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HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CARROLL COUNTY

FIRST SETTLEMENTS (Cont,)

C. Other early points of historical interest.

1. The home of Senator Perry B. Gaines on Highway 42 about four miles east of Carrollton at about four hundred yards from the Ohio River and facing the Ohio, was built in 1805 by Benjamin Craig II.

The house is a large colonial brick building, the bricks having been made near by and shaped in wooden molds.

2. Benjamin Craig and his descendants built several brick houses in Carroll County, four on Stephen's Creek.

3. About three miles above the Carroll County line in Gallatin County is a Craig built house, a large colonial brick dwelling with square porch posts built by A. G. Craig son of Benjamin Craig II. facing the Ohio River. This is a very interesting old home having octagon outbuildings and much antique furniture. The home is now occupied by Mr. V. T. Craig and family, also a sister, Miss Laura Craig. These Craigs are direct descendants of Benjamin I., who owned a large estate in this section of the State in the early days of its settlement. For this reason it has been mentioned here.

This building has been occupied by the family since it was finished in 1846; is still a very substantial structure, having had a wing added to the left for a kitchen and a large sleeping porch in the upper story. The old octagonal kitchen at the rear was not joined to the main building. Bricks for this building were made in the yard to the right of the house. Also the lumber for some of the interior of the house was made from timber on the farm. A sycamore tree still standing by the house stood there when the house was built.

In 1807 a brother of Benjamin Craig II., whose name was George Craig, and who was a grandfather of Edwrad Eggleston, novelist and writer, built just across the Ohio from the home of his brother, now occupied by Perry B. Gaines, on the same plan, a house of sand molded type, described as being in a state of perfect preservation. (Miss Laura Craig and sister-in-law, Mrs V. T. Craig.)

4. The home of Mrs Mary Willis, in Ghent, an old gray, vine-draped, brick building, built in 1813 by Theoderick Fisher, is an interesting old dwelling and seems to be well preserved. Mrs Willis has many interesting old books, and her mother's diary which relates conditions and occurrences at Ghent during the Civil War. She also has old letters written during the Civil War. (Mrs Mary Willis.)

5. Mr Richard Masterson's home, more than one hundred years old stands a short distance above Carrollton, probably one and one half miles, on the left side of Highway 42, going east from Carrollton, by Martin's nursery. It has standing some old cedar trees which were in the yard when owned by Mr. Masterson who was, by an act of the General Assembly, in 1795, made one of the trustees of Port William. (Miss Hallie Masterson, Carrollton, Ky.)

6. The old log residence on a farm about six miles from Ghent, formerly the home of Lewis Sanders on his Grass Hill Plantation, is still standing and is now occupied by Mr. Curtis Montgomery and family.

The original dwelling was all hand built, was begun in 1812 but not finished until

1816. The present occupants are trying to restore this famous old house, which was built of logs with exposed rafters inside. The logs were put together with wooden pins. The nails used were hand made iron nails. All materials were made by hand. There is still at least one fine old ash floor. The flooring was placed in a pond and kept wet for two years before being used. The interior of the first floor rooms has been restored and is beautiful; the cracks between the logs have been filled and the rooms whitened. The old fireplace in the living room is still intact. The old library is in perfect condition. Stone porches resembling the old fashioned ones have been built. One old lilac bush is still in the yard, one of the many that once adorned the garden walk.

Many roses were formerly seen in the garden. (Mrs. R. L. Graham, daughter of Curtis Montgomery.)

It was in the library of this home that many important political meetings are reported to have been held and many important old records in bound volumes, scrap books of newspaper clippings and much valuable knowledge now held by Miss Anna V. Parker, were found -- records of political events in which the Nicholas family, especially Geo. N., figured prominently.

It is said that the convention of Ghent was held there, having as its chief purpose the annexation of Texas. (From a Cincinnati Sunday Enquirer in Jan. 1936.)

Col. Geo. Nicholas was the father-in-law of Lewis Sanders.

7. The house in which Mr Tandy Ellis resides is a large brick, in Ghent, built in 1860, having large rooms with high ceilings and old fashioned fire-places, the same which were used at the time it was built, and being furnished with old fashioned furniture including many antiques and old relics some of which have an interesting history, make it an interesting place to visit.

Among the collections in this house are a large mahogany dulcimer with wooden hammers which is one hundred and twenty-five years old; an oblong piece of walnut carved in Spain with frame-work of leaves surrounding a violin and other musical instruments; a very beautiful and antique ornament; a Swiss carved tray portraying the leaves and stems of a vine -- very natural; an English drinking horn which was used to carry mead made from honey; an Egyptian lamp now used for a candlestick; a French hour glass; a very old water jug and pitcher; a hand made wooden pitcher which was picked up on a battle field.

Mr. Ellie also has a hand made wooden goblet made from a portion of Perry's battleship which was presented by Gov. James B. McCreary.

Besides these there are many other relics and antiques and Mr. Ellis has a large collection of Indian relics.

8. Mrs B. L. Gaines, mother of Senator Perry B. Gaines, with her daughter, Miss Ella Gaines, lives in a beautiful old frame house built almost one hundred years ago, facing the Ohio River when there was only a river road and when the main highway between Carrollton and Ghent had not been built.

Since Mrs. Gaines has owned the house many changes have been made to add to its beauty and convenience. A veranda has been added making the house front toward the new highway, rather than the river. Additional windows have been cut; also door ways in partitioning walls. A furnace has been installed and electricity and hardwood floors have helped to modernize this spacious old dwelling, but still the original structure stands not so much changed as to mar its old fashioned beauty and roominess.

