

# THE NEW BERN MIRROR

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## JOHN F. KENNEDY

Future historians, evaluating JFK and his Administration in an unemotional light, aren't apt to rank him with our greatest Presidents. Even at this early date, however, he seems destined to remain one of our most beloved Americans.

A year, come Sunday, has passed since his assassination on a Dallas street. Time does heal all things, but the deep grief occasioned by this man's tragic death is a lingering cloud that still casts its shadow on our nation and the world.

Those of us who lived in his lifetime are hardly capable of applying an objective yardstick to his accomplishments. Any analysis we might make would be heavily weighted by the impact of his personality.

Far be it from us to suggest, out of respect for the dead, that Kennedy was free of haters. Millions, including many New Bernians, were embittered by his civil rights program, and even more so by his brother Robert's attitude while serving as Attorney-General.

However, The Mirror is convinced that thinking citizens, whether they agreed with the slain President or not, believe he was sincere. As we see it, no ulterior motives could be leveled against his proposed legislation. His wisdom might be questioned, but not his integrity.

It is ironic that much of Kennedy's program probably never would have been passed by Congress if he had lived. As a matter of fact, he might never have been elected for a second term, with sentiment against him mounting during his last days on earth.

There's an old saying that a statesman is a dead politician. As is often the case, John Fitzgerald Kennedy looms larger in death than he ever did in life, and this increased magnitude, firmly fixed in the public's mind and heart has hardly been of fleeting duration.

This past year, eight million fellow humans have visited his last resting place on an Arlington hillside, many more than the number attracted to the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument for this same period of time. Some were morbidly curious, but something much deeper drew most of these citizens.

JFK was a man of courage. He demonstrated this quality in war and peace, and it inspired admiration and respect everywhere. In keeping with his Irish ancestry, he was blessed with a keen sense of humor, and this too is a characteristic that holds universal appeal.

No one, we daresay, would contend that he was a man of limited intellect. His brilliant performances in the Kennedy-Nixon debates revealed the lightning-quick alertness of his mental faculties, as did his later responses to the questions of prodding reporters at countless Presidential press conferences.

He was a man still young enough to be called youthful, and still young enough to share the hopes and dreams of a new generation of Americans. In a world cursed by hate and fear and oppression, he seemed to offer another, perhaps final chance to achieve the good will that angels sang of over a Bethlehem stable, twenty centuries ago.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy was a man who had religious faith. Millions of Protestants and Jews refused to condemn him for a creed that differed from their own, and they proved it by electing the first Catholic President in history.

Mankind will never really know what he ultimately might have accomplished, but for a pair of rifle bullets that plunged him into eternity. Even as Lincoln, he left the ranks of the living with much more to be done.

And on an Arlington hillside, in sunshine and rain, the old and the young come to pause a few feet from an ever burning flame. They weep softly, and turn away. And they will never forget.

## Historical Gleanings

—By—  
ELIZABETH MOORE

### DIVISION OF THE LAND OF EDWARD CHAPMAN, DECEASED, 1829

The heirs at law of Edward Chapman, deceased, are: John Church Chapman, Alfred Chapman, Sarah Gaskins, and the heirs of Selah Boyd.

The Plat shows: The Grate Branch, Creeping Swamp, Clayroot Swamp Run, Clark's Swamp, Poenea Pocosin. Mentions the Old Ford, Hardy's corner, William Hardy's lands. Dated 10 February 1829. Commissioners: John Fornes, Charles Butler, Farnfold Chapman, Joseph Pollard, David Clark.

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Division of the lands of John Dawson, deceased, amongst his heirs, to wit: Christopher Dawson, Richard Dawson, John B. Dawson, Lewis Dawson.

Land on Dawson Creek, and the Tar Kiln Creek. Plot shows the Hill tract, the land at the mouth of Dawson Creek, Smith Delamar land. Mentions: the Richneck Plantation, the Vaughan Tract, George's Neck, Lot No. 274 in New Bern. Dated 4 September, 1816. Commissioners: William S. Sparrow, Roger Jones, Robert Reel, Smith Delamar.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Division of the lands of David D. Dunn, deceased, among the heirs, to wit: William M. Heritige, Gracie Fonvielle and wife, Elizabeth, Brice Fonvielle, and Richard Fonvielle. Plot shows land on Little Swift Creek, James Swamp, Dennis Purdue's Patent, Edward Gatlin's Patent, George Fisher's patent, part of Rice Price's patent, Randolph Fisher's Patent, part of William Gatlin's patent, Deaver Dam and Fisher's Swamp.

Dated May, 1826. Commissioners: John Street, Surveyor, Jesse Pearce, Norman Willis, Major Willis.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Partition of land between Abner Pearce and wife, Phoebe and Eliza Fonvielle, heirs of William Brice Fonvielle: Plot shows land on Bachelor Creek, Richardson's Mill Pond, Jumping Run, Bee Tree Branch, Mill Pond, Herring Hedge Gut, Alegator Gut, Spring Gut, Graves' line, W. C. Stanly corner. Mentions: Neuse River, North side of Bachelor Creek, Street's Bridge, Richard and William B. Fonvielle's corners, Richard Fonvielle's Cowpens, Mill Dam.

Plot No. 2 shows: land on Deep Branch, Yates & Fonvielle's corner, Johnson's corner, Pond and Smith line.

Plot shows division of part of the Lot No. 5 in Town of New Bern, East Front Street.

Dated 12 Nov. 1822. Claiborne Ivey, Surveyor. Commissioners, John S. Smith, Richard Richardson, Charles Carter. Test. T. H. Daves, Sheriff.

\*\*\*\*\*  
At September Term, 1799 William Hampton in right of his wife Sarah, prays for division of the estate of John Gauslin, deceased. Commissioners appointed: Spyers Singleton, John Knox, Nathan Smith, Jeremiah

## Village Verses

### YOU CAN'T WIN

Folks with hopes of getting thinner  
Shouldn't eat Thanksgiving dinner;  
There's so much good of this and that,  
And all of it will make you fat.  
Turkey with dressing, and gravy too,  
Creamed potatoes, what can you do?  
Cakes and puddings, and pumpkin pies,  
Attractively placed before your eyes;  
With all that wonderful food to spare,  
You'll junk your diet and cram your share.  
—JGMCD.

Parsons, Ivey Hatch. Signed by Samuel Chapman, by George Vulteus.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Petition of Abel and Anna Fulsher, Peter Harper and wife Mary, Sally and Rounfull Fulsher, and John Beggs, their Guardian, heirs of Jesse Fulsher, for division of land on Bay River. August, 1803. Commissioners: T. Tillman, John Biggs, Jos. Nelson, James Nelson.

\*\*\*\*\*

A plot by William Johnston, Surveyor, July 1803 shows: Sheffield House, a grant to John Bedscott, upper Broad Creek, Thomas Whitford's corner, William Speight's line, The Glade. (Plots and Divisions, Craven County Pages 105-121, Office Clerk of Court, Craven County, N. C.)

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