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BIOGRAPHY

OF

HISTORIC

CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY



KINDNESS

I shall pass through this world but once, if therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do, let me do it now; let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Etienne De Grellet



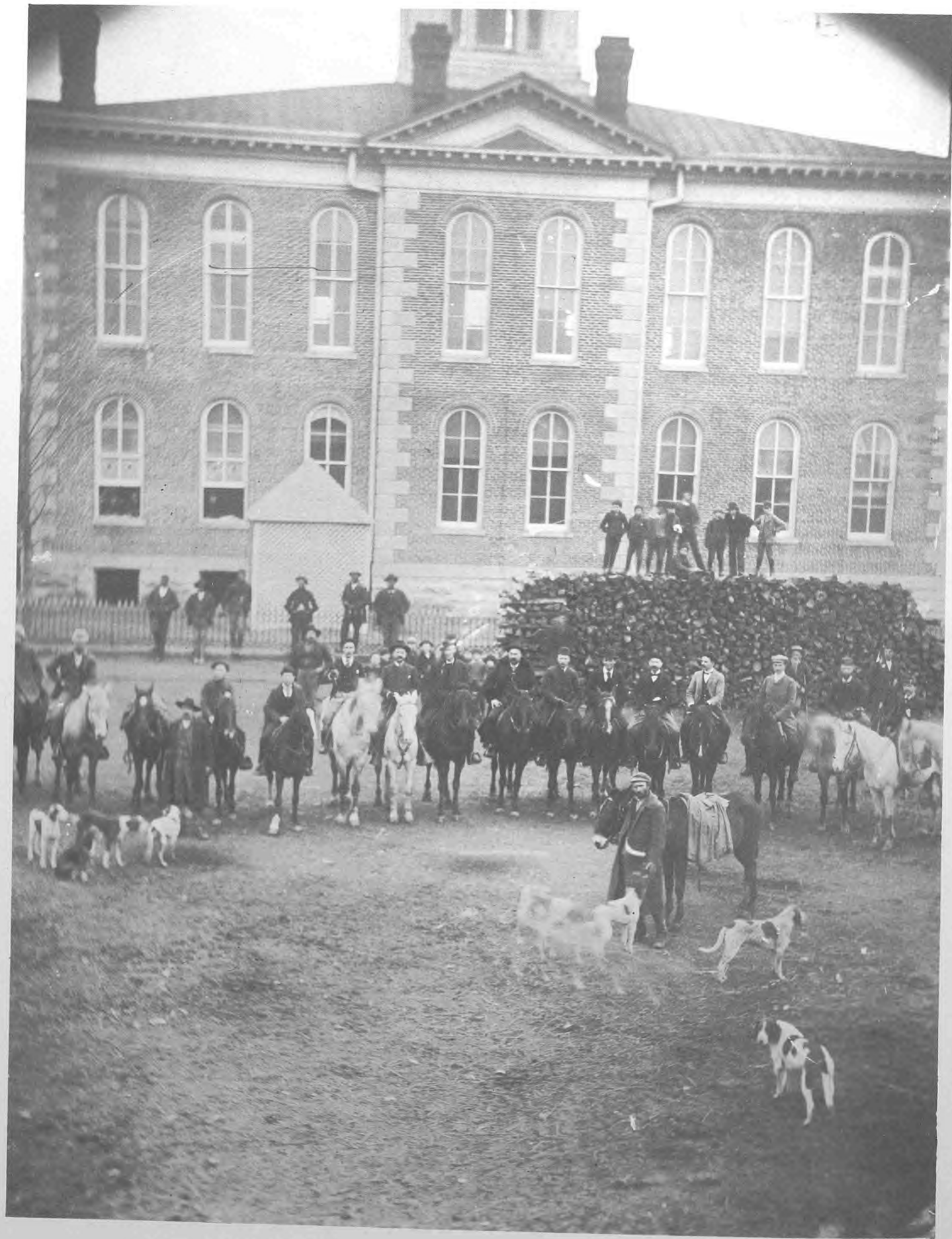
Front and back covers - Cape Girardeau waterfront and packet boat "Cape Girardeau"; pioneer mother and children feeding the chickens. Portions of the 800 square foot mural on the interior entrance wall of Kent Library, Southeast Missouri State University, designed and painted by Jake K. Well, a member of the faculty.
Mural photographs courtesy of PAUL R. LUEDERS Studio, Cape Girardeau.

BIOGRAPHY
OF
HISTORIC
CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY

A Project of the
Bicentennial Commission
of Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Second Printing

Articles Collected and Arranged
by Jess E. Thilenius,
Commission Research Historian



The pioneer gentlemen at old Jackson Court House - 1880's

P R E F A C E

The Cape Girardeau Bicentennial Commission herewith presents **Biography of Historic Cape Girardeau County**, a compilation of stories telling the long and proud history of the County.

This idea for a Bicentennial memento was conceived and presented by the Commission's Research Historian in the summer of 1975. The articles were written by local talented citizens and published in the **Southeast Missourian** in a weekly series of features commemorating the Nation's Bicentennial.

In one small booklet, it is not possible to include the whole story of the area; however, through the presentation of this assorted collection of written material, it is hoped that those living in the County will be made more conscious of the heritage it offers and that those living outside the area will come to know it better.

The Bicentennial Commission
Samuel L. Gill, Bicentennial Chairman
William R. White, Finance Chairman
Jess E. Thilenius, Research Historian

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How the City Got Its Name

By JESS E. THILENIUS
Bicentennial Historian

If there is anything in the heritage of age, then Cape Girardeau is richly endowed.

How Cape Girardeau received its name stems from old records that show almost two and-a-half centuries ago a young ensign named Jean Baptiste Girardot (Girardeau) was with the "French Royale Troupes de Marines" stationed at Kaskaskia and crossed to west of the Mississippi River to establish his trading post on a rock promontory, now known as "Cape Rock Park."

This picturesque eminence with the current of the river striking its base made a cove, or cape, that gave this French soldier and trader extensive view and shelter for his boats. The high rock ledge projecting into the water served as a haven for travelers who plied their boats through the narrow channel and found this headland a natural crossing place for them. In the late 1800's much of this point was removed to make way along the riverfront for the Frisco Railroad tracks.

The historic name was designated on early maps, and was variously spelled as "Cape Girardot", "Cap Girardo" and "Cape Girardeau." Thus, this magnetic site became known to the voyageurs as "Cape Girardeau," an obvious modification of Girardot, and came into use as our city's name from this early-day Frenchman, Jean Baptiste Girardeau. Many historians say the name "Cape Girardeau" is the only place in the world with such a name permanently established.

It is interesting that Jean Baptiste Girardeau was long known in Kaskaskia and its neighborhood. His name appears in old documental records as both "Girardot" and "Girardeau." As early as Oct. 20, 1720, his name is on the "Registre de Baptisms in the Parish Church of the Conception of our Lady in the Cascascias" and shows that le Sieur Jean Baptiste Girardot, ensign of the French Troupes, is Godfather and regularly officiates in that capacity of attendance at the baptismal rites in the character of sponsor.

"The Kaskaskia Manuscripts Record Book" gives the date as Nov. 9, 1722, of the marriage contract of officer Jean Baptiste Girardot, and on that same date, from the "Church Record of the Parish of St. Ann of Fort de Chartres" appears the marriage of Jean Baptiste Girardot and Celest Theresa Nepveu.

Then in the "Baptisms from Extracts of the Parish Registre, we find their son, "Pierre," was born Dec. 1, 1723, and baptized the following day. He was named after his Godfather, Monseigneur Pierre De Liette, Commandant of the Province of Illinois. His Godmother was Marie Madeleine Quesnal, The Jesuit missionary, Father Nicholas Ignatius de Beaubois, officiated at the baptismal rites. He also performed the marriage ceremony in 1748 of Pierre de Girardeau, "ensign de-infanterie, fils de feu Monseigneur Jean Baptiste Girardeau, officer des troupes detachees de la Marine," and Madelein Loisel, widow of "Monseigneur Andre Chevalier, grade magasin pour le Roy au Fort de Chartres."

Pierre died before 1782. According to the "Parish Records of Kaskaskia," Father de Beaubois inserted in his "Burial Registre" on Sept. 15, 1725, the death of Martha, daughter of Jean Baptiste Girardeau, "officer of des troupes" and Therese Nepveu, his wife. The parish



Cape Rock, 1733 - Site of Sieur Girardot's Trading Post

Southeast Missourian

cemetery where she was buried has long been washed away by the 1844 flood at Kaskaskia.

The "Registre de la Paroisse" and "Commerical Papers, V," give the account of the solemn service on June 22, 1722, for the repose of Therese's mother, Michelle Chauvin Nepveu, 45, her brother, Jean, 20, and her two sisters, Elizabeth, 13, and Susanne, 8, who were all slain by Indians as they were on their way down the Wabash (now Ohio) River to Kaskaskia to make their home.

Her father, Jacques Nepveu, who was a merchant from Montreal, another brother, Prever, 9, and two servants were taken captives. Therese and her sister, Marie Catherine, escaped the catastrophe. The following November of the same year, Therese became the wife of young ensign Girardot at Kaskaskia.

FAMILY RECORDS

Records of this ancient family from the copy of "Repertoire General des Papers Greffier des Illinois, from 1714-1758," show that Therese Girardeau remarried twice after Girardeau's death, which occurred in the early 1730's.

Her second husband was Louis de Tisne, Illinois Commandant. Their son, Louis was baptized April 29, 1733. After du Tisne was murdered by an Indian, Therese married Pierre Rene Harpain, Sieur de la Gauthrais, "Officer Attache aux Troupes a Fort Chartres." Their Marriage Contract was dated June 5, 1741. Later they moved to New Orlenias where her death occured before 1750.

Since the coming of Ensign Girardeau to Cape Rock, it continues to be one of the best known and most beautiful points on the Mississippi River. The ancient knoll with its bronze plaque which proclaims this as the spot where Girardot first established his post is encircled by a paved drive that gives a magnificent view of scenic importance to the tourist.

St. Vincent's College owned the area for many years. Later a non-profit organization was formed by several civic-minded citizens and it was purchased on May 28, 1919. Eighty acres were later sold to the Country Club, and 27 were kept for the park.

Responsibility for developing the land was accepted by the Cape Special Road District, and it was given title to the land. The most recent transaction of the park was made on April 9, 1973, to the City of Cape Girardeau.

which now holds the general warranty deed to the park. During this memorable time, as we salute our national 200th birthday, it is being proposed by the Cape Girardeau Bicentennial Committee that "Cape Rock Park" be

listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This project would be a fitting tribute on the years of eventful history linking Cape Girardeau to a major role in our City's beginning.

Courthouse Saga Dates to 1815

By W. OSLER STATLER
Former Circuit Judge

The County Court House is in reality the Court House of the Circuit Court of Cape County. Jackson having been designated as County Seat, the large building became known as the Jackson Court House, as distinguished from the Common Pleas Court House in Cape Girardeau.



Common Pleas Courthouse, 1854

The first session of the Circuit Court of Cape County was held in May of 1815. At that time Missouri had not become a state and the Cape County Circuit Court was a part of the Circuit Court of the Territory of Missouri. It was held in a frame building which was on the east side of High Street about one block south of the present court house.

It was a frame structure and was used as a court house from 1818 to 1870, when it was destroyed by fire. It was built by John Davis, a contractor at a cost of \$2,450. After the building was destroyed, a new courthouse was built and located directly south of the present courthouse. It was a brick structure, built at a cost of \$25,000 and was opened for use in 1873. This building was torn down after the present courthouse was opened.

The present court house was built at a cost of \$75,000.00. It is structurally built of brick and is covered on the outside with Bedford stone from Indiana, a stone used a great deal in the building of courthouses and other public buildings in Missouri.

The present courthouse was put into use in 1908 and has been used continuously as a Circuit Court since that time. Actually, only the Circuit Court in the building and the adjacent circuit clerk's office are Circuit Court



Jackson's Old Courthouse, 1872

offices. The rest of the building is occupied by Cape County offices.

There has been some misunderstanding and disagreement concerning the jurisdiction that Cape County has over the Circuit Court room because of the fact that it is a Circuit Court Room and not a county courtroom. The County Court is located downstairs in the building. And, as is true of Missouri county courts it is not truly a court, but rather an administrative body and has few, if any, judicial functions. At one time the County Court did have a larger number of judicial functions than at present.

The present circuit courtroom is smaller in regard to its original capacity because the larger area has been given over to the bench and an area to be used by counsel. At present, of course, the larger number of spectators are not in courtrooms as they were in the time when the present courthouse was built. People do not come to court like they used to to see a show. At this time even the small number of spectator seats in the courtroom are seldom, if ever, filled.

The original \$75,000 would not begin to replace the present courthouse. A guess as to a replacement figure would probably be close to \$1,000,000. The present courthouse was started in 1907 and completed in 1908.

A review of court orders in the County Court records at Jackson reveal the steps taken toward the building of the present courthouse. A petition signed by more than 1,000 residents and taxpayers of the county was filed May 14, 1905, which asked that a special election be held to test the feeling of the people of the county as to the issuance of \$75,000 in bonds for the erection of the new courthouse.

The election was held on Aug. 20, 1905. It was

necessary that the proposition be carried by two-thirds majority. Actually there were 3,707 votes, with 2,743 votes cast in favor of the proposition and 964 against the same. The majority was achieved by a substantial margin. These bonds were of an issue dated March 1, 1906, and payable March 1, 1926, but redeemable at the option of the County Court 10 years after their date. They bore interest at the rate of 4 percent, payable semiannually. They were sold to the Sturdivant Bank of Cape Girardeau.

A contract was entered into with a firm in Louisville, Ky., the M. T. Lewman Construction Co. In some later papers the construction company is referred to as the Falls City Construction Company which apparently is a new name taken by the former, Lewman Company. The

architect was a man named P. H. Weathers of Kansas City.

He certified the work done so the court could pay the contractor. There was some controversy concerning evasion of the contract and certain changes, but apparently the building was finished early in 1907. In 1908 the last payment was made except for withholding a few hundred dollars for completion of minor details.

The County Court at that time was composed of W. C. Cracraft, presiding judge, and James A. Bowers and L. F. Klostermann, associate judges, John G. Putz was county treasurer. The county clerk through most of the construction period was J. W. Miller. A later clerk's name appears as Fred Goyert. He apparently was elected to succeed J. W. Miller.



Cape Girardeau Police Department (modern day badge)

City Marshal First Officer

By **HENRY H. GERECKE**
Cape Girardeau Chief of Police

One of the first and most essential steps in the organization of a municipality is the establishment of a system of law and order. According to history, Cape Girardeau enjoyed police protection from its outset. In the beginning, it was in the form of a city marshal.

The city marshal's position was created by Ordinance No. 5 which required the mayor and City Council to appoint a marshal who was empowered to enforce all city ordinances. He did not receive a regular salary at that time but rather was paid on a fee basis. A typical type of compensation was:

- 50 cents for serving notice on a delinquent citizen.
- 50 cents for abating a nuisance or removing an obstruction.
- 75 cents for making a weekly examination of the city. (a weekly police patrol.)

The marshal was also required to attend regular meetings of the City Council for which he received \$1.

In 1806, a contract was issued for a courthouse and a jail to be built. Records indicate the jail was finished in December of that year but problems with the contractor postponed completion of the courthouse section until 1851. The present courthouse is a part of the original building and jail.

A "calaboose" (original city jail) was built in 1856 and stood just north of the memorial fountain in Courthouse Park. The calaboose faced east, had a barred window and a door, and measured 12 by 25 feet. The cells had iron rings fastened to the walls where criminals could be chained. Several benches and a stove completed the furnishings. A dungeon and a whipping post were located nearby and, in 1859, a workhouse was erected where offenders could be sentenced for a period of 10 hours each day as punishment for their offenses.

The police department originated in an ordinance passed on March 25, 1859. This ordinance instructed the mayor to appoint a captain of police with a lieutenant as his assistant. Each officer was to appoint three men who were on duty from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. and they were to assist the captain and lieutenant in the policing of the city. As the years passed, other assistants were added as the department grew. However, the fee system was still used to pay the officers. Thus, the more arrests, the higher the salary.

Other than growing and changing in size, the police department remained about the same until 1918 when the aldermanic form of city government was replaced by the commission form. At that time, the marshal's position was no longer elected. Rather, he and his assistants were appointed by the City Council.

The fee system of salary was abolished and for the first time policemen were placed on a regular salary. Qualifications for a police officer were established and they were that the officer be at least 21 years old, able bodied and a sober and discreet person. His duties were to keep peace, protect life and property and enforce all city ordinances.

Also about this time, the police department was given a new, nonpolice function which was the directing and controlling of traffic. This has now become a universal and expected function of all police departments.

In 1909, a new police station and jail was erected at the corner of Frederick and Independence Streets. The police department remained there together with the fire department until Jan. 1, 1960, when the police department moved to its present location. It should be noted that after the police department moves into its new headquarters, a new fire station is planned where the present police station is located.

The present headquarters, located on the corner of Independence and Sprigg streets, was formerly Grace Methodist Church. The sanctuary with its original pews was transformed into the municipal courtroom, originally, but in the fall of 1974, the court moved to the common pleas courtroom.

The basement is used for the jail after cells were built out of strap metal and it has room for about 16 prisoners. The basement is also used as an indoor range which the officers may use for target practice.

Although the building was designed for worship purposes, it has served the citizens of Cape Girardeau well as police headquarters for 15 years. The only similarities that remind people that the station was once a church is its steeple and stained glass windows.

Several chiefs of police have served Cape Girardeau. Those who were elected between 1905 and 1918 were John Crib, Willis Martin, W. A. Summers, D. A. Nichols, Jeff Hutson and Arthur S. Whitener. Those appointed since 1918 were William J. Segraves, Jeff Hutson, Herbert F. Wickham, Arthur S. Whitener, William C. Kelpe, W. W. Billings, Jesse C. Crafton, Edgar W. Hirsch, Herbert F. Wickham Jr., Paul McNeely, Charles Schweer, Edward W.

Barenkamp, Marshall F. Morton, Frederick Schneider, John A. Penn, William A. Mills, Irvin Richmond, Kenneth Cruse, Percy R. Little, Irvin E. Beard and the present chief, Henry H. Gerecke.

Besides Chief Gerecke, the present police department has grown to include 46 fulltime officers, four civilian communicators, four civilian secretaries and clerk-typists, a research assistant, an animal pound officer, a jailer-custodian and three part-time employees.

The department is also assisted by a 50 member police reserve force whose members donate their time to assist regular police officers in performance of their duties.

The new police headquarters, which will be located at Sprigg and Merriwether, is to be completed by the fall of 1976 and will contain several office areas, a jail with facilities for 32 prisoners, 100 lockers for the officers and reserve officers, new communications equipment and many other modern facilities and equipment for the efficient operation of the department. The citizens of Cape Girardeau can be proud of how the police department has progressed over the years from its meager beginning into a professional, up-to-date organization dedicated to protecting life and property and preserving peace.

A Fire Wagon, Alex & Joe

By CHARLES MILLS
Cape Girardeau Fire Chief

"Hitch your wagon to a star" is an old saying and a very worthy one. Literally speaking, this is exactly what the people involved in forming and maintaining the Cape Girardeau Fire Department have done through the years since it was organized, always improving and working for that goal.

The department was a source of pride at its very beginning in 1880, and citizens can still feel that it has continued this tradition through the years.

The men involved in this department are very conscious of the importance of keeping this department effective and shipshape in all respects.

Back in the old days it was the "Pride of Cape Girardeau" . . . and today, the Cape Girardeau Fire Department is still second to none.

The fire department originated with the town's first volunteer service, "The Good Intent Fire Company," organized in 1880. In those days firemen were called into action by the clanging of the old Presbyterian Church bell.

That bell brought volunteer firefighters...hand pump... bucket brigade... and a fire wagon to the scene of the fire for many years. This original company was headed by Chief Henry A. Astholz and Captain George W. Greene. Since then the department has had only 12 fire chiefs -- Arthur Leher, Rudolph Stehr, Barney Kraft, Al Dittlinger, John Sullenger, Fred Meyer, George D. French, Harry Rabe, Robert Kammer, Dewey Hinton, Carl Lewis and the present chief, Charles Mills.

In these early days the volunteer firemen under Henry Astholz received \$3 for fighting a fire and \$1 for a drill, averaging about \$10 per month.

In 1906 the company headed by Chief Astholtz and Capt.



First Cape Girardeau fire wagon, 1908

Southeast Missourian

Greene divided the town into four wards. Signals were worked out for the alarm. The person giving the alarm would tap the bell a certain number of times to correspond to the ward in which the fire was located.

The second fire chief, Arthur Leher, reorganized the department's fire alarm boxes in 1908. The boxes were placed in six prominent corners of the city with wires leading to the department in city hall, then being built at Frederick and Independence. In December that same year, the new \$1,100 fire wagon arrived by boat from St. Louis, and another \$400 went to purchasing a team of dapple gray horses, Alex and Joe.

REORGANIZATION

In 1909 the department was reorganized with Barney Kraft as chief.

Chief Kraft's tenure marked three phases of the department's history: the hose-hand pulled cart, when the volunteers pulled the pump on wheels; the horse-drawn wagon, and the motorized unit. As the city grew the horse-drawn wagon became out of date and the motorized unit quickly became inefficient.

In 1916 Cape Girardeau's most disastrous fire resulted in demands for new fire-fighting equipment for the department. The big fire on March 15 destroyed the Riverview and Terminal Hotels, the Buckner-Ragsdale store and other small storerooms along Main Street.

Fifty businessmen met soon after to raise money for new equipment. On June 5 the situation became even more critical when "Alex" and "Joe" were killed by lightning during a severe storm.

A special election was held to issue \$15,000 bonds for modern fire apparatus. The two-thirds vote required was short only three votes. The following May 23 a second election carried, and in December, two trucks were purchased.

The pumper arrived Dec. 7, 1916, and Dec. 14 the hook and ladder truck arrived. They were accepted after a number of trials. A Dodge pumper was purchased in 1925, and an American-LaFrance was bought in 1930. Then in 1931 an annex to the fire station was built.

In 1949 a bond issue carried for additional fire stations. In 1951 two additional fire stations were built, three pumper trucks and an 85-foot aerial ladder truck were purchased. Carl Lewis, fire chief at this time, saw many changes in the department during his 33 years as chief.

The department boasted eight major pieces of fire-fighting equipment, three fire stations and a force of 42 firemen -- a big change from the eight men, 1936 Dodger, 1931 American-LaFrance and a lop-sided old Robinson ladder truck that represented the Fire Department in 1936.

Of the two stations that opened in 1951, Station Number two, 1632 Independence, now houses two American LaFrance, 1,000 gallon-per-minute pumpers and three on-duty men per shift.

Station Number 3, 429 Emerald, is the home of another 1,000 gallon-per-minute American LaFrance pumper, a 1957 Dodge Pumper and also has three on-duty men per shift.

When Carl Lewis retired from the department in February of 1974, Charles Mills, with the department since 1949, was appointed fire chief. Chief Mills received three LaFrance 1,000 gallon-per-minute pumpers in 1974. One pumper was placed at Station No. 2 and two 1,000 gallon-per-minute pumpers were for the new No. 4 station at Kurre lane and Kingsway. Station No. 4, built in 1974--the first station to be built since 1950--houses two 1,000 g.p.m. pumpers, and a four-wheel drive truck to be used for field and woods fires.

REPLACEMENT

Much of the department's rolling stock other than fire trucks have been replaced in recent years. The old pickups used by the fire inspector and master mechanic have been replaced by 1974 models. A brilliant red 1975 model station wagon replaces the duty-worn '67 Ford as the chief's car.

The newest piece of fire-fighting equipment placed in service is a 1975 Chevrolet four-wheel drive pickup with a fire boss unit to dispense foam and dry chemicals. This unit is to be used at the airport to support the 750 g.p.m. pumper already stationed at the Cape Girardeau's Municipal Airport.

The second fire chief in the department's history, Chief Leher, was assisted by four captains and 16 firemen. Today Chief Mills has a staff of 52 men, four stations and 16 pieces of major fire-fighting equipment. Highlighting 1975 was the reduction in the city's fire rating by the Insurance Service Office of Missouri to a Class 4 rating from a Class 7 rating.

This change will account for a substantial reduction in homeowners fire insurance premiums. This has been a year of accomplishment for the Cape Girardeau Fire Department under Chief Mills. The department has also sent two men to Sedalia to attend an annual fire school.

Two men attended the Memphis Fire Conference, and four men have completed 81 hours of emergency medical training. Another 1,000 g.p.m. American LaFrance is on order. A garage has been built at the airport to house the two airport trucks. Fire fighters have completed color-coding fire hydrants.

The fire inspector, Warren Strack, is currently involved with placing hazard warning signs in all store windows to alert fire fighters of potential health hazards. The department has requested emergency lighting in all theaters, and emergency telephone stickers with the fire department's telephone number on a fluorescent background is being mailed to Cape Girardeau families along with their tax statements this fall. Three-thousand feet of new 2½-inch hose was put into service, with another 1,000 feet of 3-inch hose and 1,000 feet of 1½-inch hose on order. A second deluge gun capable of expelling 1,200 g.p.m. with a fog tip was put into service in July.

Along with the city itself, the Cape Girardeau Fire Department has come a long way since 1880. The department has seen many years of innovation and growth. Assistant Fire Chief Richard T. Mahy, who retired Jan. 1, has probably the longest uninterrupted tour of duty of any man with the department -- 37 years. He saw the city grow and the department upgrade its methods of firefighting, its training and equipment... and in Richard Mahy's words, "The Cape Girardeau Fire Department has been, is, and will continue to be second to none."

Traces Remain of Villages

By J. W. GERHARDT

El Camino Real -- The King's Highway -- was marked out in 1789 so a coach and four could travel from New Madrid to St. Louis.

It followed an old Indian Trail, and locally was known as the Shawnee Path. It was also called the Illinois Road because it led to the Illinois Country north of Apple Creek to the Missouri River.

In 1807, it became the first north-south highway in what

is now the state of Missouri. In 1853, the first telegraph wires from St. Louis to Nashville were tacked to trees and it then became known as Telegraph Road. In recent times it became Highway 25, and finally Highway 61.

The King's Highway crossed Apple Creek about a mile southwest of Old Appleton at the lower end of the Big Bluff and hugged the edge of Chillacothe, the capitol of a proud nation—the Shawnee.

The Indians lived here for 45 years before departing for the Land of the Setting Sun. It was an important wilderness city of 500 souls.

Here lived Tecumthe's family, and many of the great chiefs of the Shawnee lived here. Tensquatawa, Tecumthe's brother — the self-styled "Prophet" — lived here.

In his reforms of the Indians to a new mode of life he introduced witchcraft and was responsible for some 58 women being tied to the death tree at the edge of the village and burned to death. The Rev. Joab Peck, the historian, passed this way after the Indians had departed — "I saw only a herd of deer browsing among the empty huts, and a lone redbird whistled from the top of a peach tree — in strange contrast to the once bustling village."

Thus the City of the Wilderness within a half century became nothing but dust, and it was blown to the corner of the earth as the wind sighed mournfully over the lonesome knoll.

Straight as the crow flies to the east a path led from Chillacothe to the smaller village of the Shawnee, although it, too, was a sizable town. It was called by the French "le Lesser Village de Suavage."

A very large Indian cemetery was found here. Twenty-eight wagon loads of skeletons and grave rocks were hauled by a former owner from a small garden plot; while building a barn foundation I dug up a number of rock-lined graves and skeletons. The barn lot is full of graves now buried under debris. The Virginia Warriors' path passed through here.

About 1½ miles up the creek a sizable village site is located. The village is on a slight knoll not far from Apple Creek.

DELAWARES

A Delaware village was located several miles down stream from the Lesser Village de Suavage, at the intersection of Indian and Apple Creeks. The large trees here were decorated with Indian figures cut in the smooth bark. The Virginia Warriors path passed through this town as it followed Apple Creek.

At the junction of the Blue Shawnee and the Big Shawnee, not far from New Wells, a very large town of Shawnee was located. An unusual feature of this site is a number of holes were pecked out in the rock floor of a small bluff.

These were mortars for grinding corn with a stone pestle. As usual with all of the big village sites, this place also was a picturesque spot — always a big spring, and a creek nearby.

In Lorimer's Settlement in what is now Indian Park, a Shawnee village was located with a big spring close by. The village was at the head of a ravine west of Frederick street. No traces of this town are now visible.

Another village was in South Cape on Cape LaCroix Creek, but this site is also lost.

A village was located on Whitewater. This creek was the western boundary of the Spanish Land Grant to the Shawnee. Many small villages of the Shawnee and Delaware were settled throughout Cape County.



*El Camino Real marker - corner Spanish and William Streets
Southeast Missouriian*

A number of old paths passed through the county. St. Michel's, later known as the Farmington Road, led to what is now Farmington. Green's Ferry Road followed this trace over which the Cherokee passed in 1839, now known as the Trail of Tears.

TRANSCONTINENTAL

The north branch of the age-old Virginia Warriors' path trailed Apple Creek from the river. It crossed the King's Highway about one mile south of Appleton. It began at the Atlantic Ocean and ended at the Pacific Coast — a transcontinental highway. It was known locally as the Indian Road.

The notorious Natchitoches Trace crossed the river at Bainbridge, and followed what is now known as the Bainbridge Road.

It crossed Highway 61 at Seven-mile Creek south of Jackson. It was also known as the Kansas Road. Here the Conostoga wagons of the emigrants lumbered on their way to the West. Early in 1800 it became a U. S. Military Road, and was an important and dangerous highway.

Desperate characters had settled on it because many people traveled this wilderness road. Under pretense of entertaining these travelers they enticed them to cabins, and often murdered them if they had anything to be plundered. Many famous people traveled this old trace that ends at Natchitoches in what is now Louisiana. This is by far the oldest used road in the county.

Space does not permit to relate the many incidents that could be told of these ancient highways — stories of great adventure, of happiness and hope, and of visions of beginning a new life at the end of the trail — an adventure that sometimes ended in a lonely grave in the wilderness.

However, I cannot refrain from mentioning one remarkable incident — Reason Bowie lived on Fish Lake in the Tywappity settlement in Scott County. He traveled this old trace as he moved to Natchitoches. He and eight companions were attacked by 160 Comanches, and they killed 21 of them, including the chief, before the Indians withdrew.

Toll Roads Thing of Past

By VIRGINIA T. MORTON and
KATHERINE H. COCHRAN

Research by the late Hope E. Morton

The earliest record of organized effort to build good roads in Cape County was in the late 1700's and early 1800's when charters were given to stock companies which sold stock to investors and then put up gates over the roads to halt people in buggies, on horseback and in wagons, and charged them a certain amount, or toll, so they could proceed on over the road to their destinations.

A charge was made also for people driving sheep, hogs and cattle over the roads.

The charters usually expired after 30 years and then counties often took over these roads and continued to charge tolls to maintain them. Toll tickets reveal the fees charged: One cent per mile for each sheep or hog driven over the road; for horses, mules and cattle it was three cents. A four-horse vehicle cost 25 cents per mile. Funeral processions, military bodies and holiday parades were exempt from tolls. Persons going to or from church services or polls on election days used the roads free.

Many persons went several miles out of their way to avoid paying tolls. The story was told of one man who taught his mule to jump over the gate while he walked around the end of it and claimed he did not use the road. Other persons not going to church sometimes carried Bibles and claimed they were going to church. (From "Cape Girardeau -- Biography of the City," by Snider and Collins.)

There were five of these chartered roads into Cape Girardeau. To the north there was the Cape Girardeau and Juden Creek Gravel Road extending from the northern city limits to Juden Creek -- a distance of two miles. The Cape Girardeau-Appleton Gravel Road extended from Water street, up Big Bend Road, through the Clark land and then in an airline direction to Appleton -- 30 miles. This road was opened in 1868 and a tollgate house built near the Appleton bridge.

On the south, the Cape Girardeau-Scott County Macadamize Road, five or six miles long, crossed the Big Swamp and later extended to Kelso. It brought into Cape Girardeau the South Sprigg Hill, often referred to as, "Toll-gate Hill." It was opened in 1855.

To the west was Cape Girardeau-Bloomfield Gravel Road which started at Sprigg and Good Hope, circled St. Francis Hospital to Bloomfield Road and continued to Dutchtown and Allenville, and into Stoddard County. The Cape Girardeau Macadamize and Plank Road extended from Pacific, the city limits of Cape Girardeau in 1853, followed Harmony, now Broadway, and continued to Bollinger's Mill, now Burfordville. It connected with roads from Bollinger, Wayne and Madison Counties.

Other toll roads and gates were established as follows: Cape-Dutchtown Road Tollgate House, 1818; Cape-Commerce Tollgate House, 1831; Cape-Jackson Road Tollgate House, near Arena entrance, 1853; Cape-Jackson Road Tollgate House, Highway 72 and West Main, 1861; Cape-Jackson Road Tollgate House, Bainbridge and Highway 61 intersection, 1853.

Jackson-Burfordville Road Tollgate House, Highway 72 and West Main, 1861; Jackson-Burfordville Road Tollgate House, Burfordville, east of bridge, 1867; Cape-Dutchtown Road Tollgate House, east of Ramsey Creek, west of



Jackson's old toll gate house (only remaining one in area), 1890

Interstate-55, 1866; Cape-Jackson Tollgate House, 816 Old Cape Road in Jackson (now home of Mrs. Nola Brotherton) 1890.

Records of toll roads and gates may be found in Books W, Z, 10, 12, 15 and 41 at the County Courthouse in Jackson. As stated, roads and tollgates were built by chartered companies. Some of the people holding shares in these companies were: H. D. Brennecke, L. J. and S. Albert, A. D. Leech, J. C. Hann & Co., V. B. Wilson, J. B. Phillipson, R. Sturdivant, F. Guedry, August Heuer and J. Heuer.

However, in the 1900's, many people became dissatisfied with the tollgate plan and banded together to file suits to do away with them.

In an article published in The Daily Republican, of Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1908, entitled, "Last Tollgate Is Taken Down," "the United States Supreme Court denies right to collect toll while case is in court. The last tollgate in Cape County was taken down this morning and now travelers are as welcome on the splendid Scott County Gravel Road, which runs south of this city through the swamps, as they are on the mudridden Bloomfield Road that was a few years ago equally as good. The U. S. Supreme Court recently handed down a decision depriving the owners of the road from collecting toll until the merits of the case can be passed on."

According to the book "Cape Girardeau -- Biography of a City," "The first demand for smooth surfaced roads came with the advent of the bicycle in the 1890's.

"The rough dirt and rock roads were not conducive to comfortable travel on a bicycle and the cyclists asked for better roads. Then came the automobile and the demand became irresistible.

"Beginning in 1903, a \$2 automobile license fee was collected for the county road funds. In 1907 a State Highway Department was organized which later became the Highway Commission. By 1915 a federal highway through Cape Girardeau had been designated.

"In that same year the Mississippi Highway Association published a map showing a great river road from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian border passing through Cape Girardeau. Many sections of this parkway have been completed but very little has been accomplished locally.

"After much bickering among organizations and political groups, each promoting local interests, progress became evident in the passage of the \$60 million "Get Missouri

Out of the Mud" bond issue in 1920. Under its provisions a basic system of all-weather roads was laid out in Cape County very much as the main routes are now."

A Means of Communication

OLD APPLETON, MO. POST OFFICE SESQUICENTENNIAL



By WILVER W. WESSEL
Cape Girardeau Postmaster

The desire to communicate has long been a characteristic of civilized people. Out of this desire came the written word and eventually a way to transport this word afar. The earliest records of postal carriers date back to 430 B.C. in Persia. These couriers had their heads shaven and messages were written on their bare skulls with indelible ink.

In America, for three quarters of a century after the Pilgrims landed, England, the Mother Country, showed little interest in establishing a Colonial postal system. As a result, all of the early developments in the posts came through independent action by the various colonies.

The first official notice of a postal service in Colonial America appeared in a 1639 ordinance of the General Court of Massachusetts which designated Richard Fairbanks' tavern in Boston as the official repository for mail to or from overseas.

Other colonies established post offices and in 1691, when the population of the colonies had grown to 200,000, Thomas Neale, a favorite of the English Court, persuaded King William to grant him the exclusive right to set up and maintain a postal system in the colonies for a term of 21 years. He was to receive all profits in exchange for an annual rent to the Royal Crown of 6 shillings a year.

Neale never came to America. He commissioned an Andrew Hamilton of Edinburgh, Scotland, as his deputy postmaster to organize a post system in the colonies. Neale's dream of vast profits from his American posts never materialized. Prior to his death Neale had assigned his interests in America to Hamilton and an Englishman by the name of West. In 1707 the British government bought the rights to the postal system.

In 1737 Benjamin Franklin was appointed deputy postmaster at Philadelphia and in 1753 he and William Hunter were appointed joint postmasters general for the colonies. He served until 1774 when he was dismissed for sympathizing with the cause of the colonists.

FRANKLIN HEAD

On July 26, 1775, the Continental Congress appointed Franklin head of the American postal system. He served in this position until Nov. 7, 1776. He is accorded major credit for establishing the basis of a sound, efficient and reliable postal service in the United States.

In the Cape Girardeau area during the period of the Spanish regime, which ended with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, no attempt was made to establish mail service. All such communications were handled by private couriers.

In 1805 the United States established connections with settlements east of the Mississippi River. Postoffices were set up at Ste. Genevieve, Cape Girardeau and New Madrid. Cape Girardeau was not to have a postmaster until Jan. 1, 1807, when Joseph McFerron was commissioned by President Jefferson.

The establishment of mail routes resulted in a population growth for the area. The mail service was an inducement for people to settle, as they would be able to keep in contact with people in other areas. Mail was carried on horseback and the cost of postage was based on distance rather than weight. A letter to Jackson cost 25 cents and to more distant points 75 cents.

Postmaster McFerron was followed by Levi L. Lightner, Joseph Menefee, L. F. Klosterman, August Bierwith and Will Leech.

In the 19th century the postoffice occupied several locations in Cape Girardeau. In 1910 the Federal Building was completed at 339 Broadway and housed the postoffice until the present facility was occupied in July of 1965.

Since 1904 E. W. Flentge, Tom J. Juden, H. H. Haas, Nat M. Snider, Ted R. Regenhardt, Russel J. Fowler and Wilver W. Wessel have served as postmasters. A. S. Reid served a period as acting postmaster following the death of Mr. Snider.

City delivery service was established in 1903 with three routes. Today, 26 city delivery routes serve 12,608 business and residential deliveries daily.

