

Shadow Of Death Lingers At Castle

By CAROL WONSAVAGE
DTH Staff Writer

In the woods of Piney Prospect looms a great English castle complete with tower and battlements. It is Gimghoul Castle, home of the secret society, Order of the Gimghouls. The history of the castle is confused in mystery and tinged with violence.

The castle's myth is based on the alleged murder of Peter Dromgoole, a young Virginian enrolled in the University in 1831. According to legend he was reckless and unsteady. One day after an argument with a professor he disappeared, never to be heard of again. Legend says he was killed in a duel and is buried under a rock at Piney Prospect.



One version of the legend, taken from John Harden's *The Devil's Tramping Ground*, says Peter fell in love with a girl named Fanny. They would meet among the trees of Piney Prospect as many couples did. Another suitor appeared, but Fanny remained true to Peter. The rejected suitor, extremely jealous, challenged Peter to a duel.

They met in the woods at Piney Prospect. Peter was killed and friends buried him under a rounded rock near the scene. Fanny, knowing nothing of the event, waited in vain at their regular meeting place. She continued to visit there until she grew old and died of a broken heart.

Another version says that Fanny heard of the duel and rushed to stop it. She arrived just as Peter fell dead. She soon followed him and was buried also beneath the rock. There is a large red-streaked boulder near the entrance of the castle which is said to be Peter's marker, still tainted with his blood. Geologists say the rust color is due to make-up of the rock.

Another version says that the quick-tempered Dromgoole challenged one of his professors to a duel after an argument and was killed.

Dr. Kemp Battle in his book, *History of the University of North Carolina*, believes Peter was ashamed to go home and went west, where he was later killed in a brawl.

Bruce Cotton, authority on Dromgoole genealogy, reports Peter was seen in Wilmington in 1833 and probably enlisted in the army under another name. The two sources of the legend, though, are a friend of Peter's, present at the duel, who broke his oath of secrecy, and a slave who overheard the argument and challenge made between the two lovers.

Regardless of what did occur, the facts are that Peter did attend the University and vanished mysteriously in the 1830's.

The Order of Gimghouls was founded in 1899 by Wray Martin, Robert Bingham (former ambassador to the court of St. James), W. W. Davies, Shephard Bryam, and H. H. Patterson, a former professor of physics here. They based the organization on the legend

and the ideal of knighthood and chivalry. The organization is considered an honorary one, but the only requirement for membership is enrollment in Carolina as faculty or student. There are several professors in the society, although it is predominately students above the freshman level.

No one knows who the members are until a list of names comes out in the yearbook. Since it is social, there are frequent parties at the castle, but dates are sworn to secrecy. The society also works on service and fund-raising projects.

The original home of the Gimghouls was a hunting lodge, but plans for the castle were drawn by N. C. Curtis, architect and alumnus of the order. Construction was begun in 1925 and completed in 1926. The castle was built by Waldesian masons of native stone, imitative of the design used by the Anglo-Saxons up until the 11th century. The windows and doors are of wrought-iron grillwork. It's first name was Hippol Castle.

The Castle consists of a huge hall with rough stone walls, a stair tower, and larger 3 story tower which includes a reception room, upper-tower room, chapter room for Order meetings and deck. At the side is a long terrace, and doors lead from the Great Hall to a piazza.

In the main hall are wheel-like chandeliers of wrought-iron, and suspended from the walls are several animal heads. At the back is a mezzanine modeled after the minstrel's gallery of Anglo-Saxon times.

Near the castle is a semi-circular rock seat erected in honor of former UNC president Dr. Kemp Battle. It is made from a rock pile started by Dr. Battle on walks in Piney Prospect. He requested every person walking up the hill to add a rock to the pile, and a large cairn soon developed. The seat was erected about the same time as the castle.

The Dromgoole legend may or may not be true, but whatever the case, the castle guards the mystery in the forest.



