

# Hillsborough

By ED WILLIAMS

Take a short drive from Chapel Hill and immerse yourself in North Carolina history.

Hillsborough can be reached by driving north on Highway 86 or if you want a more picturesque view, ride a bike along Old Highway 86. Either way, Hillsborough is only 11 miles away and well worth the trip.

Hillsborough has managed to retain some of its past. Various historical landmarks and old structures line the town's checkerboard of streets. A few examples would be the house of William Hooper, one of three North Carolinians who signed the Declaration of Independence. Even the town's most notable restaurant, the Colonial Inn, built in 1759, contributes to the town's history as a whole.

While there are no guided tours of the town, you can start at the Orange County Historical Museum on Churton and King streets and pick up a brochure that will enable you to conduct your own guided

## Just minutes away— charms of yesteryear

tour.

The brochure, entitled simply "Historic Hillsborough," costs a quarter. It contains a map of the town with historic sites and houses numbered so that they can be found easily.

History is one subject that will never end, and it is fascinating to think that so many historical moments could have occurred in such a small area.

In 1754, Williams Churton was granted 400 acres from John Earl Granville, and he began laying out a basic format of the town. The town boundaries still stand exactly as Churton laid them out 225 years ago.

The town was first called "Orange" and has had numerous names since—"Corbin Town," "Corbinton," and "Childsburg." The town was named "Hillsborough" in 1766 for Wills Hill, Earl of Hillsborough and Secretary of State for the colonies from 1768-1772 under George III.

With time, the spelling of the town's name changed to "Hillsboro" until an Act of the General Assembly

of North Carolina in 1965 reinstated the original spelling.

Hillsborough is perhaps best known as the site of the Regulator uprising in 1768 which ended with the hanging of six Regulators in 1771. In a pamphlet called "Hillsborough and the Regulators," Annie S. Cameron described the Regulators as, "the men who took the lead in opposing the ruling class and in trying to change what they felt were wrong and unfair practices...because they were trying to 'regulate' or change existing fees and circumstances."

Cameron explains how some people "firmly regard the Battle of Alamance which the Regulators started as being the first battle of the American Revolution..." although she later admits that this view cannot be supported "for the simple reason that the Regulators were not fighting against their king..."

The North Carolina Department of Archives and History has a prepared statement in the Alamance Museum that reads: "Their (the Regulators') boldness in taking up arms against royal authority contributed, by example, to the later clash which resulted in American independence."

Perhaps Cameron best sums up the battle and its

effects by writing: "This was a black period in the history of the Town of Hillsborough, but it served a significant purpose in the history of freedom for justice-seeking people in the New World, two hundred years ago."

Just east of Hillsborough, a spot is marked off to commemorate the Regulators who were hanged in that area.

The National Park Service in the U.S. Department of the Interior has named more than 12 structures in Hillsborough to the National Register of Historic Buildings.

One of these is the "old" Orange County Courthouse, built in 1844 by John Berry. This is the gathering place for many visitors because the Historical Museum is on the second floor.

Mrs. Sadie Strayhorn, curator of the museum, said, "Where we get a lot of visitors, don't you know, is from parents of the Carolina and Duke students." But the visitors are not just area-based.

"Somebody's been here from Alaska this year," Mrs. Strayhorn said, "and people from 19 countries came here in 1978."

A flip through the register that the museum keeps of its visitors shows that people have come from

such places as New Zealand, the Netherlands, Ireland and England to see the relics that the museum contains.

The museum is actually an old courtroom. The rows of benches are the same ones used during the Revolutionary War period, according to Strayhorn. A mural painting lines the back wall depicting three outstanding periods in the early days of Orange County—the colonial and Regulator era; the Revolutionary period; and the refusal at Hillsborough of North Carolina's constitutional convention to ratify the proposed Constitution without the Bill of Rights, according to a museum handout.

The museum is open daily from 1:30-4:30 p.m. except Mondays and admission is free.

The old courthouse contains what is perhaps the most memorable relic in Hillsborough, the old town clock. Allen A. Lloyd, a pharmacist in James Drugstore since 1937, maintains the clock.

"The clock was made in England in 1766 during the King George era," he said, stepping out from behind a counter.

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# The Triangle

## Travel short distance to explore N.C. past

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flavor and nearly all of its historic homes. A walking-tour brochure of the neighborhood is available at the visitor center.

A few blocks down Blount Street, turn right to find the N.C. Museum of Art. The permanent collection consists of paintings, sculptures, prints, drawings and decorative arts from all periods, as well as timely temporary exhibits.

