



Harrison Heritage News

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Harrison County Sites Listed on the National Register of Historic Places Bill Penn

“The National Register of Historic Places is the nation’s official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service, which is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Generally, properties eligible for listing in the National Register are at least 50 years old. Owners have no obligation to open their properties to the public, to restore them, or even to maintain them, if they choose not to do so. Federal agencies whose projects affect a listed property must give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on the project and its effects on the property. Owners of listed properties may be able to obtain

Federal historic preservation funding, when funds are available. In addition, Federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply.”

Copies of the Harrison County nominations are on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council in Frankfort. Below are the twenty-five sites* in Harrison County, and notes where more information can be found from various sources including (HHN) Harrison Heritage News and *This Old House* by Katherine Wilson. All publications are either for sale at the Museum or available at the Cynthiana-Harrison County Public Library. Back issues of Harrison Heritage News are in a notebook in the library’s Burgin Room and online at www.harrisoncountky.us. See also: <http://www.cynthiana-harrisoncountymuseum.org/history-on-the-hoof.htm>.

Archeological Site prehistoric, Adena Culture, burial site, 499-0 BC - Lair, Ky.

Church of the Advent, Episcopal (added 1978) 122 [now 118] N. Walnut St.. (*History of Church of the Advent, Episcopal* 2009, book available from the church - see HHN 10-7 July 09 book review)

Coleman--Desha Plantation (added 1993); The Oaks; US 62 E, Oddville Pike, 1 mi. NE of Cynthiana. (*This Old House*, p. 21; *Coleman-Desha Plantation* Elizabeth Harris May, 1991, thesis.)

Confederate Monument in Cynthiana; (added 1997); 111 Battle Grove Cemetery, Cynthiana . (HHN 9-4 Apr 08; *Historic Battle Grove Cemetery* booklet available at the cemetery office).

Cynthiana Commercial District (added 1982) Pike St. from Church to Main Sts., and Main St. from Bridge to Pleasant Sts..

Fraizer, Joel, House (added 1983) Off KY 982, Cynthiana.

Handy Farm (added 2005) (HHN 7-1 Jan 06)

Harrison County Courthouse (added 1974) 100 Main St., Cynthiana. (HHN 9-10 Oct 08)

Haviland House (added 1983) Also known as Stone house on Haviland Lane; Off U.S. 62, Cynthiana.

Hinkson, John, House (added 1983) Off U.S. 27, Shawhan.

Kimbrough-Hehr House (added 1979) U.S. 62, Broadwell. (*This Old House* p. 19)

Lafferty, William T., House (added 1980) 548 E. Pike St., Cynthiana.

Lair, John, House (added 1983) Old Lair Rd., Shawhan. (*This Old House*, p. 33)

McKee, John, House (added 1983) Cook Rd., Shawhan.

McMillan, Samuel, House (added 1983) Off U.S. 62, Shawhan [should be Broadwell]. (*This Old House*, p. 2)

Monticello [demolished except carriage house] (added 1974) Thomas Jefferson Megibben House Monticello Heights, Cynthiana

Poplar Hill (added 1976); Also known as John William Kimbrough House E of Cynthiana on KY 32, Cynthiana.

Roberts, Wesley, House (added 1982) 113-115 N. Main St., Cynthiana.

Second Battle of Cynthiana Battlefield [Keller’s Bridge] (added 2002) HR 182; 1 mi. N of Cynthiana, E of KY 36, Cynthiana . (*Rattling Spurs and Broad-Brimmed Hats* - Penn, chapter 8)

Shawhan, Joseph, House (added 1983) Off U.S. 27, Shawhan. (*This Old House*, p. 51)

Smith House (added 1983) Off Lair Rd., Shawhan.

Spur Gasoline Station (added 1987) Jay’s Cars Office 201 E. Bridge St., Cynthiana.

Stone House of Indian Creek (added 1983) Off U.S. 62, Cynthiana.

