

Outer Banks History

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racke Inlet. This town was destined to become the center of one of the most active ports of entry in the colony for several years.

A commission was appointed for laying out Portsmouth, the town site consisting of 50 acres. Lots were to be one-half acre each, with convenient streets.

The same act of 1783 ordered the building of Fort Granville as a protection for sea traffic entering Pamlico Sound. On a nearby island, known as Shell Castle, was built the state's first port terminal. Seagoing vessels entered Ocracoke Inlet, discharged cargoes that were placed in warehouses there for transshipping to the river ports on the mainland.

Portsmouth, once a proud and busy port of the Banks, is in the process of becoming a ghost town. From a population that once numbered over a thousand, there are but eight persons now living year-around in the village.

Along its shore from Portsmouth to Cape Lookout, Core Banks has been gale-whipped by the storms of the Atlantic. Shipwrecks and heroic rescues from its breakers have gone down in maritime history.

Coast Guarded
Two Coast Guard stations serve the shipping off the Banks—Atlantic Station some 25 miles below Portsmouth and the Cape Lookout Station.

One of the most heroic rescues made by a crew of the Cape Lookout Station was the saving of six men from the schooner Sara D. J. Rawson that went into the breakers in February 1905. Nine members of the life saving crew made the rescue. Each was awarded a gold medal.

Early maps show Core Banks to be one continuous stretch of land. Today it is divided into two so-called islands by Drum Inlet below Portsmouth and Bardens Cut or Inlet near the Cape.

Sparse vegetation and low growing shrubs cover most of the Banks. Wild ponies and some gaunt cattle range the dunes of Core and Shackleford Banks. Roundups for the branding of new colts take place on these Banks each summer. With the exception of hunter's camps, several cottages, and a few fishermen huts, there is no regular habitation on Core Banks from Portsmouth to Cape Lookout.

In the early part of the 1800's a crude lighthouse was erected at the Cape as an aid to navigation. In 1858 the present tower and light was started, being completed just before the outbreak of the Civil War. It was badly damaged by Federal forces when an attempt was made to blow it up. In 1887 the Coast Guard Station at this point was put in operation.

Buoys Replace Lightship
A familiar sight off Cape Lookout for nearly a half century after the Civil War was the Cape Lookout lightship, known as "Old 80." It was replaced by modern buoys to mark the breakers south of the Cape.

Before the outbreak of World War I, a project was started to build a railroad to the Cape, create a coaling station and a harbor of refuge. Thousands of tons of granite were placed out from the Cape to form a breakwater. War halted this project and the breakwater was never completed. This project interested a number of land speculators at the time who bought up large acreage near the proposed coaling station. A town, as well as a summer resort was planned.

Interest in this section was revived in 1933 when a company known as the Cape Lookout Highway, Inc., was formed with the idea of building a highway from Lennoxville to the Cape. This project failed for lack of funds.

That arm of Core Banks extending westward from the Cape, known today as Shackleford Banks, has a background of most interesting history. There were inhabitants along its shore more than 200 years ago. An old map dated 1764 designates a building as "Davis," a beacon light, and whalers' huts. These landmarks are shown on the map about five miles west of the Cape, within the "hook." This location in later years became the site of Diamond City, the largest settlement ever on Shackleford Banks.

Whaling Profitable
Although fishing was engaged in to a large extent by these early settlers, the whaling industry, centered about Diamond City, proved the most profitable. In addition to the permanent inhabitants along the coast, the annual whaling season in southern waters brought whalers from as far north as Cape Cod and Nantucket Island.

Smaller settlements known as Wades Shore, Mullet Pond, Whale Creek and Belles Island made up a township in and about the Cape. In its active fishing and whaling

days over 500 homes formed the township, most of which were destroyed in the storm of 1898.

A voting precinct was maintained on the Banks for several years. Also two public schools gave the children educational advantages. The East Shackleford school was at Diamond City and the West Shackleford school at Wades Shores. They were discontinued in 1910. These buildings were the centers of community affairs as well as places for the holding of religious services.

