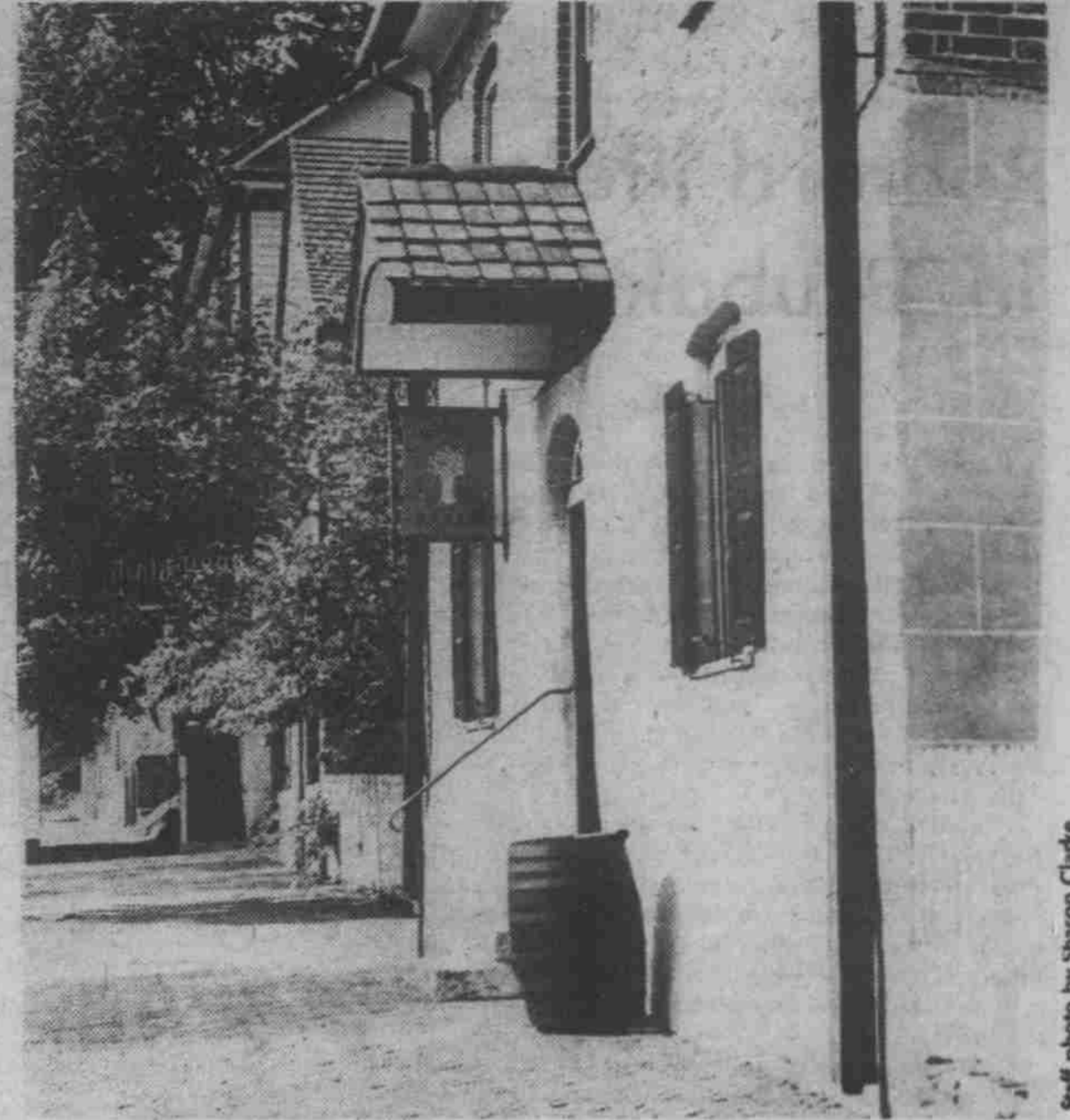


Staff photo by Sharon Clarke



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The Bennehan House far left, completed in 1799, serves as headquarters for Stagville Preservation Center ... Duke Gardens, left, offer visitors a pleasant afternoon ... Single Brothers House, above, in Old Salem was home for apprentices ... Winkler Bakery, right, still famous for Moravian sugar cake and cookies.

