

The William L. Perkins Home

I am generally known as “The William L. Perkins Home.” That is because this well-known lawyer lived here for quite some time. There is a lovely lithograph in a county history with my name on it. My base is referred to as “lots 27 and 28 in the new Cole and Kerr Survey in the Village of Champion” (now Painesville).

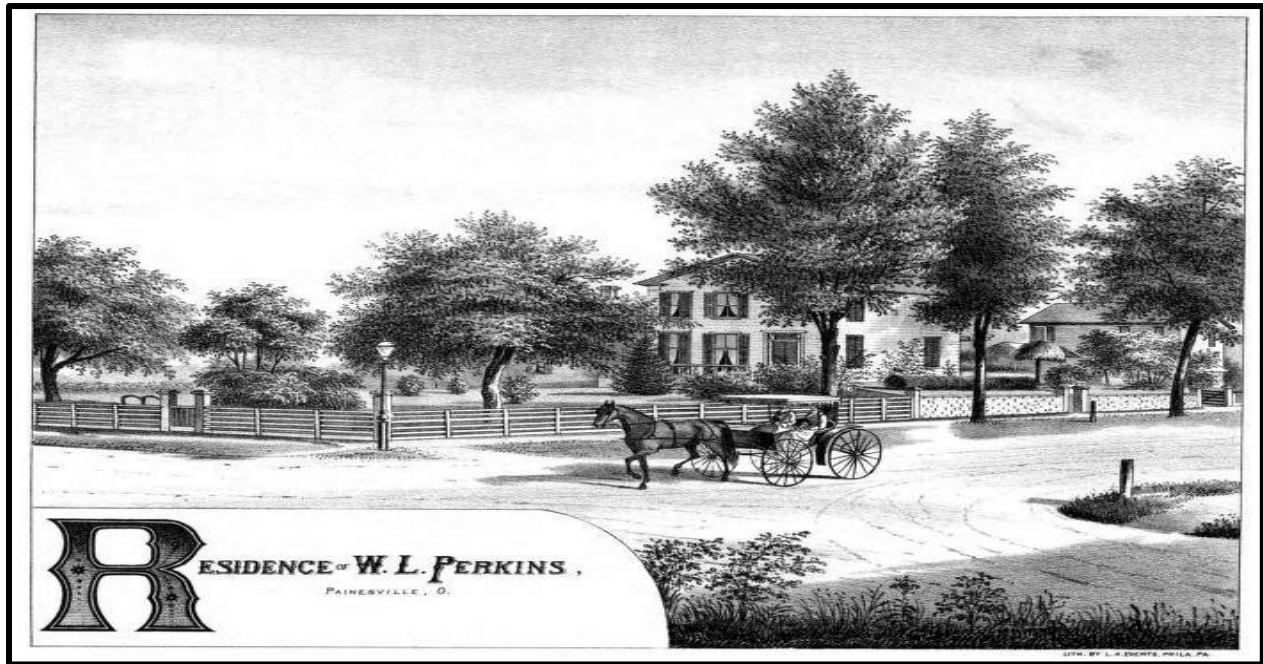


Figure 1. William Brothers, *History of Geauga and Lake County*; 30.

¹ Williams Brothers, *History of Geauga and Lake County, Ohio with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of the Pioneers and Most Prominent Men* (Philadelphia: Williams Brothers, 1878); 23-24, 214.

HISTORY

At first only indigenous people lived here. This place was part of the Northwest Territory in 1787, the land being claimed by the state of Connecticut. The state decided to sell the part of their land that was in what is now Ohio. It was called the New Connecticut Western Reserve. A group of investors got together in 1795, and called themselves the Connecticut Land Company. They bought the entire Western Reserve, except the far west end which was reserved as Firelands for reparations after the Revolutionary War. In 1796, the land was surveyed into five-mile square townships. Painesville Township was then divided into four tracts running lengthwise from north to south. I am in Tract Number 3. General Henry Champion invested

\$85,000 in the Connecticut Land Company, and owned the central area of what is now called Painesville.¹

At first, the settlement was called Oak Openings, as it was being settled in 1800. In 1803 it was named for Henry – Village of Champion, where he laid out the streets.² In 1816 it was changed to Painesville after Gen. Edward Paine, and incorporated in 1832. It was large enough by 1852 to become a village, and in 1902 it became a city.³

My larger jurisdictions include Trumbull County which was formed in 1800. Ohio became a state in 1803. Geauga County split off from Trumbull in 1806. Split off from Geauga County, Lake County came to be in 1840, where I am now.

Henry Champion was born in 1751 in Connecticut, and died there in 1836.⁴ He had assigned his son, Aristarchus (twin to Aristobulos) to handle his affairs in the Western Reserve, and as Trustee for his living children, George, Mariah, & Abigail J. Champion. On the 17th of January 1828, Aristarchus articed the property consisting of Lots 25, 26, 27, 28 to Phillip Green, an agreement that payment would be made, and on 24 July 1835, Aristarchus deeded lots 25, 26, 27, 28 to Martha Greene, Phillip's wife, for one hundred & thirty dollars.⁵ This would prove to be a problem in the making.

¹ "Henry Champion (General)," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Champion_\(general\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Champion_(general))) : accessed 29 September 2021).

² David Phares, "The Western Reserve: A Journey from Past to Present," 14 December 2021; At *StoryMaps* (<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/08ebc0ecd24745f2b5a06d63f0b3c9b8>) : accessed 22 January 2023).

³ City of Painesville, "History;" ([https://www.painesville.com/history#:~:text=The%20city%20is%20named%20after,and%20finally%20Painesville%20\(1816\)](https://www.painesville.com/history#:~:text=The%20city%20is%20named%20after,and%20finally%20Painesville%20(1816).)). : accessed 22 January 2023).

⁴ *FamilySearch* Family Tree, entry for Henry Champion's family and his parents' family (<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L7F3-XMP>) : accessed 29 September 2021).

⁵ Geauga County, Ohio Recorder, deed vol. 20, p. 500, Aristarchus Champion Trustee etc. To Martha Green; image 560 at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L97J-Z62K?i=559&cat=459368>) : accessed 29 September 2021). Also "Henry Champion(general)," biography on *Wikipedia* (<https://en.wikipedia.org/>) : accessed 21 March 2024).

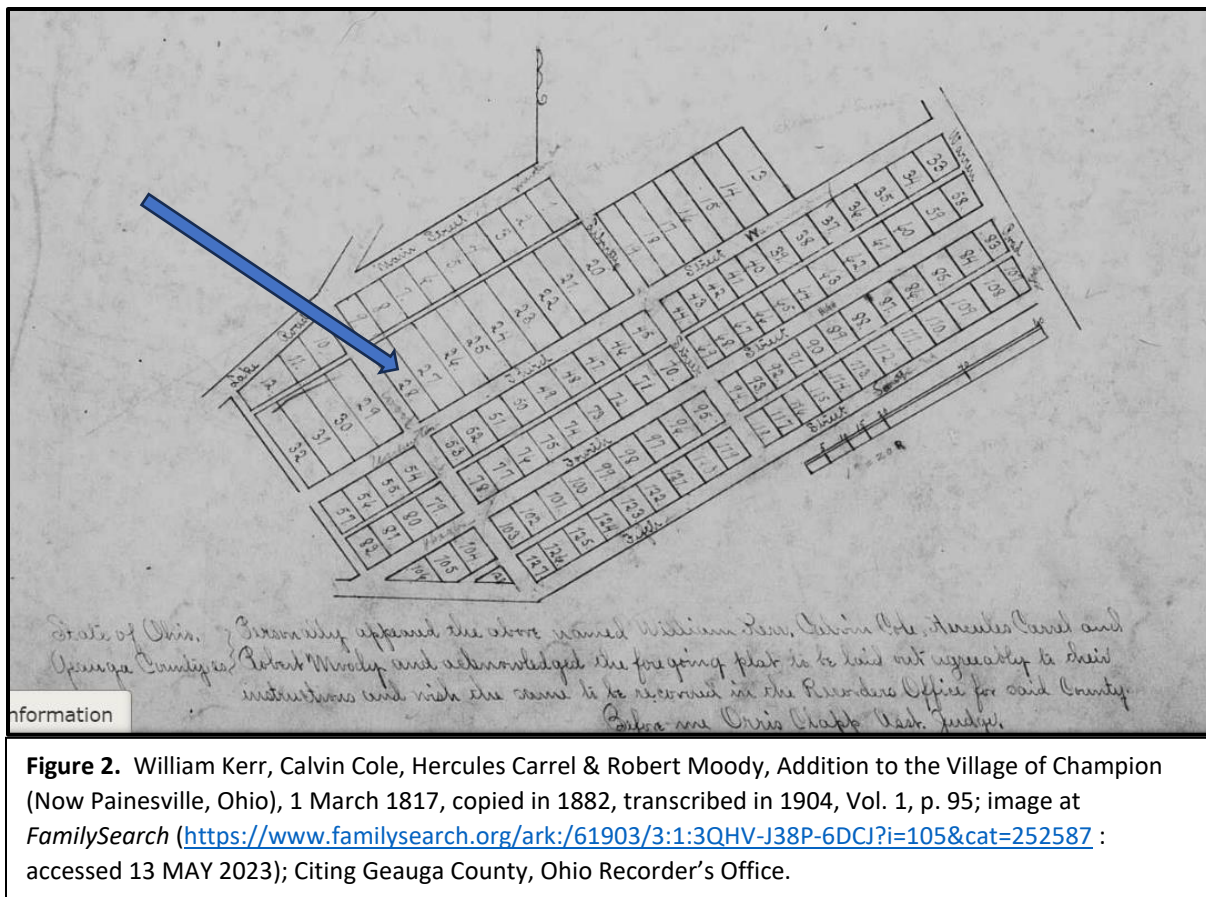


Figure 2. William Kerr, Calvin Cole, Hercules Carrel & Robert Moody, Addition to the Village of Champion (Now Painesville, Ohio), 1 March 1817, copied in 1882, transcribed in 1904, Vol. 1, p. 95; image at FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHV-J38P-6DCJ?i=105&cat=252587> : accessed 13 MAY 2023); Citing Geauga County, Ohio Recorder’s Office.

