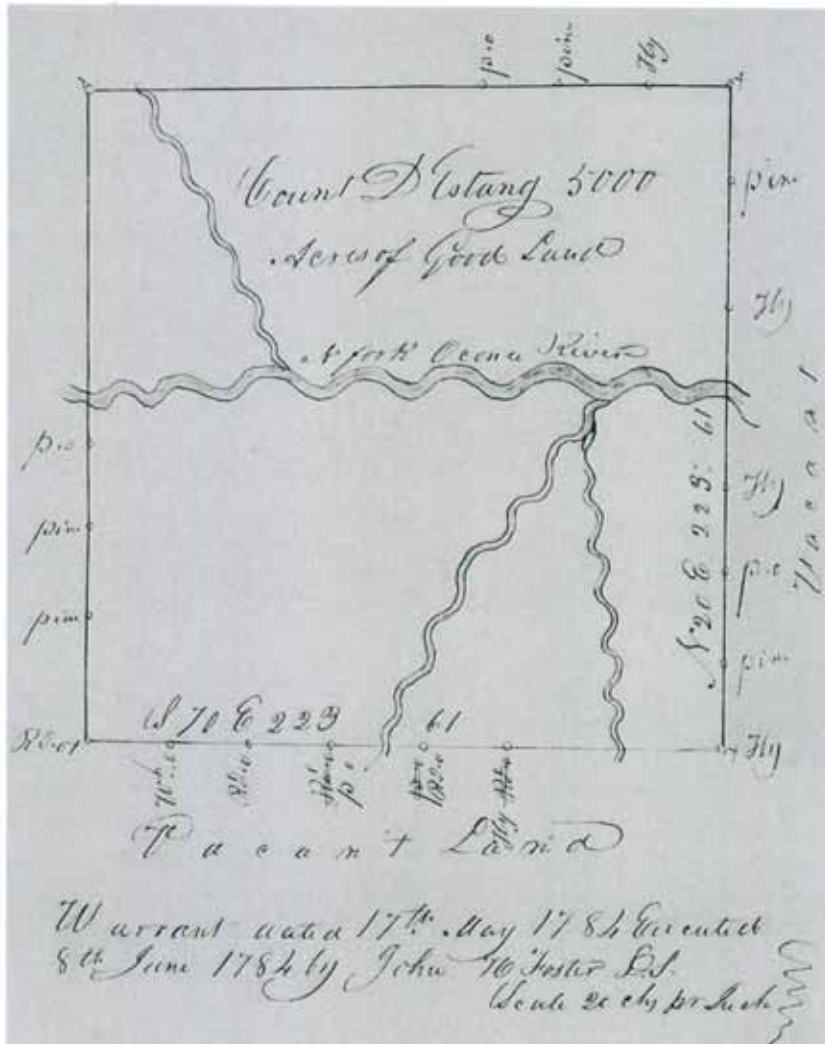


# Jackson County Historical Society News

VOLUME TWENTY THREE, NUMBER FOUR

AUGUST 2016



*D'Estaing Plat, Jackson County*

The Jackson County Historical Society will meet, Thursday, September 22, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at the Pat Bell Conference Center, Hurricane Shoals Park. Dan Crumpton, licensed surveyor, will discuss the Original Franklin County plat project and give details on the famous Wofford Settlement Tract. He has mapped these original land plats on modern Georgia Department of Transportation maps so it is easy to correlate the original site to current property use and ownership.

**Mail dues to Jackson County Historical Society  
P. O. Box 1234, Commerce, GA 30529:**

Individual –\$15, Family –\$25, LIFE members –\$100

**JCHS Officers 2016-2017**

President: Shirley Wilson  
Vice-President: Marie Parks  
Recording Secretary: Boniface McDaniel  
Treasurer: Tommy Benton  
Directors: James Mathis  
Jerry Legg  
Past Presidents: the late, Joyce Ethridge  
the late, Ann A. Jarrett  
the late, Richard Chambers  
the late, Jean H. Booth  
Betty Ann Mathis  
James Mathis  
the late, Ralph Freeman  
Carol Tanner  
Marie Parks  
Tina Harris  
Charlotte Mealor  
Caine Campbell

*The Historical Society of Jackson County is the official custodian of the Archives at the Jackson County Historic Courthouse.*

*Early tax digest, civil docket, superior court minutes, individual court files, mortgage records, photographs and family files can be viewed with assistance of volunteers.*

*Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 10-3*

*or call 706-387-7684 for an appointment at other times*

**historic.committee@jacksoncountygov.com**

*Sale items: checks made to- JCHS Document Project,  
85 Washington Street, Jefferson, GA 30549*

**Jackson Co. Superior Court Convey 1802-1803 –\$25.**

**1890 Jackson Co. Line Map, towns & homeplaces –\$5.**

**Civilian Conserv Core: Depression to WWII – \$10.**

**Courthouse print 8x10 – \$20**

**Personalized Brick – \$50.**

**Portraits of a Southern Place – \$25.**

**Historical Notes on Jackson County, Frary Elrod – \$25.**

The Historical Society's collection in the Heritage Room of the Commerce Public Library contains research books on North Georgia counties, the Carolinas, Alabama, Virginia, and various other states. Surname books, family files, Wills, Bible records, court records, deed records, cemetery records, obituaries, church histories, community histories, soldier records and published books on Georgia counties.

