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Support Landmark’s Restoration of the Pump House

To save the Pump House at the summit of Reservoir/Hospital Hill, the Landmark Association has signed a long-term lease with Bowling Green Municipal Utilities. The utility built this attractive structure in the mid-1920s to house pumps capable of providing adequate water pressure for those in the western part of the community, particularly its largest customer Western Kentucky University. The building, designed by Chester Engineering of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is of masonry construction with a core of hollow brick veneered on the exterior with traditional red brick and lined on the interior with yellow glazed tile. The building features architectural elements of the Colonial Revival style so prevalent in the 1920s, including limestone quoins, sills, lintels, and water table. A lunette transom over the door is highlighted with limestone details, and the entire structure is capped with an attractive terra cotta tile roof.

Thus far, Landmark, spearheaded by Christy Spurlock, Jason Hildabrand, and Drew Wollin, have removed the windows for stripping as well as the unattractive widow grills. The grills will not be re-installed, instead appropriate storm windows will grace the buildings seven windows. A replica of the damaged wooden door is being fabricated. In addition, minor masonry damage has been repaired as well as several tiles on the roof. The facility will offer Landmark a storage site and potential office space. The Association will work toward installing low-maintenance, attractive landscaping after the restoration work is completed.

Each of the building’s storm windows cost approximately $150 and the door approximately $450. We need members and interested parties to financially assist us in paying for this project. Would you be willing to underwrite the cost of a window ($150) or the door ($450)? If so, please send checks made out to Landmark to the address on the back of the newsletter. We appreciate your help on this worthwhile project.

Save the Dates:

- September 12
  - Annual Picnic,
    - 4:30 – 6:00

- December 4
  - Christmas Tour of Homes
Lillian South: Bowling Green Public Health Pioneer

by Eileen F. Starr

Lillian South's name may not be recognized by many in Warren County today but in the early 1900s she was well known in her native Bowling Green. Dr. South devoted her professional life, as a bacteriologist and public health official, to improving the everyday lives of Kentuckians and caring for them during emergencies. South was born in Warren County and graduated as valedictorian from Potter College in 1896. Her father John Fletcher South practiced medicine as an osteopath in Bowling Green and probably influenced her decision to pursue medicine as a career. She continued her education at Patterson Hospital in New Jersey where she studied nursing. Immediately after obtaining her nursing degree, she entered medical school at the Pennsylvania Medical College for Women in Philadelphia where she became a physician.

She returned to her hometown around 1905 to practice medicine where she was the lone female physician and specialized in the treatment of women and children, not men. It is not known how many women physicians practiced in the state at the turn of the century, but women numbered for less than 10% of Kentucky doctors at the time. Later Dr. South recounted that the only time she was called upon in Bowling Green was on stormy nights, weekends or when a male physician was unavailable. Her office, which was also her family home, was on Twelfth Street where the parking lot for the First Baptist Church is located today.

Another Bowling Green resident, Dr. Joseph McCormack, Director of the State Board of Health in Kentucky, appointed Dr. South to the position of State Bacteriologist in 1911. As such she was the first female state bacteriologist in the nation. Initially, Dr. South's office was crowded into a small room at St. Joseph's Hospital. Although it was a rather unseemly topic, she focused her efforts on the horrendous problem of hookworm infestation, a disease that devastated people due to improper sanitation conditions. Her first step was to survey the impact of hookworms in the state. Dramatic photographs taken of families and of children at one room schools illustrated the symptoms of hookworm infestation. The Rockefeller Sanitary Commission evaluated South's facility and her hookworm survey and decided to fund the expansion of the bacteriology lab in 1912 and to provide funds for construction, personnel and equipment. In return, the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission relied upon Dr. South to pursue the eradication of hookworm disease.

Her efforts were incredibly successful. She worked long hours and slept at the laboratory with a buzzer beside her bed so she could be awakened at any hour to examine specimens and distribute medicine. Dr. South developed a new test for detecting hookworm and became well known as one of the foremost authorities on the disease. Her method of preparing samples was lauded nationally for its simplicity and inexpensive nature.

In 1913, Dr. South was elected as a Vice President of the prestigious American Medical Association (AMA), its first female officer. At the same meeting as her election, her exhibit entitled "Intestinal Parasitic Diseases" was awarded a Certificate of Merit. South became an officer in the Southeast Medical Association, was involved in other professional organizations and edited the Kentucky Medical Association's (KMA) journal.

