



# THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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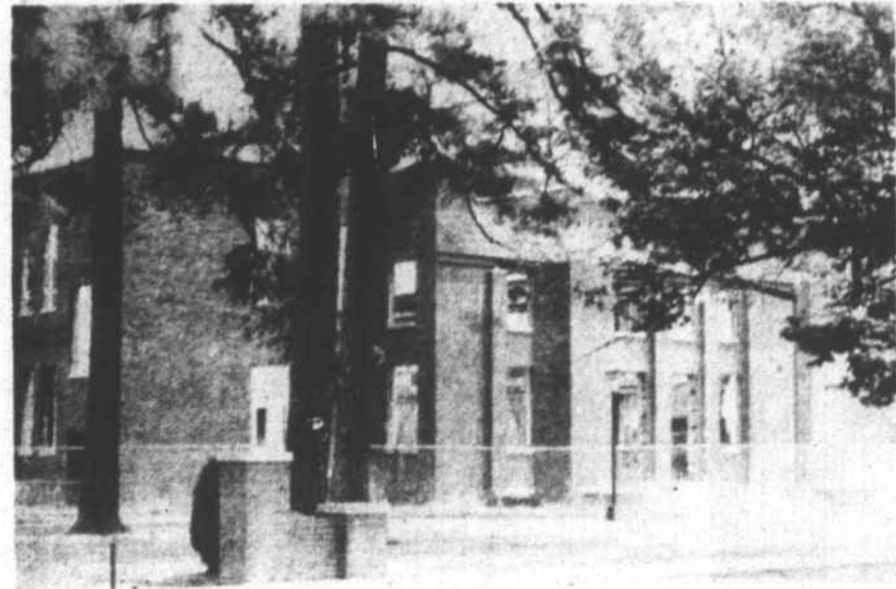
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## SETTING THE EARLY RECORD ON OLD MAIN STRAIGHT



Old Main awaits restoration.

by Lew Barton

The restoration of Old Main has been the dream of many. But it was announced in Pembroke this week, after a simple ground-breaking ceremony, that the historic old landmark will very probably be fully restored within a year, in time to coincide with the retirement of Chancellor English E. Jones.

The history of Old Main has been long, hard and sometimes bitter. The battle to save Old Main has also been long, hard and bitter-but it is an integral part of the history of the Indians of Robeson and adjacent counties of North Carolina. It is an integral part of PSU's history as well-and also of the county and state at large.

Lest we forget, let us remind ourselves at this appropriate time of the true worth of Old Main.

The following is a reprint of a news release of the American Indian Press Association in Washington, DC. I have made few notes (in brackets) to update it and make it more comprehensible. The news release by AIP is dated March 6, 1972. It will help the reader to understand the why of our great struggle-one that reached from the house next door all the way to the White House. It is a triumphant story of grass-roots people versus big government. It's the rare kind of story that makes little people like myself glad to be an American.

by Tom Edwards

Pembroke, NC (AIPA)--Old Main, the only structure remaining at Pembroke State University here which symbolizes the first and only four-year Indian college in the country, has been ordered destroyed by the state of North Carolina. (The building is now 55 years old.--Note by Lew Barton).

Razing of the 49-year-old building, approved by the Council of State Feb. 9 will remove the last visible reminder of the school's Indian heritage and the issue has raised a storm of protest among the Lumbee Indian populace numbering about 30,000 in the area and from national Indian leaders.

The issue apparently evolved from a



OFFICIAL OLD MAIN GROUND BREAKING

Ground-breaking ceremonies were held Friday for \$1.4 million reconstruction of the Old Main Building at PSU. Left to right, Leroy Marie of Laurinburg, Chairman of PSU Board of Trustees; Clifton Orendine, Mrs. Reba Jacobs, James Jacobs, all of Pembroke and PSU professors emeritus; and John Robert Jones of Pembroke of the Old Main Commission.

was nonexistent until 1887 when the state General Assembly provided \$500 to establish the "Croatian Normal School." It stipulated that if the Lumbee Tribe did not provide a school building before the next assembly session, the act would be repealed. (NOTE: The first bill on behalf of education for Robeson Indians was through Hamilton McMillan in 1885.--LB)

Money was raised within the community to purchase an acre of land near Pembroke and a two-story structure was built by the tribe. The Legislature raised the annual appropriation to \$1,000 in 1889 and it remained at that sum for several years. In 1909, ten acres at the present PSU site were purchased with money again raised within the community. The Legislature approved \$2,000 for construction of a building at the new site.

