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Landmark Report (Vol. 15, no. 2)

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March 1996

LANDMARK REPORT

vol. 15, no.2

Next General Membership Meeting

Landmark will pack its bags and move to Woodburn for its next general membership meeting on April 11. From 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., the home of Jack and Monisa (Montell) Wright will be open for touring. To get to the home go about 1/2 mile past the Woodburn crossroads; it is a two-story, white frame home on the left. The street address is 12410 Nashville Road. One of the Landmark tour signs will be placed near the road for your convenience. Our meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Woodburn Baptist Church. To get to the church, return to the Woodburn Crossroads and turn right toward Woodburn (left if you're coming from Bowling Green); the church is about 1/2 mile from the Crossroads on the right.

The meeting will concentrate on Woodburn's history and its development. We'll talk about when Woodburn won the state women's basketball tournament, the fact that Woodburn boasted Warren County's first consolidated school, the agriculture of the region, the town's architecture and its businesses and churches. We encourage your attendance; if you would like transportation to the meeting please contact the Landmark Office by April 8th (782-0037).

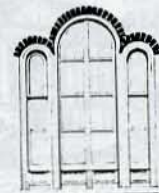
Landmark Publication Wins Award

Landmark's publication *Riverview: Savoring the Past* was awarded first place by the Historical Confederation of Kentucky for local and state history publications produced by organizations with an annual budget under \$25,000. The judges called the booklet an "overall excellent publication." They also added that the "images of Riverview before, during, and after the restoration were...outstanding and the research was complimented for being very thorough."

Riverview: Savoring the Past, printed in 1995, is available from the vendors that sell Landmark publications for \$3.00. It is also available from the Landmark office for \$4.00 which includes postage and handling.

Riverview

SAVORING THE PAST



Depot Authority Appoints Architectural Firm

The Depot Development Authority announced the architect of Howard, Needles, Tammen & Bergendoff (HNTB) to provide the architectural services for Phase I of the depot restoration. HNTB ranks as the nation's fifth largest architecture/engineering firm according to *Building Design & Construction* magazine (1995 ranking) HNTB has provided planning and design services for some of the country's most historic restoration projects including the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials; the award-winning restoration of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum; Indianapolis' Circle Theater and Lafayette, Indiana's depot. The first has provided architecture, interior architecture and urban design and planning services since the mid-1970s.

Other HNTB projects in Kentucky include a new performing arts building and a library at Georgetown College and work at Louisville's Standiford Field. The firm employs 2,000 architects, engineers, planners and support personnel in 36

offices nationwide. The Indianapolis office serves clients throughout Indiana as well as Ohio and Kentucky. The Bowling Green depot project will be led by HNTB's Indianapolis office with assistance from the Louisville and Nashville offices.

The Project Coordinator will be Mike Young. The principal architect who will oversee the restoration work is James Kienle, who is vice president and director of HNTB's Indianapolis office. He has more than 25 years of experience in the planning and design of transportation-related facilities, commercial developments, education and hospitality projects. Throughout his career, Mr. Kienle has focused on the restoration of historic properties including the above mentioned Circle Theater and the Lafayette, Indiana depot. He also designed the plan of restoration of the Old Executive Office Building in Washington, D.C. and the restoration of the Terre Haute House in Terre Haute, Ind. He serves on the board of directors of the Preservation Action Committee, based in Washington, D.C., and the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana.



Special Thanks

A special thanks to everyone that helped with the Christmas Tour of Homes. I appreciate the home owners opening their homes and to all the members who provided refreshments and served as hostesses and hosts for the event. Certainly it added a festive touch to the holiday season.

