



Centennial History of Newport, Arkansas 1875-1975

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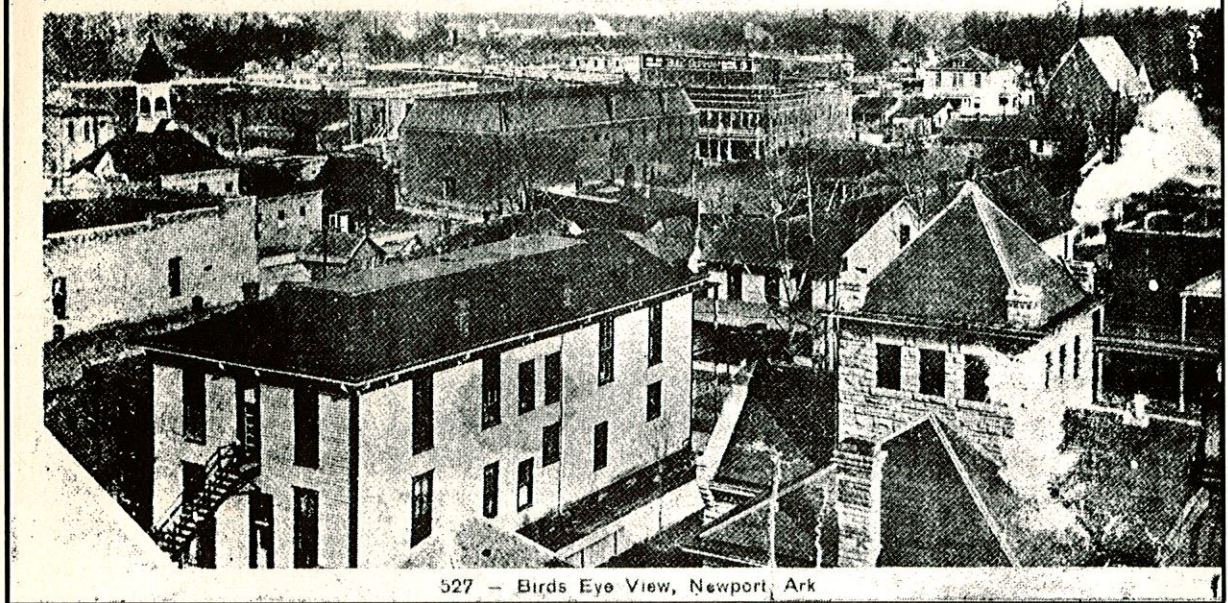
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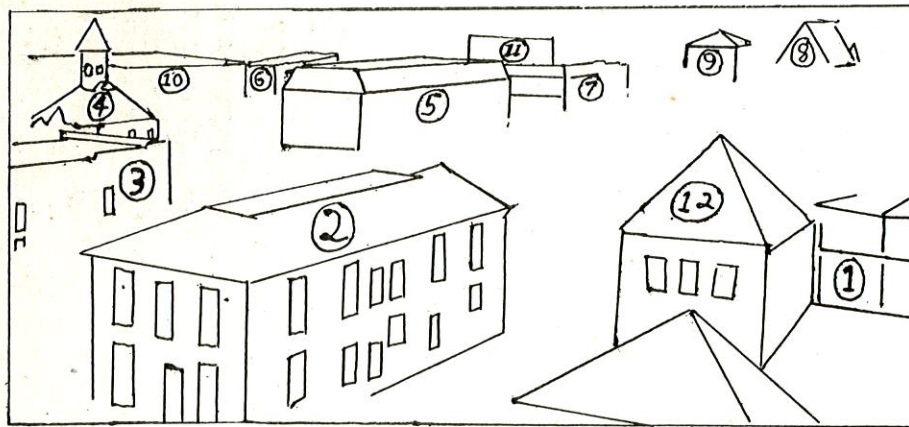
Edited by
JAMES LOGAN MORGAN

Newport, Ark.



—Courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Graham

The photograph was taken in 1908 from the tower of the courthouse at the corner of Third and Main. Some of the buildings are identified in the sketch below.



Fronting on Walnut Street: (1) Creighton Hotel, (2) Cook's Hotel, (3) Chastain (later Lacy) Building, (4) City Hall.

Fronting on Hazel Street: (5) Newport Opera House, (6) First National Bank, (Gray Building), (7) Hazel Hotel.

Fronting on Laurel Street: (8) Methodist Church, (9) Elks Club (Newport Hospital).

Fronting on Front Street: (10) Wishon Building, (11) Otto M. Bowen's Store.

Fronting on Third Street: (12) Jackson County Jail.

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Edited by
JAMES LOGAN MORGAN

Newport, Arkansas
JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1975



NEWPORT CENTENNIAL PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

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Jackson County Historical Society

Newport, Arkansas 72112

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Newport, Arkansas
August 14, 1975

We want to express our appreciation to those who made the publication of this history possible: the merchants and others who bought ads; the committees from the Kiwanis and Optimist clubs who solicited them; Mildred Minor Gregory, who coordinated the advertising sales, copy development and billing projects; the Chamber of Commerce for use of its facilities; **Roy Evans**; and the Jackson County Historical Society.

The Arkansas History Commission has made many valuable contributions which cannot be acknowledged by a bibliographical entry or illustration credit. We are especially grateful to Russell P. Baker, the archivist, and Pearl Brandon for assistance in the preparation of this history.

John Morrow, Wilson Powell, James Q. Blackwood (deceased), the W. A. Billingsley Memorial (Jackson County) Library, County Clerks Sarah Storey, Donna Lewis and Clint Massey, and Circuit Clerk Irma Shoffner have made many contributions to this history.

Often those who do most of the work are never mentioned. We are afraid this is the case with many of the church and organization histories included herein. We are grateful that someone from almost every church and organization in Newport prepared material for use in the appropriate chapters.

Chapters on these subjects were prepared for this history but were omitted because of the lack of space: Health; Schools and Books; Newspapers; and two chronological chapters, 1892-1925 and 1925-1975 (political history, events, businesses and facets of Newport's history not covered by other chapters). The Jackson County Historical Society publishes a quarterly, **The Stream of History**. Much of the material collected for these chapters will be prepared in article form for "the quarterly." If you are interested in the history of Newport and Jackson County, we suggest you join the Jackson County Historical Society. A subscription to **The Stream of History** is included in the membership fee, which is \$3.00 per year at the present time. To join or to obtain more information, write:

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Please point out to us mistakes which have been made. And please pardon us for making them.

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DEDICATION

We dedicate this history to those of generations past whose good works we have recorded here--and to those of generations to come, with the hope that they will be as kind to us.

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ADDENDA

Clark Ward Post No. 403 (Negro), American Legion, was chartered May 14, 1947, with these members: Norman Williamson (commander), Elkanah Oates (adjutant), Jesse Berry, James E. Boyd, Melwood C. Brown, Joseph Conley, Robert Freeman, Chester Green, William H. Griffin Jr., Autry L. Irving, Theophilus Johnson, Arthur J. Oates, Hughie Phillips, Albert Smith, and Henry Williamson. Other commanders have been: Mel-

wood C. Brown, Clay Tolerson, Arthur Williams and Harvey Hughes.

American Legion Auxiliary (Negro) was chartered Jan. 8, 1948, with these members: Mrs. Iona J. Oates (president since organization), Mrs. Dorothy Griffin (secretary), Effie Berry, Ora Mae Brown, Alvania Dukes, Catherine Ardella Goodlow, Clara Harris, Maud Smith, Alice Tucker, Ruby Walker, Inez Williamson, and Rosa Mae Williamson.

Old Newport

by James Logan Morgan

The Jackson County Historical Society has repeatedly attempted to put to rest the old myth that Newport was named in reference to the "old port" of Jacksonport. It is perhaps a sad assessment of our influence on historical thought that the "History" section of *Johnson's 1975 Newport, Arkansas . . . Telephone and Business Locator* includes this statement: "The name 'Newport' was derived from the fact that it was a new port on the White River in 1873."

The first record of the name of Jacksonport is in a petition filed with the county court of Jackson County on April 13, 1835, for a road from Thomas T. Tunstall's sawmill at "Jackson Port" to Litchfield. On July 13, 1835, Rowland Tidwell was given a license for a ferry at "the Town of New Port." There has never been any evidence to suggest that the name of Newport was in any way related to Jacksonport. Both sites were at about the same stage of development when they received their names. Jacksonport was, no doubt, named for Jackson County, Newport was probably named for the lack of any better inspiration.

The ferry landing on the west side of White River at the site of Newport was purchased by Rowland Tidwell on the basis of his residence on the site prior to 1830. However, title was also vested in his kinsman, Sanders Tidwell, by error. The Batesville Land Office "Tract Book" for this area lists Rowland Tidwell as having made the original entry, but abstracts of title have generally begun with Sanders Tidwell's entry. The mistake was discovered after Rowland Tidwell sold his ferry landing to Jesse Daugherty in 1835. To secure Daugherty's title, Sanders Tidwell gave him a deed to the property in 1836.

Jesse Daugherty took over operation of the ferry across White River at Newport and established a mercantile business. It was his intention to develop a town at Newport (as Tunstall was doing at Jacksonport and Noadiah Marsh at Elizabeth), and he and William B. Hutchison announced a public auction of town lots in Newport for Nov. 8, 1837.

Jesse Daugherty died in 1839, and his widow, Sarah Daugherty, took over the management of his business enterprises. In 1840, shortly after Elizabeth became the county seat, a move to change the seat of justice was begun, and work on the public buildings in Elizabeth was stopped until a final decision could be made.

In July, 1840, Sarah Daugherty sold a half interest in the 148-acre tract to Ferdinand C. Fulcher. The agreement between Mrs. Daugherty and Fulcher mentioned the fact that "it is expected that the County Seat of Jackson County will be located on the tract of land . . . where Newport is located." However, Elizabeth remained the county seat until 1852. By this time Newport was but a few houses on the river and a dim memory in the minds of a few old settlers.

The plat of Daugherty's Newport was never put on record, but a few deeds to lots in the town (sold in 1840 and 1841 for \$75 each) were recorded. The principal street of "old" Newport was Water Street, and Franklin Street and Shipping Street were lateral streets.

Creditors of Fulcher and the Daugherty estate obtained judgments against them, and, on the basis of these judgments both halves of the Newport tract (the northwest fractional quarter of section 11 in township 11 north, range 3 west) were sold to William Byers of Batesville.

1827-1873

by Lady Elizabeth Luker

There have always been many reasons for the locations of towns at certain places--strategic points of defense, rich farming areas, trade centers, or simply because they lay at the crossroads of established transportation routes. The last example was the reason for the development of a town at the present site of Newport.

Three means of transportation passed by this location: first, an early road creating the need for a ferry landing; second, river traffic, with boats stopping at the ferry landing; and, finally, railroads, because this place was on the most direct route between St. Louis and Texas.

The first mention of the road appears in Jackson County Court Record 1. In July, 1831, a petition was granted to lay out a road from Tidwell's ferry on White River to Litchfield. On October 10 of the same year, John Arnold was appointed overseer of the road from Litchfield to Tidwell's ferry, the road to be 18 feet wide. In those days, there were no county funds to build or maintain roads. The overseer simply organized the landowners along the way to work on the roads.

But there was an existing road on this route prior to this time. Independence County courts

records show that in May, 1827, David Litchfield was authorized to operate a ferry at his landing on White River directly across the river from the site of Newport. There would have been no reason to establish a ferry unless a road already led to that point on the river from both sides. The road to Litchfield's landing was probably a branch of the old road from Batesville, via Oil Trough, to the mouth of Black River.

Litchfield presumably operated the ferry until his death about 1830, and in 1831, Rowland Tidwell, who owned land on the east bank of White River, received a ferry license for a ferry across White River "at his dwelling house."

Another mention of this old road appears in a petition from the inhabitants of Litchfield in 1835 to Ambrose Sevier, delegate from Arkansas Territory to Congress. Congress had passed an act to establish a military road from Strong's, a point on the Memphis-to-Little Rock road, northwest to Batesville. The military roads followed existing roads whenever possible. The petitioners discussed the cost of the road and said this: "From Litchfield to Batesville the country is high, on which there is a tolerable road which can be travelled at all times."

When Rowland Tidwell renewed his ferry license in July, 1835, it is recorded as being granted to him for a ferry across White River "at the Town of Newport"—the first mention of Newport on the map! By October, Tidwell had stopped operating the ferry, his license was annulled, and the franchise was granted to Jesse Daugherty. Daugherty bought Tidwell's land in 1836 and is identified in the deed as Jesse Daugherty, "of Newport, Merchant."

To finish the story of the road, it had evidently been improved by 1837, for in that year Jesse Daugherty put an advertisement in the *Arkansas Gazette* announcing the sale of lots in the Town of Newport, describing its location as being on White River, "at the crossing of the main United States road, lately opened." So the early road which became the United States military road certainly was the first factor in bringing importance to this point on White River.

Steamboat traffic had by now increased since the first boat ventured up White River in 1831, and in Daugherty's advertisement he said that "steamboats of any burthen can ascend the river to Newport and the supplies of this flourishing section of the country are now furnished by these boats." We know the name of one boat he owned because at his death in 1839, the probate court ordered Mrs. Daugherty to sell the steamer Mount Pleasant to liquidate this asset in the estate of her husband. Of course steamboat traffic became an increasingly important

trade factor on the river throughout the nineteenth century. The landing at Newport undoubtedly became a regular loading point for many people in the county, even though the town did not develop at this time.

The railroad was the decisive factor as a means of transportation affecting the development of a town at this place. In 1854, a survey of the proposed railroad from St Louis to Texas was made through Arkansas. In northern division, due to the sharply defined line between the mountainous escarpment to the west and the lowlands of the delta region to the east, the survey selected a line from the Missouri border to Little Rock measuring almost 162 miles--exceeding the air line by only a little over **one mile!** On this shortest and almost direct line in the northern part of the state, the crossing of White River was at Reese's bar--where the railroad bridge was eventually built.

After the Civil War, when the Cairo and Fulton Railroad Company started serious plans for the road, an alternate route in Jackson County was offered due to the important trade center at Jacksonport. We know the outcome of that proposal. The town of Jacksonport having refused to finance the additional mileage for this extra portion of the line and the cost of building a short spur into the town, the railroad company followed the more direct route of the 1854 survey down the east bank of White River, touching the steamboat landing at Newport. Thus, with river and rail transportation combined, it was inevitable that a town would develop here.

Cairo and Fulton Railroad

by Lady Elizabeth Luker

One historian has said the first preparations for the construction of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad took place about 200 million years ago! It was about this time that geologists estimate the Ozark Uplift took place in the earth's crust, elevating the northwestern half of Arkansas. And the shores of the "Mississippi embayment," which at this time reached up to the present mouth of the Ohio River, began to fill up with silt. An almost unbroken straight line developed from the northeast to the southwest through Arkansas with only a slight variation in elevation.

So when Captain Joshua Barney, in 1850 and 1851, under order of the Secretary of War directing him to make a survey of the "most feasible route for a railroad from St. Louis to

Texas," undertook the survey, it was not surprising that he should adopt the route seemingly prepared by nature. Such a road would be above the lowlands to the southeast and at the same time would not be subject to the heavy cutting, filling, and bridge necessary in construction of a railroad in the mountains.

This location follows the same physiographic factors which determined the route of the Great Southwest Trail traveled many centuries by the Indians. But it was many years after the Barney survey before the first railroad was completed through Arkansas.

The original survey of the railroad route, made by Joshua Barney for the United States Army Corps of Engineers, called for crossing White River near Elizabeth ("about 3/4 mile from Jacksonport in the southern extremity of the horse-shoe bend below the town"). The crossing would require, Barney recommended, a bridge 1800 feet long.

At the state railroad convention of 1852 in Little Rock, the route between Memphis and Little Rock to the Red River was adopted as the main trunk line, with branches to St. Louis and Fort Smith. But advocates for the main line to run between St. Louis and the Red River proposed a charter for the "Cairo and Fulton Railroad."

An act of Congress approved Feb. 9, 1853, made "a grant of lands to the states of Arkansas and Missouri to aid in the construction of a railroad from a point on the Mississippi opposite the mouth of the Ohio River [which is at Cairo, Ill.], via Little Rock, to the Texas boundary near Fulton, Ark., with branches from Little Rock to the Mississippi River and Fort Smith." Under this act certain sections of public lands were granted to the two states averaging 3,840 acres per mile of the railroad.

In anticipation of the act, a charter was granted by the Arkansas legislature for the Cairo and Fulton Railroad Company, Jan. 12, 1853. The Cairo and Fulton Railroad Company of Missouri was incorporated in September of 1853 for the portion of the road in Missouri.

The first president of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad was Roswell Beebe of Little Rock. James S. Williams was chief engineer. The board of directors was composed of stockholders from each county through which the road was to pass. James Robinson was the director from Jackson County.

James S. Williams, chief engineer for the railroad, was authorized to make a detailed survey of the line. He divided the state into two districts. For the northern district, from Little Rock north, he hired Charles O. Davis, chief sur-

veyor, with Spencer C. McCorkle and William P. Bowen, Jr., assistants and Samuel H. Niman and John T. Adams, rodmen.

The northern division from Little Rock to the Missouri boundary by air line is 160.6 miles, while by the surveyed line the distance was increased by only 1.1 miles. There was a choice of two routes to be selected within Jackson County. The surveyed line by way of Reese's bar below Newport was shorter than the line by Elizabeth and less costly. The executive committee of the railroad resolved to accept the survey and cross White River at Reese's bar.

Advocates of the railroad had been active during the winter of 1853-54. On April 11, 1854, Micajah B. McCoy, internal improvement commissioner of Jackson County, presented the county court with a recommendation that the internal improvement fund (derived from the sale of lands granted the state for transportation to improvements) be appropriated to subscribe to the capital stock of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad. The county court "ordered that William R. Jones be constituted Agent for the purpose and is authorized **and required** to subscribe the sum of \$10,000 to the Capital Stock of the railroad company for and in behalf of the County of Jackson." The court authorized McCoy to draw a draft on the internal improvement fund for \$500, representing a 5 per cent assessment on 400 shares (\$10,000) and ordered Jones to represent Jackson County in all meetings and elections of stockholders and to protect the interests of the county.

The use of internal improvement funds to subscribe capital stock in the railroad was at fever pitch during the summer of 1854 and 103 Jackson County residents purchased stock in the company with a total value of \$22,750.

When the Cairo and Fulton survey was acted upon by the Arkansas legislature, the act (passed on Jan. 6, 1855) prevented the railroad company from acquiring title to the federal lands intended to aid in building the railroad until twenty years after completion of the railroad! Since the money obtained from the sale of capital stock had been used for the survey and the purchase of right-of-way, when necessary, the railroad company had relied on the sale of these lands for funds for the actual construction of the road. The company refused to accept the restrictions of the legislature.

On March 7, 1855, Micajah B. McCoy, internal improvement commissioner for Jackson County, asked the county court to authorize payment of a 5 per cent assessment on stock subscribed in the name of the internal improvement fund. The court reneged on its former order, declared flatly that the subscription of capital stock "was made without its authority," and

directed McCoy not to pay any more funds to the railroad company. It also adjudged the former order appointing W. R. Jones as agent for the county to subscribe \$10,000 worth of stock as unauthorized by law. The next day, Jones presented his resignation as agent for Jackson County, and his resignation was accepted by the court.

Increasing efforts were made during the next year to unravel the legal difficulties surrounding the railroad. The executive committee of the railroad company even offered to turn over the franchise of the road to the state if it would reimburse the stockholders for their outlay up to that time, but this proposal was not acceptable to the legislature. Roswell Beebe, who had spearheaded the dream of bringing the railroad to Arkansas, worked untiringly in this effort until his death in September of 1856.

On Nov. 16, 1856, the General Assembly remedied the legal problem by passing an amendment to the earlier act, granting the lands to the railroad without the earlier restrictions but with the provision that the company would either grade or complete twenty five miles of road within two years.

The economic situation in 1857 stopped public works throughout the country, but in 1858, Edward Cross, the new president of the railroad company called for an assessment on the capital stock "sufficient to grade 25 miles of roadbed, extending from White River northward," to meet the requirements of the 1856 act.

The chief engineer of the railroad placed Charles O. Davis in charge of the work. The 25 miles in Jackson County was chosen because it was almost level to begin with and favorable in alignment and grade. Beginning at a point on White River near Elizabeth, the line ran northeasterly. The end of the 25 miles came to about the location of the later town of Alicia. This line followed approximately the same route as the 1851 Barney survey instead of the 1854 route which had been selected by the railroad.

The contract to grade the road was made on March 10, 1858, with J. S. Shuman. The engineer's report, filed Oct. 22, 1858, cited the failure of the contractor to hire sufficient men to complete the contract before the deadline, as well as Shuman's indebtedness to the merchants of Jackson County. Evidently enough of the roadbed had been graded to meet the provisions of the 1856 act of the legislature, as the lands granted by Congress were placed at the disposal of the railroad company. That portion of the 25-mile roadbed between Diaz and Alicia was eventually incorporated into the railroad line, and the part between Elizabeth and Diaz became a public highway.

After the railroad company had cleared and graded the 25 miles of roadbed in Jackson Coun-

ty, it was decided to wait until business conditions improved before making any further construction. In 1859, the Cairo and Fulton Railroad Company gave a mortgage on the railroad lands in Arkansas to secure a bond issue for construction of the railroad, but the bonds were never sold.

After the Civil War began, Mason Brayman, president of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad Company, returned to the north to join the Union Army, and James S. Williams, the chief engineer, joined the Confederate Army. After the war, Brayman, who had been a brigadier-general in the Union Army, returned to Little Rock and resumed his position as president of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad. On July 28, 1866, Congress extended an 1863 deadline for completing the railroad.

Under Brayman's direction, the railroad seemed as if it would be unable to meet an 1870 deadline for completion of part of the railroad. On May 2, 1870, the stockholders elected a new board of directors, and M. L. Rice was elected president of the company. The *Arkansas Gazette* of May 19, 1870, reported: "We understand that commencement of actual work on this great project will soon start on the north side of the Arkansas River. Matters will be pushed forward until the line is completed between this place [Little Rock] and White River. Work will then be commenced to the southwest from Little Rock." Work was actually started on the north side of the Arkansas River on May 25.

Construction on the railroad progressed according to schedule. The first record of a train on the road was the June 6, 1871, excursion by the Union Baptist Sabbath School from the depot at Argenta (North Little Rock) to Jackson Springs (Jacksonville). The first locomotive run on the line was named the "Roswell Beebe," in recognition "of the eminent service of Roswell Beebe, deceased, in procuring the original grant of lands to the Cairo and Fulton Railroad," in accordance with a resolution of the directors made when Rice was elected president.

The fifty miles of railroad from the north bank of the Arkansas River at Argenta to Prospect Pluff (Judsonia) on the Little Red River was completed and open for travel in January of 1872. The contract for completing the road from Little Red River to the Missouri line was given to Mandeville and Allen of St. Louis, who were also the contractors for the Iron Mountain road in Missouri.

The idea for extending a spur into Jacksonport had been explored. John H. Page, who had owned the *Jacksonport Democrat* in 1887-88 wrote about this proposal: "A proposition had been made to the town of Jacksonport by the builders of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad that if the town would grant certain land for depot

and side tracks and a bonus of \$25,000, the road would be extended through the town.

"The business men met and discussed the matter in all seriousness, and concluded that no set of sensible railroad builders could afford to build a railroad through that territory and miss so important a commercial point as Jacksonport; hence, they would welcome a railroad, but would respectfully decline to give a bonus or make concessions.

"They made a mistake. The railroad acquired land at the present site of Newport."

During 1872, the construction of the railroad forged ahead. The Baltimore Bridge Company was given the contracts for nearly all the bridges in Arkansas. The *Arkansas Gazette* reported January 28, 1873, that the bridge across Little Red River had just been completed and the bridge across White River was under construction: "The piers of this bridge are about completed, and a large force of men is at work on the bridge, under the charge of Mr. William E. Jones."

The line north of White River to St. Louis was soon completed and on Feb. 3, 1873, the *Gazette* announced "The First Through Train to St. Louis." The only passengers on this trip were officials of the railroad. This "through train," however, included a change of trains at White River. The *Gazette* of Feb. 7, 1873, gives this account of the opening of the line: "Captain L. R. Brown, the passenger conductor, left here this morning for Poplar Bluff with a train of through passengers. He leaves the train he took out from here at White River crossing, transferring at White River by steamboat, and taking another train from the Newport landing to Poplar Bluff."

The Cairo and Fulton Railroad chartered the steamer Cora Belle for the purpose of ferrying passengers and freight from the site of the White River bridge to the Newport landing. The bridge was completed on April 2, 1873, and thrown open to traffic.

Several years ago someone told me this story about the completion of the railroad bridge over White River: After the final inspection was made, a locomotive was to make the first run over the bridge to test it. The engineer was told to start well back from the bridge and cross it at a careful rate of speed. The engine was backed almost out of sight, the whistle blew, black smoke belched from the stack, and that engine flew across the bridge "like a bat out of hell!" When they finally got to ask why he crossed so fast, the engineer said, "Well if the

bridge fell in I wanted to be on the other side!"

The Cairo and Fulton Railroad Company of Missouri had consolidated in 1868 with the St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad. This company and the Cairo and Fulton Railroad of Arkansas were consolidated on April 30, 1874. Thomas Allen had been president of both railroads since 1871 and continued in that position in the consolidated company, which became known as the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway Company.

On January 26, 1873, before the bridge was finished or passenger cars put on the line, a daring correspondent of the *St. Louis Democrat*, identifying himself only by the initial "H," sent a dispatch to his paper headed, "Newport, White River, Arkansas." He had somehow gotten permission to ride with the engineer and wrote: "Arrived by engine in good state of bodily preservation, the first passenger and only representative of the newspaper fraternity, up to date, over one of the great links in the international chain, which is soon to connect St. Louis commercially with Mexico and the Pacific!" — a "scoop" by any definition of the news media!

1873-1875

by James Logan Morgan

Newport Depot. In 1872, the "Newport landing" depot site on White River was established by the Cairo and Fulton Railroad Company. The Newport site permitted an almost ideal combination of river, road and rail transportation facilities, as well as adequate space for railroad yards. The depot was built and put into use prior to February of 1873.

Franklin Doswell, a prominent lawyer of Jacksonport, had contracted to buy the Newport site. He had, in turn, agreed to provide the railroad with enough land to meet its needs. William Byers, of Batesville, sold the 148-acre Newport tract to Doswell for \$8,000. Doswell gave the railroad company an irregular tract adjoining White River "in consideration that a depot and station house will be located" on the land, and he gave James M. Loughborough, trustee for the principal stockholders and land commissioner of the Cairo and Fulton, a quarter interest in the rest of the tract. William H. Morris and William R. Jones gave the railroad additional land for the railroad yards.

One of the most important structures in the Newport railroad yards was the freight elevator on White River. This elevator permitted

the easy transfer of freight (principally freight brought down from Batesville and other points on upper White River) to railroad cars or from railroad cars to boats for delivery upstream. One of the early boats which served this trade was the Arch P. Green. Alexander C. Elliott was master of the boat in 1875, and Charles Woodbury was clerk.

