

# THE HERITAGE NEWS

Issue 22

JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

April 2000

President:	Rebecca Gagnon
Vice President:	Lisa Thompson
Secretary-Treasurer:	Betty Olson
Newsletter:	Society Members

REMINDER: If you have not paid your annual \$10 membership dues since January 1, 2000, they are now due. Send to Betty Olson, 712 South Main Street, De Soto, Mo. 63020
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## YOU NEVER KNOW

David Halleman

When searching in the early deed books at the Jefferson County Courthouse you never know what you may find.

I've seen contracts where a man moved to Jefferson County with little or nothing and purchased all the supplies he needed to homestead from a local merchant. The contract for the purchase of the wagon, ax, shovel, etc. was listed in the warranty deed book along with the land transaction.

While searching for information on Buren Cemetery for this newsletter, I found a record dated 27 November 1858 where Madison Graham and James Ogle put up a \$500 bond to the state of Missouri to have Paschal H. Buren appointed a Notary Public as recorded in Book P, page 74.

Another document shows the heirs of Mr. Buren, whom he left his land to, with their married names. This is a great tool for a genealogist.

Once in a while you find a gem of a document that is very out of place in a land deed records book. The early citizens came from Kentucky and Tennessee with their slaves. They used these books to record any legal document. As I was checking Buren I happened to notice Louis Bolduc. You remember I wrote about him in the last newsletter, "Mystery of Glenfinlas." Bolduc was the first postmaster there.

Upon checking this document what a surprise to find a document emancipating his wife's personal slave. A deputy clerk in the

Recorder's Office had never heard of the record.

The following is recorded in Book G, page 315:

"Know all men by these presents that I, Louis Bolduc, of the county of Jefferson in the State of Missouri have this day, (e)manicipated and forever set free my certain Negro woman Lavina, aged about fifty years, about five feet high, black complexion and sound and healthy, which said Negro woman was born in the state of Georgia and inherited by Susan H. Martin afterward Susan H. Bolduc, from her mother Sarah Hogan, formerly Sarah (?)und. Thereby discharging the said Negro woman, Lavinia, from all bonds of servitude heretofore, owing to me as her master. In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal at Hillsboro in the County of Jefferson, in the state of Missouri, this 24th day of March in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five (1845). /s/Louis Bolduc"

From this document we can extract that Louis Bolduc was a slave owner, his wife's name was Susan, her previous name was Martin, her mother's name was Sarah Hogan, nee (?)und, and that Louis Bolduc was alive in 1845.

When doing historical or genealogical research don't overlook land records to add to the understanding of our county. You never know what you may find.

I also want to make a correction in my article titled "The Mystery of Glenfinlas" that appeared in our last issue. I stated "Mammoth Cave was in fact Mammoth Mines." This is an error. I should have said "Mammoth Cave was in fact near Mammoth Mines at Mammoth Crossing." Mammoth Mines were located about one mile east of Mammoth Crossing in Section 12.

## PETITION FOR THE CREATION OF JEFFERSON COUNTY

by Jean O'Brien

On December 8, 1818 a petition was presented to the General Assembly of the Territory of Missouri stating that the petitioners lived in the Townships of Joachim and Plattin, exterior settlements in the extensive counties of St. Louis and St. Genevieve, and that the remoteness of residences from their respective courthouses, from frequent obstructions arising from deep and rapid rivers, and from the great expense of mileage, Justice cannot be extended to them either conveniently, certainly and cheaply. In addition to these considerations the petitioners also stated it was inconvenient and expensive to attend Militia Regimental Musters and Court Martials in the present state of the Counties and prayed that a new county bounded by the limits herein mentioned be established.

Following this the metes and bounds for the new county were set out and it was further stated that these boundaries included a sufficient number of people to justify this appeal for a County, not intended for future division. The original petition was signed by the following men: S. Hammond, Benjamin Carter, William Brown, Matthew McPake (?), Adam Brown, Wm. F. Roberts, John Lamb, Robt. Simonton, Aaron Guernsey by his order, Thomas Evans, Richard Mattingly, John C. Benedict, J. Fendley, E. Ellis, John Hapburn, Elijah L. Ray, John Leon (?) and Wm. Stewart.

A second copy of the petition bears the additional signatures of James Dowlin, Robert Stewart, Cyrus Curtis, J. Findley, Elias Bates, James Davis, Joab Strickland, J. Kendal, Joseph Andrews, Alex Starbuck, Expedient Bouis, Richard Lembesson, W. Brown.

