

Baxter County History



**The Wolf House is the most historical
building in Baxter County.**

Photo courtesy of Ray Grass

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THE BAXTER COUNTY HISTORY

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Correspondence concerning membership dues, membership, orders for the "History", and other business matters should be sent to the Treasurer. Available back issues are \$1.00 each.

Contributions of material for the "History" should be sent to the editor.

Neither the Society or the Editor assume any responsibility for statements made by the contributors.

ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE AND PAYABLE TO THE TREASURER AT THE JANUARY MEETING. The fiscal year begins January 1. New members may join at any time.

THIS IS A COPY, NOT AN ORIGINAL, OF VOLMUE 3, NUMBER 2.

ADDITIONS TO "I REMEMBER" (See Vol. 3 No. 1)

To make sure that future readers will have the correct information, Mrs. Ralph Jones has submitted the following changes:

- Page 9, Para. 5. "James, my grandfather, married Rebecca James of Gamaliel, his second wife. My father was half brother to Nat and Harry Tracy."
- Page 10, Para. 2. "My great uncle Nat was a cobbler."
Para. 4 & 6. Should be Nat instead of Mat.
Para. 5. Should be Pickron instead of Pickren.
"Now Mabel Curlee told me that Uncle Nat did the same."
Para. 8. "He married at 28 years of age."
- Page 11, Para. 2. Should be Vergie instead of Burgie.
Para. 4. "Then we moved across the Norfolk River. Papa bought a store there."
Para. 6. Should be great uncle.
- Page 12, Para. 1. "Uncle Ben Tracy and two other negroes from Norfolk."
Para. 5. "When I was about 6 years old."
- Page 13, Para. 5. "We invested in cattle and hogs."

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The editor thanks Mr. and Mrs. Howard M. Knight for their help in getting this issue out---and for putting out the February issue.

Thanks also to the Cotter chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America for typing up the stencils for this volume. Whenever I need help, I call on the Cotter FBLA, knowing I'll get a job well done.

Remember, this is your quarterly. Please do an article for it. Your memories, your family, your heritage is unique to you. Please share it with others.

BAXTER COUNTY'S FIRST COURT ROOM (Continued)

BAXTER COUNTY'S FIRST COURT ROOM by Howard M. Knight

May Olive Jones remembers the following about the Casey home and the Court Room. The recent interview of Mrs. Ralph (May Olive) Jones (see Vol. 3, No. 1, page 9) by Hazen Bonow and Elizabeth Smith brought to light some unexpected facts. The Ralph Jones had lived in an extra house owned the Casey home in the '30's while the first courtroom "Place" was still in existence 20 feet southeast of their home. Their daughter, Ethel (Jane) Irene, had made watercolor paintings of the courtroom in 1921. Naturally, there was much interest in looking at these paintings. May Jones wrote to her daughter, and found that the paintings were available. Jane (she doesn't like the name Ethel) also very kindly made a pen sketch of the courtroom as she remembered it, as viewed from the Casey home. These paintings and sketch are shown in photos 1 and 2. The home of Col. R.D. and Cynthia Joiner Casey is shown in photo #4. as a widow, Mrs. Thrasher.

The History of Baxter County by Mary Ann Messick relates the following: she studied and became a commercial artist.

Baxter was made the 68th county in the state on March 24, 1873. Governor Baxter appointed B.F. Lance, O.L. Dood and Bird Death-Brage as commissioners to transact the county's business until a place an election could be held. The commissioners established voting precincts, appointed road overseers for the road districts, created school districts, paid claims, made ferry bonds and obtained a place to hold court. It sure was a rich spot so we raised a garden there!"

County court was first held in Baxter County on July 7, 1873 in the little store and post office that was about 20 feet southeast of the Col. Randolph D. Casey home. One of their first acts was to allow R.D. Casey the sum of \$7.00 per month for the use of his store. Sheriff Byler procured chairs and other materials for the courtroom for \$16.13.

