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Bits and Pieces

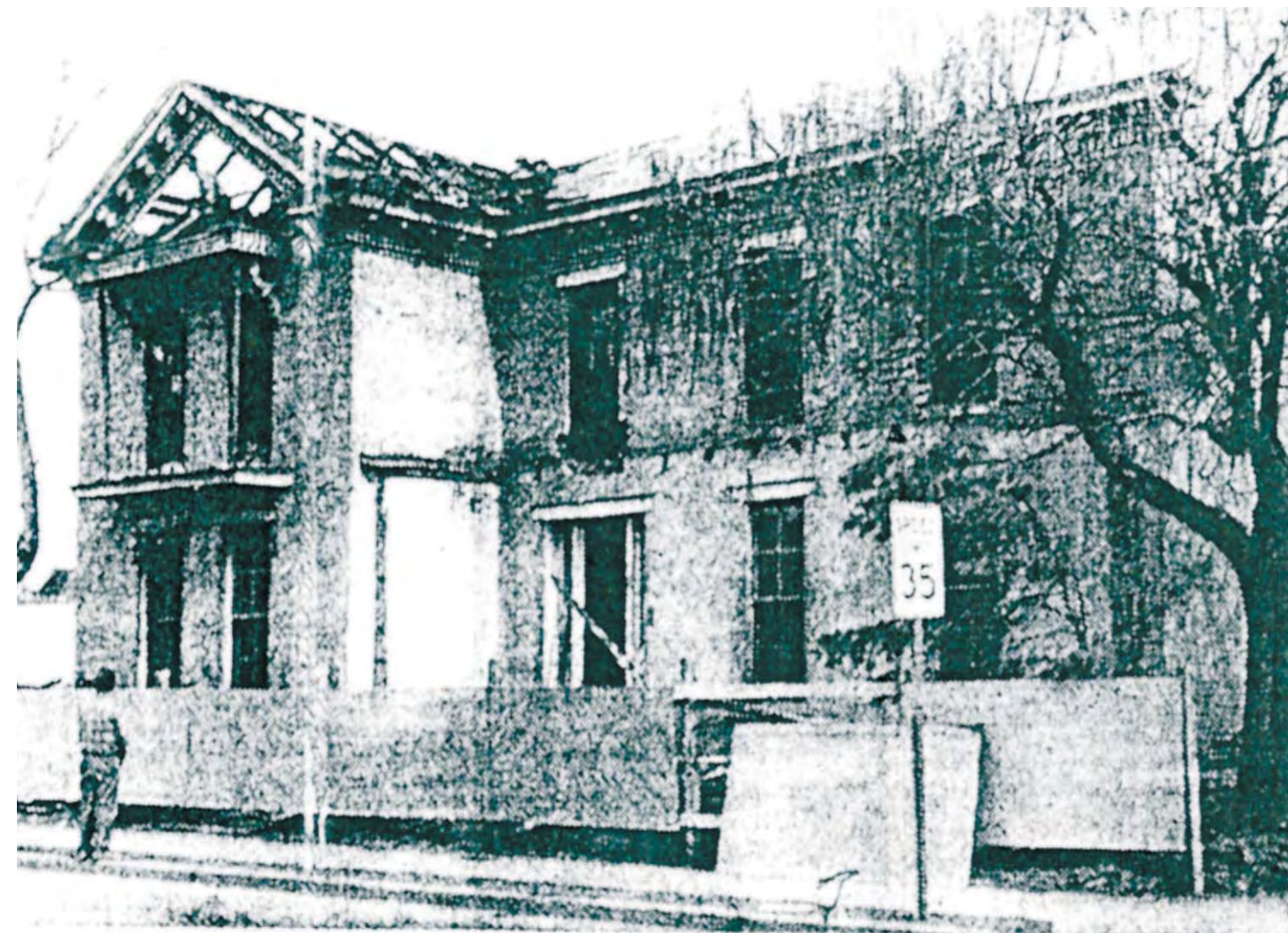
OF HARDIN COUNTY HISTORY

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Elizabethtown News J.C. Jennings Staff Photo Courtesy of J. R. Lay

The Hewitt-Lancaster home on West Dixie Avenue during demolition in January 1966. Today WOXE Radio occupies this site once was home to one of the town's first schools and school master.

