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To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a thesis written by Deborah B. Lowry entitled "Thomas J. Blanchard, carpenter in rural East Tennessee." I have examined the final electronic copy of this thesis for form and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science, with a major in Architecture.

Josette H. Rabun, Major Professor

We have read this thesis and recommend its acceptance:

J. Stanley Rabun, William Rudd

Accepted for the Council: Carolyn R. Hodges

Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

(Original signatures are on file with official student records.)

To the Graduate Council:

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Dr. Josette H. Rabun, Major Professor

We have read this thesis and recommend its acceptance:

Professor J. Stanley Rabun

Professor William Rudd

Accepted for the Council:

Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of The Graduate School

Thomas J. Blanchard, Carpenter in Rural East Tennessee 1846-1870

A Thesis
Presented for the
Master of Science
Degree
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Deborah B. Lowry May 1999

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This thesis is dedicated to my husband

John D. Lowry

Without his encouragement and support

I would have never made this

accomplishment.

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There are many people who have helped me through this difficult task. Dr. Josette Rabun, professor in the Interior Design program, has been almost the sole supporter of this project from the University of Tennessee. When the graduate program was canceled she encouraged my fellow students and me to continue our studies. Without her support my degree and those of many others would not have been completed.

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ABSTRACT

The primary objective of this thesis was to research and document, utilizing all information currently available, the work and life of a traveling carpenter named Thomas J. Blanchard. Mr. Blanchard lived in East Tennessee from 1846 to 1870, however, little is known of his work.

Specific goals were to document his life before he relocated to East

Tennessee and to attempt to document any work he accomplished while
living in the state of Tennessee in a historically accurate manner.

Therefore, the historical setting for this rural area of East Tennessee is also
studied and documented, in an attempt to identify the resources available
to a carpenter such as Thomas Blanchard during this early era of the
United States' architectural history.

Primary sources for the study include census records, deeds, a receipt signed by Blanchard, and court documents. In addition early newspapers and oral histories provided further information. Exterior and interior architectural details of houses attributed to Blanchard were photographed and compared to pattern books of the period that may have been used by a carpenter such as Blanchard. This information also identified the style of homes being built at the time and what exterior and interior details these houses had in common with others being built in Tennessee and the United States during the 1840's. This study answers some questions about

the type of life Thomas Blanchard led and the sort of work he did, while other questions are left unresolved due to the lack of information and the inability to find any descendents of Thomas J. Blanchard to verify information.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Oral histories often play a major role in the history of a small community. As time passes stories change, heroes are created, and remembrances of "The Good Old Days" become near and dear to everyone. The introduction to the name Thomas Blanchard occurred on a visit to the home of Mrs. Anna Cate in Madisonville, Tennessee. Mrs. Cate frequently shows people through her home, known to most as "The Stickley Mansion," pointing out family heirlooms and architectural details. Her grandfather, Mr. Vastine Stickley, purchased the home in 1888 from the son of the original owner, Dr. Guilford Cannon. Throughout the past 150 years the home has been a source of great pride not only for her family, but also for the community. She recalls that the man who built the home was named Blanchard, often referred to as an architect by the local people who consider him to be a master craftsman, and she believes that during the years 1846-1848 he not only designed her home but also many other residences contemporary to that time.

The Stickley Mansion is grand compared to most of the homes in this very rural area of East Tennessee. Its impressive Palladian facade is a reminder of a past that no longer exists. Mrs. Cate displays a copy of <u>Architecture in Tennessee</u>, written by James Patrick (1981), in her foyer for visitors to see. A photograph of her home is featured, and various references are made to Thomas Blanchard. After extensive research in an effort to document Thomas Blanchard, one finds that the only primary source listed is a interview of Mr. Vastine Stickley, from a 1936 book entitled <u>History of Homes and Gardens in East</u>

Tennessee, edited by Roberta Seawell Brandau (Brandau, 1936). The author carefully researched two other homes in the area which according to the local community, were supposedly constructed by Blanchard. These other homes are also cited in Patrick's book. The Cooke-Keafuver home is of the same so-called grand scale as the Cannon home. A smaller home, the Coffin-Turner home, is much simpler but exhibits many of the same exterior and interior architectural details.

Because none of the secondary sources referenced primary sources that support statements made by Mr. Stickley, several questions arose as to what exactly was Blanchard's role. If he did build all these homes, what happened to him after he completed these three homes? A thorough search of census records, newspaper articles, and various oral family histories subsequently revealed more about the life of Thomas Blanchard, and the buildings associated with his name as a builder/carpenter during his residence in East Tennessee.

Purpose of Research

The purpose of this research is to document the life and work of a traveling carpenter named Thomas Blanchard. This study carefully analyzes Blanchard's work and also draws parallels with other residential structures of the period in an effort to show what may have influenced his exterior and interior architectural style. Several examples of rural East Tennessee architecture, both existing and destroyed, provide examples of exterior and interior architectural styles. It appears Blanchard may have brought certain

architectural and interior stylistic characteristics to the area possibly from a northern city such as Philadelphia or New York.

Need for Study

The majority of the current information regarding the work of carpenter Thomas

Blanchard is from Mr. Vastine Stickley, who wrote a newspaper column for the Monroe

County Democrat about the early days in Monroe County (Appendix A). His writing has

resulted in the belief that Blanchard contributed significantly to the architecture of

Monroe County during the mid 1800's. Since most of the information surrounding

Blanchard, his life and works, was hearsay, it has been necessary to do extensive research

on Blanchard in an effort to identify his role as architect and/or builder/carpenter.

Objective

It is hoped that this study will explain Blanchard's significance in the field of architecture and interiors as an architect and/or builder who contributed to East Tennessee by bringing architectural influences from other areas of the country. An important objective of this research is to clarify Blanchard's role in the architectural history of Monroe County after many years of assumptions.

Limitations of Study

Since the communities where Blanchard worked are so remote from more populated East Tennessee towns, it was extremely difficult to locate pertinent documents, such as contracts, birth records, or tax records in an effort to verify information. Courthouse fires, such as the ones that occurred in Blount County in 1906 and Grainger County in 1946, were common. The lack of accurate records created voids making it difficult to draw conclusions.

Apparently, Thomas was a popular name for Blanchards to give their sons. The first Blanchard to settle in the United States from England was named Thomas (Carpenter, 1936). Birth records revealed a vast number of men named Thomas Blanchard, causing a problem in locating and identifying Thomas Blanchard of East Tennessee.

In addition, the 1920 Census for the State of New York did not list the names of children: only a mark was made in the column for the appropriate age. This created another problem in locating a particular person. City directories also presented the same problem. At times, more than one name was listed, but children were never listed in these directories until much later. Occupations were listed; hence, only assumptions can be made about whether Thomas J. Blanchard could have been trained by his father based on the occupations of the families listed at the time.

During the early 1800's and 1900's it was common for families to keep valuable records such as wills in the family Bible, and that type of information is hard to find unless a direct descendent can be found. In the case of Thomas J. Blanchard, no descendents have been located, leaving another void in the documentation of his life.

The Soundex Index, which is arranged in the order of person's last names, has the United States Census for 1880. If a person did not have a child under the age of eight years old, they are simply not listed in the Soundex Index. A search of other individual microfilmed census records of states where Blanchard may have relocated his family did not result in finding this specific Thomas Blanchard or any of his family members. This leaves a sense of non-closure to the project.

Significance of Study

Thomas Blanchard first appears in East Tennessee history in Monroe County through the writings of Vastine Stickley. Researching his life revealed that he resided in other counties in East Tennessee as well and was associated with some very prominent families. This may suggest he was a traveling carpenter, hired to do one job and then return to his home in another part of the country or state, rather than a person who settled in a specific area. Documentation was necessary to verify his place in the architectural history of East Tennessee.

Thomas Blanchard may or may not prove to be a significant contributor to the architecture of East Tennessee; none of the homes in this research associated with Blanchard have ever been documented and now are over 150 years old. Two of the residences are on the National Register of Historic Places, but the nomination forms from the State Historic Preservation Office only give descriptions of the properties as they existed when the nomination forms were submitted. Further documentation comparing

details of these Tennessee landmarks as they were originally designed will preserve the architectural history before additional renovations change the structures forever.

Key Terms and Definitions

Federal style – "The Federal or 'Adamesque' style became familiar by the end of the 1780's and achieved elegance through attenuated forms, curved or elliptical features and sophistication of detail such as: polygonal or curvilinear bays, concealed hip roofs behind balustrades, elongated windows with large panes and thin glazing bars, decorated cornices, and entry porches with thin tapered columns in the 'ancient taste' " (Calloway, 1996, p.204). Example: Colton House 1796, Colton, Massachusetts (McAlester, 1997, p.160).

Freemason - "One who has been initiated into the mysteries of the Fraternity of the Freemasonry. Freemasons are so called to distinguish them from the operative or stonemasons who constituted an inferior class of workman and out of whom they sprang" (Mackey, 1917, p.333).

Greek Revival style – "A style of architecture based on Classic Greek temples; used for both public buildings and houses; typical elements include low pitched gable roofs or hipped roofs, pedimented gable ends, simple architrave bands and eaves, entry porches with Doric style columns and entablature, front door with narrow sidelights and rectangular fanlight, multi-paned double hung or triple hung windows; popular in the U.S. ca. 1820-60" (Bucher, 1996, p. 217). Example: Belle Meade 1853, Nashville, Tennessee (McAlester, 1997, p. 191).

Historic American Building Survey (HABS) – "A national program created to assemble a comprehensive record of significant buildings in the United States formally organized as a co-operative effort of the National Park Service, the Library of Congress, and the American Institute of Architects" (Brumbaugh, 1974 p. v). This program was created during the depression and drawings remain on file at The Library of Congress.

National Register of Historic Places – A list of significant places in United States history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture at the national, state, or local level (McAlester, 1997).

Palladian – Neoclassical architecture in the style of Andrea di Pietro della Gondola (1508-80), known as Palladio. His book <u>The Four Books of Architecture</u> was republished in England in the late 18 century. Typical elements include simple hipped roof, symmetrical exterior elevations, and interior floor plan that consisted of central hall with flanking rooms (McAlester, 1997). Example: Monticello, 1780-1809, Charlotsville, Virginia (McAlester, 1997, p.174).

Vernacular building – "A building built without being designed by an architect or someone with similar formal training; often based on traditional regional forms" (Bucher, 1996, p.513).

CHAPTER II

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

East Tennessee Counties in 1840

It is necessary to explain the living and working conditions of East Tennessee people during the mid-nineteenth century to understand fully the life of Thomas Blanchard. As a carpenter he would not always have access to the necessary tools and materials he needed. If materials such as lumber and brick could not be prepared on site, these materials would have to be brought in by horseback, train, or ferry, depending on the location of the job site (Brewer, 1975). This situation existed in most of the areas discussed in this study.

Monroe, Blount, and Grainger, three of the four counties where Blanchard possibly worked, as documented in primary and secondary sources, were rural areas of East Tennessee during the period of 1840 to 1870. As shown in census information, there were no major industries operating at this time. The major source of income for the citizens of these counties was farming The 1850 U.S. Census for the State of Tennessee for Monroe County lists 83,610 acres of developed farmland and 257,125 acres of unimproved land (DeBow, 1853). The same census for Blount County, which was much larger during 1850, lists 90,987 acres improved and 761,786 unimproved land (DeBow, 1853). Grainger County, the smallest of the more rural counties, had 58,251 developed acres of farmland and 125,628 undeveloped (DeBow, 1853). The major crops in these counties

were Indian corn, tobacco and cotton, which were farmed on large plantations with slave labor. Livestock was also raised on many farms in these areas (DeBow, 1853).

The fourth county, Knox County, where Blanchard lived and worked according to U.S. Census Records, was also small in comparison to Blount County but was more developed with 107,598 improved acres and 213,552 unimproved acres (Debow, 1853). Knoxville, the major city in Knox County, had more industry than the other counties and was the location of East Tennessee University, now known as The University of Tennessee. A map shows Tennessee Counties as they existed in 1836. The East Tennessee County boundaries did not change until after the Civil War, when Loudon County was established in 1870 (see Figure 1).

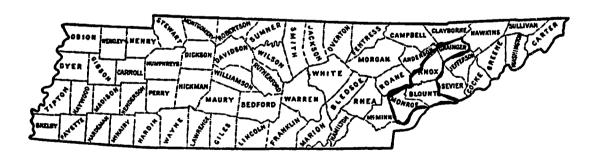


Figure 1. Tennessee counties in 1836

Note. From School History of East Tennessee (p.31), by Seats. Reprinted with permission from E. R. Lacy (Ed.) Antebellum Tennessee: A Documentary History (p.133), Copyright 1980, Johnson City, TN: The Overmountain Press.

The turn of the century brought trains to East Tennessee counties, but, prior to the arrival of the train, many towns were primarily accessible by horseback or by river ferry (Brewer, 1975). Madisonville, Tennessee, where Blanchard supposedly was working in 1846, did not have train service until after 1900, which meant the nearest train station was in Sweetwater, Tennessee, seven miles from the town of Madisonville. Anyone arriving by train in Sweetwater wanting to visit nearby towns had to find alternate means of travel, such as horseback or stagecoach (Ogden, 1935). This was the case in many rural areas of East Tennessee. Many of the local merchants in remote counties, such as Monroe and Grainger, traveled by train to larger eastern cities such as New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore to buy goods for their stores; they also had to find alternate means to transport these materials to their stores. (Brewer, 1975). Building materials, such as the items used by a carpenter like Thomas Blanchard, would have also been carried by horseback to surrounding communities if they were not readily available from local merchants or if they were items that could not be produced on site.

Construction in Knoxville 1870's

Although no contracts are on record to indicate that Blanchard worked on any structures in Knoxville, several large projects were underway during this time. The Tennessee School for the Deaf had extensive damage during the Civil War (Carr, 1941). Confederate soldiers occupied the building until 1863, and then the Union army occupied it until the end of the war in 1865 (Biennial Report, 1869). Five thousand dollars was allotted for repairs in 1866, and plans for a house were completed in 1869 with the house

being completed in 1871 (Biennial Report, 1869). This may be purely coincidence that Blanchard was living in Knoxville only a few blocks from the location of the school. However, given the contacts he had made through his wife's family and through other clients he had made over the years, it is possible that he moved back to Knoxville to work on this particular job. If, in fact, the Tennessee School for the Deaf is what brought him to East Tennessee, his company may have been the most experienced candidate for the reconstruction of the school after the war. Because no documentation exists to verify this information, the researcher can only make assumptions.

