Mrs. Mary D. Hancock was living in Louisville aged 74. gave the following account of the marriage of Jefferson Davis to his first wife Nancy Taylor daughter of President Zachary Taylor.

It was on Thanksgiving in October 1836. Gen. Taylor was then absent in the army. A week or so previous to the wedding, Mr. Davis had asked also Caroline Preston, mother of Gen. William Preston, to let them be married at her house, his residence being then in Jefferson William First and Brook streets just west of what is now theETO tribe. momin. This was declined by Mrs. Preston saying she could not do so without the express consent of Gen. Taylor. Mr. Davis assured her that Gen. Taylor did not oppose the marriage. It was deemed more appropriate that it should take place at the house of the bride's uncle, Colonel Taylor, where they were unwillingly married about six miles from Louisville.
Zachary Taylor to Margaret Smith
18th June 1810

Fort Drum, Marion, O., 10 Miles from Micanopy

Ran after G. S. Drum 2d Act.
in the Brownsville road South of the City. None but the immediate family were present. Miss Latie Taylor, cousin of the bride and daughter of Lebanon Taylor was the only bridesmaid.


After the wedding, the bridal party drove into the city and were entertained with cake and wine at the house of Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Hancock and other friends being present to escort them. From Mrs. Preston's the bridal pair were driven in Mrs. Preston's Carriage to Portland where they embarked on a steamboat for the South. Mrs. Marie Preston Pope daughter of Mr. Preston and now living in Brownsville aged 60 accompanied them in the Carriage while Col. Ellis Hancock and Miss Latie Jones went in Col. Hancock's Carriage. The bride was dressed in a bottle green cashmere travelling dress with a row of large blue buttons down the front with hat of similar color. Mr. Davis was a thin pale faced young man.
Mrs. Hancock was mentioned about the 5th of the wedding. It took place June 17th, 18--. That is the license was issued that day. 7. 4. 23.