

# Col. Barker Had Major Role In ETSC Location

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following information on Col. J. M. Barker was not available at the time of East Tennessee State College's special 50th anniversary section in the Press-Chronicle. The following story details Barker's part in ETSC's birth.)

The late Col. J. M. Barker of Bristol was outstanding in obtaining for Johnson City the East Tennessee State College.

From a clipping of an earlier Johnson City newspaper, we quote: "In this issue of the News we present the likeness of Col. J. M. Barker of Bristol, Tennessee.

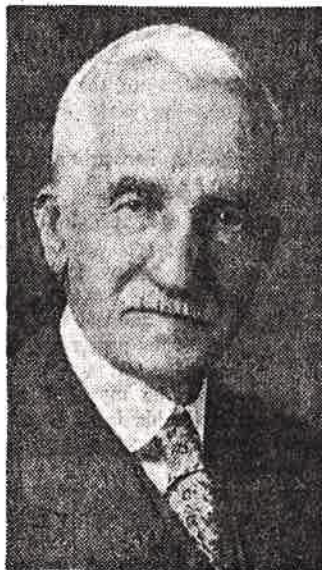
"Measured by the sound standard of the greatest good to the greatest number the most important institution in Johnson City is largely a monument to his patience, tireless effort and political foresight. The State Normal School here and its widespread helpfulness to Upper East Tennessee did not just happen, but came as the direct result of Col. Barker's efforts.

"For more than a quarter of a century Col. Barker has been interested in schools. He was a pioneer and leader in building up the school system at Bristol, and gave freely of his time, thought and energy in that direction. He early realized the necessity for a competent school for teachers, and with a group of his friends similarly interested in school matters, they besought the Tennessee Legislature for an appropriation for four such institutions, three for the whites, and one for the Negroes.

"As a result of their efforts the Legislature did make a small appropriation, but not enough for the institutions that they had in mind. Gov. Patterson realized this situation and invited Col. Barker to come to Nashville for a conference. At this conference the Governor stated that the School Board was made up of educators and he wanted a strong, vigorous business man to formulate a sound business plan for the establishment of Normal Schools and to become a member of the State Board, and urged Col. Barker to assume this arduous duty. Immediately Col. Barker formulated the plan. The School Board was then in session at Nashville.

"After a survey of the whole situation, he submitted to Gov. Patterson in writing a plan which was approved by the Governor and later by the Board and thus the plan which resulted in one of the most efficient systems of Normal Schools in the South was born. Col. Barker insisted that the best results and the best locations for the Normal Schools would be forthcoming if the matter of location was put upon a competitive basis so that each community which desired a school located in its midst would be called upon to give earnest of its faith in the particular location by a substantial contribution of land or money, or both. Col. Barker was well aware that the comprehensive plan for the schools, if carried out, would involve an expenditure of about a million dollars more money than was available.

"Drawings, plans and specifications were submitted by architects from all over the country, and with these as a basis to arouse interest Col. Barker made a tour of the available cities with the idea foremost that out of this competition among places in the state the admitted shortage in funds would be made up. The plan carried well. Many places were eager to secure these insti-



COL. J. M. BARKER  
... from Bristol

ated at Johnson City, other inducements being equal. . .

"Col. Barker stated that the manner in which Johnson City cooperated and worked together for the common good should be an inspiration to every community because it showed what a vigorous group of business men could do when united in a common welfare cause. Johnson City and Washington County contributed \$15,000 in cash. The street car company extended its line to the site of the new buildings, and the City gave free water and free lights and constructed a good road to the location of the school. Judge Samuel C. Williams prepared all of the contracts and they have stood the test from that day to this.

"Col. Barker stated that he recalled, among a host of others, Messrs. James A. Summers, Joseph P. Summers and J. Fred Johnson, worked and cooperated with him faithfully and untiringly in his fight to locate the Normal School.

"Colonel Barker's closing comment was that he gave four years of time in locating and developing the schools without compensation and that he looked back on it as perhaps the most enjoyable adventure of a long and varied career, because, he said, "I had the feeling that I was working unselfishly and earnestly trying to confer the benefit of an education at a moderate cost to the poor girls and boys of Tennessee."

Survivors of the illustrious colonel now living in this area include Mrs. E. T. West, Johnson City, a daughter.

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  - Maintain a neat appearance.
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  - Report cases of misconduct to school principals.
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  - Refrain from the use of profanity, alcohol and tobacco when on duty.
- The State of Tennessee requires the driver to:
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  - Activate both flashing stop lights and stop sign when stopped.
  - Use these signals as follows: Pull flashing stop lights first, then when

nessee State College prior to enlisting in the Navy. While in recruit training, Williams was master at arms and mail petty officer of his company. He will report to Memphis Naval Air Station.

Hooks, also a graduate of Lamar High School, attended East Tennessee State College prior to enlisting in the Navy. While in recruit training he was mail petty officer and right guide for his company. Hooks will report to Naval Air Station, Oleta, Kan., for 14 weeks of Air Controlman School.

## Jonesboro Men Receive AF Technical Training

Two Jonesboro men are being assigned to new bases to attend technical training courses following completion of United States Air Force basic military training

and Hill road, has completed recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S. C.

The 12-week training course included drill, bayonet training, physical conditioning, parades and ceremonies, and other military subjects.

Three weeks were spent on the rifle range firing the M 1 rifle and receiving instruction on basic Marine Corps infantry weapons.

New leathernecks, upon completion of recruit training at Parris Island, report to Camp Lejeune, N. C., for combat infantry training before being assigned to units.



Joseph R. Williams

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Western Show	3:55	Ch 3	Charles Collingwood News
Hour on	Ch 11	News	
Eastern Show	4:00	Ch 3	Brighter Day
Ch 5	Make Room For Daddy		
Ch 11	Brighter Day		
Ch 13	American Bandstand		
4:15	Ch 3	Secret Storm	
Ch 11	Secret Storm		
4:30	Ch 3	Edge Of Night	
Ch 5	Here's Hollywood		
Ch 6	Here's Hollywood		
Ch 11	Edge Of Night		
Ch 13	Space Patrol		
4:55	Ch 5	Afternoon News	
Ch 11	Afternoon News		
5:00	Ch 3	Three Ring Circus	
Ch 5	Kukla and Ollie		
Ch 6	Kukla and Ollie		
Ch 11	Courageous Cat		
5:05	Ch 5	Looney Tunes	
Ch 6	Popeye		
5:10	Ch 13	Early Show	
5:30	Ch 5	Popeye	
Ch 6	Huckleberry Hound		
Ch 11	Bozo		
5:55	Ch 11	Sportsworld	
6:00	Ch 3	Whirlybirds	
Ch 5	Pioneers		
Ch 6	News, Weather		
Ch 11	Deputy Dawg		
6:15	Ch 6	Cas Walker	
6:30	Ch 3	News, Weather	
Ch 5	News, Weather		
Ch 11	Father Knows Best		
Ch 13	News, Weather		
6:45	Ch 3	Douglas Edwards	
Ch 5	Manhunt		
Ch 6	Huntley-Brinkley		
7:00	Ch 3	Alvin Show	
Ch 6	Aquanauts		
Ch 11	News, Weather		
7:15	Ch 5	Riccord	
Ch 11	Huntley-Brinkley		
Ch 13	Douglas Edwards		
7:30	Ch 3	Trackdown	
Ch 5	Beachcomber		
Ch 11	To Tell The Truth		
Ch 13	Cheyenne		
8:00	Ch 3	Pete And Gladys	
Ch 5	National Velvet		
Ch 6	National Velvet		
Ch 11	Pete And Gladys		
8:30	Ch 3	Window On Main Street	
Ch 5	Price Is Right		
Ch 6	Price Is Right		
Ch 11	Window On Main Street		
Ch 13	Rifleman		
9:00	Ch 3	Hour With Danny Kaye	
Ch 5	87th Precinct		
Ch 6	87th Precinct		
Ch 11	Hour With Danny Kaye		
Ch 13	Surfside Six		
10:00	Ch 11	Andy Griffith	
Ch 3	News Special		
Ch 5	Thriller		
Ch 6	Thriller		
Ch 11	News Special		
Ch 13	Ben Casey		
11:00	Ch 11	News Special	
Ch 3	News, Weather		
Ch 5	News, Sports		
Ch 6	News		
Ch 11	News, Sports		
Ch 13	News, Forecasts		
11:15	Ch 3	Late Show	
Ch 11	Late Show		
Ch 13	Late Show		
11:30	Ch 5	Jack Paar	
Ch 6	Jack Paar		