## RECORDS TRACE DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTY FROM ITS FOUNDING

(Excerpts from 1940 Centennial Newspaper)

The first available records of the county court show they met in Herculaneum on Jan. 7, 1825. The meeting was attended by Judges Benjamin Johnson, Jr., William Boly, George Hammond and Barry Hansel. Very little actual business was transacted at this meeting and the court adjourned to April 15. At that meeting which was a special session, Benjamin Johnston, Jr., George Hammond, William Boly, Barry Hansel, Samuel W. Lewis and Joseph Boring were present. Samuel McMullin was absent. Johnston was selected as president of the court and Boring was appointed as assessor. (He also served as sheriff.) Azariah Holcomb was appointed constable of Plattin Township, but the appointment was withheld pending approval of a \$500 bond.

The court met again on May 2, but adjourned because there was not a quorum present. They reconvened on May 5. At this meeting Holcomb's appointment was confirmed and William Ellis was appointed collector for the county. Elisha Ellis was licensed to keep a ferry at his landing opposite Harrisonville and posted a \$500 bond and \$10 tax. Ellis was also licensed to keep a tavern at his home in Herculaneum.

At the time the county seat moved to Hillsboro, the Hon. Julius Higgins was the presiding judge and Ezekiel Dugan and John M. Strickland were associate judges. John Hammond was sheriff, and John S. Matthews was the county clerk.

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### **BOOKS STILL AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE:**

1876 Atlas reprint \$15.00    Index to the Atlas Hardcover \$20    Softcover \$15.00  
Index to the 1898 Atlas, Softcover \$15.00  
1907 Jefferson County Directory, Softcover \$10.00  
Jefferson County Country Schools Hardcover \$29.00 (only 25 copies left)  
Jefferson County Postoffices, Softcover \$7.00  
Shipping and handling first book \$3.00 each additional book \$1.00. Order from Betty Olson,  
712 South Main Street, De Soto, MO 63020

## Why Was Centennial 22 Years Late?

By Della Lang

A friend called me recently to say she had found some old county newspapers in her late mother-in-law's attic. She asked if I would like to have them. Never one to turn down anything that pertains to local history, I immediately said yes.

One newspaper, published in May, 1940, was called the *Centennial Edition* of the Jefferson County Record. The complete newspaper, twelve pages long, was dedicated to the celebration of the Jefferson County Centennial of 1940.

This centennial celebration was no ordinary small town festival. Five hundred people performed in a spectacular pageant at Marsden Park in Hillsboro. This was obviously a huge affair. Performers interpreted life from the dawn of creation through one hundred years of local history. One hundred years?

The only problem with that is that Jefferson County was founded in 1818, so why were they celebrating the centennial in 1940? Why not 1918?

The county seat moved from Herculaneum to Hillsboro in 1840. Were those 22 years in Herculaneum so uneventful that they simply decided to ignore them? Maybe so!

I guess the next question is will the county celebrate its bicentennial in 2018, its real birthday, or in 2040, the birthday of the county seat at Hillsboro?

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### COUNTYSEAT MOVES TO HILLSBORO

At the west edge of town flows a spring that was presumably a deciding factor in moving the county seat to Hillsboro. The area had become a popular rest stop for travelers on the trail from Potosi to St. Louis. If the spring still exists, it is less productive than it was in 1840, but according to history the spring

produced an abundant supply of water for both men and beasts in those days.

The new courthouse was built in a square, which had the spring as its southwestern corner. It was in the square, or block, just west of the current location of the court house.

### Former Residents Write Letters About Centennial Celebration

(From the *Centennial Edition*)

Mrs. J. H. Reppy April 29, 1940

"I thought you might be interested in some data and photographs of my foster-parents Captain and Mrs. Charles Herbert, who were pioneers of Jefferson County.

Captain Herbert will still be remembered by a few old settlers. He and Mrs. Herbert took up several hundred acres of government land east of De Soto, and at one time were owners of several lots on Main Street in De Soto, on one of which was located the old Manheimer Store. The Herberts were friends of the Rankins, Hendricksons, Christians, Veaseys, Booths, Whiteheads, Hawkins, Fletchers, Marsdens, Bages, Haversticks, Sublets, Washburns, Vinyards, Reppys, Terrys, McMullins and others too numerous to mention. They took an active part in the Grange, a farmer's organization, along with the Morgans, Eshbaughs, Holmes, Creaseys, Hoskins, and I could, if time permitted, recall the names of many an old *Jefferson Countyite* that many may have forgotten.

