

Letter, Rev Carriker

Brent & Martha Brian  
1564 Sharon Lane  
Gastonia NC 28052  
July 19, 2000

Rev. David Carriker  
403 Doe Ridge Drive  
Cleveland NC 27013

Dear Rev. Carriker,

I have recently corresponded via e-mail with **Frank Suggs** about Mill Creek Cemetery & Church in York Co., SC. He has told me that this church was included in session minutes for the Union Presbyterian Church on Union Road in Gastonia, NC. He said he had spoken with the former minister and that he mentioned the Mill Creek Presbyterian where included in these minutes. He also said that the Union Presbyterian was known as the Union Meetinghouse. Reason for the names was because the Baptists and Presbyterian used this building to have their services a "Union". Later the Baptists went their separate way and established the Sandy Plains Baptist Church. Presbyterians continued on at the same location.

The York Historical Society has that this Mill Creek Cemetery was a Baptist church cemetery. Many persons have quoted this information as being fact. I have questioned this information accuracy, since my correspondence with Mr. **Suggs**. Mr. **Suggs** mentioned I should speak with Mrs. **Wilma Craig** a member of Union Presbyterian. I spoke with her via telephone, she has that Mill Creek is known as a Baptist church (Rev. **Ratchford's** ministry life) and she has never seen anything saying it was a Presbyterian.

I contacted the Presbyterian Historical Society via e-mail and got my latest message today from **William Bynum** had this:

"I can document that there was a Mill Creek Independent Presbyterian Church in York District, S.C.: "At the same [August 1835] session of Convention, the Church of Mill Creek, York District, which had been organized in July previous, was acknowledged and admitted into membership in the body. Source: Constitution and Form of Government of the Independent Presbyterian Church (Columbia, 1839), p. 14. These Independent Presbyterians were a tiny denomination with about a dozen."

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Mr. **Bynum** gave me your name and address saying you might know more about the session minutes or church in general. Mr. **Suggs** confirmed that you were the man that he was referring to that knew about the session minutes. Can you help me in finding anymore proof that Mill Creek was Presbyterian and not Baptist to give to the York Historical Society and Mrs. **Craig**? I think this would help many researchers, especially **James Brian** descendants, like my husband. **James Brian** and wife Mary are buried in the Mill Creek Cemetery off of Union Road in York Co., SC. **James Brian's** daughter-in-law **Anney Bryant** is buried there also. The dirt road is now called Harper Davis Road.

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Martha M. Brian

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