



HERITAGE TRAILS

Gaelic Beginnings

Trail Summary

America is the land of immigrants, and that is certainly true in the Fayetteville area. While we have a diverse population today, many of the first, brave settlers to the area were from Scotland.



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- 9. MacPherson Presbyterian Church and Cemetery
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 - C) Campbellton

Gaelic Beginnings

You can see proof of that as you pass by Cross Creek Cemetery or visit Long Street Church Cemetery on today's Fort Bragg. The first apparent influx of Highland Scots to the Upper Cape Fear came in 1739, when a large group of Argyll immigrants sailed from Scotland on a ship called the Thistle. Many land grants were issued to these and other Highlanders as a result of the Royal Governor of North Carolina encouraging Scots to emigrate, citing warm climate, free land grants, and tax exemptions. It is important to note that English and Scots-Irish settlers also arrived early to the area. Unlike other ethnic groups, the clan-conscious Highland Scots tended to cluster together in settlements. By 1750, thousands of acres of land had been granted to the Scots.

Some of the reasons for their leaving Scotland were unemployment, displacement of farm workers, increased rent for tenant farmers, low livestock prices, and as an attempt to cling to the ways of their culture and preserve their values. In later years, migration of Scots increased as a result of the British defeating the Scottish at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. At that point, immigrants were allowed to take the loyalty oath and then migrate to the colonies. While those Highland Scots educated in British schools knew English, most commoners who emigrated only spoke Gaelic. Therefore, printers issued numerous 18th century documents in Gaelic.

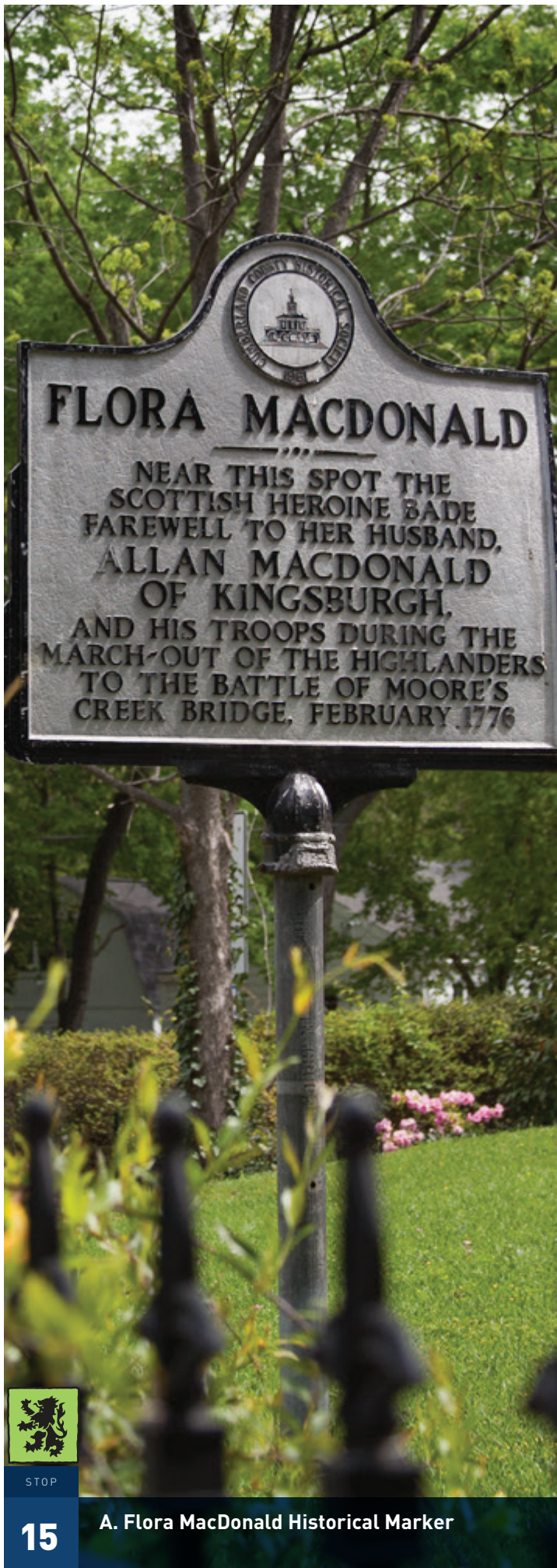
There were three main pillars in the Scottish way of life – religion, education, and subsistence (in the form of farming and enterprise). The majority of Scots were Presbyterian and Reverend James Campbell has been credited with creating three formal congregations for the Scottish population; Bluff, Barbecue, and Long Street Churches. Campbell gave sermons in Gaelic, but also gave English sermons for the English or Scots-Irish residents as well.

