



NEWSLETTER

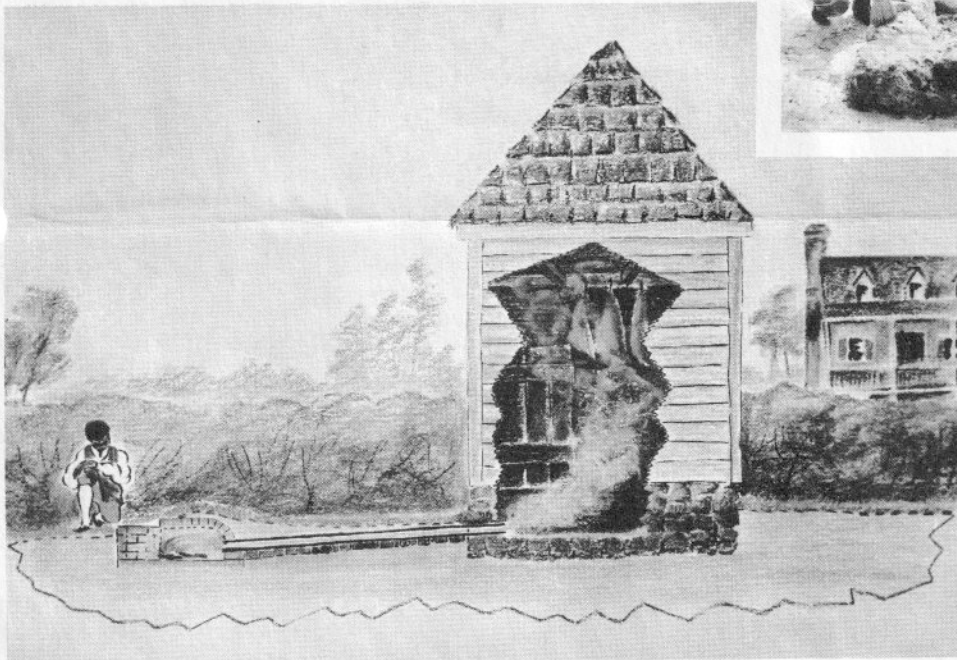
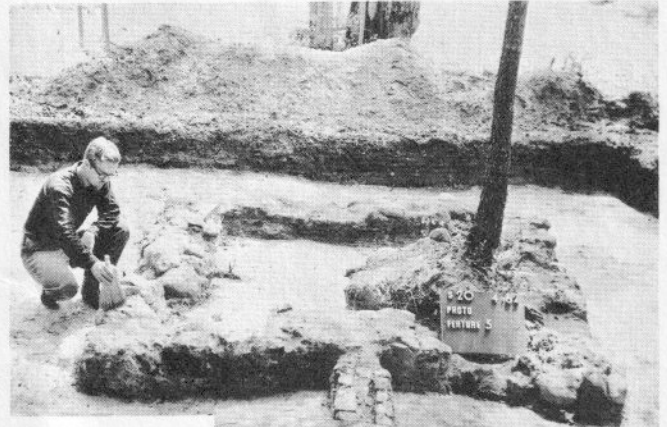
BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 632, SHALLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

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The Smokehouse Ruin with Brick Firebox
During Recent Excavation. ▶

A Conjectural Cut-away Drawing of the
Smokehouse as it Appeared in the 1760's. ▼



AN UNUSUAL SMOKEHOUSE IS DISCOVERED AT BRUNSWICK TOWN

The ruin of a smokehouse has recently been excavated on lot 28 in Brunswick Town. This property was acquired by Judge Maurice Moore in 1759, and consisted of a half-acre lot with a dwelling house, a well, a separate kitchen building, and a formal garden. The ruin of the dwelling house is being excavated at the present time.

The smokehouse ruin consisted of a ballast stone foundation ten feet square, with a layer of ashes on the original floor level. A brick firebox was found at a distance of ten feet from the smokehouse, and was joined to it by a brick lined ditch through which the smoke passed into the smokehouse from the firebox.

