

Seaman's Friend Society ^[1]

Seaman's Friend Society

by Craig M. Stinson, 2006

The Seaman's Friend Society was organized by a number of prominent businessmen, women, and other citizens in the city of [Wilmington](#) ^[2] to "improve the social, moral, and religious condition of the seamen." In 1853 the society purchased a home and chapel in downtown Wilmington along the [Cape Fear River](#) ^[3], intended to serve as an "economical, moral boarding house" and hospital. The society cared for nearly 500 sailors a year, providing a temporary home for the mariner who was weary from ocean travel and an environment in which he might successfully be "christianized." The Seaman's Friend Society ended in 1918.

Additional Resources:

Sprunt, James. "The Seaman's Friend Society." *Information and Statistics Respecting Wilmington, North Carolina, Being a Report by the President of the Produce Exchange. Presented to its Members, April, 1883.* Wilmington, N. C.: Jackson & Bell, Water-Power Presses, 1883. p.70- 71. <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/17087> ^[4] (accessed August 29, 2012).

Jackson, Claude V. "Hospital Point or Mount Tirzah." *Maritime history and survey of the Cape Fear and Northeast Cape Fear rivers, Wilmington Harbor, North Carolina. Volume 1: Maritime history.* North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History. 1996. p. 79. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/cornelius-n.c.-and-davidson-n.c.-land-use-survey-and-analysis-and-land-development-plan/3406777?item=34194888> ^[5] (accessed August 29, 2012).

"Resolutions Concerning the Marine Hospital in or Near the Town of Wilmington in North Carolina." *Private laws of the State of North-Carolina, passed by the General Assembly at its Session of 1854-55.* Raleigh [N.C.]: Holden & Wilson. 1855. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/private-laws-of-the-state-of-north-carolina-passed-by-the-general-assembly-1854-1855/1952644?item=2051698> ^[6] (accessed August 29, 2012).

"An act to extend the charter of the 'Seamen's Friend Society' at Wilmington." *Private laws of the state of North Carolina passed by the General Assembly at its session of 1899.* Raleigh [N.C.]: Edwards and Broughton and E.M. Uzzell. 1899. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/private-laws-of-the-state-of-north-carolina-passed-by-the-general-assembly-at-its-session-of-...1899/3883476?item=3919651> ^[7] (accessed August 29, 2012).

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Authors:

[Stinson, Craig M.](#) ^[13]

Origin - location:

[Wilmington](#) ^[14]

From:

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) ^[15]

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