# History of REFER

R

, D

# COMMUNITY

WASHINGTON COUNTY , ARKARISAS

by Dorothy M. Johnston

# HISTORY OF RHEA COMMUNITY Washington County, Arkansas

<sup>by</sup> Dorothy M. Johnston, Ph.D.

JOHNSTON PUBLISHING COMPANY, ROUTE 2, LINCOLN, ARKANSAS

i

Although the author and publisher have exhaustively researched all sources to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in this book, we assume no responsibility for errors, inaccuracies, omissions or any inconsistencies herein. Any slights of people or organizations are unintentional.

Copyright © 1987 by Johnston Publishing Company Rt. 2, Box 79A Lincoln, Arkansas 72744

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any means without permission in writing from the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America

ISBN: 0-936853-01-8

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 87-80193

This book is dedicated to my father and mother, Harry H. and Lena Barnes Johnston, who moved to the Rhea community in 1933

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	vii
Eras of a Place Called Rhea	1
Summary of Major Historical Events	<b>2</b>
Rhea Today	3
Bluff Dwellers and Other Indians	7
Early Settlers	12
The Mill	25
Mansion Builders 1855–1862	31
Civil War Happenings 1862	45
Naming of Rhea's Mill and Post Office 1867	59
Rhea Mercantile Store Journals	62
The Methodist Church	82
The Sunday School	96
The School	111
Businesses	136
The Club	142
The Cemetery	154
Marriages	166
The Rhea Farm	168
Rhea Murders	170
A Rhea Notable	173
Later Residents	175
Professional Residents	197
Poets and Song Writers	204
Honor Roll	207
Potpourii	208
Index of Names	211

v

# Preface

# List of Figures

1. Rhea Residents 1986	4
2. Township 15 North, Original Field Notes	
of Washington County 1832	15
3. Original Landowners 1834–1840	17
4. Early Landowners, Section 5, Township 15 North,	_
Range 32, West	18
5. Rhea School District No. 143 and Prairie Grove	
School District No. 23	116
6. Officers of Rhea Home Extension Club	152
7. Southern Half of Rhea Community 1908	176
8. Northern Half of Rhea Community 1908	177
9. Rhea 1908	178
10. Rhea Residents 1915–1920	179
11. Rhea Residents 1922–1930	180
12. Rhea Community 1974	181

The purpose of this book was to research records and resources to find detailed data which revealed the living history of the people who were residents in the community, from prehistory to present, and to preserve that history for future generations to know the activities within the community over a period of more than one hundred and fifty years, especially during the early development of the county. Rhea community was a major commercial area during the latter half of the last century, and played a role in the development of Washington County, serving not only as a commercial center for people as far away as the Indian Territory, but also producing educators, attorneys and pastors who led and served residents in this and other communities in Washington County, throughout the State of Arkansas and in other states.

The organization of this book follows a chronological sequence, divided into logical chapters according to particular topics.

There are many difficulties encountered in undertaking a history book. Obtaining one single fact may be elusive and time-consuming. Only the person who is persistent against overwhelming odds will survive the adversities of publishing a book. Only the thought of preserving our heritage sustains us and helps us to push relentlessly onward to reach our goal. This book may have only limited interest, except to those who have Rhea community roots. However we want to preserve the heritage for them, however few they may be.

A book of history cannot be written without a great deal of data from many sources. I am indebted to a number of contributors including the following individuals and organizations:

Little Rock: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

*Fayetteville:* Mildred Carmichael, Floyd Cox, Leon Gregory, Kinley Johnson, Flora Kirk, Dr. Ronald Konig, Lloyd McConnell, Mrs. Tom Pearson, Sr., Ruth Rhea Price, Circuit Clerk's Office, County Board of Education, District Superintendent's Office of the United Methodist Church, Northwest Arkansas Archaeological Society, Special Collections Department of the David W. Mullins Library at the University of Arkansas, Washington County Historical Society and Washington County Treasurer's Office Lincoln and Rhea: Ola Crawford, Donna Franks, Tim Franks, Gordon and Lillian Hartley, Frank Holt, Bill Keen, Bill and Dorothy Kelly, Edna Luginbuel, Ina Maxwell, Frank McKee, Dorothy Nash, Ruth Holt Payne, Helen Reed, Ardle Thomas and Ina Thompson.

Prairie Grove: Charles and Marianna Branchcomb, Kate Cheatham, Frank David, Jack and Veda Ditmars, Tom and Irene Dyer, Roberta Carnahan Kennedy, Earlene Matthews, Gaston Matthews, Nell Mobley, Gladys Montgomery, Donald Parks, Jewel Hulet Pennington. Reba Richmond, Clydene Tyree and Rollans Wilson

Bella Vista: Larry Swaim

Cincinnati: Lucille Hulet Pearson

Dutch Mills: Woodrow Choate

Farmington: Waymon Giles, Harold Johnston, Marie Neal, Frances Williams

Rogers: Wilma Dean Whiteley

Springdale: Pat Reed, Shiloh Museum

Out-of-State: Clyde Dyer, Junction City, Oregon

Troy Gregory, Oaks, Oklahoma Virginia Nolen, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Don Rhea, Bullhead City, Arizona James Rhea, Boulder City, Nevada Marcheita Snapp, Garland, Texas Alpha Jean Crawford Ward, Port Townsend, Washington

Apologies are extended for any misspelled names. The inconsistencies of spelling of names in the many records precluded determining the correct spelling in certain instances.

D. M. J.

The History of Rhea Community is being published posthumously. The author, Dr. Dorothy Johnston, was killed in a one-car accident July 12, 1987, near her home, Route 2, Lincoln, Arkansas.

# ERAS OF A PLACE CALLED RHEA

I. Prehistory: Bluff Dwellers

- II. Osage and Cherokee Grounds and Lovely Purchase/County to 1828
- III. Washington County and Early Years of White Settlers
- IV. Mansion Builders 1855-1862
- V. Civil War Happenings 1862-1865
- VI. Reconstruction Era 1866–1874
- VII. Heyday: Period of Prosperity 1874-1930
- VIII. A One-store Town 1930–1965
  - X. A Rural Community 1965 to Date

1

# SUMMARY OF MAJOR HISTORICAL EVENTS IN THE RHEA COMMUNITY

1827 First white settlers

- 1829 First land ownerships
- 1832 First land surveys
- 1846 First recorded cemetery burial
- 1850's Steam Mill built
- 1862 Occupied by Union Army one month and during Battle of Prairie Grove
- 1867 Name changed from Valley Steam Mill to Rhea's Mill
- 1867 Post office established and first postmaster
- Late
- 1800's Name changed from Rhea's Mill to Rhea
- 1874 First record of church members (Elizabeth D. Stevens and Rebecca E. Crawford) received by certificate in Methodist Church by Rev. Tidings
- 1876 First record of church members (Joseph and Mary Gregory) received in the Methodist Church by vows by Rev. Smith
- 1884 First record of burial in new cemetery: William H. Rhea
- 1886 School District No. 143 established and three-room school house built
- 1889 First record of infant baptism in Methodist Church: Maggie D. Lane

#### 1912-

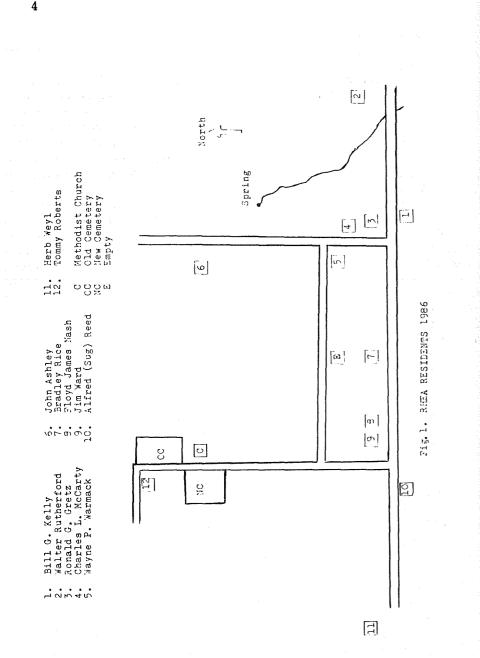
- 1913 First frame Methodist Church constructed
- 1936 Native stone two-room school house constructed
- 1946 Rhea School District 143 consolidated with Prairie Grove School District No. 23
- 1957 Mill chimney donated to Prairie Grove Battlefield Park by owners Mr. and Mrs. George Mennecke, Sr.
- 1963 Post Office closed. Last store closed 1965
- 1970 Frame Methodist church destroyed by tornado Brick Methodist church constructed
- 1979 Last business, Dyer blacksmith shop, closed



Located in west Washington County, Arkansas, about five miles north of Lincoln, and a half a mile west of blacktop County Road 33, popularly known as the Wedington Road, the Rhea settlement today consists of a dozen homes and four streets. Business activities of the residents today are dairy farming, poultry, and beef cattle operations. Other residents earn their livelihood by employment in the surrounding towns including Fayetteville. Once Rhea, with its steam mill and large mercantile store, was a bustling major trading center in the county in the 1800's; today, the Methodist Church, with its white spire, in the northwest section stands as a sentinel on the hill overlooking the serene setting for the forty-one residents, including seventeen children. (Figure 1).

The topography of the area is predominantly flat rich farming land with a few rolling hills in the community. Along the western edge of the community is a mountain range, extending north of the Rhea township, from Wedington Gap to the north, then south to the Lincoln rural area, two mountains divided by Pearson Hollow, through which Moore's Creek flows above and below the Lincoln Reservoir. The surface of these hills is composed of Boone limestone, one of the Pennsylvania series. This overlays a soft shale. Due to weathering, a number of shelters in the bluffs have been formed ranging up to more than a hundred feet, including along Moore's Creek. Beneath these shelters have been found favorable places for preservation of objects in the everyday life of the bluff dwellers. Undoubtedly many of the relics belonged to the Osage and Cherokee, who used the area until 1828 as hunting grounds.

Two major geological faults underlie the Rhea community, one extending from the Hartley farm, then generally to the northern outskirts of Rhea, then about a half a mile southwest of Rhea, through Pearson Hollow below the Lincoln Reservoir. The second fault is a quarter to half a mile south of Rhea, running in a western northwesterly direction, intersecting the other fault just west of Rhea. The faults were formed millions of years ago and are not active. They do not generate earthquakes. Rock generally north of the faults is of the Boone formation, which is composed of



sedimentary rock, limestone and chert, which is reddish brown. East and south of Rhea the area is composed of different rock formation mixture: black shale, grey limestone, sandstone, all a part of the Pitkin formation and Fayetteville shale formation. All rocks were deposited in shallow marine silt, less than two hundred feet deep. In the chert, basically the same as flint, are numerous shell fragments. The ages of the rock are about 250,000,000 years.

Two highly productive springs, one in Rhea and the other on the Hartley farm, are active in the central part of the community. The Rhea spring, formerly called the Barnes-Woodruff or Woodruff spring, a predominant part of the history of Rhea, is located in the center of Rhea, while the Hartley spring is northeast of the settlement.

West of the settlement, near the top of the mountain, runs a bluff with cave openings, visible miles away, long referred to as the Pasley Bluffs, the Albert Pasley family owning the property for the major part of the first half of this century. In the same mountain range, approximately two miles north of Rhea is the Bradley Cave, named after an elderly man who lived in one room of the cave at one time. The opening to the cave is small, necessitating crawling in the first large room, with several smaller rooms, and a hallway that leads to the top.

Lincoln Reservoir, approximately a mile southwest of Rhea at the upper end of Pearson Hollow, was completed in December 1963 under the auspices of the Arkansas Fish and Game Department and the Soil and Water Commission. The lake and dam were constructed primarily for flood control through the Rhea community, with a secondary purpose to furnish water for Lincoln, hence the name Lincoln Reservoir. Water for the lake is supplied by Moore's Creek and its tributary, Beaty Branch. The earthen dam for the lake was constructed from dirt obtained from an adjacent property east of the lake area, forty acres purchased from D. M. Peters.

The lake site is in a wooded area, covering ninety acres and bordering on what allegedly was once the main road from Fayetteville to the Indian Territory, which ran from Fayetteville to Rhea, over Beaty Mountain to Summers, then to the Indian Territory. A new road parallel to the original road was constructed later that led to Rhea, but traces of the original road were still discernible a few years ago.

Prior to the construction of the Lincoln Reservoir, through organized excavations, Indian artifacts were obtained from shelters in the bluffs along Moore's Creek, an area later covered by the lake.

# References

Keen, Bill, Superintendent, Water Department, Lincoln, Arkansas Konig, Dr. Ronald, consultations, Geology Department, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Pennington, Jewel Hulet, consultations, Rt. 2, Prairie Grove, Ark.

# BLUFF DWELLERS AND OTHER INDIANS

The earliest known inhabitants in the Rhea area were the pre-Columbia bluff dwellers. They hunted deer, buffalo and other game with darts, using a throwing stick similar to the ones used by the Aztecs.

The Lincoln Reservoir, located about a mile southwest of the Rhea settlement, contained twenty-six bluff dwellings and one village site, the latter located near the present dam, all inundated by the Lincoln Reservoir.

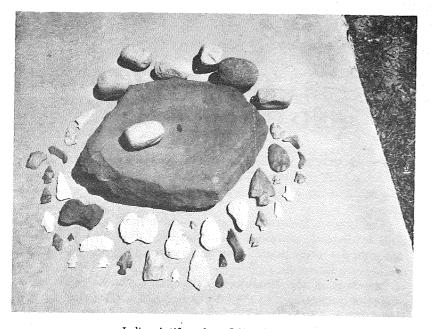
Members of the Northwest Arkansas Archaeological Society conducted excavations in the twenty-six bluff shelter sites between May 1963 and December 1965. Artifacts from thirteen productive shelter sites and the one village site suggest sporadic occupation of most of the locations from Early Archaic until late Prehistoric times, with the heaviest occupation occurring from the middle to the late in the Woodland Pattern.

One large shelter, approximately eighty feet long, with a maximum overhang of about thirty feet appeared to have been sporadically occupied from Late Archaic until Late Woodland time, from 200 B.C. to A.D. 800. Evidence suggested this was a temporary hunting site, where tools were made but where few skins were dressed or other activities took place.

Another shelter, about sixty by fifteen feet, produced artifacts that indicated the site was used sporadically from about 2,000 B.C. until A.D. 900, when a more intensive occupation occurred until perhaps A.D. 1,500.

Excavation of one shelter, measuring 23 by 10 feet, produced a well-shaped muller (a pestle, an implement for pounding or grinding substances in a mortar), which suggests preparation of acorns, corn or other floral food.

The Moore's Creek Site, its state number designated by the University of Arkansas Museum as 3WA20, was discovered on April 9, 1960, by Joe C. Parks and Charles McNair, both of Prairie Grove, and members of the Northwest Arkansas Archaeological Society.



Indian Artifacts from Johnston Farms

This shelter was 130 feet in length with a 25 to 30 foot overhang, one of the largest in the area. Later this site was inundated by the Soil Conservation reservoir, later called the Lincoln Reservoir.

Working in conjunction with Dr. C. R. McGimsey, Director of the University of Arkansas Museum and his staff, Joe Parks and Charles McNair had a year and a half to two years to excavate the site prior to reservoir flooding. As the result of this work, the artifact inventory included stone tools, both chipped and ground; bone tools; over 600 potsherds; and a few scattered human teeth and bones.

More specifically, the artifacts included small points (as differentiated from "dart points", are those which are attached to the arrowshaft and projected by a bow), dart points, knifes, scrapers, choppers, pottery, bone tools and pipes. The small points were of eighteen different types made of material of white, pinkish white, brown, and dark gray chert, all with delicate chipping. The dart points included Afton, Gary, Langtry, Williams, and possibly Kent and Travis points. The chert of the dart points were of the same variety and colors as the small points, with less delicate chipping. A few beautifully shaped knifes were found at the upper levels of the excavation. Over two hundred thumb-nail scrapers were found to a depth of nine inches. A few choppers were found. Both grit tempered and shell tempered pottery were found. It is suggested that these sherds have Osage affinities. The few very small bone tools are said to be indicative of the Osage. Two broken pipes, one made of clay and the other of stone, were found. A catlinite elbow pipe is probably historic or prehistoric.

One interesting find in the site was a portion of a post found upright at a depth of three and five-eighth inches below ground level. The top of the post appeared charred and burned. The bottom of the post reached a depth of thirteen and three-eighth inches. The theory is that the Indian occupants had erected a structure of some sort in this shelter. Evidence from a number of regional sites indicates this was probably a common practice in prehistoric times.

Another interesting feature was a probable fire hearth, the top of which was less than two inches below the vertical post. The hearth was built of carefully placed flat rocks approximately two inches thick. A layer of earth above the hearth was full of charcoal.

Crinoid beads were found at this site.

The pipe made of catlinite was the only catlinite artifact found in northwest Arkansas.

In summary, it would appear from artifact evidence that the bluff dwelling sites, now under the Lincoln Reservoir, were visited by small groups and hunting parties at irregular intervals from early in the Archaic or Hunting and Gathering Pattern through Late Prehistoric times. Some sites apparently were occupied on a seasonal or part-time basis during Woodland and Late Prehistoric times.

As late as the 1940's a number of mortars and mullers were found on the surface on the Johnston Farms (the old Barnes Farm) south of Moore's Creek and east of the base of the mountain, suggesting a number of Indian occupants of that area, perhaps a village. One mortar still in the possession of the author found on the surface of the Johnston Farms is a diamond-shaped stone four inches thick, 15 by 19 inches, with a concave area  $1^{1/2}$  inches deep. A number of mullers, approximately  $2^{1/2} \ge 4^{1/2} \ge 2$  inches, one as large as  $4^{1/2} \ge 3 \ge 1^{1/2}$  inches, were found on this farm. One chert artifact  $3 \ge 3 \ge 1^{1/2}$  inches has been found on the surface. In addition, innumerable surface artifacts were found on this farm in the early part of this century: double-bitted axes, points, darts, scrapers.

Also on the Johnston Farms, a chert outcropping adjacent to and south of Moore's Creek at the terminal slope and base of the mountain, a half a mile east of the Lincoln Reservoir and dam, may have served as one source of material for the chert tools and weapons made by the bluff dwellers and other Indian occupants.

# References

Abstract of Kelly Farm, Bill and Dorothy Kelly, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas

Dickson, Don R. Archeology of the Lincoln Reservoir, Northwest Arkansas Archaeology Society, Special Report No. 1, 1969, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Kappler, Charles J. Indian Treaties 1778–1883, International Publishing, Inc., New York, 1972, pp. 310–317

 Kauffman, Gene, NWAAS The Arkansas Amateur, Vol. 25, No. 2, February 1986, p. 4, Fayetteville, Arkansas

McNair, Charles W. A Report on the Moore's Creek Site, Arkansas Archaeological Society Newsletter 1 (10) Dec. 1960, pp. 8-15

Following the years of bluff dwellers in the Rhea area, the area was occupied by other Indians. Because of the lack of historical records, the specific chronology of the Indian occupancy is vague during this period. However, research shows a Choctaw Indian by the name of Stah-lubbee owned, among other lands, one hundred sixty acres, part of what later was the Rhea Farm, sometime between August 23, 1812, and until the white settlers arrived.

According to Court House records in Fayetteville (Choctaw Certificate No. 38B) the one hundred sixty acres owned by Stah-lubbee were later identified, after township surveys had been made, as:

Among other lands, the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Five in Township Fifteen North, Range Thirty Two West.

This forty acre tract is located at the base of the mountain just below and east of the dam of the Lincoln Reservoir.

As the result of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek in Mississippi, the Choctaw agreed to sell their lands and in exchange land was conveyed to the Choctaw Nation beginning near Fort Smith where the Arkansas boundary crosses the Arkansas River, running thence to the source of the Canadian fork, thence due south to the Red River, down the Red River to the west boundary of the Territory of Arkansas, thence north along the line to the beginning. This agreement was made in 1825, the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek being finalized on September 27, 1830. Apparently Stah-lubbee left the Rhea area between 1825 and 1830, in accordance with the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.

The United States Government adjudicated the claims of the Su-quak-untch-ala and other claims of the Choctaw Indians, where cases were left undetermined for the want of township maps. Joseph Holcomb, serving as assignee of Stah-lubbee, in handling the latter's register of land at Fayetteville, Arkansas, located the tract of land that belonged to Stah-lubbee. This information was obtained from the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek (Mississippi), Court House records in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and the abstract of the former Rhea Farm, now the Kelly Farm owned by Bill and Dorothy Kelly.

EARLY SETTLERS

Part of this section of the History of Rhea consists of stories about the earliest settlers, Marrs and Wagnon, but part cannot be verified by records today. This information was published in the LINCOLN LEADER in the spring and summer of 1969.

In 1817 Isaac and James Marrs accompanied by Thomas Wagnon came on a hunting and exploring trip into Northwest Arkansas. They explored the area where Rhea, Prairie Grove, Cane Hill and Lincoln are located, making a map of the streams, springs and mountains. Isaac Marrs was more concerned with the map than the others, as he said that he was going to settle some day near the spring located at what is now Rhea, and he located a spot on the creek (later called Marrs Creek) where he would build a saw mill.

They had very little difficulty with the Indians with whom Isaac Marrs and Thomas Wagnon were on friendly terms, but they had difficulty keeping James Marrs from trying to kill some of the Indians who were watching closely.

They found the physical features of the area quite different from what it is now, as there were large areas of prairie which are now covered with denser underbrush. They found the elevations and valleys were covered with a luxuriant growth of grasses which offered excellent pasture for buffalos and other herbivorous animals; panthers, bear, and wolves were plentiful.

Along Marrs Creek (now Moore's Creek), an area chosen by Isaac Marrs, he found some of the finest timber he had ever seen, some of the huge oaks being three to five feet in diameter. Also there were walnut trees three to four feet in diameter, hickory two to three feet in diameter and cedars two to three feet in diameter, tall and straight. The oaks were fifty to one hundred feet high, while the walnut and hickory were thirty to fifty feet in height, and the cedars ranged from forty to fifty feet.

When Isaac Marrs and Thomas Wagnon returned to the area around Rhea in 1827 they brought with them their families, slaves, and everything they needed to establish their new homes in a land where no other white man had lived. Isaac Marrs brought with him his wife and four children, two girls and two boys; six adult slaves, four males and two females; and five children ranging from three to twelve who were born of the adult slave couples. He brought his household furniture and equipment for the saw mill; this was all carried in four wagons pulled by oxen and driven by the male slaves. A fifth wagon pulled by oxen carried the rest of his slaves and their clothes and two barrels of flour and corn meal. A sixth wagon pulled by two black mares was driven by Marrs' wife and carried all his family, clothes and a large mirror type dresser which was entrusted to no one else, as it was a prized possession of Mrs. Marrs. Isaac Marrs rode a high stepping black stallion.

Thomas Wagnon brought his wife and their small son and daughter and everything they needed for their new home, including four adult slaves, one elderly man and woman, one couple in their thirties, and their two children.

Thomas Wagnon rode a big roan; his wife drove one wagon pulled by a pair of gray mares carrying their personal belongings and two small children. The adult slaves drove a team of oxen each, their wagon being loaded with a few pieces of furniture and food supplies. Behind each of these two wagons two milk cows were tied. Thomas Wagnon also had a two year old bull which was tied behind one of his wagons.

This wagon train composed of these two families left Tennessee in the spring of 1827. They traveled along the Arkansas River to where Van Buren is now located and turned north to Natural Dam, where they camped for two days. At the camp the livestock were permitted to graze and the wagon wheels were checked and greased. A feast was prepared by the woman slaves; they barbecued a deer killed by one of the slaves.

On the third day of May they broke camp and traveled northward camping near the location of Dutch Mills. The next day they camped at the head of Marrs Creek and on the fifth of May arrived at their destination.

After the arrival of Isaac Marrs and Thomas Wagnon, with their families, the first two weeks were very busy ones. Marrs started at once looking at a small dam on Marrs Creek and setting up his saw mill powered by water. Some of the rocks from this dam were still in place in the middle of the 1900's. This mill was built on Marrs Creek (presently called Moore's Creek), southwest of Rhea, where for years an old swimming hole was called Roundhole. (This creek was called Marrs Creek as late as 1884, according to Court House records in Fayetteville. The exact date the name was changed to Moore's Creek has not been determined.) Below it, about one hundred feet, was a hole of water named Elm Hole by Thomas Wagnon because of the large elm trees which grew along the banks.

As soon as they arrived in the area, Thomas Wagnon and his two male slaves plowed fifteen acres of ground with three oxen teams, and about ten acres for Isaac Marrs. Once this was done they proceeded to plant an acre of garden for each family and the rest of the acreage they planted in corn.

The Indians helped plant the corn. The Indians dropped two fish in each hill, which they said produced better corn. When Wagnon had planted the garden and corn, Marrs had the saw mill ready for operation. They started cutting logs to saw into lumber to build their homes.

On two occasions during the year of 1827 a battalion of soldiers was dispatched to remove Wagnon and Marrs from the land where they had settled, but on both instances they were rebuffed by Indian warriors, led by their chief Bowl, who informed them that the settlers were their friends.

Allegedly Bowl was fascinated with Isaac Marrs because he was the only white man who had ever treated him as an equal and could outride, outrun, outjump, shoot a bow and arrow, throw a tomahawk or hatchet and spear farther and with more accuracy than Bowl himself.

Thomas Wagnon was admired and liked by the Indians because of his willingness to learn their ways and he always made them welcome at his table, but he never became a hunter or a woodsman. Marrs could glide through the woods swifter than most Indians and would never be seen or heard; only Chief Bowl could equal him.

The above information was reported as part of a record of the journey of the Marrs and Wagnon families, a record reportedly in the possession of Joseph H. Gregory until his home burned early in the 1900's.

The writer has not found records to substantiate the above information. However, the fact the County Court House records show Moore's Creek was called Marrs Creek until the late 1800's indicates that the Marrs family were early residents along the creek in the Rhea area. It is recorded that the creek was officially known as Marrs Creek when the Illinois Township was formed in July 1829, according to the County Court House records, which specified the eastern edge of the Illinois Township extended east to the top of the ridge west of Marrs Creek. Marrs Hill Township met the Illinois Township line on the top of the ridge west of Marrs Creek, before the creek turns east. This line is more than a mile west of the Rhea settlement. The minute details indicate a record of the Marrs-Wagnon journey existed somewhere, and Thomas Wagnon's will probated in 1840 substantiates his ownership of slaves.

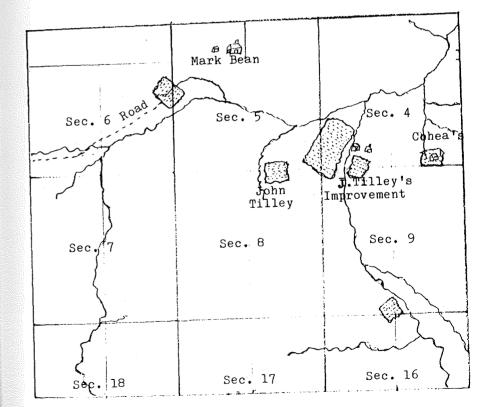
At the time the first land surveys were made in Washington County in 1832 there were four families with cleared fields and improvements who had previously built on land in what later became Rhea Township (Figure 2). Figure 2 shows the sections in the southern part of the township in 1832. There were no developed areas in the northern sections of the township until after 1834.

## Fig. 2

## TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH

# ORIGINAL FIELD NOTES OF WASHINGTON COUNTY 1832

#### Rhea Area



16

largest fields cleared in the community, fields which were south of Marrs Creek, partly on what later became known as the "Old Barnes Place." Today, part of the Tilley original fields are owned by the Ray, Rice, Johnston, Rainwater and Griffin families. County Court House records show John Tilley was the first to record land ownership in the community, on September 4, 1834. His cleared fields extended over a half a mile in sections 4, 5, and 8 in Township 15 W, Range 32 N. The location of his home was where Uncle Joe Gregory's home was located in later years. The original plat book has spelled Tilley's name as Tulley in one notation.

Mark Bean had a home built prior to the first land surveys on land that later became the Rhea settlement, being the first resident of "downtown" Rhea. To the southwest of Mark Bean's home and north of Marrs Creek was a cleared field shown on the plat map. The original county surveyors' field notes did not indicate who farmed the field, but Mark Bean may have owned the land, recording an eighty-acre tract in the same general area on November 8, 1836. However, just to the south of Mark Bean, Isaac Harrell recorded land ownership for eighty acres on November 12, 1834, in Section 6, therefore the pre-survey field may have belonged to the Harrell family even though no home was shown on the map at that location. This field was also in the area of Roundhole on Marrs Creek, where Isaac Marrs' first saw mill was operated. Therefore, the field may have been cleared by Isaac Marrs or Thomas Wagnon in 1827 (Figure 2).

Approximately one half a mile east of John Tilley's home there was an area cleared for a field and a home existing in the area of the spring (Figure 2), an area that later became part of the Wilson farm on the north side of the road. The original field notes of the county surveyor indicated that Coheas lived at that location in 1832. However, in the original land entries, David Walker is the owner of that forty acre tract in 1835.

There was a fourth area cleared for a field prior to 1832 at the southern edge of what became Section 9 in Rhea Township, about a mile south southeast of John Tilley. The original field notes, although indicating the existence of the cleared field, did not specify who farmed that land. The first person to record ownership of this tract was John Wooddy in 1834; therefore, he probably originally cleared the land for the field.

The major part of the valley area of the Rhea community was settled by pioneers between 1834 and 1840 as shown by Figure 3. The periphery of the community and the mountain land to the west was pioneered primarily in the 1850's, twenty years later along the

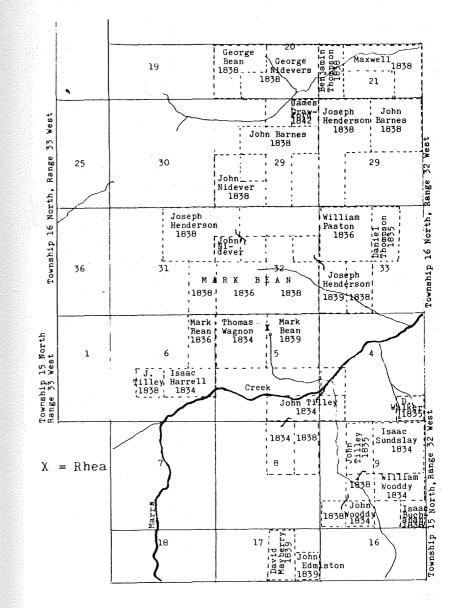


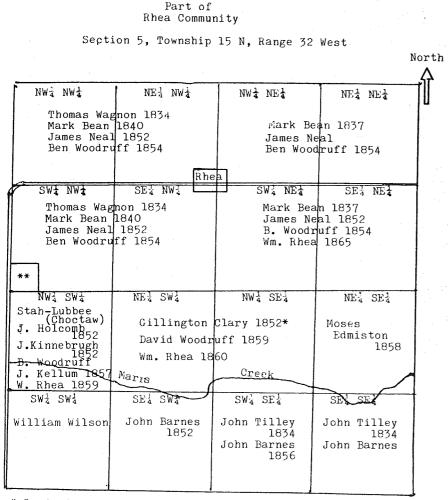
Fig. 3 Original Landowners, 1834-1840

road which became known as the Jackson Highway. The Rhea Township extends one half a mile west of and parallel to the Jackson Highway. During the years the peripheral land was being pioneered, land in the central part of the community was changing ownership as shown by Figure 4.

Fig. 4

EARLY LAND OWNERS

(Dates of Purchase)



\* Land given to G. Clary by U.S. for serving as a private in Captain Claris Company, Arkansas Volunteers Florida War.

\*\* 5 acres John Kinnebrugh 1851-1855.

Thomas Wagnon on August 20, 1838 obtained a patent from the United States for the Northwest Quarter of Section Five in Township 15 North, of Range 32 West, containing 159 acres and twentysix hundreds of an acre. This tract of land was located extending a quarter of a mile on each side of the present Rhea east-west road and beginning at the center of "downtown" Rhea (then nonexistent) and extending west one half a mile, the southern half eventually becoming the western half of the Rhea Place.

The Chancery Court Records of May 18, 1840 showed Thomas Wagnon's children to be Thomas Wagnon, Jr., Sarah Wagnon Curry, Matilda Wagnon, Polly Wagnon, John Wagnon, Marshall and Bazil Wagnon, and his wife was Elizabeth Wagnon.

Thomas Wagnon died without having given a deed to said land to Mark Bean, who acquired the Wagnon property by Court decree.

Thomas Wagnon, Sr., died at his residence in the Rhea area on January 29, 1838. In his will he "bequeathed to his son Thomas Wagnon, Jr., a negro boy named Peter about nine years of age, one horse to be worth sixty-five or seventy dollars, one half of grist mill and one half of my distillery, one half of my stable horse Red Rover, and a town lot in the town of Fayetteville." To his son Bazil Wagnon he left a negro boy named Henry about eleven or twelve years of age, the other half of his grist mill, the other half of his stable horse Red Rover, and one town lot in Favetteville. To his son Marshall Wagnon he gave a negro boy going on two years of age by the name of George, one mare and colt, one half of his stable horse Firetail, and one town lot in the town of Fayetteville. To his son John Wagnon he gave eighty acres of land where he was residing, five head of sheep, two cows and calves, the other half of his stable horse Firetail, and one town lot in the town of Favetteville. To his wife Elizabeth Wagnon he gave, for her natural life, three negroes: Roda a negro woman about forty years of age, Maniah a negro woman about thirty-five years of age, and Charity a negro girl about five years of age, which his wife Elizabeth was to have the use of until either one of his three daughters: Sarah Wagnon, Matilda Wagnon and Polly Wagnon, married; then the negro girl Charity was to be given to the first daughter to marry. The other two negroes Roda and Maniah with their increase were to be given to the other two daughters. He gave his farm where he resided to his wife Elizabeth along with the household and kitchen furniture. His daughters Sarah Wagnon, Matilda Wagnon and Polly Wagnon were each given one lot in Fayetteville.

Descendants (four great great grandsons) of Thomas and Elizabeth Wagnon today live in Washington County. Thomas Wagnon's son John had a son named Lance (wife Annie) who had a son named Garland (died 1960) and his wife Mrytle who he married in 1926, had four sons: David who lives in Farmington, E. G. who has a Prairie Grove address, L. D. and Richard who both live in Fayetteville. Another Wagnon descendant (Polly, daughter of Mallie and his wife Annie. Mallie was the son of John, son of Thomas) lives in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Beginning in the 1830's the Township of Rhea was known as Marrs Hill Township. After the first steam mill was built in the 1850's the settlement was called Valley Steam Mill. When the post office was established in 1867 it became known as Rhea's Mill. Later the name was shortened to Rhea.

Among other lands purchased from the United States, Mark Bean, on November 18, 1837 obtained the South Half of the North East Quarter of Section 5, Township 15 North, of Range 32 West, containing eighty acres. This land was located south of the Rhea Road, beginning at the center of Rhea town and extending east a half a mile. In 1840 Mark Bean acquired the Wagnon property to the west and northwest of Rhea town. Between 1834 and 1838 Mark Bean acquired 640 acres with an additional 160 acres acquired from Thomas Wagnon in 1840, making a total of 800 acres surrounding the area that later would become the Rhea settlement.

In 1852 Mark Bean sold all this property to his son-in-law, James P. Neal, for \$1.00, who in turn sold, with his wife Adeline Neal, to Benjamin E. Woodruff on February 1, 1854, along with his additional eighty acres north of the Rhea Road for \$3,000.00. Thus Ben Woodruff acquired all lands around Rhea, extending one half a mile east, one half a mile west, and a quarter of a mile south and a quarter of a mile north of the Rhea settlement, except for five acres owned by John Kinnebrugh, located one half mile west and one fourth mile south of the center of Rhea.

Between 1834 and 1838 John Tilley first acquired 120 acres in 1834 and added another 120 acres to his holdings in 1838, making a total of 240 acres southeast of Mark Bean's property and mostly south of the creek.

John Tilley and his wife Martha were both born in Virginia in 1772 and purchased from the United States of America on September 4, 1834, forty acres of land in Section 5, south of Marrs Creek (presently called Moore's Creek) just west of the now Wedington Road, and part now owned by the writer. John Tilley acquired other land adjacent to his original purchase, selling the property to John and Elizabeth Barnes in the 1850's, who owned the land until their deaths, when the land went to their descendants during the latter part of that century. The Harry Johnston family owned this farm from 1933 to 1978, retaining an acreage when they retired. The record book of original land entries at the County Clerk's Office in the Court House at Fayetteville shows all the land in the Rhea community had been purchased from the United States government between 1834 and 1882. Over the period of forty-eight years, there were seventy-two purchasers of the original land from the United States government, twenty-one during the early influx of pioneers in the 1830's, four in the 1840's, forty-four during the second influx of settlers in the 1850's and 1860's, with three last pioneers in the 1870's and 1880's.

## Original Land Purchasers 1830's

John Barnes	1838	William Paston	1836
George Bean	1838	Isaac Sundslay	1834
*Mark Bean	1836	Benjamin Thompson	1838
Isaac Buchanan	1838	Daniel Thompson	1835
John Edmiston	1839	Jefferson Tilley	1838
Isaac Harrell	1834	*John Tilley	1834
Joseph Henderson	1838	Thomas Wagnon	1834
David Mayberry	1839	David Walker	1834
Thomas Maxwell	1838	John Wooddy	1834
George Nidevers	1838	William Wooddy	1834
John Nidevers	1838	· · · · · ·	

\*Living in the community prior to 1832 (See Figure 2).

#### Original Land Purchasers 1840's

James Crawford	1842
Joel Sykes	1842
Elisha Tilly	1846
Martin Walker	1847

## Original Land Purchasers 1850's and 1860's

Jeriamiah Barnes	1858	Isaiah Manhollen	1859
John Barnes	1853	Alexander Marrs	1852
Solomon Burrow	1854-1859	Moses Marrs	1852
Gillington Clary	1852	Thomas Mathews	
Charles Cole	1854-1858	John Moore	1861
R. D. Crawford	1857	William Moore	1858
W. M. Crawford	1858	Price	1859
James Davis	1859	William Redman	1859
Francis Drake	1861	William Roadman	1851
Moses Edmiston	1850	James Sanford	1859

Henry Jones James C. Kellum	1858 1859 1854 1852 58–1859 1854 1859 51–1853 1858 1855 1850 1853	James Smith Wallis Thornberry John Tilly William Vandever Jamison Vice David Walker Andrew West John Wham John Wilson William Wilson Mary Womac Benjamin Woodruff	1854 1856 1855 1859 1859 1852 1851 1853–1858 1859 1856–1859 1860 1856
--------------------------------	--	--	--

Original Land Purchasers 1870's and 1880's

Henry Croach	1875
Robert Demert	1882
Andrew Eustis	1877

According to a former resident's statements, R. D. (Robert) Crawford was born in Tennessee in 1818 and left that state at the age of twelve with R. A. Henderson (1830), by whom he was employed. Henderson settled on land north of Rhea, consisting of 500 acres. A few years later R. D. married Henderson's daughter Eliza.

In the 1850 U.S. Census Robert D. Crawford is listed as age 28 (born 1822) from Tennessee; his wife is listed as Eliza age 24 (born 1826) with one son Lycurgus age 1 male. However, the 1860 Census shows Robert D. Crawford, a farmer, born in Tennessee in 1818 and his wife Louisa, age 36 (born 1824), had five children at the time of the census: Licurgus age 11 male, Leondias age 9 male, Sardina age 7 female, Colonia age 5 female, and Adolphus age 4 male.

Leondias Crawford retained the farm of Robert Crawford and his children were Mamie who married Felix Pridemore, Clyde who married Ola Hulet, Clifford who married Maude Dunagan (first wife) and Elzora Wassum (second wife), Frank who married Ethel Porner, Herbert who married Jewel Coun, J. T. who never married, Ina who married Bill Maxwell (five children: Gladys, Bonnie, Nell, Billy Ray and Ina Faye), Geneva who married Lester Mathews, Celia who married Melvin Ezell (one child Doris), and Vivian who married Mr. Porner.

Clifford and Maude had one child, Alpha Jean Crawford (Ward). Clyde and Ola Crawford had four children (Joe, Leon, Johnny and Donna Lee), remained on the original Crawford farm purchased by Robert Crawford in 1838, and their son Leon Crawford still operates the farm today (1986). The Crawford family is the only family in the community who has owned and operated the same family farm since it was originally purchased in the 1830's.

James Marrs, born in Kentucky in 1785, and his wife Isabella, born in North Carolina in 1796, lived in the Rhea area, Marrs Hill Township. The 1850 U.S. Census showed they had six children at that time: Mary age 21, Julia age 19, Lafayette age 16, Isabella age 14, Matilda, age 10 and Joel age 13, all born in Arkansas. When he was eighty-eight years old James Marrs filed a will. In his will dated September 1873 James Marrs' wife was Polly Ann (apparently his second wife), and his children were listed as Samuel L. Marrs, Squire B. Marrs, William Marrs, Moses W. Marrs, Julia E. Johnson, Isabella D. Holt, Matilda E. Marrs, Lafayette Marrs, Jeremiah R. Marrs, James Marrs, Elizabeth Crawford and Rebecca Carnahan, twelve children. Four grandchildren were listed as Mary I. Johnson, Lutecea Johnson, Sarah B. Holt, and Hannah Isabella Holt. His will was probated August 1, 1876, ninety-one years after he was born.

According to the 1850 U.S. Census, Solomon Burrow, from North Carolina, and his wife Milly from Tennessee lived in the Marrs Hill Township with their three children: John age 8 born in Tennessee, Sarah age 5 and Mary age 1, both born in Arkansas. Solomon Burrow, 1814–1889, is buried in the Rhea cemetery with his wife Anne Burrow, 1825–1876, apparently his second wife. Their children's birthplaces indicated the Burrow family came to the Rhea area between 1842 and 1845.

John P. Kellum, born in Arkansas in 1825, is listed in the 1850 U.S. Census as living in the area with his wife Mary Pierce Kellum, born in Arkansas in 1829. Their two children were Marget age 4 and Benjamin age 2 in 1850. Mary Pierce Kellum 1829–1857 is buried in the Rhea cemetery. John Kellum was one of the co-owners, along with Woodruff, of the original mill built adjacent to the spring in the Rhea settlement. According to property abstracts, the year after John Kellum's wife died he, as sole owner, sold the mill to William H. Rhea in 1858. John Kellum's second wife, at the time he sold the mill, was Sinea B. Kellum.

Thomas Maxwell, listed in the 1850 U.S. Census as age 40, born in Tennessee (1810), and his wife Serena age 38, born in Tennessee in 1812, had five children: William age 16, born in Tennessee; Bradford age 14, born in Tennessee; Frances age 12, born in Tennessee; Obonyon age 8, born in Missouri; and Martha age 3, born in Arkansas. This indicates the Maxwell family may have moved to the Rhea community between 1843 and 1847. William Maxwell and his wife had five children: Ethel Belle, Bobby, Bill, Jack and John. There were two major periods of land development in the Rhea community: first in the valley areas in the 1830's after the land was first surveyed, and then again in the 1850's when the remaining valley land was settled along with the land on the mountain, including along what is today the Jackson Highway.

Of the pioneers arriving in the Rhea community when the second major influx of land development occurred in the 1850's, the William Wilson family descendants in the community today and their ancestors have lived on the same farm continuously since the 1850's. In addition, the Tilley descendants (today the Buchanans), although not by the same family surname, lived on the same farm as their ancestors who arrived in the area in the 1850's. The Tilley pioneers on the Cloverdale farm were allegedly not related to the John Tilley who lived in the area prior to the original land surveys in 1832 and was the first to record land ownership in the Rhea community.

# References

Abstract, Johnston Property, D. Johnston, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas Johnston, Harold L., Rhea, Historical Column, series of articles in

the LINCOLN LEADER, spring and summer 1969 Maxwell, Ina, Consultations, Lincoln, Arkansas Original Land Entries, pp. 302–305, 318–322, 366, County Clerk's

Office, Court House, Fayetteville, Arkansas Township Plats, Field Notes of County Surveyor, William Clarkson, 1832, County Clerk's Office, Court House, Fayetteville, Ark.

U.S. Census, 1850, Marrs Hill Township, Washington County, Ark. U.S. Census, 1860, Marrs Hill Township, Washington County, Ark. Wagnon, Myrtle, Consultations, Fayetteville, Arkansas Wills, Thomas Wagnon, Book A–B, p. 15 and p. 122, County Clerk's

Office, Court House, Fayetteville, Arkansas

# NO THE MILL 21/2

No records exist which verify the construction date of the mill at Rhea. However, the mill was originally known as the Woodruff and Kellum mill which indicates they were the original owners when the mill was built.

Benjamin Woodruff first purchased the land where the mill was constructed in 1854. Therefore, in conjunction with John P. Kellum, Benjamin Woodruff constructed the first mill in this location after 1854. The steam mill lot has been described in land abstracts as follows:

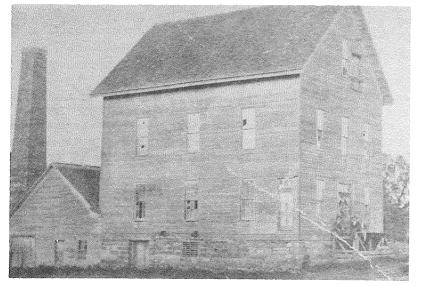
Bounded and described as beginning at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 5, running thence south three poles, thence east 14 poles, thence north 15 poles and  $12^{1/2}$  links, thence west 14 poles, thence south 12 poles and  $12^{1/2}$  links, to the place of beginning, 2 acres and 52 poles.

This lot was primarily on the north side of the Rhea road in the southeast part of the Rhea settlement, but also extending 49.5 feet south of the road.

On October 13, 1859, John P. Kellum and Sinia B. Kellum, his wife, sold to William H. Rhea for \$6,000.00 2 acres and 52 poles including the mill known as the Woodruff and Kellum Mill. On the same date Benjamin E. Woodruff sold to William H. Rhea for \$580.17 38 acres and 180<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> poles more or less adjacent to the Woodruff and Kellum Mill for the use and benefit of the steam mill.

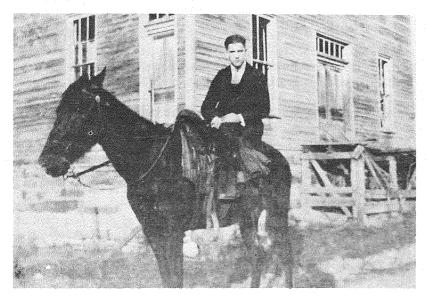
The mill was reported to be four stories high, including the basement. During the 1915–1930 period the old mill was used on rainy days by the local boys as a play area. All the machinery was left just like it had been when the owners quit operating the mill years before—the boiler engine and all the pulley drivelines, meal buhrs and flour buhrs.

It is reported the first mill was destroyed by fire during the Civil War after the Battle of Prairie Grove, but was rebuilt after the war by William Rhea. Other reports state Rhea only repaired and remodeled the mill, but did not rebuild it completely.