Lots 25-28 filled about half of the block bordered by an alley, now Sterling Avenue on the north, Liberty Street on the east, Washington Street, previously Third Street, on the south, and Wood Street, previously Perry Street, on the west.⁶ Lots 27 and 28 are at the corner of Wood and Washington.⁷

I was “born” in 1836. And ownership is quite a confusing story. In fact, that period makes my chimney spin! Let me try to explain.

On 26 March 1836, Philip Green (by Power of attorney, since he was living out of state) and Martha Green sold the four lots to Benjamin Bissell and Abraham Ritch for \$3,500.00, she

⁶ Geauga County, Ohio Recorder, deed vol. 20, p. 500, Aristarchus Champion Trustee etc. To Martha Green; image 560 at FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-L97J-Z62K?i=559&cat=459368> : accessed 29 September 2021). Lists Wood Street as Perry Street. Also, Geauga County, Ohio recorder, Deed vol. 25, p. 34, Abraham Rich and Harriet to Benjn. Bissel, 1837; image at FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G97J-X2B8?i=27&cat=459368> : accessed 16 September 2021). Notates Washington Street as third street.

⁷ Robert Pearsall Smith, *Map of Geauga and Lake Counties, Ohio* (Philadelphia: S. H. Matthews, 1857; image at Library of Congress (<https://www.loc.gov/item/2012591126/> : accessed 8 February 2023).

retaining the right to live there.⁸ A. Ritch had a mortgage held by Philip Green.⁹ The same day, Bissell and Ritch sold back to Martha Green lots 25 and 26, where Martha was living.¹⁰ Bissell aparted (divided) the two remaining lots, 27 to Ritch and he kept lot 28. Then enters Robert Moodey, who offers to Abraham Ritch \$800 money, for materials and labor to build a house and other improvements to his lot number 27. The understanding was that Ritch would pay this money back to Mr. Moodey with interest, or it would become Moodey property.¹¹

Mr. Ritch did build a small house and other improvements in the spring of 1836, and William L. Perkins moved in.¹² But it drained all Abraham's personal funds, making him insolvent. On 27 March 1837, Robert Moodey purchased part of lots 25-28 from Philip Green.¹³ Remember that it belonged to Martha in her own right. In summer or fall of 1837 Mr. Ritch lost me and the land.¹⁴

On 1 May 1838, Moody's tenant vacated the house. A Mr. Rosa took possession of the house.¹⁵ However, in April of 1839, Robert Moodey still maintained ownership of the property.¹⁶ Then Amos Wilmot, John Darrow, and Pearley Ayer got a judgment against Ritch, requiring that the house be put up for Sheriff sale. That occurred on 12 November 1839, and on 10 December 1839, Wilmot, Darrow, and Ayer got the deed for the property and me. On 20 April 1840, Amos Wilmot bought out Ayer's share. In late April that year, Alanson S. Slater was Moodey's tenant in the house. Amos Wilmot and Darrow got a judgement against Moodey and his tenant, Slater in May of 1841. Amos Wilmot then quit claimed his 2/3 share to his son Amos H., who quit claimed it to Amos' other son, William H. in July of 1841.¹⁷

So, both Wilmot and Darrow, as well as Moodey, thought because of their liens, that they owned me. If you are not too confused yet, I will go on. In the summer of 1844, an O. A. Crary came

⁸ Geauga County, Ohio recorder, Deed record vol. 21, pp. 356-57, Philip Greene (by Atty) and Martha his wife to Benjamin Bissel & Abraham Ritch, 26 March 1836; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-997N-W4F4?i=191&cat=459368> : accessed 29 September 2021).

⁹ Lake County Clerk of Court, Ohio, Chancery Court, Vol. C, pp. 398-411, p. 400, 11 April 1849, Robert Moodey vs. Amos Wilmot, Court record image at Lake County, Ohio Clerk of Court Historical Records collection (<https://recordroom.cottsystems.com/lakeoh/guest/search/oib> : accessed 2 February 2023).

¹⁰ Geauga County, Ohio Recorder, Deed Vol. 25 p. 121 Bissel & Ritch to Martha Green, 1837; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G97J-X2RL?i=71&cat=459368> : accessed 1 October 2021).

¹¹ Lake County Chancery Court, Vol. C, p. 400; : accessed 22 May 2023.

¹² Lake County Chancery Court, Vol. C, p. 400 : accessed 2 February 2023.

¹³ Geauga County, Ohio recorder, Deed vol. 24, p. 172-73, Philip Green To Robert Moody, 1837; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-897N-Y85S?i=450&cat=459368> : accessed 16 September 2021).

¹⁴ Lake County Chancery Court, Vol. C, p. 411 : accessed 2 February 2023.

¹⁵ Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, p. 406 ; accessed 2 February 2023).

¹⁶ Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, p. 401 : accessed 2 February 2023).

¹⁷ Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, p. 402 ; accessed 2 February 2023).

on the scene and purchased Darrow's interest in the property.¹⁸ On the first of November 1844, Amos H. Wilmot purchased the Crary interest and Darrow provided the deed. Then on the fourth of November, John Darrow quit claimed his 1/3 interest to Amos H. Wilmot.¹⁹ In January, 1845 brother William H. Wilmot died, leaving the 2/3 share to his heirs.²⁰

Robert Moodey sued Amos Wilmot on 27 March 1846 and had subpoenas issued to Amos Wilmot, Amos H. Wilmot, A. B. Carlton, Hannah Carlton, Tinley McGrew, and Mary McGrew. The case was dismissed the same day for an amendment to the complaint.²¹

On the 17th of April 1849, Moodey tried again with lawyers Osborne and Perkins.²² He showed that when Philip Green sold the property, that he did not own it, as it belonged to his wife, Martha, in her own right. He also said that Amos Wilmot was hiding this land by giving it to his son, and his son then hid it by deeding it to his brother, William H. Wilmot. This time Moodey got a judgement against Amos Wilmot to pay \$241.67 and costs. If not paid, I was to be put under sheriff sale.²³ That always makes me nervous!

Well, then there is a big skip in the deeds, apparently never recorded. The next one I heard is loaded with history, and leads to some confusion. Benjamin Bissel sold to J. W. Briggs the south half of lot 28 on 23 May 1837 by contract for \$865.00. It had a newly constructed fence in the center of the lot, as that north half had been sold off. There was a house on the north part where J. Hoyt lived in 1859. To the east was A. Ritchie's [sic] land (lot 27). On the back of the contract, Briggs assigned and mortgaged the contract to Wm. L. Perkins and Deborah R. Arbuckle. (Perkins was the lawyer for the estate of Deborah's husband.) Briggs had never paid anything. There were some Common Pleas Court activities, and Perkins and Arbuckle purchased the land from Benjamin and Sarah Briggs. In 1845, Mr. and Mrs. Briggs sold the south half of lots 27 and 28 to George Mygatt, Trustee of Margaretta S. Perkins, wife of the said William L. Perkins. This was to be held in trust for Margaretta and her heirs the sole use of her, free and exempt from any right, interest, etc. of her present or any future husband.²⁴ Since this deed did not give measurements, it makes this a bit confusing.

¹⁸ Lake County Clerk of Court, Ohio Chancery Court, vol. C, pp. 397-411, p. 408, Robert Moodey vs. Amos Wilmot; image on Clerk of Court Historical Records page (<https://recordroom.cottsystems.com/lakeoh/guest/search/oib> accessed 2 February 2023).

¹⁹ Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, pp. 397-411, p. 402 : accessed 2 February 2023.

²⁰ Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, pp. 397-411, p. 403 and 408 : accessed 2 February 2023.

²¹ Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, pp. 397-411, pp. 399 : accessed 2 February 2023.

²² Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, pp. 397-411, p. 398 : accessed 2 February 2023.

²³ Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, pp. 397-411, p. 411 : accessed 2 February 2023.

²⁴ Lake County, Ohio recorder, Deed vol. D, p. 267-68, Benjamin Bissell to George Mygatt, Trustee of M. S. Perkins, 1845; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9BH-5Q5P-L?i=453&cat=252762> : accessed 23 May 2023).



Figure 3 1857 Map of Painesville showing William L. Perkins' home

Robert Pearsall Smith, *Map of Geauga and Lake Counties, Ohio* (Philadelphia: S. H. Matthews, 1857; image at Library of Congress (<https://www.loc.gov/item/2012591126/> : accessed 8 February 2023). (The shape of the house is incorrect.)

Long story short, the land was in dispute early on and continued so for several years with different people believing that they owned it, or parts of it. Causes of this were Philip and Martha Green, who were pending divorce, each thought they could sell it.²⁵ Contracts and agreements were made without filing them; and several people thought their liens entitled them to the same property. It was Benjamin Bissell who gave lot 27 to Abraham Ritch to build on. It appears that Attorney Perkins was able to stop the disagreements.

²⁵ Ohio Supreme Court, Chardon, Geauga County, Ohio, Vol. C p. 12, divorce proceedings 18 August 1837, Phillip Green vs Martha Green; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHV-V3D4-99QW-M?i=328&cat=322880> : accessed 27 May 2023).

The Building

There has been much discussion of late as to which part of me came first. Let me set the record straight. The older part is often called “the wing,” consisting of one-and-one-half stories on lot 27. The 1817 map of the Cole, Kerr, and others Addition of Champion Village clearly shows that lot 27 is a bit wider than lot 28 allowing room for that part of the current building in lot 27, but appears to be the center of lots 27 and 28 on some maps.²⁶



Figure 4. “The Wing,” the older part of 83 Wood Street. Only the part with the seven windows was original. An outside door to the basement was on the end, where the little breezeway is now. The basement is only under this part of the house, and the alcove, which came later, and has no entrance.

Photo by Cynthia Turk, 2023.

The original author of this article described it so:

. . .worthy of note is the building site, including a high rise of ground, natural or man-made, forming a raised platform for the house. This hill required a substantial stone wall which serves as a retaining wall for the house to be constructed along Washington Street. This wall is perhaps sixty feet long and five feet high; the rough stonework is very similar in construction to the house foundation and only about ten feet from it. It is cut by stone steps aligned exactly with the main door to the small wing. This strongly suggests that the smaller section pre-dates the big house.²⁷

²⁶ Geauga County, Ohio Engineer’s Office, Tax Map Department, *Historic 1830 Tax map of Champion Village*; image at Engineer’s Office site (<https://www.co.geauga.oh.us/Departments/Engineers-Office/Tax-Map> : accessed 1 October 2021).

²⁷ Nicholas Langhart and Jonathan E. Loudon, “The Perkins House: Some Historical Documentation,” (Painesville, Ohio: unpublished, January 1972); inherited from Carol Loudon’s estate in 1972, in possession of Cynthia Turk.



Figure 5. The original front entrance. The door has been replaced, and vinyl siding added over the original white clapboard. The iron gate is gone, and the left gatepost fell off about 1947. Photo by Cynthia Turk, 2023

This section of the house, after the addition, became a dining room and kitchen with a long room upstairs. The kitchen at the north end of the house has a fireplace on the north wall and a door to the left leading to the upstairs. Behind the fireplace is a set of stairs to the basement. There are windows on the north, east and west sides. The dining room has the “front” door and a window on each side. A south side doorway links this wing to the newer addition. The upstairs is one long room with slanted ceilings. It has two small windows on the west side, and three on the east. There is also a full-sized window on the north side, but may only light the stairs and storage

area. There is a full brick basement under the wing with entrances from the north side and stairs from the kitchen behind the fireplace. It even has windows, one likely used as a coal bin.²⁸

About 1845 when the Perkins family owned the house and land, the newer part of the house was erected to the west, facing Wood Street. Again, a description:

*The earliest known rendering of the house appears in one of the numerous historical - biographical volumes published for Lake County during the eighties and nineties, and is a lithograph whose details cannot be trusted, but in this print the house appears very much as it does today.*²⁹ (See Figure 1.)

The interior trim is plain and heavy on the first floor, narrower and lightly carved with reeding on the second, but the first-floor fireplace mantles and main staircase have likely been modified into distinctly Victorian fashion. Other woodwork appears to be earlier and is apparently original. Window sashes in the main body of the house have been converted to the large four-light double-hung sashes which became popular following the Civil War. All downstairs floors have been parqueted with thin narrow wood strips laid over the original floorboards.

The alignment was later interrupted by the addition of the rear porch added to the back of the [newer] main block. A two-story carriage house was added on the east edge of the property in the mid to late 19th century.

This newer block had a large parlor with a corner fireplace, a living room with another corner fireplace, both on the same chimney, and a long sun room. Upstairs had a bedroom in the southeast corner with a long closet. There was a bedroom on the northwest corner, with a step down, leading to the long “wing” bedroom. The master bedroom on the southwest corner has a fireplace.³⁰

²⁸ Cynthia Turk, this author, granddaughter of Carol and Eugene Loudon, personal memories of childhood and youth.

²⁹ Williams Brothers, *History of Geauga and Lake Counties, Ohio with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Its Pioneers and Most Prominent Men*, (Philadelphia: Williams Brothers, 1878); 212, lithograph of Residence of W. L. Perkins by L. W. Everts; image at *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/oh-geauga-lake-1879-williams/page/n325/mode/2up> : accessed 1 September 2021).

³⁰ Cynthia Turk, memories.



Figure 6. 93 Wood Street facing Wood Street. This is the newer part, with the wing on the left.

Photo by Cynthia Turk, 2023.

In January of 1871, there was a long article in the *Telegraph* about a major fire in the Wilcox block which began in the wood room belonging to and adjacent to the office of William L. Perkins.³¹ Of course, I did not see that one. But then on 27 April 1871, I was struck by lightning.

"Struck by Lightning.

During the heavy thunder storm last Thursday evening, the house of Hon. W. L. Perkins, corner of Washington and Wood Sts, was struck by lightning at two different points almost at the same instant. It first struck a chimney on the north side of the house, scattering some of the top bricks and passed off without further damage. At nearly the same moment it struck the east side, following, as it is supposed, the door-wire into the hall and from thence entered a bed room of the second story in the northeast corner of the house. Here it made considerable havoc, demolishing and setting on fire a spring bed, and also setting the wood on fire in several places. The room being very close, the fire was not discovered till it had made considerable progress. As soon as discovered the alarm was given, and our newly organized fire department was quickly on hand. The family, with neighbors close by, however, succeeded in arresting the flames before them. Mr. Perkin's [sic] loss as is about \$300."³²



Figure 7. The chimney struck by lightning.
Photo by Cynthia Turk, 2023.

There was some major remodeling done after that!

³¹ "The Fire – Almost a Conflagration," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, 12 January 1871, p. 3, col. 3; image at MyHeritage (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-181929/painesville-telegraph?snippet=31345a1a353854ce16d5dd301a6486ea#fullscreen> : accessed 4 September 2021).

³² "Struck by Lightning," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, Wednesday 4 May 1871, p. 3, col. 2, fire at home of W. L. Perkins; image at MyHeritage (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-181997/painesville-telegraph?snippet=67c5439192dc793a454a799084342839> : accessed 3 September 2021).

Before 1904 there was an alcove added, about four by seven feet on the Wood Street side where the wing and the main newer house connect.³³ This very small room off the living room was adequate to accommodate a tiny office. It has a full-length window facing north. It appears to have a little basement, but there is no opening to it, nor is it connected from within to the wing basement. There was a window on the west side, but it now has vent-type pipes coming from it.

Sometime between 1904 and 1911 an ante room or pantry was added to the east of the kitchen.³⁴ It is only eleven feet long and six feet wide.³⁵ It has a window and an external door on the side facing east with a landing and a staircase going north past the end of the “wing.” To accommodate this addition, the northern-most window on the second floor was reduced to only the upper half, and a stained-glass window replaced it.



Figure 8. The alcove. Photo by Cynthia Turk, 2023.

³³ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, (New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1904) p.3; image at Library of Congress (https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4084pm.g4084pm_g068521904/?sp=3&r=-0.686,-0.134,2.372,1.184,0 : accessed 27 May 2023).

³⁴ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, (New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1904) p.3; image at Library of Congress (https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4084pm.g4084pm_g068521904/?sp=3&r=-0.686,-0.134,2.372,1.184,0 : accessed 27 May 2023). Also Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Map of Painesville, Ohio, June 1911, sheet #9, 125 Wood Street; image at *Ohio Web Library* [via public library] (<https://sanborn-ohioweblibrary-org.oh0142.oplin.org/viewer/?id=26654> : accessed 1 September 2021); citing Library of Congress.

