

1933 Home Movie of Pittsboro

A five-minute home movie, created in 1933 in Pittsboro, gives a brief glimpse of the town at that time. Henry Galt Siegrist, grandson-in-law of Henry A. and Bettie Jackson London, was the videographer. The first 8mm home movie cameras were released in 1932, so Mr. Siegrist was an early experimenter on his family's visit to his in-laws in Pittsboro.

The short film contains footage of the 1933 Centennial celebration at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church and views of the St. Bartholomew's graveyard where many Londons are buried. Note that the exterior of St. Bartholomew's had not yet been brick veneered. It still has the clapboard siding. And the graveyard appears to have more bushes and plantings than it does currently.

Also shown are brief clips of London family members and the H.A. London house. The front yard there is also chock-full of plantings. You get a quick glimpse of a house across the road that is no longer there. Let us know what else you notice!

Lucky for us that Mr. Siegrist made this little film and that his family saved it and donated it, along with the funds to have it digitized, to the Chatham County Historical Association. Our thanks to Sallie Siegrist Sypher for the donation.

Here's the link to the movie on our YouTube channel. Please subscribe to be notified when we add content!

https://youtu.be/F-Ut_Df0HMU

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