

Bucklesberry, Back in the Day

Death Diseases (Part 2)

Grain mills began extracting naturally-occurring vitamins from flour in the late-1800s through degerming. Although processed flour allowed bread to stay fresh longer, people were unintentionally robbed of needed nutrients.

Combined with increased smoking and changes in diet that led to higher cholesterol, heart disease rose to epidemic levels beginning in the early-1900s. It has remained the leading killer for more than a century.

Folks in rural areas have not escaped this dreadful disease. The previous Part 1 article discussed death certificates of seven Bucklesberry women, all born in the 1800s and died in the early-1900s. Four died from heart disease.

The numbers are just as bleak for men. Death certificates of eight male residents from Bucklesberry during this same time period documented heart disease for six. Summaries of these death certificates follow:

Andrew Jackson Sutton (1859–1919). Age at death, 59. Death date, May 27, 1919. Place of death, Kinston. Informant, Horace Sutton, son. Cause of death, IDC code 108 Appendicitis. Physician's diagnosis, "Suppurative appendicitis." Duration of disease, 5 days. Operation preceded death. Physician's name illegible.

John A. Sutton (1840–1915). Age at death, 75. Death date, September 6, 1915. Place of death, Bucklesberry. Informant, Lindsey Sutton, son. Cause of death, IDC code 79 Valvular disease. Physician's diagnosis, "Valvular heart disease." Physician, Dr. J. W. P. Smithwick, MD, La Grange. No other significant information noted.

Joshua Nunn Sutton (1857–1941). Age at death, 83. Death date, May 14, 1941. Place of death, Bucklesberry. Informant, Preston Nunn Sutton, son. Cause of death, IDC code (none provided). Physician's diagnosis, "Coronary occlusion due to coronary disease." Physician, Dr. M. L. Carr, MD, La Grange. No other significant information noted. (Note: A death age of 86 was mistakenly recorded.)

Julius Eri Sutton (1847–1925). Age at death, 77. Death date, January 17, 1925. Place of death, Bucklesberry. Informant, Thomas Needham Sutton, son. Cause of death, IDC code 128 Acute nephritis. Physician's diagnosis, "Acute Bright's disease." Physician, Dr. L. C. Adams, MD, La Grange. No other significant information noted.

Kirby Edward Sutton (1866–1930). Age at death, 63. Death date, January 22, 1930. Place of death, La Grange. Informant, Finley Parrott Sutton, nephew. Cause of death, IDC code 97 Arteriosclerosis. Physician's diagnosis, "Arteriosclerosis." Duration of disease, 3 years 7 days. Disease contracted at place of death. Test confirming diagnosis, physical exam. Physician, Dr. M. L. Carr, MD, La Grange.

Lemuel Hardy Sutton (1835–1923). Age at death, 88. Death date, December 6, 1923. Place of death, Crawford Township, Currituck County, NC. Informant, Hughie Sutton, son. Cause of death, IDC code 129 Chronic nephritis. Physician's diagnosis, "Heart failure." Duration of disease, 3 months. Contributing secondary condition, "Nephritis." Duration of disease, 3 years. Test confirming diagnosis, examination. Physician, Dr. J. W. Mewborn, MD, Jarvisburg, NC.

William Harmon Sutton, Jr. (1862–1926). Age at death, 63. Death date, January 3, 1926. Place of death, Kinston. Informant, Cap Sutton (unknown relationship). Cause of death, IDC code 90 Heart disease. Physician's diagnosis, "Arteriosclerosis with myocardial degeneration." Duration of disease, several years. Contributory secondary condition, "Hypertension." Duration of disease, several years. Disease contracted at place of death. Test confirming diagnosis, clinical. Physician, Dr. Clifton F. West, MD, Kinston.

William (Billy) M. Sutton (1847–1926). Age at death, 79. Death date, May 19, 1926. Place of death, Bucklesberry. Informant, Wesley Bryan Sutton, son. Cause of death, IDC code 91 Arteriosclerosis. Physician's diagnosis, "Arteriosclerosis." Disease contracted at place of death. Test confirming diagnosis, physical exam. Physician, Dr. M. L. Carr, MD, La Grange.