A Bicentennial publication

Harrison Heritage Homes
Cabins were built at Lair, Paddy’s Run

First homes in Harrison County

By Charles Feix

We cannot be certain who the first white men were that explored this area of Kentucky which became Harrison County. It would have been any of the following early explorers of Kentucky: Thomas Walker, who explored Eastern Kentucky in 1750; Christopher Gist was in East Kentucky in 1751; John Finley led a hunting party and prospected normally through Kentucky, in 1767; Daniel Boone first came to Kentucky, in 1769; and Simon Kenton was exploring the Maxwell area in 1771; or it could have been any number of early wanderers searching for new land. As such, the history has forgotten.

However, we do know who the first settlers were. It was not until 1773, that serious exploration of this area began. William Thompson from Westmoreland County, Virginia, was one of a large party of explorers who included: John Finley, James Perry, James Hamilton, and Joshua Arch, surveying the land. They all traveled together and its tributaries, discovering both Upper and Lower Blue Licks. This exploration no doubt included part of what is now Harrison County.

The first settlers to reach this area were John Hinson, who reached the Maxwell area in 1773 and the Hills of Paddy’s Run.

John Hinson, William McIntock, William Hoskins, William Shields, Patrick Callahan, Thomas Short, James Johnson, Samuel Wilson and John Wood. Travelling in the fall of 1773, the Hinson company came down the Ohio, and up the Main Licking River to Blue Licks where they landed in early April of 1775.

Three days later they were joined by the Miller company led by William and John Miller which included: Richard Clark, William Finn, Joseph Houston, Paddy Logan, William McCandless, William Newbitt, Alexander Pollock, John Hinson, Henry stole, and Samuel Wilson. Two other companies also arrived from Paddy’s Run. One company was also from Paddy’s Run, who had followed the Indian’s route to Blue Licks and the other from Paddy’s Run.

Each party sent out scouts who examined the country and reported back to the two companies at Blue Licks. After careful consideration each company chose its own area in which to settle. The Hinson company chose a tract along the Main buffalo trace towards town while the Mcllains in Georgetown, (so called).

In the latter part of April 1776, Samuel McMillan came to Kentucky with John Haggan who was returning to his cabin on Paddy’s Run with his family. The Haggan family is reported to have first family to reside in what is now Harrison County.

On May 3, 1776, a company of ten families led by John Lyon, which included: John Byrd, Thomas Haggan, Thomas Dickenson, William Dickenson, William Graydon, James Kelly, Little, William Markland, John Virgin, and Joseph Virgin, reached Hinson Station. At the instance named Hinson, William Hoskins conducted the Lyon’s party to some rich lands which had not been claimed to the east of Hinson Station. Besides the usual improvements on their own individual claims they constructed a cabin, 14’ by 16’ on John Lyon’s claim and made it their station. Here they split some rails and enclosed a piece of ground and planted corn, peach stones and apple seeds. In late summer they all returned to Paddy’s Run, with the exception of William Graydon who remained and was killed by the Indians at Shawnee Springs the following summer.

On July 7, 1776, the Indians killed John Cooper, who raised the first corn in what is now Bourbon; at least the first in quantity sufficient to furnish seed to the immigrants in 1776. During the summer of 1776, the Indians terrorized the frontier causing the settlers to flee their outlying cabins to larger stations. William Miller, Alexander Pollock, Samuel Newbitt, William Steel, William Bays and William McMillan were very much afraid for several settlers to claim the same spring or have overlapping boundaries.

The settlements multiplied the situation became more and more complicated. It was not until 1779, that action was taken to adjust these conflicting claims. The Virginia Legislature passed an act authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission to come to Kentucky and sit in a court, to hear proof and quit claims by issuing certificates to the right title.

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This home of Mrs. E. Y. VanDeren of Fennell Pike is typical of the country’s first houses. It has been completely restored.

Typical early home


Isaac Ruddle, George Ruddle, John Conway Sr.


1777: The Stars and Stripes unfurl. We carried the Union Jack into battle with the Mother Country. Because we are, after all, still British citizens until we win this war. But we'd changed that Union Jack a bit. Added our own thirteen stripes, to proudly symbolize our thirteen colonies. By now, we've finally declared our independence. And we're well into the war for it. It's time to lower the Union Jack and raise our own colors. In June, Congress sets itself to the task of determining just what our very own flag will look like. We'll keep our thirteen stripes. Red for courage. White for purity. But now, we'll replace the Union Jack with thirteen stars on a field of blue, for loyalty. She's a beauty, our Stars and Stripes. Long may she wave.
 Owners lives cross Peck house

The first owner of the house at 310 East Pike Street came to Cynthiana from New York to teach school at a $310 salary. Dr. and Mrs. Norvil Manning now own the house.

John W. Peck started on his journey at the age of 21. When he reached town on foot he was met at Church Street hill and walked down town, penniless and broke with only a burning desire to teach.

Peck gave up teaching to make money and in a few months the process helped build a town.

John W. Peck was born in the village of Parisville, St. Lawrence County, New York, Nov. 11, 1835. His father died of cholera morbus in January, 1835, and the spring of 1835, at the age of 14, John cut his knee so badly with an ax that he was crippled for life. His mother died the next spring.

The orphan was sent by relatives to St. Lawrence Academy for the teaching profession. He started teaching in the fall of his 17th birthday, Nov. 11, 1856. His salary was $10 a month with three months board. This was before the nine-month, possibly 12-month, school system.

He taught during the winter, worked on farms during the summer, and continued his academy studies until he was graduated in 1839. He went to a school at Parisville, his home town, for $16 a month, with three months board.

At the academy, he had met a chap, E. S. Barnes, who had come to Cynthiana to teach. Barnes urged Peck to come, too. There was a need for teachers, he said.

Peck left New York for Kentucky April 8, 1840. He went to Potosdam by buggy to visit his brother, Hiram, then by stagecoach to Prescott to see another brother, Harper. After a few days, and after no goodbye, he traveled by steamboat to Rochester Landing, then by horse-drawn railroad to Rochester. He thought he could take a canal boat to Medinah, but the canal was not open yet so he took a stagecoach to Buffalo in an effort to say goodbye to other members of his family.

He got off the stagecoach there before he reached Medina and rode the rest of the way in with a mail carrier. He arrived a week with his brother and sister, Mason and Lucky. When the canal opened, he continued on his way to Buffalo. Ice blocked the lake between Buffalo and Erie.

The steamship Commodore Perry was anchored a few miles above the ice jam. Peck got ot by ombus, then wagon and finally in a small boat.

He arrived at Erie at 4 o'clock in the morning and two hours later was the only passenger on the trip to Pittsburgh. He stopped at a tavern on the way and had a sumptuous meal of fried ham, hot cakes and coffee plus a 'Doggie Bag' lunch for the road. He got in Pittsburgh at 8 o'clock the next morning. He left for Maysville by train. He was $6. Peck didn't have the money. Bargaining in passage without meals or berth for $2.50. He got some goodies at the bakery, found a 'soft' plank on deck and drifted down the beautiful Ohio River at 2 o'clock in the afternoon expecting to reach Maysville at 8 o'clock the next morning. He arrived back from Maysville to Millenburg. Heavy spring rains made the river impassable for wheeled vehicles. Peck set out on foot for the remaining 12 miles of his journey, traveling with another man to Cynthiana. They slept overnight at a farm house.

The next morning, they met Samuel Ransin on his horseback. This chance meeting resulted in an offer of a school.

