

The View from the Pulpit

A quest at the Old Mulkey Meetinghouse State Historic Site
Tompkinsville, KY

The minutes from this congregation have survived
and a copy of them in the gift shop you'll find.
They were written on lambskin with pokeberry ink
But to read the writing is hard, don't you think?
If you read the page dated April 12, 1804
You'll find the first meetinghouse couldn't hold anymore.
A committee was appointed to oversee
construction of the meetinghouse that you now see.
On May 11, 1804 the committee came back with a plan...
Joint shingles, five windows, three doors, oh man!
Within that entry the dimensions you'll find
Write them here while they are still on your mind.

--- 2 --- 13 ---

Go back out the door and move toward the top
At the entrance of the park is where you will stop.
When you enter the park a plaque you will see
the information there is all about me.
I was born Daniel's sister as you can see
but that isn't all you should know about me.
I was a friend to the Mulkey's ... Elizabeth and kids lived with me
while waiting for John to sell the farm in North Carolina.
My first husband died, his body found years later in a hollow tree
then I married a Pennington and we had children aplenty.
My name is Hannah as you should know
Write my granddaughters names in the blanks below.

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14 1

Head down the road past the pavilion please go
Enter the cemetery there are things here to know.
The graves in old cemeteries face to the east
But this cemetery has one exception at least.
There are several markers that are facing south
I want you to know what that's all about.
There are real graves around you can see
But this area is set aside commemoratively.
To honor the soldiers of the American Revolution

These are the counties where they filed for their pensions.

9 15 12 -----

I served three tours of duty in that war with the king
The first was my own but you see here's the thing
I then took the place of a dear friend
And I went for my brother-in-law in the end.
I was wounded with a sword, taken prisoner of war
Suffered the smallpox and yes there is more.
I got a land grant from the new government
So down to Kentucky is where I went.
I was a member of the church that is here
And I started the ferry on the river so near.
I have a military memorial here in the graveyard.
Just write down my epithet, it's not very hard.

3 16 19 4 -----

Fresh air and squirrels running around
Dogwood blossoms and leaves on the ground.
What will your memory of Old Mulkey be?
Whatever else I hope it includes me.
I was buried here in a family plot
But the people around me were my family NOT.
They loved me enough to give me this nice grave
But they didn't deny that I was their slave.

10 7 5 -----

When you visit the Meetinghouse peace you will find
And the answer to the question that's now on my mind.
Look around you there are twelve corners to see
And some brand new benches thanks to the ATC.
There is one thing missing if you ask me
That's a way to keep warm when the temperatures freeze.
If you read the brochure the one that is green
You'll find a plan for heat can be seen.
The men built a fire outside
Now you write down what the women provide.

11 6 17 -----

People wonder why the church was built here.
 And I always reply because water was near.
 They needed a place to do their baptizing
 Without having to do a lot more walking or riding.
 I'm not going to make you take that walk
 Cause I need you here so we can finish our talk.
 People were baptized if joining the church was their wish
 Then their name would be added to the list.
 You might have noticed it in the old minutes
 But you'll see another if you are attentive.
 Write down the family names you find there
 The last one in each column if you don't care.

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 18

John Mulkey was a man of conviction
 To turn his back on years of tradition
 His father and grandfather did lots of preachin'
 And each of them followed the Baptist teachin'.
 But John's belief changed while he was talkin'
 And he left the path they had been walkin'
 He went from Baptist to Church of Christ
 And followed that path the rest of his life.
 Stand in the pulpit as he once did
 Look toward the heavens, raise up your hands.
 I hope you see angels up there in the rafters
 But the number of crossbeams is what I'm really after.

 8

You've done great and the quest you've completed.
 Locating the treasure is the last thing that's needed.
 Fill in the blanks with the correct numbered letter
 Go out the east door and you'll see it better.
 Look behind it if you don't mind
 Down at your feet the treasure you'll find.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19