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A PRELIMINARY REPORT PART I

"D'EVEREUX"

NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

Administrative, Historical
and
Architectural Data

H 30
NATR

D'EVEREUX

See memo H 30 DD 3-13-61

A Preliminary Report

Administrative Data

D'Evereux, as a proposed acquisition, has no building number. Although it has in the past been called both "D'Evereux" and "D'Evereux Hall," the former is more familiar to Natchezians and tends to distinguish the house from D'Evereux Hall Orphans Asylum, an institution founded under the will of the builder of the mansion.

The house, which faces the old Natchez Trace, now U. S. Highway 61, is an imposing example of ante-bellum architecture which flowered in its vicinity between 1830 and 1850. We recommend that it be used as a historic house-museum, similar to Mount Locust, which is 15 miles to the north. It would exhibit the mansion-type home in contrast with the simple farmstead which the earlier Mount Locust represents. The two buildings bracket the span of time during which the Natchez Trace was an important travel route.

D'Evereux could be used as a point of departure for interpreting that phase of history which most interests Natchez visitors, the architecture extending from 1780 to 1860. Through exhibits the story of the city's architecture could be told. Beginning with the homes of prosperous yeomen, such as the Gardens, Hope Farm, and Mount Locust, built between 1780 and 1800, the narrative would continue through the building of the early 19th century mansions, such as the modified

Georgian Gloucester and Rosalie, of the 1800-1820 period, and through the lower Mississippi indigenous architecture of 1820 to 1840, typified by Mistletoe and Mount Repose, to the later and pretentious mansions such as Melrose, Stanton Hall, and D'Evereux, of the 1840's and 1850's.

D'Evereux would be operated by Service funds. As yet no funds have been programmed for refurnishing, but it is possible that some minor items will be contributed by the Pilgrimage Garden Club in Natchez.

It appears that rehabilitation and remodeling of the interior of the house and a partial restoration of the gounds will cost in the neighborhood of $75,000, however it must be recognized that any estimate such as this without benefit of architectural advice is subject to major revision.

D'EVEREUX

A Preliminary Report

History

D'Evereux, a Greek Revival mansion standing within the present Natchez city limits on the Natchez-Washington Road, was built about 1840 by William St. John Elliot.[1]

As yet, little has come to light about Elliot's early life. He was born in 1800.[2] Supposedly he was the son of a physician who settled in Port Gibson, Mississippi. Certainly, it seems, he was a nephew of John D'Evereux, for whom he named the house. D'Evereux, an Irish-born adventurer, may have served in the British army, may have participated in John Emmett's Irish uprising in 1802, may have been banished from Great Britain, and may have lived for a time in Baltimore. If he were banished, the decree was lifted by 1819 when he raised, in Ireland, an Irish Legion, purportedly 2,000 strong, for service under Bolivar. D'Evereux's legion apparently landed in South America in early 1820 and may have participated in the battle of Carabobo in June 1821.[3]

While the D'Evereux story is known in part to members of the family, none have much knowledge of Elliot's own background.[4] His connection with Port Gibson and Claiborne County is borne out by the marriages of two of his sisters in that county. In 1821 Sarah Elliot married Isaac Ross, Jr. Subsequently she married Levin R. Marshall of Adams County. Marshall's extensive holdings during the 1850-1860 period included real and personal property in Claiborne County valued at

$115,000, 2,500 acres in Adams County, and 8,700 acres in Louisiana. Mary I. Elliot became the wife of James P. Parker, a physician who increased his Claiborne County holdings from 80 acres and nine slaves in 1850 to 711 acres and 15 slaves in 1860.[5]

In 1828 Elliot married Anna F. Ruffin, the daughter of William C. and Mary Conner.[6] There is a persistent family tradition that he brought little or no money or property into the marriage; that while the couple was obviously affluent, the capital belonged to Mrs. Elliot.[7] How true that tradition may be is impossible to say at present. Nevertheless, his name does not seem to appear in any Adams or Wilkinson County Land Conveyance or other records before his marriage.