"I hope my reputation as an artist is not at stake for I am proud. The June 27, 1877 issue of the Quid Nunc, published at Mountain Home by N.H. Biggers states that county court met the 2nd Monday in January, April, July, and October; Circuit Court the 2nd Monday in May and November and Probate Court the 2nd Monday in March, June, September, and December.

We are very thankful that Jane did preserve this bit of Baxter County. The Mountain Home Post Office Directory, J.M. Casey, Postmaster, listed mail as arriving daily at 7 a.m. and being dispatched daily at noon for Iuka, Pineville, Newburg, La-Cross, Melbourne, Eveninb Shade, Smithville, and Walnut Ridge. Mail from Marshfield and Gainesville, MO arrived bi-weekly - Wednesday and Saturday at 7 a.m. and was dispatched Monday and Thursday at 7 a.m. Yellville mail arrived daily (except Sunday) at noon and departed at 8 a.m. Mail from West Plains, MO arrived weekly on Friday at noon and departed at 1 p.m. (End of quote from History of Baxter County.)

BAXTER COUNTY'S FIRST COURT ROOM Continued

May Olive Jones remembers the following about the Casey home and the Casey store, postoffice and courtroom.

"We moved over in the Casey house in the '30's. We bought the property from a Mr. Barber. We knew the place as the "Ralph Place" as the Ralphs had lived there many years. The house then had two rooms on the west side at the south end. These were destroyed by a '36 storm. There was another room on the west side at the north end, which was quite a distance from the other rooms and that's where my boys slept. (See photos 6 and 7.) They tore it down after we left over there.

The extra house (the Casey store, postoffice, and courtroom) was not right in front, but in front to one side about 20 feet away, and a big room and had a fireplace in it before we moved there. The last was a widow, Mrs. Thrasher.

My daughter, Ethel, painted pictures of it in different sizes and views. Later she studied and became a commercial artist.

Ralph, my husband, used it for a feed store for a long time, stored feed in it, cotton seed meal and stuff to feed the cattle and finally it kept getting worse all the time. He didn't have a place to put some hogs, so he kept the hogs in there. It got to smelling so bad from the hogs that Ralph told me we could tear it down. Me and the kids tore it down and stacked the lumber. We used the lumber for other things. It sure was a rich spot so we raised a garden there!"

And that was the end of Baxter County's first court room!

Mrs. Jane Ethel Irene Jones Anundson made some interesting comments about her paintings and sketch in letters to her mother.

"I hope my reputation as an artist is not at stake for I am proud. The pencil-ater sketches were done 45 years ago by a thoroughly unschooled child. The pen and ink sketches are 32 years after I put all that sort of thing away. So don't know which will be the more primitive."

We are very thankful that Jane did preserve this bit of Baxter County history. Recently when shown the photos 4, 5, 6, and 7, May Jones made the comments that the mound at the northwest corner was where the cellar was, and that they had a rope and pully arrangement for getting water from the well.

The Baxter County Historical Society, Inc. will restore and

Preserve the Casey House.

* * * * *

EDITOR'S NOTE

My thanks to Hazon Bonow and Elizabeth Smith who interviewed Mrs. Ralph Jones and recorded this wealth of information about the Casey House for us. Also thanks to Mr. Knight for his further writings. With funds received from the Baxter County Bicentennial Committee, our historical society has agreed to see that the Casey House is restored, furnished, and opened to the public. One day this will eventually become our Baxter County Museum. The task is great, the work will be hard, the hours long. But the end result will be just reward. And with the help of Mrs. Jones' interview our job will be just a bit easier, and the results truer.

As I read Mr. Knight's excellent story, I thought, "What an inglorious end to Baxter County's First Court Room." The very place where legions of infamous hog thieves had stood before the bar of justice had fallen so low as to become a HOG PEN! and this brings me to a new feature for the Quarterly.

There is truly nothing new under the sun. Our preoccupation with crime, courts, police and detectives as evidenced by our television viewing is nothing new. Funerals, camp meetings, school events, square dancing--none of these popular events drew such appreciative crowds as did court day.