FROM 'TRUNK'

Have you ever wondered about the origin of the word mail? It was not invented to apply to the object dealt with daily by the postoffice.

It grew over the years, deriving from an old French word malle, meaning trunk, and an old German word, malaha, meaning leather pouch. In the 1600's, people spoke of a mail (or container) of letters, and gradually the term for the container came to stand for its contents.

The word post, as in postoffice, seems to have arisen from the very old days when a postman was a fellow stationed (or positioned, from the Latin deponere) along a road to pass along messages, just as a stick is passed along in a relay race. Here, to, there was a transfer of

meaning from the postman's position to the load that he carried -- that is the post or mail.

The delivery of written messages has come a long way

from the head shaven couriers of ancient Persia to the planes and trucks of today. Tomorrow? Who knows?

Vandiver and the Canal

By WILLIAM R. WHITE

Assistant Professor of History SEMO State University

When 3 years of age in 1857, Willard Vandiver moved to Boone County, Mo., from West Virginia with his family. He was granted a degree from Central College at Fayette in 1877. From that date to 1889 he taught science at the Bellevue Institute in Caledonia and for nine of those years served as that institution's president. In 1889 he became head of the Science Department at the State Normal School here, and served as its president between 1893 and 1897.

Vandiver served this district in Washington from 1897 until 1905. He was a member of the Naval, Manufacturer's and Education Committees and spoke out on many issues of the day including Panama, pensions, Alaska civil government, Naval appropriations, the tariff, the Philippines, trusts, schools for deaf children, District of Columbia School teachers pay, and on Jan. 12, 1901, introduced a bill to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi River at or near Cape Girardeau.

While serving in Congress he was credited for the state slogan "I'm from Missouri -- you'll have to show me." As a member of the Naval Affairs Committee he took great interest in a proposal to construct a canal through Central America.

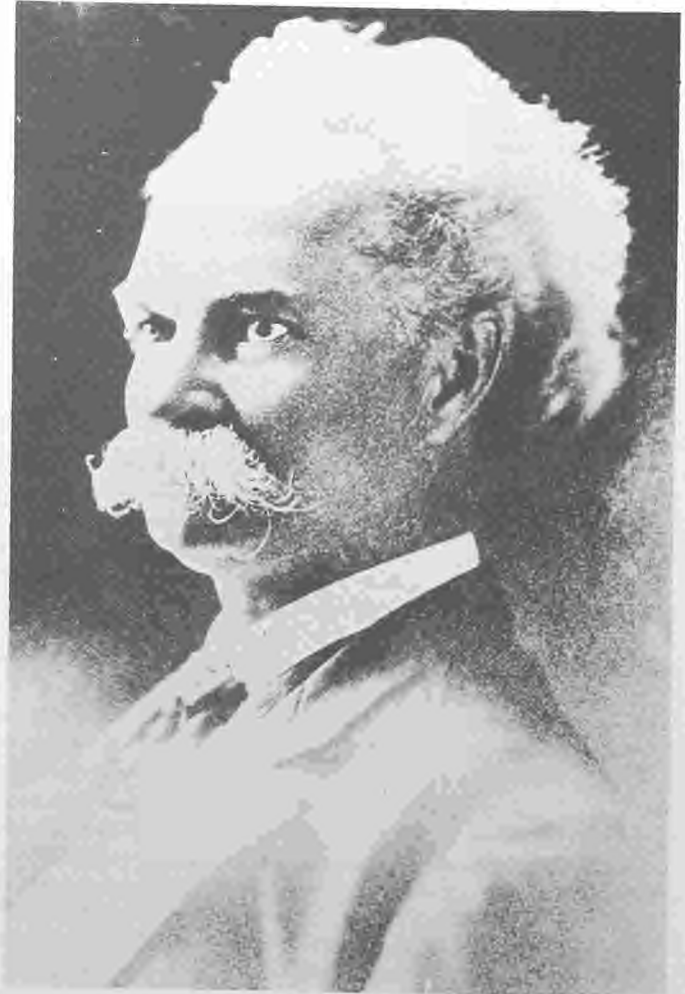
In this Bicentennial year the Panama Canal has become an issue between the two contenders for the Republican presidential nomination. Over the past 10 years the Panama question has attracted more attention as the government of Panama has intensified its demands for local control. The State Department is at the present in the process of negotiating a new treaty with Panama concerning the future of the canal.

Over 74 years ago Willard Vandiver, congressman from the old 14th district which included Cape Girardeau, played a role in the passage of House Bill 3110. The bill provided for the construction of a canal connecting the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific by way of Panama. Ten million dollars was to be immediately appropriated for the project and future appropriations made thereafter were not to exceed \$180 million. It was estimated that a canal through Panama would cost \$144 million.

AMENDMENT PASSED

Vandiver favored the bill with reservations and offered an amendment which divided the work into sections. The purpose of the amendment was to secure competition among bidders for the contract. He argued that without the amendment it would have been impossible for anybody except a large corporation to bid on any part of the project. The bill as passed on Jan. 9, 1902, included the Vandiver amendment.

Vandiver supported the bill although he did not feel that the Panama route was the best selection. "The largest part of the argument against the Panama project," he said, was "the scandal attached to the very name of Panama."



Willard D. Vandiver - a versatile gentleman, Fifth president of old State Normal School

Vandiver charged that the Panama Canal Co. of France, which had in the past demanded approximately \$100 million for its rights and interests from the U. S., had already "proved to be one of the most gigantic swindling schemes of modern times."

He stated that the people of the U. S. preferred to originate their own schemes instead of taking them second hand from others. However, from an engineering standpoint it appeared to Vandiver that almost every advantage was on the side of the Panama route.

The Panama route, according to reports, would be 134 miles shorter than the Nicaragua route and the cost of construction would be \$46 million less. He pointed out, however, that to Panama's estimated cost the government should add what would have to be paid the French Panama Canal Co. for its interest.

The strongest argument in favor of the Nicaragua

route, according to Vandiver, was that the distance from a point on the Atlantic coast to a point on the Pacific coast would be 400 miles shorter.

AGAINST BILL

Vandiver along with 34 other members of the House had in 1900 voted against a canal bill. He did so because the U. S. would have been prohibited from fortifying the canal, considering the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty then in force between the U. S. and England. The treaty of 1850 stated in part that "the U. S. and Great Britain hereby declare that neither one will ever maintain for itself any exclusive control over the said canal, agreeing that neither will ever erect or maintain any fortification." In 1901 the joint arrangement between the two countries was ended.

Vandiver stated that because it now was to be an American canal, to be built with American money, and

controlled by the American government, fortified if necessary by American forts, and defended by American arms, he was willing to vote for it.

He still had some misgivings as to the business management of the enterprise and to some of the details of the bill. He expressed hope that in future years, "my children ... will forgive any inaccuracies or imperfections of details in this piece of legislation, which I, at least, am not able to perfect as I would like to do."

Canal construction began in 1904 and the canal was opened for traffic in 1914; it had cost some \$400 million. Although Vandiver may be considered an anti-imperialist (he opposed the annexation of the Philippines), he apparently did not voice any concern over the role the U. S. played in the Panama Revolution which led to a favorable treaty with the new nation.

"USS Nashville" Visits City

By WILLIAM R. WHITE

Assistant Professor of History SEMO State University

A fragment of naval history touched Cape Girardeau during the month of May 1899 when the cruiser USS Nashville paid a visit to the city. The Nashville had gained a measure of fame during the Spanish-American War of 1898. She had the distinction of firing the first shot of the war in the Caribbean and during its course had captured four Spanish vessels.

The mayor of Cape, W. H. Coerver, received a telegram from the Nashville's Commander, Washburn Maynard, the latter part of April indicating that the ship would arrive in the city around the middle of May.

The mayor proclaimed the day of the Nashville's arrival a holiday and requested the closing of all schools. An executive committee for the reception of the gunboat was appointed which included advertising, Emil Pott; decoration and amusement, Otto Eckhardt; finance, M. E. Leming and J. H. Lyons; transportation, L. B. Houck; reception, R. B. Oliver, Will Hirsch and E. W. Flentge; and entertainment, C. G. Juden.



"USS Nashville"

Navy Photographic Center

As the ship passed the city on the night of May 9, on her way to St. Louis, she cast the brilliant rays of her search-light upon some of the darkest places in the city. May 17 on her return voyage down the river, she pitched anchor in mid-stream opposite the city.

It was estimated that several thousand people were on the levee when Mayor Coerver boarded the ship. The mayor extended to Commander Maynard and his crew the liberties of the city and a special invitation to officers to attend a reception at the Gun Club rooms.

Assembled in the Club Rooms, Maynard and his officers were kept busy shaking hands with the people until around 11 p.m. It was calculated that the commander shook hands with more than 500 people. Maynard, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., was characterized as a quiet, unpretentious southern gentleman.

DANCING

From the Club Rooms the entourage went to the St. Charles Hotel where dancing was the order of the evening. It was reported that the dining room was beautifully decorated, and three electric fans were provided for the comfort of the dancers. Dancing began around 11 in the evening and lasted until 3 in the morning. At midnight strawberries, ice cream, and lemonade were served to all.

The cruiser weighed anchor the next day and continued on its return to the Gulf but as she passed out of sight, many citizens of Cape Girardeau locked the memory of her visit in their minds.

The Nashville departed from the Caribbean in the fall of that year for duty in the Philippines where she would provide gunfire support for American troops against Filipino insurgents until June of 1900.

When the Boxer Rebellion erupted in China, the Nashville departed the Philippines for China with a detachment of Marines assigned to the International Relief Expedition. She remained in China waters until the allied forces lifted the siege of Peking.

The gunboat then served a year's patrol duty in the Mediterranean, pitching anchor at both Genoa, Italy and Gibraltar before returning to Boston and reassignment to the Caribbean station in 1903.

Timely American naval support would assure the outcome of the Panama revolt in 1903. The Nashville

arrived at Colon, Panama on Nov. 2, 1903, and was ordered to "maintain free and uninterrupted transit" and to "prevent landing of any armed force...at any point within fifty miles of Panama." When the revolution broke out on Nov. 3, the Nashville barred the way to Colombian troops who had been ordered to reinforce the small garrison in Panama. This armed intervention made it impossible for Colombia to crush the uprising, and the revolution was over in a day.

After several years in reserve, the Nashville was assigned to the Illinois Naval Militia in April of 1909. Until 1911 she trained militiamen on the Great Lakes, homeported at Chicago.

After extensive overhaul and sea trials she began five years of patrol operations in the West Indies and off Central America in 1912. The ship participated in the

blockade of Mexico, proclaimed in April 1914 by President Wilson after the overthrow of the Mexican government by Huerta.

She then spent a two-month shore period of reduced commission status in New Orleans before returning to Tampico, Mexico, where she remained until the U. S. entered World War I in 1917.

In August 1917, the Nashville sailed to the Mediterranean to patrol off the Moroccan coast. She served as convoy escort off North Africa and in the Western Mediterranean until July 1918.

The ship was decommissioned in October 1918 at Charleston and sold in 1921 to J. L. Bernard. Little did the citizens of Cape Girardeau realize the additional naval history to be made by the Nashville when she visited here in 1899.

Vandiver ... River, Bridge, Canal

By WILLIAM R. WHITE

Assistant Professor of History SEMO State University

Before the advent of the iron horse and the inter-combustible engine, the mode of travel throughout much of early America was by the numerous navigable streams. The goods of the country moved from place to place over rivers, canals and the seas.

After the War of 1812 a demand for improved means of travel was heard in all sections of the country. Federal funds for such projects, however, did not materialize and in consequence the states and private companies built most roads and canals.

Canal building had begun in the 1790's, but by 1816 there were only 100 miles of canals in the U.S. As a result of the completion of the 363 mile Erie canal in 1825, a canal building boom was triggered. By 1830, the nation had more than 1,200 miles of canals, and by 1840 more than 3,000 miles.

The development of rail transportation brought a decline in canal building and river transportation. There had been only 25 miles of track in 1830, but by 1850 there were 9,000 miles and by 1860 more than 30,000. Rivers continued, however, to be important to many communities and some dreamed of greater canals.

As it had in the past, the Mississippi River continued to serve the citizens of Cape as a means of transporting goods and people. Although the coming of the railroad would put a dent in its importance, much of the produce of the area still made its way to market by packet boat as Cape Girardeau entered the 20th century. In 1896 there were two regular semi-weekly packets running between Commerce and St. Louis. Fighting for trade, they began to cut their already low rates. They advertised that wheat would be transported to St. Louis for five cents a sack and all other freight at a proportionately low rate.

Willard D. Vandiver, Congressman from the 14th district between 1897 and 1905, was an individual who appreciated the worth of the river not only to Cape Girardeau but also to the entire Mississippi Valley. It was his contention that the federal government had too long neglected improvement of the river.

Vandiver felt the people of the valley could reasonably expect the government to improve the Mississippi by

dredging the channel, facing the embankment with masonry, straightening some of her curves, placing levees along her shores, and building reservoirs to collect her surplus waters during floods.

He said, "I want to see the Mississippi leveed from the foothills of Cape to the Gulf and her banks so protected with stone revetment as to stop the turgent waters from washing away the richest farm lands on the face of the earth." He also advocated ditching the farm lands so as to drain and protect them from surplus surface water.

If this was done, "the farmers of the valley can supply the world with breadstuffs," he said.

In the future his wish was "to see a great ship canal connecting the (Great) Lakes with the Mississippi." If such a canal were constructed with a minimum depth of at least eight feet from Chicago and 10 feet from St. Louis to the Gulf, he stated, the farmers of "this great valley will feed the starving millions of India and China."

These recommendations were made in 1902 with an estimated cost to the government of 100 millions dollars.

In many respects Vandiver was a man ahead of the times as many of his proposals were to be realized in part, most of them long after he had left Washington. Not only did he seek to improve navigation of the river, he also attempted to provide a means by which citizens of the area could get from one side to the other.

He had early in 1901 introduced a bill to authorize the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi River at or near Cape Girardeau.

The bill was later passed by the House without any difficulty; but shortly after its passage, Representative Boutell of Illinois sought consideration of a bill to authorize the construction of a bridge at or near Grays Point, Mo.

Grays Point was only about 10 miles downstream from Cape and there was apparently some rivalry between the two projects.

Vandiver appeared to have been irritated that the Grays Point proposal was coming under consideration only a week after the passage of his bill.

Vandiver later removed his objection because Boutell apparently thought an understanding had been reached before Vandiver's bill had been considered.

Therefore, within a week in 1901 two bills were passed calling for the construction of bridges across the Mis-

Mississippi River within 10 miles of each other. In time both would obtain their bridges; in 1928 the traffic bridge was opened here and a railroad bridge was completed in 1905 between Grays Point and Thebes, Ill.

Vandiver died at Columbia in 1932 -- four years after his dream of a bridge across the Mississippi at Cape was realized.

From Living Room to Hirsch Tower

By **SALLY WRIGHT BROWN**
Missourian Staff Writer

It's been a half century since a steamy July night in 1925 when Oscar, C. Hirsch began broadcasts from his newly-licensed radio station in the living room of the family home at 318 South Frederick.

R. F. ("Peg") Meyer -- Cape Girardeau's "music man" -- and his orchestra were there: Mr. Hirsch handled the announcing, and a large crowd of local citizenry was on hand to witness the moment in radio history.

Continuing developments in broadcast journalism have made 50 years seem like 200 since that first broadcast, which lasted less than two hours so long distance receiving wouldn't be interfered with, but Mr. Hirsch is as enthusiastic today as he was then about the broadcast media's role in society.

50 YEARS

July 22, Hirsch Broadcasting Co. here commemorated its golden anniversary on the air, and Mr. Hirsch, company president, took time out among the electronic gadgetry that fills his studios to talk about his years as a media pioneer.

Interested in the wireless and in sending and receiving messages as a boy with such friends as Erwin Knehans and David Hoche, Mr. Hirsch said his interest in the communications increased when the ill-fated luxury liner Titanic sank in 1912. "A ship 300 miles away picked up an SOS signal, but the California was in sight of the Titanic. Their wireless operator had gone to bed. Someone noticed fireworks coming from the Titanic, but thought it was to celebrate the maiden voyage. Many lives could have been saved if that operator had been awake."

Eventually, laws requiring constant monitoring of wireless sets were passed, and after serving with the signal

corps during World War I, Mr. Hirsch returned to this city where for a time he built radio sets as a business.

Once KFVS was on the air, Mr. Hirsch recalls most of the talent was "live." "Neighborhood Night," as the programs were called, featured bands, quartettes and "old fiddler" contests.

EARLY PROGRAMS

"You can call early radio primitive," said Mr. Hirsch, "but it gave people some of the finest programs ever heard. Music from big cities -- the Kansas City Night Hawks orchestra, for example." And, Mr. Hirsch is proud to note, a number of those who performed in early years on his radio station went on to distinguish themselves in the field of music.

There have been numerous announcers for the station, too, who have gone on to distinguish themselves in various careers -- Dr. Mark F. Scully, former president of SEMO State University and the late Gustav Margraf (who played Santa at Christmas), administrative vice president of Reynolds Metal Co.

"Working with a small radio station, there's never a dull moment," Mr. Hirsch said, recalling the time promoters working for Harry S. Truman, who was (then running for the Senate) were broadcasting at the station and called in the American Legion band to strike up a lively tune for prospective voters.

Television, however, and bringing it here in 1954, "is the accomplishment I'm most proud of," said the venerable Mr. Hirsch. "It's the biggest thing that ever happened to me. Television is a mirror of American life.

"But we have to remember, that television wouldn't have come into being without radio. Radio was the backbone of the whole thing."

Pioneers Give Area Colorful History

By **BEVERLY K. MOLL**
Jackson Journal Feature Writer

Southeast Missouri has a colorful history, most of which comes from the intelligent, ambitious gentlemen who resided here during the era around the early 1800's.

For one of the last of the series of Bicentennial articles sponsored by the Cape County Historical Society as a Bicentennial project, attention focuses on some of these leading and prominent individuals. Even though they were in various pursuits and enterprises of life, they all can be identified with Missouri's history; therefore, the memories of them and their contributions should always be perpetuated.

Pride, the button-popping kind, automatically comes when one opens the pages of references such as Goodspeed's

"History of Southeast Missouri" or Shoemaker's "Missouri and Missourians" and steps into the lives and endeavors of these colorful characters of yore.

Hardships of an earthquake, Indians or epidemics did not deter their enthusiasm and purpose. Developing Missouri, more specifically southeast Missouri, into a suitable place to rear their families was their ultimate aim. With much hard work, insight and ingenuity, swamplands were drained, roads were built, schools and churches were opened and a government was established.

Yes . . . these men were home folks who saw the potential in our state and put their dreams to work for the welfare of all who lived here.

When the Spanish opened upper Louisiana and offered land freely, many pioneer families were especially motivated to cross the Mississippi to settle our area.

"The pioneer" of the Cape Girardeau District, according to Goodspeed, around 1795 was Andrew Ramsay. Whenever pioneers from Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina and Tennessee entered the territory, they generally found the hospitality of the Ramsay plantation. Camping on the banks of Ramsay's Creek, the settlers congregated for news and homespun enjoyments.

A large landowner, Ramsay was considered a wealthy man with a goodly number of slaves. He came from Virginia with his family and settled near Mount Tabor, where the first English school west of the Mississippi was later established in 1799. According to Robert Douglass, long-time professor of history at the old Normal School in Cape Girardeau, it was because of Ramsay's acquaintance with Bartholomew Cousin that he chose to settle in the area. Ramsay found Cousin to possess "scholarly ability and friendliness."

A few years after the United States completed the Louisiana Purchase, Ramsay moved to Batesville and then to the Arkansas territory where he died.

The gentleman who indeed assisted Louis Lorimier in establishing Cape Girardeau as a permanent settlement was Bartholomew Cousin, born in 1767 at Cherbourg, France, a son of a farmer. By way of the West Indies, Cousin arrived in Cape Girardeau about 1793.

Highly educated, Cousin spoke fluent French, English and Spanish, besides being a scholar of Latin. After settling in the area, he served as interpreter, notary and "greffier." In return for his excellent services, he received a large grant of land on Byrd's Creek and Whitewater. Toward the end of his life, two areas consumed most of his interest -- mathematics and physics. Cousin died in 1824, leaving the large estate, which remained under litigation for many years.

Cape Girardeau can be grateful for Cousin, as it was he who surveyed and laid off the streets and lots of the town, under the supervision of Louis Lorimier. The limits of the city in 1806 were North street on the north, William street on the south and Middle street on the west. The cross streets within the area remain the same width and number as they originally were. The first lots were sold for \$100 cash.

LORIMIER

The actual establishment of Cape Girardeau as a permanent settlement is ascribed to Don Louis Lorimier, the Frenchman who traveled to the Upper Louisiana area of the Louisiana Purchase. Born in 1748 in Etienne, district of Montreal, Canada, Lorimier began his trek south by way of Ohio. The history and details of Lorimier's early years are sketchy, but it is certain if all his escapades and feats were known his life would read like a romance full of adventure and intrigue.

Before reaching the Missouri area, Lorimier married a half-breed Shawnee woman, supposedly under Indian custom. Charlotte Pemanpieh Bougainville was a "beautiful, amiable, intelligent woman," who gave birth to four sons and two daughters. It is recorded another son, William, was born in 1781 outside of Missouri and accompanied Lorimier to Cape Girardeau.

Lorimier's marriage into the Shawnee people greatly aided his dealings with all Indians -- not only the Shawnees. Before coming to the area, Lorimier's cordial reputation with Indian tribes became widely known. The Spanish, eager to win his allegiance, met with Lorimier to secure his friendship and cooperation with the Indians, as Spain was about to declare war on France. Lorimier was given the west bank of the Mississippi all the way to the Arkansas River for trapping and hunting for his personal use and that of the Indians.

Continuing to live in his residence named the "Red House," Lorimier presented a petition to the Spanish

government asking for 8,000 arpens of land at Cape Girardeau. Land during this era was usually granted according to a family's wealth, importance, size and ability to cultivate it. It oftentimes did not exceed 800 arpents (680 acres), and the only cost being the surveying fee of \$41. After the owner inhabited and cared for the land 10 years, it became his possession.

During this time a new surge of inhabitants from the neighboring eastern states settled the district, making the area "the first purely American settlement west of the Mississippi." In 1803, the census of the district showed a total of 1,206 (including slaves).

Adding to his proficiency in Indian affairs, Lorimier became military and civil commandant of the Cape Girardeau area. In this office he displayed sensible judgment in handling situations and problems that arose. Although known as a "terror of evil doers, and maintained the best of discipline," Lorimier possessed understanding and kindness.

He could neither read nor write, but was judged by others as using intelligence and common sense. Before signing any document, he had it read to him three or four times.

After Lorimier's first wife died, he married Marie Berthiaume of Apple Creek in Perry County in 1810. He died two years later on June 26 at the age of 64. His tomb stands in the Old Lorimier Cemetery in Cape Girardeau.

William Lorimier, seemingly overshadowed by his father's accomplishments, did very well for himself in the area as a prosperous farmer. In 1805, the judicial history of the Cape Girardeau District shows, William Lorimier was appointed one of the first constables.

At this time, also in 1805, John Hays was appointed the district's first sheriff and remained in office for 17 years. John was the son of Christopher, who moved to Missouri from Pennsylvania about 1800. Christopher Hays settled a farm two or three miles from Jackson and later became presiding justice of the county court. After his father's death, John and his wife continued to live on the family farm until 1817 when he moved to the mouth of Indian Creek and went into the sawmill and ferry business on the Mississippi River.

A mile from the Ramsay plantation, at Mount Tabor, we find the influences of two gentlemen -- colorful in personal histories, successful in professions. Among the trees stood a little log-constructed building, the first English school west of the Mississippi. Joseph McFerron, previously a merchant by trade, became the little school's first teacher in 1795.

An Irishman by birth, McFerron was a man of superior education. His "hard and stolid expression" combined with a genial and pleasant disposition undoubtedly made him an impressive teacher to the young people.

The town of Cape Girardeau also had a schoolhouse built in an orchard, close to the existing Main street, but because teachers were hard to obtain for any length of time, most children were sent out to Mount Tabor.

On Jan. 1, 1807, McFerron was appointed the first postmaster of the area by President Thomas Jefferson. Also during the year, an event took place in McFerron's life which unfortunately was the accustomed procedure when differences transpired between gentlemen. Reason for the disagreement is sketchy, but nevertheless, Joseph McFerron was challenged for a duel, by William Ogle, a local store merchant. In the autumn air the two met on Cypress Island near Cape Girardeau to hold the duel, said to be the first west of the Mississippi. McFerron, known never to have fired a pistol, practiced repeatedly during the days leading up to the event. On the designated day, William Ogle was fatally shot in the head.

Because of the tragedy, McFerron felt it best that he

resign his office of first elected clerk of the courts in the Cape Girardeau district; however, public sympathy was with him and he was reinstated in said office until 1821.

As one of the fathers of Cape Girardeau, McFerron was elected in 1808 one of the five trustees of the new town. After Cousin laid out the town, McFerron purchased one of the first lots -- Lot 5 -- for \$62.

After Jackson was designated the county seat of the newly formed Cape Girardeau County, McFerron bought six acres near Jackson and moved there.

A man who undoubtedly loved to contribute his time in the community in which he lived, McFerron became instrumental in Jackson's educational development.

Henry Sanford, Jackson attorney, first took the educational situation in hand and started the first grammar school in Jackson in 1816. McFerron also helped the school by serving its' first Board of Trustees. In the years to follow McFerron continued to assist the county seat until his death.

Moving to Missouri with his parents from Pennsylvania was a man who went by the name of John Harbison. The family lived in Cape Girardeau for a time before moving to a farm later owned by Robert Ranney. Harbison served as a teacher at Mount Tabor in 1798 following McFerron, after which he became one of the three first attorneys in Cape Girardeau. Records show he purchased lots 8 and 9 for \$100 each.

ROAD PETITIONS

In a day when roads were scarce, petitions were always circulating to have one built. The only overland routes many times were various Indian traces and narrow wilderness trails. John Harbison's name appeared on a petition to get a road built from Cape Girardeau to Andrew Ramsay's land and on to Hubble's Mill.

With the Missouri pioneers came their religion.

However, the only church organization permitted in the Louisiana Territory before the U.S. purchased it in 1803 was Roman Catholic. In Upper Louisiana the first church established was a wooden structure built by the Jesuit Missionaries. It was later moved to Ste. Genevieve in 1794.

When the territory was opened to Protestant ministers, the Methodist circuit riders were the first to gallop in. Seemingly, the Methodist circuit preachers were always a part of religious undertaking of new frontiers and were no strangers to impassable streams and inclement weather when delivering their gospel messages.

Undoubtedly at one of these frequent Methodist camp meetings, John Harbison came in contact with the persuasive preaching of John McFarland, who was in charge of the Cape Girardeau and New Madrid circuits in 1812. Goodspeed recounts that in 1814 Harbison, a converted Methodist, was "received upon trial" into the Methodist conference as a minister.

In May 1816, near the site of Belleville, Ill., the Missouri Conference met at Shiloh Meeting House and bestowed upon John Scripps and John C. Harbison "full connection" to the Methodist ministry. Harbison was sent to the Saline Circuit and Thomas Wright and Alexander McAllister to Cape Girardeau.

Three gentlemen who very definitely enjoyed a fine association and contributed much to the whole state were Alexander McNair, Missouri's first governor; William H. Ashley, Missouri's first lieutenant governor; and John Scott, Missouri's first representative to U.S. Congress.

Alexander McNair, a newcomer to pioneer Missouri from Pennsylvania, arrived in St. Louis in 1804. McNair, said to be a natural politician and a mixer who made friends easily, soon became well-known distances from the fur trading post of St. Louis, where he lived with his French wife, Marguerite.

Somewhere in his travelings of the area or St. Louis,

Alexander McNair became friends with William H. Ashley, the Cape County resident, who sold fifty acres of his land for the establishment of Jackson, the new county seat of Cape Girardeau County.

William H. Ashley was married to Mary Able, the daughter of the builder of the first brick house in Cape Girardeau, (When the 1811 New Madrid earthquake occurred, it was one of the Cape Girardeau buildings damaged). The land was a wedding gift from Ashley's father-in-law, and was being sold to the commissioners because the Ashleys were moving to Potosi. Ashley was in business with Lionel Brown in the manufacturing of gunpowder in the Washington County community of Potosi.

Records show that in 1819, McNair and Ashley were first subscribers for the establishment of the Episcopal Church in St. Louis.

Obviously a rough-and-ready sort of a fellow, William Ashley organized the Missouri Fur Co. and was instrumental in settling competitive differences between Indian tribes and trappers. He organized a summer rendezvous where the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, which he headed, could meet trappers and mountain men and make necessary purchases.

Travel was also in Ashley's blood. He opened up the Great Southern Pass which he discovered on one of his trips west as head of the Rocky Mountain Fur Co. Misfortunes didn't discourage him, although there were many. On one such fur trading expedition, he left St. Louis early in the season unaware of what was to befall him. Three months later he had lost one-fourth of his men to violent deaths, and one-half of his property by accident, deaths or war. On July 2, they were attacked by the A'Recaree Indians.

The battle killed 12 of his men; however, Ashley continued to the mouth of the Yellowstone River where he met the Hudson Bay Fur Co. traders. He sold all of his furs for a large amount and returned to St. Louis.

During the early 1800's the practice of law meant jumping on a horse and traveling county to county, court to court. The lawyers of the circuit were oftentimes well-known individuals over a wide area. For instance, lawyers from Ste. Genevieve and St. Louis were known by the residents of New Madrid and Scott Counties.

Out of approximately a half dozen lawyers who controlled the state at this time, one who was extraordinary in his field was John Scott, a Ste. Genevieve lawyer. A graduate of Princeton University, Scott came to Ste. Genevieve in 1806 by way of Indiana. Aggressive, well-educated and a leader in his profession, it took Scott little time to achieve the clientele he wanted.

To have seen John Scott travel the circuit would have been an interesting sight to behold. Oftentimes wearing a cloth cap and very large pantaloons, Scott rode fully geared in knives and revolvers, that supposedly he never used.

STATEHOOD

An act of Congress on June 4, 1812, changed the name of the Territory of Louisiana to "Missouri." The first Council consisted of nine members and the House of thirteen. In the House from Cape Girardeau County were George F. Bollinger and Steven Byrd. Those from the County represented in the Council were William McNeely and George Cavener.

Missourians were interested in politics and the desire for statehood became a compelling force behind its leaders. In 1816, John Scott became Missouri's first delegate to Congress, arriving in Washington on Dec. 2. In 1818, during his term of office, the inhabitants of Missouri petitioned for admission to the Union.

After two years of debate and tempers flaring over slavery, Jesse Thomas of Illinois offered an amendment

which became the basis of the "Missouri Compromise." When the news of Missouri's statehood reached the Missouri foothills, quick action followed. Forty-one delegates met at the Mansion House Hotel from June 12 to July 19, 1820. Those elected from Cape Girardeau County were Steven Byrd, James Evans, Richard Thomas, Alexander Buckner and Joseph McFerron.

The Constitution, taken back to Washington by Scott, brought up much debate again among the House mem-

bers. Finally because of the compromise offered by Henry Clay, John Scott's friend and fellow statesman, the issues were settled. Banners unfurled and stump speaking began after the 24th state was admitted to the Union.

The man chosen by Missourians as their first governor was St. Louisan Colonel Alexander McNair with 6,578 votes to William Clark's 2,556. Yes . . . Missouri history was on its way to become a multifaceted heritage . . .

El Bosque de los Olmos



Elmwood, 1808 - estate of Alexander Giboney and Louis B. Houck; present owner, Mary Evans

Southeast Missourian

By **CHERYL EVANS**

After the Revolutionary War the original colonies became too crowded for some of the Giboney and Ramsay families.

They started moving westward, first into Kentucky where they lived until it became "over-crowded." Both families then decided to move still farther westward.

The families of Alexander Giboney and Andrew Ramsay located in Missouri near Cape Girardeau, then a part of the Spanish Territory. Alexander Giboney, whose wife was Rebecca Ramsay, settled on the land now known as Elmwood. They found, according to Mr. Giboney's journal, "the land fair, the game, timber and water abundant and the natives friendly."

They petitioned the King of Spain for a grant to the land. This was awarded in 1797, and was the original title to the property. This original grant, now framed, hangs in the main hallway at Elmwood.

In the meantime a barn and other buildings had been erected of poplar and cypress logs, the latter coming from the great swamp near what is now Dutchtown, where another Giboney family had settled. At this time a comfortable home of logs covered with siding was also built. The cistern beside the house, constructed of stone, is still in use, as are the barn and several of the other outbuildings.

BUILT BY SLAVES

About 1808 plans were begun for a permanent home. All the work was done by slaves. Some were stone masons, some skilled carpenters and wood workers, others brick makers. There are still vestiges of the old kilns near the house.

The home was modeled after the Ramsay family castle, Dalhousie, in Scotland, as well as might be, from memories and stories told through the generations.

The resemblance is remarkable.

The bricks are pale rose; the steps, door and window sills are grey granite. Granite is used throughout the construction much as steel is used today. All walls are solid masonry from bedrock to roof. The basement and foundations are granite blocks. The roof is surrounded by castellations, each topped with a granite slab.

In 1894 central heating and plumbing were added, the radiators of which are still in use. Pipes, which were of lead, have been replaced. At this time a wing housing the ballroom on the ground floor and several bedrooms and baths above it were added, as well as the round tower.

The house has never been remodeled, only carefully restored. Each bathroom has stained glass windows. A large stained glass window picturing a pioneer, with the Giboney and Ramsay crests, the date 1797, and the name "El Bosque de los Olmos" is centered on the landing of the main staircase.

It was made in Toledo, Spain. The libraries contain over 5,000 volumes, carefully cataloged.

Rather than being a museum, the house mirrors the generations who have loved it and made it home. It is presently occupied by Patrick Evans and his family, son of the present owner, Mary Giboney Frissell Evans.

Rock House Home to Many

By **MRS. JOHN I. ELLIS**

"The Old Rock House," located at 119 North Missouri, Jackson, is the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John I. Ellis, they having purchased it from the heirs of the late John H.

Sander in 1949. It was built by Charles Criddle about 1814-1815 and was the first two-story structure in Jackson.

The City of Jackson was surveyed into lots in 1815 and is located on what had been Spanish Land Grants. The site of the town was founded on part of an improved plantation

which was purchased from William H. Ashley, who had obtained it when he married the daughter of Ezekiel Able. Ezekiel was a blacksmith by trade but principally dealt in trading in lands and land grants.

By 1818 Jackson had about 300 residents -- some of whom were: Louis Painter, a saddler; John Glasscock and Samuel Mitchell, blacksmiths; Edward Criddle, a hatter; William Sirrell, a cabinet maker; Charnell Scarlet Glasscock, a carpenter, and William Hand, a tanner.

Jackson was incorporated by the County Court in April of 1819. Prior to that time it was known as a part of the Cape Girardeau District.

In 1837 the courthouse had become unfit for its purpose and the court appointed Edward Criddle, Nathan Vanhorn, Ralph Guild, and Ebenezer Flynn as a commission to superintend the erection of a new building which was built of brick and stone. It was later destroyed by fire and replaced by a brick structure on the square which was used until the present structure was erected.

Edward Criddle married Renea Campbell, who was a primary teacher in the first grammar school in Jackson.

Mr. Criddle, in the early 1880's, commissioned Charnell Scarlet Glasscock to design and superintend the construction of a house to be built of blue limestone rock found in abundance in the area. His hat shop was located nearby.

Mr. Glasscock, a carpenter, was a member of the McKendree Methodist Society, organized in 1806, the first such organization west of the Mississippi River.



Rock house, 1814 - Jackson's oldest house

The house was designed in conventional southern style with large rooms heated by huge fireplaces, both upstairs and down. There were four rooms and four fireplaces, three of which are still in use today. The kitchen was at the end of a hallway to the rear of the house and built of logs with a porch on the side. With the passage of time the kitchen was removed and when the John Sander family occupied the house, a large two-story brick addition was built in its stead.

Stones used in construction of the house were cut from quarries north of town on Hubble Creek. Those used for the exterior walls came from the quarry on the Maurice Short Farm. The walls are 22 inches thick, the interior being of smaller stone which came from the quarry on the south side of Hubble Creek adjoining the home of Attorney and Mrs. Albert Lowes. Information has it that there is an air space between the inner and outer walls.

Stone was carried to the building site on ox carts driven by slaves who did much of the actual labor on the building. Their living quarters were just to the north of the site which is now the location of the home of Mrs. Harry Wagner.

At the side of the doorway on the north side of the

structure, two stone shelves are incorporated in the walls and chimney. A similar feature is found in other old stone houses in this area. Perhaps one shelf was to hold a pail for water, the other a wash basin. The front porch, as it is today, was added by the John H. Sander family. Originally it was quite small with a roof over the upstairs portion and extending approximately two feet beyond the sides of the front door.

The huge fireplace mantles were handmade by William Sirrell, a cabinet maker, and are made of cherry as is the wood trim in the house. The original floor was walnut.

The house has undergone many changes and modernization over the years but the original walls remain a testimonial to the workmanship of the pioneers. Plainly visible are the marks of the chisel and stone hammer used by slaves as they cut the huge stones.

If the walls of the house could speak they would have many stories to tell: From celebrations of every kind, parties in the huge attic, quilting bees, births and deaths, including memories of cholera epidemics in 1833, 1849, 1853 and the Civil War. During one period of the war, Confederate officers used the house as their headquarters while keeping their horses in the Methodist church just around the corner.

Many families have called it "the Rock House" home.

Due to difficulty in researching the very early land transactions and the fact the house is built on parts of two lots, it is impossible to give an exact account of all those who have owned the property. Edward Criddle bought a part of Lot 63 from N. W. Watkins and another part from John Armstrong and wife. He bought Lot 62 from John D. Talbot. The records have not uncovered when and to whom he sold the property but Dr. Franklin Cannon owned it and sold it to James M. McGuire on Nov. 28, 1857.

Dr. Cannon bought a part of Lot 63 from John Armstrong in 1824. He was a native of North Carolina. He came to Missouri and married the daughter of Gov. Dunklin. Later he was elected to serve in the legislature.

James M. McGuire passed away and the property was sold, by the executor of the estate, to Walter D. Penny and wife on Aug. 19, 1880. On March 21, 1883, Eliza Williams (address Hot Springs, Ark.) became the owner. Henderson Howard purchased it March 22, 1886, and upon his death his heirs, J. H. Byrd and wife Emma, and Edward Howard and wife Nettie, came into possession of it in 1906. John H. Sander, who had a marble works business dealing in monuments, became the owner May 16, 1907, and John I. Ellis, whose business was banking, bought it from the heirs of John H. Sander in 1949.