Rhea's Mill, Late 1800's

Courtesy of Washington County Historical Society



Powell Gregory at Rhea's Mill-1910

Courtesy of Marie Neal

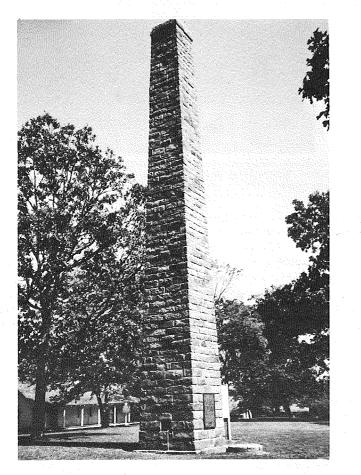


Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dyer and Grandsons, Wayne and Earl Faye at Rhea's Mill, circa  $1940\,$ 

Courtesy of Roberta Kennedy

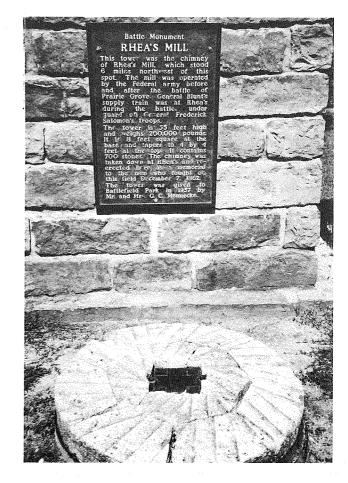
Water to operate the mill came from the spring, owned by Woodruff, by gravity flow, which was three hundred yards to the north of the mill. A rock settling basin was built where the pump could draw clear water into the boiler by pressure from the steam engine water pump. The engine was a reciprocating one with a fly-wheel about twelve feet in diameter, and the drive leather belt two feet wide. A large shaft extended from the engine room into the mill proper, where smaller drive shafts were operated by belts driven from the main shaft. These drive shafts extended up to the floors of the mill from the basement, where different pieces of equipment had separate shafts and belts that could be controlled by hand levers for each one to stop and start as desired. The mill ground both wheat and corn simultaneously and the flour that was sacked before it was refined was called Graham flour, now called whole wheat flour. The final product of refined flour and cornmeal was collected in large bins that had chutes for filling bags that were placed on flat scales where each bag was filled.

The chimney for the mill was made from local stone, each one cut to the proper dimension to give the proper taper. The chimney was 55 feet high, built of sandstone. The hard sandstones were quarried north of Rhea, about a mile or two, and were sledded to location by ox teams driven by James Snodgrass, E. Wassum and DeKalb Holt, according to the reports. The mortar used was clay and lime. The chimney was eight feet square at the bottom, narrowing to four feet at the top, using 700 fitted sandstone blocks. When the chimney was donated by Mr. and Mrs. George C. Mennecke, Sr., owners of the property in 1957, to the Prairie Grove Battlefield Park, where it stands today, it was found that the stones were so carefully cut that they fit together without mortar.



Rhea's Mill Chimney as Battle Monument in Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park 1986

After William H. Rhea returned to his home, allegedly from the Confederate army, after the close of the Civil War, he repaired and rebuilt the mill. In 1870 the mill was being operated eight to ten hours a day, grinding grain for customers as far away as the Indian Territory. By 1875 meal and whole wheat flour were ground and sold to retail stores. To meet the demand, the mill ran twelve to eighteen hours a day, with two shifts of men working, five on each shift. A five-man wood crew was working also, five to six hours a day to supply wood for the mill. For their pay the wood crew received twenty-five cents a day per man plus free flour and meal, and groceries from Rhea's store at wholesale prices. The men working in the mill were paid two dollars a day, receiving free flour and meal, also groceries at wholesale prices.



Mill Buhr at Base of Rhea's Mill Chimney Battle Monument, 1986

It is reported that Rhea had a stage line running through the town and this resulted in a population peak in 1880. It appeared that Rhea would become one of the largest towns in northwest Arkansas. There was a total of 1500 residents living in the community.

When the railroads came to northwest Arkansas in the 1880's, Rhea tried to be on the line from Fayetteville to Tahlequah, but money pulled it to the south and the population of Rhea began to dwindle.

With the coming of the railroad, flour and meal from the North and East were shipped in and could be sold cheaper, resulting in business at the mill dropping rapidly. By 1900 the mill at Rhea was operating four days a week. In 1907 mill operations were reduced to two days a week. After the mill closed about 1917, local residents hauled grain to Cincinnati to be ground into flour and meal.

Today the mill chimney stands in the Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, with one of the buhrs at its base, on the ground in front of the chimney. Inscription on the chimney reads:

#### Battle Monument RHEA'S MILL

This tower was the chimney of Rhea's Mill, which stood 6 miles northwest of this spot. The mill was operated by the Federal Army before and after the battle of Prairie Grove. General Blunt's supply train was at Rhea during the battle under guard of General Frederick Salomon's troops.

The tower is 55 feet high and weighs 200,000 pounds. It is 8 feet square at the base, and tapers to 4 by 4 feet at the top. It contains 700 stones. The chimney was taken down at Rhea and re-erected here as a memorial to the men who fought on this field December 7, 1862.

The tower was given to Battlefield Park in 1957 by Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Mennecke.

## References

Abstract, Bill Kelly, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas

Dyer, Clyde, Junction City, Oregon

Johnston, Harold L., Rhea, Historical Column, series of articles in the LINCOLN LEADER, spring and summer 1969

Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, Prairie Grove, Arkansas

# MANSION BUILDERS

There were three mansion builders in the Rhea community beginning in the mid 1850's: John Tilley, William H. Rhea, and William Wilson.

# Tilley House

The John Tilley House on the Rhea's Mill Road west of Prairie Grove and about two miles southeast of the Rhea settlement, was named to the National Register of Historic Places on November 3, 1978, and serves as the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Buchanan, descendants of John Tilley.

The Tilley House was constructed about 1855. In comparison with other parts of the state, this area of northwest Arkansas was well-populated in the mid-nineteenth century. The Tilley House is one of several antebellum homes constructed in Washington County; however, the Tilley House is one of the few early brick houses to be built in a rural section of the county.

Before building their brick house, John Tilley and his family lived in a one and one-half story log house. About 1854 they began construction of their brick home on a site just northeast of the log cabin. When the brick house was completed in 1855, a covered walkway connected it to the log house, which thereafter served as kitchen and dining room. In the 1890's the log house was torn down and a frame wing, housing a kitchen, dining room and additional bedrooms, was added to the rear of the house.

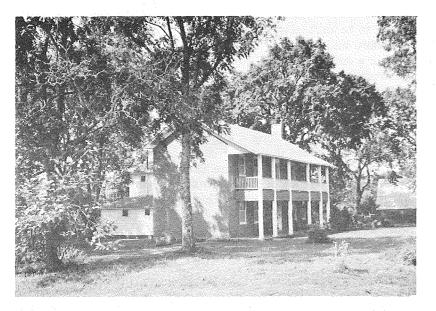
The brick house built by John Tilley was a two-story structure. Using bricks made about one-half mile southwest of the site, across a small creek, Tilley built walls which were sixteen inches thick on the first story and half that width on the second story. Plaster of lime, sand and hog hair, the latter to hold the plaster together, covered the interior walls and was done with an egg-shell finish. The tongue-and-groove floors, pegged doors and simple window frames, the latter four inches thick and fourteen inches wide, were all made from heart pine.

There are four wood-burning fireplaces, located on the outside walls.



Tilley House, Early 1900's

Courtesy of Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Office



Tilley House 1986

Originally, John Tilley built a four-room, two-story house, still on its original site, and built a central hall plan with one room on either side, each room twenty feet square with ten foot high ceilings.

When originally constructed, the house had no porch on its facade, with only a flat stone slab marking the uncovered entry. About 1880 a two-story porch was added across the facade. This porch featured a railing and decorative shingles at the second story line. In 1952 this Victorian era porch was removed and replaced with six square slender columns supporting the porch roof which projects from the front slope of the gable roof.

Sheltered by the two-story porch is a five-bay-wide facade. Flanking the center entries are paired windows with double hung sashes. The lower windows have flat arches with radiating voussoirs. The upper windows are shorter and are set in plain frames. Like the lower windows the main entry has a flat arch with radiating voussoirs. Sidelights above panels and a transom surround the single door entry. The second story entry, set in a simple wood frame, was originally a window but enlarged to accommodate a doorway when the first porch was added.

Stacks from the interior chimneys project above the ridge line at the east and west elevations of the house. The corbelling on the east chimney is still in place, but that on the west has been removed. Windows on the rear elevation match those on the facade. The only side window was added in the 1890's to the lower west elevation.

About 1890 the house was enlarged with a two-story frame addition on the west side of the rear elevation. This clapboard wing with gable roof houses the kitchen and dining room on the first floor and bedrooms on the second floor. This addition, which replaced the separate frame kitchen, gave the house an ell-shape floor plan. The one-story porch around the south and east elevations of the frame wing was enclosed in 1952. A small porch northwest of the addition was enclosed in 1970.

Projecting from the west elevation of the brick house is a small, shed-roof cellar entry. From this covered entry, steps lead downward to the dirt-floored cellar which lies beneath the west room. Dug by John Tilley, this cellar is original to the house.

The interior of the Tilley House is relatively simple with wide baseboards and plain moulding around doors and windows. The original plaster is still in place on the brick walls. Pine flooring is used throughout with eight-inch wide planks in the brick house and six-inch planks in the rear wing.

Some of the prized heirlooms today in the two-story nine-room dwelling include a chair dating back to 1853, hand-hewn beds which belonged to the first occupants, carpentry tools older than the house, an 1853 vintage secretary (writing desk), a baby cradle that served five generations of Tilleys and was used particularly during the Civil War, and a table and candle which is estimated to be 200 years old.

A native of Tennessee, John Tilley was a successful farmer in Arkansas, and by 1860 owned property valued at over twelve thousand dollars. The same year he estimated his personal estate to be worth almost sixteen thousand dollars.

The Civil War brought great upheaval to the Tilley family. The oldest son, John Tilley, Jr., enlisted in the Confederate Army and, according to one report was killed in the Battle of Prairie Grove in 1862, and according to another report was killed in the Battle of Pea Ridge. The Battle of Prairie Grove was considered to be a Union victory and led to the Federal occupation of northwest Arkansas, which resulted in John Tilley and his son Joe fleeing to Texas and remaining there during the Civil War. After the Civil War ended, but before he could return home, John Tilley died in Texas in 1865. The farm and house passed to his son, Joseph Tilley.

For a short time during the Civil War, Union troops camped near the Tilley farm, a few miles north of the farm where there was wood and water. During the Federal encampment the Tilley family braved harassment by bushwhackers, who eventually stole all the livestock on the farm. Nine children were living in the house during the war. A young black girl helped take care of the children, and an elderly black man helped with the chores.

During the war one incident involved two army privates who forced their way upstairs in the house, where they began spitting tobacco juice on the walls until it ran down to the lower floor. They defaced the beds with their muddy boots, daring anyone to challenge them. As the story goes, Mrs. Tilley became so angry that she rushed to the Federal encampment and returned with the commanding officer, who commenced to beat the soldiers out of the house with the broadside of his sabre.

Food was scarce during the union occupation, so the Tilley family devised a plan to hide their wheat crop in the attic to prevent the soldiers from confiscating it. The family removed the carpets from the downstairs floors and put them across the joists under the roof. The wheat was placed on the rugs for storing, and at night was sneaked out and taken to Rhea's Mill to be ground into flour.

Later several families joined together in the house, including the Capt. J. P. Carnahan family and Mrs. Pyeatte.

After the death of his father in Texas, Joe obtained a small sorrel pony in Texas and returned home when the war was over. He

managed to plant a small crop with the pony and an ox which had survived the war. Joseph Tilley lived and worked on the farm his entire lifetime.

A fourth generation of the Tilley family currently resides in the house built by John Tilley. John Buchanan, a grandson of Joseph Tilley, now owns and occupies the house.

This historic northwest Arkansas residence, architecturally important as an antebellum brick house, is significant as the home of one of the area's most prominent nineteenth century citizens. The Tilley House is an important historic landmark in the Rhea community area of Washington County, Arkansas.

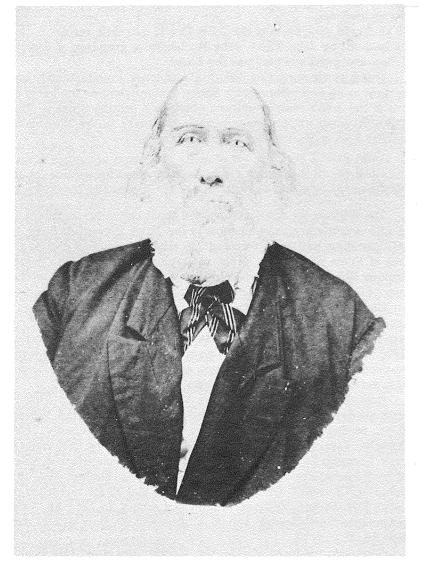
## Wilson House

The William Wilson house, located about two miles southeast of the Rhea settlement and adjacent to the Tilley Cloverdale farm, is still standing, built on a frame of 2x6 studding and 6x6 plates, all free of knots and cracks, every piece plumb and straight. Today, Rollans Wilson, grandson of William Wilson, occupies part of the rear of the house, which is a shell of its former stately appearance.

Construction of the house was begun in 1858. When the war started in 1861 the house was not quite completed. The building site for the two-story mansion was on a hill near a spring on the 2400 acre farm purchased by William Wilson. At one time the farm was considered to be in Viney Grove area, but today the Rhea Township extends beyond the Wilson farm.

According to William Wilson's "Day Book", a small leather journal, dated 1850–1854, corn was a major crop on the Wilson farm, producing 126 loads of corn in 1850. In February 1852 Preacher Farris was given a load of corn. Corn sold for 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents a sack. From his farm William Wilson sold corn, Irish potatoes, sides of beef, bacon, sheep, steers and beeves to Dent, Shelton, Newton, Johnson, Churchill, Dr. Burton (who paid \$20.00 for two loads of corn), Mrs. Strong, William Vaughn and others. In 1851 he "paid out to hirelings" Boswell \$50.00, Clifton \$24.00, Barr \$12.00 and Row \$8.00.

Fruit was produced also on the Wilson farm, the "Day Book" listing the apples as Prices Harvest, Golden Sweet, Rambo, Fall Tippin, Fall Greening, Rhode Island Greening, Esapus Spitzenburg, Red Pearmain, Seek-no-further, Belmont, Ox Hart, and Veiruty. Pears listed in the book were Le Beaumont from France, Secle and Columbia. An item indicated that the grafting was done by A. R. Baker of Painesville Lake County, Ohio, January 22, 1851.



William Wilson 1807-1886

Courtesy of Special Collections Department, David W. Mullins Library, University of Arkansas



Wilson Residence 1894 or 1895 Upper Porch: maid; Porch: Eliza, Albert, Hired Hand; Left by tree: Andrew; Right by tree: Nannie; On Rocking Horse: Rollans; Near Rocking Horse: Earle Cunningham Courtesy of William Wilson Collection, Special

Courtesy of William Wilson Collection, Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries

Immediately prior to the Civil War, William Wilson moved his family from Fayetteville to a temporary log house on the farm until the new house could be completed; however, the Civil War brought all building activity to a halt in Washington County. During the course of the war, the house was first occupied by Confederate soldiers and later by Federal troops. Although many houses were burned by the armies during the Civil War and although the Wilsons were Confederate sympathizers, the house was allowed to remain intact. The same circumstances applied to the Tilley house, located about half a mile south of the Wilson house.

The large downstairs rooms of the Wilson house were twentyfour by twenty-four feet with a large hall, with high (ten feet) ceilings typical of the old plantation homes of the south, which provided ample room for the elegant parties and dances of the period. Memorabilia include a square piano, William Wilson's old walnut desk, and rustic fireplace and pioneer utensils.

Charch 28, 1884. M Source arived at my plane, would To Teaching on Merceday, March 27 at The rate of 400% person either party at like it, Ir quitat any time, and sittle for The Time he teached at The above rates More Dilson

#### REPRODUCED FROM THE HOLDINGS OF THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT DAVID W. MULLINS LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

Excerpt from William Wilson's "Day Book", dated 1850-1854

According to the family Bible, William Wilson was born Sept. 2, 1807, in Georgia, and he died December 6, 1886, in Washington County. He married Eliza J. B. McCulloh around 1830 in Georgia, and she died Aug. 5, 1893. They had thirteen children. William and Eliza Wilson were buried side by side in the field southeast of the old mansion, handsome monuments marking their resting place.

William Wilson came to Washington County from Little Rock, where he had acquired considerable land holdings.

When the Civil War began in 1861, two of the Wilson sons enlisted in the Confederate Army and one joined the Union side.

Although William Wilson was prosperous prior to the Civil War, old records reveal that he lost his slaves, his money, and other personal possessions, but he retained his land during the Reconstruction period. His declining bank account during the early war years apparently was the result of the depressed economic situation of that period. Correspondence from his banker, Dr. Roderick L. Dodge of Little Rock, depicted William Wilson's worsening financial status, which plummeted from \$17,805 in 1859 to \$114 in 1860, \$25 in 1861 and \$44 in 1862. Mr. Wilson did not stay with his family on the farm during the Civil War.

Mail addressed to the Wilson farm during the war was marked Union Valley, Washington County, Arkansas.

William Wilson regained much of his antebellum prosperity before his death in 1886.

# Rhea House

In 1859 William H. Rhea began building his home, located in the Rhea settlement, a home that has been remodeled and today is owned and occupied by the Bill Kelly family.

Apparently the house must have been built in two stages with the back part of the house built first, because that section of the house is lower than the front of the house. Also, lead and plaster are used in front, boards in the back. At one time, the house burned before the Civil War.

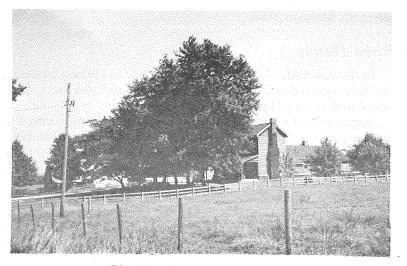
The Rhea mansion was spacious with eight rooms in the twostory house, with two back porches, not enclosed, the style of the times. Later, a columned verandah extended across the front of the house on both the first and second floors, with a banister on the second floor.

Rocks for the foundation were chiseled reportedly by slaves, and the oak framework was fastened together with wooden pins. When



Rhea Residence, Early 1900's

Courtesy of Ruth Holt Payne



Rhea Residence (Kelly Home 1986)

Bill Kelly remodeled the house he found the oak framework joints had been fitted together compactly, dovetailed fashion, with hand forged bolts, with holes drilled and wooden pegs driven in, the farther the pegs driven, the tighter the pegs fastened the framework together.

The Rhea house had eight rooms, which the Kellys have retained. Upstairs there are two bedrooms and a small storage room. Downstairs there are two bedrooms, a piano room (when owned by the Rheas) which has been remodeled into a bath and walk-in closet (at one time someone stored oats in this room), a hallway, French doors which led off to two porches, living room, kitchen, back-toback fireplaces one in the living room and the other in the kitchen, and a pantry. When the house was remodeled by the Kellys the two porches were enclosed into part of the house at the back.

Old weatherboarding indicated that, at one time, there was a dog trot in the house.

Early in the first part of this century the Rhea house was white with green shutters.

Ceilings in the entrance are twelve feet high, in the living room and what is now the den twelve feet high, downstairs bedrooms ten feet, upstairs bedrooms nine feet, and back rooms eight feet high. All the doors in the upstairs bedrooms had glass transoms above the doors, with a rod that ran down beside the door to open the glass for ventilation without opening the doors.

Upstairs there is a flue opening, a smoke passage in a chimney, in both bedrooms for wood burning heaters. There is also a flue in the kitchen for wood burning stoves.

When the house was remodeled and the upstairs and downstairs front porches removed, it was found that the upper decking had a solid floor of peened tin, little indentions in it in strips and folded over to prevent the wood from rotting.

When the porches were removed, there was a full one inch by twelve inch rough cut pine board found, and after the board was removed, it was discovered, written in long hand with a carpenter pencil the name "Brigham Young." Research by the Mormons at Fayetteville showed sometime prior to the Civil War Brigham Young was in Missouri on business.

Also, when remodeling, Bill Kelly found a carpenter's scribe, an old wooden tool used in the 1800's to make marks on boards before cutting boards. The wooden tool fell to the ground with the boards when Bill Kelly was tearing off decorative corners on the framework of the house. According to all accounts, William H. Rhea was a dynamic, energetic man with leadership qualities. He not only owned and directed the operation of his farm, mercantile store and steam mill in the Rhea's Mill community, but also owned stores in Cincinnati and Wedington. The center of this pioneer merchant's activities, however, was in the Rhea community for twenty-five years from 1859 until his death in 1884, when his wife Elizabeth and their sons continued operation of the Rhea mercantile store, the mill and the farm.

William H. Rhea first bought one hundred forty acres including the mill in the Rhea community in 1859, began building his mansion, and moved his family to his new home across the road and adjacent to the mill. He immediately built a large mercantile store which he operated, beginning in 1859. The first record of Rhea's business at Rhea's Mill was on July 1, 1859 when W. H. Rhea sold \$223.00 worth of merchandise to Thomas and Hale. Also, in 1859 Rhea set up D. W. Woodruff in business by selling him \$2,660.00 worth of goods on commission.

The Rhea mansion, completed just prior to the Civil War, set in a grove of cedars, was occupied by Elizabeth Rhea and her children when the Northern Army confiscated the mill for about a month before, during and after the Battle of Prairie Grove in 1862. William Rhea did not remain at Rhea between 1862 and 1865, but joined the Confederate Army and returned after the end of the Civil War to resume his business operations at Rhea's Mill.

William H. Rhea, the oldest son of Pleasant Vincent Rhea and Fannie B. White Rhea, was born in Lincoln County, Tennessee, in 1825 and came with his parents to Washington County, Arkansas in 1830. Pleasant V. Rhea, who followed the occupation of blacksmith and also taught school, had seven children: three sons and four daughters. Pleasant V. Rhea is reported as the first mayor of Fayetteville. He died at the age of 61 and is buried in the old cemetery at Rhea.

William H. Rhea first learned the blacksmith trade from his father, then, at the age of 24 he opened a small grocery in Maysville, Arkansas. Later, he moved to Cincinnati, established a store, and married Elizabeth Cornelia Powell, the daughter of Dr. Samuel Powell. This union resulted in the birth of ten children, five sons and five daughters: Emma C. Rhea born March 9, 1855; Alice J. Rhea born August 18, 1856 died 1941; William B. Rhea born March 10, 1858; Samuel V. Rhea born January 20, 1860 died 1919; Robert J. Rhea born October 15, 1862 died 1913; Catherine Rhea born November 19, 1863 died November 3, 1864; Joseph Rhea born May 12, 1865 died September 4, 1865; Fannie E. Rhea born October 1, 1866 died 1890; Sarah Ann (Sallie) Rhea born September 20, 1868; and Walker C. Rhea born October 30, 1871.

William B. Rhea married Almeda M. Stevens in 1879; Emma C. Rhea married William C. Stone September 6, 1882, whose daughters were Alice Amanda Stone (daughter Marcheita Snapp of Garland, Texas), Frances Rhea Stone and Malnina Blanche Stone; Robert J. Rhea married Myrtie McClelland; Sarah Ann Rhea married J. H. McIlroy June 5, 1889; Fannie E. Rhea married Will Turpering; and Walker C. Rhea married Lucy J. McMulhin October 1892.

According to reports, Walker Rhea was the last of the Rhea family to operate the Rhea Store in the 1920's, later moving to Lincoln and then in 1928 to California. Walker remained in California a short time, then returned to Lincoln to open a produce store. In later years he returned to California where he spent the remainder of his life. Walker's children were Frances who married Noel Eugene King (children Robert Eugene, Harold and Donald); Nell who married Oscar Jetts (children Jack and Janette); James who had one son (James William who married Barbara Hignett and who live in Boulder City, Nevada); Earl who married Lillian Hargrove whose children are Jack Rhea of Modesto, California and Don Rhea of Bullhead City, Arizona.

## References

- Allen, Eric, Old Rhea Mansion Stands as Memorial to Role Community Played in Civil War, NORTHEAST ARKANSAS TIMES, December 1965
- Goodspeed, Washington Section of Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison Crawford, Franklin and Sebastian Counties Arkansas History, Goodspeed Publishing Company 1889
- Kelly, Bill, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas
- McConnell, Lloyd, The Colony at Union Valley, *Flashback*, November 1976, pp. 7-8, Washington County Historical Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- McIlroy Papers, Special Collections Department, David W. Mullin Library, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

National Register of Historic Places Inventory, United States Department of the Interior, November 3, 1978

Rhea, Don, Bullhead City, Arizona

Rhea, James, Boulder City, Nevada

Snapp, Marcheita, Garland, Texas

Tilley House Put on National Register, NORTHEAST ARKANSAS TIMES, December 19, 1978

Wiedower, Julie, National Coordinating Director, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Little Rock, Arkansas

William Wilson Papers, Special Collections Department, David W. Mullins Library, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas Campbell's, One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, p. 104.

# CIVIL WAR HAPPENINGS 2

During the Civil War both the Confederate army and the Union army utilized Rhea's Mill, which played a leading role in the path of the marching armies in Arkansas.

The papers of Mrs. Mertye McIlroy Bagby (deceased) show two receipts written and signed by her grandfather, William H. Rhea, for wheat milled at Rhea's Mill for the Confederate army. The papers read as follows:

Confederate States Octr 8th 1862

to David Walker Dr.

To 2808 pounds or  $46^{1/2}$  bushels wheat at \$1.50c delivered at Rhea's Mill (See Recpt) \$69.75

(Endorsed on back: Walker. C States Wheat Acct)

Valley Mills, Arks Oct 8/62 D. Walker Esqr Dear Sir

Your wheat weighed 2808 lbs 60 lbs to the Bu. We send the bal of — due you out of the 3754 Bu. 985 lbs Flour 263 lbs you recd before. I send 166 Bu Bran.

The money is ready for all wheat dl.

Respectfully

W. H. Rhea

(Endorsed on back: Confederate States, Rhea's Receipt. Addressed: D. Walker at Home.)

Although the transaction is not clear, it shows that David Walker was representing the Confederate army in 1862 and having flour ground at Rhea's Mill. This was just a month before James G. Blunt's Federal army seized the mill at Rhea.

The receipt shows that "Valley Mills" was the name of Rhea's Mill at that time.

During November 1862 General Frederick Salomon, of the Federal Army, and his troops took over Rhea's Mill to supply meal and flour for General Blunt's Army in Northwest Arkansas. The ammunition and supply trains of General Blunt's Federal Army in November and December of 1862 were stationed at Rhea's Mill, six miles northwest of Prairie Grove. They were under the protection of General Salomon's regiment of Wisconsin troops during the battle of Prairie Grove.

On December 5, 1862 Col. Harrison left Elkhorn (Mo.) with eight companies of his regiment and a train of twenty wagons, moved to join General Blunt, then at Cane Hill. On the night of December 6th the detachment camped at Prairie Grove, ten miles south of Fayetteville. During the night, orders were received from General Blunt for the detachment to move at daybreak and join General Salomon near Rhea's Mill.

On Sunday, December 7, 1862 the Battle of Prairie Grove occurred. During the battle Mrs. W. H. Rhea allegedly climbed to the top of the mill's chimney, fifty-five feet high, watching the smoke and dust from the battle. After the battle the Federal Army returned to Rhea's Mill and continued to occupy the area for thirty days.

Following the battle of Prairie Grove, injured troops and horses were returned to Rhea's Mill. A number of the horses died and were left on the Rhea farm, with the stench permeating the air throughout the Rhea settlement, from the some one hundred dead horses.

On the Rhea farm, west of the mansion, was a second house, which was used as a hospital by the Federal Army after the battle of Prairie Grove. Soldiers were said to be buried in the vicinity. Apparently this was a stone house as indicated by an item in the Rhea 1859–1862 ledger, which reads that W. H. Rhea billed the Federal government "for occupation of stone house for 30 days, \$30" in 1862. Local residents later referred to the house as the hospital house, which served in later years, after 1900, as a Rhea rent house. One former Rhea resident stated "some folks said there were black spots on the floor of this house and were thought to be blood spots of the soldiers who were injured. Some folks who lived in it afterwards thought it was haunted. The man who lived across the road, George Gibson (everyone called him Dad Gibson) was quite a prankster. After he died no one ever talked of ghosts any more."

During the thirty-day occupation of Rhea's Mill, the Federal troops ground into flour and corn meal at the mill the wheat and corn that had been confiscated, killed hogs and turkeys belonging to the Rhea family, occupied the store house as Commissary, burned fence rails and lumber for fuel, confiscated three head of horses, killed a work ox, used a second Rhea house as a hospital for injured soldiers, and used 2,000 feet of lumber for horse trough lumber. In addition, they trampled the orchards, destroying trees.

One of the old account books kept by W. H. Rhea, pioneer merchant of Rhea's Mill, contains an itemized list of the losses he sustained during the occupation of Rhea's Mill by the Federal troops before and after the battle of Prairie Grove. It is not known whether Rhea billed the Federal government after the war, but is probable that he did, since the account of his losses is in the old ledger. There is no notation that the government reimbursed Rhea for his losses. The old account books are now a part of the McIlroy papers in the Special Collections Department, David W. Mullins Library, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas. The following is an itemized list of the William Rhea losses:

#### November 1862 Rhea's Mill

Detachment 1st and 2d Indian Regiment-200 menunder command of Lieut. Robb-camped on my premises, using the following:

5000 lbs. Flour at 5	250.00
Corn meal, 2000 lbs. at 2	40.00
Pork killed, 2000 lbs. at 5	100.00
Rails for fuel, 2 cords	
2 Turkeys	2.00
1 Man's Saddle	
Burning house\$250.00	674.00
Team to haul to Cincinnati and driver	7.50

Returned next day under command of Col. W. A. Phillips detachment of Indians and Howitzers. Run the mill day and night. Took away

8000 lbs. Flour at 5 ..... 400.00 Killed 30 head Hogs, 4000 lbs. at 200.00 ... 600.00

On the morning of the 28 November the Army of the Frontier under Gen. J. G. Blunt came by my place, killed

40 Head Hogs, 2000 lbs. at 5 ..... 100.00

After December 7, 1862, Gen. James G. Blunt with his whole Division fell back to my premises and used:

100 Bu. Wheat at 1.50	150.00
25 Bu. shelled Corn	25.00

48

Used Mill 30 days	600.00
Occupied store house as	
Commissary 30 days	805.00

Left on premises dead horses, some 100 which stagnated the air and caused or exposed my family to an epidemic:

	500.00
Used 200 Bu. Corn	200.00
Used 1000 Bu. Bran at 20	200.00
Took 2 Log Chains	15.00
Took 2 pr. G—ans	10.00
Walnut lumber 200 ft6.00	931.00

In the fall of '63 detachment of 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry took:

3 head Horses worth 150 each 450.00
20 Bu. Corn
\$7622.00
Killed 50 Head Hogs, 2500 lbs 125.00
Used for the Battery horse trough 3000 ft
of Lumber at 2 60.00
Burned Lumber, 2000 at 2 40.00
Burned 200 cord Rails and Wood 600.00
One Work Ox killed 30.00
Burned Orchards and destroyed Trees 200.00
6221.50

They returned the next day, one Brigade under Gen. Salomon, took up quarters on my premises, killed Hogs and Chickens, used Forage.

100 Head hogs, 5000 lbs	250.00
200 Bu. Corn at \$1	200.00
1000 Bu. Bran at 20 cents	200.00
10 Cord Rails at 3	680.00
1	1961.50

One hundred troops were said to have been sent from Ft. Gibson to guard Rhea's Mill at one time during the war as it was important to the subsistence of the army. The armies took so much food it is said Mrs. Rhea cut holes in the floor of her house and hid enough food for her own family.

According to Marcheita Snapp of Garland, Texas, great granddaughter of William H. and Elizabeth Rhea, "in 1865 at the Battle of Pea Ridge painted Indians from Oklahoma marched by Rhea, on their way to the Battle of Pea Ridge, fighting for the Confederate Army. Later, they came running back through Rhea with the Northern soldiers after them shooting at the Indians. One Indian, when he was shot, fell across a well and laid there for three days. One night the Indians came back from Oklahoma and got the body, taking it away. Mrs. W. H. Rhea told her children not to look out the windows while all these events were occurring, but drew the curtains. The children, however, looked through the curtains and saw what was happening."

The following is a letter to Lieutenant Colonel Bishop, Acting Adjutant General of Arkansas. This letter will give an indication of Washington County life during 1864 and 1865:

# Fayetteville, Ark. December 23, 1864

#### Colonel:

I write this as a simple memorandum to guide you in your entreaties for the suffering women and children of Northwest Arkansas. There are thousand of old men, women and children left here yet. You know their condition. I have from time to time worked to assist and protect them. Since you left I have established, at their request, post colonies at Rhea's Mills, Engle's Mill, Bentonville, Pea Ridge, Elm Springs and Huntsville and am about to organize others at Mudtown, Mount Comfort, Oxford, Bend, Riceland, McGuire's, Middle Fork, West Fork, and Hog Eye.

The plan is (1) 50 men capable of bearing arms, unite and ask to be organized into a home guard company, and permission to settle on a large track of abandoned land, which is all in one body.

(2) They are organized, armed, and move their families to the place.

(3) They build a block house or small fort in the best point on the land (selected by me).

(4) They sign articles agreeing to be loyal to the United States, authorized to abide by the laws and orders from the nearest military post; the laws and present condition of Arkansas; the proclamation of the President, etc.; and are all mustered in as a home guard.

They also agree to parcel out the land by vote, giving each one all he wants to cultivate, but to have nothing in common, except defense and obedience to law. Thus all persons within ten miles of these settlements are expected to enroll their names and belong to them, and none but rebels have so far objected.

Six of the settlements have made such progress that each will raise large quantities of corn next season, and the Union Valley settlement has agreed to deliver one thousand tons of hay next season if needed.

Bentonville and Elm Springs are filling with people who have moved in. Winningham is going to settle Mudtown with 50 Arkansas families returned from Missouri.

All this is no chimera, it is half accomplished now, and the other companies are forming and will be at work in ten days. Some of the forts are nearly done. The refugees have nearly all left this place and gone to the colonies.

Yours for Arkansas,

M. La Rue Harrison, Colonel First Ark. Cavalry

The Union Valley settlement mentioned in this letter was the Wilson farm in the Rhea's Mill community, so designated by Joseph R. Rutherford of Benton County. The activity mentioned in this letter continued until 1866, when the Federal Government ordered all lands to be returned to the rightful owners.

Washington County, a border county between the North and the South, was occupied many times by troops from both armies, and was overrun with bands of guerrillas, deserters and other nonsoldiers who preyed on the families of the area, driving off livestock, stealing supplies and even taking lives if it suited their purpose.

Late in the war, the colonel commanding at Fayetteville, M. La-Rue Harrison, appointed Joseph R. Rutherford, who was a citizen of Benton County, as Captain and Enrolling Officer to enlist a Company of Independent Volunteers, from the vicinity of Cincinnati and southwest Washington County to provide food and safety to the inhabitants. Capt. Rutherford raised the company and took possession of the William Wilson home. Soldiers erected huge log bins in which to store the feed which would be doled out to the needy citizens of the community.

The Wilson family lived in the temporary log house while the new home was being constructed and they remained there during the war. Mr. Wilson did not stay with the family. The General Orders and the letters authorizing the establishment of the Colony at the Wilson farm were as follows:

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 49

HEADQUARTERS GROUP AT Fayetteville, Arkansas Mch 23d, 1864

JOSEPH R. RUTHERFORD of Benton County, Arkansas, is hereby appointed an Enrolling Officer for the Southwest portion of this county, and in the vicinity of Cincinnati, to raise a Company of Independent Volunteers to be guided and governed by the provisions of Genl. Order No. 7, Headquarters Ark. Vol.

Has. AllisonBy Order of M. LaRue Harrison,1st Lt. & Actg AdjtCol. Commdg.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 6

HEADQUARTERS POST Fayetteville, Arkansas

Mch 14 1865

The wearing by citizens of clothing of the collars commonly known as Butternut, having been the cause of much trouble and danger to the people of Northwest Arkansas, on account of its resemblance to the uniform of the rebel army of the Trans-Mississippi Dept., and to the garb of the guerrillas who infest the country;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby recommended to all citizens, and especially to members of the Post Colonies, that their coats, overcoats, and pants worn by such persons be colored blue, and that the garb of the bushwhacker and the rebel soldier be discontinued in all ways possible.

> BY ORDER OF COL. HARRISON, George A. Purdy, Liet. & Post Adjt

CAPT. J. R. RUTHERFORD Commdg. at Union Valley HEADQUARTERS POST Fayetteville, Ark. April 14, 1865

#### CAPT:

Your note of the 13th inst. is just at hand. In reply I am directed to inform you that rations will be here for issue by the 17th inst. Commissary is entirely empty at present.

The firing you heard is in honor of Genl. Lee's surrender. His whole army now our prisoners. Genl. Forrest has also surrendered with his whole command, some 15,000 or 20,000 men. It is reported this morning that the Rebel Jos. Johnson has surrendered his whole army. The grandest attempt at a nation's destruction, you see, is a complete failure, having by bitter experience learned the sad consequences of Civil War.

We today fire 200 guns in honor of this long hoped for event, the termination of this Rebellion. But a few days will elapse before all Confederate armies will cease to exist. We may be troubled for some time by the guerrillas, but the time is not far distant when we can return to our homes with safety, and beat our swords into plow shares, and our spears into pruning hooks.

God hasten the time when war and rumors of war shall be heard no more over the length and breadth of our once beautiful country is the prayer of

> Your obedient Servt George A. Purdy, Lieut. & Post Adjt.

#### HEADQUARTERS POST OF Fayetteville, Ark. Office of Provost Marshall April 21, 1865

#### SIR:

You will give to each of the following parties, viz; William Caven, A. Peevyhouse, Washington Barnes, John Wilson, and Will Nell the order addressed to each, and see that the parties report to this office at the time fixed, unless it should be impossible for them to do so.

If there are any other parties at the Colony who would be material witnesses for the prosecution, you will also send them here at the same time.

> Yours Respy William L. Woodbridge, Lieut. & Provost Marshall

Capt. Joseph Rutherford Union Valley Washington Co. Ark.

#### CAPT:

The large roll contains the names of those men who have taken

the oath of allegiance. You will please have them sign it. Also fill up, as they report to you, the column of description.

So fast, or as soon as those who have been parolled, or who left their arms at home, and did not take the oath wish to do so, you will please add their names to the list. They who have left or did have their arms at home, must deliver up to you their arms before their names can go on this list.

I have retained the names of such as had once taken the oath and will make a special plea to the President in their cases, and will forward you the result as soon as heard from.

> Respt. George A. Purdy, Lt. & Post Adjt.

## CERTIFICATE OF MEN WHO HAVE TAKEN THE OATH

P.S. Please have some of your men give them the following certificate. I am too busy to write them, and our printed blanks are all gone, viz:

A..... B....., having taken the oath of allegiance to the U.S. Govt. June ..., 1865, can remain at home unmolested by the Federal authorities.

Fayetteville, Ark. June 13, 1865

#### Names of Men Parolled:

T. Battie William Smith W. D. Parks W. J. Isgrig James Smith T. M. Jenkins Benson Knox W. P. Farley John Harroll T. F. Edmonson E. P. Cunningham John Ford Samuel Smith Mathew Smith

By Order of Col. Harrison

Geo. A. Purdy, Lt. & Post Actg. Adit.

List of Officers Parolled:

Capt. A. C. Beattie3rd Lieut. Calvin C. Clark1st Lieut. A. M. Rich2nd Lieut. F. M. Jenkins2nd Lieut. H. Moore3rd Lieut. F. M. Jenkins

Arms left at home by Beattie's men:

Clint Howell, J. W. Burgiss, J. G. Blake, J. M. Crawford, James Elams, Jacob Littrell, Enoch Ford, Lafayette Howell and Edward Elems. 15.

16.

## Joseph R. Rutherford, Overseer of

William G. Huchinson 1.  $\mathbf{2}$ . 3. 4. M. D. L. Mitchell 5. Hugh Snodgrass 6. John Snodgrass 7. George W. Cantrell 8. 9. William Kounts 10. Jesse Kounts Mort Wilson 11. 12. James L. Bell 13. Paris Bell 14. Frances M. Rutherford

John Rutherford

Thomas W. Norwood

J. F. Owen
 E. J. Wilson
 John Farley

17. Edward England

- 20. John Falle
- 21. Joel Farley
- 22. Edward Draige
- 23. N. F. Pass
- 24. John Norwood
- 25. W. J. Sisk 2 hands
- 26. James Odle
- 27. L. Farley
- 28. Franklin Farley
  - Farley 2 hands
- 30. James Abbott

29.

- 31. Richard Wassum
- 32. Andrew Mathews

Given under my hand this 10th day of March 1866

J. Dienat, Jr.

Mary Cantrell, widow, 2 females over 16, 3 children under 16 Elizabeth Mathews, widow, 1 female over 16, 4 children under 16 Manerva Shanon, 1 female over 16, 5 children under 16 Nancy McCulpen, widow, 3 persons over 16, 2 under 16 Margaret Copeland, widow

- J. R. Davis, 1 male over 16, 1 child under 16
- Loid Jankins, 1 male over 16, 2 females over 16, 3 sons in the rebel army
- Marry Maberry, widow, 1 over 16, 1 under 16, 1 son in the rebel army
- James Jordan, 3 persons over 16, 3 under 16
- Louisa West, widow, 1 child over 16, 3 under 16
- Jacob Armstrong, 2 persons over 16, 7 under 16
- Nancy A. Moor, widow, 3 persons over 16, 3 under 16
- Mary Witchell, widow, 2 persons over 16, 6 children under 16
- Lenora P. Robinson, widow, 2 persons over 16, 3 under 16, \$4.00 in cash
- Elizabeth Womac, widow
- James Yeager, 2 persons over 16, 2 under 16, 2 sons in the rebel army
- M. W. Marrs, 2 persons over 16, 1 under 16
- Eliza Crisp, widow, 4 persons over 16, 4 under 16 Ashley Houston, 5 over 16, 5 under 16

Tempey Marrs, 2 persons over 16, 1 under 16, husband in rebel army J. A. Marrs, 2 over 16, 2 under 16 Gabrilla Stone, 5 persons over 16, husband gone north Sue Carnahan, 1 over 16, 3 under 16 Poston Barclay, 4 persons over 16, 1 under 16, \$10,00 in cash William Cantrell, 3 persons over 16, 5 under 16 Rebecca Mathews, widow, 2 persons over 16 Sarah Crigg, 1 over 16, 1 under 16, husband gone south Matilda Elms, widow, 2 over 16, 5 under 16 Jane Pyeatt, widow, 2 over 16, 3 under 16 Wiley Lively, 6 persons over 16, 5 under 16, 50 cents in cash Fanny Snodgrass, widow, 1 over 16, 6 under 16 W. S. Craley, 2 over 16, 6 under 16, 6 bushels corn M. B. Graham, 2 over 16, 7 under 16, \$6.50 in cash Warren Wallace, 2 over 16, 4 under 16, \$75,25 cash

I certify the above number of members of my Colony are now destitute, both of money and provisions, and need assistance to prevent starvation.

J. R. Rutherford, Capt. Comdg. Co. A. Washington County, Ark. Home Guards

Apparently the Honorable Capt. Joseph R. Rutherford declined to give up the two-story home belonging to William Wilson after peace had been declared. On July 25, 1865, a letter was written to him by Lafayette Gregg, a noted Fayetteville jurist, as witness the following:

> Fayetteville, Arkansas July 25, 1865

Mr. Joseph R. Rutherford Late Capt. Union Valley Colony

#### Dear Sir:

Mr. William Wilson, the owner of the lands upon which you now live and on which the house is situated in which I am told you have a store, has been here today to see me in reference to his property rights, and to employ me, if necessary, to demand for him what the laws of our land guarantees to him, which as an attorney I would of course do.

You know the Govt. has declared the war at an end. (Congress passed an Act that all officers who voluntarily served in the army until the close of the war should be paid 3 months extra. A month ago the authorities recognized the war as over and paid us the extra pay.) Peace being declared, every man, Rebel or not, if entitled to the oath to amnesty, has a right to the possession of his property, and the laws are now in force, but a few days since the Sheriff put a merchant out. Mr. S. K. Stone, by virtue of a Civil Writ sued out by Mr. Stone.

I have thus written you at length before commencing the suit because I suppose if you are satisfied that you cannot hold the property, you will give it up without a suit, rather than pay the costs of a suit. Whether we feel that such property as that occupied by you ought to be now turned over to its former occupant or not, the government has seen fit to grant them certain rights, and all good citizens must and will submit to the law.

If you are not satisfied as to his right to have the property now, come up and see me and Col. Harrison, and I think you will see the necessity of giving up the premises to Mr. Wilson. We will take all necessary pains to show you the law, and I have no doubt Col. H. will advise you that you cannot expect to longer have any valid claim to possession there upon military authority. The military has once more given place to the Civil powers to settle all questions of property where a citizen is concerned.

I am, Capt., most respfy

### Your obedt Servt Lafayette Gregg

Records do not show when Mr. William Wilson received his property from Capt. Rutherford. He did get his property back from the Government. He received something else very important from the President of the United States.

### ANDREW JOHNSON President of the United States of America

To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come-Greetings:

WHEREAS William Wilson, of Washington County, Arkansas by taking part in the late rebellion against the Government of the United States, has made himself liable to heavy pains and penalties, and, WHEREAS, the circumstances of his case render him a proper object of Executive Clemency:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN That I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States of America, in consideration of the promises, divers other good and sufficient reasons me thereunto moving, do hereby grant to the said William Wilson, a full pardon and amnesty for all offences by him committed, arising from participation, direct or indirect, in said rebellion, conditioned as follows:

- 1st. This pardon to be of no effect until the said William Wilson shall take the oath prescribed in the Proclamation of the President, dated May 29th, 1865.
- 2nd. To be void and of no effect if the said William Wilson shall hereafter, at any time, make use of slave labor, or acquire any property in slaves.
- 3rd. That the said William Wilson first pay all costs which may have accrued in any proceedings instituted, or pending against his person or property, before the date of the acceptance of this warrant.
- 4th. The said William Wilson shall not, by virtue of this warrant, claim any property or the proceeds of any property that has been sold by the order, judgment or decree of a Court under the confiscation laws of the United States.
- 5th. That the said William Wilson shall notify the Secretary of State in writing that he has received and has accepted the foregoing pardon.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this twenty-sixth day of May, A.D. 1865, and of the Independence of the United States the Ninetieth.

> By the President Andrew Johnson

William Seward Secretary of State

The Wilson family home, now more than one hundred years old, stands on a knoll facing the road that runs between Prairie Grove and Rhea. Once an imposing landmark with front porch and portico, the porches are now gone, and it is unpainted. Below it is a large spring, still flowing as it did in the days when the military was in possession. The lands owned by the Wilson families were passed to the sons and daughter, and by them to the grandchildren, two of whom still remain on the original homestead: Rollans, a lifelong resident of the home, and Caswell, who lives in a modern house near the road.

In a field back of the home, a small cemetery contains the graves of Mr. and Mrs. William Wilson. Nearby are graves of their former slaves, who chose to remain on the lands with their former owners after they were freed.

Charlie, who was born a Wilson slave, in his late years moved to Prairie Grove where he did many chores around the homes and stores. He had the respect of all those with whom he came in contact.