Day trips abound within short distance of town

Duke Forest

By Martha Johnsen

Even in the summer, Chapel Hill can be too bustling. There are moments when you want to get away from the classes, the construction and the traffic of this growing college town.

What you may not realize is that Duke University has preserved 8,500 acres of trees, creeks and bluffs in Orange and neighboring counties for public use. Duke Forest, as the five separate tracts of land are called, is an undisturbed haven for those yearning to get out of town.

There are miles of wide, well-cleared trails for jogging, hiking and nature watching. No cars or motorbikes are allowed on the trails, though it is not unusual for a pair of horses to go trotting by.

"We don't advertise for recreational purposes because we don't want the forest disturbed by huge hordes of people," says Mary Matthews, public relations specialist for the Duke School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

"We are a private forest but we are available for public use," she says. "It's a pretty place to go any time of the year for people who like to walk and enjoy the out-of-doors without disturbing it."

Chapel Hillians are fortunate enough to have the Korstian division, a major portion of Duke Forest, almost on their doorstep. Four miles from the corner of Franklin Street and Airport Road is Riggsbee Road, the right turn just past McDuffie Memorial Baptist Church.

Driving or biking along this quiet country road, you will find several trail entrances to Duke Forest on your left. They are marked with numbered green gateposts, closed with an iron chain barring vehicles. There the shoulder is wide enough to park your car.

Each of the trails offers its own distinct features. For example, Gate 26, about three miles down Riggsbee Road, has a trail which leads to rhododendron-covered bluffs overlooking the New Hope Creek.

Trail 26 is one of the Forest's shorter ones, winding through the forest to the creek. As you walk, the noise of civilization grows faint behind you. All you can hear is the resonant rushing of the creek, the buzzing of bees and a chorus of woodland birds.

A free brochure which describes the flora and provides directions to and descriptions of the numerous other trails is available from the Duke Forest Administration office. Designated picnic sites may also be reserved through this office. To do so, call 684-2421.

State zoo

By Sarah West

Africa is generally thought to be located somewhere under Europe. It may be. But Africa can also be found at the N.C. Zoological Park near Asheboro.

Last Saturday, the park celebrated the grand opening of Africa, the first zoogeographic area established there. A zoogeographic area is an area designed to resemble the natural environment of a specific area, which in this case is Africa.

"The animals are placed in natural habitats," said public affairs officer Marcia Constantino. "They are not in cages; instead, they are contained within the exhibit areas by moats."

Six natural habitats have been completed. Visitors to the zoo can see lions, chimpanzees, elephants, rhinoceroses, and other African animal species roaming free in areas comparable to their native homes.

"The exhibit areas are spacious. The elephants and rhinoceros habitats are each three acres," Constantino said.

"The location of each habitat fits well into a terrain natural to the animals," she continued. "For example, the elephants and rhinos have been placed in a natural plains area."

The chimpanzee habitat provides the chimps with rocks, trees and vines for climbing and a stream for drinking and playing. Visitor walkways throughout Africa enable zoo guests to view the animals from within the landscape.

Site preparation and construction for Africa began in 1976, and further construction in the area is funded through 1983. Future additions to Africa include a free-flight aviary enclosed by a transparent dome and a 40,000 square-foot climate controlled building for mammals, birds and reptiles with special temperature and humidity needs.

When Africa is complete, construction on North America will begin, Constantino said.

"We are building the zoo according to continents," she said. "Africa was selected first because when most people

think of zoo animals, they think of lions, giraffes, elephants—animals which are native to Africa.

"Then too, it is becoming more difficult to obtain certain species because many of them are losing their natural habitats in Africa."

Constantino estimated that it would be 15-20 years before the zoo was complete.

"It's the type of zoo where visitors will see something different every time they come back," she said. "When it's completed, it will be like Disney World—you won't be able to see it all in one day."

The North Carolina Zoological Park, because of its size, is virtually the only zoo of its kind. It will eventually encompass almost 1,400 acres and is surpassed in size only by a wild animal park near San Diego, Calif.

"Other major zoos, such as the ones in Washington and St. Louis, are contained on less than 100 acres," Constantino said. "They are simply more concentrated."

Whereas the North Carolina park had the raw land to deal with, she said, the older zoos started out with the animals in cages and then had to design natural habitats within their limited space.

