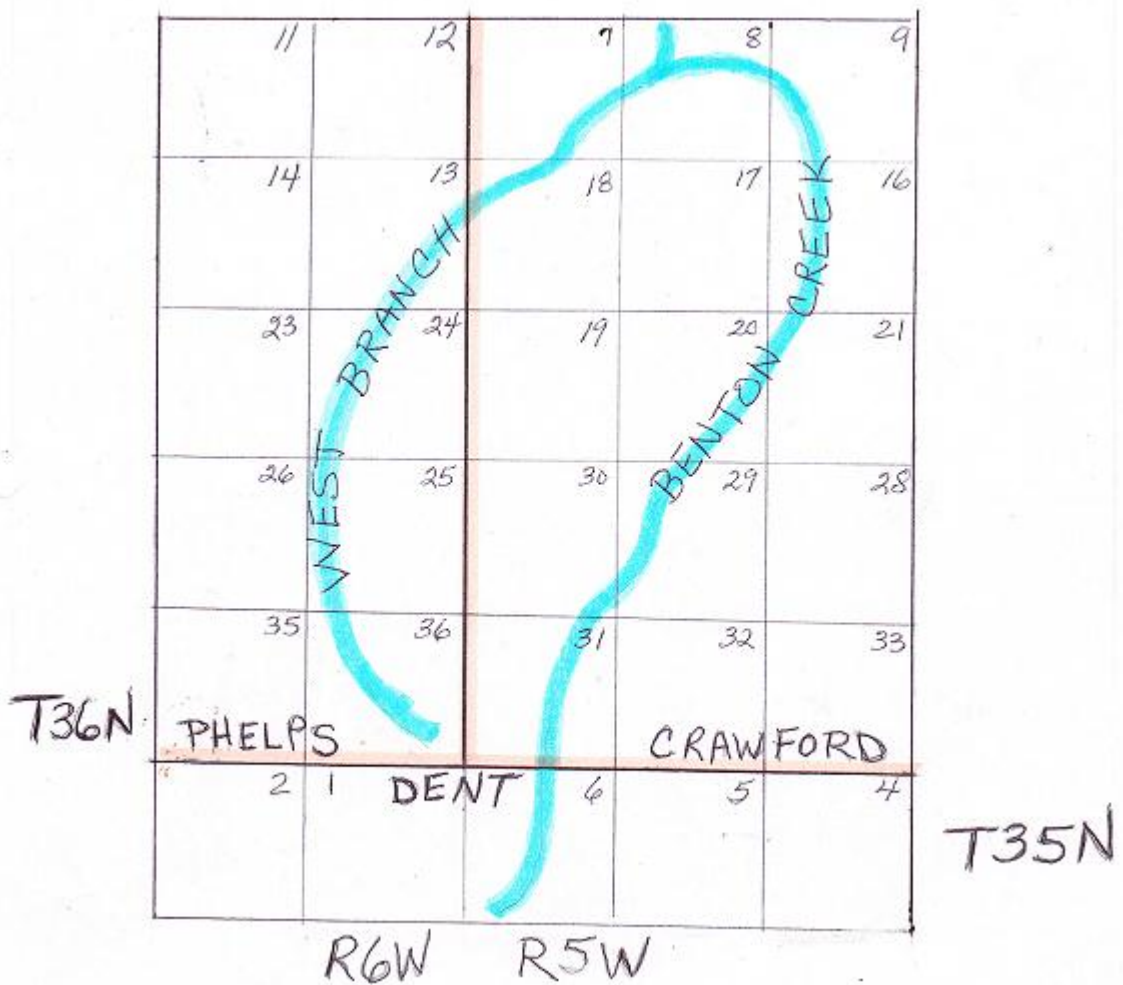


# BENTON CREEK



TRANSCRIPTION and INDEX  
By Crystal Sailer  
Of

Pioneer History of Benton Creek  
Union Township  
Crawford County, Missouri  
West Branch-East Branch  
by J. Gilbert Lay

\*\*\*\*\*  
from page 3

Beginning with the west branch of Benton Creek, we give in order as the farms and families arranged the best we can with the records available. We have gleaned from official records, families and person memory what we have to give, in this treatise of those pioneer families who contributed so much to the community at large and left a rich heritage worthy of remembering. Some discrepancies will exist, but it will give the general records and will suffice for succeeding generations to trace the history of their own family lines.

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Two years ago a handful of pages came into my possession, saved many years by my aunt and later my sister. These pages were the family information provided to J. Gilbert Lay; the information J. Gilbert Lay was able to gather of my great-great-grandparents John K. Brown and Nancy Ann Asher married 02 November, 1848 in Crawford County, Missouri; and the family information that appeared in "Pioneer History".

There were errors in this information, but I could not have come to know this great heritage and beyond if it were not for the dedication of J. Gilbert Lay. I was able to find a complete copy of "Pioneer History". The amount of information in those 44 pages was overwhelming! But these pioneer families were my only clues. I spent months pouring over the pages, building family group sheets, compiling an index. As I found clues and contacted others, I found they were as hungry for this fountain of information as I.

This effort is dedicated to J. Gilbert Lay. For "succeeding generations to trace the history of their own family lines." I have attempted to transcribe the original as it originally appeared. I attempted no corrections to either spelling or information. I have taken the liberty of alphabetizing the final cemetery pages. Any information found here should be confirmed by verifiable documentation. A variant spelling of a family name may be just the clue you need. In a few instances, I found conflicting information. This appears to be from different family descendants. In this digital age, it is hard to imagine the effort and time it would have taken to accumulate the original work.

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# History Of Benton Creek

Union Township  
Crawford County , Missouri  
West Branch—East Branch

*Your friend*  
BY  
J. GILBERT LAY



PIONEER HISTORY OF BENTON CREEK  
UNION TOWNSHIP  
CRAWFORD COUNTY, MISSOURI  
WEST BRANCH - EAST BRANCH  
BY: J. GILBERT LAY

BENTON CREEK, a water shed drainage into the Meramec River has its headquarters near the Phelps-Dent County line. It is two streams, east and west; from where it begins until it empties into the Meramec, it is probably less than twenty miles long. It derived it's name from one of the pioneer families who came to that part of Missouri that became Crawford County about the time Crawford was taken from Gasconade County. Crawford County was organized in 1829, and named in honor of William H. Crawford, a distinguished Democrat statesman of Georgia, and the irony part of the naming was the fact that Crawford is in a great majority of Republicans in voting politically. The Benton families, from whom the creek gets it's name were Elijah Benton, who married Artemis Matlock in Gasconade County (two years before Crawford was organized) on February 10, 1827; James Benton and his wife Mary; Abraham Benton, Benjamin Benton and Mark Benton were others represented in the naming of the Creek. Of these Benton brothers, little is recorded in Crawford with the exception of Mark Benton (wife - Sarah). His marriage record is unrecorded in the County Seat; of his children there was Andrew Benton who married Nancy Lamb, daughter of John and Catharine (Adams) Lamb, a brother to Thomas Lamb who married Betty Plank, and the two brother-in-laws used to freight from St. Louis, Missouri to Benton Creek.

On one occasion, after they had returned from a freighting trip to St. Louis, a stranger had followed them enroute, and at night-fall, tried to rob them; in the fight that followed, the stranger was killed, and they buried him on the hillside above where the school house was erected a few years later. The brothers-in-law reported the incident on their return trip to St. Louis to

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the authorities, but upon investigation, the stranger was not identified.

Andrew Benton, son of Mark Benton, settled up near the head of the west branch of Benton Creek and there on his farm built a Blacksmith shop. Andrew was a soldier in the Union Army and attended musters in Rolla, Missouri, some twenty miles from his home and shop. He made the trip once each month and had to either walk or ride horseback to and from Rolla. The Army officials delegated him the job of keeping tools sharp and farm machinery in working condition during the war. One of his great-grandsons, Carl Benton, who lives in the vicinity of the original farm and shop site, has in his possession, an ancient work book that Andrew Benton used in his shop. It is made of wood with leaves or pages of paper. Upon it's pages are recorded receipts of work done in the shop. To sharpen a plow point cost five cents. Other repair prices range in price accordingly. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Benton sold their property to a young man named Riley Grubb. The Bentons removed to south missouri, where some of their descendants are still living.

Andrew Benton and Nancy (nee Lamb) Benton had the following children; Mark, James, John, Andy, Nancy, Sarah, Rose and Pelina Benton. Andrew Benton, known as Andy, married Rosa Jane Leslie, on May 11, 1879. Their children were Thomas, Harvie and Rusie Benton.

John Benton married Mary Jane Cheek. Nancy Benton married Luke Goad; other marriages unknown.

Beginning with the west branch of Benton Creek, we give in order as the farms and families arranged the best we can with the records available. We have gleaned from official records, families and person memory what we have to give, in this treatise of those pioneer families who contributed so much to the community at large and left a rich heritage worthy of remembering. Some discrepancies will exist, but it will give the general records and will suffice for succeeding generations to trace the history of their own family lines.

The first farm on the South drainage of West Benton Creek is known as the John Lamb farm. He was born in September, 1851, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Plank) Lamb. His grandparents were John and Catharine (Adams) Lamb, who were born in Virginia in 1798 and 1800, respectively. On his mother's side of the family, she was a daughter of Benedick and Rachel (Gollihorn) Plank of Claiborn County, Tennessee. After the death of Rachel (Gollihorn) Plank, he remarried Nancy Jane Grubb, mother of Riley Grubb. Children of Thomas and Elizabeth Lamb were: John Benedick, Nancy J. (Talbert) and William R. Lamb, who remained unmarried. Seven children were born to John Benedick and Sarah (Scott) Lamb, who he married in 1846, (she was daughter of Wm. C. and Jane (Hensley) Scott) were: America L.; Lemuel W.; Amanda C.; Louisa C.; John Ed; Nora E., and William Thomas Lamb. John Ed married Minnie Adams, and Lemuel married Sue Coffee. After the death of Sarah, John Benedick Lamb remarried Della Huffman. He was also a farmer and local clergyman. After Mr. Lamb removed from this farm, it became the property of Frank White, a son of George and Martha (Bell) White, and Mabel White, a daughter of Ike and Lydia (Adams) Ketchems. Their children are: Elmar, Everett, Jessie and James White.

The next farm down the creek and adjoining is the Riley Grubb farm which is the original Andrew Benton farm and the one sold Riley Grubb when Andrew Benton left. William Riley Grubb, a son of Nancy Grubb, a daughter of John Grubb, was born March 21, 1834, died January 19, 1929 being ninety five years old. He, as a young man, drove a team to California during the Gold Rush of the early 1850's. Upon his return, he married Judith L. Andrews on March 12, 1860. Their house had two fireplaces, which was the custom during those pioneer days. The children of Riley and Judith Grubb are as follows; Andrew, who married Orlene Musgraves and Lula Spradling; William R., Jr., who married Mattie Clinton; Dora, who married Henry Morrison; Dessie, who married Elvie Hicks; Ann, who married Zeno Strain and Jack Daughters; Mary, who married Stephen Shoemate; George, who married Lula Laun;

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Emory, who married Nora Laun; Vada, who married John Clinton; Arthur, who married Eith Beazley. After the death of Riley Grubb, his son Arthur lived on the farm and then a grandson, Albert; A son of George and Lula (nee Laun) Grubb purchased the farm and lived there. Albert Grubb had married Pearl Deisher, a daughter of Peter and Theresa Deisher, and these are their children: Mary Ellen, Leona and Georgie Grubb.

