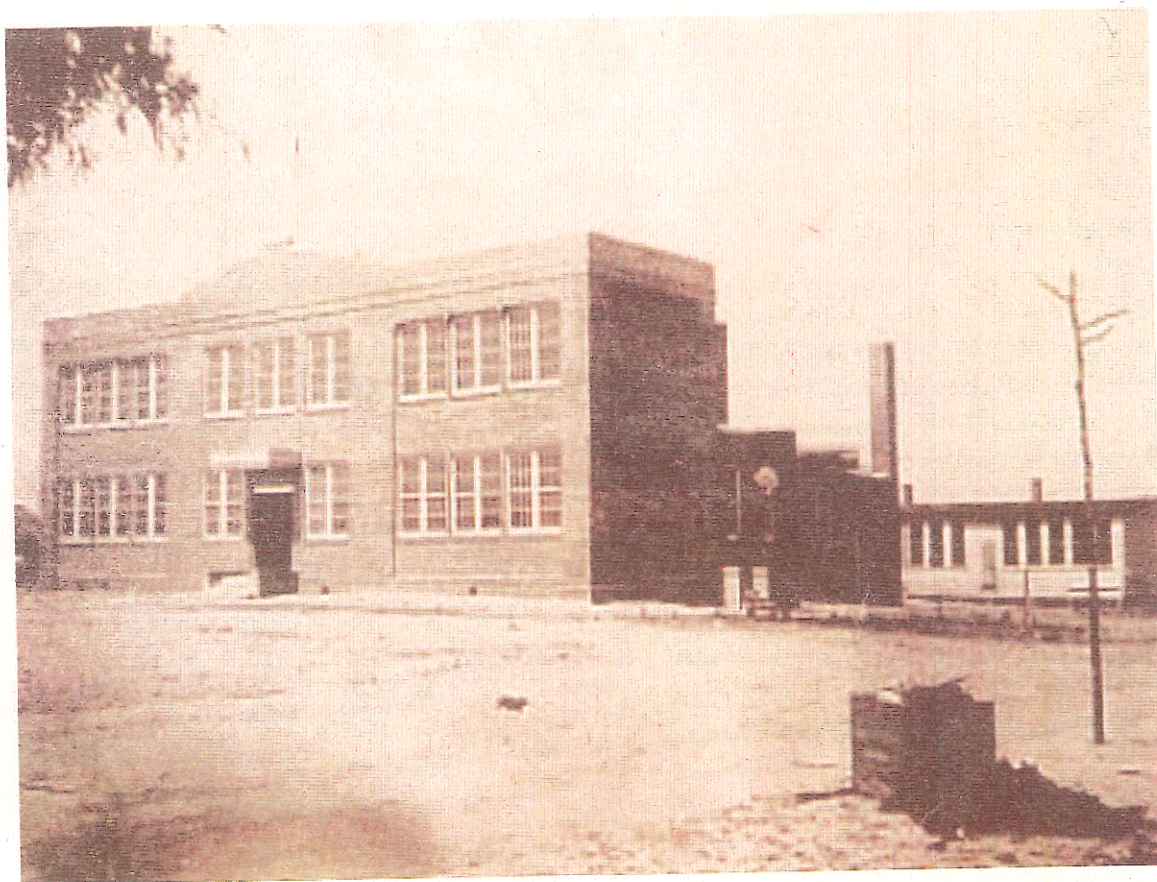




Thy Noble Sons, Thy Daughters Fair



This picture of the Tarboro Colored High School was taken immediately after completion in 1924. The building, a two-story brick structure, was classified as an eight-teacher school. Construction was funded, in part, by the Julius Rosenwald Foundation. It was demolished in the early 1970s. (Photo courtesy of the Fisk University Rosenwald School Archives.)

Thy Noble Sons, Thy Daughters Fair

A commemorative booklet, compiled
and designed by C. Rudolph Knight
and Dr. Lawrence W. S. Auld.