While I was writing The History of Baxter County, the late Mrs. Mamie Barnett of Gassville gave me the court book of Whiteville Township of which her father-in-law, J. P. Barnett was a Justice of the Peace. It is fascinating reading to say the least. All kinds of cases show up--suits involving debts, coins, a suit of boysclothing, a sewing machine, a red heifer. And criminal cases, the most popular being disturbing the peace and assault with a deadly weapon (a rock).

Each Quarterly I plan to publish one case and if by chance your ancestors name appears--don't be alarmed. A great number of my relatives appeared in Whiteville Township court. My great-uncle, Eugene Mooney starts out as a defendant, steps up to plainiff; then Deputy Sheriff and finally Sheriff, the position he held at the time of his death on October 5, 1907. The court record begins in 1899 and ends in 1906 and its contents tell us a good deal about the people who lived in that period--the things they considered to be valuable show us their way of life.

P H O T O G R A P H S

1. Front view of Casey Store, P.O. and Baxter County's first courtroom. Pencil-sater color by Ether (Jahē) Irene Jones in 1921.
2. View of Casey Store and Casey Home. Pen-ink sketch by Jane Ethel Jones Anundson, Jan. 1977.
3. Home of Col. R. D. and Cynthia Joiner Casey, built in 1858. Photo courtesy of Lloyd Fisk.
4. Casey Home in 1969. S.E. View. Photo by D. Garvin Carroll.
5. Casey Home in 1969. S.W. View. Photo by D. Garvin Carroll.
6. Casey Home in 1969. N.W. View. Photo by D. Garvin Carroll.
7. Casey Home in 1969. Rear View. Photo by D. Garvin Carroll.
8. Grave stone of James P. Beck. Holmes Cemetery. Photo by D. Garvin Carroll.
9. Grave sone of Malinda Smith. Holmes Cemetery. Photo by D Garvin Carroll.
10. Grave stone of Mary Ann Smith. Holmes Cemetery. Photo by D. Garvin Carroll.