The Kentucky Medical Association, Dr. South, and the General Assembly combined forces to eradicate something just as deadly as hookworms, the public drinking cup. Enacted in 1916, new public health legislation stated that "the use of the common drinking cup on railroad trains and in railroad stations, public hotels, boarding houses, restaurant or steamboats or stores or other publically frequented place in Kentucky is hereby prohibited." Eliminating public drinking cups was an important step in the prevention of the spread of communicable diseases and both the KMA and Dr. South were lauded for their efforts.

Throughout her career, Dr. South continued her education in the U.S. and internationally. As a professional in the field of science, she made a conscious effort to learn about the latest discoveries in her field and to share that knowledge. She traveled and lectured frequently and relied upon stereopticon images to augment her technical discussions.

As the field of public health expanded nationally, the State Board of Health in Kentucky moved from Bowling Green in 1919 to Louisville. Dr. South remained in her position and kept a training school for women microscopists in 1922, the only one in the nation at the time. One of the most dramatic incidents in South's life was the Ohio Valley flood of 1937; it literally flooded the Louisville offices of the State Board of Health and inundated Dr. South with work. As Chief Bacteriologist, it was Dr. South's responsibility to procure and distribute necessary typhoid fever vaccine to people in Louisville as well as to other flooded locales, no easy task because of the lack of transportation. Due to her hard work and concern about an epidemic caused by filthy water, Dr. South procured and distributed thousands of doses of vaccine from the unheated Brown Hotel. A typhoid epidemic was averted, but Dr. South's papers were destroyed in the flood.

When a reporter questioned her about the qualities of life as a bacteriologist, Dr. South responded by saying that if women choose bacteriology as a career, they should expect to (continued on page 8)
An eXXcellent Literary Club

by Jean E. Nehm

The XX Club, affectionately known as "Double X" by the members, is a women's literary club founded in 1901 in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The Roman numeral XX denotes exactly twenty members. According to the original club constitution, "Nominations for membership shall be given to the President, who will present them to the club; and they shall then be elected by private ballot, an unanimous vote being required." In a revised constitution in 1968, a provision for aging members was added: "Members of long standing in the club, when they are unable to active members, may be made honorary members." In 1981, an amendment was added that provides two associate memberships for women who are "brought into the club by the same voting procedure as active members, and proceed to active membership." Thus, for over 100 years, filling vacancies from death or the rare resignation, the club has maintained the tradition of having twenty members. The constitution was also clear about officers and protocol. The four officers—president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer—have had specific duties and an intricate rotation. As the years rolled by, the program committee selected a theme for the coming year, giving a scholarly and sweeping overview of the year's study. In September, for example, to introduce the year's theme of 17th Century England, Miss Helm discussed an impressive list of figures, including The Stuarts, James I, Charles I, Oliver Cromwell, Charles II, the Restoration, and James II. As the years rolled by, the program committee selected a theme for the year, and members were free to choose a book or explore an idea within the general theme. Fascinating topics reflected the enormous range of interests of the club members: Naturalists, Regional Literature, Water Life and Water Ways, New Countries, Famous Women, Literary Awards, and Famous Trips. Several of the members traveled abroad and enjoyed giving presentations to the club about India, Japan, Greece, Croatia, and other interesting destinations. In beautiful September, 1906, Miss Helm, a member of the training committee, was appointed to address the club. The minutes were scheduled from September through May, with the meetings gathering every two weeks. The constitution states that the meeting "shall begin promptly at the appointed hour" and that for an "absence of a five-cent shall be imposed . . .[and for] tardiness a fine of five cents shall be imposed." For each meeting, one member would serve as hostess in her home and another member would be responsible for presenting a program. The club's colors were black, white, and its flower was the daisy. A small club pin, designed in about 1904, featured two gold Xs, one above the other, on a black enamel background. As shown in the club minutes and program booklets archived in the Kentucky Library and Museum, the early program committees prepared detailed outlines for the year's study that resembled a challenging syllabus for a college course. For example, the theme for 1906—1907 was Shakespeare; the first meeting of the year set the stage with an introduction to the writer in general. Four different members presented information on Greek drama, Roman drama, Medieval drama, and the early Renaissance. The following meeting covered tragedy and comedy during Shakespeare's time. Subsequent meetings then undertook the study of Shakespeare's great plays. These detailed outlines relaxed over the years, yet still reflected a great deal of study and planning. Miss Marjorie Helm, who was Western's Director of Library Services from 1956–1965 and whose portrait hangs in the building named in her honor, joined the XX Club in 1925 and often presented her program at the first meeting of the year, giving a scholarly and sweeping overview of the year's study. In September, 1961, for example, to introduce the year's theme of 17th Century England, Miss Helm discussed an impressive list of figures, including The Stuarts, James I, Charles I, Oliver Cromwell, Charles II, the Restoration, and James II. As the years rolled by, the program committee selected a theme for the year; and members were free to choose a book or explore an idea within the general theme. Fascinating topics reflected the enormous range of interests of the club members: Naturalists, Regional Literature, Water Life and Water Ways, New Countries, Famous Women, Literary Awards, and Famous Trips. Several of the members traveled abroad and enjoyed giving presentations to the club about India, Japan, Greece, Croatia, and other interesting destinations. Although the club's format seems intellectual, formal, and perhaps daunting, the women have certainly not been without creativity, humor, and genuine caring for each other. This club may be the only club in history with a gavel that can explain its own existence. Incorporated into the January 17, 1953 minutes is this quotation: "Unlike Eve, I was not created from a rib of Adam, but from the heart of an old oak tree felled by my master that he might beautify his enclosed flower gardens. An ardent member of the XX Club sent me to a finishing school where I was planed and polished and I emerged wearing a Silver Seal engraved with these lines: 'Presented to the XX XX Club by Mrs. Carl D. Herdman, Mar 3rd, 1917.' "Twas in this manner, I became a 'Literary Gavel.'" Gently poking fun at the club's serious practice of keeping accurate minutes, Miss Marjorie Clagett presented this poem entitled "The Minutes of the Meeting" at the September 6, 1989 meeting:

The minutes of the meeting are important to be done;
The motions that are voted are recorded every one.
How beautiful the mind of one who works it out so well;
To get down every action that the body wants to tell.
How orderly the work of man, how civilized our way,
When we are able to write down each thing we do and say.
I'll bet that God will moderate as Peter writes it down
In beautiful Old English he will copy verb and noun.
And all the angel chorus will intone across the sky,
When God says all in favor of the motion shall say "aye."
And when I get to heaven and reward I there shall earn,
I shall conclude the meeting with the motion to adjourn.

Many current members fondly remember Miss Clagett's tradition of serving cakes decorated to match her topic. And Patty Greninger, current member who wrote a poem about the sea to accompany one of her own programs, delights in telling the story of the club's standing ovation in response to Nancy Keyser's program on Galamont Lane, presented in costume, complete with coonskin cap and antique musket. These two friends have a long history of fun and scholarship together. The March 2, 1977 minutes report that while Mrs. Greninger spoke about real estate, "she was assisted and sometimes harassed by the puppet people as worked by puppeteer Mrs. Keyser."
The Younglove Building: Historic Preservation at Work

by Ethan Evans

[Editor's note: Ethan Evans, while a 7th grader at Drakes Creek Middle School, won first runner-up for this piece in the 12th Annual Photo-Essay Competition sponsored by the Kentucky Heritage Council. Ethan is the son of Landmark members, Tim Evans and Eileen Starr.]

From a gathering area for local men, chewing tobacco and sitting around a warm stove talking of weather, politics, and crops, to the oldest surviving building in downtown Bowling Green Kentucky, the Younglove Building has come a long way.

Built by Thomas Quigley in 1837, and opened as a pharmacy 1842, it quickly caught on. The three story building with decorations above the windows and the twin chimneys was a pleasure to look at, and a business success. Sales were very profitable. It made good, great in fact, sales until the Civil War, when most of the drugs and goods it had were looted by Union soldiers. Later, the pharmacy went back into business and began to flourish once again. A soda fountain was installed and a signature look of high counters and glass cases, filled with (prescription) drugs, candy, and Indian artifacts became known to the store. Even later, it began serving sandwiches and hot meals.

This building is still in use today, sporting a mahogany colored roof and an eye-catching storefront with iron front pieces near the coin store entrance. It is on the National Register and among the businesses that occupy it include a home decoration store, a coin store, a law office, and a living space.

One person, Jonathan Schweir, is working to become a preservation craftsman. David Lyons, who is the owner of the construction firm, is training Jonathan to rebuild the old windows, fix decrepit parts of the ceiling, and re-paint most of the structure. They will also repair some of the rotted wood on the outside of the building and turn the upper space into apartments.

The work done hires people, who, because of the economic downturn might not otherwise have worked.

This project also stimulates our economy in other ways, last year, a ball park was constructed downtown and a new performing arts center is coming. Most people who come for these pass this building, so, if they are attracted to this building, they may come and explore the downtown, stimulating the economy. The well known Western Kentucky University is nearby and students walk down from the hill to the downtown. Preservation creates many jobs, because of the "Kentucky Main Street Program." In Kentucky's 2nd congressional district alone 128 net jobs have been created.