Peck and his companion washed up in a stream, climbed the fence and entered Cynthiana on a muddy spring day May 4. Peck had a month to get from New York to Cynthiana, a trip made more difficult than three hours by jet.

The school system is dead.

Col. Seplimius Hamilton was interested in a 'subscription' school. Subscription schools were gotten together in the same way women get a Stanley party or Tupperware party together. A certain number of children were promised to attend.

Col. Hamilton sent Peck to John Williams who sent him to Mrs. Mary Veach who had 17 'subscription' children and wanted to quit teaching.

Peck had a ready made school.

He got room and board with the Veaches and taught three of their children, a package deal for $1 a week. When the school term ended, Mr. Williams volunteered to ride around and 'subscrib' more children. He got 40 and anticipated an income of $500 for a year of teaching for Peck.

Mrs. Veach would provide room and board, laundry, and provide a horse to ride on weekdays for $1.25 per week.

Peck was satisfied with school teaching. He said, 'I had the good wishes of my patrons and my scholars were very much attached to me. I was getting more than double what I was making before.' He said he was treated like one of the Veach family. In fact he became one when he married Jane Veach in 1843.

He went in the dry goods business with Alex Remington in January, 1847, terminating a teaching career that he traveled through ice and snow and mud, by boat, stagecoach and by foot to reach.

The dry goods business didn't suit the teacher. He said he was "too nervous and impatient to daily a half hour in an effort to sell a woman a nine-penny calico dress. Will it fade? 'Tut me off a bit and let me chew it or take it home and wash it.' If you were fortunate as to make a sale you must 'throw in' two spoons of thread and a card of hooks and eyes.

He sold the business for $2,900 after Remington got sick, and made a profit of $1,800. With this he bought 150 barrels of whiskey from Shahan and Keller at 19 cents a gallon. He tried to sell the whiskey in Cincinnati. But Bourbon whiskey was out and 'rectified' whiskey was the vogue.

He turned to masonry and at the end of the summer had enough whiskey to make the mountains to make a profit of $1,000.

He sold whiskey at Maysville and brought back groceries to Cynthiana in the empty wagon. The price of whiskey climbed from 19 cents to 75 cents a gallon.

In 1857 Peck had enough money to build a home. In January 1858, he moved his family into the house at 310 East Pike Street where Dr. and Mrs. Norvil Manning live.

It is one of the few truly historic buildings left in Cynthiana that is virtually in the same condition in which it was built. Brick was made close by the house.

Interior and exterior walls are 15 inches thick and of solid brick construction with plaster applied directly to the brick walls. The stone foundation was allowed to settle for six months before the framework was started.

A large addition was built onto the back. The original part has eight rooms, four down and four up with king-size dimensions - 15 ft. by 18 ft. with 11 ft. high ceilings. The hallway is 11 ft. wide and runs the full length of the house on both floors.

Each room was first heated by a grate fire. Hot water heat is used now. The drawing room has a fireplace work around the ceiling and ornate medallions in the corners. A double stove was placed in the fireplace. This same fireplace work is in the halls and around the front porch.

Leaded art glass windows surround the front door. Mini balls from the Civil War battles have been dug out from the door.

Mr. Peck's youngest daughter carved sea serpents in the walnut paneling in the hallway. She helped in carving the pulp it for the Episcopal Church on Walnut Street, too.

Gas was installed in 1940. Three fireplaces have been closed, one when the furnace was installed and two in 1950.

Written on the back of the one of the mantels in pencil is "Joe B. Carpenter I. H. Newmann set this mantel January 7, 1958."

After Peck's death, his daughter, Miss Lucy, lived there for years. The late Judge Mac Swinford remembers that she traveled around the world while she lived on Peck's Hill which, according to Judge Mac, "was quite a thing then."

The house went into the hands of the Home Owners Loan Corporation. Wade Lail bought it and Dr. Manning bought the house from Lail.

In 1868 Peck formed a company to build a railroad from Mt. Sterling to Frenchburg which came to be known as the Coal Road. The Coal Road was used to haul lumber and coal from the mountains.

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Great American Happenings

From a Great American

Sausage Maker

1848: The golden years.

What luck! Just as a weakened Mexico turns over California to us, one of Captain Sutter's men finds a few pieces of gold in the sand along the Sacramento River. The men don't stop looking. They find more gold and cross their fingers while it's being tested. It's gold, all right. In such rich deposits that a prospector could gather $500 worth in just a few hours. The word spreads. Doctors, lawyers, farmers, merchants, even servants leave their jobs and rush for the gold fields. Some sail around Cape Horn. Others risk their lives to plod their "prairie schooners" across deserts and mountains. By the end of 1850, San Francisco is transformed from a sleepy Spanish village to a city of 15,000. By 1853, California boasts 250,000 people. All looking for the rich life. 

Farms, Inc.

Cynthiana, Ky. 41031
Some people just won't leave well enough alone. True, Ben Franklin is an educated man. Even a do-it-yourself doctor. But he's always tinkering with some new idea. The other night, folks saw him flying a kite in a thunderstorm. He was actually a human lightning rod, and a few more volts could have killed him. Electricity isn't his only claim to fame. He's not designing streetlights he's starting a fire company. Or an insurance company. He's a printer and a publisher. He gave us our first library. We think he has a pretty good future in politics, too.

If he'd learn to dress a little fancier, there's no telling how far he might go.

Harrison Rural Electric

P. O. Box 312
Cynthiana, Kentucky 41031
Telephone 606 234-3131

This bill was sent from Wm. M. Nourse of Cincinnati to T. J. Megibben in 1883 for materials for Monticello Mansion. See story on page 14.

Peck House

Continued from page 4

A train went up to Frenchburg in the morning and returned at 1 o'clock. After that the railroad was clear. This was a playground for Norvil Manning and his friends. "The road bed ballast was mostly of slag from Pittsburgh blast furnaces," Manning remembers. "It was beautiful, multi-colored glass rocks."

Manning's father, Dr. Banford M. Manning, practiced medicine in Montgomery County and his young son, Norvil, played on the multi-colored railroad bed. Manning moved to Cynthiana in 1929 with his family and when Norvil grew up he became the owner of the home Peck built. "I played on the railroad he built as a child and now live in the house he built," Dr. Manning says he knew the railroad from Hope to Mt. Sterling as well as he knows the house at 310 East Pike Street now.

Unlike Peck who came to Cynthiana from New York in 1840 as a stranger, Norvil had ties with Cynthiana and Harrison County. His mother was the eldest daughter of James and Martha Eaton and was born near Keis. She married a young medical student, Banford Manning from Menifee County. They lived at Spencer in Montgomery County and Mrs. Manning's sister, Mrs. Mollie Wells, lived at Walker's Crossing a few miles up the road from the doctor's home.

Dr. Banford Manning ushered many of Harrison County's grownfolk into the world. Norvil has practiced physical medicine in the county since 1926.

The Peck and Manning families have a final link in their unusual part in Harrison County's history. The Pecks' last resting place is in Battle Grove Cemetery. The Manning plot lays nearby.

HARRISON HERITAGE HISTORICAL HOUSES EDITION

AUGUST 21, 1975
This was the home of C. T. Delling, built about 1861 at 108 West Mill Street. Mr. Delling was German and was born in 1823. He came to America from Saxony when he was 25 years old and ran a clothing store. Mr. Delling was the grandfather of R. C. Clary, 88, former city judge, who now resides in the house. Judge Clary's mother was born in the house and he was born and raised in it. The house has always been in the family.

