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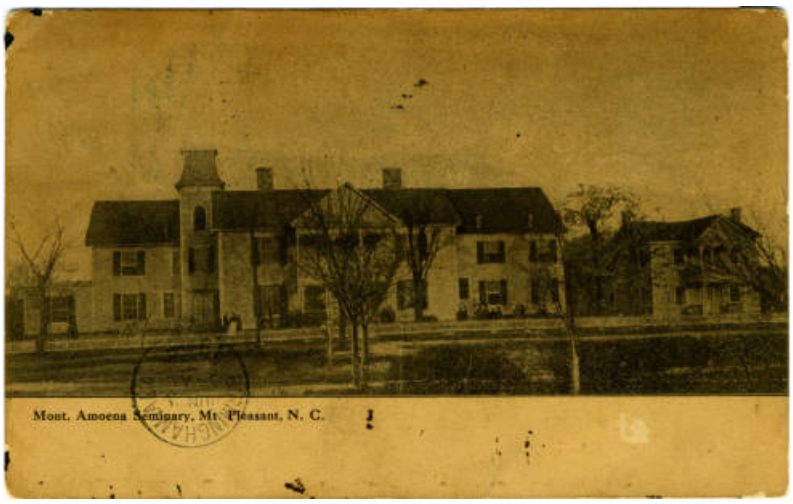
Mont Amoena Seminary [1]

Mont Amoena Seminary

by Lisa Brantley Kobrin, 2006

See also: Lutheran Schools of Mount Pleasant [2]



Mont. Amoena Seminary, Mt. Pleasant, N. C. , ca 1908. Image courtesy of the North Carolina Collection. [3]

Mont Amoena Seminary in Cabarrus County [4] was founded by Mrs. D. H. Bittle in 1859, under the name Mount Pleasant Female Seminary, as a private liberal arts academy for girls of high school age. It first consisted of one two-story frame building. The school was acquired by the North Carolina Lutheran Synod [5] in 1869 and continued to educate both day students and boarders in fields including English, Latin, mathematics, and music. Many of its headmasters were Lutheran ministers. After the Civil War [6], it became popular with parents in Concord, and according to one source "was an island of culture in the difficult years" that followed the war.

In 1892 the school's name was changed to Mont Amoena Seminary, the name being the Latin equivalent of Mount Pleasant, the location of the school. The school's original multipurpose frame building was destroyed by fire in November 1911, and a new three-story brick building with white columns and modern amenities was constructed on seven acres near the old site at a cost of $30,000.

In 1927, after more than 65 years of educating young women, Mont Amoena Seminary was closed, largely because of worsening school finances and improvements in the local public schools. Several years thereafter, its male equivalent academy, Mount Pleasant Collegiate Institute, also closed its doors.

Reference:

Raymond M. Bost and Jeff L. Norris, *All One Body: The Story of the North Carolina Lutheran Synod, 1803-1993* (1994).

Additional Resources:

Mount Amoena Seminary, NC Highway Historical Marker L-66: https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?ct=ddl&sp=search&k=Markers&sv=L-66%20-%20MONT%20AMOENA%20SEMINARY [7]

Town of Mount Pleasant: http://www.townofmountpleasantnc.org/ [8]

Image Credit:

Mont. Amoena Seminary, Mt. Pleasant, N. C. , ca 1908. Image courtesy of the North Carolina Collection. Available from http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/nc_post/id/1489 [3] (accessed November 2, 2012).

Subjects:
Civil War (1861-1865) [9]
Education [10]
Gilded Age (1876-1900) [11]
N.C. Industrial Revolution (1900-1929) [12]
Reconstruction (1865-1876) [13]

Religion [14]
Authors:
Kobrin, Lisa Brantley [15]
Origin - location:
Cabarrus County [16]
From:
Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.[17]

1 January 2006 | Kobrin, Lisa Brantley

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[1] https://ncpedia.org/mont-amoena-seminary [2] https://ncpedia.org/lutheran-schools-mount-pleasant [3] http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/nc_post/id/1489 [4] https://ncpedia.org/geography/cabarrus [5] http://www.nclutheran.org/ [6] https://ncpedia.org/history/cw-1900/civil-war [7] https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?ct=ddl&sp=search&k=Markers&sv=L-66%20-%20MONT%20AMOENA%20SEMINARY [8] http://www.townofmountpleasantnc.org/ [9] https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/civil-war [10] https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/education [11] https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/gilded-age-1876-1 [12] https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/nc-industrial-rev [13] https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/reconstruction [14] https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/religion [15] https://ncpedia.org/category/authors/kobrin-lisa-brantl [16] https://ncpedia.org/category/origin-location/piedmon-18 [17] https://ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/encyclopedia-