

FLORIDA V. F.

Jefferson County

Tour of Homes Here Saturday and Sunday



The Walker mule barn will be a point of considerable interest this weekend. It will be outfitted as it was years ago and Tom Rains will be doing blacksmithing for those on the Historical Association Tour.

Proceeds To Be Used For Restoration Of Old House

Saturday and Sunday will be another two important days for Monticello as the Jefferson County Historical Association has arranged a tour of several homes, a church, a plantation home and other points of interest seeking to raise funds to assist with the restoration of the Association-owned Wirick-Simmons House, said to be Monticello's oldest.

Tickets for the tour (\$2.50) will be on sale at the Edwin Bellinger Home just across the street from the Wirick-Simmons House. Since the restoration of this house has begun it will not be included in the tour except for an explanation of what is being done and will be done.

Tour hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and from one to six on Sunday.

The tour will include a visit to Lyndhurst, fifteen miles northeast of Monticello at Ashville, the last remaining original plantation home in the county. Named for a town in England it was built by William J. Bailey in 1850. The home and the 2300 acres of land remained in the hands of Bailey decedents until sold to Dr. and Mrs. William E. Bippus of West Palm Beach about two years ago. The place was sold by the final two decedents, Miss Virginia Mays and Sumpter Mays.

In town the tour will stop at the C. C. Wright home on East Washington Street which was constructed in the mid-1850's by Christian Bless and owned by the Methodist Church as a parsonage for many years.

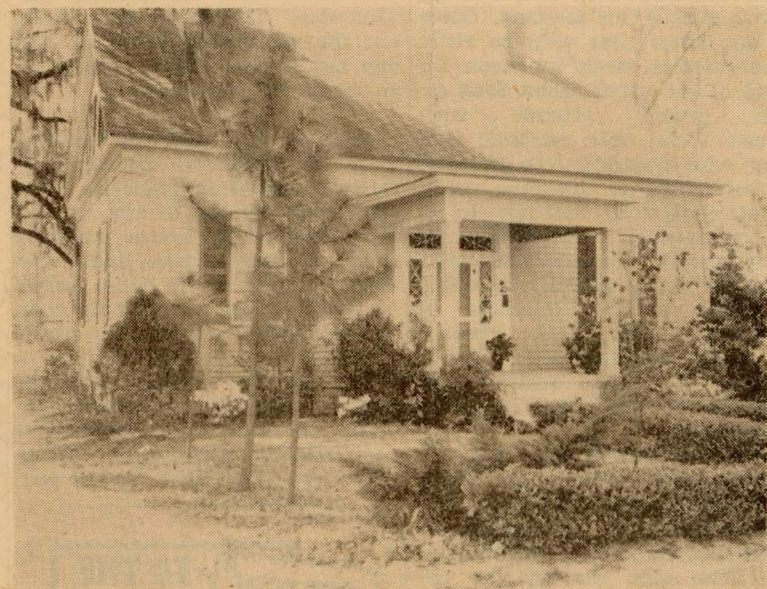
Also to be shown will be the historic Presbyterian Church on Dogwood Street, construction of which was started early in the 1840's. Brick was hauled by ox team from Virginia for the walls and native woods were used for timber. The church was partially destroyed during Reconstruction Days by fire said to have been set by a freed slave but it was rebuilt within a year using the same brick. The pews are the original pews.

Another point of interest will be the Walker Mule Barn behind the church on Pearl Street which was built by the late S. C. Walker and used for the sale of mules, horses, oxen, wagons and parts for many years. The county's one remaining blacksmith, Tom Rains, will set up shop there for the days of the tour to demonstrate the trade. Wagons, harness, ox yokes and other things of interest will be displayed.

Finally the tour will move to the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Kelly on West Washington, "Daffodale" for a tour of this fine home built in 1900 by the late D. A. Finlayson. The beautiful garden with huge bushes of almost every type of camellia and the daffodils for which it is named will also be included in the tour. Refreshments will be served at this home.

Visitors are welcomed for this tour and it will be a fine opportunity for local people to reacquaint themselves with something of their historical heritage.

Also for the benefit of the Restoration Fund a shrimp gumbo luncheon will be sold at the home of Mrs. Lee T. Bishop on Dogwood Street from 12-2 Saturday and Sunday.



This is the C. C. Wright home on East Washington Street which was built about 1850 and was the Methodist Church parsonage for a great many years. Christian Bless was the builder.

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