Shown here is the old Douglas Homestead, which is over 100 years old. This log house has been redecorated by the fifth generation, Jack and Virginia Douglas Rom.

Mrs. Edith Oder Lemons is shown with the log cabin in which she was born. Mrs. Lemons' grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Oder, Sr. At the suggestion of Mrs. Lemons' grandmother (Mrs. Oder) the home that was built to replace this log cabin was built right in front of it. Mrs. Lemons fearing that the log cabin would someday be used for storing hay had the cabin moved from its original location on Connersville Road to its present location on North Walnut Street.

Great American Happenings
From a great American business

1834: We reap what we've sown.

We're pretty self-reliant people. Our farming feeds us, gives us an income, and, hard and trying as it is, becomes the way of life for thousands of our families. Lately, farming has become a little easier. And we're able to accomplish a little more. Thanks to a new metal plow. And a bright fellow named Cyrus McCormick, who's just made us our first mechanical reaper and keeps improving on it. Now, we can really take advantage of our fertile soil. We can make a grand success of our farms on the prairie. We can move our farms into the West. We can realize our grand dreams of exporting grain.

Looks like this McCormick isn't going to stop with just a bright idea. We predict he'll teach us a lot about manufacturing, just as he has about farming. We may make farming a big business someday.

Harrison Motor Co.
S. Main Cynthiana, Ky. 234-3521
He built streets, banks, jail, water plant, for home of Cynthiana

Poindexter paves way for homes

As told to Thelma Taylor
by Harold Poindexter

When Grandview was a cow pasture and downtown Cynthiana was sprouting new homes, J. R. Poindexter was laying streets, building banks, sewer system, the jail and churches.

Poindexter has many "firsts" to his credit. He bought the first rock crusher to town in 1896. He reconditioned the mill race to power the "mill race" to operate machinery to make whiskey.

One day he told Mr. Poindexter, "Tonight the dam is mine." That evening a flash flood came and washed the partly built dam out. The contractor was sure it would be the Poindexter dam the next morning but Ashbrook stuck to his word, "I told you yesterday, the dam is mine. I'll pay for it. Get it built back as fast as you can."

Harrison Poindexter, the contractor's son, says there are big rocks in the river yet from the washed out dam of 75 years ago.

Thomas Lowery and Poindexter got the contract to build the county jail in 1888. It is in its original state of construction and is still in use by the county. It cost $10,370.25.

Poindexter and A. T. Reese went broke building the Christian Church on the corner of Main and Mill Street in Cynthiana in 1896.

"It didn't take much to break them," Harold Poindexter says, "but they went broke."

Stone for the beautiful edifice was taken from the McGibben quarry east of Monticello behind where the Hilltop Dairy Queen is now.

Stone for the jail and curbing for Vine Street and Elmarch Avenue was taken from the McGibben quarry. The Poindexters had a quarry across from where the high school is now on New Larr Road until 1952.

J. R. Poindexter took his family to Wilmington, Ohio, in 1902 to build a power plant, water plant and 11 miles of water lines. Harold graduated from high school there in 1906 and began working for his father at the age of 16.

He was taken in as a partner in 1908. A building supply yard was added and in 1916, they started selling coal. In 1932, they began selling lumber.

Harold remembers when the wooden bridge on Luray Pike at Woods' Crossing slipped off its foundation into the river. This was in December of the severe winter of 1917-18. Great hunks of ice gouged against the bridge.

Harold stepped off the bridge onto the ice. Somebody said, "Watch out, you'll fall in."

"I didn't have far to fall," Harold remembers. "I had one foot on the bridge and onto the ice." His father was county road engineer at the time and had to go down there and placed back on the foundation.

While J. R. Poindexter supervised the completion of the south and north wings of the courthouse after the original contractor quit,

Poindexter and W. P. Humphrey built the Harrison Deposit Bank in 1902, the First United Methodist Church in 1905 and the Baptist Church in 1910.

Harrison Poindexter remembers laying on stone in this building in 1900 at the age of 12. He must have done a good job, he can't find the stone. Cement for sidewalk was

Harrison Poindexter stands at the Harrison Deposit Bank door. He was 12 when his father built the bank in 1902.
Great American Happenings

From A Great American Ford Company

1830: The horseless locomotive.

Craziest thing you ever saw. Maybe that's why they call it a locomotive. We started out to develop a smoother road for horses to pull cars full of people faster than they can pull wagons on the roads we have. Then, along comes Peter Cooper and his old steam pumping engine. With it, he puts together a locomotive that doesn't even need a horse. His "Tom Thumb" pulls forty people as fast as ten miles an hour! We know that's faster than a horse can do, because we race it against a horse and it wins by a mile. Only trouble is, the horse doesn't break down but the "Tom Thumb" does. Still, we think this steam railroad may work out. We'll keep trying until we get it right.
John William Kimbrough, a carpenter, built the Poplar Hill house that is now neighbor to Harrison Memorial Hospital. Kimbrough, a member of Kimbrough, Carpenter and Carpenter contractors, began construction of the house in 1848 when Battle Grove Cemetery was a grove of trees on the adjoining Redmon farm. Dirt was dug out by hand and loaded on sleds drawn by teams of horses to form the full basement that is walled with hewed stone. Blue ash logs are over doors in the basement.

Solid brick walls, inside and outside, raise two stories and a half to form a solid shield from mini-balls that tried to pierce the east side when soldiers came down the Millersburg Road.

Roy Simpson, who lived in the spacious old home before the more recent owners, the Tracy Farmer family, says that some of the mini-balls penetrated the brick wall enough to cause the indentation to have to be filled with mortar to keep rain out. He showed one place where a ball lodged behind a shutter. This is the only mark that remains black from the Civil War ammunition.

John William Kimbrough sold the house to John McKee April 1, 1874, according to deed records in the courthouse. He got $10,388.78 for 88 acres.

The Farmers are restoring the old home and adding a few modern touches of convenience and beauty. Outside the eaves have beautiful grape cluster and leaf design motifs made of a composition of brick dust, plaster, lime and water "and apparently a secret ingredient that bonds them," Roy Simpson said. Attempts have been made to replace one grape. Inside, plaster medallions are in the center of the double living room and hall ceilings and at the perimeter of the ceiling. A rose-colored glow reflects the morning sun through a long hallway from the main entrance to the back porch. A spacious lawn is paved with brick walks that have stood the test of time, weather and war very well.
1792: Our first taste of minted money.

We've had quite a mixture of old coins in our new country. Coins from New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts. Coins from all over Europe. Coins stamped from parts of powder kegs the French sent us for the Revolution. Coins made from dies engraved by a man who once was in jail for counterfeiting. Now, we think it's time to put all of our coins into one pocket. Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton convinces Congress to authorize a mint in Philadelphia. Our first national coins are very attractive indeed. A silver half disme, worth five cents. A disme, worth a dime. A copper cent. And a copper coin with a plug of silver, so it's really worth what it says on its face. Who knows? They may become collectors' items someday.
Great American Happenings

From A Great American Business

George Hoskins Sr. of Winchester Road in Lexington visits Cynthiana quite frequently since his retirement from bricklaying, contracting, lumber company business and farming. Hoskins has family and friends in Harrison County and he has left a lot of his talent for people to enjoy and admire in the homes he has built on Webster Avenue, Pike Street and Bridge Street.

Hoskins will be 90 his next birthday, May 21, 1976. He was born in Clay County where his father was a lumber buyer for Peabody Coal Company of Chicago.

Hoskins learned bricklaying while a student at Berea College. He spent some time in Cincinnati where he was placed with the "hardest working crew" with top-notch bricklayers. Hoskins says he learned speed and perfected his skill.