The farm again changed owners and John W. Plank, Sr., a son of William R. Plank, who married Rebecca Michael, is owner of it. John W. Plank, Jr., who married Maryette Chilton, lives on this farm. The farm adjoining this old Grubb farm is known as the HICKS farm. It was part of the original Benton Farm where the Black-smith Shop stood near the Hicks Spring. It was owned by ELVIE HICKS who had married Dessie Grubb, a daughter of W. Riley and Judith (Andrews) Grubb. It also became the property of John W. Plank, Sr., son of Wm. R. and Rebecca Plank. The CRISS PLANK farm is next to this farm. Christian Plank (Criss) married Nancy Connel. He was a son of William Plank who migrated to Missouri from Tennessee. This William Plank had previously been married and had, by his first wife, three sons; James, lost in Civil War; John, who married Levina Luster and Criss, who married Nancy Connel, and moved on this old farm which had been the old Dick Gunter farm. The following children were born to Criss and Nancy Plank: Martha, who married Jim Gunter; Mahala, who married William McWhorter; Lula, who married John Foust; Vadie, who married William White; John Benedick (Dick) who married Ama Tomlinson; and Artie Plank, who died young. William R. Plank, who married Rebecca Michael, a daughter of John R. and Luranna (Cook) Michael, lived on this farm and reared two sons, John W. and Ervin Plank. John W. married Juanita McBride, daughter of Loyd and Bessie (Goad) McBride; Ervin married Madalene, also a daughter of the McBrides. The JERRY BROYLES place lies next to these farms, on the Sough range. He was a son of William and Elizabeth (Adams) Broyles, and a grandson of Louis and Nancy (Redwine) Broyles. Jerry was known for his ready

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wit, yet firey temper. He married Dortha (Dot) Rescha, and their children were: Edward, who married Louise Stewart, daughter of Sadie Steward; Eugene, who married Viola Talbert, daughter of William and Anna (Pitts) Talbert; Flossie, marriage unknown. After the death of Jerry Broyles, Henry Werre, who married Bessie (Goad-McBride) became owner of this farm. He sold it to Mr. Baurer of St. Louis, Mo. The JACKIE WELCH and some new cleared out acreages were joined to the Grubb and Plank farms. Jackie Welch who had married into the Henson family, and they reared one child, Joseph Welch, who married Delphia Michael, a daughter of Levi and Belle (Asher) Michael. Nate and Jim Henson and families also lived on this farm. Maranda Merrell and Si Stump also lived on this farm. This farm was finally bought by Elmar Clinton, a son of John and Vada (Grubb) Clinton who sold it to Thomas Benton, a son of Andy and Rosa Jane (Leslie) Benton and a grandson of Andrew, Sr., and Elizabeth (Lamb) Benton. Thomas Benton married Rachel Goad, a daughter of William Goad, who was a son of Mark Goad from Ireland.

THOMAS AND RACHEL BENTON'S children were: Cecil, who married Edth Earls; James D., who married Virginia Stewart; Daphna, who married Emory Smith; Carl, who married Lizzie Conoway; Vernon, who married Edna Patton, and Velma, who married Virgin Steen. The acreage built along the South part of the Welch farm was occupied by Carl, Cecil and James D. Benton; also Thomas and Rachel Benton, after leaving the Welch place, built and lived on this acreage. This place was later bought by Tim Nix. Cecil Benton's acreage was bought by Clarence Payden. Some of these farms are located in Phelps County yet are on drainages that flow into Benton Creek. Across from the Criss Plank farm was the James Strautman farm. It was later divided and became the property of Birt and Lewis Hatcher. James, a son of John Strautman of Hanover, Germany, married Lillie Adams. She was a daughter of Henry Adams, who was a son of James ("Dunk") and Mary Jane (Tungate) Adams. He, Henry, first married a Scott and then a Hensley. His daughters were Lillie and Mayme. James and Lillie Strautman had two children -

May and William. Frank Story, a son of Jake Story, a Swiss immigrant, married Mayme Adams and lived for a while on this place; George Conoway and his two daughters, Gertie and Pearl, and a cousin, Clyde Conoway, lived for a while on this place, as did Criss Scott and wife and William Asher and his wife Amanda (Presley) Asher lived there. This William (Bill) Asher was later killed in the cyclone at Hawkins Bank in 1893 and his widow, Amanda, later married John Wright whose wife was also killed in the same cyclone. Lewis Hatcher, who married Etta Hollands, bought and lived on this farm and later sold it to Clarence J. Lamb, a son of John and Ellen (Morris) Lamb of Winkler, Mo., and grandson of Henry Lamb of Hancock County, Illinois, who married a Coats. Clarence J. Lamb married Adel Haley, a daughter of George P. and Margaret (Lay) Haley. After James Strautman left this farm, he was employed for a while at Sligo Iron Furnace and upon his return to Benton Creek, he traded this place to Birt Hatcher for the Dick Gunter place. This was before it was owned by Lewis Hatcher of Clarence J. Lamb.

BIRT HATCHER, a son of James and Mattie (Hensley) Hatcher, married Evebell Happel and lived for a number of years on this farm and then sold it to Jack Asher who married Ruth Ness, a daughter of Wayne and Mary Ness. The DICK GUNTER place, from which some of the smaller farms were once a part of, lies Southeast of the old Plank place. Dick and Ellen Gunter lived and reared these children on this farm: James, who married Martha Plank, a daughter of Criss and Nannie Plank; George, who married Francis Ray; Willie, who married Rose Miller; Albert, who married Clara Beasley. At one time Tom Lay, a son of Wm. T. and Mary (Haley) Lay, lived on this place, the portion that lies in the West valley; John Becknell also lived there. Tom Lay married Verdie Browne, a daughter of A. D. and Martha (Carter) Browne. He sold this place to Thomas Wright who later sold to John Coppage, Afterwards, a new house was built on the East hill. James and Ida Watkins, with the following children, lived on this place: Doss, Perse and "Toad" Watkins. James Gunter, a son of Dick and Ellen Gunter, married Martha Plank, lived on this farm and these were

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their children: Arthur, Anna, Josie, Clema, Elmar and Elliott. John Benedick ("Dick") Plank, a son of Criss and Nannie (Connel) Plank married Ama Tomlinson, a daughter of Robert and Adaline (Michael) Tomlinson, lived and reared these children on this farm: John A. "Bus"; Bertha, Mary Ann and Eugene Plank. The Hubbel place on West Benton Creek lies North of the Dick Gunter and Criss Plank places is one of the oldest on the Creek. Hubbel bought it from Wm. Asher. It was to this farm that John and Margaret Hubbel came during the Civil War. An interesting story is handed down relative to their coming up from Arkansas. It seems that they encountered some soldiers under the leadership of Captain Cook who took their possessions and belongings they were bringing along in an ox cart. After the war, and Captain Cook had returned home on the Merimac River east of Benton Creek, Hubbel decided to get revenge on the Captain who had taken his possessions as he was coming into Missouri, so he got his gun and started to pay the Captain a visit. Enroute to his home near Cook Station, he met up with Pole Yeary and Sam Craig and after telling them of his purpose in seeing the Captain, they persuaded him to return and not have any trouble. Later, when the Captain heard about it, he sent money and paid Hubbel for his property they had taken. One son born to the Hubbel's was named Edward, who married Emma Miller. John Hubbel died September 29, 1895, age 52 years. Margaret Hubbel married John Wright who had come to Missouri from Cumberland Gap, Tennessee. His first wife, Sara Chumbley, had been the daughter of Louis and Mary (Freeman) Chumbley, born in Virginia. The Hubbel farm was owned by JOHN CLINTON, a son of Jenkins and Eva (Williamson) Clinton. A superstitious story was circulated among neighbors that the Hubbel house was haunted. Many and varied are the families who later lived on the Hubbel farm. Jim Gallegar, a tradesman from St. Louis, became owner of it. He cleaned out the barn one evening and piled the cockel burrs on the barn floor and set fire to them, and supposing the fire had gone out, left, and that night the barn burned down. William Williams and Catharine and Elliott Williams and Louella, with one

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son, Merton Williams, also owned the Hubbel farm. P. I. and Etta Bell, of Kansas, with these children lived on the Hubbel farm: Wess, Luther, William and Marie Bell. John Smith and these brothers and sisters lived there: Dona, Luke, Elvie, Bertha and Anna Smith. Jim and Martha Jenkins and these children lived there: Gladys, Mary and Lou Jenkins, lived and worked on this farm. The Vaughn brother, CRAIG and ROBA, son of VAUGHN, became owners of the Hubbel Farm. Craig married Lillie Shaverbush and Roba married Delphia Shoemate, daughter of Stephen A. and Mary (Grubb) Shoemate, (she was a daughter of Riley Grubb, he a son of Stanford and Betty Adams Shoemate). Another daughter Zelma Shoemate married Joe Vaughn. This Stephen Shoemate farm lies on the West side of Benton Creek, adjoining the Riley Grubb farm. It has a Sportsman Lake built on it. A story is told that Mary Shoemate thought the house was on fire one night and sent Stephen upstairs to see. He hollered back to her, "Bring the lamp up here, I can't see if the house is on fire up here in the dark!"

CYNTHA COPPAGE, widow of George Coppage and her children, Anna, who married Oliver Melone, son of Thomas and Stell (Ketchem) Melone, John and Arch Coppage all lived on the Hubbel farm. The VAUGHN brothers sold this farm to CRISS and FRANK RINEHART, sons of Ward and Chine (Condray) Rinehart. Chine was the daughter of Toma and Sally (Chumbley) Condray, a daughter of Louis and May E. (Freeman) Chumbley; Ward was the son of Cornealus Rinehart. Criss Rinehart married Flossie Parry, daughter of C.O. Parry and Mary (Jones) Parry. C.O. Parry, Sr., was the son of Littleton and Malinda (Seaton) Parry. Frank married Lenola Lakin, daughter of Ed and Netie (Cloat) Lakin. (Lute) Happel, who married Mary Leadbetter, lived on this farm; he was a son of Peter Happel, a native of Germany. Peter Happel served in the Union Army as bugler. Lute and Mary Happel's children were: Frank, who married Mary Hatcher, daughter of James and Jennie (Watkins) Hatcher; Jennie, who married Ernest Adams, son of Walter and Della (Seaton) Adams; Eve Belle, who

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married Birt Hatcher, son of James and Mattie (Hensley) Hatcher; Laura, who married Jesse Thompson; Clarence, who married Mary Ann Plank, a daughter of "Dick" and Ama (Tomlinson) Plank and also married Emma Wilson, a daughter of Ben and Rosa Wilson; Charley, who married Vula Lay, a daughter of James and Lena (Browne) Lay. At the North end of this old Hubbel place in two farms that one time may have been together or a part of the Hubbel tract. One, the Jonnie R. Michael farm was where John R. and Luranna (Cook) Michael lived and reared their family, namely, Billie who married Anna Wycoff; Henry, who married Cannie Plank, a daughter of Issac Plank Rebecca, who married William R. Plank, son of Criss Plank; Adaline, who married Robert Tomlinson, a son of Arthur and Anna Tomlinson; Levi, who married Belle Asher, a daughter of Joseph Asher; Jim Tom, who married Mirerva Ray. The other farm is known as the JOHN CLINTON place. John and Vada (Grubb) Clinton owned this farm, and Tom Wright once lived and operated a Blacksmith shop on this farm. Bill Helms, who married Anna Luster, daughter of James and Mary Luster also lived on this farm. Later, Tom Morrison built a house and lived on this farm. James Lay and Lena Browne were married by preacher Dobbs in the old house that stood in the orchard and later lived there for a while. Levi and Belle (Asher) Michael bought and lived on this farm in the house that was built by Tom Morrison, which house burned while Levi and Belle were living in it. Later, Claude Lay, son of James and Lena Lay bought and resold this farm to James Lay. Up from the Hubbel place is the George Browne place. He became owner in 1866. The house on it was built before Civil War times. This farm was owned by Wm. Pidcock and again to George and Mary J. Browne in 1878; then to John R. Browne in 1879 and Jemimma (Luster) Browne, his wife. She was the daughter of James and Mary Luster. Then to Andrew Browne, the son of John H. and Sarrah (McClure) Browne, who married Martha Carter, daughter of Washington and Catharine (Key) Carter. John H. and Sarah Browne had these children: McClure, who married Betty Hurt; Henry and John, Jr., unmarried; Elizabeth (Lemmons); Martha (Lemmons) and Pheoba (Stewart); and Andrew D., who

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married Martha E. Carter and they had these children: Lena I., Verda, Mack, Clyde, and Juel Browne. Mack died young and unmarried; Clyde married Nannie Cook; Verda married Tom Lay, son of Wm. T. and Mary (Haley) Lay; Juel married Bertha Creek, and their children were: Morris, Earl, and Marjory Browne; he again married Gertie Daley; Lena I. married Louis James Lay, son of Waitzel and Mildred (Chumbley) Lay. They lived on this farm and reared these children: Floyd, unmarried; Claude, who married (1) Gladys Walker - one son Standley Lay; (2) Velma White, children were Willis, Clude, Dennis, Mary Lou and Jimmie (died young); Virginia who married Jesse Loughridge; Golda, who married Ernest Southard; Jessie who married Harvie Sparks and Georgia, who married John Null; J. Gilbert; Mary (died young); Vula, who married Charles Happel, and Cleta Lay (died young). The next place above or South of the Browne farm is known as the FOUST or PAYNE place. LAFAYETTE FOUST, a Civil War veteran from Ohio, was owner of this place. His son John, who married Malinda Veitch, lived on this place, as did Dave and Jane Brummett and Henry and Mary (Vietch) Tabor; Gene and Oma (Foust) Bailey and Frank Counts also lived on this farm. The boys from Cook Station and the Benton Creek boys once staged a free-for-all fist fight at this house one night at a square dance. Afterwards, this property was bought by Elmar Clinton of Steelville, Missouri, and later sold to Robert and Sara (Casebolt) Payne. Robert Payne was a son of C. W. and Chleo Payne and Sarah was daughter of Valentine and Mary Casebolt. These were their children: Valentine (Tina), Leonard, Alford, Albert, Alpha, Roba and Pearlle Payne. West of the Foust-Payne tract was the Hunter-Wilson place. Hunter bought it from the Hobert and Lee Tie Company. It was sold to Birt Hatcher who sold it to Ben and Rose Wilson, who lived on it a while. Their children were: Earl and Emma. The farm West of the Hunter tract is the Ernest Henry place. He was the son of John and Nattie (LaChaunce) Henry. He married Julie Hurt, a daughter of Joseph and Josephine (Goad) Hurt. Their children were: Raymond, who married Opal Deisher; Rebecca, who married Charles Brodham; Norma, who married Harold Hart;

Joe, who married Betty Fisher; Edith, who married Lee Schroeder; Louis, who married Dollie Buck; William, Darrell and Harold, unmarried.

