

# **JOHN McINTIRE AND DR. INCREASE MATHEWS: A COMPARISION OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF ZANESVILLE**

by David M. Taylor

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I wasn't at the meeting when the lecture assignments were handed out or I might have asked for a different topic. The assigned topic, "What motivated our competing founding fathers?" could be answered fairly simply. Most likely, they had the same motivation as others who have founded cities, companies or empires: the desire for power and wealth. Taking that approach would make for a boring talk and one that might cast our founders in a bad light. After discussing it with Jim Geyer, I have altered my topic to that staple of high school and college classes, a "compare and contrast" of our founding fathers. I will discuss how the two men differed and in what ways they were the same.

I will start by giving biographies of John McIntire and Increase Mathews, then look at the towns they founded and their attempts to bring the state capital to their towns, compare the buildings they built, briefly look at their lives after 1812 and end by discussing their legacies today.

When we talk about the beginnings of Zanesville, we need to speak of the founders in plural. What we now know as Zanesville is the result of the 1872 union of two separate villages. Zanesville proper came first with the settlement on the east side of the bend in the Muskingum River in what is now downtown Zanesville. Putnam, the village on the west side of the river, came soon after. John McIntire was the driving force behind Zanesville and Increase Mathews was the main architect of Putnam. Let us look at the two men individually.

## **JOHN McINTIRE**

We will start with our principle founder, John McIntire. McIntire was born in 1759 in Alexandria, Virginia. We know nothing of his early life, his parents or his siblings. Some sources refer to him as Irish and some say he was Scotch so it possible that his ancestors were part of the Scotch-Irish immigration to America. The Scotch-Irish were poor Scotsmen who were transplanted to Ireland by the British crown where they displaced even poorer Irishmen. The British always had problems governing the Irish and it was thought that the Scots would cause fewer problems. The term Scotch-Irish didn't come into use until the latter part of the 19th century. During McIntire's lifetime, this group would have been known as Irish with no distinction made between those whose ancestors had lived in Ireland and those who had roots in Scotland.

McIntire had a limited education so the learned professions weren't an option for him. One leg was shorter than the other causing him to limp which would have made it difficult for him to do the strenuous work expected of most men, and women, on the frontier. He pursued the trade of an itinerant shoemaker which would still have required him to put in many miles on foot.

He must have attracted attention when he came into Wheeling, Virginia, about 1779 with the tools of his trade on his back. Wheeling had been established by Ebenezer Zane and his family in 1770. The Zanes occupied a blockhouse near a fort, first known as Fort Fincastle during Lord Dunmore's War and later renamed Fort Henry during the Revolutionary War. Into the midst of this family of frontiersmen and Indian fighters came a crippled Irish itinerant shoemaker who has been described as "of medium height,

corpulent in person, florid complexion, auburn hair and blue eyes...His habitual costume was a suit of blue broadcloth, knee breeches, shad belly coat, cocked hat and ruffled shirt.” He would not have gone unnoticed. During the siege of Fort Henry in 1782, McIntire fired his gun through his own wrist and was



John McIntire from a portrait by James Pierce Barton painted for the McIntire Children’s Home. *Pioneer & Historical Society collection.*

advised to have his hand amputated. He knew he could not work with one hand and refused the amputation but had limited use of the hand thereafter. (Some accounts place the accidental shooting later during the laying out of Zane’s Trace). This lack of expertise with firearms would be one more mark against him in a frontier community.

Feelings between Ebenezer Zane and McIntire took a turn for the worse in 1788 when the 29 year old McIntire and Zane’s 14 year old daughter Sarah announced they wanted to be married. Zane disapproved but the most he could do was delay the marriage for a year until December 1789. On the day of the wedding, Ebenezer showed his displeasure by leaving for a hunting trip. Mrs. Zane showed her displeasure by striking Sarah with her shoe.

Following the wedding, McIntire worked for a local merchant, eventually becoming a partner. The couple later moved to a farm downriver from Wheeling but after losing it due to a defective title they moved back to Wheeling.