When he came to Cynthiana, he worked for Henry Parish, a local brick contractor. His first job here was on a boiler house for the Ashbrook Distillery which was on North Main Street where the Wieglesworth Warehouse is now.

He laid brick during the summer, and went to Cumberland College during the winter. He came to Cynthiana whenever Parish had bricklaying for him to do.

On one trip he vividly remembers, he saw his first livestock auction. It was held in a roped-off area in front of the courthouse.

Hoskins married a Harrison County girl, Lelia Noel of Connersville. She was a niece of Mrs. Laura Conner.

They were married at 5 o'clock in the morning at the Conner home where Miss Noel lived. The newlyweds caught a train to Knoxville, Tenn. at 7 o'clock.

In 1913, the Hoskinses returned to Cynthiana with their young son, George Jr., and built a home on the corner of Bridge and Webster Avenue where the Howard Frymans live now.

Hoskins bought the lot for $1,000 from Miss Sallie Ashbrook. All the brick was laid in 11 days.

In 1919 he bought the Stevens and Hamilton Lumberyards on Walnut and Church Street corners, combined and operated them until 1923. Herbert D. Bastin bought Hoskins' business and it has remained the Harrison Lumber Company since.

Hoskins remembers the old covered bridge over the South Licking River. "On the corner of Pike and Main where the National Bank now stands, there was a dry goods store owned by William Northcutt. It was known as the Northcutt Corner."

When Hoskins came back to Cynthiana to make his home, "there were four automobiles in town. Mr. J. R. Poindexter, Harold Poindexter's father, built the first concrete street from Main to Walnut. Goldberg's was the leading men's store."

Hoskins helped build the Farmers Bank, the first section of Oddville and Connersville Schools and the Christian Church on Millersburg Pike.

He did the brick work on the Baptist Church in Cynthiana, Poindexter business houses near the railroad track and the office of the LeBou Tobacco Warehouse.

Hoskins built the Berry, Boyd and Butler banks, Morgan school and Christian Church at Morgan. He built two garages at Falmouth that enabled him to buy his first automobile.

He built the school at Davis, the first section of the old Harrison Memorial Hospital, a flour mill at Sadieville, and the Roos Opera House.

Hoskins did all the inside brick on the post office. He worked all winter except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. On this job, to his knowledge, he was the first person to sell his labor for $1.00 an hour.

He built some investment houses on the north side of the old hospital (Shady Lawn Nursing Home), Cudaby Cheese Plant, the Methodist Parsonage and

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George Hoskins' hometown was at Bridge and Webster corner

Continued from page 12

HARRISON HERITAGE HISTORICAL HOUSES EDITION

George Hoskins built most of Webster Ave. homes.

George Hoskins' homeplace was at Bridge and Webster corner

Methodist parsonage on E. Pleasant built by George Hoskins

George Hoskins

He was founder of the Central Baptist Church in Lexington, raising the first $600,000 through two years of solicitations.

The building contractor and farmer retired in 1972 for the second time. He lives at the historic Forkland Farm on Winchester Road across the road from Eastland Shopping Center.

Hoskins donated land for the Trinity Baptist Church in Lexington in 1947. The 73-story member church has grown into the largest in the city.

1793: We begin to build big business.

Now that we've gained our independence, we need to grow up. We need to compete in our own country with the imports England can sell us more cheaply than we can sell our own products to ourselves. We need to get out of this postwar depression. We've got the resources, the minds, and the men. Men like Eli Whitney, a young Yale graduate who visited a plantation one day and almost instantly saw a way to clean cotton fifty times faster than we've been doing it by hand.

His cotton engine (we'll shorten it to "cotton gin") makes cotton king in the South. Soon, Charleston will ship twenty million pounds of it in one year. But Whitney won't stop there. He's getting busy figuring out a way to make guns without a single gunsmith! And we're waiting to see whether his assembly line idea will work out.
Owner's boyhood dream

Monticello, Cynthiana's mansion

When Franklin Howard was a young boy he worked on the grounds of the mansion on the hill, Monticello.

Catching glimpses of the fabulous interior of the grand old house, he would dream of the day when he owned a house just like it.

Franklin Howard loved the old house - he thought it was one of the most beautiful homes in the world - and although he often thought of what life would be like in such a house he never really believed that he would own Monticello.

Maybe a house like it, but never the real Monticello.

Howard married, started work at the V.A. Hospital in Lexington and concentrated on making a living for his family. But he never really forgot his childhood dream of owning the famous old house that had been built by Thomas Jefferson Megibben in 1833.

When the house was put up for auction in the 1960's Howard attended the auction "just to see the house one last time". When the house sold for a very small price, he was sick at heart because he hadn't the money to buy it.

After that sale Howard tried to put the house out of his mind, convincing himself that the house was "gone for good".

When he learned that it was going to be put up for auction again in the early 1970's he just couldn't resist. This time he knew for sure that old house would probably be sold to a company and was doubtfully ever be used as a residence again.

His wife, who had never seen Monticello, was reluctant to go to the auction, but Franklin finally talked her into going.

When she saw the house she fell in love with it and once again Franklin Howard started to dream. He and his wife quickly figured how much money they had and how much they could bid on the house.

With fingers crossed they listened to the bidding - hiding their time. When they reached their limit and could bid no more one dime more the auctioneer asked for more bids - and miraculously none came.

Franklin Howard's dream had come true - he was the owner of Monticello.

Often called the "showplace of Kentucky" Monticello was built with money made from whiskey and horses. Thomas Jefferson Megibben, builder of the house, was one of the largest landowners of his day, named the house for Thomas Jefferson's "Monticello" in Virginia.

Megibben was the owner of a very successful distillery, a breeder of fine horses and a legislator.

The house itself was designed by Samuel Hanson, a native of England, who lived in Cincinnati.

Hanson designed the Old Music Hall, Cincinnati, the First City Hall of Cincinnati, St. Xavier's College, building at the University of Cincinnati, and General Hospital, Cincinnati.

The English-American style house is made of red-pressed brick, which was imported from England. Every brick was reported wrapped separately and the woodwork in the house was also imported and includes cherry, mahogany, oak, rosewood, and walnut.

An Italian artist was employed to paint murals on the ceilings of the house.

Like Michaelangelo the painter the artist lay in a hammock while he painted fish, fruit, and pheasants.

The third floor of the house was used at one time as a ballroom and was used quite often by the Megibbens when they entertained in the 1880's.

All floors and wainscoting are of hard woods.

The great "L" hall has wainscoting of solid panel mahogany and the hand-carved stairway, a thing of beauty, is also of solid mahogany.

The large music room, to the right, is finished in white walnut, both the wainscoting and the inside folding shutters of the large windows opening on the commodious front porch. The windows there, as throughout the first and second floors, have plate glass, with few exceptions.

The music room has a solid cherry floor and a wainscoting of white walnut. The original ceiling paintings have been preserved by the present owner.

The rear windows, as does the rear door of the big hall, opened upon the rear side of the glassed-in porch, which in turn, opens upon the sheltered porte-cochere, whose advantages are obvious in indescent weather.

To the left, as one enters the great hall is the lovely library with hand-carved red cherry built-in book cases, with French plate beveled glass - filling three sides of the room. The big Bay windows and the cut-glass chandeliers provide abundance of light.

Next comes the spacious golden oak guest or banquet dining room. From the lovely bay windows and the art glass transoms to the unique oaken china and silverware hand-constructed cabinet, the motif is appropriate and bewitching.

