

Annals of the Fleeting Years

A Town With Many Names

By TUCKER LITTLETON

As if it wasn't complicated enough to find some history of a town that has almost no records, matters are further complicated by the fact that the Town of Swansboro has been known in early years by so many names that it's hard to keep up with all the names that are synonymous with that of Swansboro.

As for records, most of the earliest records that would have revealed something of the history of the town were destroyed when the hurricane of 1752 destroyed the Onslow County Court House at Johnston. A subsequent fire destroyed more of the county records that would have helped the present-day local historians, and a similar fate apparently befell the town minutes and records.

At least the fact remains that no town records are known to exist that date further back than fifteen to twenty years ago. That seems quite enough to discourage anyone, but the situation is even worse for the historian, for the oldest graveyard and town cemetery—one that should have been preserved because of its historic importance—was desecrated, plowed up and made into a cotton field, and its markers disappeared.

This cemetery, located in the southwestern extreme of town, would have yielded vital information concerning the earliest inhabitants and citizens of the town.

In the records that do remain, however, we find several names that were applied to the town long before it was given its present name. Apparently, each citizen

had his own name for the town and used it. The result was that the town had at least five names before Swansboro was ever settled on as the final one.

The land on which the eastern end of Swansboro is now located was formerly the possession of Theophilus Weeks, who died in 1772. Because of the long ownership of Mr. Weeks, the names of Weeks' Wharf, Weeks' Landing, and Weeks' Point were used as early names of the settlement which later became Swansboro.

There is a reference to Weeks' Landing as one of the places in Onslow County for the inspection of unmerchantable commodities as early as 1770, appearing in the Laws of North Carolina for that year.

The association of the land with Mr. Weeks continued long after his death in the usage of the people, for as late as 1810—twenty-seven years after the General Assembly officially changed the town's name—a deed from Solomon E. Grant to Otway Burns refers to a lot in the town as being on Weeks' Point.

Another name of the town that was contemporaneous with those above was the name Bogue. It is quite easy to see why the name Bogue early came to be associated with the town, and now Carteret County has its settlement by that name.

One of the earliest records of the name Bogue for the town of Swansboro is found in a letter from Edward Howard to Governor Richard Caswell, dated November 9, 1777.

Edward Howard writes: "My proceeding after I left your house was as follows viz: I went down to Bogue on White Oak River and spoke to Mr. Steal & Capt. Gurlin both and agreed for a passage with the first that did sail, my chest and bed & part of clothes has (sic) been there ever since I was ordered out . . ."

It appears that Mr. Howard was a Tory and was being ordered to leave the country because of the Revolutionary War. His memories of Bogue were probably not too pleasant.

In the 1810 deed from Solomon Grant to Otway Burns mentioned above, there is also a mention of the town by the name of Bogue, showing that the name was still in use as late as that. The deed reads in part: ". . . unto Otway Burns a certain lot or tenement of land with a house thereon lying on Weeks Point on the west side of Whiteoak River . . . known by the Lot No. 6 in the plan of the said town of Bogue . . ."

One of the things that makes all these names confusing is the fact that all these names were used at the same time to mean the same place. While some people were calling the town Weeks' Point and Bogue, others were calling it by still another name—that of New Town.

In the State Records of North Carolina, Laws of 1777-1788, we find a reference to the former common name of New Town, which was to give way to the official name. The law reads: "And be it further enacted . . . That the said village called New-Town shall be, and it is hereby erected into a town by the name of Swansborough . . ."

The early name of New Town suggests to me that there was an earlier settlement—an Old Town, so to speak—adjacent to the new development which came to be the New Town. That happened in the case of the Town of Beaufort, which has its Beaufort Old Town and Beaufort New Town.

Homes were not built on the site of Theophilus Weeks' land until after it was platted and sold off as individual lots, the plans having been drawn up and dated Oct. 20, 1772.

However, the town was settled decades before that, for there was a Colonial port operative at the mouth of the White Oak River in pre-Revolutionary War days. A more progressive minded people bought lots in the new development called New Town, and it was they who moved to have the town incorporated and re-named.

The official name of Swansborough, given the town in 1783, has persisted while the other earlier names have passed on into disuse. The spelling of the town's name was officially changed by the Post Office Department on Oct. 16, 1893, and modernized to Swansboro, though lazy residents had been spelling it the short way for some time.