Mrs. Elliot, born in 1804, was a daughter of a landed family with holdings along Second Creek, some 15 miles south of Natchez. In 1821 she married Egbert H. Bell, a North Carolinian and an Assistant Surgeon in the Regular Army. Three days after the wedding he resigned his commission. Within three months he died at the home of his father-in-law.[8]

A little less than three years later, Mrs. Bell remarried.[9] Her second husband, William H. Ruffin, a widower, had come to Mississippi before or during the War of 1812. He had been appointed a Justice of the Peace in Wilkinson County in 1814. The following year he signed a petition to Congress asking that those Mississippians who had

forfeited land patents for non-payment during the War of 1812 be allowed to re-enter them.[10] Apparently he was reasonably well established in Wilkinson County by the time he remarried. In 1819 he sold some 274 acres on Thompsons Creek for $3,289. In 1823 he bought 132 acres on Bayou Sara for $500.[11]

However, not all of his ventures were completely sound. In 1819 he bought a lot and storehouse in Woodville for $1,000, and in the following year another lot in the same town for $500. In 1830 and 1831, both pieces of property would bring only $250 each.[12]

Among Mrs. Ruffin's contributions to the marriage was a 294-acre tract of land along Second Creek: her share of the division of her father's lands. In 1826, the Ruffins sold this land to a member of the Conner family for $4,500.[13]

There is only one other land transaction, in which Ruffin was engaged, listed in the Wilkinson and Adams County Records after the marriage. In 1825 he bought 369 acres on Bayou Sara. The following year he sold the land for $5,500.[14]

While we have by no means catalogued all the records of Ruffin's dealings, it is certain that at his death in 1826 his young widow and his son by his former marriage were not paupers. The final settlement of the estate was delayed for years, but the inventory and accounts of the estate in 1826 showed that the plantation had earned more than $10,000 during the year. Annual settlements continued for at least six years. When, in 1852, the then Mrs. Elliot

and her husband sold her share of the estate, and possibly 260 additional acres purchased in 1840 from another heir, it brought $40,000.[15]

Elliot's first appearance in the records of the river counties around Natchez seems to come in 1829 when he sold 27 Negroes from a plantation in which he had purchased a part interest at an earlier, unstated date.[16] The following year he, as agent for his wife, and Moses Liddell, an executor of the Ruffin estate, sold one of the Ruffin lots in Woodville.[17] In 1831 Elliot and Liddell sold another lot.[18] The next appearance comes in 1833 when the Elliots and Dr. and Mrs. Spencer Wood, Mrs. Elliot's sister and brother-in-law, sold land on Second Creek inherited from Tacitus G. Conner to Henry L. Conner for $2,000.[19]

By 1835 Elliot was buying property in Adams County. In that year he bought the Saragossa plantation, south of Natchez, for $24,000.[20] But it was in 1836 that he purchased the D'Evereux lands. From Henry Chotard he bought 55.41 acres for $11,082. From members of the Moore family he bought an additional approximate 24 acres for $4,800.[21]

In 1838 he borrowed $22,000 from William N. Mercer, to be repaid in a little less than one year. However, the legal documents stipulated that Mercer agreed to accept $12,000 in Agricultural Bank of Mississippi

notes and to renew the note if called upon to do so. In 1839 Elliot mortgated Saragossa to Mercer for the $22,000. He paid the debt in 1858.[22] Whether Elliot needed this money to build D'Evereux is impossible to say at the present absence of information about his transactions in Louisiana. However, in view of his purchase, in 1840, for $12,105, of The Grove, a plantation adjoining Saragossa, it would seem that he was not plunging heavily in building the mansion.[23]

In 1840 he also served as a trustee for the bankrupt firm of Patterson and Throckmorton. The transactions were sufficiently involved, in selling the partners' property, to cause one to suspect that Elliot may have been a practicing attorney, or an officer of one of the banks involved. However, no mention of Elliot is to be found in the fragmentary papers of the Adams County Bar Association, and no information has come to light which would prove Elliot to be associated with one of the banks. Nevertheless, it was not before 1842 that the accounts were to some extent straightened out.[24]

Other of his transactions in 1840 included selling 320 acres in the Bayou Sara area of Wilkinson County for $1,900 and buying 260 acres from one of the Ruffin heirs for $500.[25]

Elliot then disappears from the Wilkinson and Adams County records until 1847, when in Natchez he and Alexander Montgomery bought, at a sheriff's sale for $300, the property of the Roman Catholic Society

of Christians.[26] Doubtless, this transaction was no speculation; but an example of Elliot's and Montgomery's coming to the aid of a financially embarrassed religious organization.