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"The institution at Johnson City presented a peculiar problem. Four members of the Board desired to locate the Normal for East Tennessee at Dayton. There were eight members on the Board. After protracted efforts and much persuasion Col. Barker succeeded in winning over a fifth member and it was agreed that one of the schools would be lo-

an inspiration to every community because it showed what a vigorous group of business men could do when united in a common welfare cause. Johnson City and Washington County contributed \$15,000 in cash. The street car company extended its line to the site of the new buildings, and the City gave free water and free lights and constructed a good road to the location of the school. Judge Samuel C. Williams prepared all of the contracts and they have stood the test from that day to this.

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### Adult Scout Leader Course Set Tuesday

A basic training course for all adult scout leaders in the Daniel Boone District will be held Tuesday night.

The course is set at 7 p. m. at Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church.

All cubmasters, assistants, den mothers, scoutmasters, and assistants are urged to attend the course.

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U.S. High  
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WHAT THE PEOPLE DON'T KNOW WILL HURT THEM

Classified 20-21  
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## Outdoor drama may unfold here in connection with Tipton-Haynes

By JOHN DOTY

In their annual dinner meeting last night, members of the board of directors of the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association endorsed initial preparation for production of an outdoor drama at the Tipton-Haynes historic site.

Dr. Earl Hobson Smith, retained by the association as playwright for their production, "The Lost State of Franklin," addressed the group on what he described as "magnificent possibilities for a successful production."

Dr. Smith, a retired professor from Lincoln Memorial University, is the author of 20 plays and producer of 120 others. Included in his list of outdoor drama accomplishments are "Old Smokey," "Stephen Foster," "Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," "The Daniel Boone Story," and "Trail of the Lonesome Pine."

According to Dr. Smith, the actual historic site is an ideal area for an amphitheater. "Nature saved you thousands of dollars when she provided you with a natural amphitheater on the site. There is adequate parking, an adequate number of buildings

required in such a production, splendid acoustics and beautiful scenery."

Dr. Smith also acquainted the group with tentative plans for construction of a seating area with capacity for 1500 spectators, similar to that at the amphitheater in St. Augustine, Fla.

The production, tentatively named "The Lost State of Franklin," will be based on the battle which occurred at the present site between John Sevier and Col. John Tipton, the only battle the State of Franklin ever fought.

The initiation of the State of Franklin, according to Mrs. L. W. McCown, began in the 1770's with the War of the Revolution. "This area was considered a poor step-child of North Carolina, too far away to govern or protect and too poor to yield much tax revenue."

The American Revolution brought all these facts to a culmination. In 1780 the Continental Congress said if North Carolina would cede these lands, a separate state could eventually be made.

North Carolina backed out on the agreement four years later and area residents saw the time fit to design a state of their own.

Washington, Sullivan and Greene Counties elected delegates and drafted a resolution to form a separate state. In a second convention at Jonesboro a temporary constitution was adopted.

John Sevier was elected governor of the new state and the governmental organization of the state was formulated. A short time later a permanent constitution was adopted, similar to that of North Carolina.

According to historical records, "Acting on the hope of later statehood by the mother state and Union status, Col. John Tipton proceeded to organize the new state in the interest of North Carolina."

Subsequent events and conflicts led Tipton and Sevier to lead opposition forces. In 1788 a court, authorized by North Carolina, seized a number of Sevier's slaves as payment of taxes to North Carolina, again refusing to recognize the new government.

Sevier gathered an army, marched through Washington County and asked Tipton to surrender unconditionally. Arriving at Tipton's house, Sevier again asked for Tipton's surrender. Tipton's refusal led to the ensuing struggle on which the association's production is to be based.

Work on the production will continue throughout the winter, and according to Mrs. Ray Stahl, chairman of the group, members hope it will be presented June 15, 1971.

The Ways and Means Committee of the newly-created Lost State of Franklin Theater will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Conference Room of the Johnson City Chamber of Commerce.

The committee will make plans to finance the theater, which is scheduled to open June 15, 1971.

Joe Ward Booth, chairman of the committee, has invited each town or city in the area formerly defined by the State of Franklin to send a representative to the meeting. The Virginia line to the French Broad River (near Newport) is the North Carolina line to the Cumberland Mountains.

The Lost State of Franklin Theater was recently organized by the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association to produce an outdoor drama to be known as "The Lost State of Franklin."

The association has engaged Earl Hobson Smith, playwright, author of "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine," to write the drama. Plans also include the building of an outdoor theater on the Tipton-Haynes Farm south of Johnson City.

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EARL HOBSON SMITH  
Historical Playwright



STATE OF FRANKLIN  
Although the movement for a new state west of the mountains covered an area from western Virginia to western Georgia, the actual government of the self-organized State of Franklin was confined to present eastern Tennessee - extending westward as far as White's Fort and southward to below the French Broad.

A RESTORATION PROJECT OF THE TIPTON-HAYNES HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
MEMBER OF THE TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 13, 1971

## Fleming to design theater for Lost State outdoor drama

Hayes B. Fleming, Johnson City architect, will design the Lost State Amphitheater on the Tipton-Haynes Living Historical Farm.

The committee for design and interested members met Monday night at the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the project.

Designated officers for the new board are Joe Ward Booth, chairman; Mrs. Glenn Anderson, vice chairman; Mrs. Jane Ogle, secretary; Mrs. Robert Mains, treasurer; and Mrs. Lynn Hornsby, assistant treasurer.

Coordinating committee with the Tipton-Haynes Board is Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mains, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gordon, and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Stahl.

The organization will be finalized at a meeting Jan. 28 at the Chamber of Commerce. Charter membership will close at that time and committees will be appointed.

The group is planning an outdoor drama about the Lost State of Franklin which will be staged in an amphitheater on the Tipton-Haynes Farm, located on Buffalo Road south of Johnson City.

The farm covers four periods in American history, from the Revolutionary War days through the Civil War.

Fleming, who will design the amphitheater, came to Johnson City from Morristown and Gallinburg.

A production committee, assigned the task of technical production of the drama, and a ways and means committee, to spearhead the fund raising drive, were formed with three members assigned to each.

Committee members include: producer, Nellie Stevens, Joyce Squibb and Judy Edmondson; and ways and



Planning ahead  
The committee on design for the Lost State Theatre met Monday night to look over different examples of the use of native stone and wood. Left to right standing, are Mrs. Glenn Anderson, vice chairman; Gerald Edmondson; Mrs. Louise Crowe; seated, Hayes Fleming and Mrs. Howard Dunbar.

## Formulate theater plans

Members of the production and ways and means committees discuss possible adaptations of blueprints from an amphitheater in St. Augustine, Fla., for construction of the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association's amphitheater on the Tipton-Haynes Farm.

