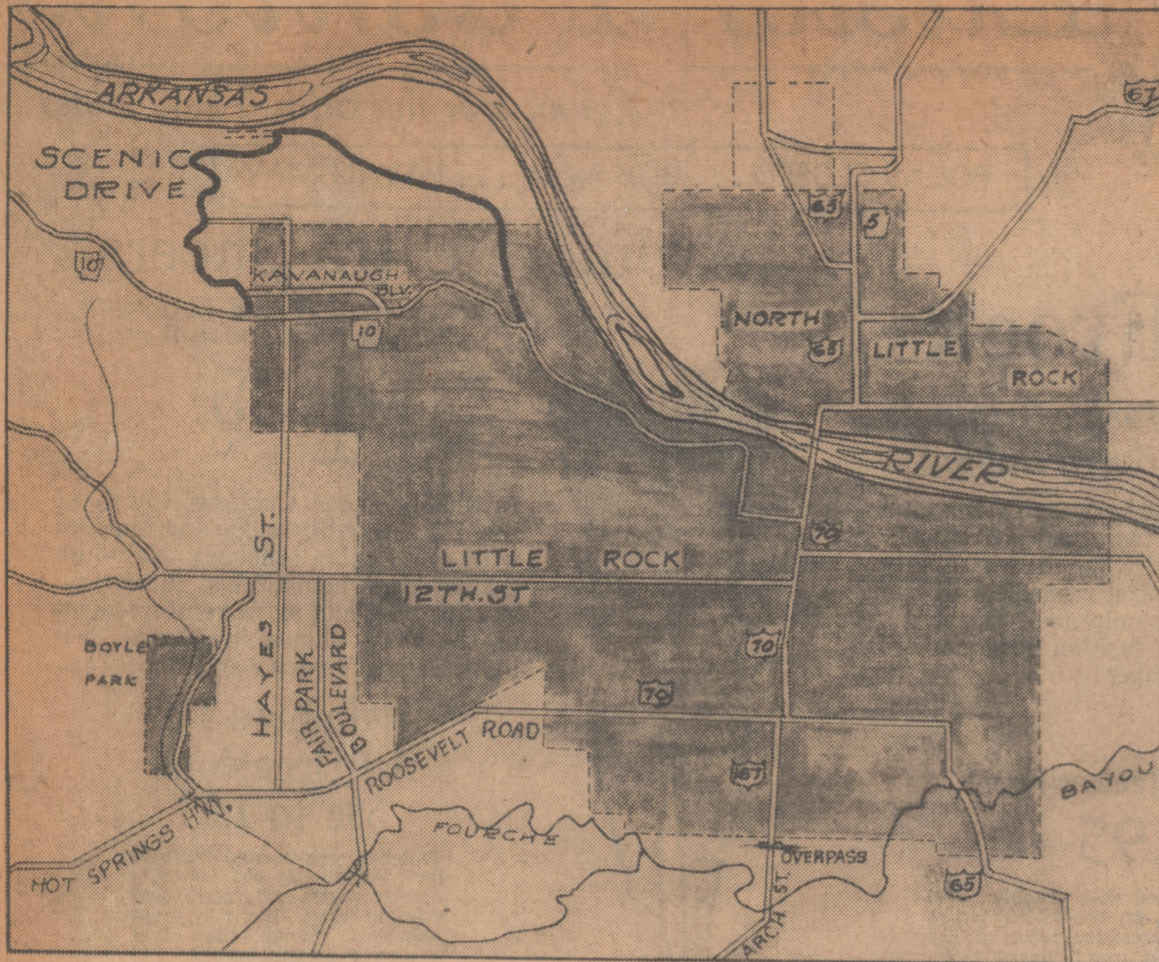


## PARKWAY SECTION COMPLETED



A part of the Old River road to the northwest has been re-established as a public highway as a link in the parkway system being constructed around Little Rock, county and federal officials announced yesterday.

The beautiful drive begins just west of the city limits at the end of Kavanaugh boulevard. It runs northward through a wooded section to a point on a ridge overlooking the Arkansas river, and drops 180 feet by a winding road along the rim of a canyon to connect with the Old River road, which it follows to the intersection of Cantrell road.

### Establishing Recreational Area At Lackland Springs Sought

Prescott, Oct. 28.—Under auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, more than 100 residents of Nevada county attended an outdoor meeting at Lackland Springs last night for a barbecue and pre-organization meeting for the development of a recreation center and game reserve at that place. Thomas J. Compton of Prescott was chairman. Speakers were D. N. Graves, secretary of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission; Richard Jackson, commissioner of the Seventh Congressional District; E. C. Dean, Camden District NYA Supervisor; E. T. Wayte, area supervisor of the NYA, and County Judge J. C. Woodul. Several residents of the community recalled the importance Lackland Springs had in the early life of Nevada county. M. M. Greeson, who gave the welcoming address, said that he had been connected with Lackland Springs since 1890 and recounted an ambitious program of development during County Judge Clay Wortham's administration. Mr. Greeson pointed out that this was the highest point this side of the mountains, with an excellent site for a lake. He said that landowners once were willing to sign up for a game preserve. W. V. Tompkins spoke on what Lackland Springs formerly was, praising the curative powers of the water.

Dan Pittman Sr. recounted his childhood experiences at Lackland Springs and said he was anxious for his children and grandchildren to have the same pleasures.

T. C. McRae Jr. said that the disadvantage in the early days of Lackland Springs was the distance and the poor roads. However, modern modes of transportation increases the possibilities of a recreation center, he said.

Mr. Graves said the commission was anxious for Arkansas to have more attractions for the tourist and advised the group to consult the state Park Commission and determine the requirements for a recreational center and game reserve at Lackland Springs. He said the law requires everyone in the area to sign a lease for five years, but the commission requires a lease for 10 to 20 years. He said that a game reserve should consist of 10,000 to 15,000 acres. He said that fire hazards were lessened by the protection of a game reserve. Mr. Dean said he could not make any commitments as to the possibilities of a NYA project for the recreation center, but would consider any application submitted.