## References

- *Flashback*, Washington County Historical Society, March 1958, p. 36, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- Flashback, Washington County Historical Society, Vol. XII, No. 4, December 1962, p. 16, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- Flashback, Washington County Historical Society, Vol. 24, No. 3, August 1974, pp. 40, 44, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- McConnell, Lloyd, *Flashback*, Washington County Historical Society, February 1978, p. 18, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- McConnell, Lloyd, The Colony at Union Valley, *Flashback*, Washington County Historical Society, November 1976, pp. 7–15, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- McIlroy Papers, Special Collections Department, David W. Mullins Library, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- Washington County Section of Goodspeed's Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin and Sebastian Counties Arkansas History, Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889, Reprinted by J. Roger Huff, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, 1978, p. 269

# POST OFFICE AND MAIL ROUTES

The first known name of the community was Valley Mills, as indicated by a letter dated October 8, 1862 from W. H. Rhea to David Walker, Confederate States.

Seventeen years before the Lincoln post office was established and the same year the post office was opened at Prairie Grove the post office was established at Rhea on July 1, 1867, designating the town as Rhea's Mill. Later, the name was changed again to Rhea, and continued by that name until the post office was closed in 1963. Currently, both names, Rhea's Mill and Rhea, are used to refer to the community. Although official records and maps identify the settlement as Rhea, the popular name is Rhea's Mill.

Rhea's Mill post office, established in 1867 and located in Section 5, Township 15 North, Range 32 West, was one of the longer lasting small post offices, continuing until 1963 with no closings. In 1906 Wedington post office was discontinued and that area was added to the Rhea's Mill postal service.

During the ninety-six years the post office was in operation, the post masters and the years of their appointments were as follows:

Hugo C. Botefuhr	1867
William H. Rhea	1874
William C. Sone	1886
James H. McIlroy	1889
Clifford Boles	1890
Walker C. Rhea	1893
Lemuel D. Wooddy	1894
David M. Cushing	1897
Willis A. Clouse	1900
Walker C. Rhea	1904
James T. Edmiston	1905
Daniel Branchcomb	1905
Robert A. Barnes	1909
James T. Edmiston	1912

Frank J. Matthews 1916 1921 Henry F. Bowers 1926 Clvde R. Sharrock 1931 Laura D. Sharrock Henry F. Bowers 1932 Sam S. Maxwell 1932 Maude L. Maxwell 1933 Gavle R. Johnson 1935 1938 **Dola Matthews** 1940 William Lester Beavers 1940 **Roberta Beavers** 1943 Ethel G. Smythe 1944 **Roberta Beavers** 

There was no rural delivery in the 1800's. Mail was carried from town to town by a "mail hack" which also transported passengers. The passenger service practice, usually charging twenty-five cents per passenger, continued in Washington County until after World War II in the 1940's. The Star mail route from Lincoln to Rhea began in 1905, according to Ruth Holt Payne, who believes the first carrier was Alfred Hossmun, who drove a two-wheel cart. The duties of a mail carrier in those days included errands for their patrons such as "trading eggs for groceries" in town. Two rural routes were established about the same time, in 1905, with Frank Allen and Tom Edmiston as the carriers. Allie Pasley and Clem Bunnell served as carriers in the next decade.

Samuel P. Holt succeeded Alfred Hossmun as carrier on the Lincoln-Rhea Star route in 1914, but Mr. Holt's wife carried the mail throughout the two terms until 1922, assisted by two daughters on occasion. Mrs. Holt began in an open, one-horse basket buggy at a salary of \$25.00 per month. Four years later, during World War I, she advanced to a topped buggy using a team of ponies, with a salary of \$50.00 per month.

The only means the carriers had to avoid freezing in the winter was to keep a lighted lantern, hot bricks, or a stone jug of hot water at their feet, under a lap robe, and wear as many coats, caps and scarves as they could wear. Sometime swollen creeks would prevent a carrier from crossing, there being no bridges, causing a long waiting period until the stream ran down to the larger rivers.

Otto Parker became the carrier in 1922 and served in that capacity for twelve years, until 1934.

The Rhea post office was closed in 1963 due to lack of customers, when the postmaster, Roberta Beavers, at that time was serving only three boxes. After the Rhea post office was discontinued, the Rhea area was served by the Lincoln postal service, although the southern part of Rhea township continued to be on the rural route of the Prairie Grove postal service as it had been since early in the century.

## References

- Baker, Russell P., Washington County Post Offices, Flashback, May 1986, pp. 34–40, Washington County Historical Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- Payne, Ruth Holt, Delivering the Mail in the West County Area, Flashback, February 1978, pp. 35-36, Washington County Historical Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- Payne, Ruth Holt, Rhea Valley: Once a Booming Trade Center; Time Took its Toll, LINCOLN LEADER, November 30, 1967
- Payne, Ruth Holt, The Town the World Passed By, *Flashback*, January 1964, p. 22, Washington County Historical Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas

# RHEA MERCANTILE STORE

The William Rhea store in the Rhea community was a general mercantile store, selling groceries, clothing, hardware, books, trees, lumber, coffins, whiskey, and anything the customers wanted to buy.

The operations of William Rhea's general mercantile business in the years immediately preceding and following the Civil War are recorded in large account books kept by W. H. Rhea of Rhea's Mill. Two of these books, once the property of W. H. Rhea's granddaughter, Mrs. Mertye McIlroy Bagby, cover the years from 1858 to 1868. There are no entries for the years 1863–1865. Federal troops occupied northwest Arkansas during those years and it was impossible for a merchant to replenish his stock or carry on his business. These two books are now a part of the McIlroy Papers, Special Collections Department, David W. Mullins Library, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas. A similar book labelled Day Book No. 1 was a record book kept by William Rhea at his store in Rhea's Mill from 1868–1870. This record book is now owned by Frank Holt, Lincoln, Arkansas.

W. H. Rhea bought most of his merchandise from commission agents in Van Buren, which meant the goods had to be hauled over the mountains from the steamboat landing at Van Buren. He was also a heavy purchaser from St. Louis firms who shipped via rail to Tipton, Missouri, and overland from there. He also bought directly, usually specialties, from firms in New York and Philadelphia.

Some of the firms from whom William H. Rhea bought his merchandise are as follows:

1860	Cronin, Hurxthal & Sears, New York (dry goods)
1860	C. Harkness & Son, Philadelphia (clothing)
1860	R. Keller & Co., Neosho, Mo. (hardware)

- 1860 T. Grimsley, St. Louis (harness)
- 1860 Child, Pratt, Fox & Co., St. Louis (hardware-\$211)

1860 1860	Brownlee, Homer & Co., St. Louis (dry goods—\$836) Toomer & Kimbrough, St. Louis (clothing—\$757)
March 1860	Pittman Bros. & Co., St. Louis (dry goods-\$222)
March 1860	Child, Pratt & Fox, St. Louis (hardware–\$442)
Apr. 16, 1860	G. W. Ball & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio (household uten- sils)
Apr. 16, 1860	Sterling, Stansberry & Co., St. Louis (bells-\$22.60)
•	This order included 2 dozen sheep bells @ 25¢ each,
	2 dozen horse bells at $33$ ¢ each, and 1 dozen ox bells at $66$ ¢ each.
Apr. 30, 1860	Dr. D. Jayne & Son, Philadelphia (drugs)
May 4, 1860	Charles Blow & Co., St. Louis, (paints and brushes-\$200)
1860	Sterling, Stanberry & Co., St. Louis (saddles and harness-\$750)
Jun. 21, 1860	Parker, Russell & Co., St. Louis (coffee and soda- \$161)
Sept. 1860	G. Austin, Van Buren (chewing tobacco-\$182)
1861	Dr. Steel, Elm Springs (on commission), (pills \$14)
May 21, 1861	Geo. E. White, Van Buren (dry goods-\$390)
May 22, 1861	J. Williams & Co., Van Buren (dry goods-\$111)
May 23, 1861	M. Greenwood, Van Buren (groceries-\$102)

William Rhea shipped merchandise for his store from Van Buren, Gerome and L. Piney. In October, November and December 1868 he paid \$612.02 for freight and hauling, with payments made to J. D. West, R. M. Divin, William Pasley, the Edmistons, and William Wilson for hauling.



William Rhea's "Day Book No. 1" Rhea Store 1868-1870

64

The record book labelled Day Book No. 1, Rhea's Mill, Washington County, Arkansas, 1868–1870 was a journal kept by William Rhea, a journal in which there were 248 different names recorded. The spelling of the names herein are as they appeared in the Day Book. The greatest number of families with the same surname were as follows:

Crawford	9	Holt	5
West	9	Buchanan	4
Marrs	8	Divin	4
Johnson	6	Edmiston	4
Wilson	5	Moore	4
Cheatham	5	Pyeatte	4
Maberry	5	-	

The Rhea store Day Book No. 1 shows 145 names recorded as customers in 1868, with William Wilson the major customer, purchasing a total of \$930.94 in that year.

In addition to his retail mercantile business, W. H. Rhea acted as a jobber and sold wholesale to other country storekeepers or on commission. He had an arrangement with Dr. Steel of Elm Springs for the sale of pills and pain killers on commission.

An interesting entry in one book shows that Mrs. Wooddy paid 1 sow and 5 pigs to settle her \$16 account in July 1868.

An unusual name appearing in the journal in 1868 was Shot Gun Long. "Old Man Denton" was apparently an elderly resident, as was "Uncle" George Gibson who bought merchandise from the Rhea Store in Rhea.

Merchandise sold at the Rhea store between 1868 and 1870 were horses, mules, cows, calves, wagons, harness, saddles, lumber, tools, garden seeds, school books and supplies, household merchandise, including dishes, pots and pan, stoves, blankets, wash boards and tubs, homemade soap and furniture, alcoholic beverages, cordials, wines and sarsaparilla, clothing, medicine, food items, sewing and fabrics, and farming needs such as scythes, cradles, and plows.

The 248 names of the Rhea Store customers indicate the residents in and around the Rhea community after the Civil War were:

Tom Allen Walt Asher A. Barnes R. W. Barnes Mrs. John Barker Alx Beatie

e

Frank Beatie Lewis Beddell Alex Black R. H. Blackborn Arch Borden Henry Bowyer

S. G. Bowman William Brice Mrs. Elizabeth Buchanan Thomas Buchanan John Buchanan Marcus Buchanan George Buck Capt. Bunch Henry (Hank) Bunnell James Bunnell Mrs. Ellen Bunow Old Man Burkure E. G. Burlingame John P. Burrow Solomon Burrow J. S. Butner Wm. Bryas Jef Cabe T. J. Cabe G. S. Cargill H. P. Carnahan Wm. Cheatham M. Cheatham Lafayette Cheatham Mrs. Mary Cheatham Thomas Cheatham D. B. Chillis George Cleveland W. B. Click Gib Cohea John Cohea Joel Cherry Cohea Lewis Collins George Collins John M. Cox G. Billy Crawford Mrs. Harriet Crawford J. M. Crawford Kerg Crawford Licargus Crawford M. Crawford P. L. Crawford **Robert Crawford** William Crawford

Alex Davidson Old Man Denton George Dickerson Elbert Divin James Divin R. M. Divin R. M. Dixon Wm. Donalson George Eddleman Andrew (Andy) Edmiston George Edmiston John Edmiston Nealy Edmiston Jonathan Elms Sol Farley W. F. Farley W. D. Ferguson W. S. Ferguson Robert F. Flatt C. D. Friedel E. W. Fulgum Uncle George Gibson Edward E. Gilenwater Wesley Godard Young Man Godard Mrs. Gordon of Prairie Grove B. W. Gordon Thomas Gordon Nathaniel Guthery Anderson Hartley Mrs. Hartley Wilson Hefner A. Henbest Wm. Henbest Julius (Jule) Henderson Wm. Henson Austin Hicks **Dudley** Hinds L. Higgins P.G.W. Higgins Phil Higgins Mrs. Sarah Hix Mrs. Anna Holt Ben Holt

**DeKalb** Holt Jack Holt Mrs. Jane Holt W. I. Hudson Wm. Huntsucker J. C. Ingram Wm. Irvin, the Mail Cont. A. H. Jackson T. J. Jackson Lame Jackson J. James Alex Johnson Chatman Johnson J. B. Johnson J. A. Johnson Kindred Johnson Marshal Johnson Mrs. Mary Jones J. A. Jordon Jessee Jordon Wm. Keller James S. Kelley Mrs. S. Kelley Samuel D. King Johny Knight John Lightfoot Shelt Literell A. J. Lissenbee Shot Gun Long Wm. H. Looper L. G. Lucus Uncle Wash Lyon John McCulhan Isaac McPherson Uncle McPherson's Step Son Mrs. McDuff David Maberry Jessie Maberry John Maberry Old Lady Maberry Jacob (Jake) Maberry Benj. Mackey John P. Mans Mrs. Wm. Mans (Widow)

Dan Marky Mrs. Alex. Marrs Mrs. Abbe Marrs Capt. Sam Marrs Isaac Marrs James Marrs John Marrs White Alx Marrs Mrs. Wm. Marrs David R. Mathews John Maxwell Uncle Billy Merriman Wm. Merriman John Mock David Moon J. J. Moonyhans John D. Moore H. Moore Wm. Moore Mrs. Moore J. H. Mounts Wm. Neal John Nichols Nix on the Mountain Samuel Nix Silas Norwood Tom Pasley Wm. Pasley Wm. Patton S. D. Pate Mrs. Amanda Pearce John Pyeatt Widow Pyeatt Wm. Pveatt Ely Pyeatt John Polston C. W. Raines - teacher Wm. Ray R. P. Reed Sam Reed Kate Rhea John G. Rhea Bud Rich Mr. Roark

Hugh Rodgers Frank Rogers Wm. Rogers Mose Rollins W. E. Rosser J. H. Sanders Mrs. Sharp Ren D. Shaw Lewis Shiner Mrs. Francis Shook Mrs. P. Sisk John Smith S. K. Smith Mrs. Boling Smith T. Smith Wesley Spence P. W. Stoker S. D. Tate Mrs. A. Taylor A. S. Taylor S. Taylor Mrs. Martha Tilley Joseph Tiley Thomas John Turner Wm. Vandever **Thomas Walter** Wm. Walters J. S. Washam

W. M. Watson John Webb Cafe West **Crafford West** Emily West A.T. West Edward West J. D. West James West **Robert West** T. R. West Mrs. E. Wham Thomas Whited H. L. White Mrs. Wilkerson T. J. Wilkins W. R. Wilkins Williams on the mountain Mike Wilson Swamp Wilson Henry Wilson James Wilson Wm. Wilson John Wine **R.** Whortenbury Lem Wooddy Mrs. M. Wooddy Ben E. Woodruff F. M. Woodruff

The Day Book No. 1, dated July 1868 to January 1870 reveals a number of interesting facts. For example, a cigar smoker in the community in 1868 was Samuel D. King.

In the summer of 1868 there seemed to be illness in the George Buck family, when he bought a bottle of Ayers Pectoral on June 25, a bottle of expectorant on July 5, and quinine on August 29.

Quinine buyers, usually in the summer (August and September) were William Wilson, George Buck, James West, J. D. Powell, H. L. White, D. K. Holt, and William Rhea.

Families with violin musicians in the community were W. F. Farley, Frank Rogers, J. J. Henderson, and C. F. Rogers who purchased violin strings for 15¢ each in the summers of 1868 and 1869.

W. B. Click shot a deer and sold the deer skin at the Rhea Store for 75¢ on July 31, 1868.

68

Edward West was given \$13.75 credit for gold on August 18, 1868, and P. W. Stoker on March 18, 1869 "left gold to redeem" and credited with \$10.00 (page 92 Day Book No. 1).

Mrs. M. Wooddy sewed shirts and pants for William Rhea, being paid \$1.50 to make a pair of pants and .75 per shirt. The frequency with which she purchased fabrics, thread, etc., indicated she was probably a seamstress for other customers in the community. She was either a widow with two children (Lem and Ella) or her husband was indisposed.

Apparently Henry Bowyer bought clothes for his family for Christmas: on December 23 and 24 he purchased three pairs of socks \$1.40, 1 hose .75, three pairs shoes \$8.50, hat, ladies shoes \$5.25, 2 ladies belts \$1.00, 4 yards velvet ribbon .25, 1 head net .75, and white silk gloves .75.

On August 12, 1969 Col. William Wilson bought:

1 doz. knifes and forks	\$6.50
1 doz. cups and saucers	2.50
1 doz. plates	2.50
2 large dishes	3.00
2 gravy dishes	1.50

One customer's purchases included four pounds of sugar, pills, and coal oil. It was the practice to put a few drops of coal oil on sugar as medicine for a sore throat.

On May 29, 1869 Mrs. Anne Holt bought three quarts of castor oil for .75. On August 10th W. W. Walter bought a gallon of castor oil for \$1.00.

One item in the Day Book stated "County Script: W. W. Brownlee \$5.00, April 3, 1869."

For guns, a customer would buy 3 lbs. shot .75, 1 bar lead .10, and 1 lb. powder .60.

Many overcoats, wool hats, wool socks and shawls were sold in November 1869. On December 24 Licurgus Crawford bought 1 cas. coat \$11.00 and 1 vest \$3.50. On December 24 William Donalson purchased one pair Cadimer pants \$5.00; George Edmiston bought a fur hat \$4.50; and Robert Flatt bought a pair of boots \$7.50 and one dressed deer skin \$1.75.

Boots were big sellers in November and December; chopping axes were active in January as well as sole leather. There was active buying of boys' and girls' shoes in August as well as medicine, apple peelers, sole leather and girls' hats.

William Irvin, "the mail cont." bought 15 pounds of feathers for \$7.50 on May 4, 1868.

A number of items such as nails, bolts, white lead, oil, cast steel, slab steel, bar iron, bull tongues, horse rasp and file were entered in Day Book No. 1 during 1869, sold to Rhea and Maberry, indicating Rhea and Maberry were in business together.

Horse shoes and nails were popular items, as were coffee, soda and tobacco.

On December 25, 1868 J. D. Powell purchased 1 Barlow knife 35¢, 1 toy watch 20¢, 2 toy bugles 30¢, and two white handkerchiefs 50¢, apparently Christmas presents for his family.

Gib Cohea killed numerous deer in 1868, selling  $74^{1/2}$  lbs. of deer skins on December 30, 1868 for \$18.37.

In November and December salt was purchased by the bushel (\$2.00) or half bushel, indicating meat was being cured for the winter.

One practice at the Rhea Store in Rhea was for a customer to leave money with William Rhea in the amount owed to someone else, including on notes. For example, Lem Wooddy amount paid harvest hands \$15.00 June 15th. W. H. Rhea merchandise paid harvest hands \$18.00. William Wilson purchases included "order Black Man" (apparently Wilson's former slave) \$5.00.

### Household Items

The following household items were sold at the Rhea Store:

Castile Soap	.10	3 Iron Table Spoons	.25
$1/_2$ Doz. Candles	.40	Lamp	1.00
Linen Duster	2.00	Dipper	.25
1 lb. Starch	.35	Shaving Kit	2.75
Broom	.50	Chamber Pot	.50
41 Window Glass	4.10	Pitcher	1.00
Well Bucket	1.75	Bowl	.55
Box Concentrated Lye	.35	Mug	.20
Whortle Berries	.37	Satchel	1.00
County Scrip	1.80	Coal Oil & Wick	.40
Cradle	4.00	Lamp Chimney	.25
Wash Board	.75	2 Sets Plates, Cups	
Water Bucket	.50	and Saucers	3.75
2 Seamless Sacks	1.60	Sole Leather	.75
1 Bu. Measure	1.25	Scissors	.75
1 Set Knifes & Forks	2.75	Sieve	.50
10 Wash Balls	.25	Pie Pan	.15
1 Bible	2.00	12 lbs. Homemade Soap	1.20
Album	2.00	Cook Stove	44.00

Tin Cup	.25	2 Bed Blankets	20.00
Wash Tub	1.75	Set of Chairs	5.00
2 oz. Indigo	.40	Coffee Boiler	1.25
Apple Peeler	1.50	Wood Bucket	.50
Blacking Brush	.30	1 Bu. Coal	.50
2 Pans	.80	Bob Halls Hair Remover	1.00
Churn	2.50	Paint Brush	.50
Barlow Knife	.25	Brass Kettle	3.00
1/2 Gal. Coal Oil	.60	Jews Harp	.05
2 Bu. Stone Coal	1.00	6 Glass Tumblers	.75
1 Pr Govt Blankets	7.50	1 Fan	.30
Shoe Lasts and Leather	1.25	1 Palm Leaf Fan	.10
12 Gal. Stoneware	3.60	1 Joint Stove Pipe	.50
Coffee Mill	1.00	8 lbs. Sole Leather	4.00
1 Bot. Varnish	.50	1 Hymn Book	1.00
5 Damaged Tumblers	.30	Gib Cohea	
Box Lye	.35	Table Linens	1.12
Oven and Lid	2.75	Pr. Blankets	8.00
Cream Taster	.38	Stove, Wm. Pasley	30.00
Tea Kettle	1.25	Dining Table	9.00
Pad Lock	1.25	Cook Stove,	
Wash Basin	.65	Walter Asher	28.00
1 Bar Soap	.20	Meat Cutter	3.50
Looking Glass	1.25	Syringe	.50

### **Beverages**

Alcoholic, cordial or wine imbibers, sometimes only at Christmas, were William Wilson, J. A. Jordon, Larkin Wilson, Mrs. Maberry, W. E. Rosser, W. I. Hudson, J. D. Powell, D. K. Holt, G. S. Cargill, S. Burrow, John Edmiston, R. M. Divin, William Donalson, William Rogers, Crafford West, W. R. Wooddy, Asberry Jordon, C. West, M. Rollins, and Swamp Wilson.

Sarsaparilla consumers in the summer of 1869 were Edward West, J. A. Jordon, Gib Cohea and William Wilson. Sarsaparilla was made from dried roots of the sarsaparilla plant and used as a flavoring for a sweetened beverage similar to root beer with the predominant flavor from birch oil and sassafras.

The different types of beverages sold at the Rhea Store in 1868 and 1869 were:

1 Bot. Bourbon	1.00	1 Bot. McLean's Cordial	1.50
1 Bot. Whiskey	1.25	1 Bot. Ox Morrow	.75

1 Bot. Port Wine	1.50	1 Ayers Sarsaparilla	1.25
1 Bot. Wine	.10	1 Bulls Sarsaparilla	1.25
1 Bot. Grape Wine	1.50	1 Vial Antimo Wine	.15

It is interesting to note that when certain customers bought a bottle of bourbon, they also bought a vial of peppermint.

### Clothing

Clothing purchases consisted primarily of shoes and hats. The following examples are clothing sold at the Rhea Store in Rhea between July 1868 and January 1870:

Child's Hose	.40	Linen Handkerchief	.75
Hoop Skirt	1.00	1 Pr. Suspenders	.80
1 Pr. Boots	6.00	Belt	.75
1 Pr. Janes Pants	3.00	Buckle	.25
Boy's Hat	1.50	Ladies Goat Shoes	3.50
1 Paper Collar	.10	Wool Hat	2.00
Straw Hat	.75	Back Comb	.50
1 Pr. Hose	.40	Ladies Shoes	3.00
Bun Braid	.10	Brogands	2.50
Ladies Hat	2.00	Hat and Collars	5.25
Overshirt	1.60	1 Pr. Goggles	.40
Comb	.10	Shawl	4.00
Alpaca Coat	3.50	3 Pr. Dutch Boots	7.00
Hairpins	.45	Hair Net	1.00
Fur Hat	4.50	Breakfast Cape	2.25
Small Hoop Skirt	.60	3 lbs. Wool	1.05
Shoe Strings	.05	3 Plumes	.60
Calico Shirt	1.10	Kip Collar	2.25
Fur Hat	6.00	Leather for Belt	.25
Men's Oiled Boots	6.50	Infant Hat	1.25
Slippers	1.50	White Linen Skirt	2.25
Boy's Boots	4.50	1 Corset	1.25
Child's Shoes	3.00	Corset Stays	
Casimer Coat	10.00	Bonnet Board	.10
Brush Hat	5.00	Men's Pants	3.50
Wool Hat	1.50	Buck Gloves	2.00
Gaiters	2.50	Suit Clothes	28.00
Gloves	1.50	Coat & Pants	15.00
Balmoral Skirt	4.00		

Quinine and castor oil were the primary medicine sold in 1868-1870. Other medicines sold at the Rhea Store in Rhea during this period were:

1 lb. Epsom Salts	.10	Smith's Tonic	1.25
1 oz. Camphor	.25	1 Bot. Painkiller	.30
1 oz. Vitriol	.05	1 Bot. Liniment	.35
1 lb. Madder	.40	1 Vial Strichnia	.60
Bot. Castor Oil	.40	Phial Calomel	.25
Box Pills	.25	Box Logwood	.10
Phial Peppermint	1.15	Jaynes Expectorant	1.10
<sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> lb. Sulphur	.20	Phial Laudanum	.20
Bot. Cooks Pills	.25	Bot. R. R. Relief	.50
Bot. Ayers Pectoral	1.25	Mrs. Winslow's Syrup	.35
Taylors Bitters	1.50	Box Worm Candy	.25
Box McLanes Pills	.25	Salt Peter	.10
McLanes Worm Candy	.50	2 oz. Assafoetida	.20
Stevens Eye Salve	.25	McLanes Vermafuge	.25
Box Ague Pills	.75	Qiunine	.50

Worms were a medical problem among the children because they were barefoot in the summer and sanitary conditions were unacceptable. Constipation was another medical problem because of the diets, the manner of living with regard to the selection of foods. Malaria was a third medical problem because of the mosquitoes and the lack of screens on doors and windows on homes during the last century.

### Food

The food items purchased at the Rhea Store were primarily coffee, soda, tobacco, dried apples and dried peaches. Examples of food items from 1868 to 1870 were:

3 lbs. Coffee 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> lbs. Sugar Plug Tobacco	1.00 .50 .25	49 lbs. Honey 40 lbs. Pears 2 Bu. Peaches	$7.35 \\ 5.00 \\ 4.00$
25 lbs. Bacon	5.00	60 lbs. Flour	3.00
Sack Table Salt	.40	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Bu. Potatoes	.38
1 Bu. Corn	.50	2 doz. Eggs	.20
<sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> lb. Tea	.60	$62^{1/2}$ lbs. Beef	1.88
<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> bu. Meal	.37	10 doz. Eggs	1.00
1 bu. Meal	1.00	Lard Stand	2.25
1/2 bu. Onions	.75	$8^{1/2}$ lbs. Butter	2.12

Melon	.12	1 lb. Crackers	.30
<sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub> lb. Pepper	.25	1 oz. Cream of Tartar	.10
1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> lb. Cheese	.48	1 lb. Lard	.25
100 lbs. Flour	6.50	1 Bu. Dried Apples	1.50
Extract	.20	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Bu. Dried Peaches	1.00
2 lbs. Dried Peaches	.15	9 lbs. Sugar	2.00
1 lb. Soda	.20	"Nut Meggs"	.10
3 Cigars	.25	1 lb. Alum	.25

### Sewing Items

A considerable portion of the purchases at the Rhea Store in Rhea were sewing items such as:

5 Skeins Thread	.25	6 yds. Black Velvet	7.50
Paper of Needles	.15	Flax Thread	.10
Spool of Thread	.15	Shoe Thread	.20
Prints, per yard	.20	Silver Thimble	.50
1 doz. Buttons	.25	Steel Thimble	.10
1 Paper Pins	.15	Card Hook & Eyes	.10
2 yds. Buff Gingham	1.00	4 yds. Velvet Ribbon	.40
2 yds. Irish Linen	2.50	4 yds. Hickory	1.50
15 Glass Buttons	.30	1 yd. Linsey	.45
1 Card Buttons	.20	1 Coat Pattern	6.40
6 yds. C. B. Muslin	4.50	1 Pant Pattern	3.25
9 yds. Ticking	5.40	4 yds. Tweed	5.00
1 yd. Cambric	.20	3 yds. Bonnets	1.50
6 yds. Drilling	1.80	6 yds. Domestic	1.50
10 ys. Calico	2.00		
-			

There was active buying of farming items at the Rhea Store in Rhea between July 1868 and January 1870, according to Day Book No. 1. Major items were horse shoes, horse nails, saddles and gun items such as powder, shot, caps, and turkey shot. A representative sample of farm purchases were as follows:

1 Keg Horse Shoes	13.50	Basket	.60
12 Ft. Blasting fuse	.25	Hand Saw File	.25
7 lbs. horse nails	2.80	Cowbell	1.50
Axe	2.25	Horse Bell	.90
Rat Exterminator	.30	Man's Saddle	14.00
11 lbs. nails	1.37	Bridle	2.50
Locks	.20	Horse Whip	1.25
Bridle Filling	2.00	206 Ft. Plank	7.21

74

1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> lb. Grass Rope	.50	Head Halter	8.00
2 doz. Screws	.20	2 Steers	2.00
Table Hinge	.15	2 Hame Strings	30.00
$9^{1/4}$ lbs. Putty	1.85	1 Pr. Stirups	.25
Rim Lock	1.25	Trace Chains	$.75 \\ 1.25$
2 Scythes & Cradle	8.00	90 Ft. Rope	.90
Dressed Deer Skin	1.25	2 Horse Plow	.90 16.50
Coal Oil Barrel	2.00	Grass Scythe	2.25
8 Lbs. Mule Shoes	1.33	1/2 Lb. Rifle	2.25 .30
1 lb. Powder	.60	Blasting Powder	.30 .40
2 lb. Shot	.50	Mule Collar	2.00
1 Box Caps	.25	Man's Saddle	10.00
3 Pts. Linseed Oil	.80	Cast Steel $2^{1/4}$	.90
Ladies Saddle	25.00	Box Axle Grease	.30
Plow Steel	.70	Pocket Knife	1.00
1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> S.B. Wagon	124.00	Harness	35.00
Horse Collar	2.00	1 Auger	1.00
1 Pr. Check Lines	2.50	Saddle	20.00
1 Gal. Onion Sets	.80	Hoe	.37
2 Papers Beet Seed	.20	4 Weeding Hoes	4.00
2 Papers Cabbage Seed	.20	2 Pr. Horse Hames	3.00
1 Pt. Linseed Oil	.30	21 Ft. Walnut Plank	.84
3 Lbs. White Lead	.75	1 Pr. Back Bands	2.50
Man's Saddle	15.00	1 Belly Band	1.50
Plow	16.50	1 Martingale	1.50
Spade	2.00	2 Pr Trace Chains	3.50
Monkey Wrench	1.75	2 Mules	250.00
Can of Tar	.75	4 Cows & Calves	50.00
Chisel & File	1.70	Stock Bell	2.50
375 Ft. Lumber	27.41	2 Bridle Bitts	.50
4 Lbs. Slab Steel	.78	Scythe Stone	.25
Bucket Wagon Grease	.75	Bot. Bean Oil	.20
2 Pr. Plow Shoes	5.75	Blind Bridles	4.00
Claw Hatchet	1.25	2 Wagons	240.00
5 Head Cattle	105.00	66 Ft. Rope	.66
2-horse Plow	14.00	Blue Stone	.25
Rail Maker	7.50	Boy's Axe	2.00
Long Handle Shovel	1.75	21/2 lb. Doe Skin	2.75
1 Pr. Hames	.75	7 Steel Traps	3.50
1/2 Bu. Peas	1.00	Hay Fork	.90
<sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Bu. Beans	.50	Pitch Fork	1.10
2 Papers Garden Seed	.20	1 lb. Turkey Shot	.25

A comparative analysis of prices in 1868-1869 at the Rhea Store in Rhea and prices today:

	Rhea S 1868–1		1986	
Coffee	.25	lb.	\$3.99	lb.
Soda	.15	lb.	.53	lb.
Black Pepper	.50	lb.	3.44	lb.
Ham	.15	lb.	1.30	+ lb.
Kerosene	.80	gal.	1.27	gal.
Nails	.10	lb.	.50	lb.
Apple Trees	.13	ea.	7.25 - 8.65	ea.
Saddle	14.00	new	250.00-300.00	used
Hand Saw	2.15		5.00 - 15.00	
Barlow Knife	.25		4.19	
Tea Kettle	1.25		11.52	

The retail price of merchandise in 1921 was approximately the same price as in 1871, fifty years earlier. About 1940 merchants began increasing the prices of merchandise. Prices now increase more in one year than over a period of sixty or seventy years in the late 1800's and early 1900's. For example, in 1868 the retail price of coffee was 25¢ a pound and continued to sell at that price until the 1940's, when the price was 59¢ a pound. In the 1970's coffee was 79¢ a pound. During the last fifteen years coffee has increased in price more than four hundred percent.

In August and September 1868 the following customers bought apple peelers (\$1.50 each) at the Rhea Store, paying in fruit:

Shot Gun Long	Mrs. Sharp
A. S. Taylor	Ely Pyeatt
Mrs. Borden	Billy Crawford

A number of customers sold dried or green hides to William H. Rhea at the Rhea's Mill Store:

John M. Cox, 1 hide	1.20
James Wilson, dried hide	1.00
Andrew Edmiston, 34 lbs. green hide	1.70
Wm. M. Wilson, green hide	1.90
Wm. M. Wilson, green hide	2.25
	James Wilson, dried hide Andrew Edmiston, 34 lbs. green hide Wm. M. Wilson, green hide

76

Dec. 4, 1868	Wm. M. Wilson, 65 lbs. green hide	2.70
Dec. 10, 1868	William Click, beef hide	1.85
Dec. 30, 1868	Gib Cohea, 741/2 lbs. deer skins	18.37
Dec. 10, 1868	David Maberry, dried hide	1.55
Dec. 10, 1868	David Maberry, deer	.60
Nov. 25, 1868	Edward West, fur skins	2.50
Jan. 6, 1869	Dudley Hind, 20 lbs. hide	2.00
March 2, 1869	John Cohn, 2 wolf skins	3.00
Sept. 28, 1869	David Maberry, dried hides	3.44
October 12, 1869	Wm. Walter, hide	2.81
October 23, 1869	Wm. Moore, beef and hide	6.74
October 18, 1869	J. B. Johnson, hide	2.06
November 1, 1869	Sol Burrow, hide	2.67
October 21, 1871	DeKalb Holt, 64 lbs. green hides	2.90
		2.00

William H. Rhea hired local residents to haul merchandise to his store from Van Buren and other locations. Between January 1868 and January 1870 he paid \$914.32 for hauling:

January 24, 1868	R. M. Divin	000.00
October 9, 1868	Wm. M. Wilson	200.00
November 20, 1868		28.80
December 4, 1868	Wm. M. Wilson for 1127 lbs. coffee	3.85
October 27, 1868	Wm. Pasley	16.90
November 3, 1868	Wm. Pasley	12.00
October 27, 1868	R. M. Divin	10.95
November 3, 1868	R. M. Divin	15.21
November 25, 1868		16.00
February 15, 1869	Robert Flatt	9.80
March 12, 1869	Wm. Pyeatt	69.21
March 12, 1869	R. F. Flatt	14.76
March 12, 1869 May 24, 1869		36.85
	Mike Wilson	59.39
May 24, 1869	Wm. Wilson from Piney	63.00
May 27, 1869	P. G. Higgins	9.61
June 7, 1869	Dudley Hinds from Van Buren	17.96
June 12, 1869	Dudley Hinds	20.36
June 12, 1869	Joe Tilley	15.00
July 8, 1869	J. M. Crawford from Van Buren	30.37
July 22, 1869	Mrs. M. Wooddy	2.00
August 9, 1869	Wilson, Heifner	$2.00 \\ 27.32$
August 9, 1869	Thomas Allen	
Sept. 7, 1869	A. E. Edmiston	15.40
-	Mrs. Sarah Hix	58.29
<b>^</b>		47.70
September 7, 1869	D. B. Challess	50.58

September 29, 1869	Samuel Hix	40.20
November 8, 1869	M. E. Buchanan	7.04
December 21, 1869	J. P. Carnahan	7.77
January 19, 1870	J. P. Carnahan	8.00

According to Day Book No. 1, at the Rhea's Mill Store, William H. Rhea paid or gave credit for the following:

	May 18, 1868	William Neal, making 400 rails	6.00
	June 3, 1868	DeKalb Holt, rail hauling	4.50
	June 3, 1868	H. L. White, cash	15.00
	June 3, 1868	H. L. White by order of Powell	10.00
	July 15, 1868	James Kelly, 71/2 days mowing	11.25
	July 1, 1868	George Dickison, 2 bu. wheat	3.00
	July 1, 1868	George Dickison, peaches	1.72
	Sept. 5, 1868	Mrs. Cheatham, bought items paid in	
	20F11-)	dried peaches	3.90
	Sept. 19, 1868	J. D. Powell, 25 days services @ 1.50	42.00
	Nov. 21, 1868	John G. Rhea, steer	12.00
	Oct. 10, 1868	William Click, melons	3.00
	Oct. 10, 1868	William Click, dried fruit	10.75
	Oct. 2, 1868	Jessee Jordon, fruit	8.00
-	Sept. 24, 1868	Mrs. Sarah Hix, 1 mutton sheep	3.00
	Sept. 24, 1868	Mrs. Sarah Hix, peaches	2.50
	Oct. 23, 1868	D. K. Holt, sweet potatoes 41/2 bu.	3.37
	Oct. 23, 1868	Joe Tilley, 27 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> lbs. fruit	2.50
	Nov. 11, 1868	Wm. Hutsucker, 294 lbs. fruit	17.64
	Dec. 30, 1868	Mrs. M. B. Wooddy, 303 lbs. pork	21.21
	Jan. 6, 1869	Dudley Hinds, 308 lbs. pork	21.56
	Jan. 12, 1869	I. N. Marrs, 152 lb. pork	10.67
	Jan. 26, 1869	Jessee Jordon, 538 lb. pork	37.66
	Jan. 22, 1869	Andy Edmiston, butter and eggs	.50
	Feb. 15, 1869	James Bunnell, 8 bu. green apples	4.00
	Mar. 2, 1869	Gib Cohea, 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> lbs. butter	2.85
	Mar. 18, 1869	P. W. Stoker, left gold to redeem	10.00
	Apr. 3, 1869	W. W. Brownlee, county script	5.00
	Apr. 21, 1869	Col. Wm. Wilson, corn for Smith	11.25
	June 5, 1869	Mrs. Mary Cheatham, bought hat,	
		comb, thread, pins. To pay in fruit.	3.13
	June 10, 1869	Sol Burrow, 147 lbs. bacon	21.38
	June 15, 1869	Lem Wooddy, harvest hand	15.00
	June 17, 1869	Mrs. M. B. Wooddy, making shirts	0 50
		and pants	6.50
	July 8, 1869	Henry Bowyer, cow	20.00

July 22, 1869	Ishar Sanders, thrashing	1.00	
July 22, 1869	Wm. Pasley, 2 hands & wagon,	1.00	
	thrashing	3.00	
July 22, 1869	Wm. Walters, thrashing	1.25	
July 22, 1869	Wm. Henbest, work	2.00	
Sept. 1, 1869	John Maberry, 1 bu. dr. apples	2.00 1.50	
Sept. 2, 1869	Gib Cohea, apples	3.12	
Sept. 2, 1869	John Cohn, fruit	5.61	
Sept. 3, 1869	S. D. Pate, fruit & wheat	36.32	
Sept. 10, 1869	Sol Burrow, dried apples	17.34	
Sept. 14, 1869	R. J. West, fruit	44.37	
Sept. 14, 1869	R. J. West, bacon	6.46	
Sept. 17, 1869	Sol Burrow, 2 bu. wheat	2.00	
Sept. 25, 1869	Capt. Sam Marrs, apples	3.60	
Sept. 27, 1869	W. R. Click, 11 bu. wheat	11.00	
Sept. 27, 1869	Mrs. Amanda Pearce, dried apples	6.54	
Sept. 29, 1869	J. D. West, fruit & bacon	11.43	
Oct. 2, 1869	S. D. C. Pate, dried apples	6.84	
Oct. 2, 1869	S. D. C. Pate, dried peaches	2.50	4
Oct. 2, 1869	Mrs. Cheatham, dried peaches	3.50	
Oct. 5, 1869	Mrs. M. B. Wooddy, dried apples	1.92	
Oct. 8, 1869	Lafayette Cheatham, fruit	3.15	
Oct. 11, 1869	A. Barnes, 36 bu. corn	18.00	
Oct. 12, 1869	R. J. West, apples	25.55	
Nov. 11, 1869	Wesley Spence, corn	18.25	
Nov. 12, 1869	J. A. Johnson, 15 bu. corn	_	
Nov. 19, 1869	Col. Wm. Wilson, cash loaned	7.50	
Dec. 14, 1869	Mrs. Sarah Hix, pony	30.00	
	caran min, pony	40.00	

Apparently there was a death in the Crawford family about April 22, 1871, because on that date R. Crawford purchased from the Rhea Store 6 yards J. C. Hunt, \$3.00; 1 pair gloves .25; 1 pair hose .45; 1 pair saitens \$3.00;  $4^{1}/_{2}$  yards black velvet 90¢ a yard \$3.82; 6 bleached dom \$1.60;  $^{1}/_{2}$  dozen coffin screws .10; 1 box tacks .10;  $^{1}/_{2}$  yard velvet .20; lumber and nails \$1.54.

Again, on April 29, 1871, there appears to have been one or two funerals in the Spence and Pasley families. On that date Thomas Pasley purchased one small coffin, \$1.25, from the Rhea Store. On the same date L. W. Spence purchased 7 yards black domestic \$1.16; 5 yards black velvet \$4.50;  $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen coffin screws .10; 5 yards fringe \$1.00; 8 yards black lamn \$3.26; 1 pair silk gloves .75; 1 pair white hose .40; 2 yards white lace .60; 1 yard white ribbon .20; 1 yard black domestic .25; and 1 pair slippers \$1.00. On October 23, 1871 William H. Rhea paid the United States \$225.11, according to a journal he used in his Rhea's Mill Store. The notation did not specify the reason the money was paid to the United States government.

Customers in the William Rhea ledger April to October 1871 who were not mentioned previously in the 1868–1870 records were: John Akin, Hiram Baxter, Joe Bradley, Nancy Cheatham, John W. Cooper, John Coff, Otto Denimges, J. F. Dunigan, James Helm, R. F. Herning, L. Holt, Anderson McCoy, J. D. Powell and John Waley.

There is little doubt that William H. Rhea was one of Washington County's most important merchants before and after the Civil War. Except for Fayetteville, where S. K. Stone, Stirman & Dickson, James Sutton, Reed & Ferguson, and William McIlroy were in business, there was probably no merchant in the county to compete with him. Although his books contain no profit and loss statements, the individual accounts reveal that he did a mercantile business around \$50,000 during each of the few years before the war. These account books are for his store only, and do not show his income from his mill (one of the most important in the county) or from his agricultural interests.

J. H. McIlroy, the son of William McIlroy, ante-bellum Fayetteville merchant and post-bellum banker, married William H. Rhea's daughter Sarah Ann (Sallie).

Sample pages of Day Book No. 1 follow.

### References

- Lemke, W. J. The Account Books of W. H. Rhea 1855-1868, Flashback, July 1956 pp. 17-20, Washington County Historical Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- McIlroy Papers, Special Collections Department, David W. Mullins Library, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas
- Rhea, William H. Day Book No. 1 1869–1870, Rhea's Mill Store, Washington County, Arkansas, now owned by Frank Holt, Lincoln, Arkansas

Arno Mills Arkansas m 1868 Level How Walson : 15 13 plu 9 20 41. Hindow Glass 54104.10 1. 10 11 3 Pts Luned die 1. 11 . 1 Ladies Saddle 35111 Ju 15 " 1 Hair Stet Ju " " I Back Comb NII 17 11 Leoffice Production Pages 31 2/ 1142 4ds fine BL& Suisting 13 44 " " " I Pa Buto Shoes 275 Non 1 0 3 Bat many Cordial 3 rd 311 11 5 Spools Coals Cotton VI 30 " and order Blik many 500 Ju 31 " 2 Lin Combrie Half 100 Nul 11 11 11 113 Soda 1 30 1 2 Yus South Linner 2 50 1 1 1 1 4 4 Spools Floread 50 11 " "18 Bun Braid 8/2 Any 3 4 1 Hool Heat 200 2 int 6 1 bash 1. 11 2 Paper Dins Dut a ut Registation Fue 10 11 12 1/20 Cottomade 65 Nu u u 1 Bills Harlf 150 N 11 11 11 2 Gdo Buff Singhow 100. 1 11 11 15 Class Button 30 Suin 1 land utto 20 1. 11 12 1 4 9da C.B. Muslin 15 4 50 1" " " 4 " Jaconet 82 320 1 3 11 3 11 Cifee 100

80

Regar Stills Arkansas 1868 25m S. Firomeon 1111 4 g 20 35 16 Calt 8 Shot Jun You ing 4 20 2 Appl Peolers 3 00 in free a cup und 18108 Jessee Jordon sug 4 50 1th Pauder " 1 10 Fut Fuse Rope 11 11 2 Box Worm Gaudy .... 20 8 in 2714 Cast Stul 10 11 10 Gdo Printo 20 200 1. 1. 2 gr F.C. Paper " " 1 Org Pan Painto 1 11 Plug Totacco 20 1 1 1 1 the Powder 1. 1 Bat le oil 1 1 1 Box Ayoro Pills 1 1 Pr Ladies Shows 13 1 2 1/4 Horse Shoes 22 11 1 the Soda .... 31 11 10 yas Prints 20 " 10 " M Delane 30 X 11 11 93/4 11\_ 11\_ 25 0 " " 2/3 " ... M. 1 1 2 Hair deto 50 100 1 1 1 Long Comb 50 1 . 3 Paper Gollars

81

# 🔍 THE METHODIST CHURCH 🧈

Prior to 1886 church services in the Rhea community were conducted in the one-room school house located on what was once a Crawford farm and is now the Hartley farm in the northern section of the community. It is reported that a Presbyterian pastor, probably from Prairie Grove, rode his horse once a month and conducted services at this location. Later, both the Methodist North and the Methodist South groups held services alternately in the three-room school house built in the Rhea settlement in 1886.

By 1918 the church became the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Eventually the church became the United Methodist Church after the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Episcopal Church, North, were combined.

It is reported that the first white frame Methodist Church in Rhea was completed in 1912–1913: Walter Dyer helped construct the frame building, and according to one of his sons he moved to the Rhea community in 1913.

Today, the brick United Methodist Church, with its white spire, is located in the northwest section of Rhea, adjacent to the cemeteries, the brick building being constructed in 1970 after the white frame church was destroyed by a tornado.

