

The Locke Family Newsletter

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Chiggers, Briars, and Lockes

This morning found me out picking Blackberries, and that can only mean one thing. Our annual *Locke Family Reunion* is rapidly approaching. Just a month from now, *Landsford Canal State Park* will be the scene of this much anticipated event. We've reserved the **1790 Log House** again this year, and we'll have the advantage of air-conditioning, just in case the weather is a little on the warm side.



By now, you should have marked your calendars for **Saturday, August 8th**, and I hope you will plan to spend the better part of the day hanging out on the large porch with friends and family, and eating some of the best Southern cooking this side of Grandma's house. The blackberries you see to the left will end up in a delicious cobbler, and fresh peaches right from the orchard will have a cobbler all their own.



Plan to arrive by 10 a.m., and we'll eat about 12:30. Bring your favorite salad, veggies, meat, fruit, and dessert. Gladys Howell will make the iced tea.

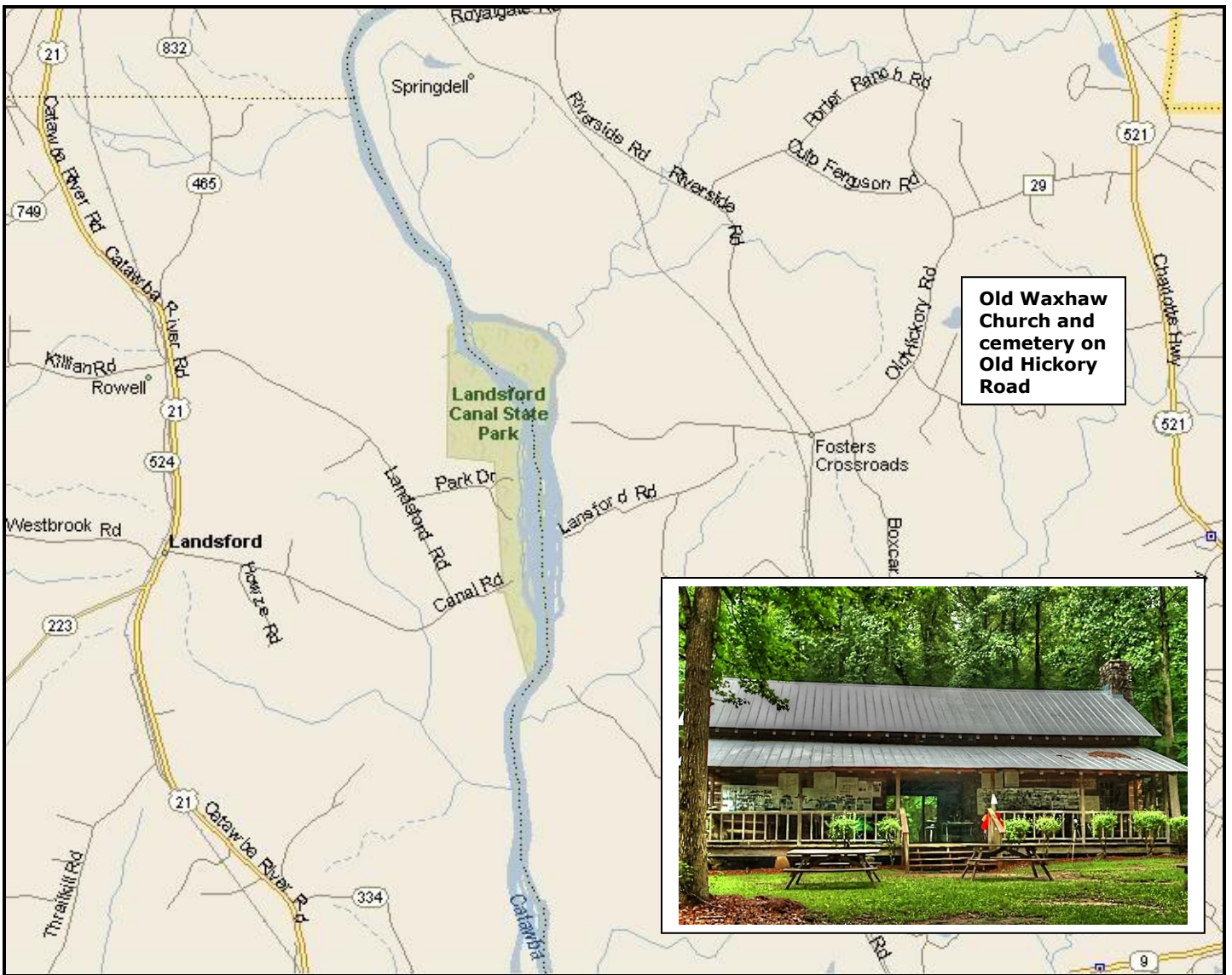


The Catawba River peacefully flows past the state park, and the structures of the original barge canal are right behind our historic log cabin. This is the spot where settlers from the north crossed the Catawba on their way to a new life in South Carolina and Georgia. Our Locke ancestors homesteaded just five miles west of this river. Well before Europeans arrived, Native Americans used this same shallow crossing to trade with the tribes of the South. During the **Revolutionary War**, the Colonial patriots controlled this valuable ford, which was crucial in the defeat of the British, and during the **Civil War**, many skirmishes broke out all along this stretch of the river as soldiers of the Blue and the Grey fought to maintain control of passage.





Make sure you call everyone in your family and encourage them to join us. These gatherings are few and far between, and we all must take advantage of these opportunities to get together.



Landsford Canal State Park is just east of **US-21** off of **Landsford Road**. From **Charlotte**: take I-77 to Exit 77 to **Highway 5 & 21**. Turn left (south), travel 16 miles to the **Landsford Canal State Park** sign and turn left. Go to **Park Drive**. From **Columbia**: take I-77 north to exit 65 to Highway 9. Turn right and travel 2 miles to Highway 223. Turn left on Highway 223 and travel 9 miles to Highway 21. At Highway 21 turn left and travel 2 miles to the State Park sign. Turn right and the park's entrance is on the left. My cell number is **828-333-0603**. My home phone is **828-288-4142**. mountainvann@gmail.com



2011



2013



2005



2012