



Harrison Heritage News

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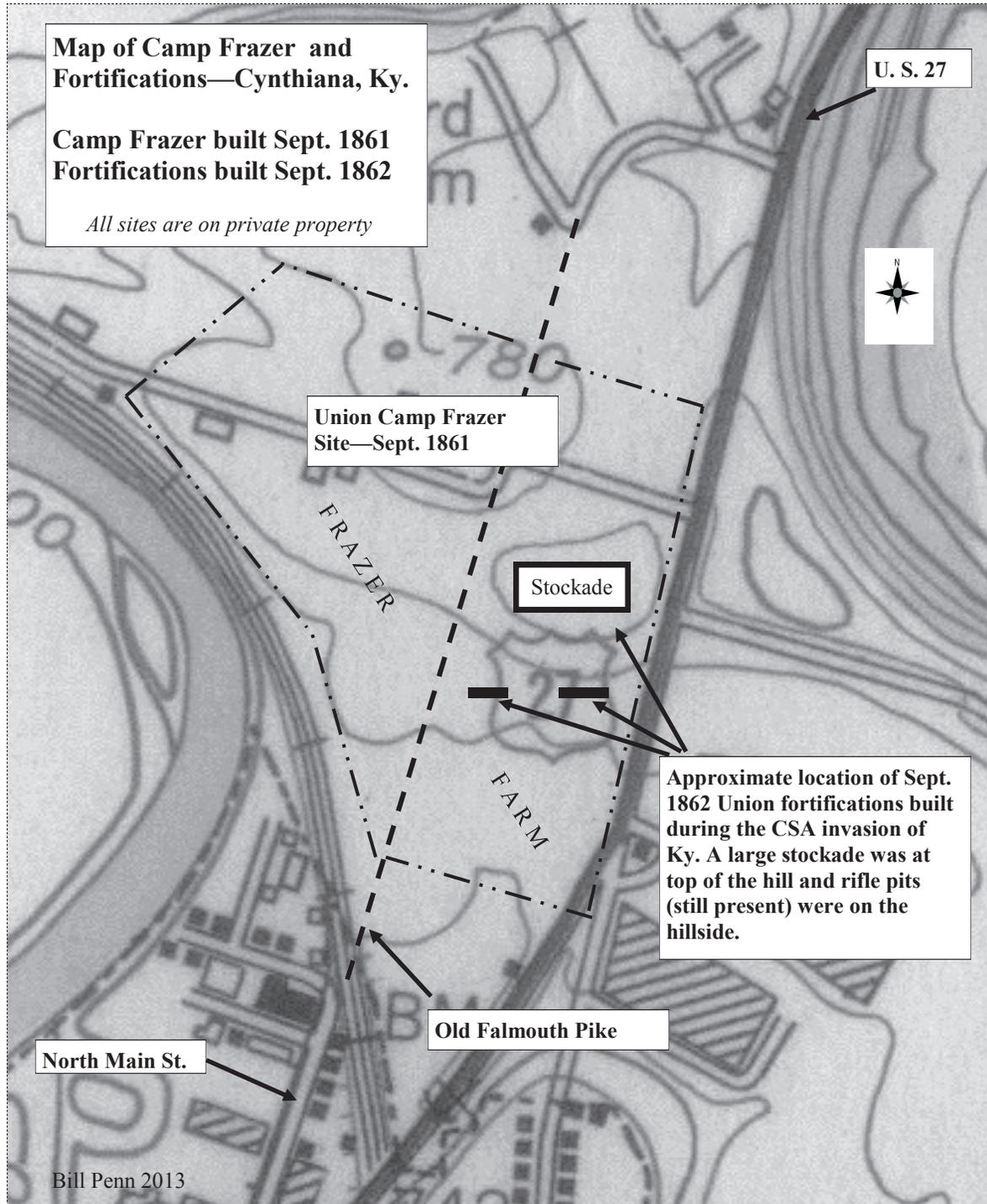
July 2013

Vol. 14 No. 7

UNION MILITARY STOCKADE SITE NEAR CAMP FRAZER DISCOVERED:

BUILT DURING THE CONFEDERATE INVASION OF KENTUCKY

SEE STORY P. 3



Harrison County Historical Society Union Blockhouses Guarded Local Railroad Bridges -

Bob Owen, Acting President

Vacant, Vice President

Marilynn Bell, Secretary

Dorothy Slade, Treasurer

Bill Penn, editor: pennwma@aol.com

July 18, 2013 Historical Society Program

President Bob Owen opened the business session of the meeting with the announcement of the Harrison County Museum's birthday party on July 19th and will include a tribute to Harold Slade. The party being at eight o'clock and will be featured on WCYN Coffee Break.