From left are, Fred Dickson, Office of Economic Opportunity, Mrs. Don Squibb, Mrs. Gerald Edmondson, Joe Ward Booth, and Mrs. Nellie Stevens.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 18, 1970

## On Lost State of Franklin . . .

### Outdoor drama for city draws closer

By JOHN DOTY

Plans for "The Lost State of Franklin" outdoor drama, sponsored by the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association, moved into full swing last night.

In an orientation meeting at the Tipton-Haynes Farm, local officials, professional performers and interested citizens organized the Lost State of Franklin Theater.

According to Mrs. Ray Stahl, president of the organization, the executive committee was appointed to serve as general manager of the drama.

A production committee, assigned the task of technical production of the drama, and a ways and means committee, to spearhead the fund raising drive, were formed with three members assigned to each.

Committee members include: producer, Nellie Stevens, Joyce Squibb and Judy Edmondson; and ways and

means, Joe Ward Booth, Fred Dickson, and Bob Maitzen. Charles Umpton, president of the Community Theatre, assumed the position of temporary director, permanency of his position depending on receipt of the Commission of Performing Arts' approval.

Cost of the project was estimated at \$200,000, \$100,000 of which the ways and means committee must raise. The remainder, according to Jack Strickland, First Tennessee-Virginia Development District, will be available in matching funds from the federal government.

In order to further cut costs, the Office of Economic Opportunity will provide labor necessary to construct the seating area of the amphitheater, the city will provide residue from street construction as fill material on which to build the stage and the Commission of Performing Arts in Nashville will offer college

credit and financial aid to students working in the production and provide professional services to the theater.

The theater plans to build a 1500 seat amphitheater, similar to one in St. Augustine, Florida, on the left side of Buffalo Road on the Tipton-Haynes Farm. Estimated cost for the complete arrangement is \$140,000.

The group agreed to present its plans to the Regional Planning Commission for its approval, since an area extending five miles about the city

limits is within the commission's planning district.

According to Mrs. Stahl, "We want all areas that were a part of the State of Franklin to feel this is their production and take a part in it. We have a unique event in our country's history to portray and we all feel the production will be a success."

Another meeting was set Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Tipton-Haynes Farm at which time committees will report on efforts and will formulate future plans.

THE TIPTON-HAYNES HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
BOX 142 • JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE 37601

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- 2 THEATRE
- 3 Barter Theatre
- 4 Beech Mountain
- 5 Blowing Rock
- 6 Boone Lake
- 7 Andrew Johnson Home
- 8 17th President
- 9 Bristol Caverns
- 10 Bristol Speedway-Dragway
- 11 Capitol of Lost State of Franklin
- 12 Davy Crockett Birthplace
- 13 Davy Crockett Drama
- 14 Doe River Gorge
- 15 Watauga Lake
- 16 Grandfather Mountain
- 17 Hound Ears Lodge
- 18 Tweetsie Railroad
- 19 June Tolliver House
- 20 Linville Caverns
- 21 Linville Falls
- 22 Martha Washington Inn
- 23 Mt. Mitchell
- 24 Natural Tunnel
- 25 Netherlands Inn
- 26 Reece Museum
- 27 Rocky Mount
- 28 Seven Devils Resort
- 29 South Holston Lake
- 30 Trail of the Lonesome Pine
- 31 Tri-City Airport



THE TIPTON-HAYNES FARM



# Living Farm, Theater To Depict Franklin History

By JUANITA GLENN  
Johnson City State Editor

JOHNSON CITY—When two Virginians, James Needham and Gabriel Arthur, set out in 1673 to explore the Watauga Valley, they set in motion a series of events the effects of which are, even now, being felt in Upper East Tennessee.

The pair, the first English-speaking white men to visit the Watauga area, came to trade with the Cherokees. The Indians killed Needham, but Arthur returned to Virginia to tell of the valley and, in particular, of a cozy cave beside a spring where he and his companion had made camp.

On the hillside above that cave, the story of Needham and Arthur and of the illustrious men who followed them, will be told next summer in an outdoor drama entitled "The Lost State." The play, now being written by Dr. Earl Hobson Smith, a retired Lincoln Memorial University professor and author of 20 plays, will depict the brief, but stormy, history of the State of Franklin.

The outdoor theater and the Tipton-Haynes Living Historical Farm, of which it will be a part, are expected to draw thousands of tourists to Upper East Tennessee and to have a major impact upon the economy of Johnson City and Washington County.

The farm, now being restored and scheduled to have its official opening in mid-April, will be a charter member of the American Association of Living Historical Farms being formed by the Smithsonian Institution.

The 17½-acre historic site,

nestled in the shadow of Buffalo Mountain and facing the old stagecoach road which ran from Asheville, N. C., to Jonesboro (it was Jonesborough, then), is being restored by the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association.

The beautiful Tipton-Haynes house and an adjacent law office are being restored to the pre-Civil War period when it was the home of Landon Carter Haynes, who was known as "the silver-tongued orator of the South."

The outbuildings, including a double-crib barn, stillhouse, smokehouse, springhouse and pig pen, have been rebuilt through the generosity of the late Mrs. Louise Golf Reece, to look as they did when Col. John Tipton, known to history both as a hero and a villain, built them in 1784. Mrs. Reece financed the \$20,000 restoration project as a memorial to her husband, the late Rep. B. Carroll Reece.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Hopson and their family will live and work on the farm, growing crops common in the area in the 18th Century.

"We'll have pigs and a cow and we'll give milking demonstrations for the benefit of children who have never seen a cow being milked," said Mrs. Ray Stahl, president of the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association.

"We also will grow cane and make molasses, and we'll have hog killings in the fall."

The Tipton-Haynes home, now being furnished with antiques, began as a two-story log building constructed by Col. Tipton. Later it was weatherboarded and enlarged by Haynes, who en-

closed a porch and built an ell to the back of the house. One room of the ell, the kitchen, was built around an old brick chimney upon which several generations of cooks, white and black, sharpened their knives.

Already in place in the living room are an oriental rug that belonged to the Haynes family; a hand-carved rosewood grand piano dating to 1840; and a child's rocking chair that was designed to fold up when it was not in use.

In a downstairs bedroom is a child's bed, also a former Haynes possession, that members of the association found in an antique shop and purchased for \$35.

Other pieces, bought by Johnson City residents when Haynes' descendants auctioned the home's furnishings in 1935, are being given to the association and returned to their places in the house.

Col. Tipton, leader of the Tiptonites who opposed the formation of the State of Franklin, served in the Revolution, as did five of his sons. His holdings in what is now Upper East Tennessee once totaled some 600 acres, and it is said he often boasted that he could walk the seven miles from his home to Jonesboro without leaving his seat.

Col. Tipton was a justice of the courts in Shenandoah County, Va., and later in Washington County, Tenn. He also served as sheriff of Shenandoah County and was a member of both the Virginia House of Burgesses and the North Carolina Senate.

The Tipton-Haynes house was

still a log structure when opposing forces led by Col. Tipton and John Sevier, then governor and commander-in-chief of the State of Franklin, fought the last state's only recorded battle there on Feb. 27-28, 1788.

As an agent of North Carolina, Colonel Tipton seized two or more of Sevier's slaves because Sevier, as governor of Franklin, refused to pay taxes to the mother state. Sevier gathered his seasoned Indian fighters and marched on the Tipton home. Surrounding the house, they kept the Tiptonites, about 45 strong, besieged until a party of Sullivan County militia came to their rescue and drove the Franklin forces away.

The farm that was home to their families is now owned by the Tennessee Historical Society. The restoration, undertaken by the Tipton-Haynes Association and now nearing completion, has cost more than \$115,000, much of which has been raised by private donations.