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UNUSUAL GRAVESTONES

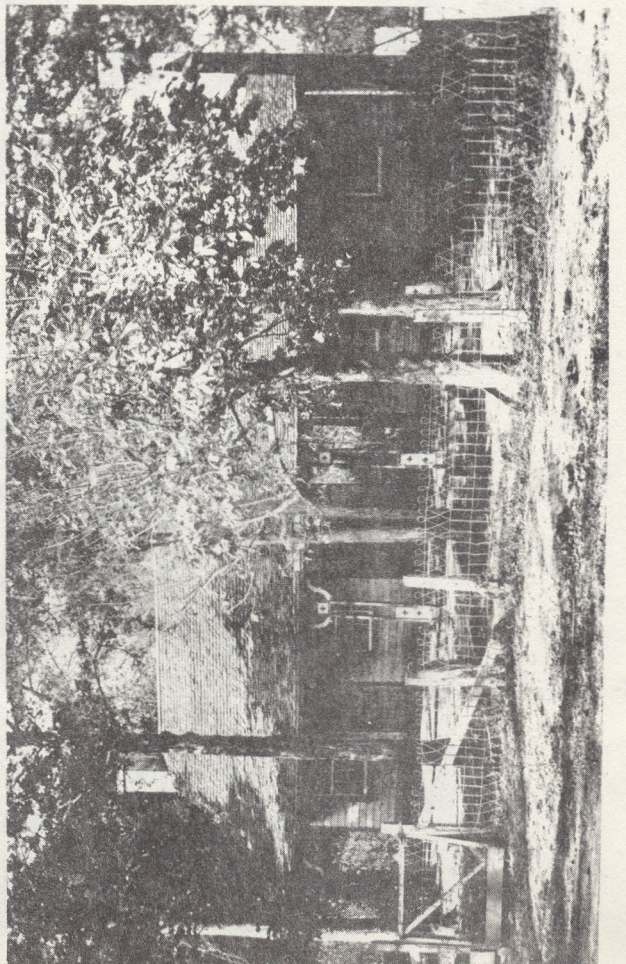
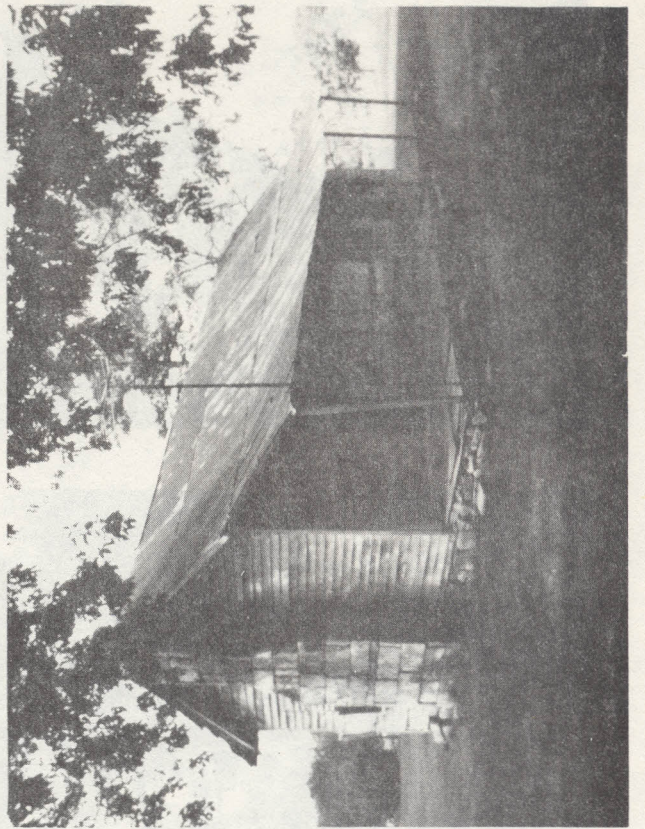
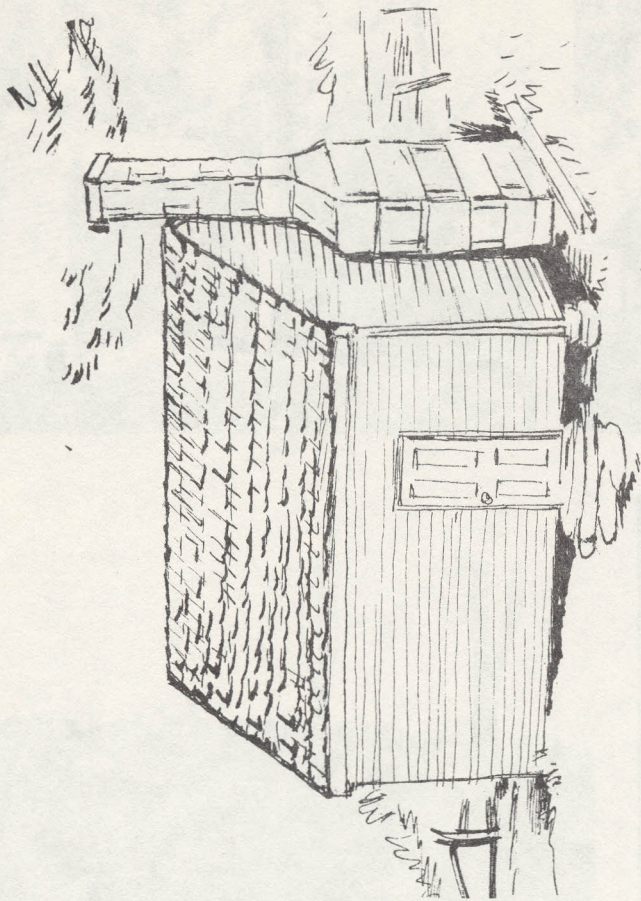
by D. Garvin Carroll