There Goes the Neighborhood

**ERASED LANDMARKS EXPLORED ONCE MORE
OWNERS OF LASTING SIGNIFICANCE REMEMBERED**

By Susan McCrobie, newsletter editor

Early 1966 proved to be a turning point in the landscape of Elizabethtown's West Dixie Avenue. Grand old homes that had stood along the road leading from the center of town northward guard for

over 100 years fell victim to progress and commercial growth.

Let's look back at a few of the casualties of the town's 1966 historic home razing and their owners.



Photos Courtesy of HCHS Richerson - Jones Collection

This front and rear view of the Robert Hewitt residence and school located at 233 West Dixie Avenue was taken by Margaret Richerson as part of her work on a countywide Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory.

233 West Dixie Avenue

When the newspaper announced the end of this old two-story brick residence, in January, it also significantly noted that the home was the fourteenth on West Dixie Avenue between Mulberry and Miles to be torn away and replaced by business.

The news reported that the owner, Mr. B. L. Bogue, was planning to build a storeroom on the site for Noon 'Til Nine. The appliance store eventually made its appearance in town but at the end of Houchen's Plaza.

Along with a photograph taken by Elizabethtown News staff photographer J. C. Jennings of the house being dismantled the short article also stated that Bogue had purchased the home from the heirs of Mrs. John Lancaster. It went on to further add that it was once home to Mrs. Lancaster's mother and sister, Mrs. Eliza Young and Miss Alice Young.

Mrs. John Lancaster, the former Mary Young, and her sister Alice were the daughters of Dr. Young.

Dr. Samuel B. Young's father was Dr. W. S. Young, his uncle Dr. Bryan R. Young, and his aunt Elizabeth Young Brown the mother of Kentucky Governor John Young Brown.

Dr. Samuel B. Young was born in Elizabethtown on August 20, 1824. He was well situated in life with a good education and great connections though his prestigious family. In fact after his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Miles, the young couple spent part of their grand wedding trip at a plantation in Biloxi, Mississippi owned by brothers Joseph Emory and Jefferson Davis. The Davis family and Young family were bound by blood.

The families were also bound by their service to the South during a dark period of National conflict.

During the War Between the States, Dr. Samuel B. Young served both the Northern and Southern soldiers in his much sought after medical capacity and by so doing was accused of being a spy. Lucky enough he was warned of the impending dangers at the hands of the Union by a grateful brother of a girl patient whom he had cured of a chronic case of scrofula. To escape capture and captivity, Young closed up his home and fled with family and one faithful slave to Lake Providence, Louisiana. He was welcomed there with open arms by the town's people living sans doctor.

Young later served as a Cotton Agent for the Confederate Government and he lived in Louisiana until the end of the war.

Following the end of the war he once again returned to Kentucky and established his practice in medicine.

Dr. Samuel B. Young died on May 20, 1877 in Elizabethtown at the age of 53. Dr. Young's wife, Miss Eliza, died in 1905 at the home.

Even before the Young's called 233 West Dixie home, another great family that would be tied to the Confederacy made their home at this address.

The Hewitt House

Robert Hewitt, principal of the town's academy was the first to live in the 233 West Dixie house. Along with him and his wife there were four sons and a couple of female relatives living in the house and helping with a school also operated there.

The oldest Hewitt son, Lafayette, enjoyed his

studies and by the age of sixteen had finished his college curriculum only to become head of the household and principal of the town's academy when his father suddenly died.

After eight years caring for his family and duties of the school, Lafayette Hewitt spent a couple of years in Louisiana for health reasons before being appointed by U.S. Postmaster General Joseph Holt for a position in Washington, D.C. He resigned in March 1861 and traveled to Virginia in order to enlist

in defense of the South.

When the Postmaster General of the Confederate States learned of his whereabouts, Hewitt was sent to Montgomery and put to work for a time before eventually joining the Confederate army and rising to the rank of Captain.

After the end of the war, Hewitt returned to his old Elizabethtown home and served as the principal of the Elizabethtown Female Academy until the expatriation laws were repealed.



Elizabethtown News J.C. Jennings Staff Photo Courtesy of J. R. Lay

In 1966, James Bobo owned this house that once was the home of Jane Wintersmith, the daughter of Horatio Gates Wintersmith. Today the Red Cross occupies the 405 West Dixie Avenue site.