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A "SLEEPER" HAS ARRIVED IN CHAPEL HILL

Yes, "The Wrong Box" was not supposed to be a BIG picture, but overnight, it turned out to be one of the year's big Attractions, playing to tremendous crowds across the nation. The Reason? . . . People like to laugh and "The Wrong Box" is a laugh a minute picture, it's wild! Peter Sellers and Michael ("Ipcress File") Caine are simply hilarious and you'll fall in love with lovely newcomer Nanette Newman (WOW!) P.S. It's funnier than "Pink Panther" and "Shot in the Dark".

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Campus Calendar

TODAY

A square dance at the Presbyterian Student Center will be held tonight at 8. Tom Miller will be the caller.

The Baptist Student Union will have its regular supper-study meeting at 5:45 p.m. The program will concern the L-I-S-T-E-N project in Durham this past summer. "Geography in Poland" will be discussed by Professor Ludwig Straszewicz, Chairman of Economic Geography at the University of Lodz at 4 p.m. in room 110 New East. Open to the public.

The Gallery Coffee Shop is open weekly in the Wesley Foundation on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 8 p.m. to midnight.

On Wednesdays short films on art, comedies and the like are shown at 9 and 11 p.m.

The New York Times City Edition may be purchased every weekday during the academic year at the following places: Lenoir Hall, Y-Court, Fowler's Food Store and the Out - Patient Clinic of Memorial Hospital. The papers usually arrive between noon and 1 p.m.

All University Party membership fees should be placed in envelopes and turned in to the UP box at GM Information Desk between noon Friday and 6 p.m. Saturday. Membership rolls should accompany the envelopes.

Company Interviews

The following companies will recruit on campus during the week of October 17-21:

Monday, October 17 - American Oil Co.; Ethyl Corp. (summer jobs also); Mead Johnson; Shell Development Co. (summer jobs also); Springs Mills, Inc.

Tuesday, October 18 - National Institutes of Health; Springs Mills, Inc.; J. C. Penney Co.; Dow Chemical Co. (summer jobs also); Roerig Div. of Chas. Pfizer & Co.

Wednesday, October 19 - Dow Chemical Co.; Koppers Company; Sears, Roebuck & Co.; E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. (summer jobs also)

Thursday, October 20 - Anacoda Wire & Cable Co.; Sears, Roebuck & Co.; Interstate Commerce Commission; Mason & Co.; E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.; Pan American Petroleum Corp.

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GOP Cites Survey Republican Breakthrough Predicted For Elections

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Chairman of the Republican National Committee disclosed yesterday results of a nationwide survey which he said offers Republicans a chance for a breakthrough in next month's elections.

Ray C. Bliss, the chairman, said the September sampling by Opinion Research Corp., Princeton, N. J., shows President Johnson's popularity dropped from 84 to 45 per cent from December, 1964, to last month.

Speaking at a GOP fund-raising luncheon here, Bliss said he thought 1,000 to 1,500 persons had been interviewed in the poll.

Using the sampling as a guide, he expressed confidence the Republicans would keep the Pennsylvania governorship.

"I believe we'll win Pennsylvania by drive and on the fine record of the Scranton-Shafer administration," he said.

Lt. Gov. Ray Shafer is the party's candidate to succeed Gov. William W. Scranton, who under the law can't succeed himself.

Milton Shapp, Philadelphia industrialist, is the Democratic candidate.

Bliss tossed a word of caution into all his optimism, however, asserting:

"Remember this about politics. Even three weeks is a long time to an election. Any set of the President or others can change the picture."

Bliss' survey, shown with slides and graphs, purported President Johnson's popularity dropping among various groups, including union families and Negroes, and on various issues such as government spending, rising prices and Viet Nam.

He observed that "Citizens are citizens and have the same broad general interests regardless of groups."

He said the GOP chairman declined to discuss election issues with the press.

HARLINGEN, Tex. (UPI) — This city has a hometown booster in South Viet Nam.

Pfc. Ricardo Cabrera recently wrote the Chamber of Commerce a "thank you" note for maps and travel brochures they had sent him in East Asia.

"I'm sorry I hadn't written sooner to thank you all, but we've been kind of busy," he apologized in his letter.

He said he had shown the Rio Grande Valley, Tex., travel literature to his buddies and told them what a great place the Valley was.

He suggested they come to the Valley "if they ever decided to go somewhere for a vacation."

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