In 1921, the Legislature approved \$75,000 to build Old Main. The colonnaded brick colonial structure opened its doors April 17, 1923.

"It was not just a building," wrote Lumbee author Lew Barton. "It was a beginning for the Indian people. It signified a chance to succeed. Doors were opened that had never been opened before."

Pembroke was an elementary and high school in the beginning. In 1926, the Board of Trustees added a two-year normal course and the elementary school was phased out by 1928.

By 1935, the school was offering a two-year college courses and in 1940 five persons became the first graduating class of the now four-year standard college. The high school was separated from the college in 1939.

"Old Main is a memorial to our Indian forefathers," wrote Barton. "The struggles of the Indian people created her. Now we want the State to free her and keep her."

(NOTE: Funds to build Old Main were secured from the General Assembly of North Carolina through the efforts of Judge L.R. Varner. Funds for the establishment of the first Indian school in Robeson, in 1885, were through the efforts of Hamilton McMillan.)

### BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETS

A group of parents of children who attend Deep Branch School appeared before the Board of Education on Tuesday. Truman Lowry acted as spokesman for the group. The parents stated that some of them did reside in the Green Grove School District and that traditionally the children in that section had attended Deep Branch School. Their request was that the Deep Branch line be extended to include those parents on the Back Swamp Road into the Deep branch School District. Some discussion, questions and answers followed, but no action was taken by the board. The parents were informed that they would be notified shortly of the decision of the board. The children represented were within 3 miles of Deep Branch School and 7

## Contributes to Major League Excursion by Local Youngsters



Charles Graham, Director of the Youth Center of the Pembroke Presbyterian Area Ministry presents a check for \$100.00 to Mr. Wade Hunt (right), who is taking the youngsters on a major league baseball game in Atlanta for a number of local young Little Leaguers July 15 and 16.

The monies will be used to help defray expenses of the trip for the youngsters. The trip is being sponsored by Mr. Wade Hunt, Mr. Lacy Jacobs and Mr. Tryon Lowry in conjunction with the Pembroke Recreation Commission, the Town of Pembroke, the youth center, and other organizations.

The youngsters will see a game between the Atlanta Braves and the Philadelphia Phillies.

The youngsters, little leaguers, are from the Deep Branch, Pembroke, Union Chapel and Union Elementary School areas.

The donation from the youth center is one of many contributions presented by

miles of Green Grove- Hilly Branch. There were approximately 20 parents in attendance, representing approximately 40 children.

The board authorized Supt. Swett to proceed with plans to begin the Occupational Center at the Hilly Branch site for next year. The operation will include moving a mobile unit to the site to be used for occupational classes, including brick masonry, carpentry, health occupations, etc. Some concern was expressed by board members that all children in the county and other systems who are interested be given an opportunity to participate. The courses will cover a 2-hour block in the morning and the afternoon. The center will accommodate 400 students.

Because of the distance from Parkton to the Hilly Branch site, there was some debate about whether Parkton would participate. It was the expressed desire of the board that Parkton High School not be excluded from the program and every effort will be made to furnish transportation which would allow the children to participate without taking a great deal of time in travel from the school to the site.

Occupational Education will not be optional. It will be offered to high schools in the county. It is believed that eventually other school systems in the county will become a part of the program.

After other routine items, the board adjourned in what was one of their shortest meetings. However, there is expectation that the board will have a special called meeting before the August meeting to approve fund raising projects and possibly make a decision on the request of those parents from Deep Branch School,

people and places and things

### PEMBROKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO MEET TONIGHT

The Pembroke Chamber of Commerce will meet tonight (Thursday), July 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Your attendance will be appreciated.

