



THE WHITTLERS BENCH

SOUTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P. O. BOX 10130, SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA 28461

July 10, 1984

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JOIN THE CELEBRATION! "The Roanoke Voyages/America's 400th Anniversary" scheduled for July 19, 1984.

The Society's summer meeting will feature an audiovisual program on the Roanoke voyages. The making of the films was funded by the N. C. Museum of History Associates. The meeting which begins at 7:30 P. M., will be held in the Board Room of the Public Library on Thursday, July 19th. Please plan to attend. Guests are welcome.

FOUR HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY:

The celebration of America's Four Hundredth Anniversary officially begins at Manteo, North Carolina, on July 13 with the commissioning of "Elizabeth II", a replica of the 16th Century ships which brought the colonists who landed on Roanoke Island. Princess Anne, the only daughter of Queen Elizabeth II, is expected to participate. The three-year celebration will end on August 18, 1987, the 400th Anniversary of the birth of Virginia Dare, first child born to an English settler in the New World.

FORT CASWELL IN WAR AND PEACE, by Ethel Herring and Carolee Williams, is available for \$12.00 from Broadfoot's Bookmark, Route 3, Box 318, Wendell, N. C. 27591. This history of the old fort emphasizes the military role of Fort Caswell from its construction in 1826, through the Civil War, and on to World War II.

MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED SIXTY GUESTS VISIT OLD SOUTHPORT JAIL OVER JULY FOURTH Member Paul Sweeney's labor in cleaning up the jail cells and preparing an interesting exhibit of old Southport area pictures from the State Port Pilot's "The Way It Was", proved to be time well spent as more than 160 visitors showed up to tour the 1904 jail. Bubba Smith had provided an added attraction with his collection of old bullets, uniform buttons and coins from the Southport area. Our thanks to Paul, Bubba, Eleanor Smith, Pauline Swain, Milton Prevost and all the other volunteers.

THE CEMETERIES OF SOUTHPORT (SMITHVILLE) AND SURROUNDING AREA STILL AVAILABLE:

Dot Schmidt has done a splendid job in compiling into book form a listing of all graves in all the cemeteries in and around Southport - of course, where the stones and incipations are still visible. If you do not have your copy, then you should see about getting it from Leggett's, the Library or the Curiosity Shop. For those of you who want to order by mail the address is: The Curiosity Shop, 113 North Howe Street, Southport, N. C. 28461. The price by mail is \$8.75, or \$8.00 if you pick it up locally. Be sure to tell people this is available.

OLD ORDINANCES: On the following page we continue with the ordinances passed at the June 28, 1898 meeting of the Southport Board of Aldermen. The first three ordinances were given in the April issue of WHITTLERS BENCH.

OLD CITY ORDINANCES (enacted at the June 28, 1898 meeting of the Southport Board of Aldermen) and continued from the April 1984 issue of WHITTLED BENCH:

Ordinance No. 4

Section 1. It is hereby declared unlawful for any cattle, hogs or goats to be running at large within the following described boundaries, viz, Beginning at the marsh west J. F. Arnold's residence, running thence along the northern line of Brown Street to Fiddlers drain or Bonnets Creek to the Cape Fear River, and to include all improved streets in the Weeks & Smith subdivision. Any cattle, hogs or goats so found shall be taken up and impounded and if not redeemed by the owner thereof shall after ten days notice in three public places, giving description of said animals so taken up, be sold at public auction, the proceeds thereof to be paid to the owner of said animal after deducting the cost and expense for each animal so taken up. The city marshal or policeman shall charge 50c for each head of cattle so taken up and impounded. For each head of hogs or goats taken up the marshal or policeman shall charge 50c and for feeding animals so taken up he shall charge 25c a day for each head of hogs or goats. Provided, however, all cattle, bulls and steers excepted, may run at large from sunrise until 9 o'clock p. m. from April 1st until October 1st and from October 2nd until May 31st from the house (hours?) of sunrise until 8 o'clock p. m. upon the payment of \$1.50 to the tax collector on or before August 1st 1899.

Section 2. It is further ordered that when cattle become a nuisance by breaking into enclosures, opening gates, or otherwise, when complained of by any citizen, and the Mayor deems the complaint justified, the owner or owners thereof shall be notified and they are required to remove and keep them from the streets, in which case proportionate amount of the taxes paid for such animal to run at large may be returned to the owner or owners, upon failure to comply with above the marshal or policeman shall impound said cattle and collect fee as of any other cattle that have not paid privilege tax. It is further provided that calves under six months old may run at large at all times.

Ordinance No. 5.

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to deface any monument or tomb within the cemetery enclosure, or to injure any shrubbery, trees or flowers, or to break any lock or gate or any fence in or around the cemetery, or to let any goats or cattle therein. The violation of this ordinance shall be deemed a misdemeanor and any person shall upon submission or conviction pay a fine of not less than five dollars, nor more than twenty-five dollars, and costs.

(OH, HOW WONDERFUL IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IF THIS ORDINANCE HAD BEEN ENFORCED OVER THE YEARS. OUR CEMETERIES HAVE BEEN SO NEGLECTED).

Ordinance No. 6.

Section 1. The Mayor shall have the authority, when he deems it necessary, to appoint one or more special policemen.

Section 2. Any suspicious character or characters without any visible means of support, loitering within the city limits, shall be deemed vagrants and shall at the discretion of the Mayor be compelled to work on the streets of the city, or be imprisoned at the discretion of the Mayor.

ORDINANCES, CONTINUED.

Section 3. That the selling by any person or persons of intoxicating liquors inside the city limits be declared a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of fifty dollars and costs for each offence.

Ordinance No. 7.

The following privilege tax shall be collected from each itinerant photographer or persons soliciting orders for enlarging pictures, a tax not less than three dollars per week nor more than twenty-five dollars per year.

Any person violating this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon submission or conviction, shall pay a fine of not less than one dollar nor more than ten dollars and costs, at the discretion of the Mayor.

Ordinance No. 8.

It is hereby ordered that all citizens and agents for non-residents have their lots thoroughly cleaned and premises disinfected with lime on or before the 20th of July 1898, and premises must pass inspection of one of the marshals. Any person violating this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon submission or conviction, shall be fined not less than one dollar nor more than ten dollars and costs.

Any person violating any of the foregoing ordinances who upon submission or conviction before the Mayor of the City of Southport, N. C. and shall refuse to pay fines or costs that may be adjudged against them, may be made to work on the streets of the city with ball and chain attached to either or both legs, if necessary, or both, at the discretion of the Mayor.

/s/ E. H. Cranmer, Mayor

H. K. Ruark, City Clerk