

**Public  
Buildings  
-  
2nd Ave**

1. Courthouses, *Public Square*
  2. Confederate Monument, *Public Square*
  3. Shuff's Music, *118 3rd Ave N*
  4. Old Jail Sites and Bungalows, *117 3rd Ave N & 206 Bridge St*
  5. Jails, *112 & 108 Bridge St*
  6. Anderson Auto Repair, *106 Bridge St*
  7. Harpeth Hotel, *2nd Ave N*
  8. JJ's Wine Bar and Landmark Community Bank, *206 & 198 E Main St*
  9. St. Phillip Catholic Church, *101 2nd Ave S*
  10. Cliffe-McPhail Office, *209 E Main St*
  11. Masonic Hall, *115 2nd Ave S*
  12. The Brownstones, *137-199 2nd Ave S*
  13. Pulltight Players and Green House, *112 2nd Ave S & 202 Church St*
  14. Gallery 202, *202 2nd Ave S*
  15. Queen Anne Cottages, *210 & 214 2nd Ave S*
  16. Belles Fleurs, *217 2nd Ave S*
  17. Cliffe House, *231 2nd Ave S*
  18. Eelbeck House, *236 2nd Ave S*
  19. Franklin Antique Mall, *251 2nd Ave S*
- total walking distance: .6 mile*



**HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

## Courthouse and Public Square

**This 1850s courthouse is the third to stand in Franklin's public square.**

Westward movement in the late 1700s brought design ideals from the northeast, southeast, and mid-Atlantic to Williamson County. Townscapes created in the 19th century were the product of many. While women and enslaved people were not the architects of public squares and courthouses, they did influence as architects of the townscape. Franklin was no exception.

In 1799, Abram Maury set aside land for a public square in Franklin, the Williamson County seat. Able-bodied townspeople assembled their first courthouse, a log structure, between August and November 1800 in the center of the square. Court documents dating to 1803 asked Ewen Cameron to

*"...procure and put in the windows, sash, and glass and employ some persons to stop the crack in the courthouse and make necessary repairs to the doors."*

Despite attempts to upgrade the log building, a two-story brick courthouse took its place by 1809. Among log taverns and stores with wood or mud chimneys, brick courthouses stood out as advanced buildings, pointing to permanent townscapes.

The following advertisement eliciting construction bids for the new courthouse ran in an 1806 newspaper:

*"Forty feet square...the foundation made of stone... neatly dressed... floors to be laid with good poplar plank...well tongued and grooved; a fireplace in each interior room; a cupola on the top...a steeple fifteen feet high with an eagle...the roof of yellow poplar, painted red...the staircase to run from the lower floor to the cupola...a neat court bench, jury box, and bar... the whole to be painted in an elegant, durable, fashionable manner."* Impartial Review and Cumberland Repository, Nov. 1806



The 1812 Rutherford County Courthouse, shown in this 1970s drawing, was based off plans for the second Williamson County Courthouse.

Photo from <https://rutherfordcountyttn.gov/courthouse/history.html>.



Williamson County Courthouse, built in 1859.

Photo from Wikipedia.org.

The new courthouse was the center of civic judgment. Notable lawyers and judges included Thomas Claiborne, John Bell, Andrew Jackson, Felix Grundy, John Eaton, and Thomas Hart Benton. The courthouse steps acted as an auction block for buying and selling enslaved persons. Bills of sales transacted in the courthouse in 1851 include the city of Franklin's purchase of two enslaved men to keep the streets and sidewalks cleared.

By 1857, this courthouse was suffering the effects of age and ongoing decay. A large, new brick courthouse, built in the Greek Revival style, took its place. Franklin builder John W.

Miller was awarded the contract and completed the building in 1858. Rather than being located in the center of the public square, this courthouse was situated on the square's edge.

Adjacent to the new brick courthouse was a market house. While no known description of the market house exists, the market house was an area to sell agricultural and household goods, livestock, and enslaved persons.

During the Civil War, the Federal Army took over the newly completed courthouse, using it for the Provost Marshal's headquarters. After the November 30, 1864 Battle of Franklin, the Confederate Army used the building for a hospital. On December 5, 1864 Dr. Charles Quintard of the 20th Tennessee Infantry wrote:

*"Visited Cheatham's (Brown's) Divisions Hospital in the Court house, Franklin. Found all the wounded members of my Regt. in one room."*



**HERITAGE  
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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# Confederate Monument



Photo from Google Maps.

*Erected 1899*

**This monument was erected by the Franklin Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1899.**

Following the American Civil War, communities found ways to remember the conflict, those who fought in it, and those who lived through it. Ladies Memorial Associations, created quickly after the war, became known for their efforts to reclaim the bodies of their dead from battlefields and for "decoration days" to memorialize and remember the dead.

By the 1870s, monuments to the Confederate dead sprung up across the South. In August 1889, the Williamson County Confederate Monument Association, organized by Thomas F. Perkins, Clerk and Master for the Williamson County Court, met in his office to adopt bylaws and plan to fundraise for their monument. According to newspaper accounts, "public sentiment is in favor of erecting the tribute on the Public Square here in Franklin." Of the 70 Confederate monuments erected in Tennessee, only 12 are in cemeteries.

This monument, like many others, dominated the landscape, providing a continual reminder of the Confederacy and their dead, rather than serving as a solemn memorial within a cemetery. Women who gladly assumed responsibility for caring for the Confederate dead at McGavock's Grove cemetery and for fundraising to place a monument to their Confederate dead in the public square.



Above: Franklin UDC at unveiling. Photo courtesy of Rick Warwick.  
Below: Motorists with statue during 1912 Glidden motor tour. From <https://digitalcollections.detroitpubliclibrary.org/islandora/object/islandora%3A193337>

The United Daughters of the Confederacy formed in September 1894 in Nashville. By October 1895, Franklin had chartered its own UDC chapter, No. 14. By November 1898, the Franklin Chapter of the UDC took over fundraising for and planning the monument.

By May 1899, with the 35th Battle of Franklin anniversary looming, the ladies accomplished what the men never could: fully funding the purchase and installation of their Confederate monument. On November 23, the cornerstone was laid with a public program, and one week later, on the 35th anniversary of the Battle of Franklin, the statue was unveiled with much fanfare. The monument was faced south so that visitors, as they approached from the depot, would behold it.

Over the years, the monument became a photo-op for tourists and Confederate veteran reunions. Today, the monument stands as a continual reminder of what the war was about, but, most importantly, the idealized memory of those who chose to remember it.



**HERITAGE  
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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# Shuff's Music

118 3rd Ave N

TOUR  
STOP  
3



Photo from Google Maps.