Evidently the house was rented by some of the owners because other families occupied it in post Civil War days. One such family was that of Capt. and Mrs. Stephen John Campbell, parents of Mrs. J. W. McCombs. Mrs. Campbell's maiden name was Byrd and prior to her marriage, she called "the Rock House" her Cane Creek home. Mr. Campbell was a captain with the Confederate Forces during the Civil War.

The Herman Mueller family resided in the house for a time. Mr. Mueller, the father of Paul A. Mueller, and Mrs. Julia LaPierre, had a meat packing business and butcher shop around the corner from the residence. Miss Clara Mueller was born in the house in 1882.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. George Hartle (Aunt Polly) also called "the Rock House" home around the turn of the century. Mr. Hartle was employed by the Cape County Milling Co. He was the father of Mrs. Ida Masterson and Miss Bertha Hartle who are able to recall many happy childhood memories endearing them to that period in their lives.

The house has touched the lives of many people in the past and will perhaps continue to do so for many years to

come, standing as a tribute to the sturdy pioneers of our community, of which Jackson should be extremely proud,

as well as those who find comfort within the confines of its walls.

Jackson's First Masonic Lodge

By ELIZABETH GRANGER WILSON

JACKSON -- To the "Wild West" of Jackson came Joseph Frizel of Wiscasset, Maine.

Here in 1817, he built a small Cape Cod house for his bride, Sarah Bollinger, only child of George Frederic Bollinger.

To Jackson in 1818 came Alexander Buckner, who was later the third U.S. senator from Missouri.

Here in Jackson, Mr. Buckner and Mr. Frizel became friends, and in 1818 at Mr. Frizel's home they organized the "first Masonic lodge in the territory."

The officers in 1822, according to the printed "bylaws of United Lodge 6," were: Alexander Buckner, worshipful master; Edward S. Gantt, senior warden; Joseph Frizel, junior warden.

Samuel Cupples, treasurer; Thomas Neale, secretary; John Cross, senior deacon; N. W. Watkins, junior deacon, and William Neill, steward and tyler.

Members included Johnson Ranney, Edward Criddle, John Hays, Minor W. Whitney, George Bullitt, John G. Vance, Charles Seavers, William Garner, James Russell, Theodore Jones, Edmund Rutter and David Hyler.

For each member Sarah Frizel painted in oil on a white satin apron the insignia of the order.



Welling House, 1818 - Where Jackson's first Masonic Lodge was organized

Unity Lodge was short-lived. Joseph Frizel died in 1823 and Sen. Buckner died of cholera at his home south of Jackson in 1833.

All we now have left of the lodge is a copy of the bylaws and one of the white satin aprons that Sarah painted.

The President's Home



Wildwood - home of President and Mrs. Robert E. Leestamper, Southeast Missouri State University

By MISS MILDRED VOGELSANG

Other than Dr. Robert E. Leestamper there is probably no president of a university who can say that he and his

family live in a home that was once used as a winery. Dr. Leestamper, who is serving this first year as president of SEMO State University, and Mrs. Leestamper seem to appreciate the uniqueness of their home.

Needing a demonstration farm for the agriculture department, the SEMO State University purchased the 124-acre tract then known as the Mercer Wilson Farm for \$22,990.87 in 1922. On it was an abandoned building which once housed a wine-making enterprise, and which today forms a basic part of the structure known as the president's home.

Ownership of this acreage now known as the College Farm can be traced from the Spanish grant to Don Louis Lorimier. Maria J. Gross who purchased this land from Lorimier heirs owned it from 1820 until 1836. John Cross owned it from 1836 to 1865 when it was purchased by Michael Dittlinger. Mr. Dittlinger had extensive land holdings at the time and did not live on the farm.

However, it is known that income he received from this property came largely from fruit and virgin timber. It is likely that the wine cellar was in use during the period 1865-1879 when Mr. Dittlinger held title to the land. We can only speculate as to which of the owners first became interested in producing wine.

After the farm was purchased, Louis Houck, who had served on the Board of Regents for many years, fought to save the building and to have it converted into a residence for the president of the institution.

HOME TO MANY

Families of all presidents of the university have lived in this remodeled building since that time. Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Serena made it their home from 1924 until 1933. Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Parker occupied it during the period from 1933 until 1956. The Parker children, Mary Elizabeth, J. James, Walter W. Jr., and William were residents part of that time. Dr. and Mrs. Mark F. Scully and their sons, John and Andrew, moved into the residence in 1956. It was midsummer of 1975 that Dr. and Mrs. Leestamper began their residency. One of their sons, David, a student at University High School lives in the home with his parents. Another son attends a college in Worcester, Mass.

Many persons have been particularly interested in the wine cellars. Some are interested in the substantial structure, others are interested because it reveals an important part of our past way of life.

The two-storied wine cellar, 73 feet long, has 16 and 20 inch walls of stone. In the original building the cellars were topped by four rooms built of brick.

On the first level on the north side a small cellar forms an anteroom through which one must go in order to enter into the large cellar. Keystone entrances are built into both the small cellar, and the large cellar. The gently rounded ceiling of this large cellar seems to be in perfect condition, a credit to the stone masons who erected it long ago.

The second level of the wine cellar has a doorway opening to the east onto the slope on that side of the building.

Above these large cellar rooms were the third level rooms that constituted the living quarters in the original building.

A Cape Girardeau who lived in these quarters as a child for a brief period around 1919 remembered playing on a dirt floor in the cellar on the second level. Some people have reported that horses were stabled in this level at some period in the past. This former resident also remembers a porch that extended along the west side and from which one could step out on level ground on the south end.

He has also recalled being impressed by a huge square cistern which was located on the south near what is now the kitchen wing. Water piped down to the lower cellar was apparently used in processing wine. When Mrs. Scully moved into the home she arranged to have the cistern filled. This required 26 large truckloads of dirt.

REMODELED

On July 18, 1923, the Board of Regents contracted with C. J. Reisenbichler to remodel the rooms and add and finish new rooms. Mrs. Joseph Serena, the president's wife, and Vernon Chapman, the superintendent of build-

ings and grounds, helped supervise.

A wing added on the east included a kitchen, a maid's room and a wash room. A wing added on the west included a hall, sewing room or powder room, bathroom, stairway and bedroom. Two bedrooms were built on a second floor of the wing. Only the kitchen wing remained one story high in the part of the building that spanned the front.

The second level of the cellar was made into a reception room.

Space above the one-story cellar at the north end provided an additional room which could be entered from the reception area. This was used as a curing room for hams when Dr. Scully lived in the house. Mrs. Leestamper plans to use it for an art studio.

During this initial renovation the brick building made up of the original four rooms and the added wings was covered with stucco. Red shingles were placed on the roof. This adobe-style appearance of the house was changed when Mrs. Scully replaced the roof with gray shingles and added gray shutters.

Significant repairs were necessary on two occasions. When a tornado hit Cape Girardeau on May 21, 1949, the northernmost wall in the building collapsed. Dr. and Mrs. Parker were away from home at the time. They remained in the home while the damage was repaired. In 1971, Dr. Scully had a ridge-style roof constructed over the kitchen wing. This replaced a flat roof that had been hidden by a parapet. In addition to improving the architectural lines of the house, it stopped a leak that had been a problem for years.

The Leestampers have made some basic changes in the past few months. The size of the kitchen has been increased by removing the maid's room and the wash room. A new entrance to the kitchen has been made. Some of the brick walls of the kitchen have been exposed. The house has been air conditioned. Light fixtures have been placed in the cellars.

The house has been redecorated. Lovely shades of yellow and of blue predominate in the front part of the house. The home has been furnished with many attractive and unusual antiques collected by Mrs. Leestamper.

A building that was originally long and narrow is now shaped like a "T." The horizontal line that crosses the top of the T forms a broad exposure to the south, which is the front of the building.

Once the road to the house was lined with persimmon trees. The area is reminiscent of the Home of the Birds, a wooded section many former students will remember. The Leestampers appropriately call their home Wildwood.

Thilenius Home

By MISS MILDRED VOGELSANG

On Feb. 12, 1867, George C. Thilenius purchased lots 28 and 29 of Robert Sturdivant's subdivision containing 9.56 acres, bounded on the north by Themis street, by an alley (later Keller avenue) on the east, on the south by Independence, and on the west by lot number 30. On the highest point on this land Colonel Thilenius built his house a few years later.

It was in the year 1873 when an item in the Jackson Cash Book issued Aug. 27 indicated the house was being built at that time. The writer of the article predicted that "it will

be one of the most desirable homes in the city and quite an ornament on the avenue that leads to our fairgrounds."

The writer of the same article rightly described the house as "substantial," for the walls of this brick house are 19 inches thick at the first floor level, 13 inches thick at the second story level and nine inches thick at the third story level. Red tile now on the house replaced wood shingles after a fire in the 1930's.

The terrain, the beautiful old pine trees, the semi-circular frontage all add to the attractiveness of this home occupied by four generations of one family.

Entrance into the 13-room house reveals a wide hall

which extends from the front to the back of the house. This has served as a family sitting room for some years. At one time a wall divided the area. The floor is of alternate strips of walnut and ash. All but one of the rooms on this main floor has remained 18 feet square. The ceilings were 13 feet from the floor originally.

To the right of the hall at the front is the music room. In it is a piano over 100 years old.

The room immediately in back of the music room is the library. A large hand-carved secretary containing many of the books used by Col. Thilenius along with other memorabilia is the highlight of this room. The clock on the mantle was a gift from the staff of the German-American Bank of which Col. Thilenius was president. This was given to mark the 50th wedding anniversary of Col. and Mrs. Thilenius celebrated on March 8, 1907.

The two bedrooms on the west side of the house were once of equal size. When indoor plumbing was installed, a portion of the front bedroom was made into a bathroom.

A porch which extends across the back of the house can be entered through doors at the north end of the central hall. This once-open porch was enclosed by glass jalousies in the mid-1950's. A pleasant place from which to view the trees and flowers in the yard and garden, this porch also contains a collection of shells and many other items of historic interest.

At the rear of the hall on the west side is the stairway which leads to the upper floor and the curved stairway which leads to the lower floor. Each tread on the curved area can be withdrawn without too great difficulty.

The upper floor has a large hall and five rooms, two of which are used as bedrooms. One room contains dolls, doll furniture and a large doll house in addition to many other toys. Some of the items found in the toy room were brought from Germany when Mrs. Thilenius and her little daughter, Anna, visited there in 1870. A number of children in several generations have been privileged to enjoy the contents of this room.



Thilenius House, 1873

The lower floor of the house is so situated that it is at ground level in the back. A wide hall and four large rooms including the kitchen and dining room provide a spacious living area.

At the south end of the first floor hall is the storage cellar which is underneath the front porch.

By descending a few steps into an area which has an arched ceiling made of brick, a collection of things bottled and canned can be seen. Some empty containers of earlier years are also stored here.

At the back of the house Mrs. Margaretha Thilenius, the colonel's wife, planted a lovely garden. Deutzia, boxwood, flowering almond, wisteria vines, iris and peonies could be seen for many years. Some of these same shrubs and flowers were kept and nurtured by her

daughter, Mrs. Anna Keller, and in later years by her granddaughter, Mrs. Ella Miller McGowan.

The Thilenius house, "Longview," now occupied by Fred C. McGowan, is on a Whitener street hill commanding an impressive view of the city.

Interest in the house is heightened by examining the history of the family that lived in it.

George Christian Thilenius was born in Goettingen, Germany, Aug. 10, 1829. He came to the U.S. in 1849, then in 1852 he went to Matanzas, Cuba, where he lived until 1855. In 1857 he married Margaretha Fromann in St. Louis. She was born in Coburg, Germany, where as a young girl she served as lady in waiting to the Duchess of Coburg.

The couple had seven children, four of whom lived. Anna was born Feb. 25, 1859, and married Louis T. Keller Sept. 20, 1883. Bertha was born Jan. 6, 1862, and married Charles Kuss Oct. 6, 1889. Emma was born Oct. 12, 1864, she remained single. Emil, who was born June 17, 1869, married Emma Dittlinger Dec. 27, 1896.

Moving to Cape Girardeau just after his marriage, Mr. Thilenius engaged in the mercantile business until the time during the Civil War when he enlisted in the Union Army. He had served for three months, when he joined the Missouri Militia, accepting the post of captain on Aug. 8, 1862. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel Oct. 4, 1862, and was commissioned a full colonel by Gov. Fletcher on March 25, 1865. His charge had been to protect the Cape Girardeau area from invasion by the Confederates.

After the war he became a charter member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Just Post, and remained active in that organization for the rest of his life.

Col. Thilenius attended the Constitutional Convention of 1865 held in Jefferson City. It was on Jan. 11 that the ordinance to abolish slavery in Missouri was signed by 61 men in addition to the three officials of the convention. George C. Thilenius' name is among the signatures. His grandson, Arthur Thilenius, has a copy of this important document as well as copies of the documents which gave his grandfather commissions in the Missouri Militia.

WINERY

Before the colonel built his house and moved his family to the outskirts of the city, he built his winery. Shortly after the purchase of the land, he began the propagation of apple, crabapple and peach trees. He also began the planting of the extensive vineyards which later covered the area. Eight cisterns were dug to service the needs of the winery. By the following year Col. Thilenius had begun the making of wine, relying on area farmers to bring much of the fruit he needed for his establishment.

The building to house the wine-making enterprise was a three-sectioned brick structure three stories high. Wagons loaded with fruit were brought to a wide door of the west end of the building. The beginning of the lane leading to this area was near where Sunset Boulevard is located today.

Some years later, A. M. Casebolt, editor of the Marble City News, described this as a bustling and extensive business and named some of the beverages produced as sarsaparilla, English club soda, lemon soda, birch beer, ginger ale, grape soda and champagne cider.

Around the turn of the century the business ceased at this location. The manufacture of soda was continued by the colonel and his son, Emil, in a plant on Pacific, just north of Broadway.

In later years Emil's son, Arthur, also engaged in this business.

On the 25th wedding anniversary of her parents, Sept. 20, 1908 Helena Keller married Louis C. Rau in the

winery building. A large reception room located on the third floor was used. A buffet supper was served there to all the guests.

The winery or the wine cellars, as they were sometimes called, remained a landmark on the hill for many years. The westernmost section was removed sometime in the late 1940's, the two remaining sections were removed in January, 1964. J. W. Gerhardt moved some of the equipment to Burfordville Mill at that time. A group of men connected with a local church razed the structure and cleaned the bricks as a money-making project. Some of this highly-prized brick was used by Judge and Mrs. James Finch to build their new home in Jefferson City. Judge Finch, a former Cape Girardeau, had been appointed to the State Supreme Court shortly before that time.

Another business enterprise actively pursued by Col. Thilenius on this site was the production and selling of honey. A set of bottles and the tray used to distribute this product is part of the Glenn House collection in the restored kitchen-pantry area.

Awarded at World's Fair, Vienna, to



G. C. Thilenius, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

First prize medal (world's best flour) awarded to Colonel Geo. C. Thilenius of Cape Girardeau at World's Fair in Vienna, Austria, 1873

FLOUR MILL

Among other business activities of Col. Thilenius was the production of flour. His Cape City Roller Mill, established in 1866, was located in the 400 block of Harmony (now Broadway) on the north side of the street. The mill burned in 1883. The site was later sold to Stein and Lance, a firm that built a new mill and manufactured flour until it was destroyed by fire in 1914.

Col. Thilenius was involved over a period of many years in trying to secure a railroad for Cape Girardeau and the surrounding area. He was also one of the founders of the

German-American Bank and served as its first president.

His interest in politics and in the public service covered many years. He was elected treasurer of the City of Cape Girardeau, serving from 1865 to 1867. He became mayor in 1867, serving for three terms, until 1873. He represented the district in the Missouri General Assembly during the years of 1898 through 1901. Col. Thilenius promoted the County Fair for many years. In the 1898 Premium Book of the Cape County Fair and Park Association, he was listed as the president of the Board of Directors.

The name "Longview" by which the Thilenius home has been known for many years, can be understood by those who know of its location. The story of an early event in the family further illustrates this concept of the name. When Anna, daughter of Col. and Mrs. Thilenius, was to marry Louis Keller in an evening ceremony at Trinity Lutheran Church on Sept. 20, 1883, an arrangement was made whereby a lantern would be lighted on a top floor of their home to signal the sexton waiting in the church steeple to begin ringing the bells. This was to inform those invited that the bride-to-be would soon be there and the wedding would soon take place. This story was told to a neighbor by Mrs. Bertha Kuss, sister of the bride, and was repeated in later years by Mrs. Helena Rau, daughter of the bride.

Mrs. Margaretha Thilenius died on March 9, 1909, Col. George C. T. Thilenius died on July 7, 1910.

For a few years after the Colonel's death the house was rented to the E. P. Ellis family and later to a Mr. Matthews.

On April 7, 1916, the Colonel's daughter, Mrs. Anna Keller, purchased the property. Shortly after that she and her husband moved into the house, though an official housewarming was not held until March, 1917, as reported in a contemporary news account. Their daughter, Ella (one of their three children) moved into the house with her parents. Except for a brief period while she was married to Bert Miller, this remained her residence until her death, Jan. 13, 1972. Her daughter, Marjorie Miller (now Mrs. Wayman R. Thompson who lives with her family in Florida) was the fourth generation of the family to live in the house.

Mrs. Ella Keller Miller married Fred McGowan in 1942. He continues to make Longview his home, carrying on in the tradition of the Thilenius family.

As long as the more than 50 descendants of the builder of this house care for the memories and documents that form the history of the family and so long as such place names as Longview, Keller and Thilenius remain, the citizens of Cape Girardeau are likely to remember and appreciate these earlier settlers of our community.

A New Lease on Life

By **TOM H. GERHARDT**
First Vice-President

Historical Association of Greater Cape Girardeau

It was fitting that around 1880 a local trained architect and builder, Edwin Branch Deane, should culminate his career with a house for his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. David A. Glenn, who were married Jan. 13, 1881.

Today, 325 South Spanish is the headquarters and house museum of the Historical Association of Greater Cape Girardeau; it is one of the more fortunate older houses in the city, for it is being restored very carefully.

Mr. Glenn embarked in a successful mercantile business on April 1, 1873. In 1891, Mr. Glenn with others organized and chartered the First National Bank of Cape Girardeau, and was made its first president. During the 1890's, the whole town was prospering, the Glenn House was also to be a further product of this prosperity.

Already of notable architecture with its fancy cornice work and gables carved with vines and fans, plaster rosettes on the ceilings, stenciling, grained woodwork, decorated slate fireplaces and interior window shutters as well as the classical wash-house built of wood cut to resemble stone and the two-story back porches with all of

the doors opening out onto them from the various rooms -- Mr. Glenn decided to make additions to the house and mechanical alterations to keep up with the times.

No doubt all of the additions and alterations made in the 1890's were witnessed and critiqued by Deane, who did not die until 1901, at which time his funeral was held in the Glenn House. Two additions -- a large curved veranda, also of architectural note with its square and round columns, and a turret -- were further ornamented with art glass windows.

Plumbing was installed in the 1890's with a bathroom featuring a small square iron foottub that still exists today. At the same time, hot water radiator heating was also installed and the original kerosene lighting was displaced by the early addition of electricity.

In 1915, John J. Hunter and his family moved in the house and lived there until 1953. After the Hunter era, the Wesley P. McDonald family and Dr. and Mrs. Sylvester Doggett occupied the house until it was purchased by the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Erlbacher, who gave it to the historical association in 1968.



During Christmas, 1976, a large Christmas tree decorated with early ornaments and a Christmas village accent the wall and ceiling stenciling of the Glenn House library.

RESTORATION

Extensive exterior restoration has been accomplished, the house rewired, the plumbing restored and the hot water heating system repaired. And, within the last year, four areas inside the house have been carefully restored.

The kitchen area has been restored and furnished with the appropriate furnishings of the restoration period -- the 1890's. Here, visitors view a wood stove, butter churn, real icebox, pie safe, and radiator with a warming oven (it still

works) that was rescued from the Haas house on Good Hope street.

Other accessories include Dr. Schneider's hat (sold by Glenn Mercantile), a Cape City Bottling Works soda case, a J. H. Lindeman soda bottle, and an 1881-1882 almanac from Rider and Schwepker, Cape Girardeau druggists from before the turn of the century. Visitors may also talk over the speaking tube to a room upstairs after being summoned by the electric servants call box installed in the 1890's.

Off the back porch is the classical washhouse, carefully restored and now containing a poplar cistern pump that is over one of the two cisterns on the property, a gasoline summer cookstove, a washbench and tubs, a tile at one time connected with the sewer in which to dispose of wash water and lye soap (a must).

The River Room was completed with a legacy and memorials from the late Mr. and Mrs. Erlbacher. Light bulbs purchased during the St. Louis 1904 World's Fair greet visitors in a model of the first Cape Girardeau steamboat, given to the association by John Frenzel, who constructed it in 1904-1906. Other river items include a boat compass, 1865 river maps of the Cape Girardeau, Commerce and Cairo areas, a steamboat whistle, and the binoculars and octant of Civil War Ensign John P. Perkins, who sailed on the steam paddlewheel gunboat, "Wyalusing."

FURNISHINGS

An elaborate walnut bed, an unusual walnut butler's dresser and a mahogany shaving stand highlight the room's decor, which was a tedious problem in restoration. The decor includes wallpaper boarders, and grained or feathered woodwork as it appeared nearly 100 years ago. All of the woodwork in the main room of the Glenn House was grained to resemble burled walnut when the House was first built, this particular graining is an outstanding example of a practically lost art to produce expensive wood grains with paint.

The interior window shutters, missing for years, had to be rebuilt in the original solid-panel, louvered-panel construction. The difficult restoration of the graining and reconstruction of the interior window shutters will follow the association in its restoration efforts throughout most of the rest of the house.

The recently restored library features an additional art that is practically lost -- stenciling on the walls and ceiling that has all been carefully restored. Visitors to the library are greeted by a large square grand piano that was in the old Morrison home at 28 South Spanish nearly 100 years ago. The 1896 walnut telephone is on the wall in the bay window at the original location of the first telephone in the Glenn House, which was installed shortly after the arrival of telephone service in the city during 1896.

The coal burning slate fireplace is also stenciled with the original designs put on to decorate it. Above the fireplace is a print of George Caleb Bingham's "County Election." Moving to Missouri in 1819, Mr. Bingham was best known for his genre scenes, especially those of life on the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. A mahogany, pineapple-post bookcase is filled with books on the west wall.

After walking through the past in the Glenn House visitors often leave through the reconstructed grape arbor over the back walk, observe grapes ripening and stop at the Carriage House, which has been converted to a craft shop. They finally go to the alley, where one of the remaining cast iron horsetroughs originally from the streets of Cape Girardeau has been installed.

Home Survives Years

By TOM H. GERHARDT
First Vice-President

Historical Association of Greater Cape Girardeau

People passing by the early brick house at 623 North Main seldom realize it is an interesting survivor of old Cape Girardeau and that its story started in 1857, when Edwin Branch Deane, Cape Girardeau's own architect and builder, embarked on construction of one of his simpler houses for James Reynolds, an Englishman from St. Louis.

Much of what is known about Reynolds house today is left to us through articles written by Deane's granddaughter, Amy Husbands Kimmel, who was very active in civic affairs in Cape Girardeau. Mr. Reynolds, who owned a mill built around the same time, was married to Christine Von Ohlhausen, whose family came from Germany in 1820. The Reynolds had five daughters, two being named "California" and "Texas."

James Lansmon, who did the brickwork in many of the older homes and buildings in Cape Girardeau, often collaborated with Deane on his projects. The Reynolds house was no exception. Miss Kimmel wrote in *The Missourian* in 1933: "In this home of Mr. Reynolds..., are 51,000 bricks and in the mill were 494,000 at \$5 per 1,000. This is all laid out in a bill for labor presented by Mr. Lansmon. Labor then was \$1 per day, the man who superintended the work was paid at the rate of 10 percent of the cost of labor. The bill for laying the brick, on the home, was \$475. The entire cost of the mill was \$6,345."

Construction was very crude during the middle of the 19th century; however, the product was very admirable and contained fine craftsmanship found only in endeavors of long hours of hand labor. The bricks for a dwelling such as this were usually burned nearby. The mortar was made and placed in a deep hole to be left until spring when it was the consistency of putty. And, lending to more substantial work, no brickwork was done in the winter.

Slave labor was often used in Deane's construction work. During his first building project in 1839, the Ellis-Wathen-Ranney house that at one time stood just a half block south of the Reynolds house, slaves took the sandstone for the walls out of the hillside just behind the house. Timber for use in Deane's early building was often taken right from the property, as it was when he constructed the Sherwood-Minton house in 1846 at 444 Washington. And, as in the case of the Reynolds house, Deane personally handcarved much of the woodwork in his early projects.

DIFFERENT METHODS

However, since Deane's career spanned many years, one of his last projects being the Glenn House around 1880, he witnessed radical changes from his earlier methods. During his last building projects, he had no slaves and most all of the woodwork, bricks and materials were being produced in factories or mills.

The Reynolds house, 1½ stories with the rooms divided by a large central hall as was typical then, also at one



The Reynolds smokehouse is a charming fortlike structure that survives at the back of the property.

time had built-in cupboards -- a corner one in the dining room and a plainer one in the kitchen -- where cooking was done many years ago in an oven beside the fireplace. A walk would take one from the back porch to an interesting fort-like structure that served as a smokehouse. This structure also remains on the property.

At the time Miss Kimmel wrote of the Reynolds house, she mentioned that some of the quaint furniture, including an old mahogany dining table and some chairs, was rescued from a burning boat. Miss Kimmel also mentions that the brick mill had burned and that there had been a previous mill built out of logs that stood well out into the Mississippi River.

Apparently, the property surrounding the Reynolds house originally went south to the Ellis-Wathen-Ranney house, north to Mill street, and contained a large pawpaw tree as well as lovely lilacs, roses and lilies.

In describing the Reynolds garden, Florence Hartzell Oliver in her 1937 "History of the Early Gardens in Cape Girardeau" envisioned a block of beauty: "The Wathen place was adjoined on the north by the Reynolds place, now occupied by a grandson, Don Grimm. These two properties comprise all the space from the shoe factory south to Park Drive, about two blocks. It was all a beautiful flower garden. The most conspicuous feature of the Reynolds garden was the red lilies that bordered the walk from the porch to the street. They were a great rarity; no one else had any of them."

The neighborhood has changed -- river floods have come and departed, a great industrial giant has mushroomed and dwindled, and other structures have altered; but the Reynolds house stands silently back from the street defying time.

Kenwood House of Gracious Heritage

By TOM H. GERHARDT
First Vice-President

Historical Association of Greater Cape Girardeau

Many local people remember driving out Bloomfield Road, coming to a pond and a wide meadow, and then approaching a grove of trees with an ancient brick house in the center. In its later years, it had an air of loneliness and sort of a ghostly appearance as the city encroached upon it until the house itself became the center of an apartment complex.



Kenwood, as shown in one of the last of the traditional Christmas cards sent out by the Burroughs. Their Christmas cards always depicted a scene at their historic home.

Kenwood, or 2121 Bloomfield, was really only occupied by three generations of the Burrough family. Kenwood's story began in the late 1850's, when Edwin Branch Deane, a local trained architect and builder, started the house for Sam Caruthers, who was elected to Congress in 1853. Near the end of his term as congressman, he decided to have a permanent home built in the city. Deane started the house as a replica of Ashland, Henry Clay's home in Kentucky.

Included in the construction was an unusual louvered barn, sort of the A-frame style of yesterday. The barn featured a sandstone basement with horse stalls, a full first floor, and a smaller louvered second floor in the peak of the "A". This interesting barn survived for many years and was a landmark; however, it was demolished in early 1972.

Caruthers died before the end of his term of office in July of 1860. Therefore, Caruthers' "Ashland" had been

started before this time; but it was never occupied by Caruthers, and it was not complete. Jacob Burrough, a lawyer who came to Cape Girardeau from Philadelphia in 1853 and who later married Mary E. Deane, a niece of Edwin B. Deane, bought the estate and completed the house as a modified "Ashland."

GRACIOUS HOME

The house had eight rooms with two large halls and a cellar. All of the rooms had fireplaces, as this was the early method of heating the house. The upstairs hall featured an area in front from which one could look out of wide windows over the surrounding countryside. Later, a two-story addition was made at the back of the house for an indoor kitchen, bathroom, pantry and loft room. A back stairway in this addition led to the loft room and the rear upper room in the main house.

One of the three surviving children born to Jacob Burrough and his wife was Frank E. Burrough, who was born in 1865.

Frank E. Burrough and his wife, Annie Kenrick, were the next occupants of Kenwood. Their three children, Mary, Jean and Kenrick, then in turn lived in the residence after their parents' death.

Since the house was basically occupied by three generations of the same family, few changes were made along the way.

Mary and Jean were flower lovers and started a beautiful flower garden behind the house. Then, a teahouse was added out across the rolling meadow for the sisters to take guests to. Sheep always kept the lawn well cropped.

Basically, Spartan living was the rule. When Jean, the last Burrough living in the house, left the estate in the early 50's, a coal range was still used for cooking in the kitchen. Besides the one bathroom mentioned earlier and electricity installed around World War I, the only other change in the house was the addition of hot water radiator heat in only the west portion of the residence. A telephone had been installed quite early.

However, they always closely guarded their property and made careful plans of how to fight off intrusion in the form of the encroaching city. In the early 50's, one could even look just east and north of the estate and see building activity; only their private meadows reduced this encroachment.

After Jean's removal to Kentucky, the house retained most of its serenity for nearly 15 years, with even its furnishings left intact.

The Burrough era completely ended when relatives in Kentucky sold Kenwood and its remaining surrounding property to be used for development. The house still stands today, minus its back wing and with an east addition.

Kage House Stands Proud

By Mrs. Beulah H. Riley

Time can be discriminating; age often bestows favors on people and things.

Many persons, long past the prime of life, have reached maturity gracefully. They appear to be striding along

hand in hand with old age as with a kind friend, comfortable and unafraid.

Some houses that have long been used for families and living are like this. Such a one is the old Kage house located at the corner of Broadway and Spanish. Few of her contemporaries remain and none in the immediate



Kage house, 1858 - restored landmark.

Southeast Missourian

vicinity. She stands alone looking down on a busy thoroughfare, benign and contemplative, dignified, gracious and beautiful.

Approaching from the west side and to the front where the lacy iron grill work balcony overlooks the street, one knows that the architect who planned her straight, narrow lines, has long been dead. Entering the very heavy arched front door that opens into a narrow hall one knows from the thick walls, the high ceilings, that this front door has been opened to many people who lived in this city many generations ago.

When I first visited the old home in July of 1961, it was the property of Mrs. A. B. Barks and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Benson. Mrs. Benson's parents, A. B. and Christine Barks, had purchased the house from F. A. Kage, June 24, 1924. Mr. Kage was at one time mayor of Cape Girardeau.

Although modernized at that time for comfortable living with plumbing and central heating, the full beauty of the old home had been retained as far as possible. The 8-foot doors, the tall arched window, the iron grill work on the balcony, reminiscent of New Orleans; the solid poplar beams in the cellar; the thick walls remained a permanent monument to the home builders of a period long past.

Almost reverently I studied the pages of the old abstract.

The land surrounding the old house was deeded to Louis Lorimier by the U. S. government and he in turn gave a warranty deed to his daughter, Louise, wife of Thomas Rodney, April 17, 1807. Purchase price was recorded as \$183.

In the abstract also this notation was made: A true extract from the minutes in the office of the Post, "translation Copy" 29th of September, 1804:

"I, Louis Lorimier, Civil Commandant of the District of Cape Girardeau, have proposedly attended to the house and on the lot belonging to the estate of William Lowry, deceased, situated in the village of this Post, whereas by agreement made the 8th day of March last with William Lowry, deceased, I have obligated myself to make unto said Lowry or his assigns a good, sufficient deed with general warrantee for the house and lot described in the foregoing extract when the said Lowry should pay me 300 gallons of Merch'ble Whiskey."

The first description of the lot is dated September 2, 1858, "a part of lot No. 4 in range E City of Cape Girardeau, 20 feet on Harmony street by 86 feet on Spanish street."

Charles and Walburger Fuerth purchased the lot in 1858 and the first mention of the homestead is made in the abstract dated 1883. It is described as "a 2½ story, brick building." It was purchase by Frederick A. Kage in June 28, 1886, and was thereafter known as the old Kage house. The sale price was \$1,332 and the description is again repeated "upon which lot there is a brick building 2½ stories high." From description in the abstract it was found that the name of the street was changed from Harmony to Broadway between June 19, 1890, and May 28, 1909.

The cellar beneath the house is partly in solid rock and the huge poplar beams in this area, undamaged by time and termites through the long years, is indicative of the permanence of the structure.

The present owner, James Estes, acquired the property in November 1971 and the three floors as well as the restored basement presently house the spacious offices of the Saveway Oil Co. We found the present business interior as intriguing as the apartments in 1961.

The charming dignity of the old entrance, opening into the first floor offices, continues to reach out with the same hospitality; the heavily carpeted very narrow stairs, leading to the second floor, bring one to the handsomely furnished offices of Mr. Estes, the secretary, Mrs. Bunny Bollinger, and Jerry Estes, magistrate of Cape County. The third floor, reached also by narrow, carpeted stairs, is used for a lounge.

The drapes at the high windows, the heavy front door opening out on the second floor balcony, the lush carpeting, all enhance the gracious atmosphere of the high-ceilinged rooms.

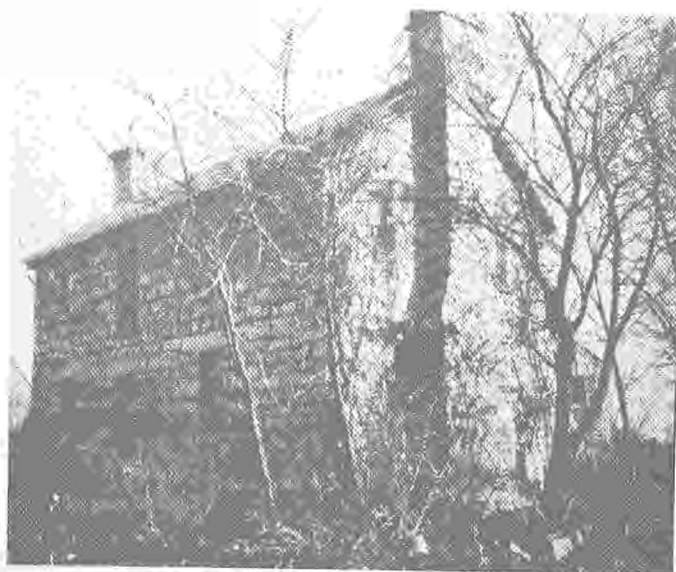
In order to restore the house to its original design some additions at the rear have been removed. The old cellar has become a very useful basement with the dirt floor covered with cement and a graceful minicircular stairway leading down from a trap door on the first floor. This is now used for storage.

The exterior of the brick has been sand blasted so that the walls are attractive. In this picturesque, mellow, benign type of house, one hears the echoes of the past, the events that have made Cape Girardeau consistently strong in her progress through the past century. In this old house one also finds our beloved city rooted in tradition, looking forward securely to the future, serene and unafraid.

Art students find the old house an interesting and colorful subject and many paintings and drawings have been made.

Yes, the old house stands tall and proud, totally bereft of her contemporaries. To her east is a parking lot filled each day with automobiles, shiny and new. On this side she is completely hidden by tall billboards. Only from her front and her west side can she be viewed -- one of our most beautifully restored historical landmarks.

Byrd House of 1827 Vintage



Byrd house, 1827 - near Jackson

By **BEVERLY K. MOLL**
Jackson Journal Feature Writer

As I forded Horrell Creek and approached nearer the massive stone structure, I thought a more perfect spot couldn't have been chosen to build a home.

Undoubtedly woods covered the high knob and colors of autumn -- golds, reds and browns -- accented the white native limestone residence as it was remarkably constructed stone by stone.

Over the doorway, indelible for generations to see is plainly chisled "A. B. Oct. 1827," A. B. standing for the owner, Abraham Byrd.

The Byrd family, a large and influential family, contributed much to the area as the pioneers of the Cape Girardeau district.

Coming originally from Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina, the beginnings of the family can be traced all the way back to William Byrd of Virginia who can be described as a fine southern gentleman of cultural interests and influence in the establishment of boundaries between Virginia and North Carolina.

His son, Amos, yearning to see more of the new country beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains, moved west and built the fort or "station" on the frontier of Knox City, Tenn., close to another pioneer family, the Gillespies.

Records of marriage reveal that an intimate relationship developed between the families; whereas, three of the young Byrd men found wives at the Gillespie Fort.

The Byrd brothers, on land obtained from the Spanish government in the early 1800's, settled close to the stream known today as Byrd's Creek in the township named Byrd township of Cape County. All except Stephen continued to reside in the county until their deaths.

John, an enterprising area resident, constructed a still

house, cotton gin and blacksmith shop, during his lifetime and conducted each until his death in 1816.

Abraham, who married Betsey Gillespie, daughter of a Scotch Presbyterian family, built the stone house on 600 arpens of land, referred to by many today as "the old slave house."

It was while living in the home approximately six miles north of Jackson on the Oak Ridge road that Jackson's forefather, Abraham, helped to formulate Missouri's history as well as the little community (later known as Jackson). Elected to serve the Missouri State Representatives in 1830 and again in 1834, he held a prominent position in drawing up Missouri's constitution.

Working as one of the five commissioners, he helped to purchase the 50 acres from William H. Ashley "in the waters of Hubbell's Creek." Other commissioners for the new seat of justice were John Davis, John Sheppard, S. G. Dunn and Benjamin Shell.

In 1815, a town was planned and named Jackson, after Old Hickory of Tennessee, who had interestingly enough served as a lawyer of Jonesboro, Tenn., during the time the Byrds resided there. Who chose the name, Jackson, for the new seat of justice? Perhaps it was Abraham Byrd who suggested it.

One's imagination can't help but wander and picture daily activities of Abraham and Betsey Byrd while residing in the historic dwelling. The parents of three sons and six daughters, life around the beautifully constructed country home was undoubtedly eventful, with certainly many moments of happiness and sadness. Diaries and family journals are not available; therefore daily accounts are strictly figments.