A special gallery of art for people who can't see is a unique feature of the N.C. Museum of Art—the Mary Duke Biddle Gallery for the blind, where all works may be handled.

Rounding out your tour of Raleigh, be sure not to miss the traditional Capitol tour sites such as the State Capitol building and its monument-dotted grounds where you can buy peanuts and feed the innumerable pigeons; the State Legislative building, designed in the 1960s by Edward Durrell Stone, who later designed the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.; and the State Museums of History and Natural History. All are within walking distance of the visitor center.

### Durham

Yes, there is more to Durham than Duke—speaking of which, you should see the rival campus if you haven't already.

Duke's West Campus is unique in the South for its Gothic architecture, complete with arches, stones and ivy. The cathedral-like Duke Chapel is breathtaking; regular services are held at 11 a.m. on Sundays.

The Duke Homestead, birthplace of a family of tobacco magnates, is located north of Interstate 85 off of

Guess Road in Durham. The grounds and furnished home are open to the public free of charge every day but Monday.

Bennett place, a few miles from the Duke Homestead on Hillsborough Road, was the site of the last major Confederate surrender of the Civil War. Preserved as a state historic site, the house remains as it was when Confederate Gen. Joseph Johnston surrendered to Sherman on April 26, 1865.

### Other Day Trips

**Seagrove:** Located south of Chapel Hill on Highway 220, Seagrove is the home of 13 family-operated pottery shops and the Seagrove Potters Museum. After as many as eight generations, the Seagrove potters continue their work in a rural setting with primitive equipment.

Visitors may watch as each pot, mug or plate is fashioned individually, and wares are for sale at each shop. Most shops are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Sunday. Seagrove is a good sidetrip on your way to or from the state zoo in Asheboro.

**Winston-Salem:** Though it's a little farther down the road, there are things to see in Winston-Salem. Old Salem, a restored 18th-century Moravian village, is open daily with shops, a bakery famous for moravian cookies and sugar cake and informative tours. Old Salem has its own exit off of I-40 West.

The Jos. Schlitz Brewery is another of Winston Salem's attractions, located five miles south of I-40 on Highway 52. Free guided tours and, yes, free refreshments are available. Reservations are required for groups of 15 or more.

# Picnics

## A jug of wine, a loaf of bread and thou

By SARI HARRAR and LINDA SMITH

Before heading out for a day of picnicking leisure, remember that there are viable alternatives to the hot dog, hamburger, baked bean routine. Local restaurants and grocery stores told us they will be more than happy to solve your picnic dilemma.

Bill's Bar-b-que on N. Graham St. in Carrboro opens at 6:30 a.m. Monday-Saturday and could be the solution to early-morning picnic needs. A barbecue platter with potato salad, cole slaw, and a choice of rolls or hush puppies is \$3.25. The fried chicken platter, with three pieces and salad, is \$3.15. Bill's makes fresh lemonade daily and has a variety of cakes and pies to take along for dessert.

Blimpie's, located at their new base on Franklin Street, can also supply a quick and reasonable picnic meal.

Their regular three-ounce subs cost from \$1.20-\$1.95, and their giant subs are twice the price of a regular. Potato, macaroni and tossed salads are 50 cents per serving, and potato chips are available by the bag.

For special occasions, Blimpie's will prepare 6-foot-long submarine sandwiches. Open at 11 a.m. Monday-Saturday and at 11:30 on Sundays, they will accept checks. For large orders, call 30 minutes in advance.

With 24 hours notice, Bill Neal of La Residence can put together a sumptuous meal that can include wine, pate, bread, cheese, fruit and salads—like celery root salad or cold scallops and capers salad.

The cost? "That would depend on the type of wine," said Neal. "It would also depend on the market cost of the ingredients. It would

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# Plan a day in the sun

## Everything you need to know about parks— getting there, places to swim and picnic

By CHRIS BURRITT

Looking for an exciting weekend, huh? And you have neither the tolerance for another 48 hours of television nor the gas for a trip to the beach?

Well, you need sink no further into boredom. In the Chapel Hill vicinity a wide variety of recreation opportunities awaits the pleasure-seeker.

If you're interested in a one-day outing with family or friends, take a look at the following list:

**Forest Theater**, located on Country Club Road across from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, is a good place for a picnic. The theater has picnic tables, charcoal grills and an open play area.

