

June 22, 1987

Mr. Leamon Brice  
Town Manager  
Fairmont, North Carolina 28340

Dear Mr. Brice:

Mayor Willie Brooks Webster asked me in a letter on March 7, 1986, to head a history committee for the purpose of gathering facts on the town of Fairmont. He wished that these facts be made available by 1987 for the Robeson County Bi-centennial celebration.

Upon acceptance, I called upon the following individuals and they agreed to serve with me:

Mrs. David L. Huff (Flora)

Ms. Nell Floyd

Mrs. Creft Haggins

Ms. Ilar Bell McDonald

Mrs. Pearl Kramer

Mr. William Curtis McGirt Jr.

While others were asked, they chose not to serve or to take a more active role. However, some have furnished valuable information. This committee has met since June, 1986, appropriately in the old Atlantic Coastline depot. Although we have not met every month, we have exchanged a lot of information.

In our search for information, the town office has been most cooperative. Unfortunately, records from the early years of Fairmont's history have been misplaced or destroyed. Therefore, this has been a program of research into secondary documents, as well as tracing down old verbal stories.

So that the citizenry of Fairmont and South Robeson may help us "fill in the gaps" for many of the lost years, the history committee would like to set up a booth for the upcoming Farmers' Festival for the purpose of displaying old pictures and other memorabilia. We will make ourselves available to anyone who has some history to "pass on." We need to finish this compilation so that by February 27, 1999, when we celebrate our town's centennial, we, hopefully, will have a complete and accurate history. In the meantime, we will have all "known history" at this time, and the Schedule of Events for the day of the festival, ready for publication by August 8.

As you have heard, this area has been known as the Ashpole Community for a long

time. To set the record straight, this writer does not know how the name Ashpole was derived. There is much speculation but nothing of any substantial proof. We do know that the Ashpole Swamp extends below the South Carolina line, and starts beyond Highway 301, west of Seaboard Coastline Railroad, and Elrod. According to the records at the Robeson County Court House, the earliest deed, written in November of 1753, records a 100-acre tract of Joseph Dawson, and uses the landmarks of: south of Drowning Creek, (Lumber River) and north of Ashpole Swamp.

The name of "Ashpole" has been used in South Robeson by various organizations and churches such as: 1792-Ashpole Presbyterian Church; 1825-Ashpole Baptist Church; Ashpole Academy-1874; Ashpole Lodge #335-1875; Ashpole Institute-1878; Ashpole Center United Methodist Church (1880); The town of Ashpole (Fairmont)-1901; Ashpole Lodge #528 (1904); Ashpole Elementary Center School (1926); and Ashpole Trading Company (1971); Bank of Ashpole-1904.

After a number of years this community known as Ashpole became known as Union City. This was due to the Private Laws Act of North Carolina which reads as follows:

**Session 1899**

**Chapter 112**

An Act to Incorporate the Town of Union City, in Robeson County.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That the village now known as Ashpole in Robeson County, be and the same is hereby incorporated under the name and style of "Union City" and shall be subject to all the provisions of chapter sixty-two (62) of second volume of The Code of North Carolina.

Section 2. That the corporate limits of said town shall be as follows, viz: Beginning at the point where the Inman and Ionia roads intersect and runs north one-half mile; thence east one-half mile; thence south one mile, thence west one mile; thence north one mile, thence east one-half mile, making one mile square.

Section 3. That the officers of said town shall consist of Mayor, five aldermen, a marshal and a clerk and treasurer.

Section 4. That until their successors have been duly elected and qualified, the following named persons shall fill said offices, to-wit: Mayor, Robert E. Lee; aldermen, Dr. John P. Brown, Charles B. Thompson, Prof. G.E. Lineberry, A.L. Jones and A.A. Floyd; clerk and treasurer, F.S. Floyd; marshal, Henry G. Braswell.

Section 5. That there shall be an election held on the first Monday in May, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and annually thereafter for said officers under the rules and regulations governing other elections in North Carolina.

Section 6. That whenever a vacancy occurs in said offices the aldermen shall appoint one of their number mayor pro tem.

Section 7. That the aldermen of said town shall have power to pass ordinances, rules and by-laws for the government of the town not inconsistent with the laws of the state of North Carolina and of the United States.

Section 8. The mayor is hereby empowered with the right to impose fines and penalties for the violation of the ordinances established by the aldermen of said town.

Section 9. That all fines collected for the violation of the ordinances established by the aldermen for the government of said town shall be paid into the treasury of said town for the use and benefits of said town.

Section 10. That the treasurer and marshal shall each be required to enter into a bond in the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for the faithful performance of their duty, payable to the State of North Carolina, subject to the approval of the board of aldermen of said town.

Section 11. That the manufacture and sale of all spirituous, vinous and malt liquors, wine and cider are hereby prohibited.

Section 12. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 13. That this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its ratification.

Ratified the 27th day of February, A.D., 1899.

As noted in Section 4 of the previous act a number of qualified citizens were appointed to serve as town officials. The following is a brief summary of what we have found about these early town officers.

**Robert Edward Lee:** Appointed as the first Mayor of Union City. Born December 12, 1874 and died September 17, 1936. Son of William O. Lee and Leah Hassey Lee. Raised in the Lee place which was located in front of the present day Lynn Floyd home on Hwy 130 west of Fairmont. Had connection with a newspaper in Elizabethtown; member of the Robeson County Bar and practiced law in Lumberton for a number of years. Was also Fairmont Legal Counselor during that time. According to his family, his term of office was short.

**Comm. John Powell Brown:** Born April 13, 1864. Died December 7, 1941. Born in Leesville community - P.O. established 1827 (out near where present day Francis Floyd lives on Old Stage Road.) Son of Dr. John Burton Brown and Martha Ashley Brown. Was a doctor for the Atlantic Coastline Railroad; realtor; businessman.

**Comm. Charles B. Thompson:**

**Professor G.E. Lineberry:** (Heresay) Taught at the Ashpole Institute and went to the North Carolina School of the Blind as headmaster.

Farmer, born Aug. 29, 1855, died July 8, 1927.

**Comm. Alford Lafayette Jones:** Born December 20, 1860. Died August 15, 1921. Alford Jones came to Fairmont about 1897 and was the owner of Southeast Lumber Co. He was one of the pioneers in the building of Fairmont. Jones built the Southeastern Railroad Co.; was the main factor in building the Fairmont Tobacco Market and was owner of the Fairmont Tobacco Warehouse; Vice President of the Fairmont Supply Co.; a former President of the Fairmont Light and Power Co.; President of the Fairmont Redrying Plant until its purchase by the Imperial Tobacco Co. of Great Britain and Ireland; a shareholder in the New National Bank; a farmer and a real estate dealer.

