

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

This is the second supplement to the Petition to give Landmark status to 2833 Tremont Drive. It adds:

1. An additional photograph that reinforces the fact that the front of the home has always faced Tyler.
2. A note on the back to the 1911 photograph that states this is the Bishop's house, where he had a school, and that the Bishop's study was "in the yard."
3. A Certificate of completion for Julia Porter signed by the Bishop and Harriet Smith, his wife, showing her importance to school affairs.
4. A letter in the Bullitt letters archived at the Filson Club, dated September 8, 1841, that reiterates that what the Bishop bought was "Dr. Powell's place."
5. Discussion of questions by Commissioners and remarks by the owners at the public hearing.

**First**, a photo circa 1980 or after (based on the model of the station wagon parked out front) shows the brick paved area that is present in the front of the house today. The tree to the right of the house (now gone) is the same as in the 1911 photos (**Attachment 1**), based on its branching pattern. So today's front of the house again is confirmed as the historic front.



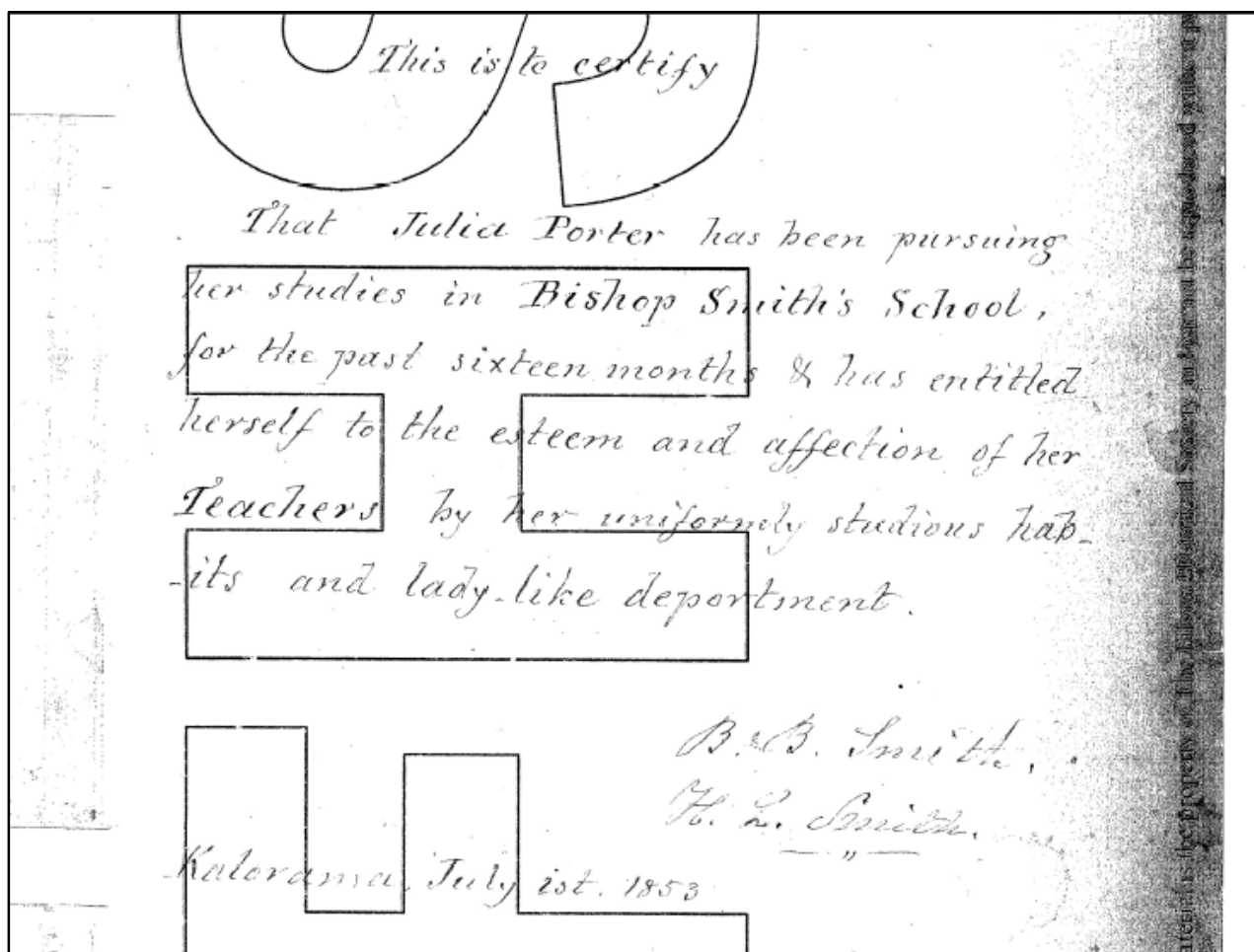
**Second**, on the back of one of the previously submitted photos taken July 16, 1911, is the attribution to the photographer, Rogers Clark Ballard Thruston (RCBT), of the house in the “Calarama” folder at the Filson Club, and the following note (underline added for emphasis).

