

Report  
for  
Galena, Missouri Historic Preservation Survey  
to the  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
Historic Preservation Office

from

Kalen and Morrow  
Forsyth, Missouri

15 May 1989

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\*The Galena survey project #29-88-30114-102 was discontinued before final completion with the mutual consent of the Southwest Local Governments Advisory Council, the Department of Natural Resources, and Kalen and Morrow; delays in the administration of the project made completion unfeasible within the original calendar of work. Thus, the survey ended after Milestone #2 "Draft inventories and draft report for Galena."

With much of the final work in progress, Kalen and Morrow decided to furnish a report so that the draft survey would have a guide and a selected historic context.

Lynn Morrow and Linda Myers-Phinney constituted the local preservation staff; both accomplished research and interviewing. The Architectural Classification and Commentary is principally Morrow's contribution and "Roads, the River, and Recreation" is principally Myers-Phinney's work.

Several Galena-area citizens, and others listed as interviews in the References, gave of their time and energy to inform the survey. They included Buster Barnes, Nancy Barnhart, James Conti, Mayor and Mrs. John Coones, Mary Lassiter, Clint Maxwell, Red Yocum, and Robert Wiley.

Architectural Classification and Commentary:  
An Approach and Finding Aid

The following groups of buildings comprise distinct categories based on form and function. Using strict academic typologies one may "mix and match" sites within the classification given here and, in fact, create a different classification or typology altogether. However, the classification for this report is one for easy access by laymen and professionals who may wish to view particular kinds of buildings.

It is clear that much of the landscape may be viewed through the various systems of movement, i.e., transportation by river, wagon road, railroad, or highway. And geographical location has always occupied the minds of builders. In Galena all two story commercial buildings are on the square and the most prominent are on corner lots. The commercial landscape as well as the residential one can be sorted out by sites of status. These sites are determined by height or altitude and by vista or visibility--places that can be seen or from which one can see widely.

Chronological significance for Galena and most of the Ozarks built environment is a generation later than that along Missouri's major waterways or in major urban settings. In general, any building in Galena (or Stone County) that would date prior to 1880 is rare. Buildings dating from 1880--ca. 1904 comprise the environment for the years of town development prior to the coming of the railroad in 1904. Buildings dating from ca. 1904--ca. 1945 (WWII) comprise the second significant generation of town dwellings. The building stock in Galena (ca. 1880--1945) is one that has remained in the 20th century as commercial activity in the county has shifted north and south of Galena. Although many houses have been constructed following WWII, the basic historic town of Galena dates from ca. 1890--1940.

Galena's role in Stone County has been that of county government and a service center for central Stone County. It had its generation of bustling activity following the construction of the White River Division of the Missouri Pacific Railroad in 1904 and continuing through the Depression until 1940. Relatively small scale industrial and agricultural economies thrived during this period while most buildings on the square were open and served the town and countryside. For example, during the Depression there were five grocery businesses all open around the town square. (See attached advertisement of Galena businesses dating from the 1920s.)

The favored historical memory of the locale concerns the historic float fishing trade on James River, a direct result of the new traffic brought by the railroad. Springfieldians had floated the Finley and James Rivers to Galena and beyond to

## GALENA HOTEL

Largest and Most Convenient  
Hotel in Town

RATES \$1.50 PER DAY  
All Newly Furnished Galena, Mo.

A. D. KLOTZ  
Notary Public

RUFUS SCOTT  
Attorney

### Galena Abstract & Loan Co.

Abstracts and Farm Loans

TITLES PERFECTED  
CONVEYANCING Galena, Mo.

### Regan Lumber Co.

General Office  
CARTHAGE, MISSOURI

Yards:

Galena, Mo. - Reeds Spring, Mo.

### W. B. LANGLEY

Fancy Groceries and Produce

Cash Paid for all kinds of Farm Produce

Special Inducement to  
Fishing & Camping Parties Galena, Mo.

### C. H. Stewart

New Livery - Up-to-Date  
Rigs

GALENA - - MISSOURI

### Galena Boating Co.

BARNES BROS., Managers

Outfitters for the Galena to Branson  
Float on James and White Rivers

### Craig Mercantile Co

Full Line Fishing Tackle

Make Specialty of Outfitting Floating  
Parties. Write us for full information.

GALENA, MO.

### SCOTT & SON.

Up-to-Date Barber Shop

One of the finest displays of Indian  
Relics in America. Call and see us.

L. HENSON, M. D.

Office over Craig's Store

Galena, Mo.

### GALENA MILLS

For Flour, Meal,  
Chops and Feed

J. W. KERR, Galena, Mo.

### GALENA, MISSOURI, on the beautiful James River.

A river of pure spring water with the most picturesque natural scenery in the west. Galena's people are hospitable and courteous. Galena is located on the great White River Division of the Missouri Pacific R. R., 70 miles from Joplin and 44 miles from Springfield. Its resources are wonderful. Tomatoes growing to the immense weight of four pounds, yielding as high as \$150 per acre. Strawberries, grapes and blackberries yield as high as \$200 per acre, while corn, vegetables, timothy, clover, alfalfa grow in abundance. Galena is the great health and pleasure resort of the southwest, and the head of the Galena to Branson float. Boating and fishing at all times of the year. Wild game is found in abundance. Galena has had but one case of typhoid fever in forty years, and rheumatism and stomach troubles vanish like a snowball under the rays of a burning sun. This is the place for you, where people never die and the women weigh a ton. Where cattle and hogs run. You can procure a nice farm here in the Ozarks for from \$500 to \$1200, where schools, churches and society are unequaled. Thousands of people visit Galena annually. Special inducements made to manufactories and other public enterprises.

CRAIG'S

### White Orpingtons

STOCK FOR SALE

WRITE FOR MATING LIST

W. D. CRAIG, Galena, Mo.

ORACLE PRINT, GALENA, MO.

G. W. THORNBERRY SCOTT MOORE

### SOUTHWESTERN REALTY COMPANY

East side square, GALENA, MO.

Everything for Sale.

W. D. Craig, Pres. G. W. Hendricks, Cashier

### The Bank of Galena

GALENA, MO.

Your Account Solicited

### W. D. MATHES

General Merchandise

Highest Price for Produce

BOTH PHONES GALENA, MO.

### Theo. Tromly

Notary Public and Real  
Estate

GALENA - - MISSOURI

### LEE R. HEILMAN

Judge of Probate Court of Stone Co.

COURT TERMS—Second Mondays February,  
May, August and November.

### PINE RUN HOG AND CHICKEN RANCH

O. I. C. Hogs - Barred Plymouth Rocks

LEE R. HEILMAN, Prop. GALENA, MO.

### COTTAGE HOTEL

MRS. L. F. TROMLY, Prop.

The Traveling Public and Outing Parties  
Our Principal Patrons

RATES \$2.00 PER DAY GALENA, MO.

### Public Schools of Stone Co.

Office over Craig's Store, Galena, Mo.

### G. W. THORNBERRY

Attorney at Law

GALENA, MO.

### Some Real Bargains

In Farms and  
City Property

REESE & Co., Galena, Mo.

### J. F. SOUTHARD'S

Is the Place to Trade

East side Square Galena, Mo.

Forsyth for 25 years prior to the construction of the White River Branch railroad. This generation of "running the rivers" laid the foundation that the Barnes brothers and others capitalized upon when they sold the romance of floating to new tourists.

The historical report will focus upon "Roads, Recreation, and the River" in the locale; the fact that the Ozarks john boat had its origin in Galena and that commercialized float fishing first began here in a serious way is of state significance. Resort, transportation, and some commercial properties relate directly to the trade. The public notoriety of Galena as a country village where romantic safaris in the Ozarks were catered by entrepreneurial guides, boatmen, and merchants is deeply embedded in the collective memory.

#### Selected Commentary in the Classification

There are more buildings in the survey than are represented by the numbers. Some sites have paired structures and the south side of the square was treated as one site. The numbers correspond to those on the HID sheets.

#### Commercial: Town Square; #1-17

Galena's town square, like many in the Ozarks, was a plan for commercial development that ultimately did not require all the space in the plan. Thus, over time lots have remained vacant for years and used as sites for community events. In Galena this occurred especially on the north and south sides of the square where minstrel shows and circus acts could set up their programs streetside on the square. To underscore the village nature of the square houses existed on the square until late in the 20th century. In fact, there is still one house on the northeast corner and a church on the southwest corner--property types that would not be observed on squares within a strong commercial agricultural region or industrial area.

The east side of the square burned and was basically rebuilt during the 1920s. The stone work on #2 (the Shingle) exhibits a particular masonry design termed White River Rock in this report. The design utilizes thin or thick smooth horizontal stone which is punctuated by narrow, vertical stone often inlaid in porch pillars or between fenestration. The vertical stone usually does not occur higher than windows on buildings, but will occasionally do so. The best example of this White River Rock in Galena is on the Shingle property. White River Rock design is a regional design aesthetic of the general American Arts and Crafts movement.

Although the appearance of White River Rock in Galena is modest and little of it exists, it represents, according to my observations, a masonry design that stems from Kansas City



One example of White  
River Rock design



One example of White  
River Rock design

suburbs down highway 13 and the rail corridors into the White River country. Towns along this axis commonly have similar masonry work. It is apparently descended from urban, rustic, or Craftsman pattern book bungalows and developers and builders in the White River region used it extensively. The design seems to be a sub-regional one in the Ozarks that is rarely observed out of the White River region or away from the transportation corridors that link the White River region to Kansas City. More common examples appear in Taney County and in Springfield. The W. H. Johnson developer/construction family was obviously a major user of the White River Rock design (see attached photos).

The east side of the square in function has the longest historical integrity as the garage, post office, and revolving businesses in the other structures are the same as it has been for some sixty years or more.

The corners of the square, as in most town squares, have the most prominent and expensive commercial buildings. The 1904 Galena Bank/Short Museum on the north side of the square is a local landmark and houses memorabilia of Galena's most famous son, Dewey Short (see #5). This building is one of several on an easterly axis connecting the Y Bridge and the square that may have potential in the establishment of a multiple property nomination. The Bank closed during the Depression, but the adjoining Bushong's Mercantile and Grocery had the largest inventory of any such business on the square during the 1930s.

West of the Bank/Short Museum was an area that was once a boatyard for the historic float fishing business. It also had a small frame restaurant, but the site is now the Stone County Health Center.

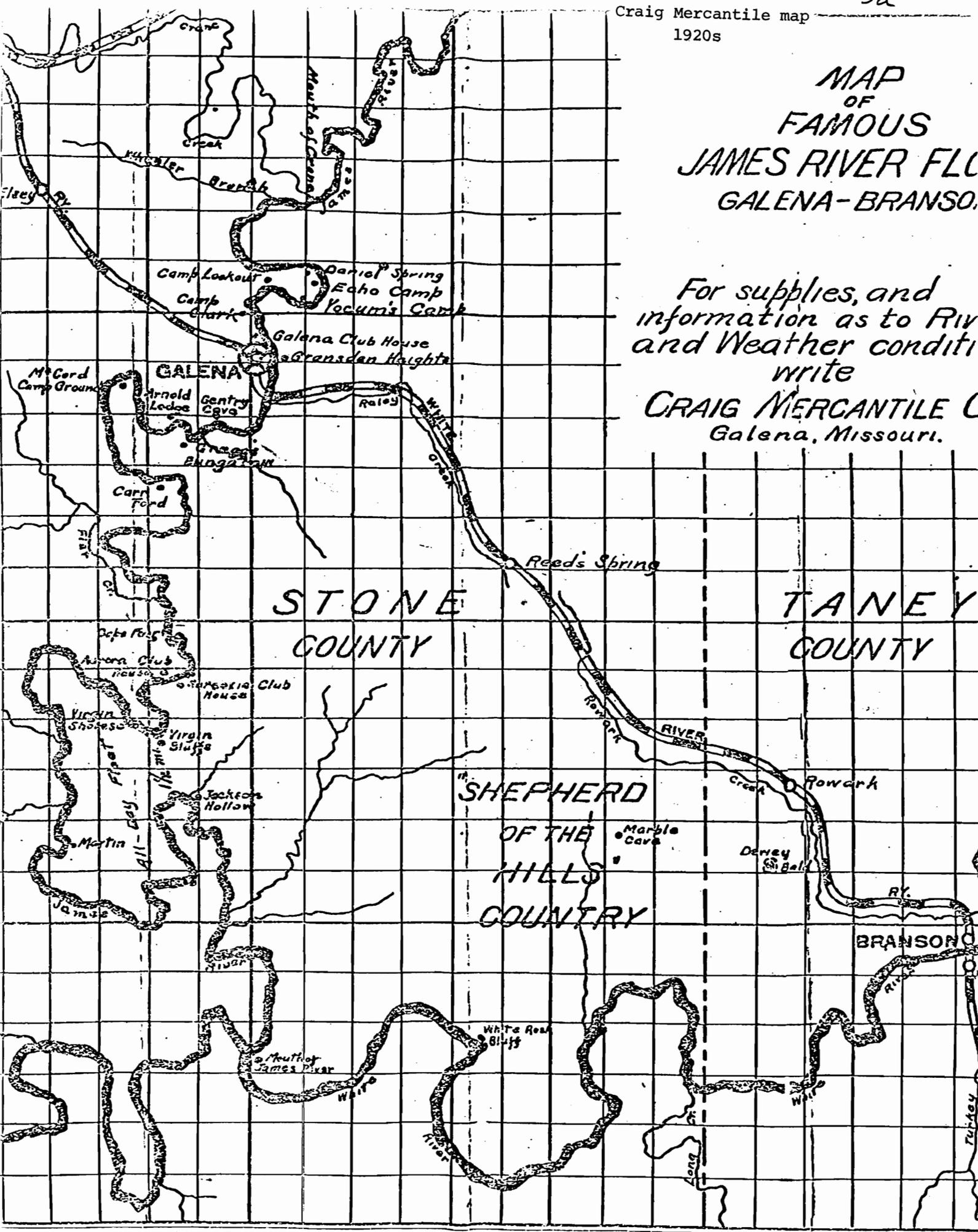
The Galena Abstract Company is owned by Robert Wiley who also owns and developed the Short Museum; Wiley himself is an important curator of historic material for Galena and Stone County. Galena Abstract occupies the site of a former garage (see #8) that rented johnboats for the float trips. On display in the Galena Abstract office is historic memorabilia of Dewey Short and the float fishing trade. The office manager Ms. Nancy Barnhart is a granddaughter of Charlie Barnes, the inventor and developer of the Ozarks john boat.