This was formerly the home of a Mr. Scott whose son met a tragic death when the steamer Redstone which had landed for him to go abroad, had an explosion in which both boilers burst just after he stepped on board, dealing death to almost everyone on board. Mr. Perry Scott, a young minister, had just waived his handkerchief to his

friends and shouted "goodby" to his mother when the explosion came.

This happened on Apr. 3, 1852. A wedding party was on board going from Madison to Cincinnati. Seventeen lives were lost and only six of the bodies were found. The arm and hand of the bride were all of the body that could be found. She was an orphan girl who had married in Louisville, a Mr. Weston, and expected to visit an only sister in Covington. The body of the groom was not found. The two engineers were brothers, George and Joseph Barry of Beaver, Pa. Both were killed. Capt. Thomas Pate and Jackson, the pilot, were blown off the boat, but survived. (Mrs B.L. Gaines and Miss Ella Gaines.) (Also clipping from the Cincinnati Enquirer, Apr. 4, 1852, copied in a News Democrat in 1936.)

9. The old two-story frame structure, now the home of Miss Anna V. Parker, on the Sanders road about four miles off the Highway 42, may be of interest to those of an inquiring mind, especially in the matters concerning the Nicholas-Sanders family, since it contains several oil paintings of the family including those of Lewis Sanders and his wife, Ann Nicholas Sanders.

Miss Parker is a descendant of Lewis Sanders and also of Benjamin Craig.

The first frame house built in the Hunter's Bottom Community, in the western part of Carroll County, was built by Cornelius Hoagland, who moved from New England to this section in 1801. This building is still standing.

There is also a Tandy house about one hundred years old in the same community.

The beautiful gray brick dwelling, the home of the Misses Mary and Ella Hampton in the same community, was built entirely by hand.

The house was built by Moses Tuttle Hoagland in 1838. This Mr. Hoagland was a son of Cornelius Hoagland, who, with a Mr. Hunter was a pioneer of that part of Carroll County, now known as Hunter's Bottom. The Hampton sisters, grand daughters of Moses T. Hoagland, have the contract for building this old house, preserved and framed.

Many fine old oil paintings in splendid preservation adorned the walls until the flood waters of 1937 damaged them. Many old relics, fine silver and antiques of historical value were there and had been preserved with great care.

This interesting old house stands facing the new highway from Carrollton, to Milton, which cut through the beautiful pine-inhabited lawn, placing several of the stately old pines on the opposite side of the road, but still leaving a fine terraced lawn in front of the building. (Misses Mary and Ella Hampton.)

10. Another interesting home in Hunter's Bottom is the Richard Conway home, built on an Indian Mound. While excavating a cistern there, two large skeletons, each seven feet long, were found, and many Indian relics were picked up on the farm. (Mrs Jennie Conway, widow of Richard Conway.)

The whole region extending about nine miles along the Ohio, seems to have been an Indian hunting and battle ground. (Misses Mary and Ella Hampton.)

11. A fourth home seen in this community, has a very broad front. This was the home of Mr. Okey Hoagland, who was of such a generous nature that after having built his home, he added a room on the one side for a young Methodist minister, and later another on the opposite side for a relative. (Misses Mary and Ella Hampton.) (Miss Hallie Masterson.)

12. A very odd looking old stone building with a flat roof resembling the Oriental style stands alone in a field on the south side of Highway 42, about two miles above Carrollton.

This old building was the home of Mr. Henry Ogburn, the first Methodist minister in Carrollton, --perhaps in Carroll County. (Miss Jean Howe, descendant of W.B. Win-elow, one of the early-trustees of the town, Carrollton, Ky., and Mr. James H. Roberts, great grandson of Mr. Ogburn, Worthville, Ky.)

This Mr. Ogburn officiated in all the marriages in Gallatin County prior to 1801. (Found in Marriage Book I, in County Clerk's Office at Warsaw, Ky., according to Atty. James H. Newman of Carrollton, Ky.)

Mr John Tandy came to the community, now known as White's Run, early in the nine-teenth century and with his brother, Roger Tandy, bought from May, Bannister and Co., one thousand acres of land. The original dwelling built by John Tandy on this land, more than one hundred years old, is still occupied by some of his descendants. (Miss Jessie Tandy and sister, Mrs Ford, Ghent, Ky.)

13. An old brick church building in the same community which was built by a Baptist Congregation in 1812, is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, in the county. (Miss Jessie Haines, descendant of an early settler. A marble slab on this building attests its age.)

14. On a farm long ago owned by Abraham Haines in the above named neighborhood, and near the residence of the late Miss Jessie Haines, which is a very old house, though not the original home of the above named man, is a never failing rock-walled spring which has been there as far back as any one knows. There is a tradition that Daniel B Boone drank from this spring since it was known that he passed through this community. A road leading off to the east not far from this place is known as Boone Road. (Miss Jessie Haines, former teacher of the county, a descendant of Abraham Haines.)

15. Dr. C.F. Dunn owns a farm on the Milton Road, having on it an Indian Mound, which is about ten feet across the top and about thirty feet long while the base is about sixty by one hundred feet.

Dr. Dunn stated that there is a bowl-shaped place beside this mound from which it is quite evident that the earth of which the mound was constructed was scooped out that it must have taken twenty-five or thirty men two months to construct this mound using the small and tedious implements they had with probably only a deer skin with which to convey the soil from the pit to the mound.

Dr. Dunn has a large collection of Indian bones and relics, some of which he has taken from this mound, but most of which he packed up on the site of an old Indian village on the Little Kentucky across Highway 42, from Arrowhead Inn, about one mile below Carrollton. (Dr. C.F. Dunn, Veterinary, Carrollton, Ky.)

Signed
Myrtle Sawyer
Carrollton, Ky
July 7 - 1937
2500 Woods