405 West Dixie Avenue

Readers of the Elizabethtown News heard about the plans for the destruction of another Elizabethtown residential landmark in January 1966 making way for a modern furniture store to be occupied by Al & Cal Furniture.

It wasn't long until the Green Gables Furniture Store was open to customers and the Gaither residence a thing of the past.

The two-story brick house, once home to Jane Wintersmith and generally known as the J. R. Gaither residence was believed to be over 100 years old when

it fell victim to progress.

Mr. Gaither was one of the trustees of Lynnland College, south of Glendale. He is credited with the naming of the institute situated on the "No Lynn River."

Gaither's Station, three miles south of Elizabethtown on the L&N Railroad derived its name from a branch of this family and Mrs. Gaither was Miss Ann Bland before her marriage.

After the Gaithers died, the house was home to Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Todd and later, Mrs. Lou Bobo and her sister, Miss Nan Horn.

West Dixie Residence Coming Down

The two-story frame residence at the corner of West Dixie avenue and Maple street is being torn down by owner Rufus Brandenburg.

He said he has no plans to announce on development of the property at this time.

The old frame structure, which was a residence for many years, was remodeled and occupied by The Carriage House for several months.

*Photos Courtesy of
The Elizabethtown News
March 31, 1966*



Elizabethtown News J.C. Jennings Staff Photo Courtesy of J. R. Lay

Twelve hundred persons attend the Sunday opening of The Carriage House in October 1965 to shop in an historical atmosphere and take a look at the first class decorator service offered by Homer Benningfield, Jr.

334 West Dixie at the corner of Maple Street

On March 31, 1966 the newspaper told of another demolition on Dixie just diagonal from the former Gaither home place site.

The casualty was a two-story frame residence owned by Rufus Brandenburg. The home had been remodeled in October 1965 and opened as The Carriage House, a showcase for decorative Colonial furniture and accessories under the ownership of Homer Benningfield, Jr.

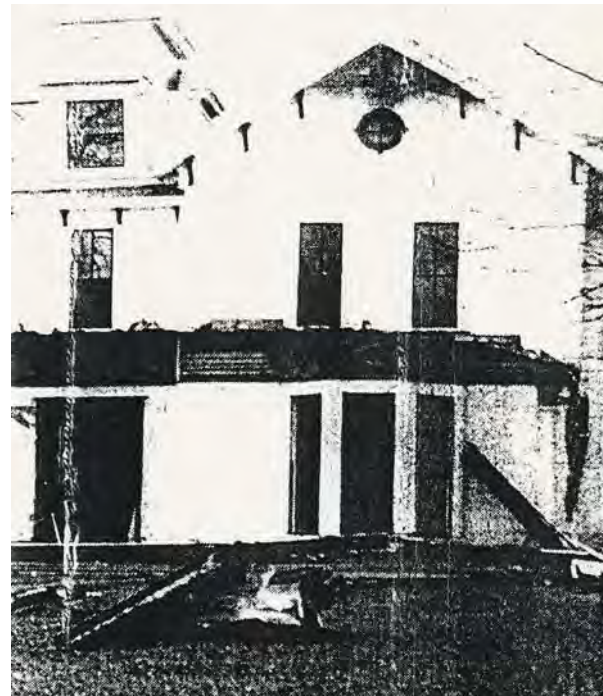
Long before its use as a commercial operation, the large frame house was known as the Warfield house.

Dr. Elisha Warfield was not only a fine physician, but was also considered the best chemist in the Louisville region. His Elizabethtown drug store was destroyed in the big August 1869 fire that swept up the Dixie (Main Cross) to Mulberry.

Follong the devastating fire, articles such as the following appeared in the first issue of the Elizabehtown News on August 12: "E. Warfield, Agent and G. V. Matthis have rented the store room of Stephen Elliot opposite the Eagle House and on the alley next to Dr. Slaughter's residence where they have removed what medicines, drugs, etc., saved from destruciton from the late disastrous fire and are now offering them for sale to their old customers and friends. E. Warfield occupies for the present one side, and G. V. Matthis the other side of the house."

The house mentioned here and used by Dr. Warfield was the Patton House, the site of the marriage of Thomas Lincoln to Sarah Bush Johnston.

Dr. Warfield died January 18, 1897.



Early Town Maps Available

PROVE MOST VALUABLE TOOL FOR RESEARCHERS

By Susan McCrobie, newsletter editor

Sanborn Maps were originally created for assessing fire insurance liability in cities across the United States. The earliest of the large-scale lithographed street plans, at a scale of 50 feet to one inch drawn on 21 by 25 inch sheets of paper, were first published in 1867.