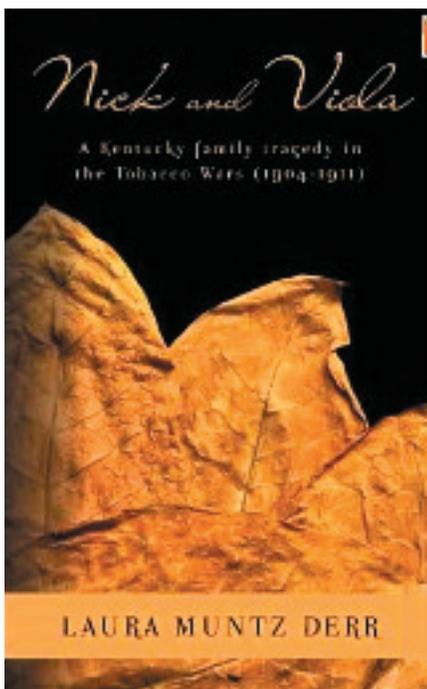
The status of work and plans for the Ridgeway-Handy House were mentioned. The Harrison County Heritage Council is developing a website, attempting to raise funds by selling a portrait on eBay and hopes to have a roofer at work in the very near future.

The new history of Harrison County needs sample family histories to be submitted. These histories should be no more than 500 words and may include one photograph at no expense. A lengthier piece and extra photographs will be at cost to the family submitting the story. All families have a story and everyone in the county is welcome to submit their story. Questions may be addressed to Marilynn Bell at 234-2749.

Program: Melissa Jurgensen talked about her book *Through Their Eyes: Covered Bridges of Harrison County*. At one time there were 700 covered bridges in Kentucky, now there are 13 left, mostly in the north-eastern parts of the commonwealth. Ms. Jurgensen has written books about bridges in other counties including Bourbon and Fleming. She uses local oral histories and photographs to preserve this part of our heritage. She described the difficulties facing various groups who work at maintaining or preserving the bridges that remain.

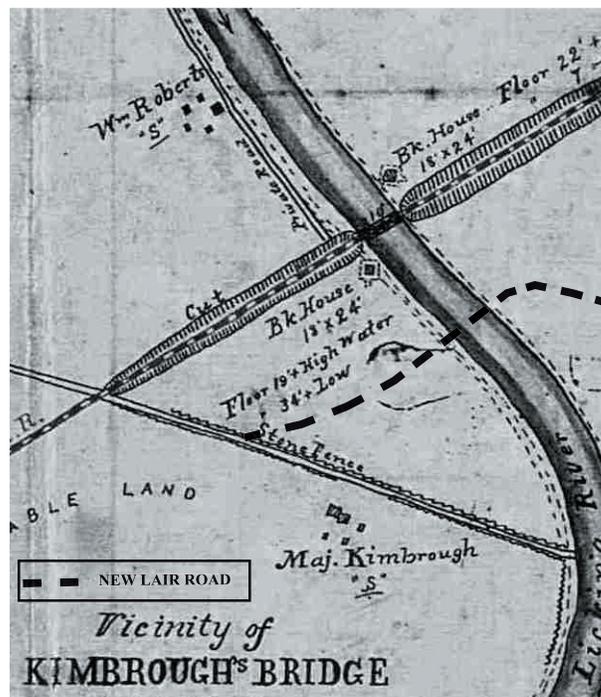
Submitted by Marilynn Bell, secretary

Next Program - August 15



Author Laura Muntz Derr will discuss her new book about the tobacco wars in Harrison County, entitled *Nick and Viola: A Kentucky Family Tragedy in the Tobacco Wars (1904-1911)* [Paperback]. "Nick and Viola is a family tragedy that illuminates a neglected period of Kentucky history and traces its impact on three generations of the Muntz family. In 1899, Nick and Viola Muntz, landowners and tobacco farmers in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky, had a bright future. Vigilante groups, known as "Night Riders," attacked barns and crops, and sometimes even their neighbors who refused to pool. Nick and Viola and their relatives did not join the pool and suffered the consequences."