In 1848 Elliot seemed to engage in no ventures in Mississippi which affected him directly. However, in Lemuel P. Conner's legally releasing him from any liability which might arise from his guardianship, one cannot help but believe that the Conner family placed some considerable trust in Elliot.[27] In the same year he again served as a trustee, this time for Hezekiah and Elizabeth Claggett when they purchased from William N. Mercer the lot on which once stood Natchez' old Mississippi Hotel.[28]

About this time we get some picture of D'Evereux from the census records. Elliot had 80 acres, all improved, of a value of $40,000. He had no farm implements at D'Evereux, but he did have six horses, eight cows, 15 other cattle, 35 swine; with a total value of $2,000. The animals, it is obvious, were intended merely to support his extensive establishment at D'Evereux.[29]

In 1849 Elliot sold The Grove and Saragossa to William S. Conner for $26,000.[30] In ensuing years, his Mississippi transactions indicate that he may have helped Conner out of difficulties. In 1852 he and his wife sold the Filsit plantation along Bayou Sara for $40,000.[31] Within three months, in April, he repurchased The Grove

and Saragossa from Conner for $21,040.[32] The following year he disposed of them for the curiously diminished amount of $7,633.34, payable in five years. He realized that sum from the transaction in two years.[33]

Elliot's last appearance in the court records of that part of Mississippi, before his death, came also in 1853, when he, as administrator to the Abraham King estate, sold the Woodlands plantation on Second Creek. According to family tradition, he fell ill of Blackwater Fever, a form of malaria, about that time.[34] He suffered several relapses and, in the spring of 1855, went to The Springs, a watering place near Florence, Alabama. There he died on June 6. The remains of this one of Natchez' "best-known and respected citizens; beloved by his friends, esteemed by all," were brought back to Natchez, and now lie in the City Cemetery.[35]

His death, as the Natchez Daily Courier mentioned, was "not, however, unexpected."[36] His will, probated in the June court term, left to his wife $50,000 and all the Negroes, with the exception of one family he desired to have emancipated. D'Evereux, with all its "servants & furniture, plate, carriages & horses," he left to Mrs. Elliot during her life. Then it was to go to his nephew, William St. John Elliot Parker, provided Parker recovered his health and took the Elliot name. "Should he however," the will continued, "prefer to wear the name he has, why then I give and

bequeath D'Evereux Hall to a male Catholeck [sic] Orphan Asylum to be incorporated by the legislature under the style of D'Evereux Hall Orphan Asylum." To Parker he also left $20,000, as he did to another nephew, William St. John Elliot Marshall. To his sisters, Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Marshall, he left $10,000 each. To others there were minor devises, here and there, of $1,000 each. To Dr. Parker and his good friend William N. Mercer, he left $200 each to buy mourning rings. This holograph will he executed on July 11, 1854. In the following January he added a codicil to the effect that his bequest to his wife was conditional upon her renouncing all claims she might have to the property he held in Louisiana.[37]

The will left an unpleasant taste in the mouths of members of Mrs. Elliot's family, the memory of which persists, without rancor, more than a hundred years later. Elliot, according to present family members, was simply "not of sound mind," a result of his illness, at the time he drew his will. Consequently, they believe he devised more than his fair share of the Elliot holdings to the church.[38]

After the will was probated, Mrs. Elliot moved to salvage the estate. She gave notes, payable by January 1, 1862, totalling $10,000 each, to Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Parker, and totalling $20,000 to William St. John Elliot Parker for their interests in the estate.[39]

Her affairs in Louisiana, which directly influenced the history of D'Evereux, were more complicated. Their nature can be gleaned from Roman Catholic Bishop William Elder's letter to the Archbishop of St. Louis. In it, Bishop Elder asked for advice: "...whether we are right to take on ourselves the responsibility of selling our contingent claim to...D'Evereux Hall or whether we should wait the order of Providence and get whatever the will may give us..."

Mrs. Elliot was willing to pay very nearly the full value of D'Evereux, a sum which would allow the construction of an orphanage elsewhere. But, a Captain Nevitt, who claimed to know Elliot intimately, said that such a course of action would defeat Elliot's intention. In such an event, were the case brought to court, the diocese might forfeit claim as a legatee.