After the historic site opens in April, it will remain open all year, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

ing acreage was bought by the father of Landon Carter Haynes, who presented it to his son as a wedding present in 1838. The younger Haynes, who was Johnson City's first lawyer, served in the Tennessee General Assembly and was one of the state's two senators in the Confederate Congress, an honor that spelled doom to his career in East Tennessee.

The farm that was home to these two outstanding men and



WHERE EXPLORERS CAMPED — Mrs. Ray Stahl sits outside the entrance to the cave where James Needham and Gabriel Arthur of Virginia camped in 1673. The two were the first English-speaking white men to visit what is now Upper East Tennessee.



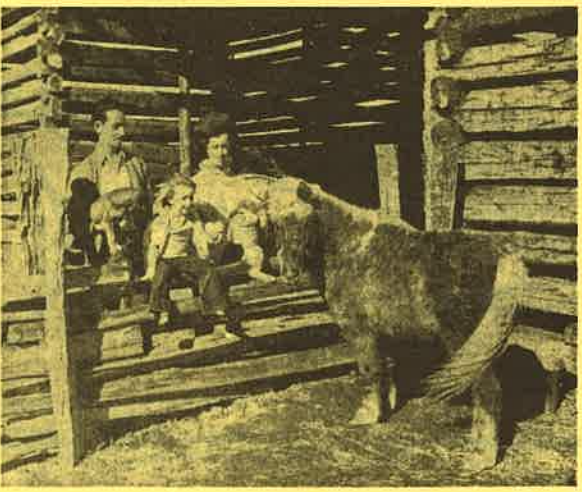
ARCHITECTURAL GEM — National Park Service experts have termed Landon Carter Haynes' law office a perfect example of Greek Revival architecture. This small building, recently restored, was the first law office in what is now Johnson City, and Haynes was the town's first lawyer. So important was he that the settlement was then known as Haynesville.



HISTORIC HOME—This is the home built in 1784 by Col. John Tipton and enlarged in the late 1830s by Landon Carter Haynes, an uncle of Alf and Bob Taylor and arch enemy of Parson Brownlow. The stately home faces Buffalo Mountain and is only a few hundred feet from the old stagecoach road which ran from Asheville, N. C., to Jonesboro.



KNOWS FARM'S HISTORY—Mrs. L. W. McCown points out the hand-hewn logs used to build Col. John Tipton's double-crib barn. Mrs. McCown, a descendant of Colonel Tipton, is a member of the Tennessee Historical Association and is historian of the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association.



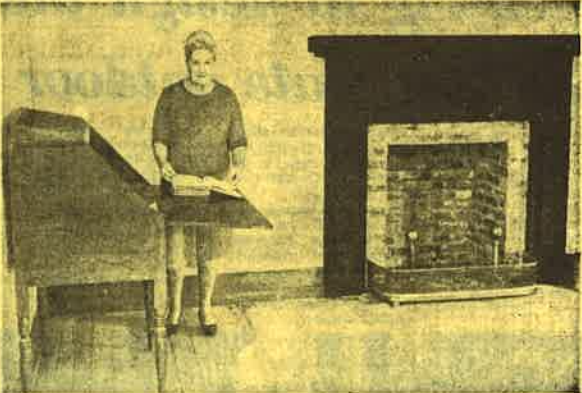
LIVING WITH HISTORY — Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Hopson and daughters, Connie, shown with them here, and Carol, will live and work on the Tipton-Haynes Historic Site, now being developed as a living historical farm. The Hopsons hold puppies John and Lannie while Connie talks with Lucky, the pony.



BATTLE SITE—This dead elm, which now serves as a seat for visitors to the Tipton-Haynes Historic Site, was a large tree when the Battle of Franklin was fought on the farm. Two women, trying to make their way around the



PRISON FOR SLAVES—Two of John Sevier's slaves were chained in this basement kitchen of the Tipton-Haynes house. Mrs. Ray Stahl shows how the heavy door was barred while the slaves were being held in lieu of taxes.



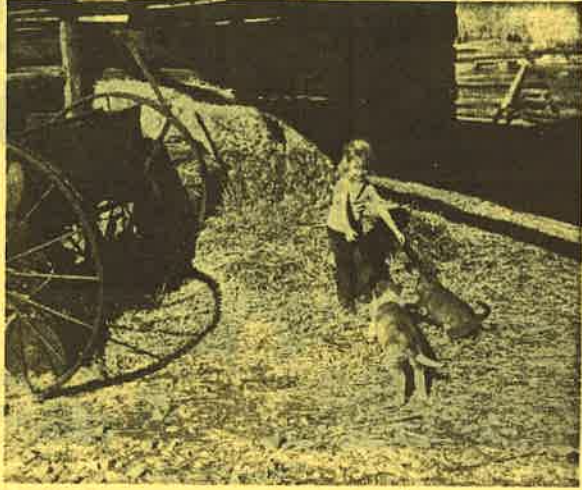
ASSIST IN RESTORATION — Mrs. Lester Scott, president of the Johnson City chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, holds a bound collection of 1837 volumes of The Pen-



INSPECT ANTIQUES—Mrs. Edgar West (left), corresponding secretary and Mrs. William Press, restoration chairman of the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association, examine a child's folding rocker beside the marbled fireplace in the living room of the Tipton-Haynes home. At far left can be seen a portion of a hand-carved rosewood baby grand which dates to 1840.



THEATER-TO-BE—Mrs. Ray Stahl hangs a sign to mark the site of the amphitheater where the outdoor drama, "The Lost State," will be presented next summer. In the background, (left to right) are a unique double-crib barn and the Tipton-Haynes museum. Beside the elm, believed to be one of the largest trees of its species in the country, is Col. John Tipton's stillhouse.



BWARE THE DOGS — Five-year-old Connie Hopson plays with John and Lannie, the two half-collie, half-German shepherd puppies that will be trained to guard the Tipton-Haynes Historic site now being restored in Washington County. John is named for Col. John Tipton and Lannie for Landon Carter Haynes, the estate's most illustrious owners.



# Phillips-Coffey

Linda Grace Coffey and Perry Lee Phillips were married yesterday evening at 7:30 in a double-ring ceremony at Open Door Baptist Church, Jonesboro. Rev. James Ferguson officiated. A program of nuptial music was provided by Patsy Miller, organist, and Hope Rose and Barbara Gardner, soloists.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Coffey, Rt. 3, Jonesboro. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Ora Phillips, Rt. 14, Jonesboro, and the late Edd Phillips.

Given in marriage by her parents and escorted to the altar by her father, the bride was attired in a polyester gown fashioned with a fitted bodice, long, fitted sleeves covered with Venise lace, and long skirt flowing into a chapel-length train. Her fingertip veil of net was covered with lace motifs and attached to a lace-covered hat belonging to her mother, her only jewelry was cultured pearls and she carried a bouquet of roses and her grandmother's handkerchief.

Matron of honor was Peggy Ritcher who wore a floral-print polyester gown featuring a sweetheart neckline, short, puff sleeves and a ruffled hemline. She carried bronze mums and wore beige flowers in her hair.

Kenda Dickson was maid of honor. She was attired identically to the matron of honor.

Bridesmaid was Anita Phillips, niece of the bridegroom, who was also attired identically to the matron of honor.

Flower girl was Kim Malone and ring bearer was Ricky Cox, nephew of the



Mrs. Perry Lee Phillips  
...Linda Grace Coffey

bridegroom. Mike Hayes served as best man. Ushers were Freddie Malone Jr., Rick Blankenship, brother-in-law of the bridegroom, and Wayne Coffey, brother of the bride.

A reception followed the ceremony in the fellowship hall of the church.

The couple will make their home at Rt. 14, Rice Apts., Jonesboro, after Oct. 28.

