

Trip From

Court House Bay

to

Bear Creek Gate

## Court House Bay Area

On the right just after you pass the area where Court House Bay almost meets the road, if you look to the right, this is the location of the E.S. and Rena Winberry Gillette Smith home. This home was built in 1880 by E.S. Smith. After Ed died the home went to Rena and then to Frank Smith. (J-52)

Continuing down the road you come to where W.V. (Nanza) Covil and his wife lived. (J-81) Nanza was a farmer. Lema Covil who married Blanche Smith, the daughter of E.S. Smith, lived next door. He farmed, sold fertilizer and hauled produce to Wilmington.

Marines School was located on the right corner where the road turns into Court House Bay. ~~Continuing down this road on the left you would pass John Owens home. Just past the house there was a small road that led to the homes of John Marines and Mrs. Raymond (Deara Marshall) Henderson.~~

Back on the main road going towards Court House Bay you would pass the site Lewis Marines home on your right. This house had burned in the middle 30's. Going towards the water you would enter the village of Marines which is covered in a separate section.

If you turned right you would proceed to the Marines cemetery and the John Simmons home. (J-71)

if we now leave Marines and make a right hand turn we would pass the Atlantic Baptist Church on our right. (J-30) Across the street was the Nathan Gornto farm. Shortly after the church there was a road that led to Mr. Samsworth's home. (I-38)

On the right we would pass the location of a Black School (I-13). Then we would come to the Primitive Baptist Church -Wardville Church built in 1835. This was the church that replaced the first Ward's Will Church after it burned down in the 1890's. The first Church was established in the Will of Gen. Ward. Across from the church was the road that led to the homes of Kate Gornto (I-60) and G. M. Simpson (I-28) on Trapp's Creek.

Returning to the main road on the right was the Marines Colored School and on the left was the Dexter home.

On the right a little further down the road were the homes of L. Kelly Robinson (I-28), Hardy Millis (I-72), Asa Jones (I-71), and Lemuel Millis (I-40).

We then come upon the homes of two black residents, Sophonia Ward, daughter of Elisa Ward (I-10) and Isiah Hill (I-77).

There was a road to the right that led to Cedar Point on the New River. Here was the home of Dr. Edward W. Ward. It was built in 1870 and was said to be a grand home on

the Base. It burned in the early 1900. Dr. Edward Ward was left money in the Will of General Ward to send him to college.

Back on the main road approaching Spain's Branch we find the home of Joe Graham. Then we enter an area of Black families and two Black churches. On the left was a black church (I-43). Then came the homes of: Adock Gibbs (I-15), Jim and Mabel Jones, Walter Eeve Marshall (I-61), Belfords (I-59) and Haywood Lee Craft (I 26). A little further on the left where the homes of Clarence Ward, Babe Jones and Belford Montford. The Hazel Church was also located in this area.

The road to Sallier's Bay was located near here. Spain's Branch ran into Sallier's Bay which got its name from the Sallier Family who lived here in the 1740's. This family married into the Ward's Family. ~~Carrie Gillette lived in this area also off of Spain's Branch (I-82).~~

On the right were the homes of Basil and Fred McCabe (I-58) and Henderson's home and store (I-1). On the left before you cross Gillette's Creek was the home of Sallie Fonville (I-52). On the right was the Fonville Field known as Becky Field. In this field was believed to be where the Dulany Family built their first home in the 1700's. This entire area was at one time Dulany Land. Further down Gillette Creek was the farm of J.G. Arthur (I-17).

As soon as you cross Gillette's Creek you enter Hurst Land (G-33). This was the land belonging to Minnie Hurst. If you make a right on the road to Onslow Beach, once Hurst Beach, and take the second left you would have come to the old Hurst Field School (G-73). After the school were the homes of W.H. Hurst (G-37) built about 1870, Ken Hurst (G-38) and Curt Henderson (G-31).

Returning to the main road we find large pecan trees on either side of the road. Between these trees was the location of the Basil Hurst home, which was the original home place of the Hurst Family (G-41). The Hurst Grave yard was located under what is now the power station located just before you get to the trees. Just past this house to the right and you will find the location of the A.J. Hurst home. The blinker on the road here marks the center of their farm.

Further down the road a short way is the location of a black school (G-41) on the right. Next on the left was the home of Kitty Ham. ON the right after that was the white Provo School (G-72). Just past the school was another road that led back to the Henderson and Wm Hurst homes.

Continuing on the right is the site of Will Montfort's farm, one of the largest farms owned by blacks in the area. All of his children had homes on the farm. His children were Jesse, William Henry, Libby and Pink. His fields went all the way back to Freeman Creek.

Across from Will Montford's was the beautiful site of a fine house built by Isiah Provo in 1875. Isiah got land from the Dulanys. This was all part of the original Dulany Land. Provo tore down the second Dulany home to build his. This farm was bought by Basil B. (Bogue) Hurst around WWI.

On the left back off the road was the farm of another black, John Lewis Hurst (G-52), known as Uncle Lewis. On the opposite side of Brown Swamp was the home of Viola Brown (G-27). This was where the old Freeman Plantation was located. Just before Freeman's Landing was the home of the Bradshaw's (G-26).

If we turn down Freeman's Landing Road and go almost to the water, we find the location of the first Edward Ward Home(G-39).

Where the D 5 Range is now located was the home of Jim Ward (G-23). If you look toward the water you see a long row of pines a long way ahead. This is where the first Filmore Gillette home was located. Later a new home was built nearer the road.(G-24).

There were no more homes until you got to Bear Creek. Here you would have found the old Freshwater Land and homeplace and the Bear Creek School.