Preliminary edition

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2009



W. A. Pattillo, Principal
1924-1946



W. H. Pattillo, Principal
1946-1960

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Dedicated to my first teachers,
for their patience, understanding,
and caring:

Jetta Howard Knight, Mother
Catherine Perry Weston, Kindergarten Teacher
Thelma Maxine Coley, First Grade Teacher

C. Rudolph Knight



JHK



CPW



TMC



CRK

Acknowledgments

The compilers express their thanks and appreciation
to many persons to whom we say, Thank you!

Erdye Brown Betrand
Fisk University Library
Nathan Garrett
Clayton P. Giles
Bessie Lewis
Mittie Bullock Miller
Maude Bullock Porter
Ernestine Strong Privott
Elizabeth Ricks Powell
Jesse Lee Parker Sharpe

And all others, unnamed,
you know who you are.

W. A. Pattillo High School

This volume celebrates the graduating classes of the W. A. Pattillo High School, originally the Tarboro Colored High School. It was renamed in 1943 for W. A. Pattillo, the school's first Principal.

The Pattillo School had its origins in the Princeville Graded School, founded in 1881 and which made outstanding growth under the leadership of Principals: W. P. Mabson, a graduate of Lincoln College (now Lincoln University); John Jones, a graduate of Oberlin College; and William A. Perry, a native of Tarboro and a graduate of Yale University. The first eighth-grade class was graduated in 1909.

In 1912, Walter Alexander Pattillo succeeded Perry. A few high school courses were added to the curriculum. In 1923-24, the Julius Rosenwald Fund helped finance the construction of a two-story eight-teacher brick building in east Tarboro, and Pattillo became its principal, a position he held until his retirement in 1943.

Princeville students in grades 1-4 now attended classes in the Princeville Graded School building, while Tarboro students in grades 1-4 now attended classes in the new east Tarboro building. All students in grades 5-8 and in high school attended classes in the new building in east Tarboro.

The first high school class was graduated in 1924 with three members. In 1931, an additional building with 17 rooms was added along with more teachers making a grand total of 700 students, 34 classrooms, 38 teachers, one principal and two schools. The Tarboro Colored High School, which included the grammar school grades, held the classification of a "union school," that is, a school with both elementary and secondary classes.

In the fall of 1943 a group of concerned citizens petitioned the Tarboro Board of Education to change the school from the Tarboro Colored High School to the W. A. Pattillo High School to honor its founder's numerous contributions and dedication. The petition was approved by the school board and a ceremony was held on May 30, 1943. The first class to graduate with the new name was the class of 1944.

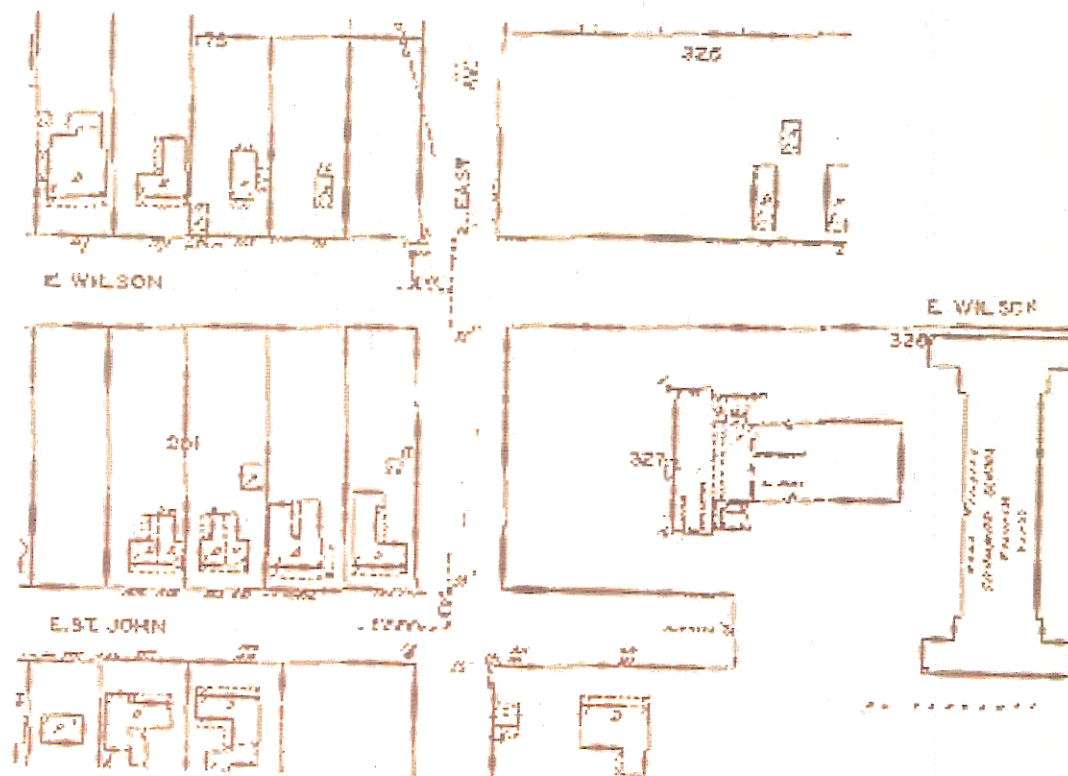
Professor Pattillo retired in 1946, and his son Walter H. Pattillo was appointed principal.

