CLINTON CITY SCHOOLS

PAST - 1821

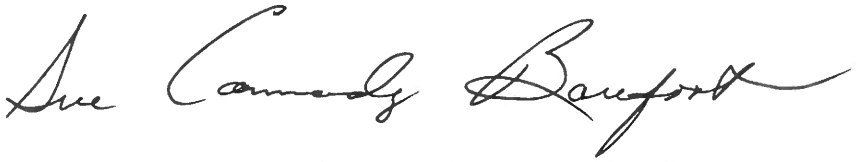


TO
PRESENT - 2012



Clinton City Schools Past to Present

1821-2012



By Sue Cannady Barefoot
2012

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309 Red Hill Church Road
Clinton, North Carolina 28328

Preface

This brief history timeline of Clinton City Schools was written for the purpose of preserving precious memories that had almost been forgotten. Remembering the old school buildings, past students, events, teachers, staff, coaches and most of all some of the experiences in the Clinton City School system is what this compilation is all about. This writing is an attempt to preserve many of these memories for those that want to take a walk back in time or for those generations to come that want to learn about the 'good ole days'.

The written memories here are not complete. This compiler has attempted to document information available and from interviews of past students, friends, educators, staff, etc. During my research, I learned that many important documents of the early years were destroyed by fire, discarded as trash, or simply lost in time. What motivated me was finding out no one had a record of the achievements made in the Clinton City Schools over the years academically and/or athletically. This quaint little town has generated doctors, professional athletes, lawyers, educators, businessmen and women, farmers, etc., which make up a large segment of the current population. However, apparently no one ever thought to document their achievements. I challenge everyone to continue this project for future generations by sharing your memories with family and/or documenting events. Don't allow your memories to fade away.

I want to thank Courtney St. Pierre for her article in the 1994 annual titled *After Celebrating 75 years of Clinton High School, we reflect on those Striking Differences*. This article gave a brief history of Clinton High School from 1900 to 1994 which was most helpful.

Most genealogy buffs cringe at the thought of destroying data that becomes more valuable as the years go by. Old photos, annuals, documents, awards, newspapers articles and the like are welcomed at either the J. C. Holiday Library Genealogy Room or at the Sampson County History Museum. Let's all strive to save these precious records for the coming generations before they fade away like old memories.

Sue Cannady Barefoot

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INTRODUCTION

After the American Revolution, a new kind of institution began to develop across the United States designed to provide educational opportunities for children. This new school was the academy, and it served as the forerunner of the modern public school. From the Revolutionary period until the middle of the nineteenth century, the academy was easily recognized as the primary source of education in this country. Its development was demanded by the changed conditions of the time. After the Revolution, there was a gradual movement towards religious diversity and growth of democracy that would provide training for the majority who would not go to college, instead, more suited to the changed conditions brought about with the formation of a new and growing country.

Academies were supported by tuition charges based, usually, on the age of the pupils or the subjects taught. The salaries of the teachers also varied. The typical curriculum offered in these schools reflected a wide range of subjects: reading, writing, English grammar, geography, mathematics, and Latin and Greek. The teachers in these academies were typically well trained and capable, though few if any, ever received professional training for teaching. The influence of Presbyterian ministers and Princeton graduates was highly evident.

A liberal education, whether it was secured through private or public means, belonged to the male world. The education of women was neglected in early North Carolina. Young ladies had to be satisfied with certain "feminine accomplishments". To be able to read and discuss literature and some history, to speak well, to write with a "pretty hand", to know a little geography, to play musical instruments – were all the attributes of the proper lady, and once these attainments were acquired, finding a proper husband should be easy.

In 1803, a bill was introduced in the NC General Assembly to establish academies in each county of the state. Though the bill was defeated, it marked the beginning of a movement in the direction towards public education. Local communities saw the need to better educate their children, and more academies began appearing.

Though academies were usually private, they were recognized by the state and often given state support. Tuition was always charged but often lotteries were used as a means to raise additional funds. No degrees were

given but diplomas and certificates were awarded. As the need for early education became more evident, academies gradually began appearing throughout the state.

One of the earliest and best known, Grove Academy, was established in nearby Duplin County in 1785. Families from Sampson County frequently sent their children there. It was male only and offered instruction as well as room and board. Another in Duplin, Goshen Academy, was chartered in 1813. The first such school in Sampson County was Clinton Academy, chartered in 1821. Other early academies in Sampson included Line Academy in 1825, Holly Grove Academy in 1827, and Spring Vale Academy in 1834.

The academies and other smaller schools did much to improve cultural standards in Sampson County, but only a minority of children, those from families able to pay tuition fees, received direct benefits from them. Before the 1840's, Sampson County's poor children received hardly any schooling at all.

However by 1840 the Legislature adopted a state-supported system of free schools for children, a major achievement for antebellum North Carolina. For the first time in the history of the state, a large portion of the children went to school to ask questions and to learn the basics skills such as reading, writing and arithmetic.

Joel Rose, President
Sampson County Historical Society

The early years
1821-1895

1821 - According to the Biennial Report of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of North Carolina, "The Clinton Academy was chartered in 1821. There was an academy building for males on the lot where the Female Academy now stands. It was taught by a Mr. Litcom, and later by a Mr. Clark, and later still by Rev. Malcolm Conoly, of the Presbyterian Church. This building burned and another for males was erected about 1858 in the western part of the town. Curtis Lee was the first teacher but, his health failing, his place was taken by Thomas Williams from Portsmouth. Then, in 1861, came George Gibbs and young Mr. Burkhead, a nephew of Rev. Dr. Burkhead of the Methodist Conference. He volunteered for the war and was killed and Mr. Gibbs continued with an average attendance of about 75."

The Biennial Report continues "teachers of the male school in and near Clinton ... included A. A. McKay (afterwards Judge), Mr. Boston from Ireland; Mr. Williams, B. F. Grady (afterwards member of Congress), Murdock McCloud and James H. Murphy."

It is not clear exactly where this male school was relocated in 1858. Some speculate it was in the area of Fayetteville Street near Barden Street off Sunset Avenue just west of the city. There were rumors of an old school in that area; however, no records can be located to substantiate this report.

1826 - The Clinton School Academy was founded at the site of the present day College Street School. It began as a private school that was funded by members of the community. The land was deeded (2 acres) by Owen Holmes to the trustees of the Academy named Hardy L. Holmes, Owen Mobley, James Holmes, John Owen, William Kirby, Charles Butler, Archibald Calquhound(Calhoun), Jonathan W. Moseley, Thomas Sutton, William Robinson, Hardy Royal, John Bryant and John Wright. Transcribed copy of this deed is included.

A Deed to the Trustees of Clinton Academy

This indenture made the 21st day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & twenty six between Owen Homes of the County of Sampson and State of North Carolina on the one part. Hardy L. Holmes, Ollen Mobley, James Holmes, John Owen, William Kirby, Charles Butler, Archabald Colquhound, Jonathan W. Moseley, Thomas Sutton, William Robinson, Hardy Royal, John Bryan & John Wright, Trustees of the Clinton Academy of the County of Sampson & State of N. Carolina of the other part, witnessed that the said Owen Holmes, for, and in consideration of the sum of _____ to him, the said Owen Holmes in hand paid by the said Hardy L. Holmes, Ollen Mobley, James Holmes, John Owen, William Kirby, Charles Butler, Archabald Colquhound, Jonathan W. Moseley, Thomas Sutton, William Robinson, Hardy Royal, John Bryan, and John Wright, trustees of the aforesaid. They accept whereof the said Owen Holmes doth hereby acknowledge, hath given, granted, bargained, & sold, aligned and confirmed and by these presents is give, grant, bargain, sell, align, and confirm the said right the said Hardy L. Holmes, Ollen Mobley, James Holmes, John Owen, William Kirby, Charles Butler, Archabald Colquhound, Jonathan W. Moseley, Thomas Sutton, Hardy Royal, John Bryan, and John Wright. Trustees of the Clinton Academy, aforesaid, and their successors in office for the sale, use, & behalf benefit of the said Academy all of that tract, piece, or parcel of land, situated, lying &, being in the County of Sampson & State of aforesaid, in the vicinity of the Town of Clinton. Beginning at a stake on the road leading from Clinton to New Bern near the corner of said Owen Holmes' field; thence N.42 E.17poles to a stake, a pine tree blackjacks & persimmon pointers; thence N.33 W.20 poles to a black jack near said road, six post oak pointers; thence S.42 W.17 poles to the beginning, containing two acres, more or less, and also all & every the appertenances thereunto belonging or in anyways appertaining, and the profits of the aforesaid land and premises and every part thereof, and all of the estate, right, title, interest, claim, property and demand whatsoever of the said Owen Holmes, of the aforesaid land and premises with the appertenances unto the said Hardy L. Holmes, Ollen Mobley, James Holmes, John Owen, William Kirby, Charles Butler, Archabald Colquhound, Jonathan W. Moseley, Thomas Sutton, William Robinson, Hardy Royal, John Bryan, and John Wright, Trustees of the Clinton Academy of and their successors, to the proper use and behalf of the said Trustees, and their successors forever, and the said Owen Holmes for himself and his heirs the aforesaid land and premises and every part thereof, against himself and his heirs to the said Trustees and their successors will forever warrant and defend, by these presents in writing whereof the said Owen Holmes doth hereinto sets his hand and affix his seal this day and year, first, above written, signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of

Thomas K. Morisey, *Owen Holmes (seal)*

R. Royal

State of N. Carolina, Sampson County, November Term, 1826, there was the within deed acknowledged in open court and ordered to be registered.
Registered March 12, 1827 B. Royal, Register John Holmes, Esquire

(*Transcribed from original by Joel Rose July 2012)*

Note-- The dollar amount in this deed was left blank. It is believed but not proven that the property may have been a gift.

1827- 49 - After extensive research, it appears that school records are non-existent during this time.

1850 - The Biennial Report of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of North Carolina continues "about 1850 the Clinton Female College was built. Luke C. Graves of Massachusetts, but late of Warrenton, was the first Principal and ultimately owned it. It was very prosperous, having a patronage of 150 to 175. After the Civil War, Luke Graves died and his son Thomas became owner. He, with his uncle, Nelson Graves, had a good school, respectable for numbers. Afterwards the property passed into other hands, but the school continued, sometimes for both boys and girls, with an average attendance of 100 to 125. Teachers were Rev. J. L. Stewart, Hon. B. F. Grady, Rev. John N. Stallings, D. B. Nicolson, F. R. Cooper and others."



(Photo courtesy Joel Rose 2012)

Luke C. Graves
Born about 1815 died 1869

Luke C. Graves born in Vermont about 1815 married Charlotte Katurah Graves who, according to census records, was born in Delaware. They moved to Maryland where their first son Thomas L. was born. By 1850 they had moved to Warrenton, North Carolina where Luke was a teacher and a preacher at a school for girls. While in Warrenton, their son Nelson was born. By the early 1850s the family had moved to Clinton where Luke was principal at the Clinton Female Institute. According to records found, this family had two young daughters who are buried in the Clinton City Cemetery along with their parents and older brother Thomas. Charlotte died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania September 26, 1876 and was returned to Clinton for burial.

1851 - According to the Biennial Report from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of North Carolina, The Clinton Female Institute was chartered.

1852 - The General Assembly appointed five commissioners, James Moseley, Isaac Boykin, Dr. Henry Bizzell, John Beaman, and Alfred Johnson, when they ratified the act clarifying procedures for the Town of Clinton. Clinton was re-incorporated into a city during this year. (Clinton was originally incorporated as a city in 1822 but over time some of the town's authority was questioned. Some community leaders went back to the legislature seeking a clarification of their authority, thus it was re-incorporated in 1852.)

The next few years were not documented in school records but it does appear that Luke C. Graves was headmaster during these early years.

1855 - The Clinton Female Institute Course of Instruction document subjects taught including reading, spelling, geography, arithmetic, history, penmanship and drawing. The annual expenses were board (per session of 21 weeks) $45.00; tuition for primary $10.00; cost of tuition for 1st and 2nd classes $12.00; tuition for Junior and Senior classes $15.00. Pens, ink, books and slate pencils $1.00 plus $1.00 for fuel for school room.

ANNUAL EXPENSES.

SUMMER SESSION.

Board, per session of 21 weeks,	$45 00.	Tuition for all Branches in the Junior and Senior Classes,	$15 00
Tuition for all Branches in the Primary Course,	10 00.	Pens, Ink, Copy Books, and Slate Pencils,	1 00.
Tuition for all Branches in the 1st and 2d Classes,	12 00.	Fuel For School Room,	1 00.

WINTER SESSION.

The charge for the Winter Session will be the same as for the Summer.

EXPENSES PER SESSION FOR EXTRAS.

Music on the Piano,	$20 00.	Various kinds of Plain Needle Work,	gratis.
Use of Instrument,	3 00.	Tufted Embroidery and Fancy Work,	5 00.
Vocal Music,	gratis.	Ancient and Modern Languages, each,	10 00.
Landscape Drawing and Painting,	10 00.	Painting in Water Colors,	10 00.
Course of Lessons in Wax Fruit,	5 00	Oil Painting,	15 00.
Likewise in Wax Flowers,	5 00.	Music on Guitar, and use of Instrument,	20 00.

All the necessary expenses of the year, even for the most advanced Students of the literary course, do not exceed $124 With the number of extras usually taken, the charges will not exceed $170 per annum, which is much less than the average standard of expenses in other Institutions presenting the same advantages.

PAYMENT OF BILLS.

All Bills are payable half in advance, and the remainder at the close of the Session. Every Student entered is charged from the time of entrance to the close of the session; and no deduction is made for absence, unless occasioned by protracted sickness.

SESSIONS AND VACATIONS.

The year is divided into two Sessions, of 21 weeks each. The First commences on the 2nd Monday of January; the Second, on the 2nd Monday of July; leaving two vacations of about five weeks each. Pupils can remain in the Institution during vacation if desired.

LECTURES.

Lectures will be frequently delivered upon Scientific, Literary and such other subjects as are intimately connected with a thorough and accomplished female education.

REPORTS.

At the close of any session, a circular containing a faithful account of the attendance, deportment, and scholarship of each pupil, will be sent to the parent or guardian.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

Morning and Evening Worship is held in the school-room, when all the students are required to be present. On Sabbath, all students boarding in the institution are required to attend worship at any church their parents or guardians may direct, and also the Bible Classes organized for Sabbath instruction.

BOOKS.

Books, Stationery, Music and Painting Materials may be had of the Principal.

EXAMINATIONS.

A Public Examination of all the Students will be held at the close of each scholastic year. During the examination, there will be a Concert of Vocal and Instrumental Music.

FACULTY.

L. C. GRAVES, A. M.
MRS. C. K. GRAVES,
MISS HARRIET E. WILCOX,
MISS FRANCES S. PORTER

H. A. BIZZELL,
Sec of Board of Trustees.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

FOR

CLINTON FEMALE INSTITUTE.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

READING,..... Parker's 1st and 2nd and 3d Readers.
SPELLING,..... Gummere's Progressive Speller.
GEOGRAPHY,..... Smith's Primary.
ARITHMETIC,..... Davies' Table-Book and Mental Arithmetic, with black-board exercises.
HISTORY,..... Parley's U. S.
GRAMMAR COMMENCED..... Smith's.
NATURAL HISTORY,..... Trimmer's.
ELEMENTARY DRAWING AND PENMANSHIP

The Students of the Institute are divided into four Classes, denominated First, Second, Junior and Senior. Should the Parent or Guardian desire it, any part of the following course of study may be omitted; but the Student, in all such cases, will be regarded *irregular*.

FIRST CLASS—COURSE OF STUDY.

READING,..... Parker's Fourth Reader.
GEOGRAPHY,..... Smith's Quarto.
SPELLING,..... Gummere's Speller continued.
ARITHMETIC,..... Davies'.
GRAMMAR CONTINUED,..... Smith's.
HISTORY,..... { Willard's United States, Grimshaw's Eng.
PENMANSHIP AND DRAWING.
FRENCH COMMENCED,.....
COMPOSITION,..... Frost's Exercises.

SECOND CLASS—COURSE OF STUDY.

READING,..... Parker's Fourth Reader.
DEFINING,..... Scholar's Companion.
ARITHMETIC CONTINUED,..... Davies'.
FRENCH CONTINUED,.....
LATIN COMMENCED,..... Bullion's Course.
NATURAL PHILOSOPHY,..... Parker's.
BOTANY,..... Mrs. Lincoln's.
CHEMISTRY,..... Johnston's Turner's commenced.
RHETORIC,..... Blair's.
COMPOSITION,..... Frost's Exercises.
ALGEBRA COMMENCED,..... Davies'.
WORCESTER'S HISTORY.

JUNIOR CLASS.

READING,..... Parker's Rhetorical Reader.
DEFINING..... Scholar's Companion.
ARITHMETIC,..... Reviewed and Completed.
ALGEBRA CONTINUED,..... Davies'.
FRENCH CONTINUED,.....
LATIN CONTINUED,.....
GREEK COMMENCED,..... Anthon's Course.
CHEMISTRY COMPLETED,..... Johnston's and Turner's.
INT. PHILOSOPHY,..... Abercrombie's.
LOGIC,..... Hedges'.
COMPOSITION,..... By Themes.

SENIOR CLASS—COURSE OF STUDY.

ASTRONOMY,..... Smith's Illustrated.
ELEMENTS OF CRITICISM,..... Kames'.
LANGUAGES CONTINUED,.....
MORAL PHILOSOPHY,..... Abercrombie's.
EVIDENCES OF CHRISTIANITY,.. Alexander's.
GEOLOGY,..... Page's.
ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY,.. Cutter's.
GEOMETRY,..... Davies' Legendre.
COMPOSITION,..... By Themes.
MYTHOLOGY,.....
SELF-KNOWLEDGE,..... Mason's.

COURSE FOR A PRIZE MEDAL.

NATURAL THEOLOGY,.....Paley's.
POLITICAL ECONOMY,.....Wayland's.
BUTLER'S ANALOGY.
MENSURATION OF SURFACES AND SOLIDS.
PLANE TRIGONOMETRY.
MORAL SCIENCE..... Wayland's.
CONSTITUTION OF UNITED STATES.

ORNAMENTAL BRANCHES.

The Ornamental Branches, such as Vocal and Instrumental Music, Drawing and Painting—Wax Fruit and Flowers, Embroidery, Needle and Fancy Work, may be learned at any period of the course. One of the Ancient or Modern Languages must be pursued, in order to entitle the pupil to a Diploma or Medal.

FEMALE INSTITUTE,

CLINTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

CIRCULAR.

Attendance, department and scholarship of Miss Nannie E. Dixon

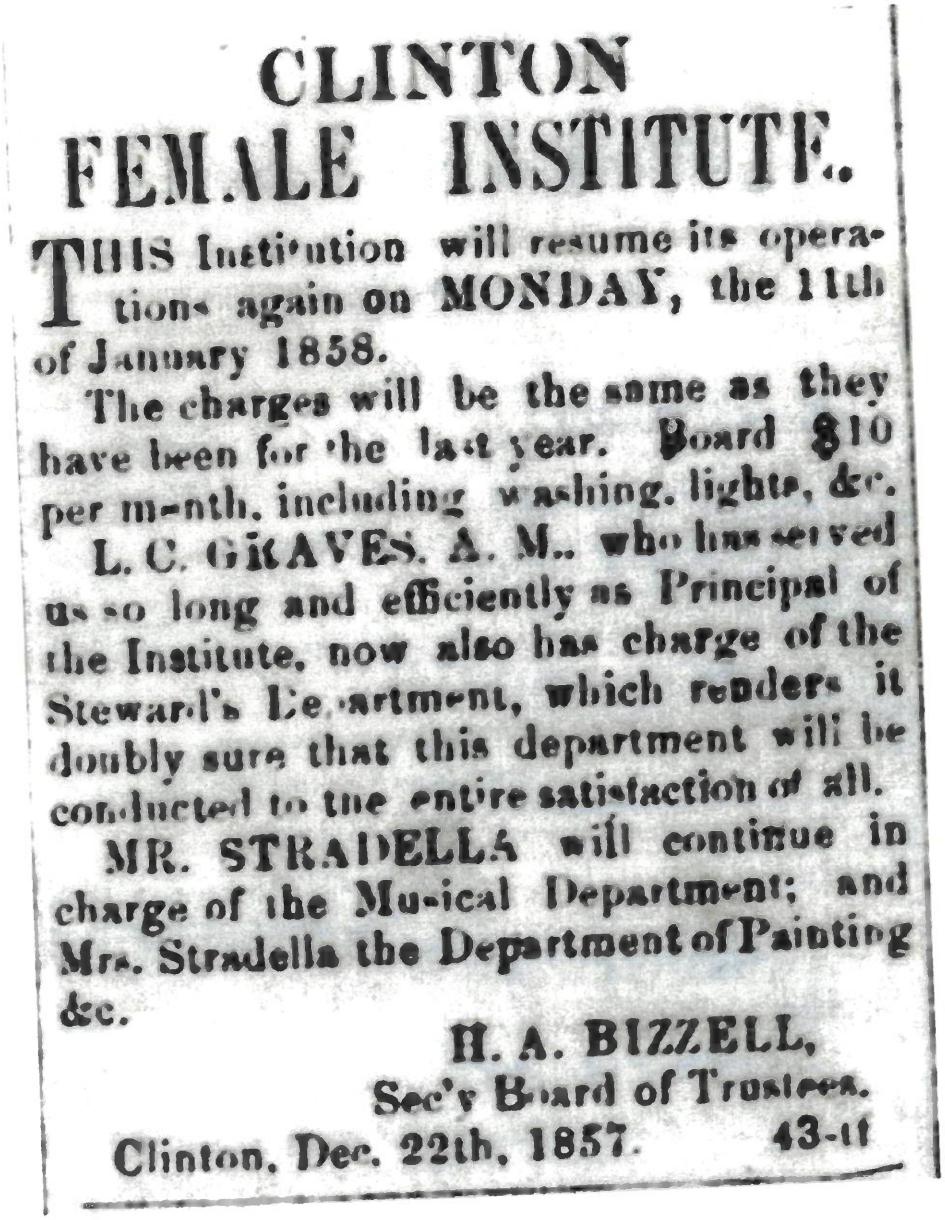
for the Session ending June 28th 1853.

PARTICULARS.					STUDIES PURSUED.
Attendance.			Excused.	Not Excused.	Grammar - Arithmetic Algebra - Chemistry Int. Philosophy - Rhetoric - Logic Composition
Absent from Recitations.			24		
Absent from Prayers.			5		
Faults in Department.					
Faults in Dress.					
Scholarship.	Perfect.	Good.	Bad.	Failure.	
Number of Recitations.	256				

SHERRITT AND CO., PRINTERS N. Y.

1857 - *The Democrate* newspaper dated December 22, 1857- an article titled *Clinton Female Institute* is included. It is interesting the date in which school would start back and the charges mentioned for room and board.

As indicated, L. C. Graves was still the headmaster and it was noted he has served for a long time as principal. In the article it lists new classes to be added and their instructors.



CLINTON
FEMALE INSTITUTE.

THIS Institution will resume its operations again on MONDAY, the 11th of January 1858.

The charges will be the same as they have been for the last year. Board $10 per month, including washing, lights, &c.

L. C. GRAVES, A. M., who has served us so long and efficiently as Principal of the Institute, now also has charge of the Steward's Department, which renders it doubly sure that this department will be conducted to the entire satisfaction of all.

MR. STRADELLA will continue in charge of the Musical Department; and Mrs. Stradella the Department of Painting &c.

H. A. BIZZELL,
Sec'y Board of Trustees.

Clinton, Dec. 22th, 1857. 43-tf

According to the 1850 North Carolina Census, Luke C. Graves, age 36; wife Charlotte, age 28; son Nelson, age 1 along with more than 45 young females, young children and teachers are listed in their household. The census was for Warrenton, Warren County, North Carolina where he states he was a teacher born in Vermont; Charlotte was born in Delaware and son Nelson born in North Carolina. The teachers and students listed on this census are from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Vermont, Pennsylvania and North Carolina.

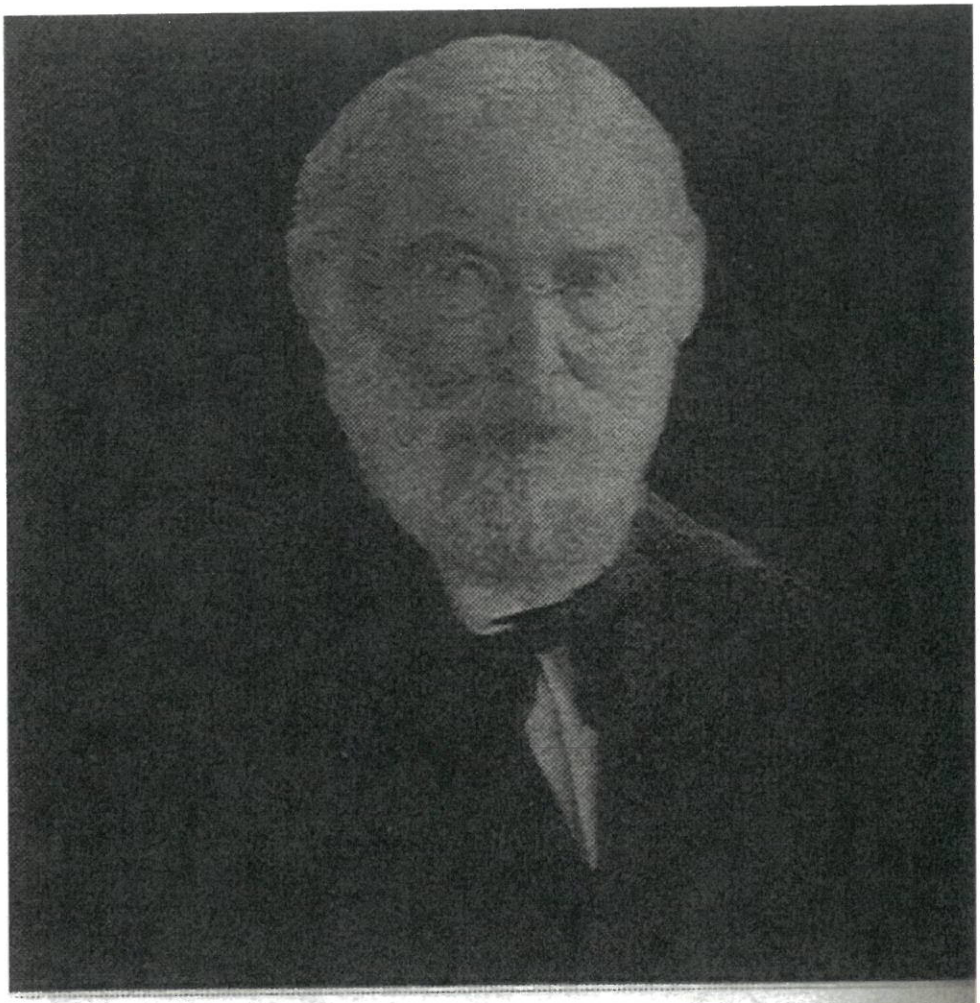
1858 - The Clinton Academy changed its name during this time to the Clinton Female Institute. The trustees were Thomas Bunting, Henry A. Bizzell, John L. Boykin, Matthew J. Faison, Alfred Johnson, William G. Micks and Patrick Murphy who deeded the property to Luke C. Graves. By this time, the campus had grown to 6.6 acres.

1860 - The 1860 Sampson County Census, Luke C. Graves, age 46; wife C.K., age 39; T. L., age 16; N. Z., age 10; V. F., age 7 and H. B., age 3. Teachers Anna Kay, age 31(math); Elizabeth Gleam, age 33, (music) born in New York and Lydia A. Norton, age 33 (primary) born in Connecticut resided in this household.

This census record indicates son T. L. age 16 living with the family. He was not listed on the 1850 census while the family was living in Warrenton. It is unclear where he was living at the time the 1850 census was taken. He was born in Maryland so perhaps he was living with relatives there at the time. This compiler must bring attention to the fact he is listed as T. L. on this census and the 1880 Bladen County census but other records show him as Thomas H. Graves.

Most records found indicate Luke C. Graves died May 31, 1873 but according to the 1870 Sampson County Census, the head of household was now his wife Charlotte K. Graves, age 50 born in Delaware with daughter Virginia age 17 and son Henry B. age 12 living with her.

It appears Luke C. Graves had already passed away when this census was taken which leads us to believe he died about 1869. Both are buried in the Clinton City Cemetery but neither marker lists dates of birth or death. According to cemetery records she is listed as Charlotte Katurah Graves.



Jonathan L. Stewart, 1835-1920.

(Photo courtesy Joel Rose 2012)

Jonathan L. Stewart was born June 2, 1835 in Mississippi then moved to North Carolina where he attended and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1857. He was married to Emilie Mildred Cave born in North Carolina around 1858 and moved to Clinton around 1864 where he practiced law and became owner of The Clinton Female Academy until the early 1890s.

In January of 1894 Emilie Mildred Cave Stewart, wife of Jonathan L. Stewart passed away and is buried in the Clinton City Cemetery. Jonathan L. Stewart passed away December 12, 1920 while living in Raleigh with his second wife Eliza Bennett Stewart. He is also buried in the Clinton City Cemetery.

According to the 1870 U.S. Federal census for Sampson County, North Carolina, Jonathan L. Stewart, age 35, born in Mississippi, a lawyer and minister, wife Emily M., age 35 with children William B., age 11; Mary C., age 9; Maggie H., age 7; John, age 3 and James B., age 7 months. Jane Beatty, age 22, a black servant also lived with this family. His wife and children were born in North Carolina.

From the National Register of Historic Places inventory—Nomination Form: Jonathan Lafayette Stewart moved to Clinton in 1864 to practice law. At the time of his death at age 85, he and Emily were living in Raleigh in the Swift Creek Community. They are buried in the Clinton City Cemetery along with other family members. She is listed as Emilie Mildred Cave Stewart daughter of Dr. Hudson M. and Delia Cave of Chapel Hill, North Carolina and wife of J. L. Stewart of Clinton, North Carolina.

1873 - The L. C. Graves heirs sold the property to the Academy's stockholders with the provision that the property was to be used only for educational purposes.

1880 - Thomas H. Graves (son of Luke and Charlotte) and his family have moved and were listed in the Brown Marsh Township, Bladen County census records. His sister-in-law Helen M. McDougald age 38 was living with the family. He is listed as a school teacher in Bladen County.

Jonathan L. Stewart became the sole owner of the Clinton Female Academy School. It is unknown his length of term as principal. However, we know from *The Democratic* article dated October 20, 1892 he was gone by 1892.

CLINTON SCHOOL

..... *FOR* .....

BOYS and GIRLS

Will Open on Monday, Sept. 5th. 1892.

THOS. R. FOUST, (University of N. C.) - - - - **Principal**

JNO. C. SLOCUMB, (University of N. C.)
MISS MARY LOU BROWN, } **Assistants**

TUITION:

Primary Department, per month.....$1 00
Intermediate Department, per month..... ..... 2 00
Advanced Department, per month..... .. .. 3 00

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

R. H. Hubbard, J. S. Bizzell, H. B. Chestnutt, A. M. Lee
W. G. Rackley, C. S. Johnston, D. B. Nicholson.

This is a new enterprise which aims to furnish our community adequate school facilities. The trustees have taken the responsibility to employ the Teachers, and they appeal to the public to sustain the School.

Board can be obtained in good families at reasonable rates.

Clinton is well known for its healthfulness, culture and refinement. We ought to have, and we hope to obtain a good patronage from abroad

The design is to build up a a permanent School of High Grade.

Other Departments will be added as patronage justifies.

Parents, send your children to this school.

J. S. BIZZELL,
Secretary.

R. H. HUBBARD,
Chairman Board of Trustees.

1892 - *The Democratic* newspaper dated October 20, 1892 has an article seeking students to attend the Clinton School for Boys and Girls that is to open on Monday, September 5th 1892. This article lists Principal, Thomas R. Foust from the University of North Carolina and his assistants as John C. Slocumb from the University of North Carolina and Miss Mary Lou Brown from the Charlotte Female Sem. The board of trustees were; R. H. Hubbard, J. S. Bizzell, H. B. Chestnutt, A. M. Lee, W. G. Rackley, C. S. Johnston and D. B. Nicholson. Note the tuition amounts-- primary department $1.00, intermediate department $2.00 and advanced department $3.00 per month.

This article goes on to say "...this is a new enterprise which aims to furnish our community adequate school facilities. The trustees have taken the responsibility to employ the Teachers and they appear to the public to sustain the school."

With the opening of the Clinton School for Boys and Girls which had previously been an all-female institution for many years, it is believed the format of a public school system was just over the horizon.

CLINTON SCHOOL

—FOR—

BOYS AND GIRLS.

Academic Department.

THOS. R. FOUST, (University of N. C.) - - - - Principal

JNO. C. SLOCUMB, (University of N. C.)
MISS MARY LOU BROWN, (Charlotte Female Sem.) } Assistants

TUITION :

Primary, per month	$ 1.00
Intermediate, per month	2.00
Advanced, per month	3.00

Business Department.

Prof. W. S. Durham, Instructor.

Telegraphy, Book-Keeping, Short-Hand and Commercial Law.

Music Department.

Miss Rena Stewart, Teacher.

Terms, per month	$ 2.00
Piano Rent for practice,	.50

ART DEPARTMENT.

Miss Cleone Hobbs, Teacher.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

R. H. Hubbard, J. S. Bizzell, H. B. Chestnutt, A. M. Lee
W. G. Rackley, C. S. Johnson, D. B. Nicholson.

This is a new enterprise which aims to furnish our community adequate school facilities. The trustees have taken the responsibility to employ the Teachers, and they appeal to the public to sustain the School.

Board can be obtained in good families at reasonable rates.

Clinton is well known for its healthfulness, culture and refinement. We ought to have, and we hope to obtain a good patronage from abroad.

1893 – In *The Democratic* newspaper dated April 20, 1893, there was an advertisement for the Clinton School for Boys and Girls. In this article, Thomas R. Foust, John C. Slocumb and Miss Mary Lou Brown have continued their respective positions as in the earlier article mentioned. Notice there has been a Business Department added with Professor W. S. Durham as the instructor. The business department included telegraphy, book-keeping, short-hand and commercial law. A Music Department with Mrs. Rena Stewart as teacher and an Art Department with Miss Cleone Hobbs as the instructor had also been added. Tuition amounts remained the same.

Between April 20, 1893 and June 20, 1895 the name of the school was changed from Clinton School for Boys and Girls to The Graded School of Clinton.

The Salaries Fixed.

The Graded School committee has agreed upon the following salaries for superintendent and teachers in the Graded Schools of Clinton, for the scholastic year of nine months. Supt. of Schools, $600; first assistant in white school, $315; second assistant $225.

But one teacher will be employed in the colored school and he will receive a salary of $270. The white school will be at the college which has been leased from Rev. J. L. Stewart. No building has yet been secured for the colored school. The schools will open on the first Monday in September and continue for a term of nine months with two weeks vacation during the Christmas holidays.

The Graded Schools.

In this paper appears an advertisement of the Clinton Graded Schools the first sessions of which begin on Monday, September 2nd, 1895. The school for the white race will be at the College. A place is yet to be selected for the colored school.

High hopes are entertained for these schools. Tuition charges have been made very low and a large outside patronage is expected. Already a number of persons residing in the country have arranged to move into town with a view of sending their children to school. The committee is sparing no effort to make the schools a success and the indications are that they will succeed. This is a step forward for Clinton and with the proper management it will have cause to be proud of its system of schools, as Goldsboro and other towns are proud of theirs.

1895 - *The Democratic* newspaper dated **June 20, 1895** -- an article titled *The Salaries Fixed* shown here, list the pay scale for the 1895 school year. In the June 27, 1895 issue of *The Democratic* an article titled *The Graded Schools* shown here advises each school's first session for the white and colored schools and their locations.

SUPT. E. P. MANGUM.

Mr. E. M. Hobbs and Miss Carrie Archer will be the Assistants.

The trustees of the Graded Schools met Monday and selected a superintendent and teacners. Many applications were on file and considered. After due deliberation the following persons were selected: For Supt. of the Schools, E. P. Mangum of Chapel Hill; for first assistant in the white school Mr. Ernest M. Hobbs of Clinton; for second assistant Miss Carrie Gray Archer of Kenansville.

Geo. W. Herring was selected teacher of the colored school.

Supt. Mangum is a native of Chapel Hill and was educated there, at the University, graduating with the degree of A. M. He is thirty years old, a son of Rev. A. W. Mangum, for many years Professor of Logic and Psychology at the University, and a grandson of Willie P. Mangum. He is married and is a teacher of experience. For four years he was principal of the Graded schools of Asheville; then Supt. of the Concord Graded schools, and later of the Cullawha Normal School. He afterward taught at Mt. Olive.

Mr. Ernest M. Hobbs is a resident of Clinton, and well known to all of our people. He has taught here with high satisfaction to his patrons for the past year. He was educated at Wake Forest College, and is as yet unmarried.

Miss Archer comes from Kenansville, Duplin county, and was educated in Virginia, and at Peace Institute, Raleigh. She has for the past two years been a teacher in the primary department of the latter institution where she gave the highest satisfaction. There is pretty general satisfaction at the selections and the schools start out under hopeful auspices. The first term will open on the first Monday in September. The white school will be at the college and the colored school in the church building near the railroad crossing.

THE TEACHERS' ASSEMBLY.

Prof. Joyner Elected President—Col. Harrell Beaten for Secretary.

In the July 4, 1895 issue of *The Democratic* newspaper an article titled *Supt. E. P. Mangum* with a sub title *Mr. E. M. Hobbs and Miss Carrie Archer will be the Assistants. The* article names the superintendent, teachers, where they are from and where the schools would be held for the new school year. In this same article it states "The white school will be at the college and the colored school in the church building near the railroad crossing".



THE CLINTON GRADED SCHOOL BUILDING, 1909. This structure was built in 1826 and was originally known as the Clinton Academy. (Courtesy of Jerry R. Roughton.)

1900-1949

1900 -The Clinton Graded School (formerly the Clinton Academy) became a public institution that included grades one to eleven. Research indicates that this large, wooden frame building on College Street in Clinton had been the site of higher learning since the early 1800s. D. L. Ellis was the first public school principal.

1903 - The North Carolina Year Book and Business Directory dated 1903, notes public school teachers in Clinton were A. M. Barbray, Mrs. A. M. Barbray, W. A. Hobbs, L. M. Hobbs, Miss Sue Bodenhamer, Mrs. Nina Peterson, Miss Bevie Williamson, Miss Mary L. Stetson, Miss Annie Beaman, C. T. Tew, G. B. Cooper, Mrs. P. M. Smith, Mrs. J. J. Pearsall, Mrs. Cornie Ferrell, Miss Annie Ferrell, Miss Pearl Ezzell and Miss Isabella Pigford.

1906 - The North Carolina Year Book and Business Directory for 1906, notes public school teachers in Clinton were Street Brewer, J. Allen Underwood, Mrs. John E. Warren, Miss Beulah Bryant, Miss Mary Barksdale, Miss Jennie Kennedy, Miss Bessie Herring, Miss Amy Sutton, Mrs. J. R. Peterson, Miss Annie Sampson, W. A. Jackson, Miss Nina Peterson, Miss Sue Bodenhamer, Miss Mary Carlton, Miss Zenobia Merritt, C. M. Beach, Miss Katie Page, Miss Meta F. Williams and Miss Eva Powell.

1907 - The North Carolina Year Book and Business Directory for 1907, notes public school teachers in Clinton were Miss Mattie Marshburn, J. Allen Underwood, Miss Bessie Herring, A. R. McPhail, Miss Pauline Herring, Miss Mamie Turlington, Miss Addie Newman, Miss Nelia Butler, Miss Bettie Duncan, Miss Mary S. Bennett, Sammie Smith, Miss Maggie Parker, Miss Bessie Kelly, Miss Attie McKenzie, Miss Mary King, Mrs. Willie Simmons, Miss Bevie Williamson, Miss Nelia Powell, W. O. McKenzie, D. L. Ellis, Miss Eva Culbreth, Mrs. E. H. Robinson, Miss Mamie Ashford, Miss Annie Beaman, A. R. Flowers, W. J. Ellis, Miss Florence Peterson, Miss Elma Peterson and Miss Zentina Ezzell.

1911 - The National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form referring to the Clinton Academy "...in 1911 the present structure, a handsome,

large, two-story building with a center bay pediment portico of Ionic columns, replaced the original frame building".

The Sampson County Heritage Book Vol. 1 page 101, states additions and changes were made in the wooden structure and the entire building was brick veneered. It is unknown if the building prior to 1911 was destroyed or refurbished to resemble the current building. No other records could be found to prove either the National Register of Historic Places Inventory or the Sampson County Heritage book article as correct. Photos reveal that renovations were made. At present, new renovations are in progress now on this historic College Street School.

1912 - The North Carolina Year Book and Business Directory for 1912 indicate that S. B. Strickland was the Superintendent for the Clinton Graded School. Miss Zora Culbreth was responsible for the kindergarten and Mrs. Emma S. Johnson was in charge of music.

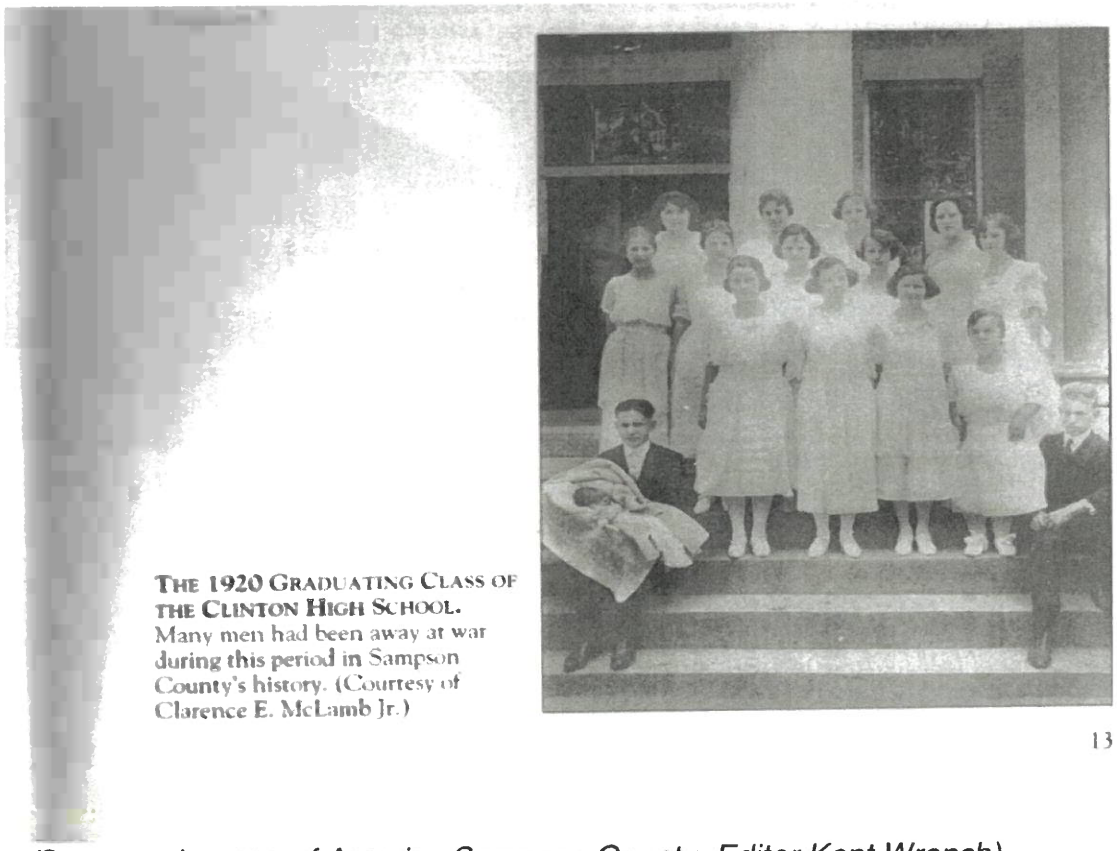
Public school teachers in Clinton that year were, Miss Nancy Rackley, Mrs. Eva Grant, L. E. Whitfield, Miss Katie Jewel Gates, Miss Mayme Darden, W. C. West, Anson Jackson, Miss Llewellyn Warren, Miss Delilah Robinson, Miss Annie Kate White, Miss Clyde Underwood, Miss Fannie Smith, F. I. Robinson, Mrs. T. H. Lamb, Miss Sudie Stokley, G. H. Strickland, Miss Lula M. Cassiday, Miss Willie Brown, Miss Josephine St. Clair, Mrs. Z. E. Matthews, Mrs. E. N. Robinson, Miss Annie B. Somers, Miss Mamie Ashford, Miss Mattie Royal, Miss Janie Belle Robinson, Miss Lutie C. Underwood, Miss Minnie Hollingsworth, Miss Bessie Daughtry and Miss Benia Waller.

It is unclear the race or which school the mentioned teachers were located. For 1903, 1906, 1907 and 1912 the North Carolina Year Book for Business Directory only states the teachers were employed within the city of Clinton during these years. However, D. L. Ellis listed as a teacher in 1907 was the first principal at the Clinton Graded School on College Street in 1900. By 1912 a new superintendent S. B. Strickland is named.

1914 -19 - An article in the Sampson Independent newspaper by Mr. L. E. Brown, Jr. states "... a four-teacher school... is apparently the one from which Sampson County Training School evolved." In this same article, Mr. Brown is quoted as saying "... by 1919-20 this four-teacher school, located

in the vicinity of the 400 block of Stetson Street had grown to a six-teacher school".
(See the full newspaper article by L. E. Brown, Jr. dated November 26, 2004 included under the years 1966-67 in this timeline.)

1920 - A photo of the 1920 graduation class of Clinton High. The caption states "Many men had been away at war during this period in Sampson County's history". The photo shows the class included 13 females and two males.



THE 1920 GRADUATING CLASS OF THE CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL. Many men had been away at war during this period in Sampson County's history. (Courtesy of Clarence E. McLamb Jr.)

13

(Courtesy *Images of America Sampson County, Editor Kent Wrench)*

1920-22 - Clinton High School became an accredited high school during this time.

According to the State System of Public Schools Biennial Report, the College Street School building was renamed the Clinton Elementary School and contained grades one through seven. The upper grades were moved to a newly constructed building located on Sunset Avenue called Clinton High School.



(Photo submitted by Joel Rose)

Clinton High School circa 1938

(On the far right of the school was an old wooden gym that burned in April 23, 1946. The football field was located directly behind the school.

1924 - An article in the Sampson Independent newspaper by Mr. L. E. Brown, Jr. states "... Sampson Training School was built ... at McKoy and Williams Streets..."
(See the full newspaper article by L. E. Brown, Jr. dated November 26, 2004 included under the years 1966-67 in this timeline.)



Sampson Training School

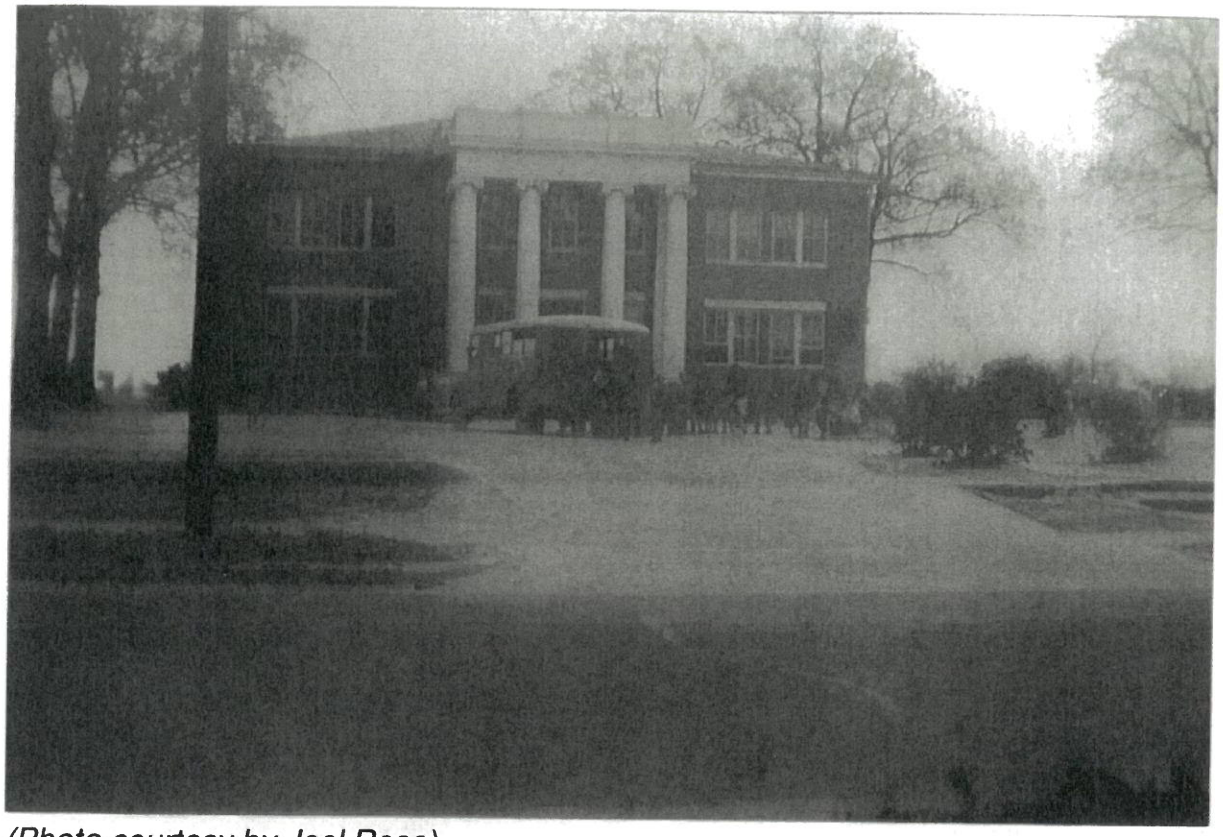
(*Courtesy the Sampson Independent, November 26, 2004)*

1926 - The first Clinton High School annual was called "*The Huckleberry*" with C. B. Thomas listed as Superintendent. The senior class was made up of 26 students and their annual was black in color.

In that same year, Sampson Training School was accredited making it eligible to receive state funding.

An article in the 1994 Clinton High School annual states "... no yearbooks were produced, because of the depression, during the years of 1927 up to1943". Without the aid of school annuals, few records are available.

1935 - The large building on College Street was known as Clinton Grammar School according to an article in the 1947 Clinton High School annual. It is unclear as to when the name changed or for what reason.



(Photo courtesy by Joel Rose)

First Graders 1935
Clinton Grammar School



Teacher, Miss Rideout

(Photo courtesy Jesse Butler)



Teacher. Miss Jennu Evans
(Photo courtesy Jesse Butler)

When these first graders graduated from Clinton High School in1947, they were the first class to attend school for 12 years. Some of these students were Bobby Calloway, Harold Williamson, Jesse Butler, Mamie Sutton, Doris Bell, Charles Lewis, Howard Hobbs, Herman Midgett, Dorothy Carter Tyndall, Lucille Ezzell Yancey, Janie Starling Kopp, Mary Moore Marshburn McLemore, Eleanor Robinson Walker, Evelyn Robinson, A. C. Darden and Ernestine Best Lindley.

(See related data in this timeline under 1947)

1938 - College Street School once had a single drive at the front as seen in the photo provided. A driveway was later added to the left with parking in the rear. In time, a house next door was demolished, allowing for the addition of an exit lane. Notice the children loading onto the old school bus.

With the depression in full swing and the War looming, records of school events were not located.

1939 - *WWII was a global war that was under way by 1939.*

1940 - During the early war years, B. E. Lohr was Clinton High School Principal and perhaps served as Superintendent, too. After a number of years in Clinton, he moved to Lumberton around 1943. During this time, Cliff Woods was a coach and Latin teacher.

1941 - *December 7, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii marking the beginning of WWII. The U.S. entered the war in the Pacific and in Europe. The war effort jump-started the U.S. industry and effectively ended the Great Depression.*

1943 - An article in the 1994 Clinton High School annual states, "... the first ever Dark Horse was produced this year... the yearbook was named after the independent *basketball t*eam, the Dark Horses. When the team had to buy uniforms, they wanted "dark" ones so they would not show dirt, or have to be washed so often." However, in an interview with Dale Johnson, he states "The Dark Horses got their team name back in the 1940s when the UNC freshman class came down to play our *baseball* team. Clinton was said to be the 'dark horse' going into the game"....hence the name stuck. Still, another account submitted for the bragging rights of naming the team, it was said Clinton was up against a much superior *football* team and were beaten badly, which prompted Jim Hubbard (according to Jim) to begin calling the team the "Dark Horses".

Whether it was derived from a basketball, baseball or football game, the name Dark Horses has remained the team logo while the school colors have always been black and gold.

The second floor of College Street School served as the auditorium. In later years, the upstairs was converted to classrooms as enrolment increased with Mrs. Gussie Parker as principal.



MRS. GUSSIE DILL PARKER

Twelve short years ago, a remarkable woman and a not so remarkable class entered the Clinton Elementary School together. All through the years her patience, guidance, understanding, and wholehearted effort to better the school, has been an incentive for us to prove ourselves worthy of her affectionate interests. The class is the class of 1949; the lady is the present Elementary School principal. We, the Seniors, wish to show our love for her by dedicating this, the sixth volume of the DARK HORSE to MRS. GUSSIE DILL PARKER.

Mrs. Gussie D. Parker *was born in 1905 in Missouri and was the wife of John R. Parker born in Edgecombe County, North Carolina. She came to Clinton from Cumberland County where she was a Supervisor in the county school system. She became principal of College Street School in 1939 and held that position until her retirement in 1970.*

1944 - Herbert L. Swain was Superintendent while Guy B. Teachey was Principal. During the war years, there were 46 seniors with 16 boys and 30 girls.



COACH TEACHEY

Guy B.Teachey *was born June 8, 1908 in Rose Hill, Duplin County, North Carolina and died October 26, 1989 in Asheboro, Randolph County, North Carolina. Prior to his coming to Clinton High School, he was principal at Ingold High School in Ingold, North Carolina. He left Clinton High School and eventually moved to Randolph County where he continued his career in education.*

The faculty included Ellen Southerland, Doris Butler, Frances Smith, Mary M. Watson, Frances Winfrey, Nell Stroupe and Alice Lee Williams. There were 43 seniors listed in the annual that year.

From the 1944 annual, The Class History reveals "a new course, physical education, was added to the curriculum. In connection with this a girls' football team was organized with John Bethune and Clyde Carr as coaches. They really did have a time trying to get across to the girls that they couldn't grab the ball and run anytime they chose. One of the star players was a sophomore girl, Barbara Moore, a newcomer from Arizona."

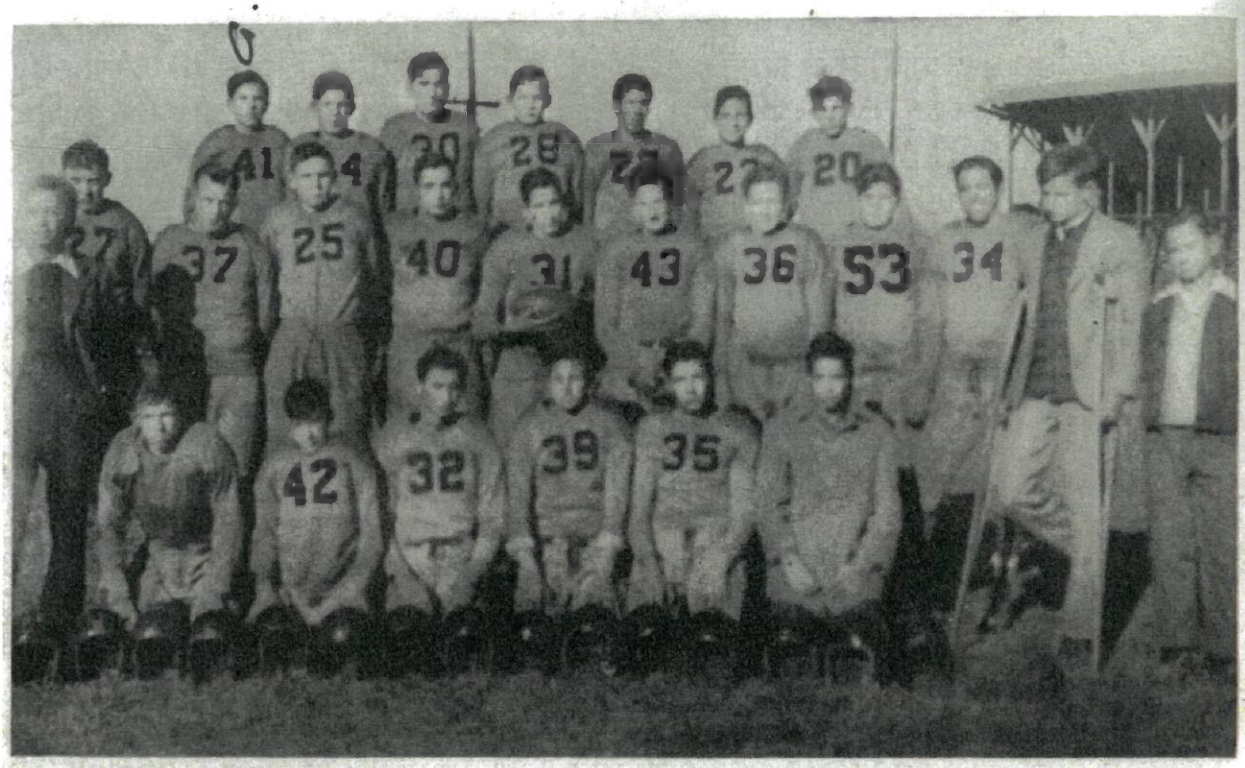
The Class History also states, "The athletic teams under Mr. Teachey's guidance were fairly successful. Some of the players that graduated last year came back as post graduates and did a lot to help win a few games. But now, most of them have been caught in the draft".

World War II was in full swing during this time. All eligible men 18 years old and older were drafted by Uncle Sam. They received their letter in the mail with a salutation of "GREETINGS from the President of the United States".

1945 - Herbert L. Swain was Superintendent while Guy B. Teachey was Principal, football and basketball coach.

Some teachers during this time were, Annette Burnette, Floradel Kennedy, Edith Taylor Darden, Alma Simmons, E. C. Watson, Edna Crumpler, Alice Lee Williams, A. P. Winfrey, Margaret Hopper and Alma J. Lassiter. There were 50 graduating seniors with only 15 of them male.

World War II ended bringing our troops home after battling for over 6 years.



First Row, Kneeling: Wilfred Kenan, Clifford Barksdale, Walter Langley, Leon Brock, Victor Burge, Thomas Vann.

Second Row: W. L. Crumpler, *Manager;* Charles Norton, Paul Shipp, Jim Barrus, Earl Buckner, Charlie Darden, Lock Bethune, Harold Bass, Paul Norris, Albert Kaleel, Charles Weeks, Donald Starling, *Assistant Manager.*

Third Row: A. C. Darden, Leroy Kenan, Robert Baddour, Billy Starling, McKenley Holland, Pete Reynolds, Sonny Fisher.

FOOTBALL SQUAD

October 6	Clinton	13	Fayetteville	6
October 13	Clinton	7	Erwin	6
October 20	Clinton	6	Dunn	0
October 27*	Clinton	13	Fayetteville	0
November 3*	Clinton	8	Whiteville	13
November 10*	Clinton	31	Dunn	0
November 17	Clinton	13	Lumberton	12
November 22*	Clinton	25	Erwin	13
November 30*	Clinton	12	E. M. I.	6

* Home games.

1946 - Herbert L. Swain was Superintendent with Guy B. Teachey as Principal and coach. However, S. F. Bass was principal for a short time during this year according to a 1946 senior book belonging to Howard Hobbs. Some teachers were Alma Simmons, Anette Brunette, Alma Lassiter, Edith Taylor and a Mr. Parsons.

In March 1946 Clinton High School began the Clinton Chapter of the Future Homemakers of America. A few months earlier, the Clinton 4-H Club was formed.

The old wooden Clinton High School gymnasium on Kerr Street burned in the spring of the year. All uniforms and sports equipment were destroyed or lost in the fire.



Old Clinton High School Gym
1946

According The Sampson News dated April 24, 1946, the Clinton High School gymnasium and grandstand burned to the ground the morning of

April 22, 1946. The article states "the fire started from a water heater near the dressing rooms under the grandstand. Damage was about $15,000." The article states the Sampson Blues baseball team lost all their new uniforms and equipment.....in the fire but they borrowed uniforms and equipment for the game on April 23, 1946.

After the fire, teams played in the Big Sampson Tobacco Warehouse while a new gym was being built. Jesse Butler relates the unofficial team doctor that year was Dr. Maurice O'Brian, the local chiropractor.

Ren Hoek joined the staff in the fall as a football coach with Bob Baddour as his volunteered assistant.

From an article in the 1994 Clinton High School annual, the class of 1946 entered school eleven years ago there were 149 students entering the school building on College Street. With 51 graduating seniors, they were the last class to graduate in eleven years.

APRIL 24 1946

School Blaze On Wednesday Costs Blues All Equipment

A roaring fire whipped by a slight southern breeze Wednesday morning completely destroyed the Clinton High school gymnasium and ball park grandstand.

The $15,000 blaze cost the Sampson Blues baseball team all their new uniforms and equipment, but undaunted, they borrowed suits and equipment for the game yesterday afternoon against Fuquay-Angier.

Insurance on the building amounted to $4,000, according to H. L. Swain, superintendent of the Clinton schools.

The fire supposedly started from a water heater near the dressing rooms which were located under the grandstand. The two buildings joined and the only entrance to the dressing rooms was through a door near the center of the gym.

The Clinton Volunteer Fire department quickly responded to the call, but the fire had already spread beyond control when they arrived. The nearest fire hydrant was over 100 yards from the building, and trouble with hose delayed to some extent the firemen's efforts. Chief Bunch and his volunteers managed to save the bleachers and the small drink stand adjoining the grandstand.

W. L. West, chief of the Roseboro Fire Department, arrived around 10:20 with an additional truck and firemen, and assisted the Clinton firemen.

The fire, which was reported at 9:45, destroyed around $500 in athletic equipment of the school, plus some workout desks. Equipment belonging to the Sampson Blues which was destroyed was valued at $1,000.

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The same newspaper included a second article titled "*Schools Close in Clinton On May 30"* and provided both the closing date and graduation exercises. As indicated in the article, there was not a regular graduating class that year due to the transition from an eleven year program to a twelve year program. However, there are eight students who will have finished the requirements for graduation and will be awarded diplomas. The usual awards for all-round girl and boy and sportsmanship will be presented at the graduation exercise."

Because of the fire, a school yearbook was not produced that year.

1947 - Herbert L. Swain was Superintendent and Mr. Ren Hoek served as Principal, football coach as well as coach for both women and men's basketball teams.



Ren Hoek
Clinton High School
Principal
Born 1914 – died 1980

Ren Hoek *was born February 17, 1914 in New York died December 14, 1980 in Los Angeles, California. He came to Clinton in the fall of 1946 after working for the NC state prison system. He attended NC State University where he played football before*

coming to Clinton. He served the Clinton school system in many capacities over the years as a coach, teacher and principal. He was a beloved and well respected coach who served until the spring of 1956. A former paratrooper in the US Army during WWII, he was an active leader in the local National Guard; he encouraged his students to plan for college and took them to college games in Raleigh, Chapel Hill, Wake Forest and Durham. In 1954, he gave up his coaching responsibilities and became a full time principal.

In the late 1970's he was brought back to Clinton from California for Ren Hoek Day to honor him for his service to the youth of Clinton. A large crowd of his former students, players, cheerleaders and band members attended to show their respect for his positive influence on their lives.
(Courtesy in part Chris Caison, Joel Rose and Jesse Butler)

An article in 1947 Clinton High School annual relates that "in the year of 1935 a group of boys and girls, rather shy as they hugged the skirts of their mothers, entered that large building on College Street known as Clinton Grammar School. This was our first year in school and everything was rather awkward at first.....now we say farewell to our dear old school days that we are leaving behind." As the years roll by each graduating class to date utters these same words. The memories begin as they leave the hallowed halls of their youth.
(See photos of these students in this timeline under date of 1935)

Howard Hobbs advises he graduated in 1946 with their Baccalaureate Service held on May 26, 1946. However, he returned to school for a few months in the fall of 1946 to play football. He advised the football coach was Cliff Wood. Since then, he has attended the 1947 Class Reunions over the years since there were so few in his graduating class.



Mr. Eugene C. Sipe

Born March 8, 1909 died September 16, 1993

Mr. Eugene C. Sipe *was Superintendent of Clinton City Schools for 25 years. He was a native of Cherryville, NC, attended UNC and was a former teacher. He and wife Maude moved to Clinton from Beaufort County, North Carolina in early 1940s. On September 14, 1942 he enlisted in the US Army at Ft. Bragg. He returned to work for Clinton Schools after WWII as a high school principal. He was promoted to Superintendent in 1948. Mr. Sipe was former chairman of the board of First United Methodist Church, an original member of the board of the Sampson County Memorial Hospital, a member of the 100 Committee, the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, past president of the Clinton Rotary Club and was the longest serving superintendent to date. During those years, the face of the Clinton City School system changed dramatically. Through those good and sometimes trying years during the 1960s, the people of Clinton grew to respect each other and in our school leaders. Mr. Sipe took the role in developing the City Schools into the most respected school system in the area. He was a small man with a gentle voice that inspired everyone to do their best. He had a way of getting your attention without raising his voice. It was often said when he took to the podium, everyone listened so intently that you could hear a pin drop. He always addressed everyone by their proper title and in turn, everyone showed him the same respect. Mr. Sipe devoted his life to the Clinton School System along with his teacher wife Maude. With no children of their own, the students of the Clinton School System became their family. The devotion between them was a testament to all. It was only fitting that the Lord took them home 12 days apart in September of 1993. (Courtesy in part Chris Caison)*

1948 – Eugene C. Sipe was the Superintendent with Ren Hoek as Principal, football and basketball coach. Art Tenglund was the first band director. There were 31 seniors that graduated according to the 1994 annual article entitled "*Striking Differences*".



MR. ART TENGLUND

Arthur Theodore (Art) Tenglund born May 14, 1909 in Pennsylvania and died January 16, 1994 in Wayne County, North Carolina. In the mid 1990s he continued to live in Clinton before moving to the Wilmington area for a time. He was Clinton High Schools first band director from 1948-1953.

1949 – Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with Ren Hoek as Principal as well as football and boys' basketball coach. Mr. Sipe and Mr. Hoek together were the baseball coaches.

According to Mr. Bill Johnson, he was first appointed to the Board of Trustees in January 1949. At that time, the Board was made up of Chevis Kerr, P. G. Bunn and Johnny Crumpler. These men were the board for a number of years. Mr. Johnson replaced Johnny Crumpler and later Dr. Romeo Lewis took his place in 1971. Paul Boone took P. G. Bunn's placed in the early 1950s and George Williams came on the board in 1965. Mr. Johnson relates the story of Mr. Sipe's devotion to the students and the employees at Clinton City Schools. He tells the story about when the board had voted to give Mr. Sipe a raise for a couple of years in a row for his outstanding work. Mr. Sipe told them that he and his wife were well

paid and that he felt the money should go to educational improvements. The next year the board presented Mr. Sipe with a bonus check in lieu of a salary increase. Mr. Sipe thanked the board and then simply tore the check up in front of them.

In the early years, the board was known only as the Board of Trustees and were appointed by way of a recommendation from the school principal and other school officials. They would go through their list and eliminate as many as possible. Then they would give their short list of nominees to the County Commissions who would then decide and appointment a new board member from the list the school had submitted.

Sometime later in the 1950s to early 1960s the Board of Trustees name changed to the Clinton City Board of Education. At or near this same time, new board members were elected by the voting public.

From the 1949 Clinton High School annual, a picture and article describes how the citizens of Clinton and surrounding areas came together to supply "one of the best gymnasiums in Eastern North Carolina". The article goes on to say "that because of the work from the citizens .....today, we have a wonderful new building on our campus that houses one of the best gymnasiums in Eastern North Carolina and a very fine agricultural department".



Clinton High School Gymnasium
1947



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012

Clinton Gymnasium
2012

The Clinton Gymnasium has been refurbished over the years and is still used today.

1950-1974

1950 – Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent, Ren Hoek was Principal and Art Tenglund was the band director. Ren Hoek and Joe Lassiter were the coaches for football, baseball and boys' basketball.

Additions were made to the high school during this time. In an interview with Bill Ray Jordan, he states "the Jr. High School was new for the 7th and 8th grades during this time. They were located in a new wing that was located near the new gym on Finch Street".



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)

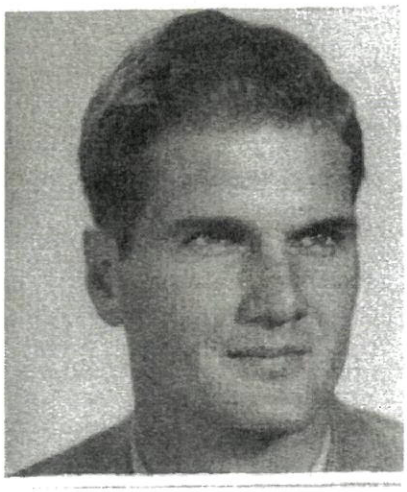
Butler Avenue School

Butler Avenue School was built to ease the overcrowding at Sampson Training School. During this same time, Sampson Training School was renamed Sampson High School. David Robinson was the first principal and held that position until his retirement in 1975. Other principals include William Whitaker, Charlie Lewis, a Mr. Morgan, Geraldine Williamson, Linda Brunson, Debbie Daughtry, Mary Nell Darden, Lenora Locklear and currently Vanessa Brown.

1951 – Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with Ren Hoek as Principal and football coach along with Purcell Jones. Art Tenglund was band director. Jones also coached baseball and boys' basketball. James Parsons was girls' basketball coach.

Clinton Grammar School on College Street housed grades one through six. The Clinton High School building on Sunset Avenue was for grades nine through twelve with the seventh and eighth grades located above the cafeteria at the back of the high school building. An annex was added between the new gym and the main school building located on Finch Street. The 8th grade moved into this new building.

1952 – Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with Ren Hoek as Principal and Art Tenglund band director. Mr. Hoek and Coach Purcell Jones were the football coaches while Coach Jones led the basketball and baseball teams.



Purcell Jones

(*Coach Jones arrived in Clinton in 1951 and departed in 1953. He became a successful land developer and sponsored a trophy for the most valuable basketball player at CHS for many years. He has in recent years, made a donation to the CHS athletic department and still resides in Morehead City.* (Courtesy Chris Caison)

Faulty at Clinton High School included Mrs. Willie Boone, Suzanne Britt, Mrs. Edna Crumpler, Mr. William Hamilton, Miss Isabel Hunt, Mrs. Helen Jones, Mr. Purcell Jones, Miss Rebecca Kirkland, Mr. James Parsons, Mr.

William Peterson, Miss Gertrude Pierce, Mrs. Christine Waters, Miss Frances Watson and Mr. Art Tenglund. There were a total of 67 graduating seniors.

Some former CHS teachers

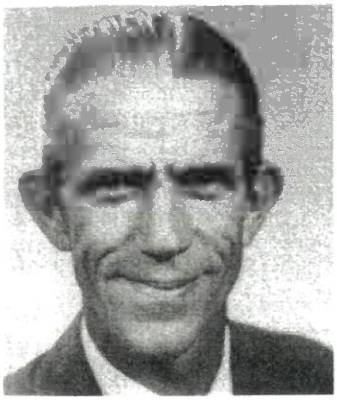
Miss Frances Watson



W. E. Hamilton



James Parsons



Mrs. Edna Crumpler



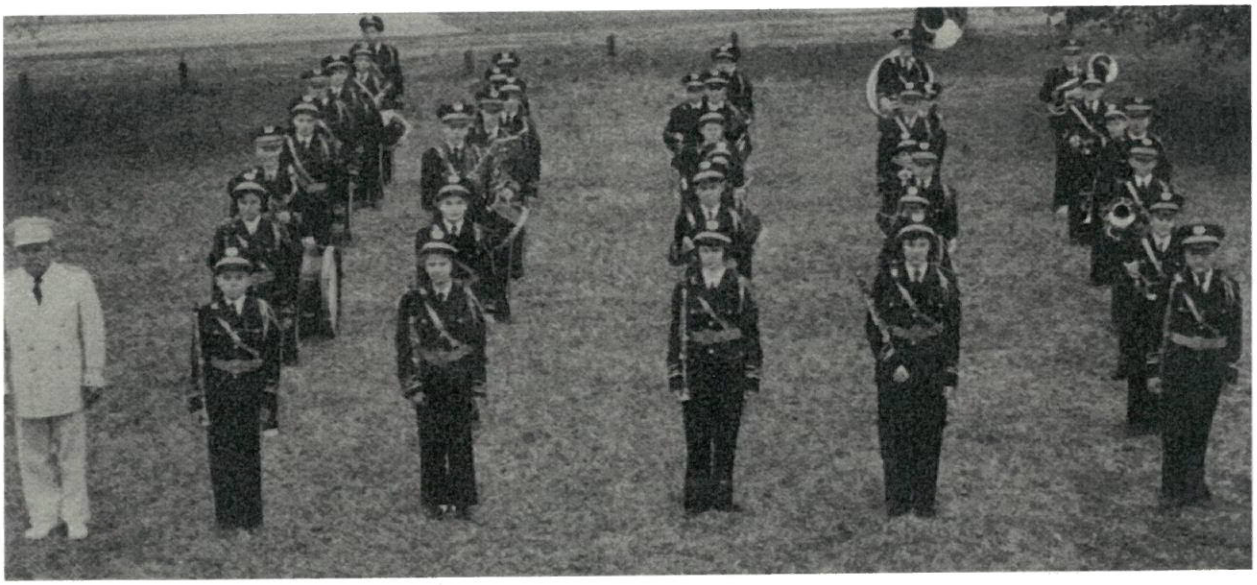


William Peterson



The hallowed halls of old Clinton High School
Sunset Avenue
1952

Clinton High School Band 1952



Mr. Tenglund, First Row: Harold Dale, Kay Whitley, Sybil Smith, Betty Shuford, Bobby Cain
Second Row: Sybil Teachey, Jerry Jackson, Rufie Herring, Jessamine Hiatt, J. B. Hudson
Third Row: Jimmy Spivey, Jimmy Hobbs, Rodethia Parsons, Jimmy Moore, Jimmy Sinclair
Fourth Row: Elwood Brinkley, Donald Brock, Vernon Crumpler, Joe Barbrey, Bobby McCullen
Fifth Row: Franklin Crumpler, Roosevelt Austin, C. B. Parks, Rocky Royal, Billy R. Jordan
Sixth Row: Maurice Autry, James Hamilton, Kimball Royal, Jackie Naylor, Eddie King
Seventh Row: A. J. Warren, Pat Dixon, Bobby Parker, Marvin Musselwhite, Kirby Powell
Eighth Row: Bobby Wells

1953 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with Ren Hoek as Principal and football coach with Art Tenglund as band director.

New offices for the Superintendent and his staff, a book warehouse and a band room/classroom were built on Kerr Street during this year. Prior years, the Superintendent's office was located in the Clinton High School building on Sunset Avenue.

The faculty, according to the 1953 annual, consisted of Mrs. R. S. Boone, Mrs. Suzanne Britt, Mrs. Edna Crumpler, Miss Jean Douglas, Mr. William Hamilton, Miss Jerry Johnson, Mrs. Helen Jones, Mr. Purcell Jones, Miss Rebecca Kirkland, Mr. James Parsons, Mr. William Peterson, Miss Gertrude Pierce, Mr. Art Tenglund and Miss Frances Watson. Mr. Purcell Jones, Miss Jean Douglas and Mr. Ren Hoek were coaches. There were 71 graduating seniors.

1954 – Clinton Grammar School was renamed College Street School when Kerr School was built for the lower elementary grades.



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)

Miss Ruth Nester, a well-respected 4th grade teacher at College Street School, was promoted to Principal at L. C. Kerr School when it opened in 1954. She held that position until her retirement in1974.

Miss Ruth Nester *was born October 31, 1906 in Virginia and died March 24, 2001 in New Hanover County, North Carolina at the age of 94 years.*

L. C. Kerr School was named for Clinton resident Langdon Chevis Kerr, a Civil Engineer. The 1952 Dark Horse annual honored him for all his dedicated work in fighting for education in the Clinton schools and for the children.

In the years since, Freddy Bogue, Charlie Lewis, William Whitaker, Maxine Harris and currently Jan Smith have graciously represented Kerr School as principal.

1954 - 1955 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent along with Ren Hoek as Principal. In the 1955 annual, S. W. Caruso is listed on the faculty as a teacher and coach. Robert Williams was band director.



Chris Caison, Center; Dallas Hollingsworth, Guard; Bobbie Robinson, Half back kneeling with Marvin Musselwhite, Tackle; Bobbie Crummie, Quarterback and Coach S. W. Caruso standing circa 1955. All five won scholarships to colleges in 1956 and 1957. At the time, there were only about 400 students in the entire high school grades 9-12. (Photo courtesy Chris Caison)

A new gym was added to Sampson High School located on McKoy Street during this time.

1956 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with S. W. Caruso as Principal and Ed Taylor as band director with coaches James Parsons and Pete Carr.



Edward W. Taylor
Band Director

Edward W. Taylor, *a native of Roanoke Rapids attended Shenandoah Conservatory where he participated in the music and sports. He enlisted in the US Air Force and was stationed first at Washington, DC and later in Hampton Va. A member of the US Air Force Band, organized a dance orchestra and served as drum major, played oboe in the concert band and played solo alto saxophone in the dance orchestra. Later, he went to Virginia Commonwealth University and received his Bachelor of Music Education degree while playing baseball. He moved to Clinton in 1955 and joined the staff at Clinton High School as band director. He maintained that position for 36 years while coaching boy's baseball in the afternoons and church softball at night during the early years of his career. He developed a program that won the highest awards in both marching band and concert band competitions. Some of the accomplishments under his direction were: marching in the Lion's International Parade in New York City, Atlanta and New Orleans; winning national competitions at the Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, DC; the Dogwood Festival in Knoxville, TN; the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, FL; the Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester, VA; the Spring Fling in Orlando, Fla.; the De Soto Celebration in Sarasota, FL. and the All-American Festival in Orlando, FL.*

Under his leadership, 14 students attended the North Carolina Governor's School; over the years his students achieved 21 superior ratings by the symphonic band in concert festival competitions; playing half-time shows at Carter-Finley Stadium, representing East Carolina University and Michigan State University; having students accepted as members of the All-European Bands and Chorus and winning hundreds of first-place marching trophies in competitions in North Carolina and Virginia.
He completed his Master of Arts Degree in Education at East Carolina University and taught woodwind classes at the University during three summer terms. He was inducted into the North Carolina Bandmasters Association hall of Fame during the North Carolina Music Educators Association Conference in Winston-Salem, NC.

A media center was added to Butler Avenue School during this time.



S. W. Caruso
Principal, teacher and coach

Mr. S. W. (Silvio Wilson) Caruso *was born 1918 in New Jersey died 2012 in Clinton, North Carolina. He attended Elon College on a football scholarship and graduated in 1941 with a degree in biology. It was at Elon that he met his future wife, Geraldine. He was an Army Veteran serving in WWII for 4 and half years. He began his teaching career at Tabor City High School as a football coach and biology teacher. In 1954, the Carusos moved to Clinton, where he taught biology and coached championship football and basketball teams at Clinton High School. In 1956, he became principal and retained that position through 1974 school year. From 1975-1979 he was Coordinator of Special Services. He was a beloved educator that was respected by all the students and faculty members. Following his retirement, he and his wife travelled extensively and were members of the N.C. and the American Camellia Society.*



Joseph B. (Pete) Carr

Joseph B. (Pete) Carr*, born October 22, 1927 in Nash County died November 9, 1997 in Carteret County. He came to Clinton in 1954 as an assistant coach in both football and basketball and was head baseball coach. He was a native of Plymouth, North Carolina and was a WWII veteran. After the war, he played football at UNC. In 1956 he became head football coach and athletic director when Mr. Caruso became principal. For a few years he was principal of the Jr. High School and in 1966 he was promoted to assistant superintendent and retained this position until his retirement about 1986. Upon retirement, he and his family moved to Carteret County, North Carolina.*

1957 - 1958 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with S. W. Caruso as Principal. Football coaches were Joseph B. (Pete) Carr and R. E. Cummings as his assistant. James Parsons was girls' basketball and Ed Taylor was the band director.

In 1958, Sampson High School football team won their State 1-A Championship with Hardy Grice as their quarterback.

1959 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with S. W. Caruso as Principal and Ed Taylor as band director. Pete Carr, James Parsons, R. E. Cummings and Bill Loving were coaches.

A second story to the annex was added including a library and offices. With the renovations, the annex became Clinton High School and the 8th grades were moved into the old high school building facing Sunset Avenue.

Additional classrooms were added to Butler Avenue School.

A new auditorium was built on Sunset Avenue while the old auditorium was converted to a cafeteria. In recent years, the auditorium has been refurbished and is still in use today.



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)

Sunset Avenue School Auditorium

1960 - 1962 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with S. W. Caruso Principal. Pete Carr, James Parsons, Guy Mendenhall and R. E. Cummings were coaches with Ed Taylor as band director.

During 1962, new classrooms were added next to the high school and also at L. C. Kerr School.



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)

Former Clinton High School now part of Sunset Avenue School Campus

February 20, 1962, John Glenn, Jr. became the first American to orbit the earth. Everyone's attention was focused on space travel.

1963 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with S. W. Caruso as Principal of Clinton High School and Ed Taylor as band director. Pete Carr, Jr. High Principal and also football coach along with Charles Poindexter and Guy Mendenhall. Other coaches were James Parsons and Poindexter for girls' basketball; Mendenhall and Poindexter were boys' basketball with Poindexter as baseball coach as well.

On November 22, 1963 President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas. The world was in shock and turmoil during this time. Everyone remembers where they were when the news broke out of his death.

1964 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with S. W. Caruso as Principal and Ed Taylor was band director. Pete Carr was head football and track coach, Charles Poindexter was baseball coach, R. E. Cummings was basketball coach and Charles Poindexter was girls' basketball coach.

1965 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with Mr. S. W. Caruso, Principal of CHS and Pete Carr, Principal of the Jr. High and coach.

'Operation Rolling Thunder' started with the first US combat troops sent to Vietnam in March. By the end of the year there were 200,000 US troops there.

1966 - 1967- Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with Pete Carr as Assistant Superintendent. S. W. Caruso was Principal while Ed Taylor was band director. Coaches were Rubie Lewis, Bobby Robinson, Ralph Carriker and Chris Caison for football, Ross Lane basketball and Bob Lewis JV football.

During Mr. Sipe's administration in the mid to late 1960s integration was very much in the spot light all across the nation. For the next few years, students were given their freedom of choice as to the school they wanted to attend.

In a *Sampson Independent* newspaper article by L. E. Brown, Jr. dated November 26, 2004, "In 1914-15 there were 46 Negro schools in Sampson County, 43 of which were one-teacher, two were two-teacher, and one was a four-teacher school. The four-teacher school is apparently the one from which Sampson County Training School evolved. By 1919-20 this four-teacher school, located in the vicinity of the 400 block of Stetson Street had grown to a six-teacher school. It contained the only library in a black school which contained 14 books. Its students came from Garland, Roseboro, Newton Grove, Faison, Harrells and Turkey."

The article goes on the say, "In 1924 Sampson County Training School was built on a parcel of land at McKoy and Williams Streets. For a time it was the only high school for blacks in Sampson County. It was accredited by the state of North Carolina in 1926, and approved as to eligibility for state funds. Sampson County Training school turned out its first graduates in 1926, a class of two students, Estells Sampson and Agnus Crumpler. In the 1940s a twelfth grade was added and the school was afforded the use of public school buses for the first time. In the 1950s a new gymnasium and band room were added to the existing structures."

According to the Sampson High School Alumni Association website, the school flourished under five different principals and endured name changes from Sampson Training School (1924) to Sampson High School (1951) to its last and final name, Sampson Junior High School (1966).

During the mid-1960's, Mr. Ollen DuPree was Principal and his successor was Mr. Earl who was principal when the school closed its doors for good. The team colors were blue and white and their mascot was a ram.

Today, The Sampson High School Alumni Association has purchased several of the buildings at the campus of the old Sampson High School. It is their intent to renovate and preserve the legacy of the school site and transform the buildings on campus into a Community Resource Center.

1968 - 1970 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent with Pete Carr as Assistant Superintendent. S. W. Caruso was Principal with Chris Caison Assistant Principal and Ed Taylor was band director. Coaches were Chris Caison, Bobby Robinson, Bob Lewis, Bill Jacobs and Ruby Lewis. Basketball coach was Marshall Hamilton.

On April 4, 1968 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. noted Clergyman; activist and prominent leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee. There was much unrest during these trying times.

On June 5, 1968, Senator Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated in the ballroom of the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

During these years the schools went through many changes. History was happening all around. The assassinations caused much turmoil. Locally, our leaders in the community and schools helped all citizens' deal with these tragic losses. Mr. Eugene C. Sipe was instrumental in keeping the communication lines open between all races. His gentle manner and kindness was largely responsible for keeping our schools united during these troubled times.

There wasn't a Junior Senior prom held during these years. The school annual was blue and gold in1970 blending the blue and white from old Sampson High School with black and gold from Clinton High School. In researching back, it has been discovered that the school annual has been

many colors over the years. In 1945 for example it was white, in 1947 is was blue, 1948 green, 1949 black, 1970 blue and gold but mostly the school annuals have been black and gold respectively with only a few other exceptions.

In 1969, after several years of having a choice, the federal court ordered all schools to fully integrate. At this time, the Sampson County Training School system merged with the Clinton School system and became known as Clinton City Schools. Prior to this year, Mr. Sipe was the Superintendent for both school systems. The Sampson High School building was converted to Sampson Middle School while all high school students attended Clinton High School on Sunset Avenue.

Mr. Beaker became Principal at College Street School when Mrs. Gussie Parker retired in 1970. However, he held that position for just one year.

1971 - Eugene C. Sipe was Superintendent, Pete Carr as Assistant Superintendent with S. W. Caruso, Principal and Chris Caison Assistant Principal. John Hales was Jr. High School principal. Football coaches were Bobby Robinson and Chris Caison with Ed Taylor as band director.



John B. Hales
Jr. High Principal
Born March 4, 1938 died October 5, 1971

On October 5, 1971 John B. Hales, teacher and Principal at Clinton Junior High School passed away. He was a dedicated educator that was loved by his students, faculty, staff and family. Since his death, the John B. Hales Award is given to students with good moral character, good conduct, above 88 GPA and is a high achiever. A photo of Mr. Hales graces the hall at Sampson Middle School on Elizabeth Street.

Mr. Thurston Little became the new Principal at College Street School. He remained in that capacity until his retirement in 1980.

1972 - Dr. Frank Greer was superintendent with Pete Carr Assistant Superintendent. S. W. Caruso was Principal with W. H. Whitaker as Assistant Principal along with Bobby Robinson football coach. Jimmy Raynor joined the coaching staff this year.

A media center was added to Kerr School during this year.

1973 - Dr. Frank Greer was Superintendent with Pete Carr Assistant Superintendent while S. W. Caruso was Principal with W. H. Whitaker Assistant Principal and Ed Taylor was band director. Coaches included Bobby Robinson, Jimmy Raynor, Tommy Sloan, Jeff Bell and Lennon Fisher.

A new cafeteria was added to Butler Avenue School during this school year.

Cease fire signed in Paris and the last US troops left Vietnam for home.

According to Dale Johnson, "The Athletic Boosters Club was founded during this year." Those involved with organizing the club were Bobby Robinson, Fletcher Pearson, Joe Best, Dr. Morris Bell, Ed Purcell, Walker Bellamy and Dale Johnson.

1974 - Dr. Frank Greer was Superintendent with Pete Carr Assistant Superintendent. S. W. Caruso was Principal while William H. Whitaker was Assistant Principal with Bobby Robinson football coach, Jimmy Raynor baseball coach and Ed Taylor band director.

1975-2000

1975 - Dr. Frank Greer was Superintendent with Dr. Tom Parker and Pete Carr as Assistant Superintendents. S. W. Caruso was Coordinator of Special Programs while Ed Taylor was band director. Bobby Robinson was football coach and Jimmy Raynor was baseball coach.

The Dark Horses lost in the football state 3A play offs to Ahoskie 7-14.

1976 - Dr. Robert M. Boggs was Superintendent with Pete Carr and Dr. Thomas Parker as Assistant Superintendents with Henry Williamson as Principal with Jean Powell and Willie Jacobs as Assistant Principals. S. W. Caruso as Coordinator of Special Services, Ed Taylor was band director with Bobby Robinson head football coach and Jimmy Raynor baseball coach.

Sampson Junior High School building on McKoy Street was closed. The students moved to the former Clinton High School on Sunset Avenue. The new Clinton High School was built on Elizabeth Street.

The Clinton High School football team lost to Pisgah in their first ever 3-A championship game that was held in the cold mountains of North Carolina.

1977 – Dr. Robert M. Boggs was Superintendent with Pete Carr, Assistant Superintendent. Charlie Lewis was Principal with Willie Jacobs and Jean Powell as Assistant Principals. Bobby Robinson was head football coach while Jimmy Raynor baseball coach. Ed Taylor was band director.

1978 – Dr. Robert M. Boggs was Superintendent with Pete Carr as Assistant Superintendent. S. W. Caruso as Coordinator of Special Services and Information while Charlie Lewis was Principal and Willie Jacobs as Assistant Principal. Ed Taylor was band director with Bobby Robinson as head football coach and Jimmy Raynor baseball coach.

The Sampson Independent newspaper headline on July 21, 1978 was *Fire Destroys School Building.* "Flames gutted the 50+ year-old-school classroom building at Sampson Middle School (former Clinton High School). The fire broke out on the second floor of the two-storey building

sometime before 11 p.m. last night, and by I a.m. all of Sampson County's 13 volunteer fire departments plus a "snorkel" pumper from Lafayette Village in Fayetteville had joined the Clinton firemen in a lengthy struggle to subdue the fire."

Many hearts were broken to see their beloved old school go up in flames. The hallowed halls were gone. What was even more heart breaking was the fact the SBI determined the fire was the work of an arsonist. It is not known if the arsonist was ever revealed and/or prosecuted.



Nearly three hours after midnight, firemen and spectators watch as flames rise from the roof of Sampson Middle School's old classroom building, and a "snorkel" pumper from a Fayetteville fire company throws a stream of water downwards toward the blaze.

Fire Damages Middle School

A fire which destroyed the oldest building at Sampson Middle School was reported around 11 p.m. on July 20, 1978. Sampson County's thirteen volunteer fire departments and a "snorkel" pumper from Lafayette Village in Fayetteville joined the Clinton firemen in a lengthy struggle to subdue the fire. The fire seemed to be under control by 3 a.m. but fire-fighters continued to hose water at isolated outbreaks of fire. Just before dawn, the firemen packed away their lines and gear for the fire was apparently out. The building burst into flames again shortly afterward, however, and the firemen had to return.

SBI agents later determined that the fire was the work of an arsonist but have been unable to name a suspect.





12 Middle School Fire

Sampson Independent

Y 24, 1978 Incorporating the Sampsonian CLINTON, N.C. FIFTEEN CENTS

School Replacement Costly

BY JIM PARKER
Independent Publisher

The Clinton City Board of Education is going to have to come up with an estimated $1,300,000 to $1,500,000 in order to replace the old Clinton High School, the major portion of which was gutted by fire Thursday night.

Superintendent of Schools Robert Boggs said Sunday he spent most of Friday in Raleigh with the Division of School Planning, in an attempt to find out how much the city board of education would receive in insurance payments on the building, and how the remainder of the money could be raised.

The insurance will amount to no more than $336,000 and a final figure will not be available until representatives of the state insurance fund inspect the building, which they will do either today or tomorrow.

Boggs said that it was possible that the board could borrow up to $100,000 from the state literary fund.

"The board is meeting at 10 a.m. Monday morning to assess the situation and see which way we want to go. We hope to have a meeting later on in the day with county commission Chairman Tommy Turlington after we had determined what course of action we think should be taken," he said.

Boggs listed three alternatives he felt the board would be considering:

1. Use of the old Sampson High School to house the sixth grades.

2. Retain all students at the present site by using temporary classrooms and by providing cafeteria service from the high school.

3. Return to the old plan of organization which would put the sixth grades back at Butler Avenue and provide for grades K-4 at Kerr and College Street schools.

The 50-year-old building was to be used beginning in August to house nine sixth grade classes, plus three reading centers and two in-house suspension classrooms. Boggs said that the in-house suspension classes will probably be omitted because of lack of space, no matter which plan of action the board decided to take.

Boggs said the $1,300,000 to $1,500,000 figure was an estimate and should be sufficient to replace the 14 classrooms, offices and cafeteria, providing that the building was erected within the next two years and that inflation did not get worse during that period.

The fire was discovered at about 11 p.m. Thursday and volunteer firemen from all 13 Sampson County fire departments fought the blaze until the next morning. A snorkel truck from Cumberland County was also used in the fire-fighting efforts. Many citizens and students joined school personnel in attempting to save furniture and books, and some tables, chairs and books were saved.

Some $8,000 in equipment which had just been purchased for the alternative learning center was stored in a second story room which was beside the room where the fire apparently started, and all of it was lost.

The building has been guarded around the clock by Clinton police officers, and an arson team from the State Bureau of Investigation will be here today. The arson experts came Friday but were unable to work in the building because of the heat and smoke from the still-smouldering ruins.

This same year, the new Clinton High School located on Elizabeth Street opened its doors.



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)

Sampson Middle School former Clinton High School



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)

New Sunset Avenue School
Former location of Clinton High School and Sampson Middle School

1979 - Dr. Robert Boggs, Superintendent with Pete Carr Assistant Superintendent. Charlie Lewis was principal with Willie Jacobs as Assistant Principal. S. W. Caruso was Coordinator of Special Services with Bobby Robinson as football coach.

The Dark Horse football team lead by coach Robinson played in the 3A state championship game however, they lost to Farmville on November 7, 1979.

1980 - Dr. Ralph Nelson was Superintendent with Pete Carr as Assistant Superintendent. Charles Lewis was Clinton High School Principal with Jean Powell as Assistant Principal. Karen Fox joined the faculty as a teacher and coach.

1981- Dr. Ralph Nelson was Superintendent while Glenda Phillips was Assistant Superintendent and Pete Carr was Assistant Superintendent for Title 1/Plant Operations. Charles Lewis was Clinton High School Principal with Jean Powell as Assistant Principal.

Mr. William Whitaker became the new Principal at College Street School and remained there for nine years.

On April 12, 1981 Space Shuttle Columbia was successfully launched into space. Many students watched from their classrooms this monumental event.

1982 - Dr. Jim Simeon was Superintendent with Glenda Phillips as Assistant Superintendent and Pete Carr as Assistant Superintendent for Title 1/Plant Operations. Charles Lewis was Clinton High School Principal with Jean Powell as Assistant Principal.

1983 - Dr. Jim Simeon was Superintendent with Glenda Phillips as Assistant Superintendent and Pete Carr was Assistant Superintendent for Title 1/Plant Operations. Charles Lewis was Clinton High School Principal with Jean Powell and Willie Jacobs as Assistant Principals.



The Clinton city school administration on Kerr Street was reduced to so much rubble in an early morning fire. Fire officials say the blaze was not deliberately set and some school records were saved.

Early morning fire

School offices gutted

By TOM WEAVER
Staff Writer

Fire early this morning destroyed the Clinton City Schools administration building on Kerr Street.

The cause of the blaze had not been determined, but Clinton Fire Chief Max Price said it apparently started in the heating room.

Price said there was nothing to indicate the fire being deliberately set. "We had to get a man with keys to get inside, no doors were unlocked," he said.

Central dispatcher Kim Smith said the call was received about 5:45 a.m.

At 11:35 a.m. today during a special called meeting of the Clinton city school board an insurance team from the state Department of Public Instruction declared the building, valued at $135,000 plus the contents, a total loss.

A check will be forthcoming as soon as a letter of application is received from the local board.

Price said he could see the glow when he left his home, across town from the scene, and when the firefighters arrived flames were pouring through the roof.

The one-story brick building, completed in 1958, had been updated several times and was in good condition, school officials said. Although the structure was totally gutted, a number of important records were saved.

Superintendent Jim Simeon said the loss was covered by insurance. Minutes of board meetings and a number of file cabinets were saved.

"Our personnel records are in good shape," he said. "Fortunately they were in fireproof file cabinets we bought just this year."

But apparently financial records were destroyed as finance officer Bob Troutman's office was one of the first areas to burn, Simeon said.

The band room was also destroyed but a number of instruments were recovered. The cases were charred but the condition of the instruments had not been determined this morning.

Price said he was told by band director Ed Taylor that normally students took the instruments home at night but that, due to the rain, they had been left in the building.

Clinton firemen were at the scene for several hours and were assisted by a tanker, pumper and about 12 men from the Hails department.

"They did a fine job. I don't see how they could have done better. I really do appreciate their efforts," Simeon said.

Price said he had originally called for the Hails department for standby duty.

"I knew all of Clinton's equipment from both fire stations would be in use, and I was afraid there might be another fire. But they helped us a lot with this fire," he said.

Doris Warren, supervisor of pupil services, said the annual tests had been salvaged.

Simeon said he did not know as yet where temporary quarters for administrative operations would be set up. The city school board was meeting at 11 this morning to discuss the fire.

He said, however, that the building would be rebuilt, probably on the same site.

Lights in the stadium were turned on to assist the firefighters and a number of pieces of equipment fought the flames from the field.

The fire added to the woes of the city Board of Education, presently looking for funds to complete the new Sampson Middle School building, located across Kerr Street from the administration building.

The main building of the old

See SCHOOL, page 7

On February 3, 1983 *The Sampson Independent* newspaper published an article titled *School Offices Gutted* on the front page. An early morning fire destroyed the Clinton City Schools administration building on Kerr Street. Superintendent Jim Simeon said the loss was covered by insurance. While fighting the fire, the lights from the neighboring football field were turned on to assist the fire fighters. The paper goes on to say "the fire added to the woes of the city Board of Education presently looking for funds to complete the new Sampson Middle School building located on Sunset Avenue across Kerr Street from the administration building." (*This burned in1978.*)

The superintendent's office was briefly relocated in Sampson Middle School Media Center but was quickly moved to 303 Lisbon Street in Clinton.



(Photo courtesy Bobby and Carole Robinson)

Also, that same year, the ground breaking ceremony was held for the new Dark Horse football stadium. Principal Charles Lewis, Ann Glover from the Board of Education along with Pete Carr, Assistant Superintendent and others looked on.

The Athletic Boosters Club was instrumental in the funding and building of the football stadium, concession stands, grounds, baseball complex, supplied uniforms, equipment, cementing the walkways and helped with the track as it stands today in the year of 2012. Without the helping hands of former and current members of the Athletic Boosters Club and many anonymous donations, the school facilities would not be as they are today.

The Athletic Boosters Club was chartered during the 1973-74 school year. Before then a group of businessmen, parents, teachers and coaches known as the Athletic Council worked hard in the early years to set the standard for Clinton High School and its athletic programs.

Members of the Clinton High School Athletic Boosters Club met with the County Commissioners to advise them the club needed $100,000 to put toward a football stadium at the new high school on Elizabeth Street. The old Dark Horse Stadium on Kerr Street had been condemned and the need was crucial for a new stadium. The club had raised $50,000 and many members had agreed to sign a note at Clinton Savings and Loan in order to borrow another $50,000. They asked the commissioners to contribute another $100,000 so the building of the new Dark Horse Stadium could begin. Commissioner Marion Butler stated "I believe in helping people that help themselves". The commissioners agreed to match the clubs $100,000 and also agreed to pay any labor cost that would be incurred for the project.

Without many donations from Jordan's Shopping Center for the first scoreboard at Darkhorse Stadium, the B. T. Lundy family toward the new field house along with McDonalds, N.C. Marble and Granite, Croom and Elizabeth Faircloth, J. R. and Frances Hubbard, DuBose Steel, Mildred Powell, Prestage Farms, Scovile Foundation, West Point Pepperell, Roberson Beverages, VFW Post 7547, Clinton A. B. Board, Clinton 100 Committee, Pat and Joyce Draughon and the Clinton High School Athletic Boosters Club, the stadium would never have been completed. With these and many faithful members such as Dale and Diane Johnson, parents, teachers and students along with other donors helped to make Dark Horse Stadium what it is today.

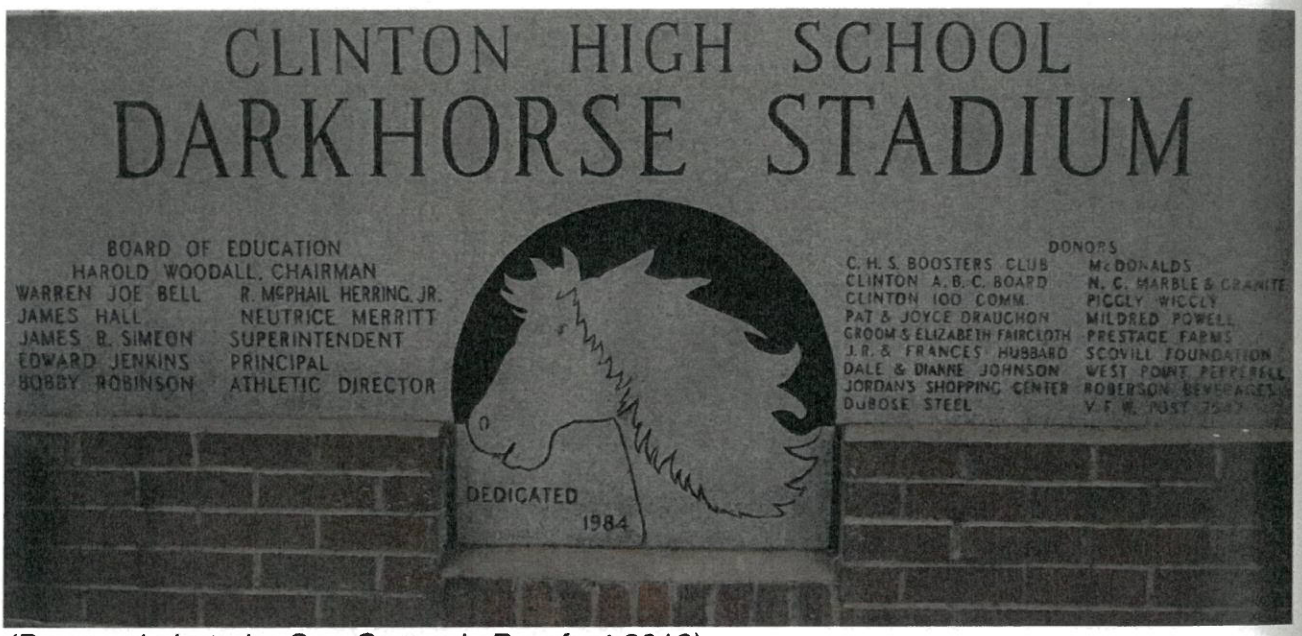
The Clinton High School Band Boosters have worked equally hard and gave their support by raising monies for band's trips and competitions over the years which included the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida. Without their help, the band would not have been able to compete in the band competitions and gain the success they have over the years. The students, parents and teachers associated with the Band Boosters are to be commended for all their hard work.

The PTSA organization aided teachers by sponsoring activities within the school to raise money for the children and providing the necessary funds for the students to meet the challenges throughout each school year.

1984 - Dr. Jim Simeon was Superintendent with Pete Carr and Glenda Phillips Assistant Superintendents. Ed Jenkins was Clinton High School Principal.

On September 30, 1984 the first football game was played in the new Clinton High School Football Stadium on Elizabeth Street. The opposing team was from Dunn and was played during a rain storm.

Many Athletic and Band Booster Club members worked long and hard for this occasion. Many dug by hand with shovels the water line running from the new B. T. Lundy Field House to the water main in order to save money on a hot summer day.



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)

During this year, Dr. Tommy Newton joined Dr. Bruce Caldwell who had been team doctor for many faithful years. Dr. Newton eventually succeeded Dr. Caldwell who had superseded Dr. Jack Packer who had served as team doctor through the earlier years. These dedicated physicians gave of their time and talent for the love of the students, the game and the school. To date, Dr. Newton continues to work with the team and helps support many fitness programs through the Clinton City School System and the Sampson County Schools.

1985 - Dr. Jim Simeon was Superintendent with Pete Carr and Glenda Phillips as Assistant Superintendents. Ed Jenkins was Clinton High School Principal. Karen Fox was coach of the Women's basketball team. Bobby Robinson was football coach with Jimmy Raynor baseball coach.

There were many outstanding lady Dark Horses over the years but Tonya Colwell will always be remembered as one of the best from Clinton High School Women's basketball team. She was the first female to win a basketball scholarship.

1986-87 - Dr. Russ Working was Superintendent with Glenda Phillips Assistant Superintendent. Ed Jenkins was Clinton High School Principal. Football coaches were Bobby Robinson and Bob Lewis with Karen Fox as Women's basketball coach.

In 1987, Danyel Parker was part of the first team to play for a state championship lead by Coach Karen Fox. Danyel followed in the footsteps of Tonya Colwell by also receiving a basketball scholarship this year.