An organization will be set up immediately to survey the area and formulate plans.

mountain's summit winds in an easterly direction along the bluffs overlooking the river, connecting with Hayes street. The latter is being opened from the Twelfth Street pike to the Hot Springs highway.

Every natural resource afforded by the terrain of rocky hillsides and promontories, forested valleys and river front, has been utilized in the location of the scenic road.

The Old River road was one of the earliest leading into Little Rock. It played an important part in overland transportation in the early days of river traffic. Later it was improved by the county, since it led to the county farm.

A few years ago the river encroached upon the road, washing it out a few miles northwest of Little Rock. Since then it was practically abandoned until the WPA included it in a scenic drive project.

Scenery along the ridge toward Pinnacle mountain, with rocky slopes rising hundreds of feet on both sides of the river, with green-crested hilltops and running water, holds a note of grandeur.

The entire project is a part of the Nolen city plan drawn for Little Rock 20 years ago.

The WPA received co-operation of city and county administrations.

# ARKANSAS'S LAST TERRITORIAL CAPITOL

COMMITTEE

WILL BE RESTORED

LOOKS TO  
EARLY REALIZ-  
ATION OF  
HISTORICAL  
PLAN

Gazette 7-16-39

A project to restore Arkansas's last territorial capitol and other historically important buildings between Second and Third streets on the west side of Cumberland street will be started in about a week, Mrs. J. F. Loughborough, chairman of the Restoration Committee, said yesterday.

The complete job of restoration will require about a year. The work will be financed with combined state and federal funds. A \$30,000 appropriation by the 1939 legislature will be supplemented by a \$37,000 Works Progress Administration appropriation for labor.

The park to be created by the project will embrace an entire half block between Second and Third streets on Cumberland. The Restoration Committee has an option on all property in the half block which it will exercise immediately.

With the stately old capitol on West Markham street and the magnificent new capitol at the head of Capitol avenue, the territorial capitol will make Little Rock a "Town of Three Capitols," giving this city and Arkansas a unique attraction for tourists.

## Buildings Affected Of Great Historical Interest.

Buildings in the half block proposed to be restored are:

The two-story frame structure on the northwest corner of Third and Cumberland streets in which the last territorial legislature met and in which the state constitution was drafted.

A small red brick building next door on Cumberland street which was the home of C. F. N. Noland, who took the state constitution to Washington for acceptance.

A small brick house now a part of a larger building at Second and Cumberland streets. This smaller house was built in 1824 and was the home and office of William E. Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette. In this house, one of the earliest buildings constructed in Little Rock, Washington Irving, Audubon, Sam Houston, David Crockett and other distinguished visitors were entertained.

A printing shop at the rear of the Woodruff house, in which was printed the Arkansas Gazette, the second newspaper to be published west of the Mississippi river.

The Baldwin house on East Second street, in which Gov. Elias Conway was believed to have resided. This structure is thought to have been moved to its present location from its original site in the same block.

Several minor structures, including a kitchen, office building, smokehouse, wellhouse, stable and servants' house.

All buildings in the half block of no historical interest will be removed. These will include two large brick additions to the Woodruff house.

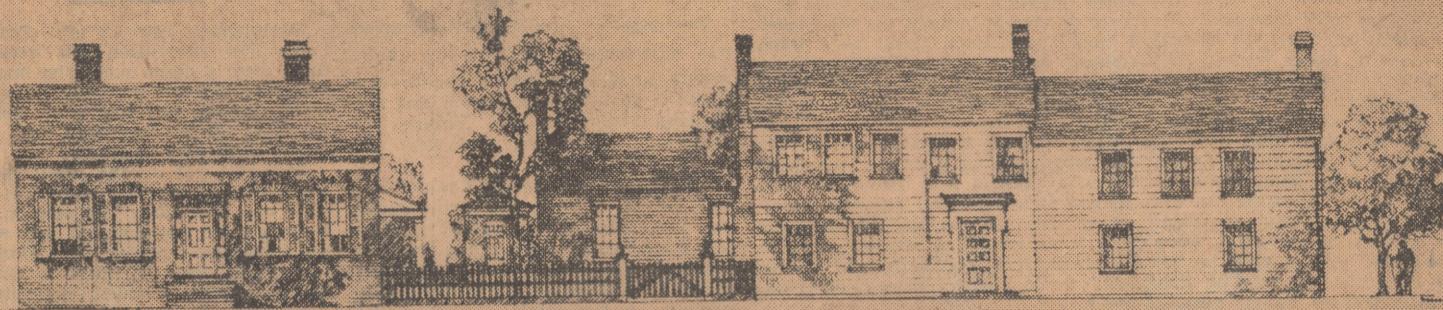
## Simplicity Will Lend Charm to Old Houses.

Architects who have examined the buildings have described them as a reflex of the simplest houses of the Georgian period. They said their simplicity gave them a great deal of charm from an architectural standpoint. Some of the houses were said to be in unusually good condition considering they are more than 100 years old.

In setting up the historical park, an effort will be made to give the area an effect of serenity. A grove of trees will be planted around the entire half block. A low brick wall topped by a white picket fence will connect buildings bordering Cumberland street. In the rear bordering the alley, a brick wall will be constructed of sufficient height to restrain outside views that would destroy the illusion of the picture.

Roofs of all buildings will be of the same slate composition used in the restoration of important buildings of the Colonial period at Williamsburg, Va.