**Comm. Augustus A. Floyd:**

Farmer. Born April 1, 1886, died May 28, 1912.



**F.S. Floyd:** Clerk and treasurer.  
**Henry G. Braswell:** Marshal. (Buried in Baptist Cemetery). Born 1874 - died 1904.  
 Post Master: Andrew Justin Floyd.

1899

#### Why The Name "Union City"

Was it because the South Eastern Railroad Company was coming and it would unite the town with the rest of the state? Was it because the villages of Leesville and Ashpole wanted to unite? Or, was it because the citizens of the community wanted to combine the different sectors in the village to form a more united community? People are still seeking the answer to why the name "Union City"

**What Establishments Were In Union City in 1899?**

The First Baptist Church (1825)

Trinity Methodist Church-South (1898)

Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church

(1869-Now  
 Fairmont 1st Baptist Church - N.)

Ashpole Academy (1877)

A Post Office (1883)

A Boarding House (Old Hotel) - Run by Giles Pickey Floyd)

Ashpole Tobacco Warehouse - A.L. Jones  
 Sept. 15, 1899 - Tobacco Warehouse opened for business. Operated by T.F. Reeves, E.J. Chambers, J.D. Kyle, Charles R. Traynham. Built by Southeast Lumber Co. Sold this year @ 500,000 lbs. of tobacco.  
 Southeastern Lumber Co. - A.L. Jones, owner

O.I. Floyd and Co. (1898)

Cotton Gin - R.A. Andrews & Co.

Grist Mill - R.A. Andrews & Co.

Newspaper - Union City Times - J.J. McKenzie, Editor

Cotton Gin - Jenkins and Pitman

Cotton Gin - Joe Barnes

Druggists - Dr. J.P. Brown, Dr. J. S. McGeachy, Dr. W.F. Stephens

Physicians - J.B. Brown, J.P. Brown, J.S. McGeachy

Saw Mills - Joe Barnes, D.W. Biggs, Tim Britt

**General Assembly  
January 4, 1899**

Representative J.S. Oliver            Affinity

Representative G.B. Patterson       Maxton

Senator Stephen McIntyre            Lumberton

**Public Laws of  
North Carolina  
1899**

Chapter 176. An act to alter the dividing line between White House and Britt's townships, in Robeson County. Union City was in White House Township.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That the dividing line between White House and Britt's townships in Robeson County be altered so as to run to Hog Swamp to the point where Red Hill branch runs into Hog Swamp; then up Red Hill branch to the line of Hill estate — — with the dividing line between Miss Rosa Ashley's land and the lands of the Hill heirs to the run of miry branch; then with the run of Miry branch to the old field swamp, present line of White House township, so as to include the Ashley and Pitman positions in White House township.

Section 2. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified the first day of February, A.D. 1899.

Feb. 27, 1899 - We know that the following were appointed officials, and that they served until May 1, 1899.

Robert Lee: Mayor

Aldermen: Dr. John P. Brown

Charles B. Thompson, Professor G.E. Lineberry, Alford L. Jones, Augustus A. Floyd.

F.S. Floyd - Clerk and Treasurer

We believe that the following were elected on May 1, 1899, and that they served until May 4, 1900:

Charles B. Thompson - Mayor

W.O. Biggs - Clerk and Treasurer

It is unknown who the commissioners were.

1900

James Hardy Allen Inman - Mayor

On May 4, 1900 (which was the first Monday) there was an election. At this time, James Hardy Allen Inman was elected Mayor. According to the 1900 census, which was enumerated on June 2, 1900, Mr. Inman was the town Mayor. It is unknown who the commissioners were.

On July 5, 1901 Mr. James H.A. Inman died.

\* Township Trustees:

White House Township: A.J. Floyd, Ashpole.

\* School Committees: John Bray, A.E. Floyd, P.B. Thompson, S.H. Hunt, Stephen Hunt, Whit Hunt, Dobbin Powell, J.J. Jones, Jerry Pittman.

\* Dealers in General Merchandise - J.E. & G.W. Thompson.

\* General Merchants...A.J. Floyd, H.G. Stubbs

\* Notary Public - W.R. Braswell

\* Magistrate - A.E. Floyd

**PRIVATE LAWS OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 1901  
CHAPTER 82**

An Act to Change the Name of the Town of Union City to Ashpole and to Amend the Charter Thereof.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That the inhabitants of the town of Union City shall continue to be a body corporate under the name and style of the "Town of Ashpole", and under such name is hereby invested with all the privileges, immunities and franchises, property and all other rights heretofore belonging or appertaining to the town of Union City, and in and by that name may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, acquire and hold property, real and personal, for the uses of the town as its Board of Commissioners may deem necessary and expedient.

Section 2. That Dr. J.P. Brown shall be Mayor and C.B. Thompson, C.T. Cashwell, J.M. Ashley and Dr. W.F. Stephens shall be Commissioners, and W.C. Brown shall be Town Clerk and Treasurer, and William Prevatt shall be Town Constable, and the same are hereby declared the Mayor, Commissioners, Constable and Clerk and Treasurer, with the power and duties of the duly qualified officers of the town of Ashpole, until their successors are elected and qualified as hereinafter provided.

Section 3. That the corporate limits of said town shall be and are hereby declared to be included within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at a point one-half mile due north of the intersection of the Inman and Iona roads in the present town of Union City, and runs due east one-half mile, thence due south one mile, thence due west one mile, thence due north one mile, thence due east one-half mile to the beginning so as to form a right-angled parrallelogram with the intersection of said roads as a center.

Section 4. The officers of said town shall consist of a Mayor and four Commissioners, to be elected by the qualified voters of said town annually on the first Monday in May.

Section 5. Said election of Mayor and Commissioners shall be held at the mayor's office in said town and no person shall be entitled to vote at said election or at any election held in said town for municipal purposes, unless he shall be an elector of the State of North Carolina, under existing laws

and shall have resided ninety days next preceding the day of election within the said corporation.

Sections 6-58 have been omitted due to lack of space. Anyone interested may read those sections at the Fairmont Town Office.

In the General Assembly read three times, and ratified this 8th day of February, A.D. 1901.

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#### 1902

July 13 - Dr. F.H. Pittman opened Dental Office

\* A Commission appointed to organize a Presbyterian Church at Ashpole, N.C.

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#### 1903

May 1 - Ashpole Masonic Lodge #528 of A.F. & A.M. was established.

\* First Brick Building built, Mr. W.W. Willis, Bingham, S.C. (Now known as the "Super Ten Store" on Main Street)

\* H.S. Floyd built the second Brick building, Robert Inman Contractor

\* P.R. Floyd proprietor of the firm of P.R. Floyd and Co., general merchandise.

