

A hand-tinted map from 1584 drawn by the royal cosmographer to Phillip II of Spain depicts the Cape Fear River under its earliest name, 'Rio Jordan.'

1730s

Scottish Highlanders began to settle the area. The first apparent influx of Scots to the Upper Cape Fear. In 1739, a large group of Argyll immigrants sailed from Scotland on a ship called the Thistle

1750s

Small settlement known as Cross Creek, just over a mile from the Cape Fear River was beginning to thrive with an early saw mill, tanyard, grist mill, blacksmith, and taverns.

1760

A committee forms to charter an official town along the Upper Cape Fear. The settlements of Cross Creek and Rockfish Creek are rejected.

1762

Campbellton, a 100-acre official riverside town on the west bank of the Cape Fear River established by colonial assembly. The public square was located at the intersection of present-day Broad and Russell.



1783

General assembly passed an act changing the name of Upper and Lower Campbellton to Fayetteville

1818

The Henrietta, the first steamboat to ply the Cape Fear River between Fayetteville & Wilmington is launched. Henrietta is named for the daughter of the boat's owner/builder, James Seawell.



1819

The Clarendon Bridge was built across the Cape Fear River.

1893 & 1917

The Cape Fear River froze solid stopping river traffic



1908

Fayetteville experiences one of its worst floods when water spilled over the banks of the Cape Fear River.

1909

Second Clarendon Bridge burned, Third bridge built.



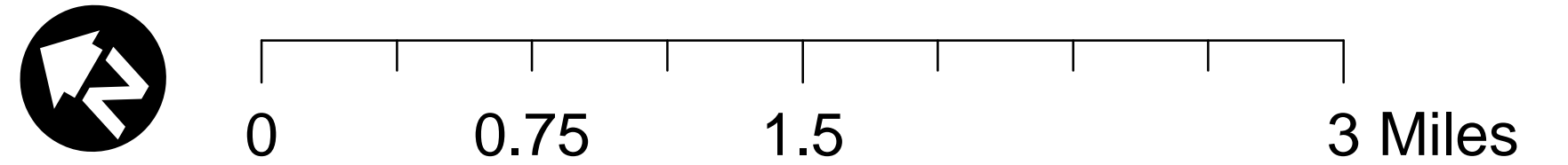
Highest flood in memory

1945

1974

Jordan Dam built reducing flooding

KEY Cape Fear River



CAPE FEAR RIVER PLAN

TIMELINE

CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING