

Supplement to Petition for Landmark Status - 2833 Tremont Drive (formerly 2020 Tyler Lane)

This supplement points out some features of photos taken July 16, 1911, of a house in a “Calarama” folder at the Filson Club, as well as other points of logic that clarify that the existing structure now listed at 2833 Tremont was Bishop Benjamin Bosworth Smith’s home and the site of the girls school known as Kalorama.

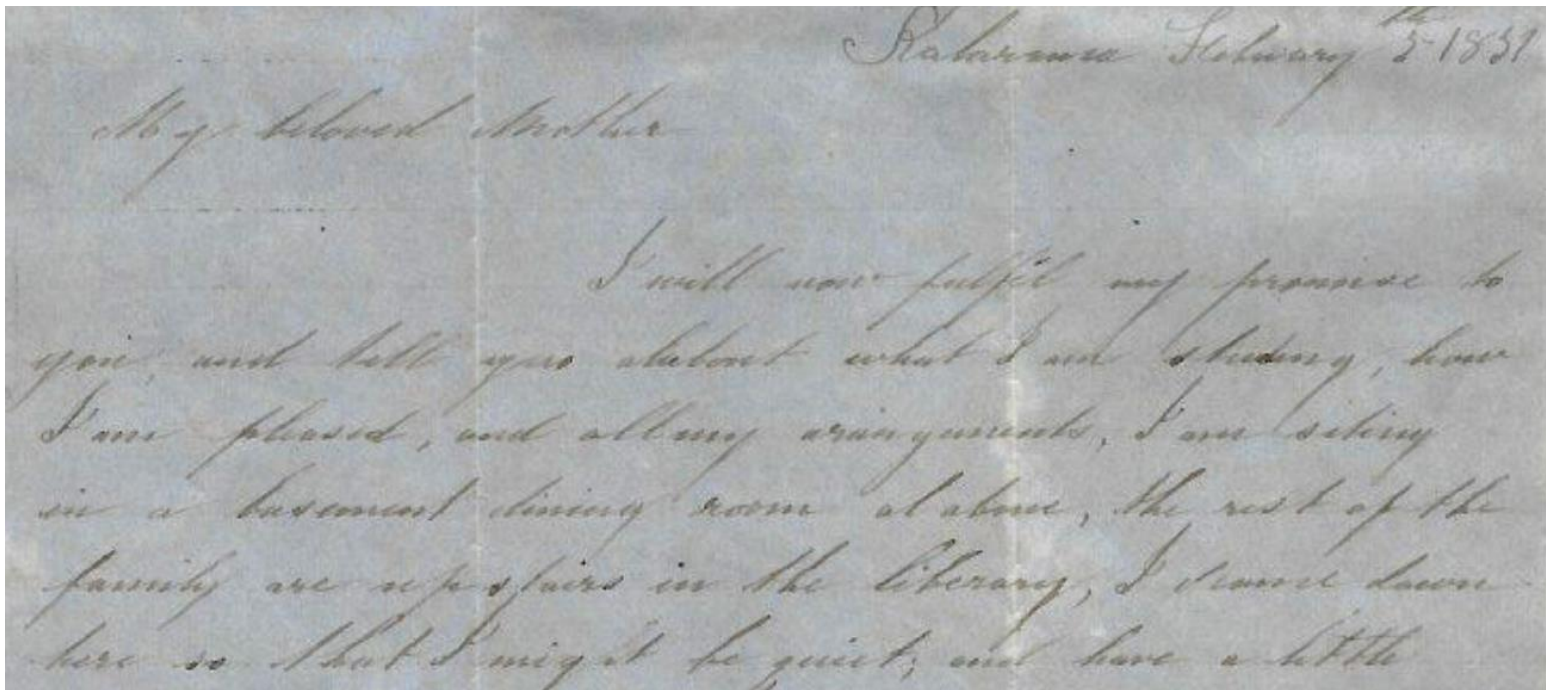
1. An examination of the photos in **Attachment 1** shows the same lintels as exist on 2833 Tremont Drive today.
2. The photos in the Staff Report and the Petition are from the same date, July 16, 1911 (see notes in Attachment 1). They indicate the photos are taken from the Tyler Lane side because the lawn in the foreground of the house can only be on the north side. There is no such expanse of lawn on the south side of the house, which drops off down a hill. So the historic “front” of the house is the same as today.
3. An examination of the photos in **Attachment 1** shows a roofline that is hard to make out without careful examination. However it shows a “second floor.” The brickwork at the ends of the house is not altered, and the chimneys carry flashing that shows the former roofline at a higher point than the existing roofline. Together these show the house was always 1.5 stories; that is, there was always upstairs space to accommodate lots of sleeping girls.
4. Formal rooms as indicated in the 2011 Kentucky Heritage Commission Survey are located in what is now the front of the house, consistent with how a home would be normally be laid out to receive visitors.
5. Ms. Betty Turner in researching the Bishop’s Study at the time it was being restored by St. Francis in the Fields Episcopal Church turned up a paper provided by Burton Smith Harris (the Bishop’s descendant now living at the Episcopal Church Home here in Louisville) that says the study was in back of the house. So that the 1911 photos in Attachment 1 would not show the Study, as it was behind the house out of sight of a photographer in the front of the house. The following statement is on page 11 of the 1986 paper (**Attachment 2**) for course work at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary by Susan P. Weatherford, a descendant of the Bishop. “He constructed a small white building with ginger bread eaves behind his house.” [Note that at the time of Ms. Weatherford’s paper the study had been painted white, based on photos housed at the Speed Art Museum, **Attachment 3**.]
6. The gingerbread trim on the frame structure shown in the photos of the house in Attachment 1 matches that of the Bishop’s study and referred to by Ms. Weatherford exactly. Archival material provided by the J.B. Speed Museum shows the Bishop’s Study at the time it was given to the museum and later at the Museum (**Attachment 3**). A letter on Speed Museum letterhead refers to the transfer.
7. Ms. Turner’s research included a conversation with Dr. Urton, who at that earlier date (2008) stated his belief that “there is a tunnel that goes under Tyler Lane and he understands it was part of the Underground Railroad” (**Attachment 4**).
8. A schoolgirl letter references “avenue” (ie Tyler) in a letter. The house logically would have faced the avenue, and indeed that address became 2020 Tyler Lane.
9. From a siting standpoint, the house is on the 1858 Bergmann map labeled as the Bishop’s house (**Attachment 5**). Another house on the map is shown on the back 20 acres of the original 40-acre purchase as owned by Adams. So the house facing Tyler is the Bishop’s house. It also matches well today geographically to the location depicted on the 1858 map. It is not logical for the house to be

anywhere else. The house address was 2020 Tyler until the two lots were sold off the front of the lot much later.

10. An April 7, 1844, schoolgirl letter from Henrietta Clay Gist to her sister, Miss Susan Gist (provided in the original petition Attachment C) notes that, “. . . I visited Mr. Hamilton Smiths a few evenings since. It is considered one of the most splendid places in the west. It is just across the avenue opposite Kalorama. He has a park with . . .” So, Kalorama was just across the avenue from Hamilton Smith’s estate. Documentation from *Perry County, A History*, Thomas James De la Hunt, January 1, 1916, W.K. Stewart (**Attachment 6** excerpt) refers to the Trabue estate shown in the 1858 Bergmann map across from Bishop Smith’s house to have formerly been the property of Hamilton Smith, who was evidently a heart-throb for some of the girls at Kalorama.

<https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=4xcVAAAAYAAJ&rdid=book-4xcVAAAAYAAJ&rdot=1>

11. A February 5th, 1859, letter from Lizzy Edmunds to her mother says, “I will now fulfill my promise to you and tell you about what I am studying . . . and all my assignments. I am siting [sic] in a basement dining room at above [Kalorama], the rest of the family are upstairs in the library. I came down here that I might be quiet and have a conversation with you.



My beloved Mother

Kalorama February 5th 1859

I will now fulfill my promise to you, and tell you about what I am studying, how I am pleased, and all my arrangements, I am sitting in a basement dining room at above, the rest of the family are upstairs in the library, I came down here so that I might be quiet, and have a little

While the Commission has concerns about integrity and how 2833 looks today, it is clear that a number of Landmark criteria are met, as the staff report and the petition enumerate. Although the property has been modified in a way that may no longer rise to criterion (e) (distinguishing characteristics), Federal-style elements associated with the original period of construction are still evident. Further, the Bungalow-style alterations themselves are worthy of note.

As we have noted in the petition and at the public hearing, the history of the property and the Bishop should suffice to qualify the property under the Local Landmark criteria.

Attachment 1 – Historic Photos

Thomas Photo in State Report



1911 photo of Kalorama. *Courtesy of the Filson Club*

Insko Photo in Petition



Photo Observations – The Petition includes an historic photo from “KENTUCKY BISHOP: A PICTURELOG,” W. ROBERT INSKO, The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, Vol. 54, No. 189 (OCTOBER, 1956), p. 341. The Staff Report has two historic photos of the house, one nearer (page 9), one farther (page 26), but the same photo. It is from Samuel Thomas’ “The Architectural History of Louisville, 1778 -1900,” which identifies the dwelling structure as Kalorama (Calorama on the photo) and identifies it as Bishop Smith’s boarding school for girls. Both of these photos are in the Filson Club’s folder entitled “Calorama.”

Examining these photos, one finds:

1. Both photos are at the Filson Club and carry the same date, July 16, 1911.
2. Each has an open basement shutter on right side and a broken shutter slat on window next to it.
3. Likewise, the scar on the tree to the right closest to the house, where a limb has dropped, is the same.
4. There is glare in photos that looks as if it is the sun, but looking at the photos together suggests it is an artifact of development or photocopying.
5. The frame addition to the house on the right (west) has trim that matches the trim on the Bishop’s study. This addition is now gone. The ground at 2833 Tremont could be examined for any trace of its former presence.
6. Both the photo of the Ballards in front of the study and the Thomas photo of the house have the same handwriting, and both refer to Calorama with a “C”.

To the right of the Thomas photo another building appears.

Attachment 2 - Susan Weatherford Paper on Bishop Smith

(See reference to "he constructed a small white building with ginger bread eaves behind his house.")

The Greatest Gift I Ever Received
by Francis Zimford of Lexington
Published by Faith House Press '69
History of Episcopal Church of Lexington KY

BISHOP BENJAMIN BOSWORTH SMITH

A Paper
Presented to
Dr. Douglas Weaver
The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for 2512

by
Susan P. Weatherford
Box 2258
May 1986

with Smith's firmness and determination, that he hopped into the carriage and attended the gathering himself. There, he stood next to the Superintendent to protect him throughout the service.⁴⁷

With so much of his time and energies devoted to the church, education, and his family, it is little wonder that Smith cherished time alone in which to study and write. He constructed a small white building with ginger bread eaves behind his house, off Bardstown Road; it was a retreat from the hustle and bustle of a home with sixteen school girls and eight children of his own.

The study, containing five murals of English churches and cathedrals--due to the kindness of an itinerant painter--is now resting at St. Francis-In-The-Fields Episcopal Church, Louisville. It is a miracle that the structure even survived, as it has served as "a study, a small girl's playhouse, a storehouse, a haven for ice skaters, a studio, and doubtless, other uses."⁴⁸

As time marched on in the Church, the whole country saw many changes in her history. The surrender of the South in the Civil War, and Lincoln's assassination weighed heavy on the forty-one delegates and visiting clergy as they gathered at St. Paul's Church in Louisville on May 24, 1865 for the Thirty-seventh Annual Convention of the Diocese. Perhaps this incident, trying to

**Attachment 3 – Bishop’s Study Photos
(courtesy of J.B. Speed Art Museum Archives)**



Circa 1935 when Mrs. Ballard Gave to the Speed Museum.