Chapel Hill operates several parks. **Umstead Park** has a picnic shelter, a basketball court, a tennis court and an open play area. Directions: Follow Airport Road until you near the bottom of the hill. Take a left at Umstead Drive. The park is on the left about one mile down the road.

Another town recreation area is **Jones Park**, located on Purefoy Drive. It is the site of a large natural play structure which is fun for both children and adults. Directions: Follow South Columbia Street past Manning Drive. Before you reach the Highway 54 bypass, you will come to an Exxon station on the left. The immediate left past the station is Purefoy Drive.

Have you ever wished to swing like a monkey on a rope and drop into a lake? If you have, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA has the perfect place for you at **Clearwater Lake**. It also has areas for swimming, picnicking and fishing. It is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. The park-use fee is \$1 for non-YMCA members. Directions: Follow South Columbia Street across the Highway 54 bypass to the blinking traffic light. Take a left and follow Farrington Road for two miles to state

Road 1918 on the left. The lake entrance is less than one mile down the road.

Farther away, you can canoe, fish, picnic and hike at the scenic **Eno River State Park** in Durham County. Directions: Follow the Highway 15-501 bypass to the Hillsborough Road exit. Take a left across the overpass to Cole Mill Road. Take a right and follow the road until you come to the Eno River. A picnic area is beside the river. The park entrance is about two miles past the bridge.

**Lake Michie**, also in Durham County, is a 500-acre lake surrounded by 300 acres of woodland. The park has shelters with grills, a camping area without water or electricity, hiking trails, fishing and row-boating. Directions: Take Chapel Hill-Durham Boulevard through Durham to the Highway 501 exit. Follow U.S. 501 10 miles and turn right at the park sign.

**Duke Forest**, part of the School of Forestry and Biological Sciences at Duke University, offers several trails through beautiful tree and shrub gardens. There are four picnic sites but no running water or bathroom facilities. Directions: Go to Room 216 in the biological sciences building at Duke University between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to check out a key to the gates at the forest. A refundable \$1 deposit is required for use of the key. Pick up a brochure explaining the area in detail.

**Duke Garden**, also owned by Duke University, is a public garden with about 1,000 species of flowers and plants. It is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. Directions: Take Chapel Hill-Durham Boulevard to Highway 751. Bear to the right onto Academy Drive. You will cross back over Chapel Hill-Durham Boulevard. Take a right on Duke University Street and follow it to Anderson Street. Turn left and you will see the entrance to the gardens on

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# Tar Heel

## Day Trips

# Outdoor drama

By MELANIE MODLIN

Outdoor drama is booming. And North Carolina, with 11 of the nation's 57 productions, is leading the pack.

It is here that Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Green's *The Lost Colony* opened in 1937, blending music, dance, mime and poetic imagery to dramatize history. Since that time outdoor drama has spread across the Tar Heel state, from Manteo to Cherokee, and across the nation, from St. Augustine, Florida, to Kodiak, Alaska.

Outdoor theater is an excellent vacation idea, as Marie Maddox of the Institute of Outdoor Drama at UNC explains.

"We attract a different kind of audience than Broadway shows, obviously, because we have different things to offer. "Top-price tickets are only five or six dollars, which immediately distinguishes us from New York," she said.

"We also attract people who like history—there's something very exciting about sitting in a theater near the spot where the events in the play took place."

Just being outside on a warm summer evening is an appealing thought for many. Also, without the confines of a bona fide theater, players are able to light fires, shoot arrows

## From Manteo to Cherokee, plays recount early events

skyward, and achieve other effects that are not possible on Broadway.

Last summer 250,000 people bought tickets to see North Carolina outdoor dramas. Individual plots vary, but all tell of the struggles of heroes, many already famous, like Daniel Boone, Blackbeard and Sir Walter Raleigh, who are engaged in high adventure, mystery, comedy, romance and war.

The outdoor drama closest to Chapel Hill is *The Sword of Peace*, about 30 minutes west in Snow Camp.

Other productions, while a bit further out, could easily be seen en route to the shore or the mountains.

The following capsulized descriptions should prove helpful to patrons of outdoor drama interested in revisiting their favorites and to newcomers to this form of theater. (More detailed brochures on each drama, with maps, are available at no cost on the second floor of Graham Memorial Hall.)

• *The Sword of Peace*, by UNC Professor William M. Hardy, is set in a wooded amphitheater in the quiet Quaker community of Snow Camp, near Burlington. The plot concerns the devout Quaker, Simon Dixon, who, with others of his faith, stood for peaceful resistance to war during the American Revolution.