³⁵ Lake County, Ohio Auditor, Parcel sketch, card 1, for 83 Wood Street Sketch, Painesville, Ohio; sketch at Auditor’s site (<https://auditor.lakecountyohio.gov/datalets/sketchframe.aspx?mode=s sketch.aspx&sIndex=0&idx=1&LMparent=19> : accessed 27 May 2023).



Figure 9. The ante room addition, photo by Cynthia Turk, 2023.

I don't remember when the bathrooms came to be, but from pictures, about 1910. Water mains are shown on Wood and Washington Streets by 1904,³⁶ likely earlier. The main bathroom is on the second floor of the newer part. It is mostly white with mosaic tiles and a window on the west side by the closet. A separate lavatory with a small toilet and small sink was installed off the sunroom, under the stairs. A third bathroom was added to the "wing" bedroom on the southeast end. The fixtures were later torn out, but plumbing remained.

Changes since 1972, when I was sold again, are overwhelming!

In 1974 an 8 X 11 foot addition was made to the old garage.³⁷ In 1978 a huge new three-car garage was added to the north and a breezeway/mudroom connects it to the house. The back

³⁶ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, (New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1904) p.3; image at Library of Congress (https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4084pm.g4084pm_g068521904/?sp=3&r=-0.686,-0.134,2.372,1.184,0 : accessed 27 May 2023).

³⁷ Community Development Dept., City of Painesville, Building Permits index card, 1838-current, 83 Wood Street, obtained 7 June 2023.

door to the basement is covered by the breezeway.³⁸ There is a covered patio addition to the “carriage house” (old garage) apartment.^{39 40}

It was in 1980 when the new folks sold me to a company which made a major change.⁴¹ I am now a three-apartment complex with another in the carriage house/barn/garage. One of the windows on the back porch was changed to a door.⁴² The older wing became one living space, and the newer part was split by floor.⁴³ Kitchens were added and showers installed. The front door, facing Wood Street, is now an entryway with a door inside for each of the two apartments. They added to the old garage, and turned it into a house!

I was sold again in 1981 to the current owners.⁴⁴

Some of My Early Residents

The first, of course, was probably Abraham Ritch. He was into construction, and built other homes in the area. One of note is the “Dr. Loring Clark Stebbins” house on Mentor Avenue. Interestingly, Aristarchus Champion, was owner from 1825 to 1835, then Martha Green for a

³⁸ Lake County, Ohio recorder, Deed vol. D, p. 267-68, Benjamin Bissell to George Mygatt, Trustee of M. S. Perkins, 1845; image at FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9BH-5Q5P-L?i=453&cat=252762> : accessed 23 May 2023).

³⁹ Observations of the author. Also Community Development Dept., City of Painesville, Building Permits index card, 1938-current, 83 Wood Street, obtained 7 June 2023.

⁴⁰ City of Painesville, Ohio, "Mentor Avenue Historic District Map," July 2009; image at website, (<https://www.painesville.com/index.asp?SEC=9FFDE3C1-6B70-473D-8BB1-1AC9743969F5&DE=6FCA51B3-5A17-4C92-9615-B14B73FDF22D> : accessed 3 August 2023). Also, The Mahda, Bridget Holzheimer, ed., *Mentor Avenue National Historic District: In Beautiful Painesville Ohio* (Painesville, Ohio: Mentor Avenue Historic District Association, 2010). Also Tom Fisher, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory -- Nomination Form," application no. 7800209 for Mentor Avenue Historic District, Painesville, Ohio; National Park Service manuscript file; NARA digital copy (<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/71989595> : accessed 3 August 2023).

⁴¹ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed Record vol. 871, p. 81, No. 680096, (withheld for privacy) to Grasshopper Limited; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Ohio. Deed is undated, but an additional deed, a copy of this one with a notation about Grasshopper Limited, (vol. 874, p. 687), is dated 4 June 1980.

⁴² Community Development Dept., City of Painesville, Building Permits index card, 1838-current, 83 Wood Street, obtained 7 June 2023.

⁴³ City of Painesville, Ohio, "Mentor Avenue Historic District Map," July 2009; image at website, (<https://www.painesville.com/index.asp?SEC=9FFDE3C1-6B70-473D-8BB1-1AC9743969F5&DE=6FCA51B3-5A17-4C92-9615-B14B73FDF22D> : accessed 3 August 2023). Also, The Mahda, Bridget Holzheimer, ed., *Mentor Avenue National Historic District: In Beautiful Painesville Ohio* (Painesville, Ohio: Mentor Avenue Historic District Association, 2010). Also Tom Fisher, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory -- Nomination Form," application no. 7800209 for Mentor Avenue Historic District, Painesville, Ohio; National Park Service manuscript file; NARA digital copy (<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/71989595> : accessed 3 August 2023).

⁴⁴ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Official Record vol. 259, p. 1006, No. 841497, Warrantee Deed, 1981, Grasshopper Limited to [withheld for privacy]; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Ohio.

year, followed by Benjamin Bissell and Abraham Ritch in 1836.⁴⁵ Abraham was still living here in April of 1837. He and Harriet Wood were married 14 November 1827, here in Painesville, Geauga County.⁴⁶

It was 1836 when William L. Perkins first occupied me. On 1 May 1838, he left and a Mr. Rosa moved in.⁴⁷ Honestly, I don't remember anything about Mr. Rosa while he was here.

In late April 1840 Alanson S. Slater was here. In May of 1841, Darrow and Wilmot won a judgement against him and Robert Moodey. Moodey turned right around and sued Mr. Wilmot.⁴⁸ It took a long time, but it was settled. There was so much confusion that I have forgotten about Mr. Slater.

It was 1845 when Mr. Perkins made it official by arranging with Benjamin Bissell the deed of trust for his wife, Margaretta S. Perkins with Trustee, George Mygatt. They got both the south half of lots 27 and 28, and the family moved in.⁴⁹

William Lee Perkins was born 22 January 1799 in Ashford, Connecticut to William and Mary (Lee) Perkins, who were married 12 February 1795.⁵⁰ It seems William Lee came to settle in current Lake County in 1828.⁵¹

⁴⁵ Betsy Scott, "Painesville home targeted for demolition once owned by prominent resident," *The (Lake County, Ohio) News-Herald*, Saturday 20 May 2023 e-Edition (<https://www.news-herald.com/2014/11/12/painesville-home-targeted-for-demolition-once-owned-by-prominent-resident/> : accessed 20 May 2023). This appears to be a second reprint from 12 November 2014.

⁴⁶ Common Pleas Court, Geauga County, Ohio, marriage record, vol. B, p. 80, Abraham A. Ritch and Harriet Wood, 1827; index and image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VN3R-XF4> : accessed 10 June 2023).

⁴⁷ Lake County Clerk of Court, Ohio Chancery Court, vol. C, pp. 397-411, p. 406, Robert Moodey vs. Amos Wilmot; image on Clerk of Court Historical Records page (<https://recordroom.cottsystems.com/lakeoh/guest/search/oib> : accessed 2 February 2023).

⁴⁸ Lake County Chancery Court, vol. C, p. 401-02, Robert Moodey vs. Amos Wilmot; image on Clerk of Court Historical Records page (<https://recordroom.cottsystems.com/lakeoh/guest/search/oib> : accessed 2 February 2023).

⁴⁹ Lake County, Ohio recorder, Deed vol. D, p. 267-68, Benjamin Bissell to George Mygatt, Trustee of M. S. Perkins, 1845; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9BH-5Q5P-L?i=453&cat=252762> : accessed 23 May 2023).

⁵⁰ Lorraine Cook White, ed., *The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records*, vol. not given, (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1994-2002), p. 173 William and Mary Lee family vital records; abstract at *Ancestry*, "Connecticut, U.S., Town Birth Records, pre-1870 (Barbour Collection)" (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1034/images/VBMDUSACT1634_0001-0183?usePUB=true&phsrc=jlr946&phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=583812 : accessed 14 July 2021; citing Ashford Town Vital Records, Vol. 4, p. 282. Original should be obtained from the town clerk.

⁵¹ Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "The Joseph Smith Papers," (Salt Lake City: The Church Historian's Press, n.d); found on *Joseph Smith Papers* (<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/person/william-lee-perkins> : accessed 2 July 2022).