*Built 1829*

**Today home to Shuff's Music, the Maney-Gaut House is a Federal style home with an intense Civil War history.**

## Thomas Maney

Franklin has some of the finest Federal style dwellings still standing in Middle Tennessee. They typically share stylistic similarities: limestone foundations and Flemish bond brickwork. The Maney-Gaut house is an excellent example of a Federal style, Tennessee I-house, defined by architectural historians as 1 room deep, 2 rooms wide, and 2 stories tall, with a center hall. Homes like this signified a person's wealth and status.

Thomas Maney was a prominent newspaper editor, circuit judge, a member of Hiram Lodge No. 7 of Free and Accepted Masons, and one of the first vestrymen of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Thomas Maney's intent to build a fine brick house directly off the public square came with enormous frustration: Maney sued this contractor for failure to comply within the boundaries of his contract. Court records detail the stylistic details of the house's woodwork, including the porches, windows, stairs, floors, mantels, cellar, and garrett. The Maney's left Franklin in the late 1830s, moving to Murfreesboro.

Little is known about the dwelling's history after this until the eve of the Civil War, when Mrs. Sarah "Sallie" Ewing Sims Carter (later Gaut) moved into the Maney house in 1860.

## Sallie Carter and the Civil War

Sallie Carter was a widow when she moved into the Maney house. Her strong sentiments for the Confederate cause emboldened her to raise the first Confederate flag in Franklin in the spring of 1861. With Federal occupation in 1862, she became a spy for the Confederacy, passing valuable information through the lines about Federal troop movements and encampments in Franklin.

Sallie was a cousin of Adelia Acklen. She accompanied Adelia to Louisiana after the death of Adelia's husband Joseph, to secure and sell Adelia's cotton crop. The two women traveled by boat from New Orleans to Angola, Louisiana, in early 1864. It took them nearly eight months to broker a deal with both armies to move the cotton to the Mississippi River and acquire the wagons and horses to move it. The cotton was sold in Liverpool, England. Adelia profited \$960,000.

During the November 30, 1864 Battle of Franklin, Sallie and her daughters sought shelter in their basement. After the battle, her home became a makeshift hospital for wounded soldiers. In 1875, Sallie married Nashville Judge John M. Gaut and moved to Nashville but kept her house in Franklin. Sallie returned to this house after the death of her husband in 1895 and assisted in creating the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Franklin Chapter No. 14, in her parlor.



Sallie Ewing Sims Carter Gaut.

Photo from Rick Warwick and the Williamson County Historical Society.



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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# Old Jail Sites and Bungalows

117 3rd Ave N & 206 Bridge St



Shops Around the Corner, in the c. 1816 Knight house, built on the site of Franklin's first jail. Photo from Google Maps.

**There have been seven jails throughout Williamson County's history.**

The original jail, c. 1800-1816, sat in this location. It is believed to have been a hand-hewn log structure and at any given time housed up to four prisoners. Those who spent time in Jail were arrested for horse thieving, stealing property, or unpaid debts.

*Continue to 206 Bridge St.*

## Second and Third Jails

In 1816, new commissioners, selected by the Williamson County Courts, placed an advertisement in the paper to find suitable builders for the second jail. This time, the jail moved to the west corner of Bridge St and 2nd Ave N. This jail was a two-story brick structure, signifying the county's growth and need for a larger jail. It stood until 1855, when it was torn down and a new jail erected in the same location. The antebellum jail was constructed of stone and brick and contained four separate jail cells, two upstairs and two downstairs.

## Historic House Forms: The Bungalow

On the site of the second and third jails now stands a bungalow, built around 1910. The Bungalow is a form of house that is typically one-and-a-half stories with a low roofline overhanging a front porch.



Photo from Google Maps.



The sites of Franklin's first jail (red) and second and third jails (yellow). 1878 Beers Map, TSLA.

Bungalows began being built in America around the turn of the century and dominated the American landscape for the first half of the 20th century. This particular bungalow has Classical Revival details (note the Ionic capitals on the porch columns) and a pyramid roof.



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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

## The Old, Old Jail and the Old, Old, Old Jail

### 112 & 108 Bridge St



Photos from Google Maps.

Built 1941

Built 1905



**Throughout the 20th and early 21st centuries, this corner was the hub of Franklin's law enforcement.**

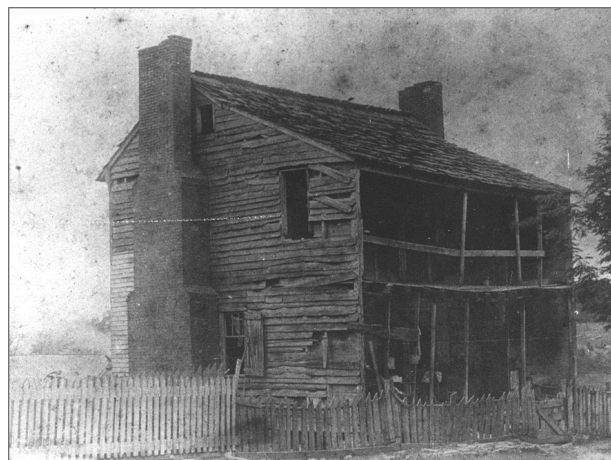
### Jails Four, Five, and Six

White's Tavern sat on the corner of Bridge and East Margin streets, dated to 1803, and was one of the first inns in Franklin.

In 1905, Williamson County purchased White's Tavern and lot, demolished the old inn, and hired Nashville architect T.K. Colley to construct the three-story brick jail pictured above on the right. By 1941, this jail was outdated and inadequate.

So the county hired J.C. Russell to construct a fifth jail! This was the first of the county's jails made of modern materials, including steel and concrete (pictured top left). Today, it is known as the Old, Old Jail. In 1971, a sixth jail (seen in the left part of the photo below) was constructed on the lot directly behind the Old, Old Jail. In 1989, the county built its seventh and final jail on Columbia Avenue.

By the 1970s, the Old, Old Jail had ceased being a jail; it was used as a school maintenance building, County archives, highway patrol outpost, and employment office. It fell into disrepair and was vacant by 2008.



White's Tavern (above); Jail 5 and 4 (below).

Photos from Rick Warwick, North and East of Franklin Square.



In 2013, the Heritage Foundation purchased the structure and restored it to the LeHew-Magid Big House for Historic Preservation.

The Heritage Foundation offers tours of the site through its website:  
[williamsonheritage.org/tours](http://williamsonheritage.org/tours)



**HERITAGE  
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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

## Anderson Auto Repair

### 106 Bridge St

**The corner of Bridge and East Margin streets has been home to a number of industries.**

This cinderblock building dates to the 1950s and has been home to Anderson Auto Repair for many years. This is one of the last of the local industries that populated this part of town for most of Franklin's history.

