

BULLETIN

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Northern Kentucky Heritage



INSIDE SEE:

HISTORY OF COVINGTON
BY O.J. WIGGINS
(3rd in as series)

April 1994

**Kenton County Historical Society
P.O. Box 641
Covington, KY 41012**

April 1984

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

On Tuesday, April 12, at 7:00 PM, at the Kenton County Public Library (Erlanger Branch), James A. Haley will speak about:

STEAMBOATS ON THE OHIO RIVER

Mr. Haley, a resident of Lakeside Park, has retained an avid interest in steamboats all of his life. He has made steamboating an avocation. Mr. Haley will show SLIDES with his lecture.

The program will be sponsored by the Kenton County Historical Society. This educational program will be FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

**Tuesday Evening
April 12, 7:00 PM
Kenton County Public Library
Erlanger Branch
3158 Dixie Highway (next to Krogers)
(In February this program was cancelled due to bad weather)**

Northern Kentucky Heritage

This new regional magazine covers (not exclusively) Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen and Pendleton Counties. The first issue is out and the second issue is scheduled for this Spring. We ask for your support in this effort to promote and publish the history and genealogy of Northern Kentucky. We note that you might be able to buy a gift subscription for someone!

Subscription with membership in the Kenton County Historical Society - \$25.00

Senior citizen and student subscription with membership in KCSH - \$20.00

Subscription without membership - \$20.00

Kenton County Historical Society, P.O. Box 641, Covington, KY 41012

HISTORY OF COVINGTON

by O. J. Wiggins

Daily Commonwealth, April 19, 1884

(Third in series herein transcribed)

On the 10th day of June, 1876, a meeting was held in the Mayor's office and an organization of the "Old Pioneers of Covington and vicinity" effected, with H. H. Martin as president and George Kyle as secretary. This organization is still in existence, under the name of the "Simon Kenton Pioneer Association," and its meetings from time to time have been of the most interesting and instructive character. The present officers are H. H. Martin, president; N. B. Stephens, secretary, and John T. Levis, treasurer. The following address delivered by the late Hiram Martin (see footnote) before the society, is of more than ordinary interest, inasmuch as its portrays the habits of pioneer life and many interesting incidents with a vividness that only a participant possessing a bright and retentive memory could give:

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES OF HIRAM MARTIN (see footnote 1).

Fellow Citizens and Pioneers:

By the arrangement of your committee, this afternoon has been set apart for short speeches by the members of the association. I hope that all will respond to the call of our venerable Vice President; and to this end I will claim your attention for a short time.

Gen. Samuel F. Carey, in his beautiful and truthful address, delivered August 21, before the Whitewater and Miami Valley Pioneer Association, says that our pioneers are so rapidly passing away that soon not one will be left. Who can speak from their own personal knowledge and experience of the home, habits, costumes, amusements, trials, and incidents of pioneer life in the Ohio Valley, by the truth of which we can bear witness, for year by year, and month by month, our ranks are thinned by the fell destroyer, Death; and the few that are left standing on the verge of the grave struggling for a longer lease on life. While it lasts memory will carry them back to the days of their youth spent in their crude but happy homes, which were built of round logs just as they grew in their native woodland. The erection of a log cabin did not require the service of an architect to design or a skilled carpenter to superintend its erection. The trees were felled, cut in their proper lengths, dragged to the site selected, near a spring or stream of water, clapboards were rived, puncheons split and when all was ready the neighbors were invited to the house raising. The tools required were skids, handspikes, axes, augers, gimlets, cross cut saws, and drawing knives. The two latter could be dispensed with as nearly all the original settlers were so well skilled in the use of the axe they could fashion doorways and fireplaces with it. When the cabin was under roof, chimney built, the floor of puncheons laid, the door hung of wooden hinges, and the latch string cut, it was ready for the reception of the family. The furniture was the most crude and uncouth style. It usually