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#### 1904

Feb. 12 - Bank of Ashpole organized. F.L. Blue, Sr., cashier.

\* E.V. McDaniel opened new store and building

\* W.B. Brice and Son Live Stock Business was established.

\* Pleasant View Baptist Church organized in 1904

August 4 - St. John AME Church organized. H.G. Byrd and wife, Elizabeth, sponsors.



1905

\* The First Black School Built in Fairmont. Thought to be located in the Old Field section of the town. A two-story building for elementary students only. The two teachers were: J.H. Isely and Hattie Lewis.

1906

Unknown

1907

F.L. Blue - Mayor

Feb. 7 - Changed name from Ashpole to Fairmont

\* No Horse - Mule - Oxen or other animal shall pull any vehicle faster than 6 MPH. If found Guilty, \$5.00 fine.

Oct. 7 - Fairmont Messenger - E.W. Floyd, Editor and Manager; Rev. W.W. Willis, Associate Editor

**PRIVATE LAWS 1907**

**CHAPTER 42**

AN ACT TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE

TOWN OF ASHPOLE, IN ROBESON COUNTY, TO FAIRMONT.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

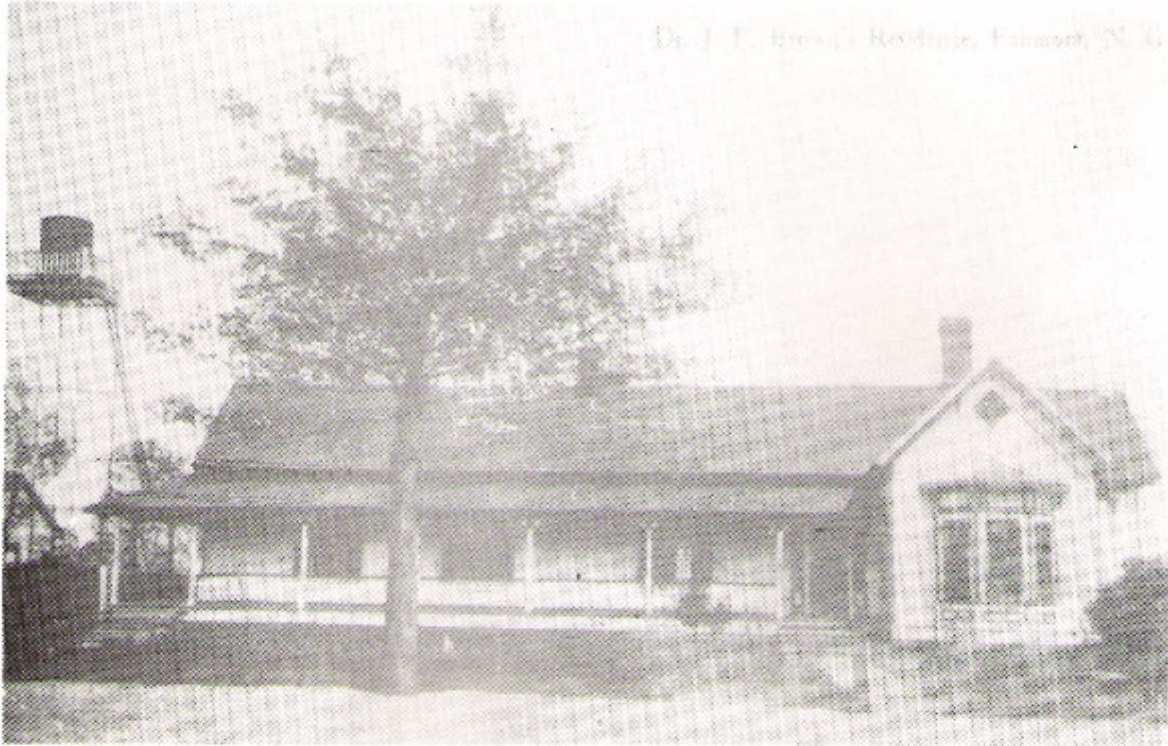
Section 1. That chapter eighty-two (82), Private Laws of the General Assembly of North Carolina of one thousand nine hundred and one, be and the same is hereby amended as follows, to-wit: Strike out the word "Ashpole," whenever used in said chapter and insert in lieu thereof the word "Fairmont."

Section 2. That the name of the town of Ashpole, in Robeson County, is hereby changed and shall hereafter be known as "Fairmont."

Section 3. That the act incorporating the town of Ashpole, together with all acts amendatory or supplementary thereto, shall apply to the town of Fairmont.

Section 4. That all laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 5. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.



In the General Assembly read three times, and ratified this the 7th day of February, A.D. 1907.

**How the Name "Fairmont" was Chosen**  
(Taken from the Fairmont Messenger, August 13, 1914)

"Fairmont is a comparatively new town having only borne the name Fairmont since 1907. The derivation of the name is due to the efforts of Mr. F.L. Blue who was mayor at the time. He set out to find a name that would be suitable to the towns location. He found where Fairmont in Davidson County had discontinued a post office. He then directed the town's attorney to have the Charter amended and the town's name changed to Fairmont."

**A Rose**  
(Taken from the Fairmont Messenger, June 9, 1910)

"The people of Fairmont are anxious about the future name of their community. It will be remembered that the post office was abolished when the rural route reached

the town, and while the place remained Fairmont as it had been for many years, the name disappeared from the postal department's list. Sometime afterward the village of Ashpole, in Robeson County, decided that it didn't want to be called Ashpole any longer, and applied to the department for a new name, and Fairmont it was christened. Now that the Southbound is being built through the Davidson County, Fairmont, the citizens dream of building up a thrifty town, and naturally want to hold on to the old name. They will be wanting a post office of their own again, and its name must be Fairmont. They say they will take the matter up with the department and appeal to Congressman Page and Senator Overman to help them out.

The above is from the Lexington Dispatch and right here we wish to say that if the Davidson county Fairmont went to sleep and let our wide-awake town, no longer village if you please, take her name, why she will have to get another and content herself with the reflection that "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

1908

Unknown

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1909

Miss Lorena Lewis opened High Class Millinery Store.

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1910

\* People's Barber Shop on Main Street, (located next to what is today called the "Super Ten Store.") Owner - W.J. Hammond. Hair cut .25¢, Shave .10¢  
Barbers were - Lenard Sweat, Nola Cummings, Percy Locklear, and Peter Lowery

\* 1910 Census - 821 people

\* The Beaufort County Lumber Co. of Whaleyville, Virginia established shipping headquarters outside the northern edge of Fairmont. It was one of the largest lumber corporations in the south. Employed between three to four hundred men.