Perkins took his first wife, Miss Julia Gillett, in 1826 in Connecticut,⁵² with whom his first child, William, was born.⁵³ Julia was ill, so they moved west to Geauga County, and she died September 24, 1830.⁵⁴ Mrs. Sarah Margaretta (Oakley) Waite became his second wife January 12, 1837.⁵⁵ She had had one daughter with her late husband, Frederica C. Waite who later married John S. Matthews.⁵⁶ William and Margaretta then had six children, Mary Lee (Mrs. Charles H. Morley 1837-1927),⁵⁷ Julia (1839-1856),⁵⁸ Lucy Mygatt (1842-1868),⁵⁹

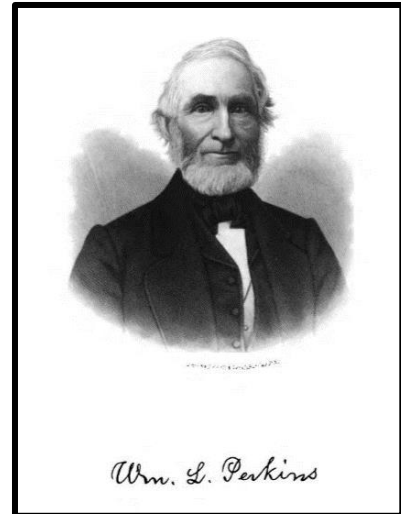


Figure 10 Williams Brothers, *History of Geauga and Lake Counties* . . . p. 63.

⁵² "Connecticut Marriages, 1630-1997," newspaper abstracts for marriage of Julia Gillett and William Perkins; database on *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:F7GD-644> : accessed 15 September 2021); citing three newspapers, *American Mercury*, 12 November 1826, *Connecticut Mirror*, 20 November 1826, and *Connecticut Observer*, 13 November 1826.

⁵³ Department of Health for City of Buffalo, New York, *Register of Deaths*, p. 293, Wm. Perkins; image at Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/61535/images/48746_b436544-00675?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.12660727.1709736169.1626385567-1694324702.1612906836&pid=80277882 : accessed 16 July 2021). Record gives age 66 years and 3 mos.; place of death 199 Allen. Parents listed as Wm. L. born U.S., and Julia. Died 1 Mch but year is cut off; Year is likely 1896, as it is image 676 of 983, and the database is for 1895-1896.

⁵⁴ "Died," *The (Painesville, Ohio) Telegraph*, Tuesday 28 September 1830, p. 3, col. 5, Julia Perkins; image at *FamilySearch*, "Lake, Ohio, United States Records," images, (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHV-V3D4-SFCP> : accessed 15 July 2021), image 480 of 625. Also, Gravestone, Evergreen Cemetery, Painesville, Ohio, Division 1, "Julia A. Gillett/ Wife of William L. Perkins/ Died Sept. 14, 1830/ aged 27 years."

⁵⁵ Geauga County, Ohio Probate Court, Marriage Record, vol. C, p. 231, William L. Perkins and Sarah M. Waite, 12 January 1837; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XD2K-SFJ> : accessed 16 July 2021).

⁵⁶ Lake County, Ohio Probate Court, Estate packet Docket G, case 255, Margaretta S. Perkins, 1872; images at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C37S-V3R7-C?i=224&cat=2806753> : accessed 11 September 2021).

⁵⁷ "Daughter of Pioneer Dies," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, Wednesday 9 June 1927, p. 1, col. 8; image at *Google News* (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=7GbmjkRdlf4C&dat=19270609&printsec=frontpage&hl=en> : accessed 3 September 2021). Also *Find A Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/14058051/mary-lee-morley> : accessed 03 September 2021), memorial page for Mary Lee Perkins Morley (16 Oct 1837–8 Jun 1927), Find a Grave Memorial ID 14058051, citing Evergreen Cemetery, Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, USA ; Maintained by Cherie Atkinson Clark (contributor 46796100).

⁵⁸ William Perkins Family cemetery monument, Evergreen Cemetery, Painesville, Ohio, division 1, Julia Perkins 1856; photos on *Find A Grave* (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/66827326/daniel-oakley-perkins> : accessed 3 September 2021).

⁵⁹ William Perkins Family cemetery monument, Evergreen Cemetery, Painesville, Ohio, division 1, Lucy M. Perkins 1868; photos on *Find A Grave* (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/66827099/lucy-mygatt-perkins> : accessed 3 September 2021).

George (1847-1895),⁶⁰ Daniel Oakley (1842-1847),⁶¹ and John Kunze (1845-1847).⁶² Only two lived past the age of 22 – Mary Lee and George.

William L. Perkins was a lawyer and politician. Having been admitted to the Bar in Geauga County in 1824,⁶³ for twelve years he was the prosecuting attorney for Geauga and then served in the new Lake County, and was a three term Mayor of Painesville.⁶⁴ Perkins and Samuel S. Osborne purchased the office at 72 Main Street in June of 1835.⁶⁵

Perkins took over as editor of the *Geauga (Iron Company) Gazette* in 1829 after the controversial previous editor left.⁶⁶

In 1840 he was the Lake County representative in the Ohio General Assembly and a leader in adoption of a bill establishing the State Bank of Ohio.⁶⁷ In 1843 he was elected to the State Senate and served to 1846, but refused re-election.⁶⁸ In 1844 he was a Presidential Elector (member of the Electoral College) and was a delegate to the Whig Convention which nominated General Winfield Scott for President in 1848.⁶⁹ In 1852 he was elected President of the Whig Party County Convention.⁷⁰

⁶⁰ "Unrequited Labor," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, Wednesday 7 August 1895, p. 2, col. 2; image at *MyHeritage* (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-187207/painesville-telegraph?snippet=0a8b5cbc6c1839d92a051bb8dbeeba6f#fullscreen> : accessed 2 September 2021).

⁶¹ William Perkins Family cemetery monument, Evergreen Cemetery, Painesville, Ohio, division 1 Daniel Oakley Perkins 1847; photos on *Find A Grave* (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/66827326/daniel-oakley-perkins> : accessed 3 September 2021).

⁶² William Perkins Family cemetery monument, Evergreen Cemetery, Painesville, Ohio, division 1 John Kunze 1847; photos on *Find A Grave* (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/66827326/daniel-oakley-perkins> : accessed 3 September 2021).

⁶³ Williams Brothers, *History of Geauga and Lake County, Ohio with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of the Pioneers and Most Prominent Men* (Philadelphia: Williams Brothers, 1878); 30.

⁶⁴ Williams Brothers, *History of Geauga and Lake County*, pp. 23-24, 214.

⁶⁵ Geauga County, Ohio recorder, Deed volume 20, p. 172, Samuel Griffith to W. L. Perkins and S. S. Osborne; image at *FamilySearch* DGS 007066523, image 388-89 (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-997J-Z6YY?i=388&cat=459368> : accessed 15 September 2021).

⁶⁶ "Notice & Caution," *The (Painesville, Ohio) Telegraph and Geauga Free Press*, Tuesday 13 October 1829, p. 3, col. 1, William L. Perkins takes over editing the *Geauga (Iron Company) Gazette* from Charles H. White; image at *FamilySearch* >images >Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, image 281 of 625 (<http://www.familysearch.org/> : accessed 5 September 2021).

⁶⁷ Williams Brothers, *History of Geauga and Lake County, Ohio*; p. 63.

⁶⁸ Williams Brothers, *History of Geauga and Lake County, Ohio*; pp. 26; 63.

⁶⁹ "Whig County Convention," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, 8 September 1852, p. 2, col. 1; image at *MyHeritage* (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-178181/painesville-telegraph?snippet=3daa6644cfb2fee35f8247a59c462a84> : accessed 4 September 2021).

⁷⁰ "Whig County Convention," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, 8 September 1852, p. 2, col. 1; image at *MyHeritage* (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-178181/painesville-telegraph?snippet=3daa6644cfb2fee35f8247a59c462a84> : accessed 4 September 2021).

In July of 1855 William L. Perkins became an insurance agent for both Aetna of Hartford, Connecticut, and the Home Insurance Company of New York City.⁷¹ He fought for women and originated two laws which passed. One was for allowing life insurance for the benefit of orphans and widows. Another law he originated was to protect the rights of a woman against legal requirements for her to satisfy her husband's debts.⁷²

In 1850 the Perkins residence included 12-year-old Elizabeth Culbertson and a ten-year-old boy, J. Culbertson.⁷³ They did take in other boarders such as 17-year-old Frank Hill in 1880. They also had servants, Bridget Powers in 1870,⁷⁴ and Ellen Carroll in 1880, for instance, both from Ireland. And an occasional grandchild would come and go.⁷⁵

At the age of 82, on 2 December 1882, William Lee Perkins died of pneumonia.⁷⁶

Margaretta, in her will, set up a life lease for William, but he was not to inherit the home. It was to go to the children after his death.⁷⁷ And so it was.

All of the living children were the heirs of William L. Perkins and Margaretta his deceased wife. On 20 April 1885, William L. Perkins (Jr.) and Jennie H. his wife of New York; George Perkins and Gertrude E. his wife; and Frederica C. (Waite) Mathews and John S. Mathews, her husband of Fort Scott, Kansas; and Mary L. Morley sold me to Mary Lee's husband, Charles H. Morley for \$3,900.00.⁷⁸

⁷¹ "Fire and Marine Insurance, Statement," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, Wednesday 15 August 1855, p. 4, col. 3; image at *MyHeritage* (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-178776/painesville-telegraph?snippet=ba0bc8a3d5605128679100c83bcb9f38> : accessed 2 September 2021).