North and East of the Hubbel and Browne places was the old WAITSEL LAY farm. It was bought by Waitsel Lay in 1873 from James Clinton. Waitsel Lay, son of James and Mary (Bryant) Lay had imigrated to what was later Dent and was then Crawford Counties of Missouri. He had married Mildren Chumley, a daughter of Louis and Mary (May) Freeman Chumley in Claiborn County, Tennessee. They had these children before leaving Tennessee: Charles H., William T., John M., Mary, Susan and Ollie. They removed into Dent-Crawford County, Missouri, and these children: Emma, Susan, Margaret, James, Ed., and Fred M. Lay. Waitsel Lay died in 1874 - a year after his Benton Creek purchase. His land was left to his wife Mildred and his children: Charles, who married Missouri LaRue; William T., who married Mary Haley; John, who married Fredieka Eickhorst; Mary, who married Turk Dixon; Susan who married Owen Rhinhart; Emma, who married Isaac Cannon, Jr.; Margaret, who married Geo. P. Haley; L. James, who married Lena Browne; Ed, who married Mary Pleon, and Fred M., who married Lola Asher. The heirs sold out their parts of the farm and James and William Lay became owners of the farm. James moved on the west part and William on the east part. The west part and the old George Browne farms joined and became one farm. It is still together and is in the Lay estate (1963). The west part, owned by William T. Lay, who married Mary Haley, daughter of Wm. and Louisa (Rundles) Haley had the following children: Thomas, who married Verdie Brown; Wm. Corbett, who married Docia Coppage, she was daughter of John Coppage. The Corbett and Docie children were: Firman, Earl, John W. Louis, Ina, Verda M., Murrell, Carl and Nola Jean Lay; Russell, who married Josie Gunter; Myrtle, who married Anderson Asher, and Vergie, who married Charley Mash.

Various families occupied the two or more houses built on this old Lay farm. On the west part in a log cabin built under a oak tree was the dwelling place of Charles and Missouri Lay; Wm. and Mary Lay; Fred and Lola Lay; James and Lena Lay

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who bought the part. George, son of Martin Baker White and Betty Annison White lived for a while in this house. He married Martha Bell, daughter of Enoch and Mary (Adams) Bell. On the East part of the old Lay farm two houses were built. Thomas and Verda Lay lived in the one on the north part. Russell Lay who married Josie Gunter, daughter of James and Martha (Plank) Gunter lived on the south part in a house built above the Spring. Their children were: Morris, Mildred, Marlin, Marvin, Patsy, and Billy M. Lay.

John and Lizzie Barrett, with son Charles lived on this farm; Everett Scott his wife Robie lived on this farm; Cleve Brewer and wife lived on this farm; Elmer, son of George Laramore, wife Dollie (Setser) Laramore, also lived on this farm. In the house on the North part of the East farm, Jim Hennsey and wife, Nancy with one son, Willis, lived on this farm as did Bill Lucas, who married the daughter of J. K. Owens lived on this farm by the Lucas Spring. Of the Scott family who lived and worked on Benton Creek, Maranda was their mother and her children were: Criss, Oscar, Wilson, John, Doss, Everett and Bertha Scott. The East part of the old Lay farm was sold by Corbett Lay to James Michael; he sold it to Belleu and son Calvin who in turn sold it to Carl and Mabel Ray.

Adjoining the Lay farm on the North is the old Haley farm. William Haley, who married Louisa Rundles, was a Civil War soldier and after the war, came back to live on this farm, bough from Robert Clinton. Their children were: John, who married Martha Beazley; Ellen, who married Alec Hale; Mary, who married Wm. T. Lay; George Palmer, who married Margaret Lay.

George P. Haley became the owner of this Haley farm. He married Margaret Lay, a daughter of Waitzel and Mildred (Chumley) Lay. Their children were: Willis, who died young; Ferd, who married Gussie Young; Dicia, who married Everett Gorman, and Ernest Earney; Adele, who married Clarence Lamb; Mary, who married Cecil Sanders; Euria, who married Lewis Bean; Carmolea, unmarried. Tom Mash



There are three farms and families West of this old Haley place that will be mentioned here, Charley Eickhorst, Charley Mash and James Tom Michael. While not located exactly on Benton Creek, their farms are on the near drainage into Benton Creek. JOHN EICKHORST and wife, CHRISTEAN (Kurtice) EICKHORST were immigrants from Prussia (Germany). John Eickhorst was a miller by trade and milled at the Merimac Springs for Wm. James who owned and operated the Mill and Blast furnace during the Civil War. John Eickhorst was noted for his super strength. Tradition has it that he carried, on his back at one time, nine bushels of wheat from the wagon into the mill. John and Christana Eickhorst had the following children: John and William, who served in the U. S. Army during the pack-train days of Indian hostility; Lucy, who married Wes Maulden; Fredricka, who married John M. Lay and Charles, who married Sarah (Brown) a daughter of John R. and Jemmima (Luster) Brown. She was a daughter of James and Mary Luster. The children of Charley and Sarah Eickhorst were: Nora, who married Ernest Reed; Lora, who married Tom Ray; Mary, who married Edward White; Virgie, who married Austin O'Neal; Arthur, who married Audrey Richardson; Agness, who married Charles Hibler and Arley Goodman; Jules, who married Velma Conoway.

The MASH farm was the old John G. Brown and Betty (Cason) Brown and James and Mary Luster farm. They had previously lived on it. John G. and Betty Brown's children were: Tom, who married Tressie Hennsey (?); Jim, who married Minnie Pleon; Reecie, died unmarried; and Fronie Brown, unmarried. James and Mary Luster had these children: Jemmima, who married John R. Brown; Amma, who married William Helms and Levina, who married Alf. Wycoff. This farm passed to Charley Mash, a son of Henry and Levina (Asher) Mash, whose other children were: Ed, who married Lula Sumalt; Andy, who married Mary Wycoff; Jack, who married Louisa Wycoff; Charley, who married Virgie Lay; Mary, who married Sam Wycoff; Amanda, who married Joe Horn and Etta, who married Walter Wycoff. Charley, son of Henry and Levina Mash, married Virgie Lay, daughter of W. T. and Mary (Haley) Lay, and had two sons:

Lowell, who married Hazel Reeves, daughter of Joe and Julie (Bean) Reeves and Lomis who married Mildred Lakin, daughter of Ed and Oma (Adams) Lakin. After the death of Charley Mash, this farm was sold to Ronald Ryther. The farm of JIM TOM MICHAEL lies West of and North of the Mash farm. Jim Tom Michael married Minerva Ray and lived and reared these children: Dorsey and Jonnie, who remained unmarried; May, who married Everett Jones; Orville, who married Anna Petty, daughter of Jeff Petty a son of Wils Petty; Earl, who married Marie Pitts, a daughter of Tom Pitts; Clarence; Meredith, who married Roy Greewalt, and "Powder" Howdershell. The JONES-PETTY farm lies next to the Haley and Asher farms in Benton Creek where the two branches unite. Zach Jones married Mary O'Neal, Mary was the step-daughter of H. P. Yeary. Her mother was Milly J. O'Neal (Carter) and upon the death of James O'Neal, she married H. P. Yeary, a native of Lee County, Virginia. Mary married (1) Zach Jones, son of John Henry Jones, and they had these children: Esco, unmarried; Oscar, who married Mrs. Lucy Miller; John, who married Oma Veitch; Guy, who married Mrs. Pearl Buckner; Susan, who married Hartford Edgar, son of James Edgar; and Everett, who married May Michael, daughter of Jim Tom and Minerva Michael. After the death of Zach Jones, Mary remarried Jeff Petty, and they had one son, Fred Petty, who married Lulallia Moutrey. This farm was sold to Wayne (son of Pierce M. and Letty (Miller) Ness), and Mary Ness. The Asher farm lies north of the Jones-Petty farm. Marion, son of Joseph and Catharine (Luster) Asher owned and lived on this farm. Joseph Asher, who was killed in the Civil War, had married Catharine Luster, who was the daughter of James Luster (Born 1795) and Mary Luster. Their children were James, John, Belle, Polly Ann and Marion Asher. James, who married Mary Morrison (?); John married Lou Pleon; Belle married Levi Michael; Polly Ann married George Coppage and Marion married Sarah Fink and owned and lived and reared these children on this farm: Walter, who married Marjory Ross; Jonah, who married Marion Long; Floyd, who married Eva Bell; Flora, who married Fred Morrison and they lived on this farm. Their children were: Norma,

who married Jordon Beilich; Marie, who married Homar Marshall; Edith, who married A. J. Gray; Evelyn, who married Elton Miller; Betty Jean, who married Warren Johnson; Alma, who married Bernard Vercamp and Robert A., who married Betty Benton. She was the daughter of Cecil Benton, a son of Thomas and Rachel (Goad) Benton one of the descendants of the original Bentons of Benton Creek. Fred Morrison was a son of Tom and Mary (Beazley) Morrison. The BILL GOAD place lies West of the Asher farm. Bill, a son of Luke and Nancy (Benton) Goad married Sarah, a daughter of Jordon and Harriett (Helms) Wells. Luke Goad immigrated from Ireland with his parents. Jordon Wells was a Civil War veteran. Mark God was a shoe maker by trade and was also in the Civil War. He was wounded in battle near Rolla, Missouri, and died three weeks later. The farm where Fulton Hollow drains into Benton Creek, near the confluence with the Merimac River is known as the THOMAS L. MORRISON farm. He was a son of John Henry and Arena (Arsipe) Morrison. Tom Morrison married Mary Beazley, daughter of Joel and Sarah E. (Coppage) Beazley. Their children were: Florence, who married Al Shields; Fred, who married Flora Asher; John Archie, who married Eunice Drennen; Gorden, who married May Heath; Clara, who married (1) George Oberdike and (2) Rosco Critchlow; Dollie, who married Murrell Ahrendt; Grace, who married Oscar Hassen. Tom Morrison married (2) Amanda Martin; she was a daughter of Bob Gravatte and by previous marriage to Martin had three children: Earl, who married Bessie Williams; Eugie, who married Nona Morrison; and Orville Martin. Tom and Mandy had three children: Elsie, Geneva and Tom Ruby Morrison. Sam Wycoff, son of Alf and Levina (Luster) Wycoff (daughter of James and Mary Luster) married Mary Mash, daughter of Henry and Levina (Asher) Mash, also lived on this farm. The last farm on Benton Creek and where it flows into the Merimac River is the MORRISON farm. WILLIAM L. MORRISON, (old "fighting Billie") was a son of John and Sarah Ann, (Talbert) Morrison. This John Morrison was from Virginia. He married and reared these children: James Talbert, who married Luranna Taff in 1844; John D., who married (1) Elizabeth Kelly in 1846

and (2) Elizabeth Dunlap in 1851; Zep B., who married Arlene Studervant; William L., who married Elizabeth Hanson in 1838, was the oldest son who later lived on this farm; Andrew, who married Mary Clinton in 1845 and Eary, whose marriage is unrecorded in Crawford County. In the records the following are referred to as "Married and left me", viz: Elvira Johnson; Clarendia Morrison; Damarcus Morrison; Margaret E. Butler, and Mary A Studervant - Jan. 7th 1837.

William L. and Elizabeth (Hanson) Morrison were the parents of the following children: John H., married Arena Arsipa; James T. married Nancy Jane Coppage. Their children were: Levi, who married Lizzie Wycoff; James, who married Delphia Brown; Lula, who married Andrew Grubb; Etta, who married J. Finn Sanders, and Henry, who married Dora Grubb, a daughter of Riley and Judith (Andrews) Grubb. They lived on this farm and reared these children: Nona, who married Eugiee Martin; Ferd, who married Edith Rick; Frank who married Nadene Huffman, Donas married Florence Wright; Ruth married George Blake and Lona married Clifford Kennedy.

Zep B. Morrison married Arlene Sturdevant and these are their children: Joe, who married Jennie Gorman (daughter of James and Ellen (Zigler) Gorman); Henry, who married Lucy Bassett; William H., who married Rebecca Blaine; Tom, who married Carrie Rinehart; Edward, who married Laura Redwine.