From the corner to the old location of the bridge, in the small strip of land between 1st Ave N and the Harpeth River, stood a series of businesses.



*Photo from Google Maps.*

### White's Bakeshop

The building that once stood at the corner of 1st Avenue North and the old bridge was a hub of industry during the 19th and 20th centuries. Benjamin White (the same man who built the tavern on Bridge Street) built a bakeshop in the early part of the 19th century. That building later housed a grist mill belonging to Robert Rainey, who is discussed in Walking Tour No. 1, available at [williamsonheritage.org/tours](http://williamsonheritage.org/tours).

By 1878, White's bakeshop housed Bailey Cody's blacksmith shop, pictured in the Beers Map (left). It went on to contain a broom factory, a creamery, another blacksmith shop, and finally Gene Anderson's auto body shop, pictured bottom left.



*1878 Beers Map, TSLA.*

### Earl's Fruit Stand

Another store on the river bank was Earl's Fruit Stand, run by Earl Tywater. The produce stand was a Franklin fixture, operating from the 1950s to the early 2000s.



Gene's Auto Body Shop (left); Earl's Fruit Stand (right).

*Photos from Rick Warwick, North and East of Franklin Square.*



*Walk back down Bridge Street to the intersection of Bridge Street and 2nd Avenue North.*



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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# Harpeth Hotel

*Bridge St to 2nd Ave N*

**The city block that encompasses 1st and 2nd Ave N, to East Main, to Bridge St is almost entirely composed of the newly-opened Harpeth Hotel.**

This multiplex was several years in development. But, over sixty years ago, the eastern area of downtown Franklin was a different multiplex. In the c.1950 image on the right, the three-storied jail is apparent (highlighted in green). To the left sat the WPA Cannery (orange) at the corner of 2nd Ave N and Bridge St. The Middle TN Electric Co-op occupied the center middle (purple), with homes and a few businesses dotting the landscape from Bridge, down 2nd Ave N, to East Main. Along East Main were Alexander's Texaco Station (yellow), the Franklin Motel (pink), and the Old Factory Store (red), now Landmark Booksellers.

*Walk along Bridge St toward 2nd Ave.*

## 111 Bridge St

The house shown below used to stand across from the Old, Old Jail and dated to the early 19th century. It was probably the last heavy timber framed building in Franklin. In this kind of construction, carpenters fitted individual wooden members together using pegged mortise and tenon joints. This sturdy style of building was superseded by balloon framing, which used smaller, lighter wooden members attached with fasteners, around 1870. This lot is now home to the Harpeth apartments.



*From Rick Warwick, North and East of Franklin Square.*



c. 1950 aerial view of northeast Franklin.  
*From Rick Warwick, North and East of Franklin Square.*

*Take a left onto 2nd Ave N and walk toward Main St.*

## 134 2nd Ave N

The John Gault house, c. 1880, is a brick Queen Anne Cottage. Details like the attic tripartite window, bracketed cornice returns, and the decorative milled porch woodwork typify the style. It is the only surviving house from this period on 2nd Ave N.



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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# JJ's Wine Bar & Landmark Community Bank

206 E Main St & 198 E Main St



JJ's Wine Bar, in the historic Truett House (above), sits on the site of the 19th century Parrish Hotel (yellow on map). Landmark Community Bank (right) was Reuben Hays' 19th century blacksmith shop (red on map).

Photos from Google Maps.  
1878 Beers Map, TSLA.



The intersection of 2nd Avenue and Main Street once housed a popular hotel and a blacksmith shop.



## Parrish Hotel

This was the site of Parrish Hotel, c. 1850-1890s. Harvey D. Parrish, the hotel's founder, was born around 1800 in North Carolina and immigrated to Franklin in the early 1820s. He married Hannah McCrory in 1823. Together, the couple had eight children. The older boys, as well as one of Hannah's nephews, spent time working as clerks in the hotel. Parrish owned 13 enslaved people in 1850. It is likely that many of them helped to run the hotel.

By 1850, Parrish Hotel housed respected guests like Andrew Campbell, an important teacher and evangelist in Tennessee's Second Great Awakening. In the early days of the Civil War, the hotel transformed into a Confederate hospital. Many locally prominent men, including John McGavock and Fountain Branch Carter, gave monies to support the hospital.

Harvey Parrish died in 1879.

## John Truett

In the 1890s, the Parrish Hotel was sold and torn down. John Truett bought the lot and built this house in 1899. A respected businessman and a city alderman, Truett and his sons ran a top bootleg liquor operation during Prohibition out of their livery stables next door (now the Baskin Robbins Ice Cream Parlor).



John Truett.  
Photo from Rick Warwick.

## Reuben Hayes

Reuben Hayes' blacksmith shop once stood on the corner of 2nd Ave N and Main St, where Landmark Community Bank now stands.

Born in Virginia around 1803, Hayes came to Franklin as a young man. He established himself as a blacksmith and made a solid living. His shop was always small; in 1850 he had one employee; in 1870, he had two. One was a son-in-law. In 1860, Hayes owned two enslaved people. Both were women and probably worked in the Hayes house, not the blacksmith shop.

Reuben Hayes was married twice. All of his surviving children came from the second marriage.

On July 6, 1867 the nascent Williamson County Ku Klux Klan staged a hit in Franklin's public square on the Loyal League, a group that promoted social, economic, and political rights for blacks. Reuben Hayes was sitting on the courthouse steps when the shooting occurred and served as a witness in the case.

In response to the event, the Masons of Hiram Lodge No. 7 erected an iron fence in front of their building on 2nd Ave S. They employed Hayes to do the work. Hayes' iron fence still stands and is one of the few examples of historic ironwork in Franklin that can be linked to a specific maker.



**HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# St. Philip Catholic Church

## 101 2nd Ave S

*Built 1869*

**Before St. Philip Catholic Church was built, U.S. Secretary of War John Eaton's house stood on this lot.**

### John Eaton

A native North Carolinian, John Eaton moved to Franklin as a young lawyer. He joined the militia, where he met and became a favorite of Andrew Jackson, marrying a ward of Jackson's.

John Eaton served with Jackson in the War of 1812 and the Creek War, unfailingly supporting his mentor in conflict and controversy. His political career began in 1815, with



John Eaton.  
Image from Wikipedia.

election to Tennessee's House of Representatives. Three years later, he became a U.S. Senator, a position he held for over ten years. At 28, he remains the youngest U.S. Senator elected to date.

Eaton's most important career move came in 1829, when newly-elected President Jackson appointed him Secretary of War. Little did either man know this would be the beginning of Eaton's ruin.

