

# SHILOH CHURCH CEMETERY

Eudora Anne Ratcliffe

January 2, 2012

Dear Hambright Descendant

Exciting things are happening! We are pleased to announce that on December 22, 2011, the National Park Service approved the listing of the SHILOH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CEMETERY to the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES.

Shiloh now joins the prestigious ranks of North Carolina historical properties such as: Bald Head Island Lighthouse (Baldhead Island), Hezekiah Alexander House (Charlotte), The Capitol (Fayetteville), The Queen Anne's Revenge Shipwreck (Atlantic Beach), Quaker Meadows (Morganton vicinity), Grove Park Inn (Asheville), Bath Historic District (Bath), Salem Tavern and Wachovia Building (Winston-Salem), Cameron Village (Raleigh), Duke Homestead & Tobacco Factory (Durham), etc.

Shiloh Cemetery was considered as a result of the "finery" art contained among the many tombstones, and the cemetery has met the National Register's requirements for Criteria A,C, and D respectively; a church owned property that derives its primary significance from its large collection of gravestones from the nineteenth and twentieth century carved by stonecutters and engravers from York County, South Carolina (James and William Crawford & John and Robert Caveny); details indicative of Caveny's work are found on the tombstone of Colonel Frederick Hambright and others; a small, rural church cemetery with gravestones of artistic value, stylized funerary art; and for its distinctive design features.

This is a rare accomplishment for Shiloh as cemeteries are seldom considered to be approved and added to National Register status. This approval would not have happened without the dedicated efforts of Dennis Dover of Chino Hills, California who has worked for many years with the North and South Carolina Archives and the Historic Shelby Foundation to make this nomination possible.

The Historic Shelby Foundation has submitted an application and report to the Cleveland County Historic Preservation Committee to have the cemetery designated as a local historical landmark. Now, it is up to us to continue supporting the cemetery by our contributions to the Historic Shelby Foundation to be applied to the Shiloh Cemetery Preservation Fund. Historic Shelby is a 501(c)3, Tax Exempt Organization so, your contributions are tax deductible. These contributions will be used exclusively for the preservation, conservation, restoration, and repair of this historic treasure.

Your contributions are to be directed to the "Shiloh Cemetery preservation fund" and make checks payable to HISTORIC SHELBY FOUNDATION, INC. and mail to:

HISTORIC SHELBY FOUNDATION, INC.

P.O. Box 2321, Shelby, NC 28151

Please share this information with your family and friends.

Best wishes for a HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR !

Eudora Anne Ratcliffe, President

Hambright Family Reunion (2010 - 2012)