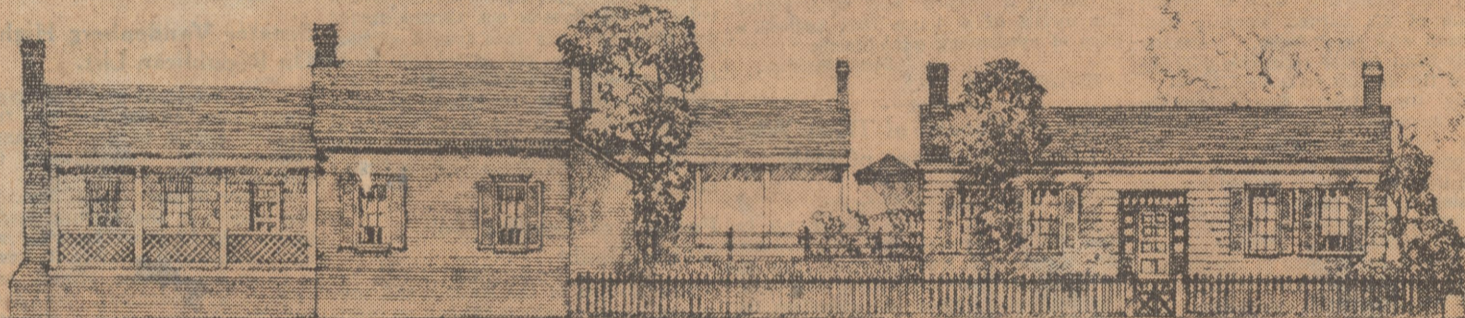
## LITTLE ROCK'S SOON-TO-BE THIRD CAPITOL



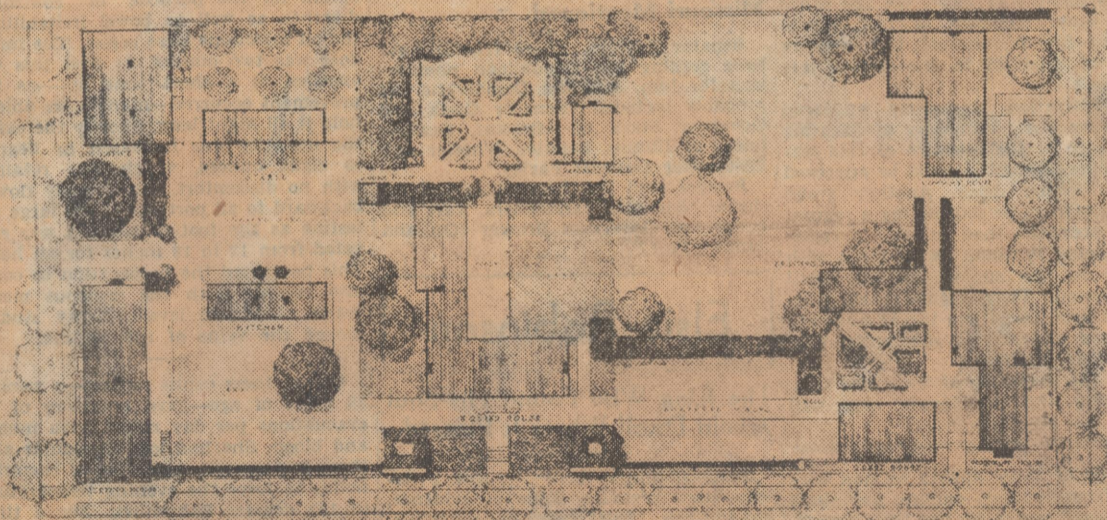
The two-story frame structure at the right is the building in which the last territorial legislature met and in which the state Constitution was drafted. Next door at the left is an old office building which will be used as an Administration building for the park.



This drawing shows the park area as it will look from Cumberland street. The building at the left corner offers a side view of the old territorial capitol. Next door is the old Noland house which was the home of C. F. N. Noland, who took the state Constitution to Washington for acceptance. The building at the right corner was the home and office of William E. Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette.



Facing Second street will be the old Baldwin house (left), in which Gov. Elias Conway was believed to have resided. Next door at the right is the front of the old home of William E. Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette.



This diagram shows the proposed historical park on the west side of Cumberland street between Second and Third streets as it will appear when restoration work has been completed. The area, embracing an entire half block, will contain Arkansas's last territorial capitol and other historically important buildings. A grove of trees will surround the entire half block. A low brick wall topped by a white picket fence will connect buildings bordering Cumberland street.

## Authentic Furniture, Fixtures to Be Used.

Authentic furniture and fixtures will be used throughout. Mrs. Loughborough said the committee had been fortunate in locating four or five pieces of the original furniture and an original Audubon print. Other original pieces will come in later. Where original furnishings are not available, accurate reproductions will be made.

The small brick office structure on East Third street will be utilized as an administration building. Visitors will enter the park area at about the same spot on East Third street where original settlers of Little Rock were used to come up from the boat landing on the

Arkansas river at the foot of Cumberland street. The visitors will be led down graveled walks beside old-fashioned flower gardens through the various buildings.

A small admission charge will be made to make the project self-sustaining. A permanent caretaker will be employed to explain the historical features to visitors and to keep the park area in order.

## Committee Spent Much Time in Research Work.

Creation of the historical park represents more than a year of research and preliminary planning on the part of

Mrs. Loughborough and other members of the Restoration Committee—Fred W. Allsopp, Moorhead Wright, Gordon H. Campbell, Mrs. Mahlon D. Ogden, James H. Penick and Max Mayer, architect.

To obtain authentic information, members of the committee interviewed descendants of original settlers and read all available writings relating to the period. Experts in Washington who examined plans for the territorial capitol restoration praised them as being among the best they had seen.

"We have overlooked no opportunity to get authentic information in the restoration work," Mrs. Loughborough said.

She said the committee had been impressed by the lovely furnishings brought here by the original settlers

from Virginia, Maryland, South Carolina, Tennessee and other states in the early Nineteenth century when they came to Arkansas to carve new homes out of the wilderness.

Mrs. Loughborough expressed appreciation to members of the Arkansas legislature for the confidence they placed in the Restoration Committee in permitting it to acquire the historic property.

She said start of the actual restoration work had been delayed until a time when all details of the restoration had been completed, insuring that there will be no slip-ups in expenditure of the state money.

# Historic Capitol Is Built Again

By Richard and Louise McCue

(This is the first of two articles on the work of restoring Arkansas's territorial capitol, which is now in progress.)

The story of how four badly neglected, century-old houses in Little Rock's east side commercial district are being transformed into a handsome historic showplace abounds in remarkable achievement.

