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Summer 2020

THE TRAILBLAZER

Daniel Boone

NC DANIEL BOONE HERITAGE TRAIL, INC.

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A Message from the President

September 26 marks the 200th anniversary of the death of one of America's best known pioneers, Daniel Boone. He was born in Pennsylvania., is buried in Kentucky, and much of his life in-between was in North Carolina.

It was here in the Yadkin River valley that he left to serve in the French and Indian War, sharpened his wilderness and hunting skills, courted and married Rebecca, raised their family, buried his parents, and made preparations for leaving his home to explore and settle Kentucky.

This is a good time to reflect on the events of Boone's life and to honor his legacy. It is the aim of the NCDBHT to do just that by keeping an awareness of his life here. One of the main ways we can achieve this is through collaboration and partnering with heritage travel and tourism in what I like to call our "Boone Counties", located in the Yadkin River valley region.

We tell the story of this frontiersman through our website, Facebook, media outlets, educational presentations and more. One goal for 2020-21 is to create a short video about the life of Boone in N.C. for school children that meets state educational guidelines. A most worthy endeavor is to teach our youngest generation about N.C. and U.S. History. As the President of the NCDBHT, I invite you to join with us to achieve these goals and preserve this heritage for future generations.

Kind Regards

Mary Bohlen

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Who Are We?

- Davie County
- Davidson County
- Forsyth County
- Iredell County
- Rowan County
- Watauga County
- Wilkes County
- Yadkin County

National Daniel Boone Day and the 245th Anniversary of Boone's Trace

Daniel Boone's influence on the history of our nation was a result of his study and extensive knowledge of the world around him.

Two hundred and fifty-one years ago, on May 1, 1769, he departed his home in N.C., on his first foray into Kentucky Territory. On June 7, each year, we observe National Daniel Boone Day, the day he arrived in Kentucky Territory.

In 1775, Boone was contracted by Judge Richard Henderson of the Transylvania Company to blaze a trail into Kentucky from the Holston River valley of Tennessee, through the Cumberland Gap.

Boone's Trace was used by many thousands who entered Kentucky over the following years. In 2020, we celebrate 245 years of the American spirit which this event represents. ■

N.C. Daniel Boone Heritage Trail Will Connect You to History

Heritage Trails are huge these days, especially here in our historic state of North Carolina. These trails provide a way for us to explore and connect with our history. Such trails as the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail and the North Carolina Civil War Trails are examples. Another trail system in our backyard celebrates the legacy and history of American frontiersman, Daniel Boone, who traveled extensively throughout our state.

He hunted and fished the rugged woods along the Yadkin River and surrounding hills. He turned the pages of history, blazing the trail into lands of Kentucky Territory and for the expansion of America! The legends and stories surrounding Daniel Boone paint pictures and instill romantic images of America's most celebrated pioneer and adventurer.

Our non-profit group, North Carolina Daniel Boone Heritage Trail, Inc., encourages you to take this great opportunity to be part of this exciting trail.

I invite you to join us today and better yet, please pass this message along to a friend: an invitation to join us. Be a part of this amazing and fast growing trail which will connect you to Daniel Boone heritage, sites, and events here in North Carolina.

R.G. Absher, Vice President

1861 engraving by Alonzo Chappel, depicting Daniel Boone on a hunting trip.

Two Types of Daniel Boone Historical Highway Markers in Yadkin County

From 1912-1915, the Daughters of the American Revolution erected at least three markers in old Yadkin County, which included part of what is now Forsyth County. The DAR's first marker was on the north bank of the Great Wagon Road, after it joined the Cape Fear Road, off Williams Road in Forsyth County. It was also near the historic Shallow Ford.

Their second marker was located on the Mulberry Fields Road in Huntsville in front of the ruins of the Kelly Tavern. They erected their third marker in Yadkinville on the courthouse lawn, where it can be seen today.

The first two markers are on private property and permission is needed to visit them. The third marker is in Yadkinville and north of the courthouse on East Main Street. It is on public property and can be visited anytime. It is believed that the DAR erected 50 of these markers along 400 miles of Old US Highway 421, but only 30 survive. Where might the other 20 be located?

About 1925, Joseph Hampton Rich (1874-1949) of Davie County and some friends in Winston-Salem formed the Boone Trail Highway Improvement and Memorial Association to encourage citizens to pave more roads with concrete in the United States. When they erected the huge arrowhead at Hanes Park on Reynolda Road/NC Highway 67 in Winston-Salem, they added a plaque of Daniel Boone and a map showing the locations of other Boone Trail Highway markers. In bronze, the image of Daniel Boone is based on the 1881 engraving by Alonzo Chappel (1828-1927).