A great recessed arch spreads over the fire place. The big oak extension table is surrounded by the original heavy leather-bottom chairs. The original paintings in the ceiling are significant of the times.

Heavy sliding doors close-in the respective rooms across the front port of the house. When all are open, the spaciousness from music rooms, across the hall, through the library to the far side of the guest dining room, is almost startling.

Continued on page 12

"The Accommodating Bank"
1790: A plan we could bank on.

There's plenty of disagreement in Washington's Cabinet. And out of it, Mr. Hamilton, our Federalist Secretary of the Treasury, is in the throes of creating a financial plan to pay off our war debts and make us look more confident to the rest of the world. He comes up with everything from a tariff to a National Bank, chartered by Congress to be the government's financial agent. Secretary of State Tom Jefferson and his Republicans oppose the bank. After all, he says, chartering a bank is not one of the Constitutional powers given to Congress. After months of debate, Hamilton persuades Washington to sign the bill. But the Republicans stop the bank's recharter twenty years later. We're beginning to learn that the nation's economy doesn't always run smoothly.
Orie LeBus house once used as Confederate soldiers' hospital

The Orie LeBus house on the corner of Oddville Avenue and Church Street has been in the LeBus family since 1898 when Orie LeBus bought the property.

He and his wife, Bird, raised their three children there, Lewis Martin, C.P., and Martha Thom.

The land on which the old house stands was part of the original 1,000 acre Powers tract.

Thirty-six acres of the tract was sold to George Hamilton in 1821. Hamilton ran Cynthia's first store on the location where the jail now stands. Shortly after he purchased the land he sold 16 acres of it to Joseph Cromwell.

According to the records of Mrs. Earl McBrain (Louise Cromwell), the Cromwell family were living in the house in 1842. Mrs. McBrain is the Cromwell of England and came to Cynthia in 1812.

Here he started a store selling implements for agricultural needs. The store was located where Lucas Electronics now stands on the corner of Walnut and Pleasant Streets.

In 1842 when he moved to Missouri he took six of his eight children with him and left the house to his eldest son, Henry.

Henry also took over the business and expanded it considerably, going into making cabbages. The business covered the whole of Walnut Street from Pleasant to Pike.

Samuel Dills bought the house in the 1850's from Henry Cromwell and then left it to T.V. Dills. While Dills occupied the house several rooms were used as a hospital for Confederate soldiers during the Civil War.

It was in this house that young Cornelia Woodyard nursed the wounded Capt. William Stone. Later Miss Woodyard married the captain. When Capt. Stone's leg had to be amputated it was buried in the yard of the house.

Cornelia Woodyard Stone, great-great-granddaughter of the Joseph Cromwells, has written the records which were written by Mrs. McBrain's aunt, Betty Cromwell do not say whether the house was built by the Cromwells or by the Hamiltons.

Joseph Cromwell is a descendant of Oliver and Betty Cromwell the great-aunt of Martha Thom LeBus.

In 1870 the property was sold once again, this time to a man named Jake Woolford.

Woolford and his wife raised their three children, Louise Cook, Bird and Mary Lydia, in the house.

Woolford was the son of Peter Woolford who was one of the early settlers of Minneapolis, Minn. Every year for Christmas old Woolford would give each of seven children $1,000 for a gift, which was quite a sum in those days.

Jake Woolford's wife was the former Josephine Cook and they ran the Redmon Distillery on the LeBus Pike.

Woolford's daughter Mary Lydia had one of the largest weddings of the season when she married J.W. McGibben.

At that time the entire side yard of the old house was a pond on which many afternoons were spent in boat riding.

When the LeBuses bought the house in 1894 they built the circular porch and upstairs dormer windows.

Bird LeBus had a reputation for being very particular about her house and wanting everything to be perfect.

According to Mr. Orie every rainy day when there was nothing else to do she would have one of the partitions knocked down, on the next rainy day she would have it re-erected.

Orie LeBus was the granddaughter of Seraphin LeBus who came to the United States from France in 1828.

Orie was born at Oddville in 1860 and was fond of telling how he started his career as clerk in Havlandsville working for his uncle W.D. Hickman.

Orie was also a bookkeeper at the National Bank for eight years and was made a Kentucky colonel in 1898 by Gov. W.O. Bradley.

He was head of the school board for many years and was secretary to the Cynthia Royal Arch Masons for 23 years. An important power in the Republican party locally, he also devoted much of his time to 500 acre farm.

If the old house could talk it would tell of all the important ceremonies and social events that took place in the house... like the 50th wedding celebration of Orie and Bird LeBus in 1938.

People who can remember look at the present home of Martha Thom LeBus and see the house as it was at the turn of the century... a lovely old workplace enjoyed by the many who passed through the doors to attend one of the famous LeBus "get-togethers."
THE NATIONAL BANK
OF CYNTHIANA

"Serving The Community For 118 Years"

MEMBER FDIC
Stoney Castle is well preserved

The historic Stoney Castle, located about one mile from Berry on Lafferty Pike, is the home of Gilbert Manley and is owned by John Milton Caldwell. This lovely old stone house is one of Harrison County's most proud landmarks.

The fascinating history of Stoney Castle began in 1807 when it was built by John Smith. John Smith had come to this area of Harrison County with his father, Charles, in 1775 at the age of 16. The Smiths were from Orange County, Va., and built a log house on the South Licking River at the mouth of Raven Creek.

A document dated 1784 and signed by Patrick Henry, governor of Virginia, granted Charles Smith 500 acres of land for his services to the Revolutionary Army and states that the Smiths furnished 1,325 pounds of beef to the army. This document, which is in Patrick Henry's handwriting, is still in the possession of Mrs. Anna Myers Ross McKee who is a seventh generation descendant of Charles Smith. Mrs. McKee's generation was the last of the Smith family to be born in Stoney Castle.

Charles Smith bought 1,500 adjoining acres in 1785 at 12½ cents an acre and paid for it with maple sugar. On this adjoining land John Smith built the old stone house near the sight of his father's log house (which is no longer standing) and it bears his inscription above the front door.

There was no settlement at Berry at this time and the dirt road which went through Broadwell and past Stoney Castle on its way from Lexington to Cincinnati was a stage coach route. In 1829 John Smith built pigeon holes in the large living room closet and opened Mouth of Raven Creek Post Office, which was the first post office to exist between Lexington and Covington. This important event linked northern and central Kentucky closer together by expediting and regulating the flow of communication. John Smith served as postmaster here for two years and was succeeded by his son, Nathan, who held the position for two years. Mrs. Anna Myers McKee still has the Federal documents signed by the U.S. Postmaster General in office at that time commending John and Nathan for their service.

Stoney Castle has the same familiar pattern of many pioneer houses. The two sides of the basement are separated by a thick wall and each side has its own entrance. Each upstairs bedroom has its own staircase and one cannot be entered from the other. The kitchen has built-in corner cupboards with heavy paneled walnut doors reaching from floor to ceiling. In the attic is a movable plank which covers a secret hiding place where family valuables were probably stored in times of danger.

This stone house off the Connerville Pike is believed to be built in 1805. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Anderson plan to restore it. Stoney Castle at Berry and the old George Martin house at Tricume were built at that time. The Amende house was built earlier but apparently by the same stone mason. No one knows who the mason was.

Stoney Castle built in 1807 by John Smith is located about one mile from Berry on the Lafferty Pike. The large living room closet still contains pigeon holes which were built there in 1829 when the house became the first post office between Lexington and Covington.