consisted of a bedstead, table, a few stools, benches, or split bottom chairs, and a small spinning wheel. The bedstead was something made by boring holes in the logs in the corner of the cabin, into which the ends of the round poles were inserted. A forked stick answered the purpose of a support. The bottom was of clapboards. This was what was called a Continental bedstead, and as a cradle was an indispensable article of furniture in a well regulated frontier cabin, a sugar trough was frequently substituted in the place of the genuine article. How many of the old grey-headed sires who are here today and are natives of the Licking Valley can say that they werenot rocked to sleep in a sugar trough and slept the sweet sleep of childhood to the music of their mother's spinning wheel which was the only instrument of music to be found in a pioneer cabin. As the settlers advanced and their flocks increased the large wheel was added to the stock as being better adopted to the spring of wool and General Carey says a woman spinning on a large wheel, stepping backward as she drew the twist from the roll, and forward as she wound it to the spindle, placed her in a more charming and gracious attitude than was ever exhibited in a drawing or ballroom. It may be her feet were bare, and her dress of linsey woolsey, but her symmetry of form were better shown than when clothed in the most costly and fashionable attire. The early settlers were in a measure independent of the world. They were self reliant; every family did a little of everything. There were no drones in the hive to eat up the substance of the industrious. They made their own clothes out of their own raw materials, fashioned or made their own garments. They made their own soap, dipped their own candles, raised their own breadstuffs, supplied their table with meat from game which abounded in the forests or from their domestic stock. The trusty rifle was always found to be suspended from wooden hook, with bullet pouch or powder-horn ready for immediate use. It was an instrument of defense and pastime and old and young prided themselves on their skill as marksmen and but few of them would bring home a squirrel that was not shot through the head. It is generally believed that pioneer life was one of constant drudgery. Such is not the fact. It is true they had to keep careful watch to guard against surprise or an attack from the Indians who from time to time made inroads into the settlement, but this did not deprive them of their pleasure or pastimes. They had their own log rollings, house raisings, corn huskings; their racing frolics, hunting and shooting matches; and in the winter they had their apple parings and in the early spring their sugar making. The old mothers had their quiltings and tea parties. In nearly all their pastimes they cultivated habits of economy and industry. Their tea parties might more properly be called industrial gatherings, as all of the guests were occupied at one or another branch of industry. There is no doubt they mixed a little gossip with it. The young people had their dances or plays. Their dances, or frolics as they were called were quite different from dances of the present day. There was less formality, no bowing but more real healthy bodily exercise; their plays were harmless, innocent, pastimes. How many of the older mothers are there here who have not in their girlhood marched to the old refrains of "Sister Phoebe

how merry were we" or "We were marching forward to Quebec," or "Thus the farmer sows his seed," and they will all remember the cry of "a little more barley." It has been frequently said that there was no refinement in pioneer life. That depends in a measure on what meaning or construction is placed upon the word. If you define it as a senseless formality, a perversion of the English language aping others, assuming a foreign style, I then mostly say that there was none. But there was the refinement of modesty, of virtue, of industry, of sanctity and true hospitality. In the second epoch of pioneer life there was a marked change in the dwellings which had formerly been constructed of round logs and without windows and but one room and a loft; the approach to the loft being by a ladder, sometimes in the inside but more frequently on the outside of the cabin. The loft was the sleeping apartment of the young members of the family, and it was also the storehouse in the fall and winter. It surpassed Dickens' old curiosity shop. There were herbs, roots and nuts. The stock consisted of sage, horehound, mint, catnip, pennyroyal, snakeroot, spignut (sic.), wormwood, dock, allcombone, &c. This constituted the medical department with the exception of Epsom salts and pills. The pills were made from the inner bark of the butternut tree and it was said they acted as either a purgative or emetic, which depended alone as how the bark was stripped from the tree; if upwards it acted as an emetic; if downwards vice versa. Of the truth of this saying I know nothing. There was also dried apples, smoked beans, hickory nuts and walnuts. The change from the style of cabin was from the single to the double or two rooms with a porch or passageway between. They were built like the former-of round logs and after they were erected they were --(?)nched down which means that they were hewed.

The double cabin came into vogue about the year 1800. The third style of dwellings was of entire hewed logs. They were more convenient and were one and a half stories in height with kitchen and loom house in the rear, separated from the main building by a porch or passageway. The erection of this style of building required the additional cost of wrought nails, which were not used in a common cabin, as wooden pins answered all requirements. From the era of the hewn log house there was a decided change in the appearance of the country. Towns and villages began to spring up in different sections. Schools were more frequently taught in which the youth could acquire a limited education. There were no controversies about textbooks in those days, which consisted alone of the alphabet posted on one side of the board and the a b a b s on the other side, Websters spelling-book, the American Preceptor or Reader, and Pike's arithmetic.

In the year 1815 the town of Covington was surveyed and platted by Thomas Kennedy (O. R. Powell), for Carneal, Gano and Co. In 1819 the first school house was erected in the village, a small log structure. It stood on the public square up to 1834 (2). During the year 1819 the first horse-ferry was run by Pliny Bliss and John Hardin (3). From this date I can speak from my own knowledge of persons and events, and will give you

my remembrance of the citizens of Covington and the vicinity, and also of the Banklick road in 1822.

The most noticed citizens of Covington were Thomas Kennedy, original owner of the land on which the old plat was located. He died in 1822 (1821); Gen. D. S. Gano, A. G. Gano, Alex Connelly tavern-keeper, Pliny Bliss of the ferry, John Hardin and Jacob Hardin; Benjamin Leathers father of William, banker, store keeper, and great manufacturer of tobacco; John Gray, grocer and ginger cake baker; John B. Casey, apprenticed to Mr. Leathers; John Hudson, store and grocery, father of Homer; Chester Scott, storekeeper, James G. Arnold, school teacher; Captain Patrick Madden, one of the heroes of Perry's victory. Capt. James Riddle then resided on what is now called Main street, then Riddle's lane. Mr. Riddle established the Main street Ferry in 1821 or 1822 (4).

There resided on the west side of the classic stream of Willow Run, a man named Patrick Leonard. He was a deserter from the British army and joined the continental forces. His wife was the heroine of Trenton, the famous Mollie Pitcher (5).