They located their next Boone Trail marker location in East Bend, at the intersection of East Main Street and Pauline Street. It is still there and painted gold.

Rich's committee erected 258 of these markers throughout the United States, but only 153 survive. One stood at the east entrance to the Yadkin River bridge on Old US Highway 421. In 1953, citizens in the Vienna Community of Forsyth County moved this marker to Vienna Elementary School, where it sits beside Old US Highway 421, and is now behind the chain-link fence surrounding the school.

Visiting these markers is a way to remember Daniel Boone's presence in Yadkin County. There are only four in Yadkin County: Huntsville, Yadkinville, East Bend, and Boonville. ■

Who Are We?

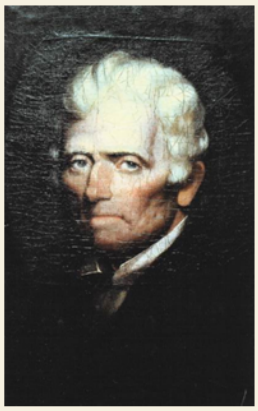
Each issue of this newsletter features some of the Boone family sites in the counties of the Yadkin River valley in N.C.

In 1750, Daniel's parents, Squire and Sarah Morgan Boone, left the Lancaster, Pennsylvania area heading south and following the Allegheny Mountains. After homesteading two years near today's Harrisonburg, Virginia, the Boone family continued south along the eastern escarpment of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and arrived in North Carolina in (probably) early summer of 1752.

They camped in a cave near today's city of Lexington (Davidson Co.). They crossed the Yadkin River at Shallow Ford near today's Lewisville (Forsyth Co.). They went to market at the Moravian settlement which is now Old Salem in Winston-Salem. And, at another Moravian settlement, Bethabara (1753), they sought the only physician for a 100 miles, for Daniel's brother, Israel.

The Boone family sought protection at Fort Dobbs near today's Statesville (Iredell Co.) during the French and Indian War.

These are just a few N.C. sites to discover. We welcome you to join us in the fascinating study of this lesser-known chapter of N.C.'s history. ■



1820 Portrait of Daniel Boone by Chester Harding

The Boone Family in Davie County

Eleven children of Squire and Sarah (Morgan) Boone all came and lived in present-day Davie County. They were Sarah (Boone) Wilcockson, Israel, Samuel, Jonathan, Elizabeth (Boone) Grant, Daniel, Mary (Boone) Bryan, George, Edward, Squire (Jr.), and Hannah (Boone) Stewart Pennington.

Squire Boone's nephew, John Boone (1727-1803), and wife Rebecca (Bryan?) Boone (c1735-1820) received a 630-acre grant on Hunting Creek 21 December 1753. Their nine children were born there. Most of this family migrated to Tennessee, though some of their descendants lived at this Hunting Creek site until the 1850's and some distant relatives still live in Davie County.

Daniel Boone (1734-1820), son of Squire and Sarah Boone, married Rebecca Bryan (1739-1813) in Davie County on 14 August 1756. For some eight years, from about 1756 until about 1764, they lived on what was probably Bryan property in the forks of Sugar (tree) Creek in eastern Davie County. ■

The Boone Family in Wilkes County

Daniel and Rebecca relocated their family from the Forks of the Yadkin to the Upper Yadkin River (today's Wilkes County, North Carolina) about 1764.

The family built more than one cabin in the area. The first was located at Holman's Ford, where Kerr Scott Lake is now. The next two cabins were built at different locations near the mouth of Beaver Creek. Today, the public can visit the nearby Whippoorwill Academy and Village with a replica Boone cabin and several preserved structures from the late 1700's and the 1800's. Near Beaver Creek is Elkville, from which a drive up Elk Creek Darby Rd. ascends to the Blue Ridge Plateau on a route used by Daniel Boone on frequent hunting expeditions.

From Beaver Creek, Daniel made his first foray into Kentucky. The route follows Old 421 N., westward to Boone, and Zionville in Watauga County, to the Tenn. state line and beyond to Kentucky. ■

Whippoorwill Village and Academy, Ferguson (Wilkes County)

Boone's Trace

This Boone's Trace interpretive sign at Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 285.1 reads "Local tradition places this location on the route used by Daniel Boone on his westward treks. Elev. Here 3262." A Boone's Trail marker was placed here by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1913, but was later stolen.