Romanza Johnson
1995 Tour of Homes Chair

The Tour of Homes was attended by well over 100 guests. We salute the following home owners for their hospitality and their commitment to maintaining their historic treasures:

Dr. Rick and Sylvia Voakes
1328 College Street

David and Nancy Ham
1338 College Street

Drs. Jeffrey Adams and Tammy Willis
1340 College Street

Dr. Hugh and Jean Thomason
Greystone Apartments
1334 State Street

Dr. John and Nancy Parker
1357 State Street

Lingering Landmark

Perched on a picturesque hill near Richardsville, the Old Green River Union Meeting House lingers like a spinster awaiting her beau. Although decimated, she continues to wait, hoping for the renewed spirit that comes from an adoring subject.

Built in 1845 by Huguenot

descendants, this church is constructed of yellow poplar and is surrounded by an ample cemetery. The building is one of fourteen Huguenot shrines in the United States and the only one in Kentucky. The church retains its two separate front doors, a feature many rural churches have remedied with a centered entrance. Its deteriorating condition does not belittle its severe symmetry and fine workmanship.

The church congregation dates from the early nineteenth century. A log building was erected for services and in 1835 Joseph Herrell and his wife deeded two acres of land to the trustees of the Green River Union Meeting House. Baptists, Presbyterians and Methodists all worshipped here at one time. When the Methodist Church was erected in Richardsville in the mid-1940s, many people who attended church at Green River began going to the town church. When the Richardsville Baptist Church was begun in the 1950s, it met in the building until a new facility was constructed.

Although a congregation has not worshipped at Green River in many years, homecomings and reunions are still held on the property. Unfortunately the church has been vandalized and much of its flooring removed, although the beautiful old poplar floor joists are still in place. Despite its 150 years the building's sides are not sagging like many of our other rural churches which have slid off their piers or suffer from sinking piers.

THE MITCHELL-ESTES FARMHOUSE

By Janet Johnston

(Editor's note: This is a continuation of an article from the last *Landmark Report*)

The Mitchell-Estes homeplace is vernacular because of its use of natural materials, such as limestone and yellow poplar wood, and its simple workmanship. However, it exhibits the Queen Anne free classic style by its applied ornamentation. The house incorporates simple detail and construction with the high style ornamentation of the Victorian period. The house and its setting are examples of the rural historic landscape in Warren County and provide reflections of typical construction and traditions of rural, farming communities.

The two-story, irregular plan encompasses a 49'x40.2' original section and a 50.3'x40.2' rear addition. The facade contains a Queen Anne style wrap-around porch that extends from the recessed, northern side to the dominant front facing gable on the house's south side. The porch has a poured-concrete foundation and classical columns. The house features a hipped roof with intersecting cross gables.

The stick framing of the house is yellow poplar wood and is covered with horizontal poplar clapboard. Its foundation consists of uncut, limestone. The original wooden

shingles have been replaced with forty-year fiberglass shingles. The construction of the hipped roof is an all common rafter, post and beam construction. The original 1892 house was added to a section of an older house that belonged to Jack White. The remains of the Jack White homeplace consisted of a kitchen and dining room area, porch, and storage area. This small portion was destroyed in the 1991 renovation process.

The front gable has simple woodwork of yellow poplar. Two poplar sunburst motif brackets flank each side of the gable. A plaque inscribed "1892" was found during the renovations in 1991. Tripartite sash windows are the focal points of the uppermost section of the front gable. The roof and wall junction are open eaves with exposed rafters and exhibit yellow poplar cornices and fascia.

The front facing gable spans the two floors, and each floor features three 7'x3' bay windows. The second floor bay areas have only one sash window, but the first floor bays have two windows on the outside bay sections. All windows and doors of the house, including the addition, have yellow poplar surrounds. The lintels and sills are yellow poplar and Queen Anne in design. Several of the house's windows are stained glass sash windows with a larger stained pane

THE MITCHELL-ESTES FARMHOUSE



The Mitchell-Estes Farmhouse (1892)

surrounded by smaller square panes.