Before restoration of the last territorial capitol and nearby structures had begun, the buildings presented an aspect of unalloyed squalor. Their dingy exteriors were nearly hidden by high weeds and gaudy sign boards. Even after the meticulous labor of reconstruction was under way, possibility of creating a beautiful park appeared remote. Brick heaps and lumber piles littered the grounds. Crippled buildings stood with gaping sides, half open roofs and whole upper stories balanced precariously on massive, criss-crossed timbers. An entire house was mounted on wheels and wormed into a new location.

Dubiously, the public kept its eye on the quartet of run-down buildings, squatting a few blocks from the Arkansas river on Cumberland street between Second and Third. Sunday afternoon joy riders jogged off the main thoroughfares to peer at the block of wreckage and dilapidation. Strollers forewent the delights of more elegant

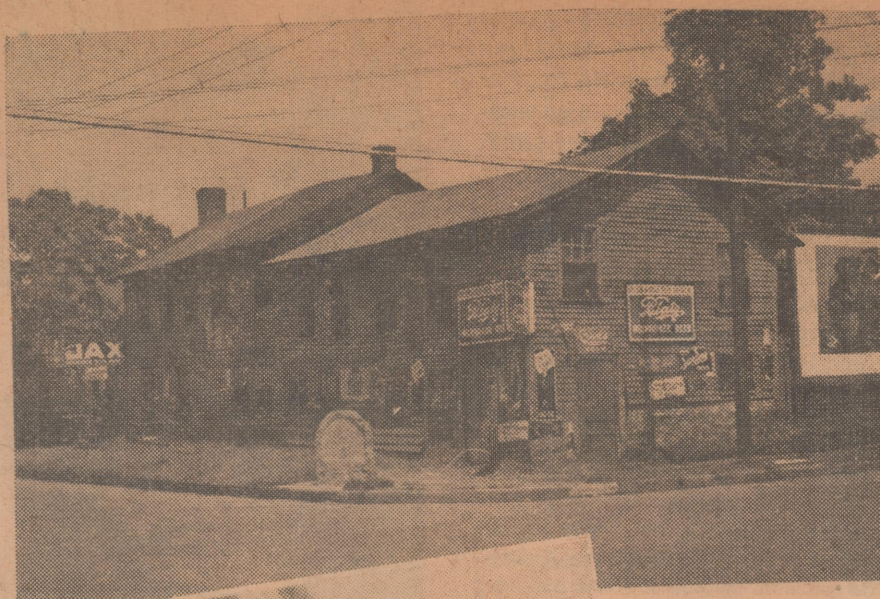
Razing and salvaging of buildings was at its height when the picture at the right was taken. The piles of bricks have been salvaged by workmen to be used again in the restored buildings. The old Henderliter house is in the background. When the work has been finished, these grounds will be landscaped in the period of the buildings.

sections to poke around the old houses. Out-of-towners drove by Third and Cumberland to see for themselves this budding Arkansas shrine.

Yet always there came the same inevitable reaction: It's a great idea. But how can anyone possibly turn these old shells into beautiful buildings?

The actual physical process of restoring an old house calls for judicious observation and deduction. If as much as half the original structure of a discarded, historic building still stands, reconstruction is comparatively sim-

**Gazette 2-25-40**  
Disfigured by beer and soft-drink signs, the old building at the right, the historic meeting-place of the last territorial legislature, gives little hint of its significance to the state. This picture was made before restoration work began. The monument in the foreground was placed by the D. A. R.



This well-preserved Georgian house adjoining the territorial capitol once was occupied by C. F. M. Noland, who delivered Arkansas's newly-drafted state constitution to Congress in 1836.

ple. Some restorations, however, are forced to start from scratch. Almost the entire town of Williamsburg, Va., was rebuilt from architectural descriptions contained in dusty old record books, virtually all remnants of the original structures having disappeared.

So when a few far-sighted men and women began some 12 or 14 years ago to dream of creating a beautiful historic park for Arkansas, they knew that the task, though presenting numerous difficulties, was not impossible.

Despite flagrant desecration, the old houses still retained many more of their original foundation logs, floorboards and mantel pieces than the average structure considered for restoration.

Earliest conception of a historic mecca in east Little Rock envisaged only the reconstruction of the old Henderliter home, at Third and Cumberland streets, known as the meeting place of the last territorial legislature and named for one of its early occu-

pants, a German storekeeper, Jesse Henderliter. That the Henderliter place, now generally referred to as the last territorial capitol, was a logical candidate for restoration was recognized even beyond the bounds of Arkansas. A national committee fostering the preservation of historical sites, drew attention to the appropriateness of such a project in 1933 while engaged in assisting local persons who were renovating the War Memorial building, Arkansas's first state capitol. At that time blueprints of the territorial building were placed in the Congressional Library in Washington.

As interested persons learned of the proximity of three other buildings prominent in the early life of Arkansas to the Henderliter house, they began to visualize the restoration of not one isolated corner, but an area a block long and a half block deep. North of the Henderliter place on Cumberland street stands a little brick house formerly occupied by Charles Fenton Mercer Noland, official messenger who carried Arkansas's newly-drafted state constitution to Washington in 1836 for submission to Congress. On the corner of Second and Cumberland streets is the one-time home and newspaper office of William E. Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette, and also within the block is a small one-story building believed to have been the home of Gov. Elias Conway.

Here, then, were not one but four ideal restoration projects, although the problem of paying for such an undertaking, even for the reconstruction of only one building, appeared almost insuperable. Nevertheless, the idea that, regardless of all obstacles, Arkansas would some day undertake a restoration program in the vicinity of the Henderliter place began to take hold.

In the meantime, the Gilbert Marshall chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a stone marker at the corner of Third and Cumberland streets, so that, despite the unprepossessing surroundings passers-by would not be unaware of the significance of at least one of the buildings they glimpsed as they hurried along. "Site

of the last meeting place of the Territorial Legislature," reads the inscription, "Oct. 5 to Nov. 16, 1835." Beneath this inscription are the names of territorial officers at that time: "William Savin Fulton, governor; Lewis Randolph, secretary; Samuel M. Rutherford, treasurer; and Elias N. Conway, auditor." The marker was placed in 1936.

