

March 21, 1956

Route 4,

Sevierville, Tenn.

Dear Bill:

I was misquoted in your jail story last week. Please make the following correction.

Lemuel Duggan, uncle of Orton L. Duggan, retired Boy Scout executive, was sheriff when the court house and jail burned in 1856. He served in this position for five terms, or ten years, and was one of the most popular sheriffs Sevier County ever had. Dr. Roberts, whose retentive mind recalls many historic events in our county's past, remembers stories of the fire told to him by his father who was in Sevierville the day of the fire. Dr. Roberts states that Sheriff Duggan accidentally started the fire by turning over a basket of chips near the fire place of ~~the~~ his living quarters in the jail. The Sheriff wrapped wet quilts around a Negro who made a desperate but unsuccessful attempt to save the lone prisoner whose dying screams were remembered by Dr. Roberts' father. Dr. Roberts also says that the unfortunate man's name was McMahan, from the Jones Cove or Richardsons Cove section, and this identification corresponds with the name given to this writer many years ago by his great uncle, the late A.W. Nichols.

The court house that burned was the third since the formation of the county in 1794- the present court house is the fifth. We have also had five jails, but this is a long story.

Sincerely yours

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J.A. SMARP

Dear Phil:

Look these deeds over and see if you can determine the location of these lots.

Book J. p. 411-

Richard Lanning to Elijah Cate, E. Hodges, B.M. Chandler, J.C. Murphy, Ruel Birdwell, M.A. Rawlings and John Mullendore, "commissioners for the town of Sevierville" for "Public Building," - \$75.00 - "one one hundred and fifty Poles" in Sevierville. "Beginning on a rock North of Main street west of cross street on the lot of James McNelly running south  $14\frac{1}{2}$  crossing main street twelve poles and seventy links to a rock on H.M. Thomas lot S  $77\frac{1}{2}$  E crossing cross street 12 poles to a rock on S.B. Hendersons lot N  $16\frac{1}{2}$  E crossing Main street 12 poles and twenty links to a rock on the said Lanning's lot  $77\frac{1}{2}$  W 12 poles to the beginning."

Deed made, 7 June 1856; Regis., 5 Aug. 1856, Jas. McNelly, Reg.

Book J. p. 412-

H.M. Thomas and Samuel B. Henderson to Elijah Cate, E. Hodges, B.M. Chandler, J.C. Murphy, Ruel Birdwell, M.A. Rawlings and John Mullendore for "Public Buildings," - \$150.00 - 156 poles. "Beginning at rock north of main street and west of cross street on the lot of Jas McNelly running south  $14\frac{1}{2}$  W crossing main street twelve poles and twenty links to a rock on said Thomas's and Henderson's lot N  $14\frac{1}{2}$  E crossing main street 12 poles and twenty links to rock on Richard Lanning's lot N  $77\frac{1}{2}$  W 12 poles to the beginning."

Deed made, 26 April 1856, Regis., 6 Aug. 1856, Jas. McNelly, Reg.

Book J. p. 432-

Samuel B. Henderson to James H. Yett for \$300 part of town lot- number one- about  $38\frac{1}{2}$  poles- "Beginning on a stone at the corner on the cross street south seventy seven and a half poles East four poles to a stone south thirteen west nine poles and sixteen links to a stone north seventy and a half west about four poles to a stone thence a direct line to the beginning."

Made 27 Oct. 1856, Regis., 1 Nov. 1856, Jas. McNelly, Reg.

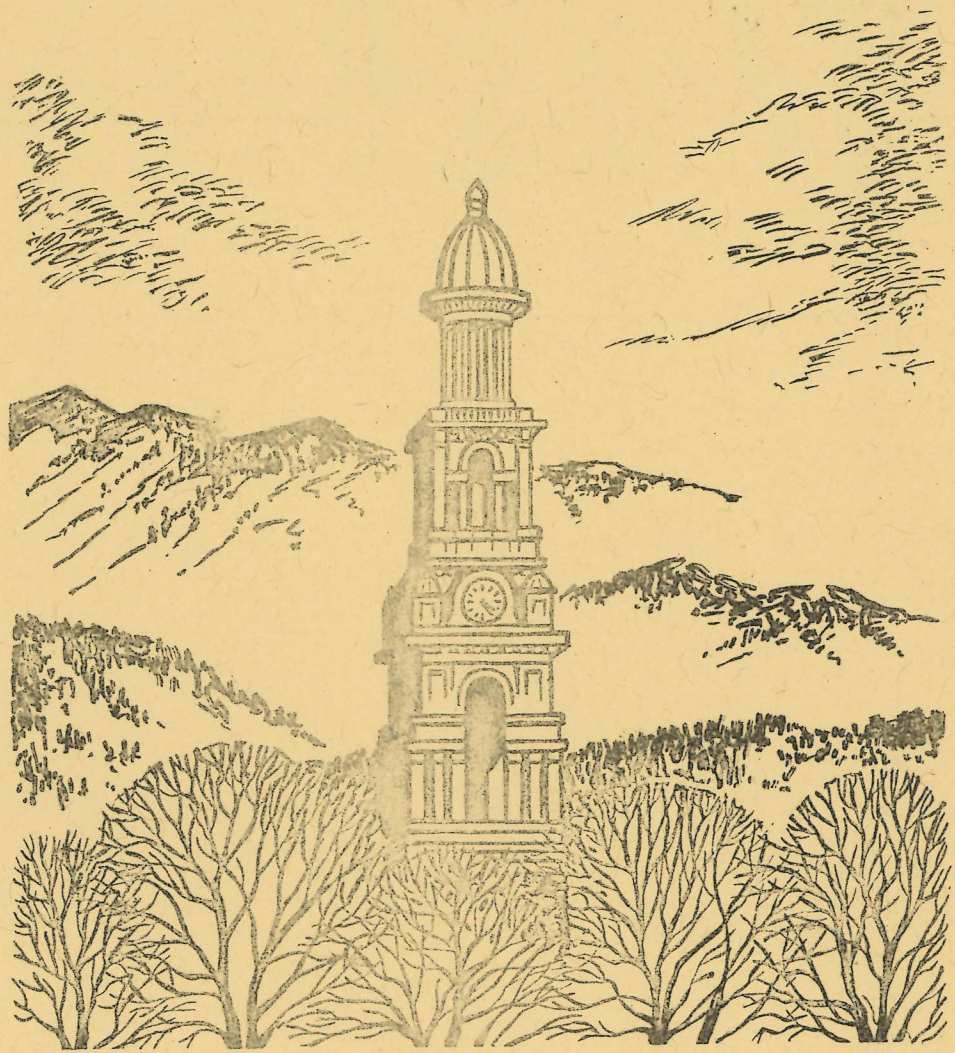
This last one was not for the square but it must have been the same Henderson lot as above.

