

water rushes to the sound and back to the ocean), and Mr. Willis says it's not always good to have water roaring through, taking vegetation in its wake. He suggests that roads here ought to follow the natural topography of the island of alternating ridges and valleys. Number three says that saving the primary dune is all that matters; Mr. Willis believes we'd better protect all dunes, that if water washes through the first, it can keep right on finding its way through others in their weakest points.

Next meeting of the Garden Club will be February 24th at 10:00 A.M., at Marj Johnson's with Martha Flynn as co-hostess.

We sent for the book How to Live with an Island (Bogue Banks, North Carolina), after reading an editorial about it in the Carteret News Times. Written by Orrin H. Pilkey and his son, a civil engineer and a geologist, it sets out to inform present and potential homeowners on Bogue Banks of problems of island living, and to "develop fundamental support for enforcement of land use controls in the coastal zone".

The book presents a brief history of the island, detailed building code discussion, and an easy to follow guided automobile tour that points out good and bad building as well as treatment of the land. The Pilkeys maintain that the two most important events in the history of the island were when the daughter of the owner of the west half of the island, Henry Fort, sold that half in 1954, and its development and the development of the land between Salter Path and Atlantic Beach, which began in 1955 shortly after the death of Mrs. Alice Hoffman.

They talk about the importance of 'free interchange' between the beach and the dunes so that wind and waves can rebuild the dunes after a storm, and warn against man's tampering with this interchange. (See Garden Club review, this issue).

Looks to us as if anyone either living here or planning to live here will want a copy of this little book. It can be had by writing to Orrin H. Pilkey, Jr., c/o Geology Department, Duke University, Durham, N. C. 27706.....Did you know that most of the shells we pick up here on our beach are thousands of years old? That the real erosion problems of the last seven years are occurring on the lagoon side?

Once again, our local historian, keeper of the big and unwieldy but complete scrapbook, NETTIE MURRILL, has regaled us with a fascinating story of the old days on our island. In the late 19th century, a few miles west of Salter Path, on the sound, there was a tiny village called Belcove, consisting of about 30 houses, a store, a church, and a free school.

Captain George Smith, father of the former security guard for PKS, born in 1882, spent his early childhood in Belcove. He grew up to be a very valuable character, making regular trips by boat from Belcove to Morehead City for mail and supplies. Later, when the road was built, he ran a bus service, was for a long time the official shopper for Salter Path residents.

For years after Belcove was deserted, the area was nothing but sand, sea, and wind, and a tiny cemetery. Now, around the cemetery are new houses. It is speculated that people left Belcove because the shore was eroding. First of all, they moved just a bit east to what was called Rice Path. (Fishermen dragged their huge loads of fish away from the water, making paths as they went, and the guys who got the most fish made the widest paths; so that is how these places got their names. Salter was a real fisherman!) Eventually, the people moved as far east as Salter Path. Meanwhile, Captain George Smith had grown up roaming the banks, fishing, hunting, trapping and gardening, and he knew ever ridge, woods, beach, pond, ravine, creek and shoal on and along our banks.

Nettie's scrapbook is full of the lore of our land. We will continue to bring you treasures from it every little while.

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NEW NEIGHBORS;-- LIBBY AND HAYES McCULLEY came to Acorn Court most recently from Carolina Pines where Hayes has been in construction, and before that they lived in Whispering Pines where they knew our Nell and Ed Crumley, also Whispering Pines transplants. Hayes is a retired Colonel and aviator in the Marine Corps, hopes to continue here in the remodeling and redecorating end of the now familiar-to-him construction field, while Libby enjoys golf, bridge, and what they refer to as penny-ante poker. Libby is an accomplished pianist too! Their son Michael is also a Marine, in air control at Cherry Point, and their daughter Diane, is a music teacher in Tarboro, N.C.