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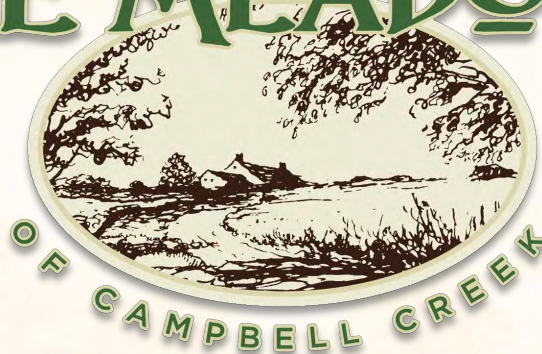
PROUDLY SERVING THE



CAROLINA FOOTHILLS



THE MEADOWS



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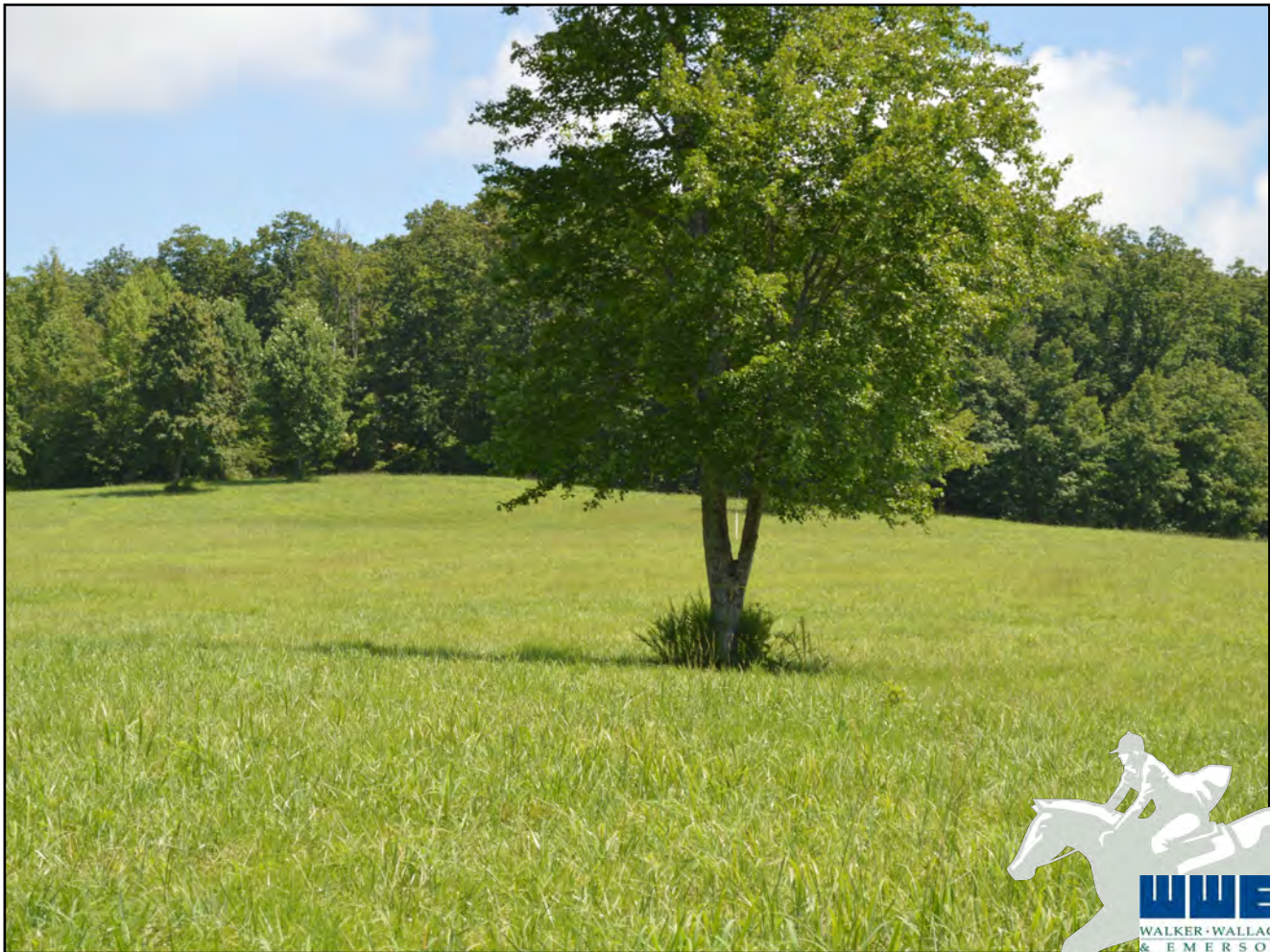
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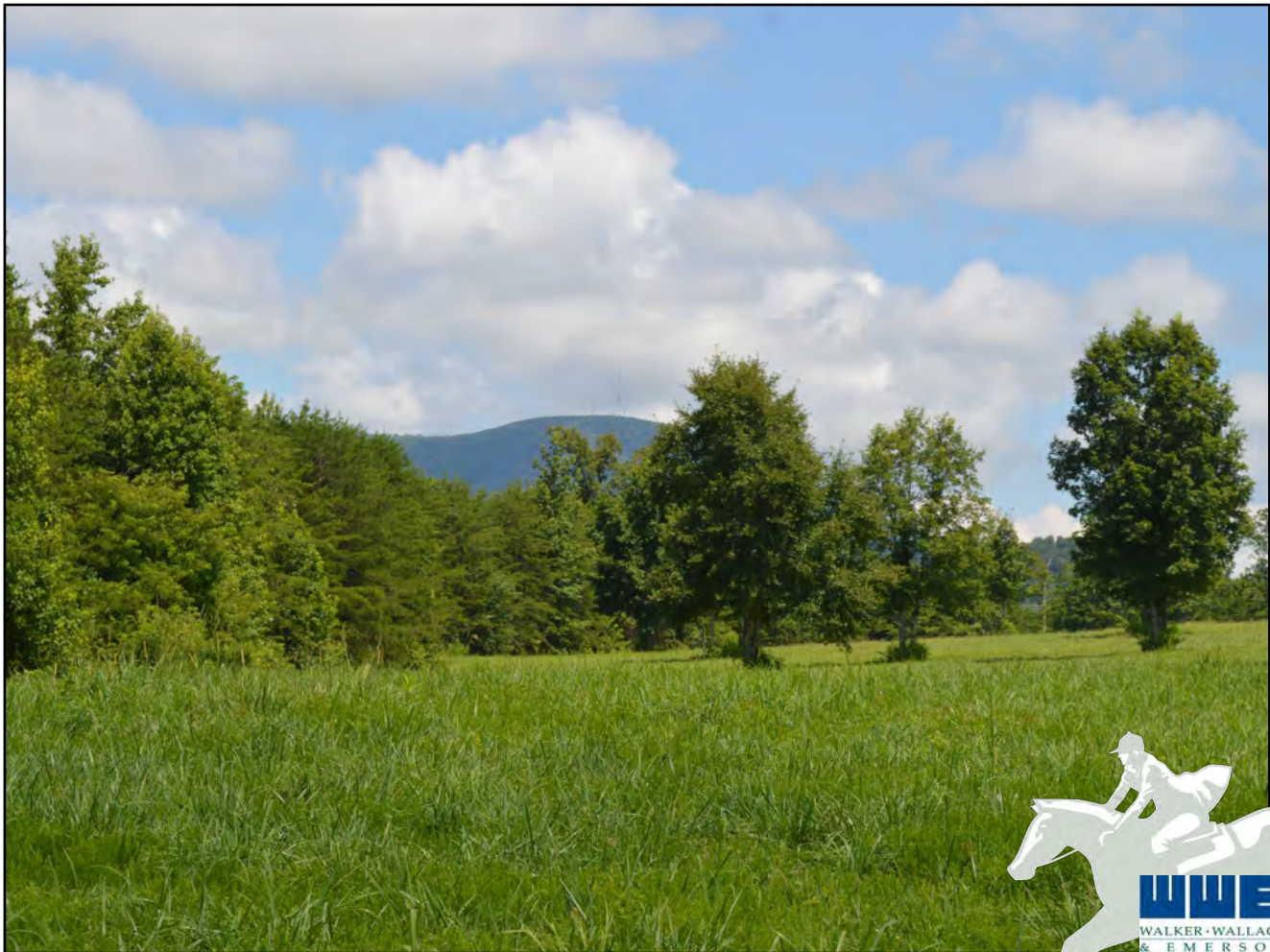