While serving on the Little Rock Planning Board, Mrs. J. F. Loughborough, who previously had assisted in the restoration of the War Memorial building and had served for eight years on the Board of Directors in charge of Mount Vernon in Virginia, learned that the four old houses were shortly to be condemned. Her interest of many years in these buildings as a potential restoration project prompted her to bring together a few persons whom she felt would be concerned with the fate of the decrepit structures and present to them the idea of preserving the entire half block. Her proposal was received enthusiastically by the group, which included Fred W. Allsopp, who previously had evinced interest in restoring the territorial capitol; Moorhead Wright, Gordon Campbell, James Penick, Mrs. Mahlon D. Ogden and Max Mayer, architect.

The original one-storied, medium sized home of William E. Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette, had been overshadowed by the two-story brick addition at the left when work of restoration began. In the background is a corner of the early Gazette office.

The group formed itself into a voluntary restoration committee and elected Mrs. Loughborough chairman. Backed by the committee she had a legislative bill drafted which provided for creation of a permanent Restoration Committee and a \$30,000 appropriation with which to buy the property for the state, help finance actual work and match a Works Projects Administration grant of \$37,000.

Printed folders explaining the proposed building program and pointing out that such a project would give Arkansas three capitol buildings all in one city—the present state capitol, the War Memorial building and the territorial building—were prepared by Mrs. Loughborough and distributed to legislators. Introduced by Senator I. N. Moore of Dumas, the bill passed the Senate unanimously and in the House, where Representative Ben D. Brickhouse of Little Rock presented it, the act was approved by a 10-to-1 majority. Due to a depleted state treasury, it was not certain that Governor Bailey would be able to sign the bill, but that obstacle, too, eventually was surmounted.

Before reconstruction work began, however, much time was spent in elaborate research, both in Arkansas and in Washington, D. C. Mrs. Loughborough devoted many hours to combing through volumes in the Congressional Library which dealt with the early 1800's in America and more especially in the "New West," and Mr. Mayer spent considerable time studying Williamsburg and other outstanding restoration achievements in the East.

Even if it was only a descriptive line from an old diary, a record of ownership buried in real estate files, an architect's faded drawing or an artist's sketch of an old building, each detail was seized upon and studied exhaustively. Yellowed copies of the Arkansas Gazette and the old Arkansas Advocate from more than 100 years ago, histories, official documents and ancient real estate records divulged a wealth of pertinent facts. Also illuminating were interviews with descendants of men and women who lived in Arkansas during the first half of the Nineteenth century; many details of pioneer days have never been recorded and exist, therefore, only in the minds of persons who have heard them by word of mouth.

All the facts about the old houses gleaned through research were combined with those which could be learned by studying remains of the original buildings. One source of information was used to substantiate the other. If, for example, there were marks along an east wall to indicate that perhaps a stairway once stood there and research disclosed that an ancient memoir contained a reference to the "east

*Editor's Note: This is the second of two articles on the restoration of the last territorial capitol of Arkansas at Third and Cumberland streets.*

Any building intended to be a public showplace must be designed to withstand excessive wear. Therefore, an elaborate plan has been evolved for strengthening the four historic old houses included in the last territorial capitol restoration project now under way in east Little Rock.

A concrete foundation wall 36 inches deep and 18 inches wide is being laid beneath all of the structures, which include the old Henderliter place on Third and Cumberland streets, known as the last territorial capitol; the adjacent home of C. F. M. Noland who took the state constitution to Washington for acceptance; the home and print shop of William E. Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette; and a house thought to have been the home of Gov. Elias Conway. Wherever wood touches either brick or concrete, a layer of metal sheeting and tar is placed for protection against moisture and insects. To add further insurance of permanency, the floor boards are underlaid by concrete slabs. Adequate space for the circulation of air is left between wood and concrete.

While the concrete foundations were hardening, the territorial capitol and the Woodruff home rested on giant steel jacks and criss-cross wood piling. Although workmen strove to conceal signs of nervousness, they breathed easier when the buildings settled back on their permanent foundations. So precarious was this temporary stance that a hard wind or a driving rain might have toppled the buildings to the ground. But there was no other way to get a firm base under the buildings—unless the structures were taken down completely, piece by piece; and that would have entailed enormous loss of time and possibly jeopardized the chances for an exact restoration.

The Woodruff home, facing Second street on Cumberland street, stands at the other end of the park from the Henderliter place. It was built in 1824; yet, with the inevitable exception of those which rotted because they touched the ground, the timbers underneath it are as good as on the day they were placed.

Since no plan of the Woodruff home could be found, restorers have been forced to rely wholly on what they could discover through careful examination of the structure. A bulky, two-story extension on the west end plainly was out of key with the rest of the building. Its walls were built of a different kind of brick, and a slight mismatching of corner timbers and outside weather boarding where the two sections joined proves conclusively that they had been built at different times. This and other unshapely additions suffered by the house have come down. Left standing is a modest, charming home and workshop embellished with brick walls and an intriguing little court.

A brick wing constructed next to and above a one-story enlargement built by the Woodruffs jutted off the south end of the building. The Woodruff addition, which possibly became a necessity as the family grew larger, will be preserved, but the non-historic portion will be torn away. The authentic extension is brick, whereas the earliest exteriors are frame. The combined structure will be restored exactly as it was built originally, part frame and part brick.

The meager two-room shop in which the Arkansas Gazette was published during the tempestuous territorial years and early statehood nestles beside the Woodruff home and forms one side of the attractive little court. The most disturbed parts of this small building were the south and west walls, which had been seriously tampered with by intruding tree roots. Workmen dug out the offending segments

and rebuilt the walls as they were originally.

The custom of providing a fireplace in every room in Southern homes did not extend to the Gazette's quarters, for an open fire would have been hazardous wherever loose papers accumulate in such quantities as in a newspaper office. A sooty, discolored flue-opening suggested the presence of an ordinary wood stove; so included in plans for refurnishing the two rooms is installation of an old Franklin stove, a model widely used in America 100 years ago. An iron section of the original printing equipment used by the young editor who so valiantly pioneered for journalism in the rough-and-tumble West, also will be displayed in the restored office.