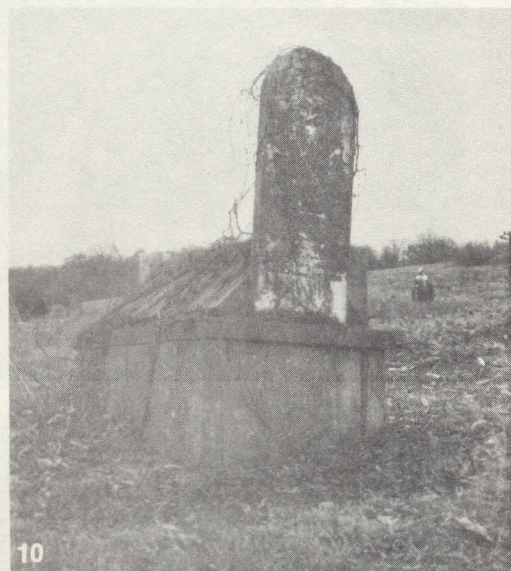
These gravestones are located in the rural Holmes Cemetery, approximately six miles southeast of Harrison, Arkansas, Boone County. Note the smooth even surfaces of these huge stones.

The names and dates on the stones are hard to read in the photos. They are:

- Photo #8. James P. Beck
Born April 9, 1834
Age 24
- Photo #9. Malinda Smith
Born July 25, 1840
Died March 18, 1871
- Photo #10. Mary Ann Smith
Born March 18, 1842
Dled Jan. 30, 1871

* * * * *





COURT CASE, WHITEVILLE TOWNSHIP, BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

State of Arkansas, County of Baxter, Whiteville Township.
Before S. E. Denton, Justice of the Peace.

Marler and Poynter, Plaintiff

VS

E. W. Mooney, Defendant

On this the 20th day of July 1901 come P. T. Poynter, one of the above plaintiffs and filed on account, against the said E. W. Mooney, of \$1.70 where upon a summons was issued and directed to any constable of Baxter County. Returnable on the 26th day of July 1901. S. E. Denton, J.P.

This being return day and the day set for trial. The plaintiffs and Deft. both appeared in person and mutually agreed to have the above case arbitrated. Whereupon Marler and Poynter selected H. C. Browning and E. W. Mooney selected H. H. Hilton as arbitrators and after being sworn and hearing the testimony of plaintiffs and Deft. they brought in the following verdict.

"We the arbitrators in this case do agree that Eugene Mooney shall pay the debt of \$1.70 and Marler and Poynter one dollar to the cost, the balance of cost to be paid by E. W. Mooney. Signed H. C. Browning and H. H. Hilton."

The above award was satisfactory to both plaintiffs and Deft. No appeal called for. Given under my hand this 26th day of July 1901/ S. E. Denton, J.P.

J.P. Costs .65¢ Court fees .95¢ J. P. Fees .70¢
Total \$2.30. This amt. paid by Deft.

This court case, as all others in the book, is handwritten. J. P. Denton had beautiful penmanship, used good spelling and good grammar. In other cases, presided over by other Justice of the Peace, this is not the case. One Justice always spelled Eugene Mooney's name,--U Gean.

Marler and Poynter were early day merchants at Gassville and often used the courts to collect debts.

State of Arkansas, County of Baxter, Whiteville Township.
Before S. E. Denton, J.P.

Marler & Poynter, Pltfs.

VS

Abner White, Deft.

COURT CASES - continued

On this 11th day of Nov. 1901 came P. T. Poynter one of the above plaintiffs and filed on account against Abner White of \$18.15. Whereupon an attachment and summons was issued and placed in the hands of J. C. Blancet, D.S. and returnable on the 16th day of Nov. 1901. He served the same by delivering a copy of the summons and taking possession of one - two horse wagon by attachment, whereupon the Deft. came forward on this day and paid off said debt and cost.

Not all cases were civil.. W. S. Reneo was married to Belle Mooney (my great-aunt) and a brother-in-law to Eugene Mooney.

State of Arkansas, County of Baxter, Whiteville Township,
Before J. W. Barnet, J.P.

State of Arkansas, Plaintiff

VS

W. S. Reno, Defendent

On this the 5th day of Jan. 1903 appeared W. S. Reno and pled guilty to the crime of assault and batrey on one Miles Jennings and after hearing the evidence of said Miles Jennings, on the second day of March 1903, it is adjudged by me that W. S. Reno was guilty, and I assess his fine at one dollar and all cost and I ordered him to pay said fine to Mart Sinor, Constable of Whiteville Township.