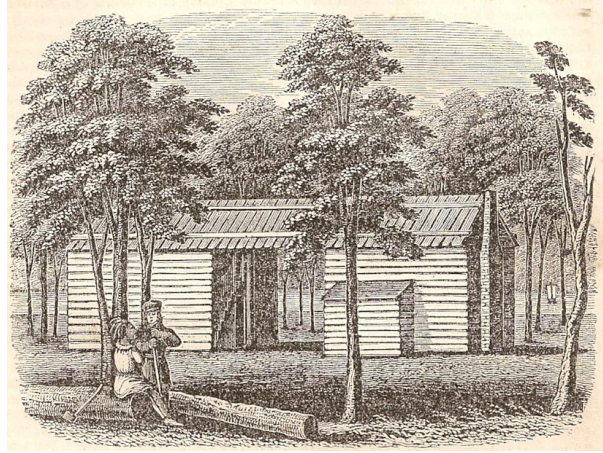
Meanwhile, Ebenezer Zane was looking for a way to make use of his Revolutionary War land warrants. When the war ended Congress did not have money to pay soldiers in cash so it paid them with land grants in the Ohio country. However, in order to locate the land the soldier would have to hire a surveyor who would take part of the land in payment. When a soldier had multiple grants they might not be contiguous which would decrease their value. Zane wrote Congress to propose that he lay out a post road from Wheeling to Limestone (now know as Maysville), Kentucky. In return, he asked Congress to allow him to consolidate his land grants in one-mile square sections where his trail crossed the Muskingum, Hock-hocking and Scioto Rivers. There would be no cost to the government so Congress agreed provided that Zane covered all of his expenses and that he establish ferry service at the crossings. Zane gathered family and friends to accompany him on the expedition. He wasn’t the first, or the last, father to realize if his daughter was to have a comfortable life he would have to find work for his son-in-law. John McIntire was put in charge of leading the pack animals.

After the completion of the trail, which we know today as Zane’s Trace, Zane paid McIntire and his brother Jonathan Zane by selling them the one square mile tract at the Muskingum crossing for the discounted price of \$100. Jonathan Zane soon dropped out of the picture and the future of what was to become Zanesville was in McIntire’s hands. He established ferry service as required by Congress and set

about building a town.

When he first went west, Sarah remained behind in Wheeling and her cousin Lyddy Zane accompanied McIntire to look after his needs. Lyddy did too good a job of this and when Sarah finally arrived on the Muskingum, John presented her with his daughter Amelia, his child with Lyddy. Sarah accepted Amelia as her own daughter and forgave John. We must wonder what Col. Zane thought of his adulterous, crippled, Irish, cradle-robbing, firearms incompetent, chubby, son-in-law but according to Sarah McIntire, John became her mother's favorite son-in-law.

The McIntires set up housekeeping in a double log house with connecting dog trot near the river crossing. By operating their house as an inn McIntire was able to meet people passing through and if he thought they possessed a skill needed in the new village he would offer them land to encourage them to stay. The town grew and after Muskingum County was separated from



John McIntire's log cabin from Henry Howe's *Historical Collections of Ohio*, 1847.

Washington County, Zanesville became the county seat. One of the early settlers was Increase Mathews who started his store and medical practice in 1801. We will speak more of him shortly.

Aside from his entrepreneurial spirit, this account doesn't tell us much about the personal feelings and character of John McIntire. Prior to the Civil War, a person's character was largely judged by his religion and his views on slavery and Black people in general. Religion doesn't seem to have played a very important part in the life of McIntire. Sarah was a Methodist (and married a Methodist minister after John's death) and we can say that John was a Methodist by marriage, if not by conviction. McIntire was born and married in the slave state of Virginia and his in-laws owned slaves. He has been portrayed as a friend to the Black man based on his interference with a bounty hunter trying to return the escaped slave Mess Johnson to his owner and by his participation in the marriage of his servant Black Mess to his servant Ann Thompson. We can get a fuller picture of his feeling about Blacks by looking at his voting record while he served as a member of the Washington County delegation to the 1802 constitutional convention. He voted against measures which would have dropped the word "white" from voting qualifications; against allowing the enfranchisement of Blacks who had made a record of their citizenship in Ohio; against enfranchising descendants of Blacks and mulattoes; against allowing Blacks and mulattoes to hold public office, serve in the militia or testify against a White person; and in favor of repealing a law which had allowed enfranchisement of Blacks and mulattoes already residing in Ohio. How much these votes reflect his personal feelings and how much they were influenced by the expectations of the electorate that sent him to the convention we cannot know.