### The Petticoat Affair and Indian Removal

The scandal known as the Petticoat Affair centered around Eaton and his second wife, Margaret O'Neal. Instigated by Floride Calhoun, rumors that "Peggy" was unchaste, a loose woman, and perhaps even a prostitute spread through Washington, D.C. and up the East Coast, via Jackson's cabinet members' wives. This treatment of Margaret enraged Jackson and created an unmendable rift in his cabinet. The cabinet dissolved in 1831 as a result.

In the midst of this turmoil, Jackson's cabinet got one thing accomplished. The Indian Removal Act was signed into law in May 1830, allowing the U.S. Government to fully remove Indian nations from the Eastern U.S. An estimated 100,000 American Indians and their black enslaved people were forced to migrate west.

The first treaty talks took place in Franklin, Tennessee in August 1830. Jackson, Eaton, and General John Coffee led negotiations with representatives of the Chickasaw Nation.



Photo from Google Maps.



Margaret Eaton's image on commemorative cigar box.  
Image from Wikipedia.

Accompanying Eaton was his wife, Margaret, eager to quit Washington. She later claimed to have found civil reception in Tennessee, enjoying social events at houses such as Carnton.

### St. Philip Catholic Church

St. Philip Catholic Church was built in 1869 by Vaughn & White, Franklin builders whose brickyard was located up on Bridge Street. It was the first Catholic church in Williamson County and originally ministered to the area's growing Irish immigrant population.

On November 6, 1871 St. Philip Catholic Church was consecrated, with Father Marron installed as its first pastor. For the first 26 years of its existence, it was a mission church, with no rectory for a priest to live in. In 1897, Father John Nolan arrived and instigated the construction of a rectory. The following year, St. Philip became a parish.

The congregation of St. Philip is active today and, with over 4,000 members, is the largest church in downtown Franklin.



**HERITAGE  
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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# McPhail-Cliffe Office

## 209 E Main St

TOUR  
STOP  
10



Photo from Google Maps.

### Dr. Daniel B. Cliffe

Daniel Cliffe figures prominently in Franklin's history. Intelligent, far-seeing, and adaptable, he helped direct impactful events during a tumultuous period.

Cliffe was born in Ohio in 1823 and moved to Franklin as a boy. He earned his M.D. at the University of Louisville, returning to Franklin with his soon-to-be wife, Virginia Whitfield, in 1842.

Cliffe practiced medicine in the McPhail-Cliffe office for decades, living with his family in a house behind the office, where the parking garage now stands on 2nd Avenue South. The Cliffe house was saved by a Franklin couple and now stands at 231 2nd Avenue South. Learn more about the Cliffe family at Stop 17.

### The Civil War

The Civil War made Daniel Cliffe choose between his pro-Union ideals and protecting his family and property. Initially, he chose to protect his family, enlisting as a surgeon with the Confederate 20th Tennessee Infantry.

In January 1862, Cliffe was captured at the Battle of Mill Springs. Rather than being imprisoned, he escorted the body of CSA Brig. Gen. Felix Zollicoffer to Nashville for internment, then returned to Franklin, where he spent most of the rest of the war. Federal forces occupied Middle Tennessee the next month.

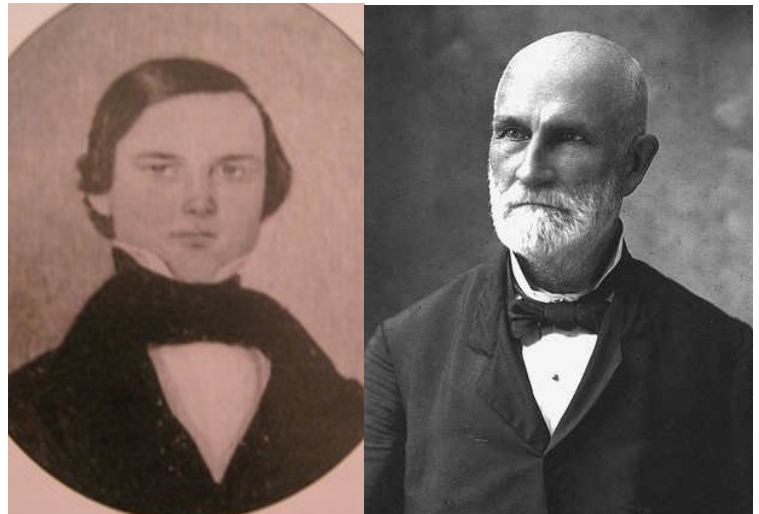
*Built c. 1813*

**Serving as a law office, a honey stand, and now headquarters for the Downtown Franklin Association, this little gem was a doctor's office for most of the 19th century.**

### Dr. Daniel McPhail

Dr. Daniel McPhail was the first physician to work out of this building. Born in Scotland in 1799, he arrived in Franklin in 1828. Mexico declared war against the United States in Spring 1846, provoked by President Polk. Dr. McPhail responded to the call for volunteers and enlisted in the 1st Tennessee Infantry. He was appointed surgeon on June 4, 1846, during the occupation of Matamoros, located below the tip of Texas. Disease wreaked havoc on the US soldiers. In early July, Daniel McPhail died.

Daniel B. Cliffe, McPhail's nephew, served as executor for his estate and took over his practice.



Daniel McPhail (left) and Daniel Cliffe (right). Cliffe's mother was McPhail's younger sister.

*Photos from Findagrave.com and Rick Warwick, respectively.*

Their presence gave Cliffe relative safety to voice his Unionist beliefs, unpopular with many of his neighbors. He befriended Union officers in Franklin, including Emerson Opdyke, and treated sick and wounded Federal soldiers across the street at the Masonic Hall.

### Post-War

The Cliffe family aligned themselves with the Republican party during Reconstruction. Dr. Cliffe witnessed the July 1867 Race Riot, treating most of the injured African Americans in and around his office.



**HERITAGE  
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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# Masonic Hall

## 115 2nd Ave S

TOUR  
STOP  
11

*Built c. 1823*

### The Masonic Hall is a witness site.

A Masonic lodge was often one of the first three institutions established in American frontier towns. The Freemasons are a fraternal organization that seeks to make good men into better men. Hiram Lodge No. 7, Franklin's first Masonic lodge, was chartered in 1809. In 1823, it commissioned this stately building on 2nd Avenue South. The Masonic Hall is an early example of the Gothic Revival style in Tennessee and is the oldest building of this style still standing in the state. It was constructed by free and enslaved laborers, with money from the members of Hiram Lodge No. 7 and the first state lottery.

The Hall was central to life in Franklin and a point of pride for the community. The first floor was community space in which many of the town's first churches met, organizations held balls, and Franklin women created a makeshift textile factory during the Civil War. The second and third floors were exclusively Masonic.