Three notable events occurred on the Banks to keep alive its history and legends. In 1744 when Spanish privateers entered Old Topsail Inlet and sacked the town of Beaufort, raids were made on the Banks for the securing of cattle and other living needs.

Blackbeard Here?
Some historians claim that the pirate Blackbeard used the Banks for the burying of his ill-gotten loot, but no evidence has ever come to light to prove this claim. Several years ago a rusty cutlass of Spanish design was found along the shore.

Although many wrecks have occurred along this coast, it remained for that of the "Crisie Wright" in January 1886, to establish an event that has carried down the years. This wreck occurred at one of the coldest times in the history of the county, causing the freezing to death of six members of its crew before rescuers from the several villages were able to reach the wreck, saving only one man.

It was not until a year later that a lifesaving station was put in service at the Cape. Even today old-timers along the coast, talking of cold weather, never find it as cold as when the "Crisie Wright" went ashore.

The other severe disaster was the storm of 1898, that practically destroyed all the homes on the banks, along with many boats and fishing gear. From that time on, a gradual exodus took place, the inhabitants going mostly to the mainland.

Today, a hunting lodge or two dots this sandy waste. Small banks roam the dunes which have mingled with the dust of those hardy men of the sea.

Across from Shackleford Point lies Bogue Banks, the first stretch of Outer Banks to greet the eye of Verrazano. He sailed northward from Cape Fear, found the coast "to trend toward the east." It is doubtful if the contour and vegetation of this island has changed much since first sighted by this explorer in 1524.

Like Core Sound, this sandy waste and sound received its name from a tribe of Indians, members of the Choctaw tribe who are supposed to have been located at Cedar Point. While artifacts have come to light, there is no evidence that an Indian village ever existed on the Banks.

As a means to help prevent sea raiders from entering the sounds, a small fort was ordered built by the Assembly in 1756, named Fort Dobbs. The location of this fort has long since washed away, as well as that of Fort Hampton built in 1810. During a program of coast defense-building by the Government in the 1820's, Fort Macon was built, taking ten years for completion.

Tracing the history of Bogue Banks from the coming of the early settlers into the county—this section of Outer Banks was settled by fishermen who had no claim to the land, either by grant or purchase. The first settlement of any size was at the western end of the Banks, known as Bob's Cove. Dying vegetation and shifting sand sent the people eastward to a location which became known as Rice Path.

Wrecked Schooner
Naming of this place came about by the wrecking of a schooner on the beach, containing a cargo of rice. To reach the shore to salvage the rice, the men cut a way through the cedars and underbrush over which to tote their find. This path to the ocean side became known as the rice path. So the people gave that name to their community.

Once again the elements drove the people eastward. Their next settlement was on higher ground at Piney Creek. Here they remained for several years, until many of the people made their last move to Salter Path.

The first church—Methodist—on the Banks was at this settlement. Proud of their new house of worship, a bell was purchased and hung from a post near the building. This prized possession which

called those hardy folks to worship, gave to the community the name—Bell Cove. When the site was abandoned in later years the house of worship was moved to the mainland at Broad Creek.

Sales Forced Moves
The movement of these fisher folk from point to point was not due entirely to the elements. Grants and purchases of Banks land gave ownership to large tracts, the owners of which may have helped to cause the migration. But little value was placed on this wild arid land. Deeds show that tracts were purchased for 5 cents to 15 cents an acre.

It remained for a northern man, John A. Royal, purchaser of a large tract of Banks land in later years, to provide a permanent site for the homes of these dispossessed persons. Royal selected a location on high ground, 3,000 feet in width, extending from ocean to sound, with the privilege of cutting wood on land one mile westward.

This land was to descend from one generation to another of the original settlers, the real estate taxes to be paid by any owner of adjoining land. So, today Salter Patners, with the exception of personal property taxes, are tax free. Legal battles in years past have been fought over the title, but the present holders are still the winners. First known as Gillikin, the town was given its present name when a post office was established.