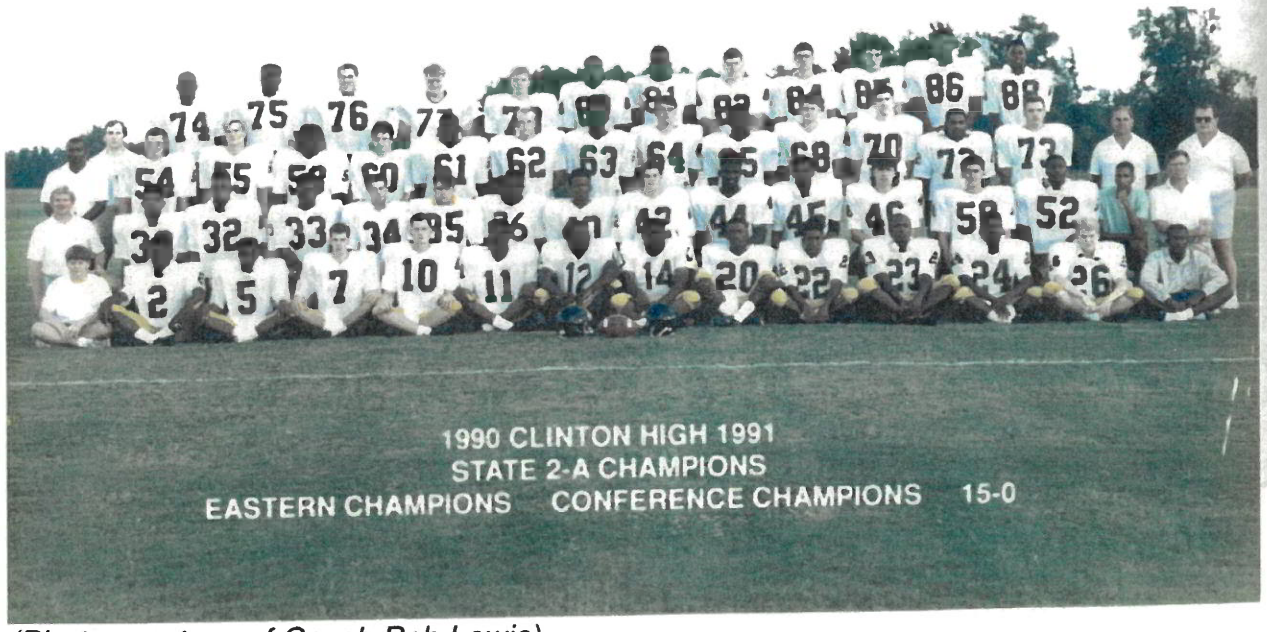
The Clinton High School Athletic Boosters Club, the Clinton High School Band Boosters Club, parents and community leaders in a jointed effort raised monies to clear the debt against the football stadium. During 1987, that debt was paid in full to Clinton Savings and Loan in the amount of $50,000 for the Clinton High School Stadium that was borrowed back in1983.

1988 - Dr. Russ Working was Superintendent with Glenda Phillips as Assistant Superintendent. Ed. Jenkins was Principal with Willie Jacobs and Ben Sautter as Assistant Principals. Bob Lewis as school Athletic Director, football coach and teacher along with Bobby Robinson head football coach and teacher. Jimmy Raynor was varsity baseball coach, teacher and assistant varsity football coach. Jim Squibb was boys' varsity basketball coach. Coach Karen Fox was the Lady Dark Horse basketball coach and was voted in 1988-89 as AP High School girls Coach of the Year. The Lady Dark Horses were runner up in the Class AA championship. Ed Taylor was band director.

1989 - Dr. Larry Price was Principal with Phillip D. Williamson and Ben Sautter as Assistant Principals. Bob Lewis was teacher and head football coach with Jimmy Raynor with Frank Bowden teacher and assistant J.V. football and J. V. basketball coach with Frank Bowden. Ed Taylor was band director and Karen Fox Women's basketball coach.

Coach Fox and the Women's basketball team won their first 2-A State Championship in the history of Clinton High School. Tonya Sampson was a key player in this championship win.

1990 - Dr. Charles Gainey was superintendent with Dr. Larry Price as Principal along with Ben Sautter and Phillip Williamson as Assistant Principals. Ed Taylor was band director. Bob Lewis was teacher and head football coach along with Jimmie A. Monroe, Robert Staton, Jimmy Raynor and Jeff Sawvel along with Karen Fox Women's basketball coach.



(Photo courtesy of Coach Bob Lewis)

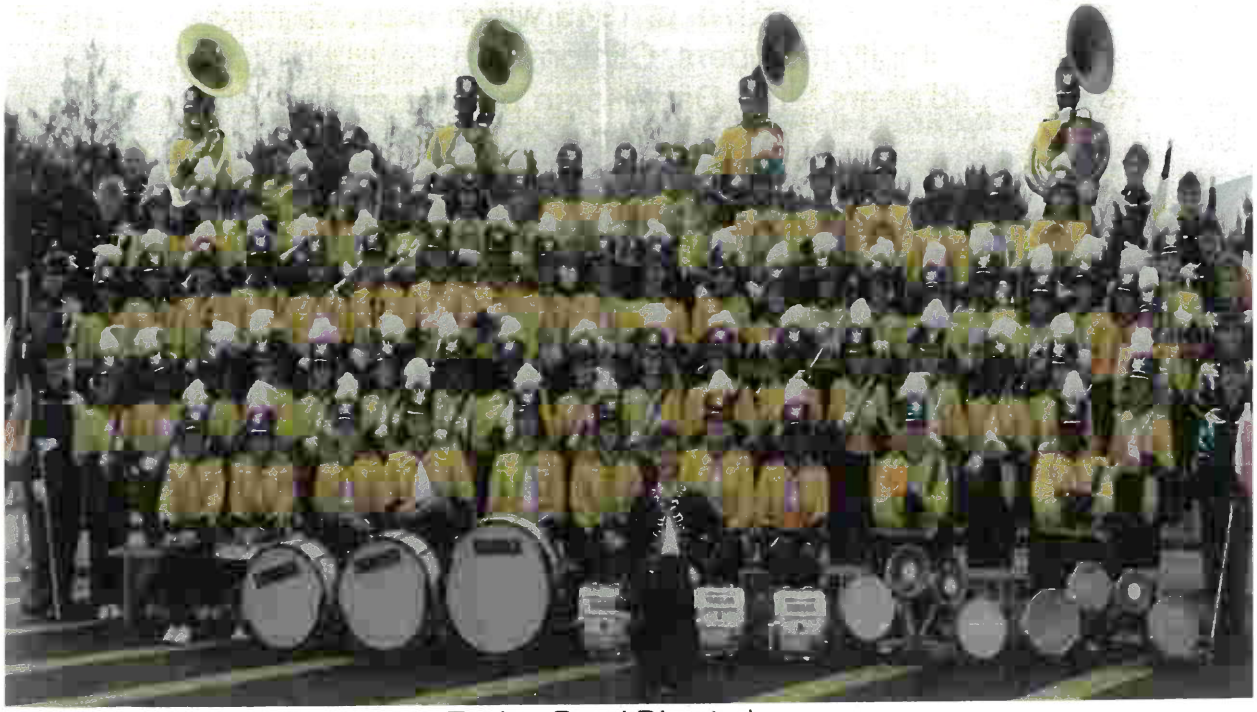
In December 1990 Clinton High School won their first 2A football state championship against Thomasville in Chapel Hill, North Carolina with Bob Lewis as head football coach. Most of this championship team grew up together in the recreation league and played as a team all those formative years. Such players as Neill Westerbeek, who started on offense and defence the entire year, quarterback Randy Barefoot, center Bryan Spell,

running backs Jerris McPhail and Fuzzy Lee with Thomas Lockamy, Brent Satterfield, Mark Willis and Gene Twisdell holding the line. Also Lamont Edwards, Travis (Scooter) Banks, Alvin Melvin along with the rest of this championship team were great teammates and team players.

Clinton High School's Coach Karen Fox and the Women's basketball team led by Tonya Sampson reached new heights when they won Clinton's second state 2A Women's basketball championship.

Also, during this same year, Coach Brad Mitchell's track team won their first state 2A Championship in Track and Field.

Mrs. Geraldine Williamson became the new Principal at College Street School.



(Photo courtesy of Edward W. Taylor, Band Director)

Clinton High School Marching Band
1990

1991 - Dr. Charles Gainey was Superintendent with Dr. Larry Price, Principal with Ben Sautter and Phillip D. Williamson as Assistant Principals. Ed Taylor was band director with coaches Bob Lewis, Robert Hill, Robert

Staton, Jimmy Raynor, Jeff Sawvel--football, Karen Fox and Jim Squibb-basketball and Jimmie Monroe, Jimmy Raynor baseball and Brad Mitchell track coach.

In their annual the seniors said " their most memorable events were the 1990 2-A State Championship football game, the Girls Basketball team winning the State Championship twice in a row and band students described their most memorable event being the Gator Bowl." The Track team won the state 2A Championship in Track and Field this year too.

People and events make up memories to cherish for a lifetime. This group of 159 seniors proved to everyone their dedication and close friendship since childhood could make a difference. Their accomplishments have remained in every heart and mind and will forever be a great memory for all including the faculty of nearly 60 educators.

Comparing this class to the class of 1945 which consisted of 51 seniors and less than 12 faculty members, Clinton High School has grown three times its size in 46 years. The Dark Horse pride is and will always be strong.

Mrs. Maxine Harris became the new Principal at College Street School. This was the year the school building closed for good as a public elementary school.

EDWARD W. TAYLOR APPRECIATION NIGHT

WELCOME
FORMER BAND MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND
DRUM MAJORS

1955-56 JO MEEKS FISHER (MAYFIELD)
1956-57 JO MEEKS FISHER (MAYFIELD)
1957-58 SUE JOHNSON (LITTLE)
1958-59 SUE JOHNSON (LITTLE)
1959-60 SUE JOHNSON (LITTLE)
1960-61 SUE JOHNSON (LITTLE)
1961-62 BETH EAKES (TURNER)
1962-63 ROBERT CARROLL
1963-64 JIMMY DUDLEY
1964-65 JIMMY DUDLEY
1965-66 BECKY CRUMPLER (KOVAK)
1966-67 PATRICIA SCARLETT (HALL)
1967-68 PATRICIA SCARLETT (HALL)
1968-69 STEWART TAYLOR (BUTLER)
1968-69 MARY ALICE MERRITT (TOMYN)
1969-70 MARY ALICE MERRITT (TOMYN)
1970-71 ANNE ROBINSON (HODGES)
1971-72 MEREDITH FLAKE (RIDGE)
1972-73 LYNN BEAMAN (ANDERS)
1973-74 JANE GUNTER (CANIERI)
1974-75 JANE GUNTER (CANIERI)
1975-76 JOYCE KEPHART (BUNN)
1976-77 MELANIE WISE (HERRING)
1977-78 DEBBIE GLOVER
1978-79 JENNY LEE (HELMERICH)
1979-80 SYLVIA TYNDALL (AVERY)
1980-81 GINA LINDSAY (POWELL)
1981-82 WANDA WILLIAMSON (COLEMAN)
1982-83 ANITA BLUE
1983-84 KIM BOONE
1984-85 ANGIE CALDWELL
1985-86 SARALYN CORBETT
1986-87 TABITHA BERRY
1987-88 BECKETT KORTCAMP
1988-89 BETSY CLARK (HALES)
1989-90 LORI JACKSON
1990-91 CHRISTY JACKSON
1990-91 LEIGH ELLEN THORNTON
1991-92 PAULA EURE
1991-92 SANDRA STARLING

EDWARD W. TAYLOR
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

1989 BETSY CLARK
1989 LISA DIXON
1990 CAMILLE HATCH
1990 LORI JACKSON
1991 BEVERLY TEW
1991 CHRISTY JACKSON

BAND BOOSTER PRESIDENTS

1974-75 ANN GLOVER
1975-76 PATTY CHERRY
1976-77 PATTY CHERRY
1978-79 LEE MERKEL
1979-80 FRANCES PEARSON
1980-81 ED PURCELL
1981-82 GRACE ELLIS
1982-83 IDA TROGDON
1983-84 IDA TROGDON
1984-85 IDA TROGDON
1985-86 BILLY COTTLE
1986-87 BILLIE SUE SUTTON
1987-88 CHARLES ADAMS
1988-89 CHARLES ADAMS
1989-90 HARVEY TART
1990-91 HARVEY TART
1991-92 PATSY WATERS

1956 CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL BAND

LARRY COTTON
REDEITHA PARSONS
MERCER ROBINSON
NANCY PATE
SUE JOHNSON
GRANVILLE WALLACE
JACKIE NAYLOR
EMMA ROSE SHIPP
JIMMY LEWIS
KENNETH GARRIS
SEBRON DALE
TONY PATE
PAM MORRIS
BILLY HALL
BILLY STRICKLAND
COOPER TEW
MORRIS GALLAGHER
JERRY JACKSON
A.J. BASS
DOUG CARR
JAMES HAMILTON
HAROLD BASS
VERNON CRUMPLER
CAROLYN BAUCOM
BILLY JORDAN
DOUGLAS CRUMPLER
BILLY HONEYCUTT
EDDIE KING
JERRY PARKER
BILLY CARR
BETSY CAISON
ROBERT BOONE
GLENN CRUMMIE
JOHNNY HATCH
DAN EARNHARDT
ERMA GAIL KENDALL
WAYNE BOWLES
WILLIAM TULLEY MURPHY
MAJORETTES:
MARILYN CARR
CAROLYN CARR
FAYE BUTLER
HILDA SOUTHERLAND
JUNE GAIL WIGGINS
ELIZABETH SUTTON
DRUM MAJOR:
JO MEEKS FISHER

(See additional band information in this timeline under 2011-12)

1992 - Dr. Charles Gainey was Superintendent with Dr. Larry Price as Principal. Coaches were Bob Lewis, Jeff Sawvel, Jimmy Raynor, Jimmie Monroe, Karen Fox and Mark Fields.

1993 - Dr. Charles Gainey was Superintendent with Dr. Larry Price, Principal with Renee Franklin and Phil Williamson as Assistant Principals. Bob Lewis football and golf coach with Glenn Lilly as band director. Other coaches—Jeff Sawvel-track and JV basketball; Jimmy Raynor-baseball and assistant football coach with Jimmie Monroe as J.V. football coach and Mark Fields-softball and JV football coach.

1994 - Dr. Charles Gainey was Superintendent with Dr. Larry Price was Principal with Phillip Williamson and Renee Franklin as Assistant Principals. Band director was Joe Messina. Bob Lewis was football coach along with Jeff Sawvel and Mark Fields. Baseball coach Jimmy Raynor along with Karen Fox as Women's basketball coach.

The 1994 annual relates on page 211 "the varsity football team made it through three rounds of the state play-offs and their only loss came from the state 2-A runners-up, Burlington-Cummings. Clinton High finished the season as conference champions. The soccer team finished the season as second in the conference".

1995 - Dr. Charles Gainey was Superintendent with Dr. Carl Herman Principal with Phill Williamson as Assistant Principal. Coaches were Bob Lewis- football, Jamie Williams – soccer, Mark Fields –girls' softball, Jeff Sawvel-basketball. Band director was John Lowe.

1996- Dr. Charles Gainey was Superintendent. Dr. John Daniels served as interim Principal after Dr. Herman resigned in September. Later, Mr. Michael Cafaro became Principal. Coaches included Bob Lewis-football, Jim Squibb-basketball, Mark Fields- women's basketball, Jamie Williams-track and Danny Aycock- golf. John Lowe was band director.



(Photo courtesy of Coach Bob Lewis)

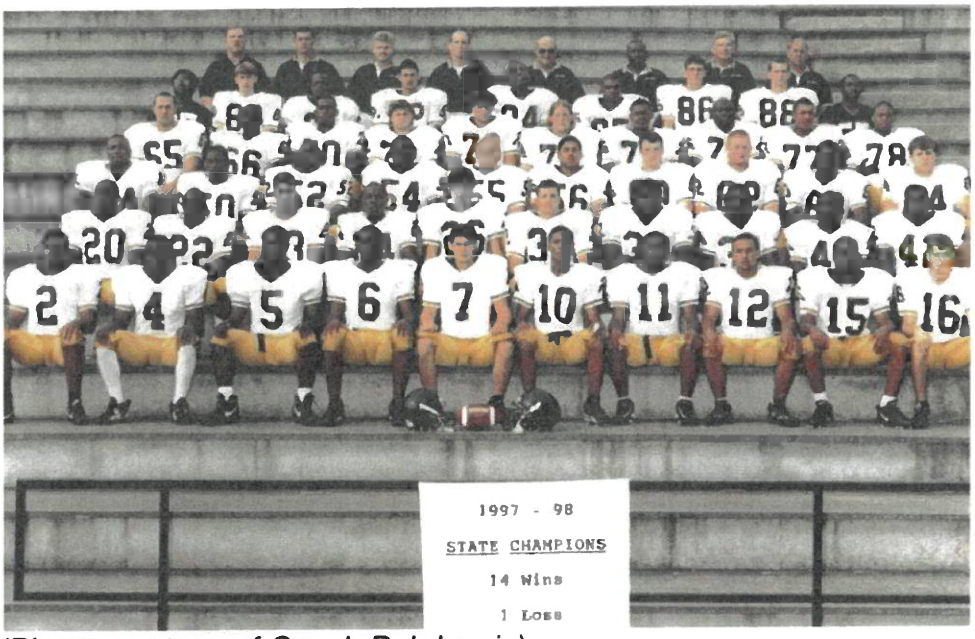
Clinton won the State 2A Football Championship game against Bandys by a score of 26-14.

The golf team won Class A-AA Regional championship.

According to an article by Andy Rackley, Sports Editor for the Sampson Independent dated December 15, 1996, "many Clinton football players will be remembered for the impact they made and roles they played in the Dark Horses quest for the 2-A state title." Harry Blue, Leonard Henry with junior fullback Derrick Spencer all were key players along with Bryan Peterson, Michael Raynor, Wes Taylor, William Watkins, Larry Sampson, Trinity Hand, Choya Boykin, Larry Faison and Jeff Darden.

1997 - Dr. Charles Gainey was Superintendent with Mr. Michael Cafaro as principal with E. R. Mason and Renee Franklin as assistant principals. Coaches were Bob Lewis, Kevin Ellis, Tracy Thornton, Jeff Sawvel, Robert Hill, Jimmie Monroe and Jimmy Raynor. John Lowe was band director.

Clinton defeated Shelby to retain their third State 2A Football Championship by winning back to back championships for 1996 and 1997.



(Photo courtesy of Coach Bob Lewis)

Outstanding players such as Derrick Spencer, Willie Parker, Bryan Peterson, James Faison, Josh Ellis and Elliott Jordan were just a few that made a difference in the outcome of this 2A State Championship team.

The Superintendent's office was relocated to the College Street School building.

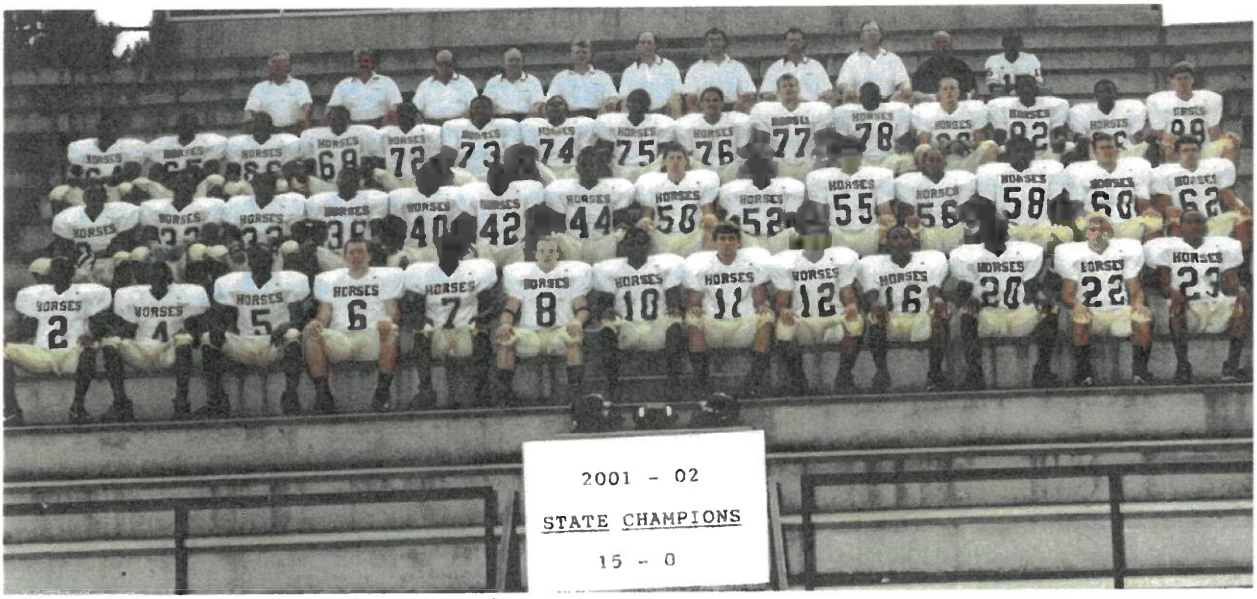
1998 - Dr. Charles Gainey was Superintendent with Mr. Michael Cafaro as Principal with Assistant Principals Edward Mason and Renee Franklin. Coaches were Karen Fox- women's basketball, Mark Fields- football, Bob Lewis- football, Jimmie Raynor- baseball and assistant football, Becky Shaw- track, Jimmie Monroe- baseball and assistant football and Kim Fann volleyball. Band director was John Lowe.

1999 - 2000 - Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Mr. Michael Cafaro as Principal with Assistant Principals Renee Franklin and E. R. Mason. Coaches were Bob Lewis-football, Jimmy Raynor-baseball and assistant football. Other coaches were Scott Lewis, Michael Evans, Tracy Thornton, Jimmy Monroe, Robert Hill, Rocky Lewis and Kevin Ellis with Brad Spell as track coach. Band director was John Lowe.

The Marching Band won the Volunteer Award in the National Lion's Club Parade in San Diego, California in1999.