Three sources reveal the names of the pastors who served at the Methodist Church in Rhea: the Register of Members, the Register of Pastors, and the District Superintendent's Office in Fayetteville, the dates indicating the years of their appointments:

- 1874 Rev. Tidings
- 1876 Rev. Smith
- 1881 Rev. Taylor
- 1883 Rev. P. B. Hopkins Rev. Renols
- 1884 Rev. P. B. Hopkins Rev. W. M. Baldwin
- 1888 Rev. J. H. Myers
- 1889 Rev. H. M. Granade
- 1890 Rev. William Sherman

1891	Rev. J. H. Sturdy
1892	Rev. J. J. Holland
1893	Rev. D. C. Ross
1895	Rev. J. P. Humphreys
1897	Rev. J. W. House
1898	Rev. W. L. Thompson
1899	Rev. Y. A. Gilmore
1903	Rev. Blevins
1904	Rev. G. B. Griffin
1905	Rev. W. H. Dyer
1908	Rev. J. D. Roberts
1910	Rev. H. A. Armstrong
1912	Rev. J. P. Wheeler
1914	Rev. J. W. Howerton
1916	Rev. J. A. Ruble
1918	Rev. R. A. Robertson
1919	Rev. J. G. Ditterline
1920	Rev. W. I. Spicer
1921	Rev. J. F. Cater
1922	-Rev. J. A. Zinn
1926	Rev. J. H. Ruble
1928	Rev. J. A. Zinn
1929	Rev. J. C. Snow
1931	Rev. Martin Kaylor
1937	Rev. Jefferson Smith
1938	Rev. B. A. McKnight
1939	Rev. Charles L. Fry
1943	Rev. E. O. Houser
1945	Rev. Ivan R. Wilson
1948	Rev. Walter Pennel
1950	Rev. George J. Kleeb
1952	Rev. W. A. Gray
×	Eugene Miser
1953	Rev. A. L. Riggs
	Rev. O. William Findt
1954	Rev. Charles Walters
1955	Rev. E. W. Flowers
1957	Rev. W. C. Hutton
1959	Rev. Charles Wheat
1960	Rev. J. A. Newell
1961	Rev. Lawrence Dodgen
1962	Rev. James E. Laudermilk
1963	Rev. Wayne Jarvis
1965	Rev. Eugene Bain

Rev J H Sturdy

1901

84

1966 Rev. L. A. Peters
1973 Rev. Vann Hooker
1974 Rev. Uriah Smith
1981 Rev. Marcia Crossman
1983 Rev. Gaston Matthews

According to the Register of Members, as of October 1, 1985, the members of the Rhea United Methodist Church and the year they became members were as follows:

Iona David Alexander	1926	Timothy Franks Roy Gene Franks	1983 1954
Jewel Austin	1953	Twy Gene Franks	1304
John Austin	1954	Waymon Giles	1941
Mary Alyce Austin	1953	Lacy Gregory	1921
Charles Branchcomb	1968	Gordon Hartley	1933
Marianna Branchcomb	1938	Lillian Hartley	1933
Hubert Bunnell	1933	Iris Dean Harvey	1941
		H. B. Hutchens	1954
Katherine Cheatham	1933	Helen Hutchens	1954
Donna Lea Crawford	1952	Ira Hutchens	1958
Johnny Ray Crawford	1952	Mrs. Ira Hutchens	1958
Ola Crawford	1925	Joney Rogers Hutchens	1954
J. B. Curtsinger	1939		
Nona May Curtsinger	1933	Dorothy Johnston	1938
		Harold Johnston	1939
Duane Davis	1968	Harry Johnston	1939
Susan Davis	1968		
Jack C. Ditmars	1941	Earlene Matthews	1952
Veda Ditmars	1941	Guy R. Matthews	1953
Avene Dyer	1939	-	
Irene Dyer	1921	Emerson W. Miller	1985
Robert Dyer	1933	Bessie Moore	1939
		Charles Donald Moore	1952
Irene Ellis	1972	Dale Moore	1941
Louis Ellis	1972	Hill Moore	1939
Celia Crawford Ezell	1916	Jessie Moore	1941
Veneda Ezell	1938		
		Donna Nash	1953
Billy Lee Franks	1954	Dorothy Nash	1953
Donna Franks	1971		1953
LaDonna Franks	1983	Floyd James Nash	1967
Ruby Franks	1933	Frank Phillip Nash	1933

1968	Elmogene Tackett	1933
1969	Robert Earl Twilley	1952
1967		
	Alpha Jean Ward	1939
1971	Floyd Williams	1968
1971	Jessica Williams	1968
1971		
1971		
1952		
1952		
	1969 1967 1971 1971 1971 1971 1971 1952	1969Robert Earl Twilley1967Alpha Jean Ward1971Floyd Williams1971Jessica Williams197119711952

The present member who has been a member for the longest period of time is Celia Crawford Ezell who was received in the church in 1916 by baptism by Rev. J. A. Ruble. Current members Lacy Gregory and Irene Franks Dyer were received in the church on March 23, 1921 by vows by Rev. W. I. Spicer. Ola Crawford has been a member continuously since 1925, being received in the church by Rev. J. A. Zinn. Iona David Alexander has been a member continuously since January 7, 1926, when she transferred her certificate of membership to the Rhea Methodist Church.

The oldest records show the first recorded members to be received into the Rhea Methodist Church by certificate were Elizabeth D. Stevens and Rebecca E. Crawford in 1874 by Rev. Tidings. The first members, as shown by earliest records, to be received in the church by vows were Joseph H. and Mary L. Gregory in 1876. Rev. Smith was the pastor at that time. Joseph H. Gregory, affectionately called Uncle Joe, became the Sunday School superintendent after he became a church member, and he served in that capacity for fifty years, until his death in 1941.

In 1881 the members to be received in the church by Rev. Taylor by vows were John L. Gregory, Martha M. Gregory, Elizabeth C. Rhea, and Fannie E. Rhea. In 1883 Maggie J. Brooks transferred her membership to the church by certificate, and Margaret Hartley became a member by vows. Mary Pearson, Mary A. Allen and William H. Medearis transferred their membership to the Rhea Methodist Church in 1884. Rev. J. H. Myers in 1888 received Birdie Brooks, Marion W. Brooks and John M. Pearson in the church by vows. In 1889 four persons were received in the church by Rev. H. M. Granade: Maggie D. Williams by baptism, Henry H. Robinson by vows, Lorenyo F. Roberts by certificate, and Josephine Roberts. In 1890 nineteen persons became members of the church by vows, being received by Rev. William Sherman: J. N. Epperly, J. F. Brooks, R. J. Franklin, Fannie Epperly, V. B. Bombalow, Edith Wilson, Robert Wilson, Minnie James, F. L. Epperly, J. H. West, G. W. Franklin, D. M. Clouse, R. C. Clouse, W. J. Hewitt, S. A. Hewitt, S. J. Hewitt, M. E. Hewitt, M. Hewitt and Sam Cox.

In 1891 L. Stephens became a member by vows; in 1892 Niccie Clouse and Fannie Woody became members by certificate; in 1893 Enovch M. Herandon, Sarah V. Herandon, and Alice Rhea became members by vows. In 1895 Fannie Woody became a member by certificate. In the same year five members were received by vows: John F. Cox, W. M. Dickerson, Clara B. Gregory, Anice V. Gregory and J. E. Herandon.

In 1896 Dora H. Stephens became a member by vows. Twelve members were received in the church in 1897: J. N. Epperly, F. L. Epperly and J. H. Dunaway by certificate, and by vows Mark R. Irwin, Olive L. Irwin, W. A. Brooks, Minnie Vaughn, Minnie Epperly, Willie Epperly, Mary Gregory, Lucy Pearson and E. S. Clouse. In 1898 eight members were received in the church: L. H. Gannaway, Alice Gannaway, Lula Gannaway, Mary E. Gannaway, H. B. Gannaway, Robert Allen, W. A. Houck and Sarah Houck. Thirteen residents became members in 1899: J. T. Watson, Effie Watson, H. C. Johnson, Warren Cox, Louisa Cox, Edward H. Cox, Alice Johnson, Ollie Clouse, W. A. Clouse, Nina E. Edmiston, John Edmiston, Norah Vaughn and Elizabeth Vaughn.

Eighteen members were received in the Rhea Methodist Church in 1900 by Rev. Y. A. Gilmore: Mary Pearson, John Pearson, Jr., Mollie Gregory, Walter Gregory, Allie E. Stephens, Carrie E. Stephens, Annie Edminston, A. J. Frittz, Maggie Frittz, W. J. Frittz, Charlie Frittz, James Frittz, Cleve Davis, Mollie J. Dearing, Rollie E. Pearson, Rosie Pearson, Frank Allen and Francis Crawford.

In 1903 Rev. Blevins received J. U. Jacobs, Willie Jacobs, Bufford Jacobs, J. A. Jordan, Margret Jordon, Mrs. W. J. Jordon, Lavna Allen and Mary Allen in the church. In 1904 Rev. G. B. Griffin received Clyde Crawford, Pearl Stephens, Julia Stephens, Belle Stephens, Nolia Matthews, Lucy Norwood, Birdie Norwood, Claudie Johnson and Blanche Henson. Rev. W. H. Dyer received Eliza Frazier in 1905 and W. J. Jordon, L. P. in 1907. Rev. J. D. Roberts received nine members in the church in 1908: Joy Gregory, Allie Gregory, Gertie Frazier, Ruth Gregory, Bettie Stephens, Cora Stephens, Zettie Franks, William J. David, and Z. C. David. In 1910 Rev. H. A. Armstrong received J. M. Wolf in the church.

The greatest number of members to be received in the church in any one year was in 1911 when thirty-six members were received by the pastor Rev. H. A. Armstrong: James Mateer, Nettie Mateer, John Mateer, Ethel Mateer, Henry David, Jennie David, H. J. Arnst, Sidney Arnst, Paul Arnst, Annie Overton, Frank D. Braly, Ethel Braly, Roy Gregory, Pascel Crawford, Clifton Clouse, Pearl Jacobs, Lizzie David, Maggie David, Hodge David, Edna Johnson, Clyde Johnson, Lena Tilley, James Tilley, Dennis Brooks, Wilburn Frazier, Clem Wheeler, Esther Pasley, Pearl Edminston, Ethel Ezell, Irene Wheeler, William Johnson, Effie Johnson, Middie Wheeler, John Tilley, Minnie Tilley and Hattie Cunningham.

In 1912 Rev. J. P. Wheeler baptized W. E. Wassum and Martha F. Wassum. In 1913 twenty-two more members were added to the register by Rev. J. P. Wheeler: Walter Dyer, Orlan Crawford, Loyd Crawford, Ruth Crawford, Vivian Crawford, Ina Maxwell, Luther Pasley, Lizzie Pasley, Maude Franks, Lillie Franks, Edna Shelby, Austin Whitmire, Maggie Hartley, Mrs. Melissa Franks, Joe Freeman, Ben F. Shelby, Roy Allen, James Jordon, Ida Ratliff, Herbert Ratliff, Eula Hartley and Maud Allen.

It is reported that the first frame church building was completed in 1913. Prior to the time the church was constructed, services were held in the frame school house that was built in 1886.

In 1914 Josie E. Dyer transferred her certificate of membership to the Rhea church. In the same year Jack Maxwell and W. L. Maxwell were received in the church by Rev. Howerton.

Albert V. Pasley transferred his certificate of membership to the Rhea Methodist Church on January 24, 1915 while Rev. J. W. Howerton served as pastor.

Rev. J. A. Ruble received nine members in the church in 1916: Celia Crawford, Geneva Crawford, Melvin Ezell, Retta David, Ora Gregory, W. H. Browers, E. A. Browers, W. F. Browers and H. F. Browers.

In 1918 Rev. R. A. Robertson received nine members in the church: Mrs. Len Maxwell, Lena Maxwell, Ethel Watson, Eldon Gleason, Ruth Hartley, Powell Gregory, Velma Gregory, Eva Marshall and Nora Lee Marshall.

In 1919 thirty-two persons became members of the church, being received by the pastor, Rev. J. G. Ditterline: Maggie Frazier, Jessie Ray Tilley, Amma Gregory, Rella Pasley, Allie Maxwell, Clara Allen, Z. Maxwell, Nathan Brooks, Charles Gleason, Susie Gleason, A. A. Hart, Emily Hart, Lucretia Waltman, Helen Grim, Nina Grim, Mildred Hartley, N. C. Vaughn, A. H. Tulk, Hattie Gleason, Francis Rhea, William M. Frank, Harry Argerbright, Homer Allen, Amma Lee Gregory, Gladys Day, Marie Maxwell, Charles Ratliff, H. B. Tilley, Perry A. Hartley, Edith Matthews, C. E. Matthews and Clyde Rankin. Mrs. Agnice Rankin became a member in September 1920, being received by Rev. J. G. Ditterline.

In 1921 Rev. W. I. Spicer received the following in the church: Leonard Maxwell, Fred Pasley, Hugh Hartley, Tip Frazier, Celsus McCuiston, Lacy Frazier, Troy Gregory, Lacy Gregory, Marvin Frazier, Ruth Donnagan, Irene Franks Dyer, Julia Branchcomb and Allie Branchcomb.

Rev. J. F. Carter, in 1922, received Victor W. Danforth, Frank Danforth, Trella Brooks, Henry Browers, Ruby Browers, Evelyn Jackson and Nora David.

One person became a member in 1923, Cleo Frazier, being received by Rev. J. A. Zinn. In 1924 Rev. J. A. Zinn received John Maxwell, Zettie Maxwell, Earvy Branchcomb and George Franks in the church.

In 1925 five members were received in the church by Rev. J. A. Zinn: Frank David, Fanny David, Roy David, Ray David, and Ola Crawford. In 1926 Rev. Zinn received R. H. David, Mrs. R. H. David, Iona David, Nettie Mae David and Lorena David in the church.

In 1927 Rev. J. H. Ruble received in the church Clifford Crawford, Maude Crawford, Mrs. F. B. Nash, Gladys Maxwell and Bonnie Maxwell. Rev. J. A. Zinn received Virginia Gregory in the church by transfer of certificate.

Rev. J. C. Snow received in the church in 1930 Horace A. Carter, Amma L. Carter, R. Herald Gregory and Frances M. Hartley.

Sam Maxwell and Maud Maxwell transferred their membership to the Rhea Methodist Church on May 25, 1932 when Rev. Martin Kaylor was the pastor. In July 1933 Rev. Martin Kaylor received by baptism and vows Irene Bunnell, Hubert Bunnell, Elmo Frazier, Robert Dyer, Frank Philip Nash, Carl Ezell, Doris Ezell, Nona May Nash, Katherine Maxwell, Elmogene Maxwell, Ruby Franks, Lillian Hartley, Gordon Hartley, Leslie Gregory, Anna Gregory and Josie E. Dyer.

In August 1938 Rev. Jeff Smith received in the Rhea church Mary Anna Dyer, Dorothy Johnston, Patricia Johnston, Virginia Nell Pasley, Veneda Ezell and Wilma Dean Gregory. In 1939 Rev. B. A. McKnight received ten members in the church: Hill Moore, Bessie Moore, Jesse Curtsinger, Katie Curtsinger, J. B. Curtsinger, Harry Johnston, Lena Johnston, Harold Johnston, Alpha Jean Crawford and Nell Maxwell. Rev. Charles L. Fry in 1939 received Gaston Matthews, Dola Matthews and Avene Dyer in the church.

Rev. Charles L. Fry in 1940 received in the church Cecil Platt, Ruth Platt, Reba Pasley, Don Hendrickson, Sue Hendrickson, Ollie L. Hendrickson, Monza Hendrickson, Emory Platt and Maggie Platt. In 1941 Rev. Fry received as members Victor Danforth, Frank Danforth, Laveta Carnahan, Waymon Giles, Jack C. Ditmars and Veda Ditmars. In 1941 Rev. Ivan R. Wilson received Iris Dean Giles, Jessie Moore and Dale Moore in the church by vows.

In 1947 A. G. Massey and Mrs. A. G. Massey transferred their membership to the Rhea Methodist Church, being received by Rev. Ivan R. Wilson.

While Rev. Walter Pennel was serving as pastor, Harold L. Johnston transferred his membership by certificate to the Rhea Methodist Church.

In November 1952 Rev. W. D. Gray received by baptism and vows eight members in the church: Fannie Shreve, Imogene Shreve, Lester Lee Shreve, Earlene Matthews, Donna Lea Crawford, Charles Donald Moore, Johnny Ray Crawford and Robert Earl Twilley. In 1953 Dorothy Nash, Floyd Nash and Donna Nash were received in the church by Rev. W. D. Gray. Ethel Austin, Jewel Austin and Shelby Austin were received in the church by Rev. O. William Findt, Jr. In 1953 Rev. A. L. Riggs received Harry Argerbright, Stella Argerbright, Mary Alyce Austin and Guy R. Matthews in the church.

In 1954 Rev. A. L. Riggs received seven members in the Rhea church: Joney Rogers Hutchens, Helen Hutchens, H. B. Hutchens, Ronnie Hutchens, Roy Gene Franks, Billy Lee Franks and John Austin.

After returning to the Rhea community in 1955–56, Harold L. Johnston transferred his membership by certificate, being received by Rev. E. F. Flowers, who also received Earl Twilley and Mary Twilley in the same year by baptism and vows.

In 1958 Ira Hutchens and Mrs. Ira Hutchens were baptized by Rev. W. C. Hutton and became members of the church.

In 1961 Rev. Lawrence Dodgen received three members in the church: C. C. Bunnell, Fannie Bunnell and Alma Bunnell.

During his ministry at the Rhea Methodist Church from 1967 to 1972 Rev. L. A. Peters received twenty-four members in the church: in 1967 Jack C. Ditmars, Veda Ditmars, Sharron Kay Nash and Floyd James Nash; in 1968 Charles Branchcomb, Earl Davis, Dorothy Davis, Duane Davis, Denise Davis, Susan Davis, Lillian Nash, Floyd Williams and Jessica Williams; in 1969 Michael Clay Nash; in 1971 Irene Dyer, Roberta Platt Carnahan, Donna Franks, Jack Noble, Arleeta Noble, Jeffrey Noble and Janet Noble; in 1972 Irene Ellis, Louis Ellis and Elizabeth Anette Davis.

In 1983 Rev. Gaston Matthews received Timothy Franks and LaDonna Franks; in 1985 he received Emerson W. Miller by transfer of certificate in the church.

Over a period of one hundred and eleven years, between the years 1874 and 1985 there were a total of four hundred and nine members of the Methodist church in the Rhea community. One member, Gaston Matthews, who became a member on December 6, 1939, was removed from membership by virtue of preaching appointment in 1962. Several members transferred their membership to other churches in other communities, then returned their membership to the Rhea Methodist Church when they returned to the area.

The Register of Infant Baptisms shows over a period of eightythree years, from 1889 to 1972, there were thirty-four infants baptized at the Rhea Methodist Church.

In 1889 the infant Maggie D. Lane was baptized by Rev. H. M. Granade. On February 8, 1890 twelve infants were baptized by Rev. P. B. Hopkins: Robert Wilson, Minnie Jones, Edith Wilson, W. J. Hewitt, M. E. Hewitt, Matilda Hewitt, D. M. Clouse, R. C. Clouse, E. J. Barnes, Sam Cox, J. H. West and G. W. Franklin. Rev. J. W. House baptized three infants on October 4, 1897: William Epperly, Lucy Pearson and E. S. Clouse. On June 12, 1898 the Rev. W. T. Thompson performed the infant baptism ceremony for three infants: Alice Gannaway and Lulu Gannaway, daughters of L. J. and M. E. Gannaway; and Robert Allen, son of Samuel and Mary Allen. There was one infant baptism on July 16, 1899: Rev. Y. A. Gilmore baptized H. C. Johnson. Rev. Y. A. Gilmore baptized the infant John B. Pearson on May 18, 1900.

Nora B. David, daughter of W. J. and Z. C. David was baptized by Rev. H. A. Armstrong on October 29, 1911. Two children of W. J. and Z. C. David, Frank and Fanny David, were baptized by Rev. J. P. Wheeler in 1914. When Rev. J. G. Ditterline was pastor of the church in 1919 Hubert Earl Frazier, son of Wilburn and Maggie Frazier, was baptized by Rev. W. H. Neal, evangelist.

Virginia Nell Pasley, daughter of A. V. and Rella Pasley, was baptized by Rev. J. F. Carter in 1922. Thirty-one years elapsed before the next recorded infant baptism: Jon Kendall Reed, son of Elmo W. and Patricia Reed and grandson of Harry and Lena Johnston (local residents), was baptized by Rev. A. L. Riggs on June 21, 1953.

The son and daughter of Roy Gene and Donna Franks, Timothy William Franks and LaDonna Franks, were baptized by Rev. L. A. Peters on October 22, 1967. In 1971 Rev. L. A. Peters baptized four infants: Scott Davis, son of Susan Davis, was baptized in March 1971; and three children of Jack and Arlette Noble, Trace, Lynn and Holly Noble, were baptized on December 12, 1971. The daughter of Louis and Theda Ellis—Lisa Ellis—was baptized by Rev. L. A. Peters on February 13, 1972.

The Church Register shows two marriages have been performed in the Rhea Methodist Church: (1) Edward Caldwell Gillespie and Ruth Parker were married by Rev. George J. Kleeb on December 28, 1950, and (2) John Calvin Neal and Iris Dean Giles were married by Rev. George J. Kleeb on June 10, 1951.

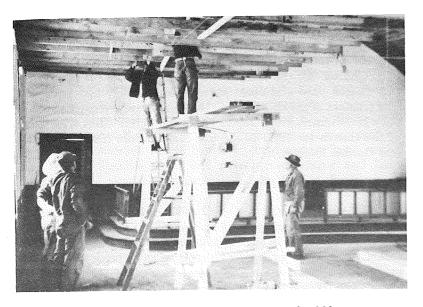
*Epworth League.* When Gaston and Dola Matthews moved to Rhea and began operating the store and post office in 1938 he began sponsoring a young people's group on Sunday evenings in the Methodist church. At that time the young people's group was called the Epworth League. In addition to meeting on Sunday evening for a service in the church, the group also had social activities, including picnics at Lake Wedington. Later, after Gaston Matthews moved from Rhea, Waymon and Velma Giles became sponsors for the group. Periodically, the Rhea Epworth League met with similar groups from other Methodist Churches in nearby towns—Prairie Grove, Lincoln and Viney Grove—with the Rhea group presenting the program and entertaining the other Epworth Leagues in the Rhea Church about once a year.

The Rhea Epworth League consisted of few members, but held regular meetings during the years of existence. Members of the League included Virginia Pasley, Mary Anna Dyer, Roberta Platt, Alpha Jean Crawford, Nell Maxwell, Harold Johnston, Patricia Johnston and Dorothy Johnston.

Trust Fund. Prior to her death in 1976, Lillian Ruth Gregory Parker Gillespie bequeathed in her will \$12,000.00 for a trust fund with the First National Bank of Fayetteville as the Trustee, the interest income to be paid to the trustees of the Rhea United Methodist Church "for the upkeep and maintenance of the church building, church yard and other appurtenances thereunto pertaining." The trustees of the church in 1978 when her will was probated were Jack H. Ditmars, Floyd James Nash and Velma Giles. The trustees of the church for 1986–87–88 are Floyd James Nash, Floyd Nash and Gordon Hartley.



Woodrow Carnahan at Methodist Church, mid 1940's Courtesy of Roberta Carnahan Kennedy

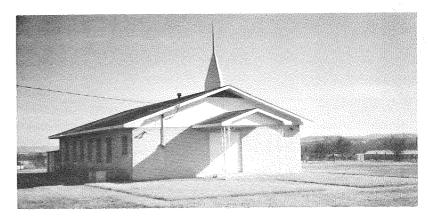


Lowering the Ceiling in the Methodist Church 1966 Courtesy of Kate Cheatham

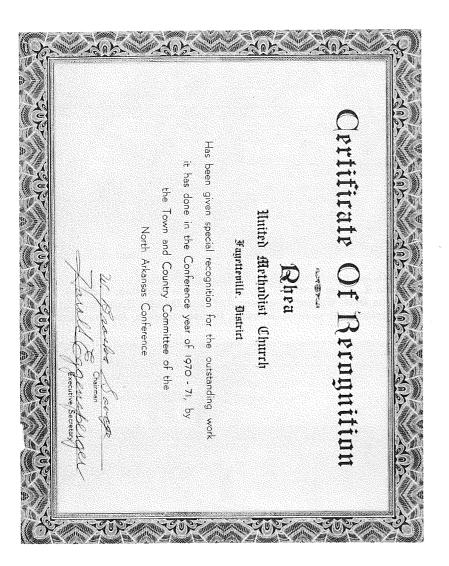


Epworth League, Methodist Church

L. to R.: Front Row: Nell Maxwell, Dorothy Johnston; 2nd Row: Mary Anna Dyer, Wilfred Thompson; 3rd Row: Roberta Platt, Patricia Johnston, Alpha Jean Crawford, Harold Johnston, Joe Crawford



Rhea United Methodist Church 1986



### References

District Superintendent's Office, United Methodist Church, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Ditmars, Veda, Prairie Grove, Arkansas

Dyer, Clyde, Junction City, Oregon

Gregory, Troy, Oaks, Oklahoma

Hartley, Lillian, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas

Rhea United Methodist Episcopal Church, Register of Members, Register of Pastors, Register of Infant Baptisms, Register of Marriages

Will, Lillian Ruth Gillespie, County Clerk's Office, Fayetteville Wood, Don, First National Bank of Fayetteville, Fayetteville, Ark.

# CHE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Prior to the construction of the white frame church building in 1912–1913, Methodist Sunday School services were held in the northwest section of the Rhea settlement in the three-room school building after it was constructed in 1886.

Earliest records show there were Sunday School enrollments of seventy in 1920 and seventy-seven in 1921. It is reported that there were two factions in the church which broke the church apart. This might have occurred in 1922, which would explain why the Sunday School enrollment was reduced to forty where it remained as long as enrollment figures were recorded until 1935. After that date attendance figures were recorded but not the enrollment. However, the forty-eight percent reduction in the Sunday School enrollment in 1922 may have been the result of an exodus of residents from the Rhea community rather than internal friction among the church members.

Sunday School superintendents at the Rhea Methodist Church were as follows:

1941–1944E. R. Platt1945–1947Hubert Bunnell1948Art Massey1949–1950Ren David1951Raymond Matthews1952Robert Patterson1953–1955No information1956–1957Shelby Austin1958–1961No information1962–1972Ira Hutchens1973–1978Floyd James Nash1979 to dateGordon Hartley	1948 1949–1950 1951 1952 1953–1955 1956–1957 1958–1961 1962–1972 1973–1978	Art Massey Ren David Raymond Matthews Robert Patterson No information Shelby Austin No information Ira Hutchens Floyd James Nash
---	--	--

The Sunday School average attendance, minimum attendance, maximum attendance and enrollment at the Rhea Methodist Church from 1920 to 1985 were as follows:

	Average Attendance	Minimum Attendance	Maximum Attendance	Enrollment
1920	38	19	74	70
1921	33	18	52	77
1922	33	15	55	40
1923	34	19	56	40
1924	35	11	75	40
1925 - 1926	30	11	67	40
1927	26	12	40	40
1928	25	12	46	40
1929	27	7	40	40
1930	24	11	40	40
1931	21	8	35	40
1932	31	14	55	40
1933 .	31	18	46	40
1934	31	14	55	40
1935–1936	No records			
1937	19	10	34	Records for 17
1938	25	6	58	Sundays only
1939	29	8	76	jj
1940	30	12	54	
1941	22	6	45	
1942	16	4	47	
1943	15	5	51	
1944	10	4	17	Records
				incomplete
1945	22	6	36	1
1946	21	7	43	
1947	21	7	57	
1948	23	7	47	
1949	23	10	48	
1950	24	8	35	
1951	18	7	43	
1952	23	9	40	
1953	23	10	35	
1954	24	5	36	
1955	23	13	42	
1956	24	11	33	

		; E	0.0
1957	19	' 5	36
1958–1961	No records	_	22
1962	12	5	23
1963	9	3	13
1964	No records		
1965	12	6	20
1966	11	5	24
1967	15	6	28
1968	21	9	35
1969	20	9	32
1970	19	7	33
1971	23	6	37
1972	27	13	43
1973	19	6	26
1974	17	4	28
1975	13	8	22
1976	13	5	22
1977	13	3	20
1978	10	4	23
1979	7	3	14
1980	6	3	12
1981	5	2	15
1982	6	4	12
1983	7	4	9
1984	7	4	9
1985	6	3	8
1000	-		

The oldest available record book of the Rhea Sunday School shows records from April 18, 1920 through October 19, 1924. During this period the Superintendent was J. H. Gregory who conducted the religious services on all dates Sunday School was held except for twelve Sundays when A. V. Pasley conducted the worship services on six Sundays in 1922, three Sundays in 1923 and one Sunday in 1924. C. C. Bunnell conducted the services on May 7, 1922. Mrs. Rella Pasley conducted the worship service on November 18, 1923. During this period the minutes were kept by Clyde Rankin, C. C. Bunnell, Allie Gregory, Mrs. Agnes Rankin, W. J. David, Walter Dyer, Rella Pasley, Zettie Maxwell and H. G. Tilley.

On May 2, 1920 the Sunday School voted a special on missions to "Building and Land," Girls School, Havana, Cuba. A special collection for orphanage was \$7.80.

One class on December 11, 1921, with Joy Gregory as the teacher, consisted of Ralph Bunnell, Sumner Alexander, Carl Ezell and Tom Dyer.

On November 20, 1921 one class was listed as Ora Gregory, Ruth Gregory, Minnie Gregory, Lizzie David, Maggie David, Lillie Franks, Kate Alexander, Gertie Rhea and Ruby Browers.

On October 30, 1921 one class consisted of A. V. Pasley, Clyde Crawford, Allie Alexander, Loyd Alexander and Henry Browers.

The janitor was paid \$1.00 for one month's service. Mrs. Maxwell served as janitor in 1921.

Between 1920 and 1924 the cost of quarterly literature ranged from \$2.87 to \$3.96.

The maximum number attending Sunday School on any single Sunday during the 1920–1924 period was 75 on April 27, 1924. The records show thirty-nine percent of the Sundays on which Sunday School was held there were between 40 and 75 scholars.

The amount received in the collections each Sunday varied from a low of 29¢ to a high of \$2.08, the latter on March 23, 1924. When 75 scholars attended on April 27, 1924 the collection was \$1.30. During the 1920–1924 period the average amount in the collection was 2¢ per scholar present, although in the summer of 1923 on a few occasions the collection averaged as much as 3¢ per scholar present. The balance in the treasury ranged from zero to \$4.28.

From 1925 through 1934, ten years, of the 520 Sundays, Superintendent J. H. Gregory conducted all religious services except twenty Sundays when the following persons substituted for Supt. Gregory:

Prof. Sharrock	Dec. 20, 1925
A. V. Pasley	Oct. 11, 1931 and Nov. 26, 1933
Roy Sharrock	Jan. 24, 1932
Rev. Kaylor	Mar. 13 and Dec. 11, 1932
	Feb. 12, 1933
A. E. Marshall	Oct. 9, 1932
E. F. McCamish	Oct. 15 and Nov. 5, 1933
	April 15, 1934
J. T. Crawford	May 27, Sept, 23 and 30, Oct. 7
	and 14, 1934
Rev. Seward	Sept. 9 and 16, Dec. 9, 1934
Horace Carter	Dec. 30, 1934

Expenditures during the 1925–1934 period were for literature (ranging from \$2.17 to \$3.33 per quarter), lamps \$2.12, orphanage and janitor. Beginning in 1933 the amount paid the janitor increased from \$1.00 to \$1.50 each month. Collections ranged from 394 to \$1.13, with an average of 34-44 per scholar present. During this period the enrollment in the Sunday School was forty.

There are no records available for the years 1935-1937.

The 1937–1941 record book shows that worship service was conducted by Superintendent J. H. Gregory each Sunday except for the following substitutions:

> Horace A. Carter 18 Sundays Dec. 5, 1937 Zettie Maxwell Bro. Smith Jan. 30, 1938 **Gaston Matthews** May 8, Nov. 37, 1938 Oct. 8, 1939 Aug. 6, 20, and 27, 1939 Armie Tarpley July 21, 1940 Cecil Platt 13 Sundays E.R. Platt 15 Sundays Velma Giles Mar. 23, 1941 Harold Johnston May 11, 18, 25, 1941 June 22, 1941 July 6 and 13, 1941 Mrs. Ditmars June 29, 1941

The last Sunday School worship conducted by Supt. J. H. Gregory was May 4, 1941. He passed away one week later on May 11, 1941 at the age of 84 years, 11 months and 14 days.

A notation in 1941 indicated the following teachers and officers:

Mrs. Amma Carter	Women's Teacher
Mrs. Elzora Crawford	Assistant Women's Teacher
H. A. Carter	Men's Teacher
Gaston Matthews	Young People's Class
Elmogene Maxwell	Junior Class
Zettie Maxwell	Leaflet Class
Wilma Dean Gregory	Card Class
Elzora Crawford	Secretary

A floral offering was given for Uncle Joe Gregory, and 15¢ offering for Harold Johnston, lay pastor.

Expenditures recorded in the Sunday School record book of 1937-1941 show that electricity was installed in the church in 1938, and the first "light bill" was .36 paid on August 7, 1938. Other expenses included stove pipes .20, song books \$2.60, janitor D. Neal .50 per month, monthly electricity bill \$1.53, window pane .24, quarterly literature ranged from \$3.38 to \$6.21.

The following officers and teachers were elected in October 1941 for the following year:

E. R. Platt Horace Carter Waymon Giles Mrs. Maxwell Velma Giles Virginia Pasley Mrs. Ditmars Nell Maxwell Lillian Hartley Dorothy Johnston Roberta Platt

Virginia Pasley Velma Giles Mary Anna Dyer Mr. Neal

Superintendent Teacher-Men's Class Assistant Teacher-Men's Class Assistant Teacher-Women's Class Teacher-Young People's Class Assistant Teacher-Young People Teacher—Junior Class Assistant Teacher-Junior Class Teacher-Card Class Assistant Teacher-Card Class Secretary & Treasurer of Sunday School Pianist Song Leader Secretary & Treasurer of church Janitor

March 1, 1942: Mary Anna Dyer was elected Sunday School Secretary and Roberta Platt was elected as church secretary.

On October 4, 1942 the following officers and teachers were elected:

E. R. Platt Horace Carter Waymon Giles Mrs. Maxwell Mrs. Carter Velma Giles Mrs. Ditmars Lillian Hartley Mary Anna Dyer Lillian Hartley Velma Giles Velma Giles Superintendent Men's Teacher Assistant Men's Teacher Women's Teacher Assistant Women's Teacher Young People's Teacher Junior Teacher Card Class Teacher Secretary & Treasurer Pianist Assistant Pianist Song Leader

A notation in the 1941–1945 record book indicated there was an election, no date, of the following officers and teachers:

Mr. Carter Waymon Giles Men's Teacher Men's Teacher

Mrs. Maxwell	Women's Teacher
Mrs. Crawford	Women's Teacher
Roberta Platt	Junior Class
Lillian Hartley	Card Class
Gordon Hartley	Secretary
Lillian Hartley	Pianist
Velma Giles	Song Leader

Worship service was conducted by Supt. E. R. Platt during the 1941-1945 period, except for the following substitutions:

Velma Giles	7 Sundays
Wilma Dean Gergory	1 Sunday
Ruth Gregory (Mrs.	
Ruth Parker)	10 Sundays
Harold Johnston	1 Sunday
Mrs. Torbett	1 Sunday
Roberta Platt	1 Sunday
Preacher	2 Sundays
Mrs. Maxwell	2 Sundays
Rev. Houser	8 Sundays

During the 1941-1945 period the electricity bill was paid in part by the Sunday School and part by the Epworth League, the young people's special service which was held each Sunday evening. For example, on November 16, 1941, the Sunday School paid \$.84 and the League paid \$.75 on the electricity bill. Literature each quarter cost from \$5.00 to \$6.20. Mrs. Bunnell was paid \$1.00 a month for sweeping the church building. Other expenditures were:

Benevolence to Guy Murphy each fourth Sunday \$1.53 to \$3.50

Hill Moore for two ricks of wood	\$4.75
Arkansas Orphanage	1.55
Wiggins Birthday	1.25
Hendrix College	1.00

Beginning in 1946 the practice was started collecting birthday offerings each Sunday. When anyone had a birthday that person would contribute a penny for each year of his or her age for the birthday offering that week, and other worshippers would contribute pennies. At the end of the year the money was donated to the Children's Home.

According to the Sunday School record book 1945-1949 worship service was conducted by Superintendent Hubert Bunnell except for the following substitutes:

E. R. Platt	5 Sundays in 1946 and 1947
Velma Giles	3 Sundays in 1946
Bro. Wilson	1 Sunday in 1946
Ruth Parker	1 Sunday in 1946
Mrs. H. Bunnell	1 Sunday in 1947
Harold Johnston	5 Sundays in 1947

Superintendent Art Massey served in 1948 and conducted the worship service each Sunday except for the following substitutes:

Harold Johnston	1 Sunday
Hubert Bunnell	7 Sundays

Ren David served as Superintendent of the Sunday School during 1949 and 1950 and conducted the worship service each Sunday except for the following substitutes:

Art Massey	4 Sundays
Raymond Matthews	6 Sundays
Harold Johnston	5 Sundays
Mr. Kleeb	1 Sunday
Velma Giles	1 Sunday

During 1949-1950 Gordon and Lillian Hartley recorded the Sunday School minutes.

A notation in the record book 1945-1949 shows the following officers and teachers were elected to serve from November 1946 to October 5, 1947:

Mr. Platt	Men's Class
Hubert Bunnell	Men's Class
Mrs. Crawford	Women's Class
Mrs. Bunnell	Women's Class
Veda Ditmars	Young People's Class
Mary Anna Dyer	Young People's Class
Roberta Charnahan	Junior Class
Mrs. Phillips	Junior Class
Ruth Parker	Card Class
Velma Giles	Pianist
Lillian Hartley	Pianist

A notation from November 1946 to October 5, 1947 showed the following:

Amount raised by Sunday School	\$74.51
Benevolences	7.00
Lesson Supplies	27.00
All other causes: light bulbs, flowers and janitor	28.86
Cash on hand	10.73

On August 19, 1950 the following was recorded:

From Gordon Hartley to P. E. Cooley, Treasurer, North Arkansas Conference, P.O. Box 26, Blytheville, Arkansas (Rhea Church, Viney Grove Charge, Fayetteville District) 16.25

Expenditures itemized in the Sunday School record book 1945– 1949 showed the following:

1 rick of wood Christmas Tree supplies: 50 lbs. candy 25 lbs. nuts 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> crates oranges 2 bu. apples		2.50 49.80
Tree decorations	2.08	
Orphanage		9.69
Wood		10.00
Literature		1.89-6.23
Hendrix College		2.50
Mowing church yard		1.50 - 4.50
Ice cream, cookies & crackers For Easter		8.68
For pastor school		5.50
"Fire Builder" each Sunday		.50
Flowers for Mr. Platt 12-21-47		5.00
Children's Homes		30.75
Janitor, per month		3.50
Other flowers		10.00

The record book from March 1949 to December 1950 showed:

Sunday School supplies 6-17-49	10.00
Church school rally day 9-29-49	3.00
Paid to church 11-6-49	20.00
Orphans' Home 1-1-50	28.00

According to the 1950–1953 record book, Raymond Matthews was the Sunday School Superintendent in 1951, and he conducted all the worship services during that year except for the following:

Harold Johnston	2 Sundays
Gordon Hartley	4 Sundays
Velma Giles	3 Sundays
Rev. Gray	1 Sunday

Robert Patterson served as Superintendent during the 1952 year and conducted all worship services except the following:

Gordon Hartley	7 Sundays
Velma Giles	4 Sundays
Rev. Gray	1 Sunday
Carl Ezell	1 Sunday
Amma Maxwell	1 Sunday
Troy Gregory	2 Sundays

No information is available concerning who served as Sunday School Superintendent from 1953 to 1955. During that period the following persons conducted worship services:

Gordon Hartley	10 Sundays
Shelby Austin	19 Sundays
Velma Giles	6 Sundays
John Maxwell	1 Sunday
Carl Ezell	1 Sunday
Troy Gregory	1 Sunday

A notation indicated the Sunday School teachers on Sept. 27, 1953 were:

Pat Reed	Ladies Class Subst. Teacher
Dorothy Coones	Young People's class
Roberta Carnahan	Junior class
Mrs. Maxwell	Primary class

During these years Gordon Hartley prepared the minutes for the Sunday School, except on November 4, 1951 when Velma Giles performed this service.

The Third Quarterly Conference was held at Rhea on March 4, 1951 at 4:00 P.M.

Another notation in the 1953–1954 record book, no date, showed teachers to be Mrs. Maxwell, children; Roberta Carnahan, children; and Helen Hutchins, youth.

Expenditures recorded in the 1950-1953 record book showed insurance on the church building began in 1950, the annual cost being \$16.06. Other expenses were:

Janitor, per month	
	1.00
Light bill, per month	1.53
Bill Twilley, mowing 1951	-
Flowers, 1951	10.00
	4.00
Birthday offering to orphans' home	20.00
Pastor's trip to Dallas	· · · · •
	5.00
Pastor's insurance	3.00
Literature	
Song books 1953	11.85 - 12.38
	12.28
Blinds 1953	
Cancer Fund	10.86
	5.00

No information was recorded in the Sunday School record book from 1953 to 1956 concerning the worship service. It is unknown who was the Superintendent. Expenditures from October 1953 to September 1954 were as follows:

Flowers for Cooley	1.00
Broom and polish	4.00
Literature	1.75
Fire Insurance	11.66 - 12.24
Tornado Insurance	9.90
	5.50
Bro. Riggs—salary	5.00
Bro. Riggs—conference	20.00
Bro. Riggs—insurance	4.00
Bro. Riggs—salary	33.00
REA-lights	
C. C. Bunnell-mowing	1.53
Bro. Riggs-salary	4.00
	10.00

From October 1954 to September 1955 expenses were:

Gift	
Mutual insurance	2.00
Bro. Riggs	15.00
	34.00
Literature Broom	9.90-11.28
Broom	1.30

Wood: Charlie Lawhorn	3.00
Flowers: Dola Matthews	3.00
C. C. Bunnell-mowing	4.00
Maps and secretary book	14.59

Shelby Austin served as Superintendent in 1956-1957 and conducted the worship service each Sunday except for the following substitutes:

Carl Ezell	9 Sundays
Gordon Hartley	1 Sunday
Gaston Matthews	1 Sunday

Gordon Hartley served as secretary and recorded the minutes in 1956-1957.

No records are available concerning the Sunday School from 1957 to 1962.

Beginning in 1962, for a ten vear period. Ira Hutchens served as Superintendent of the Sunday School at the Rhea Methodist Church and conducted the worship service each Sunday in 1962 except for the following substitutes:

Gordon Hartley	3 Sundays
Velma Giles	2 Sundays

No recorded information is available concerning the worship service from 1963 through 1966. Gordon Hartley prepared the minutes during this period and was apparently the secretary-treasurer. Expenditures recorded were:

Light bill, each month		1.65
Flowers	х	3.09
Literature		9.43
Helen Reed—mowing		5.00

No information was recorded about the worship service except the attendance from 1967 to 1968.

In 1969 the records show three expenditures:

Orphans Home	50.00
Lawn Mowing	4.00
Lawn Mowing	4.00

No worship service information was recorded from 1968 to 1972, other than attendance.

Giles, Waymon, Farmington, Arkansas Hartley, Lillian, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas Rhea Sunday School Record Books 1920–1985



Rhea Sunday School circa 1913

L. to R.: Front Row: Bobby Maxwell, Maude Allen, Buford Jacobs, Allie Norwood, Clara Allen, Birdie Norwood, Alene Jacobs (or Edna Wassum)

2nd Row: Unknown, Nola Holt, Otto Gregory, Clarence Jacobs, Brook Blake, Mamie Crawford, Roy Allen

3rd Row: Ina Crawford, Bobby Stokes, Unknown Norwood, Unknown Photograph taken and developed by Clyde Crawford.

Photo courtesy of Frances Williams; names, Ina Maxwell

Summary of expenditures for 1972 were:

Literature	91.82
Electric bill	75.41
Fuel	42.00
Insurance	91.00
Stoves	20.50
Flowers	5.15

From 1973 to 1978 Floyd James Nash served as Sunday School Superintendent and conducted the worship service each Sunday except for the following substitutes:

Ira Hutchens	16 Sundays 1973	13 Sundays 1976
	10 Sundays 1974	16 Sundays 1977
	20 Sundays 1975	8 Sundays 1978
Gordon Hartley	2 Sundays 1973	2 Sundays 1976
	6 Sundays 1974	12 Sundays 1977
	6 Sundays 1975	23 Sundays 1978
Dorothy Nash	1 Sunday 1977	

In 1979 Gordon Hartley served as the Superintendent and conducted the worship service each Sunday except when Floyd James Nash substituted on two Sundays. Gordon Hartley has continued to serve as Superintendent to date and conducted the worship service each Sunday except when Dorothy Nash conducted the service twice in 1982, three times in 1984 and five Sundays in 1985.

Expenditures for 1973 to 1976 included literature averaging \$21.93 quarterly, REA \$7.70, flowers for Amma Maxwell \$5.15, flowers for Twilley \$5.15, tuning piano \$25.00, propane \$15.51 to \$54.20. Methodist Children's Home \$48.00 and secretary book \$3.68.

From 1976 to 1981 expenditures included literature quarterly average \$31.63, REA \$5.67-\$9.28 monthly, Methodist Children's Home \$46.50, flowers for Twilley \$10.30, flowers for Rev. Smith's mother \$8.79, flowers for Johnston \$10.04, butane \$63.98 and other flowers \$6.18-\$10.04.

Between 1981 and 1985 Gordon Hartley conducted the religious services each Sunday services were held, with Dorothy Nash substituting for him on March 21, 1982; October 10, 1982; January 8, 1984; April 5, 1984; June 3, 1984; and August 11, September 15, September 22, September 29 and October 6, 1985. During this period the collection ranged from twenty-five cents to sixty cents per person.



Sunday School Class, Early 1940's L. to R.: Teacher Velma Giles, Nell Maxwell, Roberta Platt, Mary Anna Dyer, Harold Johnston. Front: Wilfred Thompson Courtesy of Alpha Jean Ward



#### Rhea Sunday School Group

L. to R.: Front Row: Ruth Hartley, Unknown, Mildred Hartley, Alta West, Edna Wassum, Lottie Henderson 2nd Row: Sam Edmiston, Annie West, Maude Franks, Maggie Hartley, Lillie Franks

Courtesy of Kate Cheatham and Frances Williams



Prior to the establishment of Rhea School District No. 143 in 1886, the first authenticated school building in the Rhea community was located on what is now the Hartley farm, one half mile east and approximately a mile north of the Rhea settlement. The one-room school, called Amity, continued to be in existence until School District No. 143 was created in 1886.

The Rhea mercantile store journals (1865–1870) show a number of school books and supplies were sold to the community residents, which indicates there was an established school in the community. The journals also show C. W. Rains was the teacher in the fall of 1869. A notation by William H. Rhea in the journals states that he, William H. Rhea, was to provide a school for C. W. Rains at that time.

School books and supplies were purchased on a year round basis, from September through August, at the Rhea store in Rhea. Over a period of a year and a half, from July 1868 through December 1869, the following major school purchases were made:

Wm. M. Wilson	16 Items	Solomon Burrow	5
W. H. Rhea	14	David Maberry	5
DeKalb Holt	13	R. M. Divin	4
Mrs. M. Wooddy	9	C. W. Rains (teache	er)
		Fall of 1869	4
Ed West	6	Capt. Bunch	4
C. F. Rogers	5		

Other customers who purchased school items were John Maberry, Isaac McPherson, Thomas Whited, W. E. Farley, A. Henbest, R. W. Barnes, C. D. Friedell, Henry P. Carnahan, F. M. Woodruff, Joseph Tilley, Gib Cohea, W. Ferguson, James Bunnell, Ben Holt, J. D. Powell, P. G. Higgins, Mrs. Jane Holt, Samuel Nix, John Mock, Mrs. H. Crawford, Jef Cabe (school bucket), D. B. Mason and R. D. Crawford.

