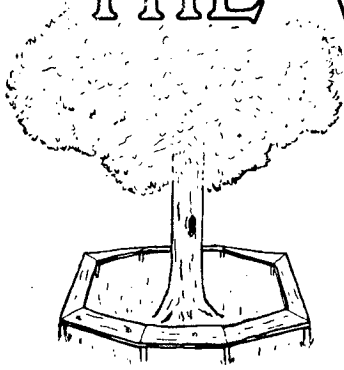


THE WHITTLERS BENCH



SOUTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P. O. BOX 115 • SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA 28461

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INITIAL 1982 MEETING: The regular quarterly meeting of the Southport Historical Society will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, January 21, 1982 at the Southport-Brunswick County Library. Mr. Charles McNeill, artist and native of Whiteville, curator of the Hampton Mariners Museum at Beaufort, N. C., will present a slide program on the museum which he started in 1975.

HIGH TIDES: The high tides of November 12th and 13th, 1981 made some current local history. Bay Street from the corner of Lord Street to Yacht Drive and on to Brunswick Street became a small basin on its own. Water was at least a foot deep in spots and extended north about halfway to Moore Street on Caswell and Lord; it went into Larry Price's boat enterprise and the Pigott's dock building. Several cars whose drivers did not realize how deep the water was, stalled on Bay St.

Mr. Lane, owner of the Holiday Motel, said water came up to his office door but didn't go into any of the motel rooms. He remembered that the tide had been this high once before in 1967 when Louis' Cafe was operating at the corner of Bay and Yacht Drive. The water came up to the Cafe door and washed under the building, but did not flood it.

Leila Pigott confirmed that the tides were the highest she remembered except once since Hurricane Hazel. I guess we were fortunate in not having any accompanying high winds or our waves might have rivalled those on Oak Island.

1982 DUES ARE DUE (see form on next page)

A CASE WHEN "NO NEWS IS BAD NEWS"

If you have news items or stories that would be of interest to the Society members, please contact Jack Fairley for publication in future issues of "The Whittler's Bench".

SOUTHPORT HISTORIC DISTRICT: Last year the U. S. Department of the Interior approved the state's recommendation that the Southport Historic District be included in the National Register of Historic Places. The city is in the process of obtaining the official map of the district as approved. Pending receipt of this map, the boundary description is attached. The houses mentioned can be identified from Carl Lounsbury's "The Architecture of Southport", a few copies of which are still available at \$3.00 each at the Curiosity Shop.

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCERS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Boundary Description

Item number 10

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The boundary lines of the Southport Historic District closely follow the composition of the town plan as it was laid out in 1792 except for the inclusion of the Brunswick Street harbor area which was developed in the 1890s. At the western end of the town the construction of a new marina in the 1970s and the location of a modern restaurant and hotel complex has created a logical boundary with the residential section of West Southport. This western boundary begins at a point on the southern side of Brunswick Street. It runs northward across the street and along the western property line of the Hudgins House (101) then turns along the northern boundary of this property and runs eastward to the southwest boundary of the McKeithan-Ford House (105). It then turns northward and runs along the western property line of the McKeithan-Ford and Joseph Burriss House (157) and across West Street along the west property line of a house (151). The northern boundary which runs along the back property lines of the houses on the north side of West Street eastward to Rhett Street, was selected as the terminus for the historic district because it is the last street parallel to the waterfront which has a consistent number of houses dating from the turn of the century. Although Brown Street, the next street beyond West Street, was originally laid out in 1792, it was not developed until the middle of the twentieth century. In the northeastern part of the district the 300 block of North Atlantic Avenue between West Street and Brown Street is included in the district because the east side of the street includes six consecutive houses dating from the 1890s. On the west side of this block is the A. E. Stevens House (259), architecturally the most significant house of the Victorian period. The east boundary of the historic district follows the back property lines on the east side of Rhett Street which was also the original city limit and beyond which is an undeveloped swamp. South of the cemetery the boundary runs southward along the east curb of Kingsley Street and then in a straight southeasterly line for one mile across the Cape Fear River. The southern boundary follows the shoreline at a one mile parallel until it intersects with the power transmission line shown on the USGS map. This encompasses the undeveloped Battery Island. The boundary then turns northeast and follows the power line for one mile to the southernmost point of land bounding the mouth of the small Brunswick Street harbor. It then runs along the edge of the harbor following Brunswick Street to beginning point.

SOUTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY — MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

Membership Dues (please mark one
and enclose payment in the amount
shown.)

ADDRESS _____

___ Individual \$ 5.00

___ Student (thru high school) 2.00

PHONE _____

___ Business, institutional or professional 15.00

___ Sustaining 25.00

___ Life 100.00

(All dues and contributions are tax-deductible)