2001-2013

2001 - Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Michael Cafaro as Principal with E. R. Mason and Mary Nell Darden as Assistant Principals. Coaches include Bob Lewis, Jeff Sawvel, Jimmy Raynor, Lynn Tew, Robert Hill, Tracy Thornton, Mark Fields, Scott Lewis, Kevin Ellis and Joe Dabbs. Brad Spell was soccer and JV Basketball coach. The JV Basketball team went undefeated this year. John Lowe was band director.



(Photo courtesy Coach Bob Lewis)

Herbert Dixon, quarterback Stephen Horne along with Reed Butler, Rock Wells, Stephen Anders and Darrel Steele were just a few of the outstanding players on this state championship team. This team was determined to bring home CHS's 4th 2A State Championship title and trophy.

2002- Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Jeff Bell as Principal. Al Britt was football coach along with Jeff Sawvel, Tracy Thornton, Dwight Horne, Mark Fields, Scott Lewis, Kevin Ellis, Robert Hill and Lynn Tew. Band director was John Lowe.

2003 - Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Jeff Bell as Principal. Coaches included Jeff Sawvel, Tracy Thornton, Dwight Horne and Brad Spell. Band director was John Lowe.

The Marching Band performed in the Canada Day Parade in July 2003 at Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. They also competed in the Clayton High School "Classic", the Scotland High School "Highland Classic" and the South View High School's "Rumble in the Jungle" competition.

2004 - Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Jeff Bell as Principal with O. C. Holland and Thelma Gray as Assistant Principals. Bob Lewis head football coach along with Tracy Thornton, Jeff Sawvel, Mark Fields, Kevin Ellis and Scott Lewis. Band director was John Lowe.

The Marching band competed in the Bands of America competition in Florida and Atlanta, Georgia. They also competed in the Southeast Raleigh High School "Bulldog Bash", the South View "Rumble in the Jungle", the Triton High School Band Festival and the Havelock "Crystal Coast Classic".

2005 - Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Jeff Bell as Principal with O. C. Holland and Thelma Gray as Assistant Principals. Steve Mallard head football coach with Alfonzo Hooper, Jeff Davidson, Chris Owens, Mark Fields, Jeff Sawvel and Kevin Ellis. Band director was John Lowe.

The football team won the State 2-A Championship defeating Lincolnton. Outstanding players were quarterback—Thomas Pope with Nic Cooper, Cody Stanley and Benjamin Wright just to name a few.

The Marching Band competed in the Scotland High School "Highland Classic", the Socastee "Beach Band Blast", the Cape Fear Colt Classic, Band of America Regional in St. Petersburg, Florida, the Western Harnett "Eagle Classic", Band of America Super Regional in Atlanta, Georgia and the East Lincoln "Band Classic".



(Photo courtesy John and Susan Baxter)

In March 2005, the Sampson County Board of Commissioners approved a Capital Improvement Plan for construction of three high schools, an elementary school and early childhood education building at Sampson Community College. The estimated construction cost for these projects was approximately $110,000,000, with $30,000,000 allocated for a new Clinton High School. Following Hurricane Katrina, fuel and raw material costs skyrocketed and the estimated cost of the new Clinton High School rose to $31.4 million. Knowing that no additional tax dollars were available, the Clinton City School System had two options. They could reduce the size of the new high school or raise the additional $1.4 million through a community-wide fundraising effort. The School System chose to move forward with the complete project and to appeal to the community for the additional funding through a "***March to a Million***" campaign.

The goal of ***March to a Million*** was to rally the entire community to raise $1,400,000 in four months, ensuring that the new public high school contained all the elements the students and community needed and deserved. ***March to a Million*** skyrocketed past its goal of $1,400,000 because of a dedicated, totally-involved community, led by Dale Johnson and a 36-member committee which used all resources, including businesses, school employees and students, civic organizations, churches, individuals, alumni, booster clubs and government agencies to accomplish its goal.

Clinton City Schools is an independent school system garnering great community pride. ***March to a Million***, a truly community-driven victory, demonstrated cooperation aimed at a united commitment to students and their future.



(Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)

The photo above of the Dark Horse Stadium's press box is a testament to the hard work and dedication from the Clinton High School Dark Horse teams over the years.

2006 - Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Jeff Bell as Principal and Thelma Gray and Shirley Williams as Assistant Principals. Steve Mallard is football coach with Jeff Sawvel and Mark Fields. Band director was John Lowe.

The standout event for Clinton High School was the '***March to a Million***' in 2005-06. With Dark Horse spirit and the needs at the new Clinton High School in mind, many businessmen, organizations, former classmates and the community as a whole donated their time and monies that went way beyond the initial goal of $1,400,000 and in fact, more than double the amount needed was raised. This was a great achievement by everyone in and around Clinton. Events like this, keeps the spirit of Clinton City Schools alive and well just like the teammates of yesteryear.

The Marching Band competed in the Scotland High School "Highland Classic", the South View "Rumble in the Jungle", Band of America Regional in Atlanta, Georgia and the Cary Band Day competition.

2007 - Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent and Jeff Bell as Principal with Thelma Gray and Shirley Williams as Assistant Principals. Steve Mallard is football coach with Jeff Sawvel and Mark Fields. Band director was John Lowe.

Former band director Ed Taylor was honored for his 36 years of service at Clinton High School during their Band Day ceremony on October 2007. It was at this time he was advised of his induction into the North Carolina Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame.

The Clinton High School Marching Band led by director John Lowe participated in the Bands of America Preview in Fort Mill, South Carolina on September 22, 2007 and hosted their 15th Annual Band Day October 6, 2007 with 23 bands in attendance. The band received awards at the White Oak High School Viking Classic October 13, 2007 in Class AAAA, the Yam Festival Parade and the South Columbus High School Band Festival. They have received many awards including 1st Place Drum Major, 1st Place Percussion, 1st Place Guard, 1st Place Marching, 1st Place General Effect, 1st Place Music, 1st Place Band Class 4A and 1st Place Parade Band regardless of class (this distinction is celebrated with a trophy and a $1,000 monetary award), 1st Place Band Class 4A, and Grand Champion Band with the highest combined parade and competition score.

The Marching Dark Horse Band members were also the Grand Champion Band at the Cape Fear High School Colt Classic, November 3, 2007. They won 1st Place Music, 1st Place Percussion, 1st Place Guard, 1st Place Drum Major, and 1st Place Band Awards to sweep the AAA Class and their score

topped three bands in the AAAA class to earn the Grand Champion Band Award; surpassing the scores of nineteen other bands that performed.

2008 – Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Jeff Bell as Principal with Gregory Dirks and Shirley Williamson as Assistant Principals.

The new Clinton High School located on Indian Town Road opened its doors. The previous Clinton High School located on Elizabeth Street was converted to Sampson Middle School. Band director was John Lowe.



(Photo courtesy of Ruth Grigg Holland 2012)

Clinton High School

2009 - Dr. Gene Hales was Superintendent with Jeff Bell as Principal with Shirley Williams and Jan Smith as Assistant Principals along with Band director John Lowe. Mr. Lowe relates "that the Clinton High School band that consists of marching band, symphonic band, jazz ensemble and Music Theory AP courses has consistently received superior ratings at all contests and festivals over the years. The band competes four to five times each season and hosts their own contest the first Saturday in October that attracts over 200 bands and their supporters to the community. The marching band is also embarking on a developmental journey through participation in Bands of American regional and national

events." He goes on to say, "...excellence on the field or stage, in the classroom, and in life is the overarching goal of the instrumental music program at Clinton High School".

To view many of the awards the Clinton High School band has received over the years, one would need to visit Clinton High School band room and the Sampson Middle School band room. The trophies and awards there symbolize the hard work and dedication from each band member and each band director.

The New Sunset Avenue School opened with Gregory Dirks as Principal and Jacqueline Howard as Assistant Principal.
(See related photo in this timeline under 1978)

2010 - Dr. Michael Basham was Superintendent with Ronald Bean as Principal along with Shirley Williams and Jan Smith Assistant Principals. Coaches-- Jeff Sawvel is Athletic Director and head football coach along with Jeff Davidson, Trey Fetterman*, Mark Fields, Eddie Gray, Bob Lewis*, Chris Owens and Mike Bell as assistant coaches. Sabrina Reeves with assistant Angela Harding (cheerleading), Rhonda Davis (Cross Country), Nancy Carr* (tennis), Brad Spell, assistant AD, (men's soccer & men's varsity basketball) with Dwight Horne* assisting and with Rob Baier as (JV basketball), Jamie Williams (JV men soccer), Chris Owen (women's varsity basketball) with Cynthia Herring* as her assistant. Bobbie Lamb* (women's JV basketball), Dr. Ken Yang* (swimming), Frank Quinata and Eugene Vaught* (wrestling). Tracy Thornton (baseball) with Eddie Gray as (JV baseball), Jackie Parrish* (golf), Jeff Smith* with Dee Smith and Mike Valenti* assisting (women soccer), Beth Best (softball varsity), with Jennifer Denning* (JV softball), Rhonda Davis (Men's tennis), Brian King (men and women's track), Jennifer Miller (volleyball), and band director Mark Cashin.
*(*non faculty coaches)*

The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) began this year with First Sergeant William Deaver as manager. The JROTC program is broken down into two teams—the drill team and the color guard team. If the cadets so choose, after 2 years in the JROTC, after graduation they can enter the military as a Private First Class which would give them a boost in their pay of an additional $345 per month. However, the cadets are not obligated to enter the military and may decide upon graduation not to enter the military in any capacity. Currently, there are 18 cadets participating.

Since their inception this year at Clinton High School the drill team has received two second place trophies at the Hoke County High School Drill Meeting.

2011 - 12 - Dr. Michael Basham was Superintendent with Ronald Bean as Principal. Tony Faison and Donna Odom were Assistant Principals. Jeff Sawvel is AD with coaches Sabrina Reeves (cheerleading), Rhonda Davis (Cross Country), Bob Lewis (football JV & varsity) with assistants Trey Fetterman*, Jason Arnette, Mark Fields*, Tyler Baxter, Leonard Henry, John Sherman and Mike Bell*. Jennifer Thompson (tennis), Brad Spell (assistant AD and men's varsity soccer) along with Jamie Williams* as his assistant; Mitchell Brewington * (JV men's soccer); Jennifer Miller (volleyball); Levi Beckwith with Rob Baier assisting (men's varsity basketball); Bobby Lamb* (men's JV basketball), Chris Owens (women's varsity basketball) with Cynthia Herring* assisting; Dr. Ken Yang* (swimming); Frank Quinata (wrestling); Tracy Thornton (varsity baseball), Eddie Gray (JV baseball); Jackie Parrish* (golf); Jeff Smith* with Dee Smith and Mike Valenti* assisting (soccer) and John Sherman (track) and band director Mark Cashin.
*(*non-faculty coaches)*

The JROTC drill team has won three East Duplin Drill Meetings and first place in the Overhills Drill meeting Regulation Platoon Without Arms in this their second year.

The superintendent's office was relocated to Westover Road, Clinton in August of 2011. An anonymous donor provided the building and renovations to the old College Street School to accommodate pre-K children in the near future.


(Photo courtesy of Wawa Ko)

Additional
Clinton High School Band
Drum Majors

1995--Amy Freeman
1996--Torrence Thomas & LeeAnn Best
1997--LeeAnn Best & Brett Jones
1998--Brett Jones & Ronald Royal
1999--Stephanie Graham & Holly Oates 2000--Holly Oates
2001--Aaron Carter & Kristen Jones
2002--Kristen Jones & Niki Melvin
2003--Nikki Melvin & Katrina Pope
2004--Kyle Held & Marcus White
2005--Marcus White & Yu Won Kim
2006--Yu Won Kim
2007--Michael Schramm & Vincent Povazsay
2008--Vincent Povazsay & Madeline Pope
2009--Connor Day & Cici Tillary
2010--Chris Nelson & Joseline Sampson
2011--Kathy Gutierez & Kevin Byrd

Additional
Clinton High School
Band Booster Presidents

1995-96--Dwight & Sheila Blackman
1996-97--Lois Britt & Bennie Montgomery
1997-98--Denise & Larry Scronce
1998-99--Darrell & Debbie Jones
1999-2000--Donna Ellis & Noreen Tilley
2000-01--Craig & Kay Richardson
2001-02--Mark & Lynn Dalton & Doris Butler
2002-03--Brian DeMay & OC Holland
2003-04--Mary Jo Carr & Tonya Wright
2004-05--Terry Cottle, Chris & Lori Pearson
2005-06--Dan & Ruth Holland & Mark Sanderoff
2006-07--Dan Holland & Rhonda Davis
2007-08--Dan Holland
2008-09--Tamara Jones & Don Wrench
2009-10--Don & Karen Wrench
2010-11--Joey & Tina Byrd
(Courtesy Debbie Jones)

Gregory Dirks returned as Principal of Sunset Avenue School after serving a year of military duty with Ms. L. Phillips as Assistant Principal.

There have been so many Most Valuable Players over the years that no one could possibly name them all however, included herein is a recent photo of this year's Most Valuable Players and the events they participated in. What a great tribute to Clinton High School, the coaching staff, their parents and most importantly the students and their high achievements.

Dark Horse athletes honored

Friday, June 8, 2012



Courtesy photo

Clinton High School recently named its Most Valuable Players in all sports. They are, first row: Ana Jaramillo, Ferd Johnson Sportsmanship Award; Margaret Coleman, Soccer MVP; Grace Reagan, Cross Country MV; Lillie Turlington,Swimming MVP; Caroline Barwick, Tennis MVP; Tiandra Johnson, Track MVP and Athlete of the Year Award; second row: Brooks Barwick, Tennis MVP; Kristen Glasper, Softball MVP; Mildred Fisher, Basketball MVP; LaDavia Williams, Cheerleading MVP; Taylor Brazell, Volleyball MVP; Derek Jacobs, Football MVP; and third row: Dominic Melvin, Wrestling MVP; T.J. Holloway, Ferd Johnson Sportsmanship Award; J.T. Miller, basketball MVP; Festus Turlington, Golf MVP and Athlete of the Year Award; and Kyle Brown - Baseball MVP. Not Pictured: Wil Pearson, Soccer MVP and Casey Yang, Swimming MVP.

2012- 13 Stuart Blount is Superintendent with Ronald Bean as Principal. Assistant Principals are Tony Faison and Donna Odum. Jeff Sawvel, AD with Brad Spell assistant AD. Coaches include Bob Lewis (football) with assistants Tyler Baxter who is also (JV baseball), Jason Arnette and Mark Fields with volunteer Kurt Smith; Tracy Thornton (baseball) with assistant Michael Bell; Randy Jordan (basketball); Bobby Lamb (JV men's basketball); Tyler Baxter (baseball JV); Chris Owens (women's basketball) with Cynthia Herring as assistant; Mary Ellen Stacklyn (softball); Michael Bell (JV football) with Lewis Fetterman, III as his assistant; LaKevia

Underwood and Alexis Coleman (cheerleading); Eddie Gray (golf); Marcus Bass with volunteer Dr. John Merritt (tennis); Dr. Ken Yang (swimming); Brad Spell with assistant Jamie Williams (boys soccer), Jeff Smith with assistant Dee Smith and volunteer Dr. Michael Valenti (girls soccer); Jennifer Thompson with volunteer Tim Ameen (girls tennis); Frank Quinata and assistant John Tyler Underwood (wrestling); Mitchell Brewington (boys JV soccer); Jennifer Miller (volleyball); Jason Arnette (track); Jason Arnette (weight training) and trainers Jamie Johnson with volunteer assistants Doctors Bill Carr, Tommy Newton, Michael Valenti, Ken Yang and Robert Reagan. Band director is Mark Cashin.



Stuart Blount
Superintendent

I am excited to be the Superintendent of Clinton City Schools. As a student-centered school system, we will strive to make our schools a place where students want to learn, where employees are inspired to do their best, and where our community is an integral partner. By utilizing a team approach, we will continue to reach for excellence in the classroom and workplace. This will require a systematic focus from all involved in the process of educating our young people.
(Photo and caption courtesy Clinton City Schools website)

In the early years, only sporting events were baseball, cheerleading, football and basketball. For many generations, everyone lived for Friday night football. During the winter it was basketball that kept fans in tune. Then in the spring it was baseball. During those early years, the principal was most likely the coach along with some fellow teachers. Cheerleaders were a big part of each sport. Today, there are a host of different sporting events held nearly every day from the middle school up to the high school level. One can find a game being played somewhere most any day to the week. On some occasions, games are overlapping from one complex to another.

Clinton City Board of Education

The Clinton School District was created as a special charter school district by the General Assembly of North Carolina in 1903. It continued in that status until a state-wide School Reorganization Act passed by the General Assembly in 1933. The Clinton School District was classified as a city administrative unit on June 23, 1933 by proper resolution of the State School Commission and continues to hold that legal status.

The Clinton City Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to provide, within the financial limitations set by the community, the best educational opportunities possible to enable all our children, within the framework of individual differences, to succeed, both personally and as citizens of this community, state, and nation. To fulfil this responsibility, the Board is committed to providing a well-qualified staff which is dedicated to continuous growth and demonstrates a sincere interest in the students. The Board and all persons associated with the school district (teachers, administrators, support staff and community) will direct their efforts to these ends.

There have been many board members over the years. The 2011-2012 board was comprised of Randall (Randy) N. Barefoot, E. R. Mason, Kathleen Squibb, Diane Viser, Carol A. Worley and Georgina Zeng.



(Photo courtesy Clinton City Schools)

Clinton City School Board 2011-2012

The 2012-2013 board members are Randall (Randy) N. Barefoot, E. R. Mason, Jason Walters, Diane Viser, Carol A. Worley and Georgina Zeng.

Clinton City Schools
Today

Today, the Clinton City Schools is comprised of 3 elementary schools (L. C. Kerr, Butler Avenue and Sunset Avenue), Sampson Middle School and Clinton High School. The school system serves over 3,000 students. At the high school level alone the athletic department includes baseball, football, boys & girls' basketball, track and field, cross country, boys & girls' soccer, cheerleading, swimming, wrestling, volley ball, golf and girls' softball. Sports, which played a key role in earlier schools days has come a long way in programs offered and in the staff that helps to motivate and encourage students to achieve their best potential. Viewing all the trophy cases located at Clinton High School on Indian Town Road and Sampson Middle School on Elizabeth Street is a testament to the great sportsmanship and dedication of the students. The Beta Club (formerly known as The Honor Society) has and will always promote the ideals of academic achievement, character, leadership and service among elementary and secondary school students. The leadership from the faculty, parents and concerned citizens through the years is a wonderful tribute in itself. Even if many awards from the old school days of Clinton High School and Sampson High School are gone, in our hearts some of us still remember those gold ole days.

Clinton High School is a comprehensive high school with a wide variety of courses and programs today. More than 60% of Clinton High School's graduates attend four-year colleges or universities and 85% attend post-secondary institutions. Honors and Advanced Placement courses, as well as career-technical education courses, are offered in many areas to prepare the students to reach their goals in life. The renaissance program is an integral part of Clinton High School and it partners with the school, businesses and the community and is a commitment to make Clinton High School a center of academic excellence.

In an article in *The Sampson Independent* newspaper dated April 1, 2012 titled *Board Oks Revamp Request at College Street School* it states "renovations for College Street School are expected to be completed by the start of the 2012-13 school year thanks to a unanimous vote by the Clinton City Board of Education Thursday night".

The construction project, that will create three new pre-K classrooms at the facility, alleviating what has become over crowded spaces at L. C. Kerr

Elementary, will get under way in early April."

The grounds at former College Street School once again are being reinvented for the education of our future generations. It is going through changes and revamping and will continue to be utilized as a learning institution here in the 21st century just like it was back in 1821 nearly 200 years ago. When the property was purchased after the death of Mr. Luke C. Graves in 1873, the specific stipulation was that it be used perpetually for school purposes. That purpose is still being fulfilled today.

The 1927 class historian, Frank Kell wrote, "we realize now that the thing we call knowledge has been acquired only in part but as we leave Old Clinton High to go to higher schools of learning or to different walks of life, our greatest wish is that our Class will prove a credit to the best school we have ever known".

To quote Coach Bob Lewis in the December 15, 1996 *The Sampson Independent* newspaper article, "We've always had a good program at Clinton High School...the success that we've had at Clinton has nothing to do with anything that I've done. It is a credit to what the town has done, what these players do and I have a heck of a coaching staff, as well...you can't beat the tradition of football that we have in our town. And as far as I am concerned it is the best football town in the state."

In that same article then Superintendent, Dr. Charles Gainey, stated "I think the fan support is a very cohesive force within the entire Clinton community." He goes on the say "...this force extends beyond the schools and I think it provides a very healthy ingredient for the community spirit of all of Clinton."