The Meadows of Campbell Creek

Landrum, South Carolina

The Meadows of Campbell Creek is nestled at the base of the southernmost edge of the Blue Ridge Mountains, in the western corner of the Carolina Foothills. Farms have dotted these scenic foothills for generations. The lands at the Meadows are defined by picturesque views of the surrounding mountains and rolling pastures, hardwood forests, creeks, trails for hiking or horse back riding and the remains of a quaint stone cottage.

Enjoy direct access to miles of trails on the “GENTS” trail system (*Gowensville Equestrian Neighborhood Trail System*) in Tryon Hounds hunt country. Protected by covenants and restrictions to insure value and lifestyle.

The Meadows is situated in the Thermal Belt of the Carolina Foothills, in the heart of the Gowensville, South Carolina horse country, just a few short miles to the communities of Tryon, North Carolina and Landrum, South Carolina. The region is home to hunter pace events, dressage and carriage clubs, fox hunting, horse shows, pony clubs and an annual steeplechase. Close proximity to the horse venues of Harmon Field, FENCE and the new Tryon International Equestrian Center. This is a one of a kind location on a quiet country lane yet convenient to Greenville/Spartanburg, South Carolina and Asheville/Hendersonville, North Carolina.



A HISTORY OF “DARK CORNER”

It is ironic that one of the most picturesque areas of South Carolina—the Appalachian hills of northeastern Greenville County—is referred to as the “Dark Corner.” How this name became synonymous with the scenic region has been the subject of numerous speculations (a political rally where a visiting speaker declared local, disagreeing folks were “in the dark,” moonshine making done in the dark of night, or shady virgin timbers making roadways dark even in daylight). In actuality, the Nullifiers dubbed the area the “Dark Corner” in 1832 when local voters gave 169 votes to the American Union and only one vote to Nullification. It was a corner, they said, where the light of Nullification could never shine.