In this area, there was a strong, successful merchant class consisting of prominent figures such as Andrew Broadfoot, Robert Adam, James Hogg, and Robert Donaldson. Several Scottish settlers were also artisans and tradesman, such as stone masons like George Lauder and architects or builders such as William Bell. Standing architecture today is a testament of this early merchant class.

Although some Scottish settlers were tradesman, a lot relied on agriculture to survive. Crops planted here were maize, wheat, oats, sweet potatoes, legumes, and flax. Grist mills were created to produce meal from the corn. Another important product of the area was naval stores, which included tar, pitch, and turpentine, primarily used for shipping. In tandem to the naval stores industry was sawmilling and coopering. Spinning and processing cotton became a viable commercial enterprise and provided work for many Scottish women and girls.

When the Revolutionary War broke out, Scottish settlers took both sides of the conflict. Most pre-1760 Scottish immigrants tended to align with the Whigs, known as the Patriots or Rebels, and those that settled here after the 1760s were generally Tories or Loyalists. The British offered many incentives to the Colonies in exchange for Loyalist supporters and military volunteers, including land grants and tax exemptions. Some also sided with the British for fear that their families back home in Scotland would suffer if the colonists defied Britain. After the Revolution, trade was stimulated by regional fairs called "Scotch Fairs" that later developed into present-day Scottish Highland Games and served as centers for trade, entertainment and socialization.

By the early 1800s, Scots appeared to be the largest, most cohesive population residing in the Upper Cape Fear region. As a part of that influence, they were early office holders at all levels. Today, the area has diversified in ethnic population, but the descendants of the early Scottish settlers are still active and proud of their heritage. An example of this cultural celebration is an organization called the Cape Fear Valley Scottish Clans, which hosts an annual Robert Burns' Supper.



STOP

15

A. Flora MacDonald Historical Marker



Fayetteville Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (FACVB)

245 Person Street
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

800-255-8217

01

The Fayetteville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (FACVB) positions Fayetteville and Cumberland County as a destination for conventions, tournaments, and individual travel. Operating a Visitors Center with a drive-through window. The FACVB is located just minutes from the heart of downtown. Signs from I-95 provide clear directions to the Visitor Center. Call for information and help planning your visit to the area or stop by when you arrive for maps, brochures and more.

• **HOURS :**

Open to the public
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

• **NEXT STOP**

Exit the FACVB parking lot, making a left onto Person Street, enter into roundabout, take third exit onto North Cool Spring Street, and Fifer's Grave will be on the left.



Cross Creek Cemetery

North Cool Spring and Grove Streets
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

910-433-1457

02

The oldest public cemetery in Fayetteville, containing over 1,100 grave markers, is the burial ground of many of the early settlers and locally significant persons in Fayetteville's history. Numerous prominent Scottish settlers are buried here; among them are Robert Adams, Duncan McRae, John Sandford, and Andrew Broadfoot. George Lauder, a Scottish-born stone mason known as North Carolina's most prominent stone cutter of the 19th century, was laid to rest in this cemetery as well. To find out more, visit www.findagrave.com.

• **HOURS :**

Daily before dusk. Exterior view only.

• **NEXT STOP**

Make a right onto Grove Street. Make a left onto North Eastern Blvd. Continue on North Eastern Blvd./Business 95 North until the Middle Road exit on the right. Take the exit and make a left onto Middle Road. Make a left onto Dunn Road (301 N). Bear straight/left onto Sisk Culbreth Road. Make a left onto Old Bluff Church Road.



Old Bluff Church and Cemetery

Organized in 1758, Old Bluff Presbyterian Church is one of oldest Presbyterian churches in Cumberland County. This church, along with Long Street Presbyterian and Barbecue Presbyterian Churches, provided the Scottish population of the Upper Cape Fear Valley with longtime formal congregations. The adjacent cemetery is one of the oldest in the county. Many early Scottish settlers and merchant families are buried there, including Colonel Alexander McAllister (a leading county patriot in the American Revolution), Farquhard Campbell, and David Marshall (Carbine) Williams (invented the semi-automatic M1 Carbine rifle used in World War II). The present Greek Revival structure was built in 1858. This church still holds regular services.