### Indian Removal

On August 31, 1830, President Andrew Jackson and representatives of the U.S. Government met on the first floor of the Masonic Hall with delegates from the Chickasaw Nation to negotiate a removal treaty. The Treaty of Franklin came on the heels of the Indian Removal Act and, though never ratified, began Indian Removal. The Chickasaw were removed under the 1832 Treaty of Pontotoc.



The second floor lodge room of the Masonic Hall, early 20th century.

*Photo from Rick Warwick.*



Today, Hiram Lodge No. 7 still occupies the Masonic Hall, making them the oldest continually occupying lodge in Tennessee.

*Photo from Historic Franklin Masonic Hall Foundation*

### The Civil War

Federal forces used the Masonic Hall for a hospital, barracks, and quartermaster's office from 1862 through 1865. Numerous units came through the building, including the 2nd Michigan Cavalry, the 14th Michigan Mounted Infantry, and US Colored Troops, leaving their graffiti on the walls.

The Confederacy took the Hall and many other buildings in the town to be hospitals after the November 30, 1864 Battle of Franklin. When Federal forces recaptured the town two weeks later, they took the wounded Confederates prisoner. Wounded soldiers remained in the Hall through March 1865.

### Post-War and the 20th Century

After the war, 2nd Avenue transformed into a vibrant black community. Some Masons like Dr. Daniel B. Cliffe accepted and adapted to the new social norms, while others like John House resisted change with violence. House was the mastermind behind the July 1867 Franklin Race Riot and established the Ku Klux Klan in Williamson County.

The Masonic Hall continued to serve as a community center into the mid-20th century, providing meeting space for Franklin's women suffragists on the eve of the 19th Amendment, a gym for BGA's basketball team, and a public library, among many other things.



**HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# The Brownstones

137-199 2nd Ave S

**TOUR  
STOP  
12**



Photo from Google Maps.

**Where the Brownstones stand today was the heart of Franklin's African American community during Reconstruction.**

## William Perkins

In 1869, William Perkins purchased a house on 2nd Ave S from his former master, W.O.N. Perkins. The house, shown below, used to set at the northern edge of where the Brownstones now stand.



The 1878 Beers Map shows William Perkins house as well as Shorter Chapel.

In freedom, William Perkins became a pastor. He organized Franklin's first African American church in 1865, the Franklin Primitive Baptist Church.



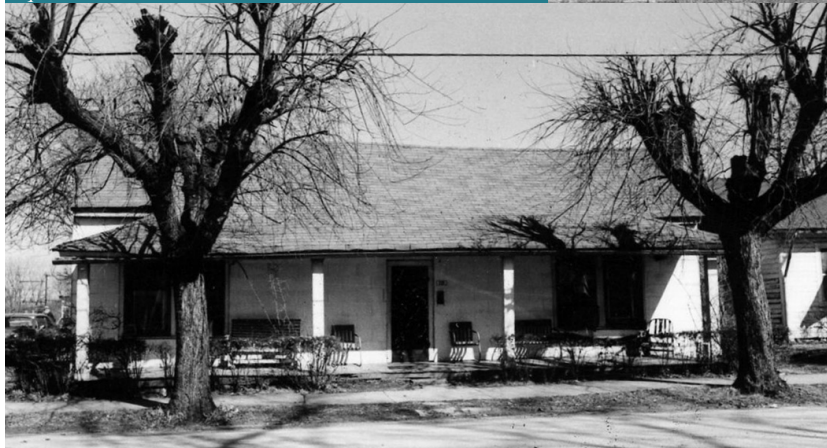
## Shorter Chapel AME

The corner of 2nd Ave S and Church St was the home of Franklin Methodist Church, 1830-1873.

The church became a hospital during the Civil War, sustaining heavy damages. The needed repairs were so extensive that the congregation opted to sell the building and construct a new one on a different lot. In 1873, they sold the church to Shorter Chapel AME, an African American congregation that had formed in 1867, and moved several blocks to 5th Ave S and Church St.

In 1923, Shorter Chapel AME dismantled the building and carted it to the Natchez District, constructing their new church from bricks made nearly a century before by enslaved hands.

William Perkins' house (bottom left); Shorter Chapel AME, 2nd Ave S and Church St (top right)  
Photos from Rick Warwick, North and East of Franklin Square.



Shorter Chapel congregants in front of church, late 1800s (below)



**HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# Pulltight Players & the Docia Owen House

112 2nd Ave S & 202 Church St

This little section of 2nd Avenue South contains two buildings crucial to Franklin's African American history.

Built 1868

Built c. 1900



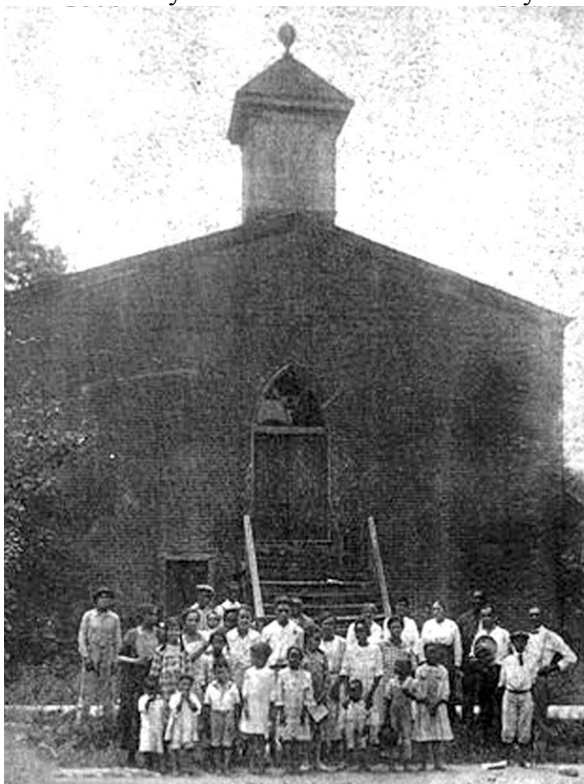
Docia Owen House (left), and Wiley Memorial Chapel (above).  
Photos from Google Maps.

## Wiley Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church

Now home to the Pulltight Players, a theatrical group, the one-story brick building at 112 2nd Ave S gives visual cues about its history. This building was built by northern missionaries and freedmen in 1868 as a church, home to the Wiley Memorial Methodist Episcopal congregation.

Following the Civil War, 2nd Ave S became a thriving black community. The heart of this community was the two black

churches: Shorter Chapel AME and Wiley Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church. These churches provided the support and strength crucial to helping the formerly enslaved population weather the violence and upheaval of Reconstruction. But they provided something else: education. African Americans understood that the key to building their future was education. These churches doubled as schools.



