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HARKER RANDOLPH AND CATHERINE ANN BARTON

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a continuing series on FAMILY--a series on Indian families.

Another family will be spotlighted in February. Look for it.

FAMILY-A SERIES ON INDIAN FAMILIES

The Bartons

by Bruce Barton

All Bartons within the Indian Camp, as well as I have been able to ascertain, trace their Robeson County connections to Charles Barton and Elizabeth Cumbo Barton.

Squire Charles Barton, or C.E. Barton as he is listed on documents (along with his family) is listed in the 1860, 1870 and 1880 census records as a farmer, although many marriage bonds and public documents on file at the Robeson County Courthouse list him as minister and appointed as a Justice of the Peace in 1868.

Barton, according to records, migrated to Robeson County from Maine (New England) and was respected as a leader among the Indians of Robeson County. It is conceivable that he was an acquaintance (possibly even an accomplice) of Henry Berry Lowrie, our fabled hero and focal point of our exciting outdoor drama, "Strike at the Wind". Too, the fact that he was appointed a Justice of the Peace, and the fact that he migrated from Maine "up north" would indicate a Republican sympathizer. A discovered deed even mentions Charles Barton as one of the trustees of a Masonic Lodge in 1870.

Elizabeth Cumbo Barton, Charles Barton's wife, was the daughter of Charles Oxendine and Abby Cumbo. The 1850 Census lists Elizabeth with her mother: The father, Charles Oxendine, is shown living with Joseph and Sarah Chavis, near Allen Lowry (Henry Berry's daddy).

Elizabeth Cumbo Barton and Charles (or C.E.) Barton were the parents of 8 children, according to our findings.

Charles Barton, born about 1812, died in the 1890s and was married to Elizabeth Cumbo.

Elizabeth Cumbo, born about 1830, died June 23, 1915, was daughter of Charles Oxendine and Abbie Cumbo.

Children:
Nathaniel (Bud) Barton: born about 1856 and died March 2, 1922. Married Rose Ann (Pullet) Sanderson Dec. 31, 1879, who was born about 1864 and died July 14, 1955. She was daughter of Malcolm Sanderson and Macky J. Oxendine, Sanderson.

Euphonia (Sis) Barton: born about 1858, date of death uncertain. Married Evander Blue who was born about March 1852 and died June 4, 1921. Evander was the son of Archie Blue and Sally Locklear. Blue, Euphonia was known as Sis Blue and was a celebrated midwife in the Prospect Community.

Eldridge Barton: born about 1859 and died Oct. 25, 1933. Married Sarah J. Bullard Nov. 1, 1881 who was born about 1865 and died Feb. 9, 1944. Sarah was daughter of Noah Bullard and Eliza Cumbo, Bullard.

McDonald (Mack) Barton: born about 1861 and died June 2, 1937. Married Elizabeth Locklear Feb. 4, 1891 who was born 1869 and died in 1898. Elizabeth was daughter of Jackson and Pheny Locklear. He later married Annie Jones July 28, 1901.

Euphonia (Pheny) Barton: born about 1863. Married Plyler Locklear Nov. 30, 1882 who was born about 1862 and died Aug. 7, 1938. Plyler was son of Preston Locklear and Emeline Lowry, Locklear.
Ruel Barton: born about 1865, died Oct. 20, 1926. Married Sallie Ann Locklear who was born about 1875 and died Feb. 16, 1935. Sallie was daughter of Joe Locklear.

Napoleon (Nep) Barton: born about 1872 and died Jan. 9, 1932. Married Sallie Anderson who was born about 1879 and died Feb. 26, 1956.

Descendants of the Barton line today include Bruce Barton, 42, editor of *The Carolina Indian Voice*, along with Garry Lewis Barton, and Connee Barton Brayboy, who are also involved with its operations. Bruce Barton's father, Lewis Randolph Barton is a poet and historian, and the author of *The Most Ironic Story In American History*, a book about the Indians of Robeson County. Lew Barton also served as editor of the *Pembroke Progress* newspaper, quartered in Pembroke, in the early 40s. Garry Lewis Barton is the author of *The Life and Times of Henry Berry Lowry*.

The present day Barton's grandparents are interesting in their own right. Their grandmother, Catherine Ann Dial, was one of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Dial of the Prospect Community. Marcus Dial was one of the 54 Indians who petitioned Congress for help for the Indians in 1888.

Harker Randolph Barton, their grandfather, was the son of Nathaniel "Buddy" Barton and Florence Goins. He was rumored to "be the first Indian to own a typewriter in Robeson County" and had the *Winston Salem Union Republican* and other newspapers, delivered to his door. Harker Randolph Barton was a "saw mill man" by trade but was the Indian people's "Lawyer without a license." He helped many World War I Veterans of Foreign Wars receive their government pensions by successfully petitioning the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other federal agencies, in their behalf. Harker Randolph Barton was a small man of stature but a giant of a good samaritan and intellect. He helped many Indian people by writing letters in their behalf, and planning legal strategy for them. He is fondly remembered by many Indians today who remember him with gratitude. Clement Bullard, himself now in his 70s, and living in Prospect, said of Harker Barton, "He was the Indian people's lawyer. And he helped a many a one of us."