Three dictionaries were purchased in 1868 and 1870, one by John Mock (80¢), one by David Maberry paid with a hide on January 12, 1870 and one by D. B. Mason (\$1.25).

The following school books were sold at the Rhea Store in Rhea between July 1868 and January 1870:

1st Reader	.50	P. G. Higgins, Samuel Nix
2nd Reader, Wilsons	.50	DeKalb Holt, R. D. Crawford
3rd Reader	.75	C. F. Rogers, DeKalb Holt
4th Reader	1.00	DeKalb Holt, Ed West, David
		Maberry
McGuffeys Reader	.75	Thomas Whited, Wm. M.
		Wilson
5th Reader	1.25	Wm. H. Rhea, R. M. Woodruff,
		Mrs. Jane Holt, R. M. Divin,
		D. K. Holt, Mrs. M. Wooddy
Smith's Grammar	.75	Mrs. M. Wooddy, William H.
		Rhea, F. M. Woodruff
Mental Arithmetic	.50	Lem Wooddy, Jef Cabe
Ray's Arithmetic	1.00	W. E. Farley, Capt. Bunch,
		Wm. M. Wilson, Wm. H. Rhea,
		Gib Cohea, W. Ferguson
Davies Arithmetic	.50	James Bunnell
Geography	.80	Wm. H. Rhea, R. M. Divin,
		Wm. Wilson, Sol Burrow
Spelling Books	.20	Thirty books sold

In addition to school books, other school items sold at the Rhea store included slate  $30^{\circ}$ , bottle of ink  $15^{\circ}$ ,  $^{1/2}$  doz. pen points  $12^{\circ}$ ,  $^{1/2}$  gr. paper 20°, school bucket \$1.00, slate pencil 5°, pencil 20°, ledger \$2.50, lead pencil 10°, memoranda book 10° and copy book 20°.

Rhea School District No. 143 was in existence for sixty years, from 1886 to 1946. On April 27, 1886, School District No. 143 was created by order of the Washington County Court as the result of a petition of S. B. Hardy and sundry other citizens of Washington County. The school district included the following lands: in Township 15 North Range 32 West all of Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8; the West half of Section 4 and the Northwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 9; in Township 16 North Range 32 West the East half of Section 31, the West half of Section 32, the Southeast quarter of Section 32 and the West half of the Northeast quarter of Section 32.

On April 6, 1887, B. E. Woodruff and his wife Sarah J. Woodruff deeded land for the school building, consisting of 81/100 acre, to J. L. Gregory, J. M. Pearson and A. S. Barnes, Trustees of Rhea's Mill School District No. 143. The description of the land was as follows:

Beginning at a stone 15x10x7 in. 14 chains 91 links East and 30 links South of the North West corner of Section 5, Township 15 North Range 32 West, thence East 2 chains 4 links, thence South 4 chains, thence West 2 chains 4 links thence North 4 chains to the place of beginning, being 81/ 100 acre.

Based on the measurements of a surveyor's chain equals 66 feet and a link equals 7.92 inches, the school building lot in the Rhea settlement was a rectangle, measuring 163.68 feet by 264 feet.

The original Tshaped school building, located in the northwest section of town, consisted of three rooms: a large room in the center with two small rooms on each side of the main room. At this time there were two teachers. The small room on the south, called the "little room" by Rhea residents, was used for primary through the fourth grade. The large room in the center of the building, called the "big room" was utilized for the fifth through ninth grades. The small room on the north of the building originally called the elocution room, later used as a discipline room and at times as a play room on rainy days, was removed from the building in the early 1920's. Later, in 1931, with reduced enrollment, there was only one teacher, who held all the classes in the "little room."

In early years drinking water for the school had to be carried in buckets from the Woodruff spring in downtown Rhea, although there was a well just south of the school building in the school yard. The water from this well was considered to be unsatisfactory because of the proximity to the cemetery just north of the school building. Later, in the 1930's, the drinking water was carried in buckets from the nearest home south of the school. Two pupils were excused from lessons for the time it took to walk to the spring or the well and carry the water to the school building. The buckets were set in the rear of the rooms, later on the stage of the big room, with dippers in the buckets. Later, individuals brought their own cups to prevent the spread of germs from the common dipper. Even later, each pupil brought a glass fruit jar and cup and kept his or her supply of water separate from the bucket.

Originally there were no desks. Instead, there were long slatted benches which made it necessary for the pupils to keep their books, tablets or slates and pencils on the seat between other pupils. By 1912 "modern" seats, two-pupil seats with a common desk, were acquired. In 1936 individual desks were obtained for each pupil. At one time there were as many as seventy-five pupils in the early years until about 1920. After that time there was a gradual decrease in enrollment, until, in the mid 1930's, there were approximately twenty-one pupils.

One noted teacher was Billy Swift, 1913–1915, who was rough and rowdy but kept everyone in line. He was a strict disciplinarian, with an eagle eye, a caustic wit and an iron hand that spared no one. His specialty was grammar. Billy Swift stayed at the home of Mam Gibson who smoked an old clay pipe and who lived in the middle of the block on the north side of the street west of the Rhea mansion. It was the custom of Billy Swift to go around the community and stay all night at the homes of his pupils, visiting with the parents. On one occasion Billy Swift went to Charlie Frazier's home, back of the Barnes farm south of Moore's Creek, to stay all night. A rat got one of his socks and carried it off during the night. He never found the sock.

Pupils were called by grade to a bench at the front of the room to read, take turns at math at the board, or recite history and geography.

Pupils looked forward to Friday afternoons when there were spelling bees and ciphering matches.

Early in the history of School District No. 143 the play ground equipment consisted of a Flying Jenny and a teeter totter. In the spring an active recess sport was town ball, an English forerunner of baseball.

A big event about 1927 was the landing of a small airplane in the field just north and east of the school. The entire school was dismissed to see the plane. Word of the plane's landing was spread by telephone, and local residents went to the school, then walked into the field to see the plane.

On October 9, 1935 Ben F. Shelby sold two acres of his land to School District No. 143, the land located a half mile east and about half a mile north of the town of Rhea. County Judge J. E. Jackson, in the Chancery Court of Washington County on November 1, 1935 authorized school directors Carl Ezell, C. W. Crawford and A. S. Alexander to locate the school building of District No. 143 on those two acres—a more central location in the district. The land was described as follows:

A part of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section Thirty-two (32), Township Sixteen (16) North, Range Thirty-two (32) West, more particularly described as beginning at a point 61 rods South of the Northeast corner of the said Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter and thence North  $3^{1/2}$  chains along said East line, thence West  $8^{1/3}$  chains to the center of ditch, thence in a Southeasterly direction with the center of said ditch to a point 61 rods South of the North line of said Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, thence East 3 chains to the place of beginning, containing two (2) acres, more or less.

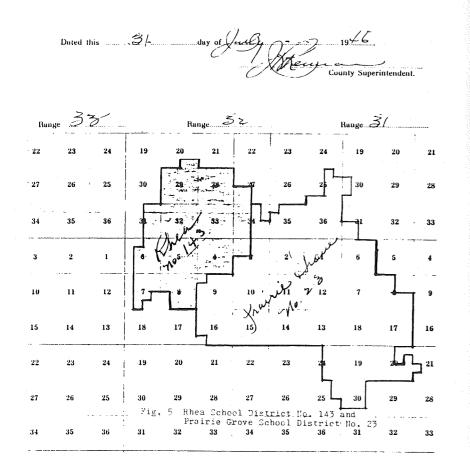
A two-room native stone building was constructed by Wade Cheatham. The structure had a slate roof, guaranteed for fifty years, and the native stones were obtained from Moore's Creek area. Because there were not enough rocks available at that location, the building was completed using a rock fence on mountain land owned by A. S. Alexander, south of Moore's Creek. The building was completed for the fall term of 1936. School was held at that location for ten years.

A petition to the County Board of Education by thirty-eight qualified electors of Rhea School District No. 143 resulted in consolidation with Prairie Grove School District No. 23 on August 16, 1946.

In the southern part of School District No. 143 eight of the qualified electors had Route 3 (now Route 1) Prairie Grove addresses: John Maxwell, Luther Whitmire, Hill Moore, Frank E. Landwith, Harold L. Johnston, H. H. Johnston, F. A. Nash and Frank West. In the northern part of the school district sixteen of the qualified electors had Route 1 Lincoln addresses: B. F. Shelby, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ditmars, C. W. Crawford, Ola Crawford, Grant Brindle, Monroe Neal, Joe H. Coleman, P. O. Ditmars, Grace Brindle, Fred Pasley, M. L. Pasley, C. P. Crawford, Mrs. Elzora Crawford, Jasper Grant and Mrs. Jewell Grant. Fourteen of the qualified Rhea electors in the central part of the school district had Rhea post office addresses: W. A. Carnahan, M. P. Carnahan, John Gratton, Alice Gratton, R. D. Tweedie, Walter Dyer, Mrs. and Mrs. James A Carnahan, Mr. and Mrs. Albert V. Pasley, Charlie Lawhorn, E. R. Platt, Harry Argerbright and Stella Argerbright.

At the time Rhea School District No. 143 was consolidated with Prairie Grove District 23, the Rhea School district included the following lands:

In Township 15 North Range 32 West the Northwest Quarter of Section 3, all of Sections 4 and 5, the East half and East half of the Southwest Quarter and the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 6, the North half and East half of the Southwest Quarter and the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 7, the North half and Southeast Quarter and East half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, and the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest



Quarter of Section 9; in Township 16 North Range 32 West Sections 28, 29, 32 and 33; the Southwest Quarter of Section 27, the South half of the Southeast half of Section 20, East half of Section 31, and the West half of Section 34.

The boundary lines of the school districts were changed with all of Rhea School District No. 143 being added to the Prairie Grove School District No. 23, upon the resolution and request of the Prairie Grove school board members: W. E. N. Phillips (Pres.), Ira B. Hutchens, C. E. Rutherford, Layton McCoy and G. E. Wiswell (Sec.). It was agreed that the school building in the Rhea community would remain for community purposes. On August 10, 1947 the Prairie Grove School District No. 23 deeded for one dollar to Gordon Hartley, Waymon Giles, and C. C. Bunnell, Trustees for the Rhea's Mill community building, the two acres of land. Gordon Hartley resided in and represented the northern section of the Rhea community, C. C. Bunnell resided in and represented the central section of the community, and Waymon Giles resided in and represented the southern section of the Rhea community.

Until 1931 there were two teachers at the Rhea school each year—one who taught primary through the fourth grade, and the other taught fifth through ninth grade. From 1931 until the school was consolidated with Prairie Grove in 1946 one teacher conducted classes for the eight grades. Names of the teachers at Rhea were obtained from school warrants in the Treasurer's Office, Washington County Court House, Fayetteville, except for the year 1915, 1916, 1917, and 1925 when the Court House records were incomplete or missing. Former pupils recalled the names of the teachers for those years.

School warrants for some years showed the names of more than two teachers, indicating one teacher did not complete the full academic year and was replaced by another teacher. Teachers in School District No. 143 were as follows:

1890-1894	W. R. Pearson
1895	W. R. Pearson
<b>4</b> 1	J. N. Millsap
1896	W. R. Pearson
	Julia A. Vaughn
	S. A. Sonderson
1897	Julia Vaughn
	S. A. Sonderson
	Nellie H. Key
1898	Julia A. Vaughn
1899	John A. Miller
	W. R. Pearson
1900	Nora M. Bates
	Lulu Ganaway
1901	George Woods
	Denton Woods
1902	George Woods
	Denton Woods
	Nellie Morgan
	W. L. Anderson
1903	W. E. Rosser
	Anna Rosser
1904	George M. Woods
	Laura Edminston

905	Rose Conley
	George M. Woo

1905	Rose Conley
1000	George M. Woods C. H. Dyer
1906	Blanche Wassum
1907	Etta Smith
1507	Lewis H. Smith
1908	Amy Blakemore
1909	Hattie Giles
1000	W. E. Rosser
1910	C. E. Bennett
1010	Gertrude Ivey
1911	W. H. Osburn
20	F. D. Braley
1912	Amy Blakemore
	F. D. Braley
1913	W. D. (Billy) Swift
	Corine Swift
1914	W. D. Swift
	Jewel Karnes
1915	W. D. Swift
	Corine Swift Payne
	Joy Gregory
1916	Joy Gregory
	Ross Ivey
1917	Bessie Carson
1920	Edna Rankin
	Clyde Rankin
1921	Laura Houston
	Evelyn Jackson
1922	Elmo Glidewell
1923	W. H. Hughes
	Mrs. W. H. Hughes
1924	C. R. Sharrock
	Lucy McCuiston
1925	Clyde Sharrock
	Lucy McCuiston
1926	Floyd Cox
	Grace Strickler
1927	Floyd Cox
	Grace Strickler
1928	Nora David
1000	Harvey Johnson
1929	Nora David
	Harvey Johnson

1930	Roy D. Sharrock
	Buelah Pennel
	Harvey Johnson
	Kinley Johnson, Virgil
	Ramsey and Georgia
	Evans (substitutes)
1931-1932	Roy D. Sharrock
1933-1937	Kinley Johnson
1938-1939	Nora David
1940	Elizabeth E. Evins
1941–1943	Gladys Montgomery
1944	Mrs. J. N. Ray
1945	Sylvia Stout

The teacher who taught the most years at Rhea was W. R. Pearson who taught continuously from 1890 through 1896 and again in 1899, a total of seven years. In later years, Kinley Johnson was the teacher for five continuous years, from 1933 through the 1937 term. Prior to teaching at Rhea, Kinley Johnson taught seven years in Madison County at Mt. Pleasant, Asher and Farmer, one year each school, and at Delaney four years. After teaching five years at Rhea, he taught one year at Habertson and one year at Wyman. Later he worked for twenty-eight years in the post office at Fayetteville.

Names of the school board members were obtained from the Treasurer's Office, Washington County Court House and the County Board of Education of Fayetteville, Arkansas:

1893	C. N. Vaughn
	J. M. Pearson
1894	C. N. Vaughn
1895	M. W. Brooks
	J. B. Matthews
	H. R. Royston
1896	J. B. Matthews
	L. E. Crawford
	H. W. Brooks
1897	L. D. Blakemore
1898	J. B. Matthews
	L. E. Crawford
	H. W. Brooks
1899	J. B. Matthews

					12:
1900	W. M. Brooks		1942 N	lathan Phillips	
1000	L. J. Ganaway			rank McKee	
	J. W. Woodruff			R. Platt	
1901	W. M. Brooks			rank McKee	
1905	P. A. Hartley			R. Platt	
1000	Eli Clouse			lill Moore	
	J. V. Jacobs			. R. Platt	
1907	P. A. Hartley			. C. Bunnell	
1000	E. S. Clouse			ack Ditmars	
	J. B. Matthews	1		. C. Bunnell	
1909	J. B. Matthews			ack Ditmars	
	S. F. Allen			. R. Platt	
	C. S. Crawford				
1911	S. F. Allen	The formula o	ah a al aomonia d	ata fan nangang aga	d aire to treater and
	J. C. Jacobs				ed six to twenty-one
	C. S. Crawford	Ior the Rhea Sci	1001 District I	lo. 143 are as follo	ws:
1913	J. C. Jacobs	Veren	Number	Year	Number
	P. A. Hartley	Year	Number	Iear	Ivumoer
	T. L. Matthews	1928	51	- 1934	41
1921	William Frank	1929	53	1935	41
1922	G. S. Dale	1930	52	1936	41
1923	Loyd Crawford	1931	46	1937	51
1924	T. E. Matthews	1932	50	1938	54
	W. J. David	1933	43	۵,	
1925	Albert V. Pasley		For norman and six to dighteen		
1926	J. F. Matthews		For persons age six to eighteen		
1927	P. A. Hartley	1939	37	1944	25
1928	W. J. David	1941	25	1946	27
1929	A. V. Pasley	1942	36		
1930	P. A. Hartley				
1931	P. A. Hartley	From 1933 t	From 1933 to 1938 the following courses were taught at the		
1932	P. A. Hartley		Rhea School by Kinley Johnson:		
1933	Fred Pasley		U		
1935	Carl Ezell	Fifth Grade:	Reading	, arithmetic, spe	elling, language-
	C. W. Crawford			r, writing, geogra	
	A. S. Alexander		and phy		
1938	A. S. Alexander	Sixth Grade:		, arithmetic, spe	elling, language-
	Clyde Crawford			r, writing, geogra	
1939	Clyde Crawford			ansas history	
	A. S. Alexander	Seventh Grade:		, arithmetic, spe	elling, language-
1940	Clyde Montgomery			r, writing, geogra	
	A. S. Alexander		and phy		
1941	Frank McKee	Eighth Grade:		, arithmetic, spe	elling, language-
	Nathan Phillips			r, writing, geogra	
	C. W. Crawford		and civi		· · · · ·

In January 1934 Kinley Johnson, before classes began, initiated a Bible verse program, whereby the pupils were to quote a major assigned Bible verse from the New Testament each morning over a period of four weeks. Each pupil who fulfilled the requirement was awarded a small red New Testament at the end of the program. The writer was ill with typhoid fever during the first two weeks of the program, but upon returning to school was permitted to quote several assigned verses each morning the last two weeks of the Bible program, thereby earning the New Testament.

When Gladys Montgomery was the teacher at the Rhea school from August 16, 1943 to March 31, 1944, second term beginning December 19, 1943, Ralph B. Jones was the Commissioner of Education. The Rhea school terms were never more than eight months, with school being held every day regardless of the weather. There was no transportation for the pupils. Some pupils walked as much as two miles to the school. The average length of recitation for each class was about ten minutes. When Gladys Montgomery was the teacher the daily program of recitations was as follows:

9:00-9:25	Reading, grades 1–2			
9:25-9:45	Arithmetic, grades 3–4			
9:45-10:05	Arithmetic, grades 5–6			
10:05-10:25	Arithmetic, grades 7–8			
10:25-10:40	Recess			
10:40-11:00	No work			
11:00-11:20	Reading, grades 3–4			
11:20-11:40	Reading, grades 5–6			
11:40-12:00	Reading, grades 7–8			
12:00-1:00	Noon			
1:00 - 1:30	English and spelling, grades 1–2			
1:30-1:50	English and spelling, grades 3–4			
1:50-2:10	English and spelling, grades 5–6			
2:10-2:30	English and spelling, grades 7–8			
2:30-2:45	Recess			
2:45 - 3:00	Reading, grades 1–2			
	Monday and Tuesday			
3:00-3:20	All health, all grades			
3:20 - 3:45	History and geography, grades 5-6			
3:45 - 4:00	History and geography, grades 7-8			
History and health on Monday, Wednesday and Friday				
Geography and penn	nanship Thursday and Tuesday			

Names of textbooks: Grade 1: **Preprimer** Primer First Reader Science Grade 2: Reading: 4 books Arithmetic: Fun with Numbers Spelling: New Webster Spelling Grade 3: Reading: 3 books Arithmetic: Child Life Arithmetic English and spelling: New Webster Spelling Fun with English Health and science: Friendly Living Now and Long Ago Grade 4: Reading: Facts and Fun Arithmetic: Triangle -2 English: Adventures in English Spelling: New Webster Spelling Grade 5: Reading: World at Work Arithmetic: Triangle English: English in Practice Spelling: New Webster Spelling Grade 6: Reading: World Progress Arithmetic: Triangle English: English at Work Spelling: New Webster Spelling Grade 7: Arithmetic: Triangle Reading: Anthology English: Jr. Units of English Spelling: New Webster Spelling History: Our World Today Geography: America's Road to Now Number of pupils, school term 1943-1944: First grade: 4 Second grade: 4 Third grade: 5

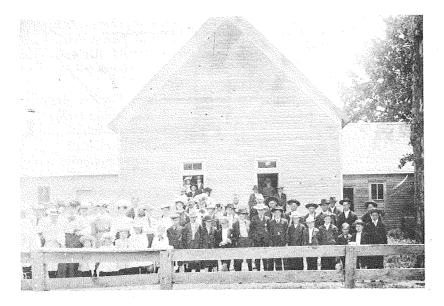
Fourth grade: 8, 1 dropped Fifth grade: 5, 2 dropped Sixth grade: 2 Seventh grade: 4, 1 dropped Eighth grade: 1 Pupils, school term 1943-1944: First grade: Anderson, Bette Lou Brindle, Doris Lee Neale, Evelyn Rhines, Bernice Second grade: Alexander, Vernon Crawford, Johnny Ray Moore, Don Rhines, Hubert Third grade: Brindle, Geneva Crawford, Donna Lee Higganbotham, Raymond Kincheloe, Cora Faye Kincheloe, Louise Fourth grade: Higganbotham, Carl Lee Higganbotham, Jessie Maxwell, Ina Faye, dropped third month Maxwell, Billy R. Moore, Dale Nash, James Thompson, Charles Twilley, Billy Fifth grade: Asher, Betty Brindle, Donna R. Kincheloe, Mildred, dropped seventh month Nash, Gene Vanover, Elma Gene, dropped end of first semester Sixth grade: Kincheloe, Billy Neale, Louie Seventh grade: Alexander, Alberta Moore, Jessie

Nash, Peggy Vanover, Betty, dropped end of first semester Eighth grade: Alexander, Betty



Teacher at Rhea

Courtesy of Marie Neal



School Building and Church Congregation, circa 1905 Courtesy of Kate Cheatham



School had two doors, one for girls and one for boys Courtesy of Reba Richmond

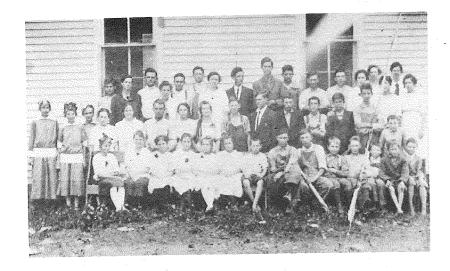


Senior Room, Rhea School, September 19, 1911

L. to R.: Front Row: Second pupil Carl Ezell, 3rd pupil Fred Pasley, 9th pupil Mildred Hartley, 10th Eva Marshall 2nd Row: Fourth Ora Gregory, 5th Ruth Crawford 3rd Row: Fifth Orlan Crawford, 7th Loyd Crawford, 8th Allie Alexander

4th Row: Teacher W. H. Osburn or F. D. Braley, 2nd Allie Gregory, 3rd Nellie Matthews, 4th Esther Crawford, 5th Joy Gregory, 6th Minnie Gregory

> Photo courtesy of Reba Richmond; names Troy Gregory and Ruth Holt Payne



### Rhea School, circa 1915, Grades 5–9

L. to R.: First Row: 1. Ruth Holt, 3. Ollie Barnes or Velma Giles, 9. Roy Norwood, 10. Denton Norwood, 11. Ocie Jacobs 2nd Row: 1. Flora Branchcomb, 2. Zella Norwood, 3. Julie Branchcomb, 4. Joy Gregory, 5. Ora Gregory, 7. Odie Barnes, 8. Celia Crawford, 14. Lacy Frazier, 16. Earvy Branchcomb 3rd Row: 1. Tip Frazier, 2. Loyd Crawford, 7. Ruth Crawford, 8. Billy Swift, Teacher, 12. Lester Matthews, 14. Zettie Franks Photo Courtesy of Reba Richmond; names Ruth Holt Payne



Rhea School, Grades 1-4, 1915

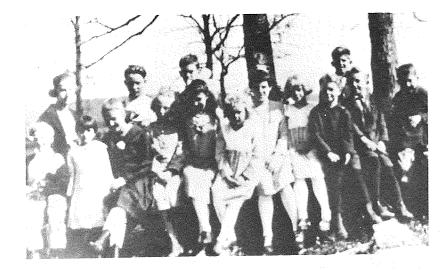
L. to R.: Front Row: Sara Frazier, Stephens, Norene and Corene Stephens, Jewel Edmiston, Velma Gregory, Hattie Gleason, Veda Bunnell, Vera Allen, Geraldine Allen, Hazel Barnes, Pasley Frazier, C. S. Dyer, Tom Dyer, Harold Holt

2nd Row: Unknown, Gertie Matthews, Unknown, Cleo Frazier, Ollie Barnes, Carl Ezell, Delmas Allen, Leslie Gregory, Ralph Bunnell, Raymond Norwood

3rd Row: Allie Branchcomb, Ethel Rodgers, Norlea Marshal, Mamie Edmiston, Jeanie Barnes, Powell Gregory, Joe Tilley, Lacy Frazier, Sumner Alexander, Bernard Cunningham, Lacy Gregory, Raymond Matthews

Teacher: Corene Swift

Courtesy of Clyde Dyer



Rhea School, Grades 1-4, 1920

L. to R.: Front Row: Herald Gregory, Dorothy Mae Gregory, Ammalea Gregory, Irene Franks, Mary Bunnell, Bonnie Maxwell, Lois Bunnell, Gladys Maxwell, Gordon Hartley, George Franks Back Row: Teacher Edna Rankin, Tom Dyer, Charles Branchcomb, Clyde Dyer, Elmo Frazier, Leslie Gregory Courtesy of Edna Luginbuel via Roberta C.

Courtesy of Edna Luginbuel via Roberta C. Kennedy



Rhea School, Grades 1–4, 1930 L. to R.: First Row: 3. Reba Pasley, 6. Mary Anna Dyer Back Row: 7. Virginia Pasley Courtesy of Reba Richmond



Rhea School 1930 L. to R.: Teacher Harvey

L. to R.: Teacher Harvey Johnson, Ercell Matthews, Frank David, Kenneth Lockhart, Gordon Hartley, Mabel Matthews, Ruby McCamish, Frances Hartley, Lillian McCamish, Fannie David Courtesy of Frances Williams



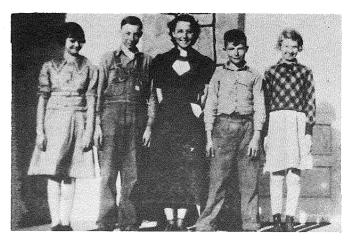
Floyd Cox 1986, Rhea Teacher 1926-1927



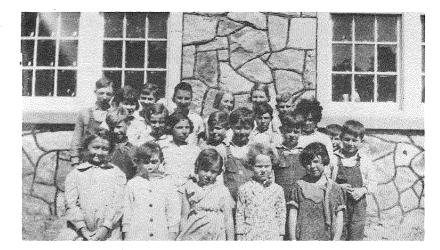
Rhea Teacher, Kinley Johnson and son Jerome 1935 Courtesy of Kinley Johnson



Kinley Johnson 1986, Rhea Teacher 1933–1938 Courtesy of Kinley Johnson



First 8th Grade Graduating Class at New School, Spring 1937 L. to R.: Reba Pasley, Harold Johnston, Nona May Nash, Richard Crawford, Alpha Jean Crawford Courtesy of Reba Richmond



#### Rhea School 1936

Row 1: Dorothy Lee Maxwell, Regina Theim, Peggy Nash, Betty Lou Vanover, Juanita Bunnell

Rows 2–3: Joe Crawford, Rita Pasley, Freda Theim, Wayne Matthews, J. B. Curtsinger, Bennie Theim, Leon Crawford, Freda Richey

Rows 4-5: Harold Johnston, Mona Faye Matthews, Reba Pasley, Nona May Nash, Dorothy Johnston, Alpha Jean Crawford, Granville Guess, Richard Crawford



Gladys Montgomery 1947, Teacher 1941–1943 Courtesy of Gladys Montgomery



Gladys Montgomery 1980

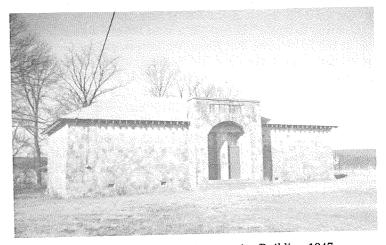
Courtesy of Gladys Montgomery

#### References

Branchcomb, Charles and Marianna, Prairie Grove, Arkansas County Board of Education Minutes, Book No. 1, Fayetteville, Ark. Cox, Floyd, Fayetteville, Arkansas Crawford, Ola, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas Ditmars, Jack, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Dyer, Tom and Irene, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Gregory, Troy, Oaks, Oklahoma Hartley, Lillian, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas Kennedy, Roberta Platt Carnahan, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Luginbuel, Edna, Lincoln, Arkansas Montgomery, Gladys, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Nash, Dorothy, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas Nolen, Virginia, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Order by County Judge H. E. Jackson, Chancery Court Record, Washington County Court House, Fayetteville, Arkansas Payne, Ruth Holt, Lincoln, Arkansas Petition, County Board of Education, Fayetteville, Arkansas Resolution and Request, County Board of Education, Fayetteville Warranty Deed, B. F. Shelby to School District No. 143, Book 292, Page 31, Circuit Clerk's Office, Washington County Court House, Fayetteville, Arkansas Warranty Deed, B. E. Woodruff and Sarah J. Woodruff to J. L. Greg-

ory, J. M. Pearson and A. S. Barnes, Circuit Clerk's Office, Washington County Court House, Fayetteville

Washington County Court Record, April 27, 1886, Washington County Court House, Fayetteville, Arkansas



Rhea School Converted to Community Building 1947

RHEA BUSINESSES

The major business activities in the Rhea community were by the Rhea family members from 1858 when William H. Rhea purchased the mill from Woodruff until about 1920 when Walker Rhea (William H. Rhea's youngest son) stopped operating the last Rhea family store.

After William H. Rhea purchased the mill from Woodruff in 1858 and moved to Rhea, in addition to operating the mill, it is reported that he operated a restaurant in his home. At the same time he built the first Rhea family store, about one hundred feet east of the Rhea mansion, on the south side of the road. The one story building had an adjacent warehouse, with a board walk or porch without a roof in front of the building that extended to the street. Eventually there were two Rhea family stores, one on each side of the road. The large mercantile store, a two-story building, was on the northeast corner of the street, across the street from the Rhea mansion. William Rhea continued to operate his businesses until his death in 1884, when his wife Elizabeth Powell Rhea and his sons operated the businesses. William H. Rhea was one of Washington County's most important merchants before and after the civil war until his death at the age of fifty-nine.

According to Ardle Thomas "If a man bought a good bill of groceries at the Rhea store, Mr. Rhea (Walker) would tell the customer to go upstairs where Mr. Rhea kept a fifty gallon barrel of whiskey with a tin cup attached to it, and help himself to the whiskey. Sometimes the customer would drink so much he fell down stairs after a few drinks. This occurred before 1910 before my time. After I started going to the store they didn't have the whiskey barrel upstairs. Cordell Henderson said he took a drink once after he bought the groceries, but he never did it again. It was too much for him."

It is reported that a 1900 business directory, which cannot be located, indicated Rhea population was one hundred; R. Dement and F. Tilly were Justices of Peace; C. P. Bowles operated a general store; C. F. Marshall was a blacksmith, with his shop south of the Rhea road near the stream from the spring; Walker Rhea operated a general store; and Charlie N. Vaughn was a hotel keeper, his hotel located where the Alfred Reed home is today. During the 1910's and 1920's school children Allie Alexander and Maggie Hartley paid to keep their horses and buggies at the hotel (where Sam Holt groomed the horses), walking to school a block and a half north of the hotel. A barber shop, west of the mill and back of the two-story mercantile store, was run by Bobby Stokes.

Wyatt Woodruff operated a grist mill near his home in Rhea and a saw mill near the spring. Wyatt Woodruff and his wife Rhoda Woodruff, who lived in the early 1900's two blocks north of the twostory mercantile store, in what was later called the Carnahan home, had two children, Ethel and Clarence who attended college.

From 1909 to 1912 Robert A. (Bob) Barnes was a store operator and postmaster while residing in his home two blocks north, on the hill east of the Woodruff home and on the east side of the street. In 1912 James (Tom) Edmiston became a store owner and postmaster until 1916, when Frank J. Matthews operated the store until 1921.

The large two-story mercantile store was built and first operated by J. C. Tilley. There were two buildings side by side in this location, with old fashioned porches, one building for groceries and including a millinery shop. The other building was the post office east of the mercantile store. The upper story of the Tilley Mercantile belonged to the Odd Fellow Lodge, where the Masonic Lodge also held their meetings. In 1924 Walter Dyer, also a blacksmith, purchased the J. C. Tilley Mercantile, selling groceries and dry goods.

At one time there were two blacksmith shops in Rhea, in the 1910's and 1920's.

Store owners in the 1920's were Albert Neal for one or two years, Fred Cohea for three years. The original Rhea store south of the road burned about 1926, when Clyde Sharrock operated the store. After that time there was only one store in Rhea.

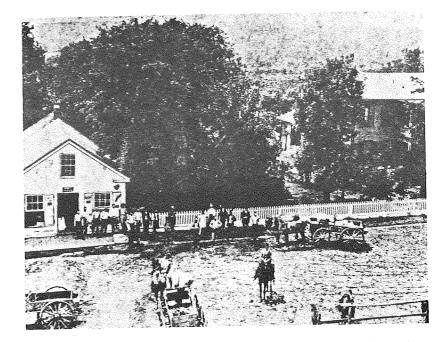
Sam Maxwell owned and operated the two-story Tilley Mercantile in the early 1930's until his death on December 8, 1933, when his wife Maude L. Maxwell began operating the store until 1934, the last operator of the large two-story mercantile store.

Other store owners were Kinley Johnson, the school teacher, and his wife Gayle, who was the postmaster from 1935 to 1938, who were the first operators of the new and last store building adjacent to their home, the former Branchcomb home with its bay windows a half a block north of the Rhea road. Other store owners were Gaston Matthews 1938–1939 and William Lester Beavers 1940 until his death when his wife Roberta Beavers continued to operate the store until the mid 1960's while she also served as the postmaster. After the post office was discontinued in 1963 Roberta Beavers continued to operate the store for a short time, the last store in Rhea.

After Tom and Irene Dyer retired from their businesses in Prairie Grove in 1970–1971, Tom operated a blacksmith shop in Rhea until they returned to Prairie Grove in 1979.

Verified records indicate there were two doctors who practiced medicine in Rhea: Dr. W. A. Houck and Dr. Charles Feathers. Dr. Houck was a resident doctor, with his office located in a little red building at the northeast corner of Dunaway Street and Rhea road, west of the two-story mercantile store. Dr. Houck had lost an arm in the Civil War before the age of twenty, but he could saddle or harness a horse and be on his way to a patient in a short time. He could set broken bones with the help of an assistant. After Dr. Houck died in 1905, Dr. Charles Feathers (1881–1914), who lived in Farmington, practiced medicine in rural areas including Rhea, riding his horse to Rhea and using the same office previously used by Dr. Houck. Dr. Feathers died at an early age from an appendicitis operation in 1914, the last doctor to practice medicine in Rhea. It is also reported that Dr. Lafe Twilley practiced medicine in Rhea, but this information could not be verified.

According to Donald Parks, farmers had mutual telephone lines in the early part of this century. A telephone exchange existed in Rhea for about twenty years, first established and operated by Daniel Branchcomb in his home distinguished for its bay windows. located in the center of town on what was then called Dunaway Street, until his daughter Flora became old enough to operate the switchboard. Flora Branchcomb Kirk stated that they wore out three switchboards through the 1920's, indicating that phones were popular. Each family was assigned a designated ring on a mutual telephone line, and a single ring resulted in the operator connecting the party to another line. After Branchcombs moved from Rhea, the Mayberry family operated the telephone exchange in their home. one residence west of the Branchcomb residence, until 1935, when the exchange was moved to Lincoln. Today, telephone service in the Rhea community is supplied by the Prairie Grove Telephone Company.

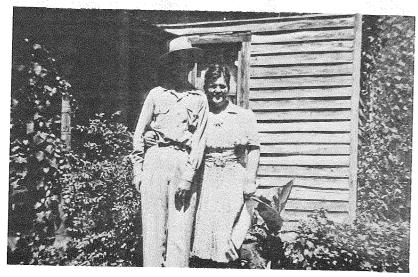


Original Rhea Family Store and Rhea Mansion 1900 (Photo taken from top floor of mill)



Tilley Mercantile Store, 1908

Courtesy of Kate Cheatham



Bob and Roberta Beavers, Store Owners 1940's-1960's Courtesy of Nell Mobley

#### References

Carmichael, Mildred, Fayetteville, Arkansas Dyer, Clyde, Junction City, Oregon Dyer, Tom and Irene, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Gregory, Troy, Oaks, Oklahoma Kirk, Flora Branchcomb, Fayetteville, Arkansas Maxwell, Ina, Lincoln, Arkansas Nolen, Virginia, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Parks, Donald, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Payne, Ruth Holt, Rhea Valley: Once a Booming Trading Center; Time Took Its Toll. LINCOLN LEADER, November 30, 1967 Payne, Ruth Holt, articles, LINCOLN LEADER, undated and March 21, 1985.



Josie Dyer and Roy Gene Franks, Rhea Store, Maggie Powell Home, Carnahan Home on the Hill 1950 Courtesy of Clyde S. Dyer

Me THE CLUB

The Rhea Home Extension club, called the Friendship Club, is an organization of adult homemakers who are interested in increasing their knowledge and skills, and in improving their surroundings, in working for better, happier families, better homes, better farms and a better community.

There is no record when the first Rhea community club began, but the author recalls the club during the 1930's. Although home demonstration clubs began in Washington County in 1916, it was sixteen years later when all clubs became Home Demonstration Clubs in 1932 in the county, therefore the Rhea Club, as a home demonstration club, began sometime between 1916 and 1932.

During the past seventy years there have been four Washington County Home Demonstration Agents serving the Rhea community as well as other homemaker clubs. The first County Home Demonstration Agent was Harriet B. King, appointed March 1, 1916 and served until 1950. Margaret Brownfield was appointed in 1951 and served until 1972 when Mary Gilbert was appointed, serving until 1985. The present County Home Demonstration Agent is Roma Gordon.

A major special activity of the Rhea Club throughout the years has been to serve lunch at all-day farm auctions. During the 1930's plate lunches were served at the farm sales. Today, sandwiches, pie and drinks are sold.

The earliest record books, in 1943, shows the president was Ola Crawford, the vice president was Veda Ditmars, the secretarytreasurer was Bessie Moore, and the reporter was Roberta Beavers. There were eighteen members during 1943: Roberta Beavers, Ola Crawford, Zora Crawford, Katie Curtsinger, Ethelyne Curtsinger, Veda Ditmars, Mrs. Fred Ezell, Velma Giles, Ellen Matthews, Ina Maxwell, Zettie Maxwell, Ruby McKee, Bessie Moore, Gladys Montgomery, Hester Mobley, Dorothy Nash, Rella Pasley and Ina Thompson.

Special activities during 1943 were lunch served at Bob Bladesaws sale; quilted for Zora Crawford, quilt to be given away at school house March 26th at 10¢ a chance, bringing \$15.15 which was given to the Red Cross; egg roast at Gladys Montgomery farm on the creek; lunch served at Phillips sale, with \$8.00 from the sale used to order song books for the church; July picnic at Lake Wedington; shower for Dorothy Nash; Halloween party; bridal shower for Ruth Parker; paid church janitor for three months; bought new curtains for the church stage.

In 1944 the president of the club was Hester Mobley, the vice president was Ina Thompson, secretary-treasurer Velma Giles. There were eighteen members: Ola Crawford, Elzora Crawford, Veda Ditmars, Mrs. Fred Ezell, Velma Giles, Ellen Matthews, Bessie Moore, Gladys Montgomery, Hester Mobley, Dorothy Nash, Rella Pasley, Mrs. Stephens, Irene Dyer, Mrs. Gratton, Maude Redway, Roberta Beavers, Ethelyne Curtsinger and Elsie Whitmire. Special activities for 1944 were apron and bonnet sale, donated \$5.00 to Red Cross, picnic at Lake Wedington, Halloween party by Bessie Moore, and party at Ina Thompson's home December 1. Few members attended the May meeting due to the berry harvest.

In 1945 the president was Ina Thompson, vice president Veda Ditmars and secretary-treasurer Velma Giles. There were twentyfour members in 1945: Roberta Beavers, Katie Curtsinger, Ola Crawford, Gladys Center, Elzora Crawford, Ethelyne Curtsinger, Veda Ditmars, Irene Dyer, Mrs. Ezell, Velma Giles, Mrs. Gratton, Minnie Hogan, Ellen Matthews, Bessie Moore, Rella Pasley, Maude Redway, Ina Thompson, Elsie Whitmire, Jerry Wilson, Zettie Maxwell, Ruth Parker, Amma Carter, Faye Neal and Kate Cheatham. Special activities for the year were quilting party, sale of items made from feed sacks, lunch served at Frank Matthews' sale and lunch served at Mr. Hogan's sale.

There are no records available for the years 1946 through 1949.

In 1950 the president was Ina Thompson, vice president Roberta Beavers, secretary-treasurer Bessie Moore, reporter Velma Giles. There were twenty-eight members and their special activities were: sent clothes to crippled children's home; wedding gift to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Crawford; flowers to Ola Crawford; gift to Mrs. Platt; contribution to PTA; \$5.00 donation to Red Cross; wedding showers for Mr. and Mrs. Jack Swenson, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Reed and Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ditmars; pink and blue showers for Mr. and Mrs. Richard McLane and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Harred.

In 1951 the president was Eula Curtsinger, vice president Mildred McLane, secretary-treasurer Theda Ellis and reporter Roberta Beavers. This was the first year that Margaret Brownfield served as Home Demonstration Agent. There were thirty-one active members: Roberta Beavers, Roberta Carnahan, Lena Cole, Ann Coones, Ola Crawford, Ethelyne Curtsinger, Katie Curtsinger, Veda Ditmars, Theda Ellis, Mrs. Ezell, Ruby Franks, Velma Giles, Thelda Flynt, Lillian Hartley, Helen Hutchens, Mrs. Johnston, Amma Maxwell, Mrs. McCamish, Mildred McLane, Bessie Moore, Rella Pasley, Ina Thompson, Lois Harred, Lucy McLane, Eula Curtsinger, Ollie Hart, Mary Twilley, Veneda Ezell, Kate Matthews, Edith Matthews and Irene Dyer. The two inactive members were Ellen Matthews and Mrs. Wilson. The special activities for 1951 were New Year's party, gift to Ruth Parker, county fair booth, community night pot luck supper, thrift sale, food contributions to children's home and wedding showers for Ruth Parker Gillespe and Iris Dean Giles Neal. The club's goal for 1951 was: our aim is to help make democracy a reality not a symbol by our consideration of feelings and trials of our neighbors, extending our interest to our community church, remembering our boys in service in our prayers and tokens of friendship through correspondence.

In 1952 the president of the club was Ann Coones, vice president Irene Dyer, secretary-treasurer Theda Ellis, reporter Roberta Beavers. There were thirty-two active members: Roberta Beavers, Roberta Carnahan, Lena Cole, Ann Coones, Ola Crawford, Ethelyne Curtsinger, Katie Curtsinger, Veda Ditmars, Irene Dyer, Theda Ellis, Mrs. Ezell, Veneda Ezell, Rudy Franks, Velma Giles, Thelda Flynt, Lillian Hartley, Ollie Hart, Helen Hutchens, Mrs. Johnston, Amma Maxwell, Edith Matthews, Kate Matthews, Mrs. McCamish, Mildred McLane, Bessie Moore, Rella Pasley, Ina Thompson, Lois Harred, Dorothy Nash, Mary Twilley, Ella Mae Thurman and Mrs. Dean. Two inactive members were Ellen Matthews and Mrs. Wilson. Special activities for 1952 were: made and sent candy to boys in the service (Dyer boys), sent get-well cards to the sick, entertained Prairie Grove PTA April 2, Easter egg roast, miscellaneous shower for Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Nash, gift for Hartley new home, bridal shower for Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dyer, picnic at Lake Wedington, pie supper, fair booth, recipe book bazaar, shower for Mrs. George Mennecke, bought blanket for crippled children's home and pie supper at community night in November.

In 1953 the president was Ann Coones, vice president Irene Dyer, secretary Theda Ellis and reporter Ina Thompson. There were thirty-two active members with two new members: Eula Curtsinger and Mrs. Clements. The club met at the community building on February 18th with Rella Pasley and Mrs. Johnston as hostesses, serving cherry pie and coffee. The special activities for 1953 were a shower for Jack and Betty Curtsinger, pink and blue shower for Mrs. Findt, potted plant for Mrs. Ezell, shower for Donna Lee, donated \$5.00 to Red Cross, served supper to Lincoln Kiwanis Club, wired community house, new curtains for community building. potted plant to Mr. and Mrs. Hulet, donation to polio room at Fayetteville, recipe book, held community night once a month at community building and bridal shower for Doris Brindle Lawhorn.

In 1954 the president was Thelda Flynt, vice president Lillian Hartley, secretary-treasurer Ella Mae Thurman and reporter Roberta Carnahan. There were thirty-three members with one new member, Juanita Hulet. Special activities for the year were bridal shower for Mrs. James Nash, community night once a month at community building, partition in community building removed, \$3.00 donated to Red Cross, served Kiwanis Club of Lincoln supper with \$40.00 proceeds, pink and blue shower for Mrs. Lawhorn, Prairie Grove School Band at community night July 30th, bridal shower for Wayne and Treva Dyer, gift for Mrs. Hutchens, farewell party and shower for Bessie Moore, annual bazaar, bridal shower for David and Geneva Cheatham and served at Hill Moore sale.

In 1955 the officers of the club were the same as in 1954. There were thirty members with two new members: Mrs. Nordyke and Iona Alexander. Special activities for the year were \$5.00 donation to polio fund, auction at community night March 25th, bridal shower for Shirley Clements, shower for Mr. and Mrs. Dale Moore, annual bazaar \$15.40 and Halloween party.

In 1956 and 1957 the officers of the club were president Helen Hutchens, vice president Tillie Nordyke, secretary-treasurer Rhoda Dean and reporter Velma Giles. There were thirty-two members in 1956 with two new members: Bessie Moore and Dorothy Coor. In 1956 the special activities were: entertained Prairie Grove Lions Club March 6th; gift to Janie Nordyke; donation to Red Cross; shower for Bill Twilley and wife; calendar party for PTA; halloween party; showers for Don Moore, Jewel Hulet Pennington and Sam Cole, Jr. In 1957 there were twenty-six active members and six members became inactive. Special activities for 1957 were: served FFA and FHA banquet of the Prairie Grove School, farewell party for Ann Coones and Rhoda Dean, ice cream supper, pink and blue shower for Mrs. Lloyd Hulet September 11th, baby gift for Mrs. Johnny Flynt, baby gift for Mrs. Leon Crawford and song books purchased \$13.00.

In 1958 and 1959 the officers of the club were president Velma Giles, vice president Roberta Beavers, secretary-treasurer Ina Thompson and reporter Roberta Carnahan. There were twentythree active members in 1958: Roberta Beavers, Roberta Carnahan, Gertie Clements, Lena Cole, Dorothy Coor, Ethelyne Curtsinger, Katie Curtsinger, Veda Ditmars, Theda Ellis, Ruby Franks, Veneda Ezell, Velma Giles, Lillian Hartley, Helen Hutchens, Helen Hulet, Kate Matthews, Edith Matthews, Drusia McCamish, Rella Pasley, Matilda Nordyke, Ina Thompson, Ella Mae Thurman and Mary Twilley. There were four inactive members: Ola Crawford, Mrs. Bryce Curtsinger, Lizzie Ezell and Bessie Moore. Special activities of the Rhea Club in 1958 were as follows: served the FFA and FHA banquet, donated \$5.00 to Heart Fund Drive, donated \$10.00 to crippled children's hospital, entertained Lions Club April 29th and baby gift to Mrs. Nell Ironside.