However, the bishop continued, there were other matters. The will was so imperfectly drawn, the Attorney General of Mississippi, among others, had warned him, that it might not stand in court. Then, too, there was the matter of the codicil concerning Elliot's Louisiana holdings.

> It is thought that the plantations in Louisiana might have been intended by Elliot to support D'Evereux Hall. It seems to have been Mr. Elliot's intention that such a course should be pursued. Indeed, it speaks of it, though perhaps not as positively as to make it obligatory. The will, you see, is worded so inaccurately as to leave many hopes for litigation. Neither is he consistent as he gave all the Negroes to his widow, and then expects the plantations to be worked.

Mrs. Elliot, he wrote, had been quick to see her advantages under the will. She had claimed all the Negroes, leaving the lands without a working force. The parcels were appraised and found to be of less value than Elliot's debts. Mrs. Elliot then bought all five plantations at their appraised value. "I have been assured," Elder told the Archbishop, "by several lawyers of Louisiana...that this purchase is void in law."

Finally, there was a prospect of William St. John Elliot Parker's causing some legal difficulty.[40]

Whether Mrs. Elliot's purchases were valid or void under Louisiana law apparently was never contested in court by the diocese. On June 11, 1859, the trustees of the newly formed but not yet operating D'Evereux Hall Orphans Asylum accepted $29,540 in notes for their contingent interest in D'Evereux.[41]

In the absence of knowledge of the Louisiana records, it is impossible at this time to follow Mrs. Elliot's fortunes completely. There was, about 1859, a lawsuit in which Mrs. Elliot received a judgment against an A. B. Kinsey, of Catahoula Parish, Louisiana, in excess of $6,000.[42] Beyond that, there is little. Certainly by 1865 Mrs. Elliot was in financial trouble. In that year she deeded D'Evereux to her brother-in-law, Dr. Spencer Wood, for $4,812.82 in cash with the provision that he would assume her notes of more than $15,000.[43]

Wood's will, drawn in December 1874, was probated in March 1875. In it he gave Mrs. Elliot and her sister, Margaret S. Martin, jointly "the usufruct of the place known as D'Evereux...so long as either shall live." Upon their deaths it was to become the property, in toto, of Mrs. Martin's daughter, Margaret Spencer Martin.[44]

Mrs. Elliot died in 1876; Mrs. Martin in 1886. Margaret Spencer Martin, who subsequently married Bayard F. Shields, held the D'Evereux property, without living in the house, for nearly 40 years. During this period the house was once rented to a butcher, who apparently plied his trade upon the grounds. A later tenant was a truck gardiener who, according to local report, stored part of his produce in the house. In 1925 Mrs. Shields sold D'Evereux to Miss Myra Virginia Smith, then a school teacher in Chicago. Miss Smith has owned and lived at D'Evereux since 1926.[45]

Grounds, Alterations, and Furnishings

When Miss Smith bought the property, the gardens were entirely gone, including the triple terrace and lake which were a part of the grounds behind the house. In clearing the weeds and poison ivy which had overrun the place, Miss Smith found a few bulbs which she believes were survivors from the former gardens. On the south side of the house a double narcissus still lives, but no longer matures well. She also found some pink rain lilies, and a camellia on the site of the third terrace.

The house, when she bought it, was sound, but showed signs of neglect. She has retained the original floors in the front and back parlors and in the dining room, but has covered the floor of the upstairs hall with hardwood. The original floor, which exists beneath the newer floor, was painted to represent parquetry. She has papered many of the walls.

She has remodeled the surviving outbuilding behind the house, apparently once servants' quarters, making it into a garage apartment. The other outbuilding, probably the kitchen, she believes burned between 1876 and 1925. The cisterns she has retained for fire protection. There is one on each side, rear, of the house near the surviving and the site of the former outbuilding. While she does not know the capacity of the two cisterns, it once took a city fire engine more than an hour to empty each of them.[46]

Miss Smith has also installed modern kitchen equipment in the old pantry, and bath fixtures upstairs. She has enclosed part of the rear gallery on both floors.

Most of the furnishings seem to have remained in Natchez. The largest collection is in the hands of Mrs. John Watts, Mrs. Shields' granddaughter. She has pieces of furniture from two of the bedrooms, the parlors, and the dining room. In addition, she has china, plate, and samples of material from the drapes. Of particular interest, in

view of the name of the house, are D'Evereux's ornate Latin American decoration, and his portrait, both in Mrs. Watts' possession.