First Newport Plat. Early in 1873, a hypothetical plat of the town of Newport was developed. While it consisted primarily of land owned by Doswell and Loughborough, the railroad trustee, it included some land which belonged to others. The plat was never filed but was used for promotional purposes.

The first plat of Newport was developed by Israel Merrick Moore, a promoter of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad, who supervised the surveying of the railroad property in Newport early in 1873. James K. Huddleston described the original survey of Newport in 1873: "At the time of ascertaining and fixing the boundary lines of the part conveyed to the Cairo and Fulton Railroad Co., by I. M. Moore, surveyor, who was in the employ of the Co., a line was surveyed and measured and partly established as the line of a street that was contemplated to be made between the land of Doswell and Loughborough, to be called when made East First Street, and some measurements were made, with a view of designating the points at which the streets would touch the line . . . and certain stobbs were placed at given distances from each other, on portions of what was then and is now in contemplation, making into five blocks of lots—and no more."

The original five blocks were block 2 (between Beech and Laurel), block 3 (Laurel to Hazel), block 4 (Hazel to Walnut), block 5 (Walnut to Main), and block 6 (Main to Elm).

Continuing his description of the original survey of Newport by I. M. Moore, Huddleston states: "A preliminary survey of some of the said contemplated streets, running each way . . . was partly made, and it was agreed between the owners of the land, that a street to be designated as Main Street eighty feet wide should be made, and that other streets would be sixty feet wide."

James K. Huddleston was employed by Doswell to help promote and develop the town of Newport. Huddleston accompanied Moore on his survey of Newport and described his work in this regard: "I took a memorandum from the measurements and partial survey of I. M. Moore in a little pocket Memorandum Book, and from this Memorandum, I have made nearly all the

agreements to sell lots, at Newport, which have been made."

From Moore's survey, a promotional plat of Newport was made. Frank W. Lynn, the assessor of Jackson County, made the original assessment of Newport in September of 1873. The Board of Equalization report describes this assessment: Lynn "saw a map of the town, and supposed the same had been laid off as such. He went to Newport and asked Mr. [James M.] Steen what was the price of lots. Steen could not tell him from memory but referred to a book in which the blocks and lots appeared to be described and from that gave him the asking price of the proprietors." Steen was the partner of James K. Huddleston in Newport's first store.

Lynn's assessment list 55 blocks. The first 48 of these blocks were located east of the railroad in four rows (called ranges) of 12 blocks each. The "Company" (Doswell and Loughborough) was shown as owning all of the lots in ranges 2, 3, and 4 east of the railroad (blocks 13 through 48), blocks 1 and 7 through 12 in range 1 east of the railroad, and parts of other blocks in the section of Newport being developed at the time (blocks 2 through 6). The 1873 ownership list (other than Doswell and Loughborough) is taken from Lynn's assessment. Block 2: J. B. Waddill, lots 4, 5 and 6; A. S. Jones, lot 12. Block 3: G. Brandenburg, lot 2; J. H. Ford, lot 4; W. D. Shackelford, lot 5; Huddleston and Steen, lot 6; J. F. Hunter, lots 7 and 8; A. B. Pulliam, lot 9; F. M. Wells, lots 10 and 11. Block 4: Frank Wishon, lots 1 and 2; G. W. Hurley, lot 3; Sam Wood, lot 4; S. W. Johnson, lot 5; Ben. Fipps, lots 8 and 9; Wash Clark, lot 10; A. W. Horton, lots 11 and 12. Block 5: Mrs. Adcock, lot 2; G. T. Anderson, lot 3; Thos. J. Goble, lot 4; J. F. Hunter, lot 5; Junius Cox, lot 6; S. W. White, lot 8; R. Valentine, lot 9; Nicholas Cable, lots 10 and 11. Block 6: H. C. Lentz, lot 1; Thos. Slinger, lot 2; N. E. Kidd, lot 3; J. C. Mathews, lot 4; Robt. Morris, lot 7; Geo. Miniken, lots 11 and 12.

James K. Huddleston described the Newport townsite in the fall of 1873: "The extent of five blocks [2, 3, 4, 5 and 6] would embrace a greater area than all the open land on the tract of land. . . . The remainder of the tract is a dense forest."

Doswell and Loughborough did not give prospective purchasers any deeds to the lots in Newport, nor did they require any payment at the time the buyers took possession of the property. Agreements were made to provide purchasers with valid deeds as soon as an accept-

able plat could be filed. It was several years before the title to the lots was perfected.

The first store in our "new" Newport was built in the spring of 1873 by James K. Huddleston and James M. Steen at the southeast corner of East First (later Front) and Hazel. In the summer and fall of 1873, stores were built in Newport by Mart Mull, Wishon Brothers, George W. Hurley, Sam Woods, S. W. Johnson, J. R. Cox, S. W. White, Nicholas E. Kidd, and a Mr. Hamilton. James F. Hunter built a carpentry shop, and James H. Ford built a livery stable. The first dwelling house in Newport is reported to have been that of Jane Adcox, which was located across the street from the depot and which was built in the summer of 1873. In the summer and fall of 1873, other houses were built by Robert Morris, R. Valentine, James H. Ford, and A. S. Jones.

Roads and Ferries. At the time the Newport depot was established, the nearest main road was the Jacksonport-to-Augusta road, which ran north and east of Newport. As the importance of the town increased, the number of roads to Newport also increased and their quality improved. In 1873, two bridges on the abandoned stretch of road between Elizabeth and Newport were rebuilt by William H. Morris, and Theodore H. Phillips, county bridge commissioner, cited, in his report to the county court, favorable reports on the bridges given to him by George K. Stephens and William Abbott, "who drive hack lines from Jacksonport to Newport."

Elbert L. Watson, who owned land on the west side of White River at the railroad bridge, was granted a license to operate a ferry at that point on Oct. 10, 1875, after telling the county court that "the public convenience demands the establishment of the ferry" at this point on the "public highway of Oil Trough Bottom to Newport." On July 9, 1874, J. B. Waddill, James K. Huddleston and Riley Kinman suggested that improvement of the old road from Watson's White River Crossing ferry to Newport "should be of great public utility," and it was established as a separate road district. John Rowland received permission of the landowners on both sides of White River near Newport and was given a license to operate a ferry at this point in 1874. D. G. Saul operated this ferry in 1875.

In 1874, the county court voted to build a bridge across Newport Lake to permit the construction of a road through the property of Laura J. (Waddill) Dills wife of George K. Dills, to intersect with the Jacksonport-to Augusta road a short distance east of Newport.

Newport People in 1874. In Dec. 1874, the Newport News published a statement prepared by Thomas Slinger and signed by a number of Newport residents who were originally from the northern states. Each signer was asked to list his occupation, the year he moved to Newport, and his place of origin.

Merchants listed were: N. B. Wishon, W. C. Wishon, Frank Wishon, 1873, Rolla, Mo.; F. W. Wilson (fruit dealer), 1874, N. Y.; G. W. Hurley (grocer), 1874, Baltimore, Md.; R. E. Arrington (flour), St. Louis; Samuel Woods (grocer), Mar. 1873, Warrington, England; Robert Morris (grocer), Mar. 1873, Portland, Maine; Cassem Hirsch, 1873, St. Louis; and Lazar "Bud" Hirsch, 1873, Warrensburg, Mo.

Salesmen listed were: Charles Andrews summer 1873, Cape Girardeau Co., Mo.; E. B. Hyde, Nov. 1874, St. James, Mo.; Morris Cohn (dry goods and groceries), 1873, Templeburg, Prussia; and Jacob Caminor and Lesper Jacob, 1872, Templeburg, Prussia.

The developing nature of the town is shown by the number of carpenters listed: W. M. Nichols, fall 1874, St. James, Mo.; Robert Haggard, 1871, Detroit, Mich.; William T. Sherwood (carpenter and mason), 1874, veteran of 16th Ill. Cav.; A. B. Pullen, 1873, Graves Co., Ky.; J. E. Williams, L. H. Williams, and J. C. Williams, 1873, Baxter Springs, Mo.; A. L. Dungan, 1874, Marion Co., Ill.; Harry James, spring 1874, Princeton, Ill., veteran of 12th Ill. Cav.; Charley Cook, spring 1873, St. Louis; and James Cook, Nov. 1874, Hamford Co., Mo.

A group of names connected with the Miley lumber mills was listed: John Miley, John S. Miley and Elmore Miley, "steam saw mill and lumber dealers"; Benton Long, sawyer and engineer; George McKay, painter; and Charles Bucy, Charles Metz, Charley Greenwood, Edward Roberts, Jessie Harris, Andy Simpson and H. W. Boswell. All these were reported as having come to Newport in Nov. 1874 from Indianapolis, Ind.

A few farmers were listed: J. B. Saulsman and William R. Saulsman, 1873, Miller Co., Mo., both veterans of the 14th Mo. Cav.; and William T. Fitzsimmons and John L. Fitzsimmons, 1873, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Skilled specialists listed were: Charles Fagan, bootmaker, 1874, from Manchester, England, veteran of 81st N. Y. Inf.; John Wilson, tinner, fall 1874, Manchester, England; Henry Johnson, tailor, May 1874, Dublin, Ireland, "via St. Louis"; Samuel Rohrer, "machinist and smith," Mo. and Kans.; and C. L. Garrison, painter and paper-

hanger, fall 1874, Shelbyville, Mo.

The occupations of many of the signers were not listed: James Robinson, summer 1874, Baxter Springs, Kans.; P. A. Navaro, 1873, Monterey, Mexico; T. J. Goble, Nov. 1873, Plymouth, Ind.; M. McWain, 1872, Carlinsville, Ill., veteran of 12th Ill. Cav.; John Bushel, fall 1873, Muhlenburg Co., Ky.; Mark Cohn, 1874, Templeburg, Prussia; "June" R. Cox, 1873, St. Louis; T. B. Ogilvie, 1873, Kansas City, Mo.; W. H. Higginton, 1874, Hillsboro, Mo.; G. W. Ogilvie, spring 1874, Richland Co., Wis.; James K. Huddleston, 1873, Forsyth, Mo.; Peter C. Cook, spring 1874, St. Louis, veteran of the Mo. state militia; W. D. Shackelford, Savannah, Mo.; D. G. Saul, Cairo, Ill.; and D. Cowan, Topeka, Kans.

A wide variety of professional men were included in the list: J. W. Wickersham, druggist, 1874, Davenport, Iowa, veteran of 81st N. Y. Inf.; W. H. Bailey, speculator, 1872, Louisville, Ky.; William Abbott, telegraph operator, Ind.; E. W. Gray, physician and druggist, 1873, Springfield, Mo.; Richard Whitsett, engineer, New York; and Milton G. Jones, photographer, 1874, Glencoe, Ky.

A number of these listed were connected with the Cairo and Fulton railroad: Julius Vandeventer, engineer at elevator, and Lu Vandeventer, watchman at depot, both from Versailles, Ill.; John Mills, 1874 from Union Co., Ky.; Dennis Keefe, 1872 from Cambridge City, Ind., and T. H. Casteen, 1874 from Versailles, Ill., shown as "at railroad depot"; and H. C. Lentz, railroad agent, 1873, St. Louis.

S. W. Johnson, liquor dealer, who was said to have come to Newport in Dec. 1871 from St. Paul, Minn., was described as the "first citizen of Newport before laying off town about two years." The compiler of the list, Thomas Slinger, who was a justice of the peace (Republican), described himself as being from Carmi, Ill., and having served as first lieutenant of Co. G, 7th Ill. Cav.

While there is some basis for the description of those listed as from states outside the South, several (for example, G. W. Hurley and W. D. Shackelford, who served in the Confederate army from Arkansas) had lived in Arkansas for several years before moving to Newport.

Businesses. In 1874, John McDowell and Son of Jacksonport established a branch store at Newport, and in the fall of 1875 the Huddleston and Steen building was remodeled and occupied by the McDowell store, which was managed by the younger John McDowell. About the same

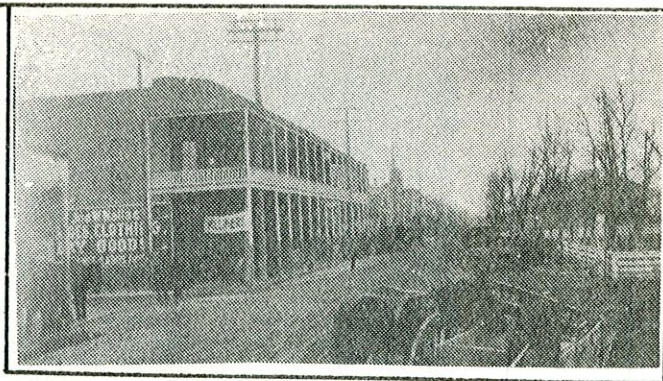
time, a branch of Jacksonport mercantile firm of Hirsch and Adler (Aaron Hirsch and Ben Adler) was established at Newport.

S. W. Johnson, whose saloon was moved from the White River bridge site to Newport, described himself in 1875 as "now selling family groceries." In 1875, G. W. Hurley bought the Sam Woods store. H. C. Lentz was the first agent at the Cairo and Fulton station. In 1874, Samuel Rohrer opened a blacksmith shop at the northeast corner of Second and Hazel.

The first hotel built in Newport was the "Railroad Eating House," which was built in 1873. In the summer of 1874 the Virginia Hotel was built by Achilles W. Horton and William Abbott, who operated a stage line between Jacksonport and Newport. (The hotel was named for Horton's wife "Jennie" Horton.) The hotel and livery stable operation by Horton and Abbott was located at the southwest corner of Second and Hazel. In 1875, the hotel became the Horton House, and the business was shortly afterwards sold to James M. Steen.

Newport businesses mentioned in an early issue of the *Newport News* (Oct. 16, 1875) were: Hirsch and Adler, general merchandise; Horton House, hotel; Mart. Howard, "Howard's Restaurant"; J. K. Huddleston, brick kiln; G. W. Hurley and Co., grocery, liquors; S. W. Johnson, grocery; Keener and Nichols, butcher shop; John McDowell and Son, general store; Robert Morris, hides and furs; S. Rohrer and Co., blacksmith shop and wagon-making; W. D. Shackelford, tin-smith, shop on Front Street between Hazel and Laurel at the "sign of the big coffee pot"; Jordan Thomas, Negro, firewood; Dr. Crawford West; Williams Brothers, grocery, liquors, tobacco; Wishon Brothers (Frank, Napoleon B. and William C. Wishon), general store; N. B. Wishon, express agent.

"The Brick." The first (and for about three years the only) brick building in Newport was aptly called "The Brick." It was built in the spring of 1875 by William Abbott. There is a record of this building while it was under construction. George W. Hurley was trying to obtain a charter for a lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Newport. On Mar. 26, 1875, he entered into an agreement with Abbott, who leased to "the charter members of Newport Lodge" for five years at \$10 per month, payable quarterly, "one half of a certain second story of his [Abbott's] brick building . . . together with Ante Rooms for the convenience of a Lodge of I. O. O. F." Abbott agreed to "ceil said rooms," paint them, and make partitions for the ante-rooms. The agreement was made "subject to the approval of said Lodge of I. O. O. F. when duly organized."



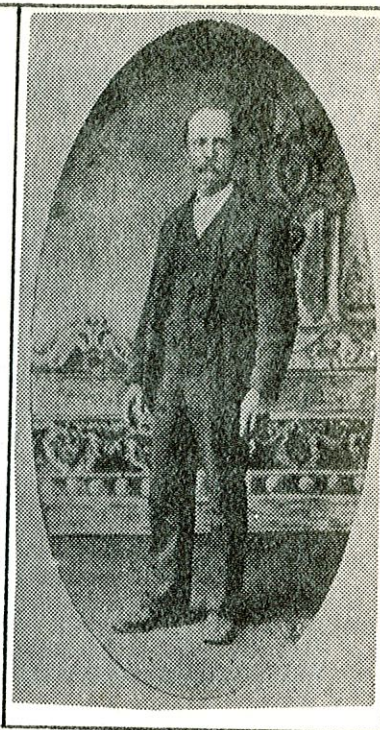
400 Block of Front, 1905



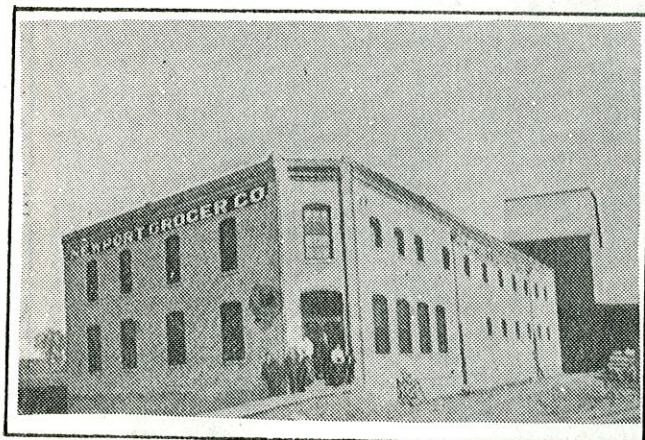
Bank of Newport, 1905



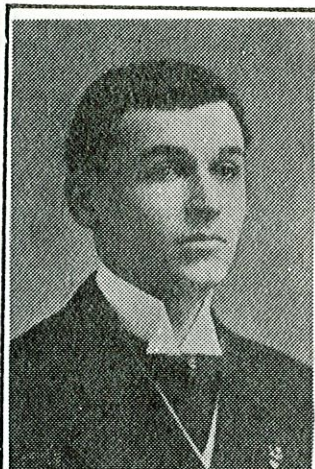
Chastain Bldg., 1905



W. B. Chastain



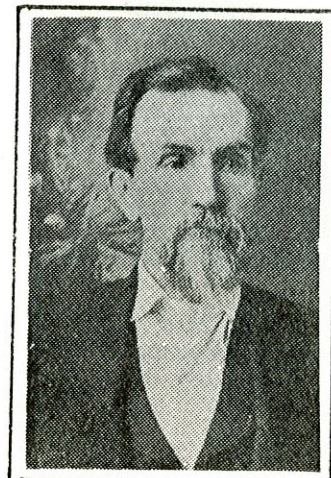
Newport Grocery Co., 1905



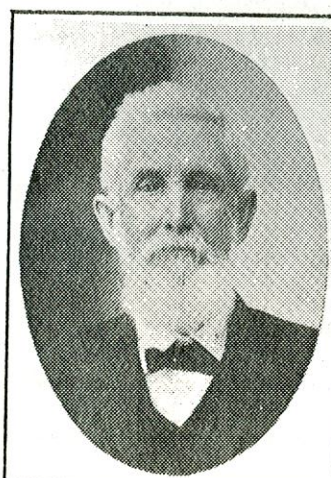
Joseph M. Berger, Jr.



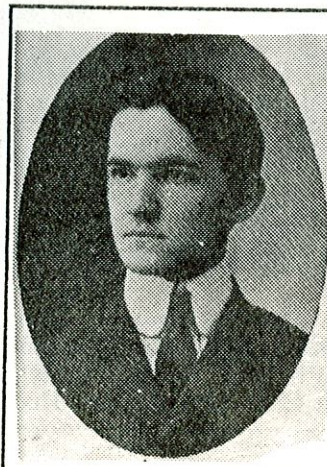
Thad Arrington



H. A. Ridley



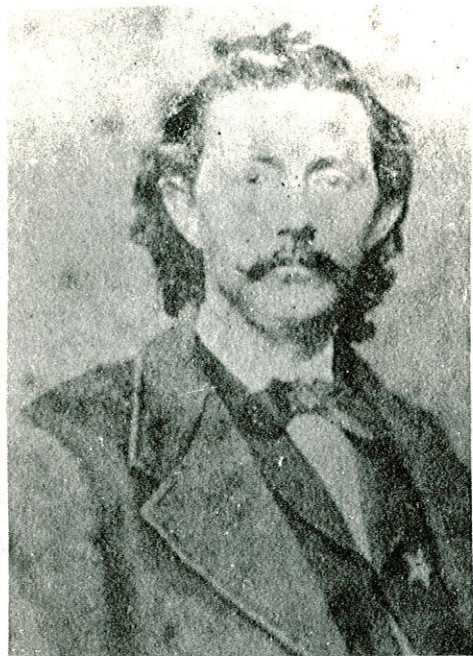
J. E. Wilmans



Arthur Bowie

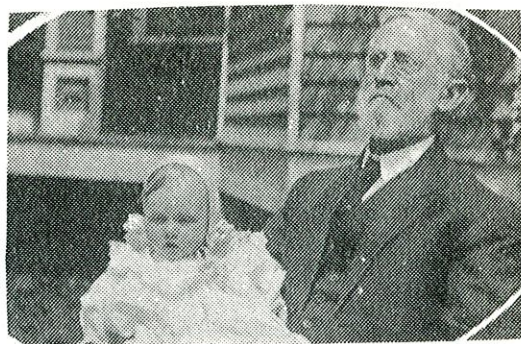


J. R. Mayhan



—Hazel Rutledge

Marshal H. N. Faulkinbury



—Margaret Van Dyke

William B. Empie
Margaret Van Dyke

Wolff-Goldman Store, 1905



Clover Club, 1894

In chair: Mrs. Gus Jones. First row: Mrs. William Bailey, Mrs. W. B. Egan, Mrs. A. D. Bailey, Mrs. T. J. Watson, Mrs. Jim Hobgood, Mrs. L. Minor, Mrs. Ike Stephens. Second row: Mrs. Terry, Mrs. Monteith, Mrs. S. W. Taggart, Mrs. C. R. Hite, Mrs. W. A. Billingsley, Mrs. J. G. Walker. Standing in rear: Mrs. Robert Hooker, Mrs. George Hillhouse.

"The Brick" became the site of religious, social, and civic meetings and thus played an important role in Newport's early history. It was located near the southeast corner of Front and Main and later became the property of James Huddleston.

Post Office. The first post office in Newport was established in the store of Huddleston and Steen. John B. Elliott was appointed postmaster on May 21, 1873. Alpheus L. Richardson became postmaster on Aug. 4, 1873. The post office was moved to the McDowell store when John McDowell was appointed postmaster on Jan. 14, 1875, and he kept the post office at his drugstore.

1875-1892

1875-1892

by James Logan Morgan

Incorporation. H. S. Hascall of Little Rock became editor of the *Newport News* in April 1875. Hascall was a promoter of civic causes, and he began to urge the citizens of Newport to adopt a corporate identity.

The county court record for July 7, 1875, reported that "William A. Monroe, Esqr., representing certain petitioners for incorporation as a Town under the name of the Incorporated Town of Newport," filed the original petition for the incorporation of Newport. This petition was withdrawn on Aug. 30, and a new petition was filed. This petition named Franklin Doswell and W. A. Monroe, prominent Jacksonport attorneys, as "Agents in procuring the Order of Incorporation." The original petition was probably withdrawn in order to include a survey made by S. P. Steele on August 24.

The drive for the petition had been led by George W. Hurley, and his name headed the list of petitioners. The other signers were: H. S. Hascall, B. Boyd, J. L. Kannes, John S. Miley, G. S. McKay, W. M. Nickols, Joe P. Morrison, Jas. K. Huddleston, J. C. Wilson, Jule Vandeventer, J. H. Lain, Jas. M. Steen, J. R. Inlow, E. A. Roberd, M. M. Cates, T. H. Evans, S. S. Parham, A. W. Horton, John Miley and Son, T. F. Martin, J. T. Mills, Henry B. Cross, Olono Saul, T. J. Patterson, N. C. Crane, J. E. Williams, John W. Cook, H. P. Ault, Wm. B. Scarlett, D. R. Norman, Edward Nelson, Mat Howard, Charles Fagan, S. Rohrer, A. B. Pullen, J. A. Cooper, J. McDowell and Son, R. B. Warner, J. R. Cox, Thos. Slinger, W. D. Shackelford, F. G. Smith, John Cathey, W. Buskill and G. W. Ogilvie.

On Oct. 7, 1875, the county court issued an order for the incorporation of Newport. Editor

Hascall reported in the *Newport News* of Sat., Oct. 16, 1875: "Major W. A. Monroe, of Jacksonport, dropped in to see us during the week. Through him we learn that the petition for the incorporation of Newport was granted by our county court last week, and that a transcript of the order has been forwarded to the secretary of state's office in Little Rock. According to law it lies there thirty days, and then, if there is no opposition offered, a charter will be granted. We presume there will be none, and therefore we may with safety cast about for suitable persons to fill the various offices. A mayor, recorder and five aldermen are to be elected. We want none but good citizens for the different positions --men who are enterprising and honest in all their transactions." Hascall noted in another place: "Incorporation has been granted. Prepare your ballots." And he asked: "Who will make the best marshal? That's the question. Shall we have a convention for the nomination of officers for the city government, or shall it be a scrub race--open to all?" The certified copy of the petition and incorporation order was filed in the office of the secretary of state in Oct. 16, 1875.

The first municipal election in Newport was held on Nov. 23. Few details of this election have survived. Editor Hascall was elected mayor. He probably obtained a certified copy of his election from the county clerk as soon as possible and boarded a train for Little Rock to get this commission made out and signed by the governor. The *Gazette* of Nov. 27 noted: "Mayor H. S. Hascall, of the *Newport News*, a former Little Rocker, is in the city [Little Rock]." Hascall was formally commissioned on Nov. 26. He returned to Newport and took the oath of office on Nov. 27, 1875.

H. S. Hascall served Newport as mayor until the regular election in April 1876 and as editor of the *News* until his death on Nov. 15, 1876. After his death, the Little Rock Typographical Union No. 92 prepared a tribute of respect in memory of Hascall, "who was for years an honored member of that body."

Political History. A few details have been developed concerning the first municipal administration in Newport. From the records of the mayor's court, it has been determined that the town council selected Henry Newton Faulkimbury, a former county sheriff, to serve as town marshal, a position he held from 1875 until 1883 --part of that time serving also as a deputy United States marshal.

Mayors who served from 1875 to 1892 were: H. S. Hascall, 1875-76; Achilles W. Horton, 1876-77; James N. Johnston, 1877-79; F. J. Staley, 1879-82; W. H. Bogart, 1882-85; J. E. Wilmans, 1885-

89; Richard M. Davis, 1889-90; Gustave Jones, 1890; Franklin Doswell, 1890-91; and J. P. Foster, 1891-92. Marshals following Faulkinbury were: W. M. Belser, 1883-84; Nicholas D. Robbins, 1884-85; Charles J. Gulwest, 1885-86 and 1887-88; J. W. Coursan, 1886-87; Thomas Cunningham, 1888; J. A. Baird, 1888-91; and Walter S. Davis, 1891-92.

Recorders were: J. E. Williams, 1876-78; Lazar Hirsch, 1878-79; Dr. F. G. Smith, 1879-80; W. H. Bogart, 1880-82; J. E. Wilmans, 1882-84; J. D. Elsberry, 1884-85; J. N. Johnston, 1885-88; and R. C. Harder, 1888-92. Treasurers included: George W. Hurley, 1877-78; V. D. White, 1879-81; T. D. Kinman, 1887-88; J. B. Hirsch, 1888-90; and William Mosby, 1890-91.