The house's interior features a "socially-locked" plan. A large vestibule (21'x10'), open stairway, and the central passageway (17'x5') create a "social lock" from the remainder of the house. The vertical bay on the house's south side contains a parlor and dining area. The north vertical bay contains a bedroom. Most of the rooms are large and boast 9' ceilings. The second floor contains a bathroom, central passage, and three large bedrooms. The south vertical bay contains one chimney. The woodwork throughout the home is original yellow poplar. The closets on the second floor are diagonal enclosures.

The interior passageway doors have a single transom light with

adjustable openings. The other doors are simple paneled interior doors. The first floor flooring is 1940s hardwood, but the second floor flooring and stairway are original yellow poplar. The home originally had gas light fixtures. However, due to vandalism, the fixtures have been replaced with similar antique fixtures.

For approximately twelve years, the home remained vacant, and deterioration due to lack of use, weather, and vandalism occurred. In 1991, the house underwent substantial restoration. Because the older Jack White section had deteriorated beyond repair, it was razed and replaced with a modern addition of a kitchen, screened porch, garage, pantry, and den. The interior and exterior window and door surrounds of the addition are replicas of the original surrounds in the 1892 section. To maintain the historical character and materials of the structure, the rear addition has vertical, wood siding. Other renovation projects included the raising of the foundation to construct a full basement.

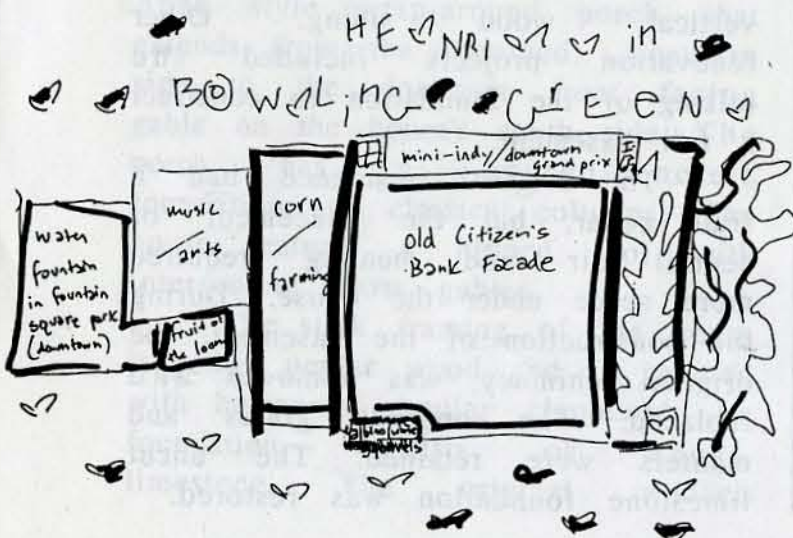
The original residence had a fruit cellar, but the placement of central air and heating required more space under the house. During the construction of the basement, the original chimney was removed and replaced. The original grates and mantels were retained. The uncut limestone foundation was restored.

Who is Hen'ri?

Several Landmark members have asked about the mural that graces the side of the Moore Building at the corner of Park Row and State Street. This abbreviated article reprinted from *Downtown News* may be of some assistance in understanding the work. Bill Moats, Education Director of the Capitol Arts Alliance, and artist Andee Rudloff provided information for this article.

Since the creation of the Arts Alliance in 1976, a program of art in public places has been one of its goals. However, more pressing priorities such as developing a performing arts center/gallery complex and an ongoing arts education program have, until recently, prevented the Alliance from focusing on the idea of public art.

In 1994 the staff of the Capitol Arts Alliance, working with an advisory panel of area leaders and artists, developed a master plan which is serving as a guide for the implementation of the Capitol Arts Alliance Public Art Initiative.