Whatever its origin, for over 150 years “Dark Corner” denoted backwoods; rugged individuals suspicious of outsiders; whiskey makers and drinkers; hellraisers; and other “darker” descriptions, fed by a sensation-minded media. Positive features rarely saw print. In recent years, the greater truth about the area has been revealed and the Corner has gone from an elusive place, which was always “a little further up the road,” to a very exclusive place. Newcomers have discovered the wonderful sense of place that is such an integral part of living in the “Dark Corner” and have joined with the natives to preserve what is here, so that the natural ambiance of the area will be available to future generations.

- Dean Campbell

Native son, Dean Stuart Campbell, has been a leading proponent for preservation of “Dark Corner’s” past, present and future. For his earliest efforts, he was dubbed “The Squire of Dark Corner” by the late Jim McAllister, columnist for The Greenville News. He gives informal talks or lectures, screens a factually-accurate documentary and conducts tours of the area.



Dark Corner Day Trip

The Dark Corner of South Carolina has been shrouded in mystery for over 175 years. Loosely defined, it's the towns of Landrum, Gowensville, and Glassy Mountain that make up the Dark Corner. The area was named not from its reputation for moonshining as most people believe, but because in 1832 it was the only area that voted against the Nullification Act, which gave South Carolina the right to ignore federal mandates. A local politician said in one of his speeches that this was a dark corner where the light of Nullification could never shine. Thus the name the Dark Corner caught on.



Unfortunately, there are very few historical markers, monuments, and places to visit where you can really get a feel for the Dark Corner and what it's all about. According to Dean Campbell, aka the Squire of the Dark Corner, "We want people to discover the Dark Corner in a quiet way, for themselves," as opposed to being a major tourist attraction. Campbell is a Dark Corner native, a fantastic story-teller, and historian. But there are some places where you can still get a glimpse into the Dark Corner's storied past, so consider spending a day tracing through history.

[The Dark Corner Distillery](#) in downtown Greenville is a great place to begin your Dark Corner experience. Owners Joe Fenton (also a Dark Corner native) and Richard Wenger make moonshine “just like they did in the 1700s. We use a copper pot, quality local ingredients and no electronics,” says Fenton. But it’s not just about sampling the moonshine. They also have on display photos, artwork, and several 17th and 18th century antiques from the Dark Corner region.

Don’t imbibe too much, as you will continue your journey north to the town of Gowensville, the oldest settlement in the Dark Corner. Gowensville is named after John Gowen, who commanded a fort nearby and was instrumental in a skirmish that led to the nearby Battle of Cowpens in 1781. The First Baptist Church in Gowensville (formerly the Cross Roads Baptist Church) was established in 1820, and its cemetery contains several historical grave sites including grave sites of 7 of the 8 generations of Campbells.



Just off Highway 11, a stop at the [Poinsett Bridge](#) is a must. While it’s no longer used for vehicle traffic, the bridge was part of a main route from Columbia, South Carolina to Asheville, North Carolina. The bridge was built in 1820 using no mortar, only fitted stones,



and it features a 14-foot-high Gothic arch. It is the oldest standing bridge in South Carolina and is named after Joel R. Poinsett, who was director of the South Carolina Board of Public Works during the designing of the bridge. Local tales of the bridge being haunted are plentiful. Some say the bridge is haunted by a slave who was hanged while the bridge was being built, while others say the bridge was built on Indian land and that the tribe haunts the area. There have been reports of strange lights, voices, and apparitions, mostly occurring late at night.

Another stop is in Landrum at [Campbell's Covered Bridge](#). This bridge was built in 1909 and is the last surviving covered bridge in South Carolina. It's believed that the bridge is named after Lafayette Campbell, who at the time owned 194 acres in the immediate area. The 38-foot-long, 12-foot-wide pine structure that spans Beaverdam Creek was built by Charles Irwin Willis.

To truly experience the Dark Corner, nothing beats a [tour given by the Squire himself](#). Dean was dubbed the Squire of the Dark Corner in 1977 by a Greenville News Reporter for his vast knowledge of the area. He conducts personal and group tours of the area, and not only does he provide a detailed history while on his tour, but he's got access to private property so you can get a glimpse into even more history of the Dark Corner.

The Cherokee Foothills Scenic Highway bisects the Dark Corner for about ten miles. Another [Upstate Information Hub article](#) featured some of the many attractions along Highway 11. Consider combining the two driving tours for a truly memorable experience.

Sherry Jackson is a freelance writer, editor and entrepreneur. Her articles have been featured in InfoWorld Magazine, [Entrepreneur.com](#), USA Today, Blue Ridge Country, [Jetsetter](#), Bootsncall, Gadling, Yahoo, [See the South](#), Beckett Media, The Simpsonville Sentinel and many other print and online publications. For clips and examples of her work, please visit her website at www.dragonflyventures.com.



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