Tolbert Morrison married Luranna Taff (Taft), and these are their children: John Wesley, who married two times, (1) Mrs. Lamb; (2) Mrs. Mary Adams; Al, who married Anna Howard; Newton, who married Margaret E. Howard; and Mel Coppage, Lafayette, who married Nancy Talbert; Caroline married S. Ketchens; Julie married Rev. Marion F. Brown; Etta married Sherman Barr; Susan married (1) James Plank and (2) Jackson Plank. Of the families of Andrew who married Mary Clinton: John D., who married Elizabeth Kelly, Elizabeth Dunlap and Eary Morrison, we have no records in Crawford County.

PIONEER HISTORY OF BENTON CREEK

Union Township

Crawford County, Missouri

East Branch

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BENTON CREEK, a water shed drainage into the Merimac River has it head-quarters near the Dent-Phelps County Line and this East branch begins near old Bangert or Avery, Missouri, on the property now in the Carty family. We give here the first three farms whose drainage is the beginning of the East branch of Benton Creek. James Carty was the grandfather of these Cartys. His children are reported to be: Moses, , Jube, John, Green, Rilda and Jane. Green married Belle Nichols; Jube married Judy B. Bowman; John married a Priest; Moses married a Houston; Rilda married a Heard, and Jane married a Nichols. Green, a son of Moses and Belle (Nichols) Carty married Ida Ray and they had two sons, Elvie, who married Ellen Musgraves, a daughter of John Musgraves; Earl, who married Cammie Chumley, a daughter of Wm. Dud. and Carrie (Plank) Chumley. They had these four children: Wm. Dudley, Green Berry, Wayne, and Bonnie Carty. James, a brother to Green Carty married Agness Douglas; Sarah was a sister to Green and James Carty. The next two farms on the head of the East branch of Benton Creek are the HORNER and PLANK farms. William Horner married Mary Smith and lived on the farm called by his name. His children were: Talt, unmarried; Jane married W. H. Carr and David Lay; Maggie married Wid Grubb; Nellie married Edward Condray; Jackson married, the last time, Ettie Conter, the widow of William Cotner; Jerry married Sadie Williams; Tom married Cora Ross; Ruth married Richard Palmer, and Ann married (1) Curtis Conoway and (2) William Ellis. W. H. Carr, who first married Jane, was a son of T. E. and Anna Carr; David Lay, who next married Jane, was son of James and Eliza (Ferrill-Woodson) Lay; Wid Grubb, who married Maggie, was son of Riley and Judith (Andrews) Grubb; Edward Condry, who married Nellie, was son of Thomas and Sarah (Chumley) Condray; Jerry, who married Sadie Williams, she was daughter

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of Davie and Molly (Wright) Williams; Tom, who married Cora Ross, she was daughter of Luke and Martha Ross. JOHN CLINTON, son of Jenkins and Eva (Williamson) Clinton, bought and lived on this Horner place. He married Navada Grubb, daughter of Riley and Judith (Andrews) Grubb and they had these children: Elmer, Riley Jenk, Docia, Artie, Emory, Gladys and Hazel. T. M. Paris also owned this place. Sonnie Luster, who married Hannah Hale, and his family lived on this place. The PLANK farm has a long and interesting history, as the house that still stands pre-dates Civil War times. Family tradition has it that Jerome Plank of Claiborne County, Tennessee, was the progenitor of the Benton Creek Plank families who immigrated into Missouri. His children were: Hilton, Christian, Benedick, John and probably a William Plank. William and Benedick are the two reported to have come into this part of Missouri. There is some question as to the relationship between them wheather they were both the sons of Jerome Plank. BENEDICK PLANK, son of Jerome Plank, first married Rachel Gollihorn in Tennessee. He was born in 1803. Their children were; William, who married Jane Bullock; Elizabeth, who married Tom Lamb, son of John and Catharine (Adams) Lamb; Hiram, who married Nancy Lamb; John who married Margaret Baylock; Jasper, who married Eliza E. Welch. After the death of Nancy, Benedick Plank remarried to Nancy Jane Grubb, a daughter of John Grubb. She was the mother of Wm. Riley Grubb. The children born to Benedick and Nancy Jane (Grubb) Plank were: James, who married Susan Morrison, a daughter of Tolbert Morrison; Jackson, who married Martha Edgar and Susan (Morrison-Plank) widow of James Plank; Frank, who married Mary E. Martin; George, who married Mary Ann Blackwell; Ike, who married Margaret E. Edgar and Julie E. Tipping. The William Plank, who some tradition says were related, was first married and had three sons - James, who was lost in Civil War; John, who married Levina Luster and Criss (Christian) who married Nannie Connel. He too came into Missouri and after the death of Henry Pinkney McWhorten, who died during the Civil War, married his widow, Betty McWhorter, nee Bressler. Her children by the

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former marriage were Levi, Henry and Amanda McWhorter. Her and William Plank has the following children: Hiram, who married Mary E. Adams; George, who married Martha Melone and Amanda, who married a Byrd.

JAMES PLANK and SUSAN, who was the daughter of Tolbert and Arlene Sturdevent Morrison, bought this farm from James C. Barnes and lived and reared these children: James Marion, married (1) Harriett Redick (2) Dora Thornton; William, who married Louella, daughter of William and Rebecca (Freeman) Bean; Ed, who married Eva Rinehard, daughter of Carnealeus Rinehard - their children were: Curtis, Cecil, Hazel, Kenneth, Hildred, Harold; Mary married John W. Inman; Anna married Frank Rinehart, son of Cornealeus Rinehart. After the death of James Plank, his brother Jackson Plank returned from the Civil War and married Susan Plank. Their children were: Rose, who married Edward Broyles; Ida, who married Charley Broyles; Edith, who married William Craig, a son of Sam and Nannie (Cannon) Craig; May, who married Roy Rumfelt, son of Wm. A. and "Gussie" (Chumley) Rumfelt. Roy and May as well as Wm. A. and "Gussie" Rumfelt all lived on this farm. This farm changed owners and became the property of G. L. and Bertha (Inman) Wheeler. She and her sister Edith Inman were grand-daughters of James Plank through his daughter Mary Plank. The farm lying next to the Plank and Horner farm, is known as the JOHN LAY farm. John Marshall Lay, son of Waitzel and Mildred (Chumley) married Fredricks Eickhorst, a daughter of John and Christian (Kurtice) Eickhorst of Prussia (Germany), and lived on this farm and reared these children: Wesley, who married Estella Carr and Bessie Cook (nee Gravatte); Arthur, who married Nina Heard; Rhettta, who married John Epperson; Blanch, who married Charles Kinder; Natilda, who married Clarke R. Riffe, and Charles, Dora and Lucy Lay who died young. This farm later became two separate tracts and William Cotner and Edward Smith lived on them. William Cotner married Etta Ross, daughter of Luke and Martha Ross, they had these children: Ethel, Raymond and Herman. This portion of the farm passed on to Tomas and Erma (Slovensky) Wood. Their children were:

Matrade, who married Robert Martin; Loyd, who married Dortha Jordan and Cordell, who married Arlene Ross. The portion of this farm that lies next to the Horner place was occupied by E. J. Smith, son of J. Harrison and Nellie (Carr) Smith. Edward Smith married Maude Musgraves, a daughter of Abe and Anna (Hall) Musgraves. Their children are: Kordean, who married Ray Alexander and Kenneth, who married Loretta Frahm. The other children of Abe and Anna Musgraves were: Irb, married Ersie Brown; Mate, married (1) Craig Flett, (2) Hary Winters; Mary married Jesse Sanders and Elmar Cohan; Juanetta married Ishmael Coppage; Carl married Agness Toon. Enoch Musgraves was the father of Abe Musgraves.

The CARR place lies next down Benton Creek from the LAY place. It was originally the Thomas E. Carr farm. Thomas E. Carr, a native of Massachusetts, married Margaret Ann McCumbra. These were their children: John, died young; Nellie, married J. Harrison Smith; Wm. married Belle Plank. Elias Jefferson and Lucy (Eckles) Smith of Alabama came into Missouri, at Rolla, during the Civil War. His sisters were Lizzie, who married Bud Malone, and Lena who married Joe Aid. The children of Elias Jefferson and Lucy (Eckles) Smith were J. Harrison, who married Nellie Carr, daughter of Tomas and Anna (McCumbra) Carr. They lived on this old Carr farm and these were their children: Lawrence, died young; Otto, married Ethel Cotner, daughter of William Cotner; Ed J. Smith who married Maud Musgraves. This portion of the Carr farm is owned by Ray and Cordeen (Smith) Alexander. Above this farm next to the Plank farm is the old Charles Gravatte farm. He married Addie (Danoon), daughter of Eliash Danoon. Their children were: Elias, Willie, Richard, Bessie and Opal. Wm. Corbett, who married Ollie Lay, daughter of Waitzel and Mildred (Chumley) Lay, lived there. Their children: Walter, Arthur, Edna. Wm. T. and Mary (Haley) Lay also lived on this farm and Cecil Sanders, son of G. V. and Lillie (Judson) Sanders, became owners and lived there. Their children: Kenneth, Lillie, Norma and Cordell (Corkey) Sanders. Walter Freeman owned this farm as did anthony Powers. The

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lower part of the old Carr farm was purchased by William H. and Belle (Plank) Carr. He was a banker at Cook Station Bank, and farmed also. Their children were: Walter, Fitshue, Paul, Carrie, Clemma, Estella, Homar and Josie Carr. Walter Carr, his son, married Kordeen Drennen, daughter of Wm. and ? (Marsh) Drennen, and lived on this farm. Their children were Glen and Virginia Carr. After the death of Kordeen, Walter Carr married Elsie Grayson and was a merchant at Cook Station, Missouri. Sol Pitts, son of Andrew and Jane (Nickson) Pitts, married Marie Peters, a daughter of Ed Peters, and became owners of this farm. Their children were: Willis and Wilber Pitts. Robt. H. Fiburne became owners of this farm also. The next three farms, the Dudley Smith, the John Chumley and the James Rumfelt are next in order, beginning next to the old Plank and William Rumfelt farm that lies east of the Dudley Smith farm. It was also bought by Sol Pitts and Marie (Peters) Pitts. It was later acquired by Alvia Reaves and Bessie Holland. The Dudley Smith property was once the property of Lane Mahurine. He was Justice of The Peace for that part of Union Township. Dudley Smith, son of Liondias Smith, married Mary Cox and Sarah Nelson, and they had these children: Ethel, by first marriage, married Gahr Gray, Betha Married Martin Johns, Effie married Harry Plummer; Herbert married Loranne Wagganor; Hillary married Zella Simpson; Wilmar married Marie Broyles; Myrtle married Curtis Gray; By second marriage. Wilmer Smith, son of Dudley and Mary (Cox) Smith married Marie Broyles, daughter of Charles son of Tom and Sarah (Perry) Broyles, and Ida (Plank) Broyles lives on this farm and these were their children: Hazel, LeVern and Charlotte Smith.

The JOHN CHUMLEY or Elm Spring place was once the property of Waitzel and Millie (Chumley) Lay. Waitzel traded it to his brother in law, John Chumley, after they both got back from the Civil War. John Chumley married Eliza Grantham. He was a son of Louis and Mary (Freeman) Chumley and she was a daughter of Willis and Kessiah (Stubelfield) Grantham of North Carolina, Virginia Tennessee. After John

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Chumley had served as teamster in the Union Army during the Civil War, under General Burnside, he returned and after his marriage, immigrated into Missouri. Children born to them were: Willis, died young; W. Dudley, who married Carrie Plank; Gussie, who married Wm. Rumfelt; Anna, who married Samuel Sanders and John Ross, who married Letha Stiller. After his marriage to Carrie Plank, a daughter of Jasper and Eliza E. (Welch) Plank, William Dudley Chumley, lived on the South part of this farm. He married Carrie Plank, a daughter of Jasper and Eliza (Welch) Plank and they reared two daughters, Cammie, who married Earl Carty and Reba, who married Carl Conoway. Ross and Letha (Stiller) Chumley owned and lived on the Elm Spring place and sold it to William and Evelyn Obermyer. Cammie Carty is owner of the part where W. Dud Chumley lived. The JAMES RUMFELT farm lies west of the Elm Spring farm. James Rumfelt had previously married Elizabeth Talbert and they had William and Lou Remfelt (Biggs); He also had Otis, Molly and Eva Rumfelt. This place was one time the home of Waitzel and Mildred (Chumley) Lay and Margaret and Louis James Lay were born there. James Rumfelt later married Jane Smith, a daughter of Leondas Smith of Kentucky. Their daughters were Grace, Ruth and Edith. James Rumfelt also married Rhoda Boyd in 1873; he married Lorinda Norris in 1881; he married Jane Smith in 1889. His daughters, Margaret G., married J. W. Biggs, Ruth Rumfelt married Grover Edgar; Edith married Henry Smith and Grace married Morris Smith. Rev. John Smith, who married Katie Mincher, a daughter of Jack Mincher, lived on this farm. Their children were: Benjamin; Clarence, who married Dortha Vaughn, Emory, who married Daphna Benton, daughter of Thomas and Rachel (Goad) Benton; and Henry and Morris, who married the Rumfelt girls. The farm at the north of the Rumfelt place was called the "Tie House" place because it had a house built of Railroad ties. It was acquired by homesteading by Jannie (Smith) Rumfelt. Various families lived there. Henry and Mary (Vietch) Tabor; Dave and Jane Brumett; Henry and Adda (Brumett) Tabor; James and Oretha (Brummett) Fortner.

