

The Historic Huntsville Quarterly

Volume 16 | Number 1

Article 2

12-21-1989

What's in a name?

Historic Huntsville Foundation

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Recommended Citation

Historic Huntsville Foundation (1989) "What's in a name?," *The Historic Huntsville Quarterly*. Vol. 16: No. 1, Article 2.

Available at: <https://louis.uah.edu/historic-huntsville-quarterly/vol16/iss1/2>

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from the Editor

The Historic Huntsville Quarterly evolved from a newsletter to an important journal of local architecture and preservation. Under the skillful and dedicated editorship of Linda Bayer Allen it took on the shape, form and function it has maintained to this day. When Micky Maroney took the editorship in 1984, she, too, put in long, loving hours to making *The Quarterly* a welcome guest in each member's home. Now, the challenge has been given to me to carry on the tradition of a quality publication. With Micky by my side as Associate Editor and Linda only a holler away, I look forward with confidence to a happy tenure as editor.

We urge lovers of history, architecture, and preservation to sharpen your pencils, load your cameras, and write articles for *The Quarterly*. Letters to the Editor are welcome. So are reviews of books, articles, and presentations. We seek photographs of houses, gardens, and community buildings. This is your quarterly. Let us hear from you.

What's in a name?

Plenty, when the name is Jones. Ironically, and unplanned, the theme of this quarterly is Jones - Harvie Jones - architect, the Joneses, and Jones Valley, the tragic scene of the destructive Killer Tornado of November 15, 1989.

Long before November 15th, I had asked Harvie to submit for publication his "Art in Architecture" presentation many of us had enjoyed seeing in the Civic Center. I was keen on securing this as the *Quarterly's* first article under its new editor. I planned to accompany the article with a brief sketch of Harvie. Thus the *Quarterly's* readership would be doubly served: to a first class article written by a man who embodies the preservation movement in Alabama and to a close-up view of that man.

November 15, 1989, brought Jones Valley into our hearts and minds forever. The great wind that swooped down and through our beautiful valley has swept away whole buildings and lives. New or rebuilt structures will appear. Let us hope that in our rush to restore order and to get back to business as usual, we do not neglect the precepts of sound architecture so elegantly espoused by Harvie Jones.

John Rison Jones put it best: "keeping up with the Joneses is a genealogical nightmare." To help sort out some of the Joneses, two family charts are included. Usually, family history or genealogy is out of *Historic Huntsville Quarterly's* purview. However, few families have contributed so much to the building and historic preservation of our city or state. Numerous area buildings and structures bear the imprint of one or another member of these distinguished families. One traces its local roots back to Isaac Criner who settled the county before John Hunt, and the other extends back to the Brandon brothers, Huntsville's original brickbuilders.

No doubt family history and business history as well become *Quarterly* material when they bear on the buildings, artifacts, and structures created by those citizens. Harvie Jones' family literally has helped to survey the land, map its possibilities, lay the pipe, carve out the roads, construct water and sewage systems, build bridges, dig foundations, design buildings, restore architecture, and create for Huntsville a unique blending of old and new, town and country. Ray B. Jones, President of G. W. Jones and Sons has graciously allowed *The Quarterly* to reprint its centennial history, "The Story of G. W. Jones and Sons 1886 - 1986." Local history is enriched.