The school developed into a community center for the East Tarboro African-American citizens for a variety of activities, including concerts, piano recitals, dramatic plays, banquets, dances, fund-raisers. It had the full support of the whole community, because each individual in the community felt a strong connection with the educational institution by being a graduate or being a relative of a graduate or by having a relative enrolled.

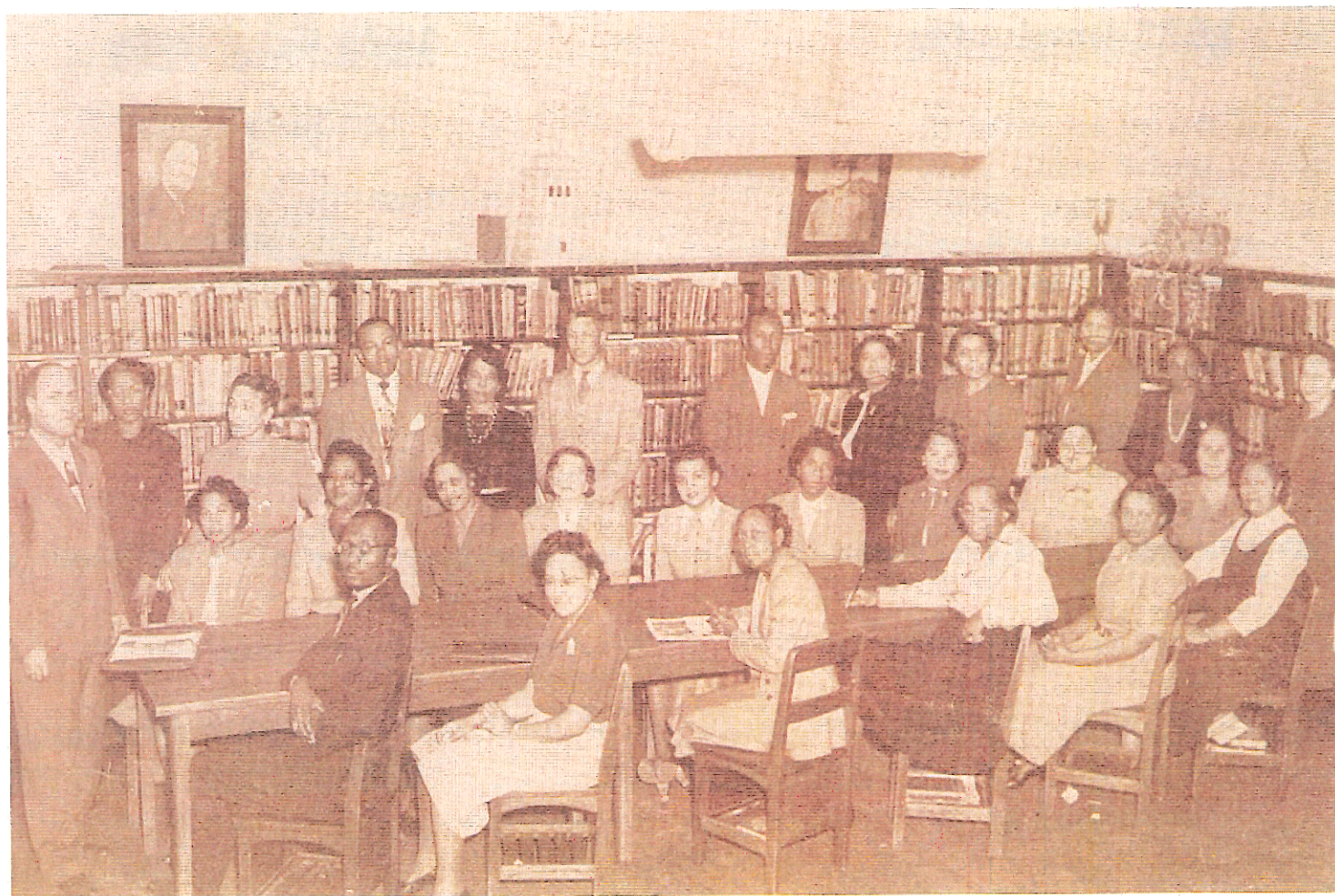
On W. H. Pattillo's retirement in 1960, R. H. Cherry was appointed principal. He was followed by Rudolph W. Snowden (1967 - 1968) who, in turn, was followed by James Barnes (1968 - 1970).