Catherine Ann died in 1943. Harker Randolph Barton in 1954. Barton reared three families, fathering some 17 children.

We are thankful to Carol Oxendine, a genealogist, with the Lumbee Acknowledgment Project, Lumbee Regional Development Assoc., Pembroke, for sharing her extensive records and findings with us.



Rose Marie Lowry

The Robeson County Young Democrats recently elected new officers for 1984. The new officers are: Rose Marie Lowry, President; Chip Bass, Vice-

Catherine Ann Barton: The Earthlyn Angel

by Thelma Barton McCracken, Charlotte, N.C.

This homage was written by Thelma Barton McCracken, one of the seven children of Harker and Catherine Ann Barton, and aunt of the editor of this newspaper.

My childhood days were spent during the depression years of the 1930's, growing up in the Prospect Community. Life was hard for a large family such as we were, seven children. I lived with my family and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harker Randolph Barton, in a big, old ramshackled house in the country. The necessities of life were hard to come by. Papa worked hard to take care of his family, but Mama was the sunshine of our life. She made life bearable for all of us, and in fact, even happy. No matter how short the food supply, Mama had a way of making a delicious meal out of whatever she had on hand. She made our old house a home, a place where we felt loved and secure.

Mama was our friend, our confidant and our teacher. She was filled with the wisdom of the ages. We told her our dreams, and she helped us with our problems. Somehow she knew how to smooth away our little hurts, and the big ones. When we were ill, she was our doctor and our nurse. Mama always had the proper remedy, whether it be sassafras tea or castor oil.

Yes, Mama was indeed the sunshine of our life. Our old house was a mansion, filled with happiness and good will. Her kitchen was filled with the good smell of baking bread and cookies. I remember the way she would sing so very, very softly to herself as she worked in the kitchen. Her voice was beautiful, and I would listen to her singing as I sat by the big fireplace in the kitchen, gazing dreamily into the fire.

Mama was an angel, no doubt about it. She loved her family, and spent her life taking care of us. But Mama was an "earthlyn angel." She could lose her temper in a split second. We learned to never question Mama if she were angry. But we loved and respected her.

If a beggar stopped by our door (which

Notes on Barton Cemetery

Barton Cemetery, the old burying ground of the Barton clan, is in the Prospect Community, hardly used now and overgrown with trees and bush.

One of the many subscription schools, The Barton School, was named in honor of the Bartons. The school was in operation as late as 1889 when reference is made to Anderson Locklear (the stellar educator whom Locklear Hall on the PSU campus is named for) beginning his teaching career there in 1889.

See "Lines To A Former Trustee of Pembroke State College. Anderson Locklear-Pioneer Educator 1890-1934-1952" by PSU Dean Emeritus Clifton Oxendine.

President; Sharon Robinson. Secretary and John Masters, Treasurer.

The organization has set Thursday, January 26, 1984, as their first meeting. According to the new President, Miss Lowry, this is to be an organizational and work session of its members. All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Robeson County Courthouse, Courtroom Number Two, in Lumberton.

The executive committee, in an earlier work session, decided on February 19, 1984 as the date for their installation and awards banquet. At this time new officers will officially be sworn in and two members of the senior party and two members of the Young Democrats will be honored. These four honorees are: Chalmers Biggs and Elizabeth Kemp from the senior party; Denise Oxendine and Ann Rigsbee from the Young Democrats.

The banquet will be held at the Red Carpet Inn Restaurant in Lumberton on Saturday, February 18, 1984 at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Dr. Gerald Maynor. Tickets are available from any member of the Young Democrats Club.

PEOPLE AND PLACES AND THINGS

SINGING AT PEMBROKE CHURCH OF GOD

PEMBROKE--There will be a gospel singing January 27th at Pembroke Church of God. Rev. Jack Hunt is pastor. The singing will take place at 7 p.m. and will feature the D & L Gospel Singers, the Rockingham Singers, the Calvary Singers and others.

The singing is being sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary who will also host a plate sale from 10 a.m. until the same day at the church, featuring barbeque and chicken and pastry. The plates will cost \$3.00.

The ladies, members, and Rev. Hunt cordially invite everyone to share with them.

PROSPECT AUXILIARY FIRE DEPT. SPONSORS BUFFET DINNER

The Prospect Auxiliary Fire Department invites you to a buffet dinner on the 5th of February. The cost is \$5 for an adult plate and \$3 for a child's plate. The time is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Prospect Fire Department.

A CLOSER LOOK Pete Clark



Pete Clark, Chairman

Robeson County Board of Education

by Connee Brayboy

"My first priority is to unite the board of education as members that we might work together in harmony to meet the full needs of the children of Robeson County," stated Pete Clark, Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Education. He was elected chairman by a unanimous vote at the regular December meeting of that body. Clark became the second Indian to hold that position. He replaces David Green, a Black, who served for three years.

"I will strive," Clark continued, "to insure that all children have an equal opportunity to quality education and facilities. I will support those things needed for the children to receive it. I sincerely desire to work for the best educational interests of all children, regardless of color, social or economic status."