# Fleenor-Dykes

Susan Jayne Dykes and Michael Preston Fleenor were united in marriage in a home garden wedding Saturday at 4 p.m.

Dr. David Wead and John Wasem of Boones Creek Christian Church performed the double-ring ceremony. A program of nuptial music was provided by Joe Self, soloist, and Phyllis Shipley, organist.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Jack Keefauver, Rt. 11, Jonesboro, and the late J.C. Dykes. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G.M. Fleenor, Rt. 9, Jonesboro.

Given in marriage by her stepfather, the bride was attired in a floor-length gown of bridal white silk chiffon and Venice lace over angel-mist taffeta featuring an illusion yoke of Brussels lace. Her bouffant veil of imported English bridal illusion was framed with scallops of Venice lace and was attached to a Camelot dome hat and she carried a cascade of white and melon sweetheart roses and baby's breath.

Janine Dykes, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. She wore a gown of melon colored polyester knit with a ruffled neckline and ruffled hem.

Chad Dykes, nephew of the bride, was ring bearer.

David Slonaker was best man. Ushers were Ron Dykes, brother of the bride, and Jerry



Mrs. Michael Pres  
...Susan Jayne Dyl

Fleenor, brother of  
A reception  
Following a weddi  
couple will make  
Jonesboro.

SPECIAL

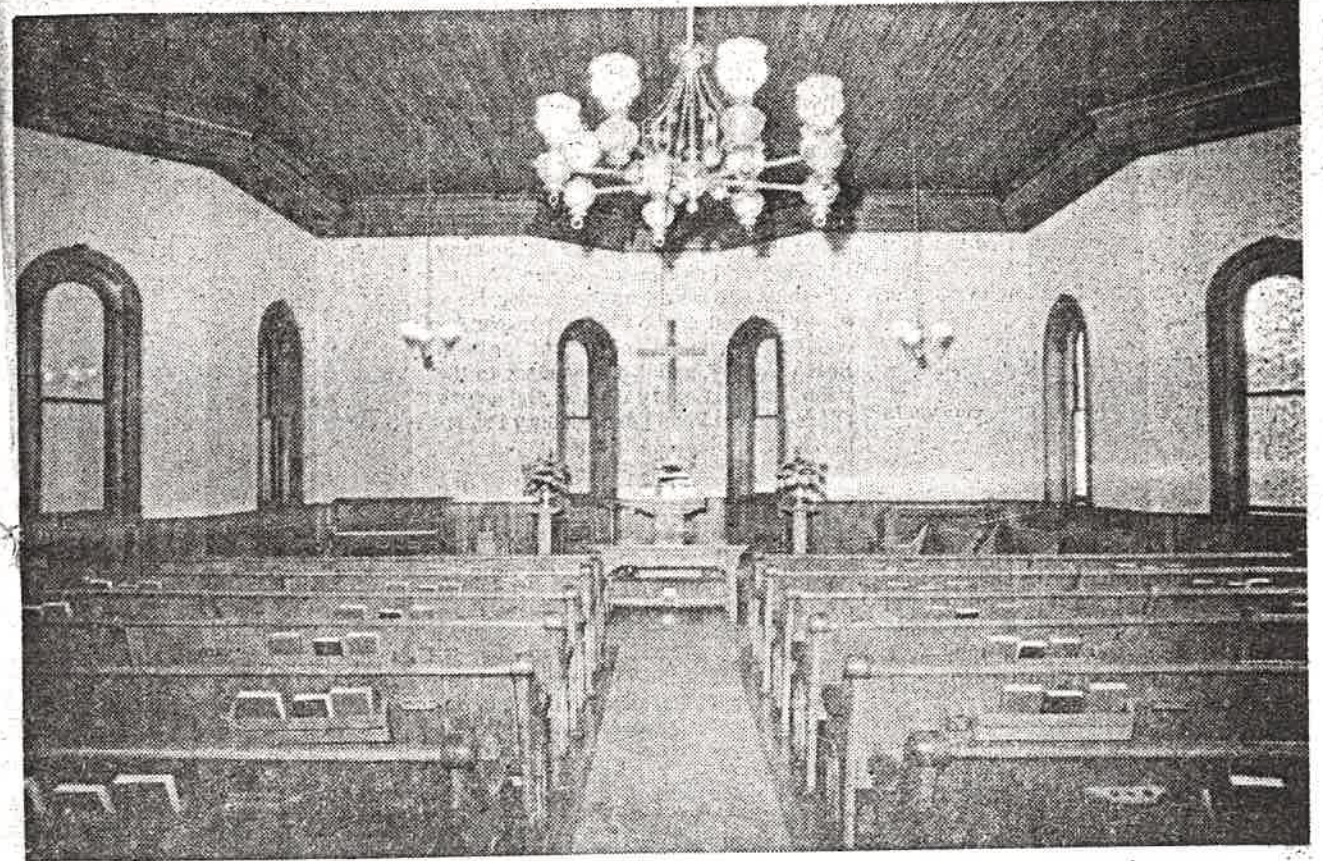
JFG  
PEANUT  
BUTTER

28 OZ. JAR 99

WITH ONE FILLED CASH DIVIDEND CERT

flatter yourself





The interior of the present building of New Providence Presbyterian Church looks much the way it did when constructed, 1892-94.

## In the Beginning

Two upper East Tennessee churches are observing special anniversaries this year: New Providence Presbyterian Church at Stony Point near Surgoinsville, the 200th, and Rogersville Presbyterian, the 175th.

The two, both members of Holston Presbytery, have forged strong connecting links over the years.



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The two, both members of Holston Presbytery, have forged strong connecting links over the years. Family names carved on tombstones in the churchyards are often repeated on 1980 church roles. But, too, many of the churches' earlier members migrated, west and started other Presbyterian churches.

Both are observing their anniversaries with series of services and both have made efforts to record church history for posterity. Rogersville Presbyterian is having its major anniversary celebration this weekend. New Providence Presbyterian's members will welcome former members and guests at the traditional homecoming event the fourth Sunday in August.

By LINDA FELTS FIELDS  
Living Today Staff Writer

**SURGOINSVILLE** — A little country church, an architectural gem of brick construction with arched windows, wood shutters and steeple, is "open for business" at 11 each Sunday morning.

Its congregation pre-dates the building by almost a century. New Providence Presbyterian Church, organized in 1780, is a mere four years younger than the United States and this year is celebrating its Bicentennial — its 200th birthday.

Its present building (c.1892-94) sits serenely on a knoll in a grove of massive oak trees at Stony Point, just east of Surgoinsville. Visitors can stand in the cemetery and view the panorama of the massive construction site at TVA's Phipps Bend Nuclear Plant, 12 miles from Rogersville.

The church building took its place with other buildings of note in the National Register of Historic Places in December, 1978.

Jane Hamilton Armstrong, whose ancestral home is situated alongside Highway 11-W between the church and the Phipps Bend Plant, and whose great-great-grandfather, William Armstrong II, gave the land for the church, says she sometimes must look twice to know in which century she is really living.

From one window of her home, Jane can see the nuclear plant site; from another, the church with which her family has been affiliated since the early 1800s.

Jane speaks of the founding members: "The Revolution was over, and these people, mainly of Scotch-Irish descent, poured out into the country." They came first into Pennsylvania, then into Virginia and North Carolina. And the group of settlers who came into the Holston River

Valley and who organized New Providence Church were from somewhere between Lexington and Staunton, Va.

"Their first church was a small log house in nearby Carter's Valley on Bradley Creek."