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Great American Happenings
From a Great American Oil Company

1817: The world's biggest ditchdiggers.

We've built canals before. Little ones. But who'd think of a canal to connect the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean? A man named Elkanah Watson would. And New York's Governor De Witt Clinton agrees, even though some, including Tom Jefferson, call it madness. The federal government won't back it. So New York starts alone, with the help of the strong backs and great courage of thousands of Irish immigrants. "Clinton's Ditch" will be 363 miles long, 40 feet wide and only four feet deep. But it will help us settle upstate New York, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. It will cut freight travel by many miles and many dollars. It will help make New York City America's giant. And when, in 1825, Governor Clinton empties a keg of Lake Erie water into New York Bay, we'll know his value. And the value of his Erie Canal.

BILLY ASBURY, OWNER
WESTSIDE SHELL SERVICE
PHONE 234-6757
W. PLEASANT ST. CYNTHIANA, KY.

DONNIE SHAW, MGR.
NORTH MAIN SHELL SERVICE
PHONE 234-3235
NORTH MAIN ST. CYNTHIANA, KY.
1846: A new revolution is growing.

No violence this time. No wars. Just an industrial revolution. Our economy is healthy, and the good things in life are at our fingertips. We're learning to use our heads instead of our hands. To develop ideas that make machines that do the work in our businesses and in our homes. Now, we have a telegraph. A rotary press. Even a machine that sews everything from clothes to shoes. It's an invention of Elias Howe, and we're not too interested in it at first. He takes his idea to an English corset manufacturer and comes home to find that his sewing machine's reputation got here before him. It's a very popular item. Popular with the people. Elias Howe has taught us how to sew.

Bluegrass Industries, Inc.
1776: The words heard 'round the world.
We've already announced our independence. On July 2nd, our Continental Congress adopted a resolution "that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States." That announcement, says John Adams, will make July 2nd the most memorable day in our history. But it's not until two days later that we officially explain the reasons for our independence, in the July 4th Declaration we'll always celebrate.

Our Declaration of Independence makes America unique. Never before has a nation actually written down reasons why it became a separate state. Our words stir the world. And even inspire other peoples to defend their rights against tyrannical leaders. Looks like America has made quite an impression.
The little desk looks at home in the Theodore Renaker home at Berry. Mr. Renaker is principal of Northside Elementary School and Mrs. Renaker teaches at Westside. Their daughter, Nancy Swarnhardt, is a teacher. Teddy Jr. spent his time at a school desk acquiring knowledge to become a CPA. Nancy walked down this stairway last Saturday dressed in the tradition of the Old South to her outdoor wedding.

Renaker home is touch of Old South

PHOTOS BY ALAN BUTLER

This Colonial style home of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Renaker at Berry started as a two room cabin of his grandfather's, David Renaker.

A stone fireplace and grandfather's clock lend a Southern plantation atmosphere to this Renaker home at Berry. Earl, left, of Texas, vacations with his brother Teddy, in chair in foreground.

Mrs. Teddy Renaker sits in her living room that is being readied for their daughter's wedding.

Businesses Of — BERRY, KY. One of the oldest settlements in Harrison County

UNION BANK OF BERRY
LLOYD'S AUCTION BARN
FLORENCE'S FUN FARM
WOODHEAD & SON FUNERAL HOME
Beautiful old Berry homes

The town of Berry is nestled in a valley on the South Licking where history has passed its way since the first settlers came to this area to find homes for their families.

It was made a city in February, 1867, a year before Cynthiana was incorporated.

Two vets, five medical doctors

Dick Huffman can remember when Berry had two livery stables. Huffman and Billiter; two hotels, Stone and Kendall; two veterinarians, one dentist, five doctors, Dr. Earle, Dr. Howard, Dr. McVey, Dr. Gillispie and Dr. Beckett.

Three blacksmiths were Newt Smith, Zachariah Long and Shakespeare Lowther.

Huffman’s father moved from Durbintown to Berry in 1906 so his children could go to school.

He bought a livery stable where Pulliam’s is now.

There were two banks for a while. They consolidated to form the Union Bank of Berry.

Berry had a newspaper

Berry’s newspaper was called the “Berry Citizen.” Huffman remembers two drug stores, A. H. Cockran and John Lyter. A Mr. Townsend and Stanley Blake ran barber shops.

There were two mineral wells at Berry. Huffman says the water was the same as the famous Dry Ridge mineral waters.

The stockyards had mule day and colt day. Cattle were shipped every day from the middle of town by railroad. The railroad splits the town in half.

There was a saloon where Wayne Ware’s service station is now. W. C. Kendall ran an old mill across the river where Berry had a distillery.

The city had a two room school where Gene Price lives. Part of the foundation can still be seen.

This was the home of John A. Lafferty, a Confederate soldier who left his family in the care of his slave, Will Johnson, while he fought in the Civil War. His children watched both Federal and Confederate soldiers running through the fields to escape.

This home is located on Lafferty Pike near the Robinson Road junction. Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Whitaker now live in the home and are the present owners.

Mrs. Helen Culberson lives in this beautiful family home at Berry.

Wages were 50 cents a day

There were two lumber yards and a tobacco prizing house. Wages at the prizing house were 50 cents a day.

Huffman attended the Baptist Church in the morning and the Methodist Church in the afternoon.

Water!!!

Berry is still a thriving community with a fire department, a funeral home, bank, grocery stores, lumber yard, recreation center and a lady mayor, Ruth Thompson. But they are without a central water supply. They have wells and cisterns. The citizens are making their voices heard all the way to Washington. The cry is “Water.” They need water to grow.

recognizes our rich heritage in Historic Homes.

CASON LUMBER CO. RAY’S MARKET BERRY SHELL SERVICE STARLITE RESTAURANT LITTLE WIG BEAUTY SALON FISHER DEPT. STORE
In the center of Leesburg, next to the crossroads of U.S. 62 and the Lees Creek Pike, stands a tall brick building that is known as "the old Boswell house." Now owned by J.D. Whitaker and occupied by his sister Thelma, in one half of the house, and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Herrington in the other half, the house is approximately 150 years old.

The original owner of the property was a Mr. Benjamin Fields. Fields sold the property to General Bushrod Trappe, Boswell's great uncle Col. Whether Fields or Boswell finished the house is still a question that remains unanswered.

After he purchased the building Gen. Boswell started a store in the corner building.

Besides running the general store, Boswell raised his eight children in the other half of the house, farmed his 200 acres of land and took an active part in the militia. Gen. Boswell purchased the house and set up his business while the old log house was occupied by the Fields family.

During the War of 1812, Col. Boswell's grandson, the son of Gen. Bushrod Boswell, Joseph, and his wife, Fannie, lived in the house. Col. Boswell's grandson was raised by Fannie Boswell's parents.

After settling in Kentucky in the 1790s and settling near the present site of Leesburg, Col. Boswell changed the name to Leesburg after a town by that same name in Virginia.

Col. Boswell came to Kentucky in the company of his father. He had inherited his father's plantation and had married someone. The Col. father didn't quite approve of.

After settling in Kentucky, Boswell was elected to the Kentucky State Legislature in the year 1793 when he was only 21. He served every term thereafter, always being re-elected until 1806. He was also on the convention to revise the State Constitution.

Besides his active part in Kentucky's early history he was a colonel in the War of 1812. Col. Boswell, who was married twice, had twenty-five children, he and his first wife had twelve children, and he and his second wife had thirteen.

