

OLD FORT NEWS

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THE OLD FORT NEWS

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Editor and Business Manager.

THE OLD FORT

The following article by Judge Haywood Parker in the Asheville Citizen will be of much interest to the people of the community at this time. The unveiling of the monument to commemorate this old fort will be held July 27th at 2:30 p. m.

I see our enterprising neighbor, Old Fort, is soon to celebrate its birthday. I suspect its age is greater than generally supposed. It is generally accepted that the Fort which gave the town its name was built as a protection to the pioneer settlers against the hostile Indians. It is possible the Fort was originally built for another purpose and long before there were permanent settlements anywhere near it.

The Colonial Legislature in 1775, during the administration of Governor Dobbs authorized the erection of a fort on the "Western Frontiers" as a protection to the pioneer settlers. This fort was built in 1756 under the direction of Capt. Hugh Waddell, and was located between the third and fourth forks of the Yadkin, near the present city of Salisbury, and was called Fort Dobbs in honor of the Governor. A description of this fort is given in a report made to the Colonial Legislature by Francis Brown and Richard Caswell, who had been appointed commissioners, "to view the western settlements" and select sites for other forts. They reported among other things as follows:

"And that they had likewise viewed the State of Fort Dobbs, and found it to be a good and Substantial Building of the Dimensions following (that is to say) The Oblong Square fifty-three feet by forty, the opposite Angles Twenty-four feet and Twenty-Two. In height Twenty-four and a half feet as by the plan annexed appears. The Thickness of the Walls which are made of Oak Logs regularly diminished from sixteen inches to Six, it contains three floors, and there may be discharged from each floor at one and the same time about one hundred Muskets the same is beautifully situated in the fork of Fourth Creek a Branch of the Yadkin River." This report was dated Dec. 21, 1756.

Col. Alfred M. Waddell, in "A Colonial Officer and His Times," a sketch of his ancestor, Capt. Hugh Waddell, quotes Williamson's History as saying that "Hugh Waddell, an officer of great firmness and integrity was commissioned to treat with the Catawba and Cherokee Indians." Col. Waddell then says:—"The treaty referred to by Williamson was made by Captain Waddell in 1756. . . . It was a treaty offensive and defensive, and was executed on behalf of the Catawbas by Oralowsa, King Highlar and others, and on the part of the Cherokees by the distinguished Chief and Orator, Atla-Kulla-Kulla, . . . these Indians demanded as a part of the treaty that a fort should be built in the territory of each tribe by the English, as a place of refuge and protection for their women and children in the event that their warriors should have to march against the French. Virginia and South Carolina built the Cherokee fort and North Carolina undertook to build for the Catawbas, but the next year, while the workmen were engaged in building the fort under Captain Waddell's directions, he was surprised at receiving an order from Governor Dobbs to discharge them, for the reason that he, Dobbs, had received a message from Governor Lyttleton saying that the Indians desired that no fort should be built except by South Carolina. Dobbs instructed Captain Waddell at the same time to inquire into and ascertain the meaning of such conduct. Where this Catawba Indian fort, intended for their protection, was built is not known; it is supposed to have been the same as Old Fort in McDowell county."

This unfinished, unnamed, abandoned fort was of course well known to the hunters and traders, and as the years went by it doubtless became generally known as "The Old Fort." Later, as the pioneers pushed their settlements to the foot of the mountains, and realizing the need of protection against the Indians, they took advantage of the work done by Capt. Waddell and his men, and completed the structure, and continued to call it as had the hunters and traders, "The Old Fort."

LOCAL AND PERSONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Bistline have as their house guests this week, Misses Grace and Sara Mayer, of Newport, Pa., J. C. Bistline and Edmund D. Bistline, both of Newark, New Jersey.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Tate, who have been spending the past two weeks with their parents, returned to Atlanta, Ga., Saturday. They were accompanied by Miss Edna Tate, who will spend a few weeks in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Boynton have as their house guests, Frank Boynton, of Lodi, Calif., and daughters, Misses Gladys and Amy Boynton, and son, Laurence Boynton.

Cletus Tate returned to Hartford, Conn., Saturday after spending his vacation in Old Fort with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Tate.

A series of meetings will be held at the Methodist Church beginning on the first Sunday in August.

Dr. and Mrs. D. M. McIntosh have as their house guest Mrs. Annie McIntosh, of Richmond, Va., mother of Dr. McIntosh.

Bernard Tate has returned to Johnstown, Pa., after spending several weeks in Old Fort visiting home folks.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Crawford have returned to Old Fort after spending a week in Spartanburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Hudgins of Black Mountain were visitors in Old Fort Sunday.

Don Grant of Blue Ridge, Ga., is spending several days here with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Tell Moffitt of Asheville were visitors in Old Fort Sunday.

George Watkins of Cranberry was in Old Fort Sunday.

Misses Edith and Bertha McNeill of Burnsville motored to Old Fort Sunday.

Mrs. L. Crawford of Arden has been visiting relatives in Old Fort.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Rockett of Narrows Va., are spending several days with relatives here.