A report sent by Abingdon Presbytery to the General Assembly in 1797 contains a list of the congregations in the bounds of the Presbytery. New Providence stands first on the list. The report reads, "Name of congregation, New Providence; water course, Holston; number of families, fifty; time of formation, 1780."

No roll of members can be found for the original church. But former church member, Mrs. James Crowe (Ruth Amis), now of nearby Church Hill, has been sorting out historical facts about the church since 1959. Ruth was baptized at New Providence.

A counselor at Dobyns-Bennett High  
See VIEWS, Page F-7



Staff Photographs by Michael Patrick

New Providence Presbyterian Church at Stony Point, near Surgoinsville, is observing its 200th birthday this year.

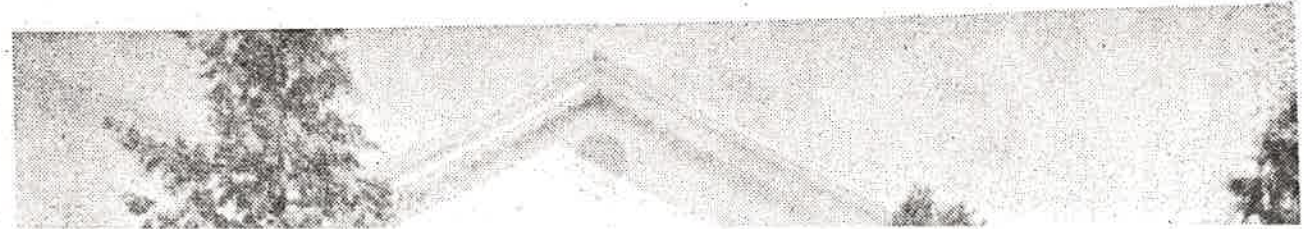
## Hand in Hand, They Walked to the 'New' Church

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Presbyterian's 175th birthday have been in progress since January, but the highlights are those of this weekend. At a reception last evening at the church, members past and present, visited and reminisced.

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"It is said," relates Mrs. Hale, also a  
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Rogersville Presbyterian Church and the  
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The town of Rogersville was laid out  
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Joseph Rogers and his wife, Mary  
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See OLD PEWS, Page F-7





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See OLD PEWS, Page F-7



Boxwoods at a mere 40 years of age shadow the front walk at Rogersville Prebyterian Church, observing its 175th year.

## Getting Into Section F, You'll Find . . .

Knoxville Rape Crisis Center, launching a fund drive, will have the assistance of its ambassador-advocates. Page F-8

Skating is "in," which should mean nothing but good for the Skate-A-Thon for benefit of the Kidney Foundation of East Tennessee. Members of Knoxville Woman's Club, a sponsoring group, plan to roll right along with the youngest of "Thon" participants. Page F-9

This is a record summer, certainly a record summer for weddings. Engagement announcements, Pages F-3, 4 and 5

Americans want to know more about what's good for them, are interested in "wellness." See the In-Sights column. Page F-10

The Butcher votes for duck. At modest cost, it will go a long way toward feeding hungry people. Page F-12



# Views of Yesterday, Tomorrow

Starts on Page F-1

School in Kingsport, she began her research as part of a paper she was writing for graduate studies in history at East Tennessee State University.

"I was going to do my thesis on Presbyterianism in Hawkins County," she says, but in switching her major from history to counseling, Ruth found that delving only into her own church's history was a sufficiency as a sideline.

She searched through trunks in attics, read stacks of old church records, and eventually resorted to the Historical Foundation at Montreat, N.C., repository for records for all Presbyterian and Reformed churches in the United States.

Results of Ruth's dedicated research are soon to be published and will be available for homecoming — held since 1940 on the fourth Sunday in August — at New Providence.

Ruth Crowe thinks New Providence is now the oldest Presbyterian Church in existence in Tennessee. "It certainly is the oldest continuing Presbyterian church in the state."

And New Providence, like most churches, has had its ups and downs, roll-wise. There were 50 families on the first roll and New Providence counts 56 members this Bicentennial year.

Being a country church, New Providence's membership has always been relatively small. Its largest membership ever was during the period called "The Great Revival," 1826-1827.

Rev. James Gallaher was minister from 1816-1830, and the Great Revival occurred during the latter years of his ministry. New Providence showed 409 people on its rolls after the Great Revival and, at that time, church records relate, "a large number of tents stood on the hill. These were occupied every fall for a time by families of the congregation that they

might with undivided minds attend services."

The second church structure, a small brick building, had been erected at Stony Point about 1814. A large "frame house" was constructed there in 1827, at the time of the "tent congregation." The large frame house stood until 1866, the year after the Civil War. And it is said that 26 Confederate soldiers are buried in the shade of ancient cedar trees in the old cemetery.

The church roll declined after the Great Revival, a number of members moving farther west. Some moved to Missouri, records show, and there formed new congregations.

New Providence's frame house was succeeded by another building described in church records as a "commodious house of worship," but this was destroyed by fire on March 12, 1892.

The present sanctuary was constructed between 1892-94. Ruth Crowe says some records show that its pews, the organ, the lectern and a silver communion set were saved from the 1892 fire. But other records tell of a committee being formed to purchase pews for the new church.

"We don't really know if the pews we are using today are the ones saved from the fire or if new pews were purchased."

The lectern has a place of honor in the entry at New Providence Church. The silver communion set has been put away for safekeeping.

A Victorian brass chandelier, once kerosene-fueled, now electrified, was bought in 1894 and still lights the sanctuary.

"The building committee received quotes of \$2 a square foot for a wood building; \$1.85 a square foot for a brick

structure," says Ruth Crowe. Here the committee showed its true Scotch-Irish nature — and opted for brick. The carpenter, a man noted in the records as Mr. Wilson, agreed to prime the windows, shutters and all the woodwork for an extra \$1.

New Providence was organized back in 1780 by Samuel Doak and Charles Cummings, who were sent as missionaries from Abingdon Presbytery. "Rev. Cummings, first preacher, rode on horseback from Abingdon on a regular basis," says Ruth Crowe.

Rev. James Gallaher became the first permanent minister in 1816. New Providence's present pastor, Rev. George T. Wingard Jr., has been minister of the church since last November. He and his family reside in the nearby church manse which has been home to New Providence ministers since the late 1800s.

Land for the manse and a school also was donated by William Armstrong II. The building which housed the Maxwell Academy, founded in 1852, still stands alongside Stony Point Road near the church driveway.

"Did you know," asks Jane Armstrong, "that it is a requirement for a Presbyterian congregation to see that schooling is provided?"

In the days before the public school system, New Providence Church saw to that requirement with the co-ed New Providence High School, later named Maxwell Academy. Hawkins County School System took over the school in 1926 and continued operating it until 1953. The building is now in a state of disrepair which will soon be corrected. Hawkins County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments has plans for renovation and use of the structure.

Jane Armstrong attended Maxwell



Jane Armstrong stands in front of the old Maxwell Academy building, where she went to school and later taught. New Providence Presbyterian Church once operated the school.

Academy and later was a teacher there. "My daddy," she says, "didn't think it was respectable for a girl to do anything other than teach."

Jane, now 66, was graduated from Maxwell Academy at age 16, then studied at Salem College and UT. Her first year of teaching at Maxwell Academy, she remembers, was during the Depression. "I was paid only half of each month's pay." Jane later went on to work for Holston Ordinance and recently retired after 32

years with Tennessee Eastman Co., Kingsport.

She rejoices that there are Armstrongs to carry on the family name. Another William Armstrong, for instance, son of Jane's nephew and wife, David and Linda Armstrong, was baptized at New Providence Church on Easter Sunday, 1980.

But Jane prefers speaking of the congregation of New Providence to speaking of Armstrongs only. She mentions other family names: Lyons, Hoffman,

Miller, Maxwell, Galbraith, Bradley, Surgenon, Klepper, Erwin, Young . . .