Old Bluff Church Road
WADE, NC

STOP

910-891-5019

03

• **HOURS :**

Daily before dusk. Exterior view or by appointment only.

• **NEXT STOP**

Turn around on Old Bluff Church Road. Make a right onto Sisk Culbreth Road. Bear right onto Dunn Road (301 S). Make a right onto Middle Road. Exit right onto US-301 and Business I-95. Business I-95 turns into North Eastern Blvd. Make a right onto Grove Street. Make a left onto Green Street. Make a left on Bow Street. Make a left on Ann Street. First Presbyterian Church is on your right.



First Presbyterian Church

The history of the Presbyterian Church in Cumberland County can be directly traced to Scots that settled here in the mid 1700s, who brought with them their Presbyterian beliefs. Services were held in the State House, located where the Market House now stands. The first church building was constructed in 1817, but it burned in the Great Fire of 1831. In 1832, a new structure was built incorporating the surviving brick walls of the earlier church.

102 Ann Street
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

800-255-8217

04

• **HOURS :**

Daily before dusk. Exterior view or by appointment only.

• **NEXT STOP**

Turn around on Ann Street. Make a right onto Bow Street. Make a left onto Green Street. Take first right out of round about onto Hay Street through the traffic circle. Follow Hay Street until you reach the corner of Hay, Ray and Old Streets. Old Fayetteville Commons will be on your right.



Scottish Monument at the Old Fayetteville Commons

Hay Street at Ray and Old Streets
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

800-255-8217

STOP

05

The fountain and rest area with monument commemorates the 200th anniversary of the first organized immigration of Scottish Highlanders in the Upper Cape Fear. These Scots arrived in 1739, from Argyllshire to Wilmington, NC, and up the Cape Fear River to settle in this region.

- **HOURS :**
Daily before dusk. Exterior view only.

• NEXT STOP

Continue on Hay Street. Make a left onto Robeson Street. Make a left onto Franklin Street. Turn right into the parking lot.



Fayetteville Area Transportation & Local History Museum

325 Franklin Street
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

910-433-1457

STOP

06

The Fayetteville Area Transportation and Local History Museum exhibits contributions made by early Scottish settlers. The museum also has staff oversight of Fayetteville's Historic Districts and Designated Local Landmark Properties, many of which have strong ties to the community's Scottish heritage. Maintained in the museum archives are all the National Register and Local Landmark nominations for use by researchers. The museum is also a repository of historical information concerning local Scottish-related history. Museum staff is available to assist citizens with directed research in this area.

- **HOURS :**
Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fourth Fridays 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Closed Sun. & holidays • Open to the public.

• NEXT STOP

Make a left out of the parking lot onto Maxwell Street. Make a left onto Franklin Street. Make a right onto Robeson Street. Make a left onto Hay Street. Make a right onto Hillside Avenue.



Smith-Lauder House

118 Hillside Avenue
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

800-255-8217

STOP

07

The earliest owners of this house were John Smith and later George Lauder. Lauder was a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, and became the most noted stone mason in 19th-century North Carolina, recruited from Scotland in the 1830s to help rebuild the State Capitol in Raleigh, NC. Later, he was a stone mason at the Fayetteville Arsenal before going into business for himself. He had a marble yard near Hay and Old Streets in Fayetteville. George Lauder is best known locally for carving many tombstones and the 1868 Confederate monument located in Cross Creek Cemetery.

- **HOURS :**
Exterior view only.

• NEXT STOP

Turn around on Hillside Avenue. Make a right onto Hay Street. Make a left onto Bradford Avenue. Make a right onto Arsenal Avenue.



Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex

801 Arsenal Avenue
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

910-500-4240

08

Through its exhibits, the Museum of the Cape Fear chronicles nearly four centuries of southeastern North Carolina history. An exhibit on Scottish settlers provides the visitor with background and understanding of the Gaelic beginnings in Fayetteville and Cumberland County. As you stroll into the exhibit, bagpipe music begins to play. A couple of bagpipes, along with two claymores and a reproduction "Round Buckler," provide further examples of Scottish culture in the Cape Fear region. Visitors will also enjoy seeing a mannequin in traditional kilt, wearing tartan representing Clan McNeil. Occasionally, the museum houses shoe buckles that belonged to Flora McDonald. (The shoe buckles are on exhibit at different museums for months at a time. Please call the museum ahead of time for more information about Flora's shoe buckles.)

• HOURS :

Sun. 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Mon. • Open to the public.