Stony Castle (added 1978) W of Berry on Lafferty Pike, Berry. (*This Old House*, p. 8)

Williams, John, House (added 1983); off KY 32/36, Shawhan [should be “1.5 m. E of Cynthiana”] (*This Old House*, p. 36)

*Source: <http://nrhp.focus.nps.gov/natregsearchresult.do?briefnav&briefpage=1>

Harrison County Historical Society

Billy Fowler, President
 Bob Owen, Vice President
 Marilynn Bell, Secretary
 Dorothy Slade, Treasurer
 Bill Penn, editor: pennwma@aol.com

Program Notes - July 16 Meeting

Business: President Billy Fowler announced that the negotiations on the Handy House between the city commission, the fiscal court and the Historic Society are expected to begin soon.

Program: The Show and Tell program included many interesting items such as a brace of dueling pistols, an old-fashioned twine holder, a store broom display rack, a glass kerosene container, and an old shoe found at the Handy house. Our guest, Jim Dempsey from Cincinnati, shared records from Harrison County schools dating from 1885. The Cynthiana Museum was featured on Channel 36 news and at the conclusion of Show and Tell, the video of the news clip about the museum was shown.



Show & Tell Program: Betty Selin brought two matched antique vases that belonged to Mattie Dee Todd (1853-1909), former Cynthiana postmistress and niece of Mary Todd Lincoln. Photo, Sharon Fowler.

HARRISON COUNTY HISTORY CALENDAR

July On Friday, July 24, the museum's 15th anniversary.

Aug. 20, Meet at Wayne Stafford's log cabin on Dutch Chapel Rd.

September 17, TBA

October 15, Meet at the Prizing House on South Church Street.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Send \$12 per family annual dues to: Harrison County Historical Society, PO Box 411, Cynthiana, Kentucky 41031.

President's Corner

Billy Fowler
 billyfowler@kymail.com

You may have noticed that this newsletter has arrived a little early. What you may not know is that until recently we have been "bumming" the use of equipment to print the newsletters. We want to thank the chamber of commerce and Harrison County government for allowing us the use of their equipment for so many years. This use of "borrowed" equipment has become more of a problem as time went by for the historical society as well as the equipment owners. As a result we decided to have the newsletters printed commercially which provided good quality copies while providing it's own set of problems. One of our members suggested that I investigate purchasing a copier. I was a little skeptical, but thought it worth looking into. I was surprised that a copier recommended to handle our needs was actually affordable.

A motion was passed at our last meeting authorizing me to purchase the copier. Now that we had purchased it we needed to determine if it would actually meet our needs. If not we could return it within fourteen days of purchase for a full refund. (Do you remember that I started out talking about the newsletter being early?) I requested the newsletter staff to bring it together in time to print it on our new copier during the trial period. They all responded with their usual enthusiasm and we all hope you are happy with the outcome and the fact that the society has become a little more self sufficient.

On a different subject, both the city and county voted (with only one opposing vote) at their July 14th meetings to enter into negotiations with the historical society. The purpose of these negotiations is to reach an agreement that will allow for the transfer of property interest of the Handy House. These negotiations will end in an agreement as to how much area and what will be required of the historical society. The agreement will then go before both governing bodies for a final vote. As I type this column, negotiations have not yet begun but are scheduled to start before the week is out. I am confident that when we sit down together we will learn that we can reach an agreement that will benefit preservation as well as progress. I will keep you informed on this and other historical and preservation projects as we go forward.

Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum

Martha Barnes, President www.cynthiana-harrisoncountymuseum.org.

A Grand Doll House

As we celebrate the 15th anniversary of the museum July 24th, it continues to amaze everyone that our collection - more than 2,000 items related to this community - continues to grow. We consistently receive all sorts of items - as small as an emery board from a Harrison County politician to as large as a huge fire extinguisher on wheels (that's another story).

