

# HISTORY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY



MERAMEC REGIONAL PLANNING  
COMMISSION

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**MERAMEC REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM**

**PHASE IV**

**HISTORIC INVENTORY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY**

**PROJECT NUMBER: 29-83-7517**

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**HISTORY  
OF  
CRAWFORD  
COUNTY**

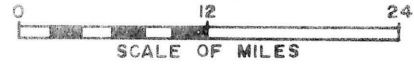
**PREPARED BY  
MERAMEC REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
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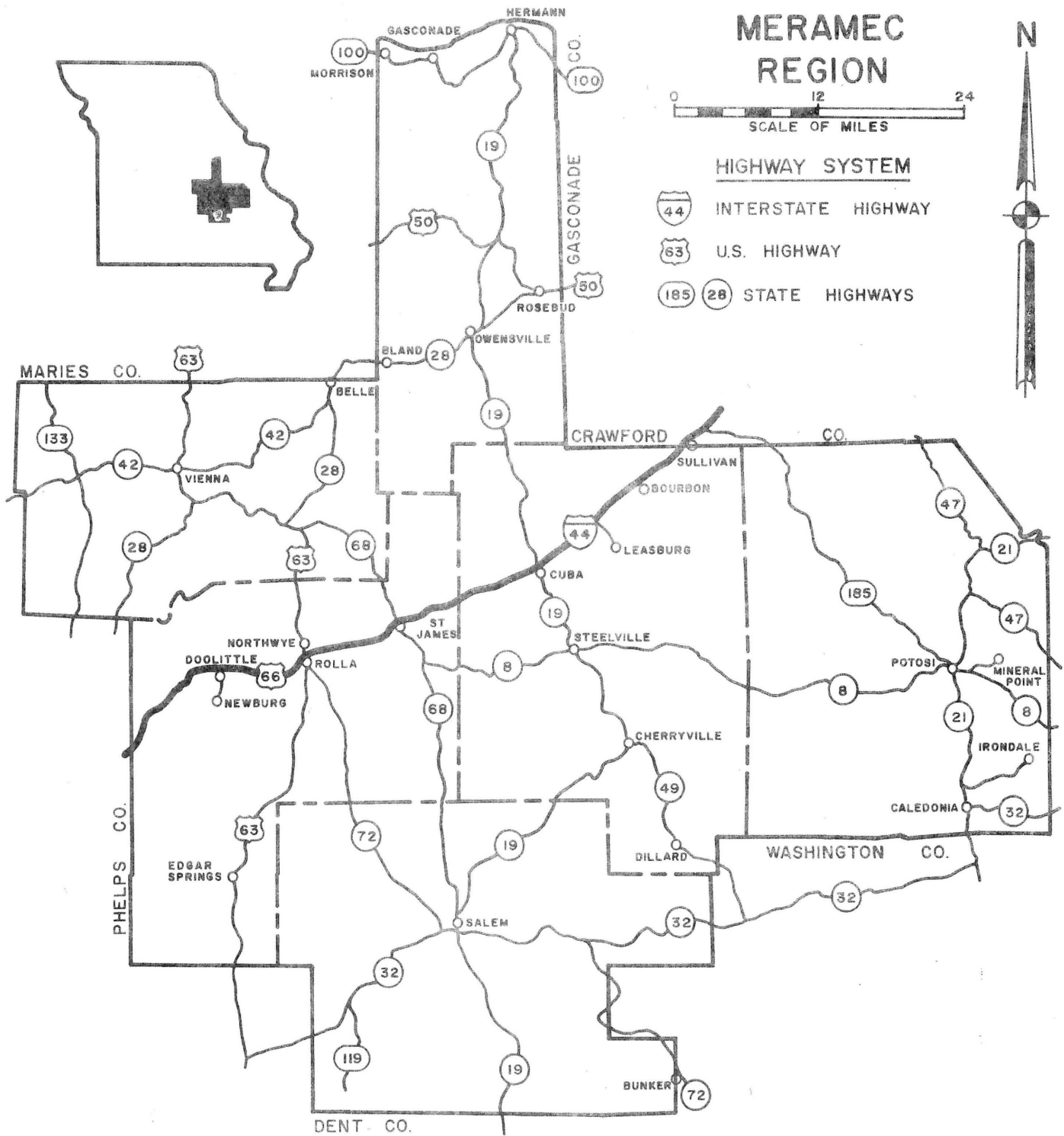


# MERAMEC REGION



## HIGHWAY SYSTEM

- INTERSTATE HIGHWAY
- U.S. HIGHWAY
- STATE HIGHWAYS



## METHODOLOGY

**Background** - The project initially began with an application to the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Historic Preservation. The Meramec Regional Planning Commission authorized its staff to seek a matching grant to conduct an inventory of historic structures within the Meramec Region. Negotiations with the DNR Office of Historic Preservation led to a contract to accomplish an historic inventory of Crawford County. The survey or inventory was to consist of 180 historic inventory data sheets, a 3 by 5 inch photograph of each structure or object inventoried, a comprehensive map of the county and each site location, topographic maps detailing the exact site location according to the UTM (United Tic Mark) References, and a final comprehensive history of the county with the major emphasis being the historical and architectural development of the communities.

**Research** - Research began by reviewing pamphlets from the DNR/OHP to learn the basic styles and terminology necessary for the complete assessment of architectural styles and structural aspects of prospective sites. In addition, perusal of earlier surveys completed in relevant MRPC counties was conducted for additional guidance and assistance in style and content of such inventories. An attempt was made to learn as much as possible about Crawford County before actually beginning the field work; reference to historical books written about the area and identification of communities through the use of topographic maps prefaced a great deal of the initial interviewing and survey work. Becoming acquainted with many of the early members and settlers of the community obviated repetitious questions during the interviews and provided a basic understanding of the development and settlement of small towns as well as the people who settled them and many of their descendents who still live there.