At the northwest corner of the north side is the historic Craig Mercantile building, perhaps the largest supplier of float fishing gear in the area. Craig supplied maps (see attached example) and advertised the river trade which included a large painted sign on the west side, "Outfitters for the Tourist." The current business, Dynatek, owned and managed by chemist Dr. James Conti, fabricates artificial human parts. Dr. Conti is a recently arrived businessman who is supportive of efforts in local history and heritage concerns.

Craig Mercantile map  
1920s

# MAP OF FAMOUS JAMES RIVER FLU GALENA-BRANSON.

For supplies, and  
information as to Riv  
and Weather conditi  
write  
**CRAIG MERCANTILE C**  
Galena, Missouri.



At the northwest corner on the west side of the square is probably the oldest of Galena's commercial buildings. It is for sale and has had numerous businesses. Of some significance is the combined stone and concrete sidewalk along the north side of the building (see #10).

Site #11 has a facade of limestone built in the mid-1920s, but it does not utilize the White River Rock design. The remaining buildings have also had numerous businesses while the second floors commonly have space remodeled into apartments. The Woodmen of the World Lodge (#13) was an active fraternal group who sponsored life insurance and apparently was occasionally responsible for the creation of distinctive mortuary art in the Galena cemetery (see #112). The Head Start building (#14) was for decades the home of the county seat newspaper, the Stone County News-Oracle. Its migration to Crane symbolizes the departure of historic businesses from Galena elsewhere.

The south side of the square (#15) has all been constructed during the past 20 years. The south side historically was the least "built up" and usually had vacant lots. Of significance in the federal programs of the 1930s is the Galena Firehouse (#16) built under the WPA program. The limestone building has had a frame addition, but more importantly, the building also represents the Galena water system which was also installed by the WPA. The only other known WPA structure in town is the high school on highway 13.

#### Commercial Corridors; #18-29

Commercial corridors are commercial buildings that are not on the town square although some are very near the square. Mitzi's Style Shop/Bears Den Cafe (#18) seems somewhat divorced from the square, but it is because the former bank and hotel buildings at the northwest corner of the square have been razed (see Sanborn map, 1924).

The Lawrence Stewart automobile agency office (#19) on 248 represents a common occurrence in the Ozarks. The building was a former rustic gas station west of town on 248, but was moved into Galena to become Stewart's office. Thus, the building has had a longer life at its "new" location than at its original location. Normally this circumstance occurs with residential buildings much more than commercial ones. The open pit mechanical repair station for autos and trucks adjacent to the office is an uncommon feature on the landscape.

The Stewart Motor Company (#20), a simple gable-entry commercial garage, has survived more than 50 years--a somewhat uncommon occurrence for this kind of property type. Its metal exterior and current use would indicate that it will probably continue as a site related to transportation for quite some time.

The Fox Studio (#21) is one of several flat, sloping roof

buildings in Galena. Apparently some local builder favored the roof style and left examples of his trade. It is interesting that the lower facade is double pen fenestration--built this way originally for Fox's Studio (Fox lived a block away). Fox is locally important as the primary commercial photographer who in the early 20th century made numerous postcard photographs of the locale in addition to portrait work. In 1925, for example, D. F. Fox produced 13 views along the Galena-Branson float that was placed in the Union Station, Omaha, Nebraska, to advertise the Ozarks. Unfortunately, there is no known Fox Collection accessible for research and use.

The old funeral home (#22) is another example of the mobility of rural buildings. It had multiple uses on the town square, but has sat vacant here for years. Even in its narrow width, it has a mirror-image double pen fenestration.

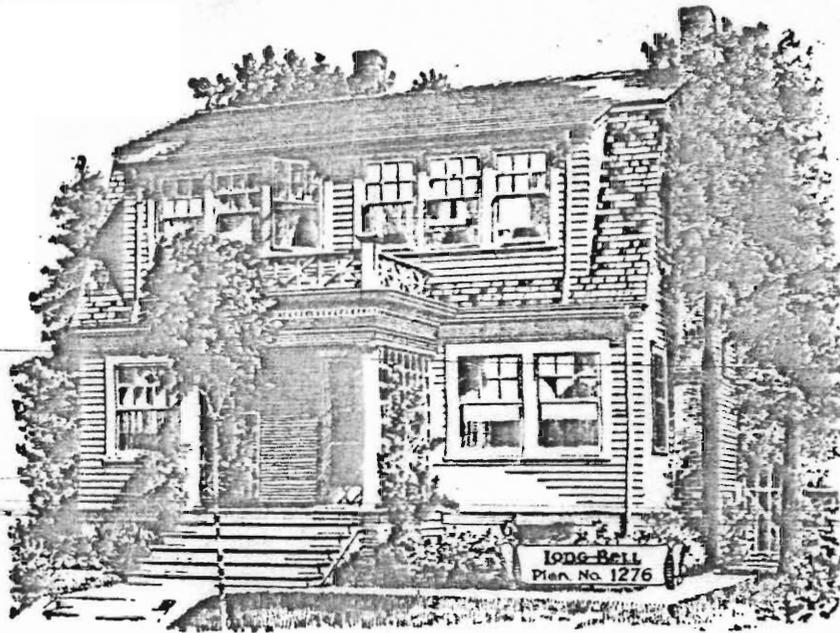
Parmenter's Shop (#23) may someday be of additional interest because of its original function as a garment factory. Generally unrecognized in the Ozarks are the national economic connections to the garment industry in the greater South. Though the subject is well-known in the late 19th century South and beyond, it is one that is basically a 20th century phenomenon in the Ozarks. The garment trade has and still is an influential economy in many Ozarks towns (e.g. Angeline and Lee factories).

The old Canning Factory (#24) was, in part, a successor business to the historic Nelson Cannery located adjacent to James River and often seen in old photographs (see the cannery in the central foreground of Birds Eye View of Galena attached). Historically Stone County was probably the most significant county in the Missouri Ozarks in the production of tomatoes and cannery sites. Nelson, a Marshfield-based baron of tomato canneries, had more than two dozen canneries in the 1920s primarily located in Stone County. The Stone County canning industry produced more than was grown locally and in some years fruit had to be imported from southern Illinois to fill orders in the Ozarks. The last of the cannery businesses, operating into the 1960s, was Robert Emerson's located in southern Stone County.

The Crouch-Warren Lumber Company (#26) is a good example of a vernacular commercial building that expanded between the two world wars and is still intact. Built in 1920 by new arrivals from Collins, MO, the lumber company was the first to advertise pattern book house plans in the local newspaper (see attached). The arrival of the business is symbolic with the loosening of credit following WWI and the building boom of the 1920s. Crouch-Warren published during the mid-1920s their own news column, "The Crouch-Warren Lumber Co. Building Notes." There still exists a number of lumber storage buildings like this one throughout railroad towns in the Ozarks, but like all property types, their breed becomes fewer each year and adaptive uses are not common.

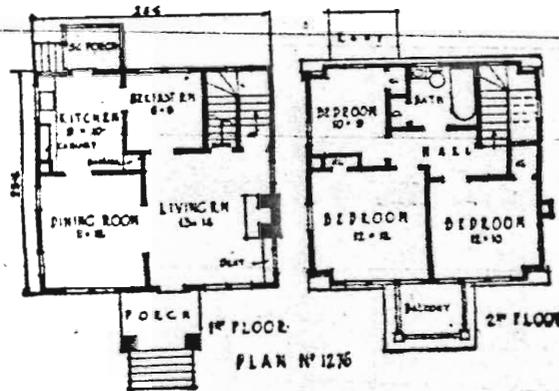


Birds Eye View of Galena  
ca. 1920



## Build Well With Lumber

The essential qualities of a home, and which determine how it shall be built are: First, protection from heat and cold; then comfort, convenience and ventilation. Appearance, durability, low first cost and upkeep are factors, too.



Wood is the universal and most acceptable home building material. All builders understand building with lumber. It is easiest to work, lowest in first cost and imparts to the structure a natural, home-like appearance.

Lumber is nature's provision for our comfort. It conducts neither heat nor cold, and an occasional coat of paint will brighten and preserve it indefinitely.

Before you can build well with lumber, a wise selection of design must be made. Examine our many plans of distinctive homes before building.

### Crouch-Warren Lumber Co.

Galena, - - - - - Missouri

The Hill Mfg. site (#27), located adjacent to the Missouri Pacific railroad line, is the only active business on the west side of the tracks (Mary's Cafe, #25, is the only active one on the east side). Except for this concentration of mid-20th century buildings south of the historic depot the early 20th century corridor of buildings that flanked the railroad is gone (see Sanborn map, 1924).

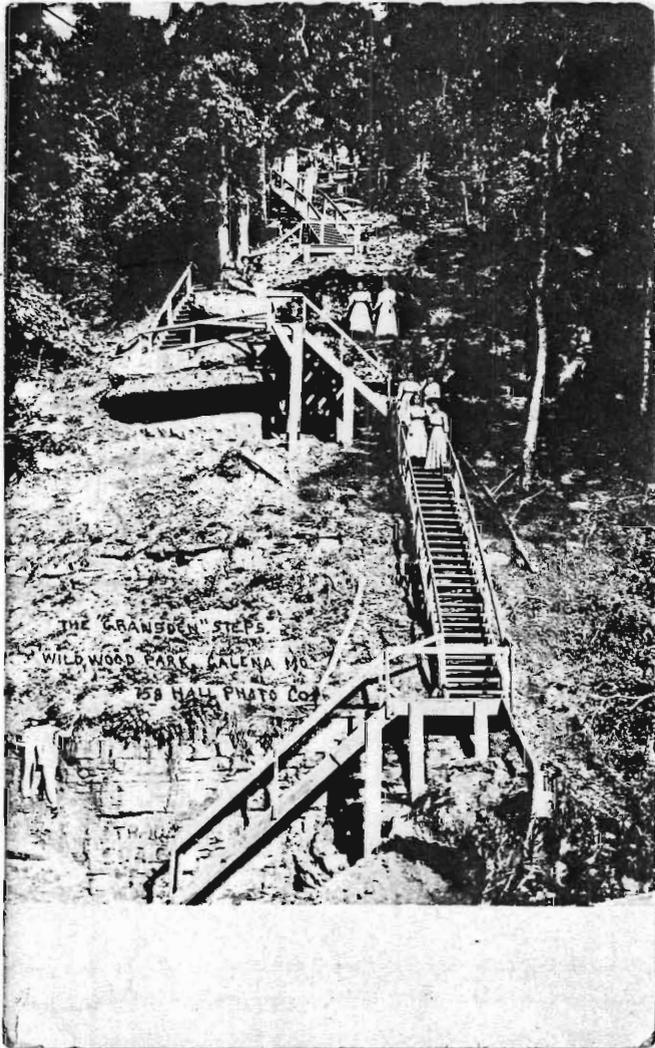
Eutsler's Store (#28) is one of the structures built after the construction of the Y Bridge in order to take advantage of the new traffic crossing the bridge. Local citizens have recently planned and began development of the "Y Bridge Park" across the street. Mary Lassiter hopes to re-locate Mary's Cafe in this building where she began some years ago.