The most historic event to occur on Bogue Banks was the battle of Fort Macon, April 25, 1862, when Federal forces during the Civil War captured the fort after a one-day battle. Today this ancient bastille and surrounding park is one of the most visited historical spots in the state.

Foed Brings Death
Tragedy stalked the Banks in November 1917 when a double slaying took place. J. Wheeler Glover, owner of a large tract, is thought to have had an argument with Charlie Salter of Bell Cove, who was said to have let his cattle run on Glover's land, also doing some hunting against Glover's orders.

The facts and story of the slaying died with the two men. Both were shot to death, dying before found by searchers. Salter died from a shot in his heart, Glover dying from a gaping wound in his side. Shotguns were used by each man.

Of the three sections of Outer Banks along the coast of Carteret County, Bogue Banks has made the greatest development through the years. From a start in 1887 when a bathing pavilion was constructed on the beach, it has become one of the most popular summer resorts along the state's coast.

Where once those hardy fishermen of yore dragged their nets upon sandy beach, now long fishing piers reach out into the ocean for the convenience of sports fishermen. Summer homes, a far cry from the huts and crude homes of past day, line the ocean side for miles.

The Outer Banks of Bogue has come into its own.

WOW Welcomes Three Members

At a special meeting of Woodmen of the World Camp 188 Monday evening, T. C. Hyman Jr., Frank C. Sarvis and James Young were welcomed as new members. The new officers for 1958 are James W. Bell, consul commander; Gerald V. Phillips, past consul commander; Dennis O. Brinson Sr., advisor lieutenant; Barrett Davis, banker.

Robert E. Bittner, escort; Rufus L. Turnage, financial secretary; William O. Ball, watchman; Miford R. Lewis, sentry; Earl A. Sells, Kenneth Miller and E. B. Thompson, auditors; Dr. S. W. Hatcher, camp physician. Earl W. Couch was elected captain of the degree team.

The civic and fraternal program for the year was outlined by Mr. Bell. A number of members were appointed to serve on various committees.

The camp plans to sponsor a hillbilly program and present an American flag and flagpole to Morehead City School. The flagpole has already been erected at the school.

Coal is the chief industry of West Virginia. Chemicals have second place with 34 major plants, employing more than 28,000 workers.



News from
SOUND VIEW

Jan. 14—The Rev. Limmie Taylor of Richlands filled his appointment here Sunday and Sunday night. He was accompanied by his family, being the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Pelletier.

Friends regret to know Mr. Al. Bush Health is now in Chapel Hill hospital with a back ailment. We wish for him a speedy recovery.

Mr. Roy Russell spent the weekend with his family. He is stationed at Fort Bragg.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Taylor and family of Morehead spent a short while with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Taylor, Sunday.

Friends of Mr. Elmer Garner regret to know he is not doing so

well now. We wish for him a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Allen Hewitt of Newport visited Mrs. Minnie Elliott and son, Douglas, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wylie Taylor of Georgetown, S. C., spent last weekend with relatives here.

Those who observed birthdays last week were Wayne West, Judy West, Reginald Hall and Rocky Taylor.

Mrs. J. B. Henderson visited Mrs. Lucille Page Monday.

Mrs. Sadie Mann attended church here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Guthrie of Morehead were business visitors at Lester Hall's Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray McLendon were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Henderson Saturday night.

Miss Leona Taylor spent Saturday night with Brenda Taylor.

Those who visited Mr. Elmer Garner Monday were Mrs. J. H. Lewis, Mrs. Izorah Bell, Mrs. Mol-



lie Hall, Mrs. Joe Barnes, Mrs. Willie Pelletier, Mrs. Minnie Elliott and Mr. and Mrs. Willie Page. Friends regret to learn that Mrs. Louise Taylor has been on the sick list. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. William Piner visited her mother, Mrs. H. A. Taylor, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Hale visited Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Morton in New Bern Thursday night.