***Encouragement*** - The HPP staff has received encouragement from everyone with whom they have come in contact. Members of local historical societies have provided a good source of information. They also have encouraged the furtherance of the historical identification program by giving HPP staff tours of their homes to show salient points of local architecture, by explaining vagaries of local history which could not be known by an outsider, and in fact are known to only a few of the residents of the local areas, and generally by supporting the objectives of the program.

***Co-operation*** - The HPP staff has received a tremendous amount of cooperation from the residents of the communities surveyed. There were many times when no effort was spared by the people interviewed in providing detailed information, records and abstracts, photographs, house tours, and other references. Even those who perhaps had not heard of Historic Preservation exhibited remarkable efforts and personal time in sharing their knowledge and personal memories of specific sites and local history. Certainly the cooperation and willingness to share such time and knowledge has provided the essence of capturing and recording local history which has contributed to the unmitigated success of the Historic Preservation Program at MRPC.

***Field Work*** - Work in the field began in December, 1986. It included the use of knowledge gleaned from the research and local sources which had been done to that date, and both field work and research proceeded simultaneously.

Field work in Crawford County was at first conducted in Cuba. Later, work branched out to include Fanning, Dillard, Cherryville, Leasburg, and to all other towns in Crawford; the rural sites were also extensively surveyed. The large maps of Crawford County show the locations of the sites surveyed in the county. As can be seen by a glance, surveys were spread across the length and breadth of the county.

**Mapping** - The maps used by the MRPC/HPP were prepared by the staff. Map arrows show the locations of the sites identified by the historic reports. Item #1 on the map is the number which identifies the location of the property being described. These map arrows designating the sites are followed by the initials of the architectural styles of the sites. The numbering and initial system was decided upon after a lengthy discussion of the best way to graphically show the location of the property site and appropriate architectural styles.

**Results** - The result obtained by conducting this research has been a compilation of a specific as well as a general history of the development of Crawford County. Specific questions, such as construction dates and who built the house, were always asked of the people interviewed. Other pertinent questions about community history were asked, as well as questions about housing and structural materials used, alterations made, and dates of remodelling, as well as other historical questions such as initial land use and history of ownership. The architectural features of these sites was determined by an analysis of the design and features derived from the photographs taken; in this way the objectives of this project, a survey which combines history and architectural information about communities, was fulfilled. The following pages depict the historical record of events leading to the settlement in Crawford County and conclusions about the types of structures to be found in the communities of Crawford County.





## FOREWORD

This effort to present a comprehensive history of Crawford County is an attempt to put in perspective the forces responsible for change and development. The history of Crawford County is, naturally, interrelated with that of the larger history of Missouri as a territory and as a state. A general history of Crawford County requires an examination of how Indian territory evolved into the state of Missouri.

The history of white settlements in Missouri began with the Frenchman LaSalle. On April 9, 1682, LaSalle claimed the Mississippi Valley which included the present states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas and Missouri, for King Louis XIV. As a result, many French settlers moved into this new area. However, 'Louisiana' was to be marked by much conflict between different nationalities wanting this same territory.

The pre-revolutionary war history of this region was woven by France, Britain and Spain vying for its land. While the French were settling along the Mississippi, the British were colonizing the eastern coast. Eventually the British colonies moved farther inland and overlapped into the French settlements which created friction. The long time animosity between France and England exploded into the French Indian War. The Indians allied with the French because of the good relationships between the two and because of the Indians' dislike for the British. However, even with the French enlisting the aid of the Indians to fight the British, the French lost, whereupon England claimed the French territories east of the Mississippi. To prevent the hated English from absorbing all this territory the French, very craftily, ceded all the rest of the Louisiana territory to Spain in 1762.

Spain did very little with this territory and France, once the United States had gained its independence, demanded that the territory be returned. In 1801 Napoleon Bonaparte entered into the Treaty of San Ildefonso - mandating that Spain should surrender

all of its lands west of the Mississippi in return for assistance in Spain's European war. The Louisiana territory once again changed from French hands in 1803 when Napoleon Bonaparte, seeking money for his campaign in Europe, sold it to the newly established United States of America. In December of 1803 the territory was sold for \$15,000,000 or 2.5 cents an acre. Soon after the purchase of Louisiana immigrants began pouring into the territory.

The population of what was to be Missouri greatly increased between 1769 and 1804 due to migration of people into the area. There were several reasons for the influx of immigrants into this area: There were several French settlements in Illinois, the most notable being Kaskaskia which was established in 1700 and Cahokia which was established in 1699; however, due to unpopular British rule at that time many of the settlers moved from the Illinois side into the Missouri side; another enticement were the Spanish land grants available to settlers in the area of 'Louisiana'. These land grants were free with only surveying costs to be paid, and often these were deferred. Another enticement into the territory was the enactment of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 which prohibited slavery north of the Ohio river and south of the Great Lakes. As a result many people came to the territory of Louisiana instead of settling elsewhere. After the territory was sold to the United States, more "Americans" settled into the area; many of these were settlers from Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The history of slavery in Missouri began in the 1700s. In 1719 Renault purchased 500 slaves from San Domingo and brought them to the states. Renault was from France and brought slaves to Missouri to work in the mines; from these slaves were descended other slaves living in Kaskaskia, Cahokia, Ste. Genevieve, St. Louis, and St. Charles. Prior to the introduction of Negro slaves the French had used some Indian slaves. The French had a different relationship with their slaves than what "Americans" had; they

regarded their slaves on a far more equal basis than the 'Americans' who felt slaves were inherently inferior.