Preserving the Younglove building also has great cultural meaning. It survived the Civil War, and even housed Union soldiers. It is a valuable educational piece as well as being one of the oldest buildings in the city. A popular Bowling Green artist points and lives in this building, and her works can be seen in many local art galleries. Preserving this building leads to a better quality of life.

All photographs used for this story courtesy of Ethan Evans.

The Younglove Building: A Glance Back

By Kevin Hunter

[Editor's note: This paper was written in 1979; we did not attempt to update it, but it was edited slightly for publication.]

The Younglove Building is a three story brick structure built by Thomas Quigley. Quigley came to Bowling Green from Virginia in the early 1800s and completed construction of a dry goods store in 1837. The building features bridged chimneys, carved lintel corners, and has a masonry and wood structural frame. The frame is constructed of yellow poplar and the Main Street side of the building is constructed in Flemish bond. The first floor is hardwood as are the upper floors. Altogether, the structure contains 3840 cubic feet of floor space. The State Street roofline has a two part entablature with a cornice and a plain flat frieze. On the main Street side, the roofline is highlighted by a pair of bridged chimneys. Between these chimneys on the third floor is one window with a semicircular arch of brick at the top. The date "1837" was once located above this window. This date no longer exists. The chimneys on the opposite side are dummies and were built to balance out the roofline. The remaining second- and third-story windows are double hung. Some have 4/4 lights, others have four lights on top and solid glass on the bottom. These windows have wooden, plain lug sills on the bottom. The top lug sills have bull's-eye carvings on either end. An arched doorway once opening onto State Street from the living quarters is now the front entrance of the Cooksey house at 1318 Chestnut Street. The entrance to the store was located on State Street next to the entrance of the living quarters. An iron railing once surrounded a second story balcony on the State Street side of the structure. One
spend long hours in the laboratory and would need to choose science instead of being distracted by husbands and children. Dr. South remained single until she was in her late forties when she married an attorney and judge from Whitley County, H. H. Tye. She commuted to Williamsburg by rail on the weekends. The judge had various business interests including lumber and oil which South inherited when her husband died. She was proud of her husband’s accomplishments and shared those details with others.

When the State Board of Health moved from Louisville to Frankfort, Dr. South decided to retire at the age of seventy in 1960 after forty years of public health service. South continued to travel the world, occasionally contracting a bacterial infection, as she lectured and attended professional conferences. For years, Dr. South kept in contact with former students in foreign countries and visited them. She enjoyed taking the train to New City to see Broadway productions. Sometimes Dr. South was considered brusque, but she was known for her intelligence and dedication to her scientific studies of horticulture and landscape gardening. When she was eighty, Dr. South hauled students in foreign countries and visited them. She enjoyed reading novels and operas. When she was ninety, Dr. South died in her sleep. The judge had various business interests including lumber and oil which South inherited when her husband died. She was proud of her husband’s accomplishments and shared those details with others.

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Architecture Matters!


Architecture... is a subject that is fraught with genuine conflict, and it seems to have acquired an extraordinary capacity to make all kinds of people extremely angry about issues that range from the most intensely personal to the most diffusely political. Architecture causes neighbors to go to war over tear-downs or allows a wronged spouse to expunge the memory of an ex-husband from a former family home.

In recent years, it is architecture more than any other aspect of contemporary culture that has touched the rawest nerves. Architecture is what caused Vittorio Sgarbi, the Italian art historian to turn sometime deputy minister of culture, to reportedly threaten to dynamite Richard Meier’s new pavilion in Rome, which has just opened to house Augustus’s 2,000-year-old Arc Pavus, or altar of peace. Sgarbi did his best to stop the project when he served in the government and accused his protests long after he left office. To Sgarbi, the Modernist austerity of Meier’s cool monochrome construction insulted the historical grandeur of its setting on the Tiber. Rather than blow up the building, the ex-minister finally had to content himself with setting fire to an effigy of the design instead.

It was architecture that Saddam Hussein used to consolidate his grip on Iraq. And it was architecture that the Serbs and the Croats deployed in the first stages of their bloody battle over the division of the former Yugoslavia. Both sides marked out their territory by building churches: steel and glass modern for the Catholic Croats, neo-Byzantine in so-called traditional stone and tile for the orthodox Serbs.

Often quite wrongly, architecture is equated with political beliefs. Flat roofs have been associated with modernism and progressive politics, while the use of dated historical styles I believed to embody traditional values. When the Swiss architects Herzog and de Meuron were hired by the University of Texas to design a campus art gallery in 1998, Tony Sanchez, a fund-raiser for George W. Bush, engineered their resignation because they refused to adopt the Spanish colonial style, which he, as a member of the university’s board of regents, found most fitting.