This type smokehouse with exterior firebox allowed the operator to keep a fire going to pro-

vide smoke without the necessity of entering the smokehouse itself.

No smokehouse of this type is known from the excavations at Williamsburg or any other colonial town. However, a Wilmington resident remembers such an arrangement in a smokehouse owned by his uncle in South Carolina, and says that as a boy he often sat with a palmetto leaf and fanned smoke from the firebox through the tunnel into the smokehouse. The archaeologist is interested in talking with others who may have seen similar smokehouses. If you have such information, please contact him by writing to Box 3544, Wilmington, North Carolina.

Stanley South, Archaeologist
Brunswick Town State Historic Site
N. C. Dept. of Archives and History

AUGUST MEETING
of
THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PLACE: Woodburn Presbyterian Church
Leland, North Carolina
DATE: August 13, 1962
TIME: 8'00 o'clock P. M.

PROGRAM

The first part of the program for the August 13 meeting of the Society will be conducted by the Reverend H. Arthur Phillips, Jr., who will give a brief history of the Carolina Charter of 1663.

The second part of the program will feature a round-table discussion, with three interested senior citizens of the Leland and Northwest area of Brunswick County, who will relate their respective area histories.

ERECTION OF DISPLAY

On Tuesday afternoon, August 7, a new display was erected at Brunswick Town. It shows visitors that this Society has been publicizing and stressing interest in Brunswick Town as well as other historic sites in the County. The display shows some of the accomplishments of this group, such as the two historical placemats and also two copies of the Newsletter. The display points out to visitors how they may help in furthering the publicity of Brunswick Town. We hope the membership will stop by and see the display.

EXCELLENT RESPONSE TO PLACEMATS

Over 5,000 of the historical placemats have been sold to area restaurants and to individuals. I am sure you will agree that this is certainly an excellent response to our aim of promoting history of Brunswick County. It is up to you to see that these placemats are widely distributed in this area, so be sure to mention them to your interested friends and restaurant owners. At this time the placemat on the County in general, is being revised for a second printing, due to the overwhelming response.

YOUR ASSISTANCE NEEDED

As a member of the Society, the Newsletter is your bulletin. Anyone who has information concerning old documents, photographs, artifacts (Indian and Colonial) or other pertinent material which might be used in the Newsletter, please do not hesitate to send it to "NEWSLETTER, P. O. Box 632, Shallotte, North Carolina.

THANKS

We appreciate the cooperation of those who have contributed articles for the Newsletter. We need more papers on the old plantations and settlements. It would be most interesting and worth while if these old plantations and settlements could be written up, and authenticated, back to the original grant. RESEARCH IS NEEDED.

NORTH CAROLINA HISTORY - A NEGLECTED OPPORTUNITY

by

H. Arthur Phillips, Jr.

"A valley of contentment between two mountains of conceit," is the label that has been tacked on The Old North State. The aristocratic tradition of North Carolina's neighbors is known far and wide. The tourist folders exhort us to visit Tidewater Virginia, "The nation's birthplace, the Mother of Presidents, the great battleground of the Civil War," and so on ad infinitum. Our Southern neighbor exhorts us to visit historic Charleston, "One of the most hauntingly beautiful cities in the world," according to THE ENCYCLOPEDIA AMERICANA. Charleston, first in this, first in that, and so on, ad infinitum, we hear.

But alas! Poor old North Carolina. No aristocratic tradition to speak of. No history. No local color. "Carry me back to ole Virginny." Overdrawn? Perhaps. But there is enough truth in this to make us Tar Heels sit up and take note. The writer happens to be a native Virginian, but an adopted Tar Heel. Therefore, he feels qualified to speak frankly about this matter. And to put it on a purely economic basis. Virginia and South Carolina have "mopped up" in "selling" history to the public. Maybe the South lost the War (for many Virginians and South Carolinians, there was only one war; therefore, we capitalize it!), but the Yankees are paying for it now as clever Rebels exploit the tourists from up "Nawth" with the attractions of a romantic past.