In 1959 there were twenty-six members, with one new member: Mrs. Clyde Burnett. Special activities in 1959 were: Valentine potted plant for Veterans Hospital, donated \$5.00 to Prairie Grove Fire Department, shower gift for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Earl Twilley, donated \$5.00 to the Red Cross, served FFA and FHA banquet March 19th, planter gift presented to Mrs. Homer Nordyke, pink and blue shower for Mrs. Lloyd Hulet, county fair bazaar, presented Mrs. Cole with a wall clock for her new home, donation to crippled children's home and gave bed jacket to Mrs. Fred Ezell.

The officers of the club in 1960 and 1961, two-year term, were president Theda Ellis, vice president Ella Mae Thurman, secretarytreasurer Helen Hutchens, reporter and historian Roberta Carnahan. There were twenty-three members in each of the two years 1960 and 1961, with one new member: Mrs. Leon Crawford. Special activities in 1960 were: donated \$5.00 to the heart fund; showers for Carolyn Brindle, Billy Lee Franks and Mary Jane Bond, and Frankie Dean McKee; served dinner to Kiwanis Club from Lincoln; fair booth and donated \$10.00 to crippled children's home. In 1961 the special activities were as follows: goal to remodel the kitchen in the community building; gift to Mrs. Ezell; cards sent to Mrs. Bill Coor, Mrs. Sam Cole and Mrs. Ezell; presented farewell gift to Mrs. Clyde Burnett; donated \$5.00 to Latta Barn for dishes; gave wedding gift to Jeff Curtsinger; fair bazaar; hamburger supper for blacktop road fund (Lincoln-Wedington Road) total in fund \$100.00; bought refrigerator for community building kitchen and donated articles to Crippled Children's Home.

During 1962 and 1963 the officers of the Rhea Club were president Kate Matthews, vice president Ina Thompson, secretarytreasurer Ella Mae Thurman, reporter and historian Roberta Beavers. There were seventeen members in 1962: Roberta Beavers, Roberta Carnahan, Lena Cole, Gertie Clements, Ola Crawford, Mrs. Leon Crawford, Veda Ditmars, Theda Ellis, Veneda Ezell, Velma Giles, Lillian Hartley, Kate Matthews, Drusia McCamish, Rella Pasley, Ina Thompson, Ella Mae Thurman, and Mary Twilley. Special activities in 1962 included donation of \$1.50 to Veterans Hospital valentine fund, donation of \$5.00 to Fire Department, plant for Kate, shower for Glenda Remington, wedding gift for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Earl Twilley, bazaar and bake sale at Prairie Grove \$28.05, fair bazaar, donated articles to Crippled Children's Home and shower for David and Linda Ellis.

In 1963 there were two new members: Mrs. David Ellis and Mrs. Leon Gardisser. Special activities during 1963 included donation of \$3.00 to Veterans Hospital valentine fund, tacked a couple of quilts for the Still family whose home burned, sympathy card sent to Hill family when Mrs. Hill passed away, each member sent a friendship card to Alma Bunnell, each member gave a hostess gift to Rella Pasley, helped serve food at Clothes Line Fair, thank you card sent to Alma Bunnell for the quilt top she donated for Crippled Children's Home, get well card to Leon Crawford, each member gave a gift to the Boys Home at Winslow, Christmas gift given to Alma Bunnell, and received certificate award for volunteer work at Veterans Hospital in support of its VAVS program.

During 1964 and 1965 the officers of the club were president Veneda Ezell, vice president Velma Giles, secretary-treasurer Theda Ellis (1964) Kate Matthews (1965), and reporter Ina Thompson. There were nineteen members in 1964 with one new member: Mrs. Kenneth Remington. There were eighteen members in 1965. Special activities in 1964 were as follows: donated \$2.00 to Veterans Hospital valentine shower, received an award from the Veterans Hospital for VAVS program for 1963, shower for Yvonne Twilley Stubblefield, gift for Mrs. Leon Crawford, and served lunch at the Jess Wright sale October 27th. Special activities in 1965 were pink and blue shower for Mrs. Kenneth Remington, sent card to Lena Cole, card sent to Roberta Beavers and Mr. Patterson, red mum sent to Mr. Patterson, cookbook sale project, bridal shower for Darlene Thurman Cheatham, cards sent to Ola and Roberta Beavers, a gift to Ola, shower for Roy Gene and Donna on November 27th, donated \$8.00 to Children's Home, each officer presented Christmas corsage, and received Veterans Hospital certificate of award for VAVS program for 1964.

During 1966 and 1967 the president was Velma Giles, vice president Ina Thompson, secretary-treasurer Iona Alexander and reporter Roberta Carnahan. There were twenty-one members in 1966 and nineteen members in 1967. The special activities in 1966 included cards sent to Roberta and Woodrow Carnahan, also Lena Cole, fair bazaar, gift to Juanita Hulet for new home, shower for Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ellis, items donated to Crippled Children's Hospital and received certificate of award from the Veterans Hospital. In 1967 the special activities were: card sent to Sam Cole, donated \$2.00 to Veterans Hospital valentine shower, donated \$5.00 to Red Cross, donated \$5.00 to new hydrotherapy room at City Hospital, pink and blue shower given for Irene Ellis, cards sent to Roberta Beavers and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cole, Stanley party, party at REA building, wedding gift for Sam Cole, Jr., sent box to Crippled Children's Home and received Veterans Hospital certificate of award of VAVS program for 1966.

The officers of the club during 1968 and 1969 were president Mrs. Clarence Rose, vice president Ina Thompson, and secretarytreasurer Veda Ditmars. There were twenty-eight members in 1968: Iona Alexander, Bobby Alexander, Roberta Beavers, Marianna Branchcomb, Lena Cole, Roberta Carnahan, Ola Crawford, Veda Ditmars, Veneda Ezell, Theda Ellis, Mrs. Leon Gardessier, Velma Giles, Juanita Hulet, Edna Luginbuel, Kate Matthews, Rella Pasley, Ina Thompson, Ella Mae Thurman, Mrs. Clarence Rose, Myrtle Baldwin, Dorothy Nash, Ethel Mateer, Mrs. Floyd Williams, Mrs. Johnnie Crawford, Mrs. Paul Ellis, Mrs. James Reynold, Mrs. McAdams and Mary Twilley. In 1968 the special activities were: donated \$2.00 to Veterans Hospital valentine shower; flowers for Lena Cole and Cecil Thompson; cards sent to Robert Hicks, Raymond and Kate, Charlie and Marianna, Alexander family, Earl Twilley and Ann Coones; finished quilt, bought table cloth for community building kitchen; fair booth; flowers for Matthews, Hulets, Cecil, Pasleys, Carnahans and Crawfords; gift to Marianna; box to Crippled Children's Home and card to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cole for loss of his cousin.

In 1969 one member left the club, leaving twenty-seven members. Special activities in 1969 included: donated \$2.00 to Veterans Hospital valentine party, benefit supper, card sent to Ethel Mateer, sold calendars \$23.64, flowers to Mrs. Reynolds and Nashes, fair booth, served dinner at Asher sale, served supper to Lions Club, bought chairs for community house, articles to Crippled Children's Home and made clothes for dolls for Salvation Army.

During 1970 and 1971 the president was Myrtle Baldwin, vice president Kate Matthews, secretary-treasurer Velma Giles and reporter Marianna Branchcomb. There were thirty-two members in 1970, with new members Myrtle Baldwin, Grace Butler, Dorothy Davis, Bessie Miller and Betty Hall. Special activities in 1970 included gift for Delmar Matthews and wife, donated \$2.00 to Veterans Hospital valentine party, made scuffies for VA hospital patients, Earl Twilley elected trustee of Rhea community building to fill vacancy of Clem Bunnell (other trustees are Waymon Giles and Gordon Hartley), plaque from Salvation Army to Marianna Branchcomb and Roberta Carnahan for best dressed dolls, donated \$5.00 for cancer fund, received stove donation from Wilford Thompson, REA supper, bought doors for community house, won first prize at fair bazaar, gift for Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, made draperies for community building and Halloween party.

In 1971 there were thirty-four members of the Rhea Club, with five new members: Irene Dyer, Elena Franklin, Lillian Nash, Mrs. Ardle Thomas and Hilda Slaughter. Special activities for 1971 included pot luck supper February 13th, donated \$10.00 to Veterans Hospital valentine party, flowers for Clyde Crawford funeral, shower for Michael Thurman, wedding gifts for Glen Davis and Mike Thurman (electric iron and corning ware), gifts to retiring president and secretary, trip to Petit Jean Mountain, flowers for Baldwin home and Louis Ellis, sympathy card to Theda Ellis, flowers for Chester Thurman, card sent to Vada Rose, served lunch at Roy Gene Franks sale September 8th, cards sent to Myrtle Baldwin and Waymon Giles, served at Sundowner Ranch sale, flowers sent to Ethel Mateer and Kate Matthews, bed jacket given to Kate Matthews, gift for Charles Thompson and Halloween potluck dinner.

During 1972 and 1973 the president was Veda Ditmars, vice president Dorothy Nash and secretary-treasurer Irene Ellis. In 1972 there were thirty-two members, with two new members: Iris Dean Harvey and Betty Moore. In 1973 there were two new members: Lucy McLane and Mildred McLane.

Special activities in 1972 included bazaar; floral and fruit arrangement sent to Irene Ellis; fruit basket sent to Ethel Mateer; cards sent to Pam Rose and Ethel Mateer; plant sent to Vada Rose; donated \$10.00 to VA Valentine party; served coffee at VA hospital once a month; trip to Muskogee to see azaleas; cards sent to Ethel Mateer, Earl Twilley and Ola Crawford; flowers send to Ola Crawford; Lake Wedington picnic; served at Chester Thurman sale; fair booth; gift to Dorothy Nash; shower gift for Larry Miller; cards to James Reynolds, Ola Crawford and Mr. and Mrs. Chester Thurman; gifts to Marianna and Roberta Carnahan and gift to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Miller.

Special activities in 1973 included Christmas bazaar auction; donated \$10.00 to Arkansas Children's Home; Christmas tree and auction at Ozark Electric Building; fruit basket to Ethel Mateer; shower gift; donated \$10.00 to cancer fund; plant to Leon Crawford during stay in hospital; tour of Har-Ber Village at Grove, Oklahoma; and received certificate awarded for monthly volunteer services at Veterans Hospital for 1972.

In 1974 the officers were president Theda Ellis, vice president Ina Thompson, secretary-treasurer Myrtle Baldwin, reporter Vada Matthews and historian Lillian Nash. There were twenty-nine members during 1974, with one new member: Mary Newberry. Special activities in 1974 included showers for Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Davis, Sharron Nash and shower gift for Roy and Susan Slaughter; flowers to Veneda Ezell at loss of her mother, Dorothy Nash, Grace Butler, Raymond Matthews, Allie Alexander, Theda and Louis Ellis when they had the flu, Twilley family, Irene Ellis, James Reynolds, Earl Davis in the hospital, Charles Branchcomb and funeral of Rella Pasley; served at sales at Ashers, Howards in Lincoln, Wilsons, Twilleys, Jacksons and Vinsons; made lap robes and soft bedroom slippers for Sunrise Manor patients; housewarming for Roberta Carnahan and gift to Lucy McLane for her new home.

In 1975 and 1976 the president was Bobby Alexander, vice presidents Irene Ellis and Ella Mae Thurman and secretary-treasurer Mildred McLane. There were twenty-six members and four associate members in 1975, and in 1976 there were twenty-one active members and four inactive members. Special activities in 1975 included shower for Kenneth Ezell and his bride-to-be Lark Penn; fair booth; served coffee at VA hospital; donated \$10.00 to Arkansas Children's Home; gifts to outgoing president and secretarytreasurer; served at Williams sale; housewarming gifts to Marianna Branchcomb and Dorothy Nash; donated \$10.00 to dishwasher fund for Lincoln Elderly Nutrition Program; gifts sent to former members who were shut-ins: Grace Butler, Ethel Mateer and Iona Alexander; served at Giles sale; gift presented to Velma Giles for her new home; donated \$10.00 to Children's Home; made toys and donated to WRMC Auxiliary for children patients.

In 1976 special activities included a trip to Woolarac Museum, housewarming gifts to Veda and Jack Ditmars and Lucy McLane, gift to Ricky and Judy Tollett, fair booth, served a sale near Greathouse Springs, Apple Festival booth in Lincoln, sympathy card to Theda Ellis, Christmas party, accepted stove from James and Lillian Nash, Christmas gifts to two former members in nursing homes, donated \$15.00 to VA Hospital valentine party, made quilt for \$50.00, served lunch at Twilley sale, carpeting of community building, served at Hubert Bunnell sale and Smith sale, and received certificates from Washington County Homemakers and Veterans Hospital. Five members with perfect attendance for the year were Roberta Carnahan, Theda Ellis, Bessie Miller, Mildred McLane and Ina Thompson.

During 1977 and 1978 the president was Myrtle Baldwin, vice president Veda Ditmars, secretary-treasurer Dorothy Nash and reporter Velma Giles. There were twenty-three active members and four inactive members in 1977, with one new member: Charlene Weaver. Special activities in 1977 included gifts to Vada Matthews, Irene Ellis for her new home and to the president and the secretary; fair booth, first prize \$30.00; bought King Circulator heater; floral arrangement sent to Velma in hospital; cards sent to Emerson Miller, Carl Ezell and Charles Branchcomb; donations to needy families; Christmas gifts to Grace Butler and Ethel Mateer; yard sale at community building; baby shower for Steve Crawford; painted community building trim; flowers for Carl Ezell service; picnic at Withrow Springs State Park; Iona and Allie Alexander golden wedding anniversary at community building; baby shower for Judy and Ricky Tollett, served at Frazier sale; served at Smith sale and served luncheon for Dairymen Association.

In 1978 there were twenty-two active members and three inactive members, with three new members: Mary Crudup, Donna Elmore and Lark Ezell. The active members were: Bobby Alexander, Iona Alexander, Myrtle Baldwin, Marianna Branchcomb, Roberta Carnahan, Ola Crawford, Mary Crudup, Veda Ditmars, Theda Ellis, Irene Ellis, Veneda Ezell, Velma Giles, Vada Matthews, Bessie Miller, Mildred McLane, Dorothy Nash, Lillian Nash, Sidra Thomas, Ina Thompson, Ella Mae Thurman, Donna Elmore and Lark Ezell. The inactive members were Lena Cole, Ethel Mateer and Lucy McLane.

In 1978 special activities included flowers sent to Bessie Miller, donated \$15.00 to Veterans Hospital valentine party, donated \$50.00 to WWCEMS, fair booth, money tree for Brenda Tollett, baby shower for Sharron DuBois, obtained file cabinet, shower for Jackie Hulet in April and New Year's watch party.

No records are available for the years 1980 to date, however, the author recalls the officers of the club for 1983 and 1984 were president Marianna Branchcomb, vice president Dorothy Nash and/or Veneda Ezell, secretary-treasurer Theda Ellis and reporter Bobby Alexander. Under the guidance of President Marianna Branchcomb, a major activity of the Rhea Club in 1985 was arranging for the re-roofing of the community building, with special funds obtained from the Arkansas Rural Community Grant Program, such funds amounting to three-fourths of the total cost of \$1,876.00.

In 1985-1986 the president of the Rhea Club was Ina Thompson, vice president Veneda Ezell, secretary-treasurer Mildred McLane and reporter Bobby Alexander.

#### Fig. 6 OFFICERS OF RHEA HOME EXTENSION CLUB

	President	Vice President	Sec. Treasurer	Reporter	Historian
1943	Ola Crawford	Veda Ditmars	Bessie Moore	Roberta Beavers	
1944	Hester Mobley	Ina Thompson	Velma Giles		
1945	Ina Thompson	Veda Ditmars	Velma Giles		
1946 to 1949	No records				
1950	Ina Thompson	Roberta Beavers	Bessie Moore	Velma Giles	
1951	Eula Curtsinger	Mildred McLane	Theda Ellis	Roberta Beavers	
1952 & 1953	Ann Coones	Irene Dyer	Theda Ellis	Roberta Beavers	
1954 & 1955	Thelda Flynt	Lillian Hartley	Ella Mae Thurman	Roberta Carnahan	
1956 & 1957	Helen Hutchens	Tillie Nordyke	Rhoda Dean	Velma Giles	
1958 & 1959	Velma Giles	Roberta Beavers	Ina Thompson	Roberta Carnahan	Mrs. McCamish
1960 & 1961	Theda Ellis	Ella Mae Thurman	Helen Hutchens	Roberta Carnahan	Roberta Carnahan
1962 & 1963	Kate Matthews	Ina Thompson	Ella Mae Thurman	Roberta Beavers	Roberta Beavers
1964 & 1965	Veneda Ezell	Velma Giles	Theda Ellis ('64)	Ina Thompson	
			Kate Matthews ('65)	-	
1966	Velma Giles	Ina Thompson	Mrs. A. Alexander	Roberta Carnahan	
1967	Velma Giles	Mrs. C. Rose	Theda Ellis		
1968 & 1969	Mrs. C. Rose	Ina Thompson	Veda Ditmars		
1970 & 1971	Myrtle Baldwin	Kate Matthews	Velma Giles	Marianna Branchcomb	
1972 & 1973	Veda Ditmars	Dorothy Nash	Irene Ellis		
1974	Theda Ellis	Ina Thompson	Myrtle Baldwin	Veda Matthews	
1975 & 1976	Bobby Alexander	Irene Ellis &	Mildred McLane		
		Ella Mae Thurman			
1977 & 1978	Myrtle Baldwin	Veda Ditmars	Dorothy Nash	Velma Giles	
1979 to 1982	No records				
1983 & 1984	Marianna Branchcomb		Theda Ellis	Bobby Alexander	
1005 P 1000	I	Veneda Ezell	36'11 136 T	D 11 41 1	
1985 & 1986	Ina Thompson	Veneda Ezell	Mildred McLane	Bobby Alexander	

Branchcomb, Marianna, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Record Books, Rhea Home Extension Club Thompson, Ina, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas

References

<u> THE CEMETERY</u>

From the 1950's to date there have been a number of surveys made of the names and dates on tombstones in the Rhea cemetery, with a number of dates differing on the lists because of their semilegibility on the monuments. Today, a number of the monuments no longer exist and the engravings on a number of the older monuments are no longer legible especially in the old cemetery.

It was the custom in early years in country cemeteries for the headstones to be native rock with little or no engravings, therefore it can be assumed there were burials in the Rhea cemetery soon after the community was settled in the 1830's and 1840's, using such markers. The oldest burial dates today are for the Pierce family members: Henry 1846, Martha 1847 and John 1847.

There are two cemetery lots in Rhea, one called the old cemetery and the other the new cemetery, located near each other in the northwest section of Rhea. The first three-room school house in Rhea was built a few feet south of the old cemetery in the late 1880's after there were no more burials in the old cemetery, with a fence separating the cemetery and the school yard. The first white frame Methodist church was built south of the school house, and east of the new cemetery.

One of the few remaining monuments in the old cemetery is for Mary E. Cox, wife of John Cox, born May 24, 1832, died February 2, 1882. Pleasant V. Rhea, first mayor of Fayetteville (1841), and father of William H. Rhea, for whom Rhea's Mill was named, was buried in 1864 in the old cemetery. His monument is no longer in existence.

The last records of burials in the old cemetery were in 1885, when David Matthews and Nancy A. Dickson, wife of M, were interred there. Other names that were at one time on gravestones in the old cemetery were: Laura Barnes 1865–1880, daughter of A. S. and Elizabeth Barnes; Salina Bond 1826–1882, wife of W. T.; Claudie Hart 1881–1881; Ulysses Mateer 1861–1863, son of J. and S. Mateer; David Profitt 1825–1876; Catherine P. Rhea 1863–1864, daughter of W. H. and E. C. Rhea; Joseph Rhea 1865–1865, son of W. H. and E. C. Rhea; Annie M. Wassum 1854–1874; and Adeline Webb 1834–1876.

The new cemetery lot is located a short distance from the old cemetery, across the road west of the church. According to the dates on the monuments, one of the first burials in the new cemetery was William H. Rhea in January 1884. The most imposing monument, a tall shaft topped with urn and marble drapery, marks the grave of William H. Rhea (1825–1884) and his wife, Elizabeth Powell Rhea (1836–1929). Interred beside them are Alice Jane Rhea (1856– 1941), Samuel V. Rhea (1860–1919), Robert J. Rhea (1861–1913) and Fannie E. Rhea (1866–1890).

A noteworthy monument in the new cemetery is that of the Pierce family. The last will of Mrs. Joseph Powell (Margaret C. Powell, sister-in-law of Elizabeth Rhea) dated January 10, 1923, who died in 1923, provided that the remains of her father, mother, brothers and sisters, then located in the graves on the William Thurman heirs farm, be moved to the cemetery at Rhea, if the owners of the farm would not permit a monument to be erected over the graves and enclose the lot in which they were buried. The remains were removed to the Rhea cemetery, and one granite monuments lists eight persons who are buried there, six dying before the Civil War. Buried together are:

-1847
1838–1846
1847–1863 or 1865
1831-1847
1843–1848
1836 or 1838–1861
1829-1857
-1877

Two doctors are buried at Rhea: Dr. W. A. Houck 1844–1905, who was a resident doctor in Rhea, and Dr. Samuel D. Powell 1810–1898, whose medical practice was in Cincinnati.

One veteran of World War I is buried in the new cemetery with a government marker: Sam Maxwell 1891–1933, PFC 53rd Field Artillery, 18th Division.

The oldest person buried at Rhea is Elizabeth Powell Rhea (1929), wife of William H. Rhea, living to the age of ninety-three. Sarah Burns Powell (1923), wife of Dr. Samuel Powell, lived to the age of ninety-two. A. S. Barnes (1928) lived to the age of eighty-eight and E. R. Barnes (1928) lived to ninety-one years. John F.

Maxwell (1979) and Mary P. Gregory (1962), wife of Walter, lived to the age of ninety. Mary L. Gregory (1951), wife of Joseph H. Gregory, lived to the age of eighty-nine. Dr. Samuel D. Powell (1898), Margarette Wassum (1918), Martha M. Gregory (1942), wife of John L. Gregory, and Lewis Stephens (1891) all lived to the age of eightyeight.

Among the early birth dates prior to 1845 in the cemetery are:

Lewis Stephens (1811-1899) and his wife Elizabeth (1822-1902) Hamilton Hartley (1816-1893) and his wife M. E. (1833-1912) William B. Jones (1827-1898) Solomon Burrow (1814-1889) and his wife Anne (1825-1875) Hiram McHenry (1836-1901) Samuel G. Allen (1829-1913) and his wife Mary Ann (1854-1931) A. S. Barnes (1839-1901) and his wife E. R. (1837-1928) John Jordon (1842-1913) John L. Gregory (1843-1920) and his wife Martha M. (1854-1942)John M. Pearson (1843-1921) and his wife Mary T. (1843-1919) W. J. Wassum (1818–1890) Margarette Wassum (1830-1918) Salina Bond (1826-1882), wife of W. T. W. M. Brooks (1839-1907) Mary E. Cox (1832-1882), wife of John M. John R. Daniel (1820-1870) Mary Pierce Kellam (1829-1857) David R. Matthews (1813-1885) W. M. Pasley (1837–1922) Martha M. Pierce (1831-1847) Samuel N. Pierce (1843-1848) Thomas T. Pierce (1836-1861) Joseph D. Powell (1839-1909) Margaret C. Powell (1845-1923) Robert Powell (1838-1898) Dr. Samuel Power (1810-1898) Sarah Burns Powell (1811-1904), wife of Samuel David Profitt (1825-1876) P. V. Rhea (1803-1884) Elizabeth Powell Rhea (1836-1929), wife of William H. William H. Rhea (1825–1884) Oliver Stephens (1833-1891) Jacob Tulk (1827-1895) Katherine Tulk (1827-1900)

Adeline Webb (1834–1876) Mintie West (1814–1887)

A number of monuments bear the verses that were in common use in cemeteries in the 1800's and early 1900's. A child's grave has this verse:

Sleep on, sweet babe, and take thy rest; God called thee home; he thought it best.

Another is the gravestone of Oliver G. Stephens, beloved husband of D. H. 1833-1891:

Farewell, my wife and children all; From you, a father Christ doth call.

Solomon Burrow: Gone Home

Mary M. Cox: Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. Lacy Hall Frazier: Thy brother shall rise again.

Utha E. Hart: A previous one from us has gone,

A voice we loved is still. A place is vacant in our home,

Which never can be filled. Rachel M. Hashman: May she rest in peace. Allie M. Markham: Meet me in a better land. Bob Maxwell: Tread softly for an angel band,

> Doth guard the silent dust, And we can safely leave our boy Our darling in their trust.

Ronnie Keith Nash: Beloved son. Maude Redway: Gone but not forgotten. William B. Rhea: Rest in peace. Denver E. Roberson: Now cometh rest. Jack W. Wassum: At rest.

The following is a list of burials in the Rhea cemeteries. The asterisk indicates burials in the old cemetery or unengraved stones in new cemetery.

Allen, Clara Bell: b. Sept. 30, 1887; d. Nov. 14, 1972
\*Allen, Lafayette J.: b. and d. Aug. 26, 1882
Allen, Samuel G.: b. Aug. 15, 1829; d. Jan. 3, 1913
Allen, Mary Ann: b. Oct. 5, 1854; d. Mar. 11, 1931, wife of Samuel
Allsup, Everett: b. May 4, 1905; d. May 21, 1955
Allsup, Lee Crawford: b. Oct. 12, 1875; d. Dec. 31, 1951
Allsup, Linda J.: b. Apr. 15, 1960; d. Apr. 23, 1960

Barnes, A. S.: b. Sept. 20, 1839; d. July 24, 1928 Barnes, E. R.: b. May 29, 1837; d. Oct. 15, 1928 \*Barnes, Laura: b. Feb. 18, 1865; d. May 26, 1880 Boles, Nancy: b. Sept. 27, 1873; d. Mar. 11, 1898 \*Bond, Salina: b. Aug. 26, 1826; d. Feb. 1, 1882, wife of W. T. Branchcomb, Daniel: b. Aug. 11, 1845; d. Feb. 28, 1924 Branchcomb, Veda: b. 1904, d. 1906 Brooks, M. J.: b. Sept. 6, 1857; d. Nov. 29, 1907, wife of M. W. Brooks. W. M.: b. Nov. 29, 1839; d. Feb. 21, 1907 Bunnell, Alma: b. May 7, 1919; d. Oct. 23, 1985 Bunnell, Clem: b. Feb. 10, 1883; d. June 16, 1952 Bunnell, Fannie Lee: b. Mar. 27, 1885; d. May 26, 1961 wife of Clem Bunnell, H. Irene: b. Nov. 10, 1913; d. Feb. 28, 1985 Burrow, Solomon: b. Mar. 22, 1814; d. Apr. 14, 1889 Burrow, Anne: b. Aug. 2, 1825; d. Apr. 23, 1876 wife of Solomon Brumback, Nellie M.: b. Aug. 8, 1874; d. Jan. 5, 1917 Cabe, Margaret Pierce: d. 1877 Carter, Horace: b. 1883, d. 1944 Collier, Judith Faye: b. Sept. 28, 1952; d. Oct. 1, 1952 \*Cook, William: b. Dec. 18, 1850; d. Mar. 21, 1876 \*Cox, Mary E.; b. May 24, 1832; d. Feb. 2, 1882, wife of John M. Cox. Marv M.: b. Oct. 23, 1883; d. May 11, 1901, wife of Frank Crawford, Maud Allen: b. Feb. 25, 1892; d. Dec. 1, 1923 \*Daniel, John R.: b. Aug. 25, 1820; d. June 4, 1870 \*Dickson, Nance A.: b. June 8, 1845; d. Oct. 17, 1885, wife of M. Ditmars, (Baby Daughter): b. and d. March 2, 1932 Ditmars, Jack Clayton: b. May 10, 1930; d. Sept. 14, 1961 Ditmars, Phocian O.: b. Aug. 7, 1885; d. Dec. 19, 1950 Ditmars, Richard Clayton: b. June 27, 1983; d. July 31, 1983 Edmiston, (Infant Daughter): b. and d. July 23, 1911 Ezell, Edna: b. 1899; d. 1924 Franks, Billy: b. Dec. 13, 1864; d. Nov. 26, 1942 Franks, Milissa K.: b. Dec. 28, 1874; d. Dec. 15, 1941, wife of Billy Franks, George: b. Dec. 16, 1912; d. Oct. 17, 1982 \*Franks, Martha M.: b. Nov. 1883; d. May 26, 1887 Franks, Ruby B.: b. Aug. 3, 1899; d. July 15, 1905 Frazier, Charley E.: b. July 8, 1868; d. June 16, 1935 Frazier, Eliza: b. Mar. 7, 1871; d. Oct. 27, 1913 wife of Charley Frazier, Lacy Hall: b. Oct. 22, 1902; d. April 14, 1922 Frazier, Little Clyde: b. Aug. 23, 1898; d. July 31, 1899 Gage, Roberta: b. Oct. 29, 1905; d. June 12, 1906 Gage, W. E.: b. July 9, 1883; d. June 25, 1906

Gage, Hattie L.: b. July 9, 1883; d. June 25, 1906, wife of W. E. Gillespie, Lillian Ruth Parker, nee Gregory: b. Aug. 2, 1892; d. April 18, 1976 Gregory, John L.: b. 1843; d. 1920 Gregory, Martha M.: b. 1854; d. Aug. 14, 1942, wife of John L. Gregory, Joseph H.: b. May 27, 1856; d. May 11, 1941 Gregory, Mary L.: b. 1862; d. Mar. 5, 1951, wife of Joseph H. Gregory, Mary P.: b. 1878; d. 1962, wife of Walter E. Gregory, Virginia S.: b. April 3, 1900; d. Jan. 15, 1977 Gregory, Walter E.: b. 1876; d. 1936 \*Hart, Claudie: 1881-1881 \*Hart, Fannie E.: b. May 7, 1857 or 1858; d. April 31, 1881 Hart, Flora H.: b. Oct. 27, 1880; d. Dec. 27, 1880 Hart, Utha E.: b. Dec. 30, 1861; d. Sept. 13, 1902 Hartley, Anderson: b. June 27, 1821 or 1824; d. Oct. 19, 1895 Hartley, Hamilton: b. Jan or June 14, 1816; d. Dec. 31, 1893 Hartley, Jennie, b. June 16, 1819; d. Feb. 2, 1891. wife of Hamilton Hartley, M. E.: b. Dec. 6, 1833; d. April 10, 1912 Hashman, Rachel M.: b. Mar. 5, 1857; d. June 9, 1931 Houck, Dr. W. A.: b. Dec. 17, 1844; d. March 16, 1905 Jackson, Clarence V.: b. Nov. 27, 1925; d. July 7, 1977 Jackson, Mary Bell: b. July 10, 1911; d. Dec. 27, 1976 \*Jones, William B.: b. Nov. 17, 1827; d. Nov. 14, 1898 Jordan, John A.: b. Jan. 2, 1842; d. Feb. 28, 1913 Kellam, Mary Pierce: b. 1829; d. 1857 Lafferty, Louisa: b. Feb. 10, 1855; d. April 26, 1900, wife of G. S. McCord, Nancy: b. 1862; d. 1888 McHenry, Hiram: b. 1836; d. 1901 Markham, Allie: b. Feb. 11, 1855; d. Dec. 31, 1920, wife of A. M. Marshall, Infant: b. and d. April 19, 1904, son of A. E. and J. A. \*Matthews, Infant: b. and d. Aug. 5, 1884, son of J. G. and B. J. \*Matthews, David R.: b. 1813; d. 1885 \*Matthews, Edward E.: b. 1850; d. 1884 \*Mateer, Ulysses: b. Mar. 17, 1864; d. Nov. 4, 1883 Maxwell, Infant: b. d. May 31, 1892, daughter of C. E. and A. V. Maxwell, A. V.: b. Dec. 10, 1864; d. June 24, 1927, wife of C. E. Maxwell, Bob: b. Nov. 23, 1895; d. July 9, 1913 Maxwell, C. E.: b. Jun. 10, 1864; d. May 24, 1935 Maxwell, Sam: b. Oct. 24, 1891; d. Dec. 8, 1933 Maxwell, Amma L.: b. June 17, 1885; d. May 29, 1973 Maxwell, John F.: b. Nov. 24, 1888; d. Aug. 7, 1979 Maxwell, Zettie M.: b. Feb. 2, 1894; d. Aug. 10, 1946, wife of John F.

Miller, Clara B.: b. Sept. 18, 1880; d. Dec. 17, 1900, wife of J. A. Morris, Reba: b. July 20, 1903; d. July 18, 1905 Nash, Ronnie Keith: b. Feb. 14, 1949; d. April 28, 1969 Parker, John E.: b. Mar. 16, 1892; d. June 25, 1947 Pasley, Albert V.: b. April 19, 1890; d. April 16, 1961 Pasley, Rella Mae: b. Dec. 17, 1891; d. Jan. 1, 1974, wife of Albert V. Pasley, W. M.: b. Feb. 11, 1837; d. Jan. 13, 1922 Pasley, Lucinda Jane: b. Dec. 11, 1828; d. Nov. 5, 1909, wife of W. M. Pasley, Infant: b. and d. Feb. 24, 1918, daughter of R. M. and A. V. Pearson, John M.: b. Mar. 4, 1843; d. Mar. 7, 1921 Pearson, Mary T.: b. Feb. 28, 1843; d. Mar. 22, 1913, wife of John M. Pierce, Henry P.: b. 1838; d. 1846 Pierce, John: d. 1847 Pierce, John F.: b. 1847; d. 1863 Pierce, Martha M.: b. 1831; d. 1847 Pierce, Samuel N.: b. 1843; d. 1848 Pierce, Thomas T.: b. 1836; d. 1861 Powell, Joseph D.: b. Nov. 3, 1839; d. June 9, 1909 Powell, Margaret C.: b. 1845; d. 1923, wife of Joseph D. \*Powell, Robert: b. May 12, 1838; d. Dec. 18, 1873 Powell, Dr. Samuel: b. May 13, 1810; d. Aug. 25, 1898 Powell, Sarah Burns: b. June 25, 1811; d. Feb. 5, 1904, wife of Samuel Price, Rial Samuel: b. May 22, 1848; d. Mar. 10, 1884 \*Proffitt, Daniel: b. Sept. 25, 1849; d. Mar. 3, 1897 \*Profitt. David: b. 1825; d. 1876 Redway, J. W. (Bill): b. 1894; d. 1974 Redway, Maude Lee: b. Dec. 16, 1898; d. Feb. 28, 1964 Rhea, Alice Jane: b. 1856; d. 1941 \*Rhea, Catherine P.: b. Nov. 19, 1863; d. Nov. 3, 1864 Rhea, Fannie E.: b. Oct. 1, 1866; d. Oct. 30, 1890 Rhea, Gertie May: b. May 9, 1896; d. April 27, 1924, wife of S. V. \*Rhea, Joseph P.: b. May 12, 1865; d. Sept. 4, 1865 Rhea, Lucy J.: b. Feb. 7, 1874; d. April 22, 1911, wife of Walker C. Rhea, Mary: b. Feb. 22, 1891; d. Jan. 3, 1895 Rhea, P. V.; b. June 11 or 18, 1803; d. April 23, 1864 Rhea, Robert J.: b. Oct. 15, 1861; d. Dec. 6, 1913

Rhea, Samuel V.: b. Jan. 20, 1860; d. July 8, 1919 Rhea, William B.: b. Aug. 12, 1894; d. Nov. 14, 1906 Rhea, William H.: b. April 26, 1825; d. Jan. 28, 1884 Rhea, Elizabeth Powell: b. 1836; d. 1929, wife of William H. Roberson, Buddy Eugene: b. and d. Nov. 6, 1965 Roberson, Denver E.: b. Mar. 25, 1927; d. Feb. 20, 1975 \*Rush, John R.: b. Sept. 17, 1857; d. May 8, 1889 \*Smith, Lucy: b. Aug. 3, 1877; d. Aug. 23, 1878 Stephens, Elizabeth D.: b. June 22, 1822; d. Jan. 13, 1902. wife of Lewis Stephens, Lewis: b. April 16, 1811; d. July 21, 1899 Stephens, Oliver, G.: b. May 7, 1833; d. Jan. 22, 1891 Stone, R. W.: b. Jan. 17, 1891; d. July 14, 1896, parents S. H. and M. A. Tulk, Jacob: b. Mar. 11, 1827; d. April 30, 1895 Tulk, J. R.: b. May 24, 1877; d. April 20, 1899 Tulk, Kathern: b. Feb. 14, 1827; d. June 14, 1900 Twilley, H. Earl: b. April 18, 1912; d. Oct. 13, 1973 Twilley, Mary E.: b. Nov. 10, 1909; d. Jan. 21, 1977. wife of H. Earl Vaughn, Charles N.: b. 1853; d. 1932 Vaughn, Eliza J.: b. 1854; d. 1932 Vest, Charles David: b. June 7, 1935; d. Aug. 3, 1986 Wassum, Annie M.: b. Oct. 8, 1854; d. Nov. 20, 1874. daughter of W. J. and M. Wassum, Billie E.: b. July 19, 1878; d. May 19, 1958 Wassum, Jack W.: b. Sept. 24, 1881; d. May 18, 1937 Wassum, Elzora A.: b. Jan. 15, 1887; d. Aug. 17, 1959 Wassum, John K.: b. 1848; d. 1927 Wassum, Annie L.: b. 1858; d. 1931, wife of John K. Wassum, Margarette: b. June 30, 1830; d. July 25, 1910 Wassum, Martha A.: b. 1861; d. 1928, wife of William E. Wassum, Mary E.: b. Feb. 24, 1859; d. Jan. 7, 1906 or 1900 Wassum, William E.: b. 1853; d. 1928 \*Wassum, W. J.: b. Sept. 10, 1818; d. Jan. 31, 1890 \*Webb, Adeline: b. May 29, 1834; d. April 12, 1876, wife of John C. West, Mintie: b. May 8, 1814; d. Mar. 27, 1887 Wetzel, Jake L.: b. Feb. 21, 1874; d. Oct. 31, 1953 Wetzel, Mary J.: b. Jan. 18, 1881; d. Jan. 14, 1956 Whitmire, Henry: parents: Luther and Elsie (same monument as Wilson Whitmire) Whitmire, Luther, b. 1891: d. 1967

162

Whitmire, Elsie: b. 1896: d. 1967

Whitmire, Wilson: parents: Luther and Elsie (same monument as Henry Whitmire)

Wolfe, J. M.: b. June 7, 1851; d. Mar. 6, 1911

Wolfe, Rachel C.: b. July 4, 1859; d. April 25, 1898, wife of J. M. Woody, Lemul Dale: b. July 9, 1849; d. Nov. 3, 1897

Woody, Martha Rhea: b. Feb. 22, 1891; d. Jan. 3, 1895,

parents L. D. and Fannie

The last cemetery survey made by the writer to verify the names and dates on monuments was on August 11, 1986. At that time there were forty-two graves in the new cemetery marked with native rocks with no names or engravings.

There are eleven monuments still upright in the old cemetery, with the engravings on five monuments legible: John R. Daniel, Mary E. Cox, Salina Bond, Adeline Webb and Laura Barnes. There is a new modern monument for Salina Bond (1826–1882).

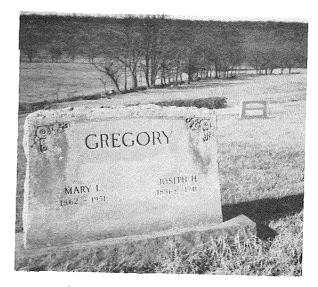
Trust Fund. Prior to her death in 1976, Lillian Ruth Gregory Parker Gillespie, in her will dated 1974, bequeathed \$12,000.00 to a trust fund, with the First National Bank of Fayetteville serving as Trustee, with the interest income to be paid to the trustees of the Rhea cemetery for the maintenance of the cemetery. It is reported that current trustees of the cemetery are Alan Reed and Veda Ditmars, the latter serving as treasurer.



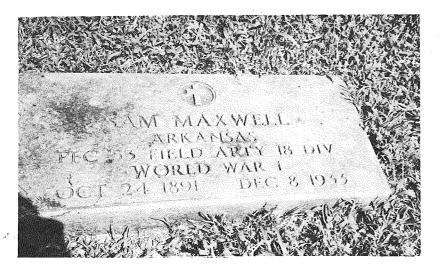
Rhea Monument, New Cemetery



Pierce Monument, New Cemetery



Gregory Monument, New Cemetery



Maxwell Monument, New Cemetery



Pasley Monument and Church

### References

Author Unknown, Rhea's Cemetery, Flashback, October 1953, pp. 19-20

Ditmars, Veda, Prairie Grove, Arkansas

Payne, Ruth Holt, The Town the World Passed By. Flashback, January 1964, p. 22

Wills, Book G, 1923, p. 181, County Clerk's Office, Washington County Court House, Fayetteville, Arkansas

MARRIAGES 9.14

Charles A. Ames and Miss Fannie Slaughter, both 22, from Rhea's Mill, were married October 16, 1881, by Justice of the Peace J. E. Dunlap.

D. J. Bunnell, 18, and Miss Launa J. Walters, 15, of Rhea's Mill, were united on January 4, 1881 by the Rev. T. H. Day.

J. F. Cherry, 23, and Miss Leck Hearley, 21, of Rhea's Mill, were married by Justice J. C. Diven on October 13, 1881.

Two Rhea's Mill people, A. H. Miller, 45, and Mrs. Jane Stearns, 31, came to Justice W. D. Parks for their bonds (bans) of matrimony. The date of December 13, 1882.

Hugh Free, 24, and Miss E. Reynolds, 18, a couple from Rhea's Mill, took their wedding vows before the Rev. Thomas H. Day on February 3, 1883.

Joseph B. Mathews, 27, and Miss Bettie Cowan, Rhea's Mill area residents, were married by Justice Elijah Webb on November 8, 1883.

A Rhea's Mill couple, R. W. Neale, 22, and Miss Nancy Drunen were married by W. G. Hogg, Justice of the Peace, on July 10, 1884.

J. T. Asher of Viney Grove and Miss M. S. Hendricks of Rhea's Mill went before Justice of the Peace William Shannon for the marriage ceremony on January 22, 1885. He was 21 and she was 18.

The wedding of S. C. Cherry, 23, and Miss V. M. West, 18, of Rhea's Mill and Viney Grove, was on March 8, 1885, with Minister J. S. Cowan performing the ceremony.

The matrimonial rituals for Thomas Norwood, 27, and Miss Martha Cockerel, 19, both of Rhea's Mill were read by Rev. T. H. Day on March 16, 1885.

The wedding of W. M. Pasley, 21, of Rhea's Mill, and Miss Annie Ellis, 19, of Viney Grove, was on November 9, 1885, with Rev. T. J. Day officiating.

John A. Maberry, age 22, and Miss Lillie Cowan, 15 years, were married by Rev. N. F. Goodrich on December 23, 1885. Their home was listed as Rhea's Mill. J. L. Mahoney, 22, from Viney Grove, and Miss Ann Asher, 18, of Rhea's Mill, had their December 24, 1885 Christmas Eve ceremony performed by Rev. J. S. Cowan.

J. C. Mateer, 29, of Rhea's Mill, and Miss Nettie Proffitt, 18, of the Viney Grove area, were united in a civil ceremony by W. G. Hoff, Justice of the Peace on September 10, 1885.

#### References

Washington County Historical Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas:

Flashback, Vol. 21, No. 4, November 1971, pp. 35-37 Vol. 22, May 1972 Vol. 23, May 1973, p. 40 *ibid.* No. 4, November 1973, p. 33 May 1975, p. 17 February 1976, p. 41 May 1976, p. 23 August 1977, pp. 41-42 May 1977, pp. 39-40

Me THE RHEA FARM

On October 13, 1859 William H. Rhea purchased the Woodruff and Kellam Mill and lot, containing two acres and fifty-two poles from John P. and Sinia B. Kellam paying \$6,000.00. On the same date William H. Rhea bought thirty-eight acres adjacent to the mill from Benjamin E. and Sarah J. Woodruff for \$580.17. This land was all in what later became Rhea town.

On the same date, John P. and Sinia B. Kellam sold an additional one hundred acres to William H. Rhea for \$1500.00: the  $NW^{1/4}$  of the  $SW^{1/4}$  and part of the west side of the  $W^{1/2}$  of the  $NW^{1/4}$  in Section 5. The total land purchases in 1859 were 140 acres.

On December 29, 1860 William H. Rhea bought eight acres south of Marrs Creek, a part of the  $NW^{1/4}$  of the  $SE^{1/4}$  of Section 5, for \$700.00 from David W. and M. L. Woodruff.

On March 15, 1865 William H. Rhea bought from Benjamin E. and Sarah J. Woodruff for 2,000.00 the S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of Section 5, containing eighty acres and 11.81 acres south of the Mill Lot.

At the time of his death in 1884, William H. Rhea's farm of 440 acres consisted of the following:  $W^{1/2}$  of  $SW^{1/4}$  of Section 6;  $NW^{1/4}$ ,  $N^{1/2}$  of  $SW^{1/4}$ ,  $NW^{1/4}$  of  $SE^{1/4}$ , and  $S^{1/2}$  of  $NE^{1/4}$  of Section 5.

Elizabeth C. Rhea, the widow of William H. Rhea, received dower as a widow one-third of the real estate and town property, including ninety-two acres of the farm lying north of Marrs Creek. Because the remaining acres of the Rhea Farm including the "Steam Mill Lot" could not be partitioned to Rhea's eight children (two children, Catherine and Joseph died in the 1860's) without injury and prejudice to the parties in interest, the court required the land and real estate to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, so ordered by the court in June 1886.

The sale of the land was at Rhea's Mill on September 10, 1887, with the land being purchased primarily by members of the Rhea family with the "Steam Mill Lot" being purchased by E. C. Rhea, as guardian of Walker Rhea, jointly with Fannie E. Rhea, Robert J. Rhea, William B. Rhea, W. C. Stone (husband of Emma C. Rhea), S. V. Rhea, Alice J. Rhea and Sallie A. Rhea. The mill was appraised at this time at the sum of \$8,000.00.

As the result of litigation and sales within the Rhea family over a period of years, Robert J. Rhea and Walker C. Rhea were found by the court on July 1, 1899 to be the rightful owners of the land, premises and improvements on the "Steam Mill Lot."

In the 1920's and 1930's J. H. McIlroy (husband of Sarah also known as Sallie Rhea) acquired title to all of the Rhea Farm lands, which consisted at times 292 acres and at other times 332 acres plus the two-acre "Steam Mill Lot," which he later conveyed to the Industrial Finance Company. The president of the Industrial Finance Company was Hayden McIlroy, son of J. H. and Sallie McIlroy and grandson of William H. Rhea.

The Industrial Finance Company sold to W. L. and Fannie W. Hunter on December 19, 1940 332 acres of land known as the Rhea Place, including the "Steam Mill" lot.

W. L. and Fannie W. Hunter on December 20, 1941 sold to John J. and Alice O. Grattan, husband and wife, the 332-acre Rhea Farm and the two-acre "Steam Mill" lot.