Robert and Granny Kyle resided near the corner of Pike and Madison streets. They had four daughters and five sons. Two of the latter, Robert and Zach, are still living, in Ohio. David Poor kept a country tavern a little south of what is now called the Ashbrook House. The widow Sandford then occupied the Fowler homestead (6).

Jake Fowler was one of the most noticed citizens of his day. He and Gen. James Taylor surveyed and blazed the road from Covington to Lexington in 1818, and in 1819 he was absent on a prospecting tour to the Rocky Mountains with Moses Glenn. In all probability they were the second white men that crossed the mountains. They had as a servant a man by the name of Paul, and I feel sure in saying that Paul was the first black man that crossed the dividing ridges or mountains (7).

Judge Robinson then resided on his farm. His home is still standing, a little south of Fifteenth street, on the old Banklick road (8).

East of Robinson's, on the Licking River, was the residence of Capt. Billy Martin, He had seven sons, five of whom are still living, and three of them are members of this Association (9).

Squire O. R. Powell resided on the old road, also Adam Rittenhouse a western trapper and trader. In the rear of Rittenhouse's place was the residence of Isaac Smith. He had four sons and four daughters; two of the latter are still living--Mrs. Capt. T. F. (?)ert, and Mrs. Nancy Campbell, formerly Mrs. Jos.. Collins. Isaac Smith was a soldier in the War of 1812 and was the express rider who brought the news of General Harrison's victory at Tippecanoe (10).

Next we come to Mr. Le Rue, who I have no doubt set out the first vineyard in this country in the spring of 1822. The famous Billy of Squire Anderson, who resided at the foot of what was called Anderson's Hill, which was one of the most difficult of descent or ascent in the world, and I have often thought that our old time surveyors came to the conclusion that the shortest way to get around a hill was to go straight up it, such at least was the case of this hill (11).

From Anderson's hill to the part of the Dry Ridge I remember the following residents: Sam Hays, the two Bradys, father and son, Will and John Kizer, Bill Rusk, Daniel Senour, east of the creek, Billy Mason, the Scotts, Mr. Dedmon, south of it at the ford, Jesse Vanborn; east of it, John Mansfield, Mr. Wayman, tavern keeper, Mr. Coleman, father of the famous Cincinnati butcher, and old Father Wells, who ran the mill then called Wells' Mills, now Riley's, all of whom resided on or near the Banklick road in 1822 (12), and I have no doubt that some of their children or grandchildren are here this day, and if so I will say to them they have no reason to blush at the mention of the names of their fathers or grandfathers, for it was them that cleared the way and laid the foundation of our advanced civilization rests (sic). True, they might be rough of speech and destitute of what is now called refinement; yet to their foresight, industry and courage we are indebted for all the blessings of our peaceful homes, and to cherish a remembrance of their worth we, the descendents of the pioneer settlers of the Licking Valley, have formed this association. Many may think such an organization useless, and if there is one here this day that has such an idea, I would say to him the increase of our population is so rapid that the descendents of the original settlers are debarred the privilege of meeting together, as in a few days past. I expect we are strangers to each other in the land of our childhood. The hand of the spoiler has been laid upon the landmarks which designated the last resting place of our parents. Progressive American civilization is ever on the wing, and your gray headed sires have seen before it a vast and almost trackless wilderness, while silence watched the repose of nature in her solitude. Behind it you see beautiful cities, striving villages, and cultivated fields teeming with golden grain. The crack of the huntman's rifle is now but seldom heard. The bear and the deer have given place to the cow and ox. The war whoop of the Indian is heard no more. The shrill whistle of the locomotive, which was unknown to the world in the days of your youth, is now heard as it speeds on its fiery career over hill and valley. The fat perouge and keelboat, which were the only means of transportation on our rivers in the days of our youth, have been superseded by the magnificent steamers. With all these facts before him now D. Galilger when he wrote his beautiful poem of the Mothers of the West exercised the poet's privilege when he exclaimed: "Their monument, where does it stand? Their epitaph who reads?" To which we can respond: "Their monuments where do they not stand? True, they are not of stone of marble, but they have left behind them living, moving monuments of flesh, blood, bone and sinew; their hardy, industrious sons and daughters. Their epitaph is to be found recorded upon every page of the

history of this Commonwealth, and will be read by generations yet unborn.”

OF MRS. ELIZA C. WADE

Mrs. Eliza C. Wade, now residing at New Richmond, Indiana, kindly contributes the following recollections. They will be read with interest.

My Father, John Tennis, moved to Covington in March, 1818, coming from Mason county, Kentucky, on a flatboat, and landing in the mouth of the Licking. His family consisted of himself and S. Martin Tennis. We first lived in John Hudson's house on Third and Garrard streets; but before the end of the year my father built a one story brick house on the opposite corner, adjoining that of Mrs. General Sandford, mother of Alfred and Cassius (13).

