

History: It was first owned by the Buchanans, a prominent family in colonial days. It passed from the hands of the Buchanans to Congressman W. W. Boyce; next to James N. Shedd about the period of the Mexican war, when the building was remodeled in the Spanish style of architecture as a home for the Shedd family. In 1869 James N. Shedd conveyed the property to Rev. Thomas W. Erwin, who next deeded it to Samuel B. Clowney who in turn made a conveyance of it to his wife, Margaret W. Clowney. The last named deeded it to A. S. Douglas, an attorney of the Winnsboro bar, who occupied it as a residence to the date of his death. The heirs of Mr. Douglas sold the property to the Winnsboro Mills. The corporation has remodeled it into a high class hotel under the name of The Fairfield Inn.

Description: It is a 14 room frame building—two stories, equipped in every way with modern convenience for the accommodation of tourists and visitors.

On the grounds of the Inn is a putting golf course and an 18 hole golf course is just across the Southern Railway track that faces the lawn of the Inn. Tennis courts are laid out. The rooms are all large, 18 x 16. The dining room has seating capacity for forty guests. The Inn is open to the public.

#### S. U. Robinson House

Historic interest: This house is interesting because it was the headquarters of Kilpatrick and his officers during the War between the States.

Location: On S-215 in Fairfield County one eighth mile South of Monticello and 5 miles South of intersection of S-215 and S-22.

History: It was built as a home in slavery times by Dr. James Davis whose father, Jonathan Davis was President of the Board of Trustees of Furman Academy, 3 miles west of Winnsboro in 1834. Dr. James Davis' mother was Rebecca Kincaid, whose father, Captain James Kincaid operated the first Cotton gin in this country. Dr. Davis was an extensive cotton planter. The Sultan of Turkey secured his services at a high salary to come to Turkey and direct his subjects in methods of cotton cultivation, production, and its uses. On his return about 1845, he brought back with him a jack ass, an Arabian stallion, some mares, Cashmere goats, blooded cattle, and even chickens. He was known afterwards as Turkey Jim Davis.

He built the handsome home now owned and occupied by Samuel Robinson. When Sherman and his armies invaded Fairfield in 1865, the Cavalry arm of the service was under Colonel Kirkpatrick, He made this home his headquarters for 11 days.

Description: It is a large two story house, four rooms down stairs, four in the second story divided by two halls 12 feet in width. The dimensions of all rooms are 18 x 18 x 14. There are windows to each room all protected by venetian blinds. Projecting from the front of the house are upper and lower piazzas. The house stands on high pillars, 8 ft. high. On the sides of the front entrance and above the front door are fan shaped figures of blown glass. The mantels are curious tracery, oriental in design and are hand carved. Oak trees in the yard are over 90 years old.

## FACTS ABOUT FAIRFIELD

By W. W. DIXON

12/17/1936

Continuing with the old historic sites and homes commenced in your last issue we take four of these for the article.

#### Old Furman University

Historic Interest: These buildings are of interest, due to the fact that they are old and were once a site of the present Furman University now at Greenville, S. C.

Location: The buildings are about 3 miles South West of Winnsboro and 2 miles West of U. S. Highway 21. on the Winnsboro-Jenkinsville County highway. The said road or highway passes through the property. One building is on the left of the road and one on the right hand,

History: The State Baptist Convention met in Charleston in 1834. Rev. A. W. Hodges suggested a committee be appointed that should enquire into the expediency of removing the institution from High Hills in Sumter County near Statesburg. The Convention elected the following as a Board of Trustees: Jonathan Davis, President, Judge John Belton O'Neal and I. L. Brooks, Vice President, J. B. Furman, Secretary and A. D. Jones, Treasurer. The school was transferred to 3 miles South west of Winnsboro and named for Dr. Richard Furman, Father and founder of the State Baptist Convention. Two buildings were constructed, one on either side of the road, one for students of Theology, the other as an English and Classical school. In 1851 Furman University and the faculty were moved to Greenville, S. C.

Description: Building No. 1 originally a three story brick structure, contained fourteen rooms with a 12 foot hall dividing each story. The third story has been removed and the structure is now owned by Mrs. Warren Castles. It is now occupied by G. P. Walker with his large family.

Building No. 2 is situated on the North side of the Winnsboro-Jenkinsville road or highway. It is a two story brick structure containing 8 rooms 18 x 18 x 16 and a hallway of 10 feet between the rooms in the lower and upper stories. It is in excellent repair and the premises were kept. The cedar trees, the holly tree and the oaks about the premises are a hundred years old. The house is used as a family residence of the owner, the widow, Mrs. Samuel P. Timms.

Old mahogany bureaus and side boards about the home are of great age and beauty. The mantles are hand carved and of delicate tracery in two of the down stairs rooms.

#### The Leonard Robinson House

Historic Interest: This house is of interest because of its great age and as being the residence of the Revolutionary patriot, John Buchanan.

Location: One block East of U. S. Highway 21 on Bratton Street, second house South of intersection of College and Bratton Streets, on West side of Bratton.

History: The house was erected between 1775 and 1778. It is peculiar in that originally it was a two story house with only four rooms, two on the ground floor and two above. The rooms are 18 x 16. The ceilings of the lower rooms are low, 10 feet from floor to ceiling, the height from floor to ceiling of the upper rooms is 12 feet. In 1816, a counterpart of the original house was added on the South side and now a ten foot hall separates the old and new structures forming one house.

Distinction about the older part of the house is the mantle, ornamental and hand carved and the ceiling of the upper rooms made of rosewood, deep laying intricate curlicues which are worthy of study and excite your interest. Two beautiful deodora trees and one weeping willow lend grace and charm to the home and front lawn. It is now the residence of Mrs. J. Leonard Robinson.

#### Old Brick Church

Historic Interest: This church interesting on account of its age, the place of the origin and organization of the first A. R. P. Synod in America, and from the fact of its visitation by Sherman's troops during the Civil War.

Location: On the west bank of Little River where the Winnsboro-Jenkinsville highway crosses the stream about 12 miles west of Winnsboro. From the church going west on the same road or highway you connect with U. S. Highway 215.

History: The cornerstone of this building is as old as the American Revolution. It is the place where the Seceders of the South, on May

12/17/1936  
Newspaper