Mrs. Herbert studied medicine. It was a case of necessity. It was during the year of the cholera in St. Louis, about 1848. Doctors and nurses were hard to find, so she donned a nurse's uniform and worked along with the few doctors who were not worn out. That was just a few years before she moved from St. Louis to Jefferson County. After she came to the county, doctors were still scarce, so she did

not give up her practice until just a few years before she died on May 1, 1900. There never was a night too cold or dark for her to ride over rough roads to see a sick child or grownup.

I am submitting this information because I think these two grand people should live forever in the hearts of the people of Jefferson County.

Yours very truly,  
K. Herbert Snyder"

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"Dear Judge Reppy,

I was born in Hillsboro, and lived there for seventeen years. I am very interested in the Centennial celebration, and I enclose a small check to help along the fun.

My father and mother were married December 25, 1856, in the log cabin later occupied by my Aunt Sue Walker. After the ceremony they left for Steelville, remained there two or three years, and moved back to Hillsboro.

I remember well the wedding of Aunt Virdie to Silver Dick Bland, but I think my greatest thrill I ever had was the reception given in honor of the marriage of Dick Hocken and Fannie Moss. Mr. and Mrs. Amor danced on old fashioned German Waltz, and they were like rubber *mannikins*, moving in perfect time.

I remember too, the burning of your father's home and we were all so excited because nothing could be done to save the place.

I remember so many entertainment's that were given and they were grand too. There was much talent there in those days."

Mrs. Winna T. Morgan

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#### PICTURES ANYONE?

Does anybody out there have a picture of the old bridge at Victoria over the Joachim Creek? We are also looking for pictures of the "swinging" bridges that crossed the Joachim behind the shoe factory and also behind the

railroad shops in De Soto. If you have a picture you are willing to loan so that we can make a copy, please call me at (636) 586-3858.  
Betty Olson

#### FUNERAL INDUSTRY PROGRESSED SLOWLY

By Della Lang

Before 1870 it was the responsibility of the grieving family to build a casket, hold a wake in the family home and bury the deceased, usually on the family farm.

Later, wagon makers and blacksmiths responded to the immediate needs of the distressed families by building caskets and providing wagon transportation from the home to the cemeteries. Selling caskets and renting wagons and buggies was a profitable sideline for their already established businesses. The farm wagon was eventually replaced by a fancy horse drawn hearse. In many cases, white horses were put in service for the death of a child, and black horses were used for adults.

When the practice of embalming the deceased became popular shortly before 1900, the local blacksmith/undertaker took a quick course in St. Louis and returned to Jefferson County to open what was to become another lucrative business - the funeral parlor.

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#### INTERNET ADDRESSES OF INTEREST

Visit Patty Fraser's Jeff. Co. web site at  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mojeff/index/html>.

Jefferson County Genealogy Society at  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mojcgs/index/html>

Jefferson County Historical Society at  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mojeffer/jchs/index.com>

THE DE SOTO WEEKLY FACTS  
JANUARY 9, 1896

Gone to Her Reward - Mary A. Cable departed this life at her home in this city on January 2, 1896, at 7:20 a.m. being 51 years old.

The deceased was the second daughter of Rose and Lavina Jelkyl, and was born near Farmington, Mo., Nov. 30, 1844. She received her education from her father who was one of the earliest instructors in St. Francois County, who left his home in England after completing a college course to try his fortune in America.

Mary being his favorite daughter and being associated so closely with him soon became the most apt scholar in the surrounding country.

At the age of 14, her father engaged in mercantile pursuit in the town of Farmington, and she was given a position in the store, the experience in which, had much to do in molding the firm business like character which pervaded her life.

When the war broke out the family moved to De Soto for greater security and the business continued under her charge, her father being away in the service of the forces of the North.

During the troublesome times of 1863-64, she was complimented for her bravery many times by those in command of troops stationed at De Soto, and when the troops were withdrawn to St. Louis upon the approach of Price and his army, and when the few men who were left to guard the families and property left behind were compelled to flee or remain in hiding, Mary Jelkyl was one of the very few women who were left to take care of the property of this city.

It is well known to those who resided here then that it was chiefly through her pleadings with the captain of the Rebel forces that caused him to desist from burning the town

on the night of that memorable raid. It was through her efforts that the fire that was thrice started to burn the hotel now known as the De Soto House, and which had been completed a short time, was extinguished.

NOTE: The De Soto House was later renamed the Arlington Hotel.



GRAVES AT HOME OF LOUISE COLE

The following material is submitted  
by Patricia G. McManus

James E. Donnell, died July ?, 1861

Louisa Donnell, Died Jan. 11, 1860, 3 yrs.  
3 mo 12 da

Both were in their 30's. Each had a tall stone marker inscribed. Each marker is broken into two large pieces. Much deterioration. Each piece rests on a side of a tree, visible from the road.

