

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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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.

FROM THE EDITORS - - -

As we are printing the Church Archives record, we are especially interested in any HISTORY and PHOTOGRAPHS of the early churches of BAXTER COUNTY. Please send these to the editors as soon as possible. All photographs will be carefully handled and returned to you.

Up-to-date information giving the names and addresses of the present custodians of church records is needed.

Information and photographs if possible, are also needed of early families, towns, farming, industries, roads, means of transportation, stores, mills, recreation, celebrations, fairs, home comings, hunting, etc.

PHOTO CREDITS -

We failed in the previous issue to give credit for the photos. The photo of Jacob Wolfs' tombstone was furnished by D. Garvin Carroll. The map showing the area of incorporation of Mountain Home was prepared by Quinby Smith. Mary Ann Messick had the three photos of the Mooneys.

In this issue Mary Ann Messick had the two Pilgrims Rest Church photos, Paul Harris has the photo of his great grandfathers' tombstone, Lloyd Fisk furnished the photos of the balloon, the First Christian Church, the Methodist Church, and Alyce Marbury the photo of the Presbyterian-Methodist Church.

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JANUARY 6 MEETING AT MONKEY RUN

On Jan. 6th, about 50 attended our first meeting of 1976 at the Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church, Monkey Run. Bob Carson (fiddler) and great grandson of Bob Carson who organized the Church in 1872 gave a short history of the church and its activities. It was originally made of clapboard and rock, but in 1937 was destroyed by fire and the present church was built. The members did a great deal of the construction work and they have never gone into debt at all in building their churches.

In 1908-11 Pilgrims Rest was the largest Baptist Church in the district and according to Mary Ann Messick it was also the "Shoutenest!" Sometimes the preaching, singing and shouting would last until the wee hours of the morning.

The present membership is 249, a great many being descendants of the original members. They still maintain some of the early customs in their church services and activities.

The Church's "Pilgrims" entertained by playing and singing inspiring gospel hymns. Delicious refreshments were served by the Messick family. Thanks to Mary Ann for this most enjoyable evening.

Hazen E. Bonow, Sec.

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"FOOTBACK AND A-WALKING"

by

Mary Ann Messick

Many a citizen of Baxter County during yesteryears who didn't know what geometry meant, knew for certain that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. That's because the cheapest, fastest, cleanest and most readily available mode of travel was walking. Or footback and a-walking, as it was more commonly called.

Since the main roads and trails weren't always the shortest distance between their homes and where they wanted to go, well worn paths criss-crossed the countryside--sometimes joining the road and sometimes taking off in another direction. The stories about our Presidents who walked four miles barefooted to school aren't really 'exagggations'. After Baxter became a county in 1873 there were only 6 school districts. Many parents, looking for a better way for their children, sent them off to schools six miles distance. You couldn't exactly call it busing - just walking. And more often than not, barefooted, especially for the younger children. The older girls and boys would carry their shoes to save leather. When they got in sight of the school house, they'd stop and wipe the dust off their feet, put their shoes and socks on.

This unwritten rule of your ladies from the fourth grade on wearing shoes to school wasn't always fully appreciated. In 1942 when I was in the fourth grade at Pilgrim's Rest our school term started on July 5. Mother took me to Mountain Home and fitted me with a pair of black patent leather slippers and white anklets. I grudgingly wore the shoes and socks the first day. The second day I agreed to wear the shoes. From the third day on to the end of summer term I happily trodded off to school barefooted. (My Mother still hasn't forgiven me this breach of etiquette. She swears that's why my feet are so big!

Of course I was contented to wear my shoes during the winter term. We employed all kinds of tricks to make our trip more pleasant. Kicking rocks or a can was a favorite for the children, but greatly frowned upon by parents. Agreed it did nothing to preserve the toes of shoes. We used to back up Monkey Run hill in the afternoon, trying to fool ourselves into thinking we were going downhill.

When I was in the first grade my two older sisters and I attended the old Pilgrim's Rest school which was about a quarter of a mile through Howard Powell's field, but we didn't have to worry about climbing fences. All the school children east of the school took the same general path, so at the east fence line of the school yard there was a wooden stile over the fence. I haven't seen a stile in years! In my childhood a stile was a wonderous structure to me.

Parents used several tricks to get the little ones to walk as long as their little legs could hold out. Long straight branches cut and trimmed were called 'stick horses', fooling the tots into thinking they were riding a horse. One family I knew walked to Mountain Home every Saturday and spent the day on the courthouse square, watching the world go

(cont. next page)

FOOTBACK AND A-WALKING - cont.

When their children got tired and started crying, they'd cut switches and apply a dose of 'hickory tea' - a method that horrified young eyes.

Families walked for two miles or more to work in the fields. They'd stomp through plowed ground all day, then walk home and prepare supper. Then it was often off to a party or square dance for the young people. What strong limbs they had!

Riding horses was also a favorite mode of transportation. The ladies who had side saddles could wear their regular dresses. If they didn't have a side saddle, they wore riding habits. Riding bareback was more popular with the children. That way they didn't have to bother with putting on a saddle and often even rode without reins. My Mother says she rode to round up cattle with only the horse's mane for a rein.