After operating the Rhea Farm for about six years, on June 22, 1948, John and Alice Grattan sold 314 acres to George C. and Helen B. Mennecke who were from the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York.

For sixteen years George C. and Helen B. Mennecke owned and operated the Rhea Farm until July 12, 1962, when they sold 322 acres of land including the "Steam Mill" lot to B. G. and Dorothy Kelly, who have been the owners and operators of the major portion of the original Rhea Farm for twenty-four years.

#### Reference

Abstract, Kelly Farm, Bill and Dorothy Kelly, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas

NO RHEA MURDERS

On July 11, 1940, a Fayetteville boy, Gerald Stewart, fatally shot both of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Stewart, on their farm about three miles from the Rhea settlement, seventeen miles southwest of Fayetteville.

The body of Mr. Stewart, 74-year-old farmer, was found at 5:30 P.M. on July 11th, by Frank McKee, J. A. Stevens, and another neighbor of the Stewarts. Mr. McKee became suspicious after the Stewart boy stopped at Mr. McKee's farm, adjacent to the Stewart farm, and asked if he had seen his grandparents, stating he could not find them at home. Mrs. Stewart's body was found at 12:30 the next day by a searching party of about twenty-five officers and neighbors.

Previously Frank McKee, a quarter a mile away, had seen Sam Stewart riding his horse in the field, working the corn field, with someone who looked like Gerald walking about fifteen feet behind the horse. Frank McKee then heard a shot, saw the horse leap into the air, and a few minutes later saw the person who had been walking lead the horse away. Gerald had shot his grandfather in the right side of the neck from behind with a shotgun. Then Gerald took the inside check rein off the horse and dragged his grandfather with the horse to a spring which was walled with rocks in the field. Sam Stewart's body was found in the shallow well, where it had been lowered head first, with the feet sticking out of the water, with a leather strap around his feet.

Washington County officers were called by Frank McKee immediately upon discovery of Mr. Stewart's body, and the grandson was taken into custody for questioning as soon as they arrived.

Mrs. Stewart, who was about 71 years old, was killed in the garden where she was gathering roasting ears to fix supper for the boy, and the searching party found her the next day about noon where she had fallen, an ear of corn still in her hand. She had been shot in the back, the charge entering her left shoulder.

The weapon which killed the couple was a shotgun belonging to Mr. Stewart. Officers found it had been replaced in its usual place behind the cupboard. The boy had borrowed a bicycle at 2:00 P.M. on July 11th and had ridden to his grandparents farm near Rhea's Mill, reaching there about 4:00 P.M. He stopped at the McKee farm, enroute to town in his grandfather's car, carrying the bicycle in the back seat and telling McKee he could find no one at home. He drove to town and his mother sent him back, telling him his grandparents no doubt would return at milking time. When the boy reached the Stevens home enroute to the farm, the men informed him they had found his grandfather's body, and had telephoned the officers. He remained with them until the officers arrived.

The grandson of the slain couple lived with his mother, Mrs. Rosa Stewart, 109 West Rock Street in Fayetteville, but spent part of the time with his grandparents. His parents were divorced, and his father, Hershall Stewart of Los Angeles, California, was employed by the Douglas Aircraft Corporation of Santa Monica.

The boy had lost the sight of one eye about two years prior to the murders, and had not been in school since that time. He had substituted for telegraph messengers, but had never been regularly employed by the telegraph company. He had never been in trouble until just prior to the murders, facing a motorcycle theft charge. His grandfather was attempting to help him, and the boy was hoping to go to his father in California. His mother was employed in a home laundry in Fayetteville.

Although the boy would give no motive for the murders to the officers—Sheriff Herbert Lewis, Deputy Lloyd McConnell, Deputy Sheriff Curtis Bynum, State Policemen Dan Allen and Clyde Barker and Coroner Riggs—according to Jack Ditmars, the boy later told Rhea residents who visited him in jail that he wanted to use his grandparent's car, and they wouldn't let him use the car, so he shot the grandparents. According to Lloyd McConnell, Mrs. Rosa Stewart had difficulty supporting herself and her son, and she always told the boy that they would have plenty of money when they got the grandparent's farm. So the boy killed the grandparents to get the farm.

Coroner Glenn Riggs conducted the inquest, assisted by Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Proctor Johnson.

Serving on the coroner's jury were W. A. Carnahan, W. P. Carnahan, Walter Dyer, Clyde Montgomery, W. S. Maxwell, C. P. Crawford, Lester Beavers, P. B. Smelser, A. T. Robertson, U. L. Smelser, E. E. Hart and R. L. Brown.

The coroner's jury reached their verdict that "Sam Stewart and Bertha Stewart met their deaths from gun shot wounds of the head and back from a gun fired by Gerald Stewart" after about fifteen minutes deliberation. Gerald Stewart was sentenced to a life term in the penitentiary. Lloyd McConnell stated that Gerald later was paroled and was seen around Fayetteville. According to Jack Ditmars, the boy worked in the dairy in the penitentiary, eventually marrying the warden's daughter.

An auction sale was held after the deaths of the Stewarts on their 140-acre farm, presently owned by Junior Appleby (1986). According to Jack Ditmars, at the farm auction a mule sold for \$2.50, the old blind horse sold for \$2.50 and the old mare sold for \$6.00.

#### References

Ditmars, Jack, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Grandparents of Gerald Stewart Found Dead, NORTHWEST ARKANSAS TIMES, July 12, 1940

McConnell, Lloyd, Fayetteville, Arkansas McKee, Frank, RFD, Lincoln, Arkansas

# A RHEA NOTABLE

Joseph H. Gregory, respectfully and affectionately called Uncle Joe, was born May 27, 1856 at Greenville, Tennessee, and was deceased May 11, 1941, at Rhea, Arkansas, at the age of 84 years, 11 months, and 14 days.

He was married to Mary Louise Brooks on January 25, 1876. According to Rhea church records, he and his wife were the first church members to be received in the Methodist Church by vows by Rev. Smith in 1876, the first year they became Rhea community residents.

Joseph and Mary Gregory had thirteen children: Andy 1878, Clara 1880, Anice 1883, Mary 1885, Mirty 1887, Minnie 1890, Allie 1892, Addie Joy 1895, Wilburn 1897, Troy Brooks 1899, Lacy 1903, Powell 1905, and Velma 1908.

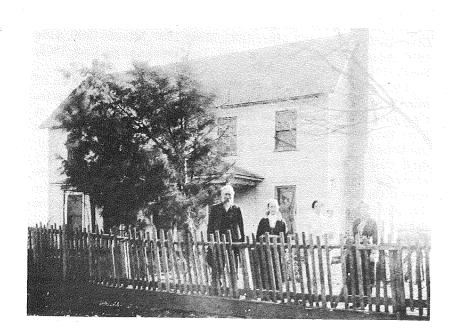
Uncle Joe Gregory was less than twenty-one years old when he came from Tennessee. They came from Tennessee, traveled north, then took a ferry across the Mississippi. The first year he was at Rhea the drought was so severe it was necessary to feed leaves to the horses. The Gregory home burned about 1910. The other children walked down the stairs and out of the building, but Troy jumped out the southeast window upstairs. Walter Dyer sawed lumber for the new home. When Moore Creek would flood during the day while the children were in school, the Gregory children stayed at the Walter Dyer home in Rhea.

Uncle Joe's wife Mary was affectionately called Aunt Mollie. She had a spinning wheel and made yarn which she used to make mittens for all her children. When the children lost their mittens they had to do without the rest of the winter—she just made one pair for each child each year.

One of Joseph Gregory's grandsons, Leon Gregory, who is the son of Troy and Virginia Gregory, is a Baptist minister today.

Uncle Joe Gregory is remembered by the present older generation as a man of medium height, slender stature and an impressive white beard, a man who led the people of the community in religious activities as the Sunday School superintendent for fifty years, beginning in 1891 and continuing until one week prior to his death on May 11, 1941. His impressive record of long years of devoutness, dedication and singular constancy in the Sunday School and Methodist church has been unequalled by anyone in the Rhea community. He was a religious leader: earnest, sincere, dedicated to a sacred purpose. He had the respect and affection of all who knew him.

Joseph H. and Mary L. Gregory are buried in the Rhea cemetery.



Joseph H., Mary L. Gregory, Daughters and Grandchild Courtesy of Waymon Giles

# NO LATER RESIDENTS

It has been the practice of farmers to name their farms especially early in this century. Some of the farms and their popular names in the Rhea community during the first quarter of this century were as follows:

- Crawford, Clyde, VALLEY VIEW: fruit and grain farming, animals and poultry. 1 mile north of Rhea, 1/4 mile west of Lincoln Road.
- Ezell, Fred, FRUIT DALE: fruit and grain farming, animals.  $1^{1/2}$  mile northeast of Rhea. On Lincoln-Rhea Road.
- Franks, W. M., VALLEY WHEAT FARM: grain farming, animals, mules, cows, poultry, chickens, turkeys, mixed breeds. <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile north of Rhea, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile east of school, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile west of Lincoln Road.
- Frazier, C. E., PLEASANT VALLEY: animals, stock and grain farming, poultry. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile southeast of Rhea, on Rhea-Lincoln Road.
- Gregory, J. H., SUNNY BROOK: fruit and grain farming, mixed breeds animals, mixed breeds poultry. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile southeast of Rhea, on Lincoln-Rhea Road.
- Hartley, P. A., MEADOW BROOK: general farm, animals, poultry, 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile northeast of Rhea.
- Pasley, A. V., CLOVER HILL: general farming, animals, poultry. <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile west of Rhea.
- Pearson, J. M., LOCUST DELL: grain farming, mules, horses, hogs, poultry. 1 mile west of Rhea.
- Rhea, E. C., RHEA VALLEY FARM: stock, grain, hay, animals, poultry. Residence at Rhea, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile southeast of school.
- Tilley, Mrs. J., CLOVER DALE: stock and grain, animals, poultry. 2 miles southeast of Rhea.
- Vaughn, Charley, MAPLE LAWN: general farming, animals, poultry. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile north of Rhea.
- Wassum, W. E., EVENING SHADOWS: general farming, animals, poultry. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile north of Rhea.

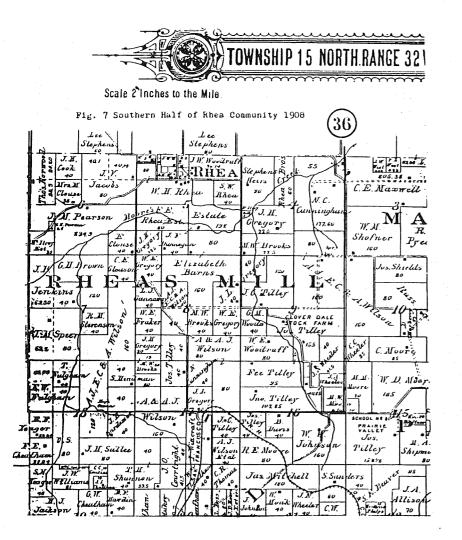
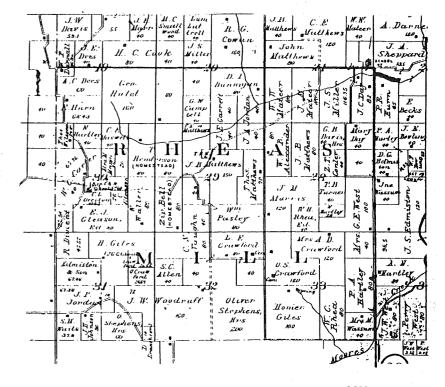
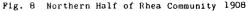


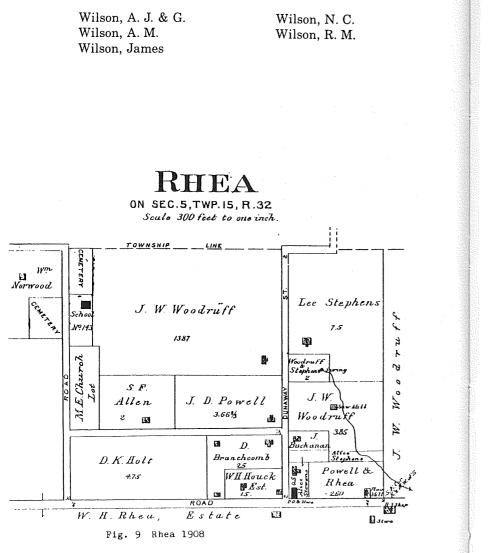
Fig. 7 shows the southern half of the Rhea community in 1908. At that time the east-west road from the Wilson farm west to the Barnes farm had not been built, nor had the north-south road been constructed, part of the Wedington road today, from Walter Gregory's home south to the top of the mountain. This figure also shows the tracks for the St. Louis and San Francisco railroad were at the southern edge of the Rhea community. Fig. 8 shows the northern half of the Rhea community in 1908.

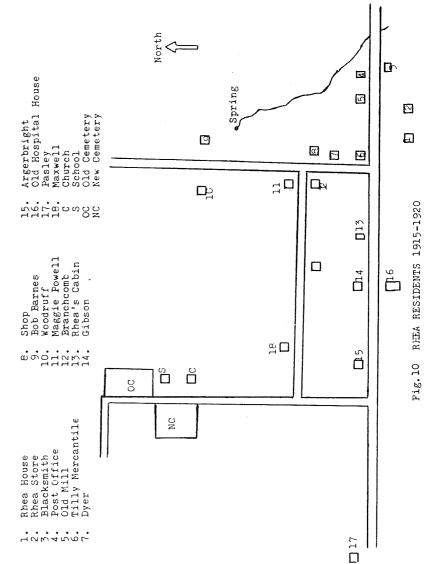


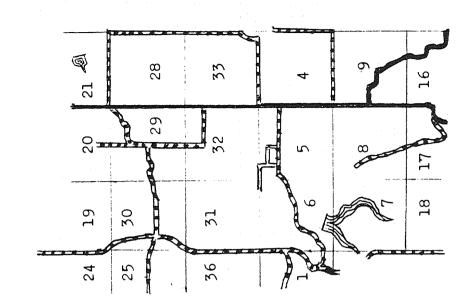


Landowners in 1959 in the southern half of Rhea community, Township 15 North, Range 32 West were as follows:

Clements, C. C. and G. Cole, Sam P. Coones, Cameron Cunningham, H. Franks, George Gillespie, Ruth Hurley, L. B. Johnston, Dorothy Johnston, Harry H. King, W. O. Kirkland, James Massey, Arthur McKee, Frank McQuire, Arthur Mennecke, George C., Sr. Moore, Hill Pasley, Albert A. Peters, D. M. Suttle, Frank Thurman, Leon Tilley, Jos. Estate Tweedie, Lola







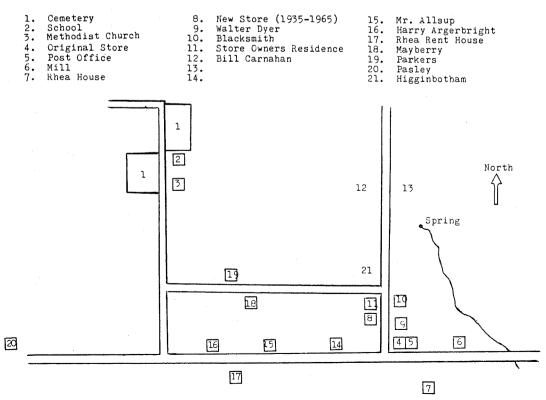


Fig. 11 RHEA RESIDENTS 1922-1930

Э

1974 Rhea Community 15, 16 N, Range 32, 33

Township

Fig. 12

180

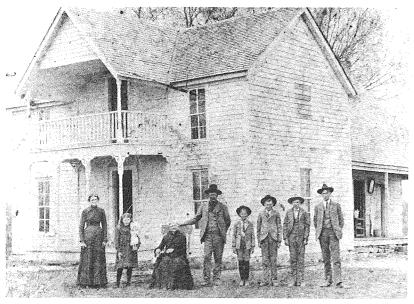
1974 LANDOWNERS OR RESIDENTS Rhea Community (See Fig. 12) Section 4: Section 16: Grigson, B. L. Cole, Sam Griffin, W.F. Ray, Bob Grable, Wendell Section 5: Beavers, Roberta Section 17: Davis, R. J. Buttry, C. W. Dver, Tom Johnston, Dorothy Johnston, Harry Section 20: Kelly, Bill McCarty, Charles Morgan, D. W. Section 21: Nash, James Boyd, Robert Prater. Don Reed. Alfred Twilley, Mary Kinion, Luke Section 6: Miller, Emerson Section 28: O'Kane, Mr. Weyl, Herbert W. Section 7: Jordon, Jess Mvers. Chris Myers, Billy Tollett, Clem Risley, John Section 29: Section 8: Franks, George Franks, Roy Bone. Steve Kinion, Aubrey Kirkland, W. J. Ellis, Lewis Stoebe, J. D. Ellis, Paul Mortensen, R. F. Maples, M. L. Section 9: Maples, W. T. Buchanan, John A. Pittman. Bob Giles, Waymon Kirk, Lovce Shreve, Earl McKee, Frank Wilson, N. Caswell

Wilson, Rollans M.

Curtsinger, Ray Woodward, Pearl Vinson, Bobby Williams, Roy Ledford, Tommy McAdams, Curtis Holland, Donnie Hudgens, O. E. Shreve, Frankie Alexander, Vernon Houston, David Matthews, Raymond Nash, Floyd A. Remington, Glenda Alexander, A. S. Baldwin, C. O. Brindle, G. Leroy Griffin, William Wolterman, B. J.

Section 30: Danforth, Victor Danforth, William Fowler, Donald Hattenhauer, Billy Pierce. Charles Roberts, Billy Shipley, Burl Section 31: Hunton, Dalton Wright, Bob Section 32: Bunnell, R. J. Brindle, Grant Crawford, C. W. Pittman, Bill Section 33: Ezell, Carl Hartley, Gordon Johnson, Wendell Thompson, Ina Thurman, Chester Section 1: Graves, Ed White, Charles Section 25: Fuller, Brady Oliver, Bruce Wood, Clyde Section 36: Jordon, Mrs. Sam Keets, John There are ten families who are long-term residents of the

community. Current residents who are members of families who have lived in the Rhea community for more than one hundred and fifty years are the Crawfords who live on the same family farm, for more than one hundred years are the Wilsons (same farm) and Hartleys, for more than fifty years are the Alexanders, Brindles, Ezells and Johnstons (same farms), and descendants of the Bunnell, Franks and Nash families.



#### Maxwell Home and Family

L. to R.: Mrs. C. E. Maxwell, Ethel Belle, Grandma Barker, Mr. C. E. Maxwell, Bobby, Bill, Jack, John

Courtesy of Ina Maxwell



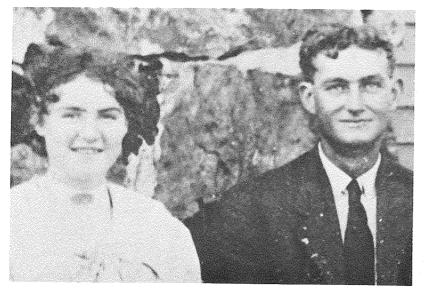
L. to R.: Eb, Nola and Ina Maxwell, circa 1909 Courtesy of Gladys Montgomery



Crawford Family -L. to R.: Seated: Sallie, J. T., Leon Girls: Celia, Ina, Vivian, Mamie, Geneva Boys: Frank, Harvey, Clifford, Clyde Courtesy of Gladys Montgomery

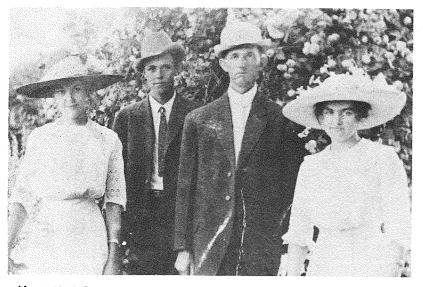


Walter Dyer Saw Mill L. to R.: Hugh Armstrong, Jim Roy, B. Wassum, Unknown Courtesy of Clyde Dyer



1910 Ina Crawford Maxwell, age 15; Bill Maxwell, age 18 (Ina enrolled in Rhea School in 1900)

Courtesy of Gladys Montgomery



About 1910. L. to R.: Clara Allen, Roy Allen, Allie Pasley, Maude Allen Courtesy of Ina Maxwell



Gregorys 1919 L. to R.: Minnie Gregory and daughter, Velma, Joy, Powell, Anice Courtesy of Marie Neal

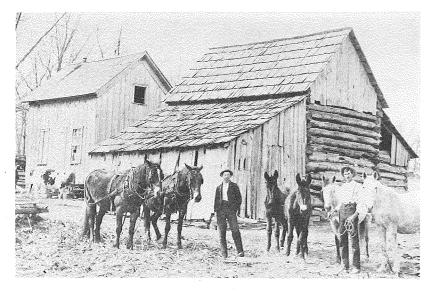


Melissa Franks and granddaughters Elmogene and Katherine Maxwell Courtesy of Kate Cheatham



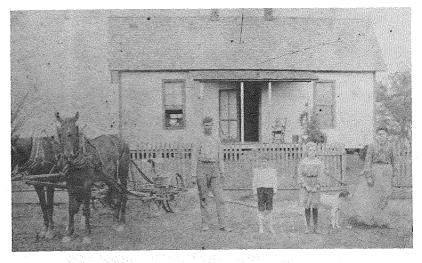
Bonnie and Gladys Montgomery

Courtesy of Gladys Montgomery



Luther Pasley at Rhea

Courtesy of Washington County Historical Society

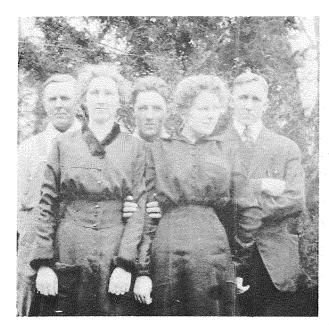


Pasley House at End of Rhea Lane, circa 1901 L. to R.: Luther, Fred, Esther, Lizzie Courtesy of Reba Richmond



Ammalea and Ruth Gregory

Courtesy of Wilma Dean Whiteley



Gregorys: Walter, Ruth, Otto, Ammalea, Roy Courtesy of Wilma Dean Whiteley



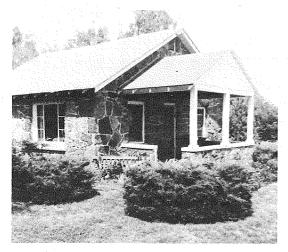
Rhea Residence: Alice Rhea, Elizabeth Rhea, Unknown Courtesy of Marcheita Snapp

L. R.: Ruth Gregory, Unknown, Ora Gregory, Unknown, Dean Scroggins, Unknown, Unknown, Ammalea Gregory, Unknown Courtesy of Wilma Dean Whiteley



Frozen Waterfall, Northern Rhea Community 1942. Roberta Platt and friends
Courtesy of Roberta C. Kennedy

Johnstons: L. to R.: Vernon, Harold, Pat, Dorothy, 1942



Johnston Residence, 1950

Maxwell Family: L. to R.: Bill, Ina, Gladys Montgomery, Bonnie Thurman, Nell Mobley, Ina Faye Hatfield, Billy Ray Courtesy of Gladys Montgomery



Bill and Ina Maxwell, 50th Wedding Anniversary, 1961 Courtesy of Gladys Montgomery



L. to R.: Ammalea Maxwell, Ruth Gillespie, Ora Matlock Courtesy of Wilma Dean Whiteley



1968

L. to R.: Front Row: George Franks holding Timothy, Ruby Franks, John Maxwell, Ammalea Maxwell, Mary Jane and Billy Lee Franks 2nd Row: Drusia McCamish, Lillian and Gordon Hartley, Roy Gene Franks Courtesy of Donna Franks

Johnstons: Lena, age 76; Harry, age 86, 1976



Ruth Gregory Parker Gillespie, August 12, 1970 Groundbreaking: New Methodist Church

Courtesy of Kate Cheatham

1959 Atlas and Ownership Index of Washington County, Murphy Map Company, Independence, Missouri

Dyer, Clyde, Junction City, Oregon

Nolen, Virginia, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

- Plat Book of Washington County, Arkansas, North West Publishing Company, Des Moines, Iowa, 1908
- Rural Directory and Registry of Farms of Washington County, Fayetteville Printing Company, 1920.

## 🔍 PROFESSIONAL RESIDENTS 🤐

Throughout the history of Rhea community residents have become teachers, professors, attorneys and psychologist.

Rhea residents who were teachers during the last part of the last century and the early part of this century were the Gregory and Pearson families.

The William Randall (born July 28, 1869) and Laura Frances (born July 21, 1867, died February 23, 1912) Pearson family were professional people. The father, William Randall Pearson, was the first teacher at Rhea after School District No. 143 was established. He taught from 1890 through 1896. All of their children but one became teachers or attorneys. The teachers were Lillie Vaughn, Clemuel Olin Pearson, John Bennett Pearson and Lucy Mae Pearson Ingalls McCuistian. Lucy Pearson was a teacher at Rhea in 1924 and 1925 and also taught at Viney Grove, Hickory Grove four miles northwest of Prairie Grove and Prairie View. Homer Lee Pearson (born about 1872, died in 1961 at the age of eighty-six) became an attorney in Fayetteville. Three generations of his family have been attorneys.

Ora Gregory Matlock, daughter of Walter E. and Mary P. Gregory, Rhea pioneers, born and reared in the southern part of the Rhea community, taught at Dutch Mills in 1836–1837.

Annalea Gregory Choate, daughter of Walter E. and Mary P. Gregory, was a teacher during the early years of this century at Dutch Mills.

Joy Gregory, daughter of Joseph H. and Mary (Uncle Joe and Aunt Mollie) Gregory, was born in 1895 and reared in the Rhea community. After attending Rhea elementary school she obtained her teachers certificate, teaching at Rhea in 1915 and 1916. She also taught at Stonewall and White Rock (Glendale), the latter located about two miles north of Dutch Mills. On December 14, 1921 at the age of twenty-six she married Clint Davis, also a native of Rhea and also twenty-six years of age. She was a member of the Rhea United Methodist Church. After her marriage she was a member of Methodist churches in Summers and Cincinnati.

Later in this century residents served as professors, teachers, ministers and psychologist.

#### H. E. "Buck" Buchanan

Born and reared near Cloverdale, the original Tilley mansion, H. E. Buchanan left home at the age of fourteen to attend the University of Arkansas, where he graduated in 1902. He taught, when he was eighteen years old, in the preparatory school at the University. After graduation he attended the University of Chicago where he was awarded the Master's degree in mathematics in 1909. He taught at the University of Wisconsin and the University of Tennessee before serving on the faculty at Tulane University in New Orleans, where he taught mathematics for thirty years. On two occasions he served as president at the College of the Ozarks in Clarksville.

In all he had fifty-two years in the teaching profession. At Tulane he held the position of distinguished service professor. He was the author of several textbooks and many articles on the subject of mathematics.

After retirement from the educational field, he returned in 1949 to his wife's parents old homestead, Cloverdale, the Tilley mansion which he remodeled.

In 1960 the 195-acre farm was used in part as an Extension Service demonstration area where nine acres of hybrid corn were planted which yielded 154 bushels to the acre, on land which received 500 pounds to the acre of 6-12-6 fertilizer as recommended by the Agricultural Extension Service. Mr. Buchanan and his wife lived out their lives on the old homestead.

#### Leon Gregory

Leon Gregory, the son of Troy and Virginia Gregory and grandson of Joseph and Mary Gregory, Rhea pioneers, was born April 2, 1938 and reared on his parents' farm in the Rhea community. He attended the Prairie Grove schools. During his senior year in high school in 1955 he began preaching, graduating from high school in 1956. His college education was at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Leon Gregory has served as a minister in the Baptist Church for more than thirty years, serving about seventeen years at the Wedington Baptist Church and fourteen years at the Salem Baptist Church. During his work life, he has been employed in life insurance and is a member of the Northwest Arkansas Life Underwriters Association.

#### Harold L. Johnston

Harold L. Johnston, the son of Harry H. and Lena B. Johnston, was born in Woodward County, Oklahoma, moving to the Rhea community with his parents in 1933. He attended Rhea elementary school and Prairie Grove High School where he graduated in 1941, and when he began preaching in rural churches. He attended Hendrix College in Conway and the University of Arkansas. During the 1940's he served as a pastor, serving a number of rural United Methodist churches: the Monte Ne circuit, which included Shady Grove, Oak Grove, Prairie Creek and War Eagle in Benton County; serving the Illinois Chapel-Liberty-Zimmerman circuit and also Wedington in Washington County.

#### Gaston Matthews

Gaston Matthews, the son of Fred and Fannie Matthews, was born February 24, 1912, in the Viney Grove area. He attended the Viney Grove elementary school and Prairie Grove High School. He attended Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, for five summer in 1957–1962, matriculating in special theology courses under the sponsorship of the United Methodist Church.

In 1933 Gaston Matthews married Dola Ingram, who died in 1955. He married Gladys Brown in 1972.

While operating the grocery store in Rhea in 1938–1939 and Dola Matthews served as the postmaster, Gaston Matthews served as the sponsor of the Epworth League, the young people's Sunday evening group, at the United Methodist Church in Rhea.

Gaston Matthews' first preaching experience was at Cincinnati, substituting for the absent pastor of the United Methodist Church. His full-time service as a pastor in the United Methodist Church began in 1957, when he began serving the Hunter charge near Brinkley, followed by Valley Springs, Altus, St. Francis, Hartman, Griffithville, Ola, and the Rhea-Wedington-Cincinnati charge.

#### Virginia Pasley Nolen

Virginia Pasley Nolen, the daughter of Albert Van and Rella Mae Henderson Pasley, was born and reared on her parents' farm approximately one half mile west of the Rhea settlement. She attended Rhea elementary school and, at the age of sixteen, graduated from Prairie Grove High School. Her higher education included two years at the University of Arkansas, graduating from Tulsa University in 1945 with a Bachelor of Science degree. She obtained Library Certification at the University of Oklahoma 1961-1963.

Virginia Pasley Nolen spent the major part of her work life in the field of public education, beginning teaching at the age of eighteen at Viney Grove elementary school in Washington County. After she married Tom Nolen on July 3, 1949, a teacher in the Midwest City—Del City schools in the Oklahoma City area, she served as a substitute teacher until 1961, when she became a teacher-librarian. Prior to her retirement in 1986, she worked for twenty years as the librarian at Jarman Junior High School. The school named their new library in 1986 "The Virginia Nolen Library" in her honor for her twenty years of service.

In addition to her library work at Jarman Junior High School in the Oklahoma City area, she coached spelling bee champions from the school for the years 1971, 1973, 1977 and 1979, who she accompanied to the National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. She was spelling bee coach at Jarman Junior High School for ten years. In 1985–1986 she served as Regional Coordinator for twenty-five schools for the Region 12 Spelling Bee.

She is a Democrat and Protestant.

As a member of the Del City Christian Church in Del City, Oklahoma, she served as a Sunday School teacher, Building Committee member and Deaconess. Other organizations in which she held offices were the Del City PTA (vice president, program chairman) and the American Association of University Women, Mid-Del Branch, Oklahoma.

#### Gladys Maxwell Montgomery

Gladys Maxwell Montgomery, the daughter of Bill and Ina Crawford Maxwell, born and reared on her parents' farm in the eastern part of the Rhea community, attended Rhea school through the seventh grade, then graduated from Prairie Grove High School. She attended the University of Arkansas, graduating in 1931.

Gladys Maxwell married Clyde Montgomery in 1932.

She spent forty years in the teaching profession: Viney Grove four years, Prairie View three years, Rhea three years, Washington State five years, and Prairie Grove third grade twenty-five years, retiring in 1978. She later served as a substitute teacher in the Prairie Grove schools.

She is a Democrat and a Protestant. Gladys Montgomery is a member of the Viney Grove United Methodist Church, the Women's Club in Prairie Grove, and the Retired Teachers of Washington County. Patricia Johnston Reed, daughter of Harry H. and Lena Barnes Johnston, was born at Sharon, Oklahoma, and moved to the Rhea community in 1933. She attended Rhea school two years and graduated from Prairie Grove High School in 1940. She attended Oklahoma City Junior College and graduated from the University of Arkansas in 1948.

Patricia has taught public school 28 years in Arkansas and 2 years in Colorado, and private school 6 years in Springdale. She was honored as Teacher of the Year in the Springdale Schools in 1979-80. Patricia Johnston married Elma Reed September 7, 1949.

#### Wilford Hughes Thompson

Wilford Hughes Thompson, son of Cecil Leonard Thompson and Ina Hughes Thompson, was born at Fayetteville September 17, 1926. He moved to the Rhea community in 1937. He attended elementary school at Salem and Mt. Comfort and graduated from high school at Cane Hill.

In 1946, after serving in the infantry several years, Wilford Thompson began a 41-year professional business career with the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Prairie Grove, where he is currently Vice-President. He has attended state and national banking schools.

Wilford Thompson served as President of Area Four of the National Cattlemen's Association for two years and is presently a member of the Board.

He married Rita Pasley March 8, 1947, and lives in Prairie Grove. He owns the family farm at Rhea that was originally settled by the Oscar Crawford family.

### Clydene Montgomery Tyree

Clydene Montgomery Tyree, daughter of Clyde and Gladys Montgomery, was born in the Rhea community. She attended the Prairie Grove schools and the University of Arkansas, where she was awarded a Masters degree in elementary education in 1972.

Clydene Montgomery married Cecil Tyree in 1958, and they live in the Viney Grove community. She has taught twenty-five years in the Prairie Grove schools.

#### Dorothy M. Johnston

Dorothy M. Johnston, the daughter of Harry H. and Lena B. Johnston, was born at Mutual, Oklahoma, and moved to the Rhea community in 1933 with her parents. She attended Rhea elementary school four years, and graduated from Prairie Grove High School as valedictorian in 1942. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Arkansas in 1949, the Masters of Arts degree in psychology from the University of Denver in 1952 and the Ph.D degree in psychology from North Carolina State University in 1971.

She served in the educational field as a counselor of students at the University of Arkansas, University of Colorado, and Florida State University. She served in the field of applied psychology, researching the enhancement of visual performance. She has authored numerous publications including scientific articles in national and international professional journals. She presented a paper at an international conference at the University of Technology in Loughborough in Great Britain in 1971.

Dr. Johnston has served on several national committees and task forces in professional organizations including Education for Women, IEEE, and Women and Religion, Division 35, American Psychological Association. She has been a member of a number of organizations in student counseling, and scientific organizations including the American Psychological Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, The Association for Women in Science, Human Factors Society, The Optical Society of America and the American Association of University Women, Columbus Branch, Ohio.

Dr. Johnston is listed in the Who's Who in American Education publication *Leaders in American Science*, Vol VI, 1964–1965, and *Who's Who in Frontier Science and Technology*, First Edition, 1984– 1985.

She is a Democrat and a Protestant.

She has served as teacher or counselor in churches and Sunday Schools where she has been a member: Rhea United Methodist Church; United Methodist Church in West Seattle, Washington; and Bexley United Methodist Church in Columbus, Ohio.

#### References

Choate, Woodrow, Dutch Mills

Giles, Waymon, Farmington Gregory, Leon, RFD, Fayetteville Gregory, Troy, Oaks, Oklahoma History of Education in Washington County, 1830–1950 Matthews, Earlene, Prairie Grove Montgomery, Gladys, Prairie Grove Neal, Marie, Farmington Nolen, Virginia Pasley, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Pearson, Lucille, Cincinnati Pearson, Lucille, Cincinnati Pearson, Mrs. Tom, Sr., Fayetteville Reed, Patricia Johnston, Springdale Rhea United Methodist Church Records Tyree, Clydene Montgomery, RFD, Prairie Grove Wylie, Ted R., Northwest Arkansas Times, 1960, Fayetteville

#### To God Be the Glory

by Dorothy Allsup Nash

In all things give God the glory, Praise His Holy Name. Thank Him for sunshine, Thank Him for the rain. Sometimes when things Are not going so good, Not the way we think they should, Just remember to pray, and say, To God be the glory.

In His glorious wisdom He knows what's best for us, In His merciful kindness and love, He sends manna from above. Stop a while and ponder Thank Him for His love Just remember to say In heartful thanksgiving To God be the glory.

In this sesquicentennial year In honoring our land, There's still the One Who is Head of all It's God, not any man. He gave us all we have It's still the old, old story Praise His Holy Name And to God be the glory.

By permission of Dorothy Nash Written April 7, 1976 for Centennial and 1986 for Arkansas Sesquicentennial.

## 🔍 POETS AND SONG WRITERS 🤐

During the history of Rhea there have been three poets and song writers who have lived in the community.

Tim Franks, the son of Roy Gene and Donna Franks, was born on July 3, 1967 and reared on his parents' farm in the southern part of the Rhea community. He attended Prairie Grove High School where he graduated in 1986.

Tim Franks is a composer of gospel songs and is a guitarist. He has performed throughout Washington County, singing gospel songs to groups including the Rhea United Methodist Church and the residents of Medi-Homes in Prairie Grove. On one of his tapes titled "The Gift From Jesus," Tim Franks' original compositions include Jesus Does Care, Walking the Golden Street, When I'm Called, and Some Day I'll Be There.

He is a member of the Rhea United Methodist Church.

Dorothy Allsup Nash, the daughter of Lee C. and Mary Lou Holloway Allsup, was born August 28, 1913, at Sherman, Texas. In 1924 she moved to the Rhea valley with her parents and attended Rhea elementary school. She married Floyd Nash in August 1930.

Her poems have been published by Mannie "Ed" Schaffer in The Prairie Grove Enterprise, The Lincoln Leader and the Marble Falls newspapers. Her gospel song, "I Remember All" has been sung to the music of "I Surrender All" in the Rhea United Methodist Church when L. A. Peters was the pastor of the church from 1966–1972.

Dorothy Allsup Nash is a member of the Rhea United Methodist Church, where she has served as a teacher and a leader in the Sunday School. Ruth Holt Payne, the daughter of Samuel P. and Ellen Marshall Holt, was born January 19, 1902 and moved with her parents at an early age to the Rhea community, where she attended Rhea elementary school until her marriage to William Cody Payne after he returned from World War I in 1920.

She became a poet and author, with her poems being published in numerous national, regional and local publications. She has received numerous awards from the Ozarks Writers and Artists Guild, National Poetry Day contests, Poets Roundtable of Arkansas and Arkansas Writers conference.

Ruth Holt Payne is a member of The National League of American Pen Women, Ozarks Writers and Artists Guild and The Poets Roundtable of Arkansas. She resides in Lincoln, Arkansas.

### Battle of Prairie Grove

by Ruth Holt Payne

The silence of this valley once was split by roar of cannon as the war gods stalked on iron shod feet and left their bloody tracks on fields and homes where only peace had walked. Rebels and Bluecoats fell-three thousand men. like grain before the scythe in wanton waste. Strife also stirred among the residents and war's end failed to end the bitter taste. Silence fell once more upon the valley; the Stygian silence of death's gloomy pall. Reunions drew old white bearded soldiers to reminisce on scenes they would recall. Legend says that dead soldiers could not sleep, that the thunder of musketry, the sound of marching feet of ghostly regiments still echoes from the silent battle ground. The battle smoke, long drifted from the air. has been replaced by fumes of gasoline. Though blue and gray are mingled in the dust, the scars of war, like ghosts, still haunt the scene. by permission of Ruth Holt Payne

### WORLD WAR I & II RHEA ROLL OF HONOR Served with United States Armed Forces

Hubert Anderson Harry Argerbright\* Clyde Crawford\* Leon Crawford Joe Crawford **Richard** Crawford Austin Center Grant Center Herman Center John D. Center Dee Curtsinger\*\* Richard Wayne Dyer\*\* Jack Dver Jack Dunaway Deane Ezell J. L. Ezell Vernon Gier Guy Hendrickson Sue Lee Hendrickson Wallace C. Henry Warren Henry James Henry\*\* Maynerd Hogan\*\* **Billy Hutchens** Ellis Henson Gene Kincheloe

J. D. Kincheloe Lester Kincheloe Bobby Maxwell Sam Maxwell\* John Paul Mobley Claude Moore\*\* James Dale Matthews\*\* Howard Neal J.C. Neal Kenneth Neal Phillip Nash John T. Overby Robert Overby Jack Redway\*\* Paul Redway Wilfred Thompson Charles Vaughn\*\* Harold Vaughn George N. Whitmire Oscar L. Whitmire Rollans Wilson\* Andrew Wise Calvin Young

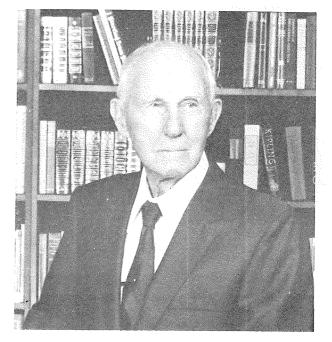
\*World War I All others World War II

\*\*Died in Action

Oldest resident: Harry H. Johnston, age 96 Longest continuous resident: Rollans Wilson Longest continuous church member (non resident): Celia Ezell, since 1916 Longest continuous church member (resident): Ola Crawford, since 1925 Oldest former businessman (store): Gaston Matthews Last Rhea businessman (blacksmith): Tom Dyer Last postmaster: Roberta Beavers Residents who became pastors: Gaston Matthews Leon Gregory Harold Johnston Residents who became poets and song writers: Tim Franks Dorothy Allsup Nash Ruth Holt Pavne Resident who became an attorney: Homer Lee Pearson Resident who became a psychologist: Dorothy M. Johnston Residents who became teachers: William Pearson John Pearson Clemuel Olin Pearson Lillie Pearson Vaughn Lucy Pearson McCuiston

Lillie Pearson Vaughn Lucy Pearson McCuiston H. E. Buchanan Gladys Maxwell Montgomery Clydene Montgomery Tyree Joy Gregory Davis Ora Gregory Matlock Annalea Gregory Choate Virginia Nell Pasley Nolen Patricia Johnston Reed

Oldest former club president: Ola Crawford



Harry H. Johnston, age 93, 1983

Harry H. and Lena Johnston spent forty-five years as farmers in the Rhea community prior to retirement. Not only was he a farmer, but Harry Johnston became a self-taught carpenter and rock mason. After he moved to the Rhea farm, he tore down the breezy old house and used the solid seasoned lumber to build a smaller compact residence, including a basement, a house that he later rock veneered with hand-picked rocks from the mountain section of the farm. He also built three more rock buildings on his farm: a well house, a cellar with a room over it which was used as a guest room at times, and a chicken house. With very little outside help, he built his own all-purpose barn with hay loft, feed bins, tack room, crib, and storage areas (also a machine shed) with timber from the mountain forest, timber that was sawed on the farm into lumber with a transient sawmill.

Harry Johnston co-authored a hard-cover book, BEYOND THE LIMELIGHT, published in 1983, about his early years in Missouri and Oklahoma.