Mr. Connelly at that time kept a tavern in a log house on Garrard street, and a man names Tibbatts kept another tavern in the stone house owned by Mr. Kennedy. Joshua Leathers owned a farmhouse and the only orchard around at that time. It was situated back of the log house which stood on the public square where the courthouse now is. The school-house was a one-room log building, which served for school purposes during the week, as a courtroom on Saturday, and a church on Sunday for all denominations. There was no regular minister. James Arnold was schoolmaster, and the Tennis children were his pupils the two years they lived in town. The only spring of drinking water was at Thomas Kennedy's house, now owned by the estate of the late Isaac Cooper. The spring was were the Le Mair tan-yard was afterwards situated, Corner of Sixth and Scott streets now. The people carried drinking water from the spring, and wash water from the river (14).

I remember the first steamboat built and launched at Cincinnati in 1818 or 1819. The people docked to the banks of the river in great crowds to witness the sight.

In 1819 my father purchased two lots and erected two frame cottages where Dr. Pretlow now lives, corner of Fourth and Greenup. In 1820 we moved to the country, five miles from Covington (15).

In 1880 my mother died. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Hayden, and she was a niece of Adam Rittenhouse, father of Capt. William Martin's wife. In 1831 my father married Capt. Martin's widow, after her seven sons were grown. They enjoyed a prosperous and happy wedded life of thirty-six years. His first wife, my mother, and he had been married twenty-six years when she died.

In 1837 I married Major William Wade, a lumber dealer, father of William and Tennis Wade (16).

FOOTNOTES

(All deed records below are from the Campbell County Courthouse in Alexandria)

1. The address was given by H. H., not Hiram Martin. H. H. Martin's father arrived by flatboat in 1818 and first settled on the farm of James Riddle located north of Eleventh street between Russell and Banklick streets to the east and Willow Run creek to the West (H. H. Martin, speech before Covington Pioneer Society quoted in The Cincinnati Commercial, October 16, 1876). N. B. Stephens age 35, county court clerk (1850 Census). Napoleon B. Stephens (1814-1887), son of General Leonard Stephens, first sheriff of Kenton county (Stephens genealogy, Kenton County Court Order book). John Talbot Lewis (1805-1884) came from Pennsylvania to Covington in 1830 and "took charge" of the cotton factory where he remained involved until 1852; he also became involved with Covington's rolling mill; one of Covington's industrial leaders, he was President of the the Covington and Lexington R. R. from 1856 to 1859, a director of the Northern Bank of Kentucky from its inception in 1836 until organization of First National Bank of Covington, where he was a Director until 1875 (Biographical Encyclopedia; obituary, D. C., 7-17-84).

2. In the last issue Wiggins wrote that this log building was moved from the "present village of Peaselburg, or Central Covington" to the public square and after service there was removed to West Ninth street, where in 1884 it was occupied by an African-American family. Another source said that the log house on West Ninth was built by Pressly Peek in "the central part of Covington" (obituary of Mrs. L. Metcalfe, 85, granddaughter of Pressly Peek, K. P. 2-28-1912, cited by Burns). There it was a schoolhouse, "a haven for travelers," including Simon Kenton, and a home; it was demolished "shortly after World War I" (Burns). Collins described a log cabin as "probably the second house ever built" within the city limits of 1873, a "short distance" above Thirteenth street, still standing "on the bank of the Licking river," a log house built in 1792 by Pressly Peek, who sold it to "West Miller" who sold it to Wm. Martin (Lewis Collins, History of Kentucky, revised by Richard Collins, 1874, vol. II). Confirming Collins, the record exists of a purchase in 1817 by Wm. Martin for \$800.00 from Wm. Miller of 120 acres, located on the Licking river, part of 400 acres previously sold by Robert Todd to John Hawkins (Alexandria, DB D#2, p.62). Eleanor Childs Meehan recalled from her childhood the old log cabin on West Ninth Street: "I knew it as a comfortable, pleasant, well-cared for home, surrounded by lovely trees and flowers. It was then occupied by Mr. Thomas, an English gentleman, who conducted the pottery adjoining. I once attended a wedding there..." (Eleanor Childs Meehan, An Octogenarian's Personal Recollections of a beloved Old Kentucky Town, 1924). John Shillito married the daughter of Robert Wallace in this log building. The later roadbed for West Ninth street in front of the log building is fill dirt (Dr. D. C. Reynolds in Mrs. Calvin Weakley "A Drive out The Madison Pike," Christopher Gist Papers, volume 5.) The 1909 Sanborn fire insurance map shows a log house on the west side of Russell, on the north side of Ninth street.

3. In the early 1820s "a notable event occurred in the history of the city, viz, the substituting of a horse ferryboat in place of a flatboat." But then "the lessee of the ferry right" of the town Pliny Bliss, soon also constructed an odd shaped boat with steam power (H.H. Martin).