The Class of 1970 was the last class graduated from the W. A. Pattillo High School. With full integration, subsequent classes graduated from Tarboro High School.

NOTE: In spite of the compilers' efforts, some parts of the W. A. Pattillo School story remain incomplete. Your help in providing the names of students missing from the class rosters, in locating missing pictures of graduating classes, in identifying teachers, and in locating pictures of teachers will be appreciated. Also, please report any errors to the compilers.



The image above is adapted from the 1931-1947 Sanborn Map of Tarboro. The W. A. Pattillo High School was located east of East Street between E. Wilson and E. St. John Streets. The building shaped like the letter "I" is the Elementary School. The High School is the hammer-shaped structure to the left of the Elementary School.



Pattillo School Faculty, 1950

Pattillo Faculty

Only some records of the School's faculty and their years of service were located. Thus, this listing is incomplete. When an individual appeared under more than one form of her/his name, the records were combined under the latest form of the name.

Mrs. L. Alderman (1965)
 Miss Catherine M. Anthony (1937-1945)
 Miss Catherine B. Anthony (1934-1936)
 Mr. Armistead (1967)
 Mr. W. H. Arnold (1953-)
 Mr. W. P. Arnold (1962-1965)
 Miss M. R. Baines (-1968)
 Mr. E. B. Barnes (1953-)
 Mr. James A. Barnes (1962-1970)
 Miss Jeraldine Barnes (1965)
 Mrs. H. K. Barnett (-1966)
 Mr. J. R. Battle (1953-)
 Mr. Erastus B. Batts (1941, 1948-)
 Mrs. Pearl W. Bennett (1943-1953)
 Miss Leron M. Berry (1962-1966)
 Mrs. Mary P. Boddie (1964-1965)
 Miss Hannabel Branche (1940-1941)
 Miss Florine G. Brandon (1931-1934)
 Miss C. Delon Braswell (1943-)
 Miss D. L. Bridgers (1962-1964)
 Miss Fannie O. Bridgers (1931-1953)