### PSHS FOOTBALL PHYSICALS SLATED FOR JULY 20TH

Physical examinations for all boys who wish to play football at Pembroke Senior High, varsity and junior varsity, will be given Thursday, July 20, 1978 at 8 p.m. at the office of Dr. Martin L. Brooks. The price will be \$8.00 per person.

### IN THE ARMED FORCES

Spec. 4 Giles E. Bullard, whose wife, Brenda, lives at 1604 Seigle Ave., Charlotte, N.C., recently was assigned as a cook with the Eighth U.S. Army in Korea.

Bullard is a 1972 graduate of Fairgrove High School in Fairmont, N.C.

His father, Roosevelt Bullard, lives on Route 6, Fairmont, N.C.

### YARD SALE PLANNED SATURDAY

A yard sale will be held on Saturday, July 15, at the Tabernacle Baptist Church on Highway 711. On sale will be clothing, and various miscellaneous items. The sale begins at 8 a.m.

### PSU ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS NOW FOR FALL GRADUATE PROGRAM

PEMBROKE--Those wishing to begin Pembroke State University's new graduate studies program in Education in August should begin making plans immediately, said Dr. W. Howard Dean, director of graduate studies at PSU. Applications are now being accepted.

Among the admissions requirements is an acceptable score on the aptitude portion of the Miller Analogies Test or Graduate Record Examination. Those wishing to take the Miller Analogies Test may do so here any Thursday at 2 p.m. or make an appointment for other times. Dr. Ray Von Beatty of the PSU Testing Center is in charge of testing.

Registration for the graduate program is Monday, August 28, with classes beginning Thursday, August 31. Classes meet each Thursday for three hours from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The first semester ends Dec. 14 with final exams. Classes will be offered in both winter and summer. Two years are required to complete the program.

In the summer Dr. Dean said graduate courses will be arranged to fit with public school teachers' two-month vacation.

The PSU Masters of Arts program in Education consists of Educational Administration, Educational Supervision, Early Childhood Education (K-3), and Intermediate Education (4-9).

## 'Longest Walk' Treks Through Pembroke Enroute to Washington, D.C.

PEMBROKE--Native people representing the Longest Walk have arrived in Pembroke to gather support from the native people and others in North Carolina. The Longest Walk is a spiritual walk uniting Native Americans. The purpose is to bring attention

to Anti-Indian legislation devastating to the human rights of Indian people. Said a spokesman, "This is a matter of survival for native people today and generations of tomorrow. We need your support desperately. Come on down to the Rally!" The rally will be held in the

Pembroke Jaycee Town Park today, July 13, 1978 (Thursday) from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Members of the Longest Walk will speak on issues concerning the eleven bills detrimental to the native people of North America. Traditional Indian singers will also be a part of the program.

Caravans from this area will be organized to join up with the Longest Walk as they near Washington, D.C. The Pembroke Caravan will assemble July 14, 1978 at 8 a.m. at the Town Park for departure to Raleigh, North Carolina where another caravan will join enroute to the walk. For those unable to assemble at 8 a.m. there will be an evening departure time at 6:00 p.m. For further information contact: The Pembroke Youth Center - 521-3388, Jones Street (behind Pates Supply), Pembroke, N.C. or Tuscarora Center-843-3003.

Donations and financial contributions can also be brought to the above locations.

Local representative Kever Locklear, a Tuscarora spokesman, said, "We want to unite our people...this bad legislation will effect all the Indian people...I want to show that Indians East and West can get together and stay together." Locklear and four other delegates from Robeson County recently traveled to Pennsylvania to see for themselves what was going on because, as Locklear noted, "We were misled down here...so we had to go and find out for ourselves what was going on."

Walk coordinators Bill Simmons and Harold Iron Shield both emphasized the spiritual aspects of the walk noting that the caravans are forbidden to take part in the use of alcohol or drugs. Weapons are also forbidden. The coordinators also said that they provided their own security.



Participants in 'the Longest Walk' pause in Pembroke long enough to take a picture. The group is in Pembroke organizing a caravan and support to go to Washington to demonstrate against "bad" Indian legislation now being

considered in congress. The 'Longest Walk' is a spiritual walk of some 100 Native Nations against eleven pieces of legislation pending with a decided "anti-Indian" flavor.