

College Hill Historic District Newsletter

January 2013

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Contact:

Alicia Luttrell
celticthyme@gmail.com

How to Research and Date Your House

by Eric Smith, *Old-House Journal* feb-march 2013

summarized by Alicia Luttrell

If you do not have a copy of Old-House Journal or other magazines about older homes, you just might be missing out on some good stories, advice, information, and advertisements. I only subscribe to two magazines, but I read them cover to cover. I found this month to be helpful in the way of how to's. So, in a nutshell I will tell you about this article:

Most people move into a house ready to fix it up, but Clem Labine says this is the wrong way to go about it. He says it's like setting out to build a house without constructing a foundation. Of course the majority of home owners move in, rennovate and then leave the history for last. If this is you, it's not too late! Consider looking for answers to these questions:

- *Who built the house and when?*
- *What style is it?*
- *What did the house originally look like---inside and out?*
- *Who owned and lived in it?*
- *What were the cultural forces at work when the house was built?*

Where to Search:

- *The Blount County Court House*
- *The Public Library*
- *Google Books: www.books.google.com (The largest online archive to date)*
- *HathiTrust: www.hathitrust.org (This is a consortium of libraries and the Library of Congress offers more than 10 million volumes)*
- *Internet Archive: www.archive.org (contains not just books but also audio, video, music, software, and old websites)*
- *Chronicling America: www.chroniclingamerica.loc.gov*
- *The Library of Congress project has digitized more than 5 million pages of US Newspapers from 1836 to 1922.*

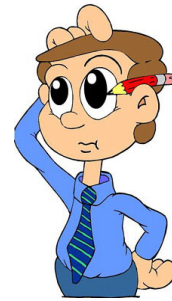
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We do have documentation for several homes in the district which are posted on the website, but we are missing many more. If you have information about your home, we would love to post it. Please send it to Alicia Luttrell.

Why join? Why join? Why join? Why join? Why join?

- Develop a cleaner, safer, healthier neighborhood and improve the quality of life for residents.
- Empower residents to have a voice and work toward, and achieve common neighborhood goals, a unified vision of who we are as a neighborhood.
- Work toward a safer neighborhood by reducing and preventing crime through block watch groups and email alerts.
- Promote friendship, reduce conflict, and foster a sense of concern and caring among people in the neighborhood.
- Provide a means of communicating with neighbors.
- Encourage the discussion of ideas which affect the neighborhood and promote cooperative action.
- Organize neighborhood improvement projects, help the older residents with yard work, and assist those unable to clean up their property by themselves.
- Promote and celebrate diversity in the neighborhood.
- Preserve the unique historical heritage of the neighborhood by improving planning methods.
- Create open communication networks with government officials, businesses, and other groups. Make them partners in your neighborhood, all working towards a strong neighborhood.



Why did dues go from \$10.00 to \$35.00 per household?

For 12 years the dues have stayed the same, yet prices have increased for various things that we purchase. Our fees are the same as Knoxville Historic District and believe that we can accomplish more with your support.

How are my fees used?

- monthly newsletters
- Invitation to Progressive Dinner
- email alerts
- *invitation to advertise on website & newsletter
- latest neighborhood directory
- 2013 car decal



- Christmas lumaries & poinsettias
- website
- printing & supplies
- memorial bricks
- cakes for new neighbors
- home tour
- food, activities, & music at events

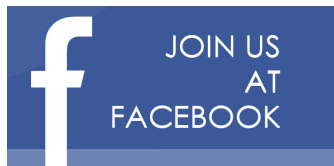
*advertisers will pay an additional fee for this service.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, February 16 Progressive Dinner (Members Only).

Please pay your membership dues by January 31 if you would like an invitation to the dinner. First course begins at 5:30 at the Luttrell's home.

Saturday, April 20 Neighborhood Yard Sale. Start saving your things for the big sale!



We now have a FaceBook page. Find us under College Hill Historic District. This page mostly contains current photos of the neighborhood.

Also, check out our **WEBSITE:**

www.collegehillmaryville.com



Street Captains

The purpose of Street Captains is to have more involvement in our neighborhood and to be the communication coordinator on your street.

Duties may include:

- report people moving in and out of homes
- obtain biographical information of new residents
- deliver a cake for new residents
- deliver flyers and newsletters
- report anything suspicious
- report home improvements
- oversee the street clean up crew
- help with holiday events, annual yard sale, etc.