William Stroud of Black Mountain was in Old Fort Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Reeder of Paducah, Ky., spent several days last week with Mrs. Etta Kelly.

Mrs. Garland Bryson and three small children visited relatives in Ridgecrest last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Long spent Thursday in Nebo.

Mrs. Carl Kelly has returned to her home here after a week's visit to relatives in Statesville.

Mrs. M. L. Grant was a visitor in Nebo Thursday.

Mrs. D. Haynes spent Sunday in Marion with her mother, Mrs. Watkins.

C. F. Noblitt and family spent Wednesday afternoon in Asheville.

Douglas Marr of West Asheville spent Monday in Old Fort.

Miss Annabelle Noblitt spent the week-end in Asheville as the guest of Miss Geneva Early.

Misses Janie and Dysart Burgin of Goldsboro are visiting relatives and friends in Old Fort.

W. L. White is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Case, at Dana, N. C.

Mrs. W. M. Treverton of Marion visited friends in Old Fort Wednesday afternoon.

Capt. and Mrs. J. S. Land and their son, Stewart, of Columbia, S. C., were guests of Rev. and Mrs. D. A. Lewis for several days during the week.

Misses Natalie Epley, Marion Nelly and Edna Rowe of Asheville visited friends in Old Fort last Sunday.

Garnet White, who has been employed in Kansas City, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John White.

Earl Nesbitt, student at State College, who has been attending the student training camp in Alabama, has returned to Old Fort to spend his vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. George Thomasson, of Akron, Ohio, are visiting relatives in Old Fort.

Mrs. Myrtle Glass and family of Gastonia are occupying the Obie Laughridge house on Catawba St.

Misses Edith and Bertha McNeill of Burnsville motored to Old Fort Sunday.

Miss Bula Calloway is visiting relatives in Sylva this week.

Mrs. H. Burgin spent Tuesday afternoon in Asheville.

A. L. Sherrill made a business trip to Asheville Thursday.

Miss Bertha Early of Rutherfordton is visiting in Old Fort this week.

The fishermen of the Columbia river, Canada, export 415,000 cases of tinned salmon every year.

OLD FORT WILL UNVEIL HUGE ARROWHEAD MONUMENT

Rev. Clarence Stuart McClellan to Make Dedication Address--Indians to Help at Ceremonies.

Many traditions of the trials and hardships of the early settlers are recalled by the older citizens of Old Fort which are of particular interest at this time on account of the unveiling of the Indian arrowhead monument on July 27th at 2:30 p. m. to commemorate the building of the old Indian fort at this place, from which the town received its name.

Many battles and skirmishes were fought and many pioneer settlers met terrible deaths at the hands of the Indian scalpers when caught away from the fort. Will Sandlin, of Andrews, whose grandparents were among the early settlers in this vicinity, tells of the death of a Mrs. Burgin who lived just west of Old Fort. She and a young boy were out in the orchard gathering peaches. Seeing the Indians coming, the boy ran back to the house. The woman climbed up into the tree, but was pulled down and scalped by the Indians. This occurred near the present home of Col. D. W. Adams. One of these Indians was killed on the hill near the Mill Creek dam just above town, one on the Lee Crawford farm, and one on Moffitt's Hill.

Gen. Rutherford, who was in command of the guard protecting the western frontier, camped in this fort when patrolling the border. In his report to the committee of safety at Salisbury, he tells of a man by the name of Middleton, who was killed on Crooked Creek, about four miles from Old Fort.

Little Miss Martha Nesbitt, who will unveil the marker, is a great great granddaughter of Mrs. Martha Burgin who was born about 1791 and whose father was John Burgin, one of Old Fort's first pioneer settlers.

The old Burgin homestead on Catawba river, built by John Burgin and known to the people in this community as the Joe Burgin place, was one of the first buildings erected it was destroyed by fire during 1929.

Invitations to many prominent people to attend these ceremonies have been extended by Dr. D. M. McIntosh, chairman of the Old Fort Indian Memorial Association. Among those who have accepted are the Rev. Clarence Stuart McClellan, Jr., of Fletcher, N. C., who will speak on the "Importance of Marking." J. Hampton Rich, managing director of the Boone Trail Highway Memorial Association, will talk about Pioneer History of the Appalachian Mountains, and Congressman Zeb Weaver, will talk on the "Pioneers and their Descendants." And Horace Kephart, of Bryson City, is expected.

John Tahquitta, chief of the Cherokee tribe, and Sam T. Blue, chief of the Catawbas, with members of their respective tribes, will attend, also Chief Carl Standing Deer, who will be dressed in full Indian regalia for the occasion. Chief Carl Standing Deer, who is a Carlisle graduate, is also a Cherokee Indian.

D. T. Roughton, president of the Old Fort Indian Memorial Association, will be present and preside at the ceremonies. Music will be furnished by a fifty piece band.

Special invitations are extended to the people of the adjoining counties.

GREENWICH VILLAGE LIFE PICTURED IN 'HALF MARRIAGE'

The atmosphere of the Greenwich Village studios and life on a Long Island country estate, two phases of New York life often maligned and distorted in films, is truly and carefully portrayed in "Half Marriage," at Everybody's Theatre, July 25-26.