Except for a few visitors who didn't know how to spell the name of the town, like Bishop Asbury, who spelled it Swansbury, the name has been faithfully applied to the town just like the General Assembly said it should be done.

High grade gold ore was found in 1880 at White Oaks, N. M., by George Wilson who was then fleeing from a sheriff's posse. He immediately sold his claim for \$40.

Swansboro Girl Scouts will be out in full force Feb. 3-17 with their cookies for sale. Mrs. Ronald Sandridge, in reporting the sale, said five different kinds—sandwich cream s, butterscotch, chocolate mints, vanilla thins and chocolate chips—will be available this year at 40 cents per box.

A portion of the cookie sale profits goes to individual troops and a larger portion toward maintaining and establishing Girl Scout camping facilities.

In the political arena of Swansboro there has been a Democratic club formed to boost the candidacy of John Larkins, led by no less than his honor, the mayor, M. N. Lisk, as chairman. Vice-chairman is J. W. Black, and secretary-treasurer is Frances Wollerton. Mrs. Wollerton is town clerk.

Miss Velma Askew was a Sunday dinner guest of Miss Karen Gallagher.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Sutton of route 24 had as their houseguests last week Mr. and Mrs. Otie Trintz of Arlington, Va. Mr. Sutton returned to Arlington with the Trintzes on a business trip.

John S. Jones Jr. and John S. Jones Sr. made a business trip to Morehead City Tuesday.

Dr. L. J. Dupree and A. D. Ennett attended the Emeritus Club meeting in Morehead City last Monday night.

Thursday visitors in Morehead City were Mrs. Hugh Hurst and Mrs. Bertha Chestnut.

Emmett Harris spent Monday in Raleigh.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Crist of Jacksonville recently gave a barbecue dinner at their home on Cedar Point.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Ennett Jr. visited the J. Ellingtons in Morehead City Tuesday night.

John Valentine and A. D. Ennett attended a civil defense meeting in Raleigh Wednesday.

Ralph Gibson recently visited his mother in Nashville, Tenn.

Saturday evening dinner guests of the Jimmy Gentrys were Mr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Gentry and children, Sandy, Carl and Susie.

Mrs. J. L. Gallagher and daughter, Karen, and Miss Mary Elizabeth Smith spent Sunday in Washington visiting friends.

With the Armed Forces

Carteret Men to Take Part in 'Winter Shield'

Augsburg, Germany—Army Pvt. John A. Stiles, 19, son of Ennis F. Stiles, 305 N. 15th St., Morehead City, is scheduled to participate with other personnel from the 24th Infantry Division in Exercise Winter Shield at the Grafenwohr-Hohenfels training area in southern Germany Feb. 1-7.

Winter Shield, an annual winter maneuver designed to determine the combat readiness of Seventh Army troops, will provide realistic training under simulated combat conditions. Special emphasis will be placed on the role of the individual soldier and the small-unit leader.

The exercise will involve 60,000 troops and will mark the first time in history that major units of the new German Army will participate jointly with U. S. ground forces in a field exercise.

Stiles, assigned to Company C of the division's 31st Transportation Battalion, entered the Army in May 1959, completed basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., and arrived overseas last October.

He is a 1958 graduate of W. S. King High School.

Regensburg, Germany—Army Pvt. William G. Petteway, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence W. Petteway, 305 Queen St., Beaufort, is scheduled to participate with other personnel from the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Exercise Winter Shield at the Grafenwohr-Hohenfels training area in southern Germany Feb. 1-7.

Petteway, assigned to Troop H

of the regiment's 3d Battalion in Regensburg, entered the Army in March 1959 and received basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C. He arrived overseas in August 1959.

Petteway is a 1957 graduate of Queen Street High School and was employed by Eubanks' Studio before entering the Army.

Guantanamo Bay, Cuba—Henry F. Williams, airman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Williams of Newport, is serving with Utility Squadron Ten at the US Naval Base, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

He reported to Guantanamo Bay in November.

Before entering the Navy in October 1957, Williams attended Newport High School.

Norfolk, Va.—Milton N. Webb, sonarman second class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton W. Webb of 709 Fisher St., Morehead City, and husband of the former Miss Sara Ballou of 510 Bridges St., Morehead City, departed Norfolk, Va., Jan. 4, aboard the destroyer escort USS Basilone for training operations in the Caribbean Sea.

