverson, during the early history of Neverson, he decided to sell the quarry. When railroad companies needed a supply of granite to use as railroad ballast to repair tracks and construct new railroads, Williams sold forty-six acres of land to the Norfolk and Southern Railroad Company for five thousand dollars in February 1910. “Old quarrymen say that there are twenty acres in the tract that undoubtedly is the largest and best bed of rock to be found in Eastern Carolina. Powerful machinery will be installed in a short while and the rock will be gotten out to improve the rock bed of this excellent road.”<sup>32</sup> With less advanced machinery, Williams quarried the granite in the early 1900s. Subsequent to his death in 1913, the granite quarry he once owned and controlled thrived unlike Neverson, the town he planned.

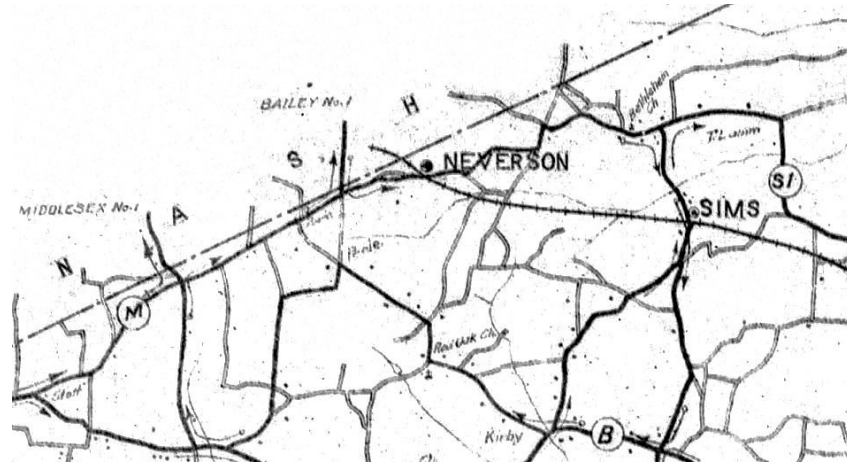
Two years after Williams’ death, Congress appropriated funds to construct a jetty at Cape Lookout. The Granite at Neverson was selected for the project. In 1915 the quarry of approximately sixty acres at Neverson was sold to the Harris Granite Company of Salisbury.<sup>33</sup> The company had a government contract to supply stone to the Cape Lookout breakwater project, a barrier built out into the water to protect the coast from the force of waves; also referred to as a jetty. The jetty was planned to form a small harbor at Cape Lookout, about eighty-five miles southwest of Hatteras. The harbor served as a refuge, a safe haven for any distressed ship regardless of the flag it flies or a protected area to anchor during inclement weather.<sup>34</sup>

It was estimated that thirty to fifty tons of rock were shipped daily by Norfolk Southern train to Beaufort, North Carolina for the project. The first shipment of rock was scheduled June 1, 1915. To prepare for this venture Norfolk Southern built three hundred rail cars and a special locomotive to transport the rocks.<sup>35</sup> About two hundred men were employed to mine the rock.<sup>36-37</sup> Harris Granite Company also built local residences in Neverson to house some of the quarrymen.<sup>38</sup> In September 1915, several government engineers visited the breakwater project and were pleased with the progress.<sup>39</sup> The cost of the project was over a million dollars and the amount of stone needed was about forty carloads a day for four years to complete the jetty.<sup>40-42</sup> By mid-November some of the rocks in the jetty were visible above the water.<sup>43</sup>

In July 1917 all but 2,000 feet of the jetty was completed. From the onset of the project, workers supplied rock steadily for two years.<sup>44</sup> The breakwater project was scheduled to continue until completion; however, in October 1917 Congress did not appropriate funds to continue the work. W. G. Finch, a government engineer assigned to the project, was transferred to Baltimore and the shipment of granite from the quarry at Neverson for the breakwater project ceased.<sup>45-47</sup> Since the breakwater project, the quarry at Neverson has been owned and operated by several quarry companies throughout the years. The Neverson Quarry is currently owned and operated by Hanson Aggregates.<sup>48</sup>

Neverson Williams died at his home near his beloved town, Neverson, about 5:30 pm. on January 8, 1913. In the few preceding months, his health had been declining. Williams had several strokes which resulted in paralysis. He was survived by his wife, Zilphia Fulghum Williams and three children, Plumer, Shug and Jimmy. Williams was buried in the Williams family cemetery next to his home.<sup>49</sup> The epitaph on his grave marker reads, “Although he sleeps his memory doth live.” Four months following Williams’ death, Zilphia, his wife of forty-three years, died of heart failure on April 21, 1913. She was buried next to Williams in the family cemetery.<sup>50</sup> Her epitaph reads “Although she sleeps her memory doth live.”<sup>51</sup>

Today, the granite quarry is active and continues to bear the name of the town Williams planned in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, Neverson. Williams failed to realize the value of the quarry on his land and instead pursued developing the town of Neverson. However, after Williams' death in 1913, development in Neverson slowly declined. Today, the town is nonexistent and only a few citizens in Old Fields Township know family and friends who remember stories told to them about the town of Neverson.