In the first regular municipal election in Newport held Apr. 4, 1876, A. W. Horton was elected mayor, J. E. Williams recorder, and G. W. Hurley, Samuel Rohrer, N. B. Wishon, James M. Steen and William Abbott aldermen. The **Arkansas Gazette** noted: "A majority of the new council served in the old."

In 1876, a night watchman was hired as a deputy town marshal, and the town began to use prisoners for work on the streets and other public services. An ordinance was passed to build sidewalks on Front Street. Property owners were charged \$20 per lot for the sidewalks. Later the sidewalks regulation was extended to the other streets in the downtown section. In 1879, Editor Walters of the **Newport News** said: "We learn a lady fell through the walk on Hazel Street the other evening, receiving serious injury. Pity it wasn't a member of the town council." In 1891, the town council passed an ordinance to regulate the dog population. A newspaper reported: "Newport has commenced a war on the dogs. All running at large will be shot."

By 1878, the Newport board of health had been established. In that year, it issued a regulation restricting travel into Newport during the yellow fever epidemic. Casper J. Walters was secretary of the board at that time. In 1883, the board of health consisted of Drs. W. H. Heard, M. P. Winkler, F. G. Smith and J. M. Jones, and F. J. Staley. During the smallpox epidemic of 1882, Dr. J. M. Jones was employed by the town council to provide free vaccinations to residents of Newport.

On the first census of Newport, in 1880, 683 residents were listed. The population in 1890 was 1571. Because of a tremendous influx of men in the building trades and laborers in 1891 (perhaps the greatest year for building in Newport's history) and the migration of a large number of Jacksonport families to Newport following Newport's victory in the county seat election, the

town council decided to apply to become a city of the second class on Nov. 30, 1891, and appointed George A. Hillhouse to take the necessary census. This special census listed 2544 people (44 more than necessary).

On April 19, 1892, the first set of officers elected after Newport became a city of the second class was installed: J. E. Wilmans, mayor; R. C. Harder, recorder; Robert T. Simmons, marshal; and Isaac Goldman, N. B. Wishon, A. D. Bailey and W. B. Chastain, aldermen. In his inaugural address, Mayor Wilmans "made a strong plea for a sewerage system" for Newport. At the next meeting of the town council, the body unanimously elected Joseph M. Bell city attorney.

Plats and Additions. ...In an earlier section, it was noted that the original plat of Newport (based on I. M. Moore's survey) included blocks which were not part of Franklin Doswell's Newport tract. Although the plat was not recorded, it was responsible for much of the numbering of blocks in the town. The first plat of Newport was filed in 1874 but was dated Oct. 30, 1873, and signed by Franklin Doswell and James M. Loughborough. It included only blocks 3 through 8 (between East First or Front and Second), 49, and parts of 1, 2, 9 and 50. The Newport plat which was recognized in later years was made June 12, 1879, and included an agreement made by the various owners.

James M. Loughborough had held a one-fourth interest in the Newport tract as a trustee for the Cairo and Fulton Railroad, and his interest was awarded by federal court to Thomas Allen and Henry G. Marquand, who had acquired the Cairo and Fulton stock. The heirs of Jesse Daugherty had won a court decision which awarded them a one-fifth interest in the tract (reducing Doswell's interest and the Loughborough interest proportionately), and they had assigned part of their interest to Joseph M. Bell to pay attorney's fees connected with the case. The owners who made the agreement in 1879 were: Franklin Doswell, three-fifths; Thomas Allen and Henry G. Marquand, one-fifth (one-fourth of the four-fifths interest Doswell's title received as a result of the chancery decision); and Silas Daugherty, Joseph M. Bell (the attorney) and Aaron Hirsch (who had purchased the interest of Emeline Daugherty Wareham), one-fifth. The plat which was filed at this time was executed by James A. Martin and Son. This plat showed 2 rows of blocks east of the railroad (blocks 1 through 9 and blocks 15 through 24), a row of two blocks west of the railroad (49 and 50), and irregular blocks designated by the letters A through L.

Elaine and Lane Taylor

James Paul Young

Elsie D. Young

Milton Piper

J. D. Carr

Alamarie Carr

J. C. Campbell

Gus Beard

Ruth Stamps

Robin Stamps

E. R. Dixon

Powell Dixon

Maurice Odom

Virginia Odom

Shelby Norris

Betty Norris

Mary M. Treadway

Joseph H. Treadway

Tommy Treadway

Nina Treadway

Shelby Smith

Sue Ann Smith

Loyd Coleman

Carolyn Coleman

Mary Ivy

Leroy and Betty Addington

Alice and Mary Beth Ridley

Leon and Jessie Mae Rutledge

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Heffington

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Williams

Palmer and Rosemary Fortenberry

Mr. and Mrs. Clint Massey

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman Kent

"Beso" and Retta Nicholson

Lowella Ivy

Pauline Carty

William D. Young

Lulu Young

D. C. Ivy

Avanell Williams

Bob and Peggy McCollum

Max and John Paul Jones

Kathy, Kelley and Kasey Jackson

Anne Nicholson

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Fortenberry

Ann Taylor

Wilma, Tommy and Nicci Tiner

Vernon and Juanita Smotherman

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Heard

Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Godwin

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Adams



We Salute
The 1975
Newport
Centennial

**NEWPORT
INS. EXCHANGE**

A. F. Minor Ins. Agency
McCartney, Manning, McDonald & Guinn Ins. Agency
Stafford Ins. Agency
Wallace Ins. Agency

In 1880, Daugherty's Addition was formally placed on record. It included blocks on both the east and west sides of the railroad. Owners of the Daugherty's Addition tract were Laura C. Ewing, Joseph M. Bell, Alexander C. Pickett, Silas Daugherty, Emeline Wareham and E. L. Watson.

Other additions were made at various times. In the list below, the date of record is given. In many cases, lots had been sold prior to the date the plat was filed for record. The additions are Morris' Addition, 1881, lots sold 1875; Block 29; Blocks 44 and 58 (Hurley and Williams' Addition), 1880; Hirsch's First Addition, 1880; Blocks 30 and 43, 1881; Wishon's Addition, 1881; Lowry Mallory's Addition, lots sold 1881; Tozer's First Addition, 1881; Remmel's First Addition, 1882; Daugherty's Reserve, 1882; Davis Addition, 1882; W. L. Lyons' Second Addition, 1882; Lyons Addition, 1883; W. R. Jones' First Addition, 1882; Mrs. Laura J. Dills' Second Addition, in East Newport, 1883 (later cancelled); Laura J. Dills' First Addition, 1883, lots sold 1877; W. L. Lyons' First Addition, 1885; J. E. Brown's Addition, 1887; Watson's Addition, 1891; Mortensen's Addition, 1891, surveyed 1883; Stephens' Addition, 1892; Hirsch's Second Addition, 1892; and Pollock's Addition.

In 1882, Robert E. McDonald sold the town of Newport a tract of land northeast of town. This tract was purchased in order to establish a cemetery to serve the town, and an ordinance was passed by the town council on Dec. 19, 1882, "to regulate the burial of the dead and to provide for the sale of cemetery lots." The Newport Cemetery plat was filed in 1886. (It should be noted that Walnut Grove Cemetery, which is located a short distance west of the Newport Cemetery, was owned and promoted by N. B. Wishon.)

In 1882, the petition of J. E. Williams and others was presented to the county court to annex a large tract of land to the town of Newport. Mrs. Laura C. Ewing and other landowners involved objected, and part of the proposed tract of land to be annexed was deleted from the annexation order. The case was appealed to circuit court, where the annexation order was modified in 1883. This represented the first extension of Newport's area since its incorporation in 1875.

Politics in 1879. The election of 1879 was carried out in an irregular manner, and it resulted in a number of political problems. The election was scheduled for April 1, 1879. Two candidates announced for the office of mayor: James N. Johnston, the incumbent, and F. J.

Staley. At this time in our town's history, political parties were not used in municipal elections. This election resulted in the development of two factions. The supporters of Johnston nicknamed Stanley's supporters the "Fakirs," since many of the men campaigning for Staley were on the 1874 list compiled by Thomas Slinger. The Little Rock **Republican** had called the men who signed Slinger's statement "Fakirs," since many of them were, in the eyes of the Radical Republican editor of the Little Rock **Republican**, not genuine ex-Northerners, as the Slinger statement implied. The pro-Johnston group was called, for some reason, the "Methodists."

On the day of the election, Apr. 1, 1879, the voters gathered for the town meeting to find that the county clerk had failed to appoint judges for the election. Mark Cohn, William Bailey and William H. Morris volunteered to serve as judges, took their oaths, and appointed Hugh Grimes and Nick Robbins to serve as clerks. There were 112 voters present, and 108 of them voted for mayor. (There was a tax question to be voted on as well.) Cohn took the ballot box to Jacksonport, and the votes were counted the next day. The result of this election was that Staley defeated Johnston by a vote of 61 to 54. However, the circuit court ruled that Johnston should remain as mayor, since the second election was invalid and the first election, with its tie vote, meant that no candidate was elected and under existing rules, Johnston, the incumbent, would be the lawful mayor until a successor could be duly chosen.

Sentiment was definitely against Johnston at this time. The town council drew up a bill of impeachment against him, and Johnston was removed from office for "misfeasance and malfeasance in office." On May 14, 1879, the town council met to elect a mayor. The new recorder and town council had not been sworn into office, so Lazar Hirsch, the outgoing recorder, served as acting mayor, and Alderman N. B. Wishon served as acting recorder. In the vote for mayor, all the alderman (Smith, Remmel, Shackelford, Pollock and Wishon) voted for F. J. Staley. "Thereupon, the said F. J. Staley appeared before the council and was duly sworn in as mayor of said Town by W. F. Cavaness Esq. a Justice of the Peace." Dr. F. G. Smith was also sworn in as recorder. Marshal H. N. Faulkinbury took a certified copy of the election of Staley as mayor to Little Rock and obtained Staley's commission. There was some talk on the part of Johnston's supporters to ask the governor for a new election, but time passed and the wounds of the division which were so apparent in this election were soon healed.

There was perhaps some connection between the contested election of 1879 and this event reported by a Batesville editor in August 1879: "We understand that some one broke into the mayor's office at Newport last Saturday night and stole the town records. That fellow was hard up for something to steal." A short time later, one of the town officials borrowed the files of the **News** from Editor Walters to copy the town ordinances which had been published in the paper. However, the ordinances were simply cut out of the file copies of the **News** and pasted in a book for the use of the mayor and council. Editor Walters got his files and the book with the clippings, but Mayor Staley had him arrested for "obtaining property under false pretenses." The mayor adjudged him guilty in mayor's court. Walters sold the **News**.

Ferries and Bridges. What became known as the McGuire ferry or the upper Newport ferry was established in 1881, when a ferry license was granted to Laura C. Ewing. This ferry connected Newport with the major road to Oil Trough bottoms. Permission for another ferry was granted soon afterwards to Winfield S. Smalley. For many years there were three ferries across White River near Newport (but they were not all functioning at the same time)--E. L. Watson's White River Crossing or White River Bridge ferry, Smalley's Point ferry and the Newport ferry. In 1885, N. M. Wilson leased the Newport ferry, and a license was granted to Louis Johnson for the White River Crossing ferry in 1887.

The first bridge across Lake Newport was built in 1874-75. In 1889, James T. Henderson, W. E. Greathouse and Henry Ridley were appointed to execute the plans for a new bridge across the lake. The iron bridge was built in 1890 by the Wrought Iron Bridge Co. of Canton, Ohio, for \$4500--\$1500 of which was paid for by the town of Newport, while the balance was paid by Jackson County.

For several years, there had been talk of establishing a free ferry across White River at Newport to promote trade, and in 1890 the Newport Pontoon Toll Bridge Co. (C. A. Kirtley, Christian Ott and M. R. Roberts) received a charter for 20 years to establish a bridge across White River at the site of the Newport ferry. Both of these ideas persisted, but it was many years before the Newport bridge was constructed.

Levee. In 1884, the Batesville and Brinkley Railroad was completed as far north as Auvergne. The railroad officials announced that they had run out of money and would not be able to complete the road as scheduled. The Newport town council authorized the use of \$10,000 to construct a levee around Newport, to

connect with two points on the Iron Mountain Railroad. A contract was made with the Batesville and Brinkley Railroad on July 22, 1885, for the railroad to build the levee (using the railroad embankment as the northern line). The levee was to be built above the level of the 1884 flood. At the time the levee contract was made, James E. Wilmans was mayor, J. N. Johnston was recorder, and G. W. Hurley. Elbert L. Watson, Dr. James M. Jones, Jacob Mortensen and S. W. Johnson were aldermen. The railroad was completed to Newport in 1886, and the levee was built at the same time.

Utilities. In 1886, the town council passed an ordinance to make a contract with Fairbanks and Co. of St. Louis for that company to construct and operate "a system of water works for extinguishing fires." Fairbanks and Co. assigned their franchise to A. H. McCormick, and McCormick formed the Newport Water Co. on Dec. 23, 1886, "to furnish water to the Town of Newport, the inhabitants thereof." The officers were: A. H. McCormick, president; C. M. Davison, vice-president; George B. Kinney, secretary; and George W. Decker, treasurer. McCormick and Davison were from Parsons, Kans. The water system was put into operation on Jan. 1, 1888. Later that year, Joseph M. Stayton was secretary of the company, and Lazar Hirsch was treasurer. An electric light system was inaugurated in 1891, complete with street lights, by Morrison and Decker Manufacturing Co.

A private telephone line between Jacksonport and Newport was installed in 1879, but it was more a novelty than anything else. The White River Telephone Company of Newport was organized July 19, 1886, "to construct, maintain and operate telephone exchanges for the purpose of transmitting intelligence by telephone for public and private use and convenience." The directors were: Joseph J. Walker (president), Harmon L. Remmel, Lazar Hirsch, Franklin Doswell and T. S. Stephens. In 1888, Lazar Hirsch was secretary, J. M. Stayton treasurer, and Lancelot Minor manager.

Fire Company. In spite of disastrous fires in 1880 and 1882, no organized fire company existed in Newport until 1877, when the "Newport Volunteer Fire Department" was established. The names of active members of this company in 1887 were: Isaac Stephens, R. C. Wallace, J. B. Hirsch, R. P. Bandy, H. L. Remmel, B. Crawford, L. Hirsch, J. W. Wallace, L. L. Johnson, C. F. Chastain, R. Davidson, Kelly Monteith, Charles Foushee, J. M. Stayton, E. H. Yeager, G. A. Hillhouse, Charles Meyers, M. Holland, James A. Van Brocklin, Charles Wilmans, L. Bertini,



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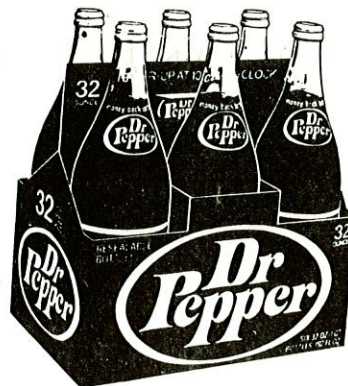
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FORREST E. WISE

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Exec. Vice Pres.

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C. A. LEIDY, JR.

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NEAL WEBSTER

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MARY F. SILER

Asst. Vice Pres.

MACEL H. TIMS

Assistant Cashier

VAN H. STANFIELD

Assistant Cashier

LOUISE JACKSON

Assistant Cashier

JAMES M. MCCARTNEY

Auditor

E. H. Ridley, T. J. Moss, J. P. Foster, D. M. Steele, I. D. Price, Ed. D. Harris, A. G. Ridley, J. W. Cuddeback, L. Minor, J. A. Baird, George W. Decker, Isaac Goldman, Adolph Harris, R. C. Harder and Thomas Cunningham.

Records of the fire department during the early period are missing but the few sources available indicate that Lancelot Minor was the first fire chief. The Newport Water Company furnished the town with 54 fire plugs and began to provide water in Newport on Jan. 1, 1888. Mrs. Josephine E. Brown and her brother, Albert B. Smith, donated the use of a lot on Walnut Street (where Evans Press is now located) for the fire company. Equipment for fire-fighting was purchased by the company by raising subscriptions among the townspeople, but the debt of the fire company was paid off during 1888. The firemen also raised \$300 to use for the purchase of the lot they were using to store their equipment in 1890.

In Aug. 1891, "Newport Hose Company No. 1" attended with Arkansas State Firemen's Association tournament in Fort Smith, with Lancelot Minor, the first chief. The company received a number of awards, including one as "the best drilled fire company." Albert Ridley won the individual championship in coupling. In Sept. 1891, Rush H. Davis represented the Newport fire company at the meeting of the executive committee of the Arkansas State Firemen's Association in Little Rock.

The Arkansas Gazette of April 1, 1892, contains an interesting article: "The members of the Newport Fire Department are hard at work rehearsing a play to be given at the Theatre [opera house] soon after the close of Lent."

Town Hall, Hose House and Jail, 1891. The Arkansas Gazette of Jan. 17, 1876, reported that "Newport has a new calaboose" less than two months after the town was incorporated. A new jail was built in 1883 on the south part of the present city hall lot. Martha F. Huddleston, the widow of James K. Huddleston, sold the city the tract with the requirement that the city maintain a fence at least 7 feet high between the jail and the adjoining lot. The jail burned May 10, 1891. A newspaper reported: "The prisoners were rescued, and in the excitement two escaped."

After the fire, the town council decided to build a combination town hall, engine house and jail. The town exchanged the lot then being used by the fire company for the back 100 feet of the old jail lot. The contract for building the hall was awarded to G. E. Penn and Co. of Searcy for \$12,000. The building was completed in the summer of 1891.

The first floor of the main building in the front was left open for its use by the fire department as a storage room and stable. "In case of fire the fire company is out in almost as quick time as professionals." (This was the source of the building's nickname, the "hose house," which persisted for many years.) Upstairs were the courtroom and the mayor's office. The jail, with eight steel cells, was located behind the main building. It was described as "escape proof," but four of the five prisoners incarcerated in the jail escaped on the night of Oct. 27-28, 1891, shortly after it had been occupied by the city.

Railroads. In 1874, the Cairo and Fulton Railroad Co. adopted the name St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway Co. Henry C. Lentz was the agent of this railroad until 1878. Orville Pool was the Iron Mountain agent in Newport around 1890.

In 1881, the Jacksonport and Newport Railway Company was formed with the object to build a railroad from Newport to Jacksonport. The Batesville and Brinkley Railroad Co. was formed later that year to build a railroad between Brinkley and Batesville. It absorbed an existing line between Brinkley and Cotton Plant and acquired the interest of the Jacksonport and Newport Railway Co. The Batesville and Brinkley was financed chiefly by W. J. Thompson of Little Rock and R. W. Martin of Augusta. Jackson County men who were active in the organization of the railroad were: James T. Henderson, G. W. Hurlley, Lancelot Minor and L. B. McDonald.

The White and Black River Valley Railway Co. was organized in 1888, and the Batesville and Brinkley was absorbed by this company in 1890. The Batesville and Brinkley line was completed to Newport in Oct. 1886, and work on the line to Jacksonport was begun a few months later. After the railroad was completed to Jacksonport, the company decided not to attempt to extend the line to Batesville as planned. John T. Flynn became the superintendent of the Batesville and Brinkley Railroad in 1887, with his office at the depot the company established near Lake Newport.

Transportation. Capt. Albert B. Smith established Newport as the headquarters for his line of boats soon after the railroad elevator was built. His boats, the Batesville and Alberta, were very important in the early development of Newport. The Duck (John T. Warner), Arch P. Green and White Water were other early boats which used Newport as their headquarters. In 1881, the Lady Boone (Capt. Thomas B. Stallings) began to make runs from Newport. There were a large number of boats which ran from Newport as long as the steamboat remained a major transportation institution.

In 1877, George K. Stephens and T. S. Stephens (G. K. Stephens and Brother) sold David J. Spencer their livery stable on Laurel Street, and Spencer and Charles Jacobs formed a partnership to operate a livery stable in Newport and "to run a line of hacks" to Batesville and carry the mails. This became the Newport Livery and Sale Stable. Other livery stables which operated in Newport included: George K. Stephens and Son (G. K. Stephens and Isaac W. Stephens), Sparks and Co., Smith and McDougal, and Edward McDougal. In 1891, the following men were listed in this occupation: John Clark, William C. McDougal, Dick Ratcliff, and Ike Stephens.

Banks. The first banking firm in Newport was L. Hirsch and Co. (Lazar "Bud" Hirsch and J. D. Goldman), which entered the banking business in 1881. This bank burned in 1882, and the next year Samuel Heller, who had worked as a bookkeeper in the Hirsch bank, established a banking business under the name of Samuel Heller and Co. This bank was liquidated after Heller's death in 1886. An unsuccessful attempt to organize a bank in Newport was made in 1888, but two banks were organized in 1889.

The Bank of Newport was incorporated on June 17, 1889, with the following directors: John W. Stayton (president), George W. Decker, R. M. Johnson (became cashier), William H. Heard, William L. McDonald, J. W. Powers, George W. Hurley, Joseph J. Walker and Lazar Hirsch. The Newport Safe Deposit Bank was incorporated on Sept. 27, 1889, with these directors: Elbert L. Watson (president) Thaddeus D. Kinman (became cashier), Arthur D. Bailey, J. P. Foster and Lancelot Minor. Both banks opened in 1889: the Bank of Newport in a new building on Front Street, and the Newport Safe Deposit Bank in the Watson bank building (with a new vault built by J. A. Schnabel) on Main Street. In 1890, the two banks were combined under the charter of the Bank of Newport. E. L. Watson was elected president and Robin M. Johnson cashier of the consolidated bank.

Public Accommodations. Achilles W. Horton was again operating the Horton House hotel in 1876. It was sold to James C. Grubbs in 1880, and he leased it to Mrs. E. Smith in 1881. The Railroad Eating House (or Railroad Hotel) was operated by Mrs. E. Boas at the time of her death in 1877, after which it was sold to John McDowell. It was purchased in 1880 by H. P. Mortensen.

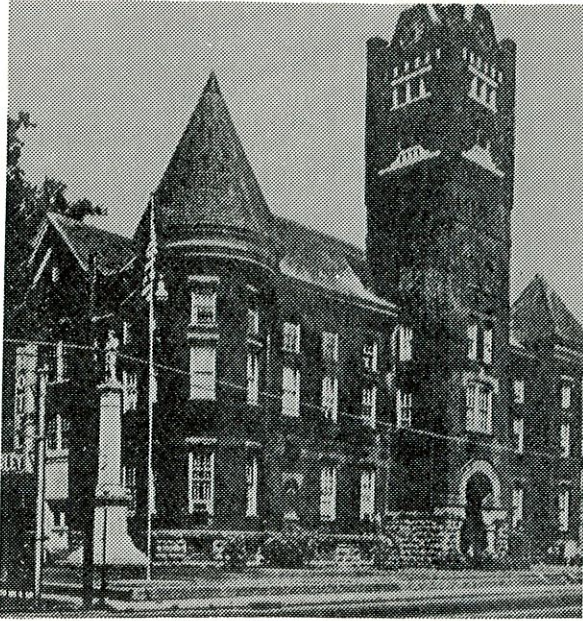
Caleb N. White leased a hotel in a brick and frame house owned by Cathsandra Smith in the southeast corner of Front and Walnut in 1881. Mary J. Lucas began operating the Lucas

House in the southeast corner of Front and Elm in 1883. In 1884, other hotels were the Commercial Hotel, operated by Mrs. Ella McDougal, and the Staley House, operated by F. J. Staley and M. A. Staley. In 1888, the hotels were: Planters House, operated by George W. Goddard; Hotel Windsor, operated by Mrs. P. V. Sparks; and Virginia House, operated by J. S. Townsend. In 1892, the Townsend House was operated by Mrs. J. S. Townsend. The Hotel Hazel, built in 1891, was leased to Mrs. T. V. Ames. In 1891, J. H. Wells was shown as operating a hotel, and William Jones, a Negro, operated a boarding house. Other boarding houses which appeared on the records include those operated by Mrs. Mattie Fagan in 1884 and Mary L. Daugherty and L. L. Johnson in 1891.

In 1878, Edward Nelson, Negro, was shown as operating a restaurant, and in 1880 Hampton Lewis, also a Negro, operated a restaurant in Newport. In 1888, restaurants were being operated by H. V. Ames, Hott and Huffman, G. W. McCroskey, Lon Johnson, and N. M. Wilson. In the early 1890's Newport restaurants were operated by J. S. Townsend, Hardy Warren (Negro), Truman Green, Henry C. Huffman, Mrs. Nannie Johnson, and Milton T. Alexander.

Saloons and Liquor Licenses. From its beginning, Newport's saloons and liquor stores have played an important part in the history of the town. In 1879, the Jacksonport *Herald* made this nasty remark: "Latest statistics show that one pint of Newport whiskey contains four fights, three knockdowns, one stealing of the ballot box, one contested election and one rape."

Liquor licenses which were issued from 1876 to 1887 were: G. W. Hurley and Co. (G. W. Hurley and Joseph P. Morrison), 1876; Robert Morris, 1876; S. W. Johnson, 1876; Jonathan E. Williams, Rancho Saloon, 1876; Joseph O. Burgess, 1877; W. F. Cavaness and Co. 1878; W. L. Lyons and Co., 1878; William B. Empie (drugstore), 1879; W. M. Pyles and Co., 1879; Elsberry and Barnes, 1880; W. M. Bailey and W. F. Cavaness, 1880; Samuel Kehrman, 1880; J. E. Williams and Co. (J. E. Williams and S. W. Johnson), "saloon, dram shop and retail tobacco business," 1880; James D. Elsberry and J. T. Dowell, Daisy Saloon, 1881; H. V. Ames, 1881; Arthur D. Bailey, originally the "Acme Saloon," 1881; James D. Elsberry, Daisy Saloon, 1881; F. W. Jones, 1882; A. Hirsch and Son, 1883; McCroskey Brothers (Elisha H. McCroskey and James A. McCroskey), 1883; Lelia G. McCauley, 1883; John R. Loftin and John Coursan, Tunnel House, 1884; William H. Johnson (Negro), 1884; Samuel Kehrman and Leo Thalheim, Kentucky Barrel House, 1885; A. Hirsch and Son (A. Hirsch and J. B. Hirsch).



County Judge Joe Coe
 Sheriff Ralph Henderson
 County Treasurer J. B. Thompson, Jr.
 County Clerk Clint Massey
 Circuit Clerk Irma Shoffner
 Tax Assessor Aaron Sutherland
 Circuit Judge Andrew Ponder
 Prosecuting Attorney Leroy Blankenship
 State Senator Robert Harvey
 State Representative Tom Collier
 County Supervisor of Schools . Myrtle Gaddy

Jackson County, created in 1829, lies at the foothills of the Ozarks on the White and Black rivers. It is one of the most accessible locations in the state, traversed in early times by the Great Southwest Indian Trail and where the Missouri Pacific Railroad and National Highway 67 now follow approximately the same path. Nine state highways and a municipal airport connect with these and seven motor freight lines service the county.

In addition to the rivers, twenty lakes provide beauty spots and recreation in the midst of rich bottom land plantations. A prime hunting ground for Indian tribes, the county is still famous for White River Catfish and is on a major flyway for migratory fowl of all kinds.