4. When he died Thomas Kennedy (1741-1821) had been living in his brick mansion at the northwest corner of Sixth and Scott streets which he built and occupied from the time he sold his farm to the Covington developers (Allen Webb Smith, Beginning at the Point, a Documented History of Northern Kentucky and Environs, the City of Covington in Particular, 1751-1834); John S. Gano, deceased, one of the purchasers of Kennedy's farm, willed property to his sons, Aaron. G. and Daniel Gano (Smith); in April 1823 Wm. Porter (who married Hannah Kennedy), of Henry County Tennessee, sold lot #55 to Alexander Connelly who built a "substantial brick house" at the northwest corner of Second and Garrard street where he continued to keep a tavern and also served as Covington postmaster (Smith); Benjamin Leathers closed his private bank in 1821; he died in 1822 (Smith).; in 1877 William M. Leathers, showed specimens of his father's private money to a pioneer association (Smith). Wm. Leathers, dry goods (1870 census); John Casey (ca. 1800-1876) married Benjamin Leathers's widow; he became an extensive tobacco manufacturer. (Smith). In 1826 Gray was appointed city assessor and again in 1828; in 1829 he was chairman of the town council (Smith). In 1817 Jacob Hardin purchased lot 86 located at the southwest corner of Second and Greenup originally purchased by David Poor who assigned it to Jacob Hardin (DB D#2, p. 48). Jacob Hardin also purchased from Thomas Story of Scott county lot 87 (DB D#2, p. 67). In 1817 Jacob Hardin "was

appointed Captain of Patrol in the Town of Covington and its vicinity and eight miles out ..." (Smith). "Uncle Jake," a real pioneer, was at the helm of the flatboat which brought the Martin family to Covington. In 1822 Jacob Hardin operated James Riddle's ferry concession (H. H. Martin). In 1822 the legislature authorized a ferry to be established, then outside of town, on the "land of James Riddle" (Smith). In 1827 John Hardin purchased from Daniel Gano lot 6 on Front street (DB G, p. 302). John Hudson purchased Covington trustees lot # 139 in the 300 block of West Garrard street, and in 1825 John Hudson purchased from Jacob Krout for \$421.00 lots 84 and 85 at southeast corner of Second and Greenup street. After the Kentucky legislature finally provided for the election of town trustees, Patrick Madden was one of the 38 citizens to vote in the first election in 1826 (Smith).

5. "Patrick Leonard and his wife Molly--always known as Capt. Molly because of her taking the place--and fighting bravely as an artilleryman in one of the battles of the Revolution--of her husband, who was killed in the battle" (Collins vol. II) Leonard was Capt. Molly's second husband and they had two sons, Simeon and William residing in Covington, working in the rolling mill and as a river trader respectively (Irle R. Hicks, "Covingtona, Queen of the Licking," Christopher Gist Papers).

6. Robert Kyle (related through marriage to the Kennedys), Jacob Fowler (a pioneer who first settled in Newport), the Western Baptist Theological Seminary trustees, Pressly Peek, and then O. R. Powell, purchased portions of 400 acres from one of the Todd patents (signed by Governor Shelby, 1793) immediately south of the original town of Covington. A second Todd patent (granted by Governor Lee of Virginia, 1792) of 300 acres eventually became Austinburg, Wallace Woods, more or less, besides what Richard Southgate acquired. South and southwest of these 700 acres were some 5000 acres granted (by Governor Randolph of Virginia, 1790) to Rawleigh Colston the northern line of which ran from a creek in Latonia across the bend of Madison pike and toward the headwaters of Willow Run creek. Colston's grant extended south across Banklick creek. But James Taylor purchased "several thousands of Colston's acres covering all of Latonia and some south of Banklick creek (and from his mill we get Taylor Mill road). To the West lay 2000 acres granted (by Governor Patrick Henry of Virginia, 1785) to Prettyman Merry extending along the Ohio river west of Covington across Pleasant Run creek into Bromley (a rough summary of great land holdings near Covington by Harry C. Theissen which appeared in the Covington Centennial of 1914). Richard Southgate acquired much of this land south of the old corporation line (1851 Covington Map).

General James Taylor (1769-1848) was born in Virginia; 1783 he settled in Newport on lands owned by his father; 1795 Taylor was Campbell county's first clerk for both the county and circuit courts; 1803 and after he donated land and oversaw construction for the U. S. Military arsenal in Newport; he was "Quarter Master General of the Northwestern Army during the War of 1812;" with Thomas D. Carneal and others he organized "the first bank" here (Smith).

In 1796 Robert Kyle purchased 100 acres adjoining land of Thomas Kennedy for 50 pounds from John Hawkins of Scott county (DB A, p. 83). In 1806 Robert Kyle purchased 50 acres for \$500.00 adjoining land of Jacob Fowler, Richard Southgate, Thomas Kennedy and others (DB C, p. 145). In 1815 David Poor of Cincinnati purchased for \$180.00 from John Mansfield 50 acres land previously sold to Richard Southgate February 1, 1802, fronting 54 feet on the Banklick road adjoining, Daniel Baldwin, Jacob Hardin, and Robert Kyle (DB D#1, p. 308). In 1815 David Poor purchased an additional 1 3/4 acres which Southgate had purchased from James Riddle February 1, 1802 adjoining Joseph Robinson and Kyle (DB D#1, p. 372). In 1818 David Poor moved to Covington, began construction of a frame building about 200 feet from the intersection of Pike and Banklick, opened a tavern which very shortly his widow kept due to his premature death (H. H. Martin, cited by Burns). "W. E. Ashbrook Day House," southwest corner of Pike and Russell streets (1877 atlas). The Fowler homestead was at present-day Eleventh and Banklick streets, Covington, with landmark federal style building still standing near southwest corner behind a new church building (Covington preservation office records).