A recent acquisition is a "grand doll house" - fully furnished, totally electrified - a model of a house which stood on North Walnut Street in Cynthiana. The house, built by George Dickey about 1902, was purchased by Clarence Martin in 1930. The actual house has been razed for a church parking lot.

A daughter of Clarence Martin, Ruth Martin Smith commissioned Bruce Mitchell in 1979 to build a miniature replica of her Walnut Street home place. According to a 1979 copy of The Cynthiana Democrat, it was the first miniature house the talented Mr. Mitchell had built. Since most older homes had poplar weather boarding, the model was made with poplar wood. Complete with the large front porch and gingerbread trim, the house is painted pale yellow, the original color.

Mrs. Smith drew up the plans for the house, did the

decorating, collected the furnishings, and even made some of the miniature furniture. As well, she had some local craftsmen recreate some of the furniture her father had made. One of those craftsmen was Stan Lemons. Ruth lived in Lexington for most of her adult life - and enjoyed having her Cynthiana childhood home with her.

In 2008, William Prentice Smith, Ruth's son, contacted us at the museum and discussed literally bringing the house back home - he offered to loan the house and its furnishings to the museum. Prentice and his wife Lee delivered the yellow house. Harold Slade and other museum volunteers made a table to hold it and arranged the electricity.

On two spring Saturdays, Prentice and Lee came from their home in Louisville to bring boxes and boxes of furnishings and to arrange them in the house. One cannot imagine the completed display without actually seeing it! The house is a source of delight for all - young and old. What a marvelous addition to the museum! What messages it relays to us - the importance of creativity, preservation, home, and family!

We have yet another "grand doll house" - and that truly is another wonderful story. Come see us and all the treasures at the museum. Hrs. Fri-Sat 10am - 5pm. 234-7979.

Harrison County, Kentucky, Historical Publications

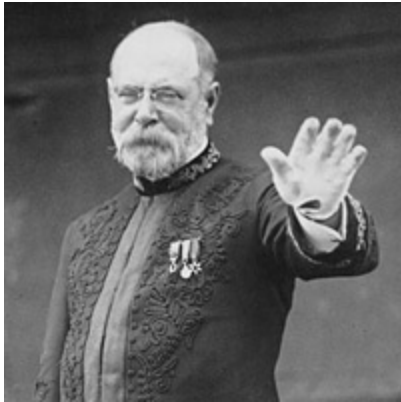
available from Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum, 124 South Walnut Street, P.O. Box 411, Cynthiana, KY 41031 (859-234-7179);

- June 1896 Cynthiana Democrat reprint. This was a special edition with biographical sketches and photographs of prominent men and women; many photographs of buildings; city/county government, church and school information is included. 24 pp. Paperback, 12"x18". \$5.00
- Cynthiana Since 1790. Virgil Peddicord (1986). Mr. Peddicord attempted to list the owners/businesses located on each lot from the founding of the city through the mid-1980s, including subdivisions added through 1923. 171 pp. (See separate index below). Paperback. \$20.00
- Index - Cynthiana Since 1790 (William A. Penn). Mr. Peddicord did not prepare a comprehensive index for his book. This supplemental index contains about 3,500 names and a reference city street map. 30 pp. Paperback. \$3.00
- Writings of Colonel William M. Moore, (1837-1927) compiled by Andrew B. "Andy" Peak (2002). Includes 1921-1922 articles he wrote for the Cynthiana Democrat about his life. 10 family photographs; index; paperback, 71 pp. \$10.00/ \$3.00 shipping. Limited supply.
- This Old House by Katherine Wilson. Now back in print, this book tells the stories of twenty-six early Harrison Co. houses and the families who have occupied them. 70 pp., new index, paperback. \$15.00 (An index is available for earlier editions, which had no index).
- Cromwell's Comments, by John M. Cromwell (1862-1951) is a reprint of Cromwell's 1928-1941 Cynthiana Democrat columns on the history of Cynthiana (Harrison Co., KY). William A. Penn and George D. Slade, editors. Paperback; preface; 2 maps; 21 photos; 4 illus.; annotated; index; 200 pp. (Cynthiana Democrat, 2002), \$10 plus \$3 shipping.