The 1907 Elizabethtown Sanborn Maps found at the Brown-Pusey House are certainly a well-documented window into the past and of great value today in the understanding of urban growth as well as an aid in genealogical research and historic preservation.

These maps clearly mark the shape of all brick and wood structures, names of streets and allies, and even the uses of some of the buildings. The size of a lot is also recorded.

After reading a newspaper clipping about the great number of houses demolished along the 200 and 300 block of West Dixie, once Main Cross, I just had to count the number of houses that once graced the residential arm extended from the business hub of the town's public square on the Dixie. I counted 29 houses, four churches, and a public school! Only two lots were vacant when mapped out in 1907.

What remains today is just a ghost of what once was.



WATER FACILITIES:

Owned by town, built in 1896, gravity & direct pumping system, supplied by 150,000 gal. stand pipe two Smith Valve duplex pumps, capacity 250,000 gal. per 24 hours each. Stand pipe located 3/4 mile S. of Court Ho. & elevd 95' above center of town. Domestic pressure 45 lbs. Fire pressure 80 lbs. per sq. inch. 6 miles 4" to 6" cast iron water pipe average age 8 years. Average daily consumption not known. 44 double hydrants.

FIRE DEPT:

Volunteer company, 30 men. 2 hose reels, 10 7 1/2" hose. 1 H. & L. truck. Apparatus drawn by the Alarm sounded by bell on Court Ho. Grades practically level. Streets partly paved. Public lights electric.

Photo Courtesy of Brown-Pusey House



Photo Courtesy of HCHS Richerson - Jones Collection

Long before Robert Tabb operated a Sinclair Service Station at the corner of South Miles and West Dixie, C.S.A. General Simon B. Buckner resided in a home (Gardiner House) seen in the background at this location. Both the Sinclair Service Station and old Gardiner House are now consigned to memories of the past. Today, the 300 Building with multi-tenants can be found at this spot along the Dixie.

Love, Marriage AND Children

WOMEN THAT SHAPED FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

By Susan McCrobie, newsletter editor

Newspapers can be a rich source of information for researching the lives of early women in this area. When read between the lines, newspapers tell us about attitudes regarding class and gender at particular points in time.

What is considered “newsworthy”? Whose stories are being told? Who is telling the story? Women very seldom were listed as authors in the news section until the late 20th century and their names were only found in printed stories that emphasized their important role in families and the community.

Local women held important places of respect or authority in church organizations. They were remembered for their children and known as the wife or sister of successful men. Their accomplishments, found in print, were in regards to prowess in music, writing, painting, teaching or nursing of the sick.

In early newspapers, photos of men readily appear in print; there is an absence of photos of women of the same time. Women were the ‘behind the scene’ orchestrators of life.

The following two newspaper articles taken from the Elizabethtown News not only name some of the early women of the area; they are an embodiment of how women were viewed in the 1930s.

Some Noted Elizabethtown Women

The Elizabethtown News, December 21, 1934

The editor of The News has written a great deal in past years about the noted men of Elizabethtown of the past half a century, but little has been said of the noted women, and probably they have had more influence and effect upon the moral status and the social life of the community than even the men. Selected for this sketch is a noted woman from each one of the six churches in Elizabethtown and probably more sketches will follow.

Miss Kate Matthis, a member of an old Elizabethtown family, married M. Sweets. She was a veritable “Mother in Israel.” A woman of very strong face, denoting decision and character, yet so gentle and so kind that everybody loved and admired her, she lived a long and useful life in the Presbyterian church and in the home circle. There was always family prayer and the reading of the Scriptures in the Sweets home. Two of her sons became Presbyterian ministers. Dr. David Sweets, editor of the Christian

Observer, died a few years ago and the oldest daughters, Miss Lizzie, is also deceased. Dr. Henry Sweets is one of the outstanding men of the Presbyterian church in the Southland. She left four daughters, Mrs. J. R. Ashlock, Mrs. J.C. Mobley, Miss Nellie Sweets and Mrs. L.A. Faurest who exemplify in their Christian devotion the lessons taught them by their splendid mother.