It became the property of Ross and Dud Chumley and sold with the Elm Spring (John Chumley) place to William and Evelyn Obermyer.

The TALBERT farm lies north and east of this old Rumfelt place. William and Charlotte (Casey) Talbert were the parents of these Talberts. They were natives of Kentucky. Their children were: Joe, wife name Jane; Shadrach; Alphus married Nancy Jane Plank; Mathew married (1) Ellen Michael and (2) Sarah Miller. Alphus Talbert and Nancy (Lamb) Talbert, she was a daughter of John and Catharine (Adams) Lamb, had these children and lived on this place: Ida, married Sam Gorman; Rosetta, married William Barr; Effie, married John Foust; Bessie, married Riley Adams, he was a son of William and Lourinda Adams; William, married Anna Pitts, she a daughter of Andrew and Jane (Nickerson) Pitts: Etta and James Talbert who died young. Sam and Ida Gorman lived on this farm. He was a son of James and Helen (Zigler) Gorman. James and Helen (Zigler) Gorman had these children: Jennie married Joe Morrison; John married Lucy Beckham; Mathew, unmarried; James married Lizzie Chatman; Lizzie who married Henry Talbert. Henry Talbert was a son of Mathew and Ellen (Michael) Talbert from Kentucky. Mathew Talbert first married Ellen Michael and had two sons, Henry and Andy Talbert; He then married Sarah Miller and had Lee, who married Cleave Musgraves; Tom Talbert, wife name Belle; Jesse married Laura Martin; Everett married Pearl Watson; Wilson, wife name Violet; Ethel married a Julian, and Myrna, who married Earl Barton. Henry Talbert married Lizzie Gorman, daughter of James and Helen (Zigler) Gorman and they had Anna, who married August Young - one daughter June (Brown); Arthur, who married Ruth Vaughn. They had these children: Pearl, who married Duell Rodgers and lived on the John Gorman farm; Arthur, Jr., who was killed in World War Two; Robert who married LaVern Smith, daughter of Wilmer and Marie (Broyles) Smith; Frank, Wilbur, Byrle, Alvin; John, Jeannie and Shelia Talbert. Andy Talbert first married Effie Gunter, daughter of Dick and Ellen Gunter, he then married Emma Hovie (?) The next two farms north are the Henry White and the John Gorman farms. The farm across

the creek west and one a part of the Talbert farm and the other the Foust farm. The Foust farm was owned by Joe and Martha Clark. Joseph Clark, who lived on this Foust farm was the son of Almer F. and Mary E. Ambler. He married Martha E. Anderson, a daughter of Joseph Y. and Mary Transue. Sm Transue, the grandfather of Martha E. Clark was from Pennsylvania and came west into St. Joseph, Missouri, in the first western wagon train. The great-great-grandfather Transue was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was in the Army of some 2500 soldiers under Gen. George Washington that crossed the Delaware River on December 25th, 1776. Harrison Haley, a Civil War veteran married Sally Palmer, lived on the Talbert farm across Benton Creek east and reared these children: Docia, married Melvin Beers - one son, Haley, daughter Marie; Rebecca, married Jim Cunningham; Angie married a Jim Key; Dora married Henry White; (Lou married David Martin) sons Obe and Grover, and Woodrow; William, Jasper and Hanora Haley died young. Henry and Dora White lived on a farm next to John Gorman's farm, who married Lucy Beckham and they had these children: Viola, who married William Eickhorst, a son of Charley and Sarah (Brown) Eickhorst; Everett, who married Dica Haley, a daughter of G. Palmer and Margaret (Lay) Haley; Bertha who married Homar Duckworth, they had two children, Marvin and Thelma. Next to this farm is the CLINTON farm. Jenkins Clinton, son of Johathan Clinton, married Eva Williamson and lived and reared these children on this farm: John, married Navada Grubb; Andrew married Clema Fink; William married Nellie Pidcock; Mattie married Wid Grubb; Maggie married Ed O'Neal; James married Laura Jones; Tom married Minnie Wilson; Cora married Silas Roberts; Blanch married Harry Davies; George married (1) Mabel Bolding and (2) Alice Hibler; Ava, married George Cox; Sam Clinton, marriage unknown. William and Nell Clinton owned and lived on this farm. Their children were: Lowell, Milton, Eugene and Morris. The site of the Clinton Mill was on this farm. SILAS and CORA (Clinton) Roberts lived on this farm. They reared these children:

Raymond, an attorney at law, and Eva, who married Willie Gravatte, a son of Charley and Addie (Danoon) Gravatte. (He was a son of John Gravatte and she was a grand daughter of Elias Barnicle). John Hurt, a son of James and Sarah (Thomas) Hurt lived on this farm. James and Sarah Hurt had these sons: Jim, Joe, John, Wm., Albert, Francis, Floyd, Frank and Elmer Hurt. John Hurt married Fannie Goad, daughter of Luke and Nancy (Benton) Goad and lived on this farm. Hartford, son of James Edgar, married Susie Jones, daughter of Zack and Mary (O'Neal) Jones, lived on this farm; their children were: Hazel Thelma and James "Dude" Edgar; Pres Edgar, a brother to Hartford, married Audrey Thurman, a daughter of Wm. Sorrells, lived on this farm. Charley and Pechie Friend and sons Willia and Floyd lived adjoining this farm. Charley and Minnie (Faust) Hammock, a daughter of Lafayette Faust, also lived on this farm. Their children were: Russell, Ella, Milburn, Melvina, Isolean, a son called "Bud" and Gertie, who married Otto Atchenson, lived on this farm. William and Marie (Woliford) Decker also lived there. They had one son William, Jr., and Marie Decker taught school at Benton Creek. Beyond the site of the Benton Creek school house was the ASHER farm. JAMES ASHER, son of Joseph and Catharine (Luster) Asher, married Lucy Goff (?) and had these children: Wm., who married Minnie Gunter, daughter of Dick and Ellen Gunter; Anderson married Myrtle Lay, daughter of Wm. and Mary (Haley) Lay; Nora married Austin Housewright, son of Tol. Housewright; Dora married George Chastine; Cora married Henry Lambster; Bessie married Jim McDaniels; Ed married Minnie Goff; George married (1) Mary Steen and (2) Jennie Crouse. Anderson Asher and Myrtle (Lay) Asher and had these children and lived on this farm; Wilda, who married Harley Patty and Elaine, who married Paul Mitchner. The adjoining farm is the WILLIAM PLANK farm. William, son of James and Susan (Morrison) Plank married Loulla Bean, daughter of William and Rebecca (Freeman) Bean and they lived on this farm and reared these children: Clarence, Arch, Raymond, Cecil, Myrtle, Lawrence, and Gentry Plank.

The Plank family removed into St. Louis, Missouri, and this farm changed owners and became the property of Henry, son of Milton Yeary, Sr., and Belle (Bean) Yeary. The last farm adjoining this Plank farm is the Henry Morrison farm on the Meramec River where Benton Creek flows into it.

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BENTON CREEK in its pioneer days can boast of having established the best institutions of learning that any pioneer community can boast of. There was one subscription school, and following that, four school buildings were built. Two in the Carr district and two in the Benton Creek district. The first subscription school was established before 1871 on the East branch on Benton Creek and was in the home of Thomas E. Carr. Mrs. Anne Carr, the wife of Thomas Carr was the teacher. Parents living in the vicinity contributed to a small fund enough money to have the school for some three or four months a year. The three R's were taught viz: Reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic. Those days brought learning to boys and girls of parents who could not themselves read or write. Most legal documents were signed with marks, witnessed by at least two witnesses who saw the marks made. The first school house was built on the Thomas Carr property assigned for that purpose in 1871. Thomas Carr, himself, was the first teacher in the new school house and he taught four terms in succession. Thomas Carr was an unusual man for his generation. He was also unique. He was doctor, clergyman, teacher, civic and legal leader and also a farmer. Following (although not named in order) were these teachers: Thomas E. Carr; Mr. Jacobs; Lydia Michaelfresh; John Needham; Walter Faulkner; Myrna Rinehart; Artie (Herrod) Rhinehart; Katie Springer; Nell Pidcock; Carrie Roberts; Lena (James) Grayson; Henry White; Earl Gibbs; Eunice Drennan; Carrie Carr; Cammie Chumley; Grace Morrison; Andy Marsh; Morris Briggs; Mrs Gentry; Irene Finley; Arthur Weber; Mary Sanders; Mildred Carr; Robert Chumley; Ethel Richardson; Austin Bell; Matred Woods; probably others unrecorded. Lower Benton Creek had also two school houses built. Whether it supported a subscription school or not isn't recorded. But its first school house was built on the James Clinton farm - the farm that became the Waitzel Lay farm. This school house probably predates Civil War times as pioneers were living on these premises and reared large families that learned to read and write somewhere and as this is the first recorded school building, its beginning was at an early date.

This building, located almost on a line between the Lay and Haley place was first known as the Clinton school. Since the Haley place was bought from Robert Clinton and the Lay place was bought from James Clinton, probably both places were owned by these Clintons when the school house was built. Among the early school teachers who taught in this building were: Zeb Winkler; Mr. Jacobs; James Laney; and Albert Blain. It is said that Albert Blain had a habit of going around singing this jingle, "A back stick, a fore stick, a hind stick, a middleo; here comes a bell ewe, jingle, jingle, jangleo". In 1895, a new school house was built in a new location. A plat of land was secured from J. Marion Asher on the bank of Benton Creek where the two branches have come together, and there they built the new school house, and named it "Benton Creek District No. 67". Among the teachers who taught in the new school house were: Everett Dixon; Art Ball; John Faulkner; Ollie McDole; Etta Parshal; Arthur Thurman; Henry White; Pearl Roberts; Nona Morrison; Donas Morrison; Fred Morrison; Gladys Walker; Myrna Spradling; Frank Leaver; Marie Decker; Ralph Marcellus; Ida Yeary; Rebel Marcellus; Norma Morrison; Cage Melone; Brenda Cape; Miss Harmon, and probably others. The building burned and a new one was never built.

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Teachers of the old School. Those who taught school in the Ozark Mountain Districts were esteemed for their works sake. It is doubtful if any one ever attended College for teacher training for higher education, few attended the High Schools and none had any University polish in their vocabulary and mannerism. The three "R's" were the principal subjects that they specialized in. Good penmanship was a necessity. These teachers taught and practiced it as well as quickness in Arithmetic. They encouraged mental arithmetic and exact pronouncing of words and defining them. Some of the old text books gave the word, its meaning and punctuation. Those teachers taught and expected the pupils to learn to pronounce the word, define it and spell it correctly. The three rules for spelling were taught and observed. The learning of the pupil was an undeniable proof that the teacher hired to teach that term of school was efficient. The teacher may or may not have obtained the school to teach from a "pull" among the three school directors, that first term, but not the second. If the pupil learned, the district parents demanded his or her return to again teach their Jonnies and Marys. Teachers hired from out of the community was held at arms length, so to speak, until the first quarter of the school had passed and report cards were filled out. Then their value as a teacher was often discussed in the different homes. While the attendance was usually large, those teachers took time to help those pupils who were counted slow in some subjects. Some times the teachers who were hired from the families, and former pupils themselves, were often accused of having "Pets" among the pupils - especially among the directors children or of those who were quicker to learn than others. No teacher would admit that, though. In all schools some punishment to enforce discipline was a necessity. And some teachers were masters at that art. They cannot be blamed every time. True, because of psychological lack in training, some serious mistakes were made, mostly from lack of control by the teacher; sometimes because of pressure and past differences that existed among the families

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was up to the teacher. They usually won as parents were cooperative. Some parents objected seriously to the "switching" that often had to be administered by the teacher on the broad back, and elsewhere, of the unruly and offending pupil. No profanity was allowed; smoking was an unheard of vice among the pupils. Occasionally some big boy chewed tobacco, but not during school recitation. Maybe at recess or enroute home.