Study on the Grounds of the Speed museum, c. 1955

Attachment 3 – Continued
Letter Noting Gift of Bishop's Study to Speed Museum
(courtesy of J.B Speed Museum Archives)

Kentucky State Historical Society

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MRS. JOUETT TAYLOR CANNON,
 SECRETARY-TREASURER

Frankfort, Kentucky

April 22, 1938

Dear Jane:

I am afraid that you will hardly believe me when I say that right after receiving your letter asking for some anecdotes about Miss Lizzie Smith, I sat down and began a letter in which I tried to tell what I knew of her and her family. I was getting along fairly well when when some work which required immediate attention came in and I had to lay my letter aside, then, two weeks ago our librarian, Miss Visscher, began her vacation, and I have had to do double duty and so I have gotten hopelessly behind and don't know whether I ever will catch up. You see more and more people come to the library all the time, and of course cannot be put off like a letter often has to be.

I had an idea when you wrote that you wanted to know something about Bishop Smith and his school in Louisville and the little "study" which evidently is the building which Mrs Ballard left or gave for the Speed Museum, and I had remembered that while Miss Lizzie was living with me she had some correspondence with Mr Ballard about the building and about the mural decorations which Bishop Smith had painted himself. I had gotten about this far in my letter ~~when~~ and had told of his talent as an architect which really was quite considerable, and was about to mention a few personal things about dear Miss Lizzie, when I learned that Mrs Speed had driven up to the Lindsays, and was right then asking them about her, so I felt that you would really get more from that source, for I am not good at "reminiscing" and I put the letter away, not permanently, but until I could think of something else interesting. So I hope that after Miss Visscher returns you will get the letter, even is the date is a little out of order. In the meantime, tell Mrs Speed to talk to Mr McGready. Now I am writing ~~now~~ on an entirely different subject.

Some weeks ago I had a letter from your uncle Crittenden Todd, saying that his daughter Mrs Holt (but he called her Virginia) was going to attend the D.A.R. Continental Congress at Washington, and that he hoped I would be there and would meet her. I was then about to leave for the State Conference at Hopkinsville, but wrote to him that I was not going to Washington, but would be glad to have Virginia stop with me if she came by Kentucky on her way home. After I returned from Hopkinsville I wrote to Virginia, but have not heard from her as to when or whether she is coming, but I talked to Lucy Chinn who understood from Aubyn that Virginia expects to come by Frankfort either on the 24th or 25th, and would like to see her grandfather's old home in the country. I hope she will come the 24th which is Sunday, and if she

Attachment 4 – Research by Betty Turner at Time of Restoration of the Bishop's Study -2008

Monday, September 1, 2008 4:58 PM

Subject: Benjamin Boworth Smith
Date: Monday, September 1, 2008 4:57 PM
To: Elizabeth Turner , <heresbeef@aol.com>

In April, 2008 Burton Harris brought me a paper written by her cousin, ^{Susan} Sarah P. Weatherford. The subject was Episcopal Bishop, Benjamin Bosworth Smith. She knew I'd be interested as we at St Francis in the Fields Church in Pospect, KY, have the lovely and tiny study the bishop built in his back yard of his home "Kalorama". I thought I could just find the file from the church office, not to be as the file is missing. This started my search.

Burton thought the home was still there & on Tyler Lane. I retyped the paper onto my computer which took me several weeks – that is not my strong point. The first thing in my search I found was Hayfields Montessori School which was closed for the summer. So I talked to several people I hoped could tell me who gave the study to the church and when. Among these were Sally Brown, Laurie Short and Clay Morton, all of whom were interested but really couldn't pin it down.

Back to the school at the end of summer where the nice people the lovely old home had always been in the Haskins family. Too bad as it is wonderful and has beautiful gardens. They suggested Hayfields mansion on at the end of the road. Of course when I saw it My mind went back to Ann Gordon Washburn and going there to a Hockey dinner from Kentucky Home School. No one was at home but the name plate said Michael Cronen and the historical marker in front put it in the right time era and the names on the marker seemed to fit to a degree as I had heard that a Morton had given us ^{it} to building. I called Virginia Cronan Clark to see if she could shed any light but of course, as I should known, her name is spelled with an A. Going back to Hayfield I found Mrs. Cronen home. She knew little of the history of the house but felt there was no connection.

