











WOODLANDS COLUMBIA, RICHLAND CO., S.C. FRONT PORCH AND ENTRANCE, FACINGW









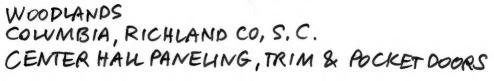








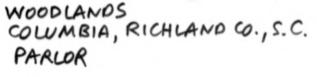




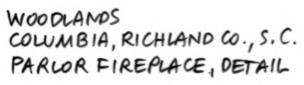


WOODLANDS COUMBIA, RICHLAND CO., S.C. CENTRALHAUL STAIR

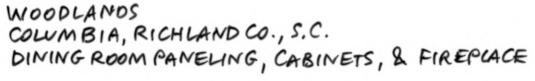






















Woodlands. Where "The Backfield" lived and breathed and had their being.



palmetto profiles

Harry R.E. Hampton: Columbia Newspaperman



H is long legs reach for the porch railing to prop his feet while he slowly rocks in a chair on the front porch of the double porched, two-story house he was born in.

He takes a sip of his favorite drink, a mint julep, and reminisces about how South Carolina used to be a habitat for panthers. He gazes at the wisteria growing wildly up the trunk of the giant oak and talks about things dear to him such as quail, striped bass and the loblolly pine.

Harry R.E. Hampton has been a newspaperman for 42 years and an environmentalist for 45 years, long before being an environmentalist was in vogue. Now, at age 81, Hampton still keeps an active interest in environmental issues and continues to write a column for *The State* newspaper.

Being the great-nephew of Gen. Wade Hampton has instilled in him the desire to place preservation of this state high on his list of priorities. His newspaper roots go back to the founders of *The State* newspaper as he is the nephew of N.G. Gonzales, Ambrose E. Gonzales and William E. Gonzales. His mother was the late Gertrude Ruffini Elliott Gonzales Hampton, the sister of the founding brothers, and his father was Frank Hampton. Harry Hampton's multi-faceted career at *The State* newspaper includes having worked his way up to be co-editor by working successively as a reporter, state news editor, sports writer, columnist and associate editor.

He graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1919, where he was an outstanding tackle on the football team as well as being an all-around track athlete. In his senior year at USC, he reorganized the track team after four years abandonment, without faculty support, and served as manager, captain and volunteer coahc.

His interest in sports was to be projected later in a well-liked column on the sports pages of *The State*, titled, "Delaying the Game, by Nom de Guerre," which is widely remembered for its originality and humor.

From 1930 until his retirement in 1964, Hampton wrote a column titled, "Woods and Waters" which included topics such as bird-watching, duck hunting, fishing, forest fire prevention, water pollution and the destruction of the wildlife around him.

He organized the South Carolina Game and Fish Association in 1931, which he promoted through his columns and by his travels throughout the state to give talks to various groups. His 21

We at Sandlapper have always been gratified by the contributions made to us by the fine literary talent of this state. In line with this and with the following two profiles, we are proud to include two of the South Carolina newspaper giants who have generously allowed us to display their talents.

Our readers will recall Harry Hampton's "Remembrances of Columbia" in our April issue and Jimmie Thompson's tribute to his friend, Joe Jackson, appears in this issue. Hampton and Thompson's contributions to newspapers are countless and we at Sandlapper are proud of their involvement with us.

talks sometimes caused others to attack him at those meetings.

"I was particularly heckled at a meeting in Barnwell," Hampton recalled. "But at the end of my talk, most of them came up and shook my hand."

In 1934, Hampton gave a series of lectures on elemental forestry for the State Commission of Forestry at the Civilian Conservation Corps camps of the state. When the sportsmen reorganized after a lapse during World War II, Hampton served as president of the S.C. Wildlife Federation for three years and started a small magazine, in which his wife, the former Mary Deloache (she was killed in an automobile accident in 1970) ran off the copies on a mimeograph machine. Their friends helped them distribute the magazine.

Hampton's writings on conservation through the years have drawn national praise from conservationists. he is well-known in the Midlands for his efforts to save the Congaree Swamp from devastation. He became determined in his efforts to prevent the last virgin forest in the country from being destroyed. (The Congaree is located between Columbia and Sumter.) The swamp contains numerous hardwood, some of which are older than the USA.

His efforts included giving talks and