A neat brick walk, connecting Mr. Woodruff's home with his office, has been divested of matted grass roots and debris and will become part of a system of walks leading about the grounds.

The Noland house, situated between the territorial capitol and the Woodruff home, is a curious, old-fashioned brick structure of two rooms, said to have been planned by Gideon Shryock, famous Southern architect who is best known in Arkansas as designer of the state's first capitol. When investigators began to thump the door casings and sound out the framework of the Noland residence, they discovered floors and foundations badly in need of repair and chimneys near dilapidation. Like the Woodruff home, this building had been grotesquely extended by the addition of extra rooms. Also revealed as unauthentic were four windows, obviously cut into the wall during recent years. These were removed and the apertures bricked up.

A graphic illustration of the incredible care that goes into this restoration task is presented by the Noland house. The bricks over the front entrance had to be removed so that the doorway could be strengthened. As each brick was lifted out of place, it received a number. When the bricks were reset, their numbers were scrupulously consulted to make certain that each one went back into its original position.

After an addition of four rooms at the rear of the Noland house had been razed, it was evident that a porch once extended along the wall. Researchers had already discovered that the existing front porch was not in its original location; so they reasoned that perhaps the front porch actually was the back porch, probably having been dragged out of position when the rear received its four-room addition. A comparison of front porch dimensions with faded outlines and markings still visible on the back wall confirmed this hunch. So now the little porch has been moved again, this time back to the spot where it stood originally. Except for one incapacitated column, it can be used intact. Even if there had been no trace of a rear porch, it is probable that the front one would have come down anyway because the Georgian style of architecture, which is assiduously followed in the Noland house, favors small front entranceways.

The Noland well, almost hidden beneath weeds and rubbish heaps, is being cleaned and re-walled, and a brick wellhouse, fashioned along century-old lines, will be built over it. The position of the well indicated that a detached kitchen probably extended from the south end of the home's rear wall and that Mr. Noland's office occupied a corresponding position at the north. These one-room buildings, together with the house proper, form a pleasing court that will greatly enhance the quiet appeal of this simple Georgian house.

The fourth of the quartet of major buildings to be restored on the historic site is a small house thought to have been the home of Gov. Elias Conway. The building did not stand orig-

inally where it has been placed in the restoration park—west of the Woodruff home, facing north on Second street—nor was it occupying its original position when it was selected to be included in the project.

Before restoration work began the house was crowded between the territorial capitol and the Noland home on Cumberland street, obviously an unnatural location. As the business section of a growing town begins to eat its way into the residence district, it is common practice for home owners to jack up their houses and move them away from the encroaching business area. Therefore, it is not illogical to conclude that this is how the Conway house came to be on Cumberland street. (Evidence supporting such a conclusion may be found in a house facing Sixth street between Main and Scott streets, definitely known to have been moved from Main street because business establishments crowded it out.)

Indications are that this pussy-wants-a-corner house probably stood first on the northeast corner of Scott and Third streets. Old deeds in the hands of an abstract company show that the land bordering Scott and Third streets once belonged to the Conway family, and written descriptions of the Conway home coincide perfectly with the neat frame residence in question, even down to that part of the house which was described as having been marred by a fire. Governor Conway was burned so severely by the blaze that he died several days afterwards.

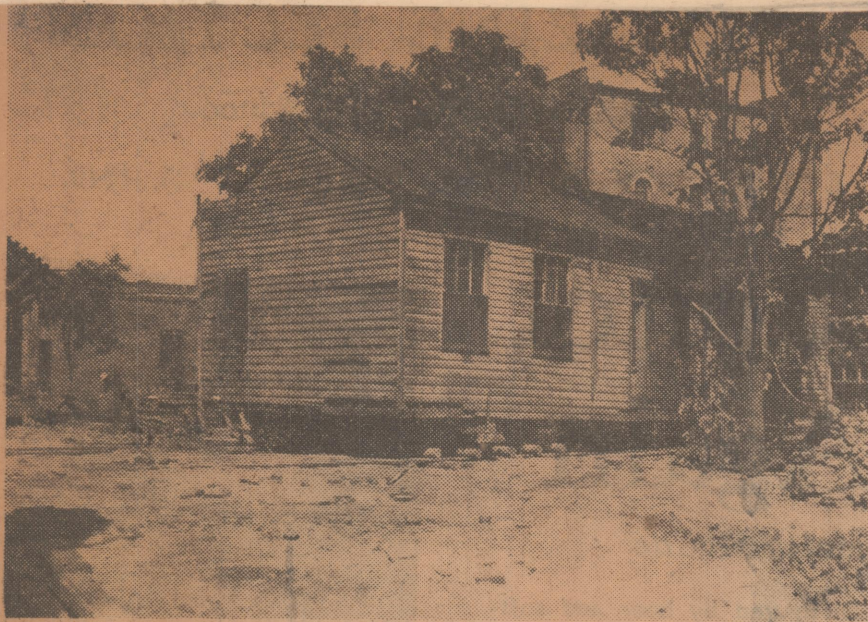
Now at last the wandering little house has settled into a permanent abode. Balanced on wheels, it was carted across rough terrain to its present site so that the arrangement of buildings in the park would be symmetrical, and to allow every building sufficient room to be displayed at best advantage. Once its origin and true historic value had been ascertained,

the remaining problems of restoration were found to be quite similar to those arising in connection with the other buildings: rotted, termite-ridden timbers were replaced with sound ones; original portions were retained wherever possible, and those parts too far gone to serve again were at least useful as guideposts.

To make the illusion of a Nineteenth century scene complete, a smokehouse, stable and servants' dwelling will be constructed in addition to the four principal buildings. A low, old-fashioned stone wall, built of bricks salvaged by the workmen, will parallel the Cumberland street frontage of the park, and a wood paling fence will connect the buildings facing Second and Third streets. The unsightly back alley bordering the park on the west will be hidden by a high brick wall. Every tree worth saving and not an obstacle to construction has been carefully protected so that a tone of naturalness and antiquity will prevail, and a row of sturdy young trees recently planted outside the stone wall will shade the brick walk that skirts the park.