I had ^{gotten} no help from the Filson Club as it was vacation time. Now I found ^{Susan} Sarah Weatherford who lives in Black Mountain, NC. She said she got her information from her mother, ^{Susan} Susan who lives nearby. It seems I must have the only copy of her paper left. ^{Susan} Susan called me back and told me that as far as she knew the house was still around and at district 2,

dwelling 682 where the bishop built it when he came to Louisville in 1841. He is still listed in the 1850 & 1860 Census but had moved to Lexington by 1870, where he is buried. ^{Born} Susan's information came from a professor at Berea College where ^{born} Susan's husband is president. Genealogy is his hobby so he jumped in a once.

Now I called Betty Ann Allen who also didn't know a lot but told me to call Sharon Receveur who is a church historian. I also called Ken Reutlinger to help find district 2, dwelling 682. He picked up the call in Florida and will get to it right after Labor Day. About this time Catherine at the Filson called me back. She said the house is at 2020 Tyler Lane and that among people who lived there were Credo Harris, Thruston Ballard and Herndon Merke and that Mr. Ballard gave the study to the Speed Museum. At this point I called the Speed to find that their curator quit several months ago.

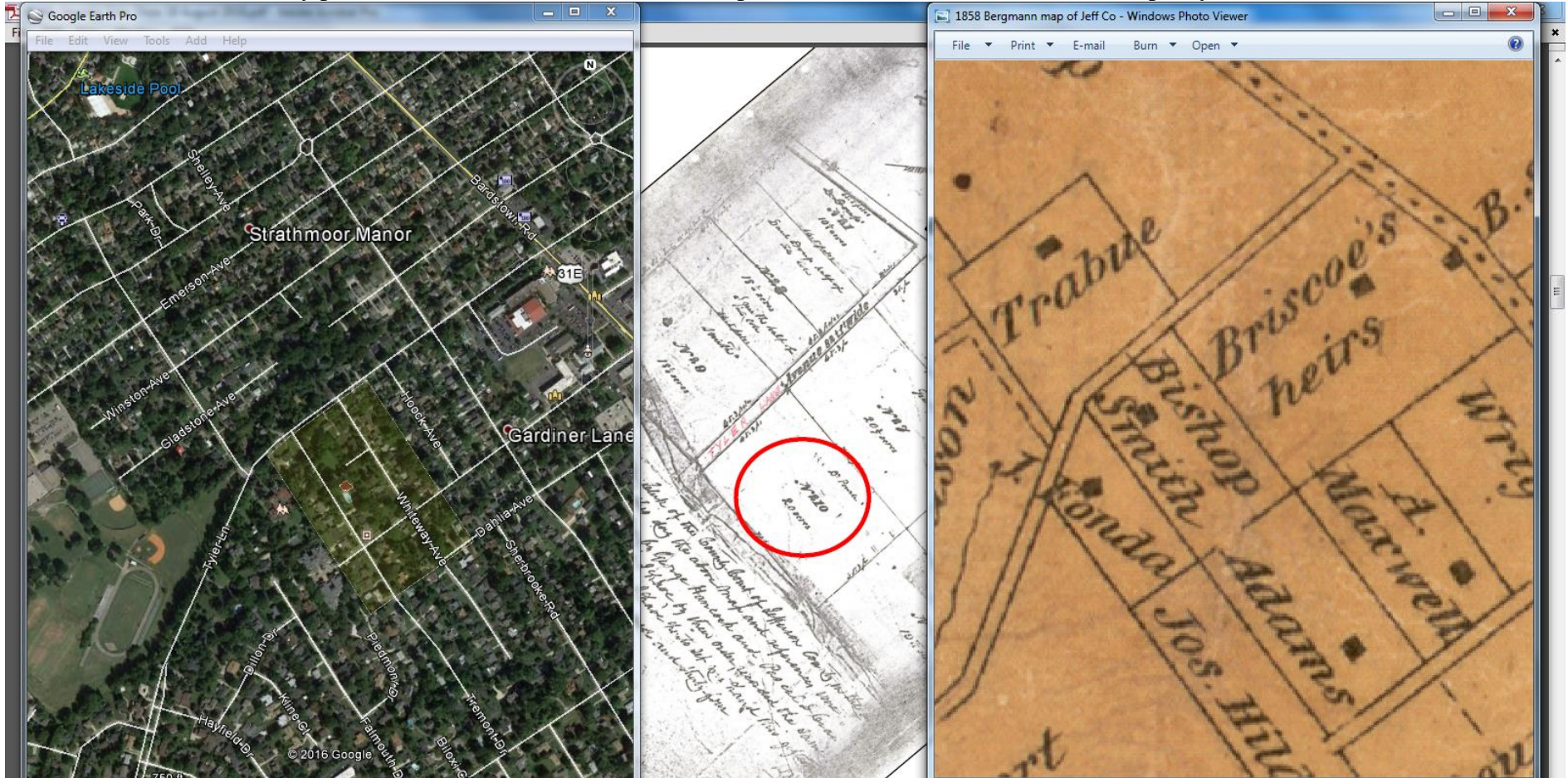
With the 2020 address in hand I went back to Tyler Lane again but found a small red brick modern dwelling. The nice man there said that he built on a piece of the front yard of his now backdoor neighbor and to ask there as it was an old house. This put me on Tremont Drive which goes to what turns out to indeed be "Kalorama", but no one home. Leaving, I found Doug Pohl in his yard. Being an architect, he had checked on the house and said it was built about 1839. I have to wait for Ken to pin this down. He told me the house belongs to John Urton, the address is 2833 Tremont Drive. The property extended out in the back and to either side.