The new mural was designed and painted by Bowling Green artists Andee Rudloff and C. David Jones. Sponsors of the project include Target, National City Bank, the City of Bowling Green, Warren County, and Pittsburgh Paints. The Capitol is also grateful to the owners of the building, Jeff and Mary Ann Bonds. Leo Fernandez, Art Department Head at WKU explains that the mural is similar to a technique used by Hen'ri Matisse known as the cut-out. When recuperating from a critical surgery in the last decade of his life, Matisse turned to the paper cut-out in order to remain creative while being confined to a chair or to his bed. Although the cut-out was Matisse's major medium of expression in the final decade of his life, it was only during the last half of the decade that it reached its fully developed form.

Because of its dimensions and composition, the downtown mural, serves as an ideal source of visual information for two local artists, Andee Rudloff and David, Jones, who have completed a "wonderful" variation of the original.

It is important to note that the mural is meant as a light-hearted treatment of Bowling Green icons and landmarks. It is the hope of the advisory panel and the artists that the public will see the mural as a vehicle for art education, a tie to the history of art and a playful record of some of our community's most important and colorful images.

Details

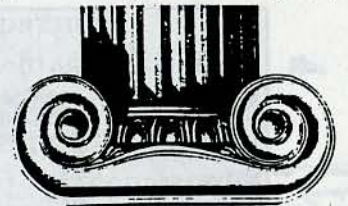
- Thanks to Dr. Arvin and Corrie Vos for hosting our February meeting at Corrie's new office on High Street. The building's hallway gives new meaning to the term cathedral ceiling. From the exterior no one could suspect that you would walk into a bright, airy hallway that soars 24 feet and is capped by skylights. The resulting offices are spacious and the owners took great efforts to retain as many of the interior and exterior details as possible. Special congratulations to carpenter Tommy Herman who was awarded an honorary membership in the Association this year. Special thanks to the members who brought goodies for the reception which the Vos's hosted at their lovely home on 13th Street.
- The Landmark Association has been awarded a \$500 grant from the Kentucky Heritage Council to produce a walking tour brochure of Smiths Grove. The tour will include businesses, churches, residences, schools, and the community cemetery.
- We commend Rick Kelley, owner of the Mariah Moore House, for his decision to restore as much of the old building as possible and to re-open the restaurant in that location.



- Since our last newsletter, both the Hardcastle house near Smiths Grove and the James Hines house on Adams Street in Bowling Green have been razed. You may remember the pictures we published showing their fire damage.
- The Landmark Board is developing an award to be given annually to one of our members to honor outstanding home restoration. We are currently gathering information from other historical preservation groups to help us in the development of guidelines for the award. If you have any homes in mind that might be eligible for nomination, watch for additional information. Also it might be possible to name the award after someone or something that has been important to restoration in our area. Please contact members of the Awards Committee with your suggestions. Members are: Rick Voakes, Jonathan Jeffrey, Matt Baker, Dawn Slaughter, Judy McCoy and Jean Thomason.
- Landmark donated a copy of *A Visual Dictionary of American Architecture* to the Kentucky Library at Western in honor of Justice Charles H. Reynolds.

Enclosed you will find a membership survey. The Board asks that you fill it out and return it to the Landmark office. This will help give the board guidance in decision making.

"A future with a past"



Bowling Green-Warren County

LANDMARK
ASSOCIATION

JONATHAN JEFFREY
1334 STATE STREET #2
BOWLING GREEN KY 42101-3491

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Bowling Green, KY 42102-1812

P.O. Box 1812

Landmark Association

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LANDMARK APPRECIATES OUR NEW MEMBERS

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Susan & Rick McCue	Steven & Bonnie Kavanaugh
Dan & Melissa Rudloff	David Sims (Sims Real Estate)
Earnest & Cynthia Smith	Gary West (BGWC Tourism Commission)
Mary & Charles Kirk	Joel D. Steenbergen (Greenwood Mall)
Margaret Sterling	Kim Mason (<i>Amplifier</i>)
Betty Yambrek	Lee Huddleston
Robert Logsdon	George & Janice Peterson, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Jesse T. Funk	Tommy & Yvonne Hermann

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