#### Transportation; #30-32

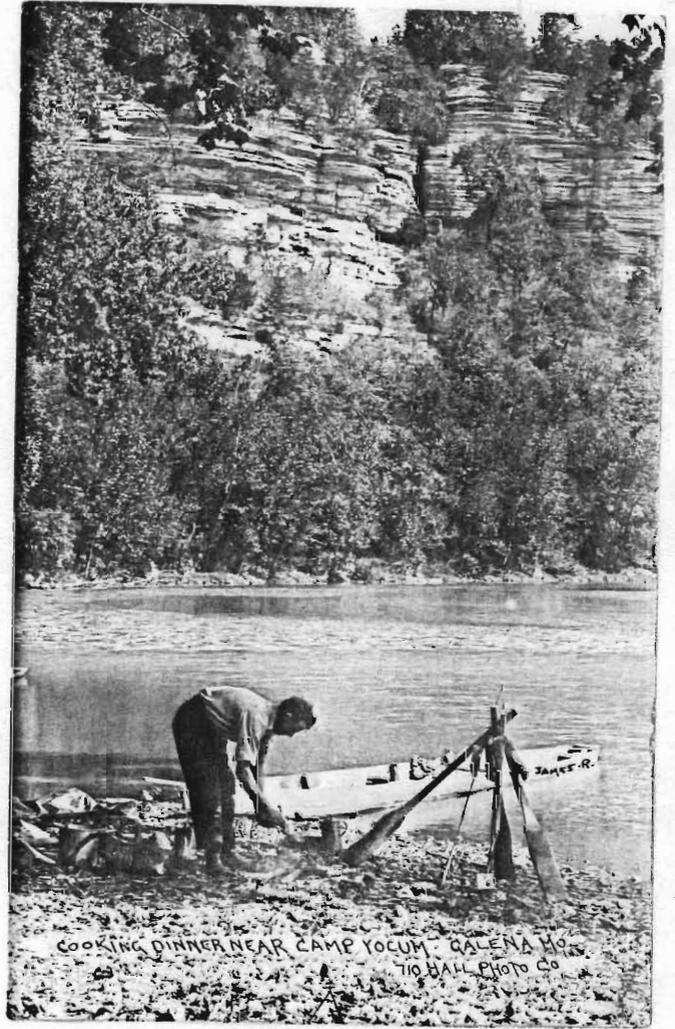
The Missouri Pacific depot (#30) now a dance studio may be of special concern. Dating from the beginning of the railroad in 1904 it is rare in the Ozarks to have an "original" depot of any kind in situ. The building is in good structural condition and the studio use complements the integrity of the historic floor plan. This is one of the buildings in an easterly axis from the north side of the square to the Y Bridge that has nomination potential.

The Lebow service station (#31) is also a reaction to the construction of the Y Bridge. It is sited on a curve and could be seen by approaching traffic from either direction. Although it was recently remodeled into a residence the original fabric of Tudoresque is still basically intact. It is the only such suggestion of Revival Tudor in town.

The Y Bridge (#32) constructed in 1926 served the local transportation access across James River for 60 years (the first bridge across James River was built in 1915 downriver from the 1926 bridge). Historically, it was a crucial link in the transportation network that fed into the White River Hills tourist region from the northwest. In particular it facilitated traffic from the Tri-State District and Kansas City into the 1920s Shepherd of the Hills District. On the east side of an axis of buildings extending from the north side of the town square to the bridge, several buildings date ca. 1904-30, and have some relationship to transportation and the recreation/tourist industry.



The Gransden Steps at the east end of the Y Bridge



Camp Yocum is north of Galena

Pen Plus; #33-48

The pen plus building form is the most significant traditional form for the Ozarks. Its pervasiveness in the 19th century continued into the 20th so much so that in the late 20th century it is still probably the most common historic building.

Careful dating of buildings in Galena has not been accomplished. However, from external appearances and interviews it does seem that the Standridge house (#33) is one of the very oldest buildings in town. Newspaper, dating from 1882, was taken from its walls. There are undoubtedly more 1880s buildings, but they are probably few in number. I would expect many more to date from the 1890s and beyond.

The Tilden house (#34) is important as it represents a continuation of homemade housing in the Ozarks which relates historically to the pen tradition. People who produced the pen plus housing of the 19th century also built small frame domiciles in the 20th (though not represented in this survey, the availability of dimension lumber in the 20th century and the predilection of vernacular builders to build their own homes and to experiment with form, is what accounts for the unpredictable, idiosyncratic forms pervasive in the Ozarks). This Tilden house is also distinct in that it has had only one occupant in its 45 year history. The Tilden property may be razed in the near future.

The Tilden house (#35) is a smaller version of the Fox Studio with its flat, sloping roof. The building had some commercial use near or on the square and was moved ca. 1945 to its current site. It is another example of a building that has had a longer life at its second location than at its first. Notice, too, that it has mirror-image double pen fenestration.

The Davidson house (#36) is in my opinion the finest mirror-image double pen house in Galena. Though it has had a rear porch enclosed, the house and the general landscape with its dependencies evoke the historic ambience of a town property in Galena at the turn of the century.

The Galloway house (#40) has an unusual appearance only because the ell addition was built on the front of the house on the slope eastward--a smart move as the addition included a basement under the ell. This double pen house, one of the oldest in town, has probably had an extended life due to its exterior veneer of stucco, probably applied between the world wars.

The Falk and Viszneki houses (#44 & #45) were at one time both a part of the same property. They both appear as double pen houses with clipped gable roofs (the Viszneki house, termed I house by many, should more properly be considered a part of the pen plus tradition. Central halls from the Georgian tradition, though appearing in the Ozarks, is not a common house form and

stems from a wider acquaintance with national fashion and represents a different socio-economic awareness than most Ozarkers had).

The Whitted-Craig house (#46) is an excellent example of the vernacular process in action. The idiosyncratic addition to the facade of the double pen functioned as an office for Dr. Hulett when he lived here. The addition is pure functionalism and vernacular design in favor of a suggested, fashionable, pattern-book model.

The Fritz house (#47) is distinctive locally for the front door installed by the Warren lumber yard family during the 1920s. It is an ornament that is well-known in the locale.

The Daugherty-Short house (#48) is another good example of vernacular additions that satisfy function without attention to planned form. This double pen is also one of the oldest in town.

#### \*\*Hall and Parlor

The Gibson house (#37), Stevens' house (#41) and others like them often suggest a hall and parlor form; indeed, some of them probably are. However, I suggest that most of these houses are in the double pen tradition. It appears to me that the hall and parlor did not migrate with the frontiersmen who had several settlement sites in the westward movement. (Sudden leaps into the Trans-Mississippi by easterners did produce ante-bellum hall and parlor houses on the Ozarks landscape. One example is the Thomas-Hitchings house, ca. 1826, in the Bellevue Valley, Iron County.) Frontier settlers adapted to pen plus buildings and only after the railroad lines were built into various locales did the hall and parlor house follow (as did the shotgun house and the southern pyramid). I view Galena to be no different and that its built environment produced hall and parlor houses only in a 20th century context, if at all. Thus, there is no hall and parlor category as such in this classification.

#### Southern Pyramid; #49-51

Houses with the southern pyramid roof are evident throughout the Ozarks as well as in Galena. These four room square houses are a "natural" evolution from the double pen house into larger quarters.

The basic design makes them easy to add to and nearly always they have some sort of porch. Also because the original size is relatively small they, like pen plus housing, can easily be sited in rough terrain and are often found on slopes instead of flat ground.

#### I House Translations; #52-61

As stated earlier the I house in the Ozarks should normally be considered a part of the pen plus tradition instead of the Georgian plan tradition, although Georgian plan I houses do exist in the Ozarks.

Most of the Ozarks I houses have boxed-in corner staircases or staircases that serve as the partition between the two lower front rooms. Entries to the latter can both be found inside the front door or opposite the front door entering usually from the kitchen or dining room ell.

Note the Ball-Thornberry house (#53) which exudes the pretentiousness of a Palladian double portico with doors flanked by windows. This Classic ornamentation in Georgian-plan I houses is the entry into a hallway, but here the hallway is missing and the large parlor is behind the front porch; this is the most common expectation in Ozarks I houses, i.e., a double pen arrangement in the lower floor without a hallway. This particular house was used in early 20th century advertising with the understated caption reading "A farmhouse in Stone County." As with this house and other I houses one can rarely encounter an I house that has not had some sort of an addition.

The Payne house (#54) is another I house that is expressly double pen with its two front doors and center staircase to the second floor.

The Benham house (#57) has an ell in "double pen" arrangement that is also common to I houses in the Ozarks and elsewhere.

The I. N. Blakemore house (#58) is somewhat uncommon in the Ozarks due to its entry at one extreme side of the facade. This may be a remodeling (as the house has had extensive remodeling) or it may reflect the desire of Mrs. Blakemore, an urban and urbane lady from Kansas City who developed this property right after the turn of the century. Mrs. Blakemore (perhaps of the Blakemore fishing lure company) lived here during the summer when she ran her Ramblers Resort Camp located to the north of the house. Mrs. Blakemore returned to Kansas City sometime after she contracted rabies from a local cat.

The Bertolio house (#61) is uncommon in the area for its side passage entry, a common facade in more urban settings or areas of strong commercial agriculture.

4-Square; #62-64

The Craig house (#62) overlooks Galena and James River Valley while in the early 20th century it immediately overlooked five Craig Cozy Camp cottages in the front yard that paralleled the road (one is left). The former rustic Craig gazebo south of the house was much photographed and a local attraction (see attached photo); it is now gone and replaced by a simple frame gazebo. To the north of the house was the famous Carr Spring, a local source



Craig's Cozy Camp gazebo

of drinking water and a place to relax. At some point the spring water was encased in a small pool, one that probably had goldfish and modest wading could also take place.

The Hair house (#63) is one of the best maintained properties in Galena. Its stylish roof line, dependencies, and large lot all face highway 248.

The Tromley house (#64) is an unusual looking 4-square house. Probably the same builder that built the flat, sloping roof buildings in Galena built this house as well. One tradition relates that it may be a Sears, Roebuck catalog house.

#### late Victorian eclectic; #65-80

Right after the turn-of-the-century and about the time of the arrival of the railroad a few good Ozarks pattern-book houses were constructed northwest of town along current highway 248. One of them, the Stevens-Craig house (#65), is an irregular plan pattern-book house with good integrity. The Classic pillar porch is original and was underpinned with native stone much later.

The late Victorian cottages like the King house (#66) and the Stewart-Craig house (#67) are reasonably common in the Ozarks, but rarely in the Ozarks are they extant with high integrity. Normally they have additions, new siding, and porch remodelings as these two do.

The Fox (#70) and McCord houses (#71) are two one-story cottages that represent a high order of ornamentation in Galena. Both are in serious need of repair and the McCord interior is partially stripped of its woodwork. The McCord house is especially distinct in form as its rear extensions appear original.

In general, it is uncommon to find Victorian cottages with much ornamentation and turned porch spindles in a condition of high integrity in the Ozarks. The Moore house (#72) is undergoing remodeling in which it appears that its porch will be kept intact while across the highway east the Yocum-Kerr house (#74) with its "bungalowized" battered porch pillars represent a more common occurrence.

The idiosyncratic additions to Ozarks houses has not received any particular study, only notice. The unpredictable additions, made possible with dimension lumber and the tradition of homemade housebuilding, provide a certain ambience in the Ozarks that is not as noticeable in other regions.

The Eutsler house (#75) is one such house. The front door was apparently on the west side facing the railroad; it now has a battered pillar on the porch and an addition on the north side. The porch facing south (toward the lumber yard and now Mary's Cafe) utilized paired 2 x 4s creating a spindly look (a look not too uncommon in rural Palladian porches on I houses). Of course,

it is the porch that receives the most common remodeling in most houses, but the appearance of the south porch does evoke a pure vernacular creation.

Stucco has been generously used throughout the Ozarks. Sites #77, 78, and 79 are local examples. In general, and over the long haul, the effect of stucco has been to "preserve" a number of frame buildings that may not have survived without stucco. Everything being equal, the maintenance of stucco is less than painting wood, and like masonry, it has preserved some buildings from further decay.

The Short home (#80), even though it is eclectic, is also unique in form in Galena. Large, rambling, and expensive in its day the house is commonly seen in historic photographs of Galena taken from east of the James River. Its rear porch and second floor rooms command an expansive view of the James River Valley.

#### Sears, Roebuck pre-fab; #81-82

These two examples are both on highway 248 northwest of town and opposite the Stevens-Craig (#65) house mentioned above. It would seem that all 3 houses (#65, 81, & 82) were built near the same time. The Hill-Darrell house (#81) is distinctive locally for its very large brackets in the gables. The house is a good example of fashion that was going out of style at the time while the adjacent Sears house (Sparks-May #82) represents a design that came into prominence at the turn of the century. The Classic porch pillars replaced the turned spindles of Victorian gingerbread as evidenced across the street in the Stevens-Craig house.

#### Revival; #83

The lone Neo-colonial Revival style house is a most conservative example. The Classic porch and overall form with its side porch convey the Revival ethos. However, it is in keeping with such extreme conservatism that one expects to find such a house in the Ozarks. This uncomplicated form could be executed by most builders of the WWI era.