Mrs. Mable J. Brown (1943-1965)
 Mrs. Mattie Brown (1933)
 Mrs. S. V. Brown (1943-)
 Mr. Sylvester V. Brown (1939-1941, 1947-1950)
 Miss Eula M. Bryan (1937-1950)
 Mr. Kelly W. Bryant (1943-)
 Mrs. Nannie W. Bryant (1933-1965)
 Miss L. S. Bullock (1953-)
 Miss Lillian B. Bullock (1933-1934)
 Mrs. M. J. Bullock (1962-1970)
 Mrs. Martha M. Bullock (1931-1939)
 Mrs. Beatrice G. Burnett (1939-1944)
 Mrs. E. G. Burnett (1938-)
 Mr. Earl C. Burnett (1933-1939)
 Mrs. S. G. Burnett (1962-)
 Mr. W. G. Byers (1937-1938)
 Mr. W. H. Check (1953-)
 Mrs. B. L. Cherry (1965)
 Mrs. B. S. Cherry (1962-1964)
 Mr. R. H. Cherry (1960-1967)
 Miss Corinne V. Clark (1933-1935)
 Miss N. Viola Cobb (1931)
 Mr. Cogdell (1967)
 Miss Thelma Maxine Coley (1953)
 Mr. Cooper (1966)
 Miss E. E. Curry (1964-1965)
 Miss J. E. Darden (1964-1965)
 Mrs. Vivian M. Diggs (1953-1965)

Mrs. Lucy M. Dunn (1936-1945)
 Miss L. M. Edmonds (1931-1933)
 Mr. L. E. Edwards (1963)
 Mr. Charles M. England (1950-1953)
 Miss D. L. Exum (1953-)
 Miss Eugenia Exum 1934)
 Mr. J. E. Faison (1953-)
 Miss V. L. Fenner (1931)
 Miss Beatrice Ferebee (1965)
 Mrs. M. G. Ford (1964)
 Mrs. Mamie F. Forrest (1940-1948)
 Mrs. I. S. Foster (1965)
 Mrs. J. P. Foster (1950-1953)
 Miss Naomi Foster (1936)
 Mrs. Thelma Q. Foster (1945-1965)
 Mr. J. A. Freeman (1962-)
 Mrs. S. B. Freeman (1962-1965)
 Mrs. M. F. Fuller (1953-)
 Mrs. Mamie H. Fuller (1931-1938)
 Mrs. Ruth M. Garnes (1938-1950)
 Miss S. B. Garrett (1945-1953)
 Mrs. Gaylord (1967)
 Mrs. Josephine P. Gibson (1933-1935)
 Mr. G. C. Goodman (1964-1965)
 Mrs. M. W. Goodman (1964-1966)
 Miss Ruby A. Graves (1931-1965)
 Mrs. Ruth M. Graves (1937-)
 Mrs. Thelma Q. Gross (1940-1941)
 Mr. R. H. Hadley (1964)
 Mr. R. L. Hadley (1963-1965)

 Miss Emily G. Hairston (1939-)
 Miss Laura R. Hammonds (1931-1962)
 Mr. Hardy (1967)
 Mrs. Esther M. Harper (1931-1936)
 Mr. George L. Harper (1931-1936)
 Miss J. M. Harriot (-1967)
 Mrs. E. Hedgepeth (1953-)
 Mrs. A. B. Hemphill (1933)
 Miss E. Scott Hines (1931)
 Miss Dorothy L. Hinton (1934-1936)
 Miss D. L. Hodge (1965)
 Mrs. Virginia L. Hodges (1937-1939)
 Mrs. Lillian B. Holloway (1935)
 Mrs. Alice P. Hooker (1947)
 Miss Brenda Hooper (1965)
 Miss M. L. Horne (1962-)
 Mrs. C. N. Hussey (1963-1965)
 Mr. H. B. Hussey (1962-1965)
 Mrs. Ella W. James (1931-1953)
 Miss Ruth M. Jeffers (1935)
 Mrs. V. M. Jenkins (1963-1964)
 Miss Arnie M. Johnson (1937-1938)
 Mrs. Emma O. Jones (1937-1965)
 Miss Marlene Jones (1965)
 Mrs. S. J. Jones (1969-1970)
 Mrs. Willie F. Jones (1943-1953, 1963-1964)
 Miss H. V. Kelly (1962-1965)
 Mrs. L. F. Kilpatrick (1964)
 Mrs. Mavis Knight (1948-)
 Mrs. R. L. Knight (1965)

