

INGLEHAME

MRS. VERNON SHARP

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HARPETH/INGLEHAME

Col. Wilson built a second handsome home in 1855 and gave it to his son, James, Jr. It is near Ravenwood, on the east side of the Wilson Pk and was originally named Harpeth, since the Little Harpeth River has it's beginning in the large spring on the place. In 1878 it was acquired by the Tulloss family and in 1938 was bought by Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Sharp. The house was quite run down by then and an English architect planned and supervised the remodeling, which included adding a front porch and three wings. Shortly before they were to move in, fire gutted the interior, leaving the walls, partitions and chimneys. New plans were drawn, the work begun again and the Sharps were able to move into their new home early in 1940. Many changes have been made to the original building but they have only enhanced it's beauty. The name was also changed to Inglehame.

REFERENCES:

Rosalie C. Batson

INGLEHAME

Inglehame was built in the 1850's by James Hazard Wilson II for his son James Hazard Wilson III and his wife Virginia Zollicoffer, the daughter of General Felix Zollicoffer, the first Confederate general killed in the Civil War. Inglehame was originally called Harpeth for the spring located there that gives rise to the Little Harpeth River. It features imported marble mantles and finely carved woodwork. The old brick kitchen is still in the yard. The estate was sold to the Tulloss family in 1877 and remained in that family until 1938 when it was bought by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Sharp. They did extensive remodeling and restoration work. Just as the house was nearing completion, it was gutted by fire. The Sharps again rebuilt the house using the exterior walls which were left intact.

Brentwood Brochure

had come to tell her young Walter Wilson was dead. After a hunting trip the boy had leaned his gun against the hall stairway, and, as he had stepped out on the front porch, the gun had fallen, discharged, and inflicted a mortal wound.

The family Bible records that James Hazard Wilson II died here at the home of his son Frank in 1869, although his own residence was only a short distance away.

In its prime the house sat in a grove of primeval oaks whose beauty and grandeur defy the imagination. Twenty-two of these splendid giants were cut when the railroad went through this section of Williamson County in 1912. The place passed from the Wilson hands in 1937, but the house, with its old two-story brick kitchen in the yard, continues a well-known landmark. It is owned today by Mr. and Mrs. Sam M. Stubblefield.

Inglehame

A large spring located on this place which serves as headwaters of the Little Harpeth River gave Inglehame the original name of Harpeth. Another of the lovely Wilson homes built by James Hazard Wilson II, this one was constructed for James H. Wilson III upon his marriage to Virginia Zollicoffer in 1858. The bride was the daughter of Felix Kirk (1812-1862) and Louise Gordon Zollicoffer (1819-1857) whose Nashville home stood on the site of the Andrew Jackson Hotel.

Harpeth adorned a sweeping rise across the pike from Ravenwood, the home of the senior Wilsons in the famous foxhunting region of Williamson County. True to the Wilson tradition, no expense was spared to make Harpeth perfect in all its appointments. Imported marble mantels, finely carved woodwork, and a regal stairway characterized the interior, while the imposing brick walls could be glimpsed for miles around rearing up in a grove of majestic trees.

The young Wilsons did not have long to enjoy their new home before he was called away as an officer in the Confederate army. After Captain Wilson's departure for the front, his wife, at the invitation of her father-in-law, moved to Ravenwood where she spent the next four years with her babies and five little sisters who had been orphaned when General Zollicoffer was killed at Fishing Creek.

The lives of Southerners who moved in the social orbit of the Wilsons were completely reversed by the war—slowly during the years of fighting, then inalterably after the surrender. Taxes ate up the huge estates and the great houses, geared to the use of many servants, were a burden. Unless a Southerner was educated for a profession, was a skilled dirt farmer, or was otherwise financially capable of riding out the economic chaos following Appomattox, the Reconstruction days brought about his ruin. The good old days about which the old people so fondly sighed were not to return in their generation.

James H. Wilson III (1828-1890) might have successfully filled a chair in any university in the country if there had been at that time the opportunities that are presented to men of his abilities today. He graduated from West Point in a class in which he counted as his friends men

who would serve as officers on both sides of the tragic conflict then approaching. Around 1873, he was forced to leave Harpeth and move to Nashville where he was better able to provide for his family.



Inglehame, a wedding gift for James H. Wilson III

In her girlhood, Virginia Zollicoffer Wilson (1837-1912), the eldest of thirteen children, had borne a unique position in her family. After her birth the Zollicoffers had lost five little boys, therefore she was considerably older than the five surviving daughters. When Mrs. Zollicoffer died, "Sis Jennie" did a mother's part by her small sisters, the youngest of whom was an infant in arms.

Mrs. Wilson was as valiant in adversity as she had been gracious in prosperity. She was a gentlewoman who did not let cruel misfortunes bend her proud head or bow her brave spirit. She devoted herself in strict retirement to the rearing of her own nine children and five sisters, sending them into society well prepared after their excellent upbringing at her unselfish hands.

When she died in 1912, it was said of Virginia Wilson that "through her natural endowments of fine mentality and unusual beauty, her youth was socially brilliant. In her maturer years all her rare gifts were laid on the altar of family duty, and her life came to an end in the serene dignity of one who having chosen the better part clung to it without regret." She and her husband are buried in the Zollicoffer square in the old City Cemetery in Nashville.