"Poor old North Carolina," it is said. "She produced fewer generals than any other Southern state during The War." Yes, but North Carolina produced more private soldiers. And who fights wars? Generals or privates? Virginia - the Cradle of the Revolution. Ah, yes. But the first armed resistance to British rule occurred in Brunswick County, North Carolina. Virginia reaps a huge profit in exploiting Jamestown and Williamsburg. But what about Brunswick Town, described as "the best unspoiled colonial site in America?" Romantic Adventure? What about the pirates who operated around Cape Fear? What was the leading blockade running port of the Southern Confederacy. Our own "Wonderful Wilmington." Where may some of the old wrecks even now be seen at low tide? On the Brunswick County coast! Where is the site of some of the largest remaining earthworks of the Civil War fort? Brunswick County's own Fort Anderson.

Yes, North Carolina may take pride in being a valley of contentment. But the danger is that we will be too proud of our humility. Or just as bad, that contentment may not be contentment at all - it could be apathy instead.

North Carolina history - a neglected opportunity. This could be brought closer home. Brunswick County history - a neglected opportunity. Our own historical society is trying to preserve our rich historical heritage, but members are few and far between. If the reader will allow this Virginian to quote Patrick Henry, a noble Virginia orator, "I know of no way of judging the future but by the past. My feet are guided by the lamp of experience." I think our point can be made clear. The feet of our civilization will be guided by our history - our lamp of experience as a people. Let us wake up! We have been asleep, not in a valley of contentment, but in a chasm of apathy!

(The Rev. H. Arthur Phillips is the minister of Camp Methodist Church, Shallotte, North Carolina.)

GOOSE MARSH PLANTATION

Brunswick County, North Carolina

This plantation is located on the old Smithville (now Southport) and Georgetown, South Carolina road. It is fifteen miles from Southport, and about six miles South-west from Bolivia. It is about three miles from Antioch Baptist Church.

The first of the Galloway-Swain family to own Goose Marsh was Nathaniel Galloway, Senior, and it has been in the family for nearly one hundred and fifty years.

Ann Eliza Galloway, daughter of Nathaniel Galloway, Junior, married George W. Swain over one hundred years ago. However, the Swains and Galloways have scattered over many states of the Union, and have contributed to the many phases of American life. Bishop Charles Betts Galloway came from this family.

Goose Marsh is now owned by Mrs. R. R. Stone of Wilmington, who is a direct descendant, and was born on this plantation. She is the 5th generation to own it.

The "old house," as it was affectionately called, was a large two story building, with dormer windows. It was built of "squared" logs - large - dove-tailed together and pinned. Plastered between the cracks, lathed and plastered inside, and shingled on the outside.

The interior woodwork in the old Goose Marsh house would seem to indicate it was built in the Colonial period - the large fireplace and mantel, the panels in the shutters at the windows, and, particularly the Colonial color of the paint - the reds and greens used in the houses at Williamsburg, Virginia. It was probably built between 1770 and 1800.

In later years (fifty or more) the old house was torn down, but the large chimney was left standing. The brick in this chimney was sold to one of the neighboring farmer's who tore it down. There was found to be a vault beneath the hearth large enough to hold a good size box. Rumor had it that this vault contained around \$40,000.00; but this rumor was never verified. The Wilmington Morning Star of that time carried quite an interesting story of this "find."

During the early years the principal money crops were turpentine, tar, corn, cotton and potatoes. Many cattle, sheep, hogs, etc. were raised, therefore the plantation was self sustaining, both for food and clothes.

Hospitality was dispensed with a lavish hand, both to kinfolk and to friends from far and near.

In time farming was discontinued, due to the scarcity of labor, etc., and the stately pines were left to rest from their productivity; and now one hears the "sighing" of their boughs in the breeze.

Erla Swain Stone
(Mrs. R. R. Stone)

August 11, 1962.