Given my hand this 2nd day of March, 1903. J. W. Barnett, J.P.

* * * * *

Dodd City Enterprise (Marion County) November 13, 1903.
(The law and courts was not always needed.)

Last Sunday evening about dusk, Mrs. J. W. Dirst was on her road to Mr. Lay's near the old Milum place. Two men stepped from the bushes, one catching the horse by the bridle and the other seized the lady. It so happended that she had a heavy hickory switch and, being a woman of nerve, she struck the man who had hold of her across the face a stinging blow, which caused him to let go, and the plunging of her horse broke the hold of the other robber and she soon left them behind.

This is the second time a holdup has been attempted at this place recently.
(Dodd City was a boom mining town north of Pyatt, Arkansas.)

PROGRESS OF BAXTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
By hazen Bonow, Historian.

Jan. 4, 1977. Meeting canceled. Jimmy Driftwood was to be a special guest but because of the inclement weather the program will be rescheduled for a later date.

Feb. 1, 1977. Our Vice-President, Garvin Carroll gave a very interesting account on the history of electric utilities in Arkansas. Mr. Carroll has been in Mountain Home 31 years, working for Arkansas Power and Light. In 1951 they established an office here.

Little Rock was the first city in the state to have an electric line. The line was next extended to Melbourne. Arkansas was the first state to have a single pole line in the nation.

In 1914 Mtn. Home had an electric system but it was not successful, so in 1922 it was abandoned. In Oct., 1922 Mr. Wyatt Wolf secured a franchise for the Mtn. Home Electric Co. Rates were first made on the size of the electric bulb, the smallest was 25¢ a month, price increasing with the bulb size.

In 1945 an average of 30 kilowatts was used per month. Today's average is 1000. At first the electric current was not on all the time. Certain days, such as ironing days, it was turned on. At 11 p.m. each night there would be three flashes, then the electricity was turned off.

Mr. Carroll has a "No-Loss" record. He has had no fatality or accident to his men while on their job. He also has won four out of five awards for being the most outstanding electrical manager in Arkansas. He was responsible for the first all Electric Shopping Center in our state. (The Ozark Plaza)

March 1, 1977. Mayor Rex Bayless of Cotter spoke on "Protection of Cemeteries." He became interested when he heard a comment relating to a house close to the Missouri Border that had 20 markers inbedded in the wall with the readable side facing out.

Mayor Bayless then visited the Hensley Smith Cemetery and found there had been some digging in some of the graves. Old cemeteries were located at school ditricts and churches and many are now detoriating.

Mr. Bayless and Judge Baker attended a Governor's advisory committee meeting on man-power and were asked to submit something different in projects. A special project which they plan to submit will be to undertake the clearing of old cemeteries. The man-power projects are to last 6 to 12 months. The idea of our old cemetery protection had already

GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION
BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS

Joseph and Irma Bloom
Rt. 6 Mtn. Home, AR

In our record of marriages for 1889, we failed to list the marriage of J. E. Mattox to Amanda Bush -- Dec. 31, 1889.