#### Bungalow/bungaloid; #84-91

Pattern-book bungalow forms for vernacular builders are common in the Ozarks and throughout the nation. What distinguishes the Ozarks from other bungalow landscapes is the pervasive bungaloid form (a term following Marcus Whiffen and others), a highly watered down, conservative version that builders could sometimes build without plan or blueprints. These bungaloids normally have 3 or 4 over 1 windows; exposed rafters without soffit; battered porch pillars; use of 4 x 4 brackets in the top of gables and at the eave line; gable-entry front doors; and less common is the horizontal axis facing the street that I will call "box bungalow/bungaloid" following Clay Lancaster's term. The general bungalow motif often included masonry work

that complemented the rusticity of the form. Rusticity was enhanced with the use of "raised" mortar joints. By the mid-Depression the raised joinery began to be flattened and sometimes painted giving it the "giraffe rock" look; after WWII the joinery was sometimes grouted out or recessed below the surface of the stonework. Some bungalows were built entirely of native rock while many more used native rock in a "skirting" around the exterior perimeter of the house. I will call this design, which is not represented in Galena but is throughout the region, "skirt rock."

In historic resort areas such as the White River Hills or in areas where prominent builders built for a summer clientele (Arcadia Valley and Hollister) promotion in the early 20th century used the vague term bungalow to apply to many things including "the bungalow population;" "bungalow days in . . . .;" "bungalow living;" and "bungalow subdivisions." The rustic quality of bungalows seemed similar to rustic resort cottages, hence the term "bungalow." The generic use in the Ozarks, ca. 1910--45, corresponds with the bungalow landscape extant in Galena and elsewhere.

The best native rock bungalow in town is the Harper house (#85). It displays the conservative approach in battered stone pillars; exposed rafters; gable-entry; and multiple-pane windows with clipped gable give it an extra touch. The raised masonry joinery, though now painted, accentuated the rustic mode.

Masons laid native rock adjacent to braced, plank forms with some reworking of the stone. However, of major significance in the Ozarks is the split sandstone native rock bungalows/bungaloids. In Galena a good example is the Lassiter-Eutsler house (#86). Eutsler developed several properties with split sandstone housing, but many are now gone. The Lassiter house has 3 x 1 windows and a gable entry; its simple form qualifies it as a vernacular house, but it is a vernacular product that stems from the bungalow/bungaloid tradition. These very plain examples often retain the old mirror-image fenestration as seen in the Stone house (#87). The Benham house (#89) exhibits the 4 x 4 brackets.

There appears to be no true box bungalows (using my definition) in Galena. The box bungalow is a larger and more expensive house than the simpler gable-entry bungalows. However, the vernacular builder at the Eppinette-McQuary house (#91) obviously had the box bungalow model in mind when he remodeled a double pen house into a "box bungalow" of sorts. It already had the horizontal axis facing town and the remodeler put a bungalow porch on it; exposed the rafters; used 4 x 4 brackets in the eave; and built a large flat dormer for windows to light the second floor sleeping rooms. In keeping with external fashion there remains two vernacular "Mediterranean planters" atop the walls of the steps at the entry.

### Vernacular cottage; #92-101

Obviously this category is somewhat of a "catch all" category. The Tuter-Blunk (#92), the Lawrence (#93), and the Crumpley-Layton (#94) houses are builders' houses for which plans could have been purchased at the lumber yard.

However, for houses like the Short house (#95), site #97, the Eutsler rental (#98), and the Maxwell house (#99) it would be hard to find plans or models in any builders' book. All are relatively small and presumably housed few people at any one time. They reflect, in general, the vernacular builders' desire to build conservatively, and for himself primarily, with function as the guiding principle.

The Boatright house (#101) represents another common adaptation of structures. Originally the building was a poultry house that belonged to a now burned down "town farmstead." Boatright himself had a career in the construction trades and, thus, could imagine a new form expanded from an agricultural dependency. In the rural Ozarks poultry houses have been partitioned into double pen arrangements for temporary housing or for newlyweds sometimes called the "weaning house."

### Resort/rustic; #102-108

These properties have a relationship to the historic tourist trade and the new people who toured or immigrated to Stone County during the early 20th century.

The Craig Cozy Camp cabin (#102) is the only known such resort cabin left in situ in Galena. Remarkably, two other Craig cabins survive as they were moved and remodeled into fishing cabins and then annual housing on the west bank of James River (#103 & 104). The Cozy Camp cabins were all given names by Mrs. Craig such as "Honeymoon", "Weallkum", etc.

The most famous resort camp adjacent to Galena was Limberlost named for the arcadian novel of the same name. Limberlost was located at a 19th century ford of James River north of town. (Later Bear Den Camp was located near a ford on the lower James River; perhaps several camps were sited at fords on the river.) The building stood until burned in the mid-1980s. It was a spot for genteel vacationers to spend several days and/or to participate in the famous Galena to Branson float trips. The historic importance of Galena as a starting point for the tourist trade is underscored by the numerous fishing and floating camps just above Galena but especially down river from Galena. As floating became more popular people could take the full five or six day float, or shorter floats and stay in camps closer to Galena. Those that did take the entire float to Branson could return to Galena on the railroad and continue a stay at Limberlost or another hostelry.

There are two of the Limberlost cabins left. Sites #106 &

107 are north of the Limberlost Lodge site. They are on a slope above the James River and along an old road that went north to other camps including Camp Clark and the famous Yocum Camp. Site #106 is an especially fragile and interesting site as it was built on a wooden pier foundation and has board walls without regular studding. Site #107 has studding, but also has board walls for partitions. It is a much more substantial cabin than is #106.

The Harper house (#108) located on the east side of the river and at the north end of the Wildwood Acres development is a stone, rustic cottage of superb plan and execution. The masonry work in the chimney is highly detailed; the house did have a second story, but it caved in and a new roof was installed several years ago. This small house with its rock retaining wall and siting above a very steep ravine is a unique artifact just outside the city limits of Galena.

#### Church/cemetery; #109-112

Churches in Galena are basically gable-entry frame or block buildings. There are no large brick early 20th century church buildings commonly found in larger county seats and railroad towns.

The Lynn gravestone (#112) and snapshot of the nearby McCormick stone are examples of mortuary art sponsored by the Woodmen of the World fraternal lodge.

#### School; #113-114

The Galena High School (#113) is one of the two WPA structures in town (not including the water system, an engineering feature). It has had additions that detract from the original cut limestone texture of the site.

The former high school site west of the square is now a parking lot for Faith Tabernacle church. All that remains structurally of the former school is a precast block dependency.

## Roads, the River, and Recreation

At the turn of the twentieth century Stone County remained largely isolated from the metropolitan world. The area's karst topography, characterized by the numerous springs and streams of the James and White River drainage area, which incised the hills in deep divides, hindered travel. The geographical impediments to transportation kept the county insular, agricultural, and sparsely settled.

In 1901 construction began on the White River Division of the Iron Mountain and Southern Railway which would traverse Stone County. Building started concurrently at the northern end, which connected with the Joplin-to-Kansas City line in Carthage, Missouri and the southern terminus, which joined another branch of the Iron Mountain Railroad in Newport, Arkansas. The White River Division was built in sections over the following five years. In December, 1904 the Aurora to Reeds Spring portion (through Galena) was finished, and in January, 1906 the final section, from Reeds Spring southeast to Bergman, Arkansas opened (Burton, p.781).

Even before the line reached completion local residents felt the modernizing effects of the railway. The purchase of right-of-way elevated land prices, and new rail line demanded crossties (This created a long-lasting industry in heavily-forested Stone County, where "tie Hackers" were still working in the late 1920s). Railroad work crews which included immigrant laborers were a novelty in themselves, but they also carried

money which they spent on locally-produced goods. Additionally, the railroad provided access for those who wished to vacation near the James and White Rivers. The occasion was thus created to exploit the county's natural assets in a more systematic fashion than the few visitors had previously warranted.

When the section of rail line was completed through Galena in 1904 and trains began to travel through the county as far south as Reeds Spring, three members of Galena's Barnes family recognized opportunity. Charley Barnes had grown up near the river and had considerable experience as an outdoorsman. He probably met many frequent visitors to Galena and the James River, including Keith McCanse, who later became Missouri Game and Fish Commissioner, and his father George McCanse of Mt. Vernon, Missouri, who began floating the James as early as 1901 (Keith McCanse Papers, Kalen and Morrow). Along with his brothers Herb and John, Charley in 1904 established the Barnes Brothers Boating Company, southwest Missouri's first commercial float trip business (Jarman, p. 92). The Barnes Brothers Company covered all aspects of the float trip business, from building boats and outfitting customers to guiding float parties to the best fishing spots.

Charley Barnes gained a measure of fame for designing and building the john boat, the wooden, flat-bottomed, flat-ended boat preferred for floating Ozark streams. The vessel was one foot deep and nearly four feet wide, providing plenty of space for the necessities of lengthy river trips--tents, food, pans, fishing gear, etc. ("Ozark John Boat," p. 31). The boats also



Recreation

Fig. 41

Johnboats were the "sportsman's way" to fish before the Ozark waterways became dammed and commercialized.

proved virtually unsinkable. Barnes, who had requests for his boats from as far away as Canada, said he had seen john boats swamped after being tipped sideways so far that they took on water, but insisted otherwise, "they just don't turn over" ("Johnboat No Beauty," 19 February 1956). Author and sportsman Robert Page Lincoln, who often floated with Barnes, has been credited with naming the john boat, although the derivation of the name remains obscure (WRL, 20 January 1956).

The growth of Galena's tourist industry until the Depression permitted others to participate in the lucrative float business. Craig Mercantile, located on the northwest corner of the town square, for example, carried a complete line of rental gear for river trips; Craig's also participated in formal promotion as a member of the Ozark Playgrounds Association. Many Stone County men worked as river guides--often sporadically and in addition to other employment (In the 1920s a river guide earned \$1.50 per day, which Charley Barnes described as "big wages" for the time. See "Johnboat No Beauty," 19 February 1956). Among local guides were Tom Yocum, who began guiding in 1908, "Big" Hemphill, Clint Maxwell, and "Red Horse" Jennings ("Life Goes Fishing," p. 89).

Although tourists could choose among several float trips, depending on the time and money they wished to expend, by far the most popular was what became known as the "Famous Galena to Branson Float." This trip commenced at Galena and went south on James River. At the confluence of the James and White Rivers in southern Stone County the route turned eastward onto the White. It wound a total of 125 miles past Cape Fair and the present site of Kimberling City, terminating at Branson ("Limberlost Club



Famous riverman Tom Yocum

House," n.d.). Along the way floaters could spend the nights at river camps such as the Aurora Club House, near Cape Fair, or in tents on the riverbank. In the early 1920s the Galena to Branson Float could be comfortably made for fifteen dollars per person, although the frugal could manage on less (James and White River Float Trips, p. 10). After the week-long trip floaters and their boats returned to Galena on the train, a ride of twenty-one miles. During the 1920s after the first modern road improvements the Barnes Brothers used a truck to haul boats and floaters back from Branson to Galena. Occasionally, floaters hired young men to drive their Hudson or some other automobile to Branson to meet them for the return trip.

Galena to Branson float trips enabled tourists to see the sights in southern Stone County, particularly before automobile travel facilitated sightseeing. After turning onto the upper White River, floaters could disembark at the mouth of Indian or Jake's Creek (one tradition relates that the john boat was first called a "jake boat" perhaps named for the common stop at Jake's Creek?). Hiking upstream they arrived at Marvel Cave, where they donned coveralls and toured the cavern by candle light (Martin, p. 26). Tourists could dine at Marvel Cave Lodge, purchase souvenirs at the Marvel Cave Gift Shop, both located in owner W. H. Lynch's home, or even spend the night in one of Lynch's five guest cabins (Bass interview). A matter of yards from Marvel Cave Lodge was the Notch Store and Post Office, presided over by Levi Morrill, whom Harold Bell Wright had immortalized as "Uncle Ike" in Shepherd of the Hills.

Wright himself made the Galena to Branson float twice, in 1903 or 1904. According to John Barnes, who acted as his guide, Wright walked from Indian Creek up into what would later be known as "The Shepherd of the Hills Country." While there, Wright visited Marvel Cave, Old Matt's Cabin (the Ross house), and Uncle Ike's (Notch) post office, talking with locals along the way and displaying a marked interest in the area's residents. This led Barnes to believe that Wright conceived The Shepherd of the Hills, published in 1907, on the float trips, not an unlikely speculation considering the river guide's role of culture broker and entertainer ("Harold Bell Wright Gained Ideas," 18 September 1963). Wright began writing his novel while camping in "The Shepherd of the Hills Country" during the summer of 1905 or 1906 (Tagg, p. 32), and a legal secretary in Galena reputedly typed his manuscript (Barnes interview).