If interested please contact Bobby Luttrell @ 405-1902 or bobby@luttrellseyewear.com

HISTORIC HOUSE *Spotlight*



Address: 206 Indiana Ave.

Owners: Todd and Laura Hasson

Children: Amanda, Amber, Andrew, Autumn, Ayden

Moved from: Sunrise FL (Fort Lauderdale)

Moved in: June 26, 2012

Home Info: Originally known as the Cawood-McCartney house

Previous Owners: Mary Charles McCartney (?-1969); Mary Charles Humphrey (1969-2012)

Q: Why did you move to this area?

A: It's beautiful! We like the historic district and love historic homes. My wife grew up in a home in NJ that was 200 years old on a 3 acre lot and this house reminded her of that. We also wanted to be near the Smoky Mountains.

Q: What needed to be done to the house prior to moving in?

A: All the electrical service replaced, removed ceilings on first floor and to raise the second floor.

Q: What have you done since then?

A: Installed new heat and air units; removed wall paper and repainted whole house inside; put box paneling on stairway; shortened hallway to expand bathroom; replaced main stairs with all oak to match downstairs floor; hung crown molding in upstairs bedrooms; added a closet to master room; Was there anything unforeseen about the house? Sewer line backed up and had it replaced; landscaped front of house

Q: What are you currently working on?

A: Todd's brother-in-law is a handyman who helps out with house. He is in cellar putting joists underfloor boards to support the first floor. Preparing to put in an orchard with apple trees, cherries, peach, blueberries, raspberries, and blackberries. The previous owner, Mrs. Mary Humphrey had an orchard in the back and we wanted to re-establish this.

Q: What has been challenging so far?

A: Getting used to the creaks and moans an old house makes. Some of our guests may think house is haunted but we haven't seen any ghosts. However, we did have a brown recluse infestation too. No one bitten though.

Q: What has been rewarding?

A: Being close to everything. Also, waking up and walking on balcony on bedroom and looking at houses with character. Also, revamping house to get it back to how it once was.

Q: What are your next plans?

A: Getting approval for addition in back to double size of kitchen and a covered patio

Q: When was home built?

A: 1878 or 1879 by HG Meads. It is believed that the builder's wife was the aunt of Helen Keller. Supposedly the magnolia tree in front came from Helen Keller. Fred McArthur used to visit the home and said the magnolia tree is native to Alabama not TN. Alabama is where Helen Keller lived.

Q: Why do you think it's important to have a historic district?

A: Because we can learn from the past generations who built this beautiful homes.

*Each newsletter will feature a home in our district and an interview with the owners. If you would like to consider yourself or a neighbor, please contact me.

Membership Dues Update

Hello neighbors!

Thank you to those who have already paid the October 2012-September 2013 membership dues for the Historic College Hill Neighborhood Association. If you have not paid your dues for this year, we hope all you were waiting on was this friendly reminder!

Your annual dues help support a few of the many things that help make our neighborhood special, including: neighborhood-wide Fourth of July and Fall Gatherings, the (members-only) Progressive Dinner in February, cakes for new neighbors and new babies, poinsettias for our seniors, the neighborhood newsletter, the neighborhood directory, luminaries on Christmas Eve, and our new web page with photos and information about the homes in our district (check it out at www.collegehillmaryville.com). These benefits are for all of our neighbors to enjoy, regardless of dues paid status, but your support makes it possible!

The board has raised funds to support this work in various ways over the years including our historic home tours, wine tastings, memorial bricks, and (for the first time in 2012) a neighborhood yard sale. We will continue to pursue these types of revenue in the future. The fact remains, though, that we also need the support of our members to continue to improve our district.

Membership dues for the 2012-2013 year are \$35 per household. Thank you for supporting us as we strive to continually improve our fantastic neighborhood!

Sincerely,

The HCHNA Board of Directors

Please make checks payable to **HCHNA**

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____

Mail to: **Carrie Talley 109 W. Goddard Avenue, Maryville, TN 37803**

carrie.talley@gmail.com

The following households have paid dues: Anderson, Arnette, Astor, Avery, Bell, Brown (C), Brown (K&K), Cartledge, Constable, Counts, Day, DiDiego, Drinka, Franklin, Godfrey, Graves, Halloy, Hasson, Hicks, Hurst, Kenst, Kerr, King (J), King, (T&J), Luttrell, McArthur, McTyre, Myers, Olsen, Pennington, Pickett, Porter, Proffitt, Ross, Rupert, Siver, Talley, Taylor (T&N), Wade, Webb, Weilbaecher, Weitnauer, Williams

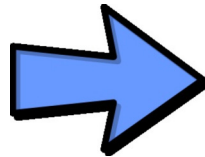
Future Communication



Periodically, you should be receiving *email updates about issues important to our neighborhood such as upcoming HCHNA events, alerts about criminal activity, notifications about deaths or caring concerns among our neighbors, etc. If you have NOT been receiving them, it means your membership chair does not have your email address. Please send it to carrie.talley@gmail.com and you will be added to the mailing list. Please be aware that after January 31st these emails will be sent to dues paid members only.

