

(Shadrach Bond Mantel)

Kaskaskia Fire Place
Evanston, Illinois

Cook Co.

IL-

HABS[^]26-31-B

HABS
ILL,
16-EVAN,
1-

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings
PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 26.

Historic American Buildings Survey.
Earl H. Reed, Jr. District Officer.
Room 404, No. 520 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

HABS
ILL,
16-EVAN,
1-

DETAIL OF OLD MANTEL
RANDOLPH COUNTY
KASKASKIA, ILLINOIS.

DISTRICT NO. 26
NORTHERN ILLINOIS

EARL H. REED, JR.
DISTRICT OFFICER

Project No. 26-31 -XB

By Earl H. Reed, Jr.

SOURCE

Mrs. F.S.
Bund,
2509 Harri-
son Street,
Evanston, Ill.

This fine pine mantel, bearing many evidences of having been built in the early years of the 19th Century, has been repainted five times and now is a warm French grey, its first deep brown coat, so characteristic of early Illinois wood work, can be discerned beneath, and its moulds are battered and softened by time.

It is now built into a Colonial type 1893 wood residence at 939 Sheridan Road, EVANSTON built by John T. Long, an architect, for himself. We are informed by Mrs. Bund, his niece, that he was deeply interested in early Illinois History, made frequent trips to the region around Kaskaskia and through a local Catholic priest obtained the fireplace which she states was from the "house of the first governor of the State of Illinois at Kaskaskia", and this statement is confirmed by Mr. J.S. Huey, and Mr. G.W. Marquardt, subsequent owners of the property, and also by Mr. Herman Heuser, who is the present owner, as well as by Mr. Edgar O. Blake, an architect in Evanston, through whose courtesy the fireplace came to the attention of the Survey.

Dictionary
of American
Biography
Vol. II.

Shadrach Bond, born 1773 and died 1832 was the first governor of Illinois, elected in 1818, when the state attained statehood. He belonged to a prosperous Baltimore, Md., family*, joining his uncle, of the same name, in 1791. This uncle was engaged in farming just below Kaskaskia. From then on his career most curiously followed that of his uncle. He was successively, officer of the militia 1806-08, territorial legislator and presiding county judge. In 1812 the newpew was elected 1st delegate of Congress from Illinois

* Bond family of Maryland from Calvert County.
"Bond Castle", home of Sir John Bond. - H.C.F.

Territory, where he achieved the Pre-Emption Law of 1813. He was receiver of public moneys at Kaskaskia in 1814, Governor in 1818, as before stated, and conducted the land office in Kaskaskia from 1825 till his death.

The collection of the Chicago Historical Society has a photograph dated 1884 of the Bond House at Kaskaskia, which was presumably demolished by the Mississippi River, like all other structures of the ill-fated town. Mr. Marquardt states that the fireplace was in the living room (or office) of Bond's home. Furthermore, Mrs. Bund is in possession of the uncle's sketch book, in which are to be found very interesting sketches of the old Kaskaskia buildings, including the Bond house, conclusively proving the fact of his having visited Kaskaskia about 1890.

All the above facts seem to confirm the probability that the fireplace came from Shadrach Bond's house.

April 26, 1934

By

Earl W. Smith