The greater part of the remaining furniture is in the hands of other members of the family. The Merrill family, at Airlie, has some of the dining room furniture. Mrs. Catherine Miller, at Hope Farm, has some pieces. Some china and chairs are in the hands of Mrs. Annie Vaughan at Arlington. Additional pieces have been purchased by the Pilgrimage Garden Club and are now at Stanton Hall. Mrs. Zan Miller, of Holly Hedges, and Mr. David Pruitt, at Pine Ridge, have purchased furniture. Mrs. Hubert Barnham, of Monmouth, has bought some minor jewelry and may have some of the crystal.

Mrs. Watts has a number of Elliot's books, including a set of Audubon's Quadrupeds. Her mother gave a number of additional volumes to a Mr. Manheim, a New Orleans dealer.

Were D'Evereux to become public property, Mrs. Watts would be willing to allow any pieces in her possession, including the D'Evereux portrait, to be copied. She would also be willing, through her familiarity with the furniture, to help determine from the inventory made immediately after Elliot's death, the furnishings of the various rooms at D'Evereux. But none of the furniture is, or will be, for sale during her lifetime. Her children, she says, may do with it as they wish after her death. However, she grew up with it, and

she said, "When you grow up with furniture, you either love it or hate it. I want to keep this." Her affection for the heirlooms is evident. The oldest child, incidentally, is under six.[47]

The Architects Speak

The Historic American Building Survey sums up D'Evereux succinctly:

> "D'Evereux," 1 mile NE. of Natchez. Brick and stucco, two stories with cupola, mid 19th C., mansion type, Greek Revival, cast-iron balcony. Hardy, Architect. 7 sheets (1934); 1 photo (1934).[48]

There can be found, of course, much more material about the house. Why not Much of it, unfortuantely, is of the guidebook and souvenir type, based solidly upon local legend and tradition, obviously designed to make Natchezians happy.

Typical of the information purveyed by these publications is the story that a James Hardy was the architect of D'Evereux, and that he, a well-known builder, was responsible for a number of Natchez structures.[49] If so, Hardy's accomplishments escaped the notice of the Historic American Building Survey, whose investigators, uncertain even of his first name, credited him only with D'Evereux.[50]

Other serious writers do not mention him.[51]

D'Evereux is more than a matter of local pride. With other great houses of the Mississippi Valley, it has its story to tell:

> The great cotton fortunes of the Mississippi Valley were often creations of the years after 1835, whereas the prosperity of the more eastern southern states was already on the wane.***The great houses of Natchez, Mississippi, tell the same story [of the later, more ostentatious classical architecture]. These later houses are enormous in scale, ceiling height, and room size; lavish in interior trim, at times to the point of lush decadence; palatial rather than domestic, and accurately disclosing a kind of economic unbalance that could not last.[52]

Still, D'Evereux, and the other equally pretentious mansions, were not merely monuments to the affluence of their owners.

> The Greek Revival architecture of the South appears upon analysis to have been a much more profound and significant movement than would seem evident at first from the false and sentimental modern glamour with which an equally and sentimental modern view of the ante-bellum South has enshrined it. Like Greek Revival architecture elsewhere, the Greek Revival of the South stood for the direct solution of practical problems, the frank acceptance of climates and ways of life, the breakdown of the older traditions dating back to Colonial times, and the attempt to create a new and American architecture.[53]

As an example of its school, D'Evereux has been judged by one member of the American Institute of Architects:

> D'Evereux is the official representative of the Greek Revival influence in Natchez. The appearance of the influence in a highly developed state at D'Evereux is unusual for that vicinity. Parts of Alabama and Mississippi show many good examples; but Natchez and the Felicianas were sparing in their patronage of it except for the Greek temple arrangement of the verandas as seen at Dunleith in Natchez and Greenwood and Ellerslie in West Feliciana Parish.
>
> In D'Evereux, dating from 1840, we find an excellent monument to an imported style, alone and refreshing among other traditions. The original simple arrangement of four rooms upstairs and down with verandas across the opposite elevations has been altered to provide a series of pantries, baths, kitchens, and sun porches for present day living.