### **DR. INCREASE MATHEWS**

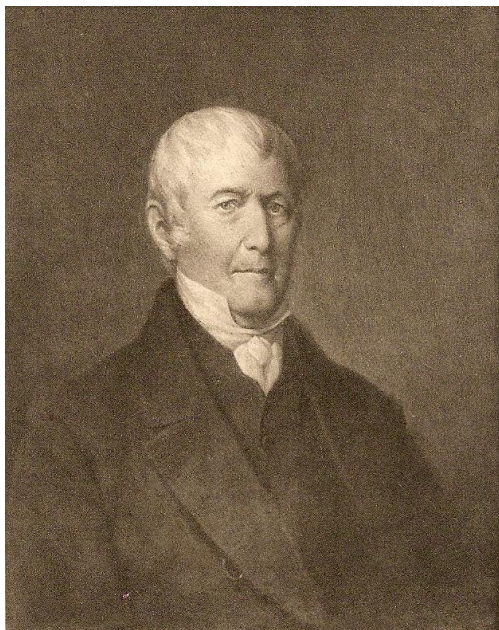
John McIntire said so little about his background that we have to wonder if he was hiding something. One of our main sources of information about him is an article written by Sarah's niece Helene Louise Sullivan. Mrs. Sullivan wrote, "Nothing further is known of his family to my knowledge, no relative ever having visited him, or come to claim his wealth." Dr. Increase Mathews is quite the opposite; we know

about his parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters. My main source for information on his early life is the research done by Kurt White that was printed in the summer 2005 issue of *Muskingum Journal*.

Increase Mathews was born in the small village of New Braintree, in the central part of Massachusetts on December 22, 1772. He was the ninth of ten children born to Daniel and Huldah Putnam Mathews and was a part of the fourth generation of Mathews to be born in America. The family is thought to have come from France or the Netherlands. His mother was a sister of Rufus Putnam, a foot soldier in the French and Indian War, a general in the American Revolutionary War, first Surveyor General of the United States, an organizer of the Ohio Company of Associates and one of the “48”, the first group of settlers who arrived in the Ohio country at Marietta.

In later life Mathews said that his earliest memory was hearing bells ringing following the announcement of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He would have been four and one-half years old at the time so he might have remembered it but what is important is that he made a point of establishing a connection to the birth of America. It was a way of saying that he was “Increase Mathews, American.” John McIntire was described as being Irish or Scottish but Mathews was clearly a son of the new country.

In his article, Kurt described Dr. Mathews as “a multitalented entrepreneur, pioneer, agricultural innovator, musician, orator, and abolitionist.” He shared the first two traits with McIntire but surpassed him with the next four. Dr. Mathews was interested in agricultural affair and was involved in bringing the first Merino sheep to Muskingum County. We have no record of any leisure time activities for John McIntire but Dr. Mathews played the cello. Mathews became a doctor by following the standard practice of the day, studying with an established practitioner, in this case Dr. Stephen Field of Oakham, Massachusetts. By 1798 he was referring to himself as a doctor.



Dr. Increase Mathews from a portrait attributed to James Pierce Barton. *Pioneer and Historical Society collection.*

Mathews’ involvement with the abolitionist cause is not as well documented as for many other early citizens in Putnam but he played a part and his son Henry was active in the movement.

We usually connect Dr. Mathews with the Putnam Presbyterian Church. Although he was chairman of the meeting which established the congregation and he was a trustee for many years, he was never a member. It appears that he was a member of the Congregational Church while in Massachusetts and he met with a small Congregational congregation when he first came to town. When that congregation had difficulty finding a minister they merged with the local Presbyterian church. Under the Plan of Union of 1801, the Presbyterians and Congregationalists worked together and shared resources in the frontier areas. The plan was supposed to be beneficial to both denominations but in practice, it favored the Presbyterians. It is logical that a New England Congregationalist would be an Ohio Presbyterian. Both denominations had a Reformed (Calvinist) theology and both supported abolition. Unlike McIntire, Mathews was described as he “whom the Sabbath always found in the house of God.”

