


2-1984

## Landmark Report (Vol. 4, no. 8)

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# LANDMARK REPORT

Vol. 4 No. 8 **of Bowling Green & Warren County** FEB. 1984



## *Decorators' Show House 1984*

The project itself is a landmark! A show house project has never before been attempted in Bowling Green. As a combined effort of the Landmark Association and the Arts Alliance, it reflects this community's interest in both historic preservation and cultural enrichment. Approximately fourteen local and out-of-town interior and landscape designers have expressed interest in presenting their talents toward redecorating the William Voltaire Loving House at 1253 State Street. This event, scheduled to begin April 29th and lasting through May 13th, will open with an afternoon "preview tea" on April 29 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. to be held at the home of Mr. O.V. Clark, 1234 State Street. Tickets for the tea will be available at \$10.00 per person. Mr. Clark will also host a "preview party" following the tea on April 29th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Tickets for the preview party will be

(continued col. 1 next page)

available at \$25.00 per person. Tickets for each of these events will include an unlimited number of visits through the Show House.

Decorators' Show House 1984 will be open to the public from April 29 through May 13, 1984 during the following hours:

Monday - Saturday 10AM-4PM  
Sunday 1PM-5PM  
Tuesday and Thursday 7PM-9PM  
Other times by appointment.

Tickets will be available in advance for \$4.00, \$5.00 at the door and \$3.00 for students. For further information, contact Regina Newell at (502) 781-3880.



Under the co-chairmanship of Romanza Johnson and Mary Frances Willock, approximately 100 volunteers are coordinating details regarding all aspects -- from tickets and housesitters to parking and an in-house boutique. Months of researching successful show house projects in other locations are reflected in their efforts. Special activities are planned including demonstrations, workshops, candle-light tours and musical events. An admission fee will be charged for these special events.

Presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wahn Raymer, the brick two-story house is one of the few double pile (two rooms deep) central passage (centrally located hall and/or stairway) house in the county. Architecturally significant features include the Greek Revival entrances and portico with corinthian columns, limestone sills and lintels, floor length 6/6 double hung windows and the interior mantels and woodwork.

Built circa 1840 by William Voltaire Loving and his wife, Amanda, the house centered on an acre and a half lot reaching from State to College Street. Originally, the front facade had a small two-tiered porch supported by small columns. Born in Virginia in 1803, Loving moved to Kentucky in 1811. As a young man, he attended law school at the University of Virginia, was admitted to the Bar in 1829, married the same year and settled in Warren County, not only to

practice law, but eventually to serve the area as a Representative in both houses of the Kentucky General Assembly.

In 1845, Loving was appointed Commonwealth Attorney and in 1849 became a Circuit Judge. Nominated for Governor in 1855, he asked that his name be removed due to ill health. The will of Robert Ogden, who both founded and endowed Ogden College (eventually evolving into Western Kentucky University), had as its executors Loving and his son, Hector, who became the first Regent of that institution. After selling the house in 1869, Loving moved to Louisville where he died in 1896.

Under the ownership of Thomas Storts, the Green River Female Academy, a boarding school, occupied the site for a number of years. Subsequently, the house passed to several owners, including Carrie Taylor, before its purchase in 1909 by W.W. Ashby, Business Manager for the Bowling Green Business University. It was the Ashby family who moved the house to its present location nearer State Street. Taking two months to do so, the building was raised on jacks and rolled forward on logs. During the fifty years of ownership by the Ashbys, the small porches and columns were replaced by the present Greek Revival portico. Later additions to the structure have included the side pent with doric column and the rear porch. The Ashby family lived here until 1958.

Prior to its purchase by Mr. and Mrs. Wahn Raymer, the house has had numerous owners and uses including a rooming house for male students.

## NEW LANDMARK STAFF

Kathy Fister has recently been hired as the new secretary for the Landmark Association. Kathy will be working during the morning at the office. She and her husband, Ken, moved to Bowling Green from Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Kathy is excited about her new position and is looking forward to working with the association.

## FEBRUARY LANDMARK MEETING

Landmark members and their guests are invited to attend the Landmark Association February meeting to be held at the Bowling Green Public Library on Wednesday, February 22, 1984 at 7:30 p.m.

Our guest speaker will be Mr. William Kephart, River Operations Manager for Shakertown at Pleasant Hill. Mr. Kephart has spent the past two winters researching the colorful history of the Kentucky River and its connection with Kentucky's 19th century river highways of commerce.

Mr. Kephart's program will deal with the history of Kentucky's rivers as channels of exploration, migration and commerce -- with a special note of interest regarding the rivers as means of cultural germination. Because of Bowling Green's reliance upon the Barren and Green Rivers for the town's early development, this program should be of special interest.