7. In 1797 Jacob Fowler of Newport purchased 80 acres from Pressly Peek for \$800, part of 200 acres which Peek had purchased from John Hawkins, and part of 400 acres which Hawkins had purchased from Robert Todd between the Licking river and Willow Run (DB A, p. 224). In 1816 Jacob Fowler purchased from James Riddle of Campbell county 2 1/2 acres for \$263.00 located near Robert Kyle, Joseph Robinson and Fowler's existing holdings, part of a tract that Southgate had conveyed to Riddle (DBD#1, p. 396).

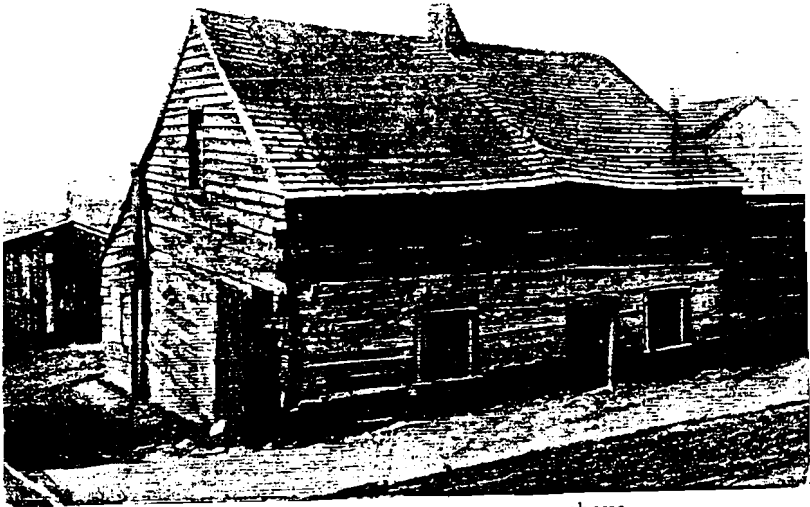
8. In 1811 Joseph Robinson purchased for \$370.00 from Humphrey Marshall 300 acres located 1 1/2 miles from the mouth of the Licking river adjoining Todd's original 400 acres and Wm. Peachy's 5000 acres survey (DB D#1, p. 97). In 1814 Joseph Robinson purchased from James Riddle 8 acres part of 50 1/2 conveyed to Richard Southgate February 1, 1802, on the Banklick road adjoining Kyle, Hardin, Fowler (DB D#1, p. 296). In 1815 Joseph Robinson purchased for \$572.00 from Colston 286 acres on Willow run creek part of Colston's 5000 acres surveyed by O. R. Powell, adjoining Martin's line and Merry's line (DB D#1, p.374).
9. In 1815 Wm Martin of Campbell county purchased for \$2000 from John Mansfield of Cincinnati 2000 acres on Banklick creek adjoining land of Thomas Scott (DB D#1, p. 310). In 1817 Wm. Martin purchased for \$800.00 from Wm. Miller of Ohio 120 acres on the Licking river one mile from the mouth beginning an Banklick, part of Todd's 400 acres previously sold by Todd to Hawkins (DB D#2, p. 62). In 1821 Martin purchased for \$1090 from Colston 499 acres on Licking river from Peachy and Taylor's line to Robinson's to Willow Run to Ellison Williams, to Michael Brady (DB F, p. 6). In 1821 Wm. Martin purchased for \$250.00 from Joseph Robinson 2 acres and 57 poles on Banklick road (DB F, p.39). Wm. Martin had nine sons-- Isaac, John, Peter, Adam, Wm, Hiram, Enoch, Norton, and unnamed (Collins). He died in 1828 on his farm, which later became the Howell farm (C. D. E. 10-10-1867).
10. O. R. Powell surveyed the original town of Covington. He was deputy surveyor for Campbell county (Smith). Adam Rittenhouse purchased from Wm. and Margaret Martin for \$790.00 37 acres on Banklick road, adjoining Powell and Wm. Anderson (DB F, p. 276). Adam Rittenhouse was Margaret Martin's father (Collins, vol. II).
11. In 1823 John Reux purchased for \$262.00 from O. R. Powell 61 acres adjoining Banklick road, Wm. Martin, and Wm. Anderson (DB F, p. 217). In 1797 Wm. Anderson "blacksmith of the county" made agreement with James Taylor of the Campbell county court to provide apprentice services (DB A, p. 254). For a service to the court in 1816 Wm Anderson made apprentice agreement with George Gordon, Deputy Clerk of Court, involving a man names John W. F. Cleet and some 680 acres (DB D#1, p. 413).
12. A Major Samuel Hays "from Covington" served in the Civil War as Commissar for General Buckner at Bowling Green (Reminiscences of Maria Jane Southgate Hawes, printed locally) and died at his home in Covington, aged 57 (K. S. J., 5-11-86). In 1800 Michael Brady, age 48 made lease arrangements with Rawleigh Colston of Virginia for the duration of Brady's life for 150 acres at annual fee of "six and two-thirds Spanish milled dollars or the value thereof in other silver or gold coins" (DB B, p. 142). In 1811 Michael Brady purchased for \$160.00 from R. Colston through his attorney, R. Southgate, 160 acres on Banklick creek adjoining Wm. Martin, James Taylor, and Alexander Weir's (DB D#1, p. 356). Daniel Senour was first elected president of Covington Fire co. No. 2 (Burns). Daniel Senour, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of Covington," died (C. J., 9-15-55). James Dedman (circa 1787-1856) is buried in the Dedman cemetery on Holds Branch road off highway 17 (Kenton County Cemetery book). In 1800 Wm. Massie of Scott county purchased from John Fowler of Fayette county for \$300.00 160 acres on Banklick creek (DB B, p. 240). In 1810 John Coleman of Campbell county purchased for \$1000.00 from Wm. Massie of Scott county 200 acres on Banklick creek beginning at Todd's southwest corner and crossing Banklick creek and up the lick fork (DB B, p. 103). In 1812 Thomas Riley of Campbell county purchased for \$75.00 from Robert Johnson of Scott county 75 acres on Banklick creek adjoining Tibbats and Riley's line (DB D#1, p. 186). In 1816 Thomas Riley purchased for \$108.00 from Robert Johnson 108 acres on Banklick creek beginning at Doe run, a fork of Banklick, part of Higgins and Johnson's survey (DB D#1, p. 485). In 1818 Thomas Riley purchased for \$50.00 from Herman Wayman 16 acres on Banklick creek beginning at Robinson's line (DB D#2, p. 129). Aaron Wayman (circa 1773-1850) is buried in the Aaron Wayman Cemetery of Richardson road and Soloman Wayman (1777-1872 is buried in the Wayman cemetery on Coon's branch road 2 1/2 miles north of Independence (Kenton County Cemetery book).
13. In 1818 John Tennis purchased property from John Bussey of Campbell county outside of Covington possibly on the east side of the Licking river (DB D#2, p. 135). S. M. Tennis, 39, farmer, born Kentucky (1850 census). In 1822 is recorded purchase by John Tennis of lots 200 and 201 in Covington for \$500.00 (DB F, p. 264). In 1820 John Hudson purchased from the Covington trustees for \$280.00 lot # 139 (DB F, p. 30). In 1825 John Hudson purchased from Jacob Krout for \$421.00 lots 84 and 85 (DB G. p. 244). The Krout family was related through marriage to the Kennedys (Smith).
14. Mr. Connelly kept a tavern which he relocated when he built his brick house. The LeMaire