Numerous resort camps operated in and around Galena to accommodate river-oriented tourism. Some of these were short-lived and some, such as The Limberlost, became institutions. Located above Galena at the site of a James River ford, The Limberlost (named for Gene Stratton-Porter's Arcadian novel) was known locally as "The Clubhouse" (Maxwell interview). It offered accommodations which ranged from bungalows furnished with cots, dishes and cooking utensils (\$12 per week) to room (\$1 per day) and dining service (\$1.50 per day) in the Limberlost Inn. The Limberlost also rented boats by the day or week for floaters at fifty cents per day or \$2.50 per week. The Barnes Brothers kept their john boats at the Limberlost landing ready for service (Buster Barnes interview and SCNQ, 31 March 1920). In addition,

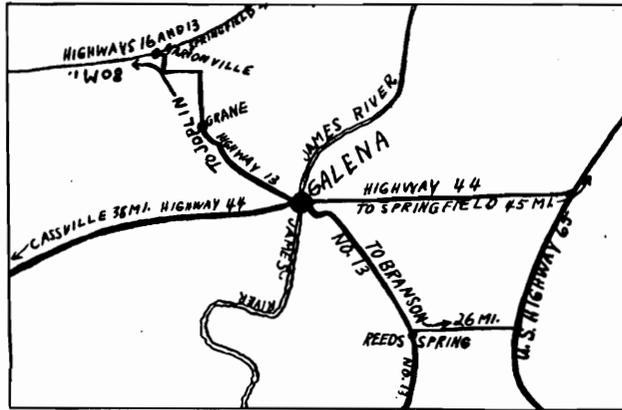
Galena boasted nearby Camp Yocum, Camp Clark, and Camp Lookout on the river above Limberlost. Galena proper offered Craig's Cozy Camp, The Ramblers, and three hotels--the Galena, Mitchell, and Short's. Immediately downriver were Camp Ashcraft and Arnold Lodge. Promoters of these camps included locals and businessmen from Kansas City, Neosho, Tulsa, and elsewhere.

Resort camps hosted vacationers who wished to spend their time in one place as well as providing stopover spots for floaters on long river trips. Bear Den Camp, located approximately twenty-five miles downriver from Galena, was a resort with croquet courts and a dining hall (Emerson interview). For floaters desiring less than a week-long trip, Bear Den Camp was the terminal point for one-day trips originating at Galena. It served, too, as the point of embarkation for two- or three-day trips on the lower James River and upper White River in the southern part of the county (Master Map of the Ozarks, 1925).

Camps figured in the social lives of local residents as well as tourists'. Dr. A. L. McQuary, a minister who owned The Limberlost prior to 1920, performed numerous marriage ceremonies at the The Clubhouse. (Marriages at "historic sites" in The Shepherd of the Hills Country became common between the two world wars). The same camp held dances, such as the one reported in the Independence Daily News, which paying guests and locals alike attended (SCNQ, 29 July 1925). The camps with dining halls--such as Bear Den Camp and The Clubhouse--also hosted locals for Sunday dinners (Emerson interview).

Commercial tourism began largely as a vocation of the

Where to Go in the Ozarks



# GALENA

## STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI

*On Beautiful James River*

The County Seat of Stone County, Located  
at the Intersection of Highways 13 and 44

CAMPS, COTTAGES, BOAT TRIPS, FINE  
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**GALENA COMMUNITY CLUB**

GALENA, MO.



THE WHITE RIVER COUNTRY (IN MISSOURI) (Continued)

- FLAT CREEK, LITTLE, MOUTH OF.**—Reached by good county road 15 miles southwest of Aurora. Rainbow trout grow big here and one can camp and enjoy trout fishing to his heart's delight. Very few people know that this is one of the good trout fishing places in the Ozarks. Some of the largest rainbow trout caught in Missouri streams are taken here. Fine camp grounds.
- FLAT CREEK, MOUTH OF.**—On State Highway No. 44. It's a wonderful place to spend several days camping. The multitude of floaters on the James river pass this way and most generally stop here for noonday lunch or camp for the night. It's good wading fishing upstream, or one can use boat up as far as desired. It's just right for fly-fishing from the banks or gravel bars. No accommodations here and one should bring camp equipment.
- FORKS, THE, Stone County.**—This is the name applied to the postoffice, Notch, Mo., by Harold Bell Wright in his book, *The Shepherd of the Hills*. It was at this place that Uncle Ike presided as postmaster.
- FORSYTH, MO.**—County seat of Taney county. Railroad points, Branson and Hollister, on the Missouri Pacific; also served by Pickwick Bus lines. Forsyth is located on White river at the mouth of Swan Creek below the Taneycomo dam and at the junction of State Highways 76 and 78. Float trips for the lower White are outfitted here. There is good fishing in both Swan Creek and White river. Information and accommodations, White Swan Camp, Shepherd of the Hills Estates, Shadow Rock Camp. Float trips outfitted by White Swan Camp. Boats, camping equipment and guides furnished. Float of 10 days from Forsyth to Cotter, Ark. Short floats are made.
- GALENA, MO., Stone County.**—Missouri Pacific Railroad. State Highways Numbers 43 and 44. Galena is famous as the head of the Galena-Branson floats. These float trips are made down James river into White river and thence to Lake Taneycomo. Distance traveled is 125 miles. Return trip by rail or motor is 18 miles. Splendid bass fishing, both small-mouth and large-mouth. Channel cat that at times take artificial bait. Sunfish and goggle-eye, also crappie. There is swimming and boating at Galena. Resorts include Camp Clark, Echo Camp, Craig's Cozy Camp, Limberlost Inn, Camp Yocum and Short Hotel, Galena, Missouri. Float outfitters with complete outfits, Galena Boating Company. Address either for information as to condition of river.
- GARRISON FORD.**—On King's river. 4 miles out of Cassville on State Highway 44; take the Golden road to Golden, 14 miles, thence northeast about three miles to Garrison Ford. Dandy place to fish and camp. Lots of chunk rock water. Ideal black-bass water. Also reached north out of Eureka Springs, Ark.
- GOLDEN FERRY.**—14 miles south of State Highway 44 at a point four miles east of Cassville via Mano. The ferry has now been superseded by highway bridge. Camping and fishing.
- GOLDEN, MO.**—18 miles south of State Highway 44 at a point four miles southeast of Cassville, by way of Mano. King's River fishing. Also reached north out of Eureka Springs, Ark.
- HAWKINS' MILL.**—On U. S. Highway 65 just north of Ozark. Well maintained camp grounds on the banks of Mill Lake. Finley Creek. Good boats available. Swimming. Fishing.
- HITCH ROCK, Stone County.**—Postoffice, Reeds Spring. This attraction is a huge boulder, almost as large as a house that has rolled from the top of the bluff and now projects from James river. There is some debate whether the name is Hitch Rock or Hick's Rock. The scarred face of the bluff, indicating an old tie slide, gives strength to the argument that the name is Hitch Rock, the rock having been used by tie floaters for hitching their raft while it was in the process of being made from the ties that came down the tie slide. This is a beautiful fishing hole. Good camping place.
- HOLLISTER, MO., Taney County.**—Missouri Pacific Railroad. United States Highway Number 65. A most interesting resort town, characterized by a uniformity of English architecture. Located at the mouth of Turkey Creek on Lake Taneycomo. It offers complete facilities for accommodations and attractions to the seeker of recreation. Large-mouth bass, crappie and other lake fishes. The upper lake furnishes jack salmon fishing. Accommodations available at Ye Old English Inn, Log Cabin Inn, Kohler's Camp, Presbyterian Hill Hotel, Camp Short Acres, Camp Ideal, Camp St. Louis, Camp Perfecto, Camp Valley View.
- HOLLYWOOD HILLS.**—Taney County on Lake Taneycomo. Two miles east of U. S. Highway 65 at a point about three miles north of Branson. Hilltop resort newly built. New Hotel, modern. Also cabins. Overlooks Lake Taneycomo. Mouth of Bull Creek as well as lake proper easily reached. Gaited saddle horses. For reservations write Hollywood Hills, Branson, Mo.
- HURLEY, MO.**—On Missouri Pacific. Resort place. Hotel accommodations. Good spring, and trout fishing in Spring Creek close at hand.
- INDIAN CREEK.**—Rises in Arkansas and flows 17 miles north into White river in Stone county. Good fishing near the mouth.
- IZAAK WALTON CAMP.**—On Lake Taneycomo near the mouth of Bee Creek. Leave U. S. Highway 65 and go east about two miles north of Branson. Good fishing at the mouth of Bee Creek. Board and lodging. Postoffice, Branson.
- JACKSON HOLLOW, Stone County.**—Postoffice, Reeds Spring on the Missouri Pacific. This is the terminus of the famous Horse Shoe Bend on James river. Good bass fishing here. Camping only, amid rustic surroundings.
- JACKSON SLIDE, Stone County.** Postoffice, Reeds Spring, on the Missouri Pacific. This is a series of beautiful shoals about one-half mile below Jackson Hollow. Channel cat, jack salmon and bass are common at this point.
- JAMES RIVER TOURIST PARK, Stone County.**—On State Highway 43, half-mile south of Galena. On James river at mouth of Railies Creek. Cabins and boats for rent. Owned by Herb Barnes, river and fishing guide. Postoffice, Galena, Mo.
- JAMES RIVER, Stone County.**—Railroad points, Springfield and Aurora on the Frisco, and Galena on the Missouri Pacific. Fishing points, mouth of Finley, south of Crane, Galena, Bear Den, Jackson Hollow and mouth of James. This stream is widely known for its small-mouth bass and its float trips. The fishing in this stream during the past two years has been better than any time since 25 years ago, when it was in prime condition. Outfitters and guides may be had from Barnes Brothers, Galena, Missouri, or Galena Boating Company, who may be wired for dependable information.

During the 1920s Galena and James River was a prominent vacationers' destination.

wealthy, leisured, and urban middle class attracted by the relative primitive quality of life in the White River hills. Ironically, their presence in this previously-isolated area contributed to its modernization. The middle-class people who vacationed in the rural, Ozarks outback, brought with them the accouterments of their class--dress, automobiles, servants, the leisure and money to travel, and cosmopolitan attitudes which were part of a larger intellectual climate. Moreover, they were acquainted with the amenities of life such as electricity and running water and, because they had money to spend on amenities, expected them to be available. Galena's entrepreneurs recognized tourists' demands and provided these comforts on a limited basis before they were widely available in parts of the county rarely frequented by tourists.

Lon Ernest, who purchased Arnold Lodge in 1926, operated his resort with this upscale, cosmopolitan clientele in mind. Believing that a certain kind of tourist was tired of public resorts which accepted "anybody and everybody" and that they wished to be protected from "undesirables," Ernest changed the camp's name to Care Away and restricted it to people who purchased non-transferable memberships (SCNO, 17 February 1926). In keeping with his new image, Ernest piped running water to all the camp's cabins and equipped them with lavatories. He built toilets, and showers for bathers to use after swimming, and installed a plumbed bathtub in his own home at the camp (SCNO, 5 May 1926). That such fixtures were not part of Stone County's native culture at the time was evident in one writer's exclamation. "Imagine," he wrote, "a real functioning bathtub at

a river camp miles from where you'd expect it! Don't tell me the Ozarks aren't full of surprises. Finding one bathtub at a river camp is a bigger story than finding good-sized towns without a single tub" (Wiley Collection).

Earnest did not own Care Away for long, but even its new owner, R. L. Jones of Bristow, Oklahoma, continued to provide comforts not offered at all camps. Jones, who operated Care Away as a boys' camp, dammed Powdermill Creek as it ran through the camp to form a swimming pool in a large, concrete basin. Above the pool, which was approximately twenty-five feet by twenty feet, and straddling Powdermill Hollow rested the camp's dining hall. Further proof of Care Away's comfort was evident in sleeping arrangements. Jones did not offer, as did more plebian camps, room to pitch tents; all his guests slept indoors (Maxwell interview).