June 9 - Boardman Beat Faimont, 2 to 0, Baseball

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1911

May 5 - The Wilson Printing Co. started printing the Fairmont Messenger after purchasing the paper from E.W. Floyd and others.

\* Robeson County Warehouse, built in 1911-operated by E.J. Davis and Son.

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1912

\* A.L. Jones Building erected. (Now called The Fairmont Department Store).

1913

Jan. 8 - J.S. Thompson, Jr. opens New Store

Feb. 1 - Fairmont Supply Co. owned and operated by E.G. Floyd and J.H. Johnson

July 21 - S.P. Wilson appointed Post Master by President Woodrow Wilson

Sept. 10 - Fairmont Light and Power Company organized

Nov. 8 - S.V. Stanley made Chief of Police

### PRIVATE LAWS 1913

#### CHAPTER 308

AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 82, PRIVATE LAWS OF 1901, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE TOWN OF UNION CITY TO ASHPOLE AND TO AMEND THE CHARTER THEREOF."

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That section three of chapter eighty-two, Private Laws of one thousand nine hundred and one, be so amended as to read as follows: That the corporate limits of said town (now the town of Fairmont: see Acts of one thousand nine hundred and seven) shall be and are hereby declared to be included within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at a point three-quarters of a mile due north of the intersection of Main and Iona Streets (formerly Inman and Iona roads) in the present town of Fairmont and runs due east one-half mile; thence due south one and one-quarter miles; thence due west one mile; thence due north one and one-quarter miles; thence due east one-half mile to the beginning, so as to form a right angled parallelogram with the dimensions one and one-quarter miles by one mile.

Section 2. That all laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the 5th day of March, A.D. 1913.



1914

E. Vander McDaniel - Mayor  
Patrick Rowland Floyd, Sr. - Town Clerk

Commissioners

Alford LaFayette Jones  
Dr. Linwood E. Ricks  
Dr. John Powell Brown  
John Daniel McLean

\* Black Lodge located on Dewey Street  
(Now known as Red Cross Street).

August 13 - Found in **The Fairmont  
Messenger:**

**Some Things Fairmont Needs**

A cotton mill  
A plow foundry and factory  
An oil mill  
More marriages  
More births  
More new families to move in, and by the  
way-  
More new houses to rent to them,  
Another railroad,  
More advertising  
Less Knocking  
A Chamber of Commerce  
More Industries of any kind to benefit this  
section.  
Fairmont Welcomes You.

Feb. 10 - E.G. Floyd proprietor of the Dixie  
Motion Picture House- seating capacity of  
350 people. Showed 3 to 4 reels each night.  
Had an \$800.00 piano, electrically operated.

\* People's Tobacco Warehouse opened and  
operated by O.A. Reeves and Co.

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1915

Dr. J.P. Brown - Mayor  
Frank Lee Blue, Sr. - Town Clerk

Nov. 25 - Stephen Little - Killed in Mexican  
Border campaign while serving as a  
Member of Co. I. 12th U.S. Infantry

1916

Unknown

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1917

Dr. John Powell Brown - Mayor  
Frank Lee Blue, Sr. - Clerk

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1918

E.W. Floyd - Clerk

Feb. 27 - Private First Class George E.  
Galloway died in a field Hospital in France  
from poison gas while serving in World War  
I.

Fairmont Indian School established - Martha  
Lowery, teacher. W.J. Hammond and  
William Jasper were on the School Board

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1919

J.P. Brown - Mayor  
V.G. Grantham - Town Clerk

Commissioners

Alva Brown Floyd  
P.P. Smith

**PRIVATE LAWS 1919**

**CHAPTER 149**

**AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 343 OF  
THE PRIVATE LAWS OF 1907,  
RELATING TO THE CHARTER OF THE  
TOWN OF LUMBERTON AND MAKING  
THE SAME APPLICABLE TO THE TOWN  
OF FAIRMONT, N.C.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina do  
enact:

Section 1. That chapter three hundred and  
forty-three of the Private Laws of one thou-



sand nine hundred and seven be amended by adding at the end of section thirty-one of said chapter the following: "That all the provisions of section thirty-one shall apply to the town of Fairmont, North Carolina, and all primary elections in said town of Fairmont shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of said section thirty-one; and wherever in said section thirty-one there occurs the words 'The Town of Lumberton,' there shall be added immediately following the words 'and the Town of Fairmont.'"

Section 2. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

Section 3. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the 10th day of March, A.D. 1919.

1920

J.C. Hubbard - Clerk

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1921

H. Layton Stephens - Mayor

Commissioners

E.V. McDaniel  
E.G. Floyd  
N. Hubbard  
W.R. Taylor, Sr.

PRIVATE LAWS 1921

CHAPTER 64

**AN ACT TO EXTEND THE TOWN LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF FAIRMONT (FORMERLY ASHPOLE) AND TO AMEND THE CHARTER THEREOF.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:



Section 1. That chapter eighty-two of the Private Laws of North Carolina, session of one thousand nine hundred and one, be and the same is further amended by adding at the end of section three thereof the following: "The following territory lying next adjacent to the foregoing boundaries shall also be embraced within the corporate limits of the said town, and form a part thereof: "Beginning at the northeast corner of the town of Fairmont and running west along the town line three thousand four hundred eighteen feet to a line of shade trees on the lands of the Beaufort County Lumber Company on the east side of a street heretofore opened and maintained by said company, thence north three degrees west and beyond said line of shade trees one thousand one hundred eighteen feet to a point in B.M. Lewis' lands; thence east three thousand four hundred eighteen feet; thence south three degrees east to the beginning corner."

Section 2. That all statutes heretofore enacted by the General Assembly, or which

may hereafter be enacted amending the charter of the said town of Fairmont, or otherwise pertaining to said town, shall have the same application to the extension of said town as herein described as if the same had originally been included within the corporate boundaries of the said municipality.

Section 3. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

Section 4. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the 25th day of February, A.D. 1921.

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1922

H. Layton Stephens - Mayor  
Commissioners  
E.V. McDaniel  
E.G. Floyd  
W.N. Hubbard  
W.R. Taylor, Sr.

1923

Hugh G. Mitchell - Mayor  
John Regan Bracy - Clerk  
Commissioners  
W.R. Taylor Sr.  
C.E. Grantham  
C.P. McGirt  
Isham Pittman

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1924

Hugh G. Mitchell - Mayor  
John R. Bracey - Clerk  
Commissioners  
Wiley Roberts Taylor, Sr.  
Charles Erdman Grantham  
Isham Pittman  
Claude P. McGirt

\* Ice Plant - Designed and Constructed by the J.B. McCrary Co., Atlanta, Ga.