* * * * *

BAXTER COUNTY MARRIAGES---Starting with January 1890

Elbert L. Farier to Nancy Henry	Jan. 5, 1890
W. B. Boss to Mrs. Nancy McGuire	Jan. 8
G. M. Dickerson to Mary J. Pernell	Jan. 9
J. A. Boyles to Mrs. S. V. Demington	Jan. 9
B. B. Britt to Mrs. S. E. Scott	Jan. 17 Signed an Affidavit for Marriage
G. W. Dickerson to Vertis E. Bratton	Jan. 24 Signed an Affidavit for Marriage
W. R. Kellett to Allie Bean	Jan. 24 Signed an Affidavit for Marriage
John Pointer to Mrs. Mary Price	Jan. 31
H. A. Jordan to Ritta A. Megee	Feb. 2 Signed an Affidavit for Marriage
Z. W. Barnett to Louella Coffee	Feb. 3
John Coburn to Mrs. Lizzie Whiteside	Feb. 14 Signed an Affidavit for Marriage
J. W. Yarberry to Margaret Mullins	Feb. 16
James Hall to Ida Lee	Feb. 21
Henry Muir to Mary C. Carroll	Feb. 23
R. E. Crickfield to Sarah E. Eachern (?)	Mar. 1 Signed Bond Marriage
J. K. Harris to Mrs. S. J. Lance	March 6
J. R. Nickolas to Ida Henry	Mar. 9
John Wiles to Mrs. Loula Moore	Mar. 11
C. B. Bruce to Mrs. Roda Blevins	Mar. 12
T. H. Murphy to Mrs. Belle Scouden (?)	Mar. 17
William Haptonstall to Mrs. Mary E. Newman	Mar. 23
W. E. Newman to Amelia Payne	Mar. 23
Dudley Burton to Martha Lee	Mar. 23
Calvin F. Trombly to Metty Sevall	Mar. 25
J. T. Davis to Sarah Lafarlett	Apr. 13
D. R. Hayes to Mrs. Matilda J. Whitfield	Signed a Marriage Affidavit Apr. 13

The signed Marriage Affidavit for D. H. Hayes and Matilda Whitfield was the last entry in Marriage Records, Book B, of Baxter County Arkansas. The fire that destroyed the Court House occurred Mar. 23, 1890.

Marriage Record, Book A, was completely destroyed. Book B, still showing the outer part of pages charred, was saved. Glancing above one can see three couples were recorded on that day. The last three must have been recorded after the fire.

Later, when marriage records were continued, the County Clerk started a new book labeled A. Apparently there was a period of two or three months when the recording of marriages was very fragmentary.

GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION --BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS continued

I am listing the first 17 pages as recorded in the second Book A. You will note there has been an attempt on the part of many to have their marriages recorded. One goes back to 1882. County Cler, Mr. Hamock, is in error when he states fire was in 1889.

* * * * *

BOOK A MARRIAGE RECORDS - BAXTER COUNTY, ARK.
1890 - 1895

G. W. Dickerson to Vertice Bratton Marriage Certificate	Jan. 26, 1890
R. E. Critchfield to Sarah E. McCachern (?) Marriage Certificate transcribed from Burned Record Book B. (As this was written they must have assumed that all records of marriage had been burned.)	March 2, 1890
J. B. Simpson to Lugilla Hicks (This record was destroyed in the burning of the Court House in the year 1889. This has been recorded this Sept. 7, 1893.)	June 27, 1882
R. M. Hamock, County Clerk	
A. A. Wolf to Annie Bales	Aug. 7, 1890
J. E. Elliott to Mrs. Martha C. Sisk	May 3, 1891
R. E. Hurst to Maggie Horn	May 27, 1891
D. R. Hayes to Mrs. Matilda Whitfield	April 17, 1890
Charles Hughes to Minnie Thompson	May 4, 1890
J. H. Clasby to Delia C. Reed	May 18, 1890
Wm. Ammerman to Mrs. Arminda Hammock	May 25, 1890
G. W. Weaver to Mattie Hayes	June 1, 1891
M. F. Megee to Adline Coventon	June 8, 1891

* * * * *

We have received letters asking for genealogical information. If you have a question concerning people in this area we will publish them as space permits. They must be limited to fifty words or less.

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LOOKING BACKWARD --From the Baxter County Citizen, Sept. 24, 1897

Gip Johnson, who recently obtained license to marry Miss Martha Smart found that her parents were not as willing as she was, and he called on Clerk Eatman Tuesday morning and returned the license as he had no further use for them. In answer to Clerk Eatman's inquiry as to what was the trouble he said; "They locked the girl up and refused to let me see her, and we had a shooting scrape over it, they whot me twice and shot my horse and now I am on my way to Texas. I didn't want to marry much anyway."
And so endeth another irridescent dream.