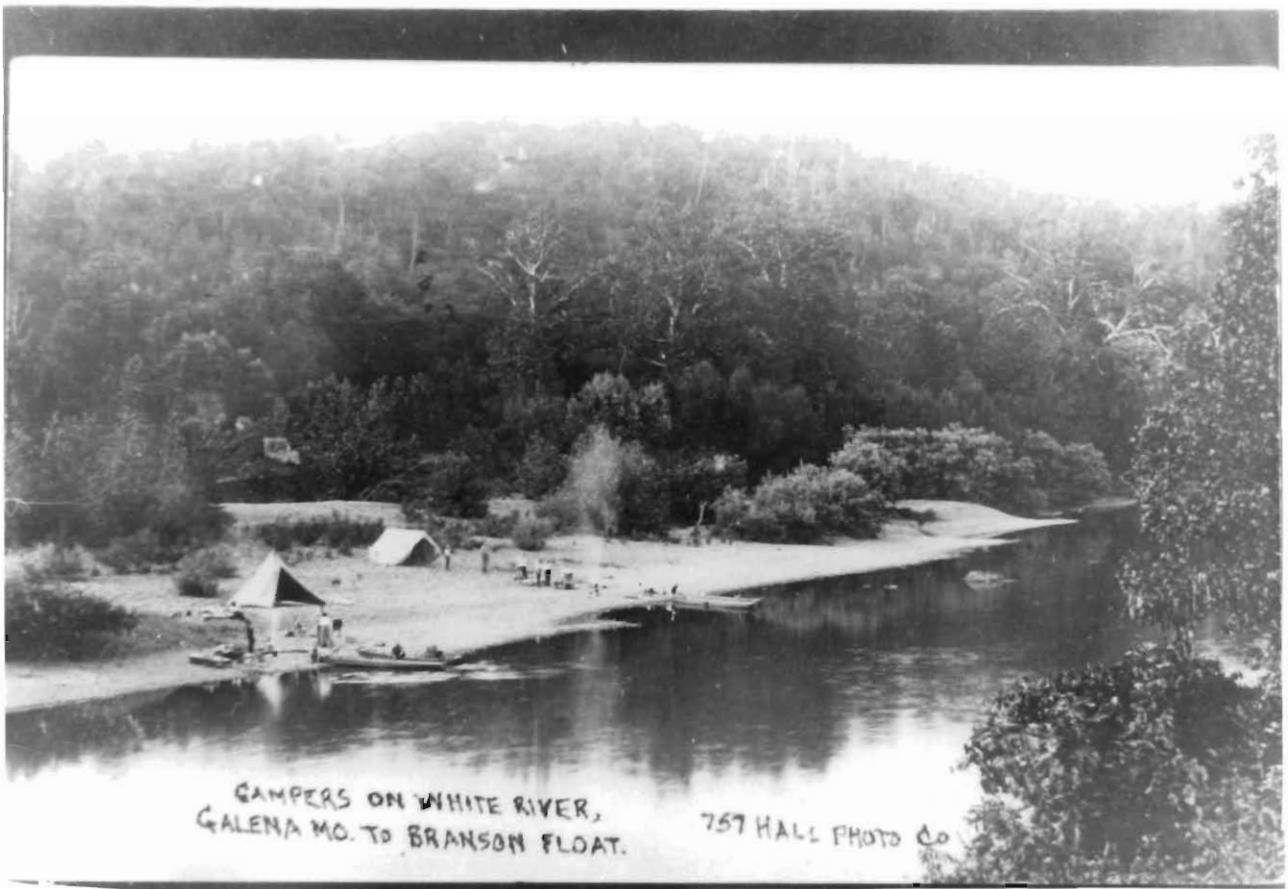
Although electricity was not available on a widespread basis within Stone County until the days of F.D.R.'s rural electrification programs, kerosene-driven generators supplied this amenity in Stone County before them. Enough Delco generators were in use by the late 1920s that the area had a regular Delco light dealer (SCNO, 17 November 1926). In early 1921 a movement was underway to provide generator-powered streetlights in Galena. By February local residents had subscribed \$2,600 toward forming a stock company to fund public lighting (SCNO, 9 February 1926). By late 1926, however, that system had to be extended to meet increased consumption demands (SCNO, 20 October 1926). The fuel-driven generator was to be

abandoned, with power provided by three water wheels, each twelve feet long and eight feet in diameter. Plans called for placing these wheels one behind the other on rafts in the James River, connected to the generator by a chain and sprocket system.

Even along the river tourists found amenities. Dewey Short of Galena, later a longtime Congressional representative, in 1914 contracted to supply ice to floaters. Herb Barnes, of the Barnes Brothers Boating Company, had recommended Short to the Lawrence County Water, Light and Cold Storage Company of Aurora, which in a bid for Short's business told him: "Our ice is in 200# [pound] cakes which . . . is better for fishing parties" (Wiley Collection). J. D. Scott also contributed to the comforts of a river-side vacation; in 1925 he opened a cold drink and ice cream stand for bathers on the riverbank at The Limberlost (SCNQ, 24 June 1925).

While the railroad facilitated and promoted tourism, plans for Lake Taneycomo, the area's major attraction, began in 1910. In that year the Ambersen Hydraulic Construction Company evaluated sites for the power-generating dam planned by the Ozark Power and Water Company headquartered in Joplin, Missouri. The place chosen lay on the White River a short distance upstream from Forsyth, the county seat of Taney County, Stone County's neighbor to the east. Construction started in 1911, and the lake was impounded in 1913.

Lake Taneycomo, as the first recreational impoundment in the Midwest, proved highly successful in creating a tourist mecca. An influx of vacationers accompanied the lake's creation, and the White River area became such a popular recreation spot that local

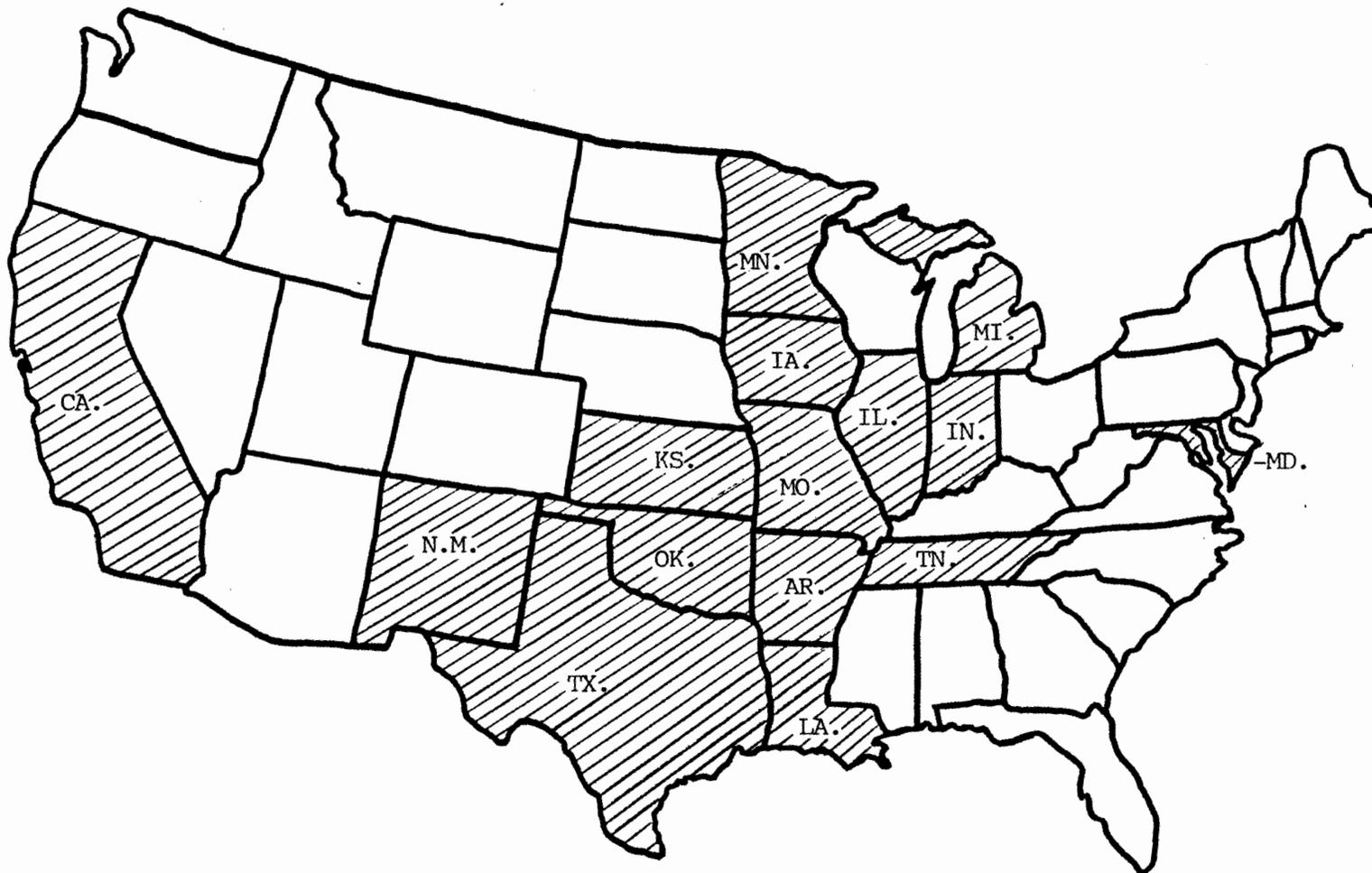


Galena to Branson float  
ca. 1915

publicity deemed it "The Playground of the Middle West." This claim was born out by a perusal of the Galena Stone County News Oracle; during 1920, 1921, 1925, and 1926 the paper recorded visits by people from the midwestern states of Oklahoma, Tennessee, Illinois, Kansas, Arkansas, Texas, Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, and Michigan (as well as New Mexico, Louisiana, and Maryland; see map). There were, in addition, people from all over Missouri who vacationed in Stone County. The result of this, as reported in Galena, was that "many of our camps are full and many are making the Galena to Branson float" (SCNO, 4 August 1920).

The changes effected by the railroad, renamed the Missouri Pacific after a 1917 merger, brought prosperity to Stone County. The Missouri Pacific's efforts to develop and commercialize agriculture by introducing new methods, machinery and cultivars brought positive results. Farmers planted acres and acres of tomatoes, and the canning plants which processed them dotted the county. Poultry was selectively bred in the Galena area, small peach and pear orchards were planted, portable sawmills yielded lumber and railroad ties, and strawberry production increased steadily--all of which were transported by rail.

Galena's success in tourism was due, in great measure, to the railroad. Not only did the Missouri Pacific provide a way for visitors to travel to Stone County, but it also actively promoted the area. The line gave reduced rates to travelers during summers, holidays, and weekends. It instituted Pullman Car service to Kansas City and St. Louis in the 1920s and ran



States From Which Tourists Came To Stone and Taney Counties in 1913-1915,  
and 1920-1926

summer excursion trains from Joplin, Missouri through Stone County to Hollister, in Taney County ("Town Has Its Face To Road," 25 September 1927; WRL, 28 May 1925 and 31 March 1916). The railroad also promoted float trips; at Union Station in Omaha, Nebraska it exhibited thirteen views taken by photographer D. F. (Frank) Fox of Galena along the route of the Galena to Branson float trip (SCNO, 29 July 1925). The railway published and distributed illustrated promotional brochures such as James and White River Float Trips, describing float trips and local accommodations. Local rail agents would, when notified in advance, make travelers' arrangements with local float outfitters, or assist visitors upon arrival in procuring supplies and float guides.

As float-centered tourism flourished so did Galena. It became a bustling village which boasted, besides camps and hotels, many businesses. These included a shoe repair shop, the county's first Ford agency, owned by Charley Barnes and his brothers, Stone Drug Store, W. A. Martin's concrete block manufactory, Sugar Creek Creamery, and a millinery store owned by Vertrude Matthews Osbourne, the daughter of Dr. A. L. McQuary and owner of Camp Clark. Three stores ringed the square--Craig Mercantile, Tom McCord's Store, and the Billingsley Store, which had a soda fountain. Galena possessed the Warren-Couch lumber yard, a bank and post office, as well as photographer Frank Fox and sign painter J. F. Lynley. The hirsute could patronize either Hunt Ira's barber shop or Tilden's establishment, and for leisure time there was varied and frequent entertainment. The Electric Theatre offered movies, and pie suppers, picnics,

chautauquas, musical programs, traveling entertainers, and dances varied the bill of fare. There was always that favorite pastime of tourist and resident alike, fishing, and following the construction of the Y bridge in 1927 locals spent time relaxing and "sparking" on the largest man-made landmark in Stone County.

Local businessmen, attuned to the effectiveness of promotion, actively advertised themselves and the area. The Galena Abstract and Loan Company, for example, boasted on its stationery that Galena was "the great health and pleasure resort of the southwest, and the head of the Galena to Branson float" (Wiley Collection). Craig Mercantile distributed float maps featuring the "Famous Float" and local resort camps and picture postcards of smiling swimmers in the James River. Galena merchants financed a large sign for the intersection of Highways 3 and 44 (now 160 and 176) east of Abesville to direct traffic to Galena and another time banded with Crane businessmen to erect a sign in Christian County east of Aurora (SCNO, 23 September 1925, and 7 April 1926). The sign was placed at the intersection of Highways 43 and 16 (now 13 and 60) to direct Branson-bound traffic through Crane and Galena instead of Springfield. Galena businesses placed group advertisements in newspapers promoting "health resorts . . . outing camps," and fishing (SCNO, 4 May 1921). And local fruit associations, organized to boost strawberry cultivation, printed labels for berry boxes bearing slogans such as "The Million Smile Berry--Grown in the Ozark Playground" (SCNO, 10 March 1926).

The White River region had first been described as a

playground around the time of Lake Taneycomo's 1913 impoundment (WRL, 21 November 1913). The notion of White River country as a playground became so common that the Branson White River Leader in 1915 adopted "The Playground of the Middle West" as its masthead motto (WRL, 15 January 1915). It was in 1919, however, when a group of Joplin, Missouri Rotarians formed the Ozark Playgrounds Association, that the playground appellation was applied to a much larger area and in a more systematic manner.