My great-grandmother, Callie Brown Raymond's favorite mount was a gentle white Mule. She had a side-saddle and rode like a lady to church and on her rounds as a nurse and mid-wife. One night at the Church of Christ in Arkana, boys milling around outside cut all the hair off the poor old mule's tail. But this didn't in any way detract from his dependability even if some of the uppity ladies in the community did laugh at her funny looking mount.

Well-to-do families traveled by buggy, Springfield wagon, or one-horse surrey. After the advent of the cars, old car frames were recycled by those unable to afford cars. They built boxes on the frame, getting the benefit of rubber tires and springs. The last wagon like this that I saw traveling by my place was owned by George Stafford, in the 50's. He used it to haul his plows when he went to break gardens in the spring. My nephew, Jimmie Franks, was fascinated by the wagon and would watch for it so he could bum a ride down the road to Aunt Mary Ann's. My Mother recalls seeing a poor old horse pulling a one-horse surrey loaded down with four people--two who needed to join Weight Watchers. The poor horse was just laying down, trying to pull a slight grade. Finally the two skinny ladies got out and walked up hill.

When the railroad came through the country in the early 1900's it afforded a cheap, exciting and fast mode of transportation - if you lived near the railroad. My Mother lived at Norfolk so her family took full advantage. Instead of walking to Arkana over the bluff, they'd board the train, barely get sat down in their seats until it was time to get off. The Norfolk girls Basketball Team went on road trips via railroad to Calico Rock and Guion.

Henry Ford brought the greatest change in transportation that this county has ever known. The automobile made mechanics out of blacksmiths, scared hens from laying, dried up milk cows and frightened little girls and old women. The Model T Fords had three pedals--forward, reverse, and the brake. Coming home from church my Uncle, Gilbert Raymond, started to turn into their driveway and hit the reverse pedal by mistake. There he was, flying along backward, right into the path of Rass Cunningham's wagon. Both were hollering "Whoa, Whoa." My uncle was lucky enough to stop the car before they collided. Unfortunately he was sweet on Cunningham's daughter who after that incident thought he was a "young smart-aleck!"

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FOOTBACK AND A-WALKING - cont.

When I was a girl, often we didn't have a spare tire. If we had a flat going to Mountain Home, Daddy would find some rocks and a pole to jack the car up. Then he'd take off the flat tire, patch the innertube with "cold patching" and wait for it to set. During the cold weather he'd bring the battery in by the fire to keep it warm so the car would start quick the next morning. Sometimes we'd hook the radio up to the battery and listen to the Grand Ole Opry. There was no anti-freeze so Daddy would drain the car on cold nights, then keep a tub of water by the fire to pour in the radiator the next morning. One night our kitten fell into the water. We fished him out, pumped him out and wrapped him in a blanket to keep the kitty from taking pneumonia.

One car we had didn't have but one seat in front. Daddy drove and Mother and we girls sat in back. If we picked up anybody, they'd have to squat on the can Daddy kept in the car to fill up the radiator. It leaked like a sieve and we'd have to stop at every spring along the road to fill it up to keep from overheating. This is one of my earliest recollections!

Being such ingenious folks, it naturally follows Baxter Countians developed some unique modes of transportation. We had a neighbor boy who rode the milk cow home from pasture. My Uncle, Albert Messick, once ran from his home at the junction of highways 126 and 178 to Gassville in 15 minutes. He had a date to take a girl to church and at the last minute his father decided he couldn't have the car. Uncle Albert got there on time -- but bet he didn't have much breath left for sweet talk!

But the most unique mode of transportation I ever heard of was used by my grandfather, Harve Raymond. In 1926 there was a big snow on the ground for about two weeks before Christmas. My stepgrandmother had been house-bound all this time because she didn't have any galoshes, and she was just dying to go to the Norfolk School Christmas program. Luckily she was a little woman and my grandfather was a big man. He pulled her to the school house in a tub!

Mary Ann Messick

* * * * *

Ralph Stafford remembers when he and other youngsters would go to local caves and capture bats and put them in Prince Albert tobacco cans. Then they would take them to church and release them inside the church during revival meetings.

He also remembers them going separately to the two most "shoutenest" members of the church and betting each one that he would be the first to start "shouting".

* * * * *

"A sense of direction is what enables you to drive unerringly part of the way to where you're going."

"Attitude determines a man's future success and his present state of happiness."

* * * * *

R. I. P.

(Third in a series of articles on cemeteries in Baxter County)
by D. Garvin Carroll

My goal in this endeavor for the Baxter County Historical Society is "to gather, preserve, and perpetuate records of our Pioneer Ancestors."

In connection with this goal, I will from time to time, place in this publication names and locations of cemeteries, names and dates found in these cemeteries in Baxter County.

The Norfolk Dam project was authorized for construction by the Flood Control act approved August 18, 1941. But before the gates could be closed on this super structure, work had to be done. That of moving cemeteries from their original location within the reservoir, to a new location, to prevent inundation by water impounded by Norfolk Dam. The relocation of cemeteries in Norfolk Reservoir area was authorized by the first War Powers act, 941, and executive order #9001, dated Dec. 27, 1941. Plans and specifications for this project were approved by the District Engineer, U. S. Engineer office, Little Rock, Arkansas, and were issued January 1943.