Dr. Mathews first came to Ohio in 1798 to visit his uncle Rufus Putnam of Marietta and his sister

and brother-in-law, Susannah and Jonathan Stone of Belpre. He liked what he saw and early in 1801 he moved to Zanesville with his wife, daughter and brother John, another one of Marietta's "48." The brothers opened a store on the northwest corner of Third and Main Streets and Increase practiced medicine.

Mathews' wife Abigail died in 1802 shortly after the birth of their second child. The following year he married Betsy Leavens and with her had eight more children. Unlike McIntire, there is no hint that Mathews was ever unfaithful to his wives.

John McIntire welcomed merchants to his new town but did he stop to think that this newcomer was more educated than he was, more religious than he was, had wider interests than he did, had family connections to the founders of Ohio and was his equal in his desire to develop a new community in the Ohio wilderness?

As McIntire's village was growing, Dr. Increase Mathews saw an opportunity to engage in some real estate speculation of his own. In June of 1801 land on the west side of the Muskingum River just below Zanesville came up for sale and both Dr. Mathews and John McIntire headed to Marietta to bid on it. Mathews teamed up with his cousin Levi Whipple and their uncle Rufus Putnam to outbid McIntire and in so doing started the competing village of Springfield. The name of the village wasn't changed to Putnam until 1814 but to simplify things I will use the name Putnam throughout my talk.

By 1809 Zanesville was a prosperous and growing county seat with John McIntire its driving force. Its citizens came mostly from Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Politically they would have been Jeffersonian Republicans and in religion, they tended toward Methodism. Slavery was illegal in Ohio but many of them would have had sympathy with southern slave owners and they were opposed to abolition. Across the river, Putnam was smaller but its citizens would have said that quality was more important than quantity. The Putnamites were from New England, were predominately Presbyterian and Congregationalists, were Federalist in politics, were abolitionist and felt superior to the Zanesvillians.



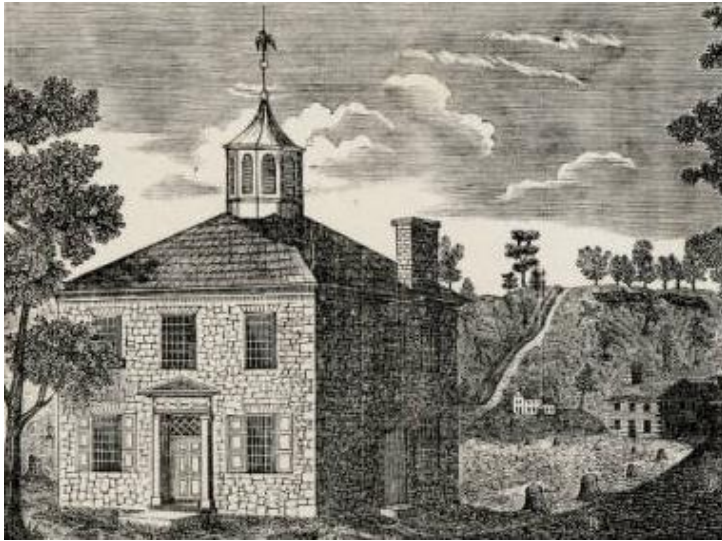
Dr. Increase Mathews' house as it appears today. The upper two stories were added after the doctor's death. *Photo by Stephanie Kline.*

### **HISTORY OF EARLY SEATS OF GOVERNMENT**

Before moving on the next important phase in the life of these two men and their communities, we need to take time for a history lesson within a history lesson. The first organized settlement of the Ohio County came with arrival of the "48" at Marietta on March 7, 1788. On July 9, 1788, Gen. Arthur St. Clair crossed the Muskingum River from Ft. Harmar to Marietta and instituted the first government in the Northwest Territory. The seat of government moved to Cincinnati for the first Territorial legislative

meeting in November 1799. The following November the Territorial Assembly met in Chillicothe in what was known as Abrams' big house - a two story log cabin that had space for meetings on the first floor and room for drinking and billiards on the second floor. Thomas Worthington, Edward Tiffin, Michael Baldwin and their fellow Radical Republican in the Chillicothe Junto knew that the town that was serving as the territorial capital at the time of statehood would go on to serve as the state capital. To keep the territorial legislature in town, the Chillicothe faction needed to construct a better, more appealing, building. Worthington picked out a site downtown and saw to the construction of a new Ross County courthouse, purportedly the first stone building in the Northwest Territory. The Territorial Legislature was offered the use of the new building and they met there when they assembled in November 1801. The constitutional convention was held there in November 1802 and the building went on to serve as the first statehouse.

