

Sea Level, A Village of Three Names

I. M. Whisnant Directs Hospital

I. Marshall Whisnant, of Charlotte, has been retained by the Sea Level Community Hospital's Board of Trustees as administrator of the hospital.

A native of Charlotte, Mr. Whisnant attended public school there, and Davidson College, graduating from Davidson in 1950, with a BS



I. M. Whisnant ... supervises hospital

degree in business administration. Following his graduation he served two years internship in hospital administration at Charlotte Memorial Hospital.

He was employed by the American Hospital Association as a field representative for a commission on the study of hospital finance prior to coming to Sea Level Sept. 1, 1952.

Mr. Whisnant married the former Ashlyn C. Spencer, of Charlotte, in August 1952. Mrs. Whisnant is employed as inkeeper at the new Sea Level Inn.

Space Has Been Provided For Thousand Cars to Park

A. H. Grigsby, aide to the Taylors in the Sea Level construction project, reports that there is parking space for a thousand cars tomorrow.

A total of 400 cars will be parked on both sides of the road by the hospital and 200 more will be placed to the east of the parking lot.

State highway patrolmen will be present to direct traffic.

Can you imagine a village being a "Wit"? Well it's true, according to no lesser authority than the Post Office Department, Washington, D. C. The village of Sea Level was once officially named "Wit." In fact the community has had a number of names.

Sea Level was once referred to as Mill Point. A post office was first established there May 13, 1873, and was known as the Mill Point post office. Alfred H. Chadwick was postmaster. The office was discontinued Feb. 18, 1876.

In 1880 the post office was moved a couple of miles eastward, re-opening under the name of Atlantic. Thomas Chadwick was postmaster. This office was closed Aug. 4, 1892. Meanwhile, another post office had opened at Sea Level on March 11, 1891, and was known

as Wit post office. The Atlantic post office re-opened July 28, 1893, and has remained open since that date.

At Sea Level the Wit post office remained as such until March 4, 1915, with Wallace Willis serving as postmaster. On that date, the post office department, at the request of the residents of the area, changed the name from Wit to Sea Level.

Another unique feature of the village was the operation there many years ago, of a windmill, very similar to those in Holland. The mill was used in the manufacture of corn meal for residents of the area, and its grinding stones were enclosed in a small house.

The house was located several feet off the ground and was designed so it could be turned on its

foundation in order for its sails, (propeller), to face the direction from which the wind was blowing.

A long flight of steps led from the ground to the door of the mill house. Parallel and adjacent to these steps was a tiller, a long pole. When the direction of the wind changed, the miller would descend from the mill, raise the steps along with the tiller, and turn the sails to again face the wind.

At times there would be so much wind that the rocks would grind too fast to turn out good meal. When this happened the cloth sails on the frames, (propeller blades), could be reefed, just as one reefs the sails on a boat, thus reducing the revolving speed of the blades.

Mr. Allen Taylor, 79, of Sea Level, says he carried many bushels of corn to the mill to be ground when he was a boy. There were several such mills in the county.

Our Congratulations and Thanks
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For the Fine Thing They Are Doing
For the People of Carteret County.



Headen G. Willis
General Merchandise
SMYRNA, N. C.

CONGRATULATIONS



Clayton Sr., Harry and Clayton Fulcher Jr. wish to express heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the fine contribution to eastern Carteret County by the Taylor Brothers of Sea Level, N. C. Nearly one quarter of a century of business relationship has shown the interest of the Taylor Brothers in the general welfare of the people of Carteret County, and now with the building of The Sea Level Community Hospital they have shown their deepest interest in the health and welfare of the people of their birthplace.



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