Wiley Memorial, 1910.  
Photo from Rick Warwick, North and East of Franklin Square.

In 1925, a tornado took Wiley Memorial's roof. The church struggled financially after that, finally closing its doors in 1944.

## William and Docia Owen House

Often called "the Green House," the frame bungalow on the corner of 2nd Ave S and Church St also has important ties to Franklin's black history.

William and Docia House purchased it in 1906. After her husband's death, Docia continued to live in the house with her son, J.D. In 1931, J.D. married Arvilla Royster. The couple formed a jazz band called the Patent Leather Kids, which enjoyed much popularity in the 1940s and 1950s. Many of their performances were done from the house. The house remained in the family until 2002, when it was threatened by demolition due to gentrification of the neighborhood. Local preservationists led by Pearl Bransford and Thelma Battle stepped in and saved this vital piece of Franklin's history.

## Bucket of Blood Neighborhood

The 1st and 2nd Ave black neighborhood lasted from reconstruction into the mid-20th century before shifting to the Natchez District. By 1910, it was referred to as the "Bucket of Blood," a name that originated either with a fight in a pool hall or referred to slaughterhouses in the neighborhood.



Docia Owen House.  
Photo from Rick Warwick.



**HERITAGE  
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WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TN

# Gallery 202 - Clouston Hall

202 2nd Ave S

TOUR  
STOP

14



Photo from Google Maps.

*Built early 1830s*

**Gallery 202 is housed in Clouston Hall, Franklin's finest example of Federal architecture.**

Built around 1830 for Edward Clouston, a Scottish druggist, Clouston Hall is a late Federal style house. The minds and hands behind its construction remain a mystery. Clearly the carpenters who crafted the house's fine woodwork were experts in Federal details. Many of these elements are echoed on the exterior of the Carter House--the front entry, with its elliptical fanlight and sidelights, the flanking pedimented and pilastered tripartite windows, and parapets. The interior details, however, set Clouston Hall apart as a masterpiece of design and craftsmanship. A quick look at the mantels, staircase, and moulding makes it clear the Clouston intended for his house to impress.

## The Civil War

On the eve of the Civil War, the Oscar Reams family lived at Clouston Hall. Oscar, 40 years old, owned a mercantile business with his brothers. At home were his wife Sophronia and only child, 14 year-old Sallie, a student at the Tennessee Female College, at the corner of South Margin Street and 5th Avenue South. At that time, seventeen enslaved people lived at Clouston Hall: Dave, Willie, Miles, Charley, Albert, Margaret and her child, Lucy and her five children, Martha, Sukey, Betty, and Susan.

On May 31, 1861 Oscar died at home. He had bought increasingly larger amounts of laudanum all month, presumably to treat his pain. Eight days later, Tennessee joined the Civil War. Sallie's sweetheart, John Bostick, enlisted in a Confederate cavalry unit. Sophronia hired out Miles, Susan, and Martha to generate income.

Sallie found herself living in a changed environment. During Federal occupation, she socialized fairly freely with Federal soldiers. One Michigan soldier stationed less than a block away at the Masonic Hall noted Sallie in his diary in January 1863. Charles Hammer of the 124th Ohio Infantry formed a lasting relationship with Sallie. They first met at Sallie's aunt's house in Spring 1863. Over the next year, Hammer frequently visited Sallie at Clouston Hall, even spending the morning before the November 30, 1864 Battle of Franklin at the house.

That night, Sophronia, Sallie, and the Reams' enslaved people sought shelter in Clouston Hall's basement, as shells from Fort Granger arc-ed across downtown Franklin. Clouston Hall was not their mark but was hit several times, terrifying those inside. As Federal troops withdrew to Nashville, Hammer stopped by to check on the Reams. In the morning, the Confederates held Franklin, and Clouston Hall became a hospital for Confederate soldiers.

In February 1866, Sallie married John Bostick, her pre-war sweetheart. Charles Hammer visited Franklin with his wife, introducing her to Sallie. In 1874, Sallie Reams Bostick died at age 27. The Hammers returned in 1897, only to find her long gone.



Sallie Reams Bostick.  
Photo from Rick Warwick.



**HERITAGE  
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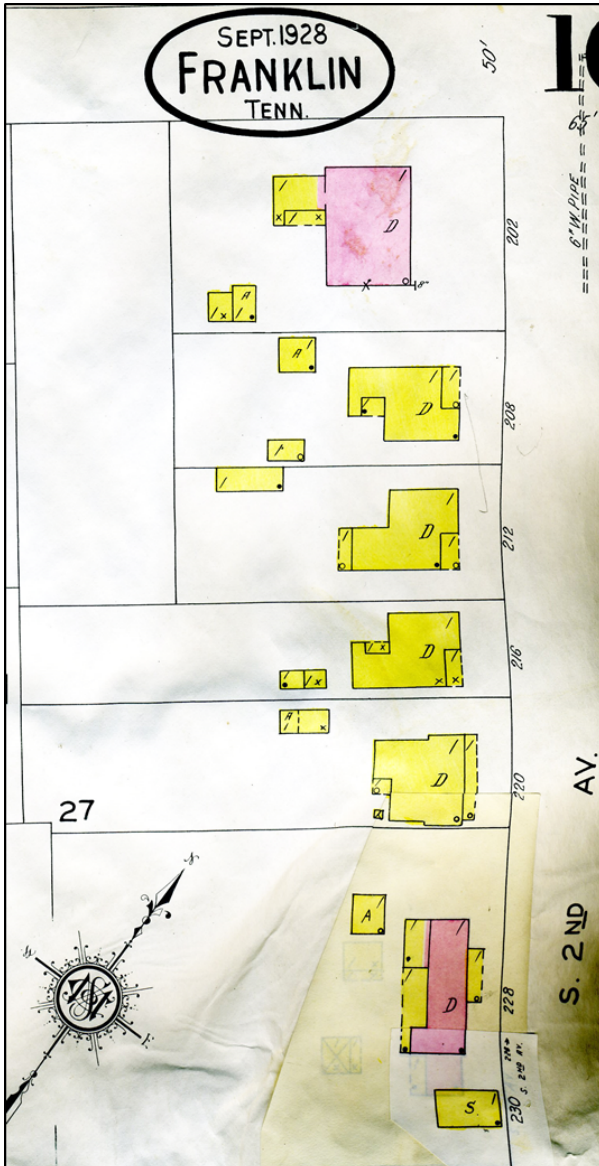
# Queen Anne Cottages

210, 214, & 220 2nd Ave S

TOUR  
STOP  
15



Above: Left to right: 210, 214, and 220 2nd Ave S; Below: 1828 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Franklin, TN  
Photo from Rick Warwick, North and East of the Franklin Square.