The Ordinance of 1787 required that a territory have a population of 60,000 before it could be admitted to statehood but said that an exception could be made for a territory with a lesser population if



The first Ohio statehouse at Chillicothe.

statehood would be “consistent with the general interest” of the country. The Radical Republicans lead by the Chillicothe Junto pushed for an early admission of Ohio before the 60,000 threshold was reached. The Federalists in Marietta and Cincinnati attempted to delay statehood until there was sufficient population to create two states within our present boundaries. Their plan, supported by Gov. St.Clair, called for a dividing line following the Scioto River. They claimed that the larger Ohio would be too large and that two smaller states would be more in line with the small eastern states and that the larger Ohio would be

expensive to govern. In addition, St. Clair felt that the frontiersmen did not yet feel that they were a part of the United States and would be difficult to govern. The real reason Marietta and Cincinnati supported the two state plan was to make Chillicothe a less desirable location for capital. Since Chillicothe would be on the dividing line, the new prime candidates for capital would be Cincinnati for the western state and Marietta for the eastern state. The division would also have split the center of Republican activity giving more power to the Federalists.

In 1802, John McIntire was one of five Washington County representatives to the constitutional convention, Zanesville then being a part of Washington County. By that time statehood using the present boundaries was assured but McIntire joined his fellow Washington County delegates in an unsuccessful last-ditch effort to delay statehood.

The history books treat McIntire as just one of the Marietta boosters but there may be more to his support of the two-state plan. We would expect Increase Mathews to support Marietta's attempts to become capital because he was related to the Marietta leaders by blood and conviction. For similar reasons, McIntire could be expected to work against his rivals. Having the capital at Marietta would have

been of some benefit to Zanesville since they were connected by the Muskingum, however McIntire might have had a bigger vision. If the argument against Chillicothe serving as capital was that it would be on the periphery of a divided Ohio, could not the same argument be used against Marietta? With Marietta and Steubenville, another border town, eliminated, Zanesville would have been the most logical choice for the capital of the eastern state. The outcome is all conjecture since the one state plan won out and Chillicothe became Ohio's first capital.

### **COMPETITION FOR CAPITAL**

As it turns out, McIntire was to have a second chance to elevate his town. After a few years in Chillicothe, it became known around the state that the legislators were not happy about spending the legislative season of December, January and February in Chillicothe. The capitol building was cold and drafty and there were not a sufficient number of taverns to entertain legislators miles from home on cold dark evenings. Other towns saw the potential to capture the capital for themselves. This did not go unnoticed by McIntire and Mathews. There were many advantages to being the capital city of the state. One was instant prestige. Being the state capital is much more impressive than being a county seat or just another village. Another was access to law makers. The General Assembly was only in session for three months a year but during that time there were many opportunities for lobbying. Many of the laws passed in the early sessions dealt with establishment of institutions such as churches, schools and libraries; erection of counties and setting of county seats; and giving authorization for building dams, canals and bridges. Access to members of the Assembly could determine who got the right to build a bridge and then charge a toll to whoever passed over it.

The biggest advantage was increased wealth. Legislators needed a place to sleep and eat while they were in town, giving revenue to taverns, inns and boarding houses. Ancillary services such as government print shops and tax offices meant jobs. Supplies such as paper, ink, quills and office furniture could be purchased locally. The local newspaper would gain prominence. Patronage, graft and corruption have always been a part of politics and they add to the economy.

Both Zanesville and Putnam followed the Chillicothe example and formed companies to erect a building that could be offered to the legislature. In Zanesville, John McIntire and associates formed the Zanesville Court House Company. The existing Muskingum County courthouse was still adequate for the county's needs but was a log structure. The Court House Company loaned the county commissioners money to allow them to build a new brick courthouse with the money to be paid back by the taxpayers.