One of his sons-in-law, William Cogswell ran Leesburg's first general store which opened around 1818. Cogswell was also postmaster for Leesburg and the surrounding area.

Cogswell was a general store, and he was in charge of the store and the building that the colonel had built when he arrived in Kentucky. The old log house is located on the New-Old-Leesburg Pike. There Joseph and Fannie raised their three children, W.B., Louise, Boswell Pattern and James Boswell.

After being the postmaster for Leesburg, Cogswell ran a drug store. There Joseph and Fannie raised their three children, W.B., Louise, Boswell Pattern and James Boswell.

Boswell was renting his house and farm to the General. There the store was closed and operated as a drug store. After being the postmaster for Leesburg, Cogswell ran a drug store.

When General Boswell died in Lexington he was buried in his grave.

The side view of the old Boswell home. This is the entrance to the home of Gilbert and Shirley Herrington. This is also the side of the house that Bushrod Boswell lived in while a general store was kept in the other side.

Over sixty people died within the week—graves were dug as fast as men could be found to dig them—one man was taken sick and buried in a grave he had dug himself.

Mrs. William Anderson was also a victim of the smallpox epidemic. When her husband died many years later he requested that he would be buried beside his wife because he felt he wasn't worthy of one. He asked that he be buried at the feet of his wife and his request was granted.

Old William Anderson was the great-grandfather of Joe Anderson who was once principal at Harrison County High School.

The history of the building is an apt description of the home. This is the front view of the old Boswell house which stands in the village of Leesburg. Many different and various stores have occupied the corner of the building from drug stores to grocery stores. Townspeople would often gather in front of the building to exchange bits of gossip.

The side view of the old Boswell house. This is the entrance to the home of Gilbert and Shirley Herrington. This is also the side of the house that Bushrod Boswell lived in while a general store was kept in the other side.

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Another interesting tale is about the old Leesburg farmer who decided to dig for salt by the Silas Creek. "How deep ya goin' goin'" asked his neighbors. "Down to hell if I have to," replied the old farmer.

As if his words were coming true he struck black liquid which ran into the creek and accidently became ignited. The creek burned for miles.

And that's just part of the history and interesting facts surrounding the "Old Boswell House", the big brick building that stands watch over Leesburg.

WHALEY
Established 1888

CYNTHIANA, KY.

PETER J. KANE,
Practical Plumber and Pipe Fitter.
Sanitary Engineer.
Jobbing Promptly Attended To.
1906 W. Main St. 2d Door W. Court House.
This is a bill for plumbing sent to Harry Wigenworth in Feb. 1906.
1846: The great house of knowledge.

Some Englishmen have been our best friends. One of them is the late James Smithson, a real philanthropist. When his only heir died in 1838, the United States received his entire estate of $515,000. We put the money in the mint while we study Smithson’s will. We see that he wants his gift used in Washington to establish "an institution for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." John Quincy Adams creates a plan of organization. And in 1846, we start to build the Smithsonian Institution. It rises like an enormous castle, with towers and cupolas and miles of exhibit rooms. To house our arts, sciences and products of some of the most profound thinking in all the world.

"Where Service Is A Tradition"

Charles C. McCarty, Jr. Otis Kitchen
Edward A. Whaley

FUNERAL HOME
126 S. Main St. Cynthiana, Ky.
In communications

The Log Cabin on Court Street contains much early history

Mr. and Mrs. Reed Anderson have restored the old log cabin on Court Street, formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Dave Rees. It is now Radio Station WCYN.

After Mr. and Mrs. Anderson bought the old log cabin they did minor repairs and redecorating. New wiring, heating and air-conditioning were installed.

Mrs. Anderson chose the new carpet, paint, and wallpaper. The wallpaper was of a special kind. She chose paper that the early American homes were papered in, such as that Abraham Lincoln had in his house. Mrs. Anderson picked individual paper for each room to fit its mood.

The house has nine rooms and two baths. There are four rooms upstairs, which consist of news service, wire service, studios and weather machine. The five rooms downstairs have offices for WCYN radio station, and CATV, as well as an employees’ lounge.

This is the first location of an AM–FM radio station in Log Cabin as well as the first cable TV station.

Not long ago Mr. Anderson was told by the Kentucky Historical Society that the old log cabin would receive a bronze plaque to be placed in the front of the building.

The log cabin was the first printing shop in Cynthiana and Harrison County.

The illustrious Henry Clay was engaged in a case of the Commonwealth against Adam House who was indicted for murder.

Hope Redmon, one of Cynthiana’s finest photographers, had a shop in the log house. Mr. Redmon recorded much of the county’s history in pictures that are still in Harrison County homes.

History and communications have held hands in this house through its entire history. Now the most modern of electronic communications flow from its walls as a public service to the community.
Built for practical purposes

The old covered bridge

The old covered bridge was built in 1837 by Henry Ingersoll and Greenup Remington from plans that were drawn up by Lewis V. Wernwag of Pennsylvania (the great bridge architect). The total cost of the bridge was $7,500.

Some doubt had been voiced that Lewis V. Wernwag had drawn up the plans for the bridge. Information from family records and a photograph of the bridge proved that he was the architect. This information was sent from Margaret Wilson Bassett of Glasgow, Missouri who married Lewis Jr., son of Lewis V. Wernwag who drew the plans for the covered bridge expanding across South Licking River in 1837. Lewis V. Wernwag specifications called for the bridge to be built of yellow poplar, and to be covered with a shingle roof. The bridge was not necessarily for beauty but for practical purposes. They needed the bridge as an access across the river so they could transport heavy loads, like a wagon of hay pulled by horses. The bridge was of a single roadway 12 feet wide and was covered with weather boards to protect it from weather. It had two piers constructed in the river. Three long trusses were anchored to the abutments by wrought-iron rods extending from the top chords down into the masonry. Between the three spans on both sides of the bridge were two windows each 36 inches square. In order to keep weather out these windows had slides to close for protection.

The bridge served as a shelter for those who may have been stranded in bad weather while traveling in a horse and buggy.

In 1944 the Harrison Fiscal Court ordered the bridge condemned because several wooded beams had deteriorated badly. Then in 1946 the Old Covered Bridge was torn down. The reason for this was the estimated cost of repair was $12,000. At this time most Harrison Countians felt that this was too costly. An 11 x 14 drawing of this beautiful bridge is a part of Harrison Heritage Bicentennial memories. A plaque on the new bridge states: Oldest wooden bridge in Kentucky, erected over the South Licking River in 1837. Site of the first ferry of Cynthiana, Ky.
Mrs. Dawson decorates to suit house

Old home on Main Street

Mrs. Daniel Dawson has her tall, narrow brick home at 125 South Main Street decorated with furniture that might have been bought to furnish the house when it was built. She can not find the date the house was built but it must have been when the nucleus of the town of Cynthiana was laid out. It sits close to the street, is tall and narrow and runs back into the block toward Walnut Street.

Mrs. Dawson's father was John W. Arnold. Her brother, A. T., lives at the homeplace on Edgewater Pike. Her husband, Daniel, was born in 1882 in Bracken County and went to Shaban in Bourbon County in a covered wagon when he was 12.

Mrs. Dawson is 87 years old. She was 13 when she accepted Christ as her Savior. She is a member of the Cynthiana Christian Church. She has one son, John Thomas, a grandson, Jerry, and three great-grandchildren.

She is a charter member of Leesburg Homemakers and has been in the Kentucky Book Club since 1927.

She has the bed her husband was born in and the doll she played with as a girl.

Mrs. Iva Arnold Dawson finds great pleasure in playing hymns at her piano in the parlor of her home on South Main Street. 'Face to Face' is her favorite hymn.