Miss Mildred Coons, of Fayette county, of a prominent family of the Bluegrass, married Judge A. B. Montgomery some seventy years ago and came to Elizabethtown to live. She was a most remarkable woman. Attractive in her appearance, kindness, sincerity, loyalty and devotion to her family and her church, she left an impress upon the community that has been felt for more than fifty years. She was a devout member of the Baptist church and her life was so consistent with her religious belief and her sweet Christian spirit was so emblematic of the Master’s teachings, that she was one of the great women of Elizabethtown. She left four sons and one daughter, splendid representatives of her life.

Mrs. Eliza Vertrees was the widow of Judge William Vertrees, A very small woman, but a woman of wonderful mentality, she was the sister of the late J. C. Poston, of Louisville. She was renowned as a musician, as an art critic and also a women of fine literary attainments. Mrs. Vertrees was one of the founders of the Christian church in Elizabethtown, and she was one of the pillars of that church during her lifetime. She had two daughters, Miss Mattie and Miss Katherine. Miss Mattie is long since deceased. Miss Katherine married Dr. Young, an Episcopal ministers and lives in the East. Her only son, Haynes Vertrees, one of the brightest young men ever reared in Elizabethtown, died in his youth. The Vertrees home was always a delightful place for people to meet socially and for music. Her two daughters were equally as accomplished in music as their distinguished mother.

Mrs. George M. Cresap was of the Larue family. Her father was a Larue and her mother was a sister of Gov. Helm. Her home was one of the social centers of the town and while she was delightful in dispensing hospitality and in meeting her friends, Mrs. Cresap was one of the most active members in the Methodist church and she lived her religion in doing good to people. There were no trained nurses

in her lifetime, but she nursed everybody who needed her help, rich or poor. Anytime in the night they would call her and she would answer the summons to the sick room. She was one of the outstanding women of Elizabethtown in her life, both in the church and at home. Mrs Horace Hays and Mrs. Brooks Ament are the only children now living in Elizabethtown, Moe T. Cresap, a son, lives in Louisville and Larue Cresap and Mrs. Anna Eliza Green, wife of Robert Green, have passed on.

Mrs. Ben Hardin Helm, a widow of the Confederate General who was killed in the battle of Chickamauga, and a sister-in-law of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, was a strikingly handsome and charming woman. Her home was a center of social life for her friends, He two daughters, Miss Katherine and Miss Elodie, and son, Ben, helped to entertain. Mrs. Helm was postmaster in Elizabethtown for a number of years and moved to a farm near Lexington where she died, but is survived by her three children. They were all ardent Episcopalian, Miss Katherine wrote the life of her aunt, Mary Todd Lincoln, and has painted a number of very striking portraits.

Miss Nannie Lancaster, daughter of Judge W. D. Lancaster, married Charles T. Warren and raised her larger family of children faithfully and consistently in the St. James church of Elizabethtown, her father was at one time County Judge of Hardin county, and her oldest brother was a distinguished officer in the American Army, having graduated from West Point. Jude Lancaster's family moved to Kentucky from St. Mary's county, Maryland, and settled at Lebanon, Judge Lancaster moved to Elizabethtown in his youth, Mrs. Warren was a very sweet spirited, delightful woman. Those who knew her best, loved her most. The church doors were never opened but she was there. Her oldest daughter, Katherine, became a nun. The other children lived in the South. There is one daughter deceased. We believe that heaven is made up of such mothers and wives and faithful Christians as Mrs. Charles T. Warren.

Other Noted Elizabethtown Women of Fifty Years Ago

The Elizabethtown News, December 28, 1934

In writing the sketches of prominent Elizabethtown women of fifty years ago, The News has in mind others who exercised social, moral and religious influence upon the community.

Mary and Lucinda B. Helm, the unmarried daughters of Governor John L. Helm, who spent most of their lives at Helm Place, were for many years outstanding women of this community. Miss

Mary Helm had the rugged individualism of her mother who was the daughter of Ben Hardin, the noted lawyer, but with it she had the kindness of spirit of a true Christian. Miss Lucinda was of a gentle nature but a most persistent and ardent worker for the advancement of the kingdom of Christ through the Methodist church. The present church edifice in this city is named "The Lucinda B. Helm Memorial" after this distinguished woman. These two ladies were not only active in the life of Elizabethtown, especially its church life, but they were active in the entire Southern Methodist church, and lived in Nashville sometime where they were leaders in the Woman's Department of the church work.