The following cemeteries were relocated, completion report dated November 1, 1943: Buzzard Roost, Tracy, Bluff Springs, Herron, Maynard, Trivitt, Dennis, Green Briar, Bean, Cantrell, Henderson, Custer, Lankford, Reed, Geans, Tripp, Cockrums, Price, Mitchell.

Instruments: Warranty Deeds
Acknowledged, year 1943
Filed, year 1943
Recorded in Books 36, 38 and 39, Baxter County, Arkansas

Courtesy, U. S. Corps of Engineers Office, Mountain Home, Ark.

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"It's a tragedy for anyone to come down to the end of lifes' journey having given no service to their God, their country, or their fellow man.

"Service is the rent you pay for the space you occupy as you go through life". - by Edward H. Stoll

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DID YOU KNOW - that the Presidential campaign of 1860 caused no great excitement in Arkansas? ABRAHAM LINCOLNS' NAME DID NOT APPEAR ON THE ARKANSAS BALLOT and the Southern Democrat candidate received the majority of votes cast in the state. Soon afterward the Secession movement grew in the state. (From Historical Report of the Secretary of State)

* * * * *

" G O L D "

by

Gordan M. Lambrecht

I was sitting by our fireplace with some friends when someone asked if there really was gold in Arkansas.

"Well Sir", I said, "I will tell you what happened to me when I first moved down here 30 years ago". I was living in the Tracy area on the Old Talbert School Road, and had befriended Don Blevins. I had saved one of Don's dogs (which he prized very highly) so we became fast friends.

While hunting one day, he introduced me to a man named McChord. Now this Mr. McChord or Mac as we called him, liked to poke around in Baxter County, on the back roads and places like you never would believe. He was very old when I first met him. After knowing him for about 3 or 4 months during which we saw each other about twice a week, he asked me if I would like to go with him in his truck to a place where he knew there was gold.

Now asking me to ride in that old Chevy was a real adventure by itself. It was SO old nobody knew what year, color, or why it still ran. Bailing wire, stove bolts and sheer "guts" kept it going. I told Mac I could go with him anytime, so we set a date for the next week. He arrived bright and early one morning and away we went. The back of the pickup truck had a lot of junk in it, but one thing stood out from the rest. It was a red and white water jug.

Mac did the driving and for his age he did quite well. I was glad my insurance was paid up. We got over to Cotter and Mac talked to the man at the boat dock and got a boat and motor. We loaded everything into the Jon boat and started up stream. After about a ~~half~~ hour he turned into the bank on the left side and there was a small stream or brook coming into the river. He ran the boat up the stream about 500 or 600 feet and grounded it on the bank. I jumped out and tied the boat to a tree while Mac got the tools and rocker out of the boat. I wondered how far away we were going to start panning for this gold or using the rocker. Mac said we would have to walk up hill about 600 feet. The climb wasn't too hard as there was a slight path that Mac had made before.

I was ready for a drink of water when lo and behold the jug was no where in sight. We discovered neither of us had taken it out of the pickup truck. Mac decided he would go back and get it while I started digging where he showed me. He got back in about an hour and when I saw and tasted the coffee he had in the jug, I was sure it was a week old and as strong as Paul Bunyans blue Ox.

We worked the stream sides and sometimes the middle of the bed. It was a real thrill to pick up real gold and put it into a pan. One thing I did find out is that it was sure hard work! We worked all day and just as the sun was going over the mountains did we get into the boat and head for home. I ran the rocker and dug for over 12 hours and my share of the gold amounted to \$20.00. I'm sure I could have made more working at a regular job, but I wouldn't have had as much fun or sore muscles. This was an adventure I will always remember.

CHARLES W. GEARY,
 BAXTER COUNTY'S ONE AND ONLY BALLOONIST
 by
 Alice Geary Mueting

Early in this century, County fairs and picnics were the high-lights of entertainment all over the hill country. Big attractions at these affairs were balloon ascensions and parachute jumps - in fact, if these were not available, dates and plans were changed so they would be.

Baxter County was fortunate in having its own balloonist, Charles W. Geary.

The family of this young adventurous man had moved to Baxter County in 1880 from Topeka, Kansas, with about 8 other families. They settled in the Float Creek area. Their son Charles, then about 18 years of age, was very interested in balloon ascensions. This interest later developed into a love of airplanes, which endured all his life. About this time, he purchased a balloon by mail and had it shipped to Norfork, the nearest railroad stop. When it arrived, he walked to Norfork and back home, a distance of 18 miles, his precious balloon on his back. Charles was a regular entertainer at the fairs and picnics of the County, but also ascended for his own pleasure and fun.

One snowy December day he decided to make an ascension from the John Fouk farm. Everyone around came to watch and help. He found he needed a certain piece of machinery before ascending, so asked his brother (Professor R. W. Geary) to run over to the Fout home for this needed tool. Mrs. Fout had dinner ready, and with true Arkansas hospitality asked Mr. Geary to join them. He did so, leaving the onlookers out in the field to hold the balloon and keep it from taking off. Finally he returned, and Charles made the ascension, a beautiful sight. When he descended, however, it was into a treetop, and everyone had to help again, to get him down.