Whispering and note writing called for punishment without mercy. To be made "stand on the floor" for missing two words in spelling or failing to get your arithmetic lesson was an embarrassing punishment that had no other recourse. Those teachers encouraged and taught memory training to the pupils that was second to none. Especially in History and Literature. You learned it by heart - (Memory) and stood up and recited it. The memorizing of poetry was a must. They taught the multiplication table by memory. They called out in test practices, "seven times eight", "six time seven", "nine time four" and so forth. If you didn't want to "stand on the floor in the corner", you had better sit up at night at home and learn to give the answers to those tests instantly. Those teachers, crude in administration, taught what they knew to be true and best for all. The teacher gave treats of candy and fruit at the end or "last day" of the school term. The last day generally consisted of a day of fellowship as well as a exhibition. Parents and patrons usually brought a basket dinner and the day was spent in various activities. Usually pieces were spoken by the smaller ones and a spelling match or ciphering match was among the larger ones with the parents and visitors joining in with them. Often tearful was the parting of the teachers from those they had taught the past eight or nine months. Teachers rarely taught over two terms,

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however, sometimes a teacher returned for several terms in the same district. Words of appreciation, whether sincere or not, were spoken publicly by various patrons at these last days of school.

Socials and Activities of the old School. Primarily, teaching and discipline were the main objects of the rural or country school. It still is, although many activities have been added to insure its achievement. In those country schools, some sports were practiced. Baseball was one main sport. The boys, and often girls, chose sides, and played baseball. One side of well-matched players against the other. Sometimes "scrub" ball was played. That is when every one played individually. Some one pitched, some one was catcher. When the batter struck out, or otherwise was counted out, a move up was made. The losing player went to the farthest place in the field. Usually third fielder if there were enough players to have that many places on the diamond. The catcher became batter, that pitcher became catcher, the first basemen became pitcher, the second baseman became first baseman and so on until each one had had his or her chance to bat. Score were counted by some disinterested on-looker who didn't care to play or knew it was of no use as better players would soon send him into third field. The umpire, usually the teacher, was reputed to be fair. Another sport was dare base and black man. Also foot racing, fox and geese, when it was snow on the ground. Sometimes, war games were staged with snow balls and they usually ended up in a fist fight. Especially if the fist fight had been brewing over something else. Popguns made of elder wood joints that shot red haws and bows and arrows, without points, were employed to defeat the enemies. Rope pulling contests as well as broad jumping also were a sport then. Ciphering or arithmetic matches along with spelling bees or contests were often a combination of social activities and competitive skill. They occurred within the school themselves and then between competitive schools from adjoining districts. Solving or working arithmetic problems is a gift that some pupils had while others were far too slow to be much competition. In the

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In the different schools were those who were fast in ciphering or working arithmetic problems in competition with others in public contests. In the public ciphering matches, the best and quickest ones from the two school districts were pitted against in competition. They usually chose certain problems that they were fastest in. Addition, multiplication, cancelation were those most often used. Although cube and square root as well as signs of aggregation and seeing who could write to ten first were used.

When time came for the ciphering contest to be held between opposing schools, it was hoped that sportsmanship would not be forgotten by each contestant, as the school and patrons all gathered at some designated schoolhouse where the evening was to be spent in this form of skill and social event. The names of the first two contestants, one from each district, were called by the teacher leading the contest or some one duly appointed to do so. The teacher chose a book, and after telling each contestant the number of pages it contained, then thrust his or her finger between two pages and had each contestant to guess on what page the finger rested and the one who came the nearest to guess the correct page number, was given first choice as to what kind of arithmetic problem he or she would choose to cipher against the opponent. Two first correct answers were to be won out of three, to determine the winner. The one who gave the first correct answer the quickest to the chosen type of problem was declared winner and the other defeated one took their seat and the next contestant on his side of the competition was called and given the first choice as to the nature of the problem he or she would use to "turn down" or beat the other one in getting the answer. While chalk dust was flying from the blackboard, tempers were sometimes flaring in the audience. The contestant who stood up and won over the last one on the opposite side was declared winner and went home a hero and a family pride among the district. Some school created their school yells. They were used by each district pupils

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and were usually sung before or between contests. Sometimes they didn't feel like singing them afterwards. The Cook Station school that came over to cipher Benton Creek school, used to sing this one: it was led by Raymond Roberts, son of Silas and Cora Roberts - he stood on the back of a bench before the ciphering started and led his fellow pupils to sing "who are, who are, who are we; we are, we are, we are the c-i-p-h-e-r-s f-r-o-m C.S.S." "(Cook Station School). Benton Creek came back with this one in answer - "Raw, Raw, Jonnie Cake, Red Hot Sweet Potato, all is Straight; Not too late for Benton Creek School is up to date". It was led by Orville Martin, for the Benton Creek School.

The Spelling matches or "bees" were also in the vogue. They were more than a social event, although they were the beginning of many a romance that sprung up that lead to marriage and family raising. Many were the old timers who could tract their "first date" as beginning at some school spelling bee. To spell by tally or two by two was the style. The two by two style was, or seemed to be, the oldest. Two chosen contestants stood up before the teacher who pronounced words aloud alternately until one of the spellers missed and, as only one trial was allowed to spell the word, the one who stood up and out-spelled all others was declared winner. It was a thrill to spell down a whole school of contestants. It frequently occurred. The old Blue Back speller was the one most usually used. There

followed the Yellow and then the Red back spellers. They are still hard to beat as a text book. Tally spelling was between chosen sides who lined each side of the school room and as the speller at the end of one side or row spelled they passed over to the other side calling number One or Two, whichever the side he or she had been chosen on. As each word was pronounced, beginning at the head of either line it was spelled and a new one pronounced to the next speller in line. If one speller missed the word given him or her it was passed on to the next speller and so on until it was spelled correctly. If the word was spelled and so,

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the side getting the most tallies, because they spelled more words correctly thus enabling them to cross over from one side to the other and declared winner. If some one got a word he nor any of either side couldn't spell, the contest was called ended and tallys were counted and thus decided in favor of the side who had the most tallies.

The Box and Pie Suppers held as a public event were in the vogue from the onset of the country schools. Of the two the Box supper was the older. It consisted of a meal cooked and placed in a box and sold at public auction to the highest bidder attending the occasion. The Pie Supper that followed and eventually succeeded it, was on the same order, only a pie was all that was placed in the box and sold to the highest bidder. The pie may have been an ordinary one, but not the box that contained it. Great and elaborate was the preparation of that box. Many hours and painstaking care was put into the fixing on the box that the young lady put her pie in. Great was the decoration. Pastel colors and much fancy ribbon was draped on that box. They seemed to vie for the honor of having the most elaborate box. The name of the owner was written and turned name down and hidden under the ribbon that held the box. The auctioneer made quite a to-do over those pretty boxes. If the young lady had a date there he would likely have to pay a high price for the honor of eating with her, especially if some of the boys pooled their money together and "run up the bidding on him". In connection to the pies sold, there was sometimes a guessing cake. Someone baked a cake and cutting out a hole in the middle inserted something of a secret nature and charged a few pennies per guess. The one who guessed it got the cake. For fun, some would guess just anything. At one Benton Creek social, the guess ran from a pair of socks to a threshing machine. The cake had been baked by Mrs. Myrtle Asher, and finally Floyd Friend guessed a "set of teeth" and sure enough that was what it contained. A set of doll's teeth had been put in and he won the cake. Then came the cake or box of candy for the prettiest girl present. No girl would admit that the one that won

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the prettiest. Sometimes it was a matter of money pooled and placed on one contestant regardless of beauty. Sometimes a young man would be put up for the prettiest girl and Ernest Peterman was usually the one to win.

At the Benton Creek school, Miss Bessie Goad was almost always the winner. Her sister Daisy won at times after Bessie had left the Creek. It seemed that there was always a competitor from some adjoining district and the Benton Creek boys would pool their money and away would go the contest. Much fun was enjoyed and money for various enterprises was made. The proceeds usually went into the school fund; at other times, as during World War One, it went for patriotic reasons. One lady's pie at Carr school house, that was wrapped in an American flag brought fifteen dollars. The proceeds went for Liberty Bonds. That was in 1918. The auctioneer was Rev. Marion Brown and the pie belonged to Goldia Lay. In closing down the country schools and transporting the pupils into consolidated schools may have been the best thing to do to keep abreast with modern advancements, but it may have its disadvantages, also. The long walk to and from school never did kill anyone. In the open air, with the needed exercise, built sturdy bodies and clear minds that has paid greatly in return for the few handicaps that were encountered during grammar school days.

Social and Community activities, not connected with the school, were common on Benton Creek. Square dancing in the homes was one that was a long time community practice and family tradition. Very few Saturday nights passed without someone giving a dance for the young folks. They were the kind of dances that called for fast "fiddleing" and calling by some qualified caller who knew the turns that was made to make up smooth running set of four men and their lady partners. Jim Tom Michael with his clear voice was among the earliest and best caller. Cleve Couch and Clarence Stewart came up from Louisiana and Georgia during a sawmill working time and called at the local dances; Ernest Earny was also a caller. Others

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whose names have slipped from memory. The old time fiddlers were in demand, not only at dances but other times of entertainment. At "Log Rollings" which was a day time community picnic demanded them to come and furnish music, wheather for dancing or merely entertainment. The Dr. George W. Dillon and his entire family was among the best. Earl and Arthur Thurman was also among them. Donie Michael and Henry Tabor was hard to beat. The Stark brothers and Champ Martin and Herk Sanders from around Cook Station, were almost unbeatable. Later, the Grubb brothers, Albert, Raymond and Elsworth were also known as good mucisians. Thomas Benton and sons were also real fiddlers. John Daniel Brewer was plenty good enough to listen to, Bert Fortner was a young but good fiddler as well as Roy Nealey. Kenneth Grubb and his father Arthur Grubb was real musicians. Arch Webster and the Coppage brothers, John and Arch, made real music on fiddle and stringed accompaniment.

The community fox hunting was sport long practiced by the hunters of Benton Creek as well as communitites surrounding. You can't confine fox hunting to a locality as hounds will cross all community lines after the fox. The music rendered by a pack of bugleing fox hounds on a clear chilly night will defy competition. Among the Benton Creek fox hunters who kept hounds of note were George and Jasper Haley; Guy Jones; Leonard Payne; Sam Gorman; Russell, Thomas and Corbett Lay, Elzie Cotner, William Clinton, Harford Edgar, Jerry Broyles, Oscar and Wifford Happel, Raymond Plank, Lomas Mash, Harry Tabor, Levi Michael, Arthur Eickhorst, to name a few. Various were the names given the hounds. Speed, Music, Truly, Drum, Jerry, Trim, Red, Blue, Mack, Sally, Roxie, Blanche, Fritz, Rock, Rolley, Padge, Ameritue, Pete, Spot, Mabel, Daizey, Jack and a host of others. Sometimes, things went in arears and tempers flew out of control and fist fights followed. The Walker, Red Bone, Blue Tick and Plott Hounds were the strain of fox hounds common among the hunters. The Beagle came in as a rabbit and coon

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hound and was widely used for that type of hunting.

The early day auctioneers and stock buyers were among those who lived and traded on Benton Creek. Among the auctioneers were: Sam Gorman, Vorice Craig, Henry Gibson; John Adams, to mention a few. Among the early day cattle and other stock buyers were Henry Morrison, Sam Gorman, C. O. Parry, Sr., and his sons C. O. Jr., and Ira; William Melone and John Ketchem also bought cattle on Benton Creek as well as G. W. Bell and son and Frank Wycoff and sons, Albert and Raymond. The Clintons, John and William, also dealt in cattle as did the Grubb brothers, son of William Riley Grubb. Among early day fur buyers were: Sam Gorman, Everett Jones and Louis and Roy Wycoff.

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THE CHURCHES of Benton Creek were better attended in early times than to-day. In the Carr community was the Mount Olive Baptist Church. It was probably the oldest on the Creek. Among ministers who served there were: Bennie Walker, Marion Brown, John B. Ragsdale. Also John Smith, Christopher Roberts, Mathew Gorman, Addie Gravatte, Wallie Gibbs, J. R. Kammerer, to mention a few. On lower Benton Creek, the Church of God came in there and conducted services in District No. 67. John Haley was among the earliest as was Harvie Trask, Earnest O'Dell, John Skipper, John A. Morrison, Mathew Gorman, E. A. Hoffman, Christopher Roberts, Addie Gravatte, John Palm, Jim Bassett, Wm. Potters, Gordon Morrison, Emil Hollinder, Sam Honeycutt and Wallie Gibbs. J. A. Holcumb and Isabelle (Beezley) Holcumb also conducted services here; also Earl Martin and Ernest A. Smith.