Twenty-nine industries and a growing livestock business now add to the abundance of agricultural produce of cotton, rice, soybeans, wheat and native pecans. With a population of 20,453, the county is listed as one of the most prosperous in the state. Churches of most denomination of the Christian faith, two hospitals, four major banks, an excellent public library, five school districts, two modern country clubs at Newport and a host of friendly, Southern people make Jackson County a delightful place to live.

Jackson County judges who have had a part in the 146 years of steady progress are:

Hiram Glass, 1830-32	John Creagan, 1872-74	J. A. Melville, 1919-23
Elijah Bartley, 1832-33	(Pres. Board of Supervisors)	J. F. Parish, 1923-26
John Robinson, 1833-35	John W. Stayton, 1874-78	F. M. Pickens, Sr., 1927-30
David C. Waters, 1835-36	J. W. Phillips, 1878-84	W. A. McCartney, 1931-34
John Roddy, 1836-38	William H. Jago, 1884-86	L. L. Mack, 1935-40
D. C. Waters, 1838-42	M. M. Stuckey, 1886-92	J. F. Ball, 1941-44
Obediah M. Stephenson, 1842-44	Leroy D. Smith, 1892-94	Claude M. Erwin, Sr. 1944-45
John Robinson, 1844-50	L. Lippman, 1894-96	David J. Nance, 1945-48
John H. T. Webb, 1850-52	J. M. Jones, 1896-1900	Joseph G. Armstrong, 1949-52
Andrew J. Lankford, 1852-54	W. O. Scarborough, 1900-02	W. O. Hulett, Jr., 1953-58
J. C. Johnson, 1854-56	J. M. Jones, 1902-04	J. A. Williamson, 1959-66
Hiram D. Cassey 1856-58	Edwin L. Boyce, 1904-08	R. L. Harper, Jr., 1967-72
John C. Kirkpatrick, 1858-62	H. S. Simmons, 1908-10	Joe Coe, 1973-
A. J. Lankford, 1862-68	Charles B. Coe, 1910-14	
C. J. Randolph, 1868-72	W. D. McLain, 1914-19	
(Pres. Board of Supervisors)		

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1885; Frank M. Barnes, New Daisy Saloon (formerly occupied by J. D. Elsberry), 1885; H. Friedlander, 1885; Bailey Brothers (A. D. Bailey and W. M. Bailey), 1885; Lelia G. McCauley and Co. (Lelia G. McCauley, John A. "Bunk" McCauley and Martin W. Herron), 1885; William C. McDougal, 1886; Isaac Williams and Co. (M. A. Williams and Isaac Williams), 1886; and Herman Schott, 1887.

On Jan. 3, 1882, the petition of Rev. James S. Brooke, H. L. Remmel, Mrs. H. L. Remmel, Mrs. William B. Empie, Mrs. Susan B. Pollock, Mrs. J. M. Jones and others was presented to the county court, asking that the sale of liquor within three miles of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Newport, be prohibited. The petition was denied. On Nov. 7, 1887, the petition of Lancelot Minor, James A. Van Brocklin, F. M. Lamberton and others for prohibition was filed. It was found that the petition contained enough signatures and a prohibition order was issued for two years. The *Arkansas Democrat* on Feb. 9, 1888, noted: "The carpenters of Newport have been busy last week and this taking down the fixtures of saloons and moving to other points." On Jan. 1, 1890, prohibition ended. Liquor licenses granted after this were: Bailey Brothers (A. D. Bailey and W. M. Bailey), 1890; Joseph P. Morrison, 1890; John J. Underwood, 1890; and John A. "Bunk" McCauley and Henry Bordwell, saloon at the Williams House or Planters Hotel, 1890.

Newport Merchants. More than any other group of people, perhaps, Newport's merchants have been responsible for the town's growth. An early example of the merchants' interest in the development of the town was the collection of \$181.10 from the various merchants of the town in 1877 to pay for lumber to be used for "flooring and bannistering" the Litchfield bridge across Village Creek. The funds were collected by W. C. Wishon, and those who contributed to the project were: A. Hirsch, M. L. Cohn, G. W. Hurley, J. E. Williams, Wishon Brothers, M. S. Cohn, Gray Mitchell and Co., J. O. Burgess, S. W. Johnson, R. Morris, H. Schram, Frank Wishon, N. B. Wishon, and J. W. Wallace.

It is impossible to list all the businesses which existed in Newport between 1875 and 1892, but the following had general merchandise stores during this period: A Hirsch and Son, Wishon Brothers (N. B. Wishon and W. C. Wishon), Mark S. Cohn, Michael L. Cohn, Aaron Hirsch and Son (A. Hirsch and Lazar Hirsch), Robert Morris, E. L. Watson (store opened in 1877 with T. J. Watson and J. E. Johnson as managers), Josephine E. Brown, Biddle Boyd, Simon and Co. (Max Simon and Herman Caro), L. Hirsch and Co. (Lazar Hirsch and J. D. Gold-

man), D. W. Helm, J. D. Goldman, Samuel Brasch, E. L. Watson and Son (E. L. Watson and T. J. Watson), Wolff and Goldman (Sigmund Wolff and Isaac Goldman), P. V. Davis and Co. (Pauline V. Davis and Rush H. Davis, owners, and R. M. Davis, manager), Joseph G. Dyas ("Dollar Store"), David Van Pelt, H. Bernstein, M. L. Cohn and Co. (Michael L. Cohn and Mark Cohn), W. L. McDonald, F. J. Staley and W. M. Pyles, E. Van Ronkel, T. J. Watson, Wolff Goldman and Co. (S. Wolff, I. Goldman and J. B. Hirsch), Isaac Goldman, Baker Mercantile Co. (Robert L. Baker, J. D. Goldman and Lazar Hirsch), Mrs. J. Brandenburg, Jacob Heiligers, Wishon-McDonald Mercantile Co. (N. B. Wishon, W. C. Wishon and W. L. McDonald), Wishon Mercantile Co. (N. B. Wishon, W. C. Wishon and L. Hirsch), and Wolff and Goldman (S. Wolff and I. Goldman).

Grocery stores included: J. E. Williams and Co., William P. Barton, W. F. Cavaness and Co. (W. F. Cavaness and William M. Bailey), Hugh Grimes and John Cathey, William W. Smith, John R. Thornton, Jonathan E. Williams, Oliver Brown, G. R. Ward and W. H. Jones, Louis Bertini, Samuel W. Calhoun and C. McCane, Hugh Grimes, William L. Harris, A. Hirsch and Son (Aaron Hirsch and J. B. Hirsch), John L. Johnson, John Mallory, Amelia Nelson (Negro), W. M. Pyles, Smith Brothers (George A. Smith, William L. Smith), John C. "Jack" Bridgers (Negro), J. W. Buford, J. K. Burgess and T. S. Smith, W. B. Chastain, G. W. Estabrook, F. M. Barnes and J. D. Elsberry (City Grocery Store), T. R. Johnson, A. C. Owens, B. F. Whataker, William D. Yarborough, J. B. Hirsch, Adam Bach, Gaines Brothers (Ross Gaines and John Gaines), James W. Grubbs, R. C. Harder and Co. (R. C. Harder and D. H. Pilkington), Henry Hubbard, John N. Johnson, William Webb, and Edward B. Wilmans.

Dry goods stores included: O. Boschwitz, T. B. Gordon, L. Harris and Co. (Louis Harris, Herman Harris and Benjamin Harris), William L. McDonald, David Pelz, Louis Rosen and Herman Caro, John W. Wallace, M. L. Cohn and Co., Alexander Adler, Mrs. Eva Ecker, Leopold Ecker, Goldberg and Marks, and A. Tribue and Son (Abraham Tribue and Max Tribue). Selling books and stationery were I. D. Price and W. L. Lyons. J. Ward Wickersham sold newspapers.

Dr. Elijah W. Gray became a partner in the drugstore of Gray Mitchell and Co. (with Samuel D. Mitchell and Thomas B. Hicks), which was sold in 1878 to Remmel Brothers (A. C. Remmel and H. L. Remmel). Remmel Brothers sold their drug business in 1879 to William B. Empie. Other early drugstores have included: Dr. J. M. Jones, William L. Lyons, J. H. Myers, William B. Egan, William A. Joyce, Goodwin and Co. (W. L. Maddox, pharmacist), Harry L. Moore

(Peoples Drug Store), George T. Redman and Samuel R. Hudson, M. Holland, W. S. Tucker and William A. Yantis.

Hardware stores were operated by William H. Bogart and Co. (W. H. Bogart and Ella Shackelford) and George W. Weast. Furniture stores were owned by Staley and Pyles and Jacob Mortensen. F. J. Eggleston sold sewing machines. John Claridge operated a paint store.

Other merchants listed on the 1891 special census were: Adolph L. Ecker, Charles Ecker, Abe Heiligers, Sol Lorch, M. Pearlman, and Tom Simpson. Also listed were the following Negro merchants: S. H. Hubert, John King and Dick Van Dyke.

Other Businesses. Newport bakery and confectionery shops were operated by Mrs. David Woodruff (Newport Bakery), B. Lacy and Co. (B. Lacy and Charles Scharver), Frank Becker, J. N. Johnston, A. Tyrus, A. Graeish, Harry Land, George Smiley, C. A. Dougherty, William Ensign and Miss R. A. Bullard.

Butchers in Newport were: Joab Elms, Jay V. Round and Louis A. Johnson, W. B. Chastain (City Meat Market), Foster and Chastain (City Meat Market), Arthur Richardson, L. B. Deen, J. B. Howard, John Horst and E. H. Yeager. Mrs. Carrie Daugherty sold flowers.

A fuel business was established by Waters Pierce Oil Co., of which David W. Richey was manager in 1892. Harness shops and saddlery businesses were operated by J. H. Elfrank, W. P. Essey and S. H. Baker. G. K. Stephens and C. L. Foushee operated a carriage-making business in 1888.

Newport shoemakers included: Charles Fagan, C. Bach, A. C. Ferguson, J. B. Wissell, William J. Knox, Sr., William J. Knox, Jr., and Ambrose Hartman. Tailors were: J. F. Beurer, Christian J. Saenger, and George Barnes. Operating millinery and dressmaking businesses were: Mrs. M. A. Phillips, Mrs. J. C. Redman, Miss D. M. Hite and Miss K. B. Davis, Mrs. M. J. Lucas and Mrs. H. L. Moore.

Undertakers in Newport during this period were: Jacob Mortensen, Z. B. Drummond, Robert F. Drummond (assisted in 1891 by L. C. McDaniell), and T. R. Duffer. Tombstones and monuments were made by Zack B. Drummond and R. F. Drummond, A. B. Drummond and T. R. Duffer. In 1891, Fred Smith was a stone-cutter for R. F. Drummond.

Contractors and builders included: W. C. Glover, C. J. Boucher, William E. Greathouse, Charles D. Cook and Beverly Beeler. Carpenters listed include John J. Smith, Zeb Weatherford, Iva Hawley, J. F. Daniels, H. S. Johnson, J. M. Nickens, I. F. Boreing, Mark Smith, M. D. Sanders. Joseph Mendenhall, R. P. Daniel, John

Nicks. Newt McCord, G. Vosborough, R. O. Duffer, J. D. Han, J. H. Wright, James Wright, W. N. Smith, C. Carlson, J. H. Monteith, M. Tompkins, W. N. Smith, John Rheahart, Charles Cook and S. A. Parish. Painters included: S. Wood Wilson, John William Jackson, C. H. Johnson, Tom Vaughn, George W. Abbs, John Claridge, Mose DeBaum, Tom Green, Ed York, Charles Johnson, H. W. McClure, and Elder Stoves (Negro). William Grogain was a bricklayer.

Newport blacksmiths included: Samuel Rohrer, Henry A. Ridley, D. H. Wiysel, John Beheimer, John L. Younger, and J. M. Pettit. Ed White was a mechanic, and J. O. Guinn was a cabinet-maker. J. Beheimer, Frank Cheney and John Wells were gunsmiths. Machinists included: H. A. Ridley, Ed Ridley, A. H. Ridley, Monroe White and Charles B. Stuart. J. V. Ridley was an electrician. C. M. Davison and Willis Knowles were plumbers. William D. Shackelford and George Ferris worked as tinners. Martin Tompkins sold and repaired refrigerators in 1892, and the Newport Steam Laundry (Herman Bernstein, Joseph E. Bridgers and Thomas Simpson) was established in 1891.

The early barbers in Newport were Negro men who served both Negro and white customers: Hipolite Vagner, Joseph Vagner, and Gilbert W. Owen and Brother (G. W. Owen and Amos Owen), all of whom had shops in downtown Newport. Other Negro barbers included: Sam Warren, Jim Jones and Jim James. Other barbers were: H. C. Clay, William Mitchell. Jim Rose, Harvey Miller, William F. Kirkbride, and H. C. Miller.

Jewelers were: J. P. Tomlinson, R. C. Wallace, William M. Mosby, Henry R. Camp, Michael Harris, Charles Mosby, E. B. Wallace, and R. E. Mosby. Photographers were Theo. Moyer (Star Gallery), T. H. Kesler, J. Rix, and Winchester D. Ross.

Cotton buyers during the early period were: Lesser and Finch, F. G. Millet, William C. Crawford, Leon Keiffer, and J. R. Jones. Insurance and real estate agencies which appear on the early records include: H. L. Remmel and Lazar Hirsch, H. L. Remmel, Lazar Hirsch, Hirsch Brothers (L. Hirsch and Ralph Hirsch), E. L. Watson, North Arkansas Land, Collection and Insurance Agency (A. C. Remmel and F. J. Staley), and the Northeast Arkansas Land Company, which was incorporated Jan. 29, 1891, with the following directors: E. L. Watson (president), R. M. Johnson, L. Minor, W. C. Wishon and S. C. Dowell. James Van Brocklin was an auctioneer in 1888.

In 1880, Lafayette Bowen moved to Newport from Indiana. He established a dairy farm first northwest of Newport and then in the area which became Remmel Park. This dairy farm

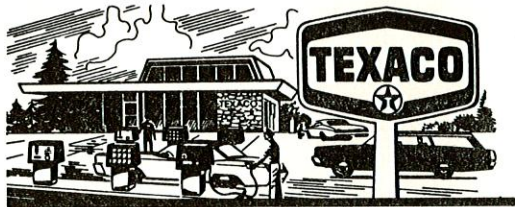
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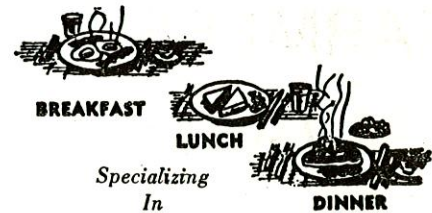


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provided much of the milk consumed by Newport families during the early period.

Attorneys. The first attorney known to have established an office in Newport was Roland R. Gaskill, who practiced here from 1877 to 1879. The *Newport News* in 1877 shows him as a partner in a real estate business and in a "logging and lumber" company. In 1879, Isaac T. Davis opened a law office in Newport. Attorneys who began to practice law in Newport between 1880 and 1892 included: Lancelot Minor, Francis M. Lamberton, Joseph W. Phillips Alexander M. Foster, William R. Jones, William A. Monroe, H. P. Cleveland, Franklin Doswell, John W. Stayton, Gustave Jones, Joseph M. Bell, Joseph M. Stayton, Otis W. Scarborough, Charles Coffin, O. D. Watson and Michael M. Stuckey.

Amusements. The railroad made Newport and other railroad towns more accessible for circuses and other shows. The *Arkansas Gazette* in 1875 reported that "about four thousand people attended the circus at Newport." The *Batesville Guard* in 1878 commented: "One of our boys who went down to Newport to look at the big show came back and told about seeing the big elephant 'eating hay with his tail.'" The next year, the "Great London Consolidated Show" was opened at Newport on Nov. 28, featuring an illuminated show pavillion, with electric light equal to 3500 gas jets. In 1880, P. T. Barnum's "Greatest Show on Earth" played at Newport.

Centennial Barbecue, 1876: A meeting was held in Newport on June 18, 1876, to make arrangements for celebrating the Fourth of July on the nation's 100th birthday. The appropriate committees were appointed, and it was decided to celebrate the occasion with a "mammoth centennial barbecue." Invitations which were sent to the Little Rock and other distant papers were not delivered until after July 4 because of an interruption in mail services. This probably resulted in some people failing to attend who would have otherwise come to Newport for the festivities.

The "barbecued Fourth"--as one paper called it--was a success, according to all reports we have. The featured speaker was William R. Miller, who had just received the Democratic nomination for governor. (He won.) Miller was enroute to his home in Batesville and took the occasion to deliver what was perhaps his first campaign speech at Newport. The barbecue was held on Lake Newport, and the *Gazette* noted soon after the event that "the sheet of water near Newport upon the banks of which was held the Fourth of July barbecue has been christened 'Centennial Lake.'"

Knights of Honor Ball, 1879. On Apr. 27, 1879, Harmony Lodge No. 1158 of the Knights

of Honor gave a grand ball and supper to celebrate the dedication of the new lodge hall in the Hurley Building. The committee on invitations consisted of J. E. Williams, Hugh Grimes, J. Brasch, G. A. Jowers, J. W. Parish, John R. Loftin, R. A. Roe, Charles J. Gulwest, W. D. Shackelford, G. K. Tozer, G. W. Barrell, J. E. Guin and E. J. Lassiter. Invitations were sent to lodges at Augusta, Batesville, Poplar Bluff and Wittsburg.

Capt. Albert B. Smith provided transportation for the Batesville delegation on the *Alberta*, which brought 16 persons to Newport at 5 p. m. Soon afterwards, Capt. Milt. Harry's *Milt Harry* brought a group from Black River and the Pochontas cornet and string bands, and another of his boats, the *Josie Harry*, brought 25 couples from Augusta and the Augusta cornet band. The reception committee included Dr. P. S. Woodward, H. N. Faulkinbury, G. W. Hurlery, J. P. Foster, W. M. Pyles, Dr. W. S. Walker, A. C. Remmel, J. E. Williams, Dr. J. A. Stinson and P. B. Price.

The floor managers for the ball were H. L. Remmel, E. W. Clapp, A. C. Silberman, W. L. Lyons, Ed Roddy, Lazar Hirsch, James Campbell, Ed A. Sawkins, Jack Baker and Walter Jobun. The dance started at 9 p. m. and continued until 4 a. m. A report stated: "The music was very good; the calling fine. From six to seven sets were on the floor all the evening. It was a grand success and enjoyed by all."

The Fire of 1880. There had been several fires in the short history of Newport, but the first major fire occurred in 1880. This fire was so severe that the *Arkansas Gazette* called it "a conflagration which will cause destitution." It had followed an unprecedented level of construction in 1879 and 1880, and many of the town's new buildings were lost in the fire.

The fire started shortly before 7 p. m., Nov. 15, 1880, at the restaurant of Hampton Lewis, a pioneer Negro businessman, on Front Street between Beech and Laurel. Soon this entire block was in flames, and the town officials placed the meager fire-fighting equipment at the post office and Daisy Saloon near Front and Hazel. But the efforts to stop the fire at this point were unsuccessful, and "when Hirsch's mammoth establishment" at the corner "became enveloped then came the hour to do or perish," according to J. W. Jones' article in the *Newport News*. The volunteer fire-fighters "stood in the blistering heat and worked the pumps and handled the hose to save what seemed almost impossible to save." The fire destroyed the two blocks of Front Street between Beech and Hazel.

Buildings destroyed in this fire were owned by Hirsch and Son, Fannie Gray and J. O. Burgess, W. D. Shackelford, H. V. Ames and S. W.

Johnson (a new building), Sue L. Wishon, widow of Frank Wishon (several), N. B. and W. C. Wishon, Dr. J. M. Jones, J. R. Cox, Martha F. Huddleston and John W. Stayton. Businesses lost in the fire included: William M. Bailey and William F. Cavaness, grocery and liquor store; W. H. Bogart and Co.; O. Boschwitz; Josephine E. Brown; Sam Dorr, saddlery shop; J. D. Elsberry, saloon; T. B. Gordon; Harwood and Hopkins; Hirsch and Son (Aaron Hirsch, Lazar Hirsch), Charles Jacobs, livery stable; Dr. J. M. Jones, office and drugstore; J. W. Jones, equipment, Newport News; Hampton Lewis, restaurant; John H. Luse, bakery; W. L. Lyons, drugstore and saloon; W. M. Pyles and Co.; Remmel Brothers; Nicholas Robbins and John H. Carothers; F. J. Staley, jewelry shop and mayor's office; Victor D. White, drugstore; and Jonathan Ed Williams, saloon.

J. W. Jones, editor of the **News**, commented that "the loss to our little town can not now be computed, but heavy as it is, and ruinous as it is to some, they will bear it like heroes, and hope to rise again from the ashes." Concerning his own loss, Jones reported that "the **News** office went down in the general conflagration, but will rise again and live to greet its readers with its spicy news for long years to come." Both predictions were right. The **News** appeared on the streets the next Saturday. Another editor said: "Bro. Jones, of the Newport **News**, has pluck and courage to win. Though burnt out by the fire, he did not fail to send out the **News**, if it had to come from St. Louis."

The Fire of 1882. Before the rubble from the fire of 1880 had been removed, plans were being made to rebuild the two blocks which had burned. In early 1881, the firm of A. Hirsch and Son began construction of a three-story brick building on the lot at the northeast corner of Front and Hazel. Immediately to the north of this building, John A. Schnabel, the Jacksonport contractor, built a two-story brick building for Ella Shackelford. Wishon Brothers (N. B. and W. C. Wishon) built a two-story brick store at the northeast corner of Front and Laurel. Other brick buildings were constructed, as well as several new frame structures.

A fire even more destructive than the 1880 fire struck shortly before 1 a. m., Sun., Dec. 17, 1882. A reporter for the **Arkansas Gazette** described the fire and the town so well that his report can be quoted verbatim: "Newport . . . has in a great measure absorbed the business of Jacksonport, the county seat, and the planters for many miles around pay tribute to its merchants.

"Last Saturday was a busy day in Newport. The town was thronged with farmers and it was not until 11 o'clock at night that the last of the tired merchants locked their doors and sauntered home. They probably congratulated themselves on the 'booming' trade of the day, little thinking of the dire calamity so soon to wreak upon their pretty town its most direful vengeance.

"At about the hour of 1 o'clock Sunday morning the cry of fire was heard. A gale was blowing from the south. Before the echo of the first alarm had died out, the flames shot up like an explosion. A few moments later, and the half-dressed citizens were rushing to the scene. They had no time to spare, and before a sufficient number were on the ground to stamp out the fiend at its birth, it was a giant beyond control, and the town was doomed."

To help his readers understand the progress of the fire, the **Gazette** reporter gave them a description of the town: "The railroad passes through it almost from south to north, White river being on its west side in the shape of a crescent.

"The main portion of the town is east of the railroad tracks; lumber mills, elevators, etc., occupying the space between the tracks and the river. The stores are built on the east side of Front street and face the railroad. East, north and south of the stores are the residences. On the west side of Front street, at the foot of Hazel street, was a railroad eating house, an ice house, and further up the street cotton platforms and small buildings."

The reporter continued his story of the fire: "The wind was blowing from the south, and the fire broke out in almost the southern extremity of the business part of the place. In fact, it originated in Louis Bertini's grocery store, or perhaps that building was set on fire. The person who was sleeping in the building was not aware of the fire until awakened by a neighbor and compelled to flee for his life.

"Newport is without a fire organization of any kind, and it is not to be wondered that the people were panic-stricken at the immensity of the blaze. . . .

"The flames from Bertini's spread south against the wind, licking up Bertoff's place, E. L. Watson's store, and two vacant houses. From Bertini's north it was quickly a grand sea of flames, the billows of fire at times rolling completely over one building and igniting those beyond, only leaving for awhile those behind to add to the volume of the fire.



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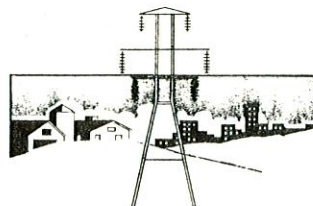
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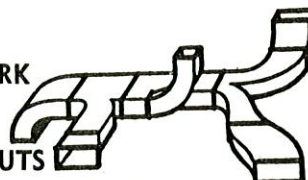
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"The first north of Bertini's was Sconyer and Heimbach's grocery, and then followed F. J. Rankin's grocery and bakery, Mason's butcher shop, a small restaurant, S. Kehrman's barrel house and saloon, Vagner's barber shop to J. E. Williams and Co.'s saloon on the corner of Front and Walnut streets.

"Without the slightest pause the flames leaped the street, swallowing up Chastain's butcher shop on the opposite corner and then E. Nelson's grocery, Hugh Grimes' grocery, H. V. Ames's grocery and saloon, Mrs. O. Boschwitz's dry goods and millinery store, Staley and Pyles' jewelry store, Harris and Co.'s dry goods and clothing house and Owen's barber shop.

"At this point stood a large two-story brick block occupied by S. Brasch, the clothier, Jacob Mortensen, dealer in furniture, and M. L. Cohn, dry goods merchant. The building was one of the best in the little city, and a few brave spirits had hoped and fought to stay the progress of the fire here; but it was all in vain.

"The gale almost forced the fire through the walls, and in almost less time than it takes to write it, the block was swallowed up, as was James D. Elsberry's saloon, the next adjoining and situated on the corner, just south from L. Hirsch and Co.'s massive three-story brick. The flames at this point, corner of Front and Hazel streets, not content with their northern march, jumped across to the west side of Front and destroyed H. P. Mortensen's railroad eating house, a large ice house, several platforms piled with cotton and one or two small buildings.

Simon and Co., dry goods; A. D. Bailey, saloon; John Wallace, dry goods; Knox, grocery; Rosen and Caro, dry goods; and A. Hirsch, grocery. Over the stores of Wallace and Knox, the American Legion of Honor and Knights of the Golden Rule had a lodge room.

"At the corner of Front and Laurel, the fire ended its march to the north, badly damaging Wishon Bros.' brick store on the northeast corner. In fact, the flames were only stayed here by the superhuman efforts of all the property owners.

"Returning to the corner of Front and Hazel, we find the Horton hotel, a large frame east of the site of Elsberry's saloon, swept away, together with several smaller buildings. East of Hirsch's block on the same street, Clark's drug store, the post office, Dr. Walker's residence and Newport

"Coming back to the Elsberry corner, we see a solid sheet of flame, uniting with the flames from the eating house, absolutely envelope the front and south side of Hirsch's three-story brick.

No building could withstand such an attack. It was fierce and angry, and continued until the walls began to crack and tremble. By this time the inside was a mass of flame, and before the walls fell the fire was racing down Hazel street and continuing north on Front.

"In the three-story brick were the Jackson County bank; W. L. Lyons, druggist; W. H. Bogart and Co., stoves and hardware; and, T. H. Goodloe, dry goods, as well as Hirsch, on the ground floor. Over Goodloe's, Mrs. Phillips had a millinery store, and in the third floor, on the corner, was the office of the Newport **Spectator**.

"Adjoining the brick block (on Front) the fire continued to the next corner, destroying the houses of John M. Jones, druggist; R. C. Wallace, jeweler; **News** printing office were destroyed. The **News** press and a good part of the material were saved.