His next show was at Henderson, Arkansas, where his balloon caught fire and was destroyed, ending his career in this field.

He joined the Army in World War I, was wounded and received the Purple Heart, as well as other decorations. Upon his return from the war, he entered Mountain Home Baptist College, and later the University of Arkansas where he majored in Agriculture. He was one of the men who pioneered the Agriculture program in Arkansas. In 1920 he married Alice Hanks, and they had two children. Their son, Eugene, followed in his father's footsteps and became a pilot in World War II. He was shot down and was a prisoner of war until released after 18 months.

Charles W. Geary died in 1964, but his widow, Alice Geary Mueting, lives in Mountain Home.

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First Pilgrims Progress Church, Monkey Run, Ark.
Built in 1872.



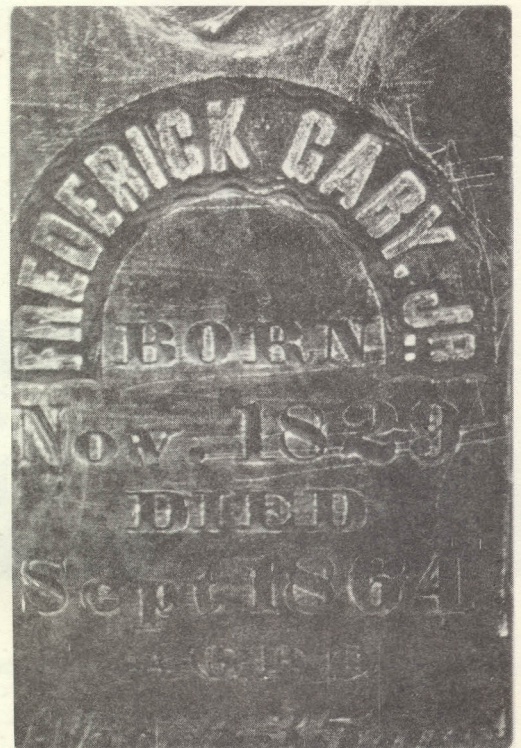
Pilgrims Progress Church, built in 1940.



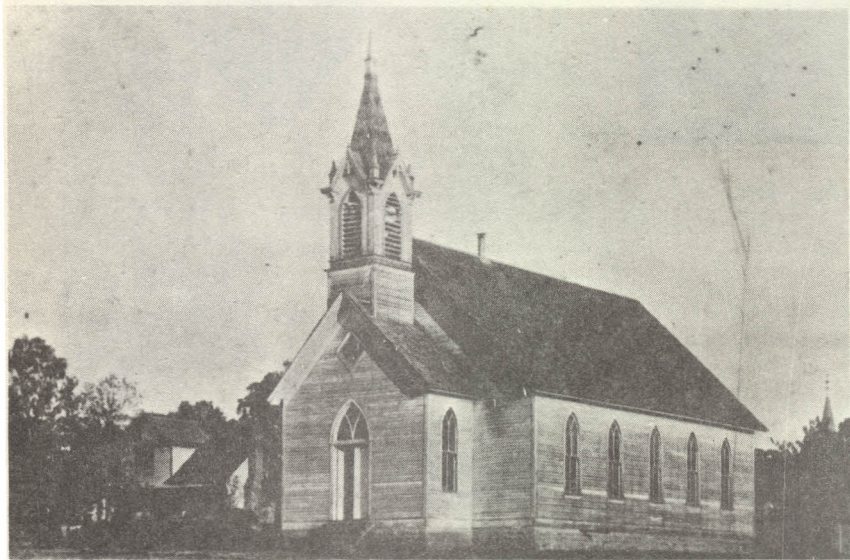
Cumberland Presbyterian Church, built in 1896.
Sold to First Methodist in 1924. Replaced in
1963 by present First United Methodist Church.



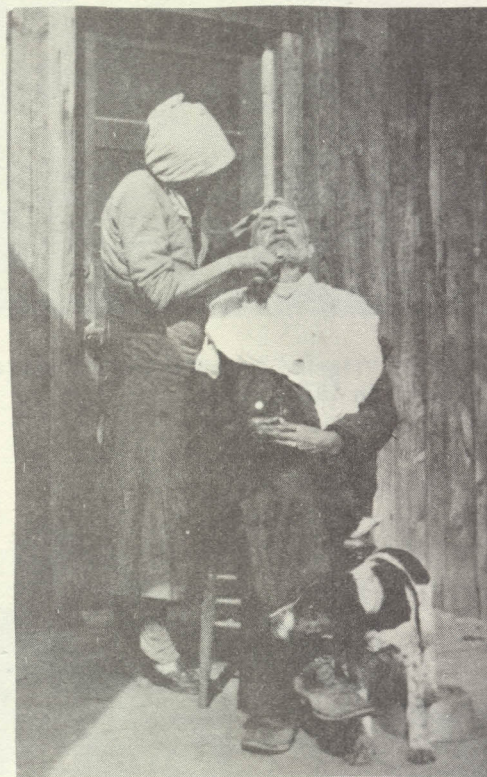
C.W. Geary and his hot-air balloon...about 1916.



