
Interesting Old Houses - *contributed by Greg Poole*

The Boyd (Lowe) House

(The following excerpted articles written by Betty Kelley appeared for several issues in the Ashland City Times in 1974.)

We had for a brief period held hands with yesterday and touched in our imagination the hopes, desires and frustrations of an earlier generation. Like an aging queen, her beauty all but faded, I behold the crumbling remains and mourn her passing. The sagging roof, the askew shutters and the pane less windows cannot totally mar what was once a lovely house and home.

The house and property is now known as the Boyd Place and is located on Old Clarksville Highway (or as it is referred to in the deed books, the Old Dirt Pike.) Mr. Leland Boyd bought the property from Mr. Jake J. Binkley, April 4, 1941. The property came to Jake J. Binkley through the will of his father, A.M. Binkley. A.M. Binkley bought the property through the court, August 2, 1902. The deed referred to it as the "Dr. Alexander Lowe property." The beginning of this handwritten deed reads in part, "beginning at a Spanish oak on the north side of Lowe's Spring Branch, near the old stage road."

From this 1902 date there is no record of a transaction that clearly states Dr. Lowe's actual purchase of the land. In 1857 he purchased several parcels of land from one B.F. Binkley, Peter and Elizabeth Woodson, W.T. Garrett and J.D. Dismukes. His landholdings were extensive, and in all likelihood included what is now the Boyd place. He owned property from Sycamore Creek towards Springfield and property bordering on Bearwallow Road. Dr. Lowe's purchases listed property in the immediate area of Sycamore Mills, and included a church-school house. The church was Cumberland Presbyterian and the school was a female academy.

The exact age of the house cannot be determined from the records. If the present house was standing on one of the four parcels of land purchased by Dr. Lowe in 1857, was can date the house to be 117 years old. It is almost certain that this house is around the century mark. Ashland City Times, January 30, 1974

The Marvel Lowe House and Family

Marvel Lowe was one of Cheatham County's earliest settlers. He was born in North Carolina, September 20, 1770, and left that state in 1795. Around 1800 he built a house about three miles north of Sycamore Mills. In 1800 he married Miss Mary Harris of White's Creek, Tennessee. She was born January 15, 1777.

Around the time he married, he erected a grist mill on Rose's branch at the crossing of the Nashville and Clarksville "dirt pike." Before coming to Tennessee, he had learned a trade, he was a brick mason. He continued in this trade and owned a brick kiln. Marvel Lowe put this trade and business to good use as his house (now owned by Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Chamberlain Jr.) is still standing. He bought and sold land in Robertson and Cheatham Counties, a great portion of his land holdings, as well as his home were in a part of Robertson County that would later be annexed into the forming of Cheatham County. When he died he left over 4,000 acres and a sizable farm to each of his children. Besides being a business man, he was a successful farmer and raised fine tobacco. *Continue on page 2*

Marvel Lowe was not without his civic side. He served on juries and school boards. He and his wife must have had great faith. There was a church erected near their home and was called Lowe's Church. Also, three of their sons were preachers. Marvel and Mary Lowe had twelve children, three died in early childhood. The following is a thumbnail sketch of their children:

- Gideon Harris Lowe was a Cumberland Presbyterian preacher, as well as a farmer. He married Sarah Dowlen and their home still stands in Ashland City.
- Washington Lowe was a lawyer in Springfield. He married Rose Williams and their home still stands in Springfield.
- Neri Lowe was a farmer and lived in Wilson County. He married Elizabeth Keeling.
- Dr. Alexander Lowe was a physician, farmer and Presbyterian minister. He married Susan Boyd of White's Creek and they lived on a farm adjoining Marvel Lowe's. A part of Alexander Lowe's farm is now owned by Mr. Lelan Boyd. The house standing on Mr. Boyd's property was the home of Alexander and Susan Lowe.
- Mary Ann Lowe married James Williams. They had a 4,000 acre farm on the Cumberland River near Neptune. Their home is still standing.
- Lewis Lowe was a Methodist minister, farmer and merchant. He lived in Montgomery County at Pleasant Mound and was married three times, his first wife being Miss Summers.
- Marvel Lowe Jr. married Henrietta Woodson and then moved to Texas.
- Elizabeth Lowe married Robert Carr of Cedar Hill, Robertson County. Their home still stands.
- Susan Frances Lowe married Dr. James Laureson and they moved to Mississippi.
- Marvel Lowe died April 1, 1834 and Mary Lowe died September 13, 1848. They were buried in the family cemetery in a double raised tomb within sight of their home, a home and farm that they must have loved. They lived there from the beginning of their marriage and raised their children there.