\* Mr. P.P. Smith became Railroad Station Master

\* Wilber Smith became Station Hand

\* Star of Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church. First building built about two blocks from present day church. About 49 members when first organized.

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1925

Hugh G. Mitchell - Mayor  
V.G. Grantham - Clerk  
March 20 - A.A. Hoke Floyd Died. Fairmont's first Minor League Baseball, player. 1921, 22, 23, 24.

\* Sherman Johnson's Blacksmith Shop established.

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1926

Hugh G. Mitchell, Mayor  
Vardell Gaines Grantham - Clerk  
Commissioners  
Wiley Roberts Taylor, Sr.  
E.V. McDaniel  
Furman Floyd  
Averette Nance Mitchell

Fairmont Drug Co. purchased by Paul H. Thompson, Sr. and Wiley R. Taylor, Sr. Their slogan was ——— "Paul and Wiley"

1927

Hugh G. Mitchell, Mayor  
Vardell Gaines Grantham - Clerk  
Commissioners  
Wiley Roberts Taylor, Sr.  
E.V. McDaniel  
Furman Floyd  
Averette Nance Mitchell

Jan. 4 - A Franchise was granted to Carolina Power and Light Company for electrical service to the town of Fairmont for sixty years.

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1928

Dr. J.P. Brown - Mayor  
V.G. Grantham - Clerk  
Commissioners  
Averett N. Mitchell  
George H. Cole  
Evander McDaniel  
F.C. Smith

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1929

Dr. J.P. Brown - Mayor  
V.G. Grantham - Clerk  
Commissioners  
Averett N. Mitchell  
George H. Cole  
Evander McDaniel  
F.C. Smith

December 3 - Tuesday- Fairmont Rotary was presented a Charter. Dr. A. Byron Holmes was first President.

\* Mitchell - Davis Tobacco Warehouse was built.

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1930

Dr. J. P. Brown - Mayor  
V.G. Grantham - Clerk  
Commissioners  
Averett N. Mitchell  
George H. Cole  
Evander McDaniel  
F.C. Smith

July - Cedar Grove Baptist Church built. It was a member of the Burnt Swamp Baptist Association. Rev. Clarence E. Locklear, pastor.

Last of the 4 passenger trains per day.

1931

Pritchard P. Smith - Mayor

J.W. Bradley, Jr. is the first known recipient of the Eagle Scout award in Fairmont. The son of Rev. and Mrs. J.W. Bradley (pastor of Trinity Methodist Church 1931-1934) now lives in Raleigh Troop 26.

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1932

Pritchard P. Smith - Mayor  
George Cole - Clerk

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1933

Prichard P. Smith - Mayor  
G.H. Cole - Clerk

Chief of Police - F.L. Crump

Feb. 24 - The Fairmont Athletic Club defeated Chadbourn High School on the 17th in a fast game of basketball. The score being 21-11.

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1934

Mr. P.P. Smith - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Clerk  
Commissioners  
A.L. McDaniel  
H.V. Floyd  
P.H. Thompson, Sr.  
Dr. A.H. Hayes  
E.W. Floyd - Judge  
Caswell P. Britt - Prosecuting Atty. and  
E.M. Johnson  
F.L. Crump - C.O.P.  
A.H. Ward - Secretary  
\* First Hoover Carts built by Sherman Johnson's Blacksmith Shop.

1935

P.P. Smith - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Clerk  
Commissioners  
H.V. Floyd  
C.E. Webster  
Dr. A.H. Hayes  
A.L. McDaniel  
F.W. Floyd - Attorney  
F.L. Crump - Chief of Police

Nov. 14 - \* Fisher Grocery sold round and T-Bone Steak for 20¢ per lb.

Otha's Place sold fried country ham sandwiches for 15¢ and barbecue sandwiches for 10¢

Levinson's Department Store advertised new coats at \$4.95 - \$14.95.  
Playing at Capitol Theatre - "Hands Across The Table" with Carole Lombard and Fred Mac Murray.

\* From The Times Messenger" Nov. 14, 1935  
Fairmont purchases its First Fire Truck.

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1936

Dr. J.P. Brown - Mayor  
G.A. Cole - Clerk  
Commissioners  
Dr. A.H. Hayes  
C.E. Webster  
F.W. Floyd - Attorney  
H.V. Floyd  
W.C. Floyd  
F.L. Crump - Chief of Police

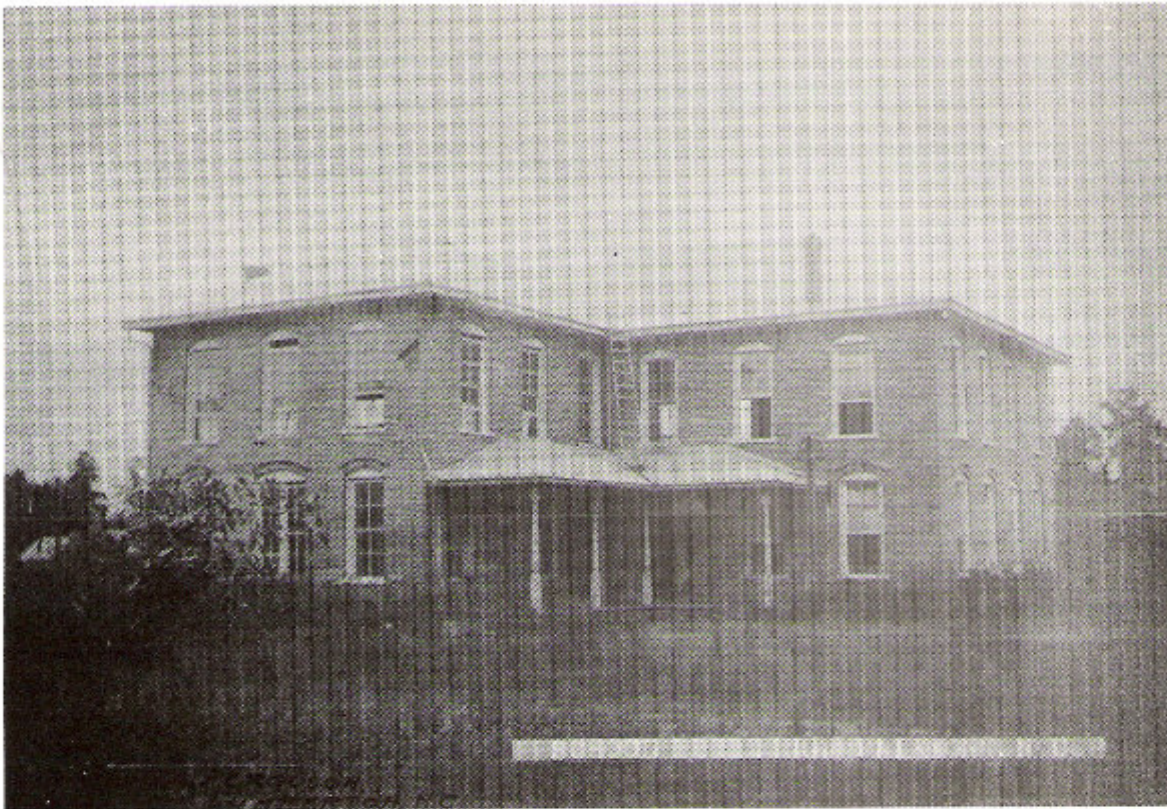
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1937