⁷² *The Biographical Cyclopaedia and Portrait Gallery with an Historical Sketch of the State of Ohio*, Vol. 3 (Cincinnati, Ohio: Western Biographical Publishing Co., 1884), 738-39 "William Lee Perkins; image at *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/biographicalcycl03west/page/n327/mode/2up?q=%22William+Lee+Perkins%22> : accessed 5 June 2023).

⁷³ 1850 U.S. Census, Lake County, Ohio, ED 43-21, Painesville Village, folio 178 (stamped), dwelling 50, household 50, William L. Perkins; image at *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 6 September 2021).

⁷⁴ 1870 U.S. Census, Lake County, Ohio, ED 43-21, Town of Painesville, p. 22 (penned), dwelling 180, household 177, Wm L. Perkins; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M62T-3N8> : accessed 15 May 2023).

⁷⁵ 1880 U.S. Census, Lake County, Ohio, ED 86, Painesville, p. 36D (penned), dwelling 236, household 247, William L. Perkins; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M89X-42Y> : accessed 15 June 2023).

⁷⁶ Lake County, Ohio Probate Court, death register, vol. 1 p. 106, 1882, William L. Perkins; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GR28-FH6?i=268&cc=1932106&cat=253005> : accessed 15 July 2021).

⁷⁷ Lake County, Ohio Probate Court, Estate packet Docket G, case 255, Margaretta S. Perkins, 1872; images at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C37S-V3R7-C?i=224&cat=2806753> : accessed 11 September 2021).

⁷⁸ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed volume 14, p. 199-202, Heirs of William L. Perkins to Charles H. Morley, 1885; Office of the Recorder, Painesville, Ohio.

All in the Family

Charles H. and Mary Lee (Perkins) Morley were here for a short time. Mary Lee was William Lee Perkins' daughter. These were nice folks, but they went off to Fort Scott, Kansas. C.H. was a wholesale hardware merchant. Their children, Julia Perkins Morley and Margaretta M. (Morley) Wilcox, donated funds in their memory to build and equip the children's room at the Morley Library on Phelps Street in Painesville. Jesse Healy Morley, their uncle, bought the land and built Morley Library in memory of his parents, Albert and Esther (Healy) Morley.⁷⁹

They had a roomer, as noted in the paper.

"Notice to Invalids.

*Dr. Urann, of Boston, who has made so many wonderful cures in the New England states and more recently in this town and vicinity, has been induced by his many friends and patients to remain in town a few months longer and has taken the residence of the late W. L. Perkins, corner Wood and Washington where all invalids can consult him free. For particulars send for circular."*⁸⁰

In September of 1886, the Morleys sold me to Catherine (Tracy) Morley Marshall.⁸¹ She was the widow of Thomas Hiram Morley, the brother of Charles Henry Morley who had married Mary Lee Perkins. I suppose she was not technically a Perkins relative, but close enough for me! She had remarried to Seth Marshall, the well-known abolitionist.^{82 83}

Catherine's daughter, Katherine Tracy "Kate" Morley, married Henry Arthur Warren 12 June 1873.⁸⁴

⁷⁹ "Morley Library," Painesville, Ohio, ca 2008; data at Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morley_Library : accessed 9 June 2023); citing Morley Library History (morleylibrary.org).

⁸⁰ "Notice to Invalids." *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, Thursday 31 July 1885, p.1 col. 1; image at *Google News* (<https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=7GbmjkrDl4C&dat=18850730&printsec=frontpage&hl=en> : accessed 3 September 2021).

⁸¹ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed volume 15, p. 343, C. H. Morley to Catherine T. Marshall, 21 September 1886; recorder's office, Painesville, Ohio.

⁸² Lake County, Ohio Probate Court, marriage records, Vol. D, p. 64, 20 September 1864, Mr. Seth Marshall and Mrs. Catherine T. Morley; index and image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XZXX-H43> : accessed 10 June 2023).

⁸³ "The capture of Milton in Ohio, by the kidnapers," *Lake County History Center News*, May-July 2016, pp. 4-6; online at (<chrome-extension://efaidnbnmnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/> <https://lakehistorycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/May-July-2016-Newsletter.pdf> : accessed 10 June 2023).

⁸⁴ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed volume K, p. 298-99, Zenas Blish to William L. Perkins, 1854; Office of the Recorder, Painesville, Ohio.

*"--Mr. Henry A. Warren's family have removed from Mentor Avenue to the house formerly known as the William L. Perkins Homestead on Washington street. The property is now owned by Mrs. Seth Marshall. The interior of the house has been remodeled and improved, making it a very elegant and attractive, yet cosey home."*⁸⁵

In April of 1887 they moved in. In 1895 Henry and family, including Miss M.M. (a student) were still living here with Mrs. Marshall. And they had a servant too, Miss M. Morrison.⁸⁶ It was a busy time for Mrs. Kate M. Warren, as she was always working on her family history. She must have done well, since she got into the Daughters of the American Revolution.⁸⁷ Kate and Henry had four children, May Morley, Thomas, and Catherine F. (Mrs. Albert P. King), and one who died young.⁸⁸ By 1900 they had moved across the street to 135 Washington near Wood Street,⁸⁹ which was on lot 53 that William Perkins had owned.⁹⁰

⁸⁴ Lake County, Ohio Probate Court, marriage records, Vol. E, folio 187, 12 June 1873, Mr. Henry A. Warren and Miss Kate Tracy Morley; index and image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XZXK-B9Z> : accessed 10 June 2023).

⁸⁵ "Personals," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, Wednesday 14 April 1887, p. 3, col. 2; image at *MyHeritage* (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-185417/painesville-telegraph?snippet=006483ab5c5b77056f2632374b27063f#fullscreen> : accessed 3 September 2021).

⁸⁶ *1895 Painesville City (Ohio) City General Directory*, Abstract by Linda Jeffery; listing on Lake County, *OHGenWeb* (<http://usgenwebsites.org/OHLake/director/1895pvu.html> : accessed 8 September 2021).

⁸⁷ Mary S. Lockwood, Chair Thirteenth Continental Congress, *Directory of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution* (Washington D.C.: NSDAR, 1904); image on *Google Books* (https://www.google.com/books/edition/Directory_of_the_ChaptersOfficersandM/8-QWAAAAIAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=%22125+wood%22+painesville+ohio&pg=PA645&printsec=frontcover : accessed 8 September 2021). Also, *DAR Genealogical Research* website, Member no. 272525, Kate Tracy Morley Warren; (https://services.dar.org/Public/DAR_Research/search_descendants/default.cfm?action=search&MyLast_Name=Morley&First_name=Kate : accessed 12 June 2023).

⁸⁸ "Last Rites are Held Mrs. Katherine Warren," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, 22 Nov 1921, p. 1, last col. obit for Katherine Warren; image at *MyHeritage* (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-198747/painesville-telegraph?indId=externalindividual-e4e70009c1adde36136c4494a5882084&mrid=6bb2a97a401c04afbb37944b80793249&snippet=3611231707453f55956bfbfc2883bf7f0> : accessed 4 September 2021). Also, 1900 U.S. Census, Lake County, Ohio, population schedule, ED 65, Painesville Village, sheet 7B (penned), dwelling 165, household 172, Henry Warren; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MMDH-N37> : accessed 9 June 2023).

⁸⁹ 1900 U.S. Census, Lake County, Ohio, population schedule, ED 65, Painesville Village, sheet 7B (penned), dwelling 165, household 172, Henry Warren; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MMDH-N37> : accessed 9 June 2023).

⁹⁰ Alexander C. Stark, *New Century Atlas of Lake County, Ohio* (Philadelphia: Century Map Company, 1915), Painesville, p. 18; image at Lake County, Ohio Tax Map Department (<https://gis.lakecountyohio.gov/ScannedSurveys/Atlas/1915/Painesville%20City%20Pg%2017%20&%2018.pdf> :

Mrs. Marshall died here in November of 1921. My parlor was really abuzz with so many people coming to pay their respects. On 23 February 1922, George B. Morley, as Trustee of the estate of Catharine T. Marshall, George B. Morley in his own right, and his wife, Lulu A. Morley, Quit Claimed me to the three kids, Thomas M. Warren, of Saginaw, Michigan, May Morley Warren, of Painesville, and Katharine Warren King, of Tacoma, Washington.⁹¹ May was here for some time, being the only local one.

Then in July 1922, I was no longer “in the family” or rather the family was no longer in me.

