

2814 Exeter Circle
Raleigh, N. C. 27608
August 8, 1975

Dear Mrs. McGuire,

I enjoyed my visit in your home. I am happy to share with you my findings on your house.

The McGuire house was the home of Alexander McAlpin. On Jan. 22, 1839, Alexander McAlpin purchased 4 lots from Allen Gunn on the North side of Church Street in what was referred to as a "new" part of Yanceyville. The amount paid was \$70. (Book EE-p.212). This is Wall St. today, but the name was Church St. from 1838 until as late as 1902. Mr. McAlpin was a tailor by trade, and he had a tailoring shop in his home or in a small shop near-by. He probably built his home 1839-40 just after purchasing the lot. Mr. McAlpin was one of the organizing elders of the Yanceyville Presbyterian Church. In 1850 the Rev. John Grasty of this Church mentions in a diary that he often visited Mr. McAlpin and would "go over to have his clothes pressed".

In 1850 census, Alexander McAlpin gave his age as 54. This makes his birth year 1796. He served as Public Register (Register of Deeds) for Caswell County from 1840 until his death in 1867. He was postmaster of Yanceyville just before his death and kept the post office at his office in the Court House. In 1835 he was county coroner.

He was married 3 times: First in 1818 to Charlotte Farley.
Second in 1841 to Mary M. Badgett.
Third in 1857 to Mrs. Jane W. Jones.

His children were: Amanda who married Joseph Totten; Mary J. married John Patton; Caroline married William Lockhart; Narcissa married Thomas Valentine; Daniel was Sec. of the Yanceyville Silk and Manufacturing Company in 1840; and Andrew Jackson was a student at the Univ. of N. C. in 1847. From his third marriage, there was one son, Edward A. McAlpin born in 1858 and buried at the Presbyterian Church in 1906.

Alexander McAlpin died in 1867 and left a will (Book T-p.307) leaving his house and lot to his wife, Jane. When Jane died in 1893, her will (Book B-p. 131) states she wished house and lot sold and money

to go to her son, Edward. John A. Jones was executor of her estate and he purchased the house and lot in 1893. It appears that John A. Jones was the son or son-in-law of Jane McAlpin by her first marriage.

On August 6, 1902, John A. Jones and wife sold the house and lot, known as the Jane McAlpin house and lot,, to W. F. McGuire for \$150. It was bounded on north by land of A. E. Henderson, and Miss Sallie Robertson, on east by land of Capt. S. D. Crowder, and his homeplace; on south by Church St., and on west by land of J. T. Wall - 2 acres or more. (Book 57, p. 298).

As I stated earlier, Alexander McAlpin was one of the founders of the Yanceyville Presbyterian Church. The first Church stood on Church St. just to the east of Mr. McAlpine's house. The old church was sold in 1854 as a new church had been erected at the present sight.. Sometimes the name was spelled McAlpine as well as McAlpin.

Your home is one of the oldest houses left in Yanceyville, and I am delighted you and your children want to keep it. My aunt, Nannie Kerr Malloy (Mrs. S. A. Malloy), who was born in Yanceyville and lived there all her life says she remembers the McAlpin family lived in your house. She remembers John Jones who lived there also and says he was a clerk at Mr. Louis Neal's store. The Jones' moved to Danville. There are some references in county minutes to a "Pink" McAlpin in Yanceyville around 1900, but Mrs. Malloy knows he was a Negro and was probably a slave of Alexander McAlpin. Pink lived in a cabin on the vacant lot near Burch Blaylock's home.

This happens to be all I know about Mr. McAlpin. I became truly interested in him after writing a paper on the Presbyterian Church.

Sincerely,

Katherine K. Kendall
Mrs. Henry Kendall

Books mentioned are will and deed books of Caswell County.
Other notes are from Minutes of Caswell County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions; Marriage bonds of Caswell County; Church records.