Mr. Charles Lassiter (1965)
 Mrs. Corinne C. Lassiter (1940-1945)
 Miss Addie A. Lawrence (1933-1937)
 Mrs. R. M. Lawrence (1953-)
 Mr. Ernest Leach (1962-)
 Mrs. E. E. Lewis 1947-)
 Mrs. Lulalia S. Lewis (1943-1944)
 Mr. Nolan Little (1944-1953)
 Miss Reba E. Little (1938)
 Mrs. Reba M. Little (1943-1950, 1963-1965)
 Mrs. M. R. Littles (1964)
 Mrs. L. P. Lloyd (1962-1964)
 Mrs. Chanie F. Lowe (1950-1965)
 Miss Barbara McCracken (1965)
 Miss Lois M. McNeill (1936-1950)
 Mr. Frank A. Matthewson (1944-1947)
 Mr. G. C. Matthewson (1962-1967)
 Mrs. Mary W. Matthewson (1945-1948, 1953)
 Miss Susie E. Matthewson (1939-1944)
 Miss Reba E. Mayo (1934-1941)
 Mrs. Ruth M. Meekins (1944)
 Miss Katebeth Mills (1940-1941)
 Miss Mattie Moss (1965)
 Mr. Reginald A. Moss (1962-1970)
 Mrs. T. M. Nance (1962-1964)
 Miss C. V. Newsome (1962)
 Mrs. Beatrice. G. Parker (1931-1937)
 Mrs. E. T. Parker (1937-1938)
 Mrs. Hazel. S. Parker (1931-1933)
 Mrs. Helen T. Parker (1936-1945)

Miss Mable Pattf (1965)
 Mrs. J. J. Pattillo (1950)
 Mrs. R. M. Pattillo (1950-1953)
 Mrs. S. Jeannette Pattillo (1931-1948)
 Mr. Walter A. Pattillo (1924-1946)
 Mr. Walter H. Pattillo (1946-1960)
 Mr. William C. Pattillo (1933-1940)
 Miss Mary L. Peary (1933)
 Mrs. Minnie F. Perrot(?) (1939-)
 Miss S. Perry (1963-1964)
 Mrs. Janie M. Pettaway (1943-1953)
 Mrs. L. M. Pettaway (1962-1964)
 Miss Mary J. Pitt (1941-1943)
 Miss R. L. Powell (1963-1964)
 Miss Ratliff (1967)
 Mr. F. W. Richardson (1964)
 Miss Aurelia L. Shearin (1950)
 Mrs. E. c. Sherrod (1965)
 Mrs. Vivian M. Smith (1935-1938, 1962-1965)
 Mr. David E. Smoot (1962-1964)
 Mrs. Dorothy B. Smoot (1965)
 Mr. Rudolph W. Snowden (1967-1968)
 Mrs. Mary P. Stancil (1939-1940)
 Miss Cora Steele (1936)
 Mrs. B. B. Tanner (1962-1964)
 Mrs. Jennie D. Taylor (1948-1950)
 Mrs. Susanna M. Thomas (1945-1948, 1950-1965)
 Mrs. D. L. Thompson (1962)
 Mrs. D. M. Thompson (1964)
 Mrs. V. L. Thompson (1963)