tan yards appear on the 1840s and 1851 maps between Sixth and Seventh, and Scott and Greenup streets; Frank and Julia J. LeMaire, and LeMaire heirs appear on the 1877 city atlas.

15 Mr. Tennis arrived by flatboat in Covington the same year as H. H. Martin's father, 1818 (H. H. Martin). In 1823 John Tennis purchased for \$515.00 from Francis Watkins of Alabama ~~for~~ 75 acres adjoining land owned by John Leathers, O. R. Powell and where Tennis already resided (DB F, p. 264). Tennis' heirs (Mrs. Wade) resided southwest of Buttermilk pike (1883 county Atlas). Dr. Richard Pretlow (circa 1812-1894), born in Virginia, lived in Indiana, moved to Covington, and had office and residence at southeast corner of Fourth and Greenup streets (obituary, K. P., 2-23-1894; 1874 and 1880 directories).

16. John Tennis, age 66, stone Mason, born Virginia (1850 Census); Wm. Wade, lumber merchant, Garrard street, opposite public square (1834 directory). Wm. E. Wade, 630 Scott street (1860, 1879, and 1884 directories).

(transcription and footnotes by John Boh)



Located on West Ninth street; see above.

THE COLLECTED PAPERS OF THE KENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 3 VOLUMES, INDEXED, LOOSE LEAF BOUND

CONTENTS: VOLUME I -- Kenton County Historical Society Articles; Bridge Fell 70 Feet Into The Licking River; Covington's First City Hall; John W. Stevenson; John G. Carlisle; Independence; Latonia Springs; Churches of The United Church of Christ; The Making of The Kentucky Central; Trouble in Latonia; Mayor Rhinock; Mortimer Murray Benton; The Amos Shinkle Estate; Madison Avenue Christian Church; Ninth Street United Methodist Church; Shinkle United Methodist Church; St. Benedict Parish; Acknowledgements; Index.

VOLUME II -- Gowell-Symbol of Second Effort; The Baker-Hunt Foundation, Covington, Kentucky; History of Covington Schools; John Robert Kelley; X-Ray Genius; Tough Times For Early Kenton County Libraries; The Philosophy Behind The Baker-Hunt Foundation; Dan Beard -- Modern Frontiersman; The Queen; The "Chronic Want" of Cincinnati: A Southern Railroad; Louisville and Cincinnati River Packet Trade: Heart Of A Region; History Of The Catholic Church in Ludlow, Kentucky: The Developmental Years 1870-1935; The Covington Elks; History of Covington (Blakely); History of Covington, Kentucky(Harrison); Index.