From Abraham's last will and testament one can gain a bit of insight into the Byrd family's life on Byrd's Creek. Besides the "plantation" of 540 acres on which the family lived, Abraham willed his wife Elizabeth to be given "one mare, Mariah, and all the household furniture... two salves, Nelson and whatever one of the women she may choose." Other parts of his request included the other servants and his children who would receive them.

Today the two-story residence, standing in the shade of a wild pear tree, is bare of the double front porches that once added a colonial charm.

Inside, the two first floor rooms are divided by a wide staircase in the entry hall, which leads to the upstairs floors. Two huge fireplaces, now closed, originally heated the downstairs rooms. Feather beds and many quilts kept the family warm in the upstairs bedrooms. Harlan Dow, present owner of the 126-acre farm resides within and uses a heating stove for the living quarters. Twenty-inch thick walls, a result of the huge native limestone blocks, set out the small windows, also typical of the southern architecture of the time.

Fading in beauty, the old Abraham Byrd house of 1827 will never fade in historical significance. Selected as one of the sites designated on the official Bicentennial map, it will hopefully be preserved as the home of one of Missouri's leading families.

Old House Stands Proud

By MRS. JOHN MARK SCULLY

In 1846 the Rev. Adriel Sherwood, the pastor of the Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau, searched out a site for his new home. He chose 4.55 acres owned by Alfred Ellis whose father, Charles Ellis, had purchased 20 acres from the commissioners of the town of Cape Girardeau when Don Louis Lorimier's estate was settled in 1819.

Rev. Sherwood selected E. B. Deane as the architect. Just seven years earlier Deane had built the Ellis-Wathen-Ranney house on North Main.

The house, at 444 Washington, sits on a hill and faces south to catch all of the summer breezes. Most of the timber used was cut on the property, and all glass and bricks were hand made. Classes in classical languages and that literature which was not offered in schools was taught in the home by Rev. Sherwood in addition to his pastorate duties.

Thomas, his son, was appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Missouri. The Sherwoods left Cape Girardeau before the Civil War.

The Washington Female Seminary, which later settled in the Sherwood home, was chartered by the General Assembly of Missouri 1849. The Rev. David Edward Young Rice was the first principal. Rev. Rice helped the Rev. Robert Barret organize the Presbyterian Church in Jackson in 1843 and reorganized the Presbyterian Church in Cape Girardeau in 1850. He died in 1854 and is buried in old Lorimier Cemetery.

According to an ad in the Cape Girardeau Eagle in 1857, the Washington Female Seminary was still serving the community.

There were two sessions, each five months, beginning the first Wednesday in September and ending the last week in June. Tuition for boarding students was \$65 per session, and for day students the tuition was from \$6 to \$15 per session. Washing per dozen was 50 cents. An additional \$1 was added to the cost of each session to pay for fuel for the classroom.

Prior to the Civil War, Matthew W. Moore, a lawyer and publisher of the Cape Girardeau Eagle, bought the Sherwood home. He and his family left when an unfortunate incident happened to one of his daughters during the early part of the war.

The Civil War -- from 1861 to 1864 -- brought much action to the Sherwood home. During the early part of the war the home served as officers' quarters. One can still see gouges in the stairs made by the officers' spurs.

SMALLPOX HOSPITAL

Later, the home served as a U. S. smallpox hospital. In a military map showing the forts at Cape Girardeau, which was drawn for the Union Army by Capt. Wm. Hoelche, the chief engineer for Missouri, the house is listed as the U. S. smallpox hospital. The map was received by the National Archives on September 27, 1865.

After the war and the needed renovations made, the Washington Female Seminary was moved to the house. The Rev. William Wallis Faris, the Presbyterian minister, held classes there until 1871.

The house was vacant for several years until Alfred Minton purchased the home for his wife and eight children. Although the Mintons did not live there long, the home will be forever referred to in historical books on Missouri as the Sherwood-Minton home.

The house has had several owners during the twentieth century and has even served as a boarding house for SEMO State University female students at one point in it.



Sherwood home, 1846 - Civil War hospital

Southeast Missourian

history. The home is now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Mark Scully and their daughters, Tracy and Heather.

POSTSCRIPT

What's it like to live in an historical home?

When a house is as old as the Sherwood-Minton home, it begins to become a living thing. So much history and so many people's lives are entwined in its structure that perhaps "the walls do have ears."

Stand before the front door, which is almost eight feet tall, and a southerly breeze can almost always be felt. During a high wind, the door "sings," sometimes so loud that it can scare you. Walk into the living room and you will see one of the two remaining fireplaces; originally there were eight. They are very shallow because they were a necessity for heat.

The windows are all made with wooden pegs and are self-locking from the inside. The original glass is wavy with tear drops in it. Speaking of windows, keeping the house warm or cool is no problem. The walls are at least 18 inches thick. In 1846 they did not use insulation, they just built the walls thicker. The ceilings are 11 feet 4 inches tall so heat just doesn't bother a person.

One problem will become evident as you look around -- there are no closets. If you want one, it just must be built. One hundred and twenty-nine years ago, people used wardrobes to hang their clothes in.

If the "walls could talk" maybe they could explain why doors downstairs open all by themselves. Also, they could explain the strange drafts by the stairway where there are no holes. Legend has it that there are ghosts which

move about at night. Perhaps they hide in the tunnel which still exists but is blocked at the entrance.

Maybe these walls could explain why the tunnel was dug and for what reason it was used. Legend says that it was used as an underground railroad during the war. No one seems to know for sure. The walls also could say why

there was a secret room which now is a bathroom. Perhaps one day the secret will be known.

Squeaks and creaks, laughter and tears and a love for something that has witnessed so much -- such is living in an historical home, not just "any old house."

Spring Farm in 125th Year

By **ROBERTA RANNEY**

Spring Farm -- so named because of the many good springs on its tract of land -- is located about two miles southwest of the city limits of Cape Girardeau. It lies on the left of the Ranney-Keller road just a short distance from the Benton Road. The William Caton Ranney family moved to this farm in 1850 from Jackson.

This land was a part of a Spanish land grant to Robert Giboney, who willed part of his grant to his daughter, Elizabeth Giboney Ranney. Children in the Ranney family were Robert Giboney, William Alexander, and Herbert Hathorne.

William Caton Ranney had been admitted to the bar in 1838, and in 1851 was appointed the first judge of the Common Pleas Court in Cape Girardeau.

The house at Spring Farm was completed in 1850, and Mr. and Mrs. Ranney and their children occupied it until 1898. During the next 19 years it was rented out, but in 1917 Clifton Ranney, grandson of William Caton Ranney, bought Spring Farm; his family has occupied it ever since.

Most of the materials used in the building were taken from the farm itself. The timber chosen for most of the house was yellow poplar, which is very strong. Limestone rock used for the foundation also came from the farm. When water pipes were put in many years later, the workmen found the limestone wall of the basement to be 48 inches thick.

The house is a simple two-story frame dwelling with an attic and a cellar -- three rooms in a row on one side of a central hall and the parlor on the other side of the hall, with two rooms upstairs to be used as bedrooms, with two rooms upstairs to be used as bedrooms.

One very nice feature is the gracefully curving stair bannister of solid walnut. Most of the lumber in the house was hand finished, but the bannister appears to have been turned on a lathe.

All the rooms are about the same size, nearly 20 feet square. Fireplaces were used for heating originally. Two porches were included, one on the west side and the other an L-shaped porch on the east side. All the rooms and the porches were plastered.



Spring Farm, 1850 - built by William C. Ranney (first judge of Common Pleas Court)

There are several unusual features of the house. The rafters in the attic are fastened together with wooden pins. Except for the parlor, all the rooms have a closet or closets for storage, a rarity for the mid-1800's. Many of the rooms have a chair rail so that in tilting a chair back against the wall there would be no damage to the plaster.

Another unusual feature of the house is that the ceilings are not as high as those in many older houses. This house was built to last and withstand the rough weather and this it has done.

One of the biggest improvements for the comfort and convenience of the family came when electricity was connected on May 13, 1941, this was followed shortly by a gas furnace, and running water, and a little later, air conditioning.

In the 125 years, this house has weathered many storms and even a tornado or so -- and it is still in good condition for many years to come.

Oliver House Museum

By **LEE MILLER FRONABARGER**

JACKSON -- On the northwest corner of the junction of Adams and Ohio streets here stands a stately two-story brick home constructed prior to the Civil War.

The house, made of handmade bricks, was constructed in 1858 for George W. Ferguson, his wife Sarah Ann and their son Bernard. It was Bernard Ferguson, along with

several other local gentlemen who established the first long distance telephone line in Missouri on Dec. 18, 1877. The telephone line was laid between the county seat of Jackson and the town of Cape Girardeau, some eight miles east.

OLIVER MUSEUM

Today the house is known as the Oliver House Museum. The name is derived from a most distinguished gentle-

man, Robert Burett Oliver, who spent the first 15 years of married life in the house with his wife Marie Elizabeth. Marie (Watkins) Oliver was one of the designers of the Missouri State Flag.



Oliver House Museum, 1852

Robert Burett Oliver began his long career of public service as prosecuting attorney of Cape County in 1878, being reelected in 1880. In 1882 he was elected state senator, and during the 33rd General Assembly (1885) was appointed chairman of the judiciary committee. In 1889 Mr. Oliver was appointed a member of the Board of

Curators of the University of Missouri and reappointed in 1896.

He served as state representative of Cape County in 1902.

Mr. Oliver also aided in the drafting of the original drainage law of the state, making possible the creation of drainage and levee districts in southeast Missouri, which helped turn the swampy lowlands into an agricultural empire.

R. B. Oliver organized in 1926 and was for many years president of the Cape County Historical Society.

Many distinguished guests visited the Olivers while they resided in the house at 218 East Adams. Those of national importance included Gov. David R. Francis of St. Louis who later became secretary of the interior and U. S. Ambassador to Russia, William Jennings Bryan who was a Democratic candidate for president in 1896, and Sen. Cockrell who was a relative of Mrs. Oliver.

STORIES

There are many interesting stories about the Oliver home. A maple tree once stood beside the house next to the bedroom that was tapped for syrup. The Olivers had an ice house in the backyard and ice was chopped from Hubble Creek during the winter to be stored in the ice house. At one time, a cedar tree stood on the property which served as a marker for a stagecoach line.

The beautiful original staircase has been preserved, as well as many of the other architectural features of the home. The structure, of simple, uncluttered design, has a wealth of history worth preserving.

History of Old Bethel

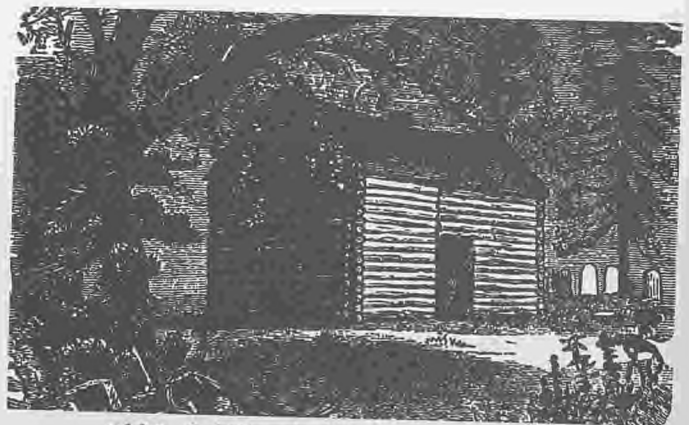
By MRS. EDGAR BOCK

Up from Washington County, Georgia, that spring came a band of pioneers traveling by ox-wagon, horseback, afoot. Kith, kin and connections had pulled up stakes and headed out for Missouri, the "promised land." Among the many making the long trek were these Baptists, John and Frances Hitt, William and Charity Matthews, John and Nancy Sheppard, Thomas and Jane English, Catharine Anderson.

Arriving in Cape Girardeau district, one of the first things they did was get together with other Baptists already here and organize the church called "Bethel." The date was July 19, 1806.

The 15 constituting members were the above-named (excepting Sheppards and Mrs. Matthews) plus the following: David Green, Leanner Green, Agnes Blue (Balleu), Edward Spear, Addison Rogers, Clary Abernathie, Rebecca Randol, William Smith, Thomas Bull (as the names are spelled in the original record.) Organization was quickly effected - in Bulls home 'tis thought - because a minister was at hand, Elder David Green having just moved here from Kentucky. Little did these people dream that they would be rememered 170 years hence for having established the first Protestant church (lasting) west of the Mississippi River.

Much of the information in this sketch comes from the old record book of Bethel called the "Church Book." The first part, which goes back to the beginnings, was transcribed from previous records by Pastor T. P. Green, in 1821. He wrote an introduction in which he states that the earliest Baptist settlers were (his words). "Thomas Bull,



Old Bethel Church, 1813 - organized 1806

Wife, Mother-in-Law, Mrs. Lee in the year 1796 . . ."

"Enos Randall and wife in the year following 1797 (and) Mrs. Abernathie, the wife of John Abernathie Esqr. They lived several years in a forlorn and disconsolate manner . . ."

FORBIDDEN ASSEMBLY

Disconsolate because they could not worship God in their own way. Under Spanish rule Protestants were forbidden to assemble and hold religious services, or to have their own ministers. Occasionally a preacher would venture in to hold private meetings. One such who dared was Elder Thomas Johnson of Georgia.

While preaching southeast of today's Jackson he converted Mrs. Agnes Balleu (the Agnes "Blue" listed as a

charter member of Bethel) and baptized her in Randol's Mill Creek. This is considered the first non-Catholic baptism in all of Louisiana!

In the autumn of 1806 a small log meeting house was erected a mile or so south of Jackson (present day) on Thomas Bull's land. It was replaced in 1813 by a larger, more substantial structure, 30 feet by 24 feet, of hewed poplar logs. This house lasted till long after the Civil War.

In Houck's history Judge W. C. Ranney describes Bethel Church in 1825. He saw a rather low building—eight or nine feet from plank floor or ceiling—with a clapboard roof and a rock chimney at one end. Inside, opposite the fireplace, were some planks nailed up to form a pulpit. Backless benches were made of slabs with legs put through auger holes. The two or three windows had small glass panes. Entrance was on the east side "between the pulpit and fireplace."

Here is a good place to point out that the familiar—and generally accepted—painting: "Old Bethel Church" is not a representation of that historic structure. The building pictured is much too high, the logs are sapling-size, there is no fireplace chimney, and a second door is on the end where a window should be.

Bethel served as a house of worship until 1861, then all sessions were transferred to Mt. Pleasant on Byrd's Creek (northwest of Jackson). The bulk of the membership has shifted to that neighborhood apparently, because for several years prior the monthly conferences were held there "for convenience." After 1867 no more entries were made in the Church Book. As someone poetically put it. "Bethel's candle went out."

The abandoned meeting house stood neglected until the mid-70s when a farmer bought it and moved the sturdy logs a mile, rebuilding them into a barn which was still standing in 1906. Evidently a log was saved for in the late nineties some walking sticks were made from one.

Not only made, but sold, according to an item in a May, 1899, issue of the Cape Girardeau Democrat informing readers that Ed Ruehmann was selling walking cane relics made from the wood of Old Bethel Church, proceeds going "to the Baptist congregation." Actually two gavels were the first mementos carved. One was presented to the general association in 1875 by Dr. J. C. Maple, the other he presented to the Cape Girardeau association in 1910.

Because 1906 was the centennial year for Missouri Baptists, the state association met at Cape Girardeau that fall.

On Oct. 24 some 300 people rode a special train to Jackson, going from there to Bethel Church grounds for the dedication of a commemorative marker. Still intact, that granite stone bears this inscription: "Here stood Bethel Baptist Church, the first permanent non-Catholic

church, west of the Mississippi River." This is followed by the founding date and the founders.

It should be noted that Bethel is historic for a secondary reason as given in Goodspeed. "From March, 1814, until the following year the courts were held at the meeting house on the plantation of Thomas Bull." What a sad commentary on our times that a brushgrown graveyard, two carved gavels, perhaps a walking cane somewhere are all that remain of Bethel church-house.

Two of Bethel's pastors were outstanding men—Wilson Thompson and Thomas P. Green. Though his stay was short, 1812 to 1814, Elder Thompson's influence was long, five churches resulting from Bethel's "arms" extended during his ministry. Ordained at Bethel in January 1812 the time of the earthquake, he immediately began a great revival that spread far (as if the earth shaking had generated a spiritual quaking!). Among the multitude baptized by the great evangelist was his uncle, Benjamin Thompson, who later preached at Bethel for 27 years.

Thomas P. Green, Bethel's notable fourth pastor (1818 to 1826) was advocating an active missionary program before most western churches had heard of Sunday Schools or missionary societies. When a "missionary" was sent to these "heathen" parts in 1818 by the Baptist Foreign Missions Board, he was surprised to find Baptists.

And to find them in an association which, under the aegis of Pastor Green, had already taken up the matter of missions! After Green left, Bethel drifted into anti-missionism—by 1840 had gone the "Hardshell" way.

Among early laymen deserving mention as pillars of Bethel church Thomas Bull, stands out. Some others laying the foundation for their denomination were the Englishes, the Sheppards (two families), the Randols, the Hitts, the Hills, the Matthews, the Thompsons, William Smith (licensed to preach in 1807—the first west of the Mississippi).

In the Minutes of Old Bethel's proceedings the reader can glimpse the independent frontier spirit which found a kinship with the Baptist principles of democracy and local autonomy. Since high moral and ethical standards were upheld, discipline was strict.

Members charged with wrongdoing were cited to appear before the church tribunal to be judged, but a decision was not reached without a thorough investigation. Those who contritely acknowledged their transgressions were forgiven, the defiant were excluded.

There were Baptists in America 170 years before Old Bethel. Today, 170 years after Old Bethel, Baptists abound, still freedom-loving, independent.

Old McKendree Chapel First West of River

By MRS. BEULAH H. RILEY

Today, I visited again Old McKendree Chapel, designated in 1960 as one of the National Shrines of American Methodism. Situated on the Bainbridge Road between Jackson and Cape Girardeau, this shrine is veritably on our doorstep and easily accessible by automobile.

Heretofore my visits to the chapel had been in the company of my contemporaries, mostly fellow Methodists for the service held each year on the lovely grounds surrounding the historic old building. One memorable

occasion was Sept. 10, 1972, when the service commemorated the 188th year of the organization of the Methodist church in America, the 163rd year of the organization of the Methodist Church at McKendree Chapel, and the 153rd year of the building of the chapel.

The Rev. Jeff Marsh, district superintendent of the Cape Girardeau-Farmington district, preacher for the day, used as the basis for his sermon the scripture from Joshua 1:1-7: ". . . Therefore arise, go over the Jordan, you and all the people, into the land which I have given to you . . ."



Old McKendree Chapel, 1819 - oldest Protestant Church west of the Mississippi

Today I was alone. I had purposely made my visit early in the morning before my mind had picked up the inevitable clutter of the daily tasks. There was something unique about this experience.

Webster defines the word shrine as any sacred place or a hallowed object. Near the opening in the fence which surrounds the place is a marker with this inscription, "Old McKendree Chapel, a National Methodist Shrine, built in 1819 to the glory of God. The oldest Protestant Church and the first Methodist Church building still standing West of the Mississippi River. Preserved to this day for posterity through the foresight of dedicated Methodists and friends."

In the beauty of the surroundings and the solitude of the hour I recalled excerpts from the history of the place and "a great cloud of witnesses" walked with me.

Following a camp meeting which had been conducted by the Rev. Samuel Parker, presiding elder of the district, and the Rev. Thomas Wright, pastor of the circuit, the church was organized in July 1809. Camp meetings were used for assembling the congregation on this spot which was part of the farm owned by William Williams, until 1819, when construction of the building was begun.

Huge poplar logs were used for the walls and the floor was of sawed planks. Multi-paned windows, carefully fitted into frames, provided light and the great fireplace made the chapel comfortably warm on cold days. Dr. Frank C. Tucker in his book, "The Methodist church in Missouri," provides us with the names of the carpenters who worked at this historic construction site - Charnal Glasscock, "boss carpenter," James Gibony and a Mr. Shelby.

Construction was completed in time to convene the Missouri Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in September 1819. The chapel was considered a great improvement over the brush arbors of the camp meetings previously used. It was the finest and largest meeting house in the Western country and was a symbol of the growing strength of the Methodist movement in this region.

It is not certain why the name McKendree was chosen. It is known that Bishop William McKendree, a strong leader in early Methodism, had been present at one of the camp meetings and perhaps for that reason his name was given to the chapel.

The meeting in 1819 was the first time the Missouri Conference had convened on Missouri soil. Bishop Enoch George presided and John Scripps, the first man to enter the ministry from Cape County, was the secretary. Delegates elected at this conference were Samuel H. Thompson, Jesse Walker and John Scripps, the first to attend the general conference.

The State of Missouri was admitted to the Union Aug.

10, 1821, and on Oct. 17 of that year the Missouri Conference was again held at Old McKendree, thus giving the chapel the distinction of being the seat of the first session of an annual conference ever held in Missouri after it became a state.

Regular services in the building ceased around 1890. In 1926, the Rev. William Stewart, pastor of New McKendree Church in Jackson, led his parishioners in a movement to restore the old building. He was joined in this effort by Fred Naeter and other Methodists of Cape Girardeau. In 1932 the McKendree Chapel Memorial Association was organized.

Funds secured by this group were used in the first step toward restoring the old building. New stone piers strengthened the foundation, joists and rafters were replaced, a sawed oak floor was laid, the fireplace rebuilt, windows repaired and a roof of hand-made shingles was added. In October 1933 the restoration had sufficiently progressed to have the service of rededication. This has been an annual ceremony since that date.

Other fund raising campaigns have been necessary to carry out the restoration program. In 1958 a steel canopy was erected over the fragile structure. Later a parsonage was built for a curator. The old spring which had been the only source of water throughout the years was cleaned and a protective masonry wall was built around it. Recently it has been necessary to dig a deep well to provide running water for toilet facilities which are being planned.

A stone marker on the grounds reads, "This well made possible by the sale of the Zalma United Methodist Church, 1975." A concrete fire-proof building will soon be constructed for a museum to be used as a depository for records and memorabilia accumulated since 1819. Arthur F. Deneke of Jackson heads this committee.

For several years the Rev. and Mrs. H. R. Tate occupied the parsonage which is near the chapel. The Rev. Tate served as curator until ill health made it necessary for him to resign. Two years ago Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Bollinger accepted responsibility for the care of the old shrine and are now there to direct and inform the many visitors who come daily to the sacred spot.

Officers for the board of trustees for the Old McKendree Association are: Sylvester Nothdurft, president, Harry Naeter, vice president, Leonard Peerman, secretary, and John K. Hale, treasurer.

"This is a hallowed place" is in the mind of the visitor leaving the chapel.

One is impressed, not by the beauty of the interior of the building but by the strength which has made it impervious to the passage of time. The huge, hewn logs are exposed, even lacking the coats of white-wash; the many-paned windows admit the sun's rays, revealing every defect on the sturdy walls and the plank floor. The old pews, marching in two straight rows from back to front, although old, show little sign of wear. Additional pews, thought to be the original ones, face each other on either side of the great stone fireplace.

No attempt has been made to make the interior attractive by modern standards. The starkness and strength constitute the beauty of it. Sitting on one of these old pews it is easy to imagine one of the old Isaac Watts' hymns being sung by the stout-hearted pioneers who planted Methodism West of the Mississippi - "Alas, and did my Saviour bleed, and did my Sovereign die? Would He devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?"

The heavy wooden latch which bolts the door is indicative of the primitive condition of the shrine. On the exterior the logs are hidden by weather-beaten boards, showing long exposure to the elements. The birth place of Methodism in Missouri stands strong. It is indeed "a hallowed place"!!

St. Vincent's History Impressive

By MARIE HEYE

The first record of Catholic religious work done in Cape Girardeau under the Vincentian Fathers was in May 1821. Services were held in the home of D. F. Steinbeck, son-in-law of Louis Lorimier. For a period of years, the priests of St. Mary's Seminary, Perryville, made frequent visits to Cape Girardeau to administer to the spiritual needs of the Catholic people.

Father John Timon, ordained a Vincentian in 1825, was assigned to work in Perry and Cape Counties. Through his untiring efforts, the number of Catholics increased. In March 1833 the Superiors of the Congregation of the Mission purchased land in Cape Girardeau in preparation for establishing a permanent parish. Land was also acquired for the establishment of the St. Vincent's Male Academy, the forerunner of St. Vincent's College.



St. Vincent's College, 1843 - second oldest seminary west of the Mississippi

Southeast Missourian

St. Vincent's Male Academy was founded on Oct. 22, 1838, by Rev. John Odin, C.M. His successor, Father Michael Domenech, C.M., immediately sought to make St. Vincent's Male Academy a college. On Feb. 27, 1843, the General Assembly of the State of Missouri by a legislative act incorporated St. Vincent's College and empowered it to grant any degree offered by American colleges and universities. In 1910, the college department was discontinued. Since then, the institution has continued to operate as a minor seminary, a high school for young men aspiring for the priesthood in the Vincentian Community.

MISSION GREW

The mission in Cape Girardeau continued to grow and in 1836 became an organized parish under the patronage of St. Vincent de Paul, founder of the Congregation of the Mission. Rev. John Odin, C.M., was the first resident priest.

A new church was constructed of native stone and completed in 1839. It was consecrated on July 21 of the same year by Bishop Rosati, C.M. On Nov. 27, 1850, the church was destroyed by a tornado.

Within six months, a new church was under construction upon the site of the original church. The stone of the old church was used for the foundation of the present church. The cornerstone was laid by Bishop Peter Richard Kenrick of St. Louis, July 27, 1851. The completed church was consecrated on June 12, 1853, by the same prelate.

Prior to the construction of the flood wall, St. Vincent's Church, which stands about 200 yards from the Miss-



St. Vincent's Church, 1851

issippi River, commanded a most excellent view of the majestic river. It was considered one of the most impressive sights between St. Louis and Memphis, Tenn.

St. Vincent's Church faces the Mississippi River at the northeast corner of Spanish and William streets. It is predominately Gothic in design with some Roman influence appearing. The pews in the church are the original pews. The communion rail is also the original. It is of iron grille work with a solid walnut top.

Another noteworthy feature of the church is the main altar. It is built on its own foundation and is not supported by the floor. The altar stone contains relics of four Saints - Peter, Paul, Andrew and Vincent. These relics were received from Rome shortly before the consecration of the present church.

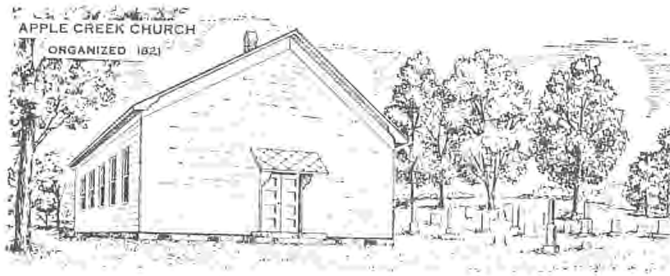
The hand carved doors in the front of the church were presented to the parish in 1926 in memory of Mary Rozier Harrison. They are massive, solid oak doors measuring three and one-fourth inches in thickness.

Changes have been made throughout the 100-plus years. In 1905, the then tall steeple was struck by lightning. After its reconstruction, it was again struck by lightning in 1912. The present shorter steeple was then raised.

The outside of the church at various times was painted, stuccoed, the stucco removed and painted again. During the complete renovation in 1951, the paint was removed, the bricks water-proofed and stained, and the entire building tuckpointed. The interior was redone and restored to as nearly its original design as possible. Modern lighting and heating were installed.

Since then air-conditioning has been added. Throughout the years, the parishoners have sought to preserve their beautiful church as a historical landmark for future generations.

Historic Apple Creek Church



Historic Apple Creek Church, organized 1821

By J. R. HENDERSON

The Apple Creek Presbyterian church was organized a short distance east of Pocahontas at what was once called the Baldrige Spring, known then as Uncle Joseph Abernathy Spring. There is woods of large oak trees, using rock which extends some two feet above the ground as a rostrum, the Rev. Salmon Giddings sat while acting as moderator of the gathering. This place is about one-fourth mile northwest of the present church.

The record states the following was adopted at the gathering.

"Being desirous of enjoying the benefits of the ordinances of religion which God has instituted, and, in order to maintain divine and public worship, live more to his glory and promote each other's growth in grace and spiritual comfort, we, the undersigned, mutually unite together in church relation and covenant knows by the Presbyterian Church of Christ on Apple Creek. We also promise, as God shall give us grace, to watch over each other in the Lord, to conduct in the spirit of Christian meekness, to walk as becometh saints before the world, to maintain the worship of God in our families, and to attend to all the ordinances and means of grace which God hath appointed to observe in his church."

Fifty persons are on the charter membership roll of the church. Thirty-eight were added up to and including 1830.

In 1826, the Rev. John Mathews was called for two years. For one half of his time he was to receive \$150 annum, two-thirds in produce at cash price and one-third in money.

The book containing the session minutes of Apple Creek Church was burned with the pastor's house and library on Feb. 6, 1833. The pastor was the Rev. John F. Cowan.

In 1822, a log building was erected near the northwest corner of the old cemetery, on the road leading by the spring and on the road to the southeast. It was used as a church for about 10 years and was known and used as the session room until Sept. 23, 1843. While used as a church the seats were rented and the record states that one year the seats were rented for \$9.24½.

A second church was built in 1831. It was a large frame structure with doors in the ends and sides and stood about 200 yards southeast of the present church. It was covered with shingles made by the members. Although enclosed and used for services, the inside was not finished for nearly 10 years.

In 1845, a pretentious parsonage was built three-fourths mile southeast of Shawneetown. It was used for 15 years and then sold.

In the early 1830's began the outcropping of the "Great Cause" which in 1838 caused the division of the Presbyterian

Church and in 1860-65 almost caused the disruption of the nation. The first rumblings of the historic cause were heard in Apple Creek Church when the Re. J. M. Covington, who labored here for one-fourth of his time prior to 1833, charged that the Doctrine of Christian Responsibility was repugnant to many of the members and some of the session.

The dissatisfaction grew during the ministry of Mr. Cowan (1833-37) until there were two parties in Apple Creek Church. On June 10, 1833, the session resolved that "it would be conducive to the peace and good order of our church if the Rev. J. F. Cowan would desist from writing us or intermeddling in our affairs." Mr. Cowan was dismissed as pastor.

Presbytery appointed a commission to attempt to restore harmony. The effort of the commission was not successful and the church was divided. About half of the congregation became the North Apple Creek Church and the others the South Apple Creek Church. The record gives a long attempt of the two groups to arrive at a settlement of which one would become the owner of the property and offers of payment by one group to the other. There is no record in any of the minutes of the final settlement.

In 1832 when the synod of Missouri was organized, Apple Creek Presbyterian Church was the largest Presbyterian congregation outside of St. Louis west of the Mississippi River.

On the membership roll of 1843 are the names of a Negro man, Lawson, two Negro women, Rachel and Dorcas, and Samson Burch, an Indian of the Choctaw tribe.

This account of the early history of Apple Creek would not be complete without mention of disciplinary action brought against some members. Feb. 13, 1849, a member appeared before the session and admitted he had used profane language unbecoming a Christian.

He was admonished to be more careful.

Session records give account of long church trials in which the defendant was accused of serious offenses such as stealing and various acts unbecoming a Christian. After each trial the decision of the session was read from the pulpit.

It is not known exactly how many persons have been buried in the large cemetery adjoining the church grounds. We are told that in one section many were buried without grave markers during the cholera epidemic. A list of grave stones made by the Rev. William G. Gammon and also one made by Mrs. A. D. Ferguson gives the names on 516 tomb stones. The earliest burial recorded is that of Charles H. Harris who died May 7, 1825.

Most of this brief sketch of the first 30 years in the life of Apple Creek Church has been taken from the book of session records from 1839 to 1857. However, this is just the beginning, because additional volumes of session records of this church goes to 1962 when the church was dissolved. During most of this 105 years this church was very active with a minister and regular church services. Because many members moved from the community to Jackson, Cape Girardeau and all parts of the United States, the membership fell to about 24 and Potosi Presbytery decided to dissolve the church in 1962.

The Apple Creek Presbyterian Memorial Association has management of the property under the supervision of Presbytery as set out in the constitution and by-laws. A worship service, "Big Meeting at Apple Creek," as the day has always been called, is still held the third Sunday in May and another service is held in the fall.

The Second Baptist Church

By THE REV. WESLEY T. TILLMAN

Although the Second Baptist Church congregation erected its present church building at 428 South Frederick in 1874, it had been organized in 1867 as the Missionary Baptist Church, and carried that name well into this century.

Prior to the Civil War, members of the First Baptist Church (which has been organized in 1834) who owned slaves or had black servants encouraged them to attend that church, and the blacks held membership in that congregation.

After the war, however, matters changed. Some accounts say that the black Baptists decided they wanted to meet separately from the members of the "Mother Church." Other accounts say they were "lettered out" (released from membership by being given a written statement) of the First Baptist Church, which then became all-white.

For eight or nine years, the black Baptists met in the homes of members of the congregation. Then, in 1873, a lot at the northwest corner of South Frederick and Jefferson streets was purchased from Mrs. Amanda Giboney Brown (presumably the widow of Dr. Wilson Brown, who was serving as lieutenant-governor of Missouri at his death in 1855).

Rev. John T. Kelly was pastor of the church in 1874, and although records are incomplete, it is thought that he may have organized the congregation.

Dates are not available for every pastor, but the men who have ministered to the church include: Rev. Kelly, Rev. Phillips, Rev. J. H. Price, Rev. Jerry Henderson, Rev. Russell, Rev. Paul L. Parks (who had been pastor more than 20 years when he died in 1913).

Rev. M. Owens, Rev. William Cole (1916), Rev. W. H. Hall (1918), Rev. W. F. Bell (1920; he died while serving), Rev. William Reeves (1924), Rev. A. Simmons, Rev. I.T. Hack, Rev. A. W. Conklin (1930), Rev. Little (1933), Rev. N. N. Fields (1937), Rev. W. I. Sheppard (1940;



Second Baptist Church, 1874

he died while pastoring).

Rev. George Bell (1951), Rev. E.G. Hayes (1954), Rev. Owen H. Whitfield (1956), Rev. C. B. Mallory (1962), Rev. W. E. Pitts (1962), Rev. E.I. Jennings (1966), and Rev. Wesley T. Tillman (1967).

During the pastorate of Rev. Russell, a parsonage was erected immediately to the north of the church; both church and parsonage have been renovated many times.

Through the years, many special events have marked the church's history. During October, 1957, for example, four special services were held commemorating the 83rd anniversary.

Many things have been done to add to the beautification of the church. These things have been done in humility with the gracious support of the loyal members of the Second Baptist Church.

Education Prior to Civil War

By LARRY J. EASLEY

Assistant Professor of History SEMO State University

In this year of the Bicentennial it has become fashionable to look back at the American past to see where we have been and how far we have come.

If there is any area of our life that would merit a comparative essay it should certainly be in the realm of education. We take it as almost axiomatic that our young should spend nine months of every year in the classroom digesting a vast quantity of information on every field from geography to physics. Those who do not spend at least 12 years in school are simply unable to function in our fast-paced, complex society.

This system of education has been a fairly recent phenomena. Compulsory education for a nine month period has been part of our lives in Missouri only since 1908 and education paid for entirely through public taxes was not started until 1867.

Before the Civil War education in southeast Missouri was haphazard and of unequal quality. We were largely a rural society where hard work was more important than the elements of "book learning."



Old pioneer school house in early 1800's

Of the four job categories listed on the 1840 census the vast majority in the Cape Girardeau Township were listed as being in agriculture. Of the entire population over 20 years of age in the Cape Girardeau area, nearly 25 per cent were totally illiterate.

The Constitution of the new State of Missouri tried to encourage education and called for the setting up of at least one "gratis" school for every township in the state. To further encourage educational development the state set aside the money from the sale of one section in every sixteen to be used to fund a state appropriation to each school district.

It was 1842 before adequate funds were available for such distribution. At that time an appropriation was given amounting to 60 cents for every child between eight and 16 enrolled in a qualifying school. In 1835 the first comprehensive school law was passed in the state calling for a state board of education, at least six months operation for every school, and payment for the schools to be made out of a county fund set up on the basis of a three and one-half cent tax on each one hundred dollars valuation.

Since the law called for a two-thirds majority of the voters for the tax to go into force, the people of Cape Girardeau and southeast Missouri did not carry the law into action. In 1853 Missouri's laws concerning education were again revised.

For southeast Missouri the most important change involved the establishment of a "county" rather than a township system with a county school commissioner to maintain educational standards. There was also a stipulation that 20 per cent of all state revenues would be apportioned for school use. Despite this state encouragement Cape Girardeau did not develop what we would call free public education until 1867 since tuition charges made up the disparity between the state appropriation and the actual cost of operation.

RAMSAY'S SCHOOL

Even before Missouri became a part of the United States English speaking schools were being established by Americans moving into the Spanish held territory. A Virginia slave owner named Andrew Ramsay applied for a grant of land from the Spanish government and was given a large tract abutting that of Don Luis Lorimier. On his land near Mount Tabor Park, Ramsay erected a small log structure for the education of his and other English speaking children in the neighborhood.

According to tradition, this became the first English speaking school west of the Mississippi River.

In frontier schools of this variety no records were kept and the curriculum was irregular. It was the custom to hire a teacher for the smallest sum possible and the price was often paid in potatoes, onions and chickens.

Teachers were "farmed out" to one or more families who had children in the school as part of his pay and their tuition. There were no standards set on education or teaching excellence except those that might be demanded by the local people. The general public was not expected to help provide for the education of other people's children and if a family wished to have its rudiments imparted to their young they were forced to start their own schools through "subscription."

These subscription schools taught little beyond the "3 r's" and were often of short duration. A teacher might drift through the area and start a school in a loft or church basement and for a few short months a school would be active. Even those schools that were established on a more permanent basis were operated only during the winter months when little productive work could be done.

This led an early traveler and educator named John Peck to observe that 75 per cent of all schools in southeast Missouri should be classified as "public nuisances" and that most of the teachers should be arrested.

S. R. Brown, who compiled a guide for those wishing to go west, warned his readers going to southeast Missouri that they should take note of the deplorable educational facilities. As late as 1853 less than half the children of school age attended any school at all.

ABOVE AVERAGE

Since Cape Girardeau and Jackson were organized settlements their schools were somewhat better than the average. Both towns were, however, quite small. In 1805 Cape Girardeau still had only 19 families living in the town and was little more than a store and hotel. Perhaps as early as 1800 a school was started within the city limits somewhere near the old St. Charles hotel.

