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News Clipping - 1962, May 17 - Restored Andrews Home to be Opened to Public Next Sunday

Glenn James

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FOREST CITY COURIER

RUTHERFORD COUNTY'S OLDEST, LARGEST AND MOST PROGRESSIVE NEWSPAPER

VOL. 42—NO. 70

FOREST CITY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1962

SECTION B



COLONIAL TYPE BED in the Powell B. Owens, Jr. home which will be open for public inspection Sunday afternoon. Proceeds will go to Brittan Presbyterian church.



TERESA OWENS, daughter of Mrs. Powell B. Owens, Jr. is shown seated at an antique organ in the living room of the renovated Andrews home in the Cane Creek community.

Fund ... To Come In

[REDACTED]

Restored Andrews Home To Be Opened To Public Next Sunday

By GLENN JAMES

The public will get an opportunity to see the restored James Andrews home place in the Cane Creek section Sunday afternoon from 2 to 3 p.m. . . an experience that would be unbelievable to the early residents of the home.

Although the outside of the historical old brick plantation-type home looks very much like it did back in the early 1700's, the inside is completely modern. Modern lighting fixtures, automatic hot air heat, television, stereo music, a modern electric kitchen, and other modern appliances are additions to the home that earlier settlers would be unable to grasp.

Open house is being held by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Powell B. Owens Jr. because of pressing demands from the public week after week since reconstruction has been completed, to view the home. Mr. Owens is a great grandson of James Andrews and is the fourth generation of the Andrews family to occupy the house which was bought in 1895 by the Andrews family. . . from a Mr. Hamilton.

Mr. Andrews had just returned from the California gold rush at the time he purchased the eight room dwelling. The exact date the home was built is unknown, however a piece of lumber was found in the home with a shipping date of 1700 and a fireplace of the house contains a date "December 30, 1740."

The home is constructed of handmade brick thought to have been made nearby. It is situated on a knoll in one of the most beautiful scenic areas of the county and has been a showplace during its long history and toured by many historical groups.

The house is built of solid brick petitions, twelve to fourteen inches in thickness, each starting from ground level. The rooms are large with ten-foot ceilings. It is three stories tall and contains eight rooms, three halls, a large room on the third floor and two large front porches. Nearby in a wooded area stand the old spring house, constructed out of the same type of handmade brick, which was the water supply and storage house for dairy products and perishables of early families.

The only change in the exterior of the house is a large ranch style patio extending into a "L" across the back of the house. The floor is covered with broken tile. Original locks remain on the doors,

banisters of the porches, doors, and stairways are original. Hand-made nails and wooden pegs remain in much of the structure. Solid masonry walls are 18 inches thick, large open fireplaces remain in most of the rooms and some of the cupboards remain the same as they were more than 250 years ago

The original structure had only one door to most rooms. Additional doors for convenience have been installed during renovation. Three and four-way wall switches have been added in every room for convenience. Some of the floors have been covered over with hardwood flooring, others have been sanded and refinished. Making the home more attractive is a number of antiques inherited from both families, along with early American furniture and reproductions.

A door to an outside hallway has been added to the "girls room" on the second floor of the home. As the house was originally built the room could only be reached by a stairway leading from the parents' master bedroom. No one could enter or leave the room without going through the parents room.

James Andrews, from whom the house has been handed down from generation to generation, was the son of Samuel and Mira

Groves Andrews. Little is known about James Andrews outside of the fact that he was one of the incorporators of the old Rutherford & Spartanburg Railroad which was chartered in 1877.

Samuel Andrew, father of James, was a large landowner and was very active in the commercial and civic life of Rutherford county. He was active in the county militia before the Civil War and was said to have been an ardent Whig who saw service in the American Revolution. A skirmish between Colonel Ferguson's British troops and Charles McDowell's Rangers is said to have taken place near the Andrews home site.

History has it that when Ferguson was encamped on the large plantation containing several thousand acres of land, he pressed Samuel Andrews into service as a guide. He was instructed to go on a foraging party among the mountain coves and point out Whig families who might possess cattle, hogs and poultry for use of the British troops.

The present day owners are mighty proud of the old, historical home which is rich in history and tradition of early Rutherford county.

Numbers of out-of-county guests are expected for the open house, including Mrs. O. Max Gardner Sr. of Shelby, one of the descendents of the family. Mrs. Gardner will speak briefly at 4 p.m.



CARROLL BARRINGER, Republican candidate for congress from the 10th District, will be the principal speaker Friday at 3 o'clock during a county-wide Republican Rally at the Court House in Rutherfordton. All Republican candidates and the public is invited by James Arthur Callahan, chairman of the GOP.