Gorman Cemetery [Crawford County, Missouri]  
 from "Pioneer History of Benton Creek" by J Gilbert Lay  
 [alphabetized and notes in brackets by transcriber]

NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH/AGE	NOTES
Brumett, Jas H	10 Apr 1850	20 Jan 1896	
Brumett, LeRoy	9 Sep 1879	1y, 3 day	son of J H and R A Brumett
Brumett, Rhoda A	9 Sep 1852	15 Feb 1881	wife of J H Brumett
Bunch, Andrew	28 Feb 1911	12 Jul 1911	son of P and L Bunch
Bunch, Lucy	18 Jan 1879	11 Jun 1911	wife of P Bunch
Cunningham, Rebecca	22 Feb 1873	26 Jan 1906	wife of J R Cunningham
Fortner, J J	1883	1953	
Gorman, J L	07 Jul 1837	11 Mar 1909	[husband of Polly]
Gorman, James	1865	1941	
Gorman, Matthew E	1872	1946	
Gorman, Polly		11 Jul 1901	wife [of J L Gorman]
Gorman, Sam	1870	1933	
Haley, Hanora	1886	26 ??? 1886	dau of H C & S E Haley
Haley, Jasper W	01 Oct 1889	09 Mar 1892/3	son of H C & S C Haley
Haley, Wm M	08 Jul 1867	17 Jan 1893	son of H C & S E Haley
Laney, John M		11 Jan 1867	son of W D & N C Laney age 11 days
Luster, W? B		1912	
Talbert, Elizabeth	04 May 1874	18 Mar 1920	wife[of Henry Talbert]
Talbert, Henry	25 Feb 1869	03 May 1956	

Carr Cemetery [Crawford County, Missouri]  
 from "Pioneer History of Benton Creek" by J Gilbert Lay  
 [alphabetized and notes in brackets by transcriber]  
 ["no stone" would indicate unknown sources other than markers]

NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH/AGE	NOTES
Benton, Donnie Louise	1962	1962	
Benton, Rachel	1884	-----	nee Goad, Wife [of Wm T]
Benton, Wm. T.	1879	1946	
Blackburn, Tom			no stone
Carr, Anna E	1870	1933	nee Smith Wife [of Wm H]
Carr, Anna	21 Nov 1825	7 Jul 1907	age 83 y 7 m 6 d (?) wife of T. E. Carr
Carr, Cordean	03 Feb 1898	20 Nov 1920	wife of W. I. Carr nee Drennan
Carr, T. E.	29 Jan 1831	12 Aug 1901	age 70 y 6 mo 13 d
Carr, Wm H.	1861	1947	
Carty, Bryan Douglas	11 Jan 1953	28 Nov 1953	
Carty, Green B.	13 Sep 1873	age 85 yrs 1 mo 4 d	
Carty, Ida E	22 Feb 1875	02 May 1951	nee Ray Wife [of Green B.]
Carty, John			no stone
Carty, Wm. Dudley	04 Oct 1932	08 Mar 1933	son of Earl and Mammie (Chumley) Carty wife [of John]
Chumley, Eliza	03 Aug 1842	14 Mar 1926	
Chumley, John	23 Aug 1840	16 Sep 1922	
Chumley, Nancy C	15 Oct 1871	23 Mar 1944	wife [of Wm Dudley]
Chumley, Robert Frank	31 Dec 1879	31 Dec 1958	Sargent-57th Mo. Tr. Corp. WWI
Chumley, Wm Dudley	12 Aug 1872	29 Mar 1946	
Conoway, Carleen	07 Dec 1930	23 Jan 1954	
Edgar, Elmer	28 Nov 1923	28 Nov 1923	Son of G. L. and R. A. Edgar
Edgar, Grover L.	11 Mar 1892	04 Nov 1959	
Hatcher, Charley			no stone
Hurt, John O.		16 Jul 1954	age 70 y 7 m 17 d
Kessler, Albert E	1876	1955	
Lay, C. W. (Bert)	1896	1962	Life Member of B.L.F.E.
Lay, Cleta	28 Jul 1914	28 Aug 1937	Dau. of L. J. and Lena Lay wife [of Louis Jas.]
Lay, Lena	1875		
Lay, Louis James	1867	1944	
Martin, Reta Carrol	15 Sep 1944	15 Sep 1944	dau. of Rob't and Matred Martin (Happy) foster mother of T. E. Carr (Civil War Vet) wife [of Wm B] nee Morrison Wife [of Jackson]
McLaughlin, Walter H	1892	died 1952	
Moffitt,	25 Oct 1797	10 Aug 1878	
Plank, Jackson	18 Sep 1844	08 Feb 1934	
Plank, Louella F.	12 Jul 1874	22 Dec 1934	
Plank, Susannah	18 Feb 1849	05 Jan 1926	
Plank, Wm. B.	21 Mar 1867	22 Dec 1934	

Rumfelt, Edna P.	25 Aug 1901	07 Nov 1919	
Rumfelt, Ernest E	09 Jul 1899	23 Jul 1920	son of Wm A. and Mary A. Rumfelt
Rumfelt, Goldie E.	05 Aug 1896	09 May 1917	wife of Wm Usher
Rumfelt, Janie B	03 Jul 1853	24 Apr 1915	wife of James H Rumfelt nee Chumley
Rumfelt, Mary A	1870	1953	
Rumfelt, Wm A.	1871	1953	
Skaggs, (?)	1942	1961	
Smith, Blanch	26 Sep 1912	29 Sep 1932	nee Broyles, wife of Wilmer Smith nee Benton
Smith, Daphna	1906	1955	
Smith, Dudley L.	29 Oct 1851	18 Oct 1930	
Smith, Henry			no stone
Smith, John Harrison	21 Jun 1857	01 Mar 1938	
Smith, Lawrence	03 Jan 1889	03 Mar 1900	son of J. H. and M. E. Smith
Smith, Martha Ellen	26 Oct 1865	05 Mar 192?	wife of J. H. Smith
Smith, Mary H.	14 Sep 1869	14 Feb 1958	nee Cox wife [of Dudley L] son of D. L. and M. H. Smith
Smith, Maurice F		1904	dau. of D. L. and M. H. Smith
Smith, Minnie	09 Oct 1901	01 Nov 1901	
Smith, Morris F.	19 Aug 1891	17 Jan 1930	
Smith, Rob't C	06 Dec 1940	06 Dec 1940	son of Emory and Daphna Smith
Smith, Wilmar	04 Aug 18--		
Sparks, Harvie D.	1895	1952	
Sparks, Jessie	1904		wife [of Harvie D] Pvt 5th Mo Inf. A.C.F.T.; Sig. Rgt.
William, Oscar W	06 Apr 1919	04 May 1959	

Some maiden names have been added to these inscriptions; some date and letters were dim, hence some errors.

Lower Morrison Cemetery [Crawford County, Missouri]  
from "Pioneer History of Benton Creek" by J Gilbert Lay  
[alphabetized and notes in brackets by transcriber]  
["no stone" would indicate unknown sources other than markers]  
["Upper" Morrison Cemetery located in Dent County, Missouri]

NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH/AGE	NOTES
Asher, B		21 Nov 1870	son of H and C. J. Asher
Asher, C. J.		09 Feb 1879	age ?6y 7mo 7d Wife of Harrison Asher
Asher, Catharine	09 Jul 1829	17 Nov 1901	wife of Joe Asher
Asher, Harrison (Tip)			No stone nor dates
Asher, James	16 Jan 1852	02 Feb 1926	
Asher, Lucy	17 Jan 1857	08 Oct 1892	wife of James Asher
Asher, M. J.		21 Nov 1870	age 3y 4m 7d dau. of H and C. J. Asher
Asher, Wm L.	15 Mar 1875	27 Jun 1924	
Asher, Minnie	25 Apr 1875		wife [of Wm L]
Beazley, Clara B	12 Jun 1867	18 Apr 1907	wife of W. C.
Beazley, Ewell E	18 Jun 1875	20 Aug 1875	son of Joel and M. A. Beazley
Beazley, Josie E	12 Feb 1884	21 Aug 1885	dau of Joel and M. A. Beazley
Beazley, Leslie	10 Jul 1904	age 7 y 10 m 10 d	son of J. A. and M. A. Beazley
Beazley, Lodema M	26 Nov 1907	08 Feb 1908	dau. of J. A. Beazley and M. A. Beazley
Beazley, Mabel	15 Mar 1839[?]	29 Sep 1914	dau. of J. A. and M. A. Beazley
Beazley, Mary A.	15 Mar 1839	05 Jan 1862	dau. of Joel Beazley
Beazley, Myrtle	23 Jan 1883	27 Jan 1897	dau. of W. C. and M. E. Beazley
Beazley, Nora	28 Feb 1879	09 Mar 1879	Dau. of Joel and Mary A. Beazley
Beazley, Sarah E	06 Oct 1842	31 May[?] 1873	wife of Joel Beazley
Brown, Ida K	04 Jul 1865	23 Nov 1888	age 23 y; dau. Of John K and Nancy Brown
Brown, John R	31 Dec 1878	18 May 1891	son of John G and M. E. Brown
Brown[Wycoff], Levina	12 Oct 1841	06 Dec 1893	wife of James Wycoff [mother of Mary Brown]
Brown, Mary	01 Dec 1860	22 Aug 1891	wife of John G. Brown
Browne, Jemimiah	18 Oct 1836	12 Jul 1887	wife of John R Browne

Burgess, Harvey		16 Mar 1886	age 35y 11mo
Burgess, Lillie		11 Aug 1885	age 12 y 8 mo
			Dau. of Harvey and Margaret Burgess
Burgess, Margaret		28 Jul 1894	age 42 y 3 mo.
			wife of Harvey Burgess
Clinton,	14 Aug 1895	07 Jan 1896	(Ava Clinton) dau of J. H. and L. M. Clinton
Clinton, James H.	16 Jan 1865	10 Sep 1899	
Clinton, Jinkens	29 Jul 1829	06 Mar 1907	
Clinton, Jonathon		20 Mar 1859	age 11 y 9 mo 18 d
			son of Jinkens and Eva Clinton
Cook Angeletta	28 Jan 1846	19 Mar 1902	age 56 y 1 mo 11 d
			Wife [of Levi W]
Cook, Levi W	14 May 1847	04 Apr 1905	age 57 y 7 m 20 d
Coppage, James A	16 Jul 1844	02 Apr 1873	
Forkner, Sarah A		01 Nov 1870	age 19 y 9 mo 6 d
			wife of R. H. Forkner(?)
Goad, Osco			no stones/dates
Goad, Daizy			no stones/dates
Goad, William			no stones/dates
Gorman, Dicia	1892		wife [of Everett]
Gorman, Everett	1890	1925	
Grubb, Ines L	24 Oct 1897	07 Feb 1898	dau of J. A. and Lula Grubb
Grubb, J. A.	16 Nov 1884	20 May 1910	
Grubb, Lula	05 Jun 1869		wife [of J. A.]
Gunter, Mary	29 Jan 1882	01 Feb 1882	dau of Ellen Gunter
Haley, Elmar	24 Aug 1844[?]	13 Feb 1903	son of J. H. and M. E. Haley
			son of J. H. and M. J. Haley
Haley, Ernest P	02 Aug 1885	05 Mar 1888	
Haley, Eva D	04 Aug 1888	10 Sep 1892	dau. of J. H. and M. J. Haley
Haley, George Palmar	02 Mar 1865	12 Apr 1939	
Haley, Louisa			nee Rundles wife
			Of Wm Haley no dates
Haley, Marrgret (Lay)	01 Jul 1868	11 Jul 1955	wife [of George Palmar Haley]
Haley, Wm.	15 Jan 1830	25 Oct 1907	
Heuchan, Ada B.	1876	1939	
Hubble, John A.		29 Sep 1895	age 52 y 2 d.
Hubble, Margaret		22 Apr 1900	age 64 y 2 mo.
			Wife [of John A]
Jones Zack T.	14 Feb 1848	09 Nov 1892	
Jones-Petty, Mary	06 Sep 1855	19 Dec 1948	
Lay, Charles Elma	16 Feb 1897	11 Sep 1919	son of Fred and Lola Lay
Lay, Fred M.	27 Sep 1873	30 Jan 1935	
Lay, Lillie Pearl	29 May 1902	13 Mar 1921	dau. of Fred and Lola Lay
Lay, Lola B.	1878		wife [of Fred M]

