

stands, greatly altered in appearance, at 615 East Capitol Avenue.

Of the three, only Trapnall Hall remains standing in approximately if not exactly its original state. Fortunately, all owners of the house were pleased with it just as it was, and it has escaped the usual additions and subtractions that go with extensive remodeling. It is a one-story colonial house, built of red brick which Trapnall is said to have brought from Kentucky. A broad brick walk leads to the white-columned veranda, and a wide front door is accented by side lights and topped with a fan-shaped glass section. That Trapnall built his home with the idea of entertaining large groups is evident, for the front door opened into a banquet hall which could be expanded to include adjoining rooms simply by sliding back the folding doors.

Fred Trapnall was one of the most popular lawyers of his time, and if he had not died at the age of 46 he would probably have become one of the political leaders of Arkansas. He was born near Harrodsburg, Mercer County, Kentucky, on May 23, 1807, the son of Dr. Philip and Nancy Trapnall. He was educated and admitted to the bar in his native state, and practised law for a while at Springfield, Kentucky. Here he was married, on November 1, 1836, to Martha Frances Cocke, daughter of Richard and Mary Cocke. Their wedding day was also the bride's sixteenth birthday. Soon after their marriage, the young couple came to Arkansas and settled at Little Rock. It was not long before Trapnall was generally recognized as one of the leading members of the bar. He was an active member of the Whig party and some of the meetings of that party were held at Trapnall Hall. Other gatherings in the house were of a social nature, such as the banquet honoring a bride, for which the elaborate refreshments were prepared by a New Orleans confectioner.

The Trapnall family was connected by marriage to several of the most illustrious Arkansas families. Mrs. Trapnall's sister was Mary Anne Cocke, who married Daniel Ringo, first Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court. Her brother was John W. Cocke, who married Elizabeth Pope, daughter of Governor John Pope. Both Ringo and Cocke were law partners of Fred Trapnall. Trapnall's younger brother, Philip Trapnall, who was a junior partner in the firm of Trapnall and Cocke, married Sallie Faulkner, the eldest daughter of Col. Sandford C. Faulkner, the original Arkansas Traveler.

Strangely enough, although all except one of the members of Fred Trapnall's immediate family died while Trapnall Hall was in their possession, none of them died in this house. His only son, Richard Philip, died in infancy on June 9, 1841, a little more than two years before the house was built. Trapnall himself died at Monticello on July 4, 1853. At that time he was a candidate for Congress, and was on a political tour. His wife died at Grand Lake in Chicot County on December 22, 1861. Their only surviving daughter, Mary Ringo Trapnall (who was born at Trapnall Hall on May 7, 1852) went to live at Curran Hall after her mother's death, and died there on August 27, 1863.

Trapnall Hall then descended to brothers of the original owner, and on November 20, 1871, Ben C. and George Trapnall deeded it to Aylett B. Taylor. At the time he bought the property, Taylor was almost seventy