McCalla early Monroe family

It was around 1836, when a Samuel McCalla gathered up his family and possessions and left his native Kershaw County, S.C., and moved to Monroe County. It is not known exactly why he came, but in time and in various ways his name was destined to become woven into the fabric of the county's history.

Sam McCalla was a farmer and upon his arrival in

Looking back

Monroe County, he

bought land straddling the

line between old Seminary (now Perry) and Salt Creek

Townships, a

By Rose McIlveen

south of the Nashville Road. The 1840 census for the county shows that he brought with him his second wife, Elizabeth Thompson, and sons Thomas, Christopher, Henry, William and John and daughters Mary, Agnes and Sarah, all born back in South Carolina.

By 1850 Christopher and Thomas McCalla were busily engaged in the cabinet making and merchant trades, respectively. Their father and mother had added three other children to the family, Margaret, Joseph and Samiel.