The Mount Tabor school was still active and many of the children who attended school were sent there. For a short duration Joseph McFerron, one of Cape Girardeau's most colorful citizens, taught in the Mount Tabor school.

McFerron was noted more for his participation in one of Missouri's first duels and as being one of Missouri's most prolific poets than as a teacher.

In 1815, the same year the town was founded, a subscription school was started in Jackson. In 1820 they were granted a charter for the establishment of one of Missouri's first academies, but due to financial problems the academy did not become a reality for some years.

Since there were no high schools in the state, these academies served those going beyond the basic elementary education. The founding of the academy in Jackson indicates Jackson's desire to provide educational opportunities beyond the minimum.

In 1834 Cape Girardeau began to seriously establish a school system with the building of a small brick school near Fountain and Merriwether. In 1839 a Catholic order of nuns established St. Vincent's Young Ladies Academy which catered to the further education of young women of quality. By 1843 Cape Girardeau followed Jackson's lead and established an academy for young men.

Five years later a "Female Academy" was founded for the few young ladies who might be interested. Both academies were housed in the old Ellis Hotel for much of their early history and were later moved to new quarters in a church basement.

By the start of the Civil War, with the addition of Trinity Lutheran Elementary School and St. Vincent's College, there were at least six educational facilities operating in Cape Girardeau. Though several of these were rather small and finances were a continual problem, they were the first step toward the fine educational system enjoyed in Cape Girardeau today.

Education in Cape County

By DR. WESLEY A. DENEKE

Professor Emeritus of Psychology SEMO State University

The early settlers of Cape County resided on farms within the radius of 100 miles. They came to the several mills that had been established in the county by Lorimier, Rodney, Hubble, the Byrds and Frederick Bollinger.

Ithamar Hubble had settled in what is now the town of Gordonville in 1797; Frederick Bollinger at the present site of Burfordville in 1800; William Daugherty opened up a plantation near the present City of Jackson about 1795; and the Byrd's northwest of Jackson in 1799 on the creek that still bears their name. Around these settlements smaller communities sprang up. The immigration increased rapidly during the earlier part of the 19th century, with many of the new settlers being of Teutonic descent.

Up in the northern part of Cape County near the present village of Shawneetown, the Indians maintained a camp or village, from which a trail road led to Cape Girardeau south and on to Ste. Genevieve north. Another trail leading west from the Mississippi crossed the first mentioned trail at this Indian Village. It is probably the beginning of Shawneetown as we know it today. In 1805 a road was established from Lorimier's Ferry (Cape Girardeau) to the farms of William Daugherty near the present site of Jackson.

The beginning of small towns was usually centered around some individual leader, some specific industry or the concentration of people of a common religious faith or belief. After the departure of the Indians in 1857 from what is now Pocahontas, Sam Green opened a general store at a crossroads nine miles north of Jackson.

At a later time when the postoffice was established, the postmaster named the town after the Indian princess who had saved the life of John Smith at Jamestown. The community around Pocahontas was principally settled by emigrants from North Carolina, and was known for many years as the Old North Carolina Neighborhood. Almost all who settled here at this time were of sturdy Scotch-Irish descent.

When the early Presbyterians met in Caledonia in 1816 in the Bellevue Valley of Washington County, they thereby established the first Presbyterian Church, west of the Mississippi River and the oldest in Missouri. Shortly after this time there was also organized on May 21, 1821, the Apple Creek Presbyterian Church near Pocahontas, which is known today as the third oldest Presbyterian Church in Missouri.

In 1803 according to Houck's History of Missouri the Rev. Samuel Wyberg came from North Carolina and preached the first German Protestant sermon ever heard in this territory. Then on July 19, 1806, the Rev. Daniel Green, a Virginian, organized Bethel Baptist Church at the house of Thomas Bull near Hubble Creek. This was the first Protestant Church west of the Mississippi, other than the German Reformed Church organized by the Rev. Wyberg. Several decades later the Missouri Baptist Association held a celebration on this spot where the church formerly stood and there erected a monument.

The early Methodists began holding camp meetings for several years, three miles east of Jackson.

The Old McKendree Methodist Church was organized in 1810. In 1819 a church building was erected which still stands on its original spot. After the erection of the building, regular services were held in this building for 83 years.

As we turn to the western boundary of the county we find that the German Lutherans began to settle along the Whitewater River. They preserved their nationality and their language. Most of these persons came from Pennsylvania while others came by boat via New Orleans to Cape Girardeau and then west. The great majority of Lutherans came from Germany.

In the 50s and continuing after the Civil War, hundreds of Germans came direct to this country from the Fatherland. They brought with them their language, the customs of their fathers and above all they held sacred their ideals and their religious faith.

In the central and southern parts of the county the first settlers came from the Carolinas and other eastern states. But about 1836 a good many immigrants from north Germany and Switzerland settled among them, especially in and around Gordonville, Tilsit and Dutchtown. Some immigrants came from Hanover and from Braunschweig. They settled mostly north of Cape Girardeau near Egypt Mills.

In 1900, records show 60 to 75 per cent of the county, exclusive of Jackson and Cape Girardeau, was German or of German descent.

A strong interest arose in some German communities to establish a German school. Schools were organized, financed and administered by the local congregation. Major emphasis was based upon the teaching of the Bible and on church doctrine in addition to the fundamentals taught in private English schools or in the English Public School.

In some communities, prior to the establishment of the German Parochial School, sufficient members of English descent had already settled in the community to establish an English Public School. At first this new school was a log hut with a few wooden benches and without any teaching materials. Teachers were not available, or untrained, and length of terms were only two or three months. There were practically no funds to finance the school.

The outbreak of the Civil War was a setback for the development of the rural schools. After the Civil War a new demand arose with increased intensity to educate all boys and girls in the public elementary schools.

To begin with, the schools were mostly on a charity basis. Some of them were called Subscription Schools. The quality of instruction was on a very low level. The public desired better qualified teachers.

The state demanded trained teachers and insisted teachers must hold a certificate secured only by passing a state teachers examination or by attending some college, some teaching institute or a State Normal School. Gradually the pressure for financial aid on a state wide basis appeared both on the state and on the local level.

As we approached the end of the 19th century the American public school was improving both in quantity and in quality. It had become a predominant influence in the American community, growing by leaps and bounds. It was now a vital influence in our democracy. By the end of the 19th century the number of elementary schools of our county reached 70 to 75 in number.

According to legal statutes of the State of Missouri each rural school district is governed by an elected board of three members, who are elected at the annual meeting in April for a term of three years. Legal provision has also been made by Missouri laws to provide some legal financing through a local tax levy and through a state tax for the funding of rural schools.

After the State Normal School had been established in

Cape Girardeau, the college provided a teacher training program which would train the future teachers of Missouri and also assist those who were interested in securing a valid teaching certificate.

An elected county superintendent of schools was the administrative officer of all rural schools of the county. A list of the five most recently elected superintendents of the county and who have served in that capacity were; Thomas E. Joyce, Tom McNeely, James T. McDonald, Otto C. Kiehne and Edwin C. Sander.

The office of county superintendent of schools was finally abolished by the legislature, effective on July 1, 1974, for all counties of Missouri. The last person to serve in that capacity in Cape County was Edwin C. Sander.

During the term of office of the county superintendent, his duties included supervision of the rural schools of the county; visitation of all elementary schools; executive offices of education of the county; counseling with teachers, school board members, patrons and serving as legal adviser for all concerned.

During the 19th century the rural school had become the social center of the community. All kinds of community gatherings of farmers' meetings, public discussions of a statewide nature, etc., were held in the school building. Many programs given by pupils of the school, such as spelling matches, ciphering matches, box suppers, pie suppers, 4-H club programs, inter-school basketball games, PTA meetings, singing conventions, entertainments of varied types, etc. In some cases, because of the lack of a church building it also served as a place for Sunday school or church service.

With the increase of qualified teachers and with state emphasis on an improved curriculum, together with better materials of instruction, the boys and girls were instructed to complete a full year's work during each of the eight grades of school, so that they would be qualified to pass the eighth grade examination at the conclusion of eight years of instruction. Upon passing this examination, these students were then qualified to enter the ninth grade of an approved high school or of an equivalent institution.

About 1900, a number of growing communities were becoming interested in offering some additional school work beyond the eight grade covering certain subjects as algebra, English, science and history. Therefore for several years some communities were offering this work on an unapproved type and their students would receive some college credit when entering a college.

After several years, full approval as third class high schools was allowed by the state with full eight units of credit for transfer purposes. This approval was granted to Gordonville, Egypt Mills, Indian Creek, Pochontas and Randles.



Oak Ridge High School, 1874 - first public high school building in Cape Girardeau County

The community of Oak Ridge offered high school work of an approved nature beginning in 1874. It was a two-year high school then and later became a three year high school. In 1921-1922 it became an approved four year high school offering 16 units of credit for graduation.

By 1939 the school was offering 22 units. The school has continued to expand its offerings and is the oldest high school in the county and one of the oldest in the state.

The 64th General Assembly by passing Senate Bill No. 307 enacted into law a request for the county board of education to submit a reorganization plan for the public schools of Cape County.

After a thorough study made by said county board, the recommended study is hereby proposing that the 75 rural districts and five high school units of Cape County form three administrative areas as follows:

-Cape Girardeau plus nine rural districts. This would establish a district with an assessed valuation of approximately \$14 million, and with a school population of 3,182. This would provide approximately \$4,400 of taxable wealth per child enrolled in school.

-Jackson plus Oak Ridge and 52 rural districts. (Note: This proposed plan was later modified to authorize Oak Ridge to maintain its high school, independent of Jackson.) This new Jackson district would have an assessed valuation of \$7 million and a school population of 1,682. There would be \$4,200 in assessable wealth per child enrolled in this district.

-Delta plus Randles and 14 rural districts. This proposed district would have an assessed valuation of approximately \$4 million and a school population of 938. This would be \$4,800 per child in school to support the educational program for this district.

St. Vincent's Young Ladies Academy

By HAZEL HUHNS HARRISON

On the brow of the hill at the corner of Spanish and Good Hope streets, from the mid 1800s until 1923, there stood an imposing four-story red brick school - the home of St. Vincent's Young Ladies Academy. The building and grounds occupied most of the east side of the block between Good Hope and William streets. The structure faced the river in the same manner as did the older homes and buildings on South Spanish street. Of these only the old Osterloh House by the Mississippi River bridge, the St.

Vincent's Church and the St. Vincent's College remain standing.

The St. Vincent's Academy was operated and staffed by the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross, a religious order having its origin in Kentucky in 1812, and being the first order of teaching nuns organized in this country. From a nucleus of fine, educated, and dedicated young women, who were determined to bring knowledge to the youth of a pioneer community on Hardin Creek in Washington County, Kentucky, there developed a flourishing teaching order of nuns who now have their

motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky.

The first expansion of this order outside of Kentucky was in the young State of Missouri, Bishop DuBourg of the St. Louis Diocese, impressed with the record of the Loretines in Kentucky, asked their founder, the Rev. Nerinckx, for a group of the teachers to open a school in Missouri. The request was granted and on May 12, 1823, 12 sisters set out from Louisville for their trip to Missouri.

After six unpleasant days on the river they landed in Perry County near St. Marys about 12 miles from their destination at the "Barrens" near Perryville. They were deeded 45.5 acres of land near a spring by Joseph Manning. On this acreage, the people of Perry County, with help from the priests and seminarians of St. Marys Seminary, erected a convent building. When it was completed the Rev. Joseph Rosati blessed the building and because of its evident poverty, called it "Bethlehem."



St. Vincent's Young Ladies Academy, 1851

Fifteen years after the establishment in Perry County the Vincentian Fathers of Cape Girardeau desired teachers from the Loretines as co-workers and requested their presence. On Oct. 28, 1838, seven sisters and five

boarders from "Bethlehem" in Perry County arrived in Cape Girardeau and the first expansion of the Loretines in Missouri was begun as a mother-daughter relationship.

The Rev. John Brand, pastor of St. Vincent's Church, vacated his rectory for the sisters' use. They first established a day school but early in 1839 purchased a large frame building on the hill at Good Hope and Spanish streets from a Mr. Horrell and in April of 1839, with their boarding students, took up residence. With construction of an additional building for classrooms and dormitory use the boarding school for girls was opened.

The sisters called their school St. Vincent's in honor of the patron saint of the Lazarists' Fathers church. Information from the archivist at the Kentucky Motherhouse stated that a Mr. Doyle built the academy.

Enrollment increased and the school was looking forward to better days when the tornado of 1850 struck Cape Girardeau. The sisters' chapel was completely demolished, roof and porches were torn away and classrooms were damaged. Again the sisters were almost destitute. Rebuilding was begun and there emerged the final structure remembered by older residents of Cape Girardeau.

Despite almost unbelievable hardship, religious prejudice and political harassment following adoption of the Drake Constitution, the academy expanded and became the first outstanding school for young ladies west of the Mississippi River. Students came from many states. Enrollment included young ladies from Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri and California, daughters and granddaughters of former graduates who wished their children to attend the academy they loved.

Time passed. The sisters celebrated both their golden and diamond jubilees. With the availability of new schools, both public and private, enrollment at St. Vincent's decreased but expenses increased.

In 1923 it was deemed advisable to close this institution and on July 5, 1923, the alumni held a farewell dinner for sisters and friends. In 1930 the building was wrecked and the land sold in 1940. This ended an institution that had contributed so much to the education of young ladies West of the Mississippi River.

Carlisle Had Fine Reputation

By J. R. HENDERSON

The Carlisle Training School was established by the Charleston District of the Methodist Church in Jackson about 1894, Enrollment in 1898 was 83.

The faculty consisted of the Rev. Willis Carlisle, principal; Carrie P. Carlisle, Edmund C. Cooke; Gordon Pluckett; Benjamin A. Thaxter; O. M. Schoebel, and Irmine Gunsul. Serving on the board of directors were the Rev. M. H. Moore, presiding elder of the Charleston District; the Rev. W. B. North; Col. H. H. Williams; A. R. Byrd; W. D. Henderson; D. B. Seibert; R. G. Applegate, and Dr. R. T. Henderson.

The first graduates were Miss Margaret Ruff (Mrs. Sherman Haupt), Miss Adelaide LaPierre, Glen Seibert, Miss Christine Medley, Miss Emma Howard (Mrs. Hunter Byrd), Joseph H. Byrd and A. R. Byrd.

The objective of the school, said the 1896 yearbook, was to "train young men and young women, to give them that mental discipline, that knowledge, that will enable them to enter any school in the state, and to give them this discipline and training much cheaper than can be done in

college towns where board is high..."

Furthermore, the yearbook quoted, the school's purpose was to "prepare the great army of young people who can spend a limited time in school, to enter more actively into the duties of life by giving them, in as short a time as possible, a thorough preparation."

Total expenses for two terms at the school, including meals and room, was \$150.

Citing growth and development as "essential as mental growth," it was noted the school, at great expense, provided a room 80 by 30 by 15 feet with mattresses, trapezes, ladders, dumb bells, Indian clubs and the like. In charge was a "gentlemen who has had direction of contestants in Illinois University of Champaign."

Property and school buildings of the old facility were located where the Jackson High School now stands.

The following account is given in the 1898 yearbook: "Oct. 1 at 4 a.m. the night watchman of the town discovered our building - a large, airy, roomy two-story brick - to be on fire. At 9 a.m. promptly all the students responded to the chapel bell, and the building in which, only a few hours before, they were sleeping in fancied

security was nothing but ashes and bricks.

"From this time forward not a single recitation was lost. The citizens threw open their homes to our teachers and students, and on Monday, Oct. 4, temporary quarters were occupied until March, when we moved to our new three-story brick. Now we have a commodious building,

planned especially for boarding school purposes. It is due the citizens of Jackson to say that this present building is owing largely to their unselfish gifts."

In 1899 the Carlisle Training School was closed and the property was leased to the Jackson Military Academy and School of Fine Arts for a term of years.

Jackson Military Academy



Jackson Military Academy, 1838 - served three Jackson educational institutions

By J. R. HENDERSON

In 1899 the Carlisle Training School in Jackson closed and a new organization leased its buildings and grounds. This institution became known as the Jackson Military Academy and School of Fine Arts. The enrollment was 85 students. The dormitory accommodated 50 cadets, 10 cadets lived at home in Jackson, and about 25 women were enrolled and lived at home.

The following account of the academy is given in the 1908 school publication:

"The academy is located at Jackson, Missouri county seat of Cape County, on the high and healthful Ozark ridge. Jackson is a thriving city of 2,500 inhabitants, with electric lights and city water works, the northern terminus of the Allenville branch of the Iron Mountain Railroad.

"The academy building is a handsome, steam-heated brick structure, three stories high, perched on the crest of a lovely knoll, overlooking the City of Jackson. During the past year we have installed a thoroughly modern acetylene gas lighting plant. A large campus, abundantly supplied with fine shade trees, furnishes ample space for drill, recreation and sports. The chapel occupies the third floor of the academy building and furnishes an excellent place for recitals, and other entertainment, while elegant double parlors are found on the first floor.

"Our aim shall continue to be, first, to prepare students thoroughly and rapidly for entrance into any department of

the university, meeting squarely, and in many cases, surpassing the demands made upon the approved schools; second, to surround the pupil with the atmosphere and environments that unconsciously influence lives to higher ideals; third, to give students a commercial course that enables them to enter at once into any phase of business life; fourth, a shorthand and typewriting course that fits the student for office work or court reporting and fifth, to give thorough and modern instruction in music, art and elocution. Military training and athletics play an important part in building up the student's body and character, and are given attention at the academy.

Athletic director was Col. E. B. Loughbridge, an experienced and able athlete himself. The football team of 1907 under his coaching, won all games and were declared champions of southeast Missouri. The team was never scored on the entire season.

A previous coach of outstanding JMA football teams was Maj. Welling Medley.

In addition to active participation in football, basketball and baseball played important parts in the athletic program.

Each morning before the regular work began, chapel services were held in the academy auditorium. They were conducted by ministers of the city, and by the instructors. All students were required to be present at these services.

The four year course of study included mathematics, Latin, civil government, U. S. history, foreign languages, bookkeeping, commercial course, elocution, dramatics and art, which included water color, oil, pastel, charcoal and china painting. (Several married women in Jackson studied this under Col. Birmingham.)

The charge for tuition in all branches, except department of fine arts, with board, room, lights, attention of servants, military drill, use of arms and equipment, etc., was \$250 per annum, payable \$150 upon entrance and \$100 in January. The tuition in the department of fine arts was an additional \$75 for the school year.

A tragic incident occurred in 1909 which may have been one of the contributing factors to the closing of the academy. One of the young cadets accidentally shot and killed himself while cleaning a pistol in his room.

The closing of the Jackson Military Academy was a distinct loss to Jackson as it had been an asset to the town in many ways. The building and grounds were soon purchased by the Jackson School District and converted into a new high school for the city.

Kent Library Offers Extensive Services

By GEOFFREY J. ROTH
Director, Kent Library, SEMO State University

"A library is the heart of the institution it serves..." This quotation was included in the Nov. 7, 1939, dedication booklet for the building which became known as Kent Library. The quotation accurately reflects the vitality of the library in relation to the university, its centrality to the community of learning, and implies a sense of growth and development.

For many years following the founding of the Third District Normal School in 1873, the students were dependent on the few textbooks they could purchase and the meager book resources made available by the teachers. In the 1890s a number of literary societies were organized. Each of them slowly collected books for the use of its members.

In time the school made modest purchases of reference materials and housed them in the principal's office in old Academic Hall. For a time the principal's secretary, Miss Louise Ranney, was designated secretary and librarian.

In 1902 Academic Hall burned completely and most of the books were destroyed. Planning for a new Academic Hall soon involved provision for a library. In 1905, while the building was under construction, the first library as a separate and distinct agency was organized in what is now the History and Social Science Building with an original collection of 5,000 volumes.

History professor Robert Sydney Douglass, who was later to become the first Dean of the College, was named librarian, apparently on a part-time basis. Miss Sadie Trezevant Kent, a recent member of the faculty, was named assistant librarian.

In 1906 when the present Academic Hall was completed, the library occupied the entire first floor of the east wing. Miss Kent was offered the position as full-time librarian in 1910 and finally accepted because, in her words, "books are less obstreperous than girls." Growth and inauguration of new services eventually required additional space in the level below.

In 1916 a textbook rental system, one of the earliest in the Midwest, was approved by the Board of Regents. The textbook rental was operated as a part of the library which had developed into a major part of the Normal's physical facility. That same year library service was expanded when the Government Depository privilege was taken over from St. Vincent's College to give the general public access to government publications.

Under the guidance of Sadie Kent the library continued to grow and innovate. An "open stack" system allowed students access to books for studying or browsing purposes at a time when many college libraries denied or severely restricted access. This early commitment to the freedom of information was to be carried on through two major building programs of the library.

By the late 1920s the library had grown to nearly 40,000 volumes. Books, readers, and library workers were crowded into every available nook and corner. Requests were made to the legislature as early as 1928 for a separate library building, but funds were not forthcoming.

Economic conditions of the depression years dictated that a separate library building was not to be available until the late 1930s. Ground was broken on Sept. 23, 1938. The building, jointly financed by state appropriations and the Public Works Administration at a cost of \$250,000, was dedicated on Nov. 7, 1939.

During construction in July 1938, the Board of Regents



Old Normal School, 1873 - burned in 1902

Southeast Missourian

voted to name the building Kent Library "in recognition of long, faithful and efficient service on the part of Miss Sadie T. Kent." The action was rescinded upon learning that PWA regulations forbade naming a building after a living person. In 1943, when PWA had become inactive, the Board repeated its action stating, "the President of the College be, and hereby is, directed to cause to be cut in the stone slab reserved for the name of the building, the words "Kent Library."

It was fitting that the library building should bear the name of this innovative librarian. Indeed, the plans of the architects were based on plans devised by Miss Kent in a building seminar while a student at Columbia University.

The new building was individualized. The names of 17 authors were carved on the frieze. Although, admittedly chosen somewhat arbitrarily, the authors represented two Missourians, Mark Twain and Eugene Field, as well as various nationalities and literary forms.

Forty-five art panes were included in the windows of the main reading room representing printers' marks used freely in the fifteenth and sixteenth century by early printers to identify to the public their art and craft. Similar to what are today conventional trade marks or logos, these printers' marks commemorate the beginning of the art of book making, an art upon which a library is founded. The east window of the main reading room was a "Mark Twain window" and the west a "Missouri window." When the library was enlarged in 1968, the names of the original authors were replicated on the new exterior and the art panes were retained as decorative panels and are available for viewing on the third level of the present building.

In 1943 Felix Eugene Snider became Head Librarian, replacing Miss Kent who assumed a limited service status until her death in 1951. Under his guidance the library continued to expand and continued its tradition of innovative service to the university. An audiovisual center was added in 1948.

The original building was designed for a student body of 1,000, but before the present building was completed the enrollment approximated 6,500. Consideration of larger library facilities began in late 1950s, and in 1960 a request for funds to construct a library addition went to the legislature with no success.

In 1963 most state colleges received allotments for library additions, but SEMO was not included. In 1965, with the approval of the new Missouri Commission on

Higher Education, the college requested and received an appropriation of \$2,164,000 for the library, augmented by a \$1,000,000 grant from federal funds. Educational specifications were drawn up. Pearce and Pearce, Inc., of St. Louis were chosen to design the structure, and the general contract was awarded to McCarthy Co., of St. Louis, the same firm that erected the original Kent Library.

Just as the original building bore the imprint of Sadie Kent, the expanded structure reflects the dedication, sense of history, and attention to detail of Felix Snider, the library director until his death in 1973.

The Rare Book Room houses the Charles L. Harrison Library and additional items whose vintage, subject matter, beauty and rarity require special care for their preservation.

The Jake K. Wells Mural graces the west wall of the library foyer. Occupying more than 800 square feet, one of the largest in the state, the mural depicts the nature and development of southeast Missouri. Four facets of the area's rich background predominate: The Mississippi River, mineral resources, timber resources and agriculture. Within these four elements, emphasis is placed on the people who lived and worked to create this area's heritage. A small lower panel of the mural portrays contemporary

themes.

The new facility consists of four levels with a total of 140,000 square feet. When fully equipped, it will suffice for 350,000 volumes and 2,200 readers. Private studies for faculty research, individual study carrels, conference and seminar rooms are available.

As "the heart of the institution it serves," Kent Library stands ready to continue to serve in creative, innovative and active ways. As a cultural center the library displayed the George Caleb Bingham Sketches and helped in the effort to retain these works within the state. Future shows of importance are anticipated for the area.

As a resource center, the library has joined the Ohio College Library Center, a computerized network to aid in bibliographic identification and sharing of resources. Future network activities are anticipated to enable library users to gain access to desired information.

Kent Library has retained its Government Depository and makes these resource materials available to the populace of southeast Missouri. It is anticipated that Kent will also become a depository for Missouri State Documents under the terms of recent legislation establishing a system for the distribution of publications of state agencies.

From Reading Room to Full Service Library

By MARTHA ANN MAXWELL
Librarian, Cape Girardeau Public Library

The "History of the Carnegie Public Library, Cape Girardeau, Missouri," a booklet written by John Gehrs and published by the Board of Trustees in 1931, concludes with the following statement: "The Carnegie Library in Cape Girardeau was the last library built in the United States by the Carnegie Corporation - and this library likely would not have been built excepting for the early correspondence carried on with the Carnegie Corporation in 1916 by the Women's Council of Clubs, their steadfast work for a Carnegie Public Library, and the untiring efforts of Mayor H. H. Haas and the two councilmen, Louis Wittmor and Dr. C. F. Schuchert."

In describing public support of library service for the city, he stated that in 1901 Louis Houck offered \$30,000 to erect a library if the community would vote a tax to support the library. A two-mill levy was voted, but since the citizens were already paying the maximum tax rate, the library tax was invalidated in 1903.

Finding no existing library to which to present a gift book, a group of girls who called themselves "Campfire Guardians" in 1912 voted to give \$30 toward the support of a reading room. On April 24, 1914, a mass meeting was held at the courthouse and a permanent board was chosen. The board selected a room in the Ellingood building at the corner of Themis and Spanish streets. "The library was formally opened there on Nov. 8, 1914, with 125 books."

According to the history, "For the years 1915 and 1916 some 156 women of the city paid 50 cents a month to maintain the library...Other money gifts from citizens and organizations helped maintain the library."

April 24, 1914, Allan H. Hinchey presided at a mass meeting to discuss the possibility of obtaining a Carnegie Building. Mrs. Hinchey and Mrs. W. W. Martin called a meeting Feb. 21, 1916, at which time the women's Council of Clubs was formed. This federation of 18

women's organizations, under the leadership of the Wednesday Club, "banded themselves together to improve the civic, philanthropic, moral, educational and other conditions of Cape Girardeau."

The president, Mrs. J. L. Himmelberger, asked that each organization determine "the greatest need of Cape Girardeau for which they were willing to work." The almost unanimous reply was a new public library. Negotiations began with the Carnegie Corp.

A high level of citizen response was enjoyed by the library. The library board sponsored several unique money-making activities. Per capita circulation was quite high. The library promoted storyhours and other adult and children's programs. The summer of 1918, the library was moved to the Elks Building on Spanish street.

Efforts to obtain a building were renewed after World War I. The Carnegie Corp., proposed a \$30,000 building, \$25,000 from the corporation and \$5,000 from local subscription. The local campaign netted \$11,821.59. The extra money was used to purchase equipment and books. On a site in Common Pleas Courthouse Park, selected by the subscribers to the library, the new building opened on April 1, 1922.

A few weeks later, the board considered opening a branch at the shoe factory. Eager to promote citizen use of the library, the board asked the librarian to prepare weekly notes for the newspaper.

AUGMENTED COLLECTION

The Book-a-Year Club, a highly successful endeavor for several years, began in 1923. Citizens and organizations paid for books to augment the tax-supported collection. The board decided to give free service to county residents, and efforts were made to strengthen cooperation between the school system and the library. The staff also suggested that it might be better to have story hours in the north and south parts of town. Other activities included a library instruction program, an art exhibit from St. Louis, and Children's Book Week observances.

The board appropriated \$500 for the collection for a

Negro branch in 1927. The John S. Cobb branch, located in Lincoln School (later called John S. Cobb School), was opened Nov. 27, 1928. The library also placed book deposits at three other schools and sponsored a booth at the Fair.

The library ranked first in per capita circulation in Missouri during 1928 and 1929. Upon request, the board voted to provide books for Southeast Missouri Hospital and formed a "committee to investigate a motion picture machine for the library."

Circulation statistics remained high during the Depression years. This decade saw many new services initiated. To serve a special need, the library provided books for local Girl and Boy Scout camps, plus a youth camp in McClure, Illinois. The highly regarded Mississippi River Valley Collection was developed during this period. Some 100 members of the Missouri Library Association met in the Presbyterian Educational Building. During 1934 and 1935, the board discussed an addition to the building and applied for funds through the W.P.A.

During the early 40's, the library offered services to Park Air College and was designated as a War Information Center and an air raid shelter. On radio, the librarian promoted the Victory Book Campaign, an effort to supply books to servicemen. To save gas, the library offered to mail books to county patrons.

The Dec. 4, 1943, minutes reported: "Considerable discussion was had regarding post-war activities which will result in either the enlargement of the library or a new building and it was agreed that in the case of a new building site being necessary the board advocates the location where the Broadway School now stands." The board hired an architect in 1945 and was advised by the librarian that the new building should house a collection of 100,000 books. A picture of the proposed building appeared in the newspaper Dec. 31, 1945. The board was unable to obtain funds for the building project.

STATE LEADER

The librarian, during the 40's and 50's, wrote a lively weekly column for the newspaper. Reports on circulation for this period indicated that the library quite often was the state leader among libraries of its classification and exceeded American Library Association standards in the percentage of registered borrowers and circulation. Shelving began to take the place of tables and chairs. The 1950 Missouri Achievement Edition contained a cartoon of the library, stuffed to the point of collapsing, with a caption of "Something's Got to Give."

From the beginning, the trustees and librarians were concerned with the quality of service provided to the people. Records reveal constant comparisons to American Association qualitative and quantitative standards.

The quality of the collection ranked quite high, as did per capita circulation and percentage of total population registered as borrowers. Gift books, such as the William Adam Shivelbine Music Collection, were welcomed assets.

In 1954, the library's operating income was reduced resulting in reductions in staff, library hours and purchases. This also caused the loss of state aid. Despite such handicaps, the board was able to build an addition to the building in 1959.

The challenge of the 60's did not find the Cape Girardeau Public Library unprepared for rapid change. New services were initiated and standard services strengthened. Records, films, and art prints generated instant public approval, included in the service program were the hospitals,

nursing homes and the Civic Center.

To alleviate the serious space problem, the library was remodeled with the auditorium (book storage) being converted to a children's department and the coal bin to a magazine storage area. Seating was reduced as more shelves were added. At the same time, strong adult and children's programming was met with wide acceptance. In response to a growing demand for additional services, a two-mill tax-levy was proposed and defeated in 1963. Later, an unsuccessful attempt was made to secure the old post office for a library. In 1967, the two-mill levy was successfully passed.

FORMS SYSTEM

After participating in several informal cooperative efforts with other libraries, the Cape Girardeau Public Library in 1964, along with other area public libraries, formed the SEMO Federated Library System. Federal library funds were used to strengthen collections and services. Because the library had a strong reference and nonfiction collection and was located in an area trade center, it was chosen to be the system headquarters.

Five years later, when the libraries were unable to support the system locally, the Cape Girardeau Public Library remained steadfast in its commitment to improving library service through networking and other cooperative efforts. To smaller libraries, the library made available interlibrary loan and consultant services. The library contracted with Mississippi County Library for the employment of a children's librarian.

Anticipating and providing public needs in the seventies became more difficult and more expensive as the demand for more sophisticated information and continuing education requirements accelerated. While maintaining strong services in reference and to children, the library concentrated on developing services to many important groups, such as the young adults, the business community, the blind and physically handicapped, adults learning to read, and the adult desiring better job opportunities or a more thorough knowledge of the issues confronting citizens. Realizing the overwhelming effects of the information explosion, the library has attempted to provide a well-trained staff and diversified collection for the purpose of aiding the individual to meet his particular need.

The three-fold objectives of the library are education, information and recreation for people of all ages. To many people who realize that education is a life-long process, no other educational agency is as accessible as the library. As in the past, the Cape Girardeau Public Library continues to acknowledge its responsibilities as a humanistic institution in a democratic society. Its full potential is yet to be reached.

It is regretted that this article cannot present a list of trustees and staff members, past and present, for minutes, annual reports and newspaper clippings reveal that they were a dedicated and progressive group. "The library trustees plan to publish a more detailed history, complete with names, at a later date. Library directors of Cape Girardeau Public Library have been Helen Coerver (Mrs. Burwell Fox), 1914-1918; Cressie Chambers (Mrs. J. R. Ramey), 1918-1920; Selma Eggers (Mrs. E. W. Lampe), 1920-1922; Margaret Baugh, 1922-1924; Lenore Rafferty (Mrs. W. L. Mezger), 1924-1940; Eileen Fitzgerald (Mrs. R. L. Norman), 1940-1942; Ross Crigler, 1942-1960; Mary Kempe, 1960-1961; Gene Martin, 1961-1966; and Martha Ann Maxwell, 1966 to present.

Library a "Dream Come True"

By BEVERLY K. MOLL
Jackson Journal Feature Writer

It was the dream of the members of the Thursday Literary Society of 1923 that Jackson have a public library. And it was largely through their efforts and determination that their dream was realized.

Led by their president, Mrs. William Schwartz, the group appointed a committee composed of Miss Bess Litzelfelner as the chairman, Mrs. C. A. Macom and Mrs. D. I. L. Seabaugh to make the trip to St. Louis and acquire discarded books from the St. Louis Library.

As Miss Litzelfelner, now 89, told me when I visited her recently in the Lutheran Home in Cape Girardeau, "I had worked with the St. Louis Library and knew them. We went through and picked out the best books to bring back."

Soon after, the club held Dollar Day and netted \$19 for the treasury. Through the dramatic talents of members, the play "Patty Makes Things Hum" was presented and \$117.50 was realized. Other money projects brought the total library fund up to \$213.80.

Mrs. E. A. Mason became president of the Literary Society and sentiment for a public library began to catch on in the community; the DAR and P.E.O., among others, contributed and cooperated.

An upstairs room was provided by the People's Bank on Main street for the first collection of books for public loan. On March 25, 1925, the subscription library was opened on Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m. Literary Club members were in charge of books and the dispensing of cards for \$1 a year. Miss Clara Mueller purchased the first card and checked out the book, "Kindred of the Dust" by Kyne.

The usage of the library mushroomed so that the following year, after the unified efforts of interested individuals, namely "Miss Bess," a petition was circulated to present the City Council asking vote on a mill tax in the April election to help maintain and expand the library.

The tax carried in the election of April and in June 1926, the following board was appointed: William Bruening, president; Kent Wilson, secretary; Frank Hines, Roscoe Pierce, Mrs. William Schwartz, Mrs. D.I.L. Seabaugh, Mrs. Clarence Grant and Miss Bess Litzelfelner. "Miss Bess" resigned to become the first librarian for \$30 a month. Mrs. R. M. McCombs was appointed to take her place.

The first library was made up of three wooden sections of shelves constructed by the school manual training class under the direction of Prof. Oscar Phillips; a set of International Encyclopedias; 400 fictional books, and a reading table with seven chairs. About \$500 had been spent up to this time for books and equipment. The mill tax, bringing in about \$1,850 a year, was to make it possible for the library to become a free public library.

TUBS OF BOOKS

"When we moved the library from the hotel (People's Bank) to the Granger House, the library was very small," Miss Bess told me. Heaving wash tubs of books, three young men of the community - Joe Wagner, Jess Stewart and Glen Luetje - moved the contents to the library's new quarters across the street to the left wing of the old Frizel-Welling-Granger-Wilson House on West Main, next to the old Wagner Bakery. "Mrs. Julie Granger was a personal friend of mine," Miss Bess continued with a smile.

After the formal opening of the new library, located in

the second oldest house of the city, the following news account appeared:

"At three o'clock in the afternoon on New Year's Day the public library was formally opened and taken over by the city librarian in the presence of about 50 persons who crowded the small room where the library is temporarily housed. Mrs. C. L. Grant presided at this meeting, and first introduced Mrs. W. B. Hays, president of the Thursday Literary Society...

Frank Hines, city attorney, who represented Mayor J. R. Bowman, accepted the library from the hands of the library society.

Punch was served, together with cakes. Miss Clara Mueller presided at the punch bowl, with Mesdames Wagner, Grant, Heyde and Stacy assisting."

The home served the purpose of the library for five years. During this period buckets caught leaky-roof drips and an overheated stove fire had to be extinguished, but the library continued mainly under the determination of "Miss Bess."

With serious reflection in her voice and eyes, the long-time Jackson librarian recounted the next move the library went through. "The library was moved down on the hill by the postoffice. I had a man working for me (Fred Burford). He moved the books in a wheelbarrow."

The many wheelbarrow loads of volumes were pushed westward up the hill past the old Wagner's Bakery, Willer's Seed Store, Cape County Courthouse, down the hill to a long narrow building that once housed the express office and then was the home of the Jackson Herald newspaper. Miss Bess referred to the building as the old Hines building.

Here the library suffered through some difficulties during the years of the 30's and 40's. During a heavy rain storm, the librarian spread umbrellas over the books to keep them dry.

Months passed and the conditions became worse. One account recalls those days: "Shelves of books were moved to escape the dripping water. It was a normal thing for users to see water buckets throughout the building, not as a precaution against fire, but merely to collect water..."

Rebound biographies today in the City Library reveal water stains of this era.

In 1947, the library board decided the building was in need of replacement. The following article was written by Gilbert Schade and appeared in the Cape County Post, November, 1948:

"Board members managed to bring before the people plans calling for the construction of a very modernistic building to be built on the lot adjoining the Daughtery home."

The Daughtery property adjoined the New McKendree Methodist Church on the south. Mr. Daughtery knew Bess Litzelfelner's father in the Neelys' Landing community when August H. Litzelfelner operated a warehouse and Mississippi River shipping facility. "There was a little sentiment there. My father and he were very good friends. He knew me from childhood," Miss Bess explained.

PROTEST TO COUNCIL

A \$75,000 bond issue was proposed, but failed to carry in the special election. In her own handwriting, Miss Bess described the following concerning the disappointment that followed:

"...the library and the Thursday Literary Club formed a Carry Nations brigade on the City Council. Each club or organization was enlisted to send a committee to help

rescue the City Library out of a condemned building, so dilapidated the leg of the librarian's chair went through the floor basement, which has sections of mud and water.