Shipping/handling for above books: Please include a handling and shipping fee of \$4.00 for first book (unless otherwise noted above), \$2.50 for each additional book; you will be notified if special shipping fees apply. No shipping fee on Index - Cynthiana Since 1790, if ordered with the book. Make checks/money orders payable to "Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum." No credit cards. Prices/fees subject to change.

A Royal Visitor in Cynthiana

The “March King” Comes to Town



Reportedly Sousa's favorite photograph of himself, taken in 1915, just three years before his visit to Cynthiana. (Music Division, Library of Congress)

July 4th is the day marking the anniversary of the beginning of the end of crown rule in the American Colonies and the birth of the United States. While the “Founding Fathers” may have had a tiff with old King George, it doesn't mean Americans dislike royalty, for we really do like kings, only in a different realm, that of music.

Who doesn't know who the “King of Rock 'n' Roll” is? We must all know who the “King of Pop” is by now with the unfortunate death of Michael Jackson. About a century ago it was another king who ruled in the land; his name was John Philip Sousa (1854-1932), and he was known as the “March King.”

July 4 is a day for picnics, family outings, fireworks, hot dogs, apple pie, and, yes, Chevrolet, which just barely made the list this year. It is also a day for a little music. Neil Diamond's “They Come to America,” Lee Greenwood's “Proud to Be an American,” Bruce Springsteen's “Born in the U.S.A.” are annual anthems. (If you aren't already humming the melody to one

of these, can you consider yourself American?)

One tune that has always been popular for July 4th festivities is “The Stars and Stripes Forever,” often heard during the fireworks finale of any celebration. In 1918 it was most likely performed by the famous bandleader and composer John Philip Sousa. Sousa and the Great Lakes Naval Station Band were making a wartime visit to Cynthiana, just two days after the first anniversary of America's entry into World War I, when the *Cynthiana Democrat* of April 11 reported the following details:

“The Great Lakes Naval Station Band, of Chicago, with the famous bandmaster, John Philip Sousa, director, stopped over at Cynthiana Monday night for a short concert at the railroad station. A crowd of at least a thousand people greeted the band. Sousa appeared on the rear platform of the train. The band numbered 280 pieces and was made up of naval recruits in uniform. There were ten coaches to the special train. It reached here at about 8:30 o'clock, and was on the way to Cincinnati from Lexington where it participated in a Liberty Loan demonstration Monday. It had the same business in Cincinnati Tuesday, and is part of the organizations touring the country to awaken the people to a sense of their responsibility and duty.

Louisville, Lexington, Paris[,] and Cynthiana were the only towns in Kentucky where the band stopped.”

The paper didn't mention a performance of “The Stars & Stripes Forever,” but it had been a hit virtually since that day in 1896 when Sousa put the composition to paper. He was returning from a vacation in Europe to take charge of the Sousa Band after his manager's

sudden death. In his autobiography he recalled “pacing on the deck, absorbed in thoughts . . . Suddenly, I began to sense a rhythmic beat of a band playing within my brain. Throughout the whole tense voyage, that imaginary band continued to unfold the same themes, echoing and re-echoing the most distinct melody. I did not transfer a note of that music to paper while I was on the steamer, but when we reached shore, I set down the measures that my brain-band had been playing for me, and not a note of it has ever changed.”

It may be the greatest, and probably oldest, hit ever written by “royalty!” Move over, Elvis!



No celebration of the Fourth of July is complete without a performance of “The Stars and Stripes Forever!” Below, Cynthiana's L. & N. Depot. It was here that “a crowd of at least a thousand people greeted the band.”