Harpeth was bought by Major John E. Tulloss in 1877. It was purchased from his heirs in 1938 by Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Sharp. In remodeling the old home the Sharps added the front porch, the three wings, and changed the name to Inglehame. Two months before they were to move in, fire destroyed the interior leaving only the brick walls and twelve room partitions. Using the original exterior walls, the house was reworked and was ready for occupancy in 1940.

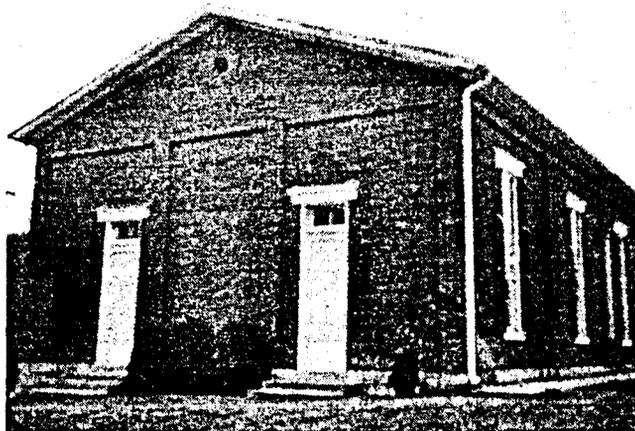
The old brick kitchen is still in the yard; the log smokehouse was reconstructed from materials found in cabins about the place. Bricks, foundation stones, and the remnants of chimneys reveal the former location of the quarters down by the spring.

Distinguished by its beautiful furnishings, fragrant gardens, and graceful landscaping, Inglehame ranks with the most outstanding of Williamson County's historic homes.

Owen's Chapel

Few churches in Williamson County can equal Owen's Chapel Church of Christ in rich and colorful history. Located on U.S. 31 south of Brentwood, it has long been a beloved and honored landmark in the area.

It had its beginning July 24, 1859, when Tolbert Fanning, noted educator and minister, preached the first sermon in the old Euclid schoolhouse, a log building which stood nearby. It was known as the Euclid Church until James C. Owen gave the land and helped erect the present building. His name is the first charter member listed in the old leather bound church book which records services from the earliest days. The Owen name never left the roster until 1969 when Mrs. T. L. Owen died. Owen descendants still attend services, but the name itself does not appear on the roll.



Owen's Chapel Church of Christ

Tradition says that the bricks in the thick walls of Owen's Chapel were made from clay cut from William Owen's property which was east of the church. The Negroes used by the Owen men to kiln brick and erect their homes and the chapel were especially trained as masons in Maryland. All of the original roofing brought from England is still in place and, except for damage by a tornado in 1869, the building has stood the years well.

Changes to the interior have been in keeping with the times. Softly glowing oil lamps replaced candlelight and then gave way themselves to electricity. Wood, coal, and gas stoves have warmed the congregation over many bitter winters. but the old pews with a middle partition

dividing the men from the women in years past remain in place.

Once, long ago, the men and women were divided by more than a wooden partition. Back when chewing tobacco was much in vogue the male members, at a considerable expense, had forty wooden spittoons made and ranged them along the aisles for the convenience of those who chewed. The noisy skill of their expectorating so annoyed and outraged the ladies, the gentlemen had to destroy their newly-installed conveniences before peace could be restored.

In well over a hundred years the church has failed to meet on Sunday only a few times. One of those times the Yankees were raiding and another a flood prevented their gathering. Its mission work included helping the Indians some ninety years ago, and a continuation of charitable deeds since its beginning has characterized its benevolent activities.

Nearly all of the stalwarts of the brotherhood have preached at one time or another at Owen's Chapel. Following the name of Tolbert Fanning were those of Lipscomb, Sewell, Sowell, McQuiddy, Srygley, Elam, Smith, Scobey, Boles, Dorris, Calhoun, Pittman. On and on reads the list of the giants of Israel who have proclaimed the gospel from this historic pulpit.

Many old churches have a tendency, with the passing of years, to be relegated as shrines and to lose their usefulness as instruments to promote the faith. But Owen's Chapel has valiantly striven to keep abreast of the times yet not forsake the old paths.

For generations the Little Harpeth River on the Calender place was used for baptizing, but in 1957 a baptistry was installed in the church. Green shutters against the mellow brick walls, fresh paint, new rugs, air conditioning, and gas heat make the edifice beautiful and comfortable.

Its preaching rests in the able hands of Wayne Poucher, nationally known evangelist and minister who, with the faithful, keeps the church on the strong and sure foundation so carefully laid in the long ago.

Thurso

The beautiful home of Mrs. John Oman, Jr. was originally part of the lands belonging to David Johnston of Mecklenburg, North Carolina, whose earliest real estate transaction was recorded in 1792 in Nashville when this section was a part of "Davidson County in the Territory South of the Ohio." It is located south of Brentwood on U.S. 31 on the east side of the highway.

David Johnston's son Robert married Rachel Johnston in 1798. Her people were among the earliest to arrive in the Cumberland settlement. John and Mary Patterson Johnston had moved from Pennsylvania to Caswell County, North Carolina in 1773. Four of their sons—Daniel, William, Alexander, and James—captivated by the roseate descriptions of the rich new lands migrated to this area.

Daniel and William came to French Lick where the former was killed by Indians in 1780. When it was safe to leave the protection of the forts, William moved on to