There is a village in North England named "No Name."

Tuttle's Grove

Jan. 15 — Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Phelps are visiting her brother and sister-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Clifford W. Lewis of High Point.

Mrs. G. L. Dudley accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Styron to Charlotte on a buying trip for the store. While there, she plans to attend a fashion show.

Mrs. Allie Lewis, Mr. Kelly Lewis, and Miss Geraldine Lewis spent Sunday with Mrs. Lewis' son, Sterling and family of Raleigh.

Mr. Kearney Merrill Sr. has returned home from Sea Level Hospital.

The Rev. Robert Pouk filled his regular appointment at the worship service Sunday evening at Tuttle's Grove Methodist Church. Miss Barbara Kittrell spent the weekend with her aunt, Mrs. Needaun Dunn, of Newport.

The weekly prayer service was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Phelps Friday night. The next service will be held at the home of Mrs. Dollie Dudley.

Mrs. J. E. Taylor has returned home after a visit with her son, John C. Sawyer, and family of Rocky Mount.

Miss Blanche Dudley had as her guests Sunday her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dudley, of Beaufort.

Mr. Lonnie Foreman and family of Belhaven spent Friday and Saturday with his sister, Mrs. Dollie Dudley, of Beaufort.

Education "Loafing"
Vancouver (AP) — The West is losing the education race with Russia because it is "loafing," says Dr. Cyril Reid, chemistry professor at the University of British Columbia. "Our children learn too soon that one does not need an education to make a comfortable living," he told a discussion group.

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PICNICS

FRESH PORK **35c** LB.

COUNTRY PIG PURE PORK **SAUSAGE** 1-LB. ROLL **49c**
WINNER QUALITY SLICED **BACON** LB. **63c**
THIN SLICED BEEF **LIVER** LB. **39c**

Best Buy — Center Slices **SMOKED HAM** LB. **89c**
FRESH CHEF'S PRIDE POTATO SALAD 16-OZ. CUP **31c**
CHEF'S PRIDE CHICKEN SALAD 8-OZ. CUP **47c**

SAVE 10c AT CS! BAKERITE
SHORTENING 3-LB. CAN **69c**

SAVE 10c AT CS! GARNER'S
GRAPE JELLY 20-OZ. JAR **29c**

SAVE 8c AT CS! ARMOUR'S
CORNERED BEEF 12-OZ. CAN **39c**

SAVE 3c AT CS! HUDSON
TABLE NAPKINS PKG. OF 50 **10c**

Blue Bonnet **MARGARINE** 2 1-LB. QTRS. **57c**

Frozen-Rite Parker House **FROZEN ROLLS** PKG. **39c**

Our Pride Half Moon **POUND CAKE** 18-OZ. CAKE **47c**

Morton's Frozen **CHERRY TARTS** 2 9-OZ. TARTS **29c**

Virginia Winesap **APPLES** 2 LBS. **25c**

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HEINZ TOMATO **KETCHUP** 14-OZ. BOT. **25c**

FUSS 'N BOOTS ALL-FISH **CAT FOOD** 3 9-OZ. CANS **25c**

DETERGENT FOR DISHES **LIQUID VEL** 12-OZ. CAN **40c**
WITH FREE DISH CLOTH **SILVER DUST** LGE. PKG. **35c**
ALL-PURPOSE **KRAFT OIL** QT. BOT. **67c**

SHORTENING **SNOWDRIFT** 3-LB. CAN **97c**
PILLSBURY **BISCUITS** 2 CANS **25c**
BEAUTY SOAP **PALMOLIVE** REG. BAR **10c**

Detergent **BREEZE** LGE. PKG. **35c**

Liquid Detergent **WISK** PINT CAN **41c**

STORE HOURS:
Morehead City and Beaufort
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
8 A.M. to 6 P.M.
Friday, 8 A.M. to 7 P.M.
Saturday, 8 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.
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