Miss Sophronia Gist married William Shirley, of the well known Louisville family, and spent most of her life in Elizabethtown. Many of the older people remember her as traveling round in her phaeton and stopping at various places. She was a very pretty woman in her old age, and she was comparatively old when we first knew her. She was an ardent member of the Christian church and an active worker for its development. Willie Shirley was her oldest daughter and she married D. C. S. Wintersmith. The second daughter was Lollie, who married O. O. Stealey, the Washington correspondent of the Courier-Journal for many years. The third daughter was Agnes, who married R. B. Park. The fourth was Mattie, who married John S. Sprigg, a well know Elizabethtown attorney. All of them have passed away except Mrs. Stealey. Mrs. Shirley married the second time to Dr. McMurtry and two daughters were born to them, who lived to be grown and married and are now both dead. In the social life and in the church life, Mrs. McMurtry was a splendid character and a useful woman.

Miss Nellie Churchill was the daughter of Judge Armistead Churchill, who was the Circuit Judge of this district many years ago. Miss Nellie lived in the old home place of her father for many years after he and her mother had died. Judge Churchill gave the lot for the Episcopal church and contributed most of the funds for the building of the church. Miss Nellie was the last of that Churchill family in Elizabethtown and she was a woman of distinction and character. She was a most devout Episcopalian, During her days of good health, and they were many, she never missed a service at her church. The old Churchill home was torn away on Poplar Street for Churchill Court where Judge Churchill lived and after his death were his daughter, Miss Nellie, lived most of her life.

Mary Lizzie Thomas was the oldest daughter of Samuel B. Thomas, who was a director in the L & N Railroad and the first president of the Elizabethtown

and Paducah railroad, which he promoted. Mr. Thomas was the wealthiest man in Elizabethtown and left his daughter a large estate. Mary Lizzie Thomas, when in her teens, a long time before her father's death, married James B. Payne of Fayette county. They were the parents of thirteen children, nine of whom lived to be grown. Mrs. Payne was an unusually pretty woman, a great visitor among her acquaintances and a consistent and faithful member of the Presbyterian church in which all of her children were reared. There is no member of the Payne family now in Elizabethtown.

Matilda Lovelace married Samuel Sprigg, a member of the well known family by that name. he and his two brothers, William and Henry Sprigg, were responsible for Lynnland College, which is now the Kentucky Baptist Children's Home. Mr. Sprigg died in middle life, left a son and daughter who both died before "Aunt Matilida," as she was called. She lived to be past ninety years of age. All her life she was a very consistent and useful member of the Baptist church, as were all of the Spriggs. She was probably the largest contributor in the Severn's Valley Baptist church at Elizabethtown to home and foreign missions. Up until her death she took an active interest in the church and numbered her

friends by scores. She lived the last twenty or twenty-five years of her life with Mrs. Jennie Wells, mother of Starling Wells.

Ella Slack married James Montgomery, a prominent lawyer of this place for nearly fifty years. She was born in the old Slack home which was a two story log building where the Park residence is now, next to the Catholic church. In its day it was a very pretentious place and was torn down in about 1883 or 1884. Miss Slack was the sister of Robert Slack of Owensboro, Circuit Judge of that district and a very prominent attorney. Miss Montgomery's oldest son, William Slack Montgomery, was with Dewey in the battle of Manila Bay. Another son, John Montgomery, when graduated from West Point Military Academy, married a daughter of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, and is now active in banking circles of New York and Boston. She had a large family of both boys and girls, and she brought them up in the church of her faith, the Roman Catholic church, Mrs. Montgomery was for nearly half a century, until she moved from Elizabethtown, a factor in the life of St. James church and she and her family constituted one of the most important units in the social life of the city.

Samuel Haycraft's Diary Tells of other Noteworthy Elizabethtown Women

DEATH

On this 20th day of Dec 1871 at 4 o'clock PM Mrs. Mary Helm departed this life at her old homestead, now the property of H.B. Helm, aged 94 years 9 months & 6 days (94 years 14 March last.)

She was the widow of the late Major Ben Helm and daughter of the late Benjamin Edwards.

She might be considered my foster mother having entered into her family on the 9th day of October 1809 and lived under her guidance 7 years.

She was one of the extraordinary women of her day, never used spectacles and nearly to the last amused herself by hemstitching pocket handkerchiefs for her grandchildren.

