Save Old Church

This column told you the other day that the old Primitive Baptist church will be razed. We told you also of efforts underway to move the church to near the entrance to Sleepy Creek Club and to make it a non denominational chapel for that section.

The suggestion has received much favorable comment. Consensus is that a structure which was one of the first churches in Goldsboro should be saved. Many learned from the comment that originally the lovely frame structure, white and simple, was built by the congregation of St. Paul Methodist church. When they required a larger sanctuary, the original building was given or sold to the Primitive Baptist congregation. For many years this denomination used the sanctuary for worship. More recently the Neighborhood Playhouse made a little theatre out of the church. It was abandoned as not suited for the particular needs of a playhouse.

I could wish that action to save the significant old building could have been as certain and as prompt as what happened with a somewhat similar situation in Smithfield. The oldest house in the Johnston capital was advertised to be razed to make way for a parking lot. The owner offered to give the building to anyone who would remove it. The people were up in arms at the thought of destroying this connection with the past. The Smithfield Woman's Club won promise from the owners that they would delay any removal or razing of the structure until the Club could have time to try to get financial backing locally, for moving the first house to a spot in a park and possibly making it an historical museum.