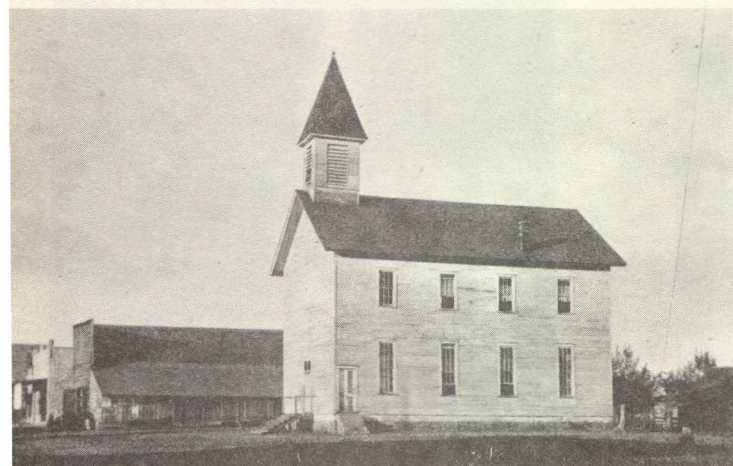
Paul Harris' great grandfather's grave.
He was killed in battle of Pilot Knob
near Ironton, Missouri, Sept. 1864.



First Christian Church, Mountain Home. Constructed in 1893 where the Ark. Western Gas Co. is today.



"Doc" Cox getting ready for church? Being shaved by his wife.



Methodist Church, Mtn. Home. Located just off southeast corner of the square. Destroyed by windstorm March 25, 1904. The Masonic Lodge occupied the upper story.



Baptism 1930. Rev. O.C. Karkolits, Baptist Pastor, Mountain Home. In Hicks Creek (now Bean Terrace) in "Bud Leonard hole".

THE METHODIST CHURCH

by

Alyce Marbury

Records show that there was a Methodist Church in Mountain Home in 1879. The building was located on the corner of 8th and Baker Streets (where the old Kent Chevrolet used to be). It was a two-story building of frame construction.

The upper floor was used by the "Masonic Lodge".

The parsonage at that time was located where the Post Office building now stands.

Records are very sparse since the building was blown away by a tornado on March 23, 1904. My mother very well remembers this tornado that came about 6:00 in the evening and blew the rooftops off several buildings and did other minor damage around town, but the church was the only building completely demolished. It did leave the organ intact with the kerosene lamp standing on top of it.

It is known that there were Methodist Meetings held here in 1873 but it is uncertain whether they were in this building. My mother remembers going to Church and Sunday School in this old building.

After the church was blown away the Presbyterians let the Methodists use their building for services. In 1924 the Methodists purchased the building and land from the Presbyterians.

The trustees at that time were H. B. Aylar, C. O. Bucher, J. H. Conley, N. C. Eatman, F. H. Love, T. H. McClure, I. J. Morris, Dr. J. T. Tipton and A. A. Wolf. The price was \$1500.

This building was built in 1896 and stood until 1963 when it was torn down to make way for the new sanctuary.

The ground on which the Methodist Church now stands was homesteaded July 1, 1859 by Abraham Hunsacker who later sold to Joseph W. Dodd. On February 23, 1890, the day the County Court House burned down, it was sold to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church for \$50.00. The deed was destroyed before it was recorded and a second deed was executed to replace the one lost by fire.

Dr. Hacklers' (one of our early Doctors) father was one of the Ministers of the old Methodist Church. He was Helen Lahrs, Jeff and Herman Hacklers grandfather.

Another old Minister was a Reverend Hooker who is buried in the old Cemetery in Mountain Home.

My grandfather, Tobias Bucher, designed and had the contract to build the Presbyterian church but took typhoid fever and died before getting started on it. His foreman, B. H. Halburt was then given the contract to build the church.

GUIDE TO VITAL STATISTIC RECORDS IN ARKANSAS - CHURCH ARCHIVES

Prepared by The Arkansas Historical Survey Project, Division
of Community Service Programs, Works Projects Administration.

BAXTER COUNTY - continued

GASSVILLE

BAPTIST

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, 1868--.

Gassville,

Register: Record of Members, 1 Vol., in custody of Seth Lonon,
(1921--) Gassville.

PILGRIM'S REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1872--

Gassville, Rt. 1

Register: Record of Members, Baptisms, and Deaths, 1 vol.,
in custody (1920-35) of Henry Mooney, clerk, Gassville, Rt. 1.

PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, 1916--. Gassville, Rt. 1

Register: Record of Members, Marriages, and Deaths, 1 vol. in
custody (1916--) of Miss Emma Hargraves, clerk, Gassville, Rt. 1.

WHITEVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 1892--. Gassville, Rt. 1.

Register: (1914-1929; 1940) Record of Members, Baptisms, and
Deaths, 2 vol., in custody of Hiram Tucker, clerk, Gassville, Rt. 1

METHODIST CHURCH, Gassville, 1903--.

Register: Record of Members and Marriages, 1 vol., in custody
(1903--) Mrs. Myrtle Shoemaker, clerk, Gassville.

HENDERSON

BAPTIST CHURCH (Heron Baptist Church) 1896--. Henderson Star Rte.

Register: a Record of Members, 2 vol., (1934-39) in custody of
Mrs. Chet Smith, clerk, Henderson.