**NORFOLK & SOUTHERN RAILWAY  
SPECIAL NOTICE**

**Opening of New Line to Raleigh, N. C.  
Thursday, October 24, 1907.**

Freight and passenger trains will be operated on the following schedule:

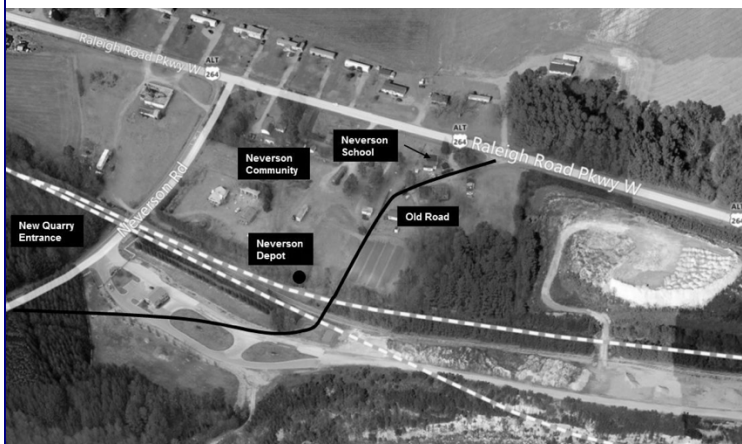
Mixed a. m.	Mixed p. m.
10:10 Lv. Washington	Ar. 8:20
10:40 Lv. Chocowinity	Ar. 5:50
11:02 Lv. Grimesland	Ar. 5:27
12:00 Lv. Greenville	Ar. 4:50
1:00 Lv. Farmville	Ar. 3:50
1:47 Lv. Stantonsburg	Ar. 3:00
2:50 Lv. Wilson	Ar. 1:15
2:40 Lv. Neverson	Ar. 12:20
3:50 Lv. Baileys	Ar. 12:10
4:15 Lv. Middlesex	Ar. 11:40
4:55 Lv. Zebulon	Ar. 11:05
5:20 Lv. Wendell	Ar. 10:50
5:30 Lv. Eagle Rock	Ar. 10:10
6:08 Lv. Knightdale	Ar. 9:52
6:32 Lv. Boushall	Ar. 9:28
7:05 Ar. Raleigh	Lv. 9:00

8:00 Lv. Wilson	Ar. 8:00
8:22 Lv. Neverson	Ar. 7:24
8:35 Lv. Baileys	Ar. 7:22
8:54 Lv. Middlesex	Ar. 7:06
9:16 Lv. Zebulon	Ar. 6:44
9:20 Lv. Wendell	Ar. 6:30
9:37 Lv. Eagle Rock	Ar. 6:23
9:52 Lv. Knightdale	Ar. 6:08
10:08 Lv. Boushall	Ar. 5:52
10:25 Ar. Raleigh	Lv. 5:36

Connection is made at Chocowinity with through trains to and from Washington, New Bern, Beaufort, Kinston and Goldsboro, N. C.

Freight for stations marked with \* must be prepaid.

