

W.J. Berry Sr.  
The Primitive Baptist Library  
Route Two  
Elon College, N.C. 27244

Dear Mr. Berry,

I thank you for your assistance in my work on the Jones family, the information which you have provided has indeed proven helpful. In your letter of 15 September, you mentioned that a particular resource which you checked, was found to be rather misleading. I am referring to a book which you checked (Edwards History). It states that the Bryn Zion or Mount Zion church was begun by independants. The source mentions that they met from 1733 to 1781. You found this misleading because of entries in the church record after this date. Perhaps I might clarify.

The Duck Creek Primitive Baptist Church, or Bryn Zion Baptist Church was indeed organized by Welsh settlers, and it operated as a branch of the Welsh Tract Baptist Church from 1733 to 1781. After this date it became an independant church. They apparently retained the same record book, and this is the reason for later entries.

On page 8, Book 1 of the Welsh Tract Record mentioned above, it states that Rev. Griffith Jones was received by virtue of letter from Wales 2 January 1750. Could you please provide for me the address of a Baptist Society in Wales, or of someone that would have access to an address?

I am enclosing a copy that was written by George L. Caley of Smyrna, Delaware for a publication of his own in 1979. You might wish to include this with your records of the Bryn Zion Church, if not for your own interest.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Robert D. Haack  
12003 Chessington Dr.  
Houston, Texas 77031  
(713) 498-7497

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I thank you for your assistance in your work on the Jones family.  
The information which you have provided has indeed proven helpful.  
In your letter of 12/2/54, you mentioned that a particular reference  
which you checked, was found to be rather misleading. I am referring to  
a book which you checked (Walter's story). It states that the Jones  
family had been in a certain hospital. The name of the hospital  
that they had been in is not stated. I am referring to the date of  
admission in the church records after this date. Perhaps I might  
clarify.

The District of Columbia Hospital Group, on New Hampshire Avenue  
was indeed operated by Walter Jones, and it operated as a branch of  
the United Methodist Church from 1911 to 1918. After this date it became  
an independent entity. They eventually retained the same record books  
and this is the reason for the error.

Volume 2, Book 1 of the Walter Jones record mentioned above,  
it is noted that Rev. William Jones was received in virtue of a letter  
from Walter Jones, 1918. Could you please provide for me the address  
of a hospital society in Dallas, or of someone that would have access  
to an address?

I am enclosing a copy of a letter written by George A. Oliver of  
Birmingham, Alabama, for a publication of his own in 1911. You might  
want to include this in your report on the Jones family.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Sincerely,  
*Robert L. Jones*

Robert L. Jones  
12345 Washington Dr.  
Houston, Texas 77021  
(713) 792-4422

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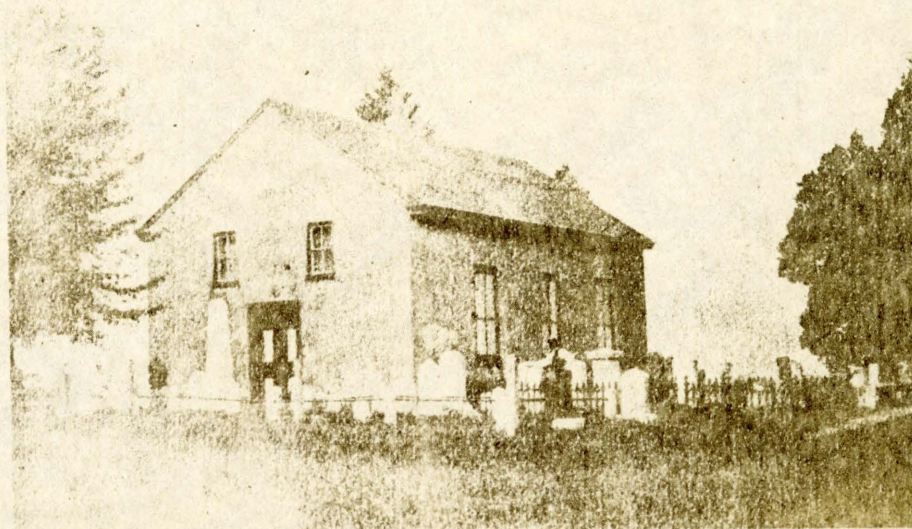


Photo from Caley Historical Collection

## 20. BRYN ZION

As early as 1733 Welsh families settled in Duck Creek Hundred - some in or near Duck Creek Village and others in the vicinity of Lewis Cross Roads (Kenton). Having no church building of their own they conducted their services in private homes with self-appointed ministers. Occasionally a Baptist minister from Welsh Tract Church, located near New Ark, would come to the area to hold service.

About 1750 those Baptists at Duck Creek shared a house of worship with the Presbyterians; said small structure supposedly to have stood on high ground directly north of Green's Branch, just immediately west of today's bridge over the stream on North Main Street. The infant congregation in the Lewis Cross Road area were decided a decaying church building and burying ground in 1771 by John and Philemon Dickinson. That edifice had belonged to a religious group known as Independents. Several years before 1771 the Independents had disbanded and the Dickinsons had acquired the tract known as Mt. Zion.

Upon acquiring ownership, the Baptists renamed the site BRYN ZION. Immediately, the brick church was rehabilitated. When completed it had a center door facing south; was three bays deep, and had an A-frame shake shingled roof. The burial grounds surrounding it were opened to any Christian for interment. This was the first such open cemetery in the colony.

After the Civil War the church received its Victorian adaptations - two over two windows, double hung doors, and the stuccoing over brick.

Services were held in the edifice until its destruction by a wind storm in 1943. No efforts were made to rebuild, and the congregation disbanded. However, within a year a group of interested non-Baptists organized a Board of Trustees. They assumed responsibility for the care and the keeping of BRYN ZION CEMETERY. Burials are still being made in that sacred spot.

Old Duck Creek families resting there include Wilds, Spruance, Jones, Wells, Rees, Griffith, Hyatt, Griffin, Roe, David, Curry and Hazel. Rev. James Jones, a surgeon in the American Revolutionary Army, is the most noted personage interred in BRYN ZION.