In addition to the above project Blanchard may have worked on the 1870 reconstruction of the Masonic Temple (Knoxville Chronicle, 1870). This building was located on Gay Street in Knoxville only blocks from where Blanchard and his family lived (Census, 1870). The original building was destroyed by fire, and the new building was constructed in 1870 by William Morrow. The signature of a Morrow appears next to Blanchard's on the receipt for the church at Four Mile Branch (see Figure 41), but there is no way to verify that the two are related or even the same person. Researching information regarding the Masons is difficult due to the fact that some of these early lodges are no longer active, and most of the original rolls listing members for the Mt. Libnus Lodge were destroyed by fire (Hill, 1998). The Masonic Lodge of Knoxville later moved to the home of Charles McClung McGhee, which was built around 1865. This home, located in what was the Fourth Ward of Knoxville, could have also been built by Blanchard or could have been his residence while he was living in Knoxville. Vastine

Stickley never indicates that Blanchard ever had any ties to the Freemasons, but they could have also been the "syndicate" he refers to in his writings.

The Knoxville Courthouse was also being constructed during this time, as were buildings on the University of Tennessee Campus (Knoxville Chronicle, 1870). Without proper documentation, one can only make assumptions about Blanchard's work in Knoxville. Given the fact that he also had his son and another carpenter working with him, he could have been involved in many projects (Census, 1870). The Knoxville City Directories do not list a Blanchard for this time period. Hence, he and his sons may have been working for many of the other companies during this time or may just not have been listed.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection

Primary source documents were located through a thorough search of all available deeds, tax records and wills, performed at Blount, Monroe, Grainger and Knox County Courthouses. Madisonville, county seat of Monroe County, is the location of three main homes as well as the church included in this study. The Blount County Court House, located in Maryville, Tennessee, was destroyed by fire in 1906, so few records exist before this time. However, Blanchard was listed in Chancery Court documents that were not destroyed from 1857 and these have been utilized. Grainger County Courthouse, located in Rutledge, also had a fire in its courthouse in 1946, but most of these records were salvaged and available. The Knox County Archives and McClung Collection at the East Historical Museum in Knoxville have valuable collections on all four counties included in this study. County records microfilmed from originals at the respective courthouses were also found. United States Census records helped in locating and identifying Blanchard and his family. These were obtained from the microfilm collection of the McClung Collection in Knoxville, Tennessee, The Family Research Center of the Latter Day Saints Church in Knoxville, and The New York Public Library.

Various private collections of family papers from Monroe County and Grainger

County were assembled to identify families that Blanchard was associated with during his

time in East Tennessee. Most of these were found at the McClung Collection and included the J.W. Niles Papers, the Thomas Roach Collection, and the Charles McClung McGhee Papers. A family scrapbook compiled by Mrs. Bess McSpadden of Madisonville, Tennessee contained articles written by her mother, the daughter of Mr. Vastine Stickley, and a family history of the Houston family.

The business records of Mr. Richard Upjohn, a well-known architect, were acquired from Special Collection of the New York Public Library. The drawings from this collection are from the Avery Architectural Collection at Columbia University. Richard Upjohn is best known for designing churches from 1830 to his death in 1878. These include the Trinity Church in New York City as well as designs found in his book Rural Church Architecture (1852). However, he is also responsible for the design of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Riverside once located in Monroe County near the town of Madisonville (Upjohn, 1938, p.210). Apparently, Thomas Blanchard worked on this church since his name appears on a receipt acknowledging work he performed (Receipt, 1856). For this reason the records of Mr. Upjohn were examined in an effort to link Blanchard with Upjohn, and determine Blanchard's role on the project.

The State Historic Preservation Office in Nashville, Tennessee provided existing Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination forms for two of the homes in this study. These forms were helpful in identifying architectural details because changes have occurred since the nominations were submitted. Organizations such as Tennessee State Archives; The Pennsylvania Historical Society; Knoxville Masonic Lodge, Tellico Lodge, in Madisonville, The Jessie Ball duPont Library at Sewanee in Sewanee,

Tennessee; Special Collections of The University of Tennessee in Knoxville; The Madisonville Public Library in Madisonville, Tennessee; and the Tennessee School for the Deaf in Knoxville had various contributing documents.

A review of the microfilmed collection of Henry-Russell Hitchcock's <u>American</u>

Architectural Books: A list of books portfolios and pamphlets on architecture and related subjects published in America before 1895 (1946), proved invaluable. This collection enabled the author to find exact drawings of details used in the design of these 150 year old homes attributed to Blanchard. They also helped to illustrate what types of books a carpenter of the 1800's, such as Blanchard, may have referred to while practicing his trade during that period.

Local historians in the individual counties were consulted. Monroe County historians' stories were the same or similar to what was known from original newspaper articles written by Mr. Vastine Stickley for the Monroe County Democrat. Historians from other counties were helpful in the discovery of primary documentation of events.

Newspapers recorded on microfilm from each town, including Madisonville, Maryville, Rutledge and Knoxville, were scanned for advertisements, marriage announcements, obituaries, property sales announcements and bidding notices for available work in these cities. It was during this search that Blanchard's marriage announcement was discovered.

Knoxville had a City Directory during this time. The years 1861-1868 were not published, possibly because of the Civil War, and only a few pages from 1869 have survived. Certain pages from 1876, survived but the years 1878-1879 were apparently not

published. All available City Directories pertinent to Blanchard's life were reviewed from microfilmed copies available at the McClung Historical Collection in Knoxville.

A thorough literature review was done of all books compiled by various organizations such as, Census Indexes by Byron Sistler and Associates. Many of these secondary sources led to primary sources thus they were helpful in locating Blanchard in East Tennessee.

Sample Collection

In addition to all library information cited above, photographs were made of the residences at the beginning and then retaken towards the final stages of the research. In this short period of one year, many repairs were made to the Cannon-Stickley home so some of the original photographs illustrate original details that no longer exist. This further underscores the need for documentation before original architectural details are lost.

Measurements of the existing exterior and interior architectural details of the homes were made as accurately as possible and are noted in Chapter Four of this thesis. Floor plans are drawn to reflect what is thought to be original by the researcher and families living in the homes at this time.

Data Analysis

Comparison of all the homes assumed to be built by Thomas J. Blanchard as well as existing historical records and primary sources provided pertinent exterior and interior architectural details of the 1800's. By comparing period carpentry book line drawings with details in *situ*, conclusions could be made about the possible origins of the designs produced.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCOVERIES

Personal Background Thomas J. Blanchard

According to United States Census records, Thomas J. Blanchard was born in New York in 1814 or 1815. It appears that his parents were both immigrants possibly from England (Census, 1870). The majority of the immigrants with the surname of Blanchard were either of French or English decent according to family histories of the Blanchard family (Carpenter, 1936). Some are known to be from Australia, but they originated in England, and the French Blanchards usually settled in Louisiana.

Many of the Blanchard families listed in the State of New York Census for 1820 reported immigrants as part of their households, some being relatives, such as parents, and others being listed as heads of household. Many of them had sons in the age range of Thomas when the census was taken. As mentioned earlier, the names of the children are not listed on these early censuses, so there is no way to determine which of these were related to the Thomas J. Blanchard who came to Tennessee. The name John is the most obvious name to research in reference to Thomas's father because the middle initial "J" is in Blanchard's name and also because Thomas Blanchard named one of his sons John. However, the census showed only one man named John Blanchard. This person is listed as a cabinetmaker in Longworth's American Almanac, New York Register and City

Directory (Longworth, 1816) and is listed for many of the following years. In 1817 another John Blanchard is listed as a ship carpenter in that same directory. In this same directory for the year 1820 lists: John Blanchard, cabinetmaker, Nicolas Blanchard, also a cabinetmaker and Francis Blanchard, a mason, all listed at the same address: Thompson n. Spring (see Figure 2). It is very possible that these are members of Thomas Blanchard's family and that he was taught his carpentry skills by one or all of these men. Clearly, this is based on the assumption that his middle initial stands for John. It could have been that his father never had the name John; rather his name could have been James, Jefferson, etc. No conclusive documentation or verification was derived from this assumption. This could be merely a coincidence, or one of these men could be the father of the Thomas J. Blanchard who eventually traveled to East Tennessee.

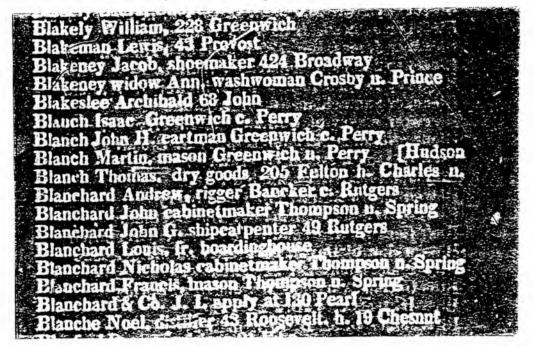


Figure 2. New York City Directory 1820

Note. From Longworth's American Almanac, New-York Register, and City Directory by T. Longworth, 1820, New York: Joseph Denoues, printer.

Although the writings of Vastine Stickley say that Blanchard was hired from Philadelphia, not New York, it is very possible that Blanchard moved to Philadelphia with his family. There is no Thomas Blanchard listed in the city directory for Philadelphia in 1846, but a John Blanchard, ship carpenter, is listed as well as many other Blanchards. This might indicate that his residence was in New York and that he had found a job in Philadelphia at that time. Possibly, Vastine Stickley's oral history is quoted wrong in the newspaper, and Blanchard was actually from New York and working in Philadelphia for his father at the time he was hired to come to East Tennessee. This might explain why the company that was hired to build the homes in Monroe County is always referred to as a "syndicate." If this syndicate was owned by the Blanchard family, that would explain why he is always referred to in such high regard, supervising the work being done as well as being a carpenter on the project. The term "syndicate" could also refer to a group such as the Freemasons or The Carpenters Company of Philadelphia that represented several carpenters during that time (Peterson, 1976). No documentation ties Thomas Blanchard to Philadelphia, however, only master craftsmen are listed on the rolls of the Carpenters Company of Philadelphia in the 1840's. Thomas Blanchard may have been an apprentice during this time and the Carpenters Company would not have listed his name on their records. However, census records do list Blanchard's birthplace as New York, and therefore only speculation can be made as to where he was raised and eventually trained as a carpenter.

Numerous documents place Blanchard in East Tennessee from 1846 to 1870. The first documented evidence of Thomas J. Blanchard in Tennessee is in a deed from Grainger

County (Grainger County Deed, 1869). On March 4, 1846 Mr. William Kennedy of Knox County sold a piece of property in Grainger County known as Lea Springs to Blanchard and Williston Lea. Williston Lea is the younger brother of Martha Lea who was soon to be Blanchard's wife. This land was apparently acquired by a Mr. Thomas Lloyd of Monroe County in a Chancery Court sale of February 21, 1846. The title bond was the beginning of an arrangement that would continue for many years until the deed was recorded in 1869 (Appendix B). Lea Springs is a large segment of property that had been in the Lea family for many years. Thomas Jarnigan Lea by 1846 had relocated to Knoxville with his family including Martha his oldest daughter.

A marriage announcement appeared in <u>The Nashville Whig</u> on Saturday, April 11, 1846, announcing the marriage of Thomas J. Blanchard to Martha J. Lea (see Figure 3). According to their marriage license, they were married on March 27, 1846 a few days after the agreement between Mr. Kennedy, Blanchard and her brother Williston was made for her family's property in Grainger County (Appendix C). The ceremony was conducted at the Baptist Church in Knoxville by reverend Homer Sears who was a very prominent minister in East Tennessee at that time (Burnett, 1919).

It is also during this same year of 1846 that Blanchard was possibly contracted by Dr. Guilford Cannon of Madisonville, Tennessee in Monroe County to build his home (Seawell, 1936, p.97). Thomas Blanchard may have met Dr. Cannon at the sale of the Lea family's property when Thomas Lloyd of Monroe County purchased the property in Grainger County.

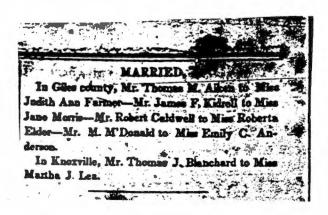
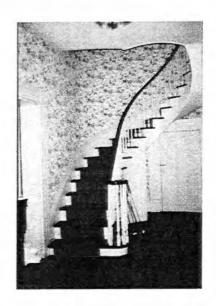


Figure 3. Marriage Announcement Thomas J. Blanchard and Martha J. Lea Note. From The Nashville Whig Saturday, April 11, 1846

Another possibility is that Blanchard was working in Knoxville when Dr. Cannon contracted him to build his home and that Blanchard purchased the Lea Springs property for his soon to be wife. The Tennessee School for the Deaf was also being built in Knoxville during this time. Interior architectural details in the main building are similar to the ones in the Cannon – Stickley home in Madisonville (see Figure 4). The spiral staircase and similar door moldings are also features of the two other homes in Monroe County. To date no evidence has been discovered on who the original architect or carpenter of The Tennessee School for the Deaf was (Vines, 1972). All records before 1900 for the school were destroyed during a "house cleaning" by one of the school's former presidents (Akin Letter, 1980). In 1972, Mr. William Ross McNabb, an architectural historian, reported finding the name Jacob Newman listed as the contractor for the building (Vines, 1972). He felt that Mr. Newman might have been the designer for the building because the details on the building are not very accurate.





Main Stair Tennessee School

Cannon-Stickley Stair

<u>Figure 4.</u> Detail of spiral stairway Tennessee School for the Deaf, Knoxville, Tennessee central hall and Cannon-Stickley home stair in central hall Madisonville, Tennessee.

The 1850 Census for Knox County lists Jacob Newman as a brick mason (Census, 1850). In a letter dated January 10, 1980 Mr. Conley Akin, who was the historian for the Tennessee School for the Deaf at that time, received evidence about the origin of that information from the organization responsible for placing the building on the National Register. Apparently, in 1952 a cornerstone listing Mr. Jacob Newman as contractor and also stating that the cornerstone was laid by the "Mount Libanus Lodge, Number 59 of the Freemasons, May 13, 1848" was removed from the main building (Emrick Letter, 1980).

