

Many questions unanswered on pioneer Lowe

Research in the lives of early Monroe County pioneers can have its frustrations in that sometimes the few available facts pose more questions than they answer.

A CASE IN POINT is William Lowe, 1736-1840. Born in Halifax County, N.C., he was a lawyer in his late 70s when

he packed his belongings and headed west to the Indiana Territory. He settled in Washington County and

Looking back

7-23-1983
By Rose McIlveen

was soon elected as a delegate to the Indiana Constitutional convention.

Leander J. Moaks, author of *Courts and Lawyers of Indiana*, wrote that Lowe was appointed in 1816 (with five other persons) to a committee whose responsibility was to hammer out the judicial portions of the state's constitution. During his brief stay in Washington County, he was commissioned to plat the town of Fredericksburg.

By early spring in 1818, Lowe was in Monroe County. The minutes of the first meeting of the county's first board of commissioners indicate that he was appointed Monroe County clerk pro tem. It is also apparent that Lowe intended to stay in Bloomington, since the following June he bought a town lot at a commissioner's auction.

(Back page, col. 3 this sec.)