"Members of our congregation have concentrated on being good citizens as well as good church members . . . We are all aware of the fact that we didn't start this church and we want to be sure we cherish it and keep it a continuing witness to our Lord, who has blessed it and us through these many years. We want to leave it alive and well for the oncoming generation."

## Old Pews Make New Sounds for Rogersville Children

Starts on Page F-1

and all having entry doors, were assigned either to the balcony or to the attic.

tery meeting at the church in February; and in March with Dr. Flynn Long Jr., assistant stated clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church lead-

ies, is the central location for Meals on Wheels in the Rogersville area; and the Women of the Church have worked with the Dodson Creek School for Handi-

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Ruth Crowe thinks New Providence is now the oldest Presbyterian Church in existence in Tennessee. "It certainly is the oldest continuing Presbyterian church in the state."

And New Providence, like most churches, has had its ups and downs, roll-wise. There were 50 families on the first roll and New Providence counts 56 members this Bicentennial year.

Being a country church, New Providence's membership has always been relatively small. Its largest membership ever was during the period called "The Great Revival," 1826-1827.

Rev. James Gallaher was minister from 1816-1830, and the Great Revival occurred during the latter years of his ministry. New Providence showed 409 people on its rolls after the Great Revival and, at that time, church records relate, "a large number of tents stood on the hill. These were occupied every fall for a time by families of the congregation that they

new congregations.

New Providence's frame house was succeeded by another building described in church records as a "commodious house of worship," but this was destroyed by fire on March 12, 1892.

The present sanctuary was constructed between 1892-94. Ruth Crowe says some records show that its pews, the organ, the lectern and a silver communion set were saved from the 1892 fire. But other records tell of a committee being formed to purchase pews for the new church.

"We don't really know if the pews we are using today are the ones saved from the fire or if new pews were purchased."

The lectern has a place of honor in the entry at New Providence Church. The silver communion set has been put away for safekeeping.

A Victorian brass chandelier, once kerosene-fueled, now electrified, was bought in 1894 and still lights the sanctuary.

"The building committee received quotes of \$2 a square foot for a wood building; \$1.85 a square foot for a brick

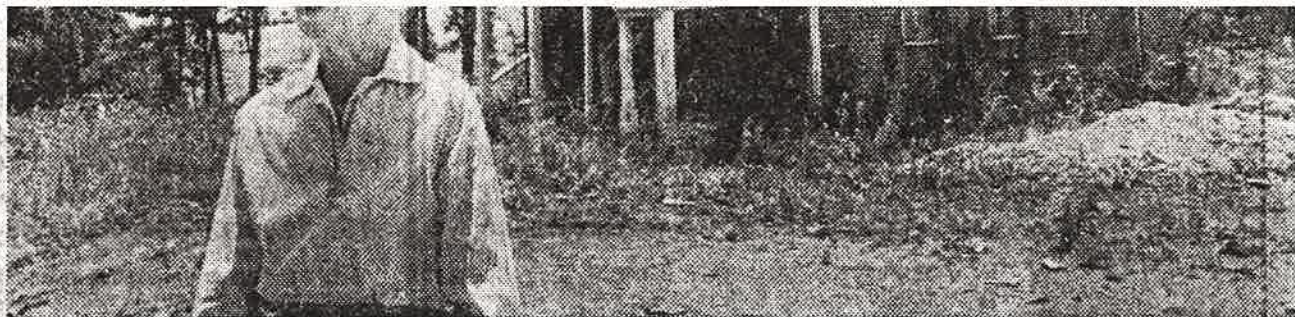
Wingard Jr., is head minister of the church since last November. He and his family reside in the nearby church manse which has been home to New Providence ministers since the late 1800s.

Land for the manse and a school also was donated by William Armstrong II. The building which housed the Maxwell Academy, founded in 1852, still stands alongside Stony Point Road near the church driveway.

"Did you know," asks Jane Armstrong, "that it is a requirement for a Presbyterian congregation to see that schooling is provided?"

In the days before the public school system, New Providence Church saw to that requirement with the co-ed New Providence High School, later named Maxwell Academy. Hawkins County School System took over the school in 1926 and continued operating it until 1953. The building is now in a state of disrepair which will soon be corrected. Hawkins County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments has plans for renovation and use of the structure.

Jane Armstrong attended Maxwell



Jane Armstrong stands in front of the old Maxwell Academy building, where she went to school and later taught. New Providence Presbyterian Church once operated the school.

Academy and later was a teacher there. "My daddy," she says, "didn't think it was respectable for a girl to do anything other than teach."

Jane, now 66, was graduated from Maxwell Academy at age 16, then studied at Salem College and UT. Her first year of teaching at Maxwell Academy, she remembers, was during the Depression. "I was paid only half of each month's pay." Jane later went on to work for Holston Ordinance and recently retired after 32

years with Tennessee Eastman Co., Kingsport.

She rejoices that there are Armstrongs to carry on the family name. Another William Armstrong, for instance, son of Jane's nephew and wife, David and Linda Armstrong, was baptized at New Providence Church on Easter Sunday, 1980.

But Jane prefers speaking of the congregation of New Providence to speaking of Armstrongs only. She mentions other family names: Lyons, Hoffman,

Miller, Maxwell, Galbraith, Bradley, Surgoin, Klepper, Erwin, Young . . .

"Members of our congregation have concentrated on being good citizens as well as good church members . . . We are all aware of the fact that we didn't start this church and we want to be sure we cherish it and keep it a continuing witness to our Lord, who has blessed it and us through these many years. We want to leave it alive and well for the oncoming generation."

## Old Pews Make New Sounds for Rogersville Children

Starts on Page F-1

and all having entry doors, were assigned either to the balcony or to the attic.

In honor of the anniversary, four of these pews have been brought down to form the front two rows of the church. Since front and back boards touch the floor, and pew doors close, Rev. Hale thinks that worshippers of the long ago were thus protected against cold drafts of winter through long sermons that were customary with the times.

Rev. Hale says today's sermons are, he hopes, more quality than quantity, especially where the children are concerned.

The youngsters, for a time each Sunday morning, take places in the old pews while he gives a "children's sermon."

"Here's what they like to do," says the 41-year-old minister, grinning as he sits with his back straight and clonks shoe heels on the old sweet gum front boards.

Anniversary activities began in January when Dr. Albert Winn, presiding moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S., spoke at Rogersville Presbyterian; continued with the Holston Presby-

tery meeting at the church in February; and in March with Dr. Flynn Long Jr., assistant stated clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, leading a study on "History of Presbyterianism in the South."

A series, entitled "Heritage Minutes," has been presented by church members and local historians on several Sundays this year and these "minutes" have been printed in the church newsletter. Church member Mrs. Henry (Shirley) Price has prepared and published a pictorial church history. Photographs of former ministers of the church have been framed, marked with brass nameplates and hung in the church hall, just outside the main sanctuary.

A former minister, Dr. James Park, pastor at Rogersville from 1853-57, came to First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, where he served as pastor from 1866-1912. And Dr. Jonathan Bachman, who served at Rogersville from 1865-73, went from there to First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga, where he served a 50-year pastorate.

Rogersville Presbyterian's ministry continues to be a strong and varied one. It provides support to several missionar-

ies, is the central location for Meals on Wheels in the Rogersville area; and the Women of the Church have worked with the Dodson Creek School for Handicapped Children since that school's inception.

The church sponsors another church, Liberty Chapel, near Rogersville, and the Seventh-day Adventist Church meets in the Rogersville Presbyterian sanctuary on Saturdays. The church has been the home of a kindergarten, taught by Mrs. Fred Boyd, for 20 years.