Each time the council met, a group of women met in the City Library and led by Mrs. Seabaugh (D.I.L.), vice president, library board, marched across the Public Square to meet the men of the library board, William Bruening, Robert Henderson, Clarence Ritter, Prof. Russell Hawkins, and Bob Buerkle who were waiting..."

After the group left one council meeting, a motion was made and carried to give \$10,000 to build a library basement to temporarily suffice until a library building could be erected.

"Amid mud and rain, the basement was started at once. Delay deemed dangerous from the anti-bond element," continued the librarian.

Because the \$10,000 proved not enough, the City Council voted another \$4,000 to complete the project.

A lot behind the city jail given by the county for the purpose of a library was sold for \$600, "because the

citizens didn't want it there."

When they wished to check out books, the library patrons changed their courses the third week of November, 1948, to the new basement quarters on South High street, near the Methodist Church where the 10,000 books had been moved.

Conditions were much better, but dampness and leakage remained a problem. However, the library stayed in this location until 1959 when it was moved to a room of Lenco, Inc., on "Mill Hill," on West Main for an interim year while a City Hall-Library building was being constructed on the site of the library basement. It was begun in April 1960.

The Public Library's fifth and final move was made to the new facility upon its completion in the first months of 1961. At this time the library had grown to 15,800 volumes.

In 1955, Mrs. Shelby Brown was engaged as assistant librarian. She later became librarian in 1960 upon the retirement of Miss Bess Litzelfelner, after 34 years of dedicated service.

The Library Called Riverside

By EARL H. OLDHAM
Director, Riverside Regional Library
Jackson, Missouri

Election Day was April 5, 1955, when the voters of Scott, Cape and Perry Counties decided to tax themselves at the rate of one mill per \$1 of assessed valuation to support a library. The proposition received an almost two-to-one majority in the three counties.

Following this expression by the voters, each county court appointed a five-member Board of Trustees for its county library. These first library board members were, for Scott County: Mrs. Albion Anderson, Ward Brasher, Mrs. Robert Davis, Mrs. L. H. Shipman and the Rev. A. D. Stanley; for Cape Girardeau County, Lloyd Ford, George W. Hilpert, Edwin Sander, Leonard Swan and Edwin Upchurch; for Perry County: Dr. Theodore Fischer, Mrs. Oran N. Guth, J. M. Lakenan Jr., Mrs. J. Ralph Morgan and Edgar Romann.

These three County Library Boards met many times over the next few weeks, learning, with the help of State Librarian Paxton P. Price and Miss Edna Bothe, director of Field Services for the State Library, just what was involved in setting up a county library service.

On July 14, 1955, a joint meeting of the Library Boards of Scott, Cape and Perry Counties was held in the courtroom of the Cape Girardeau County Courthouse in Jackson, and it was there that each County Library Board decided in favor of organizing a Regional Library. On Aug. 29, 1955, Otto A. Koenig, previously librarian of the New Madrid County Library, was chosen for the position of librarian.

Mrs. Albion Anderson of Commerce suggested that the new library be called the Riverside Regional Library, since each of its three counties was bordered on the east by the Mississippi River. Her suggestion was adopted at the board meeting of Sept. 7, 1955. Within the next month a staff was employed. Those first employes were, in addition to Mr. Koenig, Mrs. Lenora Mezger, assistant librarian; Earl Oldham, bookmobile librarian; Mrs. Elizabeth Oldham, assistant bookmobile librarian; Mrs. Alvina Meyers and Miss Sue Rafferty, circulation; Misses Linda Hartle, Diane Hopkins and Juanita Wendt, bookmobile circulation.

With a borrowed bookmobile and a gift of 7,000 books from the State Library, a name and a newly employed librarian

and staff, the library lacked only quarters from which to operate. This was temporarily solved by taking up residence in the basement of the Cape County Courthouse in October 1955. The next month a permanent location was found in the McDowell Building on Highway 61 just north of Hubble Creek. Open house was held there May 19 and 20, 1956, and a new bookmobile was a featured attraction at the affair.

A branch library - Center No. 1 - opened in Ilmo in April 1957, and Benton became the location of Center No. 2 the following month. The Perryville Public Library Board contracted with the Riverside Regional Library for services in 1957, thus establishing Center No. 3, and in 1965 voted to merge the city library district with the Perry County Library. In November 1963 Center No. 4 opened in Altenburg. Ten years later Morley's new Community Building became the home of Center No. 5. Contracts for cooperative library service was signed with the Sikeston Public Library in 1968 and with the Chaffee Public Library in 1969.

In 1958 Central Center in Jackson moved to its present location at 204 South Union, into what now comprises the north half of the building. Riverside Regional Library's 10th anniversary was celebrated with an open house at Central Center in October 1965 in the new south addition which doubled the size of the original building.

The library's first director, Mr. Koenig, retired in 1971, and Earl H. Oldham became the new librarian. Mr. Oldham is one of three charter staff members still working at the library, the others being Mrs. Oldham, now in charge of deposit circulation, and Mrs. Linda (Hartle) Goodson, cataloger. There have been few changes in the staff over the library's 20-plus years, with many of the employes having 15 or more years of service. The present staff, in addition to the three charter members named, consists of Mrs. Leota Limbaugh, assistant librarian; Mrs. Regina Yeager, secretary-bookkeeper; Lester Wilfong and Miss Barbara Arnzen, audio-visual services; Mrs. Mildred Seboldt, circulation and children's services; Mrs. Rita Kranawetter, deposit collections, Mrs. Nancy Lape, circulation and display, Mrs. Alverta Leiner, Center No. 1, Mrs. Bernice Kern, Center No. 2, Mrs. Sally Modde and Mrs. Laura Bert, Center No. 3, Mrs. Lucy Buck, Center No. 4, and Miss Beth King, Center No. 5.

The Board of Trustees, too, has an enviable record of stability. Three present members are charter members. Dr. Fischer and Mr. Lakenan from Perry County and Mrs. Shipman from Scott County. Others have had years of service approaching these records. The present Cape County Board members are: Charles Englehart, Mrs. L. W. Kasten, Mrs. Leonard Ludwig, Roland Sander and Pervis Sebaugh. Scott County Board members are: Mrs. Albert Dame, Mrs. Ray Marshall, Mrs. Robert Rosenquist, Theon Schlosser Jr., and Mrs. Shipman. The Perry County Board members are:

John Bert, Dr. Fischer, Oscar P. Kasten, Harold F. Klaus and Mrs. Lakenan.

The number of services offered by the Riverside Regional Library has increased through the years to encompass the range of traditional library functions as well as more modern and innovative ones. As the population and tax base of the region grows, it is the library's hope that its involvement in the community may continue to grow also, with the interest and cooperation of its government, its administration, its staff and its patrons.

Battle of Cape Girardeau



Battle of Cape Girardeau marker - battle, April 26, 1863; old Lacey house in background. Southeast Missourian

By ANN DITTLINGER

On April 26, 1863 -- 113 years ago -- the Battle of Cape Girardeau was fought.

Of the thousand or more clashes that took place in Missouri between Union and Confederate forces during the Civil War, this battle was of great importance to the city in that it ended the Marmaduke raids in the immediate area.

After the city was placed under military occupation by Col. C. Carroll Marsh on July 10, 1861, plans for four forts to be built at strategic points in the city were approved by General Ulysses S. Grant when he arrived in Cape Girardeau on Aug. 30, 1861.

From that time on until the occupation ended on Aug. 14, 1865, the city was caught up in a web of war.

The 20th Illinois regiment under Col. Marsh began construction of Forts A, B, C and D, designed by Lt. John Wesley Powell. Two secondary defenses complete with rifle pits were built later. Battery A, located east of Perryville Road on an elevation northwest of Fort B, and Battery B, on a hill facing southwest about one-fourth mile north of Bloomfield Road.

The fortifications at Cape Girardeau were called Camp Fremont, after Gen. John C. Fremont, known as "the pathfinder" because of his explorations in the Far West.

In 1861, approximately 3,000 men were stationed at Camp Fremont. During the following years, countless

numbers of companies and regiments were on duty there and many expeditions had their beginning at the camp. Their troops were quartered in tents at the forts and at other locations in and around the city.

The main encampment was at the Old Fairgrounds, (known as the Blattner property), where three access roads branching from Sprigg street south ran through the grounds. The Charleston Telegraph Road was the middle branch.

For practically three years the citizens had witnessed Union troops -- some processions a mile long -- marching along Jackson street departing on or returning from expeditions. They had watched regiments from Illinois, Nebraska, Missouri and Iowa setting up or striking camp at the fairgrounds, and viewed the familiar sight of gunboats and steamers loading or unloading troops and war supplies at the river front.

Throughout the occupation soldiers and citizens were plagued by typhoid fever, diphtheria, measles, ague, pneumonia and countless other diseases. The sick and wounded were treated at the Marble City Hotel and the Union Hospital, a plain grey building at the southeast corner of Main and Jackson streets (Buckner-Ragsdale site). Highly contagious cases received care at the U.S. Smallpox Hospital located west of the Old Lorimier Cemetery on Washington avenue (lately the John M. Scully home now owned by Thomas F. Bensberg.). As the need arose, other buildings were also taken over for hospital use.

DANGER OF RAIDS

Perhaps the greatest danger was from destructive raids by small bands of bushwhackers and renegades that roamed the area to attack the outlying farms and waylay travelers on the country roads.

During that time, the strongly fortified city withstood assault until Gen. John S. Marmaduke with about 5,000 men and 8 pieces of artillery was on his way back to Arkansas after a week of foraging in southeast Missouri. As was his custom, his troops lived off the country -- stealing horses, mules, wagons, guns and food.

It is doubtful that Marmaduke would have attacked Camp Fremont had it not been for the backing of the combined forces of Gen. Joseph Shelby, Col. Carter, Col. Burbridge, assisted by Col. Greene's cavalry regiment.

The unplanned assault resulted from an incident that occurred when Gen. John McNeil, returning from a recruiting expedition in Missouri was pursued by Carter's brigade to within four miles of Camp Fremont. Carter's message to Marmaduke requesting aid had been intercepted by the Federals; thus Carter placed his troops on Bloomfield Road to await help.

When a Confederate emissary entered the city and demanded a surrender of the Federal fort, McNeil dis-

patched a terse but positive refusal. He sent immediately to St. Louis for reinforcements and alerted the city to prepare for a possible attack.

Saturday, the night before the battle, McNeil issued an order to evacuate women and children. They were taken by boat upriver near Devil's Island for safety; however, some remained and sought shelter in their cellars. Among those who remained were the Christian Hirsch family, whose home was situated near the present First Baptist Church on Broadway; the Alfred Lacey family, near Central High School on Caruthers, and those sisters and students who chose to stay at the St. Vincent's Convent.

In readiness for the expected battle, cavalry units brought horses and equipment from the U. S. Corrals located north of the Old Lorimier Cemetery to within the city. Ordnance wagons loaded with ammunition and artillery rumbled out to the batteries. Four guns were moved from Fort B to fortify Fort C, overlooking the Bloomfield, Commerce and Gordonville Roads; two of the 12-pounders were placed in the vicinity of the peak near Longview drive.

Meanwhile, Gen. Joe Shelby, one of the most able Confederate cavalry leaders, captured Fredericktown from the Federals on April 22, and did not reach the area to join Carter's troops until three days later. That night, April 25, 1863, Shelby's men camped in and near Jackson.

The scene was set for the direct confrontation to follow--The Battle of Cape Girardeau.

Early Sunday morning, April 26, 1863, Gen. Joe Shelby set out over the muddy Jackson Road for Cape Girardeau, where he was met by the Federals just outside the city about 10 a.m. A fierce artillery engagement began with the 1st Nebraska regiment under Lieut. Col. Baumer leading the charge, assisted by the 1st Wisconsin cavalry.

Although the Fort C batteries attempted to shell Carter's troops, the hill where the Burrough house (Kenwood-site of Cape LaCroix Apartments) stood protected their position on Bloomfield Road. Consequently, the 12-pounders were moved to the hill where Central High School now stands.

When Carter moved around to support Shelby, the fighting became so intense that the Union cavalry was driven back into the fort by the combined charge of the two brigades. Two of the smaller guns were hastily pulled back to Fort B. The 24-pounders were fired with brisk vigor and a direct hit by one of the big siege guns demolished a Confederate cannon. Supported by the heavy and persistent cannonading, the Federals came out of the fort in full force and made a strong advance against the enemy.

The confederates rushed the line of rifle pits only to be met by a deadly blast of shelling. The massive lead "minie" bullets of the .58 caliber Springfield rifles inflicted deep and terrible wounds on men and horses alike.

The field of battle was strewn with the bodies of slain horses - well over 70 were counted. Three Confederates killed near the Lacey house were buried in the orchard there. A cannonball fired the house, but Ike Pett, faithful servant of the family, extinguished the blaze.

The battle continued for almost another hour with a

constant thunder of cannonading as volley after volley assailed the enemy; however, by 2 p.m. the fighting had all but subsided when dispatchers, Hugo Ermertz and Fritz Vasterling, brought news to Fort B of the arrival of two gunboats and a steamer with reinforcements.

The 20th Iowa Infantry and the 37th Regiment of Illinois infantrymen rushed troops and four cannons to the scene. Although they did not participate in the battle, they stood by in readiness. About the same time, news was received that Gen. Vandever had arrived near Jackson and was in position to attack the Confederate rear flank.

TROOPS RETREAT

Hard pressed by the combined efforts of the Union troops now doubled in strength, Gen. Marmaduke withdrew his men and retreated. His troops crossed the Arkansas line at Chalk Bluff four days later.

Thus ended the Battle of Cape Girardeau, probably regarded by most historians as only a minor skirmish. To the city and the brave men who had defended it, the battle was deemed a victory; in fact, they were jubilant. A small extra hurriedly issued by the Eagle carried the following headlines. "Great Union Victory. The Marmaduke raid at an end. He is routed-horse, foot and dragoon."

After the battle, the hospital corps searched the field for casualties. The wounded Federals were taken by ambulance wagon to the Union Hospital. Although the Confederates had removed most of their wounded as they retreated, those that remained were taken prisoner and given treatment. No Cape Girardeans were killed.

Union casualties posted in Cape Girardeau listed the following: Dead, 1st Nebraska Infantry, 3, and 1st Wisconsin Cavalry, 3. Wounded, 1st Nebraska Infantry, 4.

Later in the day, the ordnance wagons, at times miring in the mud with their heavy loads, collected artillery, rifles, cartridge boxes, and other items left on the field to be returned to the storehouses. Cannonballs were found throughout the area. Some were picked up on the Jackson Road, at Fort B, Southeast Missouri Hospital hill, and even as far as the Centenary United Methodist Church. Citizens were notified of the danger of collecting such souvenirs and most of the shells were removed to the forts.

AFTERMATH

It is interesting to note that in July of 1975 reminders of the Civil War came to light when Melvin A. McMillen dug up a cannonball, pieces of human bones and four buttons from a Union soldier's uniform in his garden on Sheridan drive. The site of the find was just a short distance from the location of Battery B and only a block from the area of the Battle of Cape Girardeau, well within the firing range of Fort B.

Police Chief Henry H. Gerecke, recognizing the potential danger of harboring such artifacts, turned the cannonball over to the Army Explosives Ordnance Disposal team from Ft. Leonard Wood. The detonated 15-pounder contained 20 metal balls.

The Missourian stories pertaining to the discovery led to four more cannonballs being turned over to Cape Girardeau police the latter part of July and first part of August in 1975.

A Closer Look At Fort B

By ANN DITTLINGER

Heretofore, most accounts of Fort B stated merely that it was located where the university now stands. No mention

was made of the house within its confines. To present a closer look, eye-witness reports are given by those who knew the house and Fort B before, during and after the Battle of Cape Girardeau. (April 26, 1863.)

Dittlinger & Bro.



**MANUFACTURERS OF
RICHARD'S CELEBRATED CAPE LIME.**

Fort B, 1861 - present site of Kent Library

All the hill now occupied by Kent Library, dormitories and buildings south of Normal Avenue was the property of Michael Dittlinger. His home stood on the hill above the rock quarry, overlooking the city and the Jackson and Perryville roads. No other buildings were near his place until the Old Normal School was completed in 1875.

Dr. D. Hetler, Washington University Medical School, described the home as a hospitable, roomy, red brick house built over one of the largest and most complete wine cellars on the Mississippi, and a famous show place for visitors to the city.

Fort B embraced the entire hill around the house, included some of the west part of Normal Avenue, which was over 12 feet higher at that time and badly eroded, and a portion of the present Academic Hall site. Little use was made of the rest of the area because of many gullies, brush-filled ravines to the north and a wide ravine over 20 feet deep that sprawled down the east side. In fact, practically all the campus terrain was inaccessible by wagons. The approach to the property was from the east side of the quarry north along Pacific Street to a narrow lane, a continuation of North Street, that gradually curved west toward the house.

Regarding Fort B, Col. G. C. Thilenius said, "Michael Dittlinger lived right up on the top of the hill. The property was used for a fortification during the war. The house was made a part of the fortification, which was put up right alongside the house on both sides, taking in the house. Fort B they called that.

"He had no possession of the house; it was taken by the military and used as long as they used the fortification. Many officers lived in the place."

Michael Dittlinger, a senior first lieutenant of Co. F, 2nd Illinois Artillery, Powell's battery, fought at Corinth, Pittsburg Landing and Shiloh under Grant. In a letter to John Wesley Powell, dated March 1862, he wrote, "My dwelling house is situated in Fort B, as you know, and my family without protection when I am gone."

Michael and Nicholas operated the Dittlinger and Bro. lime kilns and quarry, now the site of Houck Field House and Stadium. They manufactured Richard's Cape Lime, a brand name for a rich marble lime used for masonry and particularly in sugar making. Lime was delivered locally and also shipped down river to plantations in the South. There was a powder house in the quarry and a cooper's shop where barrel staves were made.

WAR CHANGED

John F. Volkert related that one company of Union soldiers took over the cooper's shop for use as a kitchen and burned large stacks of barrel staves to cook their meals.

Trees from the densely-timbered Dittlinger farm were cut down by the Union soldiers. Henry Jahns, a butcher who drove a government team during the war and a lime wagon in 1865-66, said, "We would load at the farm and distribute wood among the camps and houses where the officers lived. Sometimes four teams - sometimes 50 teams together. I drove a four-mule team."

The soldiers uprooted the trees in the orchard, and earth was thrown up against the west and south sides of the house incorporating it as part of the fort.

Earthworks for the ramparts were then constructed.

Fort B was fortified by four large guns, 24-pounders mounted on the ramparts. Cannon balls were piled nearby in traditional pyramid fashion. Lighter 12-pounders could be moved readily to strategic positions within the fort. Kegs of powder, cannon and musket balls, and the elongated, conical "minie" bullets for use in .58 caliber Springfield rifles were available at the ordnance storehouse. The flag flown at the fort was visible from a great distance.

The assault on the city began about 10 a.m. During the battle, the cannons at Fort B, fired at full force, bore the brunt of the battle. Because of vigorous enemy fire from the northwest, two small guns were moved back into the fort. When the Union cavalry was driven back, all troops were ordered out of the fort to engage the Confederates. Fighting continued fiercely for almost another hour, then sporadically until it ceased at 2 p.m.

Col. Thilenius stated, "Marmaduke attacked this place and we used our 24-pounders. We dismantled one of their guns. None of the shots passed through the house, but the cannonading damaged the house considerably. The walls were cracked and the whole place ruined, you might say, the terraces and everything else."

An eye-witness, Hugo Ermertz, a cooper, remarked, "I was in Cape when the battle took place. There was a gunboat lying down here, and Fritz Vasterling and I carried messages from Fort B to the gunboat.

"After the cannonading ceased, two days afterwards, I saw that the walls were cracked in the rooms and the cistern falling in-the cement was loose."

John Volkert, a cooper, said, "The windows were damaged; a great deal of damage was done to the house."

Another eye-witness, Caspar Uhl, a former shoemaker and major of 2nd Battalion 8th Regiment, said, "I was down at Fort D during the battle. Before the battle the house was all right. I was there most every day, and after the battle I saw that most of the rooms were cracked at the same time from the cannonading."

After the war, repairing the damages to the house and restoring the grounds and property to its original state was a mammoth task. Rebuilding the terraces, replanting the orchard, vineyards and gardens required much time, labor and great expense.

Fort B and the house that stood within it are gone. After the death of Judge Michael Dittlinger (1898), the property was sold in 1904. The homestead, located at the present site of Kent Library, was razed in 1912, about five years after the death of Marie Madeline, wife of the judge. However, many interesting stories can be told about the historic house - the part it played during the Battle of Cape Girardeau, its occupants and visitors. One distinguished visitor was General Ulysses S. Grant.

Fort D Old Stronghold



Fort A, 1861 - overlooking the Mississippi River
Southeast Missourian

By Dr. Robert R. Hill
Professor Emeritus of Education and Psychology
SEMO State University

The largest of the four forts built in Cape Girardeau during the Civil War was Fort D, constructed south of St. Vincent's College, on the low bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. It is the only site still remaining free of private construction.

When Gen. Ulysses S. Grant left Cape Girardeau in September 1861 for Cairo, Ill., he gave orders for the four forts to be built. (Plans had been drawn by Lt. John Wesley Powell, a schoolteacher turned military engineer who was to gain fame after the war for his exploration of the Grand Canyon.)

Of the four, Fort D south of the city was the most important. The view of the river and to the south gave protection from the Confederates coming up the river or from Arkansas.

The fort consisted of rectangular earthworks with rectangular projections at each corner for military emplacements; a trench or low rifle pits surrounded the area, and the central part was occupied by the ammunition house and tents.

With the space open to the river it was possible to see boats approaching from the south. There were reports that two Confederate boats came up the river, were fired upon, and turned downstream.

Many stories about activities inside the fortification were related in later years by men who were stationed there. One activity was the use of blocks sawed from small trees as tenpins and cannon balls for bowling. Others related that the men dug into the natural elevation facing the river for protection from the winter weather, and with fires before their caves the soldiers were more comfortable than in their tents.

In later years the embankments weathered down and the ammunition house fell into decay, but no private construction was made here as was done where the other forts were located. The land was eventually acquired by Louis Houck, and his son, Biboney Houck, in June 1936, deeded it to the Louis K. Juden Post of the American Legion with the provision that the three acres were always to be used as a public park, never for private property.

The Legionnaires secured labor and \$17,208.21 from the Works Progress Administration to clear the grounds of undergrowth, restore them to something like their wartime

state, and erect a limestone building on the site of the ammunition house to be used as a museum and meeting hall. The old limestone railroad station at Pocahontas on the Houck line was dismantled and the Missouri Pacific Railroad brought the stone to Cape Girardeau for the fort.

Through an article in *The Southeast Missourian*, the original plans for the ammunition house were secured and the limestone building was erected on the same spot, the same size, as the original.

The military map of Cape Girardeau and vicinity drawn by Capt. William Hoechle, chief engineer, Department of the Missouri, (his neat but difficult-to-decipher signature is in the corner of the map), shows the location of forts in Cape Girardeau for the period of the Civil War, 1861-1865. A copy of this map was hanging in the Legion Hall in 1938 and another was on the walls of Fort D in 1967. Buildings, homes, and streets were indicated on the map, giving an idea of the city's appearance during the war.

A sealed box containing a history of the fort was cemented into the walls at the southeast corner on March 24, 1937, during construction. In addition to the original plans, a basement, kitchen and service rooms were included. The basement was used as a museum and the main room on the ground floor served as a meeting place for the Legion. Relics from the Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I and any available from other periods were secured for display.

Such display of guns and antiques caused vandals to plunder the place and, after some efforts to maintain it, the Legion requested people to reclaim things they had loaned or contributed.



Fort D, 1861 - largest of four forts built in Cape Girardeau

On each side of the entrance to the new stone building was erected brass cannons, brought from Rock Island, Ill., which had seen service in World War I. During World War II these were turned over to scrap for the war effort, but the concrete foundations are still intact.

Finally, the fort was vacated, and in May 1945 the Legion deeded the building and grounds to the Otahki Girl Scout Council; however, it was later found unsuitable for Scout use, and on June 15, 1948, was deeded to the city as part of the park system.

Little use was made of the building for 10 years or more. The Civil Defense organization had been set up during World War II, but interest lagged after peace was declared; however, it was revived when the Korean trouble started. Headquarters were established at Fort D in 1950, and maintained there until Civil Defense interest again lagged. Afterward, individuals were allowed to use the building

as a residence, and it fell into disrepair, although the grounds were well kept by the park department.

A Senior Citizens' Club was organized Sept. 22, 1966, through the efforts of Maj. Orville L. Grim, who made

arrangements for the new organization to meet in the Fort D building after the park department had reconditioned it. The club furnished and maintained the building after taking possession April 28, 1967.

"Red Rover" First Hospital Ship

By DR. C. C. BONWELL

Associate Professor of History SEMO State University

Early in 1861, both the North and the South hoped that the conflict which has erupted at Ft. Sumter in April would end quickly.

As the war dragged on, however, the North began to implement the so-called Anaconda Plan, devised by the aging Winfield Scott. The plan was designed to crush the South just as the large South American water snake crushed its prey.

Gaining control of the Mississippi River and its tributaries was crucial, since the Confederacy would be denied its principal transportation route in the West, disrupting both the South's economy and its military logistics system. Within this context, the Mississippi River towns of Columbus, New Madrid, Memphis, Vicksburg and New Orleans all became key targets of the combined Union forces, Army and Navy. As casualties mounted, the North developed mobile hospital facilities to handle the hundreds of wounded emerging from the bitter campaigns. As a result, the Red Rover was the first hospital ship put into service by the United States Navy.

According to Rear Adm. Edward C. Kenney, a former surgeon general of the Navy, the Red Rover was built at Cape Girardeau in 1859. Originally designed as a commercial sidewheel river steamer, the Red Rover was purchased by the Confederate Navy Nov. 7, 1861, to serve as a barracks for the men assigned to the floating battery New Orleans.

In April 1862, when damaged at the Battle of Island No. 10 near New Madrid, the Red Rover was abandoned by the Confederates and captured by a Federal gunboat. After being repaired, the sidewheeler was sent up the river to St. Louis where she was fitted out as a floating summer hospital for the Western Gunboat Flotilla.

The Western Flotilla had originally been created to meet the needs of the Army as it began its descent of the Mississippi River. Although under the operational control of the Army, the Red Rover and the other units in the Flotilla were commanded by Navy officers and most of the men were sailors.

As the months progressed and confusion about lines of authority mounted, this combined service operation became increasingly unsatisfactory.

Finally, on July 16, 1862, Congress approved an act transferring the Western Gunboat Flotilla to the Navy Department. On Oct. 1, 1862, the name of the Flotilla was changed to the Mississippi Squadron. That same day, the United States Navy formally commissioned its first hospital ship, the USS Red Rover.

Physically, the Red Rover was one of the finest hospital ships ever put into service in that time period. Displacing 786 tons and drawing eight feet of water, her average speed was five knots and her maximum upstream speed was nine knots.

Armed with one 32-pound gun, the ship had a crew of 42 officers and men when she was first commissioned. Ac-



"Red Rover", 1859 - first United States Navy hospital ship - built on levee in Cape Girardeau

Navy Photographic Center

ording to the quartermaster, the facilities for treating the sick and wounded were unparalleled.

FACILITIES UNPARALLELED

She has bathrooms, laundry, elevator for the sick from the lower to upper deck, amputating room...gauze blinds to the windows to keep the cinders and smoke from annoying the sick, two separate kitchens for sick and well, a regular corps of nurses and two water-closets on every deck.

The reference to nurses is interesting. As early as the summer of 1862 the Sisters of the Holy Cross were aboard the Red Rover to tend the sick and wounded. At least two of their number served for the duration of the war.

Moreover, at the time of commissioning, two female black nurses, Alice Kennedy and Sarah Kinno, served under the direction of the sisters. As the first female nurses stationed on board a United States Navy hospital ship, these women were the forerunners of the Navy Nurse Corps.

The principal mission of the Red Rover during 1862 and 1863 was to transport casualties from the scene of action to landbased hospitals located along the river, such as Memphis and Mound City. As the war on the western waters expanded to the tributaries of the Mississippi, the Red Rover served with expeditions that ascended the White and Arkansas Rivers in Arkansas and the Red River of Louisiana.

The destruction of the Federal gunboat Mound City exemplifies the types of casualties with which the Red Rover dealt. On June 17, 1862, a shell from a Confederate battery on the White River exploded the Mound City's steam drum, scalding eight men to death. Many others were shot or drowned after leaping overboard.

In all, the Mound City suffered 135 casualties out of 175 stationed on board. Thirty-seven of these casualties were transported from Memphis to hospitals in Illinois by the Red Rover.

The battle for Vicksburg was the most significant campaign in which the Red Rover participated. Vicksburg was the major Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi and was the key to the river's defenses. Grant began his campaign in December 1862, striking several blows against the northern defenses of the city. The terrain

in which the Army operated was low, marshy and laced with numerous streams and bayous which frustrated every attempt to take Vicksburg.

As the months dragged by, the number of casualties rose. The Red Rover, stationed at the mouth of the Yazoo River, received, treated and evacuated the wounded of the fleet. Grant broke the deadlock in the late spring by marching his Army down the Louisiana shore, recrossing the river and attacking Vicksburg from the east. The besieged city fell on July 4, 1863, when Gen. John Pemberton surrendered 30,000 troops.

A vital blow had been struck to the Confederacy. Ten days later, the Red Rover arrived in Memphis with casualties from the successful siege.

With the war for the Mississippi virtually over, the Red Rover returned to Mound City in October 1863 to await extensive repairs. When she left the shipyard in April of

1864, her services were quickly needed to evacuate Federal troops who had been overwhelmed at Ft. Pillow, Tenn., by the Confederate Cavalry forces of Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest.

For the rest of the year 1864, the Red Rover was used primarily as a supply ship, moving up and down the river providing medicine, stores and ice to ships of the fleet. On Dec. 11, 1864, she returned to Mound City and remained there for the rest of her career. With the collapse of the Confederacy in mid-1865, the services of the Red Rover were phased out. Her remaining 11 patients were transferred to the steamer Grampus Nov. 17, 1865.

Later that month, stripped of her gun and iron plate, the Red Rover was sold for \$4,500 at a public auction in Mound City. After having served nearly 2,500 patients, the United States Navy's first hospital ship ended its remarkable career.

The War Comes to Jackson

By MRS. SHELBY BROWN
Librarian, Jackson Public Library

To understand the Civil War campaign in Jackson, Aug. 8, 1862, I think some background material is needed. It is thought this engagement occurred because the Wisconsin Cavalry Regiment had some local men in Jackson as spies. It is known the Union Cavalrymen came to Jackson because they had received a message that one of the men who worked for the telegraph company had been captured and brought to the Turnbaugh Hotel. (This hotel, destroyed by fire in 1888, was located where Leonard's Feed Store is now - northwest corner of West Main and Missouri.

The Pacific Telegraph Co. was keeping Union Army communications going between headquarters. Since one of the telegraph agents was riding a horse and saddle with U. S. markings, he was arrested and searched by Col. Jeff Thompson's "Shotgun rangers" about a mile south of Jackson. He was walked back to Jackson and be agreed to stay in the Turnbaugh Hotel overnight.

The U. S. Cavalrymen charged into town, but could find no men they wanted. No one would tell them where they had gone, so they divided their company into squads and started in all directions to hunt them.

The landmarks mentioned in the newspaper clipping are in the following areas: The Old Fairground was south of Russell Heights Cemetery. The Russells owned the land at that time and the battle was fought between John Kasten's house and Hubble Creek in the valley. Fulenwider's land was northwest of Highway 72 and west of the creek which crosses Highway 72, at the West Main intersection. It is thought the creek was called West Fork of Hubble Creek at that time.

"Father's house," mentioned in the clipping, was the home of James R. Jenkins located somewhere near the Ed Kies farm which is on Highway 25 south of Jackson. James R. Jenkins was the great-grandfather of Miss Sarah Jenkins, and L. E. Jenkins was her great-uncle. The Welling's house is on 209 West Main, where Mrs. T. E. Wilson lives.

L. E. Jenkins was a dentist residing at Fredericktown when he wrote the letter.

BATTLE OF THE OLD FAIR GROUNDS -1862

Editor, Cash-Book:

I received by mail a few days since a copy of the



Kneibert house, 1845 - used for headquarters by both, Union and Confederate Armies

Cash-Book sent by brother Jim and read with pleasure the article from brother Maple's...a description of the lively little fight at the Old Fair Grounds during the Civil War. And I see brother Maple's memory, like mine, fails him a little. He is perfectly correct in his count of the squad: 16 was the number.

Two of us followed soon after, and Lt. McGuire was being chased out Fulenwider's lane, and Tom Wheeler had jumped in bed at Turnbaugh's Hotel and feigned sickness and actually escaped capture. I was told he did some tall groaning when the soldiers went to look at him. Two of our number were left with our horses just below father's house, which made 22, the number of the scout.

Now, then, that pretty spring morning (note the seasonal discrepancy) we marched afoot into Jackson to see our friends, and we had a jolly day. A number of us went to Mr. Welling's for dinner, and, let me tell you, it was a dinner to make a soldier smile all over his face. I remember when we came out my haversack had a big pound cake put in it by some of the young ladies, and my hat had been ornamented with a splendid black plume put there by Mrs. LaPierre. Wonder if she remembers it?

When we got to the public square, everything was so still and no one in sight we knew in a minute there was something wrong. When we got to Mr. Schmuke's corner we stopped to get a fine bridle-bit he had given me.

They told us the command was gone, and Capt. Jeffers left word for us to come on to the Fair Grounds and the Yanks were coming. Well, we lit out, and were doing some lively walking, (we were too proud to run), and saw no one till passing Mrs. Brown's, when Mollie (God bless her memory) called. "Lute, run! Look yonder!" and looking up, we saw the lane full of blue coats coming down the big hill from toward father's.

But I turned and said, "We don't run, Mollie." But let me tell you confidently, after we got out of her sight, well, we struck just the high places to the Fair Grounds, and we were there none too soon.

Just as we passed where the old stand was we heard horses' feet coming down the creek, and looking up, we saw a citizen on a sack of meal, and we supposed just from the mill, and he was making the best time I ever saw a mill boy make.

And right after him were three Federal cavalrymen. As they came in range Dick Medley and I opened on them and they wheeled and rejoined their command. Then Capt. Jeffers called us and for the first time we knew where our boys were -- behind a poplar log about a hundred yards further up the hill.

So going there we took our position. In a few minutes here they came. Their advance guard were allowed to pass. Lt. Hummel was leading the command that followed closely. When they reached the right place we opened on them, and down went Lt. Hummel and his horse on him, and nearby another soldier badly wounded.

The Federals immediately wheeled and formed along the old Russell fence, and commenced playing marbles with us pretty lively. Things looked squally. They were too far back for our buckshot, so the captain ordered a charge, which we did in true Rebel style, yelling every jump and firing as we advanced.

Capt. Flentge's boys said, "If this is the kind of friendly reception you are going to give us, we will leave," and leave they did full tilt. And we were real glad to see their horses' tails sailing up the creek.

We then returned and pulled the horse from off Hummel and let him up. "Becky" Moore said, "ess kill him." But it

was just to frighten Hummel. But "Becky" was mad that day, and when he was mad enough to grin, better give him plenty of room.

We then pulled the other soldier out of the road and I put a chunk under his head for a pillow, for which he thanked me kindly. Having no horses to follow the fleeing and disorganized enemy, we started to camp.

When about half way father overtook us and asked Capt. Jeffers for Lt. Hummel. Said he would be responsible for him. So taking the lieutenant up behind him, he took him to brother Maple's at the academy where he remained till next morning, when father hitched up to his buggy and took Hummel to the Cape, and (carrying out Jeffers' instructions) exchanged him for Capt. Lewis of our command who had been a prisoner for sometime. And the joke on us was, Lewis did not come back to us. This is the only instance that I know of where a civilian acted as exchange officer during the war.

Now, while this part of the show was going on at the fair grounds, two side shows were having their attractions. Right over the hill from us the advance guard (which we let pass us) butted up against John Craig, who had been to see his best girl and was on his way to the command, and they had it hot and fast, and that is where the Federal was found that was carried to the Turnbaugh Hotel.

Then away out on the gravel road there went one of the most gallant soldiers who espoused the lost cause, fleeing on horseback and two blue coats right after. But let me tell you, they had no idea who they were following, for no man, without he wanted it to a finish, would dare follow "Butt" McGuire.

Now, Mr. Editor, print this just as I write it and I will stand the blame. And I don't think that crowd wanted anything very sensational. One of them never came back, but stark and still he was found. The man who died at the McGuire House was a local Methodist preacher. Of the Confederates not a man received a scratch.

Yours truly,
L. E. Jenkins

Massacre at Round Pond

By MRS. ANDY WITHERS

The ancient Bloomfield Road Trail from Cape Girardeau into Arkansas was the only route from Cape Girardeau westward in the early 1800s and this route was more important then than the Interstate Highway is today.

On this route was a Round Pond where people stopped overnight to rest, and to feed and water their stock. One of the bloodiest massacres of the Civil War took place there.

All traces of the famous place have now vanished, but it was located south of Whitewater and west-southwest of Allenville in the southwest corner of Cape County.

The late Frank Foster (whom I knew was then only 14 years old and was among the people in the 14 wagons that made up the supply train attacked by bushwhackers known as Bolen's (or Bolin's) raiders. Newspaper stories relating reminiscences of those who lived in Cape County during the Civil War say that every man in the supply train was killed except one Negro, who escaped by diving into the pond, and that the mules hitched to the wagons also were killed and the wagons burned.

Militiamen led by Capt. Adolph Tacke (Company I, 56th

Regiment, Enrolled Missouri Militia, were sent to the scene and buried the dead. Bolen (or Bolin) was later captured and hanged at Cape Girardeau.

Some soldiers were buried during the war in the Hardin Field (now the Kenneth Zimmerman field) near where Round Pond was; before Round Pond was cleared and filled, I saw many sunken graves in the woods there. The graves in the Zimmerman Field are across the Bloomfield road trail on a ridge there today.

OAK VALLEY

Round Pond School was constructed nearby in 1881 but in later years was named Oak Valley School because it stood among many huge oaks where the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Withers is, with the giant oaks yet standing staunch on their lawn.

There is an Indian knoll at the Withers place where Round Pond School was and through the years much evidence has been found of Indians in the territory; people have found arrow heads, flints, and tomahawks, and in an area not far from Round Pond, I have seen where the owner opened graves and found several Indian articles he dug from the graves.