In Putnam, Increase Mathews and his group formed the Springfield School House Company and constructed a new stone school, what we now call the Stone Academy. There was no need for a large school in Putnam, as was shown by the short-lived schools that later occupied the building, but this seemed an appropriate subterfuge. I doubt that the builders ever thought of their building as a school; to them it was the new statehouse.

The means used to try to gain the capital can raise three questions. First, why did they pick this particular time to try to take the capital from Chillicothe? Second, why was it necessary for local communities to fund buildings for the state government? And third, why all the secrecy in their purpose?

The inadequacies of the Chillicothe statehouse had been known for several years yet both Putnam and Zanesville made their moves in 1809. This was because Article VII, Section 4 of the 1802 Ohio Constitution said, "Chillicothe shall be the seat of government until the year one thousand eight hundred and eight." Norris Schneider wrote that Mathews and his partners in Putnam acted first and that McIntire reacted. McIntire was too much of a shrewd businessman and promoter to have missed an opportunity

like this and I feel that he would have put his bid in for capital even if Mathews had not.

When it came to spending money to attract the business that went with the capital, the local leaders might have looked at it as an investment in their future or they might have been looking at the second part of section 4 which read “No money shall be raised, until the year one thousand eight hundred and nine, by the Legislature of this State for the purpose of erecting public buildings for the accommodation of the Legislature.” An act of the Second General Assembly had given county commissioners the power to erect courthouses and jails and this was the path followed in Zanesville. If McIntire and Mathews had waited for a bill to spend public money, another town might have made its move and captured the capital.

The secrecy, we could even say deception, used by both towns seems extreme to us today. They could have been keeping their cards close to the vest so as to not give any competing towns an advantage or it could have been a part of the politics of the day. There could be a parallel to the way in which candidates for office were selected at this time. If you wanted to be elected governor, you could not simply throw your hat in the ring and say, “Vote for me.” You would have your friends suggest you as a possible candidate, you would say that since you had been asked to serve you would do so if elected and then you would sit back and appear to stay above the fray. Politics at the time was full of lies, name



Main Street, Zanesville, as it appeared in 1847. The courthouse/statehouse is the building with a cupola on the left. Illustration from *Historical Collections of Ohio*, 1847.

calling, dirty tricks and attempts to appear to be pure while all around you were deceitful. In this atmosphere, a city had to feign a certain coyness.

We would expect McIntire to think his town could be the capital. Zanesville was a leading town in the state, it was a county seat, it had a newspaper and industry, and it had political connections. McIntire had served on the constitutional convention. One of the reasons to take on a responsibility like that is to make connections that

could be of benefit later. Other political figures in Zanesville at this time included Isaac Van Horne (receiver of public monies in the United States land office), Samuel Herrick (later U. S. District Attorney), Wyllis Silliman (formerly a legislator from Marietta, president of a common pleas circuit, and recorder at the Federal land office in Zanesville), his brother-in-law Lewis Cass (a U. S. marshal and later ambassador to France, U. S. Secretary of War, U. S. Secretary of State, governor of Michigan Territory, U. S. Senator from Michigan and candidate for president), and Silliman’s son-in-law John Hamm who introduced the Tammany Society, an organization practically synonymous with Radical Republicanism, to Muskingum County.

The surprise is that the Increase Mathews and his fellow civic leaders would think that Putnam had a chance of securing the capital. Putnam had none of the advantages of its rival. Aside from the founding group of Mathews, Whipple and Putnam the only Putnam resident with political experience might have been Ebenezer Buckingham and in 1812, he switched allegiance from the Federalist Party to the Republicans. In his talk on the 200th anniversary of the building of the Stone Academy Dr. Andrew



Caton called the building of the Academy “a radical act of imagination.” The Putnam people had no real hope of landing the capital yet they tried anyway. The Zanesville people saw a real opportunity for advancement and made their move. The Putnamites moved ahead despite any true hope of success. Who is nobler, the man who gambles on a sure thing or the one who has a dream and against the odds tries to make that dream a reality?