Another assumption could be made that Thomas J. Blanchard was a Freemason and that Newman hired Blanchard and other Freemasons from Philadelphia to execute this large project. Dr. Guilford Cannon was a member of the Tellico Lodge #80 in

Madisonville during the 1840's (Greenwood, 1998). During this time there was a strong desire to have a Grand Lodge of East Tennessee established in Knoxville. This convention was led by Mr. Sam Bicknell of the Maryville Lodge (Snodgrass, 1944,p.108-109). On December 27, 1849 and June 25,1849 there were meetings concerning this issue held at the Maryville Lodge (Snodgrass, 1944, p.109). Other Lodges in attendance were Mt. Libnus No.59, Pearl No.24, and Tellico No.80 (Snodgrass). Thomas Blanchard may have been in attendance at these meetings if he was already active in one of the lodges in Knoxville or in Madisonville. These conventions resulted in a letter from Sam Bicknell to Mr. Wilkens Tannehill on July 4, 1849 expressing the need for establishing a Grand Lodge of East Tennessee. Despite all their efforts, Mr. Bicknell and his fellow Freemasons did not succeed in this endeavor. Thus, the Grand Lodge for the entire state remained in Nashville. If Thomas Blanchard was a member of any of the active lodges in Knoxville or the Tellico Lodge #80 in Madisonville during this time he would have been introduced to other Freemasons throughout East Tennessee including Dr. Guildford Cannon, Dr. Robert Cooke and Mr. James Coffin.

Thomas J. Blanchard is also listed on the rolls for the Tellico Lodge #80 later in 1853. Therefore, it is possible that while Blanchard was in Knoxville, building the School for the Deaf, he was a member of the Mt. Libinus Lodge and met Dr. Cannon through other Freemasons and Dr. Cannon hired Blanchard and other Freemasons to build his home in Monroe County.

Another connection between Blanchard and the Tennessee School for the Deaf is a Senator from Grainger County, General John Cocke. General Cocke was responsible for

getting the financing from the state to get the school built in Knoxville (Bang, 1845). Thomas Blanchard's wife's family, the Lea's of Grainger County, were also aquainted with the McGhee family of Monroe County at this time (McGhee, 1849). A letter from Albert Lea to Charles McClung McGhee dated November 1, 1849 is an invitation for Charles to stay with the Leas until his land in Four Mile Branch is surveyed (McCrossin, 1849). Both families were very politically active (MacArthur, 1975:Roach, 1962). They may have had dealings concerning policy matters for the State of Tennessee. Members of the Lea family held seats in the Tennessee State Senate and in the U.S. Congress for many years (Roach, 1962).

Thomas Blanchard - Monroe County 1850

Thomas J. Blanchard's signature can be found on a petition in Madisonville, dated January 7,1850 (see Figure 5). This signature matches one to be mentioned later which was for payment received from the McGhee family. As mentioned earlier, further verification of Blanchard's presence in Madisonville after 1850 can be found on the membership rolls of the Tellico Lodge No.80. Thomas J. Blanchard is listed as a member of this lodge in 1853 (Tellico, 1853). This might indicate that he remained a member of the lodge after he left Madisonville or that because the Freemasons hosted other lodges (Snodgrass, 1944, p.108), he may have been a visitor from another lodge such as Mt. Libnus in Knoxville, or remained active at Tellico No.80 after he relocated.

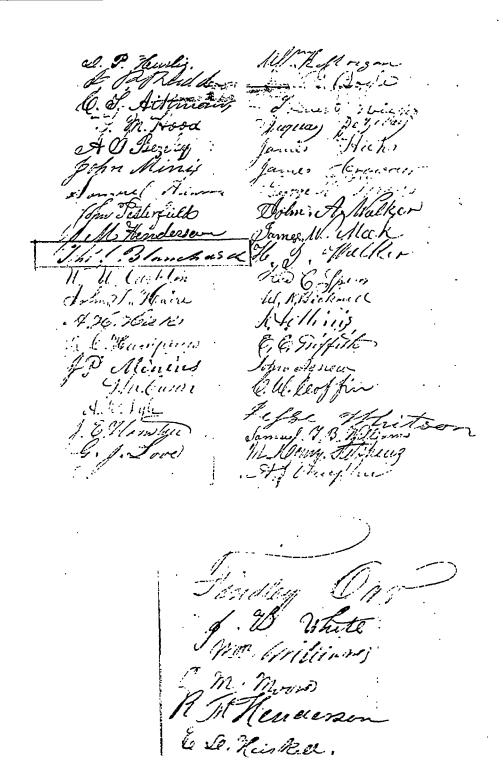


Figure 5. Petition signed by Thomas J. Blanchard 1850.

Note. From History of Monroe County Tennessee (Vol. I. Part II p.64) by S. Cox-Sands, 1982, Baltimore: Gateway Press. Copyright 1982 by Sarah G. Cox-Sands. Reprinted with permission.

This association, and the fact that he was a carpenter, affiliates him with a group of men who were not only prominent men in their communities but also carpenters and builders responsible for the construction of several buildings in East Tennessee.

The first Grand Lodge of Freemasonry was established in 1813 in Knoxville, Tennessee. Some of its original founders were prominent citizens of East Tennessee, such as John Sevier, Tennessee's first Governor, William Blount, Sam Houston, and a man by the name of Wilkens Tannehill (Snodgrass, 1944,p.122). Mr. Tannehill was originally from Pennsylvania and is still held in very high esteem among Freemasons in Tennessee for being the founder of the Grand Lodge of Knoxville (Demott, 1994,p.340). This lodge remained the Grand Lodge until the state capital of Tennessee was moved from Knoxville to Nashville in 1812. From 1816 to 1826 Knoxville was without a Masonic Lodge. However, there were many active lodges throughout East Tennessee, such as Tellico Lodge No. 80, Madisonville, where Blanchard is listed on the rolls in 1853, Maryville Lodge and the Rising Star No. 40, Rutledge, all in towns where Blanchard lived between 1846-1870. In 1826 the Mt. Libnus Lodge 59 was chartered in Knoxville. This lodge failed after the close of the Civil War. However, as mentioned earlier, these are the Freemasons who laid the cornerstone for the Tennessee School for the Deaf in 1848. Pearl Chapter 24, was chartered 1848, when Blanchard may have been working in Knoxville, and Masters 244, chartered 1854, remained active after the Civil War. Apparently, this lack of consensus did not help in the support of the Masonic College in Clarksville (Tannehill, 1848), but the Freemasons like Blanchard and others continued to be active in their individual communities. Colleges and universities, such as Maryville

College and the Tennessee School for the Deaf in Knoxville, built in 1848, were "closely associated with the Freemasons of the region" (Snodgrass, 1944,p. 314). Freemasons continued to have an influence in their communities due to the fact that lodge members were also influential men and were held in high esteem among fellow citizens.

Thomas Blanchard - Blount County 1850

The 1850 Census for the State of Tennessee lists a Thomas J. Blanchard living in Civil District Nine of Blount County. The city of Maryville is located in this district. This Census lists: Thomas Blanchard, 35, as a carpenter born in the state of New York, Martha, 30, born in Tennessee, and two children also born in the State of Tennessee: Alice, four and Edward, two (Appendix D). This census was taken November 10,1850; therefore, it was after he signed the petition in Madisonville. Given the fact that there is not another Thomas Blanchard listed on the census for the State of Tennessee in 1850, his wife's name is Martha, this should be the same person. To date, no evidence has been found to verify where Thomas Blanchard and his family lived in Madisonville before this time. Birth records during this time are not available and therefore, there is no way to verify if the children were born in Monroe or Blount County. Two of the three clients of Thomas Blanchard were physicians, and records indicate there were five doctors in Madisonville (Sands 1981, p.65). Therefore, the children could have been delivered by them. To date, none of their records have been located. One secondary source mentions a log cabin that Blanchard built during the construction of the homes in Madisonville

(Worth, 1943). That source was never located and the local historian who mentioned this information passed away during the writing of this research.

Three additional primary sources exist documenting Thomas Blanchard in Blount County. Two court cases from the Chancery Court Records of Blount County list Blanchard as the defendant (Blount, 1855). The case of J.C. Gallagher vs. Thomas J. Blanchard states that the Clerk and Master of Blount County take and state an account of both parties, determining what amount of partnership existed between the two parties. The Clerk and Master was also asked to determine what amount of cash disbursements was made to the two gentlemen and what contributions of tools, labor, and money were made by each of the partners to benefit the firm and determine the final balance of their assets (Blount, 1855, p.12). To date, no resolution to this case has been found. A thorough search of existing Blount County newspapers was performed to try to find an announcement of the partnership between Gallagher and Blanchard being dissolved, but none was found.

Another Chancery Court case involving Thomas Blanchard is listed as J.T. Bicknell vs. Blanchard and Vinsant (Blount, 1855, p.36). There were several meetings of the parties mentioned in this case (Dockter, 1992, p.12). In most of the court appearances the judge was granting extensions to the two parties (Dockter, 1992). The final resolution of the disagreement was that both parties agreed to pay the bills originally in dispute (Dockter, 1992). Sam Bicknell is also mentioned in this settlement as one of the plaintiffs in the case. Mr. Bicknell may have known Blanchard quite well by this time, since Guildford Cannon's first wife was his daughter and since Bicknell was a

Freemason at the Maryville lodge. The "cross bill", as it was referred to in court documents, was paid by all parties, including Sam Bicknell. All parties eventually admitted to being partially at fault, and the case was resolved (Dockter, 1992).

While Blanchard was apparently living in Blount County, he was still working in Monroe County for another prominent family. The McGhee family owned a large plantation in Monroe County on the Tellico River (McGhee, 1857). This plantation was the home for many slaves as well as all the members of the McGhee family (McGhee, 1857). Thomas Blanchard was apparently hired by the McGhee family to do work on a church being built on the family plantation. His name appears on a receipt dated November 10, 1854 (see Figure 6). This receipt lists various sums of money paid to Thomas Blanchard and two other men for work done on a church near the mouth of the Tellico River. Members of the McGhee family paid the money, and Joseph Warren Niles and his wife Margaret McGhee Niles made necessary arrangements to have the church built (Niles, 1855). As requested in her father's will, a sum of money was to be left to his children and allotted for the building of a church on his farm (John McGhee Will, 1849). The McGhee family home already existed on the property by the time Blanchard starting working on a church at Four Mile Branch (Brewer, 1975). However, Charles McClung McGhee had a home built around 1857 on the plantation (Patrick, 1981, p.160). No evidence has been found to indicate that Blanchard may have worked on any of the McGhee family homes, but, as mentioned earlier, the Lea family and the McGhees were already aquainted at that time and Dr. Cannon's wife was a cousin to the McGhee family (Cox, 1982).

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Figure 6. Blanchard receipt for payment of work done for the McGhee family.

Note. From. Monroe County Courthouse "Loose Papers" - Gwen Starns, Researcher.

Thomas Blanchard -Grainger County 1860

A census for the State of Tennessee in 1860 lists Thomas J. Blanchard, 40, living in Grainger County Tennessee in District Nine. His occupation is listed as a Master Craftsman. At this time the Blanchards, Thomas and Martha, 34, had six children Alice, 13, Edwin, 11, Albert, 9, Thomas, 7, John, 5, and Frank, 1 (Census, 1860). It could be assumed that Blanchard relocated his family to Grainger to take refuge with his family from the Civil War and lived there until the war was over because historical documents mention that few attacks were made on Grainger County during the Civil War (McCrossin Collection) and several homes in Monroe County, including homes that Blanchard possibly worked on were attacked by Union soldiers (Haun, 1998).

The city of Rutledge is located is in this district. The property and homes owned by Martha Lea Blanchard's family still exist in this area. It is hard to determine exactly where Thomas Blanchard lived because the property has exchanged ownership many times and deeds list landmarks such as trees that no longer exist today. The census lists the value of the Blanchard estate at 23,000 dollars in 1860, which is quite a large sum considering the Civil War was still in progress. It also lists the value of Blanchard's personal belongings at 15,000 dollars (Census, 1860). The estate would have been the one mentioned previously that had been purchased by Blanchard and Martha's brother Williston.

Thomas Roach, a local historian from Grainger County, used the Lea family as the topic of many of his columns in the <u>Grainger County News</u>. His column <u>Grainger County</u> in <u>Days Gone By</u> was published until his death in the late 1960's (Appendix E). He

featured many of the Lea family homes but never mentioned the name Thomas Blanchard. Unfortunately, he was killed before his vast store of letters and documents from the early history of Grainger County were catalogued (Grainger County, 1997). These documents remain in boxes at the McClung Collection in Knoxville, Tennessee and were still very disorganized at the time of this research (1998).

Four large estates "Richland" built in 1794; "Lea Springs" built in the late 1800's, "Popular Hill" home of Cynthia Lea built as a wedding present from her father in 1830; and "Cedar Mills" built in the 1800's (Roach, 1963) were part of the Lea family at the time Thomas Blanchard and Martha Lea were living in East Tennessee. They all have been modified throughout the years. Blanchard may have worked on the renovation of these homes while residing in Grainger County, but this cannot be verified. The Cynthia Lea home does feature a spiral staircase (Roach, 1963). The home was under renovation at the time of this research, and attempts were made to contact the present owners. However, the only documentation on the home is that done by Mr. Roach in the 1960's. Another home in Grainger County that was the subject of one Mr. Roach's articles could also possibly be attributed to Thomas Blanchard. Mr. Roach describes the John Alexander home as "Southern Colonial slightly influenced by the Greek Revival period" and he states that it was built in 1865 (see Appendix E). This is only an assumption because no records were found to positively attribute this home to Thomas Blanchard.

Thomas Blanchard -Knox County 1870

The next primary source documents Thomas Blanchard in Knox County in 1870.A

United States Census taken for the State of Tennessee on July 10 of that year lists

Thomas J. Blanchard and his family living in the Fourth Ward of Knox County. During this period of the 1800's the fourth ward was located in downtown Knoxville (see Appendix F).

The census lists Thomas, age 48, and also lists the value of his personal estate and personal property, however, the figure listed on the microfilm was not legible. The census asked a question pertaining to the immigration status of Blanchard's parents. Blanchard verified that both of his parents were of foreign birth. In his writings, Vastine Stickley often stated that Blanchard was English (Stickley, 1942). This census information supports one of Mr. Stickley's claims. Considering there is no information that Stickley knew Blanchard personally, this information must have been passed along orally to Stickley for his writings.

