

CALDWELL HOUSE

YONGUE — BONES — PALMER — ELLIOTT — CALDWELL

The CALDWELL HOUSE is one of the earlier cottage-type houses that were built in Winnsboro. Although similar to many others of the same period, it differs from them in its own unique architecture.

The main body of the house is rectangular, covered with a gently sloping gable roof. The roof of the house proper covers the porch which fronts it and is supported by four beautiful, fluted, round columns, two on either end. Jutting out from the porch is a gabled portico which covers the center portion. This is supported by four columns like those before mentioned, making eight columns in all across the front of the building and giving it a most impressive appearance. Plain picket bannisters enclose the porch, portico, and wide steps at the entrance. The step bannisters end against square newel posts, topped with acorn-designed caps. The floor level of this house is about four or five feet above the surface of the ground.

The Colonial door is set in a handsome frame decorated with sidelights and carved moldings. On either side of the entrance are two well-spaced windows flanked by handmade slatted shutters. A wing extends to the rear of the building. In the yard is an old kitchen with giant fireplaces, swinging cranes, and pot-racks.

Although this house is located in the heart of the town of Winnsboro, it was built in the order of a plantation house with a cotton gin (burned in the early 1900's) and other outbuildings that are necessary to plantation life. The interior is spacious and beautifully adorned with handsome doors, mantels, moldings, and trim. It is a splendid example of the better homes that were erected in Winnsboro in the early part of the nineteenth century.

The grounds are complementary to the building, well laid out and neatly kept. Large trees and quaint picket fences further enhance the beauty of the setting.

The CALDWELL HOUSE is on the corner of Zion and Hudson Streets and near historic MOUNT ZION SCHOOL. In 1834 the lot was owned by Mrs. Rebecca Yongue, who gave it to her daughter, Elizabeth P. Bones. The consideration was “. . . Natural love and affection to my daughter Elizabeth P. Bones . . .”

At that time Mrs. Yongue owned considerable property in this section of Winnsboro, including her home, now called the CATHCART HOUSE. Mrs. Bones built the CALDWELL HOUSE shortly after she received the lot and maintained it as her home until 1866 when she deeded it to Harriett W. Palmer. This is wording found in the deed, “. . . In consideration of my natural love and affection toward my grand-daughter Harriett Woodward Palmer, wife of Doctor John D. Palmer, and in further consideration of the care and attention which I am assured my said Grand-Daughter Harriett Woodward Palmer will bestow in providing for my natural wants and comforts during the infirmities of my old age . . .”

Harriett W. Palmer sold the property in 1884 to Henry L. Elliott, who in the same year gave it for “. . . love and affection to my daughter Marion E.



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Caldwell . . ." The house was given to Mrs. Caldwell by her father as a wedding gift. The place is now owned by H. E. Caldwell, a son of Mrs. Marion E. Caldwell. He and his family reside here and keep the old house in excellent condition.

OLD METHODIST PARSONAGE

YONGUE – CATHCART – HAMMOND – DuBOSE – ST. JOHN'S
CHURCH – McCAULEY – METHODIST CHURCH – WILLIAMS

The OLD METHODIST PARSONAGE on Zion Street ranks among the older Winnsboro homes. It is an attractive, small, cottage-type house, covered with a gable roof and fronted by a gabled porch. The original building consisted of four rooms and a hall on the first floor and two rooms and a hall on the second. The kitchen was in the rear.

This house has been enlarged by having a wing of several rooms added to the back of the structure. In the porch gable are small twin windows. The porch is supported by four hand-cut wooden columns and is enclosed with plain picket bannisters. It is built several feet above the ground and is entered by a flight of stone steps. The front door is of a plain Colonial design set in a paned frame surrounded by sidelights.

There is no record as to when the building was erected but, judging by early accounts it was probably built by the Yongues, who at one time owned considerable property in the area. The "Widow Yongue" deeded this place to her son, Alexander W. Yongue, who in 1840 sold it to Robert Cathcart.

From the Estate of Robert Cathcart the place was sold to J. B. Hammond in 1850. Later, at a sale by Sheriff R. C. Woodward in 1857, titles were taken by Theodore DuBose. At this time there is a skip in the chain of ownership. Mr. DuBose either sold or gave the little house to St. John's Episcopal Church for a rectory. In the years after the Confederate War his son, William Porcher DuBose, was rector of this church until he removed to Sewanee where he became one of the greatest educators of his day. In 1884 the church sold this property to Sallie F. McCauley, who in 1888 transferred it to her husband, D. J. McCauley.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, became the next owner in 1898, and from that time until 1957 it was used as the Methodist parsonage. Broadus B. Williams bought the little house from the church in 1957 and remodeled and restored it for his home.

A detailed description of this house and neighborhood is given in an article written for Harper's Magazine in 1910 by W. W. Lord, Jr., a son of Doctor Lord who was the Episcopal rector during the Federal invasion of Winnsboro. Doctor Lord and his family came to Winnsboro from Vicksburg, Mississippi, after it had fallen to the Union Army. The account is most complimentary of the people of the town and of their generosity to the family of the refugee clergyman.

When it was learned that the Northern Army was marching on to Winnsboro, Doctor Lord and the only medical doctor left in the town, an elderly man weighing over three hundred pounds, went out to meet the general