“Calorama – Jeff Conty.

Home of Bishop Smith of the Episcopal Church, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bishop of Ky. Here he had a school. Mr. Thruston’s mother was one of his pupils. Later it became the property of Mr. Theodore Harris, whose daughter, Sunshine married Mr. Thruston’s brother, S Thruston Ballard. Bishop Smith had a little study in the yard in which he received calls from pupils who were thought to need some correction. This little study was purchased by my brother and taken to his home, Lansdown at Glenview, Ky – Later it was given to the Speed Museum in Louisville.”

These notes cement the fact that the house in each of the pictures considered in this Petition is the house of the Bishop, that is was a school, and that the study was in the yard.

**Third**, also from the Filson Club is a Certificate of Completion (the large background lettering is the watermark of the Filson Club). Note that the Certificate is signed by both the Bishop and Harriet Smith showing her recognized importance in the conduct of the school.



**Fourth**, in the Filson Club's Bullitt papers is a transcribed letter from Martha B. Bullitt to her brother John C. Bullitt, from Oxmoor, dated September 8, 1841 (**Attachment 2**). A postscript to the letter notes, "Bishop Smith has bought Dr. Powell's place, and will keep his school there. They say he has given a most enormous price."

This letter is important in two respects. It is notable that the Bullitt family at Oxmoor was aware of the Bishop's dealings. And, this letter reinforces the fact that Bishop Smith was widely understood to be in possession of the property in 1841, and that there he will have a school there. Recall that the Petition included the letter to Henry Clay from the Bishop, dated January 3, 1842, sent from Kalarama and stating he had "gone into debt in purchasing a house." The below shows the house was "Powell's place."

Good bye

P.S. Jennie has been very sick, but is much better now.

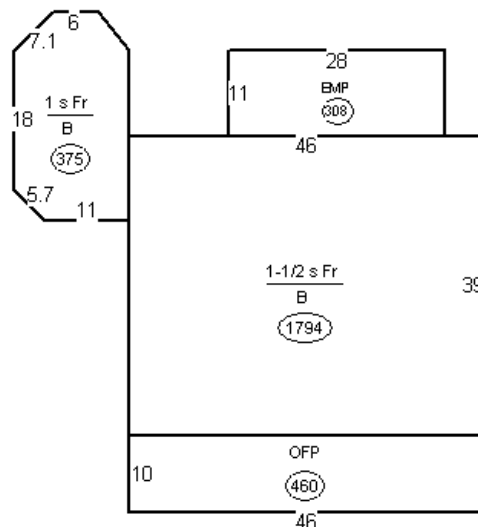
All the rest are well. Mr. Humphrey has returned. Bishop Smith has bought Dr. Powell's place, and will keep his school there; they say he has given a most enormous price. Samuel has invented a new puzzle; out of a piece of leather and two sticks; quite ingenious it is too.

Martha Bullitt

Frank is recovering

**Hearing Discussion.** A number of questions raised by Commission members or points made by the owners are addressed below.

- a. Chairman Vice was not clear whether the rear façade is still flat. Below shows the PVA house layout, which shows the rear to be flat, with the porch added.



- b. Mr. Clifford noted that at the rear is a walkout staircase and door. The Kentucky Heritage Council survey (page 4) has a closeup of that stairwell and one can see its lintel matches those of the windows elsewhere, indicating a wall opening was always there. These same lintels with protruding squares are either end can be seen in the 1911 photos. Other window openings have been changed as noted in the Heritage Council Survey – which finds the home and carriage house eligible.
- c. Mr. Clifford said artifacts could be all over the Upper Highlands. The point is there are very likely archeological resources within the extant yard. Surely a privy, which is often the feature near a historic home that offers the most archeological documentation of daily lifeways, is near the house. Likewise cisterns are known to exist, certainly one by the current kitchen and likely at least one more.
- d. An interesting historical fact is that a very few families comprise most of the historic ownership (Smith 15 years – per deed, but more per common knowledge; Chase 38 years, and Urton 50 years).
- e. Chairman Vice appeared to want more documentation of the Bishop's study. This information has been provided in our supplemental material, especially the schoolgirl references to its presence, the notes on the back of the 1911 photograph (herein), and the reference in the Bullitt letter (herein). Sunshine Harris Ballard's study, purchased by J. Thruston Ballard, and later moved to Glenview is a way to verify that 2833 is Kalorama because the Harris family lived in the house within seven years of the Bishop, so the Bishop's occupation could not have been hearsay. Knowledge of Kalorama and the study were continuous. The writing on back of photo makes clear it was the Bishop's house, and Sunshine Harris Ballard's mother-in-law was a pupil there.