R. E. L. Bunch, Traffic Manager.  
M. W. Maguire, Gen'l. Supt. H. C. Hudgins, Gen'l. Frt. & Pass'r. Agt.



## REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> Authors' Note: Little is known about Neverson Williams' ancestry and his life as a young man in Old Fields Township. Neverson Williams' birth date on his grave marker is inscribed as May 6, 1846; however, when the US Census was taken on August 24, 1850, his age as of June 1850 was recorded as two years old. Also, according to the 1850 Census, his birth place was recorded as North Carolina. In 1850, Neverson Williams was living in Nash County, North Carolina in Gilly Williams' household. Gilly Williams, Neverson's mother, was recorded as thirty years old and head of household. Therefore, it is presumed she was widowed or a single mother with children. Other siblings recorded in this 1850 Census included: Emerson, twelve; Henderson, ten; Gaston, seven; Missy (Nicey), nine; and Henry, five months old. Howard Williams, who was twenty-one, also lived in the household. Sources: US Census, Nash County, North Carolina, p. 549 handwritten on the Census document recorded August 24, 1850 and Neverson Williams' Grave Marker, Williams Family Cemetery, 7314 Neverson Road (Rural Road 1969) Sims, North Carolina.
- <sup>2</sup> Authors' Note: Apparently, Census Taker, Taylor who recorded Gilley's household on August 24, 1850 had previously recorded the Williams household on August 21, 1850 and the information varied slightly from the August 24<sup>th</sup> record. The entry recorded on August 21, 1850 for Guilly Williams' household also recorded six children, Henderson, eleven; Emerson, eight; a female named Bunch, seven; Gaston B., six; Neverson, two; and Henry, six months old. It is believed the Williams' household was recorded twice in 1850. Source: US Census, Nash County, North Carolina, p. 550 handwritten on the Census document recorded August 21, 1850.
- <sup>3</sup> Authors' Note: The Wilson County Marriage Register indicates that Neverson's brother, Emerson Williams, married Zilphia Fulghum on January 3, 1869 at Edwin Fulghum's home, the father of the bride. Source: Wilson County Marriage Register, 1869.
- <sup>4</sup> Authors' Note: However, on August 19, 1870, Zilphia Fulghum was recorded as Neverson Williams' wife as of June 1, 1870 with a three-month-old unnamed male child. 1870 US Census, Old Fields Township, Wilson County, North Carolina, August 19, 1870.
- <sup>5</sup> Authors' Note: Sometime during the approximate seventeen-month period between January 3, 1869 and June 1, 1870, Emerson and Zilphia's were no longer married.
- <sup>6</sup> Authors' Note: At the time of Neverson Williams' death, he and Zilphia had been married for over forty-three years.
- <sup>7</sup> *The North Carolina Gazetteer: A Dictionary of Tar Heel Places and Their History*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2010, pp. 20; 484.
- <sup>8</sup> Howard Farmer, "Hardest Stone in State Crushed at Quarry Near Bailey," *The Rocky Mount Telegram* (Rocky Mount, NC) July 1, 1951, p. 12A.
- <sup>9</sup> "Progress Comes Along Its Lines: Norfolk and Southern Railway Doing Great Work in Eastern North Carolina," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, NC) June 6, 1907, p. 49.
- <sup>10</sup> *The North Carolina Gazetteer: op. cit.* p. 371.
- <sup>11</sup> *Record of the Post Office Department*, "Appointments of U. S. Postmasters, 1832-1971," Vol 69, (Washington, DC: National Archives, 1911) p. 629.
- <sup>12</sup> Authors' Note: Interview with Jim Burgess, Neverson Williams' Great Grandson.
- <sup>13</sup> "Best He Ever Saw," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, NC) February 14, 1908, p. 1.
- <sup>14</sup> *The North Carolina Gazetteer: op. cit.*, p. 371.
- <sup>15</sup> "Raleigh to Wilson; Wilson to Raleigh via the Norfolk & Southern Railway," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, NC) June 21 1908, p. 17.
- <sup>16</sup> "Best He Ever Saw," *Weekly High Point Enterprise* (High Point, NC) February 19, 1908, p. 5.
- <sup>17</sup> Authors' Note: Richard J. Council, *The Commercial Granites of North Carolina, North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Bulletin*, 67 (Raleigh: Division of Mineral Resources, 1954) p. 11. The rock from the Neverson quarry is medium-grained pinkish-grey granite. A petrographic analysis of the granite includes the following minerals: 39 percent Quartz, 55 Orthoclase, 4 Biotite, 1 Calcite, 0.6 Apatite and 0.4 Muscovite.
- <sup>18</sup> "The Bill Carries Wilson," *The Charlotte Observer* (Charlotte, NC) May 27, 1908, p. 8.
- <sup>19</sup> "A Sensation in Court," *The Goldsboro Headlight* (Goldsboro, NC) November 12, 1896, p. 2.
- <sup>20</sup> "Governor William A. Graham," *The Weekly Economist* (Elizabeth City, NC) November 13, 1896.
- <sup>21</sup> "Took Even Bung Hole," *The Evening Mascot* (Statesville, NC), February 4, 1909, p. 2.
- <sup>22</sup> "Appoints More Delegates," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, NC) October 31, 1909, p. 13.