Following the program, a tour will be conducted at the home of Autumn Carol Schroeter. Designed by its owner, the house is located in an open woods at 5 Coventry Court.

### *Calendar of Events:*

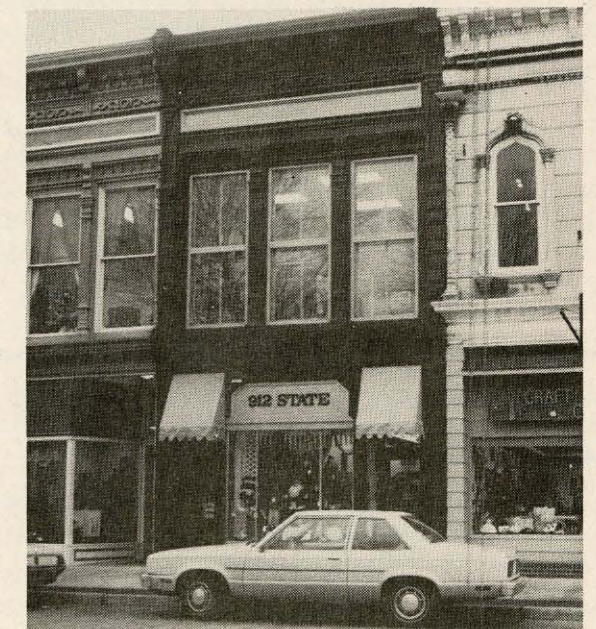
- Feb. 22: LANDMARK MONTHLY MEETING  
7:30 PM BG Public Library
- Mar. 21: LANDMARK BOARD MEETING  
7:30 PM Landmark office
- Mar. 28: LANDMARK MONTHLY MEETING  
7:30 PM BG Public Library
- Apr. 6-8: Oriental Rug Show and Sale  
Houchens Center for Women  
1115 Adams Street
- Apr. 18: LANDMARK BOARD MEETING  
7:30 PM Landmark office
- Apr. 25: LANDMARK MONTHLY MEETING  
7:30 PM BG Public Library
- Apr. 29-May 13: DECORATORS' SHOW HOUSE 1984  
1253 State Street  
Mon.-Sat. 10AM - 4PM  
Sunday 1PM - 5PM  
Tues. & Thurs. 7-9PM

## DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

Mr. David Weaver, owner of the Potter-Matlock Bank and Trust Company Building at 912 State Street, has completed revitalization of the structure's facade and second floor. Weaver Appraisal Company and several office lease spaces occupy the formerly vacant upper floor. Changes on the facade include a new paint color, new awnings and signage.

Built by J.R. Golliday and C.R. Edwards circa 1860, this building was used by Edwards as a picture and portrait gallery until at least 1872. In 1887, the property was purchased by Barclay, Potter and Company for use as a banking facility. It was during this time that the pressed metal facade (one of four in the historic district) was added to the structure. By 1909 when the building was vacated, the company was known as Potter-Matlock Bank and Trust.

A variety of businesses have been located in the building including a jewelry shop (1909), Willis and Clemmons Tailoring Shop (1914), Lena McKee, photographer (1922), Robinson's Flower Shop (1925), Bettie Kate Bonnet Shop (1927) and Dr. J.W. Ford, dentist (1914-1927). Lois-Glyn Beauty Shop has been at this location since the 1930's.



WEAVER APPRAISAL COMPANY  
POTTER-MATLOCK BANK & TRUST

912 STATE STREET  
CA. 1860

FEB 17 1984  
 Kentucky Library  
 Western Kentucky University  
 Bowling Green, Ky. 42101

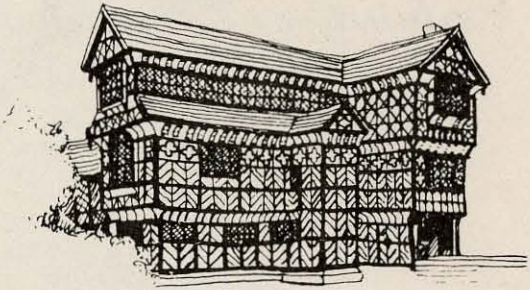


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 Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101  
 502/781-8106

## British Architectural Heritage Tour

Plans are progressing for the British Architectural Heritage Tour sponsored by the Landmark Association to be conducted June 8-24, 1984. Brochures explaining the tour in detail will be mailed soon. Total cost of the tour per person is \$1750 double and \$1850 single. Please remember, participation is strictly limited to 45 people including the two directors. We already have six people signed up! Deadline for registration is April 20, 1984.



**LANDMARK REPORT** is a publication of the Landmark Association of Bowling Green and Warren County, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized to promote historic preservation/economic development. Landmark, a participating agency in the Kentucky Main Street Program, is supported by the membership of concerned citizens.

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