The director, William J. Cowen, and all of the players, have, at one time or another, lived in the metropolis and are familiar with the locales in the piece.

Olive Borden and Morgan Farley are the featured players in "Half Marriage." Farley lived in New York during his seasons on the stage with the Theatre Guild and in Dreiser's "An American Tragedy."—Adv.

In 12,000 bottling works in 1929, 120,000 employees made 120,000,000 bottles of soft drinks which were sold to United States citizens for \$650,000,000.

MRS. MARY ALLISON CELEBRATES 91st BIRTHDAY

A birthday dinner in honor of Mrs. Mary Allison was celebrated at her home in Old Fort on Sunday.

Mrs. Allison has spent all of her life in this county with the exception of eight months, and for many years Mr. Robert Goodson, of Morganton, who is Mrs. Allison's son by her first husband, has given elaborate dinners in honor of his mother's birthday. Mrs. Allison presided at the table spread in her honor. The large three-tiered birthday cake, decked with 91 white candles, occupied the center of the table, which was over fifty feet in length and placed on the lawn. Many lovely flowers decorated the table, heavily laden with delicious food, which was prepared and brought by truck from Morganton. Punch and lemonade were served under an apple tree on the lawn, ice cream and cake concluding the most delightful dinner. The guests numbered over 250 people, the largest number driving from Morganton for the occasion. Miss Susan Allison and Mrs. Ben Tisdell assisted their mother in entertaining the guests. After dinner Mrs. Allison occupied a rocking chair on the front porch of her home and chatted with her many friends, who wished her many more happy years and birthdays.

Mr. Goodson, with his friendly smile and hearty handclasp, greeted his many friends, who enjoyed the wonderful hospitality and the pleasant associations of the day. Among the Morganton guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Noah Pitts, Mr. and Mrs. Hamp Giles and family, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mescher, Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Galloway, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Halliburton, Mr. and Mrs. Will Kirksey, Herman Kirksey, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kirksey, Mr. and Mrs. Will Erwin, Dr. and Mrs. McCampbell, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Crouch, Dr. Jeter, C. A. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Mischeaux, Mrs. Horace Halliburton, and Miss Flossie Epley, Ruby Halliburton, and Glenn Spencer, and Tex Spencer, of Los Angeles, California.

HOUSE PARTY

Quite a large number of young people from Old Fort enjoyed a two-days house party at Camp Allison last week. Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Rockett were chaperones, and the following were present: Misses Emma Allison, Edith R. Grady, Nancy Miller, Eunice Wilkinson, Carolyn McIntosh, Betty Crawford, Elizabeth and Jean Hansell and Janie McSwain. Messrs. Merrill Kanipe, Chas. Fisher, Bud Hennessee, L. Whisnant, Bebe Nanney, Harrison Hansel, Woodrow and Austin Harris. Other than these a large number of visitors aided in making this quite an eventful trip.

DUNCAN SISTERS SING AND DANCE IN "IT'S A GREAT LIFE"

"It's a Great Life," the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture starring the Duncan Sisters, at Everybody's Theatre Monday and Tuesday, July 28 and 29, is an all-talking, singing and dancing film directed by Sam Wood and filmed with technicolor sequences. The story might well be a biography of the dancers dealing with a sister act in vaudeville which finds itself in difficulties when a quarrel separates the pair who find themselves "flops" as singles.

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

OLD FORT, N. C.

"Half Marriage"

A story of modern young lovers. in cast

OLIVE BORDEN with MORGAN FARLEY

July 25th-26th

FRIDAY and SATURDAY

"It's a Great Life"

The Duncan Sisters dance their way through gay comedy

July 28th-29th

MONDAY and TUESDAY

We Bid You a Most Cordial
:- Welcome :-

To Old Fort's Celebration
and Unveiling Ceremony

July 27th, 1930

Make Our Store Your
Meeting Place.

Old Fort Drug Co.

Spacious, Cool, Comfortable

Do Not Fail to Come to
Old Fort on Sunday

and help us celebrate the
Unveiling of the Indian
Arrowhead Monument

Good Speakers - Good Music

The Bradley Drug Co.

is conveniently located

Drop in to see us.

Cold Drinks - Ice Cream - Sandwiches

YOU WILL FIND DELICIOUS HOME
COOKED MEALS AT THE
B. AND J. CAFE
For Sunday SPECIAL CHICKEN DINNER 50c

Visitors attending the Unveiling Ceremonies
will receive special attention.

OLD FORT, N. C.

Next to Post Office

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in the Bank

Are you troubled by having your money "burn a hole" in your pocket? That is a common fault of money. If you have your money in the bank, whether it be much or little, it will not burn any holes and it will be there when you need it.

Money carried on the person is a temptation to spending. Money in the bank does not offer this temptation. You may hesitate before writing a check where you would not hesitate to spend it if you had the money with you.

We offer you the advantage of our banking facilities and invite you to open a checking account with us.

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