Dr. John Powell Brown - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Clerk  
Commissioners  
William Carlton Floyd  
Henry Vann Floyd  
E.G. Jones  
Dr. Albert H. Hayes  
Francis Wayland Floyd - Attorney  
F.L. Crump - Chief of Police  
Ippy Purvis Graham - Judge

\* Name of the Fairmont High School newspaper was "F.H.S. Tattler."

\* August 5 - Charlie B. Stafford of Clarksville Tenn. became Sales Supervisor of The Fairmont Tobacco Market.



1938

P.P. Smith - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Clerk  
L.C. Robeson - Chief of Police  
Commissioners  
W.C. Floyd  
H.V. Floyd  
E.G. Jones  
Dr. Albert Hayes

Oct. 31 - Mrs. E.G. Wilson had Hotel of Fairmont leased until this date.

Nov. 1 - Mrs. Cora Henley leased hotel for 1 year at  $\frac{1}{2}$  net profit.

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1939

Pritchard P. Smith - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Clerk  
Commissioners  
W.C. Floyd  
Henry Vann Floyd  
Ernest G. Jones  
Dr. A.H. Hayes  
F. Wayland Floyd - Attorney  
L.C. Robeson - Chief of Police  
C.E. Webster Judge

1940

P.P. Smith - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Clerk  
Commissioners  
E.G. Jones  
J.O. Tedder  
W.G. Fisher  
P.R. Floyd, Jr.  
F. Wayland Floyd - Attorney

May 30 - Cora Henly leased Hotel for three years for \$1,500.00 per year.

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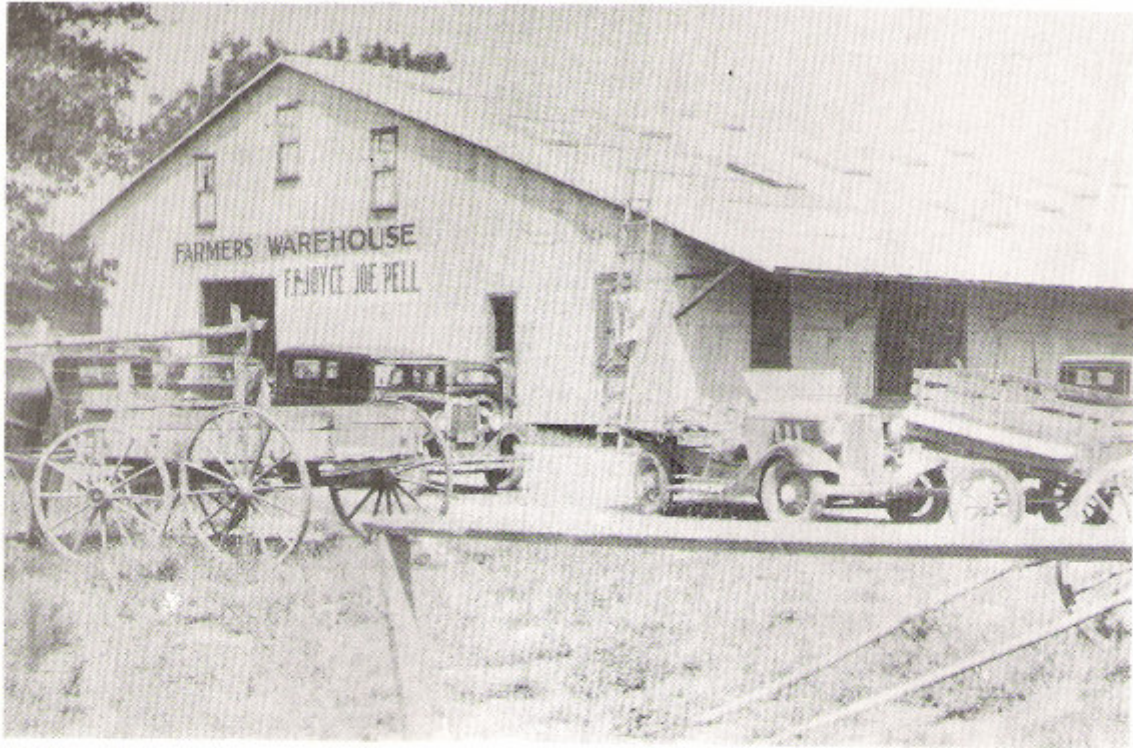
1941

Dec. 7 - Dr. J.P. Brown, one of the founding fathers of Fairmont, dies-

Dec. 7 - Japan Bombs Pearl Harbor

Dec. 8 - U.S. Declares War on Japan

\* Fairmont Tobacco Market was featured on Back cover of Life Magazine in an ad sponsored by American Tobacco Co.



1942

Dr. A.H. Hayes - Mayor  
 George H. Cole - Clerk  
 Commissioner  
 Jack O. Tedder  
 Patrick R. Floyd Jr.  
 Earnest G. Jones  
 Henry S. Griffin  
 J. Floyd - Attorney  
 S.J. English - Chief of Police  
 C.E. Webster - Judge

1944

P.R. Floyd, II - Mayor  
 Commissioners  
 W.A. Jenkins  
 Wayland Bagley Lennon  
 A.A. Fowler, Sr.  
 Memory Silas Griffin  
 F.W. Floyd - Attorney  
 S.J. English - Chief of Police  
 (English resigned April 15, 1944)  
 C.E. Webster - Judge

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1945

P.R. Floyd, II - Mayor  
 George H. Cole - Clerk  
 Commissioners  
 Wayland Bagley Lennon  
 Memory Silas Griffin

C. Mays leased Fairmont Hotel  
 per year.  
 J. and Marvin Pittman - Town

1943  
 Emj

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1943  
 Unknown

March 2 - Fairmont came in 2nd in the Red  
 Cross War Fund drive with \$5,727.69.