l'neal[O'neal ?]J. W.		24 Mar 1881	age 24 y. 3 m. 19 d
Luster, James	14 Oct 1795	27 Oct 1889	
Luster, Mary		29 Jul 1872	age 66 y 8 m 21 d wife of James Luster
McDaniels, Dorris	15 Mar 1926	6-1926	
McDaniels, Dorthy	14 Nov 1915 (?)	13 Jan 1916	
McDaniels, Mabel	01 Jan 1908	12 Nov 1908	dau. of J and B. McDaniels
McDaniels, Opal	13 Mar 192-	19 Nov 1930[or 1920]	
McDaniels, Raymond	28 May 1912	28 Aug 1912	son of J and B McDaniels
McDaniels, Wayne	18 Oct 1923	14 Nov 1923	
Michael, Levi	1867	19--	
Morrison, Andrew J	11 Jan 1827	07 Nov 1857	husband of E. H. Morrison
Morrison, Charles S	27 Apr 1862	12 Nov 1880	age 22 yrs. son of A. J and C. A. Morrison
Morrison, Elizabeth		05 Aug 1895	age 79-3mo 5 da. wife of William L. Morrison
Morrison, James T.	24 Jun 1843(?)	02 Dec 1888	Co B; 10th, Mo. Cal. Civil War
Morrison, Mary	22 May 1866	03 Sep 1906	wife [of T. L.]
Morrison, Nancy	27 Aug 1846	19 May 1924	wife [of James T]
Morrison, Sarah	27 Jul 1831	17 Nov 1897	wife of J. W. Morrison
Morrison, T. L.	21 Apr 1864	-----	
Morrison, William L.		28 Jan 1884	husband of E. Morrison
Neese, Rachael	17 Sep 1837	18 Mar 1913	64 y. 2 mo. 2 da.
O'neal (?)		10 Mar 1861	age 75 y 6 m 21 d
O'neal, Maggie		06 Mar 1890	age 37 y 8 mo. 5 d.
Renshaw, Nellie	21 Jan 1890	25 Oct 1898	age 30 y 11 m 12 d
Rumfelt, Isabelle	11 May 1850	2? Dec 1872	wife of J. H. Rumfelt
Snelson, James	28 Jan 1876	age 6 mo 28 d.	son of J. S. and M. S. Snelson
Spradling, Lula	18 Apr 1865	02 Jan 1919	nee Blain
Spradling, Wm.	16 Jan 1866		
Stephen, Willie R.			Co a Batt Mo Cal.
Talbert, ?? (T. H. ??)	03 Dec 1861	age 54 y. 10m. 18d.	
Talbert, Alphus	18 Aug 1847	24 Apr 1908	
Talbert, James T	11 May 1850	08 Feb 1901	son of Alphus and Nancy Talbert
Talbert, Mary Etta	25 Dec 1871	11 Mar 1895	dau. of Alphus and Nancy Talbert
Talbert, Nancy Jane	25 Apr 1853	05 Sep 1908	wife [of Alphus]
Talbert, T. R.	30 Dec 1861	54 y 10 m 18 d	
Thurman, Arthue A.	26 Nov 1881	24 Dec 1911	
Thurman, Chas. E	10 Jul 1904	05 Mar 1908	son of T. J. and S. J. Thurman

Thurman, Goe. M	04 Mar 1870	09 Mar 1905	son of T. J. and S. E. Thurman
Thurman, Raymond	13 Jul 1890	25 Jul 1903	son of T. J. and S. E. Thurman
Towell, Frankie		21 Feb 1897	age 16 yrs 20 d.
Veach, John	1903	1944	
Wycoff, Amanda		20 Oct 1879	age 8mo 21d dau. of A and P Wycoff
Wycoff, Wm. D.		04 Jun 1880	age 38 y 5 mo 21 d
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Martin, Laura	Talbert, Jesse	24	27
Martin, Mary E	Plank, Frank	19	22
Martin, Obe	s/o Martin, David&Lou	25	28
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Mash, Etta	Wycoff, Walter	14	17
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McBride, Loyd	Goad, Bessie	5	8
McBride, Madalene	Plank, Ervin	5	8
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McWhorter, Henry P	Bressler, Betty	19	22
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Michael, Rebecca	Plank, William R	5,10	8,13
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Miller, Mrs. Lucy	Jones, Oscar	15	18
Miller, Rose	Gunter, Willie	7	10
Miller, Sarah	Talbert, Mathew	24	27
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Morrison, Evelyn	Miller, Elton	16	19
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Morrison, Lona	Kennedy, Clifford	17	20
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Pitts, Wilbur	s/o Pitts, Sol	22	25
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Plank, Hiram	Adams, Mary E	20	23
Plank, Ida	Broyles, Charley	20	23
Plank, Ike	Edgar, Margaret E		
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Plank, John	Luster, Levina	5,19	8,22
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Plank, John	Baylock, Margaret	19	22
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Plank, Mahala	McWhorter, William	5	8
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Redwine, Laura	Morrison, Edward	17	20
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Rinehart, Frank	Lakin, Lenola	9	12
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Roberts, Christopher		38	41
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Scott, Bertha		13	16
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Talbert Talbot Tolbert	Tolbut Variant Spelling		
Talbert, ? ? (T H ??)		42	45
Talbert, Alphus	Lamb, Nancy	24,42	27,45
Talbert, Alvin	s/o Talbert,Arthur&Ruth	24	27
Talbert, Andy	Gunter, Effie	24	27
	Hovie, Emma		
Talbert, Anna	Young, August	24	27
Talbert, Arthur	Vaughn, Ruth	24	27
Talbert, Arthur, Jr	Died WWII	24	27
Talbert, Bessie	Adams, Rilley	24	27
Talbert, Byrle	s/o Talbert,Arthur&Ruth	24	27
Talbert, Effie	Foust, John	24	27
Talbert, Elizabeth	Rumfelt, James	23	26
Talbert, Elizabeth	w/o Henry Talbert	39A	42
Talbert, Ethel	Julian, Unknown	24	27
Talbert, Everett	Watson, Pearl	24	27
Talbert, Frank	s/o Talbert,Arthur&Ruth	24	27
Talbert, Henry	Gorman, Lizzie	24,39A	27,42
Talbert, Ida	Gorman, Sam	24	27
Talbert, James	s/o Talbert, Alphus	24	27
Talbert, Jeannie	d/o Talbert,Arthur&Ruth	24	27
Talbert, Jesse	Martin, Laura	24	27
Talbert, Joe	Unknown, Jane	24	27
Talbert, John	s/o Talbert,Arthur&Ruth	24	27
Talbert, Lee	Musgraves, Cleave	24	27
Talbert, Mary Etta	d/o Talbert, Alphus	24,42	27,45
Talbert, Mathew	Michael, Ellen	24	27
	Miller, Sarah		
Talbert, Myrna	Barton, Earl	24	27

Talbert, Nancy	Morrison, LaFayette	17	20
Talbert, Nancy Jane	w/o Alphus Talbert	42	45
Talbert, Pearl	Rodgers, Duell	24	27
Talbert, Robert	Smith, Lavern	24	27
Talbert, Rosetta	Barr, William	24	27
Talbert, Sarah Ann	Morrison, John	16	19
Talbert, Shadrach		24	27
Talbert, Shelia	d/o Talbert,Arthur&Ruth	24	27
Talbert, Tom	Unknown, Belle	24	27
Talbert, Unknown	Lamb, Nancy Jane	4	7
Talbert, Viola	Broyles, Eugene	6	9
Talbert, Wilbur	s/o Talbert,Arthur&Ruth	24	27
Talbert, William	Pitts, Anna	6,24	9,27
Talbert, William	Casey, Charlotte	24	27
Talbert, Wilson	Unknown, Violet	24	27
Thomas, Sarah	Hurt, James	26	29
Thompson, Jesse	Happel, Laura	10	13
Thornton, Dora	Plank, James Marion	20	23
Thurman, Arthur		29,37,42	32,40,45
Thurman, Chas. E	s/o T J & S J Thurman	42	45
Thurman, Earl		37	40
Thurman, Goe. M	s/o T J & S E Thurman	42	45
Thurman, Raymond	s/o T J & S E Thurman	42	45
Tipping, Julie E	Plank, Ike	19	22
Tomlinson, Ama	Plank, Dick	5,8,10	8,11,13
Tomlinson, Arthur	Unknown, Anna	10	13
Tomlinson, Robert	Michael, Adaline	8,10	11,13
Toon, Agness	Musgraves, Carl	21	24
Towell, Frankie		42	45
Transue, Sam	f/o Transue, Mary	25	28
Transue, Unknown	Served w/Geo Washington	25	28
Trask, Harvie		38	41
Tungate, Mary Jane	Adams, James "Dunk"	6	9

NAME	SPOUSE	PAGE	TRANSCRIPTION
Vaughn, Craig	Shaverbush, Lillie	9	12
Vaughn, Dortha	Smith,Clarence	23	26
Vaughn, Roba	Shoemate, Delphia	9	12
Vaughn, Ruth	Talbert, Arthur	24	27
Veach, John		42	45
Veitch, Malinda	Foust, John	11	14
Veitch, Oma	Jones, John	15	18
Veitch, Vietch	Variant Spelling		
Vercamp, Bernard	Morrison, Alma	16	19
Vietch, Mary	Tabor, Henry	11,23	14,26

NAME	SPOUSE	PAGE	TRANSCRIPTION
Wagganor, Loranne	Smith, Herbert	22	25
Walker, Bennie		38	41
Walker, Gladys	Lay, Claude	11,29	14,32
Watkins, "Toad"		7	10
Watkins, Doss		7	10
Watkins, James	Unknown, Ida	7	10
Watkins, Jennie	Hatcher, James	9	12
Watkins, Perse		7	10
Watson, Pearl	Talbert, Everett	24	27
Weber, Arthur		28	31
Webster, Arch		37	40
Welch, Eliza E	Plank, Jasper	19,23	22,26
Welch, Jackie	Henson, Unknown	6	9
Welch, Joseph	Michael, Delphia	6	9
Wells, Jordon		16	19
Wells, Sarah		16	19
Werre, Henry	Goad-McBride, Bessie	6	9
Wheeler, G L	Inman, Bertha	20	23
White, Edward	Eickhorst, Mary	14	17
White, Elmar		4	7
White, Everett		4	7
White, Frank	Ketchems, Mabel	4	7
White, George	Bell, Martha	4,13	7,16
White, Henry	Haley, Dora	24,25,28,29	27,28,31,32
White, James		4	7
White, Jessie		4	7
White, Martin Baker	Annison, Betty	13	16
White, Velma	Lay, Claude	11	14
White, William	Plank, Vadie	5	8
William, Oscar W		39B	43
Williams, Bessie	Martin, Earl	16	19
Williams, Davie	Wright, Molly	19	22
Williams, Elliott	Unknown, Louella	8	11
Williams, Merton	s/o Williams, Elliott	9	12
Williams, Sadie	Horner, Jerry	18	21
Williams, William	Unknown, Catharine	8	11
Williamson, Eva (Ava)	Clinton, Jenkins	8,19,25	11,22,28
Wilson, Ben	Unknown, Rosa	10,11	13,14
Wilson, Earl		11	14
Wilson, Emma	Happel, Clarence	10,11	13,14
Wilson, Minnie	Clinton, Tom	25	28
Winkler, Zeb		29	32
Winters, Hary	Musgraves, Mate	21	24
Woliford, Marie	Decker, William	26	29
Wood, Cordell	Ross, Arlene	21	24
Wood, Loyd	Jordan, Dortha	21	24
Wood, Matrade	Martin, Robert	21	24
Wood, Tomas	Slovensky, Erma	20	23
Woods, Matred		28	31
Wright, Florence	Morrison, Donas	17	20
Wright, John	Presley-Asher, Amanda	7	10
Wright, John	Unk-Hubbel, Margaret	8	11
Wright, Thomas		7,10	10,13
Wright,Molly	Williams, Davie	19	22
Wycoff, Albert		38	41
Wycoff, Alf	Luster, Levina	14,16	17,19
Wycoff, Amanda	d/o A & P Wycoff	42	45
Wycoff, Anna	Michael, Billie	10	13

Wycoff, Frank		38	41
Wycoff, Lizzie	Morrison, Levi	17	20
Wycoff, Louis		38	41
Wycoff, Louisa	Mash, Jack	14	17
Wycoff, Mary	Mash, Andy	14	17
Wycoff, Raymond		38	41
Wycoff, Roy		38	41
Wycoff, Sam	Mash, Mary	14,16	17,19
Wycoff, Walter	Mash, Etta	14	17
Wycoff, Wm D		42	45

NAME	SPOUSE	PAGE	TRANSCRIPTION
Yearly, H P	O'Neal, Mary	15	18
Yearly, Henry	Bean, Belle	26	29
Yearly, Ida		29	32
Yearly, Melinda	w/o H P Yearly	42	45
Yearly, Milton, Sr	f/o Yearly, Henry	27	30
Yearly, Pole		8	11
Young, August	Talbert, Anna	24	27
Young, Gussie	Haley	13	16
Young, June	Brown, Unknown	24	27
Zigler, Ellen	Gorman, James	17,24	20,27