"The cotton and platforms on Front street, also totally destroyed, were the property of M. L. Cohn, L. Hirsch and Co. and Rosen and Caro. There were 175 bales of cotton. Near the Newport Oil and Compress company's works, a short distance northwest of Wishon Bros.' block, six car loads of cotton, probably about three hundred bales, was totally destroyed, nothing remaining but the iron trucks of the cars. This fire was caused from sparks. The oil mill was uninjured, the workmen present extinguishing the sparks as fast as they fell. Repeated attempts were made to fire the stove works of B. C. Morrison, a \$75,000 enterprise. A sidetrack runs down to this mill, and a car of cotton was run on it and ignited three times. It was not in range of the sparks.

"W. B. Empie's large mill and about one million feet of lumber were saved by the continued efforts of about fifty men who were rallied and encouraged by A. C. Remmel. The saving of this lumber is a great blessing to the sufferers, enabling them to put up temporary quarters without delay.

"Sunday night's scene showed nothing but smoking ruins. The **Gazette** reporter stroller through the ruins here and there, finding a citizen staring at what had probably once been his successful business. The lights shone through a few cottage windows, but a spirit of gloom and sadness pervaded the scene. Nearly all the goods saved by the merchants had been taken to their residences."

The **Gazette** reporter spoke with a man who was on guard duty to prevent looting. "A St. Louis drummer stepped up, and giving the smouldering embers a kick, asked: 'Where can I stay tonight?' 'Out doors, I reckon.' 'Where can I get supper?'

'You can't get it here.' 'Or a cigar?' 'None in town.' 'A drink?' 'Bill, didn't you say they were opening a bar-room in the livery stable?' 'Yes,' said Bill, and the three men disappeared in the smoke."

The *Gazette* article is almost an eyewitness account, since it was prepared from interviews with Lazar Hirsch, Samuel Heller, H. L. Rimmel, and others who had witnessed it. The loss was estimated at \$210,000, over \$175,000 of which was covered by insurance. Most of the insurance coverage was provided by companies represented by H. L. Rimmel. The insurance coverage (much greater than was the case at the time of the 1880 fire) allowed the businesses to rebuild with little difficulty.

In addition to the firms listed in the *Gazette* article, George W. Hurley and Co.'s saloon, between Harris and Co. and Staley and Pyles, was burned. Hurley owned the building, which also contained the lodge rooms of the Newport Odd Fellows and Knights of Honor lodges. Mary A. Williams owned the building at the southeast corner of Front and Walnut where J. E. Williams and Co.'s saloon and H. Vagner's barber shop were located. From other accounts of the fire, additional losses and identifications of businesses have been obtained: Ben Adler, building; H. V. Ames, grocery and saloon; Bertroff's restaurant; Oliver Brown; J. F. Clark and Co., drug store; Sam Dorr, saddlery; C. A. Dougherty; F. M. Gamil; Sarah Goldman, building; Fannie Gray, building, James C. Grubbs, Horton Hotel; J. W. Jones, Newport *News* office; T. C. Knox and Co., grocery; Frank W. Lynn, Newport *Spectator* office; W. L. Lyons, dry goods; McCullough's restaurant; F. J. Mason; William H. Morris; John Murphy; Ella Shackelford, building; D. J. Spencer, building; Staley and Pyles, grocery; Dr. W. S. Walker, building and residence; and Wishon Bros. and Sue L. Wishon, buildings.

Bertini's restaurant, where the fire began, was a one story frame building. A total of 60 buildings of various sizes and types were destroyed, including eight brick structures. Sheriff T. S. Stephens, Dick Jones, Lancelot Minor, George K. Stephens, F. J. Staley, and Gus Rimmel were described as "the most active workers" during the fire-fighting operations.

Opera House, 1891. The Newport public school (located on the site of the Pickens, Boyce, McLarty and Watson law offices) included an auditorium, which was generally known as "The Academy." It was the site of most public gatherings, musical programs and plays, but it soon became too small to serve the growing town. In 1887, the Newport Building and Loan Association was

organized to build an opera house. Its directors were J. E. Wilmans (president), E. L. Watson, L. Hirsch, W. H. Heard, George W. Decker, William B. Chastain and Lancelot Minor. However, this organization failed to raise the necessary funds for the building.

In early 1891, the L. L. Y. G., a group of young women, began to promote a plan to build an opera house. A stock subscription was circulated, and when the necessary subscriptions had been made, the Newport Building Association was organized, April 29, 1891. The officers of the association were: G. W. Hurley, president; Mark Cohn, vice-president; T. D. Kinman, secretary; and R. M. Johnson, treasurer. Directors were: J. J. Walker, G. W. Decker, L. Lippmann, T. S. Stephens, L. Minor, Isaac Goldman, I. D. Price, Dutie M. Hite (president of the L. L. Y. G. Society), S. Brasch, Gustave Jones and B. B. Bond. A lot in the southwest corner of Second and Hazel was purchased from T. S. Stephens, and the work of clearing the ground for the new opera house was begun early in August. The architect of the building was George H. Johnston, of Joplin, Mo., who also received the contract for its construction. Work on the building was begun on Aug. 13, and the interior work was completed in Nov. 1891.

The first activity in the building was a masquerade ball, given by the L. L. Y. G., and the formal opening was a performance of Dollie Varden by Patti Rosa, a popular actress at the time, given on Dec. 10, 1891. At this time, a dedicatory address was delivered by Gustave Jones, who "reviewed from the incipency the movement contemplating the construction of the Theatre and the part taken by the fair ladies of Newport" and complimented the architect and builder, George H. Johnston, "who he said had faithfully executed every provision of his contract without a bond," according to a newspaper account.

Following the play, a banquet was held at the new Hotel Hazel, with Lancelot Minor as master of ceremonies. The next day, Gustave Jones, on behalf of the opera house building committee, presented Johnston with a gold headed cane.

The opera house was built at a cost of \$15,000; it included folding seats for 530 persons and two private boxes. Management of the opera house was awarded to G. H. Johnston, the builder, and it became known as the Newport Theatre.

Post Office. Dr. Elijah W. Gray, who had been appointed postmaster on Jan. 14, 1875, was succeeded in that position by Harmon L. Rimmel on Sept. 10, 1877. William H. Morris became postmaster on July 10, 1879. He was succeeded by

Isaac D. Price on Jan. 12, 1881. Augustus C. Remmel was appointed postmaster on Jan. 26, 1882, and Ada E. Remmel, the town's first postmistress, succeeded to the position on May 4, 1883. Isaac D. Price was appointed postmaster again on Jan. 16, 1888. James W. Grubbs was named postmaster on Oct. 22, 1890, and he was succeeded by his father, James C. Grubbs, on Jan. 9, 1891.

County Seat Removal

by James Logan Morgan

"Old Newport" almost became the county seat of Jackson County in 1840, and, as soon as the land titles were cleared, the developers of "new" Newport probably began to look toward the magnificent symbol of county government John A. Schnabel had erected in Jacksonport, measuring the courthouse there for a suitable location in Newport. As early as 1880, the *Newport News* suggested that Newport would be a more suitable county seat than Jacksonport. Newport already had a larger population, and it was definitely the commercial center of Jackson County.

In 1882, the issue was taken to the voters of the county for the first time. Aaron Hirsch had agreed to donate a block of land in Newport for a new courthouse, and a petition had been circulated to get the question on the ballot. The *Arkansas Gazette* remarked as the campaign progressed: "An epidemic of 'county seat removal' has broken out in the Newport and Jacksonport papers." The election was held on Nov. 7, 1882, resulting in the defeat of the proposition to move the county seat to Newport by only a few votes. The *Arkansas Democrat* reported: "The Jacksonport *Herald* is very jubilant over the failure to remove the county seat from that place."

The Jacksonport interests had not taken the issue seriously in 1882, and the closeness of the 1882 election led them to become more responsive the next time the matter was brought up. In 1886, E. L. Watson offered to donate the lot in the northwest corner of Main and Third and arrangements were made to secure the adjoining lot to the west. The Jacksonport interests (which included many of the political leaders in rural areas of Jackson County, especially in Barren, Bird and Glaize Townships) made a determined effort to defeat the removal proposal, and Newport lost this election by an overwhelming majority. It was this election which inspired the drawing by C. R. Hite of the "tug of war" between two lawyers--Lancelot Minor

(who had moved to Newport in 1882) and Joseph M. Bell--over the county seat. Bell moved to Newport in 1887.

The *Arkansas Democrat* reported in 1888, "The question of removing the county seat from Jacksonport to Newport is being agitated in Jackson county now. In case of removal Newport proposes to furnish the necessary buildings free of all cost to the county." Apparently, the Newport men who would have had to bear the expenses of this proposition viewed it in about the same way the Jacksonport businessmen had viewed the Cairo and Fulton Railroad's proposal to build a spur into Jackson (if the town would finance building it). No petition drive to get the matter on the ballot materialized at this time.

By 1891, Jacksonport had declined in almost every respect. The 1890 census had confirmed a pattern of population decline for the old town: 769 people in 1870, 656 in 1880 and 421 in 1890. The major cause of the population decline was the growth of Newport. Beginning in 1880, many of the "old families" of Jacksonport had moved to Newport. The "Jacksonport Colony" in Newport had become the dominant force in Newport politics by 1891. The decline in business of Jacksonport was so severe that a newspaper reported that "lawyers and litigants . . . have to attend court at Jacksonport and get their meals and lodging at Newport." The Batesville and Brinkley Railroad had begun a policy of running special trains from Newport to Jacksonport while court was in session.

The petition drive of 1891 is described in quotations from the *Arkansas Gazette*. June 12: "The fight between Newport and Jacksonport, for the county seat of Jackson County, is on." July 4: "The petition for the removal of the county seat from Jacksonport is meeting with a great deal of encouragement all over the county. More than two-thirds of the voters of the county have already signed the petition." Elbert L. Watson had agreed to give Jackson County the two lots in the northwest corner of Main and Third (where the courthouse was later built), and arrangements had been made with the Newport school board to trade three lots the school district owned in the northwest corner of Walnut and Third for lots in the 400 block of Walnut (the old "Walnut Street School" site, occupied now by the Kroger store). The petition was filed in county court on Aug. 25, 1891, and the election was set for Sept. 29, 1891. Although there was no question about the outcome of this election, the hard core of Jacksonport supporters made a valiant effort to keep the county seat at Jacksonport. John A. Schnabel, the builder

of the Jacksonport courthouse, and C. F. Greenlee, a Brinkley attorney who had formerly practiced law at Jacksonport, argued the case of the "anti-removalists" throughout Jackson County. Dr. J. H. McCurry wrote many years later: "I remember John Loftin Sr. and Col. Schnabel going around asking voters to vote to keep the county seat at Jacksonport." On Sept. 29, the Newport correspondent of the **Arkansas Gazette** reported: "One of the most intensely exciting campaigns ever held in any county was brought to a close here today." Newport won the election: 88 per cent of the votes were in favor of removal of the county seat to Newport. The **Gazette** soon afterwards reported: "The excitement consequent on the removal of the county site . . . has died down, and many of those who opposed it the strongest are now the best pleased with the result."

On Oct. 9, 1891, the county court appropriated \$15,000 to begin work on the new courthouse at Newport, hoping to have one wing of the building ready for the January (1892) term of circuit court. County Judge M. M. Stuckey appointed Lazar Hirsch to serve as commissioner of public buildings of Jackson County and, as such, to develop plans and specifications for a courthouse suitable to meet the county's needs. John W. Wallace, A. E. Shoffner and Wiley M. Baird were appointed to select the actual site for the building from the available lots. On Nov. 19, they reported that they had selected the two lots donated by E. L. Watson as the site for the new courthouse.

Lazar Hirsch developed the plans for the Newport courthouse, using the Ouachita County courthouse at Camden (built in 1890) as the model. He was probably assisted in this task by George H. Johnston, the architect and builder of the new opera house in Newport. On Jan. 4, 1892, Lazar Hirsch, John A. Harlan and Joseph W. Phillips were appointed to serve as courthouse commissioners. The plans and specifications were inspected by Thomas Harding, a Little Rock architect, on Mar. 5, 1892. Harding made some suggestions as to changes and told Judge Stuckey: "I would advise you to have sealed bids received from contractors, and have them all opened publicly. You will be doing justice to yourself in so doing."

Contractors were invited to submit bids, and five bids by three contractors were opened on Mar. 21, 1892. George H. Johnston made three bids: (1) \$35,561, "exclusive of steam heat, gas, furniture etc."; (2) \$44,186, "including steam heat, plumbing, gas and electric wiring"; and (3) \$44,196, including steam heat, plumbing, furniture, carpets and clock, "in fact a turn key job." John A. Schnabel, the Jacksonport contractor

who had built the courthouse in that town over 20 years earlier, made a bid of \$36,990 and promised to "do it in a substantial workman like manner." Jesse M. Bartlett, of Batesville, gave the courthouse commissioners a bid of \$48,500 and promised "to commence work at once and push it to completion as fast as possible."

Schnabel's bid was the lowest bid on the job according to specifications, and the contract was originally awarded to him, with the stipulation that the building be completed enough for limited use during the July (1892) term of circuit court. It would have been an ironic circumstance, to say the least, if Schnabel had built the Newport courthouse; but for some reason, the contract was never completed. Instead, the courthouse commissioners awarded the contract to the second lowest bidder, George H. Johnston, on Apr. 12, 1892, and Johnston agreed "to erect a new court house complete in every respect for the purpose of carrying on the public business" of Jackson County by Jan. 1, 1893, for \$44,196. Johnston signed a performance bond, with A. Stevely, George W. Goddard and E. B. Wilmans as his securities.

Work on the foundations of the building was begun the last week of April, with the stone from the old county jail at Jacksonport (which had been declared unfit for occupancy by the grand jury) used in the foundations of the Newport courthouse. The cornerstone of the building was laid on May 28.

After Johnston obtained the contract for the Newport courthouse, John Hansel, of Joplin, Mo., built a brick plant in the east side of Newport and began to manufacture brick for the building. The brick work was subcontracted to Hansel. Morrison and Decker Manufacturing Co. supplied the electrical wiring and electrical and gas fixtures. H. A. Ridley and Sons made the boiler and the iron work, and J. F. Williams did the plumbing work. (Ridley's work included the front steps, at the Third Street entrance, with the legend in iron, "Jackson County, Arkansas, 1892.")

On Dec. 30, 1892, the courthouse commissioners reported that, although the building was not completed, construction had progressed enough that the courts could be held in it and the county archives transferred to it. The court order officially designating Newport as the county seat and ordering the removal of the records and county offices to the new courthouse was issued that day, but the order specified that "this order is not to be or considered to be an acceptance of the . . . Courthouse building as having been finished according to the plans, specifications and contract."

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The grand jury which convened in Jan. 1893 in the new courthouse included in its report, filed by R. M. Laird, the foreman, on Mar. 22, 1893, a paragraph on the new courthouse. "In reference to the new Court House, we say that the building is still incomplete and unfinished. It is commodious and well arranged and we believe it is well built except part of the wood work seems to have been built out of lumber not sufficiently seasoned, and we recommend these faults be remedied before the building be received."

In response to this, Hirsch, Harlan and Phillips employed Henry H. Wiysel, "a skilled mechanic," to develop a report "setting forth and specifying the amount of defective work" done by Johnston and the work and materials required "to make the building complete as near the true intent of the contract, plans and specifications as could be done. . . ." The courthouse commissioners resigned, and Dr. J. M. Jones, Arthur D. Bailey and Leon Lippman were appointed commissioners to complete the building.

The grand jury convened at the July (1893) term of circuit court devoted much of its time to the courthouse problems. Its report, made by J. O. Taylor, foreman, and Isaac Goldman, clerk of the grand jury, on Aug. 28, 1893, stated that "we have carefully gone over the building and have examined it in every particular and find it well constructed, convenient in its appointments." But the grand jury felt that the fact that Johnston had completed the inside work with gum lumber instead of sypress would be detrimental to the county. Johnston's contract had called for bi-weekly payments on the basis of the amount of work completed, reserving 15 per cent of the amount due him for a contingency fund until the contract was completed. The grand jury noted that "there remains a sum of \$6109.45 unexpended" and recommended that this fund be used to pay subcontractors who had not been paid by Johnston and suggested that the county complete the corrective work needed. It found five leaks in the roof and recommended that "the large steam pipe be wrapped with ashes for saving fuel" and that "ventilators be put in vaults thus saving the records which are damaging seriously." The jury found "3 fire plugs and no hose to attach in case of necessity" and recommenred that the county purchase "sufficient hose for fire purposes."

In spite of all the criticisms in the report, the grand jury stated that "we have examined a large number of witnesses and have failed to find anywhere anything of a fraudulent nature" in the courthouses transactions. The report absolved the original courthouse commissioners of any blame. "We have given the matter of the construction of the new Court house a full, careful and exhaustive investigation and have utterly failed to find anything that would tend in the slightest degree to impeach the integrity

of the county court and commissioners appointed by the county court to superintend the erection of the same."

On Oct. 5, 1894, Dr. Jones, Bailey and Lippman filed their report that work had been completed on the Newport courthouse, and the building was formally accepted by the county on Oct. 22, 1894.

Industries

Edited by Mildred Minor Gregory

The city of Newport, in this year of its 100th birthday, finds itself still an agricultural center with an even larger and growing trend toward industry. Its water, rail and highway thoroughfares have played a huge part in the city's economic structure from its very beginning to the present. The city of Newport has been a natural for industry--first using the waterway, then the railway, and last the highway to transport its production. Each has helped to innovate a new industry for the energentic and progressive citizens of the day.

EARLY INDUSTRIES

(This section includes information from Jackson County Historical Society research papers on lumber mills, cotton gins, compresses and oil mills, ice companies, machine shops, grain mills, the 1875 broom factory, and Valley Button Co., developed from newspaper files, 1874-1897, deed records, 1874-1902, and corporation records in the office of the secretary of state and in the offices of the county and circuit clerks of Jackson County. Material for these papers was gathered from 1973 to 1975 by James Logan Morgan.)

Lumber mills. The lumber industry came into existence in Newport soon after the town was established. On Nov. 19, 1874, John Miley, of Indianapolis, Ind., bought a tract of land between the Morris farm and White River, in north-western Newport, to establish a saw mill. The firm became John Miley and Sons (John, John S. and Elmore Miley). A Little Rock paper noted, Feb. 2, 1875: "Messrs. Miley and Sons will soon commence operating a stave factory at Newport. They have just purchased and shipped the machinery for making staves, and all necessary piping for a large dry house." The Miley property sold to Arkansas Stave and Barrel Co. in 1878. This company had headquarters in Little Rock; Powell Clayton was president, and P. B. Price was secretary. The stave factory and saw-mill were sold to William B. Empie in 1881.

In 1876, Hiram Sedgwick and David Daniels, of Oak Grove, Mich., made arrangements to establish a sawmill, Daniels and Co., in Newport. They purchased land on White River near the Iron Mountain freight elevator. This tract was sold to Henry Boas and John A. Lindsay in 1880. Lindsay sold his interest to Boas, and the mill was purchased by the Newport Lumber Co. in 1881.

On Oct. 20, 1876, Rammel Brothers (A. C. and Harmon L. Rammel) bought land on White River near the Miley tract and built a steam mill in 1877. This business was sold to William B. Empie in 1879. Empie enlarged the business and added a planing mill. Empie and H. L. Rammel later established a partnership, including operation of the White River Lumber Manufacturing Co. from 1889 to 1894.

In 1881, Horace N. Clark and Edward M. Green purchased the Daniels and Co. mill on White River and established the Newport Lumber Co. Andrew Stevely became the local manager of this company in 1884. In 1888, one of the items featured in the Arkansas section of the St. Louis Exposition was a piece of curly pine molding made by the Newport Lumber Co. On Feb. 13, 1889, the Newport Lumber Co. "mill sold to Stevely," who continued its operation for several years.

B. C. Morrison came to Newport in 1881, bought property on White River in Daugherty's Addition, and began construction of a steam mill, which was placed in operation on Jan. 16, 1882. On Mar. 30, 1882, he sold a half interest in the mill to S. P. Pond and Co., of Keokuk, Iowa. In 1883, the business became known as Morrison, Hosmer and Co., with the addition of Arthur Hosmer Jr., who joined Morrison in Newport. In 1884, George W. Decker, son-in-law of S. P. Pond, came to Newport, and the business became Morrison Decker and Co. It was also known as the Morrison and Decker Manufacturing Co. The company made staves for barrels and hardwood lumber. Pond and Decker Manufacturing Co. was organized as a stock company on May 26, 1894, at the Morrison and Decker office. Officers were: Sandford P. Pond (president), George W. Decker and Frank S. Hess.

In 1882, Frank Orff built a sawmill in Daugherty's Addition in southwest Newport. On Feb. 8, 1884, a partnership, Frank Orff and Co., was established, with Samuel Cameron and William E. Cook as Orff's partners. The partners made an agreement to close their lumber and shingle mill in Newport in 1885.

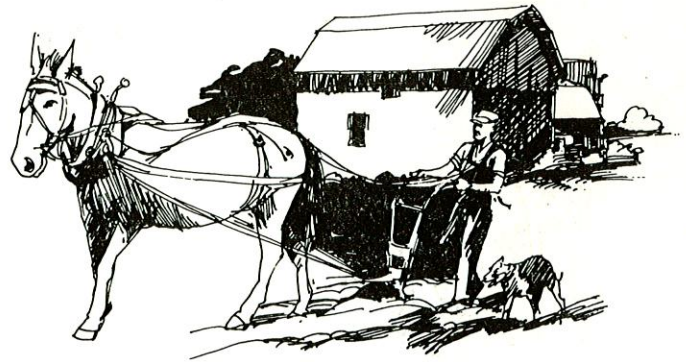
Other lumber processing businesses operating in Newport in these early days were a sawmill and planing mill operated by F. J. Staley

and W. M. Pyles and the Stetcher Cooperage Works, owned by Arthur Stetcher, in Daugherty's Addition--both established in 1888. In the early 1890's, Charles B. Kelley and M. H. Wells established a sawmill, which soon became C. B. Kelley and Co. The Kelley planing mill, also located in Daugherty's Addition, was an important factor in the city's economy for a few years. In 1898, Douglas Terry was superintendent of this mill, which was sold to the Newport Compress Co. later that year. Cornelius Dean, owner of the river boat, the **F. W. Tucker**, supplied his Newport mill, near Morris Street, built about 1893, from his four lumber camps on White and Black rivers. S. F. Muirhead was manager of the Muirhead Shingle Co. in 1892. Newport added two cabinet shops in 1902: J. J. Flanagan and Edward Scheiss both opened furniture shops. In 1906, R. C. Horton was established in a planing mill, which burned in 1913.

Cotton Gins. James B. Waddill and Robert E. McDonald were operating cotton gins near Newport in the fall of 1875. By 1892, cotton gins operated by J. R. Cox, John W. Parish (Frederick Parish in 1898) and Robert West had been established in Newport. The Newport Ginning Co. was organized in 1894 with these officers: George W. Decker (president), Ollie H. Thomas and Charles H. Wilmans. The American Gin Co. plant in East Newport burned in 1911 and was replaced by the Littleton Brothers gin (M. S. and W. R. Littleton), which burned in 1916 but was soon replaced. This gin later was owned by Holden Brothers (Brouce and Robert G. Holden). Alf James also operated a cotton gin in Newport.

Cotton Compresses. The Newport Cotton Compress Co. was organized before 1889. Its officers and directors in 1891 were R. M. Johnson (president), R. J. Jones, E. B. Douglas (manager), E. L. Watson, L. Hirsch, W. L. McDonald and W. R. Jones. In 1892, W. H. Wright was president, and E. B. Douglas was manager. The company's property was sold to the Union Compress Co. in 1892. The Union Compress and Storage Co. began operations in Newport in 1892, and in 1895 it bought the oil mill lot on Plum Street between Front and the Iron Mountain railroad from J. D. Goldman. In 1895 Thomas J. Gregg was manager of the Newport plant. The compress was sold in 1902 to the St. Louis Compress Co., which had bought land in Daugherty's Addition in 1895 and built a compress there, with John T. Flynn as its local manager.

A second Newport Compress Co. was organized in 1898 at Little Rock. The first officers were: J. C. Taylor (president), W. H. McMurray and B. M. Crow. The company bought the C. B. Kelley and Co. tract and sold it to the Union



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Compress Co. in 1901. The Newport Compress Co. surrendered its charter in 1902.

Cotton Oil Mills. By 1881, plans to institute an oil mill in Newport were made, and J. J. Caffrey established a warehouse that year to buy cottonseed. The Newport Oil and Manufacturing Co. was organized Aug. 24, 1882, at the Lucas House in Newport, with its main purpose the "manufacture of oil from cotton seeds." The major stockholders--E. Urquhart, W. H. Wright and H. S. Walsh--were not from Newport, but several Newport businessmen were stockholders: J. P. Foster, Wishon Brothers (N. B. and W. C. Wishon), Samuel Heller, W. H. Bogard, J. Mortensen, J. E. Wilmans, A. Hirsch and Son and A. C. Rummel. The Newport Oil and Manufacturing Co. bought a tract of land on Plum Street between Front and the Iron Mountain railroad from W. R. Jones and Franklin Doswell in 1882. The oil mill was constructed that summer and fall. George K. Tozer was the local manager in 1884. The American Cotton Oil Trust began to purchase blocks of stock in the Newport mill in 1884, and the mill was sold to the American Cotton Oil Co. in 1889, then to the Arkansas Cotton Oil Co. in 1891. J. P. Foster was the local agent for the company in 1892. The property was sold to Jacob D. Goldman in 1895.

In the spring of 1898, Southern Cotton Oil Co., which had incorporated in 1887 in New Jersey, began to acquire property in Newport. The company purchased a tract of land in Daugherty's Addition in southwest Newport, and in 1899 purchased the old Paragon mill property on the south side of the Rock Island railroad. This company is Newport's oldest industrial operation today. It added in 1957 a soybean solvent processing plant, and it became a division of Hunts Foods and Industries in 1961.

Ice Factories. In 1889, the White River Ice Co. built an ice plant in Newport. A. Pollock, of Little Rock, was president of the company, while Lazar Hirsch, of Newport, was general manager. Other members of the firm were J. B. Hirsch and Aaron Hirsch. This company was active from May until October of each year, serving several towns along the rail lines. By 1892, A. G. Anderson had become associated with the firm.

The first Newport Ice and Cold Storage Co. was organized Oct. 17, 1892, with T. J. Watson (who had built an ice factory earlier) as president and general manager. Other directors were: W. C. Wishon, Henry Bordwell, Adam Bach, W. B. Chastain, J. J. Underwood and A. D. Bailey,

The second Newport Ice and Cold Storage Co. was organized Nov. 1, 1897, at the office of

James E. Doherty. L. W. Cherry was the first president; W. A. Joyce was vice-president; and B. W. Stainback was secretary-treasurer. Doherty sold the company two lots near the corner of Second and Plum streets and served as manager of the company until 1900, when he began to operate a competing company. In 1902, Adolphus Busch was president of the Newport Ice and Cold Storage Co., with Cherry as vice-president and Stainback as secretary-treasurer.