**please check your Junk mailbox in the event our information is going there.*

Your payment of neighborhood dues entitles you to a copy of the neighborhood directory (distributed in 2012). If you have not received your copy, please let Carrie Talley know:

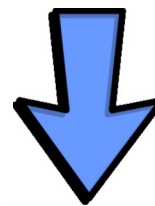


[carrie.talley@gmail](mailto:carrie.talley@gmail.com)
or 865-254-7869

Membership Update:

The following households have paid HCHNA membership dues: Anderson, Arnette, Astor, Avery, Bell, Brown (C), Brown (K&K), Cartledge, Constable, Counts, Day, DiDiego, Drinka, Franklin, Godfrey, Graves, Halloy, Hasson, Hicks, Hurst, Kenst, Kerr, King (J), King, (T&J), Luttrell, McArthur, McTyre, Myers, Olsen, Pennington, Pickett, Porter, Proffitt, Ross, Rupert, Siver, Talley, Taylor (T&N), Wade, Webb, Weilbaeher, Weitnauer, Williams

We are also sending the newsletter via email and ask that anyone who wants an E-COPY ONLY to please let me know. In this way we are cutting back paper and postage funds and can apply these to other areas of need. In addition, your newsletter will be in color! Contact Alicia Luttrell:



celticthyme@gmail.com



Laura Hasson's sister and husband bought a home at 309 Stanley Ave. They currently live in San Jose, California and plan to move here when they retire. In the meantime they will have a place to stay when they come visit family.

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*Old House Lessons**adapted by Alicia Luttrell from Old-House Journal feb-march 2013*

1. *The previous owners did not have all the answers so don't blame them for everything. Someday, this may be you!*
2. *When you find a window or something else is a strange location-refer to #1.*
3. *By below your means. Restore and decorate that way too.*
4. *Old-house owners are not often the best dressed at the party but when it is at their house, it's a really fun time.*
5. *If you know where the water came, fix the problem and clean it up. Especially if you see old water and bad wood...*
6. *When opening spaces that have been closed for a long time, expect large critters!*
7. *Pay attention to where the light falls in the rooms and think about how the builders designed the house. Rooms are used for certain reasons.*
8. *Listen to your gut reaction on wall paper.*
9. *If gutters do not fit your window size and are non-functional, no one will make fun if you remove them.*
10. *The color you paint your home is a reflection of your taste. But don't stress...it's not a life sentence, it can always be changed.*
11. *If you see sawdust in your house, most likely it's a sign of invading critters.*
12. *Get small containers of extra paint for future touch-up because new batches rarely match.*
13. *Lighted lamps in home windows say welcome like nothing else can. So can a house flag.*
14. *Older house owners will not laugh if you name your house, especially if it did not come with one. It's give it more character and personality.*
15. *Save shingles that may fall off your house, you just may need them later.*
16. *It's cheaper to have molding cut for the entire house, rather than smaller batches.*
17. *Porches are never a mistake. If they are falling down, rebuild them.*
18. *Test swatches of paint on your walls before you decide on the final color.*
19. *Serve lunch to your contractors on their first and last days of the job. They will help determine whether or not your house is a joy or chore to live in.*
20. *Mail thank you notes to anyone who helps you with old-house questions. This will pay off down the road and it shows your character.*
21. *Wood floors are worth spending money on to refinish.*
22. *Every room will have at least on flaw. Nobody will notice but you.*
23. *Old-fashioned bathrooms are best for old houses. Try not to modernize too much. People survived before the age of enormous johns and sinks. You can too.*
24. *The day you've lived in your house longer than any other house and also the original owner is a very special day!*
25. *Make sure you celebrate house birthdays, especially at 75,100, or 150 mile markers.*

*original article by Charity Vogel, Old-House Journal feb-mar 2013*

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