### STONE ACADEMY VS COURTHOUSE

While we are comparing McIntire and Mathews, we can also compare the buildings they erected. The Zanesville building was the same architectural style as the Chillicothe statehouse, a two story square building with a hipped roof. This was the standard design for courthouses at the time but the only remaining example in the state is the former Perry County courthouse in Somerset. The Zanesville company followed their Chillicothe counterparts in their choice of architectural style but built their building of brick. Bricks were being made up Main Street at Brazilla Rice’s brickyard and were a logical choice of building material.

The Putnam company went for a completely different architectural style but like the Chillicothe group used stone. Increase Mathews, one of the main organizers of the Schoolhouse Company, owned a stone quarry and supplied the stone for the construction. This leads to an interesting question, did Mathews say “This is an important project; I will give you the stone” (or at least sell it at a discount) or did he engage in self-dealing and turn a handsome profit by selling himself his own stone? The answer could tell us about the character of the man but we do not have the answer.

Either of these buildings would have been suitable as a statehouse. The courthouse was larger with 5000 square feet versus the Stone Academy’s 3008 square feet, but both would have been large enough since there were only 24 senators and 48 representatives in 1810. After Zanesville was selected as capital, a building was erected next to the courthouse to house the state auditor and treasurer. The old Indiana capitol in Corydon was built in 1816 in the square courthouse style used in Zanesville. That building has been restored as a museum and it can show us how a courthouse/statehouse would have functioned. As one example, the Indiana Supreme Court met in the county court room. I don’t know how the Indiana judiciary was organized but in Ohio, the Supreme Court justices spent much of their time on the road riding a circuit. The constitution of 1802 required the Supreme Court to hold a session in each county of the state once a year. They spent little time in the capital and as the legislature was only in session for three months a year, finding room for them would not have been a problem.



Stone Academy as it appears today. *Photo by Stephanie Kline.*

You may be wondering about space for a governor’s office. The people of Ohio had been turned against the whole idea of a governor by the autocratic actions of Territorial Governor Arthur St. Clair. The Federalist minority supported St. Clair but the Radical Republicans hated the man and this hatred expressed itself in the way the 1802 constitution provided for the office of governor. The governor had no

veto power and no power to make appointments to office. He was a figurehead who could try to influence legislation with his speech opening a session of the legislature and by using back room deal making, a tactic that hasn't changed through the years. I have never seen a reference to office space for the governor during the early statehood period and I have the feeling he worked out of hotel room he occupied while the legislature was in session.

The how and why of the selection process will be covered in another lecture but the short version is, through a classic example of political logrolling (you vote for my bill, I will vote for yours), on February 19, 1810, the temporary seat of government was fixed at Zanesville, to commence on October 1. When word reached Zanesville we can expect the type of celebration that occurs when the home team wins the World Series. The law said Zanesville was the "temporary seat of government" but McIntire must have thought that once the capital was moved it would stay put. His victory was short lived for on the very next day the legislature passed a law saying that a committee would be formed to select a permanent seat of government to be located not more than 50 miles from the center of the state, making Zanesville ineligible. While McIntire despaired did Mathews rejoice at his competitor's misfortune or did he realize that his town would have benefited from having the capital across the river and that this was a blow for him also?

Over the next two years the legislators spent their six months in Zanesville debating and passing laws. Aside from the rumblings of the New Madrid earthquake nothing of much importance happened during those two years but still McIntire must have felt as if his town was the center of the state, if not the universe, and that he was the man who made it all happen.

### **McINTIRE AND MATHEWS AFTER 1812**

When the legislature left in 1812 Zanesville did not shrivel up and blow away. McIntire had seen one dream fail but in reality the state capital wasn't that important in those days and the main effect had been a boost in population, business and wealth which would continue for some time. The population had been 600 in 1809 and by 1812 it had grown to 1,200. Zanesville was the second largest town in the state and would continue in that position until 1850. The brick, pottery and glass industries which would drive the local economy for the next 150 years were taking off. Construction of the National Road had already begun in the east and it would reach Zanesville in 1831. Construction on the Ohio and Erie Canal would start in 13 years.