Fairview General Baptist Church was built by George Carlton in 1893. (Some say it was built in 1900, but I talked last year with a 94-year-old lady whose mind is active and she told me that she was 12 years old when she went to services in the new church, so that would make Fairview Church built in 1893.) The church is located on the Bloomfield trail on a high hill and is the best-kept country

church of today with many active members.

Across a gravel road is the Fairview cemetery; it was originally on a half-acre of land, and was there long before the church was built, the first graves buried in it being those of Civil War soldiers buried in the 1860s; it is much larger than a half-acre today.

Early Cape County Mills



Bollinger Mill at Burfordville, 1840 - destroyed during Civil War by Union soldiers

By MRS. SHELBY BROWN
Research by the Late Raymond C. McNeely

Water mills of the early times were the centers of the community as well as the main source of food. Settlers became acquainted with those living miles away. They picked up their mail here. They learned of marriages and deaths. Political meetings were held here.

Those living a long distance away many times found it a difficult adventure. There were no bridges, and sometimes flooded streams had to be crossed. Indians gave trouble and wild animals were dangerous. If the mills couldn't be reached or operated because of high water, you were forced to borrow from your neighbors or perhaps grind your grain by hand as the Indians did.

Cape County's early settlers were quick in making use of the natural resources of this area. Many of them had used water as transportation to reach this area, and the many streams of this area furnished water to power the grist mills for grinding corn and meal.

Soon after Don Louis Lorimier founded Cape Girardeau, he established a water-powered grist mill on Cape LaCroix Creek called the Lower Mill about where the Scott County Road crossed the creek. Later he built one upstream from this mill. Little more is known about the two mills.

The third mill was Ramsey Mill on the River Zenon (Hubble Creek), located three miles south of Jackson, at one time the Brugger farm. This mill was ordered built by Louis Lorimier after 1808. The stone work was done by Butchers & Bloom of Ste. Genevieve. They did the foundation and the rock dam. The mill building and the millwright work was done by Isaac Ogden.

The mill stones for the grist mill came from Ohio.

This grist mill in later years was changed to a wood-working industry and the water wheel still furnished the power. The information concerning the wood-working

mill was given to Mr. McNeely by Fred Suedekum who lived near where the mill stood.

A French man by the name of Richwine made wooden bowls using a wood lathe. (It would be interesting if someone might still have a bowl which came from this mill.) Mr. Suedekum, born in 1886, reported he went swimming at the old mill dam when he was a boy. The mill was gone, but it was quite a swimming hole 50 feet wide and 100 feet long.

He also reported a Neumeier boy drowned at the swimming hole about 1895. Mr. Suedekum was 84 years old when he gave the information. In 1968 the mill stones and some of the mill parts were found at the location.

The Bollinger Mill at Burfordville, according to Mr. McNeely's notes, was completed in 1804. The importance of it and the Bollinger family in the history of Cape County has been written about in a special report, so I will go on to the next mill.

The Byrd's Mills on Byrds Creek and the Byrd families had a very important part in the settling of this part of the county. On their plantation where these mills were located there was also an up-and-down sawmill, a distillery and a blacksmith shop.

One of the water mills was located on a creek called Little Moses, on the farm where Joe F. Smith, Jackson, lived as a boy. The old rock dam can still be seen. A short distance downstream, on what is known as the Ray Dow farm, is a big spring where the distillery was located. The settlers as well as the Shawnee Indians from the Apple Creek area brought their grain here to have it made into liquor.

On the lower Oak Ridge Road, about 150 yards below the bridge, is the location of the second mill and the up-and-down sawmill.

For many years the remains of a log dam could be seen. It is not known when the mill was destroyed.

Hubble Mill at Gordonville is the next mill. (The following information was reported by Fred Suedekum and Henry Ueleke.) Jonathan Hubble settled near Gordonville in 1807 and built a grist and flour mill and an up-and-down sawmill, all powered from the water of Hubble Creek.

Mr. Ueleke and Mr. Suedekum both remembered seeing the up-and-down sawmill operate. It took about 30 minutes to cut a board off a 10-foot log. The mill was sold to a Mr. Gordon who later made the up-and-down sawmill into a circular sawmill. He also operated the grist and flour mill.

In 1892 William Winkler, a Prussian who had served in the Civil War, bought both of the mills. After he took charge, he sent back to Germany for a young man named Lupstus, a miller by trade, to join the company known as the Gordonville Roller Mill. It stayed in operation until 1920 when it was torn down. It was in the mill pond of this mill that, reportedly, a cannon of the Confederate Army which had developed trouble and could not be repaired,

was pushed to keep it from being used by the Union forces.

The Horrell Mill was on Cane Creek at the Horrell plantation. It was located near the iron bridge on the old gravel road to Millersville. Other parts of the business were an up-and-down sawmill, a blacksmith shop and a cotton gin. This mill belonging to S. B. and J. B. Horrell was in operation until 1840 when the mill was moved to Jackson by Miles Niblack and located on the east side of Hubble Creek across from McNeely Brothers Foundry. A log dam was built and an overshot water wheel was installed.

This was the beginning of what later became the Cape County Milling Co., which was first called Horrell Byrd Co. This mill has been described in detail in a previous issue.

The John Hays Mill, located on the land where Indian Creek runs into the Mississippi River, was built by John Hays when he bought this land in 1807. Besides operating the mill, he farmed and ran a ferry boat on the Mississippi River. It is also reported he was the first sheriff of Cape County.

This mill was located and operated in about 1808-1809, near the "Farm to Market Road" near Neelys Landing. The mill was sold to John Grammer. He moved the equipment to the place where Turkey Creek runs into Indian Creek.

Later the mill was sold to John Oliver and Archibald McNeely. They moved the equipment on Indian Creek to the Oliver farm, where they operated it a number of years. When Mr. McNeely bought out Mr. Oliver, he moved the equipment back to Turkey Creek on the farm of his daughter, Mrs. John Hanes.

When the Hanes family moved to Texas and the mill was no longer in use, Paul Hanes became the owner of the mill stones. The stones were quarried in Pennsylvania about 1804. In 1961 the land where this mill was first located was owned by Wilson G. Wagner.

Snider Mill, on Whitewater Creek, was about five miles downstream from Burfordville, just below the iron bridge across Whitewater Creek. It was built before the Civil War and was operated by Ferdinand P. Frautwine from Lutesville. In the last years of its operation, it was run by a Mr. Huckstep. It was in a run-down condition and fell

into the creek during a flood in 1905.

UNDERSHOT WHEEL

Gibbles Mill was used by the neighborhood Millersville before there was a mill at Millersville. It was about three miles up Whitewater Creek at a place known as Chimney Rock. Here rocks extended in the creek on both sides, causing the water to rush through a narrow space. At this place a paddle type water wheel was located. It was an undershot wheel and was installed so it could be raised out of the water during high water.

The mill building was also built for protection from floods, as it was on high posts. This mill went out of business after a steam mill was built at Millersville. There was also a sawmill and cotton gin. However, the Miller family did have a sawmill operated by a water wheel about two miles south of town.

John Newton McNeely built an up-and-down sawmill near Shawneetown, on Shawnee Creek down from where the road crosses on the way to Altenburg. This mill was in operation until the circular sawmill came into use. The circular saws came into use about 1840 in this area, and John N. McNeely had one of the first.

Some other mills mentioned with little-known history are as follows Statler Mill, on Cane Creek located on what is known as the Stonewall Jackson Farm.

An up-and-down sawmill was on Little Whitewater Creek operated with water power on Dr. Albert Estes homeplace.

A grist mill located near the Bollinger County line on Crooked Creek near crossroads. It was run by an overshot water wheel.

The wheel was in the creek for some time and could be seen when the water was low and clear.

There was a water mill below Whitewater Station on Whitewater Creek.

Bear Mill was located on Apple Creek (River Deponnis) at the intersection of Little Apple Creek.

Bedwell Mill was upstream from the Bear Mill on Apple Creek.

There is much more interesting history known and recorded about water-powered mills in Cape County. Any bits of information or correction will be welcomed. Please send it to Jackson City Library, 225 South High Street, Jackson.

Mueller's: Respected Firm

By BEVERLY K. MOLL
Jackson Journal Feature Writer

To purchase the best smoked hams and meat products in southeast Missouri, people traveled for miles to the H. H. Mueller Meat Market on Jackson's public square.

The year was 1884 when H. H. severed grocery and business partnership with Henry Meystedt of Cape Girardeau and made the decision to open a small packing and retail business in the progressive community west of Cape Girardeau.

Affiliated with the H. H. Mueller Markets were sons of H. H. and his wife, Ida (Brass). In the comfort of their brick bungalow on East Main in Jackson, one of the sons, Paul Mueller and his gracious wife, Edna, recently reminisced about those earlier years during and after the turn of the century.

It didn't take long before the retail meat market located on the south side of Main street (the present location of Cape County Savings Bank's drive) gained the reputation



H.H. Mueller's Meat Market, 1884

of excellence. Operating in "one of the most sanitary places of its kind in Cape County," the Muellers not only

sold home-killed meats and sausages, but also rendered lard. Mrs. Mueller said, "Right after we were married, Paul would get up at 3 and 4 every morning and go to stir the lard." Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mueller at this time lived on the corner of Missouri and Washington.

As Mr. Mueller explained the operation, he spoke with much pride of the family success. "Every winter we slaughtered 2,000 hogs across the creek south of Jackson for the two markets at the one in Cape Girardeau and here. The Cape Girardeau stores were at 411 Broadway and another on Good Hope. We had quite a mail order business too, shipping hams all over the United States. One lady from Florida used to take about half of our hams back with her. We had a certificate of redemption that allowed us to sell to consumers outside the state, but not retailers."

The Muellers bought stock from a 30-mile radius of Jackson. Mentioned by Mr. Mueller in our conversation of livestock farmers from whom they bought were Tom Crites and P. K. ("Kurb") Hahs of the Daisy community.

The Cape Girardeau Republican newspaper of 1914 stated the following concerning the meat markets and Mr. Mueller. "He does a big business and is one of the most prosperous in his line in this part of the country. He knows exactly what his patrons want, and they are absolutely assured of receiving only the best products at the most reasonable prices when they deal with Mr. Mueller."

Prices varied during the years. Mrs. A. H. Macke, Gordonville, remembers frequently visiting the market often with a friend to buy franks or meat to add to their lunch brought from home. Mrs. Macke was a secretary at Cape County Milling Co., Mill B. during those days. "We could either buy three franks for five cents or five for 10 cents, of course we each bought three for five cents."

During the Depression years, prices dropped drastically. Mr. Mueller, now 83, commented on those hard years. "We could hardly give the hams away. We sold cured hams for about 10 cents a pound."

Traveling down the hill on West Main, one could see the processing and packaging plant that supplied the retail businesses. Torn down in 1967, the old brick building still had ham hooks in the ceiling and the smell of smoked and cured hams. For a number of years before destruction, the building housed Jackson Transfer Co. owned by the Moll family. The trucking company, now located on Highway 72 West, retains remnants of the Mueller Meat Packing Co. A huge scale used previously to weigh the meat products, now weighs freight for Jackson businesses.

An antique four-wheeled cart, unpainted and worn, is inscribed with the words, "Reynolds Improved Truck."

H. H. Mueller, like so many old Jackson businessmen, was born in Germany and came to America with his parents in 1868. After their deaths, the lad took employment in a general merchandise firm in Cape Girardeau, that of Julius Vasterling, and made his home with the family until he started his grocery and packing business in 1881.

Nine children were born to H. H. and Ida Mueller of Jackson. The family's first residence was the Hartle home, originally located on South High street. Many Jackson residents remember the two-story white frame home after it was moved around the corner on Adams street in a position behind Ideal Grocery, now location of the parking lot. It was in this home the Mueller children were born.

The year was 1900 when the 11 Muellers moved to the lovely brick mansion at 709 East Main, now the offices of Buerkle, Buerkle and Lowes, attorneys.

The house, "beautiful in architecture and generous in proportions" didn't seem at all big to Paul Mueller, at that time. "There were six boys and three girls when we moved up there, it was not too big."

The house was bought from Mr. Tiedemann, one of the organizers of the Cape County Milling Co., who moved his family to St. Louis. Unique for Jackson were two features on the grounds of the prominent family's residence. On the west of the three-story house were tennis courts for the Muellers and friends to enjoy. Also the house had its own water tower, which provided hot and cold running water -- quite an item of interest to area residents, for the city itself did not own a water facility. Mr. Mueller remembers the old lead-lined tank situated in the attic to catch the rain water.

The Muellers were a family who loved entertaining, and they kept their home alive with relatives from St. Louis or in-town friends of the children. As Mr. Mueller said with a sparkle in his eyes, "We entertained quite a bit in the winter on Friday nights. We had plenty of room."

After H. H. Mueller's death in 1930, son, Paul, bought into Ideal Grocery located in the Mueller-owned building on South High. To here he moved the meat business into the existing grocery business owned by August Friedrich and Henry Sievers. The Cape County Savings Bank then enlarged and tore down the market building.

Paul Mueller, carrying on in the honest tradition of his father, continued to give quality fresh meats to his customers until 1958, the year of his retirement.

An Artist at His Trade

By MARY HELEN KINDER FLENTGE
SEMO State University

At the turn of the century the Bohnsack Blacksmith Shop was located on the lot next to 616 Broadway. My aunts told me how they used to take their father's lunch to him at noon in his special lunch box. I am sure it was always hot or cold exactly as it was supposed to be.

Grandfather Bohnsack was an artist. He considered not only utility but also the beauty of any ironwork he did. Many of the tools he made resembled Shaker design and beauty. A wood rack with scroll design made of iron would grace a museum.

When he worked he wore a heavy large leather apron that had a bib and hung to his ankles. This was necessary, of course, to prevent burns.



Early blacksmith shop, 1898

He designed and made a special wooden box, still in the family, which was used to display his work at the World's Fair in St. Louis in 1904 where he was invited to show.

The top and long sides of the box are glass and there is a narrow shelf in the center of the box which gives an interesting dimensional effect to the display, which includes eight types of horseshoes: Riding, interfering, trotting, steel plate, plain, ice, draught and hobble (the latter has a half-circle metal piece which extends from the shoe, to which it is attached at right angles).

A blacksmith shop was one of the community centers for exchanging news and pleasantries. The Bohnsack shop on the main east-west street of the town took care of these needs as well as horseshoeing.

Cape Girardeau at that time was a town of grain mills and breweries. Supplies for these businesses were brought in from the surrounding area. There was a great deal of travel by horse and wagon in and out of Cape Girardeau.

The blacksmith was a very necessary part of maintaining the mobility of people, much as our filling stations and garages are today.

The "Old Field"

By MRS. T. G. HARRIS

Southwest of Delta, Arbor, and Green Cox, and into a portion of Scott and Stoddard Counties is the mysterious area that is known to many as the "Old Field."

Before the turn of the century, several thousand acres of land in the "Old Field" were swampy and deeply forested. There was an abundance of furbearing animals (raccoons, opossums, minks, and muskrats) as well as wolves, bobcats, and wild turkeys. A haze generally hovered over the area; and for those living close by, there was always a feeling of fear and mystery as rumors were afloat that cattle had been swallowed up by the many sinkholes and that packs of wolves from the "Old Field" had invaded the barnyards.

My father, Francis Marion Nelson, lived with his oldest sister, Eliza (Mrs. Jefferson Hitt), after his parents died when he was eight years old. At the time he was ten years old (1872), he was lost that October for one day in the "Old Field."

Being that there were no stock laws, the cattle were always put out to graze. Occasionally, the cattle would be rounded up and brought in for some extra feeding. On this particular day, Marion was sent at sunup on a bare-back horse to round up the cattle. As was typical then, he was barefooted.

The cattle were not in the area where he expected to find them. He kept riding and looking, when he suddenly discovered that he was in dense forest with treetops so heavy that he could not see daylight. The only sounds were chattering squirrels, tapping woodpeckers, and the thrashing of the wings and an occasional hoot of an owl. Huge wild grapevines 3 and 4 inches thick twined through the trees; but the fruit was too high to reach, and there was no other available food. He had been warned about the sinkholes and steered clear of them.

After a few hours, he turned the horse loose but he kept the bridle. He felt sure that the horse would go home. The horse did return home shortly after noon; and being without a rider, the alarm was passed and a searching party was formed with instructions for members to fire a gun when the boy was found.

Marion could tell that night was coming on as it was getting darker. He sat down to rest and think about having to spend the night in this black wilderness. In a short time, he decided to keep walking; and something kept telling him to go straight ahead. Suddenly, he saw a light in the distance and started running. It was in a window of a house at Arbor.

Around 8 p.m., the gun was fired to let everyone know that Marion had been found. He was given food; but most of all, he enjoyed a cup of cold water. By 9 p.m., he was in his own bed, tired but thankful that he had found his way out of the "Old Field". For one week, his sister picked briars out of his feet. In later years as he thought about this experience, he felt that most of the time he was just going in circles and covering the same territory.

After being drained by the Little River Drainage development, this area became a prosperous farming country. Timber rights were sold to lumber companies; and after a long period of time, the land was cleared. Due to the swampy conditions, yokes of oxen were used to bring out the huge logs of cypress, tupelo gum, oak, and ash trees.

These logs were loaded on flatcars at Green Cox, a flag station on the Frisco Railroad. It was quite interesting to go and watch the oxen pulling in the large sleds made from forks of trees. All of this was done with only a command and an occasional crack of a whip from the driver. A well-known yoke of oxen, Jerry and Blue, always stood by, as their specialty was loading the logs on the flatcars.

The Story of Sharpsboro

By TOM HENDERSON

Sharpsboro was started in 1875. It was located 15 miles south of Jackson and 1½ miles east of the town of Delta in Cape County. This site was designated as Railroad Post No. 146 on the Houck Railroad. At the present time Highway 25 runs through the middle of the former site of this settlement.

Maj. William John Alt impulsively purchased some 20,000 acres of southeast Missouri swamp and overflow land on Feb. 18, 1875, from Eli Crandall, Phillip Van Frank and James McKaye. Alt was motivated by a sudden interest in the advantages of the American railroad and the profits that could be realized by developing and cultivating cheap land into "something of value."

This 19,593 acres had been included in a parcel of land

deeded to Cape County by the U. S. Government after the Swamp Act of 1850. It was to be sold at \$1 per acre. Only the swamp land could be purchased in large amounts. My great-great-grandfather, Judge John R. Henderson, was the Cape County Special Agent who handled this land transaction.

As a merchant in England an importer of tea and other commodities from Japan, Maj. Alt was aware of the importance of fast transportation and the fast arrival of goods at auction points and markets. This encouraged him to invest in this land to hope for further developments of the railroad through southeast Missouri into Arkansas.

Upon discovering, however, that he had bought "swamp land" Alt was surprised. He decided to sell the land, realizing that he could not develop railroads on land of this type as he had first thought. Maj. Alt sent his uncle, Capt. George Sharp, over to America to "get rid" of this land. Capt. Sharp had recently retired from active sea duty on a merchant ship.

Capt. Sharp expected to find only Indians and water in the area just below Jackson. Instead, he found the well-kept farms that the Germans were tilling in Cape County.

On arrival at the site that Maj. Alt had purchased, Capt. Sharp found enormous cypress, oak, poplar, walnut and tupelo trees and fertile swamp land. Capt. Sharp's suggestion was that this land be developed, drained, and a village established here so that their holding could be supervised.

Maj. Alt on his next trip to America, after seeing the "swamp land," decided to establish an English-type village here.

One of the first things that had to be done was to clear the land so that an office could be erected. This was called the "Pay Off" office, because the workers received their wages here. Many other buildings were erected. A two-story building, one that had the "general store" on the first floor and the living quarters of the captain upstairs, was the Captain's home or, in England, Sharp's borough. This latter was shortened to Sharpsboro. That was how the settlement acquired its name.

A huge red barn built of cypress was one of the outstanding structures of the area. This barn was built in 1880 and stood until 1969 when it was destroyed by fire.

DESCRIPTIONS

"One Spot," "Two Spot," "Three Spot" was a way of describing a group of houses and the number of them in each group; for example, "Three Spot" contained three houses. All of the houses in this settlement were painted yellow with brown roofs. They were all built exactly alike with two front rooms and the kitchen was extended from the back. There was a total of 14 buildings including the eight smaller ones.

To drain the area of the excess water, ditches had to be dug. An engineer was called in from another state. This was one of the first attempts at draining the swamp lands.

Digging had to be done with hand and mule labor, as steam-operated equipment was not available at this time. This ditch was later taken over by the Little River Drainage District and is now known as Ditch No. 15.

Lumbering was the major industry for Sharpsboro. Houck Railroad from Cape Girardeau to Poplar Bluff ran through here and was the main connection with outside markets for the lumber that was cut on this land. Two railroad spurs served this settlement, one from the Houck Railroad and one from the Cotton Belt Railroad. Each spur had to have a name and as there were only a few cars on the Cotton Belt spur at any particular time, the name of "Carfew" was selected.

To get the huge logs to the sawmill, oxen were used to pull them through the water and mud. One of the largest sawmills in Cape County, Drumming's Mill, was located here.

After Capt. Sharp became ill from malaria, contacted while living in the "swamp," he returned to England and Capt. George Alt, Maj. W. J. Alt's grandson, took charge.

In 1896, Capt. Alt brought back several cows and two Hereford bulls from Herefordshire, England, to start the first Hereford herd in Cape County.

As the swampland was cleared of trees, mineral prospecting and land development were started. Three corporations were formed, one of these being Cape Girardeau Estate Co. This company was formed because, under a new Missouri law enacted in 1895, regarding alien ownership of land in Missouri, the owner of the swamp land, Col. W. J. Alt, London, England, was obliged to dispose of the land. In 1903 this company was incorporated and located in the town of Sharpsboro.

The company was formed to purchase, hold, improve, develop, farm, lease, mortgage, sell real estate; to own and operate sawmills, to buy, manufacture and sell lumber. In general, the company was to render assistance necessary for doing a general farming, cattle, lumber and mercantile business. However, the company failed.

A few of the major causes of the failure of this company were. Lumbering came to a halt when all the virgin timber was cut, no minerals, oil or gas was found, and taxation was much greater after the drainage district was formed. The land was sold to land development companies who in turn sold smaller tracts to individuals to develop their own farms.

This settlement did not develop as the original owners had planned. The water, mosquitoes and malaria played a great role in this lack of development. In 1910 the population of Sharpsboro numbered only 40.

Sharpsboro had an interesting history. A settlement was developed in a swamp and had a booming lumber industry. As history so often repeats itself, after the "boom" is over the town soon becomes a town of the past and is forgotten. This was true of Sharpsboro.

The Dapple Gray Horse

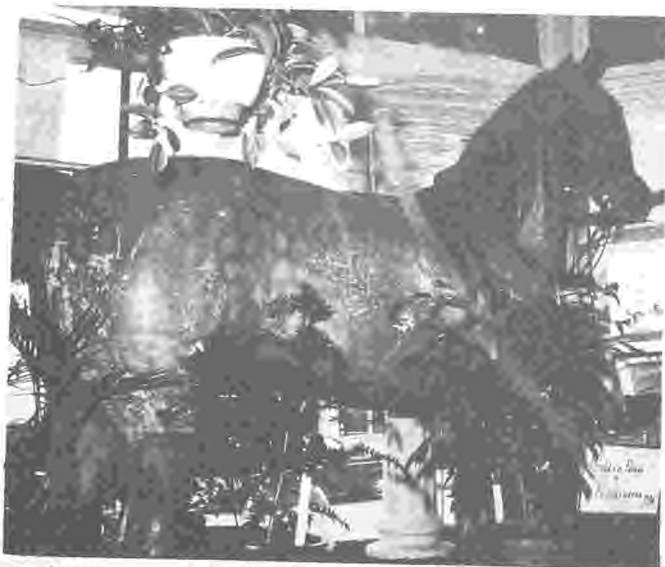
By LEE MILLER FRONABARGER

JACKSON -- Proudly standing among beautiful potted flowers, hanging plants and vines, Prince Truxton II -- the dapple gray horse in the window at Leonard's Seed Center, 131 West Main -- has become a Jackson landmark with a long and interesting history.

It was not until Jackson's sesquicentennial in 1965 that the horse officially received its name. Rebecca McDowell

was the winner of the horse-naming contest during the 1965 celebration with the name of Prince Truxton II. Miss McDowell, after doing historical research, suggested Prince Truxton II because Andrew Jackson, for whom the City of Jackson is named, owned a horse called Truxton which stood 15 hands and 3 inches high. For many years prior to 1965, the dapple gray horse in the window was simply referred to as Prince.

Delving into its history, the horse, handmade of papier



Jackson unusual landmark, purchased 1889 - known as "Prince Truxton II."

mache on a wooden frame, was purchase in 1889 from Horse Display Works of Dayton, Ohio. The dapple gray horse stands 16 hands high and weighs some 600 pounds. The mane and tail are of real horse's hair and the dark brown eyes are made of glass. The tail, chin and ears can be removed to fit a harness onto the horse.

Arriving on a railroad car here in Jackson, the horse cost \$125 in 1889, including the railway delivery charges. Its first home was in the building now housing Albert Sander Hardware Co. (former Priest Building) on West Main, where C. H. (Herman) Wolter had a harness shop.

The horse was used to fit and display harnesses.

BULL CHARGES

Situated on a platform with rollers, the display horse was often moved out onto the sidewalk in front of the Harness Shop. One day a herd of cattle was being driven through town on Main street to the railroad station (not an uncommon event in those days of the late 1800s). Suddenly a bull, maddened and upset, charged from the herd and rammed into the horse, pushing it several feet down the sidewalk. Fortunately the horse remained upright and was not damaged. From that day on, the horse was displayed in the window of the Harness Shop -- a much safer location.

In 1898, C. H. Wolter completed a new building for his Harness and Buggy Shop farther west on Main street at 131 West Main, where Leonard's Seed Center is located Today. The horse was rolled down the hill to its new home and placed in the large front window, where it has faced the rising sun for more than 77 years.

Only once has the horse been out of town -- when featured on Jackson's float in a parade at Ste. Genevieve, celebrating the founding of Missouri's first settlement. On the lovely float with the horse was the late William F. Eakins who portrayed Andrew Jackson. Mr. Eakins was a station agent for Missouri Pacific Railroad in Jackson for some 46 years.

Today Prince Truxton II is owned by Raymond Willer, son of the late A. W. (Alf) Willer who owned the business for many years and worked for its first owner, Herman Wolter.

A. W. was associated with the store for 50 years or more.

Raymond Willer, who so generously shared much of the fascinating history of the horse, says it is a utility horse -- used as a rider or buggy horse. Many a saddle, buggy harness and bridle were displayed and sold off the horse, according to Mr. Willer. "I don't know of another one like it since today horses are molded out of plastic," he further noted.

SCARE

An amusing story which A. W. Willer enjoyed telling and his son still relates concerns an incident involving the horse. One day a car parked along the hill on West Main rolled down the hill and struck the front corner of the building, doing some structural damage to the storefront. The horse was not hit, but was so scared that it knickered!

Leonard Bodenschatz, owner of Leonard's Seed Center which now occupies the ornate structure at the corner of West Main and Missouri streets, noted occasionally tourists visit the landmark and request to have their picture made standing beside Prince Truxton II.

C. W. Knox, in reminiscing about his childhood, said many a special trip was made to go by to see the horse in the window, while the family was in town doing business. This writer can remember hearing my grandmother, Mrs. Alice Estes Miller, say as a child she would ask her father to please drive the family buggy past the Wolter Harness and Buggy Shop to see if the horse was still standing in the window, before they rode back to Burfordville after doing their trading in town.

And the horse still stands in the window. Oh, the stories the horse could tell if it could talk!

Farmland to Scenic Park

By JOHN L. WESCOAT

For many years John G. Putz, a resident of Jackson, was a correspondent for The Southeast Missourian and wrote in descriptive language of the beauty of the Mississippi River hills, particularly in the spring and fall when the foliage was bedecked in its greatest beauty. Without a doubt he did more to promote the idea of creating a state park along the Mississippi River than any other person. Year after year his plea was to set this area aside as a park so the flora and fauna could be preserved for future generations.

When Charles Boutin of Cape Girardeau became a member of the State Park Board he called a meeting of

several Cape County citizens to tell them that if Cape County would purchase approximately 3,500 acres of this hill land and offer to donate it to the State Park Board, he thought he could have the board accept it and develop it into a state park. The group he called together included the following men: Louis H. Schrader, A. E. Earl Stovall, George Priest, Bill Wampler and R. B. Medlock of Jackson, and Leonard Rehg, B. E. Montgomery, Ted Regenhardt, A. C. Brase, Thomas L. Meyer, W. P. Meyer, John Craig and John Wescoat of Cape Girardeau.

On being informed of the possibility, the group immediately organized and set in motion the organization to secure the options on the land and to work out a plan to finance the purchase. A. C. Brase was elected chairman



Trail of Tears State Park - Cherokee Indian crossing at Moccasin Springs, 1839

Southeast Missourian

of the delegation and he in turn appointed me as chairman of the committee to secure the options.

Due to our inexperience several time consuming mistakes were made. First, options were secured for only a six month period. Some of the options were rather difficult to secure and before they were finalized some of the first options had expired! Secondly, we had thought about paying for the land by donations from business establishments and interested citizens but not a cent was raised in this manner, so the options expired along with much of the interest in a state park that had been promulgated.

Chairman Brase, Charlie Boutin and I immediately went before the County Court and solicited their support for the park.

Plans were worked out to secure citizens to sign a petition requesting the court to call a special election to bond the county for \$150,000 which represented a one mill tax on a \$55 million assessed valuation for a period of three years.

While this plan of financing the project was being worked out, as chairman of the option committee, I was busy renewing the options for a period of time long enough to hold the election, sell the bonds and buy the land as most of the other members of the committee were busy with their own work and some were skeptical about securing the necessary support from the public.

In recalling those days, I am reminded of some interesting moves that had to be made to make the park a reality. Mrs. Orvill Holcomb owned 40 acres which were in the boundaries of the proposed park. When I talked with her about an option on her land, she agreed to give it in exchange for a few acres outside the park on which her family could build a cabin. Robert Jennings owned 120 acres in the proposed park site and he agreed to give the county an option on this acreage if they would secure him a couple of acres across from the park and allow him to move his house there.

In order to secure these two tracts I secured an option from Ode Windeknecht on 56 acres which fronted on the gravel road and to the west of the proposed park. I then went before the County Court and explained the transaction. I told them the 56 acres was secured for the same

amount of money that Mr. Windeknecht would sell the 12 acres needed for the park and as the county would have no need of the remaining 44 acres I requested that they deed 22 acres to the Otahki Girl Scout Council and 22 acres to the Southeast Missouri Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

This they agreed to do and as a result the Holcomb and Jennings tracts were secured for the park, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts received land near the park, Mr. Jennings received two acres and Mrs. Holcomb received 10!

Wilson Froemsdorf lived on some acreage in the proposed park area and he gave me an option on this, leaving him with about 20 acres south of the Moccasin Springs Road on which he planned to build a new home. The State Park Board notified Mr. Boutin that they would have to have the land on both sides of Moccasin Springs Road in order to control the area -- building, traffic, etc.

I went back to Mr. Froemsdorf to explain this and he said that as he had a job with the U. S. Engineers, reading the water gauge on the Mississippi which he did not want to relinquish, he would need the new home in order to conveniently handle his job.

Mrs. Mae Morrow owned 40 acres up on the hill which had a small house on it. This 40 acres abutted the south line of the proposed park. After several trips to see Mrs. Morrow I secured an option on her ground and then went back to Mr. Wilson and offered him a specific amount of money for his 20 acres, agreeing to give he and his wife a lifetime dowry in the Morrow tract which would return to the park at their death. Mr. and Mrs. Froemsdorf agreed to this, and so another part of the park was put together!

MANY OPTIONS

Without going to the record books I can recall many of the people I secured options from in addition to those already mentioned; such as, Robert Sides, Joe Schenimann, Robert Schenimann, Lester Gohn, Charles Windeknecht, Hirschel and Jean Windeknecht, O. J. Miller, M. D., Bertrude and Gertrude Bray, Red Ervin, Grover Gollisher, Loren Buchheit, Willie and Norma Steinhoff and Marion Kamp. The options on tracts owned by Fred Course and Mr. Leimer were secured by members of my committee. This was the park in its entirety with the exception of the Russell Fristo tract which was a rock quarry. This tract became available at a later date and I arranged for its purchase under the most trying circumstances.

While the work on the options was proceeding, petitions were circulated over the county receiving 2,834 signatures of voting citizens, requesting the County Court to call a special election for Tuesday, April 24, 1956, at which time the people of Cape County had a chance to put their stamp of approval on the State Park.

Before the election I took groups of interested citizens on tours of the proposed park to promote interest and the editor of The Southeast Missourian, John L. Blue, accompanied me on one of those tours. He wrote a glowing article, "Proposed State Park Site Decked with Rugged Beauty" which had a great influence in selling the park to the voters. How well they were sold is attested to by the overwhelmingly favorable vote of the day of the election -- 5,625 for to 699 against! Thus the Trail of Tears State Park became a reality and a lasting monument to the Cherokee Indians for the heroic suffering they endured during their forced march from Georgia and South Carolina to Oklahoma. The rugged beauty of the river hills were preserved as a park to be used by generations yet to come.

Bollinger Mill and Covered Bridge

By KATHERINE H. COCHRAN

Bollinger Mill and Covered Bridge at Burfordville are popular tourism attractions in southeast Missouri. Located in northwestern Cape County south of Highway 34 on the west bank of Whitewater River and County Road HH, the mill property became a state park on July 13, 1967.

The five-story brick mill is the third building erected on the original foundation since George Frederick Bollinger built the first log water mill in 1800. A focal point since territorial days, farmers hauled grain to Bollinger's Mill to have it ground into meal and flour. They received one pound of milled grain for every three pounds of sheaves. The toll collected in grain by the miller paid him for his work, and enabled him to sell meal and flour to persons who did not farm or who ran out of supplies.

George Frederick Bollinger of Lincoln County, N. C., and a traveling companion name Moose ("Meus"), came to Cape Girardeau District in 1798 when it was under Spanish rule. Bollinger hoped to obtain land. As the fourth son of a Revolutionary soldier killed by the Tories, he had no inheritance rights in North Carolina where English law on the subject prevailed.

Bollinger approached Lorimier, Spanish commandant of the district, about land, and was promised 800 arpens (640 acres) providing it was settled and showed some improvement within a year. He returned to North Carolina and persuaded six of his brothers and their families to join him in this land venture, as well as some other relatives and friends and their families.

The westbound wagon train crossed the Mississippi into Cape Girardeau District on Jan. 1, 1800. It was a bleak, cold, gray day and the river was frozen. Each of the 20 families received land and proceeded to their assigned tracts along Whitewater where they erected log houses in the wilderness, and began to carry out the terms of their agreement with the commandant.

Before the year ended Bollinger erected a grist mill on the west bank of the river to process grain raised by the settlers. The mill building was supported by huge limestone blocks quarried from the base of the hill behind his house. Stones were dragged into position by ox teams.

Bollinger's log house was in front of the mill, back a safe distance from the river. On top of the hill he reserved a plot for a cemetery. The homesite, hill and cemetery are now the property of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Peter of Burfordville.

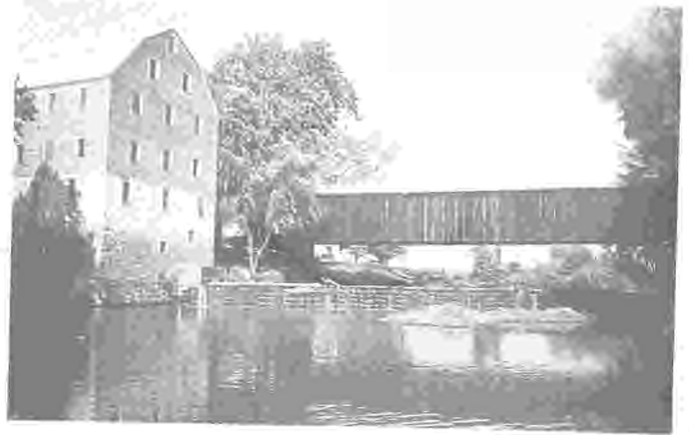
Bollinger was made a full colonel during the War of 1812. He became one of the most influential men in southeast Missouri. A member of the first Territorial Assembly, one of the first senators and later a legislator. A widower, he raised and educated his only child, Sarah, and taught her the milling art.

TURBULENT RIVER

A log bridge spanned the river near the mill, beneath it a log dam supplied power to turn the turbines. Then as now Whitewater became turbulent during rainstorms.

The river played havoc with the log mill, the dam and bridge. Most of the time there was no bridge crossing, and fording the stream was dangerous. After Col. Bollinger's death his family decided to erect a new grist mill of frame on the same site. The mill foundations were reinforced and limestones replaced logs for the dam. The stone was obtained from the hill.

At the same time Joseph Lansmon of Cape Girardeau was engaged to build a bridge across Whitewater at the mill site. Lansmon chiseled his initials, J. L., and the date,



Old Bollinger Mill, covered bridge, and power dam, 1800

1858, on the southeast abutment, but before the bridge was completed the Civil War began. Union soldiers stationed in the area discovered Sarah was supplying flour to Confederate troops. They burned the mill, destroyed the bridge structure except the supports and unsuccessfully tried to blow up the stone dam. They also threatened to burn Sarah's home, but did not carry out their threat.

After the war Sarah sold the mill property to S. H. Burford. She could no longer operate the mill alone. Her two sons were in ill health, having been wounded in the war while serving in the Confederate army. Soon after the mill property was transferred, both sons died, and Sarah moved to Jackson.

Burford built the present five-story brick mill with the gabled roof in 1865, using white, black and Indian laborers engaged from a neighboring farm. Bricks were molded by hand from clay obtained near the river at the mill site. When the building was completed, school for village children was held on the top floor. The village was named Burfordville after Burford who was appointed the first postmaster. The covered bridge was completed about 1868, by Lansmon, and became part of the Jackson-Burfordville Toll Road. The mill is eight miles west of Jackson and approximately 18 miles from Cape Girardeau.

Cape County Milling Co. eventually purchased and operated the mill and held title to all mill property. When it ceased operations in 1950 the real estate was sold. Clyde A. Vandivort of Cape Girardeau in 1954 purchased the mill and all mill property, as a gift for his wife Julia Adele Sanford Vandivort, a direct descendant of Col. Bollinger. It was their intention to present the property as a gift to the state to be used for recreational purposes.