The following invitation was sent to Ms. Harvey Shearon in Chapmansboro, TN in Feb 1948:

*Billie J. Morris is going to wed
James Powell, a local boy;
You're invited to join the many friends
Who revel in their joy.*

Date: Saturday, March 6, 1948; Time: 2:00 to 4:00

Place: The Porter Morris's

Occasion: Miscellaneous Shower

Given by: Mrs. Ray Harris and Mrs. Chas. E. Carrigan

Guerrillas in Cheatham County - *contributed by Greg Poole*

Five guerrillas were captured in Cheatham County and brought to Nashville last evening. One was an escaped prisoner from the penitentiary at Nashville. They claimed to be deserters but it is believed that they belong to either Lyon's or Harper's commands. They were captured in the forest. *Nashville Dispatch*, July 15, 1863.

The First Citizens of Cheatham County: The 1856 Cheatham County Tax List

Continued from Last Issue - contributed by Greg Poole

District 3

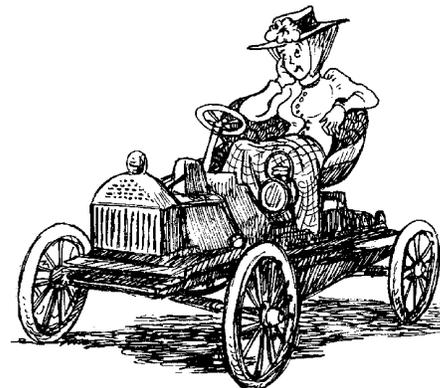
Felts, R.R.	60a. on Sycamore Cr. by A.H. Williams and Felts
Felts, T.J.	
Felts, S.M.	
Felts, William E.	228a. on Sycamore Cr. by H. Dowlen and B.F. Binkley
Follis, W.F.M.	
Fortune, A.L.	90a. on the waters of Sycamore Cr. by P.H. Woodson
Fortune, S.T.	
Frey, Martin	582a. by A. Lowe and J.J. Hooper
Gatewood, Williamson	460a. on Spring Creek by T. Harris and L. Lowe
Glenn, Daniel	125a. on Spring Cr. by B. Harris heirs and W.L. Gower
Gower, H.J.	
Gower, W.L.	120a. on the waters of Spring Cr. by L. Binkley
Harper, J.H.	200a. on Spring Cr. by R. Hudgens and T. King
Harris & Obrien	270a. on Spring Cr. the Eagle Mill Tract; 2 mills
Harris, Eli	224a. on the waters of Sycamore Cr. by E. Simmons
Harris, Elias	
Harris, Elias	166a. on the waters of Sycamore Cr. by E. Harris and N. Felts
Harris, Elijah	128a. on Sycamore Cr. by Eli and Elias Harris
Harris, Henry	145a. on Sycamore Cr. by M.D. McCormack
Harris, Isham	73a. on the tract between Spring Cr. and Sycamore Cr.
Harris, James	
Harris, James W.	100a. on the waters of Sycamore Cr. by James Purdy
Harris, John L.	116a. on Spring Cr. by Eli Harris and Eagle Mill
Harris, Thomas W. (guardian)	Capital and interest
Harris, Thomas W.	685a. on Spring Cr. by W. Gatewood and M. Johnson
Harris, Zachariah	
Henderson, John P.B.	
Herren, E.T.	47a. on Spring Cr. by J.H. Harper and R. Hudgens
Hooper, H.V.	
Hooper, J.J.	614a. on Ramses Branch by A. Lowe and H. Dowlen
Hudgens, B.B.	
Hudgens, Chris.	
Hudgens, Daniel	

Continued Next Issue

*****Upcoming PALS Field Trip*****

Saturday, June 10, 2006, 10:00 AM. Meet at CCHGA Office in Ashland City at 9:30 -9:45 AM. Destination Mr. James Kiliam, Boker Road, Antique Collection.