Scheduled to be operating with other units of the U. S. Atlantic Fleet and to visit the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, the Basilone and her crew will return to Norfolk in late February.

Newport News, Va.—Eldridge C. Rhue Jr., chief torpedoman's mate, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge C. Rhue Sr. of 1512 Ann St., Beaufort, and husband of the former



Jan. 26—The Smyrna boys basketball team is playing Louisburg

Miss Betty K. Okada of Honolulu, Hawaii, is serving aboard the new guided missile submarine, USS Robert E. Lee, which was christened at Newport News, Va., Dec. 18.

The Lee is the first atomic-powered vessel to be launched in the South.

College basketball team Monday night at Louisburg.
Mr. and Mrs. Guion Simpson were visitors in Greenville last Thursday.
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Willis were visitors with Mrs. T. E. Wilson and family Friday.
Mr. and Mrs. Wally Holliday and children have moved to Beaufort.
Mrs. Eva Willis of Morehead City was a visitor with Mr. and Mrs. Guy Willis last week.
Mrs. Herman Reid and children of Beaufort were visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Gillikin Sunday.
Mrs. Hilda Gillikin left this week to visit her son, Mr. Roy A. Gillikin, and family in Florida.
The United States has more than 7,000 hospitals.



Jan. 27 — The Rev. and Mrs. Charles Paul of Raleigh spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Paul.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Pond and son, Andy, of Beaufort spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Blakely Pond.

Capt. and Mrs. Frank M. Hunt and children spent Sunday here with relatives and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have been making their home in Edgewood, Md. They will be leaving in a few days for San Antonio, Texas, where he has been transferred. Mrs. Hunt is the former Elsie Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin W. Davis, who are now making their home in Beaufort.

Mrs. Guy Dixon of Morehead City visited Mrs. Joseph Davis and her father, Mr. I. S. Allgood, last week.

Mr. Braxton Piner spent a few days with his family. He is employed in New York.

Mr. Theodore R. Willis Jr. is home for ten days from the Coast Guard station at Hatteras.

Several from this community attended the funeral of Mrs. Hattie Davis last Sunday at Morehead City. Mrs. Davis is survived by one sister, Mrs. Georgia Willis of Davis.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Murphy visited his sister, Mrs. Carrie Hancock of Harkers Island, last Sunday.

Mrs. Georgia Willis and Mrs. Mollie Lewis spent last weekend with their mother, Mrs. Carrie Hancock, at Harkers Island.

Mr. Irvin W. Davis of Beaufort attended services at the First Baptist church Sunday.

Mr. Luther Stratton returned to the VA Hospital at Durham Monday, where he is receiving treatment.

Several from this community attended the funeral of Mr. Monnie H. Fulecher at Stacy last Monday.

Students from different colleges spending the weekend home with their parents are Brenda Willis, Judy Davis, Serena Davis, Ann Marie Davis and Roy Davis Styron.

VA Officer Explains New Pension Law

Five points in connection with the new pension law were spotlighted this week by E. C. Elliott of the Veterans Administration in New Bern, as a result of numerous inquiries from veterans and veterans' dependents.

• First, the new law goes into effect on July 1, 1960, not before.

• Second, the law does not make any changes in the basic eligibility of a living veteran for pension. The veteran still must be totally and permanently disabled from causes that are not traceable to his military service; he must have 90 days or more of honorable wartime service, and his income must be below the prescribed limits.

• Third, the new law has no effect on the usual questionnaires which VA sends just after the first of the year to persons who receive VA pension checks, on which they must list their income of the year preceding. All persons who receive the annual income questionnaire after the first of the year should fill it out promptly, sign it and return it to the VA.

• Fourth, persons now on the pension rolls will receive full information and details on their choices under the new law in ample time before July 1, 1960 for them to make any necessary decisions.

• Fifth, the new pension law applies to veterans of World War I, World War II and the Korean conflict and their dependents. It does not apply directly to Spanish War veterans, who have their own special pension laws. However, a small number of Spanish War veterans may be affected by a provision which makes some eligible for an "invalid lift" if their condition requires it for getting in and out of bed.