Image and quote: Amazon.com.



"Woods' Crossing" railroad bridge one mile south of Cynthiana on New Lair Road. During the Civil War this was called Kimbrough's Bridge, named for a nearby landowner. Union blockhouses with guards were at each end as shown on this detail from a 1863 Union military map of railroad defenses between Covington and Paris. It was burned and rebuilt during the war. Since then, Lair Road has been realigned [the "New" Lair Road] east of, and parallel to, the 19th century route shown on the 1877 Beers map. Photo, B. Penn,

JOIN THE HARRISON CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Dues are \$12/year and includes this monthly newsletter. Send check to HCHS, PO 411, Cynthiana, Ky. 41031. Meetings are the third Thursday every month at the Cynthiana-Harrison County Public Library Annex (Charles W. Feix Room) on Pleasant Street behind Biancke's Restaurant, starting at 7 pm. The public is invited.

Scenes from the Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum



Above - Cynthiana High School was destroyed by fire, January 21, 1918.

Below - Jim Bob Martin Collection American Indian artifacts from Harrison County area.



UNION MILITARY STOCKADE SITE NEAR CAMP FRAZER DISCOVERED: BUILT DURING THE CONFEDERATE INVASION OF KENTUCKY

Bill Penn

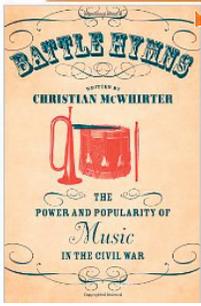
A previously unknown large Union military stockade site has been documented as being built on top of a hill north of Cynthiana, across U. S. 27 from the Ware Funeral Home. Previously, only two entrenchments on the hillside, now barely visible, had been documented, as noted in the Gray and Pape “Battle of Cynthiana Preservation Plan,” prepared for the Cynthiana-Harrison County Chamber of Commerce with a federal grant in 2006. While examining Civil War Ohio newspapers on an online searchable database, including the *Hancock Jeffersonian* (Findlay, Ohio) Sept. 19, 1862, I found a letter printed by a Union soldier describing his travels during the Confederate invasion of Kentucky after the Battle of Richmond in early September 1862. His unit, the 99th Ohio regiment under Colonel Langworthy, had been posted at Paris, but in face of some 6,000-8,000 Confederates approaching through Paris on the way to Williamstown and Covington, to stage a feint on Cincinnati, the Union regiment fell back by train to Cynthiana. There, they found the 45th Ohio Volunteer Infantry posted at Camp Frazer, which they had renamed “Camp Tod”, in honor of the Ohio governor. This camp, built by the 35th Ohio early in the war as a base for guarding the railroad, was located on the west side of the old Falmouth Pike, south of the present St. Edward Cemetery. The soldier wrote that the 45th Ohio was busy building a stockade large enough to enclose 500 men to use as a defensive position against the approaching Rebels. The two Union regiments – 45th and 99th Ohio – however, both fell back (by train) toward Falmouth, abandoning the new stockade, and allowed the much larger Confederate force to pass unchallenged through the area marching toward Williamstown.

Another letter in the *Urbana Union*, Dec. 10, 1862, by a 45th Ohio soldier, describes the location of this stockade. In late November 1862, his regiment marched from Northern Kentucky through Cynthiana on the old Falmouth Pike “between it [Camp Frazer] and our stockade” indicating the stockade was on the east side of the road, apparently somewhere on top of the hill. No other reference to this large stockade has been found, so it was probably dismantled at some point for the wood by the end of the war. Besides the two found entrenchments, others may have encircled the hillside, but unknowingly destroyed by later excavation for U. S. 27. The stockade site is on private property.



(left) This is an example of a Union stockade, similar to one that was erected on a hill north of Cynthiana in September 1862. The stockade apparently was never used, unless passing Union regiments camped in it. It would have been dismantled by the end of the war.

Photo, courtesy of Civil War Trust (glossary “stockade”) <http://www.civilwar.org/education/assets/images/glossary-images/stockade.jpg>.