B. F. England bought land from the Donnells. When Franklin Cole, B. F.'s grandson, was living, he put the stones by the tree where they now rest. When Franklin's grandparents were living, the graves by the tree were at the end of the garden. Now the stones are in a horse pasture. (Jan. 26, 1999; information obtained from Louise Cole.)

BURRIS

One grave with four corner markers, Horine, Missouri. Arthur C. Burris, Jan. 17, 1883-Mar. 28, 1913. (Two words "Our\_\_?" under 24\_\_\_ Co. D. Marker broken into two large pieces.

BELLA GAMBA OR LUCAS CEMETERY  
Plattin Township, Jefferson County

Definite Graves: Robert Bella Gamba also known as Bob Lucas. Edward Bella Gamba, Allen Bella Gamba. Possible graves: Noah Williams, Lydia Bella Gamba Williams.

Robert, Edward, Allen, Lydia were siblings. Lucas Bella Gamba was their father. The boys used Lucas as a last name also. None of the boys married.

# *Isaac Stroud Baker Cemetery*

By Dave Hallemann

This beautiful well kept Cemetery with its stone wall around it and the Van Cleve Family Plot adjoining on the east outside wall, is located in T41 R5 S36 NE¼ on the line with Survey 1831.

The Cemetery is named for Isaac Stroud Baker born 1816 and died 1895. The earliest burial date is Mary S. 1857 and this is the date on the cemetery name as can be seen in the below picture.

This tract of land as first entered into record by William M<sup>c</sup>Donald and James Strickland of Jefferson County, Missouri, on 1 May 1826 and is recorded as Certificate # 1097 at the land office in St. Louis, Missouri. This tract consisted of 120.18 acres.

While searching records I lost the trail to whom M<sup>c</sup>Donald sold the tract to, however I found a document that stated that John Hammond acquired part interest from another Hammond who acquired his interest thru the will of William M<sup>c</sup>Donald. This was before 1844.

So I believe John Hammond bought up the interest of the other heirs and along with his wife Amanda sold the tract to Isaac S. Baker on 4 February 1854 including the NE¼ of the SW¼ of Section 35 containing 40 acres, also NE fractional ¼ of Section 35, and W½ NW¼ Section 36 and excepting out a certain piece of land across Joachim creek. Isaac Baker agreed pay \$300.<sup>00</sup> on 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1854 with \$800.<sup>00</sup> on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1854 and finally \$800.<sup>00</sup> on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1855. This transaction is recorded in Book M page 93 in the Recorder of Deeds office in Hillsboro, Mo.

Isaac S. Baker and his wife Nepoleana after having the land for just over 8 years, sold this tract to John J. Wright of St. Louis for \$2900.<sup>00</sup> as recorded on 9 April 1862 in Book S page 79. The legal description did not except out the cemetery.

The next deed shows title being transferred on 20 October 1865 from John Wright and wife Mary to James Mabee of Lincoln County, Missouri, for \$3500.<sup>00</sup> recorded in Book U page 199. Again there was no mention of the cemetery.

On a deed recorded in Book U page 477 on 7 March 1865 James Mabee and wife Rachael sell the tract to Christian F. Steinmeier both of Jefferson County for \$2000.<sup>00</sup> "The NE fractional ¼ Section 35 Township 41 Range 5 east .....*reserving and excepting also a certain piece of ground 30 feet square, situated on the within side of said NE fractional ¼ of Section 35 T 41 R5 adjoining Survey 1831, in the name of Thomas Maddin, seven chains 92 links westward from the SE corner thereof for the use of Isaac S. Baker as a family burying ground and now occupied as such,.....*"

This is the first mention of the cemetery as Isaac S. Baker and is carried on in a deed from Peter Steinmeier administrator for Christian Steinmeier, deceased, recorded on 7 April 1866. Property being sold to Daniel Warner as recorded in Book W page 561.

By 1876 Daniel Warner had acquired the Baker tract. The house in this tract *could* have been the Baker homestead. Also it can be noted that the amount of land listed is 115.78 this difference from the original 120.18 could be the results of more modern survey techniques or the exclusion of the Cemetery.

By 1898 Marcus Reust owns this tract with an additional 100 acres across the road. Again I am not sure why the acreage is less that in 1876 although the road seems to have changed a bit.

All the monuments in this cemetery are the same style, with the exception of the Van Cleves outside the wall, which are more modern.

