

The background of the cover is a photograph of a dirt road that curves through a lush, hilly landscape. The road is light brown and appears to be made of packed earth and small stones. The hills are covered in dense green vegetation, and the sky is a pale, hazy blue, suggesting a soft, overcast day. The overall mood is serene and historical.

Pembroke

The Road Less Traveled

(A Historical Perspective)

DR. ERROLL L. ROYAL

Dedication of Book**William "Sonny" Dove**

This book is dedicated in memory of Mr. William "Sonny" Dove. Words are inadequate to describe the tremendous impact that "Sonny" made on the Pembroke community, New Bern and surrounding areas. When I think of Pembroke, I think of someone who really gave his all and all to his family and community; even until the very end. He inspired so many lives by demonstrating the attributes of kindness, caring, generosity, and resilience. Sonny believed that "success" is the result of working hard and being committed to what you've started. The life and legacy he left behind, is a true testament of the words to the great hymn, "May the work I've done, speak for me!"





The late Angela Williams-Johnson

BECAUSE we have forgotten our ancestors, our children no longer give us honor.

BECAUSE we have lost the path our ancestors cleared kneeling in perilous undergrowth, our children cannot find their way.

BECAUSE we have banished the God of our ancestors, our children cannot pray.

BECAUSE the old wails of our ancestors have faded beyond our hearing, our children cannot hear us crying.

BECAUSE we have abandoned our wisdom of mothering and fathering, our befuddled children give birth to children they neither want nor to understand.

BECAUSE we have forgotten how to love, the adversary is within our gates, and holds us up to the mirror of the world shouting, "Regard the loveless"

Therefore, we pledge to bind ourselves to one another, to embrace our lowliest, to keep company with our loneliest, to educate our illiterate, to feed our starving, to clothe our ragged, to do all good things, knowing that we are more than keepers of our brothers and sisters.

Maya Angelou

Pembroke: The Road Less Traveled

(A Historical Perspective)



Recreated: Dr. Erroll L. Royal

Original Memories of:

Alfreda Hill

Joseph Martin

Katie Moore Jarmon

George Williams

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword.....	7
About the Author.....	8
Introduction.....	9
The Road Not Taken.....	10
Grand Auction Sale.....	11
Pembroke – The Community with a Dual Mission.....	12
Map of Pembroke.....	13
Remembering the Old Pioneers.....	14
First-born Residents of Pembroke.....	16
Residences/Residents.....	17
Luke P. Martin Sr. & Luke P. Martin Jr.....	25
Pembroke – A Time for Worship.....	28
• Baptism.....	33
 Pembroke – Black Owned Businesses.....	35
 Pembroke – A Place for Community and Social Engagement.....	40
• Pembroke Community Center	
 Pembroke – Educational Accolades.....	44
 Pembroke – Farm-life.....	46
 Pembroke – Family-life.....	47
 Let There Be Light and There Was Light.....	49
 Follow the Brown Dirt Road.....	50
 Epilogue.....	52