The North Carolina park is also unique because it is one of only two state-supported zoos in the United States. Authorized by the N.C. Legislature in 1969, the Interim Zoo opened to its first visitors in late summer 1974. This section was designed to be used as a holding area for animals until the natural habitat environments were built.

The interim facility now will become an Education Center, primarily for use by visiting school groups. The center will include a contact area where visitors can touch a variety of exotic and domestic animals.

Funding for the park comes from a variety of sources. Funds for capital improvements are provided by the legislature and by the N.C. Zoological Society, a non-profit organization which supports the zoo.

The zoo is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. weekends and holidays.

Old Salem

By Amy Sharpe

Seventy-five miles isn't very far to go 200 years back into history.

Old Salem is a restored 18th century Moravian community only a few minutes from the heart of the business district in Winston-Salem. Hosts and hostesses, dressed in costumes of the period, direct 120,000 tourists through the restored buildings each year, making Salem a prominent historical attraction.

Salem was founded in 1766 by the Moravian church. A planned community, Salem was operated as a congregational town in which the economic and the spiritual affairs of all residents were directed by the church. The congregation was divided into choirs according to age, sex and marital status.

Skilled work, frequent worship services and music contributed to the daily lives of the early Moravians, and Salem became known as an industrial and educational center.

In the mid-1800s Salem was no longer functioning merely as a congregational town. Winston was established to the north of Salem and most of the activity that had been in Salem shifted there.

Restoration began in 1950 when area citizens organized Old Salem Inc., a non-profit corporation to preserve and restore the Moravian village, which had been deteriorating gradually as Winston-Salem grew.

The work of Old Salem Inc. resulted in an atmosphere and appearance of Salem as it was 200 years ago.

Since the restoration began, 111 buildings have been acquired, 100 structures have been demolished, and 60 buildings have been restored. Most of the buildings were leased from the Moravian church.

Most of the utility wires that once cluttered the area are underground, and street signs and lamp posts now conform to the original style. Through traffic has been diverted to a four-lane bypass outside Old Salem. Open spaces are landscaped in grass, fruit trees and flowers of the period.

The restoration is close to two-thirds complete. Several buildings, authentically restored or reconstructed on the outside, have been adapted on the inside for present-day use as private residences, shops and professional offices or as headquarters for community organizations.

Eight restored buildings are open to the public. The most popular restored building for sightseers is the Single Brothers House, said Frances Griffin,

director of information for Old Salem, Inc.

In the Salem village, the Single Brothers House served as a sort of dormitory for apprentices. Boys moved to the house when they were 14. When the boys moved into the house, they and their fathers chose the trade for their apprenticeships which lasted for at least seven years.

As well as a place for the single men to live, the Brothers House also was a business organization—complete with a business manager. His office doubled as his living quarters.

Living in the house was similar to dormitory life today, said Florence Griggs, a hostess in the house. The third floor was where the boys slept; the main floor had the craft shops and the chapel. Daily devotions were mandatory. In the basement level were more craft shops and the kitchen and dining room.

The lower level of the house was built in 1769 and the upper level was added 17 years later.

The Brothers House is interesting to tourists because it explains the system of how the apprentices lived together, Griffin said. "Crafts are demonstrated, and it gives a single quick picture better than the individual houses."

Famous for Moravian sugar cake and cookies, the Winkler Bakery is just down the street from the Single Brothers House.

Ninety-six sugar cakes, 130 loaves of bread and 20 pounds of cookies are baked daily, said Jewel Elium, a hostess in the bakery for the past four years.

In the tradition of the early Moravians the goods are baked in a wood-heated oven on hot bricks, Elium said.

The Vierling House is the most recently restored of the buildings. Open since April, the house exhibits the apothecary and home of Dr. Samuel Benjamin Vierling, the community's physician.

Vierling performed such difficult operations as brain surgery. Many of his surgical tools are displayed in the apothecary today.

The Vogler house is also a favorite attraction for visitors, Griffin said. It re-opened this week after being closed for repairs. The Vogler House was the home of the silversmith, and shows how he and his family lived, Griffin said.

The early community was influenced considerably by the Moravian Church. The church is located in the heart of Old Salem and is open to visitors. Church members are on hand every afternoon to greet guests.

Old Salem is especially famous for its holiday celebrations. Friday night Old Salem Inc. will sponsor a reenactment of the procession that took place in Salem on July 4, 1785.

Old Salem also includes parts of Salem College, one of the most prestigious women's schools in the South.