

## S.C. - Homes, Historic - York County



**HAFNER HOUSE** — This example of early York county architecture is in an excellent state of preservation. The name "Hafner" is spelled "Hefner" by some members of the family. In fact the gravestones in Bullock Creek cemetery have the differing spelling for the two brothers, Mark and Andrew. (Herald Photo.)

A modern bathroom has been built between the old kitchen and the front part of the house. The home is probably one of the few rural homes in the county occupied by a Negro family and possessing modern conveniences such as a bath. Laurence and Margaret Burris and their 10 children live in the house.

Even before the day of modern electricity brought by R.E.A. the place had its electric current furnished by a windmill. In the farm yard is a modern 90 ton cement silo to furnish feed for the more than 125 cattle that feed on the Homesley estate.

## Early History Of Hafner Family Tied To Old Home Near Sharon

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### House, Well Over 100 Years Old, Is Yet In Good Shape

By Elizabeth Reed

The fine old Mark Hafner house about seven miles south of Sharon was built well over 100 years ago by Hafner and his brother, Andy, who was a noted builder of this section in the first half of the 19th century.

Mark Hafner died about 1900. He and his wife, Mary McDaniel Hafner, were the parents of 8 children. Agnes H. Hafner married John Craig Kirkpatrick and lived across Turkey Creek about four miles distant. Kizzie Hafner married Will Kirkpatrick and founded a home at Blackstock. Lou married Davis Kirkpatrick. Maggie married Will Ferguson and lived in Chester county. Wylie

married Geumella Kirkpatrick and remained in the old home to rear a family. Other children of the couple were Andrew, who married Miss Mary McCarley; Sam, who married a McAlley; and Frank.

While a large number of grandchildren of Mark Hafner are living today, none of the children are alive.

Wylie and Geumella Hafner lived in the house to rear four sons, Craig, Sam, John and Henry.

Henry and Sam Hafner are the only two of the four sons who left children. Sam married Miss Ora Clark; and his children and grandchildren are living in Bullock Creek community. Henry went as a young man to Alabama and married there. His children and grandchildren are living in that state.

The house and its large tract of land were sold to a McSwain who in turn sold the property to John O. Pratt. Mr. Pratt was shot

on his 42nd birthday in 1926 as he crossed a creek while rabbit hunting. His gun was accidentally discharged striking him. He died two weeks later.

Mrs. Pratt, the former Miss Ila Page of Chester county, still lives in Rock Hill.

The Pratt family sold the farm to John S. Hartness who sold the land to T. C. Homesley of Cherryville, N. C. The land is now a part of the extensive Homesley tract which includes the Roseboro farm, the Carter farm, and the Aycock place.

#### The House

The fine old two story house with its double piazzas at the front originally had the date of its erection on the left chimney. In repairing the place a few years ago the chimney was stuccoed over and the date lost.

Still intact and in good shape are the hand carved mantels, the wide pine floors, the wainscoting and the smooth walls of boards.