Book Review - Christian McWhirter, *Battle Hymns: The Power and Popularity of Music in the Civil War* (Civil War America) Oxford

University Press. Music played a large role during the Civil War and both patriotic and sentimental songs were heard throughout the war years. Although there have been a number of books written on the music of the Civil War, Mr. McWhirter attempts to explain which songs were most popular and why this happened. Surprising to me was the fact that several songs dating to the Revolutionary War were popular, including “Yankee Doodle,” “The Girl I Left Behind Me,” and most of all, “Home Sweet Home.” The hymn, “Nearer My God To Thee,” too, was often performed. “Yankee Doodle” remained a Union favorite throughout the war.

When the war began, both the North and the South searched for an anthem. “John Brown’s Body” became the most popular in the North, followed by “Battle Cry of Freedom.” “John Brown’s Body” was originally about an Irish sargent in a Union regiment, but as soldiers of his regiment spread the tune during their travels, the original association was lost and soldiers assumed it referred to the abolitionist martyr, John Brown. Although Julia Ward Howe’s words to the same tune became “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” it was never as popular during the war as “John Brown’s Body,” and actually took off with the public after the Civil War.

The Confederate government also sought an anthem, which they found in “Dixie,” a song that had become a national hit in the two years leading up to the war. Originally a minstrel tune, it was wildly popular all over the United States. Although minstrels were more popular with audiences in the North, it was the South that claimed the tune as their national anthem after Ft. Sumter. The second most popular Southern tune was “Bonnie Blue Flag,” and the two songs were often played as a medley. Surprisingly, for a while, the French national anthem, “Marseillaise,” served as an anthem and was often played by Southern bands. Even though equally popular in the North, “Dixie” was quickly dropped from the play list of Northern minstrels, military bands, and other venues as being disloyal after it was adopted by the Confederacy.

McWhirter documents that soldiers and military bands became the main conduit for spreading the popularity of various songs, singing them as they marched and performing them before other regiments, who in turn would begin to perform them. As Federal troops occupied the South, such as during Sherman’s Atlanta and March to the Sea campaigns, Union bands would play Northern anthems not only to inspire the troops but to annoy Southerners. I recommend this book to readers interested in Civil War music and how it impacted citizens and soldiers.

Music in Cynthiana During the Civil War

Bill Penn

During my Civil War research, I found that Union regiments that camped in Cynthiana often performed for local citizens. Here are a few examples:

On October 15, 1861, in gratitude to the contributions of the Union women, the 35th Ohio regimental band at nearby Camp Frazer serenaded them late into the evening with “patriotic pieces down in town,” but still within earshot of Colonel Van Derveer’s tent, the regimental commander, who wrote about it in a letter to his wife. During a dress parade the day before breaking camp, Union ladies of Cynthiana presented the regiment with a regulation silk U. S. flag. During the celebration, the band again played patriotic tunes for the visiting guests.

In November 1862, the 45th Ohio Infantry marched through town on their way to a campsite near the covered bridge. A soldier’s diary mentions the event: “We halted, divided the company into platoons, and then the next thing was to make a display. The martial music played some national airs, “Star Spangled Banner” &c., and the old Stars and Stripes floating proudly over the heads of the gallant 45th. [As] we passed through the principal street and we could see some faces that looked cheerful and some that looked blacker than midnight.” Of course, one reason for playing the Northern anthems was to taunt Southern sympathizers that may be listening.

As the war ended, music and dances reappeared in social settings. Morey’s newspaper announced that J. F. Rankin would host a “grand Ball” at his Pike Street hotel on December 27, 1865, with music by Capt. Menter’s string band. Morey wrote that it was “the first public social hop held since the return of the ‘faithful’ from the war.” A few years later, when the Confederate memorial was dedicated at Battle Grove Cemetery, a parade from downtown to the cemetery included Finnell’s Coronet Band. There were many Union and Confederate regiments that marched through Cynthiana, and so citizens there probably heard their bands perform numerous times.

Harrison County, Kentucky, History Publications

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

- Boyd, Lucinda, *Chronicles of Cynthiana*. This is a reprint of the rare 1894 edition, which includes family histories, the famous account of David Sheely and his ghost, and other historical sketches and scattered accounts of persons and events connected with Cynthiana and Harrison County. 262 pp. Hardbound. \$20.00.
- *June 1896 Cynthiana Democrat* reprint. OUT OF PRINT
- *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. (Be sure and order 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
- *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. \$17.00. (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.