Clark is now serving his fourth year as a member of the Robeson County Board of Education, representing District VI, comprised of Thompson, Back Swamp and Gaddys Precincts. He was appointed to replace the unexpired term of Ralph Hunt after his resignation. Clark will face the electorate for the first time during the May Primary.

He is a member of Riverside Memorial Methodist Church where he serves as Adult Sunday School teacher, Stewart and Trustee.

His civic contributions include membership in the Pembroke VFW Post 2843 and serving as Chairman of the Robeson County Parks and Recreation Commission. He is employed by Price Gas & Oil Company in the McDonald community where he has been employed for 20 years, the last 13 as Service Manager.

Clark is the son of the late Rev. and Ms. Z.R. Chavis of the St. Annah Community. He recalls with deep respect and admiration the training he received in the Chavis home. (He and his twin brother were adopted by the Chavises when they were four years old). "All my needs were filled," he recalled. "If I needed a whipping, I got it. If I needed a doctor I received medical attention. Most importantly, I was raised in church. I am a Christian before I am anything else. I am indebted to Z.R. Chavis for my Christian upbringing. He taught me to love everybody, to be honest in all my dealings and always to be a man of my word."

Clark's education includes Pembroke Graded School, graduation from Pembroke High School and he attended Pembroke State College prior to joining the military service. He served three years in the United States Naval Reserve and was on active duty in the European Theatre and the Asiatic Theatre. He stated that the experience he had gained in travel and life in general was more valuable in a sense than formal degrees.

He is married to the former Adell Brooks of Pembroke. He is the father of 13 children and they have raised 18 children. Three of these are still at home with them. Two of the Clark children are students at South Robeson High and the youngest child who is 12, is a student at Fairgrove School.

Wellington again for the House



Tommy Wellington

Tommy Wellington has filed for the N.C. House of Representatives from District 16 which includes Robeson, Scotland and Hoke Counties.

In announcing his candidacy, Wellington said he "plans to plunge into the workings of state government to first understand its structure and then to avidly support programs that will be beneficial to all the people of this district."

He said he hopes to "restore some of the respect for our political system that has seemingly slipped away through the years."

A resident of the Saddletree Community, Wellington and his son operate a family farming business. He is active in volunteer work, particularly with the elderly and in rehabilitation programs that work against drug abuse and alcoholism.

He is married to the former Joyce Powers, a math teacher at Lumberton Junior High School. They attend Rozier Baptist Church where they serve as Sunday School teachers. Wellington also serves as a Deacon and choir director. He is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Good Shepherd Home in Lake Waccamaw.

His educational background includes St. Pauls Elementary School, Lumberton High, Wingate Junior College, and Wake Forest University.

Tribal Council Status for LRDA vote set

Lumbees to vote Tuesday on Tribal Council Status for LRDA. See Page 6.

was not uncommon in those days) for a drink of water or a piece of bread, Mama was ready to share what she had. There were days when Mama went to help nurse a sick friend or neighbor, leaving the younger children in the care of an older sister. These were the times when I realized how fortunate we were to have a mother such as ours. When she was gone, the poverty in our life became more real and clear. But on her return, she brought back the sunshine with her.

We grew up and went away to distant cities to make a life of our own. But wherever we went, we knew that Mama was with us in spirit, and that we were securely wrapped in her prayers. We knew that the God she so faithfully believed in, and taught us to trust, surely walked with us.

Mama's main mission in life was to live long enough to see all her children safely launched into adulthood. If she had any other secret desires or ambitions, she never voiced them. That mission was accomplished when I, at age twenty-two, left the nest.

When I visited Mama about one year later, I noticed that she was thin and pale. Her beautiful dark hair was speckled with gray. Mama was ill for the first time in her life. She was in the hospital for only a short time when she passed away in 1943 at the age of 54, from complications following a gall bladder operation.

It was hard for the family to accept. We had lost the dearest, and most wonderful friend we would ever know. But we had her when we needed her most, and long enough to teach us the values of becoming worthwhile persons. But most important, she taught us to love. For this, I say, "Thank you Mama."

God, in His infinite wisdom, decided to take his "Earthlyn Angel" home. I know that she reigns as a very special angel, and I can picture her with a bright halo 'round about her, as she sings very, very softly. "In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore."

Good-bye Mama.

Present-day Barton clan

One present day Barton clan are the children of Mrs. Berna Barton of Pine Street, Pembroke and Lew(is) Randolph Barton of Strickland Heights, Pembroke.

They are: Bruce Barton, 42; Renee Barton McCrary, 39, Cullman, Ala.; Gloria Barton Gates, 37, Chapel Hill, N.C.; Connee Barton Brayboy, 35, Prospect Community; Garry Lewis Barton, 32, of Pembroke; Roger Dale Barton, 30, of Pembroke; and Ricky Mitchell Barton, 24, of Pembroke.

Deceased are Mary Ruth Watkins Barton, Burlington, N.C., who was 39 when she died in 1979; and Ernie Lee Barton, 31, when he died in 1980. Both were killed in car accidents.