Blanchard's wife and children are listed also. Martha, age 43, is listed as a housekeeper (Census, 1870). Alice, the oldest child, is not listed on this census, indicating she may have married, died or moved from the area, although no records of marriage or death have been found at this time. The Blanchard's son Edwin, age 27, is listed as a carpenter, suggesting he may have been trained by his father. The other Blanchard children listed are Albert, 18, John, 14, Frank, 12, a female child age 8, and another female child born within the year. Due to the consistency of information from

earlier censuses on Thomas and his family members, it is apparent that this is the same man listed in other counties in 1850 and 1860 census records. This 1870 census also lists two other people living in the Blanchard home: A black cook aged 16 named Susan Small and a 19-year-old white male listed as James W. whose occupation is also listed as a carpenter.

At this time Blanchard still owned property in Grainger County (Deed, 1869). No records have been found to indicate that the property was ever sold. No deeds are on record at the Knox County archives to indicate that Blanchard owned property in Knoxville, and the census does not indicate an address, only the ward in which Blanchard lived.

CHAPTER V

STRUCTURES ATTRIBUTED TO THOMAS J. BLANCHARD

Residences Located In Madisonville, Tennessee

Dr. Guilford Cannon, a wealthy landowner and physician in Madisonville during the 1800's (Monroe County Deed, 1845), was a native of Caswell County, North Carolina. He relocated to Madisonville, where he practiced medicine for many years and also owned a dry goods store (Sands, 1982). His first wife, Mary Anne Bicknell, daughter of Samual Bicknell, died during childbirth in 1839 (Madisonville, 1839). Dr. Cannon's second wife, Jane McGhee, who was also from North Carolina, was a cousin to the McGhees, another wealthy Monroe County family who owned a large plantation on the Little Tennessee River (McCrossin, 1856).

Dr. Cannon is said to have hired Thomas Blanchard to build his home in Madisonville for him and his second wife, Jane McGhee (Stickley, 1935). This information is in many writings by Mr. Vastine Stickley, who purchased the home in 1888 (Monroe County Deed, 1888). Although Dr. Cannon died in 1873, his wife, Jane McGhee-Cannon, lived in the house until her death in 1881 (Cannon File, 1987). It appears that Vastine Stickley befriended the widow and took an early interest in the details of her home due to the vast amount of information he cites in his writings.

When Stickley arrived in Madisonville in 1877 at the age of twenty-one, he soon started a business, becoming a prominent businessman himself (Ogden, 1935). In 1886 he was named Clerk and Master for Monroe County (Democrat, 1944) which gave him access to records concerning the homes supposedly built by Blanchard, and actual contracts between Blanchard and his clients may have also been available. Stickley could have also obtained information through records from the Tellico Lodge where he was also a member (Greenwood,1998). In 1888 Vastine Stickley, at the age of 32, purchased the Cannon home for the sum of two thousand dollars from Cannon's son, William, who had relocated to Dalton, Georgia (see Figure 7;Appendix G).



Figure 7. Cannon-Stickley Home 1998.

The second house in Monroe County thought to be built by Thomas Blanchard is the former home of Dr. Robert Fielding Cooke (Kefauver, Deed, 1908). He was also a wealthy landowner and physician during the 1800's (Monroe County Observer, 1974). Like Dr. Cannon, Dr. Cooke was a Freemason and an active member of the Tellico Lodge No.80, where Thomas Blanchard was also listed on the rolls. An early story surrounding this home tells how Dr. Cooke saved his home from being destroyed by Union soldiers during the Civil War when he noticed a Masonic pin on the commanding officer's collar (Haun, 1998). Union troops apparently stormed the plantation home with torches to burn it down. Today, the spiral stair in this home is slightly separated from the wall and this damage is said to be evidence of that early attack (Kefauver, 1998). An early photograph of the home, estimated to have been taken before 1920 and perhaps as early as 1880, shows the home in its original state (see Figure 8).

Charlotta Kefauver Johnes, or Ms. Lottie as she was known, was the granddaughter of Dr. Cooke (Kefauver Deed, 1908). She owned and operated the farm, once belonging to her grandfather, from 1922 until her death in July of 1965 at the age of 91 (Kefauver

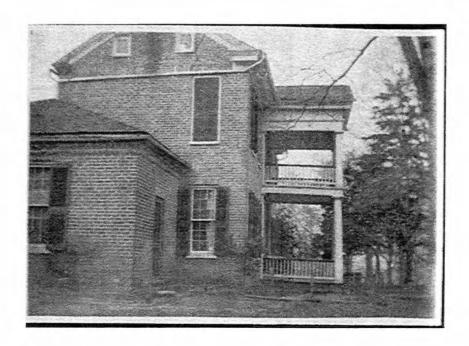


Figure 8. Cooke-Kefauver home before additions.

Deed, 1922). Mrs. Lottie stated that her grandfather and two other men, Dr. Cannon and Mr. James A. Coffin, hired a "carpenter syndicate" to build their homes in Madisonville (Davis, 1961). A crew of twenty-five skilled artisans from Pennsylvania came to build homes for the men and their families. Thomas Blanchard was the master craftsman of the group, supervising the planning and construction of the homes (Davis, 1961).

The third home still existing that is believed to have been built by Thomas

Blanchard from 1846 to 1848 was owned by Mr. James A Coffin. Mr. Coffin served as
the first Clerk and Master for the Chancery Court of Monroe County and remained in that
position for thirty- two years (see Figure 9; Sands, 1982). Like Dr. Cannon and Dr.

Cooke, he was a merchant in Madisonville and a Freemason active in the Tellico Lodge
(Greenwood, 1998).



Figure 9. Coffin-Turner home prior to 1981 renovation.

Currently, this home is much smaller than the Cannon-Stickley and Cooke-Kefauver homes, but it originally bore a closer interior resemblance to the Cooke-Kefauver home. Several additions have been made to the left wing of the Cooke-Kefauver residence, which deceives most into thinking that this residence has always been much larger than the others. Actually, the Cooke-Kefauver residence and the Coffin-Turner home have a very similar first floor plan, with the exception of the placement of the porches and medical offices.

All three of these homes can be compared to homes being constructed in more populated areas in Tennessee (Hamlin, 1944). Homes being constructed in Knoxville, Tennessee and other more metropolitan areas of the United States, such as Philadelphia and New York, during this time had similar details as these in Madisonville (Patrick,

1981). This may indicate that the craftsmen and the owners traveled to other parts of the country and brought these designs to this very rural area of East Tennessee.

Building Materials

Vastine Stickley wrote that the bricks were made on site with special molds to form the cornices and bases of the brick columns (see Figure 10). Moulded bricks are also used to form cornices surrounding the Cooke and Turner homes. Making bricks on site was apparently a common practice during this time. The Hays-Kiser house near Antioch, Tennessee in Davidson County was built much earlier in 1795 and documentation of the home comments on the "fine quality of clay available for brick making on site" (Brambaugh, 1975, p.102). The homes vary in color due to the change of clay available at each site, but it appears the same builder was involved.



Figure 10. Rounded brick columns of Cannon-Stickley home located on back porch.

The Cannon-Stickley home is the only one to have brick columns with molded bricks at the base. All side porches in the other homes are supported by wood columns rather than brick columns. Exposed brick walls in the cellars of the homes are three bricks thick, making the plaster finished interior walls a little over twelve inches (see Figure 11). Ceiling heights are eleven feet on the first and second story rooms and hence a larger footing must be under the soil in the cellar to support the load of the walls. The exposed brick walls under the fireplaces in all of the structures are as thick as sixteen inches in width.

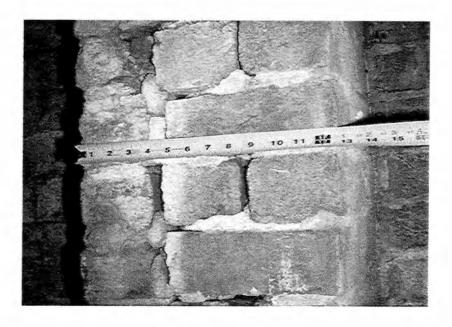


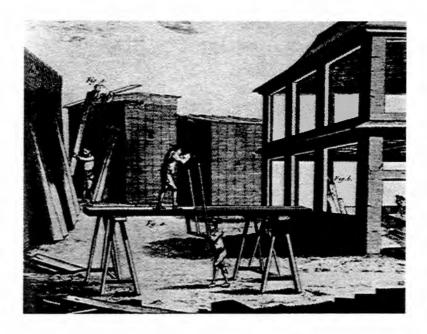
Figure 11. Exposed brick walls in cellar of Cannon-Stickley house under dining room interior wall.

According to Vastine Stickley, the original lumber would have been hand sawn yellow heart pine. (Stickley, 1935) Hand-sawn timbers are visible in the attics of the homes as well as in the second floor rooms over the kitchen of the Cannon home (see Figure 12). Exposed lathe work located in part of an unfinished room in the third floor attic space of the Cannon home might indicate that the room was originally planned to be plastered. This exposed detail illustrates early plaster techniques used in this home. Air conditioning was added to this home, and ductwork is now located in this space; therefore the area has remained unfinished (Cate). The Cooke-Kefauver also has areas in the attic where this lath work is present. However, the ceilings in the attic space are very low and would not have provided comfortable living space.



Figure 12. Exposed timbers in third floor attic of Cannon-Stickley house.

A framed pit saw may be similar to the up and down saw mentioned by Vastine Stickley in his writings. This two-man saw is illustrated in carpentry and joinery books from France published in 1786 (Mercer, 1975; see Figure 13). This type of saw was used to saw logs into lumber for building on sight in rural areas where there were no sawmills to mill the logs. The term "up and down saw" may have been a term used by craftsmen from East Tennessee during Stickley's time because research has not revealed a saw with that name. It has not been possible to determine what Mr. Stickley meant by this reference. One can only assume that the books available served as instructional guides so that craftsman could use available resources to work more efficiently. It is this type of work that ties Blanchard to the construction of these homes because this type of technology could have been brought in from the Northeast.



<u>Figure 13.</u> Framed pit saw from 1786.

<u>Note.</u> From <u>Ancient Carpenter's Tools</u> (p. 23), by H.C. Mercer, 1975, Doylestown, Pennsylvania: Horizon Press. Copyright 1975 by the Bucks County Historical Society.

Exterior Architectural Details

The façades of the both the Cannon and Cooke homes are quite impressive and quite similar indicating the same house builder. Both have two-story porticos supported by eight Doric columns (see Figure 14). Talbot Hamlin, architectural historian, classifies this particular portico as Greek Revival (Hamlin, 1936). Fairvue, a home built in 1832 in Sumner County, Tennessee with this same style portico supported by eight Ionic columns, is classified as a "classic example of the classic-revival house built by wealthy middle Tennesseans between 1830 and 1845"(Brumbaugh, 1974, p.144).



Figure 14. Cooke-Kefauver home front portico.

Historian Talbot Hamlin also classified the Cannon-Stickley residence as a "typical Tennessee mansion" (Hamlin, 1935, p.17). Examples of this portico are also located in western Pennsylvania. Again, this implies the work of a knowledgeable man such as Blanchard.

A Greek Revival portico very similar to the Cannon and Cooke homes is on the William M. Quail House, near Canonsburg, Pennsylvania (see Figure 15). Apparently, porticos were not a common addition to homes in this area of Western Pennsylvania. Author and architect Charles Stotz classifies this residence as "post - colonial" and states that "the two story porch on the Quail house is a curious interpretation of a familiar Virginia motif, unusual in the district" (Stotz, 1936, p. 45). The Cannon-Stickley home, like Fairvue and the Quail house in Pennsylvania, has a basic Georgian design combined with classic details such as Doric columns. These details reflect the strict design principles of architect Andrea Palladio, which are the foundation of the Palladian style of architecture and design. The Palladian style's typical elements include "compact symmetrical massing with a projecting pedimented portico, flat or hipped roof with balustrade parapet, stuccoed brick, and unframed window openings" (Bucher, 1996, p.321-322).



Figure 15. The William M. Quail House near Canonsburg, Pennsylvania.

Note. From The Early Architecture of Western Pennsylvania (p.88), by C.M. Stotz, 1966, Pittsburgh, PA: The University of Pittsburgh. Copyright 1995. The University of Pittsburgh Press. Reprinted with permission.

Brickwork of all three of the homes is English bond with alternate rows of headers and stretchers on the front façade and six stretchers rows per header row on the back and sides of the structure. Bricks are of a slightly different color than the Cannon home, being more brown than red. This change in brick color is probably due to the difference in clay color since bricks were usually fired on site.

As noted, little ornamentation exists on the columns and cornices other than three rows of molded bricks A flat gauged arch, or window cap, which is usually more characteristic of the Federal style, is placed over windows (see Figure 16). This detail is also present in the Hays-Kiser home mentioned earlier (Brumbaugh, 1974). In the Cannon-Stickley home a flat gauged arch is placed over the windows of the second floor only, whereas the Cooke-Kefauver windows only have this detail on the first floor and



Figure 16. Brick flat gauged arch on first story window of Coffin-Turner home.

the Coffin-Turner has flat gauged arches on both upper and lower windows. The Cooke-Kefauver home also has flat wooden lintels on the window of the backside of the home where the flat gauged arch is not present (see Figure 17). These lintels are to support the weight of the brick walls over the windows. Lintels such as this can be also found in nearby Knoxville, Tennessee. The Baker-Peters house built in 1840 also has this detail but the lintel is more prominent due to its thickness (see Figure 18). The builder of the homes in Madisonville seemed to add more details to the exterior of the Cooke home than the Cannon home. As mentioned earlier, someone like Blanchard with knowledge of molding bricks and different methods of supporting weight over windows may have brought this knowledge to East Tennessee from Northern cities.



Figure 17. Back view of Cooke-Kefauver residence Madisonville, Tennessee.



Figure 18. Baker-Peters Home Knoxville, Tennessee.

A side porch is placed on the Cannon-Stickley home as an alternate entrance to the front portico. Having the same simple lines as the front portico, it is one story supported by four Doric columns (see Figure 19). The Vassall-Longfellow house in Cambridge, Massachusetts has similar side entry porches. This home, built in 1797, is considered to be "a fine example of Palladianism in the New England Colonies" (Calloway, 1996). Several homes in Western Pennsylvania have side and back entrances in this style and proportion (Stotz, 1936). This entrance is thought to have been used by patients coming to see Dr. Cannon (Cate, 1997). A small door opens into a side hall leading to the alternate stair that could have been used for servants as well. Original railings on this porch have been replaced several times and columns may not have original bases.

Another small door is located at the back of the kitchen that would have enabled servants to access the smokehouse located behind the home.



Figure 19. Side entry porch of Cannon-Stickley house Madisonville, Tennessee.