The Ozark Playgrounds Association began its tenure in the fall of 1919 with thirteen member counties from northwest Arkansas and southwest Missouri, the area it deemed the Ozark Playgrounds. Organized to publicize the Ozarks and encourage tourism, the O.P.A. started slowly, acquiring only one additional member county in the following four years (The Ozarks, p. 4). By 1926 county membership had swelled to thirty-three (Come To The Ozarks, p. 2).

Individual businesses and towns within these counties could choose to join the O.P.A., and many businesses in Galena did. As early as 1920 Galena merchants grasped the potential of the O.P.A. for fostering local tourism, and many of them, including the owners of several resort camps, invested in O.P.A. advertising (SCNO, 17 March 1920). This was encouraged by the O.P.A. director, Galena contractor Eli G. Ashcraft, himself the owner of a James River camp and contractor of the Galena court house, now on the National Register of Historic Places (SCNO, 24 March 1920).

The O.P.A. utilized a variety of promotional tools. Its annual, illustrated booklet described recreational and economic

# STONE COUNTY NEWS-ORACLE

VOLUME 16

GALENA, STONE COUNTY, MISSOURI, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1920

NUMBER

A Republican Paper Published in the Interest of Stone County.

## Galena, the Popular Resort Town of the Ozarks!

Stone County is promised a good supply of fish from the Government Hatchery for stocking the streams of our county. There are already several parties camping and fishing here. You should get ready for the tourist season trade, as our advertisements of the Ozark Playgrounds are being published this week and our results are sure to come. Get out your individual advertising for distribution and give to our Secretary at Joplin, Mo.

Be sure to carry the Ozarks Playgrounds slogan: "The Land of a Million Smiles"

Yours as director of the Ozark Playgrounds Association

E. G. ASHCRAFT.

Bank of Galena.....  
T. L. Yocum, Camp Yocum .....  
Kissire & Standridge, Boating Company.....  
Barnes Motor Co., Garage and Ford Dealers.....  
D. M. Standridge Motor Co., Garage and Auto dealer  
Craig Mercantile Co., Dealers in Everything.....  
Roy Nelson, Nelson Canning Co. ....  
Dr. A. L. McQuary, Lumberlost Camp.....

R. S. Tromly, News-Oracle and Picture Show.....  
Tom McCord, Busy Corner Store .....  
C. E. Mallonee, Stock Buyer.....  
May & Jones, Abstracts, Farm Loans and Insurance..  
Judge John T. Moore, Attorney at Law.....  
John S. Craig & Daughter, Groceries and Meats.....  
Dr. W. N. Deathreage, Stone Drug Co.....  
J. F. Southard, Groceries and Confections.....  
J. R. Blunk, Arnold Lodge.....

Rufe Scott, Abstracts, Attorney at Law .....  
Dr. A. B. McKeehan, Dentist.....  
David F. Fox, Photos and Farm Sales .....  
C. E. Hageman, Banker.....  
Ira Hunt, Barber Shop.....  
Dan Thornberry, Rural Mail Carrier.....  
Lewis L. Moore, County Clerk.....  
W. E. Renfro, Pros. Atty. Abstracts and Insurance

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opportunities and advertised member towns. The 1924 edition, for example, touted Galena as "synonymous with 'fishing,'" and detailed the town's resort and float trips (Come To The Ozarks, p. 46). The Association advertised in newspapers in southern and midwestern states, sent questionnaires to prospective visitors, and published several maps (SCNQ, 27 May 1925). The 1925 Master Map of the Ozarks showed float camps, scenic points of interest, tourist attractions, agricultural areas, and even fruit-canning factories. Because of the data it could amass, the O.P.A. also served as a conduit through which prospective investors could obtain economic information (WRL, 2 January 1925).

The Ozark Playgrounds Association adopted "The Land of a Million Smiles" as its slogan, which caught on like wildfire. The motto adorned picture postcards and entitled poems and songs. Even the Bank of Ponce de Leon, in northern Stone County, featured "The Land of a Million Smiles" on its stationery (Wiley Collection). The campaign's widespread acceptance may have been partly due to its spokesperson; the O.P.A. inaugurated an annual contest to choose the "girl with the million-dollar smile," whose comely face was then featured in the following year's advertising (SCNQ, 18 March 1925).

Another organization devoted itself to promotion on a local level. Established in 1923 with Marvel Cave owner W. H. Lynch as Secretary, the Ozark Hills Tourist Association confined its interest to the Taney and Stone County vicinity, particularly the area known as "The Shepherd of the Hills Country" (SCNQ, 10 March 1926). This somewhat vague area was shown on regional maps lying

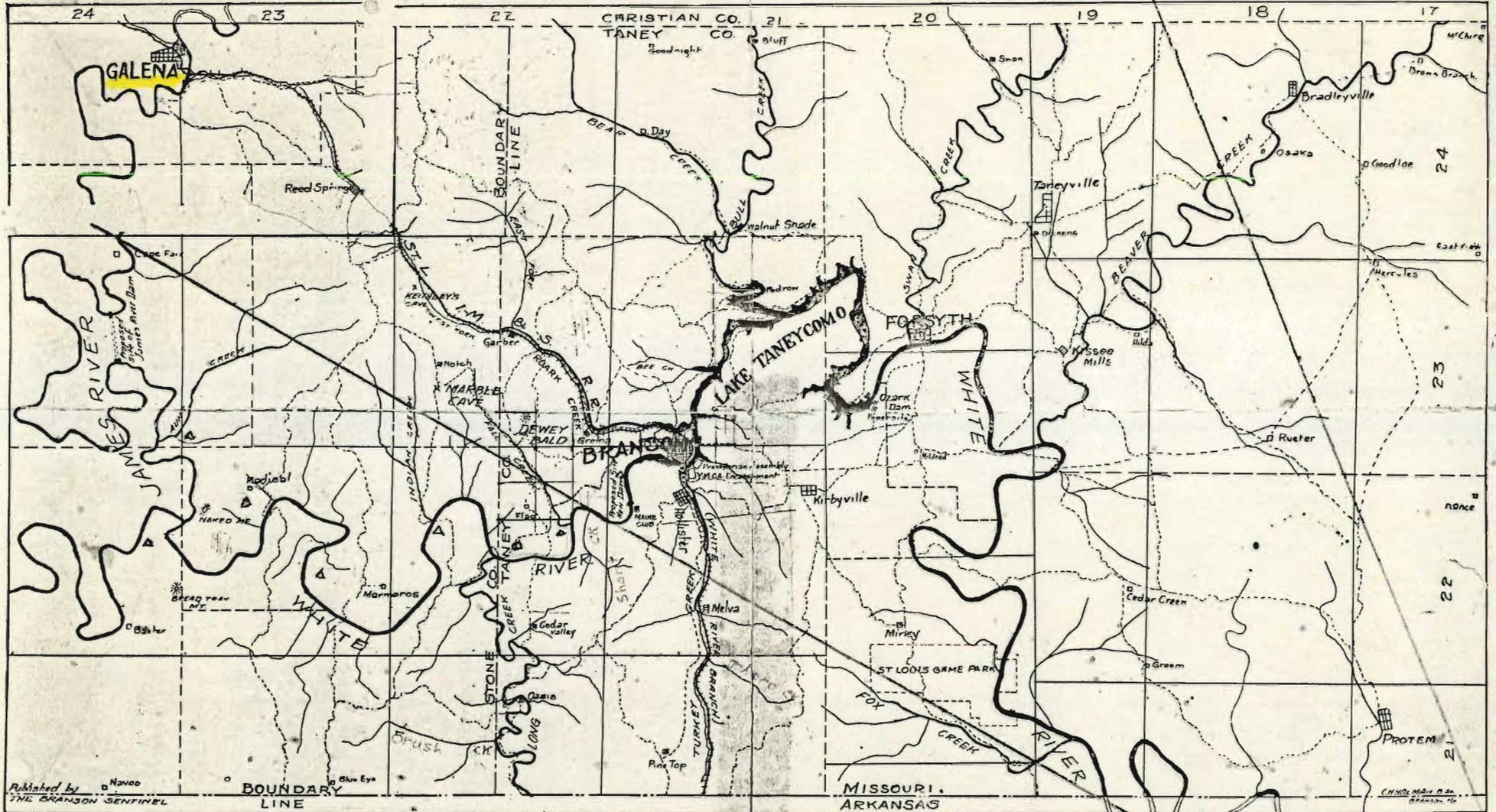
roughly in a triangular area bounded by James and White Rivers on the west and south, respectively, and the Missouri Pacific Railway line running southeast from Galena to Branson; thus, Galena stood at the apex of the triangle. The Ozark Hills Tourist Association was instrumental in bringing Pathe News Films to the area, where it filmed Uncle Ike, The Shepherd of the Hills Country, Marvel Cave, and Reeds Spring (SCNO, 16 December 1925). It apparently accomplished little otherwise; although established in 1923 its second meeting was not held until 1925 and little evidence of other activity exists in newspapers or archives (SCNO, 4 November 1925).

Galena received publicity from various news media. Keith McCanse, a regional game warden from 1920 to 1925 and promoted to head the Missouri Game and Fish Commission in 1925, hosted a Paramount News Films crew, which filmed the Galena to Branson float. McCanse's purpose was "to encourage the sport [angling] in Missouri waters and show the people of the entire United States that this state is truly the fisherman's paradise as well as the mecca of the artist and haven of the vacationist" ("Paramount News Films," p. 1). Articles about Galena appeared in numerous newspapers, often describing float fishing. The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, for instance, published "A Travelog of Christian, Taney, Stone and Douglas Counties." The Stone County section described landmarks in the The Shepherd of the Hills country, including Marvel Cave, Fairy Cave (west of Marvel Cave, opened to the public in 1921 by Waldo Powell), and the Famous Float (25 October 1925). A two-page article in the Kansas City Star publicized the Galena to Branson Float, as did the Joplin

# BRANSON

# AND COUNTRY TRIBUTARY

# LAKE TANEYCOMO Taney County, Missouri "The Shepherd of the Hills" Country



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
INQUIRE OF

**WHITE RIVER REALTY COMPANY, Branson, Missouri**

C. H. HOLMAN,

ST. LOUIS, MO.

News in its feature "Through the Ozarks In A Boat" (SCNO, 16 June 1926 and WRL, 28 August 1914).

Newspapermen who vacationed there wrote articles which publicized Stone County. Irving Brant, a staff correspondent for the St. Louis Star, wrote of his visit to Fairy Cave, where he took several pictures (SCNO, 28 December 1921). Colonel E. W. Stephens, an editor from Columbia, Missouri, vacationed in Galena, staying at Craig's Cozy Camp southwest of the town square. He later published an account of his sojourn, as did George H. Evans, editor of the Chickasha, Oklahoma Daily Express (SCNO, 26 May and 8 and 15 September 1926). Evans wrote a glowing account of the river environment, describing it as "nature's own remedy for a lot of real or fancied ills."

Promotion proved effective in bringing people to the area. According to Ozark Playgrounds Association figures, 50,000 people visited southwestern Missouri and northwestern Arkansas in 1919; by 1925 summer visitors totaled 500,000 (The Ozarks, p. 4). But where early tourists came almost exclusively by train, however, then walked, rode horses, or hired wagons, their mode of transport had changed; by 1915 a local newspaper declared automobiles "no longer a novelty" (WRL, 10 September 1915).