It would seem that John McIntire was ready to start on the next, and perhaps even biggest, phase of his life but on July 29, 1815, he passed away at the age of 56. Helene Sullivan commented, "Of a social and convivial disposition, he position led him in to temptation. He formed habits which shortened a life promising great usefulness." He was survived by his wife Sarah and his daughter Amelia. Amelia was fifteen years old, the age at which Sarah had been married. It appears that like her father, Amelia enjoyed the good life and she rebelled at the strict rules of Sarah's second husband, whom she had married the year following McIntire's death. She left home, her health failed and she died just five years after her father.

One of McIntire's projects, the building of a dam in the Muskingum River to provide water power for a mill, was unsuccessful in his lifetime. The company formed for the project, The Zanesville Canal and Manufacturing Company, was never successful in the purpose for which it was started, but it continues to benefit the community today, as we will discuss shortly.

In Putnam, Dr. Increase Mathews continued to live in his stone house. The village grew but never reached the population of Zanesville and in 1856 was home to 1,500 people. There was some industry but

the pious New England citizenry would have been most proud of their churches and schools. Zanesville had more political influence than Putnam did but during Mathews' lifetime Putnam became an important player in the abolition movement sweeping the country.

Mathews kept his family close at hand. He built a stone house across the street from his own for his son Henry and his wife Margaret. The Springfield Schoolhouse Company sold the Stone Academy to Henry in 1828 and the next generation took on the responsibility for the building. Both Henry and Margaret died young and their four children were brought up in the doctor's house.

Mathews' first wife died in 1802 shortly after he started work on his stone house. His second wife died in 1852. Dr. Mathews died on June 6, 1856, at the age of 84. He had two children with his first wife and eight with his second wife. Seven of those children survived him.

### McINTIRE AND MATHEWS TODAY

How do these men measure up today? In terms of John McIntire, we have a McIntire Street, McIntire School, McIntire Library and the McIntire Terrace. His image is part of the statuary group in the park named after his father-in-law. Many of you remember McIntire Park and the McIntire Children's Home. Perhaps most importantly, the Zanesville Canal and Manufacturing Company started by McIntire, which was a failure during his lifetime, lives on to administer the McIntire Scholarship. I can't say that I wouldn't have gone to college without my McIntire Scholarship but it certainly helped the cause and many Zanesville students have benefited from it. According to a recent *Times Recorder* article, the Canal and Manufacturing Company gave out \$439,000 in scholarships in 2010 and over the past ten years has given out more than \$5,500,000. McIntire's legacy definitely lives on.



The McIntire Children's Home stood on the grounds of the present Zanesville High School from 1880 until 1944.

Increase Mathews hasn't fared as well. His home on Woodlawn Avenue has been open as a museum for 40 years but he wouldn't recognize it today. The upper three floors were added to his simple stone cottage after he died. The schoolhouse he helped build has also been operated as a museum for 26 years but his name is not mentioned much during tours and since he failed in his bid to make Putnam the

capital of Ohio, the Academy might have been somewhat of an embarrassment to him. We have a Mathews Street but I doubt if many of you have driven on it. It is located south of Putnam Hill and part of it has been abandoned. Aside from the museum, no institutions bear his name and his money did not fund any permanent philanthropies (although during his life he helped to establish Woodlawn Cemetery and the Putnam Presbyterian Church). Part of this could be because unlike McIntire, he had descendants who naturally inherited his property.

In the long run, McIntire has clearly come out on top. He is commonly remembered as **the** founder of Zanesville even though his influence extended over the east side of the river. Going back to where I started, both of these men might have engaged in town building because of the desire for power and

wealth but even rich, powerful men die. Their true measure is determined years later when we can see the effect they had on those around them. Despite all his bonhomie, his adultery, his failure to secure a permanent capital, John McIntire continues to exert influence today through his scholarships and the institutions that bear his name. The pious, educated Dr. Mathews is remembered by those who study history but otherwise has little influence.

Who should we think of as the founder of Zanesville? We still have to say we had two founders. Two men with different personalities and different political and religious views made us what we are today, a city that has been divided more than it has worked together. A single strong founder might have made us a stronger, more unified city but it would be a city with less interesting tales to tell.



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