# NAME INDEX

### ABBOTT James 54 AKINS John 79 ALEXANDER Alberta 124 Allie S. 99, 114, 115, 120, 127, 137, 150, 151, 182 Betty 125 Bobby 148, 150, 151, 152 Iona David 84, 85, 145, 147, 148, 150, 151, 152 Kate 99 Loyd 99 Sumner 98, 129 Vernon 124, 182 W. B. 177 ALLEN Clara Bell 87, 109, 157, 186 Dan 171 Delmas 129 Eric 43 Frank, 60, 86 Geraldine 129 Homer 87 Lafavette 157 Lavna 86 Mary Ann 85, 86, 90, 156, 157 Maud 87, 109, 186 Robert 86, 90 Roy 87, 109, 186 S. C. 177 S. F. 120, 178 Samuel G. 90, 156, 157 Thomas (Tom) 64, 76 Vera 129 ALLSUP Dorothy 204, 208 Everett 157

Lee Crawford 157, 204 Linda 157 Mary Lou 204 AMES Charles A. 166 ANDERSON Bette Lou 124 Hubert 207 W. L. 117 APPLEBY Junior 172 ARGERBRIGHT Harry 87, 89, 115, 180. 207Stella 89, 115 ARMSTRONG Rev. H. A. 83, 86, 87, 90 Hugh 185 Jacob 54 ARNST H. J. 87 Paul 87 Sidney 87 ASHER Ann 167 Betty 124 J. T. 166 Walt 64 ASHLEY John 4 AUSTIN Ethel 84.89 Jewel 89 John 84, 89 Mary Alyce 84, 89 Shelby 89, 96, 105, 107

BAGBY Mertye McIlroy 45, 62 BAIN Rev. Eugene 83

BAKER Russell P. 61 BALDWIN C. O. 182 Mvrtle 148, 149, 150, 151.152Rev. W. M. 82 BARCLAY Poston 55 BARKER Clvde 171 Grandma 184 Mrs. John 64 BARNES A. S. 64, 78, 112, 135, 154, 155, 156, 158 Bob 179 E.J.90 Elizabeth 20, 154, 155. 156, 158, 176 Hazel 129 Jeanie 129 Jeriamiah 21 John 17, 18, 21 Laura 154, 158, 162 **Odie 128** Ollie 128, 128 Robert A. 59, 137 R. W. 64, 111 Washington 52 BATTIE T. 53 BATES Nora M. 117 BAXTER Hiram 79 BEAN George 17, 21 Mark 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21 BEATTIE or BEATIE Alex 64 Capt. A. C. 53

Frank 64 BEAVERS Roberta 60, 137, 138. 140, 142-148, 152, 182, 208 William Lester 60, 137. 140.171 BEDDELL Lewis 64 BELL James L. 54 Paris 54 Zip 177 BENNETT C. E. 118 BISHOP Col. 49 BLACK Alex 64 BLACKBORN R. H. 64 BLADSAW Box 142 BLAKE Brook 109 J. G. 53 BLAKEMORE Amy 118 L. D. 119 BLEVINS Rev. 83, 86 BLUNT Gen. James G. 45, 46, 47 BOLES Clifford 59 Nancy 158 BOMBALOW V. B. 86 BOND Mary Jane 146 Salina 154, 156, 158, 162 BONE Steve 182 BORDEN

Arch 64 BOTEFUHR Hugo C. 59 BOWERS Henry F. 60 BOWLES C. P. 136 BOWMAN S. G. 65 BOWYER Henry 64, 68, 77 BOYD Robert 182 BRADLEY Joe 79 BRALEY Ethel 87 Frank D. 87, 118, 127 BRANCHCOMB Allie 88, 129 Charles viii, 84, 89, 130, 135. 148, 150, 151 Daniel 59, 158, 177, 178 Earvy 88, 128 Flora 128 Julia 88, 128 Marianna viii, 84, 135, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153Veda 158 BRICE William 65 IBRINDLE Carolyn 146 Donna R. 124 Doris Lee 124 Geneva 124 G. Leroy 182 Grace 115 Grant 115, 183 BROOKS Birdie 85 Dennis 87 H. W. 119

J. F. 86 M. J. 158 M. W. 119, 120, 178 Maggie J. 85 Marion W. 85, 119 Mary Louise 172 Nathan 87 Trella 88 W. A. 86 W. M. 156, 158 BROWERS E. A. 87 H. F. 87 Henry 88.99 Ruby 88, 99 W. F. 87 W. H. 87 BROWNLEE W. W. 68, 77 BROWN G. H. 176 Gladys 199 R. L. 171 BROWNFIELD Margaret 142, 143 BRUMBACK Nellie M. 158 BRYAS William 65 BUCHANAN Elizabeth 65 H. E. (Buck) 198, 208 Isaac 17, 21 John A. 35, 65, 182 J. 178 Joseph (Joe) 34 M. E. 77 Marcus 65 Thomas 65 BUCK George 65, 67 BUNCH Capt. 65, 111, 112 BUNNELL

Alma 89, 147, 158 Clem C. 60, 89, 98, 106, 107, 116, 117, 121, 148, 158 D. J. 166 Fannie Lee 89, 158 H. Irene 88, 103, 158 Henry (Hank) 65 Hubert 84, 88, 96, 103, 150 James 65, 77, 111, 112 Juanita 133 Lois 130 Mary 130 Ralph 98, 129 R. J. 183 Veda 129 BUNOW Ellen 65 BURGISS J. W. 53 BURLINGAME E. G. 65 BURNETT Mrs. Clyde 146 BURROW Anne 23, 156, 158 John 23, 65 Mary 23 Milly 23 Sarah 23 Solomon 21, 23, 65, 70, 76, 77, 78, 111, 112, 156, 157, 158 BUTLER Grace 148, 150 151 BUTNER J. S. 65 BUTTRY C. W. 182 BYNUM Curtis 171

CABE Jef 65, 111, 112 Margaret Pierce 155. 158 T. J. 65 CAMPBELL G. W. 177 CANTRELL George 54 Mary 54 William 55 CARGILL G. S. 65, 70 CARMICHAEL Mildred vii, 141 CARNAHAN Capt. J. P. 34, 77 Henry P. 65, 111 James A. 115 Leveta 88 M. P. 115 Rebecca 23 Roberta Platt 89, 103. 105, 106, 143-151 Sue 55 W. A. 171 W. P. 115, 171 Woodrow 92, 147 CARSON Bessie 118 CARTER Amma L. 88, 100, 101, 143 Horace 88, 99, 100, 101, 158 Rev. J. F. 88, 90 W. C. 177 CARTER Rev. J. F. 83 CAVEN William 52 CENTER Austin 207 Gladys 143

Grant 207 Herman 207 CHARLIE (Wilson Slave) 58 CHEATHAM Darlene Thurman 147 David 145 Geneva 145 Kate viii, 84, 92, 110, 126, 140, 143, 186 Lafavette 65, 78 Mary 65, 77 Nancy 79 Thomas 65 Wade 115 William 65 CHERRY J. F. 166 S. C. 166 CHILLIS or CHALLIS D. B. 65, 76 CHOATE Annalea Gregory 196, 208 Woodrow viii, 202 CLARK Calvin C. 3rd Lt. 53 CLARY Gillington 18, 21 CLEMENTS C. C. 177 Gertie 146 Shirley 145 **CLEVELAND** George 65 CLICK W. B. 65, 67, 76, 77, 78 CLOUSE Clifton 87 D. M. 86, 90 Eli 120 E. S. 86, 90, 120, 176 M. Mrs. 176

Niccie 86 Ollie 86 R. C. 86, 90 Willis A. 59, 86 COCKERAL Martha 166 COFF John 79 COHEA Fred 137 Gib 65, 69, 70, 76, 77, 111.112 Joe Cherry 65 John 65 COHN John 76, 78 COLE Charles 21 Lena 143-145, 148 Sam P. 147, 148, 177, 182 COLEMAN Joe H. 115 COLLIER Judith Faye 158 COLLINS George 65 Lewis 65 CONLEY **Rose 118** COOK William 158 J. H. 178 COOLEY P. E. 104 COONES Ann 143, 144, 145, 148, 152 Cameron 177 Dorothy 105 COOPER John W. 79 COOR Mrs. Bill 146 Dorothy 145

COPELAND Margaret 54 COUN Jewel 22 COWAN Bettie 166 Rev. J. S. 166, 167 Lillie 166 COX Edward H. 86 Flovd vii, 118, 130, 135 John F. 86 John M. 65, 75 Louisa 86 Mary E. 154, 156, 158, 162 Marv M 157, 158 Sam 86.90 Warren 86 CRALEY W. S. 55 CRAWFORD Mrs. A. D. 177 Adolphus 22 Alpha Jean 22, 91, 93, 133 Celia 22, 87, 128, 185 Clifford P. 22, 88, 115, 171, 185 Clyde 22, 86, 99, 109, 114, 115, 120, 149, 175, 183, 185, 207 Colonia 22 Donna Lee 22, 84, 89, 124.144 Eliza 22 Elizabeth 23 Elzora 100, 102, 103, 115, 142, 143 Francis 86 Frank 22, 185 G. Billy 65, 75 Geneva 22, 87, 185 Harvey 185

Mrs. H. 111 Harriet 65 Herbert 22 Ina 22, 109, 185 James 17. 21 Joe 22, 93, 133, 207 Johnny Ray 22, 84, 89, 124 Mrs. Johnny Ray 148 J. M. 53, 65 J. T. 22, 99, 185 Kerg 65 Leon 22, 133, 147, 149, 185, 207 Mrs. Leon 145, 146, 147 Leondias E, 119, 177 Louisa 22 Lycurgus or Licurgus 22, 65, 68 Loyd 87, 120, 127, 128 Mamie 22, 109, 185 Maud Allen 158 Maude 22, 88 Ola viii, 22, 84, 85, 88, 115, 135, 142, 143, 144, 146-149, 151, 152, 208 Orlan 87, 127 0. S. 177 Pascel 87 P. L. 65 Rebecca E. 2, 85 Richard 133, 207 Robert D. 21, 22, 65, 78, 111.112 Ruth 87, 127, 128 Sallie 185 Sardina 22 Steve 151 Vivian 22, 87, 185 Wayne 143 Mrs. Wayne 143 W. M. 21 William 65 CRIGG

Sarah 55 CRISP Eliza 54 CROACH Henry 22 CROSSMAN Rev. Marcia 84 CRUDUP Mary 151 CUNNINGHAM Bernard 129 Earle 37 E. P. 53 H. 177 Hattie 87 N. C. 176 CURTSINGER Betty 144 Mrs. Brvce 146 Dee 207 Ethelvne 142, 143, 144, 145 Eula 143, 144, 152 **Jack 144** J. B. 84, 133 **Jeff 146** Jesse 88 Katie 88, 142, 143, 144, 145 Nona May Nash 84 Ray 182 CUSHING David M. 59 DALE G. S. 120 DANFORTH Frank 88 Victor W. 88, 183 William 183 DANIEL John R. 156, 158, 162 DAVID Fannie 88, 90, 131

Henry 87 Hodge 87 Iona 88 Jennie 87 Lizzie 87.99 Lorena 88 Maggie 87, 99 Nettie Mae 88 Nora 88, 90, 118, 119 R. H. 88 Mrs. R. H. 88 **Rav 88** Ren 96, 103 Retta 87 **Roy 88** W. J. 90, 120 William J. 86, 98, 120 Z. C. 86, 90 DAVIDSON Alex 65 DAVIS Cleve 86 Clint 197 Denise 89 Dorothy 89, 148 Duane 84, 89, 150 Mrs. Duane 150 Earl 89, 150 Elizabeth Anette 89 Francis 21 G. B. 177 Glen 149 J. R. 54, 182 James 21 Joy Gregory 208 Scott 90 Susan 84, 89, 90 DAY Gladys 87 J. C. 177 Mary 177 Rev. Thomas H. 166 DEAN

Frank viii. 88, 90, 131

Rhoda 145, 152 DEES A. C. 177 DEARING Mollie J. 86 DEMENT or DEMERT or DIMENT Robert 22, 136, 177 DSENIMGES Otto 79 DICKERSON George 65 W. M. 86 DICKISON George 77 DICKSON Don R. 11 Nancy A 154, 158 DIENAT J. Jr. 54 DITMARS **Baby Daughter 158** Jack viii, 84, 88, 89, 91, 115, 121, 135, 150, 171, 172Jack Clayton 143, 158 Phocian O. 115, 158 **Richard Clayton 158** Veda viii, 84, 89, 95, 100, 101, 103, 115, 142-146, 148-152, 162, 165 DITTERLINE Rev. J. G. 83, 87, 88, 90 DIVEN Elbert 65 J. C. 166 Jaines 65 R. M. 63, 65, 70, 76, 111, 112 DIXON R. M. 65 DODGE Dr. Roderick L. 39

DODGEN Rev. Lawrence 83, 89 DONALSON William 65, 68, 70 DRAIGE Edward 54 DRUNAN Nancy 166 DuBOIS Sharron 151 DUNAWAY Jack 207 J. H. 86 DUNLAP J. E. 166 DUNAGAN Maude 22 Ruth 88 DUNNIGAN or DUNNIGEN D. I. 177 J. F. 79, 178 DYER Avene 84, 88 Clyde viii, 30, 95, 129, 130. 141. 196 C. H. 118 C. S. 129 Earle Faye 26 Irene viii, 84, 85, 88, 89, 135, 138, 141, 143, 144, 149.152 Jack 144, 207 Mrs. Jack 144 Josie E. 26, 87, 88, 141 Mary Anna 88, 91, 93, 101, 103, 110, 131 Robert 84, 88 Tom viii, 98, 129, 130, 135, 138, 141, 182, 208 Treva 145 Walter 26, 87, 98, 115, 137, 171, 173, 180 Rev. W. H. 83, 86

Wayne 26, 145, 207 EDDLEMAN George 65 EDMISTON or EDMINSTON A. E. 76 Andrew (Andy) 65, 75, 77 Annie 86 George 65, 68 Infant Daughter 158 James Tom 59, 60, 137 Jewel 128 John 17, 21, 65, 70, 86 Laura 117 Mamie 129 Moses 18, 21 Nealy 65 Nina 86 Pearl 87 Sam 110 EDMONSON T. F. 53 ELAMS James 53 ELEMS Edward 53 ELLIS Annie 166 David 147 Mrs. David 147 Irene 84, 89, 148-151 Lisa 90 Louis 84, 89, 90, 149, 150, 182 Paul 182 Mrs. Paul 147, 148 Theda 90, 143-152 ELMORE Donna 151 ELMS Jonathan 65 Matilda 55

Edward 54 EPPERLY Fannie 86 F. L. 86 J. N. 86 Minnie 86 William (Willie) 86, 90 EUSTIS Andrew 22 **EVANS** Georgia 119 EVINS Elizabeth E. 119 EZELL Carl 88, 98, 105, 107, 114, 120, 127, 129, 151, 183 Celia 22, 84, 85, 208 Deane 207 Doris 22, 88 Edna 58 Ethel 87 **Fred 175** Mrs. Fred 142, 143, 146 J. L. 207 Kenneth 150 Lark 151 Lizzie ?????? Melvin 22, 87 Veneda 84, 88, 144, 145, 146, 147, 150-152

ENGLAND

# FARLEY

Franklin 54 Joel 54 John 54 Sol 65 W. E. 111, 112 W. F. 65, 67 W. P. 53 FEATHERS Dr. Charles 138 FERGUSON

W. D. 65, 111, 112 W. S. 65, 81 FINDT Rev. O. William 83, 89 FLATT Robert F. 65, 68, 76 FLOWERS Rev. E. F. 83, 89 FLYNT Mrs. Johnny 145 Thelda 143, 144, 152 FORD Enoch 53 John 53 FOREST General 51 FOWLER Donald 183 FRAKER W. E. 176 FRANK William M. 120 FRANKLIN Elena 149 G. W. 90 R. J. 86 FRANKS Billy 158 Billy Lee 84, 89, 146, 194 Donna viii, 84, 89, 90, 147. 194. 204 George 88, 130, 158, 177, 182.194 LaDonna 84, 89, 90 Irene 130 Lillie 87, 99, 110 Martha M. 158 Mary Jane 194 Maude 110 Melissa 87, 158, 186 Roy Gene 84, 89, 90, 141, 147, 149, 182, 194, 204, 194??? Ruby 84, 88, 144, 145,

194 Ruby B. 158 Tim viii, 84, 89, 90, 194, 204.208 W. M. 87, 175 Zettie 128 FRAZIER Charley E. 114, 158, 175 Cleo 88, 129 Eliza 86, 158 Elmo 88, 130 Gertie 86 Hubert Earl 90 Lacy Hall 88, 128, 129, 157, 158 Little Clyde 158 Maggie 87, 90 Marvin 88 Pasley 129 Sara 129 Tip 88, 128 Wilburn 87, 90 FREE Hugh 166 FREEMAN Joe 87 FRIEDELL C. D. 65, 111 FRITTZ A. J. 86 Charlie 86 James 86 Maggie 86 W. J. 86 FRY Rev. Charles L. 83, 88 FULGHAM or FULGUM E. W. 65, 176 FULLER Brady 183 GAGE Hattie L. 159

Roberta 158 W. E. 158 GANNAWAY or GANAWAY Alice 86.90 H. B. 86 L. J. 86, 90, 120, 176 Lula 86, 90, 117 Mary E. 86, 90 GARDESSIER Mrs. Leon 147, 148 GARRETT J. E. 177 GIBSON Mam 114 Uncle George 46, 64, 65 GIER Vernon 207 GILBERT Mary 142 GILENWATER Edward E. 65 GILES Hattie 118 Homer 177 Iris Dean 88.91 Velma 91, 100-103, 105, 107, 110, 128, 129, 142-148, 150, 151, 152 Waymon viii, 84, 88, 91, 101, 109, 116, 117, 148, 149, 174, 182, 202 GILLESPIE Edward C. 90 Lillian Ruth 91, 95, 144, 159, 162, 177, 194, 195 GILMORE Rev. Y. A. 83, 86, 90 GLEASON C. E. 176 Charles 87 E. J. 177 Eldon 87 Hattie 87, 192

Susie 87 GLIDEWELL Elma 118 GODARD Wesley 66 GOODRICH Rev. N. F. 166 GORDON B. W. 66 Mrs. 66 Ramona 142 Thomas 66 GRABLE Wendell 182 GRAHAM M. B. 55 GRANADE Rev. H. M. 82, 85, 90 GRANT Jasper 115 Jewel 115 GRATTON Alice O. 115, 143, 169 John J. 115, 169 GRAY Rev. W. D. 83, 89, 105 GRAVES Ed 183 GREGG Lafayette 56 GREGORY Allie 86, 98, 173 Ammalea 87, 130, 189, 190, 191 Andy 173 Anice V. 86, 173, 186 Anna 88 Clara B. 86 Dorothy 130 John L. 85, 156, 159, 178 Joseph H. 2, 14, 16, 85, 96, 98, 99, 100, 112, 135, 156, 159, 173, 174, 176, 178, 196, 198

Joy 86, 98, 118, 127, 128, 173, 186, 196 Lacy 84, 85, 128, 173 Rev. Leon vii, 173, 198, 202, 208 Leslie 88, 129, 130 Martha M. 85, 156, 159 Mary 2, 173 Mary L. 85, 156, 159, 172. 173. 197, 198 Mary P. 86, 156, 159, 197 Minnie 99, 127, 173, 186 Mirty 173 Mollie 86 Ora 87, 99, 127, 128, 191 Otto 109, 190 Powell 26, 87, 129, 173, 186 R. Herald 88, 130 Rov 87, 190 Ruth 86, 99, 102, 189, 191.191??Troy viii, 95, 105, 127, 135, 141, 173, 198, 202 Velma 87, 173, 186 Virginia 88, 159, 173, 198 Walter E. 86, 156, 158, 176, 190, 196 Wilburn 173 Wilma Dean 88, 100, 102 GRETZ Ronald G. 4 GRIFFIN Rev. G. B. 83, 86 W. F. 182 William 182 GRIGSON B. L. 182 GRIM Helen 87 Nina 87 **GUESS** Granville 133

**GUTHERY** Nathaniel 66 HALL Betty 148 HAMMONS Elijah 22 HARDY S. B. 112 HARGROVE Lillian 43 HARELL Isaac 16, 17, 21 HARRED Billy 143 Mrs. Billy 143 Lois 144 HARRINGTON Simeon 22 HARRISON Col. M. LaRue 46, 50, 51, 53, 56 HARROLL John 53 HART A. A. 87 Claudie 159 E. E. 171 Emily 87 Fannie 159 Flora H. 159 Ollie 144 Utha E. 157, 159 HARTLEY Anderson 66, 159 Eula 87 Frances M. 88, 130 Gordon viii, 84, 88, 91, 96, 102-105, 107, 108, 116, 117, 130, 131, 148, 183, 194 Hamilton 156. 159 Hugh 88 Jennie 159

Lillian viii, 84, 88, 95, 101-104, 109, 135. 144-146, 152, 194 Maggie 87, 110, 137 Margaret 85 M. E. 156, 159 Mildred 87, 119, 127 N. 177 Perry A. 87, 120, 175 Ruth 87, 110 HARVEY Iris Dean 84, 149 HARVILLE Willis 22 HASHMAN Rachel 157, 159 HATTENHAUER Billy 183 HEARLEY Leck 166 HEFNER Wilson 66, 76 HELM James 79 HENBEST A. 65, 111 William 65, 78 **HENDERSON** Cordell 136 Joseph 17, 21, 67 Julius (Jule) 65 Lottie 110 R. A. 22 T. 177 HENDRICKS M. S. 166 HENDRICKSON Don 88 Guy 207 Monza 88 Ollie A. 88 Sue Lee 88, 207 HENRY James 207

Wallace C. 207 Warren 207 HENSON Blanche 86 Ellis 207 William 65 HERNADON Enovch M. 86 J. E. 86 Sarah V. 86 HERNING R. F. 79 HEWITT Matilda 86, 90 M. E. 86, 90 S. A. 86 S. J. 86 W. J. 86, 90 HICKS Austin 65 Robert 148 HIGGANBOTHAM Carl Lee 124 Jessie 124 Raymond 124 HIGGINS L. 65 P.G.W. 65, 76, 111, 112 Phil 65 HIGNETT Barbara 43 HINDMAN S. 176 HINDS Dudley 65, 75, 76, 77 HIX Samuel 77 Sarah 65, 76, 77, 78 HOGAN Maynerd 143, 207 Minnie 143 HOFF W. G. 167 HOGG

W. G. 166 HOLCOMB Joseph 18, 22 HOLLAND Donnie 182 Rev. J. J 83 HOLT Anna 65, 68 Ben 65. 111 DeKalb 22, 28, 65, 67, 70, 76, 77, 111, 112 Ellen 206 Frank viii, 62, 79 Hannah Isabella 23 Harold 129 Isabella 23 Jack 65 Jane 65, 111, 112 Nola 109 **Ruth 128** Samuel p. 60, 206 Sarah B. 23 HOOKER Rev. Vann 84 HOPKINS Rev. P. B. 82, 90 HOSSMUN Alfred 60 HOUCH Sarah 86 Dr. W. A. 86, 138, 155, 159, 178 HOUSE Rev. J. W. 83, 90 HOUSER Rev. E. O. 83, 102 HOUSTON Ashley 54 David 182 Laura 118 HOWELL Clint 53 Lafayette 53 HOWERTON

Rev. J. W. 83, 87 HUCHINSON William G. 54 HUDGENS O. E. 182 HUSDON W. I. 66, 70 HUGHES W. H. 118 Mrs. W. H. 118 HULET George 177 Helen 145 Jackie 151 Juanita 145, 147, 148 Loyd (Mrs.) 145, 146 Ola 22 HUMPHREYS Rev. J. P. 83 HUNTER Fannie W. 169 W. L. 169 HUNTON Dalton 183 HUNTSUCKER or HUTSUCKER William 66, 77 HURLEY Luke 177 HUTCHENS Billy 207 Helen 84, 89, 106, 144, 145. 146, 152 H. B. 84, 89 Ira 84, 89, 107, 108, 116 Mrs. Ira 84, 89 Joney Rogers 84, 89 Ronnie 89 HUTTON Rev. W. C. 83, 89 INGRAM Dola 199 J. C. 66

IRONSIDE **Nell 146** IRWIN Mark R. 86 Olive L. 86 William 66, 68 ISGRIG W. J. 53 IVEY Gertrude 118 **Ross 118** JACKSON A. H. 66 Clarence V. 159 Evelyn 88, 118 J. E. 114 Lame 66 Mary Bell 159 T. J. 66 JACOBS Alene 109 Bufford 86, 109 Clarence 109 J. C. 120 J. U. 86 J. V. 120 **Ocie** 128 Pearl 87 Willie 86 W. H. 176 JAMES J. 66 Minnie 86 JANKINS Loid 54 HARVIS Rev. Wayne 83 **JENKINS** F. M. (2nd Lt.) 53 J. B. 176 T. M. 53 JETTS

Jack 43 Janette 43 Nell 43 Oscar 43 JOHNSON Alex 66 Alice 86 Andrew (President) 56, 57 Chatman 66 Claudie 86 Clyde 87 Edna 87 Effie 87 Gayle 60, 137 Harvey 118, 119, 130 H. C. 86, 90 J. A. 66. 78 J. B. 66, 76 J. H. 177 Jerome 132 Julia E. 23 Kindred 66 Kinley vii, 119, 121, 122, 132, 137 Lutecea 23 Marshal 66 Mary I. 23 Proctor 171 Wendell 183 William 87 JOHNSTON Dorothy 84, 88, 91, 93, 101, 133, 177, 182, 192, 201, 208 Harold viii, 24, 30, 84, 88, 89, 91, 93, 100, 102, 103, 105, 110, 115, 133, 192, 199, 208 Harry iii, 20, 83, 88, 90. 115, 177, 182, 195, 199, 201.208 Lena iii, 88, 90, 144, 195,

199, 201

Patricia 88, 91, 93, 192 Vernon 192 JONES Henry 22 Mary 66 Minnie 90 Ralph 121 William 156, 159 **JORDON** Asberry 70 James 54, 87 Jess 182 Jessee 66, 77, 81 J. A. 66, 70, 86, 177 John A. 156, 159 J. P. 177 Margaret 86 Mrs. Sam 183 Mrs. W. J. 86 W. J. 86 KAPPLER Charles J. 11 KARNES Jewell 118 KAUFFMAN Gene 11 KAYLOR Rev. Martin 83, 88, 99 KEEN Bill viii. 6 KEETS John 183 KELLAM or KELLUM Benjamin 23 James C. 22 John P. 18, 22, 23, 25, 168 Marget 23 Mary Pierce 23, 155, 156.159 Sinia B. 23, 25, 68 KELLER

William 66 **KELLEY** Kames S. 66, 77 Mrs. S. 66 KELLY Bill viii, 4, 10, 11, 28, 39, 41, 43, 169, 182 Dorothy viii, 10, 11, 169 **KENNEDY** Roberta C. viii, 26, 92, 130. 135. 191 KEY Nellie H. 117 **KINCHELOE** Billy 124 Cora Fave 124 Gene 207 J. D. 207 Lester 207 Louise 124 Mildred 124 KING Donald 43 Frances Rhea 43 Harold 43 Harriet B. 142 Noel Eugene 43 Robert E. 43 Samuel D. 66. 67 W. O. 177 KINION Aubrey 182 Luke 182 KINNEBRUGH John 18, 20 KIRK Flora vii, 138, 141 Loyce 182 KIRKLAND James 177, 182 KLEEB Rev. George J. 83, 91, 103 KNIGHT

Jackson 22 Johnny 66 KNOX Benson 53 KONIG Dr. Ronald vii, 6 KOUNTS Jesse 54 William 54 LAFFERTY Louisa 159 LANDWITH Frank E 115 LANE Maggie D. 2, 90 LAUDERMILK Rev. James E. 83 LAWHORN Charlie 107, 115 Doris Brindle 145 LEDFORD **Tommy 182** LEE General 51 LEMKE W. J. 79 LEWIS Herbert 171 LIGHTFOOT John 66 LISSENBEE A. J. 66 LITTRELL Jacob 53 Shelt 66 LIVELY Wiley 55 LOCKHART Kenneth 131 LONG Shot Gun 64, 66, 75, 81 LOOPER William N. 66

L. G. 66 LUGINBUEL Edna viii, 130, 135, 148 LYONS or LYON John 22 Washington (Uncle Wash) 22, 66 **McADAMS** Mrs. 148 Curtis 182 McCAMISH Drusia 144, 146, 152, 194 E. F. 99 Lillian 131 **Ruby 131 McCARTY** Charles 4. 182 McCLELLAND Myrtie 43 **McCONNELL** Lloyd vii, 43, 58, 171, 172 McCORD Nancy 159 McCOY Anderson 79 Layton 116 **McCUISTON** Celsus 88 Lucy 118, 197, 208 **McCULHAN** John 66 **McCULPEN** Nancy 54 **McDUFF** Mrs. 66 McGIMSEY Dr. C. R. 8 McHENRY Hiram 156, 159

McILROY

LUCUS

228

Havden 169 James H. 43, 59, 79, 169 Sarah Ann Rhea 169 William 79 McKEE Frank viii, 120, 121, 170, 172, 177, 182 Frankie Dean 146 **Ruby 142** McKNIGHT Rev. B. A. 83, 88 **McLANE** Lucy 144, 149-151 Mildred 143, 144, 149 - 152Richard 143 **McMULKIN** Lucy J. 43 McNAIR Charles W. 7, 8 11 **McPHERSON** Isaac 66, 111 **McQUIRE** Arthur 177 MABERRY or MAYBERRY David 17, 21, 66, 76, 111, 112 Jacob (Jake) 66 Jessie 66 John 22, 66, 78, 111 John A. 166 Mary 54 MACKEY Benjamin 66 MAHONEY J. L. 167 MANHOLLEN Isaiah 21 MANS John P. 66 Mrs. William 66

MAPLES

M. L. 182 W. T. 182 MARKY Dan 66 MARKHAM Allie 157. 159 MARRIS J. M. 177 MARRS Abbe 66 Alexander 21, 66 I. N. 77 Isaac 12, 13, 14, 16, 66 Isabella 23 James 12, 23, 66 James. Jr. 23 J. A. 55 Jeremiah R. 23 Joel 23 John 66 Julia E. 23 Lafavette 23 Mary 23 Matrilda E. 23 Moses 21. 23 M. W. 54 Polly Ann 23 Samuel (Capt.) 23, 66, 78 Squire B. 23 Tempey 55 White Alex 66 William 23 Mrs. William 66 MARSHALL C. F. 136 Eva 87, 127 Infant 159 Nora Lee 87, 129 MASON D. B. 111 Mrs. M. 177 MASSEY Arthur G. 89, 96, 103, 177

Mrs. Arthur 89 MATEER Ethel 87, 148-151 Henry David 87 James 87 Jennie 87 John 87 J. C. 167 J. M. 177 Nettie 87 Ulysses 154, 159 W. W. 177 MATLOCK Ora Gregory 194, 197, 208 MATTHEWS or MATHEWS Andrew 54 C. E. 87 David R. 66, 154, 156, 159 Delmar 148 Dola 60, 88, 91, 107, 199 Earlene viii, 84, 89, 202 Edith 87, 144, 146 Edward 159 Elizabeth 54 Ellen 142, 143, 144 Ercell 131 Fannie 199 Frank J. 60, 137, 143 **Fred 199** Rev. Gaston viii, 84, 88-91, 100, 107, 137, 199, 208 Gertie 129 Guy R. 84, 89 Infant 159 James Dale 207 J. B. 119, 120, 177 J. F. 120 Joseph B. 166 Kate 144, 146-149, 152 Lester 22, 128

Mabel 131 Mona Faye 133 Nolia 86 Raymond 96, 103, 105, 129, 148, 150, 182 T. E. 120, 177 Thomas 21, 177 T. L. 120 Vada 149, 151, 152 Wayne 133 MAXWELL Allie 87 Amma L. 105, 108, 144, 159.194 A. V. 159 Bill 22, 23, 184, 186, 193 Billy Ray 22, 124, 193 Bob 157, 159 Bobby 23, 109, 184, 207 Bonnie 22, 88, 103, 188 Bradford 23 C. E. 159, 177, 184 Mrs. C. E. 184 Dorothy Lea 133 Eb 184 Elmogene 88, 100, 186 Ethel Belle 23, 184 Frances 23 Gladys 22, 88, 130, 200 Ina viii, 22, 24, 87, 109, 141, 142, 186, 193 Ina Faye 22, 124, 184 Infant 159 Jack 23, 87, 184 John F 23, 66, 88, 105, 115, 155, 159, 184, 194 Katherine 88, 186 Lena 87 Leonard 88 Marie 87 Martha 23 Maude 60, 188, 137 Nell 22, 88, 91, 93, 101, 110

Nola 184 Sam S. 60, 88, 137, 155, 159, 207 Serena 23 Thomas 21, 23 W. L. 87 W. S. 171 William 23 Zettie 87, 88, 98, 100-102, 142, 143, 159 MEDEARIS William H. 85 MENNECKE George C. 2, 28, 30, 169, 177 Helen B. 2, 28, 30, 144, 169 MERRIMAN Uncle Billy 66 William 66 MILLER A. H. 166 Bessie 148, 150, 151 Clara B. 160 Emerson 84, 89, 151, 182 John A. 117 J. S. 177 Larry 149 MILLSAP J. N. 117 MISER Rev. Eugene 83 MITCHELL M. D. L. 54 MOBLEY Hester 142, 143, 152 John Paul 207 Nell viii, 140, 193 MOCK John 66, 111 MONTGOMERY Clyde 120, 171, 200, 201 Clydene 201 Gladys viii, 119, 121,

134, 135, 142, 143, 186, 189, 193, 200, 201, 202, 208 MOON David 66 MOONYHANS J. J. 66 MOOR or MOORE Bessie 84, 88, 142-146, 152 Betty 149 Charles Donald 84, 89, 124.145 Claude 207 Dale 84, 89, 124, 145 H. (2nd Lt.) 53, 66 Hill 84, 88, 102, 115, 121, 145, 177 Jessie 84, 89, 124 John 21.66 Nancy A. 54 William 21, 66, 76 MORGAN D. W. 182 Nellie 117 MORRIS Reba 160 MORTENSEN R. F. 182 MOUNTS J. H. 66 MURPHY Guy 102 MYERS Billy 182 Chris 182 Rev. J. H. 82, 85

# NASH

Donna 84, 89 Dorothy viii, 84, 89, 108, 135, 142-144, 148-152,

204, 205, 208 Mrs. F. B. 88 Floyd 84, 89, 91, 115, 182, 204 Floyd James 4, 84, 89, 91, 96, 108, 124, 150, 182 Frank Phillip 84, 88, 207 Gene (Eugene) 124, 144 Lillian 85, 89, 145, 149-151 Michael Clay 85, 89 Nona May 88, 133 Peggy 124, 133 Ronnie Keith 157, 160 Sharron Kay 85, 89, 150 NEAL Albert 137 Adeline 20 Faye 143 Howard 207 Iris Dean 144 James P. 18, 20 J. C. 207 John Calvin 91 Kenneth 207 Marie viii, 26, 125, 186, 202 Monroe 115 Rev. W. H. 90 William 66, 77 NEALE Evelyn 124 Louie 124 R. W. 166 NELL Will 52 NEWBERRY Mary 150 NEWELL Rev. J. A. 83 NICHOLS John 66 NIDEVER or NIDEVERS

George 17, 21 John 17, 21 Samuel 66, 111, 112 NOBLE Arleeta 85, 89, 90 Holly 90 Jack 85, 89, 90 Janet 85, 89 **Jeffrey 85, 89** Lynn 90 Trace 90 NOLEN Tom 200 Virginia viii, 135, 141, 196, 199, 200, 202, 208 NORDYKE Janice 145 Mrs. Homer 146 Matilda (Tillie) 145, 146, 152NORWOOD Allie 109 Birdie 86, 109 Denton 128 John 54 Lucy 86

NIX

231

# Zella 128 ODLE James 54 O'KANE Mr. 182 OLIVER Bruce 183 **OSBURN** W. H. 118, 127 OVERBY John T. 207

Robert 207

Raymond 129

Thomas 54, 166, 176

**Rov 128** 

Silas 66

**OVERTON** Annie 87 C. L. 177 OWEN J. F. 54 PARKER John E. 160 Otto 60 Ruth 91, 102, 103, 143, 144 PARKS Donald viii, 138, 141 Joe C. 7, 8 W. D. 53, 166 PASLEY Albert V. 5, 60, 87, 90, 98, 99, 115, 120, 150, 174, 177, 186, 199 Esther 87, 189 Fred 88, 115, 120, 127, 189 Infant 160 Lizzie 87, 189 Lucinda 160 Luther 87, 189 M. L. 115 Reba 130, 133, 199 Rella Mae 87, 90, 98, 115, 142-144, 146-148, 150, 160 Rita 133 Thomas (Tom) 66, 78 Virginia 88, 90, 91, 101, 130 William 63, 66, 76, 78, 177 W. M. 156, 160, 166 PASS PASTON William 17, 21 PATE S. D. 66, 78 PATTERSON

Robert 96, 105, 147 PATTON William 66 PAYNE Corine 118 Ruth Holt viii, 40, 60, 61, 127, 128, 135, 141, 165, 206, 208 William C. 206 PEARCE Amanda 66, 78 PEARSON Clemuel Olin 197, 208 Homer Lee 197, 208 John Bennett 90, 197 John, Jr. 86 John M. 85, 112, 110, 135, 156, 160, 175, 176 Laura Frances 197 Lillie Vaughn 197 Lucy Mae 86, 90, 197 Lucille Hulet viii, 202 Mary T. 85, 86, 156, 160 Mrs. Tom, Sr. vii, 202 Rollie E. 86 Rosie 86 William Randall 117. 119, 197, 208 PENN Lark 150 PENNEL Beulah 119 Rev. Walter 83, 89 PENNINGTON Jewel Hulet viii, 6, 145 PEEVYHOUSE A. 52 PETERS D. M. 5, 177 Rev. L. A. 84, 89, 90 PHILLIPS Nathan 120, 121 Col. W. A. 47 W. E. N. 116

PIERCE Charles 183 Henry P. 154, 155, 160 John 154, 155, 160 John F. 155, 160 Martha M. 154-156, 160 Samuel N. 155, 156, 160 Thomas T. 155, 156, 160 PITTMAN **Bill 183** Bob 182 PLATT Cecil 88, 100 Emory R. 88, 96, 200-204, 225, 232 Maggie 88 Roberta 91, 93, 101, 102, 110.191 Ruth 88 POLSTON John 66 PORNER Ethel 22 POWELL Elizabeth 42 Joseph D. 67, 69, 70, 77, 79, 111, 156, 160, 178 Margaret (Maggie) 155, 156.160 Robert 156, 160 Dr. Samuel 42, 155, 156, 160 Sarah Burns 155, 156, 160 PRATER Don 182 PRICE Rial Samuel 160 Ruth Rhea viii PRIDEMORE Felix 22 Mamie 22 **PROFFITT** or PROFITT

Daniel 160 David 154, 156, 160 Nettie 167 PURDY L. George 52, 53 PYEATTE Ely 66, 75 Jane 55 John 66 William 66, 76 RAINES C. W. 66, 222 RAMSEY Virgil 119 RAMSEY Virgil 119 RANKIN Agnes 88, 98 Clyde 87, 98, 118 Edna 118, 130 RATLIFF Charles 87 Herbert 87 Ida 87 RAY Bob 182 Mrs. J. N. 119 William 66 REDMAN William 21 REDWAY **Jack 207** J. W. (Bill) 160 Maude 143, 157, 160 Paul 207 REED Alfred (Sug) 4, 137, 143, 182 Mrs. Alfred 143 Allen 162 Elma W. 90, 201

Helen viii, 107

John Kendall 90 Patricia viii. 90. 105. 201, 202, 208 R. P. 66 Sam 67 REMINGTON Glenda 147, 182 Mrs. Kenneth 147 RENOLS Rev. 82 REYNOLDS Miss E. 166 James 149, 150 Mrs. James 148 RHEA Alice Jane 43, 86, 155, 169.190 Barbara 43 Catherine (Kate) 43, 67, 154, 160, 168 Don viii, 43, 44 Earl 43 Elizabeth 42, 48, 49, 85, 136, 154-156, 161, 175, 190 Emma C. 43, 168 Fannie 42, 43, 85, 155, 160, 168 Frances 43 Francis 87 Gertie May 99, 160 Jack 43 James viii, 43, 44 Jmes William 43 John G. 67, 77 Joseph P. 43, 154, 160, 168 Lucy J. 160 **Mary 160** Nell 43 Pleasant Vincent 42, 154, 156, 160 Robert J. 43, 155, 160, 168.169

Samuel V. 43, 155, 160, 161.169 Sarah Ann (Sallie) 43. 79.169 Walker 43, 59, 136, 160, 168, 169, 177 William B. 43, 157, 161. 168 William H. 2, 18, 23, 24, 29, 31, 39, 42, 45-48, 59, 62-64, 67, 69,75, 76, 79, 111, 112, 136, 154-156. 161, 168, 169, 176, 178 RHINES Bernice 124 Hubert 134 RICE **Bradley 4** RICH Bud 67 1st Lt. A. M. 53 RICHEY Freda 133 RICHMOND Reba viii, 126-128, 130, 133, 189 RIGGS Rev. A. L. 83, 89, 90, 106 Coroner Glenn 171 RISLEY John 182 ROADMAN William 21 ROARK Mr. 67 ROBB Lt. 47 ROBERSON Buddy Eugene 161 Denver E. 157, 161 ROBERTS Billy 183 Rev. J. D. 83, 86 Josephine 85

Lorenvo F. 85 Tommy 4 ROBERTSON A. T. 171 Rev. R. S. 83, 87 ROBINSON Henry H. 85 Lenora P. 54 RODGERS Ethel 129 Hugh 67 ROGERS C. F. 67, 111, 112 Frank 67 William 67, 80 ROLLINS Mose 67, 70 ROSE Mrs. Clarence 148, 152 Pam 149 Vada 149 ROSS, Rev. D. C. 83 ROSSER Anna 117 W. E. 67, 70, 117, 118 ROY Jim 185 ROYSTON H. R. 119 RUBLE Rev. J. A. 83, 85, 87, 88 RUSH John R. 161 RUTHERFORD C. E. 116 Frances 54 John 54 Joseph 50-52, 54-56 Walter 4

#### SALOMON Gen Frederick 46, 48

SANDERS Ishar 78 J. H. 67 SANFORD James 21 SEWARD Rev. 99 William 57 SCHAFFER Mannie "Ed" 204 SCROGGINS Dean 190 SHANNON Manerva 54 William 166 SHARROCK Clyde 60, 118, 137 Laura 60 Roy 99, 119 SHAW Ren D. 67 SHELBY Ben F. 87, 114, 115, 135 Edna 87 SHERMAN Rev. William 82, 86 SHINER Lewis 67 SHIPLEY Burl 183 SHOOK Francis (Mrs.) 67 SHREVE Earl 182 Fannie 89 Frankie 182 Imogene 85, 89 Lester Lee 85, 89 SISK P. (Mrs.) 67 W. J. 54 SLAUGHTER Fannie 166 Hilda 149

Rov 150 Susan 150 SMELSER P. B. 171 U. L. 171 SMITH Boling (Mrs.) 67 Etta 118 James 22. 53 Rev. Jefferson 83, 88 John 67 Lewis H. 118 Lucy 161 Mathew 53 Rev. 2, 82, 85, 100 Samuel 53 S. K. 67 T. 67 Rev. Uriah 84 William 53 SMYTHE Ethel G. 60 SNAPP Marcheita viii, 43, 44, 48.190 SNODGRASS Fanny 55 Hugh 54 James 28 John 54 SNOW Rev. J. C. 83, 88 SONDERSON S. A. 117 SONE William C. 59 SPENCE L. W. 78 Wesley 67, 78 SPICER Rev. W. I. 83, 85, 88 STAH-LUBBEE 10, 18 STEARNS Jane 166

STEEL Dr. 64 STEPHENS Alice 178 Allie 86 Belle 86 Bettie 86 Carrie E. 86 Cora 86 Dora H. 86 Elizabeth 156, 161 Julie 86 Lee 178 Lewis 156, 161 Oliver 156, 157, 161, 177 Pearl 86 STEVENS Almeda 43 Corene 129 Elizabeth 2,85 J. A. 170 Lee 176 Norene 129 STEVENSON R. M. 176 STEWART Bertha 170. 171 Gerald 170, 171, 172 Hershall 171 Rosa 171 Sam 170. 171 STOEBE J. D. 182 STOKER P. W. 67, 68, 77 STOKES Bobby 109, 137 STONE Alice A. Rhea 43 Frances 43 Gabrilla 55 Malnina 43 R. W. 161 S. K. 56

W. C. 168 William 43 STOUT Sylvia 119 STRICKLER Grace 118 STUBBLEFIELD **Yvonne Twilley 147** STURDY Rev. J. H. 83 SUNDSLAY Isaac 17, 21 SUTTLE Frank 177 SWAIN Larry viii SWENSON Jack 143 Mrs. Jack 143 SWIFT Corine 118, 129 W. D. (Billy) 114, 118, 128 SYKES Joel 21 TACKETT Elmogene 85 TARPLEY Armie 100 TATE S. D. 67 TAYLOR A. S. 67, 75 Mrs. A. 67 Rev. 82, 85 S. 67 THEIM Bennie 133 Freda 133 Regina 133 THOMAS Ardle viii. 136

Sidra 149, 151 THOMPSON Benjamin 17, 21 Cecil 148 Charles 124. 149 Daniel 17, 21 Ina viii, 142-144. 146-153, 183 Wilfred 92, 110, 148, 207 Rev. W. L. 83, 90 THORNBERRY Wallis 22 THURMAN Bonnie 193 Chester 149, 183 Ella Mae 144-146, 148-152 Leon 177 Michael 149 Mike 149 William 155 TIDINGS Rev. 2, 82, 85 TILLEY or TILLY Elisha 21 H. B. 87 H. G. 98 F. 136 James 87 Jefferson 21 Jessie Ray 87 Mrs. J. 175 John 15-18, 20-22, 24, 31, 33-35, 87 JOHN, Jr. 34 Joseph 34, 35, 67, 76, 77, 111, 129, 177 Lena 87 Martha 20. 67 Minnie 87 TOLLETT Brenda 151 Clem 182

Judy 150, 151 Ricky 150, 151 TORBETT Mrs. 102 TULK A. H. 87 Jacob 156, 161 J. R. 161 Kathern 156, 161 TURNER John 67 TURPERING Will 43 TWEEDIE Loloa 177 R. D. 115 TWILLEY Billy 106, 124, 145 H. Earl 89, 148, 149, 161 Mary E. 89, 144, 146. 148, 161, 182 Robert Earl 85, 89, 146, 147 TYREE Cecil 201 Clydene viii, 201, 202, 208 VANDEVER William 22, 67 VANOVER Betty 125, 133 Elmo Gene 124 VAUGHN Charles 137, 175, 207 C. N. 87, 119, 161 Eliza J. 161 Elizabeth 86 Harold 207 Julia A. 117 Lillie 197. 208

Minnie 86

Norah 86

William 35

VEST Charles David 161 VICE Jamison 22 VINSON Bobby 182 WAGNON Annie 19, 20 Bazil 19 David 20 E. G. 20 Elizabeth 19 Garland 19 John 19 Lance 19 L. D. 20 Mallie 20 Marshall 19 Matilda 19 Myrtle 19, 24 Polly 19, 20 Richard 20 Sarah 19 Thomas 12-14, 16-21, 24 Thomas, Jr. 19 Slaves: Charity 19 George 19 Henry 19 Maniah 19 Peter 19 Roda 19 WAITS S. H. 177 WALEY John 79 WALKER David 16, 17, 21, 22, 45. 59 Martin 21 WALLACE Warren 55

WALLER W. 177 WALTMAN Lucretia 87 WALTERS or WALTER Rev. Charles 83 Launa J. 166 Thomas 67 William 67, 68, 76, 78 WARD Alpha Jean viii, 85 Jim 4 WARMACK Wayne P. 4 WASHAM J. S. 67 WASSUM Annie L. 161 Annie M. 154, 161 Billie E. 161 B. 185 Blanche 118 Edna 109, 110 Elzora 22, 161 Jack W. 157, 161 John K. 161 Margarette 156, 161 Martha 87. 161 Mary E. 161 Mrs. M. 177 **Richard 54** William E. 161 W. E. 87, 175 W. J. 156, 161 WATSON Effie 86 Ethel 87 J. T. 86 W. M. 67 WEAVER Charlene 150 WEBB Adeline 154, 157, 161

Elijah 166 John 67, 161 WEST Alta 110 Andrew 22 Annie 110 A. T. 67 Cafe 67 Crawford 67, 70 Edward 67, 68, 70, 76, 111.112 Emily 67 Frank 115 G. E. 177 J. D. 63, 67, 78 J. H. 86, 90 James 67 J. W. 176 Louisa 54 Mintie 157, 161 P. L. 176 Robert 67 R. J. 78 T. R. 67 V. M. 166 WETZEL Jake L. 161 Mary J. 161 WEYL Herbert W. 4, 182 WHAM John 22 Mrs. E. 67 WHEAT Rev. Charles 83 WHEELER Clem 87 Irene 87 J.A. 176 J. N. 176 Middie 87 Rev. J. P. 83, 87, 90 WHITE Charles 183

H. L. 67, 77 WHITED Thomas 67, 111, 112 WHITELEY Wilma Dean viii, 189-191, 194 WHITMIRE Austin 87 Elsie 143, 161, 162 George 207 Henry 161 Luther 115, 161, 162 Oscar L. 207 Wilson 162 WHORTENBURY R. 67 WIEDOWER Julie 44 WILKERSON Mrs. 67 WILKINS T. J. 67 W. R. 67 WILLIAMS Flovd 85 Mrs. Floyd 148 Frances viii, 109, 110, 131 Jessica 85 Maggie D. 85 **Rov 182** WILSON A. M. 178 Albert 37, 176 A. J. 176, 178 Caswell 58, 178, 182 E. C. 176 Andrew 37 E. J. 54 Edith 90 Eliza 37, 38 Henry 67 Jerry 143. 144 James 67, 75, 178

John 22, 52 Larkin 70 Mike 67.76 Mort 54 Nannie 37 Rev. Ivan R. 83, 89, 103 Robert 86.90 Rollans viii, 35, 37, 58, 178, 182, 207, 208 Swamp 67, 70 William 18, 22, 24, 31, 35-39, 55-58, 63, 67-70, 75-80, 112 WINE John 67 WISE Andrew 207 WISWELL G. E. 116 WITCHELL Mary 54 WOLF or WOLFE J. M. 86, 162 Rachel C. 162 WOLTERMAN B. J. 182 WOMAC Elizabeth 54 Mary 22 WOOD Don 95 WOODBRIDGE William 52 WOODY or WOODDY Ella 68 Fannie 86, 162 John 16, 17, 21 Lemuel Dale 59, 67-69, 77, 112, 162 Martha Rhea 67, 68, 76-78, 111, 112, 162 William 17, 21

W. R. 70 WOODRUFF Benjamin 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 112, 135, 168 Clarence 137 David 18, 42, 168 Ethel 137 F. M. 67, 111, 112 J. W. 120, 176-178 M. L. 168 R. M. 112 Rhoda 137 Sarah 112, 125, 168 Wyatt 137, 176 WOOD Clyde 183 WOODS Denton 117 George 117, 118 G. M. 176 WOODWARD Pearl 182 WRIGHT Bob 183 **Jess 147** WYLIE Ted R. 202 YEAGER James 54 YOUNG Brigham 41 Calvin 207 ZINN

Rev. J. A. 83, 85, 88