Built 1904

**These three cottages, all built the same year, exemplify the Queen Anne style.**

Queen Anne is one of the many architectural styles frequently lumped into the broad category of *Victorian*. As Franklin has some exemplary Queen Anne buildings, such as the Haynes-Berry House, this is a style that deserves a little more study.

The style originated in England in the 1870s and was quickly adopted by the middle class, which was growing in size and wealth due to industrialization. By the 1880s, the Queen Anne style had spread to much of the English-speaking world. As in England, the style became a favorite with newly wealthy Americans.

While many Queen Anne homes are gargantuan, the cottage was a beloved form, symbolizing the ideal closest to the Victorian heart: *home*. These three cottages on 2nd Avenue South are much simpler than many Queen Anne buildings. Their primary detailing is in the gables. 210 and 214 have matching crenolated caps, while 220 has a simply ornamented, circular vent.

*"...A kind of architectural cocktail, with a little genuine Queen Anne in it, a little Dutch, a little Flemish, a squeeze of Robert Adam, a generous dash of Wren, and a touch of Francois I. It combined all these elements and a number of others into a mixture that had a strong character of its own..."*  
Mark Girouard,  
*Sweetness and Light: The Queen Anne Movement, 1860-1900*



**HERITAGE  
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# Belle Fleurs

217 2nd Ave S

TOUR  
STOP  
16



Built c. 1810

**Now home to event company Belle Fleurs, the Davis-Woldridge House was the first house built on this original Franklin lot.**

Abram Maury numbered this Lot 38 when he laid out the town of Franklin in 1799. Three years later, John Purviance bought Lot 38 and the other eleven lots on the block, selling them all to Robert Davis in 1809. It is believed Davis built this house around 1810, making it one of the oldest remaining in downtown Franklin.

With its three bays and side hallway, this house bears design similarities to the house at 125 3rd Ave N, which was built approximately a decade later. In that decade, however, architecture in Tennessee experienced an evolution in style. The Davis-Woldridge House displays Georgian

Photo from Google Maps.

elements, noticeable in the small windows and simple entry. 125 3rd Ave N is high Federal style. While floorplans often saw little change between the two styles, the decorative elements were completely revolutionized. This is seen in the much larger windows, higher ceilings, and the delicate fanlight over the entry.

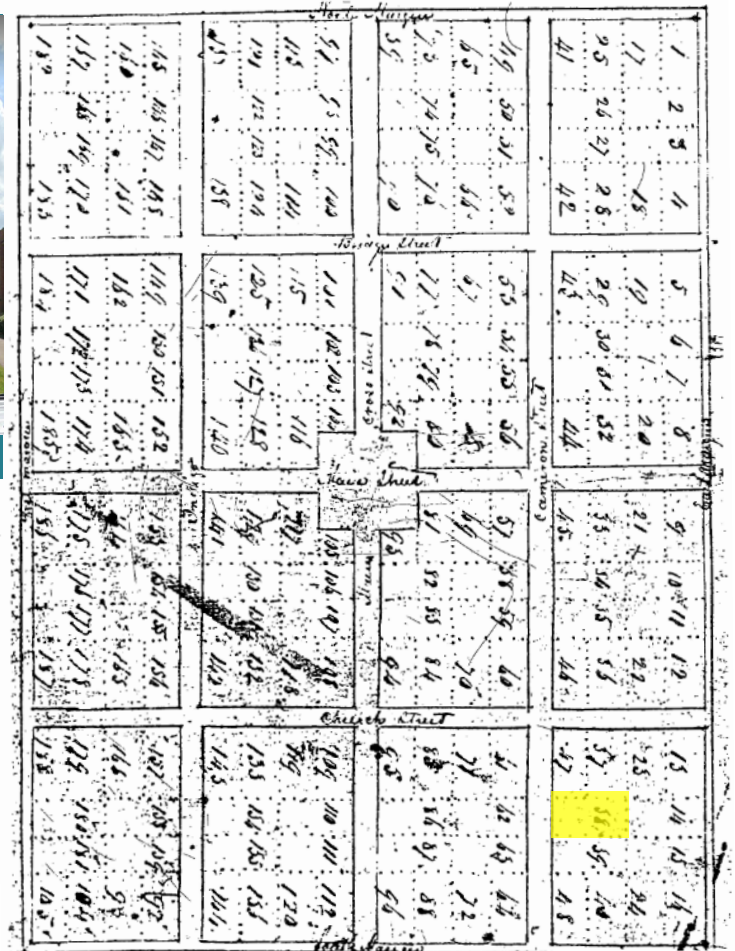


125 3rd Ave N. Photo from Google Maps.

## Loving Woldridge

Loving Woldridge purchased the house at 217 2nd Ave S from Robert Davis in 1827. Born in Virginia in 1799, Woldridge came to Franklin as a young man. In 1822, he married his first wife, Elizabeth Williamson. They had at least eight children together before her death in 1849. He married Narcissa North in 1854.

Loving Woldridge enlisted in the 1st Tennessee Infantry, Company D in May 1861. He was 61 years old. At the Battle of Missionary Ridge, he was shot across the nose and nearly blinded. He was sent home on medical furlough but rejoined the company in North Carolina in time to surrender.



**HERITAGE  
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# McPhail-Cliffe House

231 2nd Ave S

TOUR  
STOP  
17



The McPhail-Cliffe house. Photo from Google Maps.

The McPhail-Cliffe house is a wonderful example of early 19th century Tennessee framed construction. The original house is one and a half stories, with a center hall flanked by one room on both sides. A steep staircase leads to a low-ceilinged second floor. A two-story ell added to the back of the house in the mid-1800s greatly enlarged the living space.

Virginia Cliffe was, like her husband, an outspoken Unionist. This won her admirers among Federal officers but elicited disgust from many neighbors, including Sallie Hines McNutt who referred disparagingly to her as a "Union partisan."

This political stance attracted unwanted attention at times. A Wisconsin newspaper reported in February 1863 that a group of rebels planned to burn down the Cliffe house. Dr. Cliffe was gone, so Virginia and daughter Isabella armed themselves with pistols. When the men approached the house, Virginia barred the front door and threatened to shoot the first man who set foot on their property. The Cliffe women were afterwards undisturbed.

After the war, the Cliffe men participated in local politics, aligning themselves with the Republican party.



15 year old Isabella Cliffe married James Brownlow, son of Gov. Brownlow, in 1865, giving the Cliffes an advantage in post-war recovery. Photo from Rick Warwick.