Grain Mills. In 1877, Rummel Brothers (Augustus C. and Harmon L. Rummel) established a corn and flouring mill in the second story of their sawmill in Newport. In 1879, they sold their sawmill, flour mill and drug store to William B. Empie. D. W. Anderson established a grain and feed mill in Newport in the early 1890's. The Paragon Milling Co. was organized Aug. 22, 1892, with these officers: N. B. Wishon, president; L. Hirsch, vice-president; and A. G. Anderson, secretary. The company's mill was located near the Newport Lake bridge. The Paragon mill was bought in 1895 by the Newport Grain and Milling Co., which had been organized Sept. 21, 1895. Its officers were: George W. Decker (president), J. W. Grubbs, A. G. Anderson and R. M. Johnson. The mill, which was located at the east end of Plum Street, burned in 1897.

Machine Shops. The machine shops established in Newport became an important asset in the development of the area. In 1874, Samuel Rohrer, a blacksmith and machinist, came to Newport and operated a shop at the corner of Hazel and Second streets, where he built a two-story building to house his blacksmith and woodwork shops. For a time, Emanuel Rohrer was associated with his brother in the business. A visitor to Rohrer's shop in 1877 described two of his inventions--a machine for putting heads on bolts and a plowshaping machine.

In 1878, Henry A. Ridley established a machine shop in Newport. For a few years in the 1880's, he was associated in the partnership of Estabrook Ridley and Co. (G. W. and J. W. Estabrook and H. A. and E. H. Ridley). By 1888, Ridley was the senior partner in the Newport Foundry and Machine Shop. The firm, H. A. Ridley and Sons, included E. H. Ridley and Albert Ridley. James V. Ridley later joined the business.

In 1885, J. L. Younger moved his family and business to Newport. Well-known for the beautiful carriages he made, he produced farm wagons and farm implements in Newport. The Younger Blacksmith and Wagon Co. was located next to his home on Beech Street.

Broom Factories. In the summer of 1875, Joseph Gardner established a broom factory on Hazel Street. The factory was in operation in 1876, when a Batesville editor mentioned that its brooms were made entirely from materials produced in Jackson County. In 1902, William Johnston had opened a broom-making shop, also using materials grown in the county.

Bottling Companies. Beginning in the 1880's another type of industry was introduced. The soft drink industry came into flower and was most popular. The first such company was operated by Hugh Grimes between 1880 and 1885. From 1894 to 1897, the Croft Company was flourishing in Newport. Mr. Croft and his two sons, Lyle and Clyde, operated the business in a large structure on Hortense Street. In 1892, a soda-water factory was started by James E. Doherty.

The Diamond "C" Bottling Co. was prominent from 1899 until early in this century. It was opened by A. C. Collier, of Tupelo, in a building on the corner of Pine and Front streets. Collier closed the company in 1916. In 1911, the Busy Bee Carbonating Co. was opened by J. O. Powell.

The Coca Cola Bottling Co. opened its first branch at Newport in 1916. T. L. Bellingraph bought his brothers' interest in the parent company in Arkansas in 1915. The first location in Newport was at the site of the old Collier works. About 1931, the company moved to Beech Street. After a fire, the entire operation was moved to Batesville in 1965. From 1924 to 1931, the Nehi Bottling Co. operated in Newport. Jesse Johnston, Jr. was the owner.

In 1931, the Dr. Pepper Bottling Co. opened in Newport and became the only bottling company to continue at Newport today. A. B. Stamps received the franchise for distribution in Independence and Jackson counties in 1931. He moved to Newport to establish headquarters. His son, Robin Stamps, now operates the company.

Button Factories. The rivers at Newport brought another fascinating industry to Newport and Jackson County. The pearl market and the pearl button-cutting plants were most interesting and unique economic ventures for this area. The mussel, fished or dredged from the river beds, was sought for its possible pearl or for its pearl-like shell for use in making buttons. In 1897, the first pearl was found, creating an awareness of the wealth in the rivers around Newport. After more pearls were discovered, weekly visits by pearl buyers from all over the country began. They purchased from independent Newport buyers, who in turn purchased the pearls from the fishermen. The mussel shell was at first tossed back into the river after being

emptied of its contents. Soon the shell was found to be useful for pearl buttons.

The Valley Button Co. was organized Mar. 24, 1902. Its officers were: Farley Price (president), W. A. Billingsley and Isaac Goldman. The company bought property in Chastain's Addition, and the covenants included in the purchase agreements reflect attitudes prevalent at the time, requiring that the property "not be sold to or occupied by Negroes and Chinamen."

Soon after this, the Chalmers Button Co. opened at Newport. This was a Muscatine, Iowa, company which engaged in button-cutting operations at Newport, shipping the button blanks north to Iowa and other states for polishing and finishing for buttons. This industry flourished until the 1920's and early 1930's. Its largest exponent was a new plant established by a local businessman, Sol Hiemann, in 1929. The Heinemann plant operated first on lower Front Street and then was moved to Morris Street.

LATER INDUSTRIES

From this period onward in history until the present time, almost each year found a new industry of some type locating at Newport. In 1925, the Federal Compress Co. became successor of its early forerunners. The Home Ice Co. was instituted by Berry Best in 1931. The Southern Handle Co. was started about 1929 by W. W. Heatherton and Jack Roberts. Roberts became the sole owner some years prior to his death. The handle company was located off Morris Street. In 1940, the Nicholson Welding Co. was established by Ray Nicholson on Old Highway 14 and was later operated by Ray Nicholson Jr. and the latter's widow. The Newport Rice Mill opened operations in Newport in 1941 under the direction of Scott Elphinstone. It continued until 1967, when the Newport operation was closed.

During the period of World War II, with the changing trends in agriculture evident, Newport was fortunate in having several business-wise leaders of the Chamber of Commerce who decided to develop a different economic base to meet the problems of the post-war era. This they proposed to do by encouraging more industry to create more jobs.

In 1946, Victor Metal Products Corp. ("Victor Metals"), maker of aluminum foil, tubes and cans, came to Newport. Lambert Seed Co., processor of fine planting seeds, and Mobley Construction Co. (sand and gravel processing) settled here the same year. Two years later, the Newport Neon Sign Co. was established. In 1951 three more plants were opened -- Revere Copper and Brass Corp. (which purchased the foil

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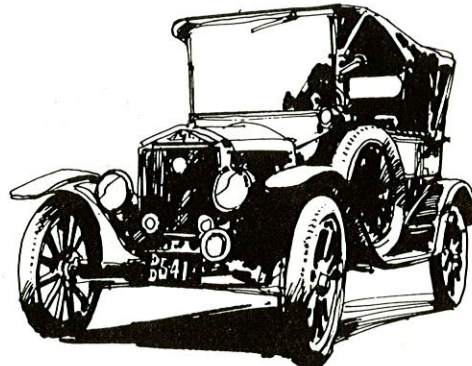
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division of Victor Metals), Farmers Supply Co. (grain processing), and Cooley Sheet Metal Co. And though with a checkered history of closings and openings under new managements, Palace Homes Corp. opened at the Newport Airbase in 1953. Brown-Jordan Corp., maker of wrought iron furniture, took over the old shoe factory building (which had housed an early industrial venture after World War II) in 1954.

Associated Wood Products Co. made its appearance in 1956, and 1957 brought the Smith Concrete Products Co. American Lantern Co. became the sister corporation of Brown-Jordan in 1959. Evans Box Co., manufacturer of cardboard boxes, opened its doors in 1959. A second shoe company, Kickerino, Inc., opened in 1960 and lasted nine years. The Brown Shoe Company occupied this building from 1970 to 1974.

Townsend Lumber Co. brought a branch of its operation to Newport in 1961. This company became the Curtner Lumber Co. in 1966. Jet-Screen, which made a new rice pump valve, began in 1962 and moved to Blytheville in 1965. The Newport Dye Co., an affiliate of Victor Metals, came to Newport in 1963. H. & S. Manufacturing Co. and the George Hopps Co. opened in 1964 and closed in 1966 and 1965. In 1965 three chemical plants were established: Triple M Fertilizer Co., Farmers Liquid Fertilizer Co., and Helena Chemical Co. Morgan Manufacturing Co., opened a branch plant to construct portable buildings in 1966. The Cee Gee Manufacturing Co. added its name to the industrial listings the same year. Al Craft and the Newport Tool Engineering Co. established plants here in 1967. In 1968, the Johnston Wood Products Co., maker of wooden boxes and containers, was opened at the Newport Airbase. Tennessee Forging Steel Corp. established its Arkansas division at Newport in 1971. The Valley Grain Co. opened its plant on the banks of White River in 1972. and the Aerosonic Corp., maker of airplane panel instruments, located at the Newport Airbase in 1974.

Recreation

by Mildred Minor Gregory

In the 1930's the Newport Chamber of Commerce boasted: "32 lakes within 35 minutes of Newport!" Those bodies of water and the two rivers (the White and Black) at its doorstep insured some of the best fishing sport in the world near Newport, Arkansas. The Jackson County Wildlife Federation plans once each year a wild game supper supplied by its hunting members. This is preceded by a duck-calling contest with state-wide participation, proving that seasonal

duck hunting is a wonderful sport on the numerous water facilities in the area.

Agriculture provided the basis for another form of recreation--the county fair, with the first Newport fair, held in 1894. Competitions and contests in livestock breeding, fruit and vegetable canning, poultry and hog shows, quilt-making and arts and crafts brought healthy and pleasurable rivalry into the lives of the entire community. Horse-racing was the high point of the early fairs, with Newport having one of the finest racetracks in the country from 1914 to 1919. There were many fine stables and owners of exceptional horseflesh in Jackson County. Horses were entered from all the surrounding states in various classes. Newport men who owned and raced horses were John R. Loftin, Norman Wolff, Dick Edgar and Bill Bateman. The last of these county fairs was held in 1958. As if to compensate, horse shows and rodeos became even more important as a recreation in the 1950's. These displaced the loss of traveling circuses, carnivals and the racetrack.

In 1955 the Jackson County Saddle Club was organized, and the western-type horse and its prowess was acknowledged. Each year, several horse shows are held and many fine riders take part here and in the district and state shows. Even the county youngsters claim many honors and ribbons. The Jackson County Horse and Pony Four-H Club has its show annually. Only a junior fair is held today, with the Jackson County Fair and Livestock Show Association assisting in the sponsorship of a three-day show. The junior fair has continued from 1959.

Community supported baseball nines were the order of the day from the beginning of the City of Newport. In 1888 a Little Rock newspaper reported plans for a Fourth of July baseball game and barbecue in Newport. The Newport Baseball and Athletic Association rented a field located where the Southern Cotton Oil Company grounds are. Charles Bloom was the manager.

In 1900 a baseball field was built in East Newport where the old Holden gin building is now. A Newport team was organized, but only two or three games were played each season because there were so few baseball teams in this area with which to compete. The late Bob Bandy was Newport's star pitcher.

In 1907 the North East Arkansas League was formed. Its first president was the late J. E. Doherty, whose son, J. E. Doherty, Jr., held the position of catcher on the Newport team. The

late R. T. Simmons umpired all games for the league. No games were ever played on Sundays during those early years.

In 1908 a Newport Baseball Association was again organized. For \$100 per year, five acres of land for a baseball field were leased on the south side of Rammel Ave. This field was used until the late 1920's. The baseball field was moved a long block east in the 1930's to a location approximately where the back of Dr. T. E. Williams' home stands.

Beginning in 1936 the town supported a Class D baseball team affiliated with the St. Louis Cardinals, for five years. Such baseball notables as George Kell, Johnny Sain, Pete Reiser, Chuck Connors (the star of movies and television) and Danny Gardella played for Newport—one of seven teams in the Northeast Arkansas Baseball League.

Three Newport men—F. M. "Crackie" Parker, Fred Williams and the late Lockwood Burckett—became the fathers of Little League and American Legion junior baseball in Newport in 1952. They prompted the summer program in the city which continues today. Newport has boasted champion Little League, Pony League and American Legion teams.

In 1927 a golf club was formed in Newport with 107 charter members. Land was acquired by those members to build a golf links, which became part of the Newport Country Club in 1954. The Country Club added a swimming pool in 1959 and cement tennis courts in 1960-61 and 1968. The Village Creek Country Club was organized in the years 1971-72, establishing its facilities east of Newport adjoining Village Creek.

A community swimming pool was opened in the late 1920's in Rammel Park by the park trustees. Because of the lack of financial means for maintenance, the pool was closed for several years between 1942 and 1954. It was then opened by the Young Business Men's Club with Bill Wiggins, a newcomer to Newport, as instructor. After 1963 the pool was closed, and in 1969 it was filled in.

It is known from news items that Newport's recreation-minded citizens organized a tennis club in 1901. As late as 1923 the game of tennis was enjoyed on courts established by the Arkansas Bank and Trust Company at the present location of the American Legion hut in Rammel Park and on a court on Third Street directly behind the First Christian Church. A year later four clay courts were built by the trustees of Rammel Park, across the road from Lake Newport. Here from 1950 to 1960, several adult tennis buffs, headed by the late Bill Bacus, held regular Sunday meets. By 1954 the Newport High School had built two cement courts. These were relocated in 1974.

In 1913 school team sports made an appearance, with the first football, girls' and boys' basketball, and track teams being inaugurated. From that year to the present time school team sports have been a most important part of the school curriculum.

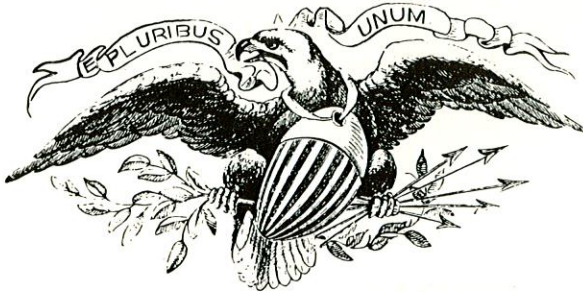
In 1934, with the help of W. P. A. labor, J. A. Gregory of Newport created an exceptionally fine cinder track in Rammel Park for the school. It contained a five-lane oval quarter-mile track and a 220-yard straight-away built to A. A. U. specifications. A new football field and bleachers were laid out east of the school buildings in 1946 and at approximately the same date the new baseball diamond was inaugurated, these new facilities have been enhanced through the years with several additions.

Through the years Newport has maintained several public parks. The first was located on the west side of Front Street in the 200 block. Enclosed in a white picket fence, it was complete with a bandstand. Here the old civil war cannon first rested when it was brought to Newport in the 1890's. This park was used for political speeches and gatherings, band concerts and other events. It was destroyed when space was needed for business houses and is now a parking lot. A second park on Front Street was donated by the Missouri Pacific Railroad and named after its donor. This park was also on the west side of Front Street, in the 400 block adjoining the depot. In 1964, when additional parking space was needed, the downtown merchants cleared and converted the park into a paved parking lot.

Rammel Park was first a program of the old Civitan Club, when it took over the tennis court (on the location of the American Legion hut) and expanded it to establish a play area for children. From bequests in the will of Martha Elizabeth Willis, the park grew. The name was changed from the Civitan Playground Park to Rammel Park. The renamed Rammel Park was established in 1926 on the tract by beautiful Lake Newport. The park continued to be a play ground and picnic area and became a beautiful adjunct to the high school campus.

During 1956, a tourist park was completed and later named Lockwood Park for a diligent member of the first park committee which directed its maintenance. Located on U. S. Highway 67 in Newport, it nestles beside lovely Newport Lake.

In 1972 the city of Newport inaugurated a municipal parks and recreation commission. Through federal financing programs, this commission has been creating small residential parks on vacant lots for neighborhood playgrounds. It is now in the process of building a large community recreation park at the old Jackson County fairgrounds.



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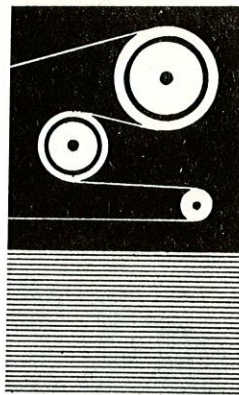
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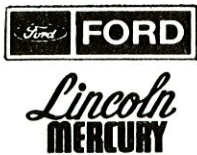
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Churches

Edited by Phillip McDonald

Newport churches have been a permanent part of our history since the Methodist Church was organized in December 1874. Some other churches represent a movement of the congregations from Jacksonport to Newport.

Most of the material in this section was provided to us by the ministers, secretaries, and, in some cases, church historians of local churches. It is presented in alphabetical order by denominational groups. Where there is more than one church in a denominational group, the listing is by date of establishment.

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

First Assembly of God was organized in July 1940, following a revival in East Newport. Rev. Walter C. Ivie was the first pastor, and there were 23 charter members. A church was built on McLain Street in 1948 and served the congregation until a new church was built at 1110 Ivy Terrace. Pastors have been: W. C. Ivie, Thomas Stoker, Wallace Joice, H. L. Nance and Silas Scott.

BAPTISTS

American Baptist Association

Newport Landmark Baptist Church, affiliated with the American Baptist Association, was organized in May 1963 with these charter members: Jim, Audrey and Grace Lemons; Rev. Jim Balch; W. C., Don, Peggy, Imogene, Linda and Ronnie Anderson; K. C., Vivian and Lynn Anderson; Kathy Jones; and Ruth Jones. Rev. Homer Parker was the first pastor. A church site in Cherokee Addition was purchased and a building erected soon after the church was organized. Trustees have included: Jim Lemons, William M. Lemons, Marlin Hager, Charles Burgen, K. C. Anderson, Wilson Parker, and William C. Anderson. In 1968, Rev. Johnny Almond was pastor. Rev. David Standifer is the present pastor.

BAPTISTS

Baptist Missionary Association of America

Lakeside Baptist Church (associated with the Baptist Missionary Association of America) was organized as the result of the missionary activities of Rev. J. A. Lawson. Meetings were held in the home of Rev. E. E. Bone, and a revival was held at the Jackson County courthouse by Rev. C. J. Wells. At the close of the revival, a Baptist church was organized on Dec. 16, 1948, with 21 charter members. The first pastor was

Rev. C. N. King, who served 1950-51. In 1949, the church was admitted to the Jonesboro Baptist Association. The records listed Mrs. Otis Thompson as clerk and indicated that there were 41 members. The messengers were W. B. Mantooth, Mrs. Ira Archer and Mrs. Earl Raney. Rev. R. A. Henson followed Rev. C. N. King as pastor, and Rev. Gerald Drope is the present pastor.

Faith Missionary Baptist Church, which is a constituent church of Mount Calvary Baptist Association and affiliated with the Baptist Missionary Association of America, was organized Aug. 20, 1961, with the following charter members: Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Wyatt, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. Finis Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Turner, Rev. and Mrs. Johnnie Willard, Sue Sanders, Betty Owens, Della Bailey, Willine Willard, Adaline Willard, Mrs. Sally Cole, Mrs. George Evans Gates, David Skinner, Mrs. Merle Skinner, Rachel Willard, Minnie Willard, Betty Willard, Janice Rodgers, Linda Rodgers, Bonnie Bailey and Carol Pigg. The church had begun as a mission at 1500 McLain under the leadership of Rev. C. M. Wyatt in Dec. 1960. It is now located at Doyle Road and Graceland Drive.

Pastors have been: Carthel M. Wyatt, Dr. W. E. Davis, James Bradford, Joe Edmundson, Charles T. DeWitt, L. C. Turner Jr., Paul Rice, and Thurman L. Miller.

BAPTISTS

Free Will Baptists

First Free Will Baptist Church was organized on Nov. 25, 1955, with 33 members. A building was occupied on July 29, 1956. It was built on State Street on property donated to the church by R. D. Wilmans and Sons, Inc. Phillip Ange is the present pastor.

BAPTISTS

National Baptist Convention

First Baptist Church (Negro) was organized in 1880 or 1881 as St. John Missionary Baptist Church. In 1883, the church bought a lot on Laurel Street near Fifth and built a house of worship. Rev. T. H. Harris was pastor at that time, and Oliver Hose, W. M. Harris, John Curry, D. W. Carr, M. A. Stoves, and William Mitchell were trustees. In 1895, a church was begun at the present site on Second Street. Trustees in the 1890's were: J. C. "Jack" Bridges, G. W. Owens, Jack Gaines, P. S. McEwen, Wilson Owens, and Marshall Keeble. In 1926, a brick building was constructed to replace the frame church destroyed in the fire of that year. The deacons at that time were H. Warren, H. Oden, J. J. Guiden, P. Roddy and O. Miner.

Pastors of First Baptist Church have included: T. H. Harris; W. S. Black, 1900; Hardy Warren; J. T. Crawford, 1906; H. R. McMillan, 1920; L. H. Jackson; L. A. Higgins, 1930; Rev. Hockenhull; G. L. Young; W. C. Howell; J. W. Jackson; H. G. Martin; and T. W. Barnes, since 1952.

Morning Star Baptist Church (Negro), which has also been known as the Second Baptist Church, was organized in 1888. In 1889 a church was built on Vine Street with funds advanced by Walker Curry. Trustees at that time were Thomas Harris, Henry Jackson and Jeremiah Curry. In 1895, the trustees were John Curry, William Warren and Charley Oakins. In 1903, John Curry, J. R. Curry and B. F. Hogan were trustees.

The original church burned in the fire of 1926, and a new church was built under the leadership of Rev. H. G. Martin. T. J. Clamon, W. M. Warren, G. W. Oats, T. G. Whitenhill, J. McBride, H. Cooper, R. L. Patterson and G. W. Campbell were trustees. Pastors have included: Samuel A. Mosley (first pastor); Dallas Johnson, 1923; J. D. Jordan, 1928; R. Fitzhugh, 1945-70; W. H. Marley, 1972-74; and G. M. Miller, since 1974.

Shiloh Baptist Church (Negro) was organized about 1926 by Rev. L. H. Jackson, Rev. Paul Blackmon and Rev. Beverly. Rev. Jackson was the only pastor, serving until his death on Mar. 27, 1944, after which the church disbanded. Rev. George Cole had served as assistant pastor. The church building was located at the corner of Remmel and Arrington.

Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church (Negro) was built at Crossroads in 1957, but the first building of this congregation was erected at Erwin Switch in 1917. In 1954, Rev. E. Udell Hyde became pastor of the Oak Grove church at Erwin, and he was pastor when the present church at Crossroads was built. At that time, J. N. Alcorn (clerk), Robert Hall, L. W. Penn, C. H. Hall, P. Scott, Joe Fields (treasurer), John Dickson and Earnest Harrison were deacons, and Pelvin Scott, L. W. Penn, Andy Smith, Robert Hall and George Anderson were trustees. In addition to Rev. E. U. Hyde, the present pastor, ministers who are members of the Oak Grove church are Revs. Reuben Dinwiddie, James Brown and G. Worsham.

BAPTISTS

Southern Baptist Convention

First Baptist Church (Southern Baptist Convention) was organized Oct. 9, 1892, with the following charter members: M. Shelby, Mary, Ruth, and Lawrence Kennard; Dr. A. D. Holland; Frank Modisett; Dr. W. H. Heard; Dr. E. J. P'Pool; Sarah S. Younger; and Jennie P. Decker. The first pastor was

Rev. T. Griffiths. In 1899, W. B. Chastain offered the church two lots in his new addition if it would build a church there within three years. (It did not.) Trustees at that time were Dr. F. G. Smith, Robert Askew and C. B. Best. In 1901, a Sunday School room was constructed. Dr. A. D. Holland was Sunday School superintendent at that time.

Messengers to the White River Valley Baptist Association from 1901 to 1908 were: George Foushee, Dr. F. G. Smith, Z. B. Reed, Dr. and Mrs. A. D. Holland, Rev. J. V. Turner, C. B. Best, P. S. White, Rev. Arthur Fox, R. V. Wells, Arkie Dean, and George Fox. The Sunday School building was used for all meetings of the church until 1915, when a new church was built. Trustees at that time were P. S. White, T. D. Snetzer, C. F. Dean, G. V. Foushee, W. H. Snetzer, H. S. Simmons and J. E. Williams.

Pastors of the First Baptist Church since 1901 have included: R. C. Medearis, 1901; H. E. Gabby, 1901-03; T. C. Mahan, 1903-05; H. M. Long, 1905-06; E. P. J. Garrott, 1906; D. H. Gill, 1908; L. C. Bauer, 1911; S. D. Grumbles, 1912-14; Dr. C. C. Marshall, 1916; O. C. Wilcoxson; Claude L. Hill; O. L. Gibson, 1920; L. D. Eppinette, 1930; Charles F. Wilkins; Ed F. McDonald; Dr. W. W. Dishongh; and Leslie M. Rihard, since 1964. In 1946, the present sanctuary was erected, and the educational unit was built in 1970.

Southside Baptist Mission, sponsored by the First Baptist Church, is located at 1515 Dewey Street. It was organized Aug. 10, 1958, with Rev. Ed F. McDonald, pastor of the First Baptist Church, preaching the sermon. Howard Dalrymple was the mission superintendent. The present church was constructed in 1961. Pastors of the Southside Mission have been: Eddie McDonald III, James E. Taylor, Paul Schwenk, Owen Ring, Harvey Booth Jr., Zane Wilson, W. L. Bruce Jr., Cyril Miller and T. S. "Teddy" Rhea Jr.

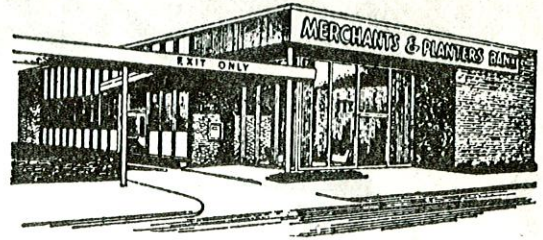
Immanuel Baptist Church, affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, was organized in 1948 with 38 charter members. It built a church on State Street in East Newport. Pastors have included: V. E. Defreece, W. J. Smith, J. R. Stogsdill, James O. Melton, W. E. Davis, James-H. Fitzgerald, J. C. Smith, Lonnie Busby and Truett Murphy.

CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Disciples of Christ

Newport Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was organized by R. P. Halstead and others in 1884. Lancelot Minor conducted the Masonic ceremony at the laying of the cornerstone of the building for the church in Morris' Addition (west of the railroad) on Jan. 16, 1885. The congregation had dissolved by 1887.

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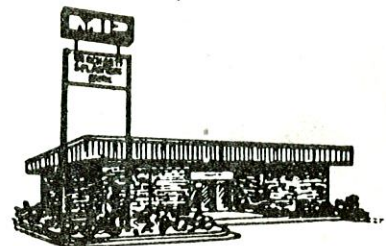
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First Christian Church. In 1889, Mrs. Annie Townsend wrote Rev. Richard S. Robertson, an evangelist of the Christian Church who lived at Tullahoma, Tenn., to engage his services in preaching a revival in Newport. The meeting was held in the lower floor of the Newport school building. At the close of the revival, the Christian Church (also known as the Newport Church of Christ during the early period) was organized on Aug. 25, 1889. A list of charter members contains these names: T. S. Stephens, Mrs. Fannie Stephens Brown, Sprigg Brown, Mrs. Annie Townsend, Mrs. Sallie Van Brocklin, Guy Smith, Mrs. Idotha Harlan Smith, Frank Cheney, Mrs. Frank Cheney, Mrs. Nora Pugh Newman, Joseph Mendenhall, Mrs. Joseph Mendenhall, and Miss Flora Givens. Other early members included Lizzie Foushee, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. McDaniel, Mrs. Zoe Ella Walker Stallings, M. W. Burkett, Alice Palmer Ridley, Dr. and Mrs. E. J. P'Pool, John S. Townsend, Mrs. Hayes, and John Q. Guynn. In 1889, T. S. Stephens bought the lot in the northwest corner of Walnut and Third streets and financed the construction of a church and parsonage on that lot. In 1890, Anna Elizabeth Pugh, Nancy Eunice Pugh (later Mrs. O. M. Bowen), Hattie Guynn, Lee Guynn and Mrs. Sarah Pugh Green were baptized in the baptistery of the new building.