All CCHGA and PALS members are welcome to join us. This is an amazing collection of many different items and is well worth seeing.



News from the Communities - contributed by Greg Poole

Ashland City:

- A couple of gentlemen living in Ashland City started for Nashville a few days since, intending to make some heavy purchases there- one of them having a considerable amount of greenbacks in his possession. After they had proceeded a short distance on their way, some men, covered with bed-quilts, with holes cut so as they could see, came out of the woods and demanded their horses and money. After relieving them of all they had, they left them to their fate. Our informant did not know the name of either party, but circumstances certainly justify the conclusion that the thieves were acquainted with the gentlemen and the fact of their having money in their possession. *Nashville Dispatch*, August 8, 1863.
- A representative body of the Confederate veterans of Cheatham County had a meeting here last Saturday and organized a camp of the United Confederate Veteran's Association, and a charter will be obtained in a short time. The camp was named "Gid Lowe Camp" in honor of Captain Gideon Lowe, who commanded the first company organized in this section on the outbreak of the Civil War. *Clarksville Daily Leaf Chronicle*, June 16, 1903

Pleasant View:

- Bob Nave has abandoned his grocery business for the time being.
- Thomas Allan, one much beliked miller, paid Cedar Hill a flying visit Monday, returning same day accompanied by his mother.
- W.T. Garrett of Thomasville was here last Thursday offering to rent his nice residence on Main Street recently occupied by S.W. Newton, who has moved to his late purchase across Sycamore Creek.
- Mr. Berry is now ready to take your picture, ladies. So call on him. *Pleasant View News*, March 21, 1889.

Tremont (13th District)

We now propose to describe the southern portion of the 13th District of Cheatham County. What we have raised within said portion and what we have for sale in the year 1877. This very interesting and beautiful part of Cheatham County lies in the southern end of the 13th District of said county upon the waters of Big Harpeth River. Stupendous are the elevations or bluffs rearing their rocky heads far above the level of the river, and whose beauty and sublimity has no parallel.

Within this boundary we have an area of 2,015 acres of land, 649 cleared; of this cleared land 218 acres is bottomland. We raised 2,120 barrels of corn and can spare 335 barrels. We raised 642 bushels wheat and can sell 320 bushels, and have sown 175 acres in wheat. We have fitted 284 hogs- gross weight 52,626 pounds and can sell 27,333 pounds. Stock hogs 300; sold 13 head of beef cattle and have stock cattle 121 in number. Sheep 172; sewing machines 5; Number horses 19; Number mules 32; Tobacco crop (2) 1,500 pounds each.

We have 15 white families with a population of 94; males 52 and females 42. We have a scholastic population of about 50. Our oldest man is in his 79th year and our oldest woman is in her 74th year. Of the 15 families, 9 of them use tobacco to some extent and 6 of them use no tobacco.

Our people are energetic, thrifty and practical- use more practice than theory; are kindly and neighborly to one another and hospitable toward strangers. Also have a high appreciation for morals and intelligence. Our domiciles are commodious and comfortable, but without architectural display. Our outhouses are generally good and kept in neat repair. We have a good and large hewed log church near the center of our neighborhood, but no religious denominational organization kept in it. Our religion is a medley- nominally and practically and represent the following names: Old School Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Methodists and Christians. We have no station preacher (as we don't worship God by proxy), but was have transient preachers that pass by occasionally and instruct us in the way of the Lord more perfectly.

In conclusion, I must say that we are a peculiar people, zealous of good works. *Cheatham County Plaindealer*, January 17, 1877

Kingston Springs:

- Basketball Game. Kingston Springs quelled Watkins Institute 38 to 12 Monday night in St. Mary's gymnasium. Nashville *Banner*, February 16, 1932.