> In elevation the order is obviously Greek Doric, with which liberties have been taken. The columns are good; the entablature is all present with the frieze, architrave, and cornice; but such details and ornaments as triglyphs and mutules are conspicuously absent. Colonnades of six columns each appear at the approach and opposite elevations, supporting the usual hipped roof, crowned with a cupola. The cupola shows a later and full development with promenade and wood balustrade. The entrance doors at each end of the great hall are flanked with side lights and transoms, and are recessed with simple, substantial treatment. The second story porch is eliminated on the approach front and a small cast-iron balustraded balcony over the entrance substituted, another feature seldom seen in Natchez or further south. However, the second story porch, a real necessity not usually sacrificed to vanity in this warm country, reappears on the opposite elevation. Simple fenestration augments the importance of the white pillars at D'Evereux.
>
> D'Evereux occupies a perfect site on a hillside, a considerable distance from the highway. The natural forest makes an effective backdrop for the formal plot of the house and grounds.[54]

It is unlikely that the architect saw D'Evereux through starry eyes.

In an unusual call for sanity, he warned savants:

> Much has been written about these old Southern houses; but many of the authors, like the residents in the houses, naively assume that all old Southern houses are "good" architecturally. It is surely time to study and evaluate the houses of our forbears as well as to love and preserve them.[55]

To his critical eye, D'Evereux apparently is "'good' architecturally."

But D'Evereux is more than merely a good example of a type of architecture. If the Natchez Trace was the "Path of Empire," D'Evereux is certainly an indication of the wealth of that empire. It, as were its companions, was a sort of pot of gold at the end of a

tortuous rainbow. First came the Natchez Trace, tying the Southwest irrevocably to the United States; then came the influx of settlers; and then, as the Natchez Trace faded, came D'Evereux. Standing as it does upon the old Natchez Trace, it is and can be part of our story.

FOOTNOTES

1. Edith Wyatt Moore, "D'Evereux" Natchez Democrat Pilgrimage Edition. First published sometime in the 1940's, this "pink edition" is a hardy perennial in which Mrs. Moore's historical articles have not been revised since the first publication. Mrs. Moore said, in an interview on February 8, 1961, that she arrived at the approximate date of construction by examining the Adams County tax rolls and found a significant rise in tax value in 1840. Upon attempting to find the tax records in the court house at Natchez, I was told by Daniel Knowles, the janitor, an employee for more than 20 years, that the records had been destroyed in 1953 during a house cleaning. I could find in the store rooms no tax records dating prior to the 1870's.

2. William St. John Elliot gravestone, City Cemetery, Natchez.

3. Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi, Nashville, Goodspeed, 1891, Vol. II, p. 397. Hereafter referred to as Goodspeed.

   The Catholic Encyclopedia, New York, Robert Appleton Company, 1902, Vol. VIII, p. 157.

   Orleans Gazette, October 16, 1819.

4. Interviews with Mrs. John R. Watts, Natchez, December 7, 1960, and Edward Truly, Natchez, February 8, 1961.

   Letter from Theodora Britton Marshall to the writer, February 19, 1961.

5. Harris Gaylord Warren, "Agricultural Statistics of Claiborne County, 1850 and 1860," The Journal of Mississippi History, Vol. XV, No. 4, (October 1953), pp. 233, 235, 237.

   Claiborne County Marriage Book B, p. 18.

   Adams County Record of Wills, Book 3, p. 15, Will of William St. John Elliot, hereafter referred to as Will of William St. John Elliot.

   Theodora Britton Marshall and Gladys Crail Evans, They Found It In Natchez, New Orleans, Pelican Publishing Company, 1939, p. 208.

   Goodspeed, p. 397.

6. Family Bible in possession of Mrs. John R. Watts.

7. Interviews with Mrs. Watts and Edward Truly.

8. F. B. Heitman, Historical Register of the United States Army, September 29, 1789, to September 29, 1889, Washington, The National Tribune, 1890, p. 119.

   Mississippi State Gazette, September 1, 1821.

   Adams County Marriage Records, Book 2, p. 112.

9. Adams County Marriage Records, Book 4, p. 5.

10. Register of County Appointments, Series G, Vol. N, p. 119.

    The Territorial Papers of the United States, ed. by Clarence Edwin Carter, Vol. IV, The Territory of Mississippi, 1809-1817, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1938, pp. 501-4.