In 1894, Mrs. Delia G. P'Pool, Mrs. Sallie Van Brocklin and Mrs. M. E. Rose, trustees of the Christian Workers, a women's organization in the church which was active in raising money for the work of the church for many years, contracted with T. S. Stephens to pay off the debt owed on the minister's house, and the church itself was paid for by 1900, when Stephens deeded the land to the church. N. B. Wishon, W. D. McLain and S. S. Prewitt were trustees at that time. Elders and deacons who served the church from 1890 to 1901 included Joseph Mendenhall, John S. Townsend, Guy Smith, John Q. Guynn, Frank Cheney, T. S. Stephens, Frank S. Hess and W. J. Knox.

The frame church burned in a fire started in the Creighton Hotel on the lot adjoining the church to the west, and a white stone building was erected in 1908. J. D. Carvell was church clerk at this time, and N. B. Wishon, T. S. Stephens and W. D. McLain were trustees. On Oct. 19, 1914, the Claridge Hotel (the Creighton renamed) burned again, and the Christian Church was almost completely destroyed by the fire. The building committee for the new church was composed of W. D. McLain, Otto M. Bowen, T. S. Stephens, N. B. Wishon, J. A. Baird and J. D. Carvell. J. F. Hoofman was clerk at the time, and Ben White was treasurer. The architect for the new church was M. Selligman, and W. H. Snetzer was given the contract for the new brick building. The church was known at this time as Central Christian Church, and

the new building was dedicated on Dec. 12, 1915. In 1919, the church bought a 15' strip off the east side of the adjoining lot. In 1925, when a new parsonage was built, F. H. Morrow was clerk, and J. F. Parish, T. S. Stephens and Otto M. Bowen were trustees.

In 1902, the Women's Missionary Society was organized with these charter members: Mrs. James H. Brooks (president), Miss Pearl Martin, Mrs. Harry Douglas, Mrs. S. S. Prewitt, Mrs. T. S. Stephens, Mrs. O. M. Bowen, Mrs. Z. E. Stallings, Mrs. S. M. McFarland, Mrs. W. H. Gravette, Mrs. Anna Bell and Mrs. M. W. Lindley.

Pastors who have served the First Christian Church and beginning years of service have been: R. S. Robertson, 1890; James H. Fuller, 1890, 1895 and 1933; J. M. Ratcliff (who published a church paper, the *Christian Reporter*, while he was pastor), 1892; Arthur C. Garrison, 1894; James H. Brooks, 1901; T. F. Richardson, 1904; C. C. Cline, 1908; G. A. Hoffman, 1909; W. J. Haywood, 1916; Claude C. Bridenthal, 1919; Edward Gallaher, 1920; Frank T. Ray, 1921; John H. Luck, 1924; Luther Cole, 1926; Harvey D. Booth, 1928; W. T. Walker, 1936; Ray T. Bebout, 1946; Ben Cleaver; William Hammonds; Howard Anderson; Clyde Lane; Frank Winfrey; Clyde Patrick; Norman Prose; and Charles L. Cody.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Holden Avenue Church of Christ was organized in 1919. Families who were in the congregation at the early period of its history included: W. A. Bowman, W. L. Smith, C. C. Dean, C. E. Bonner, Judge J. A. Melville and Myrtle Young. The congregation bought a lot on Holden Avenue soon after it was organized and a frame building was erected in 1920-21. Trustees at this time were W. L. Smith, N. B. Dean, Elbert Burt, and W. A. Bowman. In 1952, a new meeting house replaced the earlier building. The building committee consisted of Ransom Smith, Henry Arnett, Owen Burton, Jim Thompson and Marvin Harelson, along with Elders Guy Alexander, W. A. Bowman, W. A. Ford, O. C. Lock and W. G. Smith, and T. H. Sherrill, the minister. A larger building was constructed in 1964. Committees appointed in connection with this effort included D. P. Burton, Joe Churchman, John Brownd, Ed Owens, Leon Rutledge, Henry Arnett, Owen Burton, Ed Holt and R. M. Twyford. Elders were Guy Alexander, Henry Arnett, O. C. Lock, Leon Rutledge, Kenneth Scroggs, Ransom Smith, R. M. Twyford and Fred Waddill. Full time ministers who have served the congregation have been: Z. D. Barber, Tim O'Shanahan, T. H. Sherrill, Clinton Elliott, and James L. May Jr.

Calhoun Street Church of Christ (Negro) was organized in 1952, with its first meetings held in the home of Mrs. Juanita Criss. The church met at 1112 Remmel Avenue until 1962, when it occupied the building on Calhoun Street. During 1969-72, the congregation was without a minister, but Lee Smith and Harrison Gravely led the preaching services. Ministers of the church have been: E. N. Crawford, 1952-59; L. L. Ballard, 1959-67; Howard Wright, 1967; Eugene Echols, 1968-69; Walter Reed, since 1972.

Dewey Street Church of Christ was organized in the 1960's and was known as the Bryant Avenue Church of Christ until the congregation purchased a building at 1417 Dewey Street in 1972. Carl Jackson, R. T. Jackson and Leon Gibbs were trustees at that time.

Northside Church of Christ was organized June 1, 1966, and meets at 2312 Cottonwood in Garden Homes Addition. Evangelists have been: Wayne Payne, Carroll Lumpkin and Lowell D. Kibler.

CHURCH OF GOD

(Anderson, Indiana)

First Church of God of Newport bought lots in Cherokee Addition in 1959 and 1961 and built a church on Brandenburg Lane. Byrum Ahart, R. A. Wilson, J. C. Winfrey, Fred Swan, Rev. Charles Ridgway, Rev. Estell Triplett, Dan Crum, Dorthea Nicholson, Jackie George and Rev. Walden O. Myers were among the trustees in the early 1960's.

CHURCH OF GOD

(Cleveland, Tennessee)

Newport Church of God was instituted on June 16, 1972, by Rev. Floyd Ramsey, with five charter members: Rev. Billy W. Terry, Mrs. Mary L. Terry, Vester Terry, Mike Harden and Mrs. Mike Harden. Services had been held by Rev. and Mrs. Terry at the Veterans of Foreign Wars building since Nov. 2, 1971. On July 30, 1973, the congregation purchased a church building at 1805 Congress Street and built a parsonage in 1974. Church trustees on both occasions were Rev. Billy W. Terry, Marvin Grantham and Rev. Floyd Ramsey. The Ladies Auxiliary of the church began operation of the Newport Bargain Center on Mar. 31, 1972, to raise funds for the work of the church. Rev. Billy W. Terry has been pastor since the church was started.

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

St. Mary Church of God in Christ. In 1921, Elder W. T. Hobbs, of Colt, Ark., held a revival at Crossroads. Some time later, a store building at the

corner of Arrington and Garfield streets in Newport was rented for church services, and the Newport Church of God in Christ was organized. Members included Mr. and Mrs. Henry Curry, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Robinson, Lucilla Fulton, Alice Taylor, Josie Watson, Effie Pinkston and Mildred Pinkston. Elder Hobbs was the first pastor. The church bought a lot and built a house of worship in 1922. Pastors have been: Elder W. T. Hobbs, 1922-24; Elder M. J. Jones (built the present church on Clay Street); Elder W. T. Louns; Elder Blake; Elder Miller; Elder W. L. Rodgers; and Elder D. C. Brown (since 1948).

CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD

Christian Workers for Fellowship

Newport Temple No. 25, Church of the Living God, Christian Workers for Fellowship, was established in Newport in the early 1890's. In 1892 or 1893, William Christian, the founder of the church, preached on the courthouse lawn in Newport. The church occupied quarters on Front Street for a time and was located on Garfield Street in later years. The last two preachers were John Fulton and Arthur Manuel. This church, which is no longer active, was known as the "Do Right" Church.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

First Church of the Nazarene was organized Apr. 24, 1955, and built a church at the corner of Dill and Cedar streets. Pastors have been: Bill E. Rough, Thomas F. Gilham, John Fechner, Edwin M. Abla, Loy D. and Blanche Jones, Jack Price, John C. Turner, Everett Lybarger, and Donald R. Lambert.

FREE PENTECOSTAL CHURCHES

Newport Free Pentecostal Church was operating in 1933, when W. M. LaVoy was moderator, and Mrs. Ida Baughn was secretary. There is a record of the ordination of J. U. Birmingham and T. H. Eastwood by action of the church on Nov. 29, 1933.

White River (Free) Pentecostal Church was active near the Southern Cotton Oil Mill in 1967 under the leadership of Rev. Dairiel Jungers. In 1969, a new church was opened between the levee and the river and south of Beech Street.

GOSPEL ASSEMBLY

Newport Gospel Assembly, 1521 Bryant Avenue, was organized about 1973 by W. E. Tucker. Herman Ballew is the present minister.

GOSPEL TABERNACLE

Gospel Tabernacle (in later years known as "Gospel of Peace Tabernacle") was established in the 1950's by Rev. James Farmer, who built a church building on Dewey Street. In 1968, Bobby Hall was the pastor. (This group and the Gospel Assembly are probably in some way related to an international religious group known as the "Body of Christ.") In 1972, the building in which the church met was sold to the Dewey Street Church of Christ.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Newport Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses was organized in 1940, although evangelization activities in the area had begun many years earlier. From 1940 to 1950, the members of the Newport congregation met in various places. In 1950, the first Kingdom Hall was built at 1805 Congress Street. The congregation outgrew its building, and in 1973 a new Kingdom Hall on Rink Road was built.

Presiding ministers of the Newport congregation have included: Howard D. Kriner (1958), Billy J. Bowen (1962), Billy Gary Finley (1969), and Billy Joe Barner.

JEWISH CONGREGATION

Newport Hebrew Congregation (Jewish) was organized in Sept. 1904 by Rabbi Alfred Godshaw, with these officers: Charles Meyer, Sigmund Adler and Charles Brasch. Services were held occasionally for several years.

METHODISTS

African Methodist Episcopal Church

St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1880. Services were held in the homes of members (most of whom lived near Lake Newport) until a lot at the east end of Beech Street was bought in 1881 and a church was built. Trustees of the church between 1881 and 1887 included: Jonas Futrel, Austin Allen, Thomas Patterson, Lafayette Babb, Andrew "Andy" Johnson, Daniel S. Cooper, James Alexander, Henry White, J. B. Alexander and E. M. Argyle.

In 1888, the church bought a lot at the site of the present church in the southwest corner of Main and Sixth streets. A new church was built at this site under the leadership of Rev. J. M. Conner, who was to become a bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The trustees of St. Paul Church at this time were Lafayette Babb, Henry Laffoon, Henry White, J. B. Alexander, and Andy Johnson. Bishop Conner often told, with obvious pride, of the building of St. Paul church. In 1896, the trustees of the church were Joe Alexander, Andy Johnson, Dan Cooper, Oliver Hose, Alex Griffin and Mack Petway.

In 1914, a brick church replaced the 1888 structure. Rev. G. B. Ashford was the pastor at this time, and the trustees were Tom Montgomery, J. D. Davis, Oliver Chatman, Dan S. Cooper and A. W. Daniels. In 1926, St. Paul Church burned in the great fire, but it was replaced in that same year by the present church. At this time, Rev. R. C. Holbrook was pastor, and the following were members of boards of trustees during this reconstruction: J. D. Davis, chairman; Preston W. Lee, secretary; and John W. Fleming, J. S. Smith, J. Harvey Warren, James "Jim" Frazier, A. W. Daniels, Dovie Green and George Epps.

Among the pastors of St. Paul A. M. E. Church have been: J. D. Dennis, J. M. Conner (1888-89), E. C. Coleman, Robert R. Block (1906), T. A. Johnson, H. G. Montgomery, Dr. J. G. Robinson (1913), E. C. Foreman, G. B. Ashford (1914-20), R. C. Holbrook (1926), P. L. Johnson, Rev. Colhyne, H. H. King, E. J. Lunnun, Rev. Bloodsoe (1930), W. C. Willis, E. J. Harris, F. C. Reed, J. E. Tillman, R. J. Scroggins, J. N. Campbell, J. M. Mechell, J. R. Robinson, W. E. Pruitt, J. C. Davis, N. L. Dove, L. R. Williams, J. C. Crier (1960-67), W. G. Davis (1967-74) and Thomas G. Allen.

METHODISTS

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Reeds Chapel (Colored) (changed to "Christian" in 1964) Methodist Episcopal Church was organized around 1900 and named for Rev. J. S. Reed, a pioneer minister in Arkansas. Early members of the church included: Granville Jones, Mattie Sullivan, Betty Grey, Ada Williams, Madie Person, Cora Robinson, Mable Turner, Dave Robinson, Pearl McKissic, Louise McKissic, Claud Person, Ed Spencer, V. A. Reid, Isadora Nichols, Cuesta Anthony and Georgia Walker.

In 1903 a church was built at the corner of Garfield and Arrington. Rev. J. S. Reed, Rufus S. Stout and Jack Thompson were trustees at that time. In 1919, a parsonage was built. Rev. George W. Robinson and his wife, Cora, were active in the work of the church. He died in 1951. Their four children (Leon and Hugh Robinson, Mrs. Cuesta Anthony and Mrs. Georgia Walker) have been active in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

At the Arkansas annual conference in 1905, Sister Spencer reported on women's work in the Newport church. In 1920 "Aunt" Betty Grey organized a Sunday School, and Sam and Lela Stephenson were active in this enterprise. In later years, a Sunday School minute book was given in memory of Johnny Anne Walker Green.

During the pastorate of Rev. J. W. Nichols, Nichols Chapel C. M. E. Church was built at Auvergne. In 1930, the original Reeds Chapel church and parsonage burned. A new building was erected, partly with funds raised by Revs. G. W. Robinson and W. J. Thomas. After this building was damaged in a storm in 1965, the membership of Reeds Chapel church was transferred to Nichols Chapel church at Auvergne.

Pastors of Reeds Chapel C. M. E. Church have included: J. R. Jones, K. Hunter, J. A. Stout, J. W. Washington, W. M. Wooten, J. W. Nichols, B. M. McKindra, G. W. Robinson, H. Burgess, L. Long, E. H. Mitchell, R. D. Grey, S. J. Taylor, R. Voss, J. A. Jones, W. M. Lucas, W. Easley, J. Best and J. A. Houston.

METHODISTS

United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church was organized as a charge of the Jacksonport circuit of the White River Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Dec. 1874, with Rev. M. B. Umsted as the pastor and the following charter members: Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Horton, Mrs. Laura J. Dills, Samuel Rohrer and Lydia (Mrs. James M.) Steen. The church met for several years in members' homes and at the "Brick" on Front Street. In 1878, a frame church was built in the southeast corner of Laurel and Second streets. Trustees at that time were Achilles W. Horton, James T. Henderson, Napoleon B. Wishon and Samuel Rohrer.

In 1884, when a parsonage was secured, the trustees were N. B. Wishon, Samuel Rohrer, H. L. Remmel, James T. Henderson and E. H. Ridley. In 1896, a new brick church was erected on the site of the first church. In 1899, the trustees were L. B. McDonald, Otis W. Scarborough, R. F. Drummond, Dr. J. M. Green, Dr. Henry Owen, J. J. Walker and A. B. Drummond.

The church burned in 1909, and in 1910 the congregation traded its lot to James W. Grubbs and Elizabeth (Grubbs) Allen for two lots in the southwest corner of Third and Laurel streets. At this time, John W. Wallace, Claude M. Erwin, George R. Hays, T. P. Umsted, C. E. Crook, Otis W. Scarborough and H. G. Drummond were trustees. The building committee consisted of Harvey G. Drummond (chairman), T. P. Umsted, George R. Hays, A. T. Hubly, Otis W. Scarborough and C. M. Erwin. The new church was dedicated on Apr. 28, 1912. The women of the church sponsored a Wesley House in an underprivileged area of town, beginning in 1916. For a time, it was sponsored by the Octavia Bacus Circle of the church.

Pastors of the church, with dates of appointment, have included: M. B. Umsted, 1874; Charles B. Hun-

ton, 1876; J. F. Jernigan, 1877; M. B. Pearson, 1878; J. S. Brooke, 1880; Z. T. Bennett, 1881; Frank Ritter, 1883; J. Anderson, 1885; E. A. Garrison, 1886; C. H. Ford, 1887; A. M. R. Branson, 1888; E. M. Pipkin, 1889; W. D. Matthews, 1890; Frank Ritter, 1891; M. B. Umsted, 1893; W. B. Rix, 1897; A. E. Holloway, 1899; J. W. Smith, 1900; C. Pope, 1903; M. B. Umsted, 1904; H. B. Cox, 1906; A. T. Galloway, 1907; E. M. Pipkin, 1908; B. L. Harris, 1910; B. L. Williford, 1912; William B. Hays, 1914; J. F. E. Bates, 1918; W. F. Evans, 1920; H. H. Griffin, 1922; F. A. Lark, 1924; B. C. Few, 1928; A. E. Holloway, 1930; F. M. Tollison, 1935; H. Melen Fikes, 1937; O. L. Cole, 1938; Jefferson Sherman, 1941; Roy I. Bagley, 1946; Guy C. Ames, 1949; Van W. Harrell, 1954; John A. Bayliss, 1956; Francis A. Budin, 1959; Howard L. Williams, 1961; Ben F. Jordan, 1964; William A. Stewart, 1967; David P. Conyers, 1970; and Jim Beal, 1974.

Emory Chapel United Methodist Church (Negro) was originally a congregation of the "Northern" Methodist Episcopal Church. It had been established before 1881, when Albert B. Smith and Josephine E. (Smith) Brown sold a lot near the northwest corner of Front and Pine streets to Emory Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church of Newport "in a consideration of a desire to promote public morality and religion and of the sum of one hundred dollars." Trustees of Emory Chapel Church at that time were Silas Woods, Henry Van Patten and Gilbert Owens. The church was named for the pioneer minister, Rev. William O. Emory, of Jacksonport.

The first church on Front Street was traded in 1897 for a lot on Remmel Avenue. George Chattam, Lucy Slay and Violet Robinson were trustees at this time. While the new church was being built, services were held in a store on Beech Street. The first church on Remmel Avenue was almost destroyed in the fire of 1926 but was rebuilt.

A list of pastors, provided by Mrs. Ardella Goodlow, who moved to Newport in 1912, contains these names: B. J. Jordan, Rev. Fagan, William B. Smith, Rev. Hall, S. McDonald, C. L. Kyles, L. C. Neal (1926), L. C. Rivers, A. T. Stephens (1930), J. M. Thompson, Rev. Johnson (three ministers by this name served the Emory Chapel church), B. F. Littlejohn, B. F. Tillman, T. H. Edwards (died serving in 1950), Rev. and Mrs. H. A. Davie, L. T. Thompson (pastor more than 17 years), Harry Bass, Rev. Parham, H. D. Bright and Reginald Moore. Mrs. I. J. Oates served as Sunday School superintendent for 22 years, and J. H. Phillips was chairman of the board of stewards for 30 years.



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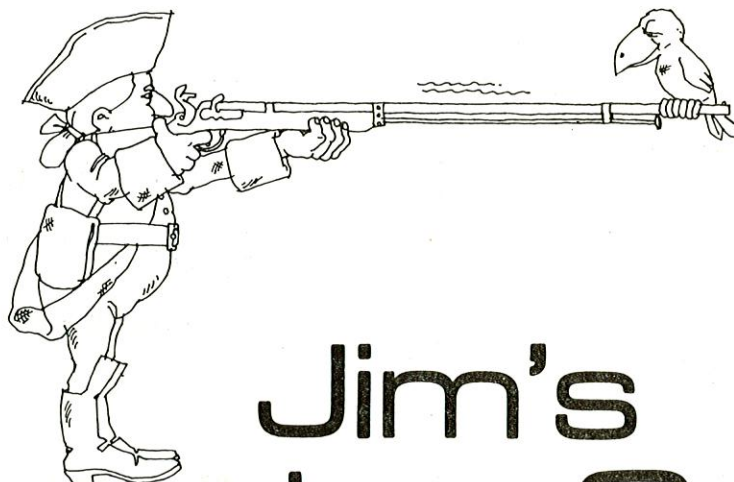


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Umsted Memorial United Methodist Church was organized in 1920 in East Newport, and a church building was occupied on Apr. 4, 1921. The early church trustees were J. L. Brownd, J. P. Williams, Brouce Holden, T. W. Herring and C. C. Corley. Kaylor Hall was opened in 1952, and the new sanctuary was occupied on Apr. 17, 1960. A new educational building was erected in 1963. Pastors who have served this church are: M. B. Umsted, 1920-24; W. M. Edwards, 1924-25, 1929-32; C. F. Wilson, 1925-26; Eli Cragg, 1926-29; A. E. Grimes, 1932-33; J. H. Diterline, 1933-35; Elisha Dyer, 1935-36; Hubert E. Pearce, 1936-39; W. A. Patty, 1939-40; J. W. Howard, 1940-45; G. G. Davidson, 1945-46; W. L. Dillon, 1946-48; J. M. Hughes, 1948-50; M. L. Kaylor, 1950-55; Pryor R. Cruce, 1955-59; Frank Weatherford, 1959-64; Leon Gilliam, 1964-68; Sherman E. Waters, 1968-69; Carl Strayhorn, 1969-72; Robert M. English, 1972-73; and Orvil Stahl, since 1973.

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD

Newport Pentecostal Church of God was organized Feb. 11, 1954, with these charter members: Hershel Lowe, Ima Lowe, Velma D. Sutton, Mollie Rickett, Mary Womble, James E. Davis, Jena Shelly, Mrs. George Ivy, Rose Jenne Lemons, Dossie Rogers, Amos McFall, Lenard Talley, Bishop Grantham, Louise Howard, Azalea Long, Anne Howard and Wanda Jean Williams. The church met at 1521 Bryant Avenue for many years, then moved to its present location, 201 Ray Street, in 1957. Services were held in a tent while the building was in the process of construction. A parsonage was built in 1962.

Pastors of the church have been: W. T. Rogers, Elaine Crawford, W. W. Crowder, E. P. Dougan, Carl Rose, James Boren, G. E. Parks, Clyde Hudson, Jimmy R. Dinwiddie, Charles J. Cross and Thomas R. Patterson.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U. S.

First Presbyterian Church was organized Jan. 29, 1882. It traces its ancestry to the Litchfield Presbyterian Church (erroneously called "Elizabeth" Presbyterian Church), which had been established in the early 1830's by Rev. D. L. Gray, through the Jacksonport Presbyterian Church, which was consolidated with the Batesville Presbyterian Church in 1879. On Feb. 6, 1882, the following members of the Batesville church were dismissed to the care of the Newport church: "Mrs. Mary E. Baldwin, together with her two baptized children, Guy and Alonzo Decatur," Melville Robinson, Mrs. Elizabeth Robinson, Mrs. Amanda Phillips, Mrs. E. V. McDonald, Mrs. Thad D. Kinman, and Mrs. Amelia Wishon. A later history of the Newport church listed the following members as having come from the Jacksonport church: Capt. and Mrs. Jones, Capt. and Mrs. Thad

Kinman, Col. and Mrs. T. H. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Melville Robinson, Mrs. E. V. McDonald, Mrs. Nellie Robinson, Mrs. Green Brandenburg, Mrs. Jesse Daugherty, William L. Harris, Mamie Wallace (Mrs. I. D. Price) and Kate Wallace (Mrs. Garland Hurt).

In 1892, the Newport Presbyterian Church purchased two lots at the site of the present church in the northwest corner of Main and Fourth streets and built a church. The trustees at the time were T. D. Kinman, M. L. Robinson and W. C. Wishon. The church building now in use was constructed in 1923.

Pastors of the First Presbyterian Church of Newport have included: R. B. Willis, 1880's and 1890's; J. I. Norris, 1890's; L. H. Richardson, 1901-03; R. B. Willis, 1903-06; J. F. McKenzie, 1910-13; W. P. Chalmers, 1914-15; R. L. Benn, 1916; C. A. Raymond, 1919-25; F. R. Young, 1925-29; J. F. Lawson, 1930-33; Alexander Henry, 1934-47; W. F. Rogers, 1948-52; W. M. Willard, 1952-55; J. W. McNeil, 1956-57; A. G. Severin, 1958-64; A. B. Faires, 1964-69; A. D. Cloud, 1970-73; and Dan Junkin Jr.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Paul's Episcopal Church was organized in 1881. Grace Church had been established at Jacksonport in 1866, but by 1881 many of its members had moved to Newport. Plans were made to build a church in Newport and to close Grace Church. The Jacksonport Herald reported that services were being held at Grace Church in 1881 — and the lot on which St. Paul's Church was built was not acquired until 1881, when it was donated by Aaron Hirsch and Lazar Hirsch. The early parish registers of St. Paul's Church were lost around the turn of the century.

In 1882, the first St. Paul's Church, a frame structure, was built on the site of the present church in the southeast corner of Hazel and Third streets. Part of the money for the building of the church was raised by the women of the parish, under the leadership of Mrs. Mattie A. Tozer, Mrs. Josephine Brown, Mrs. G. W. Hurley and Mrs. J. K. Huddleston. In 1891, a rectory was built on the back of the church lot, but it was replaced by another rectory in 1899.

After Rev. George B. Norton became rector, a movement was begun to build a new church. In 1903, the following men were appointed to the building committee: W. A. Billingsley, C. R. Hite, T. J. Gregg, Lancelot Minor, Gustave Jones, J. R. Cox and J. S. Wilmans. Vestrymen in 1904 when the church was begun were: Lancelot Minor, Gustave Jones, T. D. Kinman Jr., T. J. Gregg, J. R. Cox, O. D. Watson, B. B. Bond, C. W. Beard, H. A. Ridley and J. S. Wilmans.