MOUNTAIN HOME

BAPTIST:

Hopewell Baptist Church, 1874--. Mountain Home.

Register: (1834--.) Record of Members, 3 vol., in custody of
T. O. Horn, clerk, Mountain Home.

Hopewell Baptist Church, 1874--. Mountain Home, R. F. D.

Register: (1884--.) Record of Members, 3 vols., in custody of
T. O. Horn, clerk, Mountain Home.

MOUNTAIN HOME BAPTIST CHURCH, 1868--. Mountain Home.

Register (1903--.) Record of Members, and Baptisms, 1 vol.
in custody of Miss Jewell Nelson, Mountain Home.

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH, 1908--. Mountain Home, Rt. 2.

Register: (1909--.) Record of Members, and Deaths, 1 vol., in
custody of Jodie Smith, Mountain Home, Rt. 2.

OAK GROVE BAPTIST MISSION CHURCH; 1884-1932. Mountain Home, Rt. 2.

Register: (1884-1932) Record of Members, 1 vol., in custody of
Mr. Collie Jones, Mountain Home, Rt. 2.

CHURCH ARCHIVES - cont.

MOUNTAIN HOME

CHURCHES OF CHRIST

LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST, 1923--. Mountain Home, Rt. 1.
Register: (1923--) Record of Members, 1 vol., in custody of
W. C. Rice, Rt. 1, Mountain Home.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Christian Church, (1888--) Mountain Home.
Register: Record of Members, and Deaths, 2 vols. (1888--)
in custody of Mrs. Brewer Robertson, Mountain Home.

INDEPENDENT

OAKLAND CHURCH OF CHRIST, 1869--. Mountain Home, Star Rt.
Register: (1869) Record of Members, 1 vol., in custody of
John Webber, (1869) Mountain Home, Star Rt.

METHODIST:

MT. HOME METHODIST CHURCH, 1882--. Mountain Home.
Register: Record of members, Baptisms, and Marriages, 2 vol.,
(1920-21) custody of Rev. Lyman T. Barger, Mountain Home. (1926--)

OAK GROVE CHAPEL, 1869--. Mountain Home, Rt. 3.

Register: Record of Members, Marriages, and Baptisms, 1 vol.,
(1911-28) custody of Lonnie McCormick, Mountain Home, Rt. 3.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL M. E. CHURCH, So., 1850--. Mountain Home.

Register: (1918-37) Record of Members, and Baptisms, 1 vol.,
in custody of Rev. Lyman T. Barger, Mountain Home.

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" LOOKING BACKWARD"

FROM BAXTER BULLETIN FILES - 50 years ago.

Dec. 12, 1924 - Plans are being made now to install a waterworks system at Cotter. The consent of 60 percent of the property holders will have to be granted but it is said that fully that many have already signified their willingness for the project to go ahead. A survey will be started soon to determine the cost of the plant. The water supply will be drawn from an immense spring that bursts forth from the White River near the ferry crossing. It is the second largest spring in the state and will afford an ample supply of water. A steel stand pipe will not be necessary. The hill back of the town has an elevation 300 feet higher than the river and sufficient pressure can be had from a reservoir.

The Gassville Gin Company has been organized at Gassville, to install a modern system gin next year. Seven thousand five hundred dollars has already been subscribed. It is estimated the plant will cost twelve thousand. A modern system gin will also be installed at Mountain Home in time for next year's ginning.

Dec. 19, 1924 - From the ads - I will pay 10 cents straight for hens, and 10 cents for springs. Eggs are 38 cents per dozen.
Brooks Produce Co.

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GENEALOGICAL STORIES

Paul Harris is the author of the following stories. He was born in southern Missouri, the son of John and Minnie Bell Bennett Harris. The family moved to Illinois when Paul was quite young. However, he never forgot the interesting and beautiful Ozarks. When retirement time came it was only natural for him to return to the Ozark area of his early years.

Joseph Bloom

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GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION IS SOMETIMES FOUND IN UNUSUAL PLACES

A couple years ago my wife and I spent several days in South Central Indiana searching for genealogical information on my mother's family. The last day of this itinerary took us to the town of Bloomfield, the county seat of Green County, Indiana.

During the morning we searched through the census records that were on file in the courthouse where we found several bits of useful information. Just before going to lunch at noon I made a stop in the men's washroom. While I was there I spoke to a man and casually mentioned to him that I was in town looking for information on the family of George W. Bennett and his wife Nancy Riley Bennett who were my grandparents on my mother's side of the family. "I may be of some help to you", he said. "My grandparents moved with your grandparents to Indiana from Ohio". He mentioned that there were five families in a caravan that moved in covered wagon to Indiana from East Liverpool, Ohio.

As I continued to talk with him he gave me more family information and said he had some additional records at home for me to see.

All of which proves that genealogical information can be obtained in some of the most unusual places!

A FAMILY LEGEND

I have always considered myself very fortunate to have lived while three of my grandmothers, members of my father's family, were alive. When I was a small boy my grandmother, great-grandmother, and my great-great-grandmother were all living together in their rural home in Bollinger County, Missouri. During that time I lived with my parents only about a half mile away, and for a short time I frequently saw all three of them. Great-great grandmother passed away when I was only three years old, but I still have recollections of her sitting in her old rocking chair, a red bandana handkerchief on her head, smoking a corncob pipe. Her maiden name was Catherine Shell. She was one of fourteen children. Her parents and all of the children moved from North Carolina and arrived in southwest Missouri in 1812.