Community Club Work Leads to Fire Protection

The Cedar Point volunteer fire department, an off-shoot of the Cedar Point community club formed about a year ago, will entertain the ladies of the recently formed auxiliary at its first social event Monday night, Feb. 1, with a dinner at the Waterway Restaurant.

The Cedar Point community club officers are Douglas Ingram, president; Ralph Gibson, vice-president; George Williams, second vice-president; A. J. Blackmon, secretary, and Joe Ellington, treasurer.

Fire department officers are Ralph Paul, fire chief; Leland Crumpler, assistant fire chief, and Dr. L. J. Dupree, head of the board of directors, as chairman. Other members of the board are A. D. Ennett, Emmett Harris, Walter Mooney and John Jones.

Officers of the ladies' auxiliary are Mrs. A. J. Blackmon, president; Mrs. Ralph Paul, vice-president; Mrs. E. W. Harris, secretary, and Mrs. L. J. Dupree, treasurer. Mrs. Don Walston was named publicity chairman.

Following the organization of the club a year ago several projects were outlined for community betterment, and a volunteer fire department seemed of utmost importance.

A. D. Ennett, civil defense deputy for Western Carteret County, was contacted since all Army surplus equipment or supplies are so-

cured through civil defense offices in Raleigh.

John Valentine, Carteret County civil defense director, agreed to go to Raleigh with Mr. Ennett and Don Walston, then president of the CPCC, and try to buy a fire truck. No ready-equipped fire truck was available at that time but a 10-wheel Air Force truck was purchased at a fraction of its original cost and converted to a very efficient fire truck for local use.

Within a few days, a tank and pump was installed and the truck ready for use. Soon the truck answered two calls and extinguished the fires quickly with little loss to one residence and a cabin cruiser tied at Walston's dock.

Through local civil defense the club hopes to purchase a reserve truck with first-aid equipment and a communications system such as used by the Army, to connect eastern and western Carteret in event of a local or national emergency.

A plot of ground on Cedar Lane Drive, for use eventually as a community clubhouse and a firehouse, was donated by John R. Jones, a member of the club. At the present, Dr. Dupree is giving the truck free storage in his garage building near Hill Street.

Ralph Paul and other club members put on a turkey shoot each Saturday during December for benefit of the club, raising a substantial sum.



Quantity Rights Reserved

FRESH — 4 to 8-Lb.

Pork Shoulders LB. 29¢

PURE PORK SAUSAGE 4 1-Lb. Rolls 99¢

JESSE JONES PRODUCTS

Roll Sausage, 1-Lb. Roll 45c

Breakfast Sausage, 1/2-Lb. Pkg. 29c

Franks, Lb. Pkg. 49c

RED & WHITE PINEAPPLE

JUICE 46-Oz. Can 19¢ With \$5.00 Food Order

RED & WHITE MIDGET

Lima Beans Can 29¢

RED & WHITE TOMATO

CATSUP 14-Oz. Bottle 19¢

RED & WHITE CREAM OR WHOLE KERNEL

CORN 2 No. 303 Cans 35¢

OUR VALUE CANNED

PEAS 2 No. 303 Cans 29¢

MARCAL

Napkins 2 Boxes 23¢

food shop here and SAVE BIG

FRESH CUT

PORK CHOPS LB. 39¢

CORNED FRESH — 8 to 12-Lb.

HAMS LB. 49¢

LOCAL FRESH

EGGS Dozen 39¢

Gill's Hotel

COFFEE

1-Lb. Bag 57c

1-Lb. Vacuum Pack Can 63c

Instant 2 Oz. Jar 29c

Instant 4 Oz. Jar 51c

Our Own Sun Spun

BISCUITS

3 Cans 25¢

Red & White

Applesauce

2 No. 303 Cans 25¢

"FROZEN FOODS"

Frosty Acres French Fried

POTATOES 2 Pkgs. 29¢

Gorton's

Ocean Perch 16-Oz. Pkg. 43¢

Sun Spun

OLEO 1-Lb. Pkg. 19¢

Large Pascal

CELERY Stalk 9¢

Waxed Red

Potatoes 5 Lbs. 25¢

C. D. Jones Red & White

(Across from Huntley's)

INTERSECTION OF HIGHWAY 101 AND 70

Beaufort, N. C.

BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR THE NEW REFRIGERATOR TO BE GIVEN AWAY FREE JANUARY 30