Visitors to the park will enter from Third street, where a small brick office building, found on the lot originally, is being retained as an administration building. A small admission fee will be charged and a permanent caretaker will be employed to explain the park's historic features and to look after the area. The houses will be furnished with many original pieces and, where originals are unavailable, with authentic reproductions.

While workmen were tearing away unsalvageable parts of the buildings and digging trenches for concrete foundations, they frequently stumbled upon fascinating relics from long ago. Perhaps the most primitive product of their excavations are tiny, water-blue hand-blown glass bottles with slender little off-center necks. Too small for any practical use, the bottles probably



The house above, believed to have been the home of Gov. Elias Conway, is being moved on rollers across the restoration grounds from Cumberland street to Second street. In the lower picture workmen are digging a trench for the concrete foundation to be laid under the old Henderliter house—the last territorial capitol. Similar foundations have been laid under other buildings in the group.

stairs," there would be every reason to believe that a stairway should be placed along the east wall in the restored building.

Each building presented unique problems and a fresh challenge. More original material had been preserved in some than in others; some had suffered heavy mutilations at the hands of tenants; and others had undergone so many indiscriminate additions that they no longer retained the trim gracefulness of their youth. Many conclusions were reached by studying the buildings even before additions were torn away, but much that was undiscernible at first came to light as razing progressed. Thus, in accordance with each day's discoveries, restoration plans were constantly being shaped and reshaped.

Jarring as it may be to one's romantic ideas about old houses, the first thing workmen had to do when the restoration project was started last July was to open every corner of the grimy houses to sun, wind and rain, and let Mother Nature fumigate the place. Much refuse and junk had to be carted away before a minute examination of the buildings was practicable.

Maltreated as the old Henderliter place had been, it was found to contain much of the material of which it was built originally. A great deal more of the old framework probably would have disintegrated by now had it not been for the care taken of the house by Chester A. Ashley, prominent personage in early Arkansas history, who owned the property during the middle 1800's. Ancient moldings with hand-beveled edges, begrimed mantel pieces, dirt-laden floor and wall boards and hand-beveled cypress siding were all intact, unimpeachable guides to an accurate restoration.

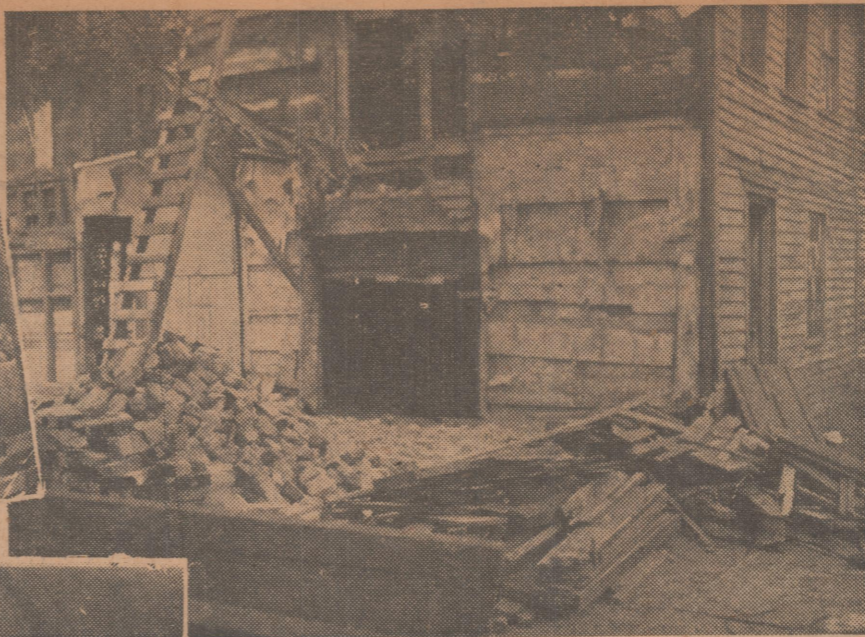
The only instances of serious interference with the original lines of the Henderliter house were additional windows

and a door cut into a lower floor wall, and a nondescript little lean-to protruding like a Gay Nineties' bustle on the west side. The presence of these openings dangerously weakened the original white oak log framework and necessitated immediate removal of the damaged members. New timbers substantially the same as those displaced have been substituted.

The lean-to, apparently a kitchen adjunct to the cafe that lately occupied another part of the building, was clearly an addition, and, therefore, came down at once. The newly-exposed wall revealed the outline of an enormous chimney, obviously a part of the original structure. Workmen have rebuilt the huge chimney, using century-old, handmade bricks salvaged when undesired houses on the restoration lot were razed.

Of the six original mantelpieces in the Henderliter house, all but one is being refinished and used again. Even the color of their first coat of paint is still determinable. The one mantel which must be withdrawn from service was once badly disfigured by fire, although enough of it still remains to provide a pattern for shaping a new one.

Even the original 12-by-12 cypress heart timbers lying flat on the ground beneath the building were remarkably well preserved. Some were in excellent condition; others were weakened by moisture and termites. All cankered pieces have been replaced with similar timber chosen from well-seasoned wood. Original siding boards, removed to facilitate reinforcing the building's framework, have been carefully salvaged and will be used again. After the numerous layers of paint have been scraped off, the original cream color will be reapplied. Many of the ancient floor boards are still unimpaired and will be cleaned and put back into service.



At the upper left is shown the Woodruff home on the corner of Second and Cumberland streets after it had been stripped of recent additions and restored to its original size and framework. A picture of this building with recent additions was published in the February 25 issue. At the lower left is a corner of the old Henderliter house supported by heavy beams while a new concrete foundation is being laid. Above is the first step in restoration of a huge, half-fallen chimney which was discovered almost hidden by an unauthentic addition on the west end of the old capitol. This picture shows the gaping hole to be filled by the chimney and the enormous hand-hewn wall timbers which were exposed during the process of razing and reconstruction.

represent pioneer attempts at glass-blowing. Apparently a demand for glass forced early settlers to resort to their own inexpert methods. That they were amateurs is obvious, but perhaps their funny little products brought much pleasure to pioneer housewives for whom almost any kind of ornament spelled sheer luxury.