Mrs. Daniel Dawson, 87, oldest of the John W. Arnold family, sits with her brother, A. T., 72, the youngest member of the family. They are the only survivors.

This chest came to Mrs. Dawson from the Andrew Jackson family.

Glass in this doorway is made of Bohemian cut glass.
1844: The world gets a message.

Our country is still new. But we've become as sophisticated as the best of them. We have bright men working in back rooms on ideas no one else ever thought of. We've even established a Patent Office, to make sure those ideas don't get stolen. One of the brightest is Samuel F.B. Morse. He's a pretty good painter. But he's also been busy since 1832 working on an electric telegraph. It's a very clever way of getting a message through without sending it person-to-person. Twelve years after he starts, he gets his patent and sends his first message: "What hath God wrought." There's an idea. It can tell the East about raids in the West. It can tell the West about Congress in Washington. Without taking days and weeks. Some say if Morse, instead of that fellow named Trumbull, had been commissioned to paint the big pictures in the Capitol, he would have forgotten about the telegraph. We're glad he didn't.
Now that we're a real nation, we need a better way of communicating with each other. And with the rest of the world. We've had postal service before. And if we were lucky, we'd actually get some of the letters people sent us. Now, we're making postal service official. We're setting up post offices all over the United States. When mail comes in, whether it's by coach or rider, the post office will hold it until it's called for. Well let the sender pay the postmaster in advance, or let the addressee pay when he gets his mail. Someday, we might come up with a better way than having the postmaster write on the letter whether postage has been paid or not. Maybe something like a little sticker we can paste on an envelope. For now, we're glad to get our mail.

Poindexter Lumber Company

East Pleasant Street  234-2242
1800: The city with big plans.

We're moving President Adams. Into a brand new capital city we're building just to be a capital city. It hasn't been easy to figure out where it should be. Jefferson and Hamilton disagree on most things, but they did agree that it wasn't fair to keep a capital nearer New England than the South. They agreed to move the government out of New York and into Philadelphia for ten years while our new Federal City was being readied. It's a grand city, even though it is a bit isolated in the swamps. We've hired a Frenchman to lay it out. Had a contest for the best design for the President's Palace. The cornerstone of our Capitol building was laid years ago, and much of it is finished. There's a population of 3,210. And because it doesn't belong to any one of our colonies, but to all of us, we've given it a special name. The District of Columbia.

M.M. Wiley, Inc., Texaco Co. Distributor

Falmouth Pike Phone 234-2432 Cynthiana, Ky.
The rear door of the dining room, which has a large fruit and food press, opens into the butler's pantry, with glazed-in cabinets, and on into the large and well-lighted kitchen, which leads to the rear concrete-floor porch, to the right through a swinging door into a hall, which in turn leads to the left to the large private family dining room, (straight ahead) the mentioned glazed-in side porch opening to the porte-co-chere. In this hall is a wash room and toilet, a large press, and a door the butler's living room, and the stairway to the basement and the large heating (steam) plant, with radiators in every room in the house.

The second floor has a very large living room, four large bedrooms, two baths, and many porches.

The third floor also has three large bed rooms, large living room and storing areas.

A service elevator serves the upper floors.

There is a massive brick slate covering cow and horse stalls.

A brick and stone tenant house is in the yard.

McGibben, who is said to have spent $300,000 on the building of the house, died in 1890 living in his mansion only seven years.

McGibben was highly respected and charitable. The following comes from an obituary notice that was printed in an unnamed newspaper at the time of his death:

"In the year 1859 he bought a farm at Lair station, containing about 200 acres, upon which he resided until 1882.

He added to it from year to year, until he owned, at the time of his death 2000 acres, being the largest landowner in Harrison County

"His liberality was by no means uncommon subject of discussion. Those interested in the cause of religion and education in Harrison County and vicinity are largely indebted to his generosity.

The poor and needy found no cause for complaint when applying to him. He was always a man of fine personal and business integrity. His whole career presents one of the finest instances of a successful self-made man anywhere to be found in the state.

Another newspaper, The Frankfort Capital, reported: "Hon. T. J. McGibben, of Harrison County, ex-Representative and ex-Senator is dead, after a long illness, and the state has lost another of its good citizens. Nearly 20 years ago the editory of The Capital sat with him as a member of the House, where he was the personification of honesty and uprightness, as he was in his private affairs, during his busy and successful life. Modest as a man, gentle as a child, 'Tom McGibben, as those who loved him loved best to call him, never betrayed a trust, faltered in his devotion to a friend or forgot to keep his pledged faith to any man.'"

After McGibben's death, his widow, Elizabeth David McGibben purchased the property from the six M e g i b b e n heirs for $95,000.

In 1908, her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. E.W. Bramble, bought the mansion. In 1920, Mr. and Mrs. George Wallfingford leased Monticello and ran a "high class" boarding house.

The next month, March 1920, the property was sold to the Central Kentucky Land Company for $75,000. Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Harney then moved to Monticello.

In 1923 the nationally known evangelist Rev. Dr. Henry Bromley and his wife bought the mansion, slave quarters and barn and grounds.

"The Bromleys were able to buy it dirt cheap in 1923, and built it up after that", Thaxter Sims recalls.

Miss Willie Webster came to live with the Bromleys in 1949, not as a caretaker, but just to live here and take care of the place. She also served as a nurse to Mrs. Bromley during the illness that preceded her death in 1960.

In 1952 Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Meighen came to Monticello from Florida to help at the mansion. Minister, school, lecturer, prohibitionist, aviator, professor, editor, lawyer, college trustee, evangelist - the remarkable Drl. Henry Walter Bromley was all of these.

He died at age 78 on June 24, 1957, the result of a fall suffered a week prior at Monticello.

Dr. Bromley was born at Glencoe, Ky., in 1879. He was a son of the late Daniel W. and Anna May Bromley.

Before moving to Cynthiana in 1923 and buying Monticello, Dr. Bromley lived at Wilmore and for many years was a trustee of Asbury College. He was also president of the Christian Education Foundation to educate worthy boys and girls.

Dr. Bromley held at least eight college degrees including: a Ph.D. degree from Milton University, Baltimore, Md.; L.H.D., Taylor University, Upland, Ind.; M.A., Harvard; M.A., University of Kentucky; Litt.D., Emory, Georgia; M.C. and D.D. Asbury College; and a law degree.

He also taught for a time at Harvard.

Many of Dr. Bromley's widely held revivals were financially successful. And Mrs. Ella G. Magee, an elderly, rich Pennsylvania woman, probably kept him provided with a considerable amount of money.

Mrs. Magee, an ardent religionist, who owned much of the Magee Carpet Company and the James Magee Webbing Company, Philadelphia, was acquainted with the Bromleys for several years. She finally moved into Monticello where she resided for more than five years, until she died.

The Bromleys were well-remembered in Mrs. Magee's will, but her son tried to break it.

The case was finally settled in 1937, on Magee's terms, wherein he retained most of the stock in the Magee company. Dr. Bromley got $100,000 outright, $150 a month for the remainder of his life, some stock and another property. Mrs. Bromley was left $50,000 in trust.

But Bromley's bank account was found to be overdrawn when he died in 1957.

The first two owners of Monticello were as different as day and night - McGibben the distiller, horse breeder and legislator and Bromley, one of the nation's foremost prohibitionists. The mansion now belongs to still another totally different man.

An everyday sort of fellow who once worked at a mansion and dreamed that someday he might have one "just like it."