1946

P.R. Floyd II - Mayor  
George Cole - Clerk  
Commissioners  
Charlie B. Stafford  
Earnest G. Jones  
R.C. Bullock  
J. Wilbur Jones  
F.W. Floyd Attorney  
Durham R. Mitchell - Judge  
A. Rowland Pittman - Chief of Police

Feb. 1 - Dougald Coxe of Red Springs & D.T. Perry of Fayetteville purchased the Lumberton Voice, and the Fairmont Times Messenger from J.P. Wiggins and son, J.M. Wiggins.

May 19 - Cameron West named New Principal

May 23 - Fairmont Veneers Inc. started operation - Employed 25 to 30 people.

Oct. 1 - William Perry Canter leased the Hotel for \$1,800.00 per year.

Feb. 14 - The American Legion George Galloway Post No. 259 was chartered.

\* First of the year, Post Master T.S. Teaque notified George H. Cole, clerk and treasurer of town, there would be free delivery of mail with-in the city limits.

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1947

Earnest G. Jones - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Clerk  
Commissioner  
J.W. Jones  
A. Jack Mitchell  
Rowland Carson Bullock  
Clarence L. Tedder  
D.R. Mitchell - Judge  
David M. Britt - Attorney  
A.R. Pittman - Chief of Police and Tax Collector

\* Extended the city limits.

Aug. 1 - Citivan Club was organized. F. Wayland Floyd, president.

Boy Scout Troop No. 124 organized about 1947. Ocia Howell, Scoutmaster.

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1948

Earnest G. Jones - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Clerk  
Commissioners  
C.L. Tedder  
J.W. Jones  
June 10 - Order of Eastern Star Chapter No. 261 Organized.

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1949

Earnest G. Jones - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
James Herbert McCollum  
C.L. Tedder  
J.W. Jones  
R.C. Bullock

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1950

Pittman Lancaster Fisher - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
R.C. Bullock  
Harry Weinstein  
Ed. F. Hodges Sr.  
G.W. Bowers

August 1 - Railroad track taken up from Fairmont to Chadbourn

October 8 - P.P. Smith Retired as Station Master ACL

October 9 - Vernon Smith became Station Master ACL

1950 Census - 2,319



1951

Pittman Lancaster Fisher - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Ed F. Hodges Sr.  
G.W. Bowers  
Harry Weinstein  
Wilton Lewis  
Chief of Police - James Heath Godfrey

Feb. 15 - Billy Whitted bought an interest in The Times-Messenger from Dougald Coxe.  
May 1 - Billy & Jane Whitted purchased The Times-Messenger from Dougald Coxe of Red Springs.  
Nov. 30 Petition for Sunday movies passed  
Sold 58,715,896 lbs. of tobacco - Ave. \$53.68 per lb.

Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson accepted pastorage of the First Baptist Church, North Main Street.

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1952

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Ed. F. Hodges  
G.W. Bowers  
Harry Weinstein  
Wilton Lewis

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1953

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Harry Weinstein  
Wilton Lewis  
J.H. McCollum  
Ed. F. Hodges Sr.  
Boy Scout Troop No. 354 organized about 1953, Ervin R. Gause, Scoutmaster.

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1954

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
G.H. Floyd Jr.  
Ed. F. Hodges Sr.  
J.H. McCollum  
Wilton Lewis

1955

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
George H. Cole - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
G.H. Floyd, Jr.  
Dr. R.L. Weinstein  
J.H. McCollum  
Wilton Lewis

Sept. 21 - Rev. Carey Peele Herring died. He served as pastor of Fairmont First Baptist Church for 19 years. Former Pastorate was at Crestwood, Ky., until he came to Fairmont in 1936.

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1956

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
D.P. Johnson - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
G.H. Floyd, Jr.  
Dr. R.L. Weinstein  
J.H. McCollum  
Wilton Lewis

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1957

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
D.P. Johnson - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
G.H. Floyd, Jr.  
Larry Martin  
J.H. McCollum  
J. Wilton Lewis

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1958

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
J.E. Bristow - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Herman Campbell  
J.H. McCollum  
Larry Martin  
G.H. Floyd, Jr.



1959

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
 J.E. Bristow - Town Clerk  
 Commissioners

Larry Martin  
 G.H. Floyd, Jr.  
 Herman Campbell  
 J.H. McCollum

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1961

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
 J.E. Bristow - Town Clerk  
 Commissioners  
 G.H. Floyd, Jr.  
 Larry Martin  
 J.H. McCollum  
 Wilton Lewis  
 W.R. Rogers - Chief of Police

Dec. 19. - The Fairmont Church of God was organized. Located on North Main Street.

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1960

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
 J.E. Bristow - Town Clerk  
 Commissioners  
 J.H. McCollum  
 Larry Martin  
 G.H. Floyd, Jr.  
 Herman Campbell

1962

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
 J.E. Bristow - Clerk  
 Commissioners  
 G.H. Floyd Jr.  
 Larry Martin  
 J.H. McCollum  
 J. Wilton Lewis

June 16 - Charlie Pittman became Chief of Police



1963

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
 J.E. Bristow - Town Clerk  
 Commissioners  
 G.H. Floyd Jr.  
 Larry Martin  
 J.H. McCollum  
 J. Wilton Lewis  
 Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

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1965

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
 J.E. Bristow - Town Clerk  
 Commissioners  
 J.H. McCollum  
 Patrick Floyd, III  
 Worth Stephens  
 G.H. Floyd Jr.  
 Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

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1964

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
 J.E. Bristow - Town Clerk  
 Commissioners  
 G.H. Floyd Jr.  
 Worth Stephens  
 J.H. McCollum  
 Patrick Floyd, III  
 Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

1966

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
 Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
 Commissioners  
 J.H. McCollum  
 Patrick Floyd, III  
 Worth Stephens  
 J. Wilton Lewis  
 Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

1967

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
J.H. McCollum  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Worth Stephens  
J. Wilton Lewis  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

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1968

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
Joy J. Johnson  
Worth Stephens  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

\* Wright O. Jones Retired as Fire Chief after a number of years of service.

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1969

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
William H. Lewis  
Joy J. Johnson  
J. Russell Grimes  
Worth Stephens  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

\* Due to a recent act in legislature the Board of Commissioners has been increased by 2 additional members. The present Town Board had recently nominated Rev. J.J. Johnson and William Haynes Lewis to serve as commissioners. At this time they were sworn into office by Magistrate Curtis McGirt.

1970

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
A. Ray Davis  
J. Russell Grimes  
Joy J. Johnson  
William H. Lewis  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

Sept. 17 - It was announced in the "Times Messenger" that the local ABC Store will be opened within 30 to 60 days.

Sept. 17 - Fairmont City schools receive \$34,000.00 in Federal Funds to help implement desegregation.