At one time a small shed was added behind the kitchen. This, however, was not original to the house and has been torn down leaving only the concrete slab foundation. It is not known if the trelliswork that surrounds the back porch is the original design (see Figure 20). At the present time, the trellis is painted white, but normally this type of woodwork was painted green (Calloway, 1996). "Architects such as J.P. Papworth and Humphrey Repton reintroduced this type of wood-work in the early nineteenth century after it had become out of fashion in British homes" (Calloway, 1996, p.202).

The other homes in this study all had porches similar to this at one time, but they have all been enclosed to form additional living space. Early photographs of the Cannon-Stickley residence only show the front portico. An early photograph of the Cooke residence shows a side view of the front portico and side entrance to the front bedroom.



Figure 20. Trellis surrounding back porch of Cannon-Stickley home 1998.

No trelliswork is present. However, a later photograph, believed to have been taken around 1920, shows trellis enclosing one end of this same porch, indicating it must have been added to the original home. No evidence indicates that the Coffin-Turner home had trellis surrounding the porches.

All of the residences have outside entrances to cellars. Existing original floor joists and construction elements are visible in all of these rooms, but many modern items such as furnaces and ductwork added during renovations fill the once large open rooms. The Cannon home has a large cellar under the main section of the structure. Vastine Stickley wrote that these cellars were for slave quarters, but no information exists to verify this information. The Cannon cellar consists of three large rooms with a dirt floor. Like the other homes, the interior and exterior walls extend to the footings forming the walls for these rooms. If these rooms were for slaves they would have been very cold in the winter.

Do to the vast number of similarities in the exterior details of these homes it becomes evident that a carpenter such as Blanchard may have built all three of these homes in Madisonville. Although, there are some variations in the way they are executed, details like the flat gauged arches over the windows and molded bricks used on the cornices indicate one builder for all three homes.

Floor Plan Analysis

The floor plans of all three homes are very similar also, indicating the same builder was involved in the design of all three homes using a variation of a plan that he may have

been familiar with. Talbot Hamlin compared the floor plan of the Cannon-Stickley home to the Gardner-White-Pingree home in Salem Massachusetts (see Figure 21; Hamlin, p.15, 1935). Mr. Hamlin featured the floor plan by Samual McIntire that is very similar to the homes built in Madisonville. It is considered to be a "variation from the traditional Colonial plan" (Hamlin, 1935, p.16), and features two curved stairways in similar placement to the Cannon-Stickley home.

A central hall is flanked by four adjoining rooms in the Cannon-Stickley home, two in the Cooke-Kefauver and two in the Coffin-Turner plan (see Figures 22,23, and 24).

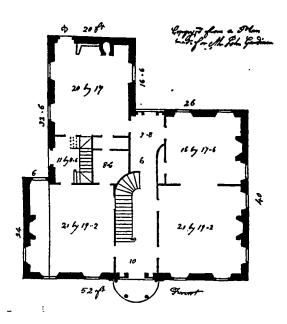


Figure 21. Gardner-White-Pingree house floor plan, Salem Massachusetts.

Note. From Greek Revival Architecture in America (p.16), by T. Hamlin, 1935, London: Oxford University Press.

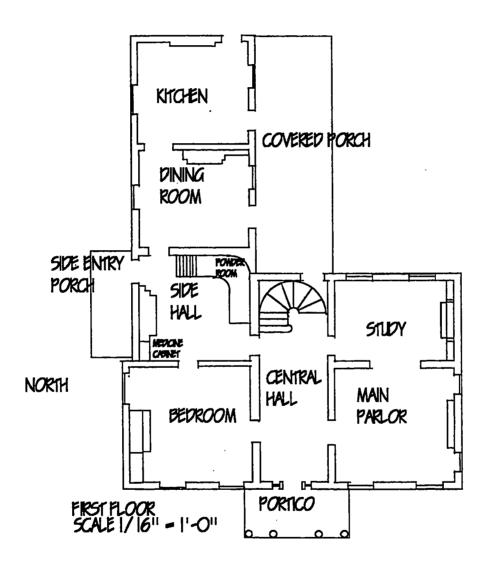


Figure 22. Cannon-Stickley first floor plan.

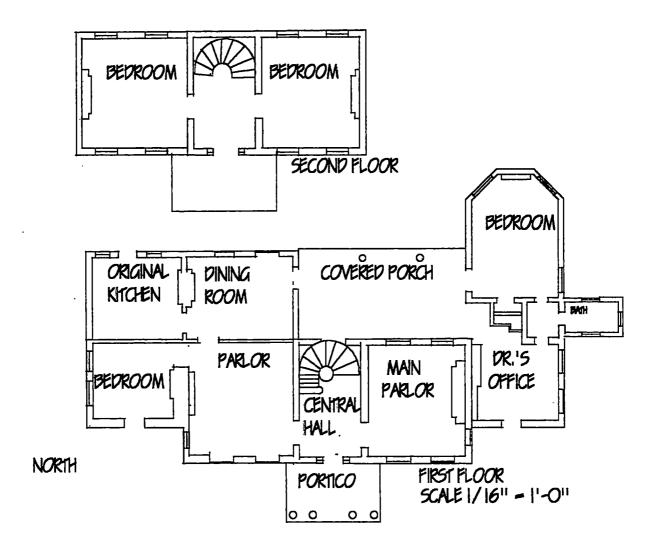


Figure 23. Cooke-Kefauver floor plan

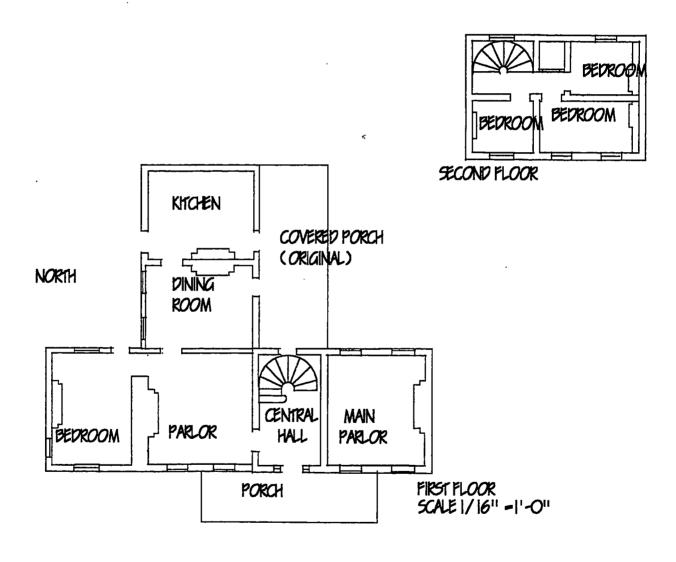


Figure 24. Coffin-Turner floor plan

The floor plans of the Coffin-Turner and Cooke-Kefauver homes are two stories with one-story additions extending from the sides and back of the structure. The original floor plan of the Cooke-Kefauver residence is somewhat smaller than the Cannon home but very similar to the Coffin-Turner home. However, this original plan is more symmetrical with a central block and symmetrical wings added on both sides of the house. One wing, contains a bedroom and kitchen, while the other had offices for Dr. Cooke to see patients. Dr. Cannon consulted his patients in the side hall, but this hall is one of the four rooms flanking the central hall, not an addition (Cate, 1997). A side entrance in both plans allowed patients to have a separate access from visitors to the main house. It is not known if this bedroom in the Cannon home was for patients, as in the Cooke residence.

The central hall of all three homes has a spiral stair of similar scale and proportion, descending from the third floor attic space to the first floor central hall. This spiral stair would have taken a skilled carpenter such as Blanchard, and is one of the best examples to link these three homes to the same builder.

Dimensions of the central hall are very similar in the Coffin-Turner and Cooke-Kefauver home, but the central hall of the Cannon home is much larger. When entering the Coffin and Cooke homes, the foyers are the same with the exception of a window placed in the concave wall on the second floor of the Coffin-Turner home. This window's placement is very similar to the one placed in the concave wall behind the spiral stair in the Tennessee School for the Deaf in Knoxville (see Figure 25). Neither of the other two homes in Madisonville have a window in this area.





Tennessee School for Deaf Knoxville, Tennessee

Coffin-Turner Home Madisonville, Tennessee

<u>Figure 25.</u> Window placement in concave wall of Tennessee School for Deaf and Coffin-Turner Home.

Also located on the first floor of the Cannon house is a dining room with a fireplace and built in china cabinet to the right of the mantel, plus a large kitchen. The kitchen has a step up to a large open room hearth extending almost the entire length of the kitchen. A small door to the right of the fireplace door leads outside to the smokehouse and other outbuildings.

The Coffin house has three small bedrooms on the second floor. The Cooke house has two bedrooms flanking the central hall that have been changed slightly from the original plan due to the addition of a dormer to accommodate second floor restrooms. No photographs of the rear of the home prior to renovation were located to verify if this dormer is original, or was added at a later date.

The second floor of the Cannon home consists of three bedrooms, a central hall a small bathroom and three unfinished rooms over the kitchen that may have been used as servants' quarters as mentioned earlier (see Figure 26). This second floor unfinished rooms over the kitchen can be accessed by the second stair in the side hall, as mentioned earlier. The walls of the rooms are all rough timbers. Bedrooms to the right of the central hall are the same size as the rooms below. A small bedroom to the left has a small bathroom adjacent to it. This room is presently a bathroom with a fireplace.

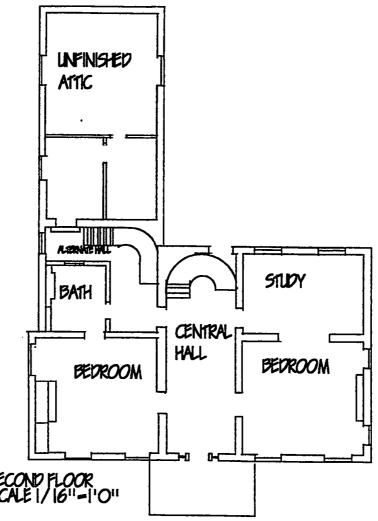


Figure 26. Second floor plan Cannon-Stickley home.

Interior Architectural Details

Spiral Stairs

One of the most beautiful features of the three homes is the three-story spiral stair located at the end of the central hall ascending to the third floor attic space from the central hall (see Figure 27). As mentioned earlier, these stairs are the mark of a craftsman such as Blanchard and are so similar in scale and proportion that the same pattern may have been used to build each one. The stairs make a complete spiral and the handrails are bent to accommodate the curves (see Figure 28). It was thought that in Classical Revival houses this type of stair was "considered a waste of space and less prominently displayed" (Calloway, 1996, p.233). "In Neo-classical architecture the staircase was a significant feature of the entrance floor" (Calloway, 1996, p.223) thus giving more reason to classify the home as Palladian rather than Classical Revival (McAlester, 1996). Many pattern books have details on how to build these stairs and list mathematical formulas on figuring the rise and run for various ceiling heights (see Figure 29).



Figure 27. Spiral stair first floor central hall Cannon-Stickley Home.

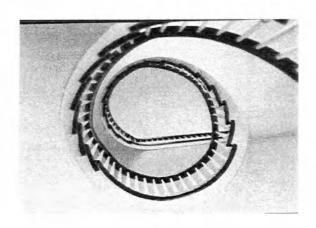


Figure 28. Existing spiral stair from first floor of Cannon-Stickley Home.

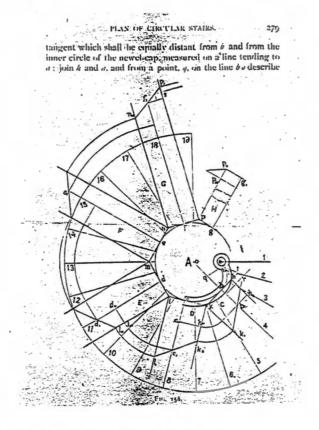


Figure 29. Pattern book details of spiral stair design.

Note. From The American House Carpenter: A Treatise on the Art of Building (p.279) by R.G. Hatfeild, 1844, New York: John Wiley & Sons.

All of these spiral stairs bear a strong resemblance to the stair located in the Tennessee School for the Deaf in Knoxville.

The newel post on the stair of the Coffin home is also very similar to those in the Cannon and Kefauver homes (see Figure 30). A banister follows the graceful curve of the stair around to a small spiral at the bottom of the stair; each post follows the curve around. The author did find articles about the bending of wood during this time and ironically one article featured a man by the name of Thomas Blanchard in Boston.

(Appendix H) There is no way to determine if a carpenter such as Thomas Blanchard of East Tennessee used the same technology mentioned in the article. This may suggest that the art of bending wood could also have been a skill brought to this rural area by skilled



Figure 30. Newel post in Coffin-Turner home typical of Cooke-Kefauver and Cannon-Stickley homes.

artisans, such as Blanchard, along with the ability to form the concave doors and window placed in the walls surrounding the stairs in all three homes. Or, these materials could have been fabricated elsewhere and merely assembled at the individual job site. Each of the banisters in the Madisonville homes, as well as the one in the Tennessee School for the Deaf in Knoxville, are pieced together to form one solid banister. Either is possible but no documentation exists to verify were the banisters or doors were made.

Adjacent to the central hall of the Cannon residence is a side hall with a partial spiral stair leading to the second floor (see Figure 31). This alternate stair was possibly for servants to access the living space above the kitchen mentioned earlier. Neither the

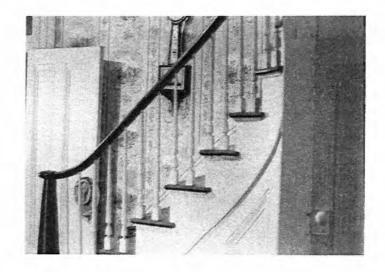


Figure 31. Alternate stair in side hall of Cannon-Stickley Home.

Cooke-Kefauver nor the Coffin-Turner home have alternate stairs. The banister has the same bend that follows the curve of the stairs, but the newel post is a different design than the one in the central hall. The dark wood is believed to be walnut and has a very dark stain. A small powder room for guests. It is not known when the plumbing was added to any of these residences, but the City of Madisonville did not begin providing water to the Cooke-Kefauver farm until 1929 (City of Madisonville, 1929). Prior to 1929 the water apparently came from a well on the farm or a nearby spring.