This location is where the Blue Ridge Parkway crosses the access trail Daniel Boone blazed to the high meadows and the valley where the town of Boone (Watauga Co.) now sits. The access trail continued to the Kingsport (TN) terminus of the Wilderness Trail into Kentucky Territory, blazed by Daniel in 1775.

Other monuments mark Boone's Trail throughout Watauga County. A 26' monument to Daniel Boone stands in Rivers Park, and a statue of 'Daniel Boone and his Dogs' stands along Rivers Street on the Appalachian State campus. A Boone Trail Highway marker stands in downtown Blowing Rock. And, DAR markers still stand at the Watauga County Courthouse in Boone and along Old 421 in Zionville. ■

Boone's Trace interpretive sign at Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 285. "Local tradition places this location on the route used by Daniel Boone on

Writing desk at Hickory Ridge Museum in Boone (Watauga County). Photo by Sam Dean Photography, courtesy of Watauga Co. TDA.

Hickory Ridge Museum

Hickory Ridge Living History Museum in Boone, NC, is an open-air museum with a look back at mountain heritage through eight 18th & 19th century cabins and outbuildings in beautiful Daniel Boone Park. Interpretive demonstrations allow guests to watch and learn how people lived during the Revolutionary War period, including the town of Boone's namesake, Daniel Boone.

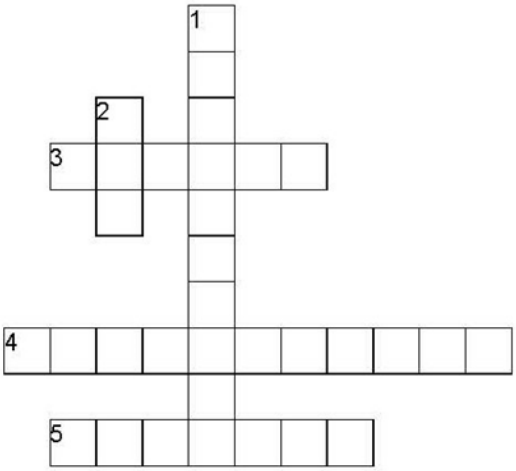
Throughout summer, Hickory Ridge Museum will follow NC health guidelines for the safety of both guests and staff. Group size is limited to six. Tour length is approximately 30 minutes. Admission fees are $8 for adults and $5 for children 12 and under. ■

Daniel Boone Facts & Trivia

- Daniel Boone's parents were Squire and Sarah (née Morgan) Boone.
- Squire and Sarah Boone and some of their children were born in England.
- Daniel Boone was born in Pennsylvania in 1734, and had 10 siblings.
- Daniel Boone's parents and his brother Israel are buried in Mocksville, N.C.
- Daniel Boone married Rebecca Bryan in Mocksville in 1756.
- Daniel's first trip to Kentucky Territory was in 1769.
- Daniel Boone, along with a party of men, including his son, James, attempted a trip to Kentucky in October of 1773, but failed to complete the trip. Kidnapped by renegade Natives, James and five others did not survive.
- The Boones with most of their relatives and many friends migrated permanently to Kentucky in 1779. ■

Daniel Boone reenactor, Hoyle "Davie" Davis, Jr., at Hickory Ridge Museum, Boone (Watauga County). Photo by Sam Dean Photography, courtesy of Watauga Co. TDA.

Frontiersman: Daniel Boone



Across

3. River valley in North Carolina where Daniel Boone lived.

4. When the Boone family arrived in NC from Pennsylvania, they crossed the Yadkin River at _____.

5. _____ Bryan was Daniel Boone's wife; together they had eight children.