Sycamore:

- Major E.C. Lewis, Secretary of the Sycamore Manufacturing Company, called in to see us last Monday. He says the new turbine water wheel the company recently put in is a grand success.
- Old man Aley Watson, colored, died this morning at 2 o'clock. He was an honest and hardworking man. Cheatham County *Plaindealer*, October 17, 1878.
- Last Saturday the Mt. Zion Sunday School (colored) had a picnic at Sycamore and they made quite a grand display in the way of a possession. The Mt. Zion formed in possession on the hill opposite the mills and the order forward march was given and the possession marched in good order, singing "I am Trusting, Lord, in Thee." After crossing the creek, they sang "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross." The Sunday school was then invited to sit on the stage. Elder S.W. McReynolds then arose and made a few preliminary remarks in regard to forming a grand possession. The Mt. Zion School formed in double file in front, the Ashland City School was next in order, and then the White's Bend school. Cheatham County *Plaindealer*, August 29, 1878.

Henrietta:

- The road running from Gupton's Cross Roads to Ashland City was ordered to be changed so as the portion now running from Mrs. Major's land through the Hale tract of land, will run along the west boundary of said land to the Moseley Ferry Road. Cheatham County *Plaindealer*, August 29, 1878.

Narrows of the Harpeth:

- Died on the 1st inst. at Valley Forge in Dickson County, Tennessee, Montgomery Bell, in the 87th year of his age. His friends and acquaintances are invited to attend his funeral at the Narrows of the Harpeth, Davidson County on Tuesday, the 3rd inst. at 11 o'clock. *Daily Nashville True Whig*, April 3, 1855.

Personal Cards from My Classmates - contributed by Lisa Walker

I attended an auction a month or so ago at the home of the late Harvey Shearron. Among the items I came home with was a book of "Personal Cards from My Classmates". The book contains cards with the following names:

Cecil Elliott, Madolyn Jean Bidwell, Lenox Murff, Tom Cushman, Pearl Frazier, Cozette Teasley, Christine Pardue, Rebecca Sue Stewart, Wallace Danley, Howard Binkley, Mary Ann Harris, Helen Darrow, Martha Earleane Balthrop, Gertrude L. Pack, Robert M. Humphreys, Jr., Tom T. King, Bessie, Helen McCormick, Eloise Bidwell, Allene Rediker, Maggie R. Boyd, Paul Morris, Edward Lee Williams, Rosa Gill, Ora Bell Gibbs, Frances Shearon, Marye Margaret Read, William Franklin Shearon, J. C. Balthrop, Delora Binkley, Jaunita Harris, Leon Farmer, Eudora Pace, Arizona Batts, James Hallums, Evelyn Felts, Kayte Pierce, Mattie Belle Pardue, Mildred Johnson, Denzil Watts, William Albright, Grace Gill, Gertrude L. Pack, Julia Heathman, Lillian Hunt, Ersel Balthrope, Carlene Hunter (date written in pencil on card is 9/12/1940), Elizabeth Major, Helen Frances Owen, Leota Keith '33, Etta Jean Davis '33, Bobby Clark, Marvis Ellis, Frankie Matthews '36, Evelyn Carney '36, Ben W. Hicks '36, Ethel G. Harris '36, Frances Albright '36, Hellen Eatherly '36, Ida Belle Harris '36, Woodrow Clifton '36.

There are several small photos of individuals who are not identified and it looks like they were originally located behind the personal cards. The only photo identified so far is Ethel G. Harris. If any of the names are familiar and you would like to look at photos, please contact Lisa Walker.

**June 22, 2006 CCHGA Meeting
to be held at the Livery Stables in Pleasant View @ 7:00 pm!**

Owners and CCHGA members Tommy and Kelly Ellis will give a presentation and tour of the historic building. Refreshments will be served so CCHGA members are encouraged to contribute their favorite snack to the festivities which will be available before the presentation and shopping begins!



**From a Cheatham County Granny's Kitchen
Pepper Jelly**

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup ground green & red bell peppers
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup ground red and green hot peppers
6 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups sugar
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups white vinegar
Teaspoon salt
1 bottle CERTO

Mix everything except CERTO and boil 8 to 10 minutes. Add CERTO and bring to a boil and then put in small jars or containers. Serve with cheeses or meats.

CCHGA BYTES

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