    Wilkinson County Land Record Book M, p. 102.

    Mississippi State Gazette, November 23, 1821.

11. Wilkinson County Land Records Book C, p. 54; Book D, p. 311.

12. Ibid., Book B, pp. 298, 326; Book G, pp. 35, 344.

13. Adams County Land Conveyance Book O, p. 74.

14. Wilkinson County Land Records Book E, p. 56.

15. Wilkinson County Inventory and Accounts Book 5, pp. 488-9.

    Wilkinson County Probate Court Minutes, Book 3, pp. 222, 414, 444, 445, 464; Book 4, pp. 34, 58, 81, 142.

    Wilkinson County Land Records Book M, p. 102; Book Q, p. 9.

16. Ibid., Book F., p. 529.

17. Ibid., Book G, p. 35.

18. Ibid., Book C, p. 344.

19. Adams County Land Conveyance Book V, p. 471.

20. Ibid., Book HH, p. 150. While this land was purchased in 1836, it was not recorded until 1850.

21. Ibid., Book W, p. 559.

22. Ibid., Book Z, pp. 515, 528.

23. Ibid., Book CC, p. 147.

24. Adams County Land Conveyance Book BB, pp. 635, 638, 663; Book DD, p. 240.

Wilkinson County Land Record Book M, pp. 58, 63, 78, 456.

25. Ibid., Book M, pp. 12, 102.

26. Adams County Land Conveyance Records Book GG, p. 18.

27. Ibid., Book GG, p. 228.

28. Ibid., Book GG, p. 373.

29. 7th Census - 1850, Schedule 4, Adams County, Mississippi.

30. Wilkinson County Land Record Book II, p. 71.

31. Ibid., Book Q, p. 9.

32. Adams County Land Conveyance Record Book II, p. 177.

33. Ibid., Book II, p. 343.

34. Interview with Mrs. Watts.

35. Natchez Daily Courier, June 14, 1855.

Interview with Mrs. Watts.

William St. John Elliot gravestone, City Cemetery, Natchez.

36. Natchez Daily Courier, June 14, 1855.

37. Will of William St. John Elliot.

38. Interviews with Mrs. Watts, and Edward Truly. Mrs. Watts recalls having seen the "not of sound mind" statement in a letter written by her grandfather, William T. Martin. The letter, along with other family papers, was lent to a Chicago writer some two years ago. Attempts to recover the documents from his widow have, to date, been fruitless.

39. Adams County Conveyance Record Book MM, pp. 88, 91.

40. William Elder, Bishop of Natchez, to Peter A. Kenrick, Archbishop of St. Louis, March 28, 1859, Letter Book 4, pp. 17-18. Diocesan Archives, Diocese of Natchez-Jackson, Jackson, Miss.

41. Adams County Land Conveyance Book MM, p. 309.

42. Adams County Probate Court Records, Book 14, p. 368.

43. Adams County Land Conveyance Record Book NN, p. 559.

44. Adams County Will Book 4, p. 7.

45. Abstract of Title to "D'Evereux" or "D'Evereux Hall" prepared by W. C. Martin, August 1, 1925, p. 18.

Interview with Miss Myra Virginia Smith, Natchez, December 6, 1960.

Adams County Land Conveyance Records Book 4-J, p. 426.

46. Interview with Miss Smith.

47. Interview with Mrs. Watts.

48. Historic American Building Survey, Catalogue of Measured Drawings and Photographs of the Survey in the Library of Congress, March 1, 1941. (Hereafter referred to as H.A.B.S.) p. 197.

49. Robert S. Pishell, Natchez, Museum City of the South, Tulsa, Magnolia Publishing Company, 1959, revised edition, p. 36.

50. H.A.B.S.

51. Two examples are Talbot Hamlin, Greek Revival Architecture in America, New York, Oxford University Press, 1947. Hereafter referred to as Hamlin, and J. Frazier Smith, White Pillars, Early Life and Architecture of the Lower Mississippi Valley Country, New York, William Helburn, Inc., 1941. Hereafter referred to as Smith.

52. Hamlin, p. 208.

53. Ibid., p. 212.

54. Smith, p. 119.

55. Ibid., p. 211.

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