Mrs. Y. H. Transou (1962-1964)
Mr. Thomas R. Turner (1965)
Miss N. E. Waddell (1931)
Miss Helen A. Walston (1931-1953)
Mrs. E. L. Ward (1964)
Miss Pearl. J. Ward (1931-1941)
Miss Lillian E. Washington (1939-1941)
Miss G. B. Watkins (1963)
Miss Mabel V. Weaver (1940-1945)
Mrs. N. W. Wesson (1953-1964)
Mrs. M. M. Weston (1931-1935)
Miss Christine Whitaker 1934)
Miss D. S. Whitaker, (1964-1965)
Mrs. E. B. Wiggins (1953-1962)
Mrs. C. P. Williams (1964-1965)
Mrs. Catherine F. Williams (1948-)
Mrs. K. P. Williams (1953-1963)
Mrs. M. P. Williams (1962-1965)
Mrs. Marian Williams (1931)
Mrs. Mary P. Williams (1944-1948)
Mrs. G. S. Wimberly (1931)
Mrs. Minnie G. Woodley (1934-1965)

**The Perry-Weston Educational and Cultural
Institute, Inc.**

The Perry-Weston Educational and Cultural Institute, Inc. promotes African American history, genealogy, culture, and arts particularly, in Edgecombe County and North Carolina. The Institute also promotes the conservation and preservation of selected African-American buildings, sites, and records. The Institute sponsors classes, lectures, exhibits, demonstrations, publications, and special projects and programs.

The Perry-Weston Institute is named for the Reverend John W. Perry, first rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Tarboro, North Carolina, and his daughter Mrs. Catherine Perry Weston. Mrs. Weston was the wife of Reverend Milton Moran Weston, the second rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church; the mother of the Rev. Dr. Milton Moran Weston, Jr., rector of St. Phillip's Episcopal Church in New York (Harlem); and the great aunt of the Rev. Dr. Kwasi Thornell, an Episcopal Priest formerly with the National Cathedral in Washington, DC.

Mrs. Weston's parents, the Reverend John W. Perry and Mrs. Mary Eliza Pettipher Perry, operated St. Luke's Parochial School beginning September, 1881, and the school continued until 1957. In later years it

was operated by their daughter Mrs. Catherine Perry Weston and her husband, Rev. M. M. Weston. The Perry School was located on Panola Street, adjacent to the Mount Lebanon Masonic Hall.

Trustees of the Perry-Weston Institute:

Mr. C. Rudolph Knight, Chair

Dr. Florence A. Armstrong, Vice-Chair

Dr. Lawrence W. S. Auld,
Secretary/Treasurer

The Perry-Weston Educational
and Cultural Institute, Inc.
200 E. Baker Street
Tarboro, NC 27886-3804

252.823.0275

1931 Graduates

Lewis Gray
Virgil Gray
Albert Hill
Jesse Newton
Junius Pender

Mamie Braswell
Bertha Hicks
Lornie Hilliard Pitt
Laura Smith
Carrie L. Walston

This is a partial roster of the Class of 1931.

No pictures were located of the Class of 1931.

1930 Graduates

Claud B. Barrett
Carey Bullock
Frank Cephus, Jr.
Joseph Garrett
Joseph W. Hart
William Mayo
Richard H. Pitt
Walter L. Robinson
Richard R. Smith
Nathan Walters
General Whitley, Jr.

Emma E. Andrews
Laura B. Barnes
Lenora O. Dickens
Mary E. Harrison
Sallie M. Harrison
Margaret A. Key
Elizabeth King
Mary A. Matthewson
Mary C. Shaw

No pictures were located of the Class of 1930.

1932 Graduates

Jake Barnes
Zert Boyd
James Bridgers
Robert Bridgers
Jesse Bryant
Lester Hopkins
Moon Jones
James King
Tom Lloyd
Ed Robinson
Henry Wiggins
Kester Williams
Russell Wilson

Maude Bullock
Placide Bullock
Arabelle Davis
Lucy Dunn
Cerepta Gibson
Ceola Howcott
Marie Hunter
Alice Jackson
Marguerite Jerrigan
Vivian King
Mae Hester Lawrence
Senora Lawrence
Willie Moore
Charity Lee Norfleet
Jesse Lee Pittman
Selma Pittman
Sue Smith
Maggie Ray Spain
Flora Tillery
Cora Wiggins
Mary Ann Williams
May Bell Wood

This list of 1932 graduates is based on the picture on the next page, taken when the class was in the seventh grade. Not all may have graduated, and others may have joined the class later.