Fireplaces and Mantels

Fireplaces would have been placed in homes built by Blanchard for function and aesthetics. Four rooms adjoin the central hall in the Cannon home as compared to two in the Coffin and Cooke. In the Cannon home these rooms include a bedroom, a side hall with alternate stair, a small study and a large parlor measuring eighteen feet five inches by eighteen feet nine inches. Each room in all three houses has a fireplace, the largest being in the main parlors to the right of the central hall. The largest mantel, in the main parlor of the Cannon home, measures seven feet seven and one half inches wide and is fifty-seven and one half inches from the floor (see Figure 32). Its design is very basic and is repeated throughout the home with different carvings on the side pilasters. These simple mantel designs are illustrated in pattern books showing almost exactly the same details as the ones still existing in this home (see Figure 33).

Most of the fireplace mantels in the Cooke-Kefauver home are of the same size and proportion as those in the Cannon home. Very little detail exists on the mantels in the

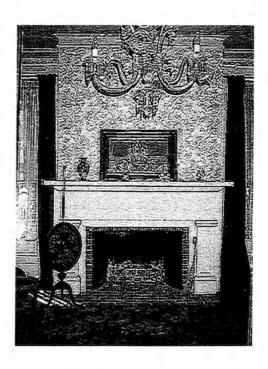


Figure 32. Main parlor fireplace mantel of Cannon-Stickley Home.

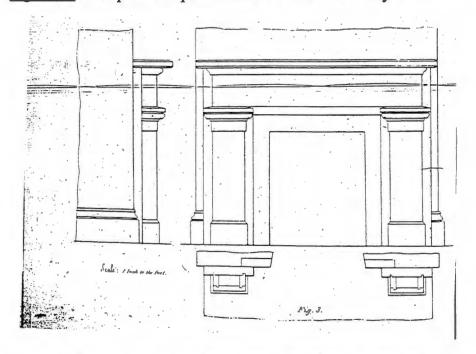


Figure 33. Carpenters pattern book examples of fireplace mantels.

Note. From The American Architect (plate 12), by Ritch & Grey Architects, 1847, New York: C.M. Saxton

main parlors and bedrooms of the house. Simple lines in traditional Greek Revival style account for the mantel designs of all the homes considered in this thesis. The mantel in what was the front office of the Cooke residence has the same design as the one in the main parlor in the Cannon-Stickley house with flat wide reeded carving on the columns on either side of the hearth.

One small mantel also exists in the second room making up the office space. This mantel is much smaller in scale and has small carving typical of "Eastlake" (Calloway, 1996, p.290) design rather than Greek Revival, which might indicate the carving was added later. Carvings on the side pilasters of the Coffin-Turner home resemble those in the Cannon-Stickley house (see Figure 34). Mantel design is similar to those of the Cooke-Kefauver home, but carvings are absent in side pilasters.



<u>Figure 34.</u> Carvings on side pilasters of Coffin-Turner fireplace mantel.

One fireplace with very interesting detail is in a small room of the Cooke-Kefauver residence adjacent to the original dining room (see Figure 35). This room was apparently the original kitchen. The mantel is extremely different from any others existing in the two other homes believed to have been built by Blanchard. To date the researcher has not found any family history as to this mantel's origin. It may have been carved by one of the family members or added at a later date. Some early pattern books show more stylized designs for fireplace wooden surrounds, but to date none have been found with this particular design. Vastine Stickley wrote about other homes Blanchard may have built, such as the Johnston home that was demolished several years ago, but never mentioned any carved mantels.

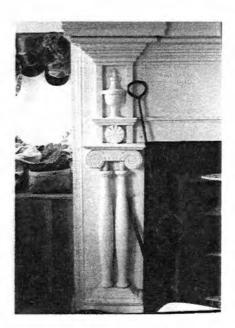


Figure 35. Carved fireplace mantel in kitchen of Cooke-Kefauver Residence.

Doors

Entry door sidelights of the Coffin-Turner home are different than those of the other homes in the study, with a full pane in the center and half panes on either side. The other residences both have square transoms with three glazing bars and five sidelights on both sides of the front entry door. However, these home also have the same front portico whereas the Coffin home originally had a one story, three bay front porch.

Adjoining the large parlor of the Cannon-Stickley residence is a study separated with folding glass doors (see Figure 36). These doors are also illustrated in early pattern books. Each door is hinged so that it folds back at a 90-degree angle to open the two rooms into one large area. None of the other homes in this thesis have glass doors separating rooms. It is not know what type of wood they are made from since at the



Figure 36. Glass doors separating main parlor and study of Cannon-Stickley House.

present time several layers of paint cover the original wood. Full length "French doors" (Calloway, 1996, p.178) became popular during the early nineteenth century in rural and city homes. They sometimes opened into garden areas on to balconies with fine views.

These two rooms are the main parlors used to entertain guests and visitors (Cate, 1997).

Other interior doors are all typical examples of two panel doors found in pattern books during the Greek Revival period (Lafever, 1833). All doors, panels, and baseboard moldings are painted at this time. Some of the first floor doors have square glazed transoms extending the doorframes to only a few inches below the ceiling (see Figure 37). These were open to circulate warm air that rose to the high ceilings in the rooms. The Cannon home has a transom window over the door separating the kitchen and dining room. It may have been used in the winter to circulate warm air from the kitchen to the rest of the home.

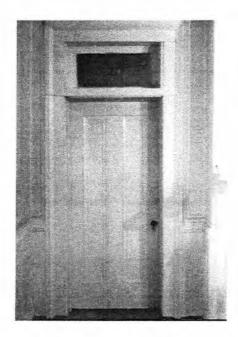


Figure 37. Door with glazed transom in dining room of Cannon-Stickley Home.

All three of the homes, as mentioned earlier, have concave doors in the concave wall behind the spiral stairs (see Figure 38). The bend of the wood is such that the door fits perfectly into the opening (see Figure 39). Originally, each door opened to an outside covered porch. Today, only the porch of the Cannon-Stickley home remains unenclosed. Given the fact that the doors are over one hundred and fifty years old, they have kept their shape well. This may be due to the thickness of the wood, but the original craftsmanship has prevented a need for replacement.

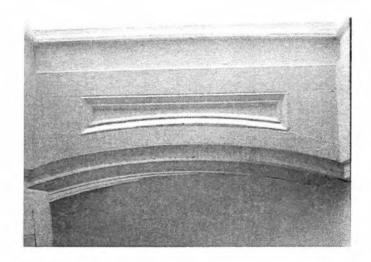


Figure 38. Door opening for concave door of Cooke-Kefauver home.



Figure 39. Concave door detail of Cooke-Kefauver home.

Built-in Furniture

Built-in bookcases with glazed upper doors are located on either side the fireplace in the study behind the main parlor of the Cannon-Stickley home (see Figure 40). Built in furniture "became more sophisticated in the late Georgian period" (Calloway, 1996, p.162) but can also be found in early American Colonial homes in the form of kitchen cupboards. Glass fronted or glazed bookcases gained popularity in the Greek Revival period (Calloway, 1996, p.225). During the Greek Revival period carpenters built china cabinets and bookcases next to fireplaces where extra space was available. Although cabinets in the Cannon–Stickley home are quite simple, as rooms of this period became more elaborate and ornamented so did the built-in furniture.



Figure 40. Cabinetwork in first floor study of Cannon-Stickley House.

More elaborate designs can be found in pattern books from English designers such as William Pain whose books <u>Practical House Carpenter</u> (1766) and <u>Practical Builder</u> (1744) served as instructional guides for early craftsman in the United States (see Figure 41). Each of the homes has china cabinets with glazed doors on the upper cabinets. Wood doors are on bottom cabinets with two drawers separating the sets of doors. Built in cabinets such as these are located throughout the Cannon-Stickley home but are less frequent in the other homes thought to have been built by Blanchard. In the front office of the Cooke-Kefauver home a large built-in cabinet may have been used for storage of medicines because of the locks on the drawers. It also is located to the left of the fireplace and has reeded columns, similar to the ones on the Coffin-Turner fireplace, from floor to ceiling (see Figure 42). The downstairs bedrooms and some upstairs have small closets built to the right of the fireplaces. Several layers of paint also exist on this cabinetry. No

Figure 41. Built in furniture designs.

Note. From The Elements of Style (p.130) . edited by S. Calloway, E.Cromley, 1996, New York: Simon & Schuster

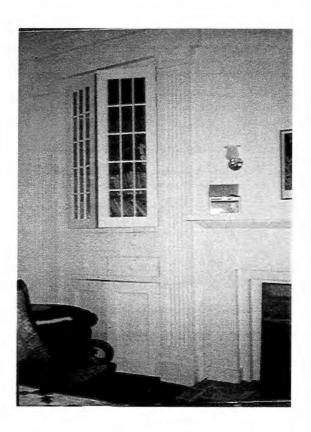


Figure 42. Medicine cabinet Cooke-Kefauver House.

records are available to indicate what the original finish was or if this cabinetry has always been painted. Further studies of the various paint layers would indicate original finish.

Some homes of this period had cupboards made from mahogany or walnut, but often were made from plain woods such as pine and painted to match the architectural features of the room (Calloway, 1996).

Millwork

Millwork in the houses, such as floor moldings and window and door casings, is quite simple but very large. The baseboard molding or "floor skirting" (Calloway, 1996, p.215) is fifteen and one half inches high from the floor and is applied throughout the home (see Figure 43). This is typical of the period. Illustrations found in 1843 pattern books show various sizes and similar patterns (see Figure 44).

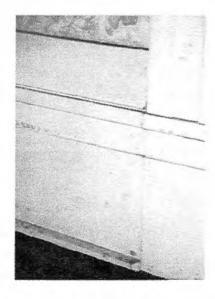


Figure 43. Baseboard molding Cannon-Stickley Home

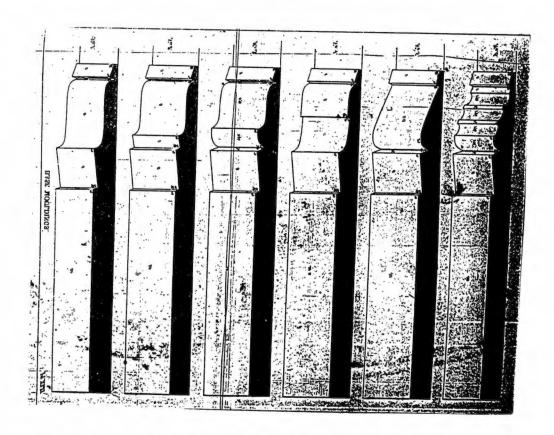


Figure 44. Pattern book illustration of baseboard molding patterns.

Note. From The Builder's Guide; or Complete Systems of Architecture by B.M. Benjamin, 1843, Boston: Benjamin Mussey & Co.

The dining room has wainscoting to the chair rail only. The elimination of full wall paneling was one of the greatest changes during the Federal period (Calloway, 1996, p.214). In some cases this paneling was painted to resemble mahogany: in the homes discussed in this study all paneling is painted, with decorative wall covering above the chair rail. The kitchen has beaded board below the chair rail on all four walls, and window casings are simple with no carving or reeding.

The wood molding around the doors and windows downstairs is nine inches wide with square corner blocks located on all doors and windows (see Figure 45). This reeded square design is very simple compared to the ornamentation found in most pattern books of the period but is considered "a Greek Revival surround typical of this time (1838)" (Calloway, 1996, p. 212) (see Figure 46). Surrounds consist of flat jambs rising from plain square base blocks with straight flat surfaced reeded molding and corner blocks.



Figure 45. Corner block of door casing of Cannon-Stickley Home.

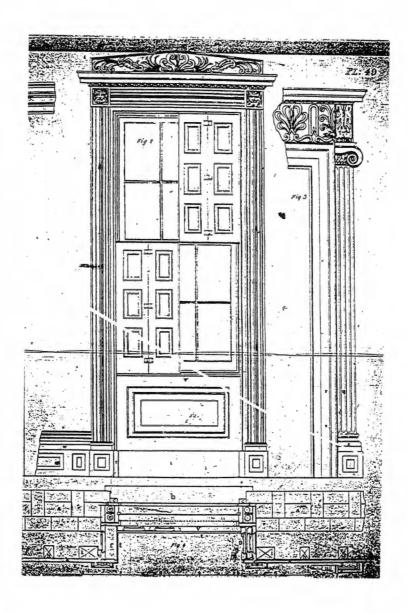


Figure 46. Carpentry book window detail.

Note. From The Young Builders General Instructor: Containing the Five Orders of Architecture (Plate 7), by M. Laffever, 1829, New Jersey: W. Tuttle & Company.

Panels similar to the wainscoting in the kitchen are located under all the windows but the molding is very basic on upstairs doors and windows. Wood moldings and corner blocks around doors and windows of the Coffin house are slightly different than those of the Cannon and Cooke homes. Corner blocks are not a flat square as those in the other two homes. The center section is rounded as opposed to the reeded design in the other two homes (see Figure 47).

Interior walls are thicker in rooms where paneling and floor molding are applied to the lower parts of the walls. Door and window casings also add to the thickness of the walls, making them twelve inches in most areas.

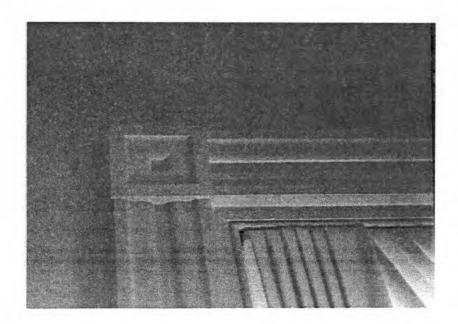


Figure 47. Corner blocks of Coffin-Turner Home.

Windows

Windows of the Cannon home are all twelve over twelve double hung with the exception of the ones over the kitchen which are six over six because of the low ceilings in the room above the kitchen. The overall dimensions of the windows, including decorative wood panel, is sixty-five inches wide by ten feet two inches high. Many pattern books illustrated the construction and variations of decorative details to be used on windows (see Figure 48). Glazing bars are thinner in this period compared to the colonial period (Calloway, 1996, p.211). Nine over nine windows were also popular during this period and are used in the Cooke-Kefauver home. As the Greek Revival style progressed window forms became simpler. One author writes: "Palladian windows evolved into rectangular tripartite forms with plain lintels, simple central panels and corner blocks being the only embellishment" (Calloway, 1996, p.211).



Figure 48. Carpentry pattern book illustration of window detail.

Note. From The Young Builder's General Instructor; Containing the five Orders of Architecture (Plate 40) by M. Lefever, 1829, New Jersey: W. Tuttle & Co.