A new microfilm scanner is available for the census, newspapers, Confederate pension records and various films. It has the capabilities to send images as an e-mail and copy to a flash drive.

An index of the collection and past newsletters from 1997-2015 can be viewed on the library website:

**<http://prlib.org/our-libraries/commerce-public-library/>**

*The Heritage Room at the Commerce Public Library  
1344 South Broad Street, Commerce, GA 30529  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10 am -6 pm  
Thursday 10:00 am – 8:00 pm  
Friday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm*

Daniel N. Crumpton, Registered Licensed Surveyor of Warren County, Georgia, received the Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Genealogy award from Georgia Genealogical Society in 2014. More recently, he was awarded the Surveying and Mapping Society of Georgia's 1st place award for a set of his maps of Original Wilkes and Franklin Counties.

Land records are valuable to historians and genealogists who want local details of family life in a specific area. Mr. Crumpton has published seven books on county land records, researching each volume back to the Colonial land plats. Then he has mapped these original land plats on modern Georgia Department of Transportation maps so it is easy to correlate the original site to current property use and ownership.

This involves a herculean task of finding and re-assembling the county plats like giant jig-saw puzzles. Only a skilled and dedicated researcher, such as he, a trained surveyor of over 50 years of service and a graduate of the University of Georgia in forestry and forest land management, is equipped to handle such a task.



Dan Crumpton, Surveyor of Warren Co. GA

### D'Estaing Tracts, Hurricane Shoals & Apple Valley

In 1784, a grateful Georgia General Assembly granted Count D'Estaing, Admiral of the French naval fleet at the siege of Savannah during the Revolutionary War, four tracts of land totaling 2,000 acres.

The Count gave the land to his sister before he was quillotined on 28 April 1794. His sister sold the property to Mr. Francis L. Taney, an American living in France and married to a French woman, Berenice. Berenice Arene Taney eventually sold the lands to her brother Ange Michael Gouvain, who moved to Georgia with his family. Gouvain proved to be a poor businessman. Although some lands were sold, the Gouvain family lost most of the property for back taxes.

According to Jackson County Deed book F, pp. 234235 of 15 March 1816, the entire D'Estaing property of 20,000 acres (10,000 acres in Jackson and 10,000 acres in Clarke) was sold to Stephen Thomas of Clarke County for back taxes owed as a result of the levy of the direct tax of the Act of the US Congress of July 14, 1798. the land was sold at public outcry at the court house in Clarke County by the US Marshal John Eppinger.

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To surveyors and collectors alike, the link chain symbolizes a rugged era, when surveying tools and techniques were literally defining America. The chain was a precision part of a surveyor's equipment and, as such, had to be calibrated and adjusted frequently, yet was sturdy enough to be dragged through rough terrain for years.

Owning a link chain now captures a bit of this glorious past; to heft it enhances the kinship one feels with the surveyor who toiled in the field long ago. As collectors, we need to identify the type of chain we own, in order to understand its history. Each chain bears the clues of its use, such as the wire gauge used, the materials and design used, the lengths of the whole and of each link, the manufacturer's stamps, the presence or absence of brazing, the tally-tags, and the presence or absence of linking rings. Noting these components will make it possible to approximate the date and purpose of your link chain with the aid of period manufacturer's catalogs. The following is a nicely detailed account from the 1910 Manual of the Principal Instruments used in American Engineering and Surveying, published by the W. & L. E. Gurley Company of Troy, New York.

## Calendar of Events

All are welcome to attend:

September 10, 2016: 5 pm- Voter registration, Suffragette Rally Re-enactment at Jackson County Historic Courthouse; 6 pm-Hollywood Movie "Suffragette", exhibits and speeches

September 26, 2016, 6:00 pm: Jackson County Historical Society Picnic, program on Franklin County Original Plat project by Dan Crumpton at Pat Bell Conference Center, Hurricane Shoals Park. Park must be vacated at 8:30 pm

November 13, 2016, 2:30 pm with Dan Roper, editor of "Georgia Backroads", as our guest speaker. The meeting will be held at the Jackson County Historic Courthouse

Jackson County Historical Society  
P.O.Box 1234  
Commerce, GA 30529