Architecture, it seems, matters more than ever. It affects us personally, in ways that we all have come to know. Certainly it has never been more talked about than it is now. The argument about how to reconstruct ground zero turned every New Yorker into an architecture critic. And as the popular onslaught against the banality of the first designs suggests, the wider audience is far less conservative than the professionals presume—a point that had already been eloquently demonstrated by public enthusiasm for Maya Lin’s Vietnam memorial.

Architects rarely know how to deal with public attention, whatever form it takes. When the Prince of Wales compared their impact on London to that of Nazi bombers, the professionals were horrified. And it is true that the prince’s comments made it hard for some architects to avoid the neo-Classical line. But the prince had also done the architectural profession the honor to taking it seriously. He got it talked about, as it had not been for a decade or more. Similarly, when the Victoria and Albert Museum in London opened a large-scale exhibit on Modernism last month, a British newspaper columnist raised hokes when he declared that it was the most terrifying exhibition he had ever seen, and that the creations of Le Corbusier and Mies van der Rohe “must have inspired more human misery than any in history.” And yet the chief impact of his words was to boost visitor numbers.

Architecture matters because it lasts, of course. It matters because it is big, and it shapes the landscape of our everyday lives.
of the Quigley children fell from this balcony and was killed. The balcony no longer exists. The interior was not changed upon acquisition from Joseph I. Younglove.

It is interesting to note that the building is the last of three structures of similar design in Bowling Green. The John Graham-John C. Gerrard house was once located where the City Hall and Fire Station are today, on the corner of 10th and College Streets. According to a photograph in the Gerard Collection at the Kentucky Library, this house was designed and built by the same man who built the Younglove building. The house was built between 1837 and 1847. Bricks from the home were salvaged and used in construction of City Hall in 1907. The second structure of similar design was the Morehead House. The Morehead House was once the leading hotel in Bowling Green. It was built in 1847 by James K. McGoodwin at the corner of State and Main Streets, now the site of Citizens National Bank, and patterned after the Younglove building directly across the street. This hotel was owned and operated by Charles D. Morehead until 1862. Joseph Younglove was a pharmacist from Johnstown, New York and moved to Bowling Green by way of Louisville, Kentucky. He formed a partnership with Augustus Starr in 1842 and moved the business into the Green River Hotel. Starr soon died and Joseph moved his pharmacy into the Quigley building that same year. Joseph’s brother John moved to Bowling Green in 1844. He began work in the pharmacy as a clerk and later became a full partner in 1859. The establishment was then changed to Joseph I. Younglove and Brother. This partnership was to last for 35 years. Both of the brothers soon became well known and respected businessmen in Bowling Green. Joseph wrote to his brother David in 1846 that he had about $7,000 worth of goods. His sales from the previous year had totaled $8,000. The profits from the previous four years had totaled $4,000. This indicates a very good business for the time. He had no business opposition at the time and this could explain part of his success.

In addition to selling drugs, the Youngloves operated a post office. Among the postmasters were Charles D. Morehead, John B. Helm, a son of Joseph Younglove and James T. Donaldson. A stage office was also located in the building. At the time, a ticket for a 24-hour stage ride to Louisville cost eight dollars. The stage office lasted until the L&N Railroad took away business in 1859. The store became a total loss in 1860. In 1862, the Younglove building was moved to the opposite side. The present entrance to the store at the corner of Main and State Streets was from State Street. The second and third floors were remodeled in 1932. The outside of the structure was painted Milwaukee Brick. The color scheme was tan with a black outline between the bricks. A central air conditioning system was installed in the building in 1937.

More interest in Bowling Green’s downtown and more interest in preservation as a whole. One other factor that applies to the preservation of the Younglove building is the environment. When buildings are preserved, the materials used to build it will not go to our growing landfill. The yellow poplar used as the frame is a strong wood, and is irreplaceable now. So, things like the wooden framework, or brick of the Younglove building could, and should, not be replaced.

Over all, the Younglove building has survived since 1837 and its positive historical, economic, cultural, and environmental impacts on the town are huge. The preservation and restoration of the Younglove building are very crucial to the town’s history.

"The best prophet of the future is the past." - Anonymous

Younglove Glance Back, continued from page 7
Perhaps you could pass this newsletter along to someone you think would be interested in supporting Landmark’s efforts in historic preservation advocacy.

I (we) want to support the Historic Preservation efforts in Bowling Green and Warren County.

Name ____________________________________________
Mailing Address ____________________________________________
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LANDMARK ASSOCIATION
Bowling Green-Warren County

“A future with a past”