HISTORICAL CEMETERIES IN BAXTER COUNTY By Rex S. Bayless

It has been estimated that there are approximately eighty cemeteries in Baxter County. This number would be too small if every family plot was counted. The number of cemeteries seems to be located in most areas where old churches or schools used to be. At one time Baxter County had 69 school districts.

Many of these cemeteries have been overgrown and rundown and no one maintains them now. Many of these cemeteries are listed in Chapter Nineteen of The History of Baxter County by Mary Ann Messick.

The Extension Homemakers Clubs of the County conducted a survey of all the cemeteries in 1968 and 1969 and should be commended for the work they did, but much more actions needed on this project.

The Hensley Smith Cemetery located one mile west of the Shady Grove Store on the Buford Road is one of the oldest historical cemeteries in Baxter County. In this cemetery the father of Van Buren Tate is buried, Ezara McAll Tate; the Diary of Van Buren Tate is included in the History of Baxter County (Chapter 37). Van Buren Tate was the first assessor of Baxter County and was representative of Baxter County for four terms and was the first state Senator elected from Baxter County in 1884. Ezara McAll Tate was buried with Masonic Honors by Mountain Home Lodge, Wythe Walker Adams, Worshipful Master. The E. M. Tate Lodge No. 320 at Fairview, Baxter County was founded by and named after him. The stone at his grave reads as follows:

E. McC. Tate
Born
In Burge Co. N.C.
Sept. 23, 1797

Died
In Baxter County, Ark.
May 24, 1872

Erected by
E. M. TATE LODGE #320

Ezara McCall Tate is the great-great grandfather of Rex S. Bayless, Mayor of Cotter, fifth generation Baxter Countian. Rex S. Bayless, Jr. and his two sons, Paul and Jason Bayless make up the Sixth and Seventh Generation of Baxter Countians.

E. M. Tate Lodge #320 used to have headquarters on the second-floor of the old Methodist Church at Fairview, which is located between Buford and Shady Grove. Wythe Walker Adams, who is the great great uncle of Wythe Adams, father of Joan Dilbeck, helped organize the Adams Masonic Lodge #164 at Norfolk, Ark. Many of the founders of the Masonic Lodges of this county and many of the original

HISTORICAL CEMETERIES IN BAXTER - Continued

settlers of this county who have relatives still living here are buried in these uncared cemeteries.

When many of our old churches, schools and communities disappeared the only landmark left was the old cemetery and no organization was left to maintain the cemetery. The resting places of the original settlers of our county deserve some attention of the present generation.

Unless the Masons and/or relatives of those buried in these cemeteries becomes interested in this problem and take positive action long before the Bicentennial of our County comes around, many of these historical cemeteries, including the headstones will have been destroyed.

From the Cotter Record, Cotter, Arkansas Friday, April 26, 1929.

Rev. D. U. Cline Dead.

Last Thursday at the family home near Amos (Editor's note: Lakeview today) Rev. D. U. Cline, 55 died after an illness of some weeks. The funeral was held Friday, burial at Amos. The widow and two sons survive. One of the sons, Will, is in the naval air training squad at Little Rock. Word of his father's death did not reach him until Saturday morning. He and a pilot came by plane, arriving that evening and finding no landing place near Amos, so they came to Cotter and landed in the W. J. Johnson alfalfa field east of town. Will Cline drove to his home, returning Sunday morning and boarded the plane that left for Little Rock.

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EDITOR'S CHALLENGE:

Last week The Star newspaper announced their contest on Family Trees. Readers were invited to send in their stories about their most exciting, colorful forefathers (and mothers). First prize is \$500.00, with ten prizes of \$50.00 each. I entered the contest, writing about Gaspere Trammelle, the infamous pirate and compadre of Jean-Lafitte. I believe Gaspere Trammelle was my great-great-great grandfather and I get quite a thrill out of thinking the pirate's blood flows in my veins, only seven generations removed.

Of course, our quarterly cannot offer such fabulous prizes, but I challenge each of you to write about your most exciting, intriguing ancestor. They did not have to live in Baxter County, because you do. And one day you and I will be regarded as past history in the county. Your stories will be pringed in your quarterly, so please share with us.

* * * * *