Windows are nine over nine in the Cooke and Coffin residences, rather than twelve over twelve as in the Cannon, with variable sizes over single-story portions of the structure. Glazing bars are very thin in all of the windows, including the smaller transom lights in the front entry of the home.

Two windows shown in the Cannon-Stickley house open from the bathroom to the side stairway. They are glazed but do not have mutton bars to separate the glass.

Apparently, these windows were used for light and ventilation for the bathroom in earlier times when the fireplace was used for heating this small room. None of these interior windows exist in the Cooke home or the Coffin home. The Cooke home does, however, have small windows that open to the outside in a small powder room in the original office area of the home.

Ceiling Medallions.

Ceiling medallions are located in several rooms of the Cannon-Stickley home, particularly in the main entry parlor and dining room (see Figure 49). These plaster medallions are in typical Greek-Revival patterns with acanthus leaves and Greek key patterns around the borders. Some are smaller in diameter than others depending on the size of the room. The medallion in the main parlor has a shell pattern and garland and is very similar to patterns found in homes in Charleston, South Carolina built in 1824 (Calloway,1996, p.217). There is another medallion of this same pattern in storage in the attic of the home that was never installed. The Cooke-Kefauver home does not have any



Figure 49. Ceiling medallion in main parlor of Cannon-Stickley Home

ceiling medallions; however, the Coffin-Turner home does have one in the central hall similar to one in this home. Typically, these neo-classic motifs were made of lime-enriched plaster of Paris, a lime putty stucco, or *papier mache* and were molded on site (Calloway, 1996, p.216). The ones in the Cannon-Stickley home are made of plaster.

Outbuildings

Two outbuildings are still standing on the Cannon-Stickley property, a well house and a smokehouse (see Figure 50). The columns supporting an arbor over the door of the smokehouse are similar to the ones supporting the front portico of the main house. At the present time the building is in need of repairs and seems to be made of original materials. Smokehouses such as this one were used to store food as well as to smoke meats.



Figure 50. Existing smokehouse located behind Cannon-Stickley House

The smokehouse of the Cooke-Kefauver home is located behind the main house and is thought to have been built at the same time as the main house (see Figure 51). This house has a secret room under it that was found by the workers during renovation in the 1980's (Kefauver, 1998). The present owners believe that the room was used for slaves. Ms. Lottie told stories about the smokehouse and how her grandfather used to hide meat from the Union Soldiers during the Civil War in the rafters of this building. Hanging only a few pieces by the door, Dr. Cooke would trick them into thinking they were getting all the family's meat (Nashville Tennessean, 1961). Several other barns and stables are located on this farm but cannot be identified as being built during the time the main house was being built.



Figure 51. Renovated smokehouse behind Cooke-Kefauver residence.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Riverside

The St. Andrew's Church Riverside was located on the banks of the Little Tennessee River (Niles, 1857). The structure fell into disrepair after damage done during the Civil War and was eventually torn down (Niles, 1857). The church was located near the family cemetery on a ridge overlooking the Tennessee River (see Figure 52). Plans for the church were done by Mr. Richard Upjohn a church architect in New York (Upjohn, 1857). The plans for the church show a structure similar to that of plans found in Upjohn's book Rural Church Architecture (1857). However, the design for the church in Four Mile Branch is a little more detailed requiring its own set of plans (see Figure 53). A

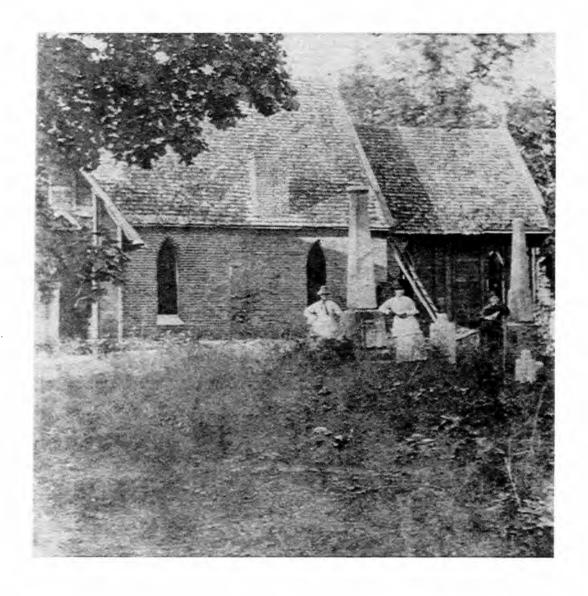
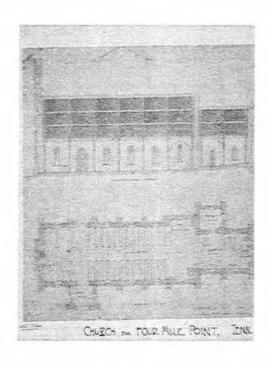


Figure 52. St Andrew's Church photograph.

 $\underline{\text{Note.}}$ From Gwen Starns personal collection Madisonville, Tennessee & McClung Collection Knoxville, Tennessee.



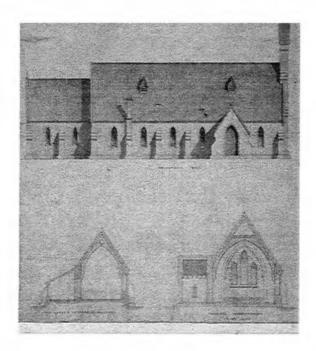


Figure 53. Richard Upjohn's plans for Four Mile Branch

Note. Used with permission from Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University in the City of New York.

contract between Mr. Upjohn and the church diocese lists all the materials needed to build the structure. This "Bill of Timber" is a contract between Upjohn and his client stating that the carpenter hired cannot change the plan in any way without his written consent (Appendix I).

This may indicate that the McGhee family hired carpenters in the area to build the structure for them. In letters written by J.W. Niles concerning a controversy surrounding the finished church, he does not mention the builders of the church but Mr. Niles states that it was built exactly to Mr. Upjohn's specifications (Niles, 1857). No correspondence has been found to date between the McGhee family and Mr. Upjohn to indicate any changes made from the plans on record. The church was of brick and marble, and a girl's school, Riverside Hall, (Niles, 1857) and rectory, were also built nearby (Otey, 1857). Little is known about the girl's school and little is mentioned about the building in the letters from J.W. Niles to Bishop Otey.

The church was never consecrated by the Episcopal Church because the visiting Bishop Otey felt that it was too "Romeward" and demanded that some of its' ornate crosses be removed (Niles, 1857). A "Super altar" also existed and was apparently removed at the Bishop's request (Niles, 1857). To date, no plans have been found for the furnishings for this particular church. However, other furniture plans exist in Mr. Upjohn's files.

The cornerstone of the church is now in the McGhee family cemetery which is located near the lake where the Telllico River used to flow (see Figure 54) Little information exists on what happened to the other items in the Church. The church organ was in the

home of one of the family members (Patton, 1946), but that home was destroyed when the river was flooded to create the lake (Brewer, 1975).



Figure 54. Cornerstone of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Riverside.

Note. McGhee Family Cemetery, Monroe County.

CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

Summary

In summary, the author thoroughly searched all available information on Thomas Blanchard and the structures attributed to him with in an effort to verify that carpenter Thomas J. Blanchard did exist. Even though Vastine Stickley in his articles referred to him as an architect no evidence was ever found where Thomas Blanchard referred to himself as such. The Tennessee State Board of Architecture and Engineering was not created until 1921, so little information is available about builders before that time. Only in one instance did he document himself as a master craftsman, this being in the Grainger County census of 1860. Due to the vast number of similarities between the three homes in the exterior and interior details, the oral history, and the fact that Blanchard is documented in Madisonville two years after the homes were supposedly finished, it is possible to say that Thomas Blanchard built all three of the homes in Madisonville.

Conclusion

The best conclusion to be made at this point in history is that Thomas J. Blanchard was a carpenter. He traveled to East Tennessee to practice his carpentry skills, perhaps with a large group as suggested by both Vastine Stickley and Charlotta Johns. The only

extant evidence that verifies he worked on a building is the receipt for St. Andrew's Church. Several census documents lists his whereabouts, no documents list buildings or projects he may have been working on at the time. Without knowing what happened to Thomas Blanchard after he left Tennessee it is almost impossible to verify what his accomplishments were after 1870 when he is last documented with his family in East Tennessee. After a thorough search the author concludes that he probably moved his family to one of the more rural areas of the United States where he and his sons continued to work until his death or he may have moved to a more productive area of the United States. Carpenters often relocated to more economically viable areas. Research into the economic condition of East Tennessee during the late 1870's may indicate that new construction slowed down possibly forcing Blanchard, and others like him, to relocate.

Thomas Blanchard will always be held in high regard among the people of Madisonville, Tennessee. This is due to the fact that three homes over one hundred and fifty years old still exist in this town, and highly respectable citizens, such as Vastine Stickley and Charlotta Kefauver Johns, have passed on an oral history that Thomas J. Blanchard was the person responsible for the design and construction of these homes.

Suggestions for Future Research

As more and more documents are added to computer databases it will be easier to research men such as Thomas Blanchard. The author of this study will always be curious as to his fate and that of his family after he apparently left East Tennessee. A 1952 deed

for the purchase of 1700 acres of the Lea Springs property in Grainger County gives the description "Blanchard's Corner" but the exact location of this site was never determined (Appendix J). A person with more experience in surveying than the author might be able to locate this corner of the property, tracing the owners as descendents of Thomas Blanchard and thus determining his later accomplishments and where he lived the rest of his life.

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APPENDICES

DR. GUILFORD CANNON WAS PROMINENT MAN OF YEARS LONG CONE BY

Dr. Guilford Cannon was born in 1800, and died in 1872. He was married twice, his first wife, Mary Ann Cannon, dying in childbirth on March 2, 1839, at the age of 23 years, ten months and two days.

The second wife of Dr. Cannon was Jane McChee, of North Carolina, a distant relative of the McGhees on Little Tennessee River. Dr. Cannon was a very wealthy man of his day. He owned all the land between the Athens and Chestua roads as far back west as the Cyrus Humphreys, later H. L. Isbill Isands, and cust to the street extending in front of the McConkey property, on which W. J. Lambdin lives, on to McCroskey Highway No. 33. He also owned a store building—a two-story brick building with a chimney at each end, one side facing the main street. It stood where the Bank of Madisonville now is, and he soll goods there. He was also the owner of a tract of land on the ridge enst of town.

Before he built what is now the Stickley home, in 1848, Dr. Cannon lived in a one-story brick house where the home of W. N. Vineyard now stands. Just west of the house and near the branch was a large cold spring, but there is no sign of a spring there now—and very little branch.

To build his new home, in 1846, he gave the contract to a Philadelphia syndicate headed by a man named Blancharu, who was also an architect. The brick and lime were burned on the place, at the location which is now the property of Mr. Stiles. The sand was obtained from the old Federal Road, near the Dean, luce. The woodwork was selecte from the very best of yellow heart pine, and, after being sawed with the up-and-down saw, was all hand dressed, as there were no planing mills at that time. It was covered with heart-pine shaved shingles, and this roof lasted for over fifty years. As shown in the attic, the variets are large pine poles.

At the south side of the kitchen was a brick servants' room, and adjoining this was a large brick snokehouse. Under the kitchen and dining room were two large plastered rooms, where the slaves stayed. The dreplace in this cellar and in the kitchen were five feet wide, with a crane in each, and a Dutch oven in the cellar.

The outside walls are about fourteen inchea thick and the Insidwalls are twelve inches thick and are built from the ground. The floors are made of inch heart-pine and Isidin white lead. There was a brickwellhouse. This and the servents' room and smokehouse were torn down and the brick sold. A large log barn stood just west of the present coal and wood house.

The Cannon garden was on the lot which McConkey owned.

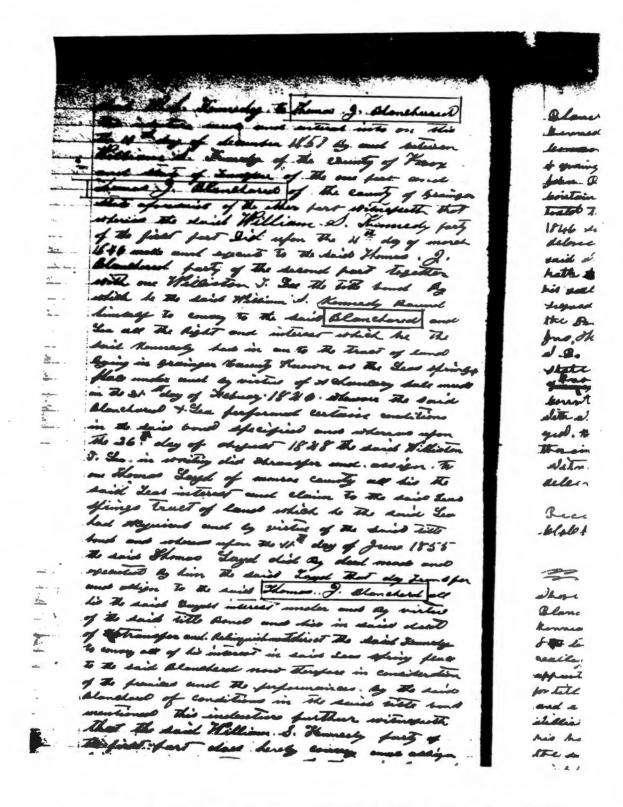
As atsted above, Dr Cannon was twice married. He reared no family by his first wife; but by his fast wife, Jane McGhee, he had three children—Mack, Willie and Kate. Mack and Willie were Confederate soldiers and married aisters, Janie and Josephine Netherland, of McMinn County. Miss Kate Cannon married Dr. Alvin Boyd, of Sweetwater. Mack moved to Dalton, Ga. where he died.

The descendants of Dr. Cannon are seattered in many states, but ome are still in Monroe County. These include three of the children of Maggie Cannon Bayless and Mrs. Lambdin, who was formerly loss phine Bayless.

Bayless.
VASTINE STICKLEY.