Down

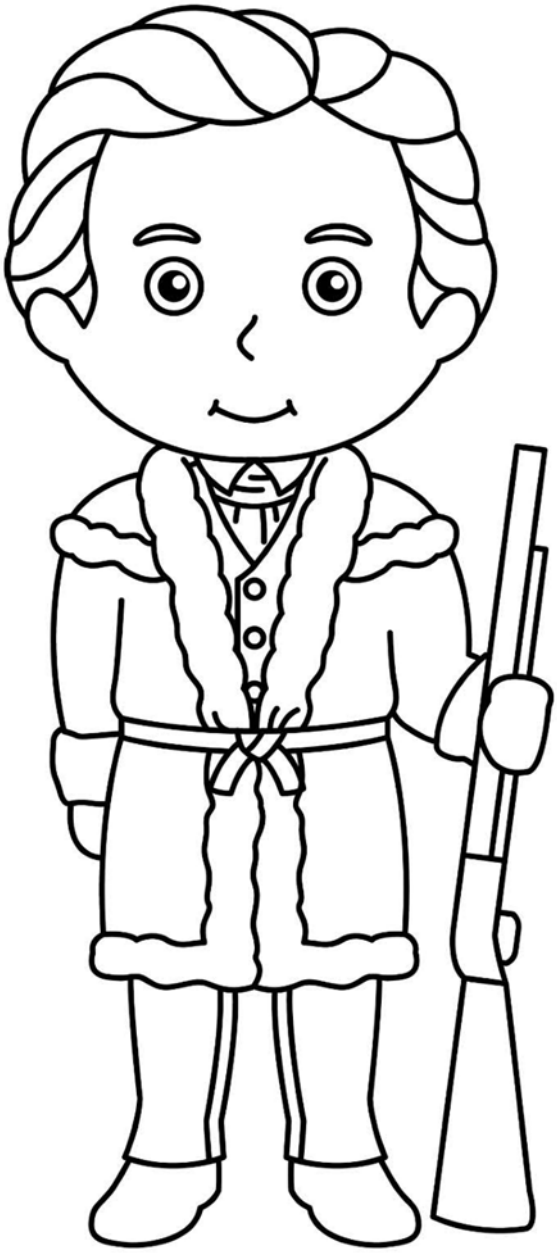
1. The present-day NC town where Daniel and Rebecca married.

2. Women's organization which placed Daniel Boone markers.

Word Scramble

1. EOMCLVILSK _____
2. CECEARB _____
3. SFWLOADOLRH _____
4. YKADIN _____
5. DRA _____

Daniel Boone



Daniel Boone grew to adulthood in North Carolina. From here, he led efforts to create a path to the Cumberland Gap and into Kentucky. He encouraged families to move westward and create communities.

© Elle Madison

North Carolina
Daniel Boone Heritage Trail, Inc.

126 West Church Street
Mocksville, NC 27028

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Email Address _____

Other Internet Address (Website, Facebook, etc.) _____

Telephone (H) _(_____)_____ (C) _(_____)_____

"The purpose of the North Carolina Daniel Boone Heritage Trail, Inc. is to identify and celebrate the life, journeys, and cultural heritage of frontiersman Daniel Boone from 1751-1799 throughout the region of the Yadkin River valley through educational and historical interpretation, while promoting heritage and cultural tourism." -- NCDBHT Bylaws, 2015

Why do you want to become a member? Check all that apply.
___ To share my knowledge of Daniel Boone and his life and times
___ To help promote the heritage of Daniel Boone and his family in my county
___ To help promote tourism in my county
___ Other _____

Membership Category:

___ Level 1 Pioneer	$10
___ Level 2 Hunter	25
___ Level 3 Trapper	50
___ Level 4 Explorer	100
___ Level 5 Trailblazer	500
___ Other Donation	$ _____

The State of North Carolina incorporated NC Daniel Boone Heritage Trail on April 6, 2011. North Carolina Daniel Boone Heritage Trail, Inc. is a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. Donations are tax-deductible within the extent of IRS tax laws.

What your Membership will do:
1) Preserve the heritage of Daniel Boone and his legacy in North Carolina;
2) Increase the awareness of Daniel Boone sites in North Carolina;
3) Reconnect the public with the history of Daniel Boone and his family as residents of a variety of locations in the Yadkin River valley.

Welcome to our membership! Please make your check payable to NCDBHT and mail to
Linda Leonard, Treasurer, 126 West Church Street, Mocksville, NC 27028

North Carolina Daniel Boone Heritage Trail

126 w. Church Street
Mocksville, NC 27028

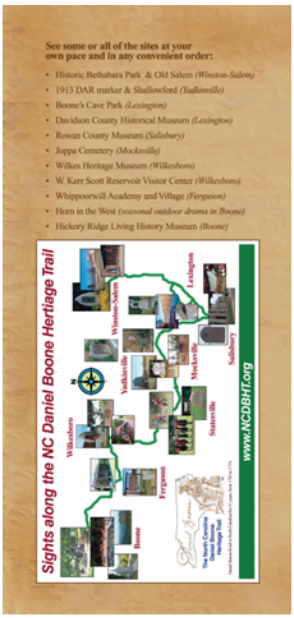
Stand Where He Stood

TO:

Our new website at ncdanielboonetrail.org is now live.

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/NCDBHT

Look for Our Rack Card at Area Visitor Centers and Chambers of Commerce



Explore North Carolina's Daniel Boone Heritage with Us!