There is a family legend written in a book of records that concerns one of her older sisters.

Fannie Shell, third oldest of the fourteen children, died at about seventeen years of age, and was the first person buried in the Shell Cemetery. According to the legend, friendly Indians helped care for her in her illness, and one night as she lay sick a bright light appeared on a nearby hill.

A FAMILY LEGEND - cont.

The Indians said she would die soon, and should be buried where the light appeared. The next morning she died as the Indians had predicted. The cemetery where she is buried bears her family name and is located near the town of Lutesville, Bollinger County, Missouri.

SEARCHING FOR A CIVIL WAR GRAVE

Many battles and skirmishes were fought in Missouri during the Civil War between Southern and Northern troops. Often this fighting was quick and vicious between fast moving units on horseback. My great-grandfather was killed in such a battle, the battle of Pilot Knob near Ironton, Missouri.

For years I never knew where he was buried, but I wanted to find out if possible. By the time I got around to asking, all of the older members of the family were dead and gone. My father had no information. Time went by and finally a cousin in California wrote to the War Department in Washington. A reply received from them said he had been buried in the Old White Cemetery in a rural area of the north end of Bollinger County, Missouri.

With this information I went back to Missouri and enlisted the aid of another cousin who lived not too many miles away. Subsequently, in our search we found an elderly farmer who knew of a small cemetery that had been called the Old White Cemetery when he was a boy, although its name had long since been changed and apparently forgotten. The farmer knew where it was and took us to the spot. It lay in a very secluded area on a small slope with an outer ring of trees around it, about two miles off the road. The old burial ground was heavily grown up with shrubbery and weeds. I found my great-grandfather's tombstone, a marble stone once white, but now blackened by the elements. I rubbed the face of the stone with a smooth rock. The inscription read:

FREDERICK CABY
Born
Nov. 1829
Died
Sept. 1864
About 35 yrs.

Paul Harris

Lloyd Fisk recollects that everyone used the concrete walks around the First Methodist - Presbyterian church for roller skating as it was the only place in town having concrete walks!

DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR DUES - AND ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN! WE NEED EVERY ONE OF YOU TO MAKE THE BAXTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY A 'GOING' CONCERN!

GENEALOGICAL NOTES

by

Joseph and Irma Bloom, Rt. 4, Mountain Home

Much of this issue of Genealogical Notes concerns marriage.
We thought the following couplet appropriate:

'I did commit no act of folly
When I married my sweet Molly.'

Author Unknown

BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS - MARRIAGES 1887

Lincoln Nicholas to Mrs. E. D. Galbraith	Jan. 13, 1887
William T. Marshall to Belle Wells	Jan. 13,
T. B. Lewis to Mrs. Sarah J. Mason	Jan. 13
S. A. Morton to Maggie Swaningin	Jan. 13
W. H. Vanhorn to Fredonia Rodgers	Jan. 15
S. R. Jones to Mrs. Ellin Pierson	Jan. 16
R. N. Graves to Martha E. Edding	Jan. 16
E. L. Barton to Mary Parks	Jan. 16
L. E. Hopper to Emma Denton	Jan. 20
J. N. Caple to Jennie Rice	Jan. 20
L. L. Megee to Emeley C. Coventon	Jan. 23
B. W. Williams to Eliza Curtis	Jan. 23
J. T. Copeland to Vena Talburt	Jan. 23
Alexander Goad to Elizabeth Cocknim	Jan. 23
R. L. London to Hannah Wells	Jan. 27
J. D. Hancock to Ada Elliott	Feb. 5, 1887
L. H. Gardner to Lilly M. Harper	Feb. 6
Walter Bean to Mrs. Effie Roberson	Feb. 6
J. W. Stapleton to Ellin Roberts	Feb. 13
F. M. Cantwell to Lou Hightower	Feb. 23
N. G. Lance to Lizzie Reed	Feb. 25
S. V. Rice to Almarinda Crownover	Mar. 6, 1887
N. B. Rodgers to Ada Sorrels	Mar. 9
W. A. Ridgway to Salina Jones	Mar. 10
J. S. Lance to Ellen Alexander	Mar. 13
Charles Gosvener to Ann Webber	Mar. 20
William J. Johnson to M. M. I. Newton	Mar. 21
E. W. Peterson to Mrs. E. J. Arnold	Apr. 1887
W. H. Dunkin (Duncan) to Landona S. Davidson	Apr. 21
L. W. Kempe, Jr., tp Bettie Dearmore	Apr. 24
W. Henderson to Matilda Oels	Apr. 28
Geo. A. Houser to Cynthia A. Baily	Apt. 30
A. S. Kelley to Mollie B. Knicaid	May 1, 1887
Jasper Maynard to Nancy E. Roberts	
applied for Marriage Affidavit on	May 14
Emil Eno Holden to Isabella Williamson	
applied for Marriage Affidavit on	May 19
W. B. Benson to Fannie Hayes	May 24
Mack Atchison to Minta D. Kelems	June 8, 1887
J. D. Ramsey to Jossie Green	June 12
B. F. Lane to Mrs. Carolina Sturgeon	June 12
John Rop to Tabitha Davis	June 18

cont. next pagd)

EAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS - MARRIAGES 1887 - cont.