- <sup>23</sup> "Delegates to State Convention: Full List of the Men Who Will Compose the Democratic State Convention That will be Called to Order in Charlotte," *The Farmer and Mechanic* (Raleigh, NC) June 23, 1908, p. 5.
- <sup>24</sup> Authors' Note: In 1904, Glenn won the Democratic gubernatorial nomination and defeated the Republican, C.J. Harris. Governor Glenn was most notably known for his strong opposition to alcohol and it was largely due to his influence in 1908 that North Carolina approved prohibition.
- <sup>25</sup> Author's Note: Part of Neverson Williams Last Will and Testament says "I give and devise to my daughter Shug Allen, the wife of L.A. Allen, the lot whereas she now resides located in the town of Neverson, Old Fields Township, Wilson County, North Carolina...." Also, there is a photo identified as Neverson School indexed in the North Carolina Digital Archives Collection, however, the building in this photo was a church located in Neverson not a school.
- <sup>26</sup> "Elopement Bride under Age," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, NC) December 15, 1908, p. 8.
- <sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>28</sup> Ernie Allen and Florence Smith Marriage License, North Carolina, Marriage Records, 1908.
- <sup>29</sup> 1910 US Census, Old Fields Township, Wilson County, May 11, 1910.
- <sup>30</sup> Authors' Note: According to *The Wilson Times*, (Wilson, N.C.), 6 Sept. 1910, p.7 a special tax was collected for Neverson School in the amount of \$89.17.
- <sup>31</sup> "Farmers Meet at Wilson," *Asheville Citizen-Times* (Asheville, NC) January 21, 1916, p. 6.
- <sup>32</sup> "Railroad Buys Rock Quarry," *The Charlotte Observer* (Charlotte, NC), February 7, 1910, p. 2.
- <sup>33</sup> Authors Note: According to Granite Industry in the Vicinity of Salisbury, N.C., The Charlotte News (Charlotte, NC) May 16, 1911, p. 2, Charles J. Harris from Dillsboro North Carolina organized the Harris Granite Company in June 1910 by taking over and consolidating the American Stone Co, Dunn Mountain Granite Co., Esson Granite Co., Stacey Crushing Plant, the Balfour Pink Granite Co. and the Murphy Property.
- <sup>34</sup> Ralph Pool, "Not a Wreck off N.C. Coast," *The Independent*, (Elizabeth City, NC) February 13, 1920, p. 1.
- <sup>35</sup> "Big New Engines for N. S.: Start another Plant Near Norfolk," *The Daily Free Press* (Kinston, NC) March 17, 1916, p. 1.
- <sup>36</sup> "Nash County Town Neverson," *Salisbury Evening Post*, Salisbury, NC, April 29, 1915, p. 1.
- <sup>37</sup> "Big Shipments of Rock to Cape Lookout," *Kinston Free Press*, (Kinston, NC) July 6, 1915, p. 1.
- <sup>38</sup> "Some Huge Contracts," *Richmond Times Dispatch* (Richmond, VA) May 16, 1915, p. 23.
- <sup>39</sup> "Speedy Progress Made on Breakwater at Cape Lookout," *The Wilmington Star* (Wilmington, NC), September 6, 1915, p. 8.
- <sup>40</sup> "Begin Shipments of Stone for Breakwater," *The Wilmington Star* (Wilmington, NC), June 17, 1915, p. 3.
- <sup>41</sup> "To Run 40-Car Train from Neverson to Morehead," *Kinston Free Press*, (Kinston, NC) June 26, 1915, p. 8.
- <sup>42</sup> "Large Shipment of Rock to Cape," *New Bern Journal* (New Bern, NC), July 9, 1915, p.2.
- <sup>43</sup> "Breakwater Can Now Be Seen," *The State Journal* (Raleigh, NC), November 12, 1915, p. 6.
- <sup>44</sup> "Progress on Breakwater," *The Wilmington Star* (Wilmington, NC), July 15, 1917, p. 12.
- <sup>45</sup> "Work on the Harbor of Refuge to Cease," *The Wilmington Star* (Wilmington, NC) August 8, 1917, p. 10.
- <sup>46</sup> "Breakwater Work to Stop at Lookout," *Greensboro Daily News*, (Greensboro, NC) May 30, 1917 p. 7.
- <sup>47</sup> "Just Out," *The Morning New Bernian* (New Bern, NC), June 9, 1917, p. 5.
- <sup>48</sup> Authors' Note: According to the North Carolina Aggregates Association in 2016, there are approximately 635 aggregates operations in North Carolina. Of those, 135 produce crushed stone and 500 produce sand and gravel. Originally, the entrance to the Neverson quarry entered from Highway 264. Now the entrance is, from Neverson Road. The Neverson Quarry owned by Hanson Aggregates is located at 7225 Neverson Road, Sims, North Carolina. John Wakefield is the plant manager.
- <sup>49</sup> "Deaths and Funerals," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, NC) January 9, 1913, p. 2.
- <sup>50</sup> "Deaths," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, NC) April 25, 1913, p. 2.
- <sup>51</sup> Author Note: Williams Family Cemetery, 7314 Neverson Road (Rural Road 1969) Sims, North Carolina.

# **SAVE THE DATE**

**Wilson County Historical Association Meeting**

**Dr. Marcus Witcher Ph.D., Scholar in Residence at the  
University of Central Arkansas, will talk about  
Ronald Reagan and the end of the Cold War  
at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 24, 2020  
in the Campion Center  
(the old Ragan Writing Center)  
on the campus of Barton College.**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Wilson, NC 27894-2046

P.O. Box 2046

Wilson County Historical Association