Sept. 17 - Sessoms Grocery sold Pork chops for .49¢ per lb.

Sept. 24 - Fairmont gets \$16,191.00 in Powell Bill money. These funds were provided by one-half cent of the gasoline tax and are returned annually to towns and cities, the amount being based on population.

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1971

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
J. Russell Grimes  
A. Ray Davis  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
William H. Lewis  
Calvin Haggins  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

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1972

Pittman L. Fisher - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
J. Russell Grimes  
A. Ray Davis  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
William H. Lewis  
Calvin Haggins  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

1973

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
A. Ray Davis  
Frank McCormick  
William H. Lewis  
Calvin Haggins  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

Sept. 15 - Vernon Smith, station master, transferred to Mullins, S.C.; M. B. Long became station master.

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1974

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
A. Ray Davis  
Frank McCormick  
William H. Lewis  
Calvin Haggins  
Margaret B. Perry  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

\* Elister L. Peterson, after 43 years in the field of education, having served 23 of those years in Fairmont, retired to Greensboro, N.C.

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1975

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Calvin Haggins  
Margaret B. Perry  
William H. Lewis  
Frank McCormick  
A. Ray Davis  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

Avery Nye, Jr. became Secretary of Labor for the state of N.C.

U.S. Census - 3,220

1976

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Calvin Haggins  
Loftin Dickens  
William H. Lewis  
Frank McCormick  
Ocia Howell

\* Ricky Locklear was named by Associated Press to the first term, Little All-American Defensive lineman at Elon College.

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1977

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Calvin Haggins  
Loftin Dickens  
William H. Lewis  
Frank McCormick  
Ocia Howell  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

April 1 - Billy Whitted, owner of "Times Messenger" sold same to Herald Office Supply, Dillon, S.C. Whitted remained as Editor.

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1978

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Ocia Howell  
Charles Kemp  
Calvin Haggins  
Rudolph Currie  
Avery Nye, Jr.  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

\* Roderick Griffin was named by U.P.I. and A.P. to the All-American Basketball Team. He attended Wake Forest University.

May 21 - Loftin Dickens died in office while serving his fourth term as commissioner.

1979

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Ocia Howell  
Charles Kemp  
Calvin Haggins  
Rudolph Currie  
Avery Nye, Jr.  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

\* P.E. Shaw, principal, retires from the Fairmont City School system after 38 years of service in this one system.

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1980

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Rudolph Currie  
Lenwood Rich  
Calvin Haggins  
Charles Kemp  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

Dec. 21 - Paul S. Oliver, Jr. retired as Major General in the Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army of the United States.

\* The George Gallaway Post No. 259 of the American Legion was cancelled.

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1981

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Rudolph Currie  
Lenwood Rich  
Calvin Haggins  
Charles Kemp  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

Feb. 22 - House Of Joy, Trinity St., Dedicated

\* John L. Johnson retired from the Fairmont City Schools after a number of years of service.

1982

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Rudolph Currie  
Lenwood Rich  
Calvin Haggins  
Charles Kemp  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

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1983

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Rudolph Currie  
Lenwood Rich  
Calvin Haggins  
Charles Kemp  
Charlie Rae Ashley  
Charlie Pittman - Chief of Police

\* Stanton G. Lockley retired as Colonel in the U.S. Air Force after 30 years of service.

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1984

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd, III  
Rudolph Currie  
Huel Faulk  
Calvin Haggins  
Charles Kemp  
Hayes Lewis  
Larry Herring - Chief of Police

\* Pearl Kramer, teacher and assistant principal, retires from The Fairmont City School System after a number of years of service.

Feb. 3 - Charlie Pittman retired as Chief of Police after serving 22 years.

July 5 - At 8 p.m. Fairmont and Western Train rolled into Fairmont to begin service.

July 16 - Comm. Calvin Haggins died in office while serving his 13th year.

1985

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick Floyd III  
Hayes Lewis  
Nedward Gaddy  
Rudolph Currie  
Charles Kemp  
Huel Faulk  
Larry Herring - Chief of Police  
Leamon Brice - Town Manager

\* M.B. Long, station master, retires.  
Seaboard System Railroad closes operation  
in Fairmont.

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1986

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick R. Floyd III  
Hayes Lewis  
Nedward Gaddy  
Rudolph Currie  
Charles Kemp  
Huel Faulk  
Larry Herring - Chief of Police  
Leamon Brice - Town Manager

November 1, 1986 - Mr. Paul Graham was  
hired as Fairmont Industrial Agent.

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1987

Willie Broox Webster - Mayor  
Shirley Price - Town Clerk  
Commissioners  
Patrick R. Floyd III  
Hayes Lewis  
Nedward Gaddy  
Rudolph Currie  
Charles Kemp  
Huel Faulk  
Larry Herring - Chief of Police  
Leamon Brice - Town Manager

January 6, 1987 - 1:30 pm. - Robeson County  
started celebrating its 200th Birthday.

March 5, 1987 - Pembroke State University  
celebrated its 100th Birthday.

May 1-9, 1987 - Red Springs celebrated its  
100th Birthday.

May 31, 1987 - Rev. Thomas L. Rich retired  
from the Ministry. He will reside in Fair-  
mont. He was Pastor at the First Baptist  
Church.

June 1, 1987 - Sam Lupo has been named  
Ambassador to Guinea.

June 18, 1987 - Rev. Robert Moore retired  
from the Ministry. He will reside in Fair-  
mont. He was the Pastor at Trinity United  
Methodist Church.

August 8, 1987 - Fairmont will have the  
Farmers Day Festival.

July 9, 1987 - Raymond W. McMillan retires  
as Brigadier General, U.S. Air Force, after  
37 years of service.

June 1, 1987 - Heritage Showcase in  
Lumberton features Fairmont along with  
Red Springs in conjunction with the  
Robeson County Bicentennial Celebration.  
June 2, 1987 - Rosenwald Elementary School  
receives an award for "best overall  
project" in the Pride, Unity, and Toil  
Bicentennial Cleanup Campaign.

This concludes our letter informing you of  
our findings. Again, Mr. Brice, we will  
welcome any feedback the citizens of the  
southeastern community would like to of-  
fer. The History Committee will be looking  
forward to August 8, and sincerely hope  
people will come by the History Room, at  
the Old Railroad Station, and help to iden-  
tify the "unknown", and give us any infor-  
mation they think would be pertinent to our  
town's history.

Sincerely  
Wiley R. Taylor  
(Chairman of Fairmont's History Comm.)

\* The following men have been reported  
as serving as Mayor. The years of their ser-  
vice are unknown.  
Alex Smith (Sandy) Thompson  
J.D. McLean  
A.N. Mitchell