• NEXT STOP

Make a right onto Arsenal Avenue. Make a left onto Bradford Avenue. Make a left onto Hay Street. Make a slight right onto Fort Bragg Road. Make a slight left onto East Dobbin Avenue. Make a slight right onto Morganton Road. Make a left onto Cliffdale Road.



MacPherson Presbyterian Church and Cemetery

3525 Cliffdale Road
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

910-867-2113

09

The current building of MacPherson Church was built in 1868 and features brick salvaged from the U.S. Arsenal. However, the first minister, Reverend Angus McDiarmid (who is buried at Long Street Church Cemetery), held open-air services in Gaelic and English since 1793, as the original congregation was of Scottish descent, like many other churches in the area. Today inside the church, a visitor may see many objects from its past: the first communion service, handmade tin sconces from the original building, the sounding board, and the communion bench. The cemetery consists of many early, prominent Scottish families of the area, including the Shaws and the McPhersons, as well as individuals such as Theopolis Holmes, a Lieutenant General in the Confederate Army.

• HOURS :

Open to the public daily, before dusk. Exterior view or by appointment only.

• NEXT STOP

Long Street Presbyterian Church & Cemetery is under the jurisdiction of the Fort Bragg Cultural Management Resources Program (CRMP). It can only be accessed with a CRMP guide present. Please call the CRMP to see if access is available. They will direct you as to how to get to their location once you reach Fort Bragg. ***Only U.S. Citizens may enter the post. All visitors must stop at All-American Welcome Center, on left, show ID and receive Visitors Pass to access Fort Bragg.***



Long Street Presbyterian Church and Cemetery

Call for directions to location
FORT BRAGG, NC

STOP

910-396-6680

10

Long Street Presbyterian Church is one of the first established in this area, along with Bluff and Barbecue churches, during the mid-1700s. The first congregation, composed of Highland Scots who settled in the area, met in 1756 in McKay's meeting house until 1765, when the first Long Street Church was built out of logs. Likely built with slave labor, the standing two-story wooden church was completed in 1847 and represents the third church of this Argyle Community. Built on land owned by Duncan McLaughlin, the building and six acres were sold to the congregation in 1850.

Nearby, a cemetery was established to serve the community. Still visible today, the cemetery is protected by a dry-laid stone wall and contains the earliest marker of 1773 and one marker with a Gaelic inscription. Dry-laid walls of this type were common among Highland crofters and represent a skill transplanted to America. The graves of many early Scottish settlers and their descendants, and possibly their slaves, are buried in this graveyard, along with one mass burial of Confederate soldiers killed at the nearby Battle of Monroe's Crossroads. The U.S. Army bought the church, cemetery, and land from the congregation in 1923 to establish Camp Bragg. Descendants still hold annual services here once a year.

• **HOURS :**

Weekdays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Exterior view or by appointment only.

• **NEXT STOP**

Sandy Grove Presbyterian Church is under the jurisdiction of the Fort Bragg Cultural Management Resources Program [CRMP]. It can only be accessed with a CRMP guide present. Please call the CRMP to see if access is available. They will direct you as to how to get to their location once you reach Fort Bragg. ***Only U.S. Citizens may enter the post. All visitors must stop at All-American Welcome Center, on left, show ID and receive Visitors Pass to access Fort Bragg.***



Sandy Grove Presbyterian Church

Call for directions to location
FORT BRAGG, NC

STOP

910-396-6680

11

Sandy Grove Presbyterian Church was founded and built in 1854 as a congregation off-shoot from Long Street Church. The land for this church was donated by Peter Monroe, who, along with his extended family, is buried in the adjacent cemetery. This one-story wooden church served the rural Scottish community until it was purchased by the U.S. Army in 1922. The church was modified in the early 1900s by a vestibule and steeple addition, changing its appearance. The community/church cemetery contains 214 graves, the oldest of which dates 1759. Services are sometimes held here for descendant groups and visiting military units.

• **HOURS :**

Weekdays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Exterior view or by appointment only.

• **NEXT STOP**

From Randolph Street make a left onto Bragg Blvd until it merges with NC 210, Murchison Road. Follow Murchison Road to I-295 South to All-American Freeway. Head towards Fayetteville and take Exit 7, Morganton Road. Turn left onto Morganton Road and follow signs to Downtown Fayetteville. Make a right onto Robeson Street. Make a left onto Russell Street. Make a right onto Dick Street.