VOLUME III --Author's Note; Frontier Adventure; The Point In The War of 1812; The Underground Railroad and The Men who Made It Obsolete; Governor Magoffin's Neutrality Proclamation, A Failed Political Ploy; Local Troops On The Battle Fronts; Illustrations. \$30.00 including mailing

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An archaeological investigation of nineteenth century Covington

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Devou Park

March 1, 1994 - May 1, 1994
Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 - 5:00
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Northern Kentucky Arts Council

Kenton County Public Library
Kentucky Heritage Council
R.G. Archaeological Services



The City of Covington has an extensive number of historically significant residences, institutional, industrial, and commercial buildings. The City recognizes the increasing value of its historic resources, and the impact they have in contributing to the community's pride of place. This architectural heritage is an important asset in the City's increasing attractiveness to visitors and investors.

The City, in conjunction with concerned citizens, developed the historic plaque program and historic register as a way to promote the City's rich past, recognize the investments made to preserve the City's heritage, and provide for a standard method to display the significance of contributing structures.

We are pleased that you are interested in participating in the historic plaque program. We have designed this brochure to assist in the application process. City staff are available if you have questions.

Q. What structures are eligible?

A. Any structure within the City of Covington that meets one or more of the following criteria:

(1) Its value as a reminder of the cultural or archeological heritage of the city, state, or nation;

(2) Its location as a site of a significant local, state, or national event;

(3) Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the city, state, or nation;

(4) Its identification as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the city, state, or nation;

(5) Its value as a building that is recognized for the quality of its architecture, and that retains sufficient elements showing architectural significance;

(6) Its characteristic of an architectural style of a period.
Gov. zoning Code 168.220(4)(1)-(6)

Q. How do I go about getting a historic plaque and how much does it cost?

A. The first step is to fill out and submit Part I of the application (found on the back of this brochure) along with photographs. Once submitted, City staff will review the application to determine if the structure meets the eligibility criteria. If Part I is approved, the applicant will be given Part II of the application. The fee for the plaque of \$77 is required to be submitted with Part II of the application.

Q. What information does Part II require?

A. The minimum requirement is the approximate date of construction of the structure along with data substantiating that date. If any additional information is to be placed on the plaque, additional substantiating data must also be submitted. The

name of the original owner, his or her occupation, other significant occupants or historical facts about the structure are all examples of information that could be included on a plaque.

Q. Where does the applicant find this information?

A. City and county records and the Local History Section of the Kenton County Public Library are all sources of information. The applicant can use Part II of the application as a guide for research. In addition, information on researching historic buildings is available from City staff.

Q. What if I need assistance in researching my building?

A. The City has contracted with a consultant to undertake the research for the plaque program. For an additional charge of \$25, the research will be done for you.

Q. What is the next step?

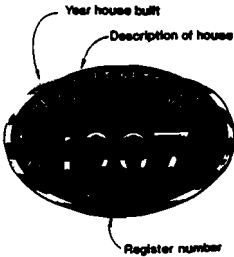
A. Once Part II has been completed and submitted to the City along with the fee, City staff will verify the information. A register number will be assigned and the plaque will be ordered. Before receiving the plaque, the owner will be asked to sign a letter of agreement with the City in which the owner agrees to maintain the structure's historic integrity. A copy of this letter is available for your review.

Q. What does the register number signify?

A. The register numbers are a coding system for the City's permanent records of its historic resources. The register numbers also allow the City to correlate its historic resource records with its walking tour program.

Q. What can I have on my plaque?

A. The plaques are a standard 7" x 10" solid bronze oval with the construction date prominently displayed in the center. The bottom of all the plaques will display the Covington Register number. Each applicant will be able to customize the wording at the top of the plaque as long as a maximum letter/space count is not exceeded. A name associated with the history of the structure or a building style is preferred; however, only verifiable historic facts will be allowed.



**CITY OF COVINGTON
HISTORIC PLAQUE PROGRAM
APPLICATION PART I**

Property
Address: _____

Applicant
Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

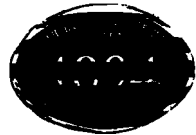
Please submit PART I with at least one clear, current photograph, preferably black and white. A three-quarter view (front and one side of structure) is recommended, but a full front view is acceptable. Any additional exterior views or details are welcome. Please label all photographs with the date of the photograph, the property address and the applicant's name on the back. Photographs will not be returned.

If you have other questions or need more information about the Historic Plaque Program contact City staff at 292-2163.

MAYOR
Denny Bowman
COMMISSIONERS
Jerry Bamberger
Irvin "Buck" Collier
Jim Eggensteler
Jim Ruth

City of Covington
Economic Development Department
602 Madison Avenue
Covington, Kentucky 41011
December 1992

**Historic
Plaque Program**



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



An Official Project of the
Kentucky Bicentennial
Celebration

**Kenton County Historical Society
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