The increasing numbers of tourists who drove automobiles into Stone County necessitated a better system of roads. Road improvement became an item of public concern in the county, indicated by the frequency and in-depth coverage which the Galena newspaper devoted to road work. Local politicians such as M. P. Brown, who ran for Northern District Judge in 1920, made road

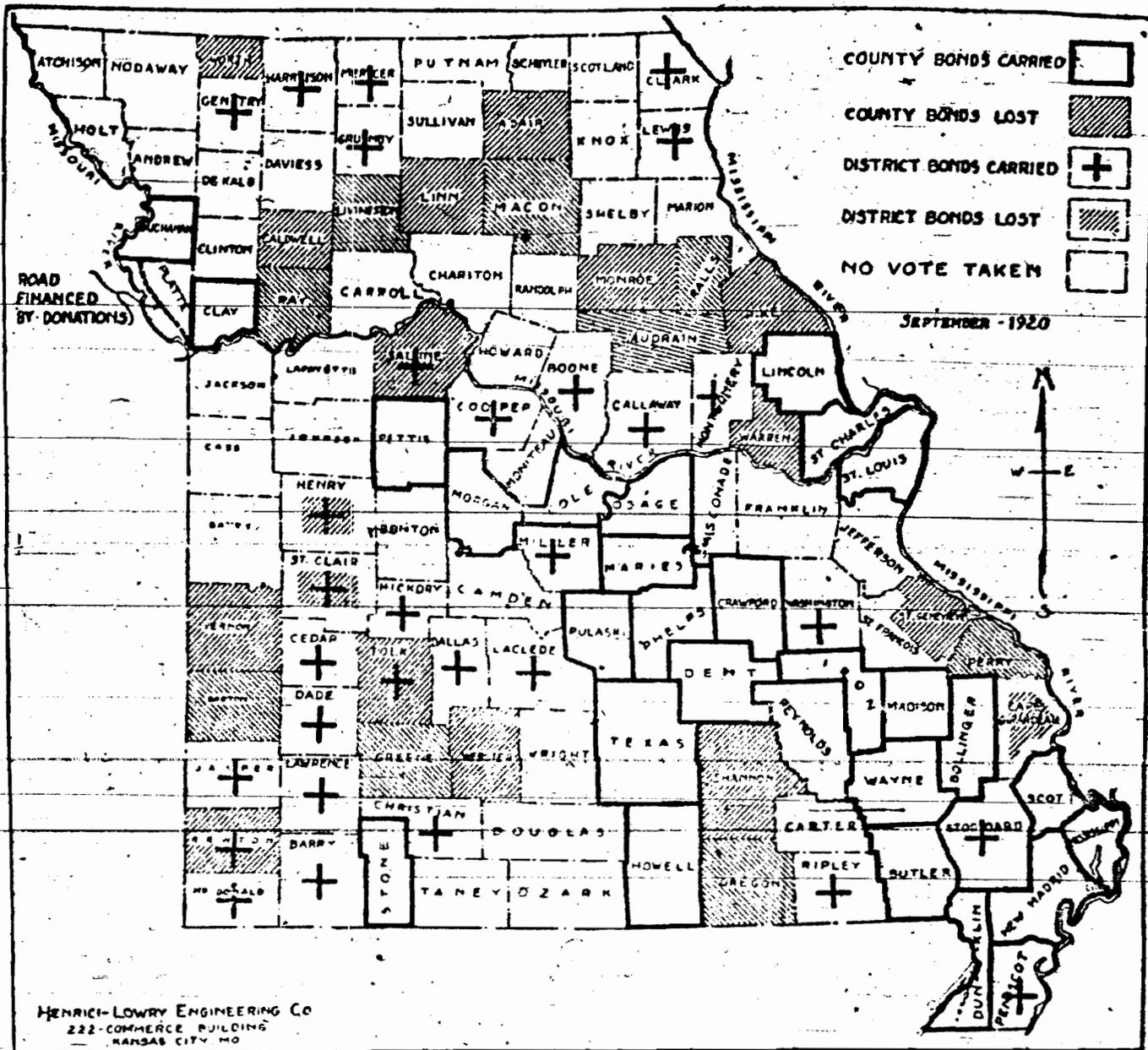
improvement his number one campaign issue, and R. S. Tromley of Galena, elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1920, kept local residents up-to-date on state road plans through the Stone County News Oracle (SCNO, 16 June 1920, and 16 February 1921).

The course of road improvement proved rough. Stone County started 1920, for example, with problems over county road bonds. Although judged valid by the county court, the court requested local lawyer Rufe Scott to take the bond proposition to Chicago where a bond attorney would examine it and determine its validity (SCNO, 7 and 21 January 1920). By the end of March the bonds had been deemed valid and a large crowd attended the county court's special meeting to discuss allocation of the money which would be realized (SCNO, 31 March and 7 April 1920). The bonds were sold and funds requisitioned from the State Highway Commission, which approved \$147,654 for the state highway through Stone County. For its part, Stone County set aside \$50,000 of the \$100,000 bond money for the stretch of state road through the county (SCNO, 5 May 1920).

The road system did improve, although state and federal funds did not always keep up with county efforts. Matching federal funds were denied in 1920 for a road from Union City in the north-central part of the county to Nauvoo, in the south-central part (SCNO, 28 April 1920). Nevertheless, betterment efforts seem ineffectual in retrospect simply because the road system was initially so poor. (The state soon took the lead and responsibility for road improvement during the 1920s.) A 1910 Missouri map showed no improved roads in Stone County (Map of

Stone County was one of the few counties that passed road bonds in 1920

# Road Building in Missouri



Map Showing Where Road Bonds Won and Lost

Without the \$60,000,000 Road Bond Amendment No. 6 Missouri's Road System Will Be Poorly Connected for Next Generation.

The above map tells the whole story of the activities of the people of Missouri by counties in the matter of building 365-day roads. The map shows very clearly that while about 50 counties have voted county or district road bonds and are planning to build hard roads, there are 23 counties where the people have voted against good roads, and in the remain-

ing counties the people have not been sufficiently interested to even submit a road bond issue.

If Good Roads Amendment No. 6 is adopted and the State and Federal Government build a complete system



of 6,000 miles of State roads connecting every county seat town in this state it will give Missouri a comprehensive system of hard roads which will go a long way toward "Lifting Missouri out of the mud." And the nice thing about the proposition is that there will be no additional taxes. The auto fees, at the present rates, will meet the cost of the roads, interest and principal.

Vote for Amendment No. 6 and let the auto owners pay for the roads. They want to do it. Why not let them?

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Missouri). There were, of course, wagon routes, including the Wilderness Road, a traditional north-south freight route traveled by wagons to and from Arkansas and Springfield, Missouri. The absence of roads on the 1910 map, with only rivers and the White River Railway depicted, demonstrated the eclipse of freight wagons by the railway as the primary avenue of commercial transportation, and the continued importance of waterways for transporting lumber products to rail points. It also reflected the lack of any need for automobile roads in Stone County.

The 1913 creation of Lake Taneycomo and the attendant playground movement created a tourist boom, which was evident on a road map published in 1915 (Clason's Guide Map of Missouri). Stone County in 1915 was represented with three north-south roads dividing the southern half of the county, and numerous roads between Galena and the small communities in the northern section of the county. The difference in these two maps did not indicate that the roads evident in 1915 were built in the five preceding years, but rather that the focus of transportation widened to include automobiles and that existing roads were improved to accommodate them. It is interesting to note that even in 1916, few Stone County roads continued beyond county boundaries. Some merely stopped at the county line while others ran a circuitous route within the county.

Despite increasing numbers of automobiles and road improvements, a 1922 map of state roads illustrated a total absence of improved, surfaced, state-maintained roads within the county (WRL, 5 January 1933). The state had, however, officially

numbered Route 43 through Crane, Galena, Reeds Spring and Blue Eye, and Route 44 running east and west through Abesville and Galena (Missouri Route Map). By 1926 a section of Route 43 between Crane and Reeds Spring had been given a graded earth surface, although the rest of Stone County's roads remained unimproved (Missouri State Road Progress Map). Road improvement by both the state and county continued on into the early 1930s. In 1933 a road was completed from Branson to the present site of Lakeview, through the Shepherd of the Hills Country and past Marvel Cave. This route, now Highway 76 West, was the first which could be traveled west from Branson, as visitors to Marvel Cave, Fairy Cave, and Shepherd of the Hills sites had previously gone north of Branson on old Highway 65 (now 248), west through Reeds Spring, then south and east. The return trip to Branson could be made east through Mutton Hollow to Branson, which was by far the shorter trip, but the road, which was little more than a series of ledge rocks, was not passable traveling west as much of it was uphill (Ford interview).

The climax to the good roads movement of the 1920s in Stone County and Galena was the construction of the Y Bridge in 1926-27. The "rainbow" arch landmark was a crucial link in the regional transportation, but especially for the northwest entry into the Shepherd of the Hills tourist region. The local press reported 3,000 Ozarkians present at the bridge dedication in November 1927. State officials and local citizens took turns offering praise and optimism for the future. Rev. Dewey Short recognized that much had yet to be done in Stone County, and gave a pragmatic suggestion, "It is too bad to have a bridge like we

# MISSOURI STATE ROAD PROGRAM

## MISSOURI'S ROADS

May 10, 1926

The system comprises 7,640 miles, 1,500 miles of which are primary or high type roads. The balance of the state road system have been designated as secondary roads. There is actually no difference between the two roads when the system is completed.

The state road system when completed will cost \$167,000,000; \$60,000,000 of this amount is from the road bonds. The entire amount will be financed from automobile license tax by 1932 to 1934. The state road construction or maintenance expense of the Department is from the license tax.

The Department has contracted approximately 1,000 miles of road work, more than \$100,000,000 worth by the end of 1926, which is over 10% of the system.

Completed to date 2,500 miles of hard-surfaced roads, of which were completed 1,832 miles. The Department is planning to complete 1,000 miles of hard-surfaced roads upon more than \$100,000,000 of road bonds, of which \$50,000,000 has been paid out for work done.

The Department has lost approximately \$18,000,000 from the license tax in the form of federal aid, or approximately 10% of the total. The State has never lost more than 10% of the total.

The Department for 1925 was \$32,000,000 has or can be used for the maintenance of the state roads.

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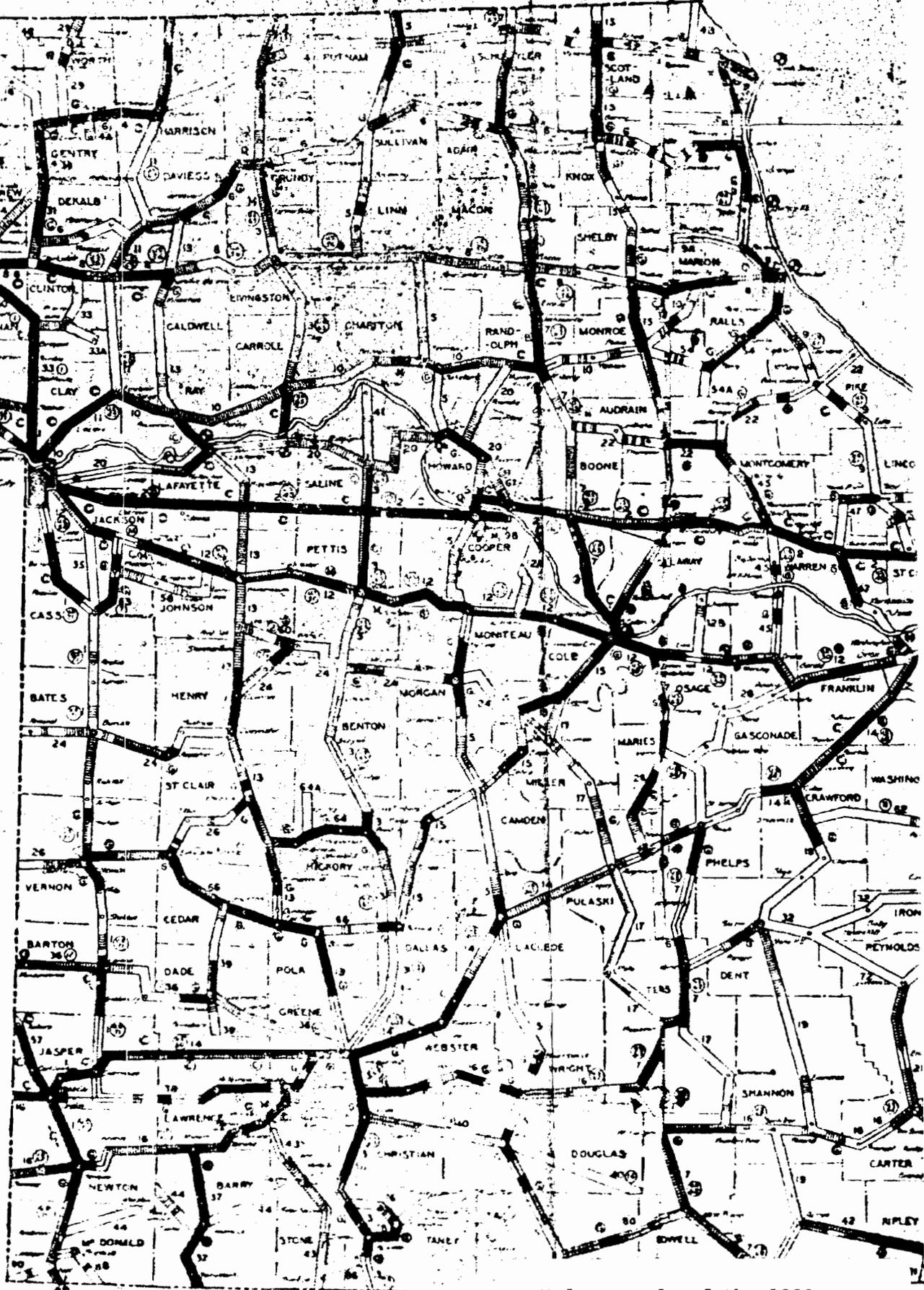
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Modern roads of the 1920s accounted for dramatic changes on the landscape

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MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM  
SHOWING CONSERVATIVE ROUTES OR  
AUTO LICENSE AND GASOLINE TAX RECEIPTS

have and yet have a road which prevents one from getting to it in safety." Future road contracts would come and the good roads movement continued in Stone County. The Y bridge itself will occupy the attention of historic preservation in the future.

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