Extensive Sunday school and meeting rooms have been added to the original building. On the church grounds are a children's playground, and, recent addition — tennis courts — "very popular," Rev. Hale says.

It is a long walk through an avenue of 40-year old boxwoods to the front door of the church, where a single doorway has taken the place of a double entry. The entrance is impressive, with 10 steps to a landing, then nine more steps to the front door.

"Somewhat formidable to an older person," remarks Mrs. Hale, who hopes that someday a ramp to a side door will

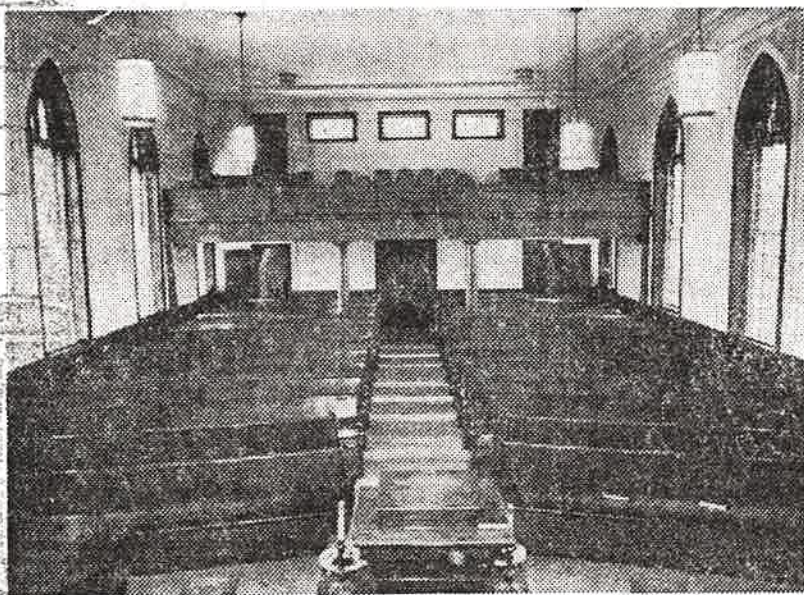
facilitate church-going for older members.

Several of the regular church-goers, especially some of the older members, choose to sit in the same place Sunday after Sunday, says Rev. Hale. In his two-year tenure, he has come to look for them there, in "their pews."

And, David Hale has looked very thoughtfully into the scope of the history surrounding the church which he pastors. He said in the church's July newsletter:

"During a time in which change seems to be the only permanent reality, it is understandable that perhaps more than just sentimental reflection would be attached to this Presbyterian Church.

"It helps us to recall that no matter how many generations of family have worshipped here, by and large — we trust — they worshipped the Living God who demonstrates his presence to both nomads and permanent squatters, just as He demonstrated it to the patriarchs — and tribes of long ago. In one sense the whole Bible depicts our need of and search for home, for the family, the tribe, the nation, and — never least — the soul." — LINDA FELTS FIELDS



The pews in the place of honor this year at Rogersville Presbyterian are four of the church's original ones, complete with doors, and brought down from the balcony for the 175th anniversary.



Johnson City Press-Chronicle  
August 9, 1981, p. 7

# Woman recalls days as controller

By BRAD JOLLY  
P-C Staff Writer

Thirty-nine years before the current crop of air traffic controllers chose to defy the government and strike, Ruth Maxwell decided to try to become a controller because she wanted to help her country.

It was July 1942, when Mrs. Maxwell (then Ruth Barker) heard of the experimental effort to train women to be air traffic controllers to replace men claimed by military service.

"I was very patriotic," she recalls, "and I felt I could do something."

She chose not to return to her teaching job in Bristol and went instead to Atlanta for the tough air traffic controller training.

"Classes were every day for six months," she said, and the program was rigorous because the government wanted to be sure the women who survived the testing and eliminating would be able to work in what had previously been a man's world.

The classes of women were even exposed to cursing sessions by the instructors to prepare them to work alongside male controllers who were likely to use such language.

There was floor scrubbing to separate those who were really determined from those who expected glamour.

They practiced in "link trainers," simulated aircraft, to learn some of the pilot's capabilities and limitations.

Mrs. Maxwell remembers

control room a number of times to drink coffee with them and ask questions about the operation.

"He seemed very thorough," she said.

After the war Mrs. Maxwell transferred to Tri-City Airport, where she became the tower's first woman air traffic controller.

She remembers that some of the veterans who returned to controller jobs were not very conscientious about such things as showing up for their shifts on time, and she resented them having latitude that she didn't.

After eight years at Tri-City, she gave up her job to accompany her husband, Johnson City photographer Clifford Maxwell, to New York, where he attended photography school.

Mrs. Maxwell does not approve of the controllers' decision to strike. "I guess I belong to the old school," she said. "Let them sit down and discuss it. I don't think they should walk out."

She is, however, in sympathy with their demand for a shorter work week because she remembers the stress.

The changing shifts were difficult. She remembers working full shifts until 8 a.m. and being told to come back for another at 8:30.

"A lot of men couldn't take it," she said.

"Men think one way, and women think another," she said. She believes women may be better suited to be controllers.

She remembers the career



Ruth Maxwell, and husband, Clifford, talks with reporters

Staff Photo by Alan Broyles



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Mrs. Maxwell remembers one unique "test." In the midst of a lecture, an assistant rushed into the classroom with an official-looking dispatch. The instructor read the note and said, "You girls might as well know. A Jap force has landed near L.A. It's secret information, but you are in this war, too."

She remembers the shocked faces of her classmates as they left the building for a few free hours in town that night.

The next day several of the women were asked to resign from the program because they had repeated the bogus rumor and demonstrated they couldn't be trusted with secret information.

"I didn't know whether I could do it or not," she said. She remembers her instructor calling her aside at the end of the training and saying, "Miss Barker, I want to tell you something..."

She said she was expecting the worst, but was told she had made the second highest grade in the class.

She was allowed to pick her first regular assignment and chose Nashville, where she worked as a controller with women colleagues during the rest of World War II.

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"Men think one way, and women think another," she said. She believes women may be better suited to be controllers.

She remembers the career she took up in her 20s as "a wonderful experience."

It has been a kind of lost chapter in her life. She said few of her friends know about this part of her past. "People in Johnson City didn't know what I was talking about," she said.

She hunted up old newspaper clippings and photographs for her son when he became curious about his mother's early career.

After telling the story to *The Johnson City Press-Chronicle*, she returned to her household activities.

"It's a long way from being an air traffic controller to making apple jelly," she said.



Ruth Maxwell, and husband, Clifford, talks with reporters



Photo showing Ruth Maxwell working as air traffic controller

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**back to schools**



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There was an extra burden in being part of that first experimental group. She remembers her boss saying, "A man can make an error, but a woman can't."

She has one particularly haunting memory from her time in the Nashville tower.

One night an Army pilot radioed the tower to request permission to make an emergency landing. She gave him the OK, but a Colonel broke in and told the pilot he couldn't land there but must head for Smyrna (then the site of an Army Air Corps airstrip).

"I knew he couldn't turn, and I got back on the radio and told him to continue," Mrs. Maxwell said.

But the pilot chose to obey the Colonel's order and tried to turn and crashed. Everyone aboard was killed.

"It was all over and then I cried," she said.

A happier memory from Nashville is of a frequent visitor to the tower.

The cousin of Mrs. Maxwell's chief controller was a film actor named Ronald Reagan. She said the future president came up to the

*Chronicle*, she returned to her household activities.

"It's a long way from being an air traffic controller to making apple jelly," she said.

Photo showing Ruth Maxwell working as air traffic controller

# back to schools



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