Slavery became a bitter issue and for several years this issue prevented Missouri from becoming a state. The territory of Missouri had been organized in 1812 and in 1818 Missouri petitioned for entrance into the Union as a state. In Congress, the House of Representatives passed a bill to allow the state into the Union without slavery while the Senate wanted the state into the Union with slavery. The intransigence of both parties upon the issue resulted in Henry Clay's Missouri Compromise of 1820. This compromise resulted in the admitting of Missouri into the Union as a slave state while Maine was admitted as a free state. On August 10th, 1821, Missouri became the first state to be carved from the Missouri territory and became the twenty fourth state admitted into the Union of States. The first census taken in 1821 revealed a total population of 70,647 of whom 11,254 were slaves.





## TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of an area is useful in understanding the current land use of an area; it is through the natural deposits of soils, the physical surface of the land and the course of the waterways which initially determine the potential use of the land and natural site selection of settlements. The availability and abundance of natural resources, the beauty of the land, as well as access to transportation sources provided inherent attraction and economic impetus for the early settlements of Crawford County.

Crawford County is bound on the north by Gasconade and Franklin Counties, on the east by Washington County, on the west by Phelps County and on the south by Dent County. Highway I-44 runs East and West through Crawford County along a natural ridge. This natural ridge divides the county into two watershed basins. The northern watershed basin, the Bourbeuse, encompasses approximately 20% of the Crawford County area. The topography of the Bourbeuse features relatively gentle slopes and a combination of soils (Union Silt Loam and Lebanon Silt Loam) suitable for crops and pastureland.

The Meramec watershed basin covers a much larger area of Crawford County. The general topography of this area consists of steep slopes and narrow valleys and a soil covering (Clarksville Stony Loam) suitable for supporting a forest covering. Due to its abundant forest covering it is not surprising that the predominant land use is forest land with around 67% in either commercial or noncommercial forest use. Both National and State owned parks are located in this southern part of Crawford County.

The Meramec Watershed is so named because of the Meramec River which flows through it. The length of the Meramec River through Crawford County is about 60 miles; the elevation of the Meramec River drops from 890 feet to 585 feet as it enters and leaves

Crawford County. Tributaries of the Meramec River include Crooked Creek; Dry Creek; Courtois; Huzzah; Brazil, and Brush Creek.

## EARLY HISTORY OF CRAWFORD COUNTY

The first (white) settler in Crawford County was William Harrison in 1821. This was the same year that Missouri was admitted into the union as the first state carved from the Louisiana territory.

Crawford County was originally part of Gasconade County. The county was created on Jan. 23, 1829, and named for an 1824 presidential candidate, Senator William Crawford of Georgia. When first established, Crawford County covered an immense territory and encompassed seventeen counties including Crawford, Phelps, Dent, Maries, Texas, Miller, Pulaski, Laclede, Camdem. Wright, Dallas, Polk, Hickory, Cedar, Dade, Barton, and Greene. In 1835 there were five townships: Meramec; Liberty; "Cotoway"; Johnson and Skaggs; in 1836 Meramec Township was divided into two. It was not until 1870 that Crawford County was 'trimmed' to its present size of 760 square miles and at this time the county was divided into its present nine townships: Osage; Courtois; Liberty; Boone; Oak Hill; Benton; Meramec; Knobview, and Union.

The site of the Crawford County courthouse has been moved several times. The James Harrison house was selected as the site for the first Crawford County Courthouse and was located near the town of Arlington in Phelps County. In 1835 the site of the courthouse was moved to the Levi Snelson log cabin and meetings were held there through the years 1835 and 1836. The courthouse location was then moved to Steelville which was then, as is now, the county seat. A brick courthouse was built in 1857 but burned in 1873; it was replaced by the current court house which is located on Main street in downtown Steelville.





## HISTORY OF THE SETTLEMENTS

The towns of Cuba, Bourbon, Leasburg, and Steelville have remained strong in Crawford County. These towns have survived with the times and have adapted to the changing needs and requirements of 'modern' communities. They have a strong work force, a large population, and a relatively healthy economic outlook. These towns have healthy retail and wholesale activity, a large service industry, and many other components that compose modern economic activity and 'successful' survival.

In contrast, the small communities of Dillard, Keyssville, Berryman, Jake Prairie, Oak Hill, Fanning, Leasburg, Davisville, Cook's Station, Wesco, Huzzah, Cherryville, and Argo have met a different fate; with barely a foundation left, some towns, such as Hinch and Viemenn, have not survived at all. Only around half of the small towns written about in James Ira Breuer's history of "Crawford County and Cuba Missouri", still remain.

The fate of these communities have a common theme. Once active and healthy, they have faded. Many of the post offices, at one time the major reason for a town's existence, have been moved to the larger towns. The schools have long since been consolidated into districts leaving behind the remnants of the community rural school. Many of the rural churches, once built by faithful hands and attended by many, are only occasionally used now for funeral services. The grocery and the dry goods stores, the banks, blacksmith shops and many of the houses have deteriorated or have been abandoned. Almost all of the mills have been torn down or neglected with the exception of the mill at Dillard which has been maintained and restored .

One can argue that these small towns have merely been displaced by the advent of more efficient and effective technological times. Yet that point of view totally ignores the respect these towns deserve for being the progenitors of a more modern age.

The purpose of this historical survey has been to capture the history of the schools, churches, houses, farmhouses, and to combine the architectural styles of such with the history of the communities. Together this information can at least partially describe the past.

To discover the history of such small communities is to be transported to a different time and culture. It was a time when communities were relatively self sufficient and a set of totally different job skills and abilities were needed. A plethora of different services existed then such as blacksmithing, cabinet making, and casket building. Brick kilns were used to fire the local clay into home-made bricks, mills were used to process the corn and wheat grown by the farmers, and tie-workers were used to make the railroad ties and mine props sculpted from the abundance of oak lumber. Of course, around these activities revolved the schools and churches and family homes which provided education, comfort, purpose, and security.