Heritage Square

225 Dick Street
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

910-484-3977

12

Sandford House is the main building on Heritage Square. Built in 1800, this Federal style home has been the residence for several prominent families of Scottish heritage who came up the Cape Fear River to settle in Fayetteville. The first to reside in this home was Duncan McLeran. He was a prominent citizen and one of the first elders of First Presbyterian Church. The next family to live here was John Adam and wife Sarah Donaldson. His father, Robert Adam, was an important local Scottish merchant and the first Commander of the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry (F.I.L.I.). In 1820, the structure was purchased for use as the Bank of the United States, the first federal bank in North Carolina. John W. Sandford was the teller of the bank, and he and his family resided upstairs on the top floor while the bank was in operation. The first floor was the bank, and the basement held the vault. When the bank was discontinued in 1832, John W. Sandford purchased the building for his family home. Other prominent citizens lived in this home until it was purchased by The Woman's Club of Fayetteville in 1945. Open by appointment.

• **HOURS :**

Open to the public daily, before dusk. Exterior view or by appointment only.

• **NEXT STOP**

Turn around on Dick Street. Make a left onto Russell Street. Make a left onto Robeson Street. Turn left onto Raeford Road. Follow Raeford Road until you get to Gillis Hill Road. Turn left onto Gillis Hill Road. Turn right onto Galatia Church Road.



Galatia Presbyterian Church

880 Galatia Road
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

910-867-0656

13

Galatia Presbyterian Church is located in the Seventy-First community, a community named by Scottish immigrants to honor the 71st Regiment of the Scottish Highlanders. In Scotland, they fought a war of rebellion against the British in the 1700s, but were defeated at the Battle of the Culloden Moor in 1746. After their lands were confiscated in Scotland their clan chiefs executed, and their kilts and bagpipes outlawed, many of the Highland Scots emigrated to North America and settled in the Sandhills of North Carolina. These early rural residents worshiped in brush arbors until 1825, when a structure was built and Galatia Presbyterian Church was organized. It was not uncommon for early Presbyterian ministers to preach the same sermon twice on Sundays, in Gaelic and then in English. The adjacent cemetery is where many families of early Scottish settlers are buried. This church still holds regular services.

• **HOURS :**

Sunday services; please call ahead. Exterior view or by appointment only.

• **NEXT STOP**

Other Sites of Interest

Other Sites of Interest



A) Big Rockfish Church

South Business I-95 and McNeill Street

Begun as a Sunday School, the church was later organized in 1844 and named Presbyterian Church of Rockfish Factory, taking its name from their meeting place. The community of Rockfish, later known as Hope Mills, boasted North Carolina's largest cotton mill of the 1840s and 1850s, the Rockfish Manufacturing Company. The name of the church was changed to Big Rockfish Presbyterian Church when relocated on land donated by Hector McNeil and David Murphy in 1855. The present structure is Greek Revival, and its adjacent cemetery contains early Scottish graves. This church still holds services.



B) Ellerslie

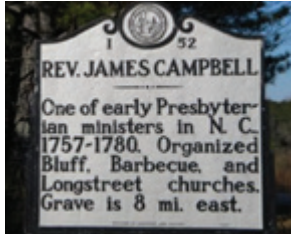
Elliot Bridge Road

Ellerslie has been the homeplace of the Elliott family since settling on the state-granted land in 1790. By 1801, the plantation had grown in size to more than 5,000 acres. George Elliott, founder of the American family, was educated at University of Edinburgh and immigrated from Scotland to settle on the Lower Little River in the Upper Cape Fear Valley. He represented Cumberland County at the Hillsboro Convention in 1788. His son Alexander represented Cumberland County in the North Carolina Legislature in 1826. The home highlights eighteenth century domestic architecture of the area. The original appearance of the home was altered with a Greek Revival addition in the 1850s. Private.



A) Flora MacDonald (Historical Marker) - Cool Spring Street and Hawley Lane

Near this spot the Scottish Heroine bade farewell to her husband, Allan MacDonald of Kingsburgh, and his troops during the march-out of the Highlanders to the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, February 1776.



B) Rev. James Campbell (Historical Marker) - US 401 at SR 1609, (Ramsey Street and East Reeves Bridge)

One of early Presbyterian ministers in N.C., 1757-1780. Organized Bluff, Barbecue, and Longstreet churches. Grave is 8 mi. east.



C) Campbellton (Historical Marker) - Person Street at Broad Street

Colonial river port, incorporated in 1762. Later merged with Cross Creek to form the town of Fayetteville.