Built c. 1830

**Threatened by demolition, the McPhail-Cliffe house was moved by Rudy and Peter Jordan to its current location in the 1970s.**



The McPhail-Cliffe house's moving route. On the lot it now occupies stood the Priest house and carriage shop in the 1860s-70s.

1878 Beers Map of Williamson County, from TSLA Map Collection, Tennessee State Library and Archives.

## The Lot

In the 1860-70s, this lot held the Priest family home and carriage shop. Like the Cliffes, both Perkins Priest and his wife Mary were Unionists. While Virginia Cliffe asserted her



Mary Priest.  
Photo from Ancestry.com

right to political thought, Mary Priest pushed the boundaries of women's opportunities in business. In Fall 1863, she operated a trade store under Federal occupation that sold goods from groceries and dry goods, to boots and dishes.



**HERITAGE  
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# Eelbeck House

236 2nd Ave S

**TOUR  
STOP  
18**



Photo from Google Maps.

Built  
1820

**For decades, this was the home and workplace of Henry Eelbeck, a prosperous 19th century carriage maker.**



Eelbeck house & outbuildings  
1878 Beers Map, TSLA.

**WANTED,**  
**A GOOD COACH SMITH, to whom liberal**  
**wages will be given. Apply to**  
**HENRY EELBECK,**  
**Franklin, Tenn. Jan. 31st, 1837—Step.**

1837 job posting in the *Nashville Republican*.  
From the *Nashville Republican, Newspapers.com*.

and employed five skilled laborers. Eelbeck's coach factory operated off of this lot. Many of the buildings shown surrounding the house on the 1878 Beers Map (seen left) were probably used for the manufacture of the coaches.

Born in North Carolina in 1794, Henry Eelbeck immigrated to Franklin before 1820. He acquired this lot through his first marriage to Sally Williamson. Eelbeck established a carriage-making business which, by 1850, had grown into a "coach factory"

Eelbeck made a small fortune, owning \$4,000 in real and \$8,000 in personal estate in 1860. His wealth increased after the Civil War. In 1870, he reported \$14,000 of personal estate, placing him among Franklin's upper middle class.

Henry Eelbeck also increased in social prominence. One way he did this was through marriage. His first wife was the daughter of a wealthy landowner. His second and third wives were Elizabeth and Susan Carter, sisters of Fountain Branch Carter. Eelbeck also increased his social clout by becoming a Freemason. He joined Hiram Lodge No. 7, which met one block up the street, and served as the lodge treasurer in 1848.

Henry Eelbeck had five children: Thomas, John, Francis, Philemon (Philip), and Sallie. In 1850, Thomas and John both worked in the Eelbeck coach factory, as a harness maker and coach trimmer, respectively.

13	John E. Eelbeck	23	M					Feb	Coach Trimmer	Murdered	
14	Asa Smith	17	M			Ohio		Feb	None	By Horse	23
15	Nath Whitfield	25	M	13	1	M	Tenn	April	Farmer	Consumption	240
16	William P. Barham	27	M			"		Feb	Sayler	Murdered	
17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

In February 1850, the murder of John Eelbeck and William Barham, shocked Franklin. The men were out after the town curfew and confronted a person in the street who they suspected to be stealing hams. The thief stabbed and killed both men. An enslaved African American man named Henry was tried, convicted of the crime, and hanged. All evidence was circumstantial. Most of the witnesses could not confidently state whether the perpetrator was white or black.

Henry Eelbeck died at his home in 1881.



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# Franklin Antique Mall

251 2nd Ave S

TOUR  
STOP  
19



Photo from Google Maps.

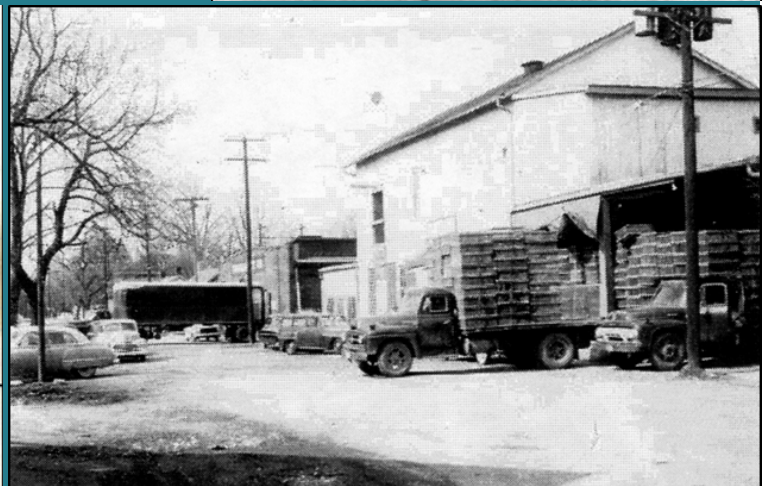
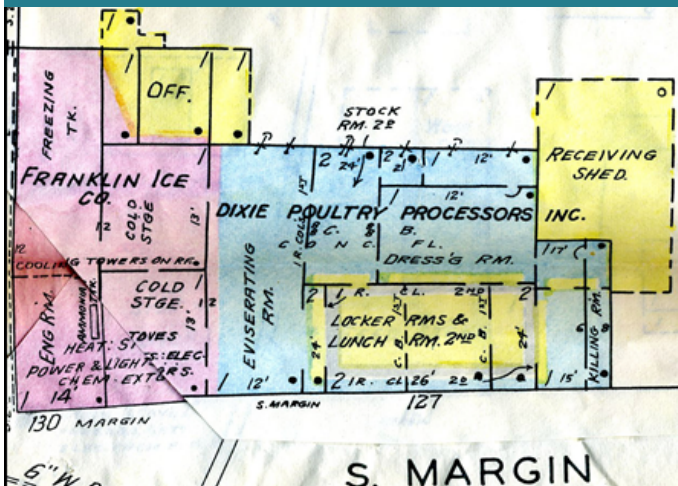
## What is today the Franklin Antique Mall was home to a variety of industries during the 20th century.

The corner lot of 2nd Avenue South and South Margin Street was the site of several industries during the last century. At the turn of the century, Depot Mills, operated by David Farr, sat on the corner. This morphed into the Franklin Ice House, also operated by David Farr. Before refrigeration was common in homes, the Franklin Ice Company supplied the town's ice.

Dixie Poultry Processors opened here in 1954, sharing the building with the Franklin Ice Company, as the 1959 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map below shows. The poultry processing plant was short-lived, closing in 1964.



Depot Mills (top left), 1959 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Franklin Ice Company and Dixie Poultry Processors (bottom left), Dixie Poultry Processors (bottom right)  
Images from Rick Warwick, North and East of Franklin Square.



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