Other excavated curios were tarnished coins ground deeply into the earth.

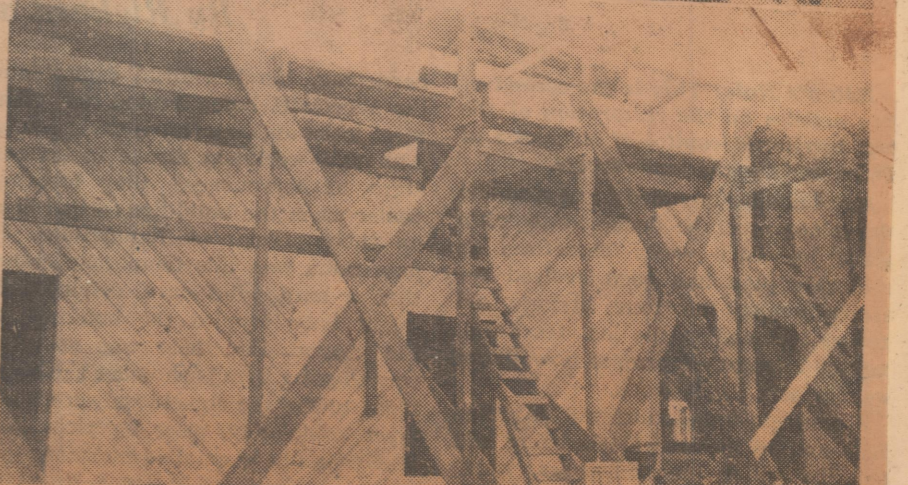
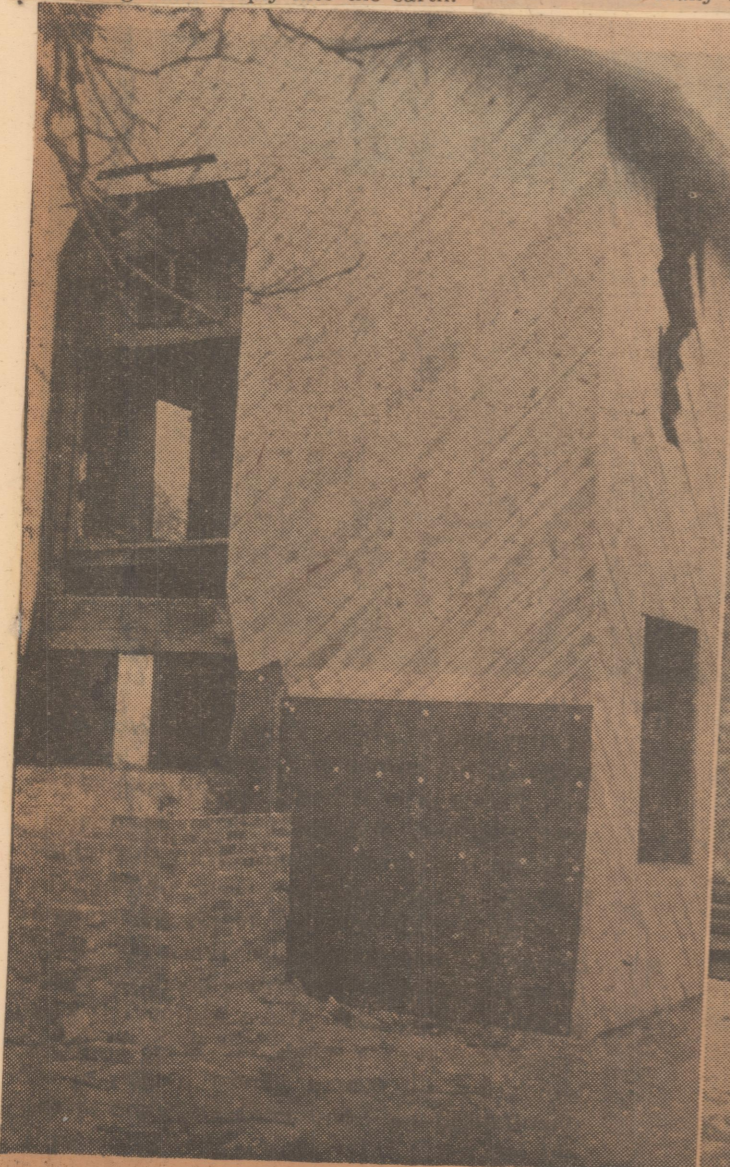
A tiny half-dime, dated 1837, is the oldest coin recovered. Literally pounds of hand-wrought, square-headed nails have been removed from the ground or extracted from old lumber. They will be used again in the restored buildings.

One day the men unearthed an ancient, hand-carved, wooden washboard, over which some family's wash must have received many a sound rubbing.

Parts of antiquated bridles and harness rigs turn up rather frequently. A battered wedding ring and a few pieces of jewelry of no great value except as souvenirs of a past age have been resurrected. Among interesting discoveries were several men's knives, one with a deer-horn handle, and a carving knife with its steel blade still untarnished.

Workmen now have been at their task six months. As results of their

labor have become increasing evident, the public's incredulity gradually has given way to unstinted enthusiasm and approbation. Six months more should see the job completed, and then the buildings will stand once again cloaked in their original beauty, harmonious in spirit with the period in which they lived and as authentic in detail as it is humanly possible to make them.



Final steps in restoration of the large chimney on the west end of the old capitol are shown above. At the left bricklayers have begun building the chimney and the original beams have been boarded up. At the right the finished chimney and the rear wall covered with building paper are seen.

The upper picture shows another step in placing concrete foundations beneath the Henderliter house and the lower picture shows how it was boarded in preliminary to applying the original exterior cypress.