More Turmoil

July of 1922 began some more ownership difficulties. Mathew Funder and his wife Signe Anna Margaret had purchased me on 3 July 1922 from May Morley Warren, Katharine Warren King, Albert A. King, Thomas M. Warren, and Grace B. Warren.⁹² Funders had just come back from a trip to their homeland of Norway to settle an estate, so it must have gone well. They had been living at 113 West Washington Street, which was several houses to the east of me and across the street. He was a civil engineer for a manufacturing firm, and they had adopted a daughter, Eleanor Marion who was about 11 years old when I first encountered her. On occasion they would take off for Norway for months at a time.⁹³ Lots 27 and 28 were already cut in half, long ago, but now, another 50 feet on my north side was sold to the Cleveland Trust Bank, holder of the mortgage on me.⁹⁴ On 2 May 1929, the bank sold that 50 feet to M. C. and Julia G. Helm.⁹⁵ It went to Mr. Charles A. and Linda Streater in 1930.⁹⁶ Streeters sold the 50 feet to Mr. Frank Starkweather on 10 January 1934.⁹⁷ The next day it reverted to the Streeters, but this time it included a 1931 easement – a ten foot strip on my eastern side so the Helms could get their

accessed 1 September 2021). Also Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed volume K, p. 298-99, Zenas Blish to William L. Perkins, 1854, lot 53; Office of the Recorder, Painesville, Ohio. Also 1900 U.S. Census, Lake County, Ohio, population schedule, ED 65, Painesville Village, sheet 7B (penned), dwelling 165, household 172, Henry Waren; image at *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MMDH-N37> : accessed 9 June 2023).

⁹¹ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed volume 87, p. 381, 1922, George B. Morley Trustee to Thomas M. Warren, May Morley Warren, and Katharine Warren King, 1922; Office of the Recorder, Painesville, Ohio.

⁹² Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed volume 87, p. 419, 3 July 1922, May Morley Warren, Thomas M. Warren, and Katharine Warren King to Mathew Funder and Signe M. Funder; Office of the Recorder, Painesville, Ohio.

⁹³ Lake County, Ohio Common Pleas Court, U.S. Passport Application No. 1872, 6 May 1920 Signe Anna Margaret Funder and daughter Eleanor; image at *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/580091:1174?tid=&pid=&queryId=4a297a54f9b51b70dd1bb619305d5d78&phsrc=Xnt188&phstar_t=successSource : accessed 15 June 2023). Also Application no. 1871 for Mathew Funder.

⁹⁴ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed volume 138, p. 15, 9 August 1930, Mathew and Signe Funder to the Cleveland Trust Company; Office of the Recorder, Painesville, Ohio.

⁹⁵ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed vol. 129, p. 229, Mathew Funder to M.C. Helm and Julie G. Helm; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Ohio.

⁹⁶ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed vol. 137, p. 380-81, The Cleveland Trust Company to Charles Streater, 1930; Office of the Recorder, Painesville, Lake County, Ohio.

⁹⁷ Lake County, Ohio recorder, deed vol. 147, p. 405, Charles A. and Linda Streater to Frank A. Starkweather, 19 January 1934. Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Ohio.

animals to their property from Washington Street.⁹⁸ Beginning in November 1934 Mrs. Helen Gage Carter lived out her life there.⁹⁹

There was just one little hiccup. The Bank apparently never got their full mortgage payment and was granted a sheriff sale. They wanted \$24,496.44, but got \$7,750 from Mathew Funder at the sale on 4 May 1936.¹⁰⁰ I think it may have been a way to reduce his mortgage. You can imagine I was feeling a bit uneasy for quite some time. Mathew died in Norway in 1965.¹⁰¹

The Funders lived here, between trips to Europe, until they sold me in August of 1940 to the Calvary Bible Church of Painesville.¹⁰²

Calvary Bible Church, now Calvary Friendship Baptist Church, apparently never figured out how to use me. On 15 December 1946, the church voted to sell the house and petitioned the Common Pleas Court for permission. They already had a buyer. On 17 February 1947 authorization to sell was granted, and the deed was drawn up on the 21st of March.¹⁰³

Eugene Louden and his wife Carol E. (Cook) Louden purchased the home for \$9,000.00. They had three children. I hardly got to know the oldest, Bill, except that he helped a lot with some fixup and painting. He had been in the Army Air Corps for a year, discharged on 28 November 1946.¹⁰⁴ And he had other interests at the time as well. He was married 5 June 1948, so he was only here a little over a year.¹⁰⁵

The other two children were much younger. They had a variety of interests and friends and were generally kind to me. What kid didn't slide down my banister?

⁹⁸ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, deed vol. 147 p. 410, 1934, Frank Starkweather to Charles A. Streator; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Lake County, Ohio. Also: Lake County, Ohio recorder Mortgage vol. 91, p. 560-61, easement between M. C. Helm, Belle Helm, and Charles A. Streator, 4 March 1931. Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Ohio.

⁹⁹ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, deed vol. 151 p. 185, 1934, C. A. Streator to Helen Gage Carter; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Lake County, Ohio. ALSO, Cynthia Turk's personal knowledge.

¹⁰⁰ Lake County Ohio Recorder, Deed vol. 156, p. 430, Sheriff's Deed, Ex. Doc. 13, page 14227, 1936, M. C. Helm et al by Sheriff to Mathew Funder; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Lake County, Ohio.

¹⁰¹ Foreign Service of the United States of America, Department of State, "Report of the Death of an American Citizen," American Embassy, Oslo, Norway, 21 February 1968, Matthew Funder, d. 19 August 1965; image at *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/56313:1616> : accessed 15 June 2023).

¹⁰² Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed volume 177, p. 414, Mathew Funder and Signe M. Funder to Calvary Bible Church, Painesville, Ohio; Office of the Recorder, Painesville, Ohio.

¹⁰³ Lake County Ohio Recorder, Deed vol. 230, p. 168-70, 1947, Calvary Baptist Church to Eugene Louden; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Lake County, Ohio.

¹⁰⁴ U. S. Army Air Corps, Surviving Enlisted Record and Report of Separation (DD 214), William E. Louden Serial No. 45 023 645, Separation 28 Nov 1946; original in possession of the author.

¹⁰⁵ Lake County, Ohio Probate Court, marriage record, vol. 23, p. 147, entry no. 293, Louden-Gregory, 5 June 1948.

The lady of the house was active in the Congregational Church, and raised prize-winning African violets. By the time Carol moved out, she had violets in every room, and the basement was full, too. I don't mean little flower pots, but huge growing trays with long fluorescent lights hanging over them. Gene was in charge of Storrs and Harrison Nurseries,¹⁰⁶ an expert rose budder, and stationery engineer. His last job was at Diamond Alkali (now Valero), a major chemical plant in Fairport Harbor, Ohio at the time. He had a stroke, then a fall, and after several years in a wheelchair, died in 1969. The kids were all married, and Carol was home alone. She took in some boarders. Oh, some of the things I saw! Carol finally asked them to leave. I became too much for Carol to manage, and she moved to an apartment in 1972.¹⁰⁷

That meant I was up for sale again.¹⁰⁸ The new people did a lot of repairs and redecorating. I was missing children, and they had nice ones. They adorned my front porch with a historic home plaque through the Lake County Historical Society.¹⁰⁹ And I am so excited to be part of the Mentor Avenue Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places!¹¹⁰

After being divided up into three apartments, and the garage converted to a house, I was sold again on 4 June 1981 to the current owners,¹¹¹ and tenants come and go.

¹⁰⁶ "Storrs and Harrison, Inc., Is Sold to Geneva Nurseryman," *Painesville (Ohio) Telegraph*, Friday 9 October 1942, p. 1, cols. 3-5; image at *MyHeritage* (<https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10604-265206/painesville-telegraph?snippet=2e302f4c70fcb0db24ca06b78416bd69> : accessed 21 August 2021).

¹⁰⁷ Personal knowledge of the Cynthia Turk.

¹⁰⁸ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Deed Record vol. 760, p. 836, No. 514659, January 1972, Carol Loudon to James F. and Betty L. Dominick; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Ohio. Also, James Dominick, letter to Lake County Historical Society re 83 Wood Street, Painesville, Ohio, Historic Homes File, No. HH 127, 9 February 1972.

¹⁰⁹ James Dominick, Lake County (Ohio) Historical Society "Application: Heritage Home or Historic Marker," file no. HH 127, July 1973, 83 Wood St., Painesville, Ohio.

¹¹⁰ City of Painesville, Ohio, "Mentor Avenue Historic District Map," July 2009; image at website, (<https://www.painesville.com/index.asp?SEC=9FFDE3C1-6B70-473D-8BB1-1AC9743969F5&DE=6FCA51B3-5A17-4C92-9615-B14B73FDF22D> : accessed 3 August 2023). Also, The MAHDA, Bridget Holzheimer, ed., *Mentor Avenue National Historic District: In Beautiful Painesville Ohio* (Painesville, Ohio: Mentor Avenue Historic District Association, 2010). Also Tom Fisher, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory -- Nomination Form," application no. 7800209 for Mentor Avenue Historic District, Painesville, Ohio; National Park Service manuscript file; NARA digital copy (<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/71989595> : accessed 3 August 2023).

