



WEST FELICIANA RR BUILDING . 1834
THE WILKINSON COUNTY MUSEUM 1991

THE WOODVILLE CIVIC CLUB

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THE BANK OF MISSISSIPPI . 1819
THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM 2004

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CHARLES DUNCAN STEWART IS HOME AGAIN AT HOLLY GROVE PLANTATION



A wonderful portrait of Charles Stewart, a glicee on canvas copy of the original which is at the Historic New Orleans Collection, of the son of Lt. Governor Duncan Stewart, is hanging again where Charles was born . . . in 1815 at Holly Grove Plantation. All of this because of the passion of its current residents, Dr. Landon Anderson, now retired, he a Mississippian, and Connie Anderson, coincidentally, a native of Stewart County in Tennessee, who acquired the home in 2005. This new portrait is part of a collection of original Stewart family portraits and copies of others collected by Dr. and Mrs. Anderson.

OUR DUNCAN STEWART WAS ELECTED THE FIRST LT. GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI IN 1817.

The Stewarts were an important family from Tennessee . . . Stewart County was named for them. Duncan's father was born in Scotland and they, like many of our ambitious early families, who kept moving west when we became the Western Frontier in 1798, didn't take long to get here. Duncan was born in 1763 in North Carolina, well-educated in law and as a surveyor, and by 1781 he was a Colonel in the US Army.

In 1794 he went to Tennessee, served there in the Senate from 1801 to 1807 . . . and by 1809 he was in Wilkinson County and soon became Territorial Surveyor.

He started Holly Grove by 1810. It is a house that grew with additions over the years . . . and today it is an important restoration of an early landmark with an interior that is a gem of Federal architecture.

Edited by Ernesto Caldeira

Duncan died in the November soon after he left office in January of 1820 and was buried next to his twin brother in a small but sad and romantic cemetery shared only by them at Lone Hall, next to Holly Grove, the plantation then owned by Lovick Ventress, his brother-in-law and another Scot.

STEWART BROTHERS-IN-LAW WERE BUILDERS OF TWO OF THE LARGEST PLANTATIONS IN THE SOUTH

Lakeside Plantation, on Old River in Pointe Coupee Parish, a raised Italianate cottage, was built by Charles Duncan Stewart probably about 1850, and it stayed in the Stewart family until 2006 when acquired by Hunt Slonem, the renowned artist and preservationist.

Nottaway Plantation, a Henry Howard house, downriver in White Castle was built in 1859 by John Hampden Randolph who was born in Woodville in 1813 at Elmwood Plantation.

FOLKS IN WOODVILLE LOVE TO BRAG ABOUT ALL THE FIRSTS AND OLDESTS IN OUR EARLY COMMUNITY

The first Lt. Governor, the first native-born Governor, the first standard gauge railroad, the oldest newspaper in the state, the oldest Episcopal and Methodist churches and oldest church building . . . the Baptist Church . . . and on and on we go.

Fort Adams, the highest spot on the river between Memphis and New Orleans, was touched by Europeans in their exploration of this area . . . with Natchez, Washington, Woodville, and Port Gibson . . . the earliest settlements.

STEWART DESCENDANTS REACH FROM NATCHEZ TO NEW ORLEANS AND BEYOND



Dr. and Mrs. Anderson on the gallery at Holly Grove

The chapter on Holly Grove in THE PLANTATION WORLD OF WILKINSON COUNTY MISSISSIPPI 1792-2012 tells the full story of its history. It is quite a story that involves marriages with so many families like the Ventresses, the McGehees, the Randolphs, and the Pulaski Cages nearby and up and down the river with members of the Pipes family, and the Forts, and the Hamiltons with descendant connections today that are almost legendary back to our very earliest families. Holly Grove stayed in the Stewart family until 1924.

FACEBOOK LIVE SALE!!!

Every Thursday Night - 7 p.m.

Follow us: Main Street Market & Café

601-888-3449

Volunteer Opportunities.

The Civic Club was pulled together and formed almost fifty years ago when a half a dozen Woodvillians got together. They were concerned about businesses leaving town because of all the national unrest at that time which was affecting us.

Mrs. Ray Farrar was the ringleader . . . she called the meeting.

The organization was formed with a group of volunteers to help this community and volunteers have been working all these decades to get us to where we are today . . . with two museums, a 242-site Historic District, a functioning downtown, historic markers, a library and a post office downtown (and not on the bypass - as might have happened), a Main Street Market, lots of published books and Journals, and a sense of community and contentment within the community. The Civic Club got it going and has kept it going.

But we would love to have more volunteers.

Right now we have a volunteer board, volunteer docents, a volunteer who keeps the books, volunteers who through the years have staged events from Pilgrimages, art shows, craft shows, antiques shows, landscapers, exhibits at the museums, and so many others responsible for our accomplishments.

But in this digital age we need to continually improve our presence . . . we do FaceBook and we have our website at www.historicwoodville.com . . .

We need a computer savvy volunteer to help us keep it updated, add new books to those we already have for sale at our bookshop Pay-Pal tab, and continue to post historical and genealogical information for the endless numbers of persons who trace their roots to here and want to know more and want to come visit. A few hours a month at the most.

Could this be YOU? . . . or someone you know?
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