Architectural style were different. The rural school and churches were small, simple yet gracious, structures. Rudimentary materials were used for their construction; rock foundations were carved from sandstone and limestone was carried from rivers or dug from the ground. Wooden frames were made from oak and walnut; bricks were made from the local clay. Small log houses were made of hewn logs insulated by mud and grass infill. These small communities deserve recognition and respect.

### **KEYSVILLE**

The town of Keysville is located on Crooked Creek in Union Township. In 1834 the town had a gristmill on the banks of the creek and the town was located on the south side of its present site; it was originally named "Old Elm Tree".

In the late 1800s and early 1900s the town had a booming tie and timber business; a railroad had been built through Keysville in 1879 and the town grew up around this trade. However, the tie and timber business severely declined in 1949.

Most of the buildings still standing in Keysville were built between 1886 and 1930. Several of the buildings such as the Melvin Beers store, the Melvin Beers house, and the Branson store are still standing and are in fair condition. These stores are large rambling structures of a Vernacular style of architecture. The Melvin Beers house was built around 1905 and is a large, two story building with a Victorian Gothic influence. Although not much remains, one of the oldest houses remaining in Keysville is located on the Branson property; it was built around 1890 by the Branson family.

Keysville has few families living in it any more and most of the buildings have been disused for many years. The gristmill was long ago destroyed and the train no longer runs through. It is a small, small town with neither a post office nor a store but with still a quaint ambience about it.

### **DAVISVILLE**

The origins of Davisville began in 1830 with the establishment of a gristmill on a creek stream of the Huzzah. Originally named Boyer's Mill, the name was changed to Davisville when the post office was opened in 1878.

According to J. I. Breuer, at one time there were five stores, a blacksmith shop, a gristmill, a saloon, and a hotel and resort known as the Woodlocks. The Woodlock's hotel and gristmill burned in 1936. But the newer cabins and houses that have been built along the creek frontage attest to its resort like atmosphere.

Davisville is a small town and the only store that remains of the five stores that were once here is the Davisville Store and Post Office. Although the store has been built onto through the years, the original section built around 1884 still has its rock foundation and



log underpinnings. The false front facade of the store has the name of the town and post office and a small sign which reads "Pucky Huddle". "Pucky Huddle" was a nickname given to the town when unemployed workers used to come through the town looking for some form of work.

### **ARGO**

Argo is located in Oak Hill Township next to the Franklin County border and, originally, part of Argo was located in Franklin County. Argo began in 1836 with the establishment of a post office which closed in 1906; all that remains of Argo are a handful of houses. Undoubtedly, Argo was built because of its location between Bourbon and the town of Oak Hill. The decline of Oak Hill's mill and the improved road system certainly detracted from the viability of Argo's growth. Although a blacksmith shop and a store existed in Argo at one time, all that now remains are a few of the older homes and a scattering of more modern houses.

Originally established in 1836 with a post office, most of the remaining buildings in Argo were built between 1886 through 1930 with the majority of a Vernacular style of architecture. The Woodruff farmhouse, located south on Argo road, has been considerably altered; however, the original section is a log cabin which was built around 1890. The Woodruff family built several houses in Argo including the Fairview schoolhouse which has been converted into a private residence.

### **DILLARD**

The first mill in Dillard was built a decade before the Civil War by Francis Wisdom and it was originally known as Wisdom's Mill. Utilizing the waters of the Huzzah Creek, the water powered gristmill became the focal point for the town of Dillard and an integral part of the agricultural economy of the southern section of Crawford county. Dillard was named after Joseph Dillard Cottrell who owned this mill from 1881 to 1890.

The Dillard Mill is a three story structure of a Utilitarian style of architecture. This mill is the second one built in the area; the original Wilson's mill having partially burned. Emil and Mary Mischke (Polish emigrants) built this second mill around 1904 using part of the original mill's timbers. It has a huge basement cut from the stone upon which the building rests and in which the turbine (a modern innovation introduced by Emil and Mary Mischkes) resides. Now maintained by the state of Missouri which also conducts tours, the mill has been kept in excellent condition; many example of mill machinery as well as agricultural tools are kept inside.

Emil and Mary sold the mill to Lester Klemme and, fleeing a wave of anti-German sentiments, moved to California. Lester Klemme then turned the area into a resort area and converted the house that Emil and Mary built into a resort lodge.

The location of Dillard between Sligo and Cooks station made it a strategic location for the Sligo and Eastern railroad. Both the mill and the railroad played a large part in the economic growth of Dillard. The railroad was built in order to transport much needed timber to the Sligo furnace works which was located in Dent County. The railroad ceased after the Sligo Furnace works closed, the railroad ceased; the rails and ties were removed in 1930. Four stores were built in the Dillard area, one being a Sligo Company store which was built next to the Sligo tracks. This store, built around 1910, was also the location of the Dillard Post Office; the post office and store were operated by Cletus and Marie Cottrell until it was finally closed in 1976. The store still stands in its original location across from the Cottrell residence; it is a Utilitarian style of structure with a gable roofline, wide eaves, and side room additions with sloping shed rooflines.

The second store is a three story structure and was built by John Wilhite around 1920. It has been used for storage but may be renovated by the park service for future preservation purposes.