She was a noble woman of the old stamp. Lived a blameless and useful life as history affords. She was not only a patron of usefulness and kindness but was an exemplary Christian for many years a member of the Methodist Church.

Thus one by one has dropped off- Foster Mother, Foster Father, & Foster Mother [sic], kindred &

friends.

I am now in my 77th year and in the course of nature must follow soon. May the Lord help me to follow.

MARRIAGE EXTRAORDINARY

Doctor Joseph G. Chinn, aged 80 years, and Mrs. Catherine Lawson, aged 90 years 1st May next, were married in Lexington on the 1st day of January 1877.

I was well acquainted with the bride, a Miss Kitty May, as early at 1812. She was a daughter of David May, former Clerk of Hardin Quarter Sessions Court, and a sister of Samuel May and Richard May, and it is more than likely that I was presented [a boy of 17] to dance with her, then counted an old maid.

At her marriage with Cinn, she was the widow of David Lawson, a wealthy man who left her his whole fortune.

DEATH

Sally Williams, widow of Daniel Williams and daughter of the late Anthony Vernon died 12 June 1876. She was one of the most excellent of women.

Elizabethtown Native Known as Pioneer in American Mathematics

February 1, 1881 - July 4, 1967

The story of Mayme Logsdon is particularly interesting. According to the Chicago Mathematics Alumnae Project before 1946 women were rarely placed in research universities upon graduation, but virtually always placed in exclusively teaching-focused positions without graduate advising of their own. Logsdon not only was an Associate Professor but she played a roll in informally advising many students and was dissertation advisor for one woman and three men in the 1930s.

More on her part in American Mathematical History can be found on the Internet at www.agnesscott.edu/lriddle/women/logsdon.htm,



Mayme Irwin Logsdon



The Hardin Collegiate Institution, a co-educational facility established in 1892, once stood off of College Street where today's Audubon Court is located. The school was originally called Elizabethtown Preparatory School for the Central University of Richmond, Kentucky.

The school was originally sponsored by the Louisville Conference of the Methodist Church. Local citizens raised \$12,500 of the \$16,000 cost for building.

Dr. W. K. Patterson was listed as the first President of the College and in that position when Miss Mayme Irwin graduated in 1897. Patterson who was also a minister was listed as Professor of Moral Sciences and L.L. Campbell as Head Master.

By June 2, 1899 Professor J. E. Austin arrived from Texas and took his place as the new Principal here.

Dr. Mayme Logsdon, 86 Died July 4th In Miami

Mrs. Mayme Irwin Logsdon, daughter of the late James D. Irwin and sister of the late Fletcher Irwin, attorneys of this city, died at Miami, Fla., July 4th at the age of 86.

Her survivors in Elizabethtown include a stepson, O. P. Logsdon; a half sister, Mrs. Harris Blakey, and a nephew, Leon Blakey.

Other survivors are a stepdaughter, Mrs. Karl Albert of Casper, Wyo.; sister, Mary Irwin, of Washington, D. C.; half sister, Mrs. William Singleton of Louisville.

Mrs. Logsdon was graduated from the Hardin Collegiate Institute at the age of 16 and began her teaching career in the Elizabethtown public schools. In 1900 she married A. Horace Logsdon. He died in 1910.

She took her B. S. magna cum laude at the University of Chicago in 1913, her A. M. in 1915, and her Ph. D. in 1921. She was the 11th woman to receive a Ph. D. in mathematics at the University of Chicago and the only woman who has ever had permanent tenure on the mathematics faculty. She taught continuously at the University of

Chicago from 1921 to 1946 when she reached retirement age, except for two school years 1925-26 when she had leave of absence to study at the University of Rome on an International Education Board fellowship.

Dr. Logsdon was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma-Xi, Sigma Delta Epsilon, a charter member of the American Mathematical Society, founded in 1915, a member of the American Association of University Professors and of the American Association of University Women.

She is the author of the two-volume college text "Elementary Mathematical Analysis," published by McGraw-Hill in 1933, and of "A Mathematician Explains," published by the University of Chicago Press in 1935 and still in print.

Upon reaching retirement age at Chicago in 1946, Dr. Logsdon went to the University of Miami to teach one year and remained on the faculty until she reached the age of 80 in 1961. In 1963 she moved to the Lutheran East Ridge Retirement Village, near Miami. Cremation took place in Coral Gables, Fla.