¹¹¹ Lake County, Ohio Recorder, Official Record vol. 259, p. 1006, No. 841497, Warrantee Deed, 1981, Grasshopper Limited to [withheld for privacy]; Lake County Recorder's office, Painesville, Ohio.

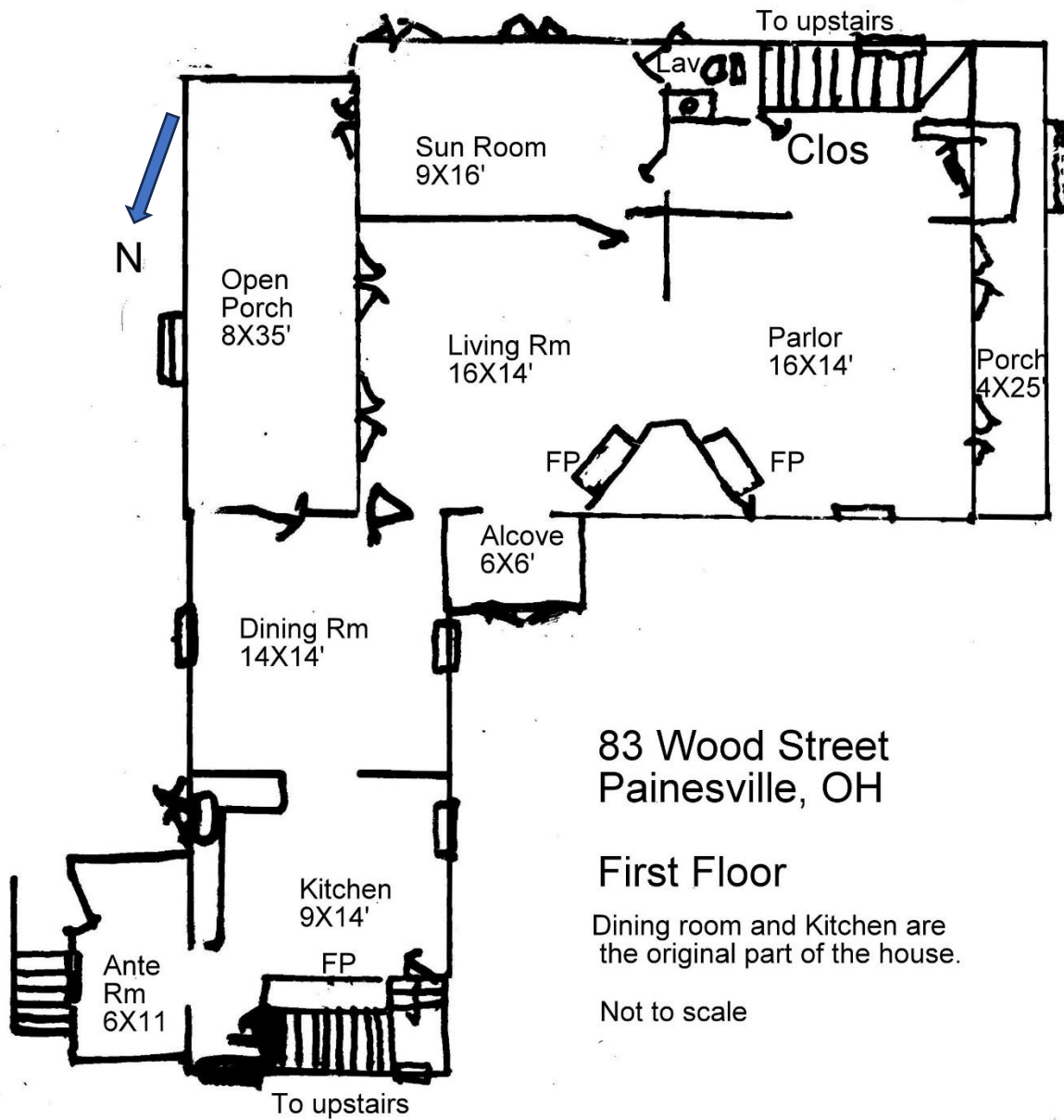


Figure 11.

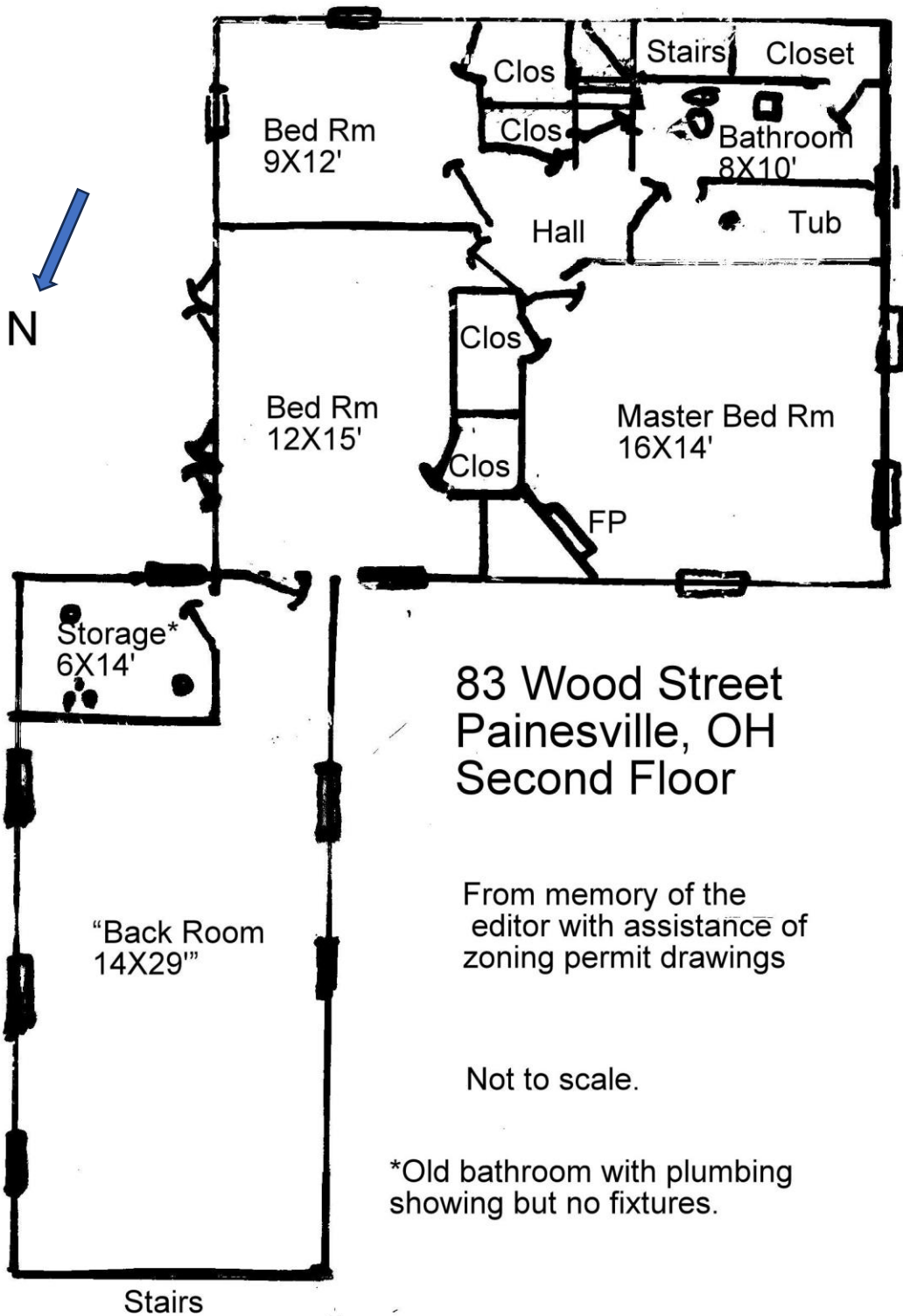


Figure 12.

About This Work

83 Wood Street was the home of my grandparents from 1947 to 1972. After the death of Grandma Carol Loudon much of her personal estate came into the possession of my father, William E. Loudon. At his death in 1999, I discovered a brief undocumented history of the Wood Street house. It was written by Nicholas Langhart, a Washington Street neighbor, and my uncle, Jonathan E. Loudon, who lived in the home. It was researched in 1965 and written 1972. This item which piqued my interest, became a source for this new writing.

Nicholas Langhart pursued a graduate degree in historic preservation from Cornell University; he is now director of the Forbush Memorial Library in Westminster, Massachusetts.

Jonathan Loudon earned his Master's degree in Library Science at Western Michigan University, and became the director of the Bossard Library in Gallipolis, Ohio. Upon retirement, he was working his small dairy farm. Unfortunately, Uncle Jon passed away in November 2023, just after this was completed. His help over the years of research and writing was invaluable. This is published in his memory.

My major questions were: When was the house built? and Which part of the house came first? This became a major project, which has been quite enjoyable.

Genially,

Cynthia Turk, Certified Genealogist®

21 March 2024