Finally got in touch with Mr. Urton who was quite interested. He bought it from a Mr. Hipps who had to sell off the front yard to pay his son out of trouble. He feels it was built in 1832. The basement has 9' ceilings and that there is a tunnel that goes under Tyler Lane and he understands that it was part of the Underground Railroad. I still don't know if the bishop built it or bought it.

Susan's husband

Attachment 5 - Comparison of Modern Goggle view of 20 acre Bishop Smith tract (highlighted) to Plat, and to 1858 Bergmann Map.

The “brick Dwelling House substantially built” is clearly shown on the Bergmann Map. In a letter to Henry Clay dated January 3, 1842, noted in the petition, Smith notes he has gone into debt in purchasing a house and is spending additional sums to make it commodious for young lady boarding scholars. So he has bought Powell’s property, which is authenticated, with his house on the 1858 Bergmann map, with the house of today positioned as it did on the Bergmann map. There is a continuous chain of occupancy of the home.



Attachment 6 - Reference to Hamilton Smith's Fine Estate and As Later Owned by Trabue on the 1858 Bergmann Map

Perry County: A History

Thomas James De la Hunt

January 1, 1916

W.K. Stewart

At the age of twenty-one, after careful preparations, Hamilton Smith entered Dartmouth College, that already venerable and revered institution, the Alma Mater of Daniel Webster, Rufus Choate, Salmon P. Chase and many other truly great Americans. There he won Phi Beta Kappa honours and was graduated summa cum laude with the class of 1829. During a part of these years Chase was a fellow-student, and a friendship there grew up between the two young men which lasted under conditions of unusual warmth and intimacy until the death of the distinguished Chief Justice.

Three years later, in 1832, after reading law in the Washington offices of William Wirt and Levi Woodbury, young Smith came to Louisville and entered upon the practice of his chosen profession, following it for fifteen years with notable success. During the disturbed financial conditions of the 'thirties his keen judgment as the representative of sundry large Eastern bankers and merchants contributed to the accumulation of what was then regarded as a handsome fortune. In at least one year his practice amounted to over \$30,000 — certainly exceptional at the time, and probably the largest of any attorney then in the West. His love for the beautiful in nature and art led to the creation of an ideal country estate, "Villula," on the Bardstown pike a few miles from the city, and a show place among Louisville's suburban homes even long afterward when owned by the Trabue family, of Hawesville.