Most, if not all, of these seventh graders went on to become the class of 1932, and others may have joined the class.

1935 Graduates

Clinton Davis
Joseph Harrell
David T. Hilliard
Gilford Lewis
Frontis J. Newton
Julius Wooten

Arabelle Banks
Bettie Hall
Mary T. Hilliard
Hortense B. Hyman
Sadie L. Knight
Martha E. Matthewson

No pictures were located of the Class of 1935.

1934 Graduates

The roster of names of the Class of 1934 was not located.

No pictures were located of the Class of 1934

1933 Graduates

William Dancy
George Newkirk
Jesse Newton
Henry Spruill

Ada Boyd

This is only a partial list of the Class of 1933.

No pictures were located of the Class of 1933.

1937 Graduates

William Bridgers, Jr.
Willie H. Fuller
Charlie Lawrence
J. Garrett Parker
James A. Ruffin
Walker Weaver

Victoria Barlowe
Mary E. Battle
Mary B. Bridgers
Maria W. Burke
Hattie B. Carney
Annie V. Charles
Evelyn L. Cobb
Katie C. Dancy
Erma L. Dickens
Frances Exum
Mamie L. Farmer
Ella L. Honablue
Emma V. James
Catherine V. Johnson
Julia C. Knight
Molcy B. Powell
Mary E. Richardson
Phylis Richardson
Shirley A. Ruffin
Mary E. Sherrod

No pictures were located of the Class of 1937.

1936 Graduates

Charlie Brown
William A. Harris
James Roscoe Knight
Samuel B. Reeves
Pompey Stith

Lucile B. Barrett
Laura L. Hall
Thelma Hilliard
Julia B. Hughes
Ethel Lee Hyman
Nannie M. James
Julia B. Johnson
Maxine M. King
Ella D. Knight
Sallie D. Knight
L. Lucile Leathers
Cora L. Powell
Rosa Lee Stith
Fannie D. Worsley

No pictures were located of the Class of 1936.

1939 Graduates

Daniel M. Davis
James Harrell
Joseph H. Howcutt
Warren H. James
William G. Powell
George H. Thorpe

Grace I. Barrett
Laura R. Best
Bessie L. Brown
Glen O. Hilliard
Evelyn L. Hughes
Mary L. Jones
Reta M. Jones
Mary E. Joyner
Carrie M. Lane
Henrietta F. Mebane
Ethel M. Petteway
Gladys M. Pitt
Esther V. Powell

No pictures were located of the Class of 1939.

1938 Graduates

James Edward Bridgers
Nathaniel R. Hopkins
Samuel E. Lamberth
George C. Matthewson
James E. Morning
Abner Norfleet, Jr.
Hugh Robinson
Alexander S. Walston
William Horace Weaver
Lester Whitaker

Jeromia Beale
Carolyn Brown
Cora P. Gilliam
Ruth P. Gray
Georgianna E. Grimes
Verta Mae James
Ethel L. Lloyd
Mary Alice Matthewson
Delia L. Pitt
Vivian C. Worsley

No pictures were located of the Class of 1938.

1940 Graduates

Henry H. Edmonds
Joseph J. Gibson
George E. Lewis
Orlander Lewis
William H. Norfleet
G. Sylvester Price
Farmer Winfield
James H. Wooten
George T. Worsley

Geraldine F. Beale
Reaver E. Cephas
E. Marie Ervin
Reva A. Exum
V. Dorothea Harrison
Bettie L. Lawrence
Carrie E. Lawrence
Eva B. Pippen
Rosalyn C. Richardson

Emma E. Sharpe
Joaris Stancil
Theresa I. Thorpe
Thelma S. Weaver
Lillie M. White