The Cottrell house is a large two story building of a modified Greek Revival style of architecture. Although not known for certain, this house was probably built by Joseph Dillard Cottrell around 1911; an earlier photograph identifies it as the Cottrell family home. This earlier photograph shows the house to have cross gable rooflines with gingerbread applied on the pediments and a two-tiered front porch with fan brackets; the outer walls were covered with weatherboard. The more recent photo shows the outside to have been covered with clapboard, the porch posts replaced with Queen Anne porch posts and the lathed balusters boarded over; gingerbread vergeboard has been applied to the porch eaves. Regardless, the Cottrell house, built on a steep hill overlooking Dillard road, is still impressive and retains a vestige of its grand architectural style.

### **OAK HILL**

Oak Hill is located in Oak Hill Township and it had its origins with the establishment of a post office in 1859. To go into Oak Hill is like discovering an isolated town off the main road and 'lost in the woods.' It appears deserted with only a few families living there yet the houses and business buildings still line along what was once the main street. The initial location of Oak Hill made it an ideal setting for the building of a gristmill on the banks of Brush Creek which runs through the edge of town. The mill, sawmill, and a carding machine were set up in 1862 by Miles Pease and Jacob Souders, Sr. The mill operated until the 1950s when competition from the larger, more efficient flour mills forced it to meet its economic demise. The location of the site within the county and its natural features made it an ideal location for a gristmill to process the corn and wheat grown by the local farmers. A roller mill, built by Isaac Souders and William Rutz, Sr. was built in 1895.

The Oak Hill Mill is still standing a few yards away from Brush Creek - unfortunately, only the shell of the building remains but there are memories of when it was

still operating. An earlier photograph shows it surrounded by many of the people (long since gone) around its loading platform.

The majority of the buildings in Oak Hill are a combination of Vernacular and Greek Revival styles of architecture; several of the buildings have a definite Greek influence as evidenced by the use of ionic style porch columns and pediment pitch rooflines.

The concrete bank building, which at one time also housed the Job High School, still stands. The iron Oak Hill bridge, crossing the subdued Brush Creek is structurally standing but closed to all traffic; it was built in 1918. The Oak trees, from which the town's name is derived, still remain in profusion providing a natural camouflage and an aura of seclusion which adds to the initial impression of the town's isolation.

### **WESTOVER**

A gristmill in what was to be known as Westover was built around 1860 by J. Hobart Westover. Years later the site of Westover, located on the Huzzah Creek, was utilized as a fish hatchery. The area is now known as Fisherman's Dude Ranch. Unfortunately, the mill burned down several years ago

### **FANNING**

Fanning is located in Meramec Township four miles west of Cuba. The railroad runs through this town and was one of the primary reasons for the town's existence. Fanning originated with the settlement in the area by John Fanning, an Irish emigrant, who was granted a land settlement by the railroad. Later, after Fanning established a farm, the Frisco railroad built a station.

At one time the village consisted of a post office, a blacksmith shop, and a general store; the store, no longer used, had been converted into a private residence when it finally

burned several years ago. Most of the buildings in Fanning are of more recent construction dates and are an amalgamation of architectural styles and influences.

Several Fanning buildings are clustered around the crossroads formed by Hwy. ZZ and Scott Road. Included in these buildings are the Sam Vitali grocery store, built around 1930, and a red brick building now used as the VFW hall. The business buildings are located north of the tracks while the original site of the town is south on Scott Rd. In this location is a large white farmhouse which is built around a log structure with oak logs 9" thick. Although not know for certain, the abstract certifies that this property was originally deeded to John Fanning and possibly the site where the post office operated for several years when the town was first established.

Off the road west on Hwy. ZZ remains a house that was originally built around 1916; it was built by the community for the Fanning schoolteacher who lived there while teaching at the local rural school. The house itself has been greatly altered and is of a Vernacular Greek Revival style with a prominent pediment overhang recessing the front porch. It is a standing reminder, though, of the community's value and appreciation placed upon those who helped to teach in a rural setting. The schoolhouse (one of two), which was located farther back in the woods, burned several years ago.

### **WESCO**

The town of Wesco is located south of Steelville in Union Township. The town is laid along the slopes of the Meramec river and is reached by a steep descent on a gravel road off Hwy. M. Wesco gives the impression that it is more of a resort area now with a multitude of cabins perched along the hillside; certainly the close proximity of the winding Meramec River makes it desirable as such.

The town had its origins in 1873 with the settlement of the Wilson family and for a while it was known as Wilson's Mill. The advent of the telephone system precipitated its name change into a consolidation of the name of the Western Electric Co.

Only a faint impression of tracks in the dirt remain of the St. Louis-San Francisco railroad which once ran through Wesco. Built in 1873, the railroad shipped farm produce from the valley. The economic activity generated by the local mill, as well as railroad ties and mining props that were shipped on the railroad, helped to make Wesco a very active town.

On a hill on Cemetery Rd. remains one of the two hotels that were once used in Wesco. It is a large two story building of an American Foursquare style of architecture which was built around 1930. The first hotel burned down many years ago.

### **JAKE'S PRAIRIE**

Jake's Prairie is located in Oak Hill Township in the Northwestern part of Crawford County. The town derived its name from an Osage Indian named Jake who, after a falling out with members of his tribe, moved and lived there alone for many years.

Jake's Prairie Community Center was built in 1903 and was initially used as a general store. The store was in use until 1978 when it was then converted into a community center.

Several other buildings remain in Jake's Prairie including the 'Shade Rook' homestead house which was built around 1903; it is located just slightly south of the general store (which Shade Rook operated at one time) and is a two story building constructed from lime concrete. Harrison Gibson also built a house across the road from the community building. Built in 1904, it is a one story structure with a rock foundation, a bay window, and a triangular pediment roof overhang.



One of the most charming buildings in this little town is the Jake Prairie Chapel, a rural church built in the late 1800s and located north on Hwy. F; it has been maintained in good condition. The Jake Prairie School also remains and is located farther up the road from the chapel; unfortunately it is in sad condition and little remains but the sagging wooden frame; undoubtedly, time and continued neglect will destroy even those few remains.