Some Former Clinton High School Scholarship Winners

Academics

Peter Powell – class of 1966	Morehead Scholar -- UNC
Jack Morgan, II – class of 1980	Morehead Scholar – UNC
Lindsee McPhail – class of 1995	Morehead Scholar -- UNC
Matt Ezzell – class of 95	Morehead Scholar -- UNC
Joel Starling, Jr. – class of 2002	Morehead Scholar – UNC
Kaitlin Marie Carr – class of 2006	Morehead Scholar – UNC
Bradford Kyle Held – class of 2005	Parks Scholar – NC State
Daniel Thompson – class of 2012	Parks Scholar – NC State -- Packers

Some Former Clinton High School Scholarship Winners

Athletics

1. Leon Brock -- class of about 1948	ECU, coach Stedman High School and Cape Fear High School
2. Dickie Bethune -- class of 1950	NC State
3. Marshall Newman class of 1952	First CHS scholarship winner to UNC
4. Pat Draughon – class of 1954	ECU
5. Ted Royal - class of 1955	Duke, Almond Shew, UNC
6. Marvin Musslewhite- class of 1956	Duke
7. Chris Caison- class of 1956	Duke
8. Bobby Crummie – class of 1956	Duke
9. Bobby Robinson- class of 1957	Wake Forest
10. Dallas Hollingsworth – class of 1957	ECU
11. Jack Kennedy – class of 1957	Wake Forest
12. Jones Lockerman – class of 1957	ECU
13. John Wesley Packer –class of 1957	Davidson
14. E. C. Newman- class of 1958	Air Force Academy
15. Joe McLamb – class of 1959	UNC
16. James McGill – class of 1959	Chowan
17. William Faircloth – class of 1960	Wake Forest
18. Wilbert Faircloth – class of 1960	Wake Forest
19. Terry Holland – class of 1960	Davidson, coach University of Virginia, ECU AD
20. Bill Newman – class of 1961	Princeton
21. Dale Johnson – class of 1961	UNC
22. Rooster Lewis – class of 1961	ECU
23. Glenn Clark – class of 1961	Chowan
24. Jimmy Raynor – class of 1962	ECU, LA Dodgers
25. Trent Holland – class of 1963	NC State
26. Ed Newman – class of 1965	Duke

27. Jim Darden – class of 1965	Methodist University
28. Tommy Dempsey – class of 1965	UNC
29. Bob Blanton – class of 1965	Wake Forest
30. Bill Rose – class of 1967	VMI
31. Billy Hayes – class of 1967	Old Dominion
32. Ricky Packard – class of 1968	UNC
33. Neal Peterson – class of 1969	Chowan
34. Terry Sandy – class of 1971	Chowan
35. Eric Evans – class of 1974	Morgan State
36. Albert Kirby - class of 1976	Wake Forest
37. Smokey Norris – class of 1978	ECU
38. Dennis Owens – class of 1978	NC State
39. Kelly Stanley – class of 1979	Elon
40. Sandy Kea – class of 1983	NC State
41. Tonya Colwell – class of 1985	Campbell
42. Ronnie Dixon – class of 1989	Cincinnati, NFL New Orleans Saints, Pa. Eagles and NY Jets
43. Danyel Parker – class of 1989	NC State
44. Tonya Sampson – class of 1990	UNC (1994 NCAA Championship team, played in the WNBA)
45. Jeremiah Williams – class of 1990	Wake Forest
46. Robert (Fuzzie) Lee – class of 1991	UNC
47. Jerris McPhail – class of 1991	East Carolina, NFL Miami Dolphins
48. Travis(Scooter) Banks – class of 1991	Wake Forest
49. L. C. Stevens – class of 1994	UNC, NFL New Orleans Saints, Europe and Canadian leagues
50. Abdul (Devonte) Peterson -- class of 1995	Catawba, NFL Buffalo Bills, Europe and Canadian leagues
51. James Faison –class of 1999	UNC
52. Brian Peterson –class of 1999	NC State
53. Leonard Henry –class of 1997	ECU, NFL Miami Dolphins
54. Jonte Edwards –class of 1998	Campbell
55. Willie Parker –class of 1999	UNC, NFL Pittsburgh Stealers
56. Nic Cooper –class of 2006	Winston Salem University, NFL Green Bay
57. Cody Stanley –class of 2006	UNC Wilmington, St Louis Cardinals-minor league
58. Thomas Pope—class of 2007	UNC Wilmington

The academic and athletic high achievers listed herein are far from being complete. I challenge everyone to document those missing so others will know how fortunate we are and have been with such talented young students.

Past Presidents of Clinton High School Athletic Boosters Club

1973-74	Joe Best
1974-75	Ed Purcell
1975-76	Richard Kaleel
1976-77	Gerald Lucas
1977-78	Ann Newman
1978-79	Glenn Clark
1979-80	Jackie Lane
1980-81	Don Mallard
1981-82	Joyce Lucas
1982-83	Stanley King
1983-84	Keith Jones
1984-85	Steve Cox
1985-86	Doug Apperson
1986-87	Charlie Lewis
1987-88	Roger Cannon
1988-89	Don Gray
1989-90	D. K. Spell
1990-91	Pieter Westerbeek
1991-92	Gene Twisdale
1992-93	Warren Perry
1993-94	Jay Pope
1994-95	Teddy St. Pierre
1995-96	Marvin Mitchell
1996-97	Marvin Mitchell
1997-98	Steve Williams
1998-99	Steve Williams
1999-00	Steve Williams
2000-01	Dr. Tommy Newton
2001-02	Marvin Mitchell
2002-03	Marvin Mitchell
2003-04	Dr. Tommy Newton
2004-05	Marvin Mitchell
2005-06	Brian DeMay
2006-07	Brian DeMay
2007-08	Glenn Pope
2008-09	Bobby Spell
2009-10	Mac Purcell
2010-11	Joel Coleman
2011-12	Richard Pearson

Joyce C. Lucas and Gerald M. Lucas to date are the only husband and wife members to serve as Clinton High School Athletic Booster Club Presidents.



(*Personal photo by Sue Cannady Barefoot 2012)*

MEMORIES

Dale Johnson, "There were many standouts over the years to include Marshall Newman and Bobby Robinson but not only they but the entire student body from 1950-1959 were standouts. Each one excelled in their own way—from the Mirror staff, the cheerleaders, the debate team, the athletes. Their team sprit all through the 1950s was wonderful. That generation of students enjoyed being together. They could be happy playing with pea shooters or a rubber gun. They liked being school mates, teammates and friends—the togetherness of this whole generation was like viewing the old Andy Griffith shows of Mayberry. They were fun to watch and learn from. Miss Frances Watson, who taught French and Latin for many years, is my pick of an outstanding educator. She taught at Clinton High School for many years and was well thought of by all."
Dale Johnson, Class of 1961

Jeanne Best Pope remembers, "There were two classrooms above the cafeteria which was located at the back of the old Clinton High School on Sunset Avenue". She relates her "seventh and eighth grade years were spent in those class rooms and remembers well when the old wooden gym burned". She states "they looked out the window of her classroom and watched the fire that morning". She relates "the gym was located on Kerr Street beside of the school just before reaching the old football stadium currently a baseball field".
Jeanne Best Pope, Class of 1950

Billy Ray Jordan remembers, "Mr. Sipe was well known as 'The Gray Fox' because he walked and talked softly, had gray hair and you never knew when he would just appear from out of nowhere. He always showed and demonstrated his respect to everyone which in turn afforded him their respect for him." Billy Ray states that "he remembers well entering the first grade at College Street School in 1943 and Mrs. Gussie Parker meeting the students at the door." He also relates that in his first six years of school, the auditorium at College Street School was located on the second floor but in later years after he had entered Jr. High on Finch Street, it was converted into classrooms. He goes on the say that "the place to be on Friday nights during the 50s was at The Teenage Club on Vance Street next door to the old jail. That was *the* place to be to meet and have a good time."
Bill Ray Jordan, Class of 1955

Coach Bob Lewis remembers, "Coach Bobbie Robinson and his football teams had gone 10 and 0 for four years in a row when I joined the football coaching staff. Bobbie had already established the great football tradition and was instrumental with Dale Johnson in establishing the Athletic Boosters Club in 1973. With their efforts back then, the help of parents, businessmen and community leaders Clinton High School athletics has continued to excel through the years. Coach Robinson deserves a tremendous amount of praise for his efforts on and off the football field."
Bob Lewis, Teacher/Coach

Coach Bobby Robinson states, "My favourite memories as a student in the 50's at CHS were, of course, football, baseball, teenage club, Williams Lake and friends. Friendships that is on-going today. Coming back in the 60's as a teacher and coach were the many football games and having the opportunity to work with so many students and seeing them succeed in life. My best memory was leading up to and going to Pisgah for the Dark Horses' first State Championship game. My 2nd best memory was winning CHS 1st State Play-off game against Durham Orange."
Bobby Robinson, Teacher/Coach – Class of 1957

Coach Karen Fox, she stated she was "hired in 1980, coached numerous sports but is most recognized as Clinton High School women's basketball coach". Coach Fox was "1988-89 AP High School girls coach of the Year, ended her career as Assistant Athletic Director in 2010". Not only did Coach Fox want great athletes for Clinton High School Women's basketball, but she "believed in academic rigor as well. Many of her players graduated with academic honors." Just some of the outstanding Women's Basketball greats were Tonya C. Colwell who won numerous athletic awards and attended Campbell University on a full scholarship and is currently a principal in the Sampson County School System; Danyel Parker who led the first women's team to play for a state championship in 1987 who received full academic and athletic scholarship to NC State and is now an engineer; Tonya Sampson who led the 1989 and 1990 women's basketball team to 2-A State Championship attended UNC-Chapel Hill on full scholarship and was a part of the 1994 NCAA Championship team and also played in the WNBA."

Coach Fox goes on to say "these women are just a few of the CHS female athletes who not only played basketball but went on to college and have professional careers. Athletes like Madeline Berry at Howard University,

Neya Warren practicing law, Lindsey McPhail practicing medicine are the student athletes who used basketball as a stepping stone to further their education and develop their careers. "
Karen Fox, Teacher/Coach

Debbie Jones states "I did not graduate from CHS. We moved to Clinton in 1990 and we learned .....football started in August and ended in December! Our children thought that going to regional & state championship year after year was the norm for every high school student. We assured them that CHS was an exception; the success of the Dark Horses year after year was rare. The 1995-2003 were really some of the glory years and I'm so glad our children, through marching band, had the chance to experience such winning success in marching competitions & dominating football games. The 2 major highlights during our time were 1999 Grand champion marching band in the International Lions Club Parade in San Diego, Calif. and 2003 CHS was invited to march in the Canada Day Parade. John Lowe (1995-2003 era for our children Brett & Kristen Jones) restored the CHS pride with SUPERIOR ratings at band competitions. This was the norm under the direction of Ed Taylor. CHS Band had lots of local support during CHS Band Day events held the first Saturday in October. Under John Lowe's leadership what began as a 15 band event grew to as many as 30 bands participating from the Piedmont region, Raleigh, and the Coastal Plains. Our neighboring county of Cumberland as well as Sampson County Schools were always strong participants. The CHS band boosters have raised thousands of dollars to help fund the competitions. They also sponsor the Ed Taylor Scholarship given each year to a band senior. The CHS Band was an important support for the football team including Friday night games, playoff games, and the state championship games. Band parents were there in full force for the team & the band."
Debbie Jones, former Band Booster Club member

Jacqueline Spell Murray remembers, "My two fond memories were 1. Jallie Daughtry was a physically handicapped girl who attended school with me. She always seemed to be upbeat and didn't let her physical handicap stand in her way or use it as an excuse and 2. Cynthia Bradshaw Barber and I became very good friends..... took a lot of business classes together, including typing on a manual typewriter. During our timed writings we would race to see who could get the most words typed per minute with the least amount of errors. Most of all, I remember my senior year sitting

outside at lunch with friends on their cars talking, eating and enjoying each other's company." She relates, "reminiscing about those good times many years ago was nice. Thanks for asking me to contribute."
Jacqueline Spell Murray, Class of 1973

Steve Cox – "I have many fond memories of my old friend Walker Bellamy. I loved that man and what he stood for. He was far beyond the norm in instilling recreation for the young people through athletics. A true Clinton High School supporter, his work at the Clinton Recreation Department was the feeder program for Sampson Middle School and Clinton High School athletics. Walker loved the children and wanted only that they do their very best. He mentored many at risk children and gave them the attention and encouragement they so badly needed. Many of those children today are now very successful because of his influence in their lives. I'm sure Walker is looking down smiling. It was Walker that saw to it that Clinton High School Dark Horse Stadium had a flag and flag pole that Friday night back on September 30, 1984."
Steve Cox, Former CHS Athletic Booster President

Bill Johnson, "my memories are of my best friend and the best man I ever knew -- my dad William Johnson. My memories of him and our family are wonderful." He went on to say, "my memory of the 2 1/2 years in the infantry in Europe during WWII—what beautiful country over there."
As for the schools, "Mr. E. C. Sipe was no doubt the educator that stood out to me. He was a great superintendent that could help solve and resolve most any problems including the days of integration. He respected everyone and everyone respected him." The athlete who stood out the most, he said "oh there were so many over the years. Such greats as Purcell Jones, Bobby Robinson, Ricky Packer and I could go on and on. I can't just list a few because there have been so many good athletes over the years that came out of Clinton High School."
Bill Johnson, Former long-time Clinton City School Board Member

Tonya Colwell, "I have so many fond memories and consider myself fortunate to have attended Clinton High School. I can attribute my wonderful experience to the outstanding administrative leadership, the excellent teachers and my magnificent peers. The tradition of excellence was exhibited by all stakeholders and apparent in the classroom, playing fields, booster clubs and all other facets at CHS.

Participation in the Clinton High School Marching Band under the direction of Mr. Ed Taylor was simply priceless! Being a part of such a prestigious and disciplined organization reinforced the importance of dedication and the pursuit of excellence. When we walked on the field, we expected a superior rating and 1st place. This was not due to arrogance, but a learned confidence. Through Mr. Taylor's leadership and all of our late night practices, we were definitely ready!

My experience as an athlete at CHS was amazing and I will never forget the out pour of support that I received from the faculty, staff and the Dark Horse community. The first person that comes to mind when I think about girls athletics at Clinton High School is Coach Karen Fox. Great coaches seldom get the credit that they deserve, nor do they except it. However, Coach Fox was very instrumental in building the girls basketball tradition at CHS. Her guidance helped me mature as a basketball player and a person. Once she took over the helm at CHS she stressed the following areas: academics, being respectful young ladies both on and off the court and giving your all at practice. She instilled in us that you get out...what you put in! My basketball talent was a God given gift, but without Coach Fox's guidance and belief in me both on and off the court, I would not have been afforded the opportunity to play and coach at the college level.

I am greatly appreciative of my high school experience! Thankful for extraordinary people placed in my path that helped build the awesome tradition of excellence. To sum up my memories of high school, I would simply say..."**Once a Dark Horse...Always a Dark Horse!**"
Tonya Colwell, Class of 1985

Dr. Tommy Newton – "My memory of that team (2005 State Football Champions) was only as their doctor and as a fan. They started out poorly, but vastly improved later in the year and hit their groove in the playoffs. This was a true "team", who only had one "star", running back Nick Cooper. Thomas Pope, Cody Stanley, Matthew Fulton, Carroll Oglesby, and Benjamin Wright were all on that team. They gelled and proved that TEAM is stronger than ME. Cody was the MVP of the state championship team, and he only punted, but punted quite well the whole game, keeping Lincolnton backed up all day. Benjamin and Carroll played way beyond themselves that day on defense also."
Dr. Tommy Newton, Dark Horse Team Doctor

Lew Starling, "I have such fond memories of my twelve years in the Clinton City School system where I began in the old College Street School. I remember all of the excellent teachers that I had which helped mold and shape my life, such as Ms. Katie Johnson, who stressed the importance of reading and of discipline in the classroom. Clinton City Schools had a tremendous impact on my life and I will always be grateful to the fine teachers that I had during my twelve years. We are so blessed to have Clinton City Schools."
Lew Starling, Mayor, Class of 1983

Sharon Dudley Strickland, "Clinton High School's 2005-06 State 2A Championship was a special season for our entire family. Not only did it bring victory on the field, but enormous bonding between family, friends, neighbors and community. We were all so proud of our team and how hard they worked to make this dream come true. It was personally rewarding to our family, because we had two children, brothers, playing on the team. We all learned many life lessons this season, but the greatest lesson learned was of Love, Support and Pride. It was everywhere and we all felt it! I would like to personally thank The CHS football staff and team, the entire student body and staff, Mayor Lew Starling and the City of Clinton, all our families, friends, church family and anyone who helped contribute to this magical year. Forever a Dark Horse!"
Sharon Dudley Strickland, Class of 1978

Randy Barefoot, "As a student, a parent and now a school board member, I am still in the process of making memories. As a student athlete, my most vivid memory was our winning the first Clinton High School State 2A Football Championship. As a parent, I can see how the community involvement in the past and present has made Clinton City Schools what it is today. The many fundraisers, both academically and athletically, that the community, faulty and parents began years ago laid the ground work for what the Clinton City Schools has become. Now, as a school board member, I understand the importance and tradition of making Clinton City Schools the best school system in the state. I will always remember Coach Robert Hill saying **BE TOUGH, BE A HORSE**. **ONCE A DARK HORSE... ALWAYS A DARK HORSE."**
Randy Barefoot, Class of 1991, Clinton City School Board Member

Sue Cannady Barefoot---My memories, although I did not attend Clinton High School, began when I worked in the superintendent's office from 1966-1968. Mr. Eugene C. Sipe, Mr. Pete Carr, Mrs. Louise Gill (Shearin), Mrs. Louise Tyson, Mrs. Eva Packer, Mrs. Neutrice Merritt, Coach Bob Lewis and Mr. Ed Taylor were wonderful mentors that left a lifelong impression on me. We shared an office located on Kerr Street next to the current baseball field that once was Old Dark Horse Stadium. I can truly say Mr. Sipe and the staff were wonderful to work with. The respect shown to me was as impressive then as it is today. Their leadership in molding a young, former business school student into a receptionist job with little experience paved the way for my work ethic that still lingers today.

During those working years, I quickly learned I was volunteered by Mr. Carr and my sister Joyce Lucas to help the athletic department in the concession stand on Friday nights at the Old Dark Horse Stadium. Then as the years went by my own children became students and were involved in school activities. Today, two of our granddaughters are students in the system, involved in soccer and band.

Over the years, a lot of popcorn was popped, a lot of soft drinks poured into donated Dark Horse cups, a lot of pig bar-be-q fundraisers, half and half tickets, sold seat cushions, advertising signs, caps, steak dinner reverse drawing tickets, sweatshirts and who could ever forget Curtis Sutton's hotdog stand, Pete Humphrey with his howl towel getting the team and fans revved up for another play. The chain gang that consisted of long time Dark Horse fans Don Gray, Pete Westerbeek, Don Wilson and Jack Crumpler. In remembering back, such loyal Dark Horse fans as Johnny Boykin for his hard work on the cement walkways at Dark Horse Stadium on that hot summer's day. Lloyd Bland for his dedication over the years, Benny King for his help with the bar-be-q and his 'tin can' usage, Piggly Wiggly and Matthews Drugs for all their support. These are just a few Dark Horse fans that helped along the way. Who could ever forget Fred Burgess who covered Dark Horse sporting events all those years.

I know first-hand the impression I came away with as an employee, as a parent being involved with the Athletic Boosters Club and now as a grandparent. As the years go by, precious memories of all the former years still come to mind. I'm sure my few memories here are small so I encourage everyone to write down your memories and share them so

everyone will have a better knowledge of dear old Clinton City Schools. Don't let your memories fade.

A 1991 school annual article titled *Memories* says it best "Memories are the pathway to our past. They allow us to relive certain events in our lives." This compilation is my way of reliving events that were special in all of our lives. Though with tears and lots of smiles remembering past Dark Horse fans and past events have started to fade, the love of Clinton City Schools will last forever in all our memories.

Sue Cannady Barefoot, Compiler

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7. Photo courtesy of Ruth Grigg Holland
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9. Interview and photos submitted by Joel Rose
10. Clinton High School and their Media Center staff
11. Interview with Jean Best Pope class of 1950
12. Interview with Doris Boyette Hobbs class of 1951
13. Interview with Lynette Crumpler Caison class of 1951
14. Interview with Joyce Cannady Lucas class of 1955
15. Interview with Coach Bobby Robinson class of 1957
16. Interview with Coach Chris Caison class of 1956
17. Interview with Coach Karen Fox
18. Interview with Clyde Locklear, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Facilities for Clinton City Schools
19. Interview with Billy Ray Jordan class of 1955
20. Interview with Dr. Tommy Newton
21. Interview with Coach Bob Lewis
22. Interview with Mr. Bill Johnson
23. Interview with Steve Cox
24. Chris Caison for contribution of photos and data from the early years
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29. Victoria Johnson, InkSpots Designs, Clinton, NC
30. Tonya Colwell
31. Lew Starling, Mayor
32. Interview with Dale Johnson class of 1961
33. Sharon Dudley Strickland class of 1978
34. Murphey Family Papers (#545), East Carolina Manuscript Collection, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina.
35. John Lowe, former band director
36. Randy Barefoot, class of 1991, Clinton City School Board member
37. Wawa Ko, Clinton City Schools
38. Joel Rose class of 1970
39. Clinton City Schools Superintendent's office
40. Clinton High School

41. The Sampson Independent
42. Jesse Butler class of 1947
43. Jeff Sawvel, Clinton High School
44. Interview with Howard Hobbs class of 1946
45. Twyford Printing Company, Inc.



Sue Cannady Barefoot
Born and reared in Sampson County, North Carolina, the family historian has professionally published two family history books *Barefoot Families of the South* and *Cannady and Related Families* along with a cook book titled *MMMMMM Good Recipes*. A retired mother of two and grandmother of four, she has been involved with Clinton City Schools since the mid-1960s as a former employee, later having two children educated in the Clinton school system and now with her grandchildren. Being involved with the Clinton High School Athletic Boosters Club for many years, she has first-hand knowledge of the hard work and dedication by all to make Clinton City Schools the best it can be.



Cover photos courtesy of Ruth Grigg Holland, Joel Rose and Sue Cannady Barefoot