

Campus landmarks have their place

By MEMSEY PRICE
Staff Writer

"That tacky sculpture in front of Davis," "The Old Well," and "Silent Sam" are all possible answers the average Carolina student could make to the question "What are your campus landmarks?"

But what about college Janes and Johns on other campuses? What sorts of stories do they have to tell about their campus hot spots?

Across the country at the University of California at Berkeley, one might expect the central feature of the campus to involve student protests and "hippie" types. It does. Sproul Plaza adjoins the steps of the main administration building (the site of many protests, most recently against Apartheid and U.S. involvement in Central America).

In the center of the Plaza is a fountain that is usually crawling with students enjoying the mild temperatures. On days when the weather is nice, a retired professor delivers stand-up comedy routines in Sproul, lampooning everything from Ronald Reagan to the students themselves.

Speaking of lampooning, at Harvard University, a famous and somewhat mysterious landmark is the Harvard Lampoon Building. A long, narrow building, it is off-limits to absolutely everyone but staff members of the Lampoon.

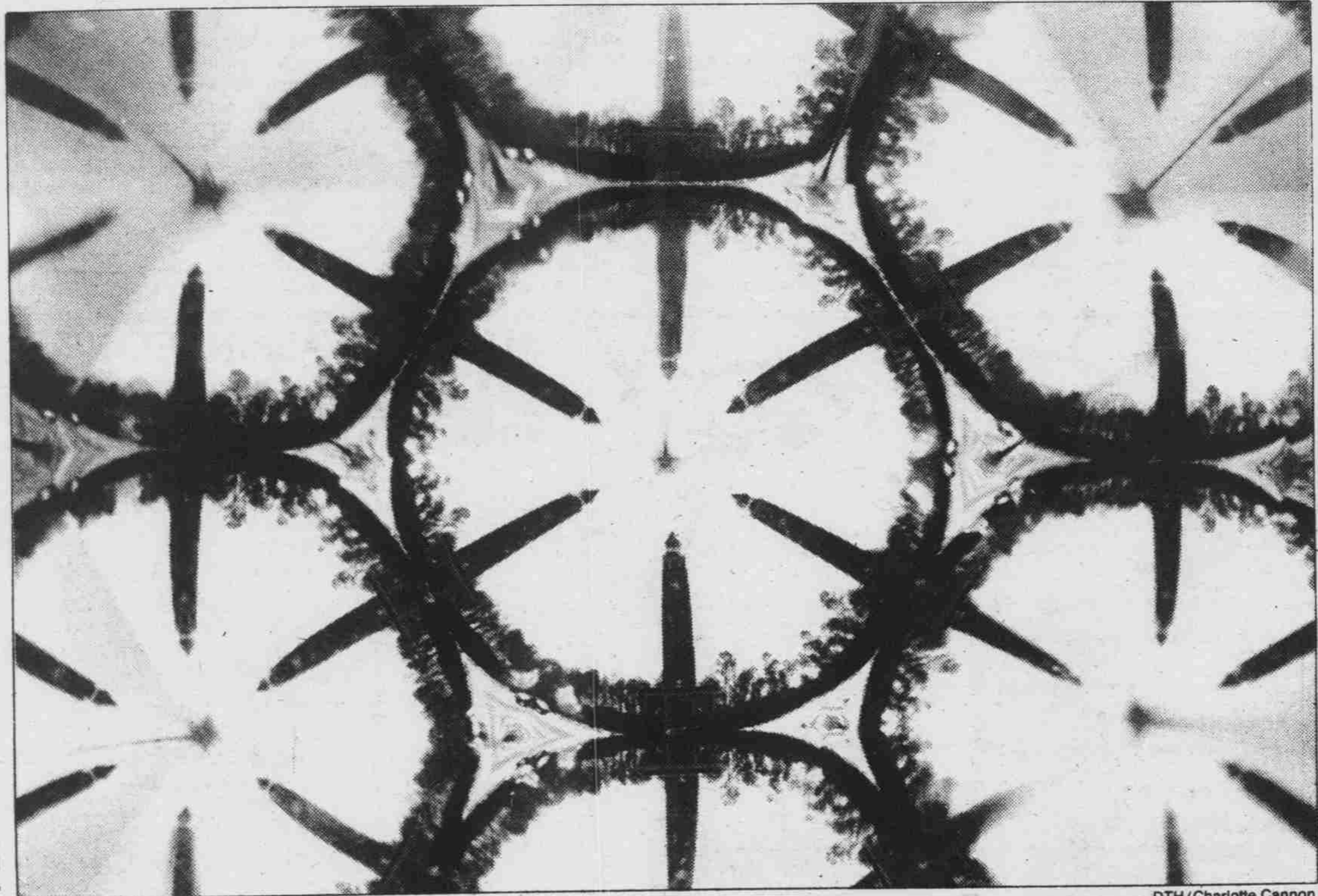
Two campus landmarks that have rather dubious distinctions are at Cornell University and the University of Texas at Austin.

The geography that surrounds Cornell in Ithaca, N.Y., provides many naturally occurring valleys and rifts spanned by a great number of man-made bridges that are the sites of many suicides and suicide attempts.

Similarly, the bell tower at UT became famous in the early 1970s, when a gunman climbed to its top and opened fire, massacring several bystanders.

Yale University's Harkness Tower is famous for different reasons. Until the 40 tons of bells were installed and steel support beams were added, the Harkness Tower was the tallest free-standing tower in the United States. But in order to make the stones of the Gothic architecture look more dignified and aged, the university scrubbed the stone face of the tower with acid.

At two schools close to home, the



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A very different perspective of The Bell Tower

distinctive landmarks are a combination of the traditional and the somewhat bizarre.

At Duke, there is, of course, the famous Gothic style Chapel and at North Carolina State, a more unique campus feature than the "State College" Bell Tower is the "Free-expression Tunnel." The tunnel crosses under the railroad tracks that run through the campus. Fraternities and sororities, as well as just eager (and especially "expressive") students decorate the tunnel with lots of bizarre and colorful graffiti.

And finally, included in the unique-bizarre-break-with-tradition landmark category is Virginia Tech.

A professor there designed a campus building to resemble a very modern item. It is shaped to look exactly like a computer punch card

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