### **HUZZAH**

The town of Huzzah is located in Courtois Township. It started in 1897 with the establishment of a post office by Donald McGinnis. Huzzah was never very large although it did have a large tie yard. The tie yard utilized the nearby source of the woods and ties, cordwood, and mine props were shipped elsewhere.

The McGinnis house and the Huzzah Post Office are the oldest remaining structures. Other little houses dot the area but most of these, with the exception of the rock school built by the WPA (Works Project Administration) in 1935, have been built within the last thirty years.

The McGinnis house is a beautifully well-kept house that was built around 1890 by Donald McGinnis. It is a large two story building of a Victorian Gothic style of architecture with a two tiered porch, gable ornamentation along the pediment gable, and a sunburst design engraved on the pediment. On the front lawn is a rock springhouse.

The Huzzah Post Office and Store still retains its name above the porch roof; it has a rock foundation, an oak frame, and a tin roof. This building was originally in the town of Davisville but was then torn down and rebuilt in Huzzah. The McGinnis family has kept it in excellent condition.

### **CHERRYVILLE**

The little community of Cherryville had its start in 1884 with the building of a store by George Day. The town was named after the abundance of Cherry trees in the area. There are many houses within the boundaries of Cherryville but only a few that are older than fifty years of age. The building which was once used as the Day's store still remains as well as an older house which is lived in by one of his descendents. The store is built of local sandstone rock and the house is of a frame construction.

### **COOK'S STATION**

There are still people in Cook's Station who remember the importance of the train which ran through the town at one time.

Cook's Station is located a short distance west of the Meramec River in Union Township. The town was named after Christopher C. Cook and his wife who settled here from Dent County. The site of Cook's Station, between the town of Wesco and the town of Salem, made it a logical choice to connect it to the railroad transportation lifeline and the St. Louis-San Francisco (later the Salem branch of the Frisco line) was built along here in 1872; Christopher Cook donated two miles of property for this express purpose and, with the advent of the railroad, the town of Cook's Station had its start.

As is to be expected from natural "economic development", a variety of businesses began to grow in this little town. Not only were there businesses there for the folks surrounding the little community, but many services existed for the people and products brought through by the railroad, the essential connector with the rest of the world. The Cook Station Train Depot, built around 1900, still stands. It was moved several years ago about 200 feet from its original site and plans were made to convert it into a small apartment. However, these plans never materialized and the depot still stands next to the side of the Cook Station Rd. Although unpainted it is still in fair structural condition. It is a small building with Victorian Gothic features; the Cook's Station sign still remains over

the front door. The owners of the depot also own the Old Cook's Station Hotel. The building has been used as a private residence since the family originally bought it around 1920.

The brick bank building, built around 1914, also still stands. Although long since converted into a private home, the building retains many of its unusual architectural features including the second story half fan-light window accented by brick arches.

Many family homes are still clustered around this little town and the Cook Station Mercantile Store (the name, barely legible, is written on the side of the building) remains. The train, which use to pass through this town, has long since stopped running and the tracks which connected Wesco to Cook's Station to Salem were removed last year.

### **BERRYMAN**

The town of Berryman is located next to the Courtois River in Courtois Township. The origins of the town of Berryman began with its convenient location on the old Ironton Rd. However, the area was originally inhabited by the Osage Indians and the early part of the town was named Osage after the tribe. The name of the town was changed to Berryman in 1886 by John W. Berryman who bought the surrounding property and later built a store, a house on the Washington side of the County line, and a half dozen other buildings on the Crawford County side. The Berryman General Store still operates in this little town and the Berryman Church, located on a hill west of the Courtois, is currently being renovated and preserved.

## CONCLUSION

The future of Crawford County will probably be saved by the natural cycle of change. City life style has lost its appeal to those who are tired of crowded conditions and have caused people to reconsider the appeal of a slower life style and the lure of small town living. In conjunction, appreciation of old houses and the challenge of restoring them have drawn many people back into the rural areas. The rural communities in Crawford County offer both history and affordable housing.

Perhaps the greatest attraction of all is what attracted settlers to this area in the first place. The riverways and natural scenic beauty of the surrounding areas lure people into the area. Crawford County is ripe for tourist development and is being developed as such. With luck, guidance, and intelligence, the result of this development will be the preservation and maintenance of such natural resources combined with an increase in tourism for the county.

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# LIST OF CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

Site Numbers, Architectural Styles, & Dates of Construction.

## CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

### C U B A

1. (Zulpo) *Princess Anne* - 1883
2. (West) *Federal* - 1886
3. (Pleasant Point Church) *Utilitarian* - 1886
4. (Summers) *Greek Revival* - 1886
5. (Snowden) *Queen Anne* - 1886
6. (Prickett) *Foursquare* - 1886
7. (Kolb) *Greek Revival* - 1886
8. (Wood) *Townhouse* - 1920
9. (Holy Cross Convent) *Victorian Romanesque* - 1886
10. (Petering) *Foursquare* - 1886
11. (Bouge) *Log Cabin* - 1886
12. (Stephan) *Vernacular* - 1890
13. (Kolb) *Colonial Revival* - 1890
14. (Hamilton) *Queen Anne* - 1890
15. (Fartner) *Queen Anne* - 1890
16. (B & D Apartment) *Vernacular* - 1890
17. (B & D Apartment) *Richardsonian Romanesque* - 1890
18. (Roedemeier) *Victorian Gothic* - 1897
19. (Unknown) *Colonial Revival* - 1900
20. (Pitts) *Log Cabin* - 1900
21. (Lewis) *Greek Revival* - 1900
22. (Chumley) *Greek Revival* - 1900
23. (Bestway Shop) *Richardsonian Romanesque* - 1900



## CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

24. (Shafferkoetter) *Colonial Revival* - 1907
25. (Turnbough) *Greek Revival* - 1910
26. (Herzog) *Victorian Gothic* - 1918
27. (Christisen) *Greek Revival* - 1918
28. (Foust) *Greek Revival* - 1920
29. (Omstead) *Greek Revival* - 1920
30. (Mid States Cablevision) *Greek Revival* - 1920
31. (Lange) *Greek Revival* - 1920
32. (Copeland Used Furniture) *Vernacular* - 1920
33. (Bouse) *Greek Revival* - 1920
34. (Zensor) *Greek Revival* - 1926
35. (Gunn) *Federal* - 1926
36. (All In One Furniture Shop) *Sullivan-esque* - 1930
37. (Nanny's Boutique) *Commercial* - 1934
38. (Cuba Marble & Granite Works) *Ozark Victorian Gothic* - 1934
39. (Head) *Vernacular* - 1935
40. (Peveyhouse) *Federal* - 1936
41. (Holy Cross Catholic Church) *Victorian Romanesque* - 1936

## **D I L L A R D**

42. (Dillard Store) *Commercial* - 1900
43. (Czech) *Colonial Revival* - 1900
44. (Dillard Grist Mill) *Utilitarian* - 1904
45. (Cottrell) *Greek Revival* - 1911
46. (Porter) *Colonial Revival* - 1916
47. (Abney) *Greek Revival* - 1919

## CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

- 48. (Cottrell) *Vernacular* - 1920
- 49. (Dillard/Wilhite Store) *Utilitarian* - 1920
- 50. (Big Bend School) *Utilitarian* - 1893
- 51. (Blackjack School) *Utilitarian* - 1936

### **KEYSVILLE**

- 52. (Branson) *Colonial Revival* - 1886
- 53. (Holmes) *Vernacular* - 1900
- 54. (Beers) *Ozark Victorian Gothic* - 1905
- 55. (Keysville) *Greek Revival* - 1910
- 56. (Keysville/Branson Store) *Vernacular* - 1915
- 57. (Keysville Cabin) *Utilitarian* - 1920
- 58. (Robinette) *Colonial Revival* - 1929
- 59. (Keysville/Beers Store) *Vernacular* - 1929
- 60. (Green Cabin) *Colonial Revival* - 1930

### **BERRYMAN**

- 61. (Figiel Grocery) *Commercial* - 1935
- 62. (Trask) *Ozark Greek Revival* - 1886
- 63. (Berryman Store) *Commercial* - 1886

### **JAKE'S PRAIRIE**

- 64. (Jake's Prairie Chapel) *Utilitarian* - 1886
- 65. (Anderson) *Homestead* - 1886
- 66. (Jake's Prairie School) *Utilitarian* - 1890
- 67. (Jake's Prairie Community Bldg.) *Commercial* - 1903
- 68. (Rook) *Homestead* - 1903
- 69. (Stewart) *Vernacular* - 1904

## CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

### O A K H I L L

- 70. (Hinson) *Ozark Greek Revival* - 1862
- 71. (Oak Hill Church) *Ozark Greek Revival* - 1885
- 72. (Oak Hill Mill) *Vernacular* - 1895
- 73. (Tayloe) *Greek Revival* - 1900
- 74. (Shockley) *Vernacular* - 1902
- 75. (Jurgensmeyer) *Vernacular* - 1902
- 76. (Dunton) *Greek Revival* - 1904
- 77. (Oak Hill Bank) *Greek Revival* - 1909
- 78. (Oak Hill Bridge) *Bridge* - 1918

### F A N N I N G

- 79. (Scott) *Greek Revival* - 1886
- 80. (Lerwick) *Victorian Gothic* - 1892
- 81. (Fanning School) *Ozark Greek Revival* - 1910
- 82. (Packard) *Colonial Revival* - 1910
- 83. (Shank) *Utilitarian* - 1916
- 84. (Hickey) *Greek Revival* - 1916
- 85. (Hattersley) *Ozark Log Cabin* - 1925
- 86. (V.F.W. Hall) *Commercial* - 1929
- 87. (Patterson Store) *Commercial* - 1930
- 88. (Packard) *Log Cabin* - 1931
- 89. (Hudson) *Ozark Greek Revival* - 1935

### L E A S B U R G

- 90. (Rowden) *Greek Revival* - 1879
- 91. (Phillips) *Queen Anne* - 1883

## CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

92. (McClary) *Vernacular Greek Revival* - 1886
93. (Matthew's Antique Shop) *American Foursquare* - 1886
94. (Lockhart) *Colonial Revival* - 1900
95. (Doza) *Gothic Revival* - 1883
96. (Garrison) *Greek Revival* - 1900
97. (Barbers) *Greek Revival* - 1900
98. (American Legion Post of Leasburg) *Greek Revival* - 1900
99. (Leasburg Market) *Utilitarian* - 1900
100. (Altman) *Commercial* - 1906
101. (Hansel) *Bungalow* - 1906
102. (Pinkston) *Greek Revival* - 1916
103. (Mount Olive Baptist Church) *Utilitarian* - 1920
104. (Leasburg City Hall) *Utilitarian* - 1930
105. (Leasburg Community Bldg.) *Utilitarian* - 1930

## **B O U R B O N**

106. (Harris) *Italian Villa* - 1885
107. (Rohrer) *Ozark Vernacular* - 1885
108. (Wilson) *Vernacular* - 1861
109. (Barnicle Chapel) *Utilitarian* - 1880
110. (Bourbon Hotel) *Victorian Gothic* - 1881
111. (Gail) *Richardsonian Romanesque* - 1901
112. (Kruse) *Greek Revival* - 1907
113. (Payne) *Townhouse* - 1900
114. (Montgomery) *Foursquare* - 1910
115. (Burgner) *Ozark Victorian Gothic* - 1911

## CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

116. (Rohrer) *Vernacular* - 1929

### **D A V I S V I L L E**

117. (Davisville Store & PO) *Commercial* - 1884  
118. (Riggs) *Vernacular Commercial* - 1886  
119. (Callahan) *Log Structure* - 1890  
120. (Kehner) *Colonial Revival* - 1901  
121. (Cherryville Community Bldg.) *Utilitarian* - 1916  
122. (Davisville School) *Vernacular* - 1930

### **C O O K   S T A T I O N   &   W E S C O**

123. (Canaan Community Church) *Utilitarian* - 1890  
124. (Wesco Store) *Commercial* - 1890  
125. (Cook Station Mercantile Store) *Vernacular* - 1900  
126. (Cook Station Depot) *Victorian Gothic* - 1900  
127. (Cook Station Hotel) *American Foursquare* - 1906  
128. (Beasley) *Vernacular Greek Revival* - 1912  
129. (Cook Station Bank) *Commercial* - 1914  
130. (Wesco Store & PO) *Bungalow* - 1915  
131. (Boston) *Log Cabin* - 1926  
132. (Wesco Baptist Church) *Eastern Stick* - 1928  
133. (Wesco Hotel) *Greek Revival* - 1931  
134. (Brand) *Southern Colonial* - 1830  
135. (Brinker) *Log Cabin* - 1830  
136. (Bonser) *Greek Revival* - 1880  
137. (Blue Springs School) *Utilitarian* - 1894

### **H U Z Z A H**

## CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

- 138. (McGinnis) *Victorian Gothic* - 1880
- 139. (Huzzah Store & PO) *Vernacular* - 1897
- 140. (Abney) *American Foursquare* - 1911
- 141. (Westover Scale) *Utilitarian* - 1900
- 142. (House at Hinch) *Greek Revival* - 1920
- 143. (Oak Hill # 1) *Utilitarian* - 1920
- 144. (Huzzah School) *Utilitarian* - 1933

### **A R G O**

- 145. (Modert) *Vernacular* - 1911

### **S T E E L V I L L E**

- 146. (Cole) *Queen Anne* - 1840
- 147. (High Street) *Princess Anne* - 1880
- 148. (Scott) *Gothic Revival* - 1880
- 149. (Schweider) *Queen Anne* - 1880
- 150. (Lackner) *Foursquare* - 1885
- 151. (Cooper) *Mission* - 1890
- 152. (Dr. Coffee) *Princess Anne* - 1890
- 153. (Crawford Co. Courthouse) *Greek Revival* - 1890
- 154. (Brown) *Vernacular* - 1890
- 155. (Ransom) *Colonial Revival* - 1899
- 156. (Bell Law Office) *Greek Revival* - 1900
- 157. (Moore) *Greek Revival* - 1900
- 158. (Steelville Railroad Depot) *Victorian Gothic* - 1900
- 159. (Whalen) *Homestead* - 1900
- 160. (Kreamelmyer) *Queen Anne* - 1900

## CRAWFORD COUNTY REPORTS

- 161. (Catholic Church) *Victorian Gothic* - 1900
- 162. (Bell) *Second Empire* - 1900
- 163. (White Eagle Hotel) *Vernacular* - 1908
- 164. (First Baptist Church) *Greek Cross* - 1910
- 165. (Massey) *Bungalow* - 1911
- 166. (Steelville Library) *Townhouse* - 1920
- 167. (Bass) *Queen Anne* - 1921
- 168. (Wildwood Springs Resort) *Vernacular* - 1922

## **B O U R B O N**

- 169. (Viemann Rental #2) *Victorian Gothic* - 1890
- 170. (Viemann Rental # 1) *Victorian Gothic* - 1890

## **H U Z Z A H**

- 171. (Cumberland Presbyterian Church) *Log Cabin* - 1856
- 172. (Cottrell) *Greek Revival* - 1913
- 173. (Cottrell) *Vernacular* - 1920

## **A R G O**

- 174. (Woodruff) *Farmhouse* - 1890
- 175. (Rohrer) *Vernacular* - 1905
- 176. (Newman) *Homestead* - 1910
- 177. (Chapman) *Vernacular* - 1911
- 178. (Fairview Schoolhouse) *Vernacular* - 1911
- 179. (Binder) *Greek Revival* - 1930
- 180. (Argo Store) *Vernacular* - 1935

RURAL CHURCHES OF CRAWFORD COUNTY



## RURAL CRAWFORD COUNTY CHURCHES



**Berryman Christian Church**

Berryman Christian Church was built circa 1890 and is of a modified Victorian Gothic style of architecture.



**Canaan Community Church**

Canaan Community Church was built circa 1890 and is located near the town of Cook Station in Union Township.

## **RURAL CRAWFORD COUNTY CHURCHES**



**Oak Hill Church**

Oak Hill Church is a modified Greek Revival style of architecture and was built circa 1862. It is located a mile southeast of the town of Oak Hill in Oak Hill Township.



**Jake Prairie Chapel**

Jake Prairie Chapel was built around 1890. It is located in the town of Jake's Prairie in Oak Hill Township.

## RURAL CRAWFORD COUNTY CHURCHES



**Barnicle Chapel**

Barnicle Chapel is a Utilitarian Church style of architecture built circa 1900. It is located in Meramec Township several miles west of Steelville.



**Pleasant Point Church**

Pleasant Point Church is located several miles west of Steelville in Meramec Township. It was built in 1886 and is of a Utilitarian Church style of architecture.