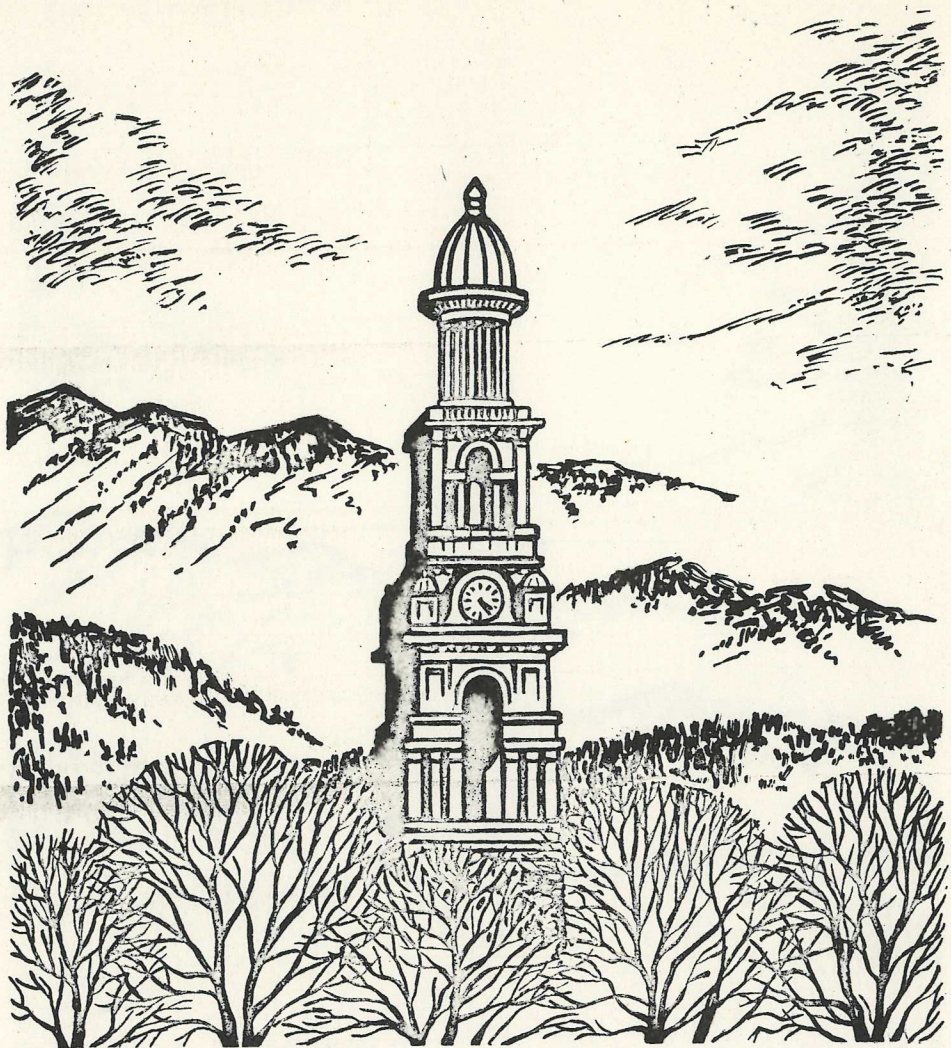
Book K, p. 26-

R.H. Hoddsden, John S. McNutt, Milton Shields, William Scruggs to Elijah Cate, John Mullendore, E. Hodges, R. Birdwell, J.C. Murphy and B.M. Chandler, commissioners of Sevierville- \$400.00, for "benefit of the County of Sevier." "A town lot in the Town of Sevierville known in the plan of said Town as lot No 1 East of Cross Street and north of Main Street containing about one half of an acre adjoining the Cross street on the west and the lot of R Lanning on the East."

Made 27 Jan. 1858, Regis., 15 April 1858, Jas. McNelly, Reg.

This deed was made after the completion of the court house in the square, but Minute Book shows that the court, 6 Jan. 1857, voted to pay above men, John Erabson heirs, \$100.00 "for part of town lot added to public square to issue whenever title is made." So later must have bought who's lot.





GRADE 4  
PHYSICS EDUCATION