Before their plans were finalized, Mrs. Vandivort died in February 1955, and the plan was dropped temporarily. After Mr. Vandivort's death in 1956, his eldest son, Paul, who inherited the property, with his wife, Ida Marie, proceeded with park plans. As spokesman for the family, Paul Vandivort offered the mill property to the Cape County Historical Society to be used for public recreation. The gift was made when Mrs. Arthur W. Thilenius was president and included the mill and 24.07 acres.

On July 23, 1961, a number of persons officiated in an impressive ceremony at Burfordville, when a bronze marker was dedicated which recounted the history of the village, the mill, dam, bridge and park.

The historical society soon discovered that management of the property was detailed, time consuming and expensive. A nonprofit corporation, The Cape County

Realty Corp., was formed May 3, 1961, to transact mill-park business. This corporation later transferred the title to the Cape County Court on June 25, 1966, when Marvin Proffer was president. Clarence W. Suedekum, presiding judge of the court, accepted the title, acting with Herbert Brune and Walter H. Ford. The following June 13, 1967, the County Court transferred the title to the Park Board of Missouri with the exception of 3½ acres which was transferred to the Bollinger family as a right of way to the cemetery. The property transfer included the mill, park area and covered bridge, the later having been considered until then highway property and maintained by the State Road Department which restored the bridge in 1950.

The State Park Board made immediate repairs to the mill building, bridge and dam as well as the park. Tree

planting began, picnic and toilet facilities were added, and two ball diamonds; creek bridges were built and roads cut through wooded section; a park superintendent was appointed. To date, Elbert Sullivan, Alva Brown and Aubrey O. Muller have served in this capacity.

Bollinger Grist Mill is one of the oldest mill buildings in the country. It no longer operates as a mill. The adjoining covered bridge is one of five remaining in Missouri. Each year scores of persons visit Burfordville to see and photograph the historic mill, the 140-foot Howe truss bridge, read the plaques at the mill and the entrance of the village and enjoy the recreational facilities of this popular state park in Cape County, thus fulfilling the intent of the donors, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde A. Vandivort.

History of Funeral Homes



First ambulance in Southeast Missouri, 1913

By **WILLARD H. ESTES**
Former Funeral Home Director

Cape Girardeau's progress is due to the hardy pioneer spirit of our forefathers and has been passed on to succeeding generations. The people are the richest asset of Cape County as they have shown a determination to make it an ever better place to work and live.

When the first immigrants came to this county there were many and varied professions. The furniture and cabinetmaker was the logical one to become an "undertaker" as he could make coffins as needed. It was through his service to families in his community that the funeral profession developed.

The early undertaker had his funeral service and casket making in connection with his furniture store. Today, the business has been separated and in Cape County we find some of the finest funeral homes in the United States.

John Cluley was the first undertaker in Cape Girardeau. His furniture and undertaking place of business was at Harmony (Broadway) and German (Main) streets near where the First National Bank is now located.

He was recruited in the Cape Girardeau Home Guards in 1861 during the Civil War, and was a member of the Board of Education of the first public school held in the basement of the old Presbyterian Church in 1867.

During and after the Civil War embalming was first practiced in the U. S. and from the embalming process has come our embalming colleges, state and federal license

laws and other governing rules which has raised the funeral profession to a higher degree. All of the funeral homes in Cape County have complied with the law.

There is no profession in the U. S. that has grown as fast as the funeral profession. It has come from the early settlers laying out their dead in their homes and the use of the horse drawn hearse to modern funeral homes and equipment.

Gladstone said, "Show me how a people cares for its dead and I will measure their degree of civilization." Were Mr. Gladstone living today he would see how our funeral customs have developed as part of our social process and how our funeral profession is a product of social evolution and reflects the culture of our society.

WALTHER'S FUNERAL HOME

August Walther, a master furniture and cabinetmaker, arrived in Cape Girardeau from Germany in 1864 and established the "A. Walther." He designed, produced and sold finished products to the families of our community whether it was furniture or coffins. Mr. Walther, at this early date, was a driving force in raising the funeral profession in the county.

He retired in 1896 and his business was operated by his two sons, Rudolph and Albright. Albright sold his interest to Rudolph in 1910 and the business was known as "R. Walther." Rudolph died in 1912 and Albright returned to the firm and the name was changed to Walther's Furniture and Undertaking Co.

Present owners are B. A. and G. C. Walther, sons of Rudolph. In 1927, a funeral home was built at 230 North Middle, its present location, and G. C. Walther is president of Walther's Funeral Home. B. A. Walther is president of the furniture store.

Tony Hohler joined the firm in 1907 and later was vice president and general manager of the funeral home until his death in 1960. Virgil Welch, a member of the firm for 32 years, is now general manager.

BRINKHOPF-HOWELL FUNERAL HOME

Al Brinkhopf was another man in Cape County that knew the need for the funeral director. He established a furniture store and funeral service which was known as the Brinkopf Furniture and Undertaking Co. in 1906. In 1923 Mr. Brinkopf built the funeral home at 536 Broadway. It is said to have been the first funeral home built for the purpose of funeral services between St. Louis and Memphis.

Miss Erna Brinkopf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al Brinkopf, the first lady to become a licensed embalmer in this county, married Joe G. Howell in 1930. The name

was changed to the Brinkopf-Howell Funeral Home.

The funeral home was sold Oct. 4, 1954, to H. W. Grossheider and is still operating under the same name. Mr. Grossheider constructed a new chapel, seating 250 persons, and other modern facilities were added. The funeral home, 536 Broadway, is now managed by Neil Grossheider, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Grossheider.

SPARKS FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sparks moved from St. Louis in the early summer of 1937, but it was August 1937 that they rented property at 416 North street and officially opened the Sparks Funeral Home Sept. 8, 1937.

The Sparks purchased property at 426 North in the late summer of 1939 and after extensive repairs and alterations moved into the building October, 1939.

Mr. Sparks died May 21, 1956, and Mrs. Louise Sparks operated the business alone for over 10 years. Sept. 22, 1967, Mrs. Sparks incorporated with W. D. Purnell and Charles R. Williams, a licensed embalmer, and operates funeral homes here and at Charleston.

LORBERG FUNERAL HOME

The Lorberg Funeral Home was started November 1910 and known as The Harrig Furniture and Undertaking Co. The establishment was located at 635 Good Hope, owned by Martin G. Lorberg and Josha Anderson.

Mr. Lorberg purchased the interest of Mr. Anderson in 1911. At first caskets were sold and in 1912 E. P. Thomas was employed as an embalmer. Mr. Lorberg brought the first ambulance to southeast Missouri, a horse drawn vehicle, in 1913.

A new building was erected in 1920 at 215 South Sprigg for his business, now named the Lorberg Furniture and Undertaking Co. Mr. Lorberg was licensed as an embalmer about 1916.

The Lorberg Funeral Home, 433 South Sprigg, was started in 1928. Carlton J. Lorberg joined the business, with his father, upon graduation from high school in January, 1930, and was a licensed embalmer before graduation.

Martin G. Lorberg died in 1958 and Carlton J. Lorberg purchased the property and remodeled it. He is presently serving as chairman of the State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

FORD AND SONS FUNERAL HOME

Walter H. ("Doc") Ford and Ross Young opened the Ford-Young Funeral Home, 118 South Sprigg, Nov. 1, 1949, and the firm operated under this name until Jan. 1, 1957. The interest of Mr. Young was purchased July 1, 1953, by Walter H. and Walter J. Ford.

Ford and Sons opened another funeral home in Benton, Jan. 1, 1957. The building has been remodeled on two different occasions and the size was more than doubled in 1965.

The new funeral home at 118 South Sprigg was built in June, 1957. A new chapel, seating 200, was completed in 1965. As their funeral home was enlarged, houses on either side were purchased and dismantled. In 1973 another major addition was added to the north side of their building. The entire funeral home will accommodate five families comfortably.

Walter J. Ford became manager of the firm July 1, 1957, and president July 1958 at the death of Walter H. Ford. Jerry W. Ford, secretary, joined the firm July 1956 and Don K. Ford, treasurer, July 1960. Mary Frances, widow of Walter H. Ford, is vice president of the funeral home and the mother of the three boys.

Harold Cobb, an employe, has been with the funeral home for eight years.

Ford and Sons Funeral Home has this motto:

"We do not do the people a favor by being there;

The people do us the favor by letting us stay."

McCOMBS FUNERAL HOME

The first ledger of record for the years 1864 to 1866 shows Mr. Moreland owned the company. Caskets were made and trimmed. The families chose the trim, such as a rose, and it was tacked into the wood or box-type casket.

In the late 1800s the company was owned by J. E. Schmuke and Henry Bartels and was located where McCombs is operating today at 116 South High, Jackson.

J. W. McCombs purchased the business March 1906. On Jan 15, 1929, the business was incorporated with Henry Boss, B. A. Meyer and Hope Morton as partners of Mr. McCombs. Later a branch store was established in Perryville under the name of McCombs-Pheiffer Furniture Co.

In an interview in 1936, Mr. McCombs said, "embalming was regarded as sacrilegious and when a body had to be kept for several days, ice was used. We had no church truck, just an ordinary bier; there were no lowering devices but caskets were let down with ropes. The horse-drawn hearse was the only conveyance used to carry bodies to the cemetery."

Kurre Allen, who had been working for the company, became a partner in 1943 when Mr. McCombs died.

In 1942, the company purchased the Presbyterian Parsonage, 117 North High, and the building was remodeled for a funeral home. From 1929 to 1942, funeral services were conducted from the furniture store and from family homes.

Since 1956, the business has been managed by Perry Grindstaff, Elmer Best and Bruce Dockins. Mr. Best died Oct. 10, 1971. Mr. Grindstaff became an owner in 1947 and Mr. Dockins in 1959.

On April 19, 1971, McCombs Furniture and Undertaking Co. announced plans for a new modern colonial designed funeral home to be built on Route D, and it was formally opened Jan. 16, 1972.

CRACRAFT-MILLER, INC.

The Wessell Furniture Co. was organized May 16, 1917. John G. Heinberg was elected chairman, other members were Ben W. Schwab and William Wessell.

June 8, 1917, William Wessell sold his stock to W. T. Ruff and John G. Heinberg sold his interest to M. G. Lorberg.

Ben W. Schwab sold his shares to John R. Talley June 12, 1917. Mr. Wessell again attained shares in the company. June 4, 1924, John R. Talley sold his shares to S. C. Cracraft. On May 2, 1925, Ray G. Miller acquired the stock of W. T. Ruff. Ray G. Miller sold some stock to T. K. Allen May, 1936.

In the early 1940s Mr. Cracraft and Mr. Miller acquired the stock owned by Mr. Allen and Mr. Lorberg.

On Jan. 25, 1944, they purchased what was known as the Joe Grant property to be used as the Cracraft-Miller Chapel.

The Wessell Furniture Co.'s name was changed to Cracraft-Miller, Inc., May 1944, and the stockholders were S. C. Cracraft, Bernice M. Cracraft, Gene C. Cracraft and R. G. Miller.

The property on which the present furniture store is located was purchased Feb. 15, 1958 and March 1962, the new furniture store was constructed.

T. N. Boudinot purchased shares of stock April 1, 1962 in the Cracraft-Miller, Inc.

Construction was started May 29, 1970, of a new funeral chapel, adjoining the present funeral home, and work completed October 1970.

S. C. Cracraft died April 19, 1972. Shares of stock were acquired by Paul D. Biri and R. G. Miller, retired, April 1, 1973.

The present officers of the corporation are Gene C. Cracraft, president, Paul D. Biri, vice president and T. N. Boudinot, secretary-treasurer.

STRODER AND SON FUNERAL HOME

The Macke-Wilson-Howard Funeral Home was established in 1935 and operated under this name until 1937.

Macke-Wilson-Statler Funeral Home operated from 1937 until 1940.

Wilson-Statler-Seabaugh Funeral Home was in business from 1940 to 1947.

Seabaugh-Laird Funeral Home was established in 1947.

Deneke-Laird Funeral Home was established in 1951.

Stroder and Son Funeral Home was purchased Oct. 1, 1969 and is located at 110 West Mary, Jackson.

HAMAN FUNERAL HOME

Lawrence Haman established the Haman Funeral Home, 107 South Sprigg Street, Jan 1, 1930.

Mr. Haman was employed at Brinkopf Furniture and Undertaking Co. from 1912 until 1929. He attended the Armbruster School of Embalming, St. Louis. He operated

a successful funeral home and retired in November of 1967.

The funeral home was sold to Mr. Steinhagen who continued in the profession from 1967 to 1969 when the business closed.

Among those in Cape County who have contributed their skills toward making the funeral business one which reflects dignity and professionalism are Lester R. Burchyett and Joe L. Lowes, both of Brinkopf-Howell, Cape Girardeau, Ivan Statler, Lawrence James and James Lorberg, all of Lorberg's, Cape Girardeau.

Vernon Auer, Walther's, Cape Girardeau; Oscar Moll, McCombs, Jackson, and Sherman M. Cracraft, Jr., Cracraft-Miller, Jackson.

Funeral homes operated by the following men that had been in business from the 1800's until 1948 and have since closed are:

John Cluley, Charles Rueseler, Phil Hoche, Deevers & Estes, Elmer Seabaugh, Paul Hackney, James Cady and Bruening and Keustner General Store and Undertaking.

History in Cemeteries

By MRS. JOSEPH W. KRUEGER

Many years ago I became interested in my heritage and learned that most of my ancestors were some of the earliest settlers and first Americans of Cape Girardeau District.

I began trying to fill in names and dates on my family tree and, as a result, found myself visiting many cemeteries in search for them. As I was able to complete my family record I became aware of other families who lived near them, have recorded many tombstone records and have sent them to the Daughters of American Revolution Library in Washington where they will be preserved.

I began to read the history of this early settlement and wondered if I could locate the graves of these early settlers. I was particularly interested in the 20 families that came with George Frederick Bollinger in January of 1800 as four of them were my direct ancestors, they being Mathias Bollinger and wife, Priscilla Peterson, Phillip Bollinger and Elizabeth Slinkard, his wife, Peter Statler and wife Mary and Peter Grownds and wife Margaret of North Carolina. All came from Lincoln County and were members of the first Lutheran Church, later changed to the Whitewater Presbyterian Church of which the Rev. Samuel Whybark was minister.

Most of the cemeteries I have visited are off the roads and are in fields making it necessary to walk. Weeds, briars, climbing fences were part of this fascination. There were times when stones had to be dug from the ground and broken ones pieced together. Chalk was a must as it helps in bringing out the names for easier reading. Caution should be taken of soft ground or sunken graves.

It is interesting to note the types of tombstones, as the very old ones were nearly all alike. Most of them were tall and about three inches thick. Civil War soldiers are easy to spot as their Government markers are alike, giving the rank, name and the company the soldier served with.

The past two years I have become aware of our country's Bicentennial and started to work to find as many Revolutionary soldiers, the first Americans, who came to Cape Girardeau District. I began to find that I couldn't locate their graves as in many cases no stone was placed and many were buried on their land in private graveyards.



Don Louis Lorimier Pagoda in Old Lorimier Cemetery
Southeast Missourian

This I found to be true with my own ancestor, Pvt. Michael Schell who fought in the Battle of Kings Mountain, North Carolina. He received land on Caney Fork near Millersville for his service.

Court records became the next step in obtaining death dates and surviving heirs. This record will be published at a later date as a valuable source for proof of a Revolutionary ancestor.

I could write for a long time and tell of the many cemeteries I've visited and all the things that have happened but I would be very neglectful if I did not say

that this would not have been possible without the help of many friends. My deepest appreciation and thanks to everyone who helped in any way.

The following is a list of the Revolutionary Soldiers who came to Cape Girardeau District. I'm sure some of them are not buried here but moved on to other counties or states but court records and Houck's History of Southeast Missouri, Vol. III, page 84, are the sources for my proof that they were here. This list is to be placed on a plaque as the Bicentennial project of the Nancy Hunter Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution and is my contribution to my chapter and the Bicentennial Committee of Cape Girardeau.

John Abernathie, Capt. Amos Bird, Robert Brevard, Uriah Brock, Thomas Bull, Robert Chase, James Comster (Crouster? McChronister?), John Cochran, John Deck, Col. John Edwards, Mitchell Flemming (Fleming?), Robert Green (Greene?), John Harbison, Col. Christopher Hays, Thomas Hill, John Hitt, Ishimer (Ithamar?) Hubble, James Hutchinson, Christian Hahn, Alexander McLane, David McLane, Stephan Mayfield, Lt. Col. Stephen Ranney, Andrew Ramsey, Pvt. Michael Schell (Shell?), John Smith, Benjamin Taylor, Solomon Thorn, James Verden, John Walker, Maj. Thomas Willoughby Waters, Capt. Henry Whitener, Thomas Wrightington, and Jacob Yount.

The records of these soldiers are copyrighted.

Fair Always a Popular Event

By MRS. L. F. MEYER

The Southeast Missouri District Fair had its beginning when the Missouri General Assembly passed an act creating the Southeast District Agricultural Society in 1855 and appropriated \$3,000 for the project.

This organization served surrounding counties with headquarters for the annual fair in Cape Girardeau. The first fair was a success and the interest generated proved that an annual fair would be practical.

Nathaniel W. Watkins of Jackson was the first president. The second president was W. C. Ranney and he continued to head the fair until the beginning of the Civil War in 1860, when the fair was discontinued.

With the exception of the Civil War, the First World War and the Depression years, the fair has been held annually in the fall.

The purpose of the fair is to promote and encourage the qualities of entries regardless of the field of entry. The fair has had different locations. The first location was in a wooded area on South Frederick street. When the Civil War began, the Fairgrounds was used as encampment grounds for soldiers. It is now the location of St. Francis Hospital, which fronts on Good Hope street.

By the time the war ended the buildings were destroyed and the grounds were unfit for fair purposes.

There was a revival of the Agriculture Society by an act of the legislature in 1870 and funds were again appropriated for a fair. N. W. Kimball headed the association and later was succeeded by David H. Glenn. Vice president was L. F. Klosterman, secretary was Edward H. Engleman and treasurer was H. S. Astholtz. General manager at that time was August Shivelbine.

The second fair ground site was a 50-acre tract at the western edge of Cape Girardeau. This tract was enlarged in 1871 by the purchase of an additional 100 acres. The northern boundary was the Gordonville Road, and the eastern boundary was what is now Highway 61 South.

There were several disadvantages to this site, mainly its remoteness to pedestrians, and by 1897 the Fair Association was bankrupt. The grounds were sold and converted into a farm. However, the interest in a fair continued and a new fair association formed in 1900 in conjunction with the City Park organization and the enterprise was capitalized for \$15,000, stock was sold to finance the endeavor.

When one-half of the amount needed to finance the fair was deposited, plans proceeded. A 40-acre tract was purchased from Robert Sturdivant for \$2,000 in the western part of the city, long known as the Capaha

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL FAIR

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE
South-Eastern District Agricultural Society

WILL BE HELD AT

CAPE GIRARDEAU MISSOURI,

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

OCT. 11, 12, 13, 14 & 15, '81

Cape County Fair advertisement

Campgrounds. The Capaha Indians once used the grounds; some sources say there was a Capaha Village there.

After purchasing this new site improvements were started. A pond was excavated, and a grandstand was constructed. A pavillion known as Floral Hall was erected where many exhibits were displayed. Shelters for all the animals were constructed and much interest was manifested. However the first year the association lost money, and went into debt \$4,000.

On April 1, 1914, the Fair Association sold its interest in the land to the City of Cape Girardeau for park purposes and a new location was needed. In the meantime,

however, the fair continued to be held in what is now Capaha Park.

Because of the Depression which gripped the country, the fair was discontinued until 1929.

Ten years later a new Fair Association was formed in February of 1939, with Prof. John H. Gehrs as president. Five directors were chosen to serve with him. Professor

Gehrs died soon after being elected president.

Adolph Kies of Jackson was elected to serve his unexpired term and held the office from 1939 until 1954. During the Kies term of office the 94-acre Arena Park was purchased jointly by the Fair Board, the city park board of Cape Girardeau, and the Cape County Court.

Homecomers... a Big Event



First Jackson Homecomers, 1908

By BEVERLY K. MOLL
Jackson Journal Feature Writer

Hitch up Dolly to the wagon.. throw in a little hay... set in a basket of fried chicken and potato salad and jackets for that late ride home in the cool September evening... Yes, preparing to come to the first Jackson Homecomers of 1908 was a bit different than in recent years.

The first annual reunion of the Cape County Homecomers Association was held at Jackson, Sept. 24-25-26, 1908. It had been widely advertised for several weeks, and was a grand success. Coming home once again to family and friends made the celebration, 67 years ago, an event of great expectations -- one not easily forgotten.

The old town was gaily decorated with colors of purple, yellow and red. Cash prizes were offered for the best decorated homes. Arches were built along the principal streets. Connections were made with multicolored electric lights.

The sixth regiment of the Missouri National Guard held its encampment during the week, having arrived on a special train of the Iron Mountain Railroad (Missouri Pacific). The Guard got off the train and marched in precision up Main street behind the military band. The maneuvers of nearly 500 soldiers in their uniforms added well-liked pageantry as they marched out Main and turned south to their campground, where Russell Heights Cemetery is now located and also in the field east to the creek.

On Thursday at 8 a.m. festivities began with the salute of all steam whistles for about five minutes. At the band shell on High street the address of welcome was made by Edward D. Hays, probate judge of Cape Girardeau.

A march of school children passed by as the Honorable Thomas Mabrey rose to speak. His address started with: "Ladies and Gentlemen; No, that's too formal brothers, sisters, friends and neighbors, I am both glad and sad today. Glad to see so many of you here today that have done like I have and left business cares behind and come to once more mingle amid scenes of childhood and youth.

and sad because of the absence of so many faces that I once knew. . . ." The address lasted 'till 11 a.m., after which the crowd left to get dinner.

Gov. Joseph W. Folk was billed to speak in the school park at 2:30. He arrived about noon, dined with the officers and then reviewed the soldiers. He arrived at the speaker's stand on time, at his best.

The new Cape County Courthouse was dedicated at this time of Homecomers festivities. The dedication address was delivered by the Honorable Linus Sanford, one of the oldest lawyers of the county. Accounts say it was an able and long address, well-received by the audience. The courthouse, built for \$90,000, had been the topic of much discussion by both political parties for some time before the cornerstone was laid Sept. 20, 1906.

At 5 p.m. on the first day, a balloon ascension and parachute jump was held on the corner of North High and East Washington streets. A big bag was hung from a rope high between two poles. A hole was dug in the ground under the bag and a barrel set with both ends cut out. A wood-filled trench was dug 10 feet from that hole and covered with tin.

When the time came for the balloon to go up, volunteers grabbed the ropes to hold the balloon down. The wood in the trench was lit and a man poured cupful after cupful of kerosene on the fire to keep it blazing. The heated gas rushed toward the open barrel and up the balloon opening, causing the big bag to be filled with air.

As everyone held on for dear life, a man fastened himself to the little seat under the balloon and yelled, "Let her go." As everyone turned loose, the balloon and man rose. At the height of about 1,500 feet, the man parachuted to the ground. As soon as his weight was released, a sandbag upset the baloon, releasing hot smoke and gases. The balloon collapsed and fell slowly to the ground.

OLD SOLDIERS SPEAK

The feature of the second day's program was the unveiling of the Jeffers monument on South High street at the entrance to the cemetery. In a carriage side by side sat the two speakers, the Rev. J. S. Russell, an old Confederate soldier, and Col. Charles L. Moss, an ex-Union soldier. Mr. Russell had his arm shot off at Franklin, Tenn., in one of the bloodiest fights of the war. It was two days and nights before he got medical attention.

He said at this time he made up his mind to battle for the Lord. Unveiling of the monument was by Miss Annie Jeffers, attended by the Misses Helen Williams and Maud Medley, maids of honor. "Dixie" was played, followed by the closing music, "The Star Spangled Banner."

On Friday morning a military parade was held that many a small boy would not forget for a long time! Prancing horses and uniformed men made an impressive sight.

Held Saturday morning was the Old Fiddlers Contest. A gold-trimmed meerschaum pipe worth \$6 was won by Edward Walker. Other contests held were hog-calling and

chicken-calling contests for the adults and greased pig contest and sack races for the children.

(I deeply appreciate the following Jackson people for giving me their time and remembrances of the first glorious Homecomers celebration: Miss Augusta Vasterling, Mrs. Marvin Poe, Mrs. L. F. Meyer, Carroll Knox,

and Raymond McNeely. It was indeed a fun time of people meeting people and old friends meeting friends once again. As one of the county papers noted, "Wasn't it glorious; it looked like they all came back. Joyful was the Homecoming!")

Turner Hall . . . Symbol of Heritage

By MISS JUDITH CROW
Missourian Staff Writer

It was December 10, 1868, a note of obscure origin in *The Missourian* files tell us, that work was begun on Turner Hall, later known as the Opera House. The huge square-pillared brick building with finely-arched windows was to be more than a meeting place for the German Turner Society--it was for many years to be a center of culture and recreation for the entire community.

Facing Lorimier street at the northwest corner of its intersection with Broadway, Turner Hall occupies the site of Charles Ellis' public house, the first hotel in Cape Girardeau (built about 1805).

It is remarkable that, important as the Turner society was in Cape Girardeau, as evidenced by the imposing building, there is no information in standard reference works for this area as to when the society was organized, nor, indeed, when it was disbanded.

Turner Societies, or Turnvereins, were organizations of German immigrants and specialized in gymnastic exercises and other recreational activities.

In 1888, Turner Hall was purchased by the Masonic Lodge for \$3,000, and the name was changed to Opera House and Masonic Hall. It might be assumed, then, that the Turner Society either had been disbanded or at least had ceased to function widely. Goodspeed's *History of Southeast Missouri*, published in 1888, does not mention it among active organizations.

It is perhaps significant that Albert Gratenheim (sometimes written Grotehenn) who was the first president of the Cape Girardeau Turner Society, is not listed among those who, in 1868, contributed money, labor, and material to help build the hall.

Interestingly, several non-German names appear among the contributors, who included many if not most of the prominent citizens of the Reconstruction era.

M. Dittlinger \$1,350 (paid with lime and lumber); Christian Hirsch \$500; Herman Bader \$300; L. F. Klostermann \$200; G. A. Tirmenstein \$200; G. C. Thilenius \$300; Camman Bros. \$200; Nicholas Gonner \$75 (making plans); S. Hanney \$500; August Bierwirth \$100; H. Brandes \$200; August Walther \$200 (paid in work).

C. W. Sackman & S. E. Schievelbein \$100; Dr. S. A. Henning \$100; Henry Vasterling \$50; Gustav Schlicker \$50; Wm. Bierwirth \$50; Henry Vollmers \$100; Phillip Stoll \$50; Robert Sturdivant \$500; Henry Stratman \$50; H. Manke \$50; Kinnard & Eutten \$50; F. D. Dormeyer \$100; Henry Kopper \$50.

H. D. Brennecke \$100; H. A. Friedrich \$100; Heinrich Sander \$50; W. B. Wilson \$25; T. J. Rodney \$125; Albert Jackson \$100; B. Bahn & Bros. \$100; Wm. Nothdurft \$25; W. M. Hamilton \$25; E. A. Kimmel \$200.

Wm. Theuerkauf \$200; N. Wichterich \$200; Wm. Warner \$200; Goetz & Weiser \$200; Louis M. Miller \$200; Adolph Yaeger \$150; John A. Franck \$200; Ed. Oertel \$100; E. H. Vasterling \$50; Caspar Uhl \$100; Henry Haare \$50;



Turner Hall, 1868

H. Noenninger \$200; Julius Vasterling \$100; Wm. Bergmann \$50; John Daus Jr. \$200.

Conrad Kempe \$100; L. C. Franck \$50; J. & S. Albert \$200; Ernest Umbeck \$25; A. D. Leech \$200; Leopold Horsten \$50; Charles Buehrmann \$100; August Schlueter \$250; G. Cramer \$100; Fritz Counterling \$50; Ernest Osterloh \$50; Pierre Lossom \$200; John S. Felbruno \$100; N. M. Kimmel \$200; and August Baer \$50.

So Turner Hall, according to this list, cost about \$8,850; and inasmuch as many of the Turner Society were fine artisans -- brickmasons, carpenters and the like -- much skilled labor doubtless was contributed after the initial donations were made.

In 1927, when the Opera House was undergoing some remodeling, a pioneer carpenter, Phillip Steck, recalled the impressive ceremonies at the cornerstone-laying for the building. It was Mr. Steck's memory that Turner Hall was built in 1864 or 1865, but other authorities are generally agreed on the 1868 date, and the economic conditions obtaining at the end of the Civil War would seem to support the later date.

Mr. Steck described the Turner Society as being made up of 200 or 250 men representing the leading families in the life of the town at that time; it was THE most important social organization of the community and very popular.

In the box of the cornerstone, he recalled, were placed a group picture of the Turners and several newspapers, in addition to several other objects.

Brick for the building, Mr. Steck said, was made in a brickyard at the corner of Good Hope and Lorimier streets later known as the Schwepker property, and the windows and doors were made on the premises.

Nicholas Gonner, the man who planned Turner Hall, was

a native of Luxembourg who came to Cape Girardeau to join friends from his homeland.

Mr. Gonner was a civil engineer as well as an architect and contractor, and in 1870 was the author of a series of newspaper articles advocating the building of gravel roads to encourage rural land development.

Before he left Cape Girardeau Mr. Gonner also erected St. Mary's Cathedral, and an unknown number of other buildings, many of which are probably still standing, their identity unknown.

Turner Hall has long been admired by architects and builders; it is said to display the finest brickwork in this area. It is typically German in its sturdy grace, although it was given a "French" name and air by the late Richard Barnhouse, who established a restaurant with a kind of New Orleans atmosphere on the lower floor in 1955, and converted a portion of the upper floor into elegant living quarters.

Mr. Barnhouse and his associates, to their everlasting credit, saved the historic building from being razed to make way for that ubiquitous mark of Progress, a parking lot.

In the once-elegant theater in the upper portion of Turner Hall, long-since fallen into decay, there appeared amateur theatricals put on by debutantes, society matrons, young gallants, and stalwart business and professional men, lyceums, traveling drama companies, and concerts--band, orchestra, and vocal.

Cole Younger once lectured there on his 14 years as an outlaw, and "Blind Boone," a gifted Negro pianist, filled the walls with matchless music.

In the years when Dr. C. E. Schuchert owned it

(1912-1921), there were many stirring concerts by Schuchert's Band, which served as the Sixth Regiment Band during World War I and was a forerunner of the Cape Girardeau Municipal Band. Boxing matches were held there, also, harking back to Turner gymnastics.

It is said that in the early years there was an opening in the north wall, at the back of the stage, and on hot summer evenings customers were wont to sit outside in a beer garden, sipping suitable refreshments, while entertainment was presented from the stage. The opening, bricked-up, is visible near the north-northwest corner of the building, although the stairway which led to the theater from the south or Broadway side, has long ago vanished.

In later years, however, the coming of movies and other forms of entertainment diminished the need for Opera House facilities, and the stage-auditorium was abandoned. Apartments were made in the upper portions of the building, while various business enterprises have occupied the lower floor.

In 1904, the first issues of *The Daily Republican* by Naeter Brothers were produced in the southwest corner rooms. A Chinese laundry was operated in the building for many years, and almost continuously there has been an eating place of some sort there.

In the solid dignity of its architecture the dauntless craftsmanship of its construction, and its determined continuing service, Turner Hall stands as a symbol of that which is strong and abiding in Cape Girardeau's heritage. As the city grows, sturdy old buildings, such as this, both public and private, provide reference points by which to evaluate what is called progress.

History of Missouri Flag

Editors Note.

"Cape Girardeau, Home of the Missouri State Flag." By action of the City Council on Jan. 22, 1975, this became the official slogan of the city that has rightfully claimed the title since 1913.

It was in the stately Oliver home at 740 North street, built for Sen. R. B. Oliver in 1898, that the flag was designed and hand sewn. J. B. Legg of St. Louis was architect for the fine residence, with John Madden of Cairo, Ill., as contractor, Messrs. Biggs and Burton as painters, and a Mr. Boyle as plumber.

In the accompanying account of the creation of Missouri's state flag, by the late Allen L. Oliver, who died Feb. 10, 1970, refers to Senator Arthur L. Oliver of Caruthersville and Representative Charles C. Oliver of Cape Girardeau County. Both were nephews of Sen. R. B. Oliver.

Allan L. Oliver, who was an attorney and a civic leader in Cape Girardeau more than 60 years, presented the accompanying account of the flag's making at a meeting of the Cape County Bar Association at the opening session of Common Pleas Court on Nov. 23, 1953, during which new flags were presented the court.

Miss Mary Kochtitzky, to whom he refers, called herself in later years Mrs. Oliver's "amanuensis" in the flag project: she was the daughter of Otto Kochtitzky, father of drainage work in southeast Missouri; she died Jan 20, 1973. Mrs. S. D. McFarland was the wife of the manager of the International Shoe Co. plant here.

Mr. Oliver presented the delicate fabric of the original flag to Secretary of State Warren E. Hearnes in an impressive ceremony in the House of Representatives at Jefferson City on Flag Day, June 14, 1961.

By ALLEN L. OLIVER

The State of Missouri has had an official state flag since the 22nd day of March 1913. It was conceived, designed and created by my mother, Mrs. Marie Elizabeth Watkins Oliver, at the stately Oliver home at 740 North street here. By common consent she kept it in her home until her death in October 1944.

In 1908, the Daughters of the American Revolution appointed a committee to initiate a move to prepare a design for a state flag and if possible to secure the passage of a bill making it the official flag of the state.

My mother, a member of that committee, immediately began a study, corresponded with all of the other states, and after months of such study and research designed this flag. She called to her assistance Miss Mary Kochtitzky, then of Cape Girardeau, an artist of much skill and taste, to assist her in the execution and painting of the design.

Then my father, former Sen. Robert Burett Oliver, the husband of the designer, prepared and sent to Sen. Arthur L. Oliver of Caruthersville a draft of a bill and he introduced it in the Senate on March 17, 1909. Another bill was introduced by a Dr. Holcomb in the House of Representatives for the adoption of a different flag.

Sen. Oliver, after conferring with my mother as to the meaning and interpretation of the design of the flag and what it stood for, publicly stated:

"The Constitution of the state provides that the emblems and devices of the Great Seal of the State as heretofore prescribed by law, shall not be subject to change. The coat-of-arms is a part of the great seal of the state and unquestionably should be made a prominent

feature of a state flag. The Doctor Holcomb design for a state flag introduced in the House is objectionable in that it does not contain the coat-of-arms, and because the general design is similar to the national flag.

"It is liable to cause a confusion in the field and elsewhere. There is nothing in the Holcomb design that indicates state sovereignty of the relation of the state to the Union, except the abbreviation of Missouri by the use of the letters 'Mo.' "

"The design I offer embraces all the colors of the national flag -- red, white and blue -- which recognizes that the State of Missouri is a part and parcel of the federal government.

"At the same time it represents the state as possessing a local independence, a local self-government, but in perfect harmony with the great national compact, as shown by the mingling of the colors, red, white and blue, on every side of it.

"The coat-of-arms of the state is in the center of the national colors and represents Missouri as she is -- the geographical center of the nation. The (24) stars on the blue band encircling the coat-of-arms signifies that Missouri was the twenty-fourth state admitted into the Union of States. The blue in the flag signifies vigilance, permanency and justice, the red, valor; and the white, purity.

"The crescent on the shield, in heraldry, represents the second son, so our crescent on this shield denotes that Missouri was the second state (Louisiana being the first) formed of the territory of the great Louisiana Purchase. The helmet of the coat-of-arms indicates enterprise, and hardihood and signifies state sovereignty.

"The great grizzly bears are peculiarly appropriate to a state traversed by the Missouri River, and in our coat-of-arms and on this flag these bears signify the size of the state, the strength of the state and the courage of her people, and further, they represent protection to the state from invasion from every source.

"This design for a state flag represents that while we, as a state are independent and support ourselves as a state, we are also in perfect harmony with and constitute an important part in the support and maintenance of the national government. The motto shows that the will of the people is the supreme law of the state. This flag, therefore, stands for something."

On April 21, 1909, the Senate passed the bill by a vote of 24 to 1, but the bill failed to pass the House.

In 1911 the "Oliver Flag Bill," as it was known, was again introduced in the Senate by Arthur L. Oliver and was approved by a vote of 23 to 2. During that 1911 session of the General Assembly the State Capitol burned and that flag, being in the Capitol was likewise destroyed in that fire.

Mrs. Oliver again set to work, and having called to her assistance Mrs. S. D. MacFarland, then residing in Cape Girardeau, made the present flag. She sent it to Sen. Olivier at Jefferson City to enable the members of the General Assembly to see its effect and its beautiful design and blending of colors. In the confusion and delay incident to the fire the bill again failed to pass in the House of Representatives.

In the meantime the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Colonial Dames of Missouri each formally and cordially ratified and approved the design of this flag and urged the General Assembly to adopt it and make it the official flag of the state.

In 1913 Charles C. Oliver, representative of Cape Girardeau County in the General Assembly, introduced the "Oliver Flag Bill" in the House on Jan. 21, 1913. It met with almost unanimous approval by the members of the House and was adopted on March 7, reported to the Senate and there, for the third time, met with favorable action of that body. The bill was signed and approved by the governor on March 22, 1913, since which date it has been the official flag of Missouri.

When Mrs. Oliver transmitted the flag to Sen. Arthur L. Oliver she wrote him and gave to him the interpretation and meaning which was later given by him to the public press. It bespeaks patriotism to the state as well as patriotism to the national government.

As the judge of a court is the emblem of judicial authority, so the the flag is the emblem of love, devotion and respect.

From the earliest days of recorded history, men of valor have had banners and flags carried in the forefront when the battle was on. From the earliest days men have been willing to lay down their lives for their flag as emblematic of their country.



Marie Elizabeth Watkins Oliver and Missouri State Flag.

OFFICIAL SONG OF CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI

A ROSE FOR CAPE GIRARDEAU



Brightly

A rose for Cape Gir--ar-deau, with all its ra-diant hue. A

rose for Cape Gir --ar-deau, re-veals a thought of you. It

brings a ray of sunshine, of friendship warm and true, a

rose for Cape Gir --ar-deau, glows in my heart for you. There's

not a rose of glo-ry, that is of great re-nown, as the

rose here in this sto-ry, that blooms in my home town. A

rose for Cape Gir --ar-deau, with all its glow and hue, a

rose for Cape Gir --ar-deau, pro--claims its fame through you.

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