E-town Lions Club Style Show

August 1949

Pictured in the photo to the right in no particular order are: Bill Johnson; H.T. Hadden; Ed Wetterer; Floe Bowles; Clyde Hawkins; G. L. Evans; John Gardner.



Pictured in the photo to the left in no particular order are: R. R. "Babe" Thomas; Herbert Tabb; Buren Gilpin; Jas. Strong; G.C. Burkhead; Bill Hicks.

*Photos Courtesy of the
R.R. "Babe" Thomas Collection*

**...and a very
good time was
had by all!**

Pictured in the photo to the right in no particular order are: Dick White; Ed Ward; Kelley Cain; Jas. Strong; Dr. Barnard; Chas. Owlette; R.B. Mobley; Merl Loucks; E.F. Mays; W.B. Cooper; Geo. Black; Kenneth Duttske; G.C. Burkhead.





Message From The President

Greetings to all members,

Mark Twain once said, *“Climate is what we expect, weather is what we get.”*

Well, we have gotten a variety of weather these past months, but I am confident by the time we meet on April 28th the weather will be much more pleasant. One of my favorite characters will be with us on that evening. Mark Twain (Jim Roberts) has agreed to pay us a visit.

Our website (www.hardinkyhistoricalsociety.org) states that *“the Hardin County Historical Society exists to study, preserve, and disseminate information about the history of Hardin County.”* This is accomplished primarily through quarterly meetings, promotion of historic publications for sale, and by publishing a quarterly newsletter called Bits and Pieces of Hardin County History. I encourage each of you to be in attendance at our meetings!

We have some excellent historical publications available, but we have a very limited few of some of our historical works. This will be a topic we discuss at our meeting.

With this mission clearly outlined for us, we have some important business to discuss with you at our meeting.

-Mike Bell



Pictured in the photo to the left in no particular order are: Ernest Miller; Clyde Crittenden; Jimmie Hartlage; Ruel Lammen; Bobby Lanz; Bud Davis; Jack Gross; Bok. Mitchell.

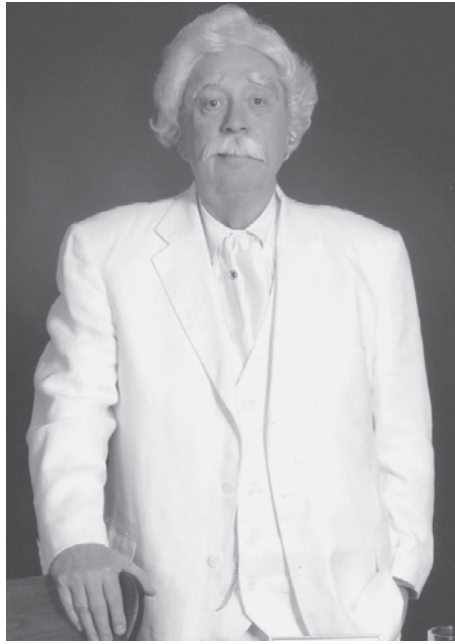
In August 1949, a great crowd assembled in the Elizabethtown High School Auditorium to watch local business men and elected officials perform in high style. Proceeds from the event funded the many charitable works of the Elizabethtown Lions Club.

Note from the editor: There are other photos from this historic event in the collection. No participants were identified in the remaining photos.

Photos Courtesy of the R.R. “Babe” Thomas Collection



Historical Society announces next meeting



Jim Roberts

The Hardin County Historical Society will meet Monday evening, April 28th, 2014, at the STATE THEATER GALLERY, 209 West Dixie Avenue, in downtown Elizabethtown. The buffet dinner, catered by HEARTLAND CATERING, will be served at 6:30 PM. The price is \$9.00 per person. Call Twylane VanLahr at 270-765-2515 by **Friday, April 25th, for dinner reservations**; later reservations for the meal cannot be guaranteed.

The dinner is followed at 7 P.M. by a program, *Mark Twain: Steamboats and Anecdotes* presented by Elizabethtown, Kentucky resident, Jim Roberts.

Roberts, who grew up along the riverbank at West Point, has spend several years researching Twain's Kentucky roots and adapting his extraordinary work to breath life back into the fading memory of this quick witted individual. He uses a mixture of quotes, anecdotes and biographical sketches to bring Twain alive and have him react to present day sights and events.