

The image shows a close-up of a wooden wall with detailed carvings. The carvings consist of repeating patterns of pine needles and branches, creating a textured, forest-like appearance. A central rectangular window is cut into the wood, revealing a view of a lake with a forested shoreline and a small waterfall. To the left of the window, a vertical wooden beam is visible. On the far left edge, a portion of a stone wall is seen, composed of irregular, stacked stones.

CAMP NORMAN

LAKE TOXAWAY, NORTH CAROLINA

CAMP NORMAN

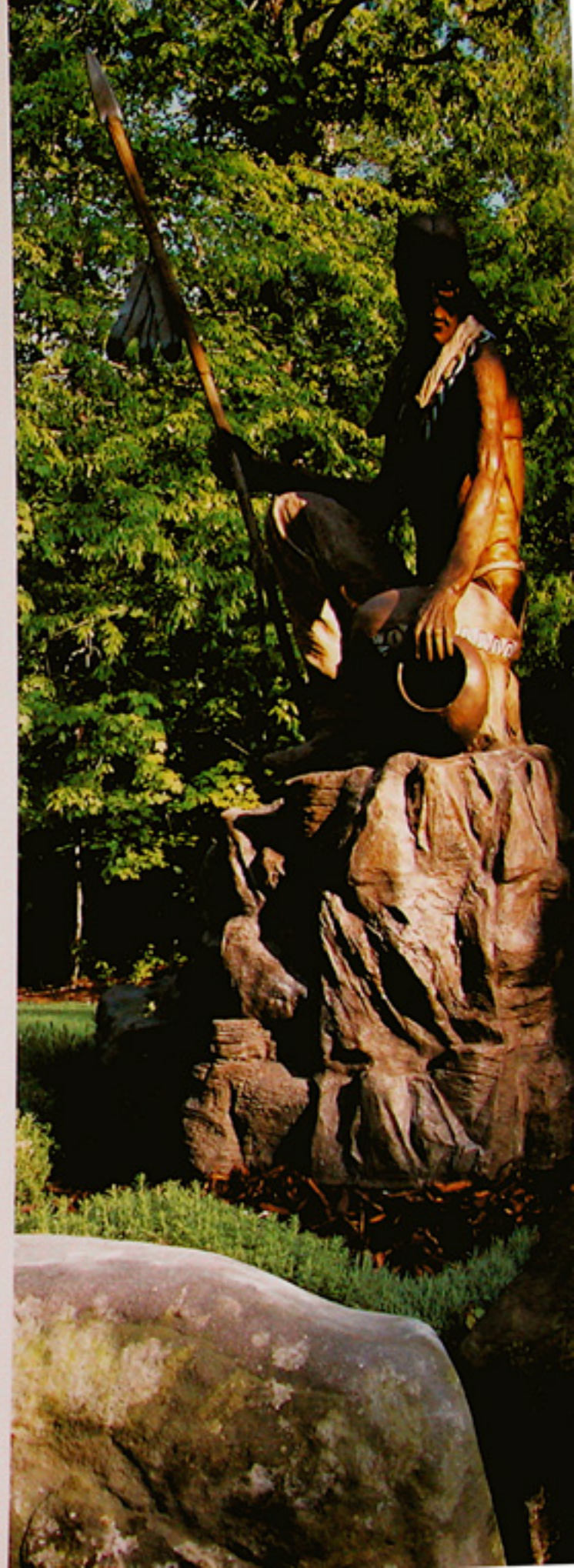
What was to become a rustic, lodge-style home was dubbed affectionately “Camp Norman” for the gentleman who conceived of this retreat. Norm Garrity believes it was one of his children who characterized this getaway as such. From their youthful perspective, they sensed from the way Norm talked about his plans for this special place that this was going to be *his* playground.



While Norm accepted his family’s referral to this mountain property as Camp Norman, having the name crafted in foot high letters on the gate was another matter. Norm relented when the architect convinced him it would be tastefully and artistically executed. A sculptural metal artist would unify the indoor and outdoor metal details and blend them with the natural landscape.

It was another artist who had time while waiting between projects at the house—and could not sit creatively still—who conceived the Camp Norman logo in the Game Room. And so... Camp Norman became literally etched into the character of the home.

The camp idea permeated not just the aesthetics of the home, as those who participated in making the idea of Camp Norman a reality came to discover. For a number of individuals, working at Camp Norman tested their skill, integrity and determination to complete a project that reflected their highest standards. It was a place where many involved succeeded in achieving firsts in their career—their own merit badges.





ANGLING FOR A DREAM

With the thought of retirement in the not so distant future, Norman Garrity began to daydream of fishing...remembering his expeditions to Canada with his son Dave and sometimes his whole family. He imagined having his own rustic style lodge in the mountains by a lake. He was open to the possibilities.

He continued in his daily corporate job; read magazines about homes, tore out pages of ideas he liked. He created files on everything from landscaping and fireplaces to construction materials. He did this for a decade, filling three filing cabinets.

On a plane trip, Norm ended up having a conversation with a gentleman who told him he was going to retire soon and that he had found the perfect place to spend those later

years of life. His wife, however, did not approve because she felt there was nothing there for her...like shopping. Curious, Norm inquired about this perfect place. Lake Toxaway, North Carolina, was the reply.

While on a scheduled trip to Duke Medical in Durham in the summer of 1994, Norm and Mary Lou decided on an excursion to visit Lake Toxaway. Winslow Jones, a sales representative for The Lake Toxaway Company, gave them the tour.

Norm liked what he saw: lots of wilderness and a lake filled with fish. A sense of feeling away from it all, yet not so far away from civilization. A house became available. The offer to purchase the home was made in late August of 1994, accepted September 1, 1994 and closed on October 17, 1994. The sale price was \$355,000. At that time, according

to Winslow Jones, everyone was shocked at the price paid for the home.

While the site was ideal, the house was not at all what Norm had been daydreaming about. In October of 1995 the structure was torn down. A point of interest is the island in front of the property. This piece of land was planned to be the signature golf hole for Lake Toxaway Golf Course by the course architect. The developer, Reg Heinitsh, would not allow the architect to take a lake lot for this purpose. After several arguments, he fired the architect and finished the course himself; allowing this piece of property for residential development.

Now, being a Lake Toxaway property owner, Norm and his son began taking long weekends or week long fishing trips to the lake, staying at the Greystone Inn or cabins in the area.



THE ARCHITECT HOOKS INTO THE DREAM

Architect Bruce Johnson of Biltmore Forest in Asheville began the process by interviewing Norm and Mary Lou separately in January 2001.

He wanted to see what each was looking for in this fishing lodge. The consensus was: a 6,000 square foot getaway for Spring and Fall with a three car garage and a boathouse. It needed to have a rustic fish-camp feel. They wanted a home that would be bold but holistically integrated within the site. A mixture of natural materials was called for: large logs, bark siding, cedar shakes, rugged boulders. The design and material were to give the feeling as if the house germinated and took shape out of the site.

Maximizing the view of the lake from inside the home was essential. Equally important was to define the character of the space with massive log columns and beams.

Bruce completed the final design in June 2001. During the summer he worked on the construction drawings. By November 2001 work began on Norm's fishing lodge site.

Bruce agreed to be retained as project manager. Throughout the construction process he

worked collaboratively with the builder Steve Rogers in solving the many construction and design puzzles that confronted them.

"He kept us on track as to what we wanted, what we asked for from the very beginning."

NORM GARRITY