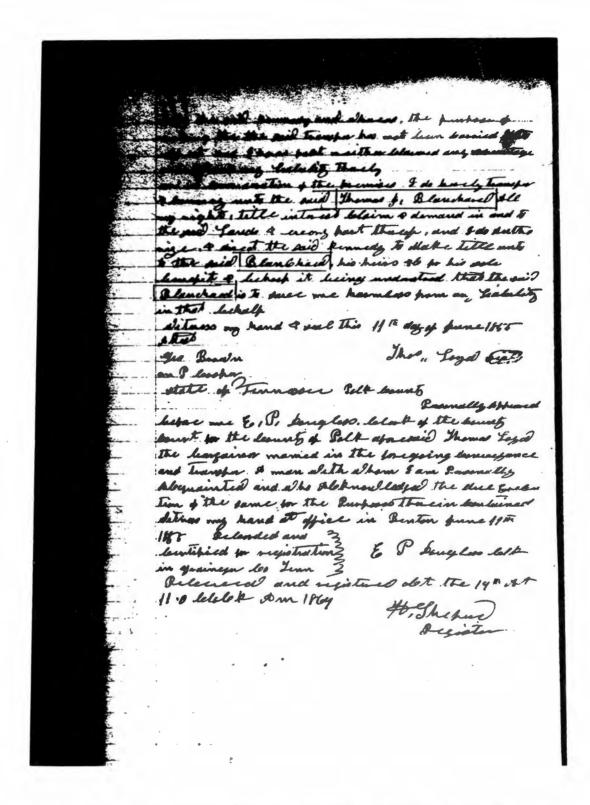
Appendix A. Articles written by Vastine Stickley

Note. From "In the Long Ago," by Vastine Stickley, 1942, Monroe County Democrat



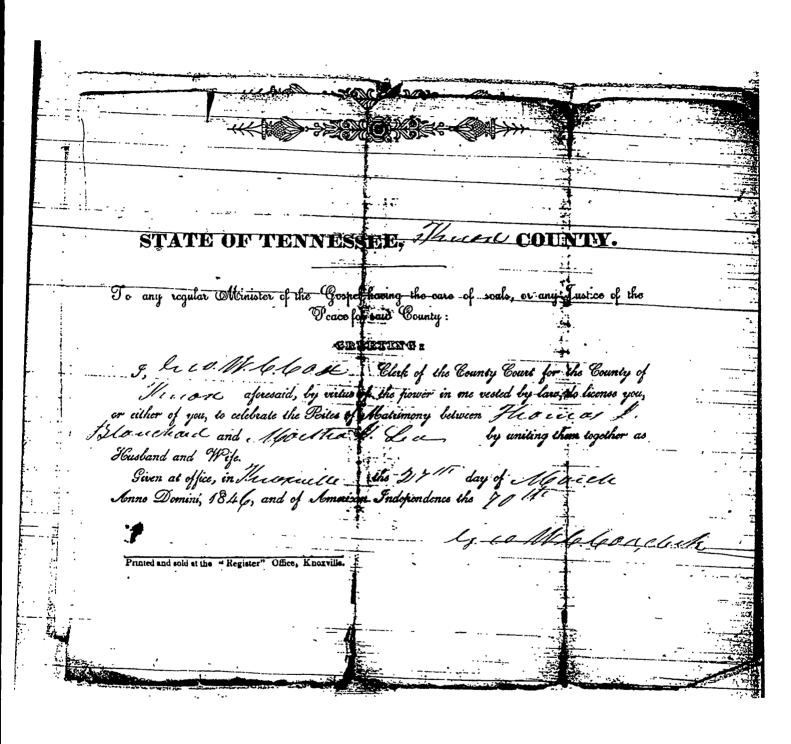
Appendix B. Deed between William Kennedy and Thomas J. Blanchard 1869

Note. Grainger County Deed Book 17 p. 88, Grainger County Courthouse Rutledge, Tennessee.



Appendix B. Deed between William Kennedy and Thomas J. Blanchard 1869

Note. Grainger County Deed Book 17 p. 89, Grainger County Courthouse Rutledge, Tennessee.



Appendix C. Marriage License of Thomas J. Blanchard and Martha J. Lea

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Appendix D. Blount County Census 1850

Grainger County In Days Gone By

Last week I was permit ted to interview a descend ant of the Lea damily of Grainger County. After con ferring with the gr granddaughter of the Rev. Major Lea for a period of three hours, I feel as though I am well qualified to write a history of the Lea family. This lady is a charming, dignified ederly lady who was reared and educated in Texas and has lived in Maryville, Tennessee for over forty years. I shall never forget her gracious hospitality. As she showed me through her large rambling house, which one could consider a man-sion, pointing out different objects that were once used by the Lea family, she walked and stood so erect with an air of dignity which was an outstanding trait of the Lea family. Her face beamed with pride as she showed me the family heirlooms. Here is a lady that is proud of her heritage-and she has every right to be.

During this interview I read many letters and documents pertaining to the Lea family. These are facts and not stories that were related to me. After checking the records thoroughly I am sorry to say that in the article two weeks ago I stated that the "Lea Springs" estate was the home of Major Lea and was built about 1793. This was an error. This was built by Pryor Lea, the oldest son of Major Lea. in the early 1800's. I do want to make these articles as accurate as possible as I want them to be considered as an accurate report and history of Grainger County. To fr miliarize ourselves with th Lea family I will list to names of the children Major Lea, the first know Lea to live in Grainger Lea to uve in County. Major Lea married the daughter of Thomas Jamagin The date of the wedding is unknown. We'do know that her name w Lavinia Jarnagin. and Major Lea were the p

ents of eleven chibren. The names are as follows and their births listed in numer [cal order:

Pryor Lea born August 31, 1794.

William Wilson Lea born April 9, 1796.

Anderson Lea' born, February 4, 1798.

Thomas Jarnagin Leaborn November 11, 1799.

John Hampton Lea born October 12, 1801.

Cynthia Lea born August 31, 1803.

Harmon Graves Lea born August 24, 1805.

Cocelia Lea born May 2 1807.

Albert Miller Lea born July 23, 1808.

16, 1810. James Lea born May 22 1814.

Thomas Jarnagin was de scribed by his grandson, Albert M. Lea, as a "positive dictatorial, domineering, sa gacious man, who sold goods and bought soldiers' certificates." Jarnagin located the certificates in the valley o Richland Creek in Grainge: County, Tennessee, where he accumulated an estate covering some nine miles. This was called the "Jarnagin Survey". This valley land he deeded to his daughter and son - in - law, Lavinia and Major Lea.

Major Lea, as before stated, was active in local government, holding various positions in Grainger County and serving as a trustee of two small colleges in the area. He served several sessions in the Tennessee legalslature. As the children

Continued on Page 8

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Appendix E. Thomas Roach Articles

Note. From Gleanings from the Scrapbook by Thomas Edward Roach, 1983, Rutledge Tennessee.



Appendix F. Map of Downtown Knoxville 1870

Note. From Sanborne Insurance Map 1870

LANNON 121 ICKLEY 11045 € MUNROL CO BIED - BK X PL 473 State of Georgial this Indentine made and intered Whitfiel (60.) into This 2.7th day of March 1888, telen J. J. Common of the state and com M'a Comion twife ind of the first pate, & Vastine Slickly of Monrae-ty State of Times ce, Witnesseth, - That The said Wa 1 . Common have this day Sold to Vastine a Cellain parcel of land Situated and lying in the Country of Monroe, and State of Lunion a ing the Lewi Madisonville, on the west side W.A. CANNOW AND WIFE J.T. (Josephine verseeland) VASTINE STICKLES Soun and James The lands sold by M. a Camore to MMM wounded as follows; on The East by Magill on the Mith & Athens road, on the west by said Pennon's land, on The se t Douth rue t Corner of land hald by Romon to Mayill and in with fince to the Northwest Corner of Magillo lat, Themer with road and gurd fince, Ruling of the yerd from the road to where also a hedge fince set in, Thence so the on a line with plank fines to a point that would be on a Straight line East und west from Alarting point, Thence East on a struight line to the Starting The ghove described property lakes in a two and a half Story thuisting house also have and two on Three acres of land more on less, The consideration of the above Consigned -50 WOZis Two Thousand Dollars (\$2000, 5) of which Dix Trundred 4 lifty dollars is paid Cash in whend the Latonce in two protes one for seven hundred thifty dollars due 1889. The other for six hundred dolears due live years from date and hath hearing interest from 15th day of setober 1888, once a lien is herely retained upon said property until he purchase orrowy is fully paid, possession to be given. Det 15-1888. and J J. Common wife of said It a , Common herely eving and releasing all right to Thomestead and down said land, And The the Parties of the first Part hereby warrant and defend the little to said land, to the said Varte: Stickly his heir and assigns against the ligal Claim of all Persons redomesseven, Witness our hands. M. C. Coman J. J. Hund Mich

Appendix G. William Cannon Deed to Vastine Stickley 1877.

Note. Monroe County Deed Book X, p.473, Monroe County Courthouse, Madisonville, Tennessee.

HENDING TIMBER. —The Boston Advertiser speaks of an extraordinary process of bending a large stick of timber, by the power of machihery, into any shape required for ship building or any use in the mechanic arts, or in architecture, an invention of Mr. Thomas Blanchard, of that city. On Wednesday a trial of the machine was made in the presence of a large number of gentlemen, which proved entirely successful. The action of the machine is quite efficient and speedy, as fully shown in is performance, which consisted of passing a straight heven piece of white oak timber, terlinches or twelve feet in length and thirted and one half inches square, through the undchine whereby it was in eleven minutes, reduced to a form of the most regular ship's kuce of the lasgest size. Pieces of timber of the hardest and most compact kind, of any sizh, can be thus bent to any desirable radius of curvature to the extent of a quadrant, or any larger or smaller are, the ends remaining straight, of any desirable lengths. Measures have been taken for securing patents, for the intention in England and France, and for exhibiting a sample of the bent timber at the Industrial Palaco of Paris.

Appendix H. Bending Timber Article

Note. From "Bending Timber," June 8,1855, The East Tennessean. Vol. 1 No.4, p.4

Bill of Timber For a Church to be exected at Pour Mile Branch. Tenn.

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	Plate-	12. 0.	4. 6.	

Appendix I. Page 1 Bill of Timber St. Andrew's Church

Note. Upjohn Papers, with permission from Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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thence most 32 poles to a black rum and black caz, Blanchard's correr; thence worth 30 poles to a black caze Blanchard's corner; thence with 52 deg. bast 15 poles to two black caze, planchard's corner and corner to a tract i recrity owned by Thesley Jarnizan, deceased; there with the line of the said last mentioned tract worth 56 der. East 150 poles to a chestnut and black caze, corner to said last mentioned tract worth 56 der. East 150 poles to a chestnut and black caze, corner to said last mentioned tract; also corner to a 2.1 dere tract owned by Jeremiah Jarnagin; thence a rith to the top of the said mountain (there is along this line a few acres which boulding to the successors of veremiah Jarnagin excepted from this conveyance); thence along the top of said wild Cat Spur to a stake in the line of the original survey; thence with the said line Sorth 62 der. most to the beginning, and supposed to centain 1,100 acres, more or less, being what is known as the AcGill lands, and is the rame property conveyed to the leas aprings Comporation by 3. 2. E. Moore and wife, -lizabet. B. Hoore, by deed of reco.d in the office of the Acgister of weeds, Grain or county, Tennessee, Book of weeds 27, page 135.

There is excepted from the above tract the following parcel of land conveyed by the Yrustee in Bankruptcy of the Heal Springs Corporation to ω . B. wilkinson:

Situate at wea lakes in the waire Civil wistrict of Grainger County Tennessee, beginning at an Iron jim in the center of Eaurel Cove made (as snown on the property map of Lea Springs Corporation) and running K. no deg. 35 min. E. 205 feet to an iron pin; thence *. 36 Leg. 10 min. E. 57.4, feet to an iron pin; thence *. 57 Leg. 50 min. L. 71.1 feet to an iron pin; thence S. 64, deg. 37 min. E. 155.8 feet to an iron pin; thence N. 62 deg. 13 min. L. 150.2 feet to an iron pin; thence N. 78 deg. 42 min. E. 110.5 feet to an iron pin; thence N. 48 min. E. 110.5 feet to an iron pin; thence S. 9 deg. 48 min. E. 433.3 feet to an iron pin in the center of Laurel Cove Road; thence with the center of said road S. 78 deg. 42 min. W. 25-3 feet to a point; thence S. 97 deg. 12 min. W. 175 feet to a point; thence N. 50 feet to the point of beginning, containing five acres.

Being those certain parcels of land conveyed to Lea springs, Inc., and thereafter conveyed to helle C. mutzler and M. W. Rutzler by Helle C. mutzler, R. W. Rutlzer and S. F. Fowler, Officers and Directors of Lea Springs, Inc., which incivicuals also conveyed as Trustees of said Corporation by appointment of the Stockholders thereof, -

with the hereditaments and appurtenances thereto appertaining hereby releasing all homeosteed and dower claims therein.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said premises to the said earthes of the Second Cart, their heirs and assigns forever.

And the raid parties of the Pirst fart, for themselve, and for their nelrs, executor; and scalinistrators, so hereby coverant with the said restics of the Second fart, there weirs and assima, that they are lewfully saized in fice simple of the premiers arove a sveyed and have full power, buth rity and right to convey the same; that said country are free from all encumbrances execution the water are Country toxic for the poor ray, which are to be paid pro rate by the parties serves, and that they is a first they is a first and country to a server and the rest to a server and the rest to a server and the rest to a server and the s

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Appendix J. 1952 Grainger County Deed

Note. From Grainger County Deed Book 79, page 429

VITA

Deborah B. Lowry received her associates of applied arts degree in interior design in 1983 from The Art Institute of Houston, Texas: She worked in Houston as an interior designer and visual merchandiser after graduation until 1989 when she relocated to Honolulu, Hawaii. She is a 1993 graduate of Chaminade University in Honolulu with a bachelors degree in fine arts. In Honolulu, Deborah worked as an Interior Designer for Budji Wara, a rattan importer and design company specializing in furnishings for the hospitality industry, as well as D&D Corporation, an office furniture dealer. In 1993, Deborah became a professional member of the American Society of Interior Designers after successfully completing the National Council of Interior Design Qualification exam. She has continued to be an active member of that organization. Deborah lived in Germany from 1993 until 1995 where she traveled extensively throughout Eastern and Western Europe. During this time she also held a position with the Department of Defense Schools working as a substitute teacher for grades K through 12 and worked as a visual merchandiser for the Army Air Force Exchange Service. In 1995 Deborah arrived in Knoxville, Tennessee to pursue her Master's of Science Degree in Interior Design at the University of Tennessee. Currently, Deborah is living in Madisonville, Tennessee with her husband and two children. She serves as the Knoxville Association Chair for the American Society of Interior Designers, the Knoxville Association Representative to the state board of directors and is a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She continues to practice interior design.