W. I. Middleton to Annie Adkins	June 22, 1887
W. H. Thorn to Adelia Parks	June 25
J. H. Parks to Mrs. Nancy Stone	June 29
J. M. Heiskill to Ester Bettis	June 30
H. S. Mitchell to Eliza A. Sexton	July 3, 1887
John Wolfer to Mrs. Dicie M. Shell	July 5
W. W. Taylor to Laura F. Anglin	July 14
B. R. Hudson to Florence Ausborne	July 16
R. E. L. Denton to Emma Seans	July 17
P. P. Dunbar To Dittie Beck	July 21
David C. Parker to Mrs. Sarah J. Minnis	July 22
T. R. Haney to Mary Heiskill	July 24
W. C. Easterly to E. J. Wilkins	July 24
D. J. Gooden to Addie Beard	July 24
P. H. Hart to Lizzie A. Byler	July 24
H. S. Mitchell to Mrs. M. J. Holms	July 26
Chas. Stewart to Emma Nokum	July 30
Albert Fout to Caldonia Wells	Aug. 11, 1887
J. M. Stone to Mrs. Sarah L. Farmer	Aug. 12
W. H. Crowley to Necie Dihell	Aug. 15
W. N. Sorrells to Deba H. Mings	Aug. 21
C. E. Ritter to Sophrona Foster	Aug. 22
M. Kurkindoll to Mrs. Martha J. Wilkins	Aug. 23
J. H. Fountain to Maggie Herron	Aug. 25
J. C. Hayes to Mrs. Martha Baker	Aug. 27
W. D. Jordon to Rebecca Watts marked "Returned not Executed"	Aug. 27
Elijah Cope to Charlota Philips	Aug. 28
W. W. Wooten to Eliza Ford	Aug. 31
W. S. Wheat to Melvina Smith	Sept. 2, 1887
W. M. Guinn to Ida Perkins	Sept. 4
George Patterson to Mrs. Fannie M. Colson	Sept. 5
W. L. Mitchell to Mrs. Catherine Carter	Sept. 6
W. A. Baker to Mary A. Caldwell	Sept. 8
R. A. Gilbraith to Mary A. Rice	Sept. 11
J. H. Cooper to Sarah Bruce	Sept. 14
J. N. Will to Mrs. Martha D. Cockrum	Sept. 18
J. W. Partee to M. E. Crane	Sept. 18
Cyrus D. Young to Emily Todd	Sept. 19
J. P. Clendenin to Lucy Curlee	Sept. 23
Nat Tracy to Nancy Wise - "Marriage Affidavit issued"	Sept. 24
Noan Powell to Amanda Grifeth	Sept. 25
John P. Beall to Mrs. Manerva A. Boone	Sept. 25
J. M. Williams to Mrs. Laura Summers	Sept. 28
W. L. Taylor to Polly A. Henry	Sept. 28
W. H. Hutton to Nancy C. Hopkins	Oct. 2, 1887
W. D. Jordon to Luvena Roberson	Oct. 3
Z. M. Horton to Katie Hicks	Oct. 11
J. C. Hopper to Sarah J. Smothers	Oct. 22
J. D. Jones to Nancy Brown	Oct. 23

BAXTER COUNTY, ARKANSAS - MARRIAGES 1887 - cont.

M. L. Woodcock to Margaret E. Leary	Nov. 3, 1887
William Lance to Lucinda Kasinger	Nov. 3
John T. Perry to Fannie Luther	Nov. 6
U. G. Reed to C. L. Davis	Nov. 10
J. B. Linn to Tabitha A. Toney	Nov. 14
C. B. Moon, Jr. to Nancy Mingue	Nov. 16
A. N. P. White to Mrs. Sarah A. Mundell	Nov. 27
T. L. Herrington to S. T. Herrington	Nov. 29
J. B. Bowlin to Georgeal Carroll	Nov. 30
J. H. Vangilder to Victory Vanover	
Applied for Marriage Affidavit	Dec. 2, 1887
O. N. Hayes to Laura Hand	Dec. 4
Wm. C. Kennedy to Carra Green	Dec. 4
W. J. Clark to Mrs. Nannie L. A. Groves	Dec. 7
J. M. Nealy to Susan Sappington	Dec. 11
W. H. Hawkins to Mrs. Rebecca Day	Dec. 15
M. L. Crownover to Parthenia Smith	Dec. 16
S. L. Gilbert to Mrs. Mary M. Springer	Dec. 16
Grant Helvey to Mary B. Dunlop	Dec. 21
J. M. Andrews to Josephine Slavin	Dec. 22
R. P. King to Agee Ridgway	Dec. 24
J. T. Jones to Rilla Ellison	Dec. 26
R. J. Tate to Mary Lonon	Dec. 27
I. S. Gill to Sallie Schoggen	Dec. 29

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57.	Archives cont. and Looking Back 50 years
58.	Genealogical Stories
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