As a closing note, Leslie Cissell of the petitioner group on August 22, 2016, contacted a great grandson, Robert Bohn, of the Chase family that owned 2833 Tremont. Mr. Bohn said his family always referred to 2833 Tremont as Kalorama, and his family said it was on Tyler.

It is not clear how anyone could claim that 2833 is not the Bishop's house when: 1) students are making references to being in the house and to Hamilton Smith's residence just across the Avenue (Tyler is shown as "Avenue" on the 1834 plat and, as noted previously, Trabue is shown on the 1858 Bergman map as across from the Bishop's house); 2) the Bergmann map of 1858 shows the Bishop's house in its current position; 3) the study offers a continuous historic link to the house and school; and, 4), and all the evidence points to Dr. Powell's substantial house being the Bishop's house and school.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit this second supplement to the original petition.



## Attachment 1 – Historic Photos

Thomas Photo in State Report



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

Insko Photo in Petition



**KALORAMA**  
The Bishop's Home

Attachment 2 – Letter from Martha Bullitt to John C. Bullitt  
September 8, 1841 – Courtesy of the Filson Club

(B)

~~Miss~~ [Martha Bullitt to John C. Bullitt]

Ox 1841, September 8th 1841

My Dear Brother

It seemed a long time since I wrote to you when I received yours; but I must be satisfied for my other correspondents, (I have only two now besides yourself) seem determined never to write at all. As for Cousin Sue, I don't mean to ask her to write any more.

I must now proceed to do something far more agreeable both for myself and you. If I may judge from appearances; well, Mary has gone; she says she is coming back in two years; that she will always love Louisville and its vicinity better than any place in the world. as to getting married she will not marry a Virginian, "unless she can't get" a Kentuckian, <sup>so you see,</sup> ~~as a dernier resort she might possibly be induced to have you.~~ She has improved very much, I think, and is a very fine girl; but more of this whenever we meet. I intend to write to her before long.

I am very glad to see that you have some kindling ambition; I knew that you had it before; I mean, I am glad to see it coming forth from its hiding place; and none can wish you success more sincerely than myself. Some have dared to predict that brother Josh may become a second Patrick Henry; why not?

<sup>63</sup> Sue and myself will not go to Judge Browne's this fall as we anticipated; but if we can't study to almost as much advantage at home now as anywhere, I am very much mistaken. I am perfectly satisfied with this new arrangement, and so, I think, is Sue. I am to be her teacher in French, a pretty arduous task, I confess; but she is a right apt scholar, though she will laugh at me some times instead of obeying me.

<sup>36</sup> Lizzy Smith spent last week with me; she is really a very clever girl; she is the most intelligent and best informed young lady of her age that I know anywhere; and very pretty withal, just the sort of girl I should like for a sister. If I was given to such things, I might launch out into just such eulogium upon her as you bestowed upon your friend and favorite Logan. I scarcely know which is most deserving of it.

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Sept 1841

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Almost every body has been here, and I am in such an arrears of visits, that I don't know when I shall get through. I shall begin to feel quite young-ladyfied I am afraid. Miss Mary Short <sup>203</sup> spent a half-week with me she said, and made me promise to spend one with her. Several other grown up young ladies have been to see me, to say nothing of the young gentlemen.

Mr. Graves <sup>208</sup> was not here a week or two ago. Mother was not ready to receive her, so I went into the parlor. I thought Mr. Graves was with her, but found it was her brother Mr. Henderson <sup>201</sup> (I forget his first name.) He spoke "quite affectionately" of you, said he had known you at college, etc. I cannot say I was very much taken with him.

John Carter <sup>206</sup> came out Saturday evening and brought Mary Wood, in a buggy; they say he is one of the greatest gallants in the city, but "more of this when we meet." George Cooke <sup>204</sup> and Jacob Reinhard <sup>267</sup> came out last week and brought Jennie and Miss Sally Browne; from what Jennie <sup>172</sup> told me, I believe they are engaged; you know who I mean.

We have not heard from brother Josh since he started.

I shall certainly look for Ellen Russell with Cousin Sue; and Martha Barber <sup>203</sup> come too; and as many more as you please.

There is no news in this part of the country; but what I have already told you; there have been several murders, and robberies without number in the city. But they are no news.

The new carriage came Saturday; we are all pleased with it though it did not show to much advantage with

Good bye

P.S. Jennie has been very sick, but is much better now.

All the rest are well. Mr. Humphrey <sup>205</sup> has returned. Bishop Smith <sup>160</sup> has bought Dr. Powell's place, and will keep his school there; they say he has given a most enormous price. Samuel <sup>204</sup> has invented a new puzzle; out of a piece of leather and two sticks; quite ingenious it is too.

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