The following person are listed on the stones in this cemetery;

Baker, Annie S. 1848-'83	Dewey, Frances Lottie 1891-1976
Baker, Baby	Dewey, Lottie (Baker) 1865-1926
Baker, Emmah 1860-1945	Dewey, Marshall Baker 1892-1962
Baker, Emmal Died 1945	Dewey, Rita May (Wife of Marshall) 1889-1969
Baker, Ewing 1843-'70	Dewey, (Sister of Marshall Baker) no dates
Baker, Isaac S. 1916-'95	M <sup>c</sup> M...., A 1834-'74
Baker, Levi 1791-1863	
Baker, Mary H Died 1857	
Baker, Mary V. 1855-'84	
Baker, Napoleana M. 1853-1915	<i>outside east wall</i>
Baker, R. Mason 1853-1930	Van Cleve, Ernest W. 1912-1955
Baker, R. O. 1812-'67	Van Cleve, Edward 1904-1909
Baker, W. D. 1859-'60	Van Cleve, Mary Elizabeth 1918-1919
Baker, H. E. 1852-'61	Van Cleve, Father Robert K. 1872-1950
G. L. K. E. (Baker?) 1847-'64	Van Cleve, Infant 1914
Davis, Frances E. no dates	Van Cleve, Mother Caddo L. 1878-1930

HEMATITE CEMETERY Recorded by Jerry McKee

Butlern, Lillian	2 mo, 16 days	01-27-1885
Carter, Emeline	52 years	02-20-1885
Carter, James	54 yrs, 1mo, 12d	02-12-1884
Dorcas, Susan	60 yrs	02-10-1888
Holmes, John	age 65 near Hematite	06-29-1887
Metchel, Charles	18 yrs	no date
Null, Curtis	31 yrs	06-25-1887
Null, Edward	30 yrs	10-30-1887
Null, Sarah E.	18 y. 8m.	03-14-1892
Ogle, Willis	2 days	04-16-1888
	(Methodist or Christian)	
Shoultz, Eddy	6 mo	08-06-1888
Tillison, Alen	14 yrs.	01-06-1892
Tillison, Hulda	17 yrs.	01-03-1889
Tillison, J.	2 m, 12 d	08-25-1884
Webster, Erma	4 mo	07-01-1888

## OGLE-NULL CEMETERY

Recorded by Jerry McKee

Row	Name	DOB	DOD	Parents
	Dickens, Mabel Adela	10-18-1893	09-19-1918	L.J.&M.S.
	Fields, Nancy Ann	07-06-1831	01-20-1902	Phoebe/Scott
	Frances, Sarah E.	12-07-1856	03-28-1880	Wm&P.A.
	Gault, Nancy Emeline	10-21-1858	10-19-1943	
	Hamman, Mary	04-1923 age 6m	1923	Mary Anne
	Hammon, Mary Anna Scott	10-06-1897	04-14-1923	
	McCormick, Infant son	10-05-0902	10-25-1902	M.J.&A.B.
	McKee, Alice M.	10-19-1878	02-25-1879	D.F.father
	Null, Albert F.	1880	1918	
	Null, Clementine	08-18-1878	06-28-11	J.W.&S.
	Null, Sophronia	1848	1918	
	Null, J. Wesley (Sophronia)	1852	1934	
	Ogle, George W.	08-22-1825	01-18-1877	
	Ogle, Hane D.	01-19-1826	12-07-1877	
	Reynolds, Infant	nd	nd	Thomas
	Reynolds, Infant	nd	nd	
	Scott, Dorris Marie	12-05-1924	09-01-1925	L.J.&Lucy
	Scott, Gertrude	12-19-1906	01-05-1907	L.J.&M.S.
	Scott, Herman Jackson	09-01-1904	07-24-1920	L.J.&M.S.
	Scott, Homer	18 yrs	nd	
	Scott, J. Newton	06-29-1890	08-08-1899	S.S.&M.
	Scott, Leonard Jackson	09-25-1869	05-30-1945	W.N.&P.A.
	Scott, Louise Margaret	nd	reburied in Woodlawn	
	Scott, Mary Meesey (Stephen)	nd	nd	
	Scott, Mary Sophronia (L.J.)			
	Scott, Sarah E.	11-07-1898	03-12-1899	S.S.&M.
	Scott, Stephen Smith (Mary M)	1866	10-25-1906	
	Scott, William Newton (Phoebe)	01-10-1831	04-17-1908	
	Williams, Delphine Edna	02-23-1?17	11-1-1?21	

### JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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