Rectors of St. Paul's Church have been: E. C. Alcorn, 1883-84; George H. Hunt, 1884-85; W. E. Westabrook, 1886-88; J. E. Curzon, 1888-91; William B. Guion, 1891; J. Taylor Chambers, 1891-92; J. W. Keeble, 1893-98; R. W. Rhames, 1899; P. J. Robottom, 1900-01; Charles D. Lafferty, 1901-02; George B. Norton, 1902-07; Gilbert A. Ottman, 1908-09; W. E. Vann, 1909-12; Henry E. Spears, 1913; Lee W. Heaton, 1914-15; George H. Edwards, 1916; Lyman Wheaton, 1917-26; J. H. Boosey, 1927-29; W. T. Holt, 1930-37; L. K. Smith, 1939-44; William L. Jacobs, 1945-51; G. D. Clark, 1951-56; W. F. Hays, 1957-58; Charles S. May, 1958-68; and Lawson Anderson, since 1969.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Cecelia's Roman Catholic Church. On March 17, 1880, Rev. John Eugene Weibel, Swiss-born pastor of the Roman Catholic mission at Pocahontas, read mass at Newport in the beginning of a mission project which was to include a large number of towns in northeast Arkansas and to result in several new parishes. On the recommendation of Rev. Mr. Weibel, construction of a church in Newport was planned in the 1890's, and George W. Hurley donated a lot on Walnut Street for that purpose. Christian J. Saenger was instrumental in raising the funds for the building of the church, and the Church of St. John the Evangelist was dedicated in the summer of 1896. St. John's Church burned in the fire of 1926. St. Cecelia's Church was built near the corner of Remmel Avenue and Main Street in 1934 and dedicated on Apr. 29, 1935. Among the pastors who served the Newport parish have been: John E. Weibel, 1896; G. A. Kind; Rev. Cattani, 1905; Joseph Schlatterer, 1909; George H. McDermott; John P. Fisher; Edward P. Garrity, 1921; Raymond J. Marmon; Lawrence J. O'Neil; George A. Carns; John A. Flaherty, 1934-36; Joseph P. Casey, 1936-37; John J. Mulligan, 1938; Francis X. Dollarton, 1938; Francis J. Kilpatrick, 1938-40; Paul M. McLaughlin, 1940; B. Francis McDevitt, 1941-42; Joseph A. King, 1942-51 (parish hall built during this period); Francis J. Janesko, 1951-55; Bernard J. Roberson, 1955-57; Martin E. Busby, 1957-60; Frederick B. Zarrilli, 1960-63; Herman P. Strassle, 1963-69; Thomas W. Keller, 1969-70; Herman P. Strassle, 1970-72 (William J. Burke and George F. Turner, interim periods); and James L. Walters, 1972-75.

During the period between 1926 and 1934, services were held in the Ideal Laundry building, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walton.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

United Pentecostal Church, Dill and Warner Streets, was organized before 1950 by Rev. Loyd

Greer, and a church was built at 208 Warner. Early members of this church included Dorothy Tims, Calvin Thomas and L. Cowell. The present church was built in 1969 under the leadership of Rev. Charles T. Herring. Pastors of the church have been: Loyd Greer, Vondas A. Smith, Rev. Parker, Charles Thomas Herring, J. S. Dyson and John M. Fuller.

Organizations

Edited by Phillip McDonald

To list the organizations functioning in Newport over the past 100 years is an impossible task. The records of these organizations have usually been lost or burned. Even organizations which are in existence now do not always keep past records. Therefore, what we have here is simply an attempt to catalog the most important organizations of both past and present.

In order to get this data, a letter was sent to every known organization requesting the information, and a notice was published in the **Newport Daily Independent** to locate any other clubs which may not have received the letter. The following represents the information received, combined with information on defunct organizations from the files of the Jackson County Historical Society.

MILITIA

Hurley Rifles. This company was organized May 8, 1893, for service in the Arkansas State Guard, with E. B. Douglass as captain. In Feb. 1894 these were officers: Gustave Jones, captain; and R. L. Boyce and O. D. Watson as lieutenants. Charles L. Minor was third lieutenant in the May 8, 1893, organization, quartermaster in Feb. 1894, and first lieutenant on Aug. 7, 1894. The company became inactive but was reorganized in 1898 with these officers: Michael M. Stuckey Jr., captain; Marcus Brewer and John R. Carothers, lieutenants. It served in the Spanish-American War as Co. F of the 2nd Arkansas Infantry Volunteers.

Company G. In Dec. 1901, another Newport company of the Arkansas State Guard was organized with these officers: Gustave Jones, captain; and Walter Baird and Frank S. Gullette, lieutenants. It was disbanded in 1904.

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BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Newport Area Chamber of Commerce traces its origin to the Newport Board of Trade, which was organized in May 1887 with 50 members. The original directors were: George W. Decker, president; Sigmund Wolff, secretary; Isaac Owens, treasurer; and J. J. Flahiff and John W. Stayton. The Board of Trade was reorganized a number of times throughout the years. In 1902, it was known as the "Commercial League." In 1909, it was again the Newport Board of Trade, with Mayor W. R. Thompson as president and H. E. L. McCollum as secretary-treasurer. At that time, there was also a Retail Merchants Association. The officers of this group were: T. B. Chastain, president; C. R. White, vice-president; and H. E. L. McCollum, secretary-treasurer. In 1912, Mayor John P. Paul was president of the Newport Board of Trade.

In July 1915, a preliminary meeting was held at the courthouse to reorganize the Newport Board of Trade. W. D. McLain was elected president. Shortly afterwards, McLain appointed these committees: C. G. Henry, W. A. Billingsley and J. B. Avera, organization; and P. H. Van Dyke, H. E. L. McCollum and Norman Wolff, ways and means.

In 1918, A. T. Hubly led a number of Newport "merchants and business and professional men" in the reorganization of the Board of Trade. In the articles of incorporation filed on March 22, 1918, Hubly and the others said: "We desire to associate ourselves together as a Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce under the name and style of Newport Chamber of Commerce." The organization was divided into six membership departments: civic, mercantile, industrial, traffic and transportation, agricultural and publicity.

According to a history of the Chamber of Commerce written by Mildred Minor Gregory, the organizational meeting was held at the Hazel Hotel on Sept. 26, 1918. A. T. Hubly was elected president, and the following committee chairmen were appointed (including one not in the constitution): Tom Hutson, civic; Tom W. Johnson, mercantile; John E. Williams, industrial; C. L. Fox, traffic and transportation; J. R. Holden, agricultural; A. C. Wilkerson, publicity; and W. T. Parish, credit. This article lists early executive secretaries (office managers) of the Chamber of Commerce: Charles L. Mariner, 1918; Garland Hurt, 1919; and W. H. Hawze. Presidents listed were: A. T. Hubly, 1918; Joe Bevens, 1919-20; and P. H. Van Dyke, 1921-25. From another source, there is a record of J. G. Walker's service at the Chamber of Commerce office in 1926.

In 1930, the directors of the Chamber of Commerce were: W. H. Hawze, president; Mrs. W. H. Hawze,

secretary; P. H. Van Dyke, treasurer; and W. A. Billingsley, C. L. Fox and Austin Wilkerson. In the early 1930's, the organization declined. The reorganization in 1935 took place because of groundwork laid by the Rotary Club of Newport in 1934.

A committee was formed on Jan. 2, 1935, to reorganize the Chamber of Commerce: Marion Dickens, chairman; John Fitzgerald, secretary; R. P. McCuiston, Dr. C. E. Carroll, R. D. Wilmans, L. P. Mann, C. E. Neighbors, S. L. Burkett, J. N. Lewis, J. R. Holden, F. M. Pickens, A. C. Wilkerson, Ed Baum, P. H. Van Dyke, R. L. Bullock, W. R. Pratt, J. E. Doherty, Charles L. Fox and J. W. Shannon.

Presidents of the Newport (Area) Chamber of Commerce have been: Marion Dickens, 1935-42; Fred Pickens, 1942-43; Rex McCuiston, 1943-44; J. E. Doherty, 1944-45; Ira Pickens, 1945-46; P. H. Van Dyke, 1946-47; Sam Walton, 1947-48; L. H. Beaumont, 1948-49; Sam Brownlee, 1949-50, 1952-54; Wesley Bengel, 1950-51; A. E. Sartor, 1951-52; P. K. Holmes Jr., 1954-56; Bill Bartlett, 1956-57; Marvin Thaxton, 1957-58; Tom Choate, 1958-59; Bill Pratt, 1959-60; Jack Wilson, 1960-61; A. F. Minor Jr., 1961-62; Carl Cross, 1962-64; Kenneth Thaxton, 1964-66; Charles Morris, 1966-67; J. G. Molleston, 1967-68; W. L. McDowell, 1968-69; Jack Owen, 1969-70; Phil Hout, 1970-71; Al Miller, 1971-72; John Minor, 1972-73; Kaneaster Hodges Jr., 1973-74; Blount Hohn, 1974-75; and John Mullins, 1975-76.

Managers (titles have varied) have been: Marion Dickens, 1935-42; Mollie Hinkle, 1942-60; Jim Musick, 1960-62; Mildred Minor Gregory, 1962-66; Arnie Wilkerson; Jim Stokes; W. H. Heard, since 1971.

White River Valley Agricultural and Stock Breeders Association was organized in 1886 or 1887 and received its charter in 1888, when it stated its major purpose was to establish an experimental farm near Newport "for the improvement of the science and art of agriculture, horticulture and stock breeding" in Jackson County. It bought a tract of land in what is now Gray's Addition in East Newport and established the experimental farm there. Lancelot Minor and James T. Henderson were instrumental in establishing the local group, which was the first organization of its kind in the state, and they were also active in the organization of the Arkansas Stock Growers Association, which was organized at Little Rock on Mar. 8, 1888. James T. Henderson was elected president of the state organization, and Lancelot Minor was elected to the board of directors. Minor was president of the White River Valley Agricultural and Stock Breeders Association in 1889, and a list of the officers and directors in 1891 has been found: Lancelot Minor, president; J. T. Henderson, vice-president; J. J. Flahiff,

secretary; A. E. Shoffner, treasurer; and T. S. Stephens, Ike Goldman and J. C. Henderson. In 1904, when its property was sold and the organization dissolved, it was known as the White and Black River Valley Agricultural and Stock Breeders Association, and Sigmund Wolff was president and Lancelot Minor secretary.

Jackson County Immigration Bureau was organized in 1888 with George W. Decker as president and Gustave Jones as secretary. It was a branch of the Arkansas State Bureau of Immigration; H. L. Remmel of Newport was instrumental in the organization of the state group. The Jackson County chapter printed maps of the county to send to business prospects.

Newport Mercantile Cooperative Association, a branch of the Jackson County Agricultural Wheel, was organized in 1888 with these directors: John Q. Guynn (president), Allen Routsong, Austin Pierce, Melville L. Robinson, William Webb, H. W. Swearingen, W. H. Gamble, J. M. Brown, Simeon Bowman, Andrew Johnston and W. M. Mason. The organization operated the "Newport Wheel Store" for the benefit of its members from 1889 to 1891.

Merchants Exchange was organized at city hall on Sept. 25, 1907, with the following charter members: W. T. Allison, C. E. Crook, J. A. Bushfield, T. J. Gregg, R. B. Hooker, R. R. Higgins, B. B. Bond, S. M. Stuckey, and J. G. Walker. Its purpose was "to advance and promote the manufacturing and commercial interests of the City of Newport," but in reality all it accomplished was to provide its members with market quotations. Presidents included: W. T. Allison, 1907-11; and Charles G. Henry, 1911-18. Secretary-treasurers were: J. G. Walker, 1907-08; Harry Manfield, 1908-09; Park Deaderick, 1909-11; W. W. Rushing, 1911; and C. E. Crook, 1918. The organization was dissolved in 1918.

Newport Cotton Exchange was organized in 1922 by Tom J. Gregg, Tom Hutson, R. P. McCuiston, S. P. Carroll, K. J. Kimberlin, H. C. Patton, W. de B. Hooper, J. R. Brubaker and L. N. Carter. An earlier Newport Cotton Exchange was listed in 1906 with Gus C. Martin as cashier.

Newport Insurance Exchange was organized March 16, 1933, with Roy Hinkle as president and George E. Coleman and A. E. McCartney as the other officers. Agencies which were the original members of the exchange were: Minor-McCartney Agency, S. R. Phillips Agency and Newport Farm Loan Agency.

Jackson County Farm Bureau was organized in 1927 but was inactive until 1935. In 1937, W. B. Huff was president. The group was reorganized Nov. 9, 1951, at the courthouse, and Morris L. Bowman was chosen chairman and S. C. Mack secretary.

Newport Farm Bureau Strawberry Growers' Cooperative Association was organized in 1923. Directors were: J. F. Phillips (president), F. L. Bleakley, Eugene G. Wallace, J. L. Bevens and W. R. Turney. Other charter members were: Daugherty and Erwin, W. L. Heard, R. D. Torian, W. L. May, R. V. Blanton, M. H. Littleton, H. O. Walker, Harrison Bennett, Henderson and Handel, C. L. Gardner, S. Heinemann, C. D. Roberson and Wilmans Mercantile Co.

Arkansas Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers' Association had its headquarters in Newport in 1888, when A. Stevely was president and G. W. Decker treasurer.

Button Workers' Protective Association. The Newport chapter of this labor union was organized Sept. 1, 1911, with these officers: O. G. Bratcher (president), F. L. Turner, B. E. Higgins and Will Henderson.

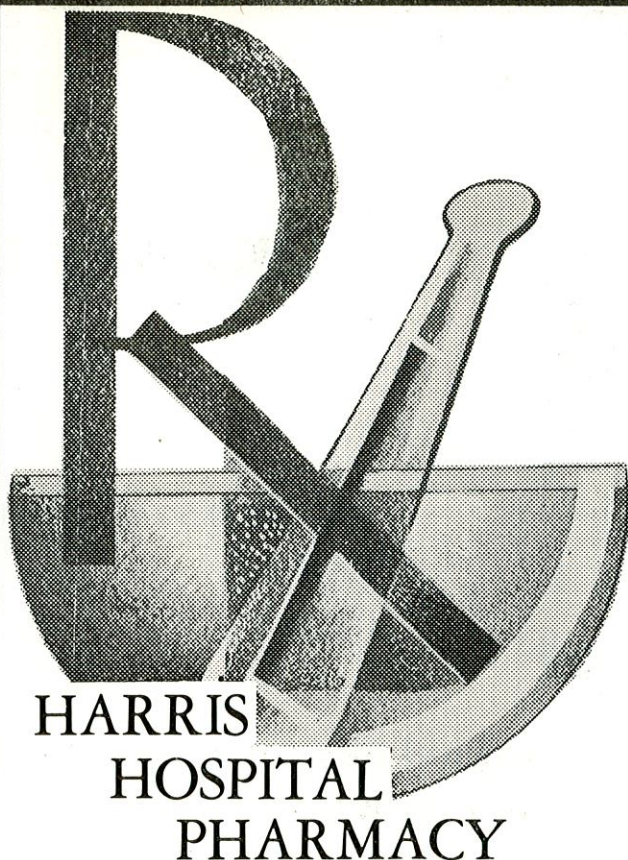
White River Seed Growers Association was organized in 1936 with these officers: E. F. McDonald (president), W. B. Huff, and W. E. Penix. Other charter members were J. E. Wilmans, W. H. Murphy, Corbett Johnston, Leland Bunch, Lynn L. Sharp and D. H. Burton.

National Greeting Service operations in Newport began in 1952. This is a service sponsored by a variety of businesses in Newport to acquaint new families with the community. Wright's Hardware and Henry Arnett Insurance Agency have been among the sponsors since the service was begun in Newport. The following "visitors" have worked with the service: Mrs. Lucille Wayland, Mrs. Doris Travis, Mrs. Matilda Brown, Mrs. Jane Lamitina, Mrs. Doris Manning, Mrs. Charlene Thompson, Mrs. Wanda Koettel, and Mrs. Kathy McNutt.


Delta Kappa Gamma, an organization of women teachers and women educators, was established in Newport, through Omicron Chapter, on April 26, 1946, with the following charter members: Effie Rogers (president), Lillian Hon (secretary), Ocy Baker (treasurer), Celia Dawson, Bess Fulbright, Myrtle F. Gaddy, Ruth Hon, Sallee Huffaker Martin, Louise Phillips, Jetta Sink, Tommie Lee Smith, Lillian Sorrels and Pinkie Watkins.

Two Newport women, Frances Bailey and Opal Albright, were among the organizers of the first chapter in Arkansas at Little Rock in 1935. The organization sponsored Future Teachers of America clubs in high schools, and the first in Jackson County was the J. R. Grant Club at Newport High School, established by Myrtle F. Gaddy and Maxine Bracy.

Presidents of Omicron Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma, have been: Effie Rogers, 1946-47; Myrtle F. Gaddy, 1947-49; Lillian Hon, 1949-51; Marie Eubank, 1951-53; Mabel Gray Patterson, 1953-54; Mary Nance, 1955-57; Monra Riggs, 1957-58; Dely Breckenridge, 1958-62; Ruby Williams, 1962-64; Jewell Eldridge, 1964-



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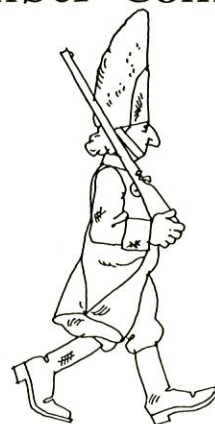
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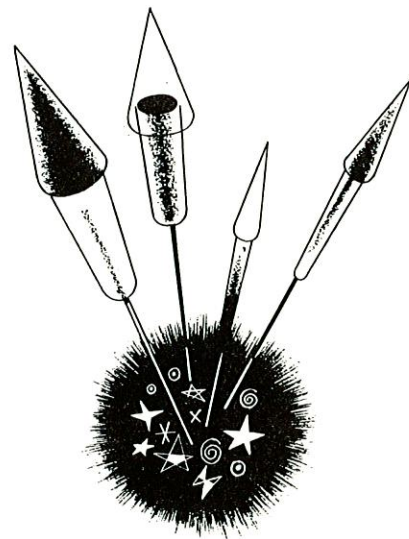
John Conner

Bob Holden Conner

JOHN MINOR COMPANY

John Minor

Betty Welch



WHITE ABSTRACT & REALTY COMPANY

Ben White

Janie White

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VILLAGE REALTY & DEVELOPMENT

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STAFFORD INSURANCE & REALTY COMPANY

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Penn Stafford

WARD REALTY

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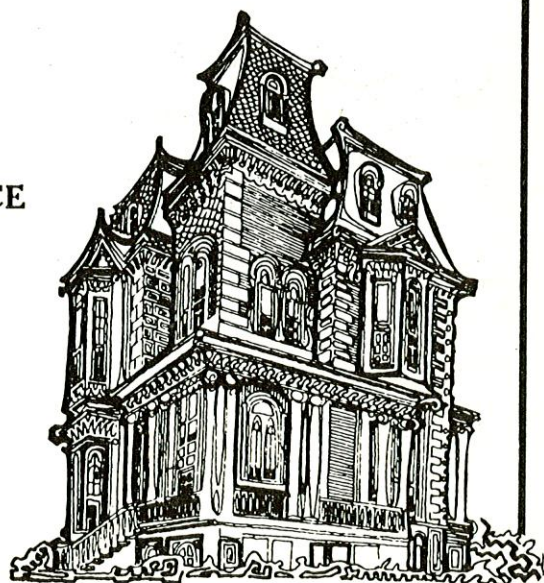
SINK REALTY & INSURANCE

Ralph Sink

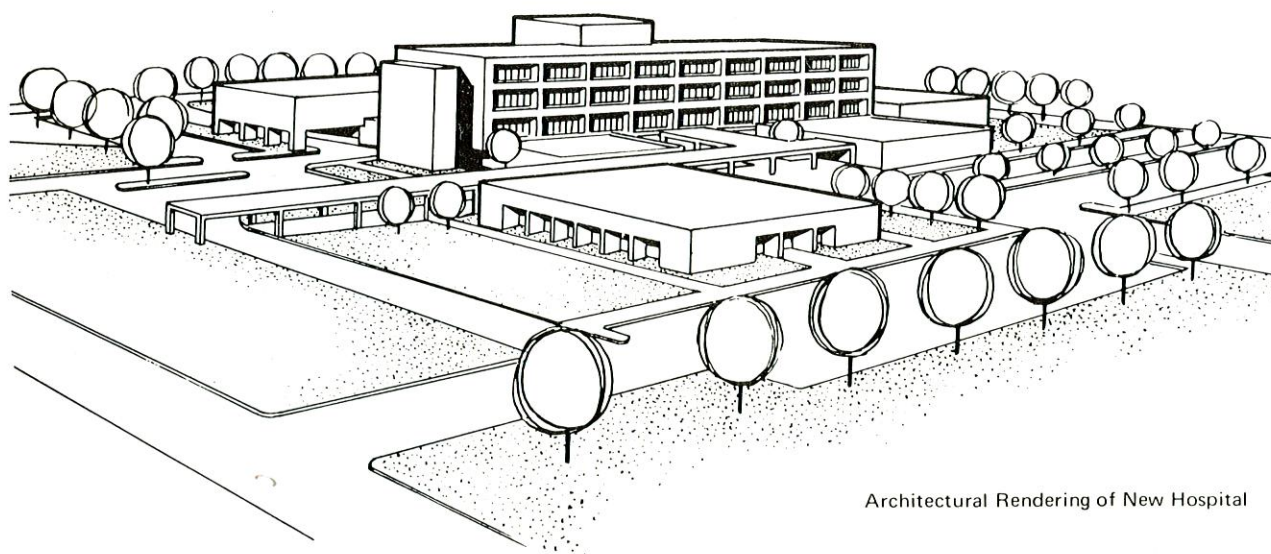
Nancy Sink

Don Shelton

June Massey



COMPLIMENTS OF
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Architectural Rendering of New Hospital

66; Hazel Mantooth Barnett, 1966-68; Betty Taylor, 1968-70; Kate Rogers, 1970-72; Helen Harris, 1972-74; and Billye Crawford, 1974-76.

Others. In addition to these, a number of other organizations connected with business and professional groups have functioned over the years: Jackson County Bar Association, Jackson County Medical Society, Newport Board of Realtors, Newport Home Builders Association, Newport Petroleum Dealers Association, Retail Merchants Association, Village Mall Merchants Association, White River Feeder Calf Association and others.

CIVIC CLUBS

Newport Colored Business Men's League was organized in 1901 with Rev. S. E. Johnson as president and Dr. J. M. Robinson secretary. Other active members were W. S. Hubble, Ed. Craigen, Thad Arrington, William Lax, William H. Warren, Dr. Brice Henderson, Rev. J. V. Lee, J. D. Davis, B. F. Hogan and D. S. Cooper.

Civic Improvement Club (Civic Improvement League), a club consisting of Newport women, was formed about 1912. In 1913, the group held a benefit showing of a movie at the Colonial Theatre and used the funds to help purchase trash cans to place on the street corners. The group was organized for "improving the sanitation, cleanliness and beauty of the city." In 1915, the organization maintained two lots on lower Second Street as a tennis court and playground, known as "Sunset Park." Mrs. M. A. Dorsey was president in 1916.

East Side Mothers' Club was organized June 12, 1915, at the East Newport School. Its first project was the development of Verdell Park, a playground for children. Mrs. A. B. Drummond taught needlework to girls between 8 and 14 who wanted to learn.

Civitan Club of Newport was organized before 1922, when it had already established a playground for children at what became Remmel Park. This group was also active in developing the Murphy Airfield. In 1930, Clyde P. McDonald was president and T. B. Williams secretary.

Young Business Men's Club of Newport was organized in 1932. It was one of the organizing clubs of the Eastern Arkansas Young Men's Club, which was formed in 1935 at Wynne. The Newport club was the host for the 1948 and 1952 "Miss Arkansas" pageants, held under the sponsorship of the Eastern Arkansas Young Men's Club. Presidents have been: Jimmy Shannon, 1932; Rev. A. E. Grimes, 1933; Earle Evans, 1934; Lester Farmer, 1935; Roy Evans, 1936; Curry Martin, 1937; Dr. Joe Williams, 1938; Bill Bacus, 1939; C. E. Neighbors, 1940; Ray O. Fann, 1941; Joe Schratz, 1942; Tom Hamilton, 1946; Sam Brownlee, 1947; Ray O.

Fann, 1949; Carl Cross, 1950; George Heard, 1951; Marvin Thaxton, 1952; Gus Jowers, 1953; Leonard Salenfriend, 1954; Roger Green, 1955; Kenneth Thaxton, 1956; T. S. Stephens, 1957; Lowden Grizzle, 1958; Mickey Twyford, 1959; Ray Belva, 1960; Darrell Fortune, 1961; Leman Smith, 1962; and Chuck Morris, 1964. The club disbanded about 1965.

Rotary Club of Newport was chartered Mar. 9, 1933, by the Augusta Rotary Club and Judge Ed F. McFadden, district governor. The charter members were: Ben H. White, Dr. A. M. Elton, Dr. C. E. Carroll, W. T. Parish Jr., W. B. Hurley, J. E. Doherty, Rev. William T. Holt, R. P. McCuiston, F. M. Pickens, Charles F. Brewer, G. P. Coffin, Guy E. Houser, C. L. Fox, Claude M. Erwin, Jr., A. F. Minor, Thomas Hutson, Lewis P. Mann, Richard D. Brown, Steve J. Graham and S. L. Burkett.

Presidents (with year elected) have been: J. E. Doherty, 1933; Dr. Charles E. Carroll, 1934; Ira J. Pickens, 1935; Lewis P. Mann, 1936; Ben H. White, 1937; John Fitzgerald, 1938; Kaneaster Hodges, 1939; Fred M. Pickens Jr., 1940; Carl L. Cross, 1941; Mon D. Thaxton, 1942; Dr. Joe Williams, 1943; Walter Huff, 1944; E. W. Lawrence, 1945; A. E. Sartor, 1946; Paul K. Holmes, 1947; Lauren H. Beaumont, 1948; Sam Brownlee, 1949; Andrew G. Ponder, 1950; William H. Heard, 1951; William B. Denton, 1952; Dr. Jabez F. Jackson, 1953; Willis Martin, 1954; Arnold "Buzz" Fellows, 1955; Marvin D. Thaxton, 1956; Roy Evans, 1957; Alcorn F. Minor Jr., 1958; Ralph McDonald Jr., 1959; Orville Richolson, 1960; J. G. Molleston, 1961; Dr. W. A. Rossington, 1962; Wayne Boyce, 1963; Frank Rogers, 1964; James A. Wallace, 1965; John Mullins, 1966; Robert W. Newell, 1967; Edward Scoggins, 1968; Roy R. Craig, 1969; Kenneth A. Thaxton, 1970; Frank Plegge, 1971; James A. McLarty, 1972; Albert H. Miller, 1973; C. Phillip McDonald, 1974; and Robert J. Lambert, 1975.

Lions Club of Newport was chartered Jan. 21, 1941, with the following members: Roy C. Biggadike, Willis H. Clift, Norman S. Campbell, Claude M. Erwin, Harry Grimes Jr., Aarol Grimes, John A. Hinkle, Judson N. Hout, Charles Hunter, F. H. Jones, Carl E. Lindsey, Ira J. Mack, Alcorn F. Minor, J. R. Purdy, James Renick, George H. Spencer, James W. Shannon, Leo C. Saenger, R. Dorsey Wilmans, Perry W. Woodson, Alton E. McCartney, and Jernigan S. Reamey. Presidents have been: Aarol Grimes, 1940-41; Leo C. Saenger, 1941-42; John R. Purdy, 1942-43; P. W. Woodson, 1943-44; A. F. Minor Sr., 1944; L. E. Grubbs, 1944-45; Judson N. Hout Sr., 1945-46; Percy L. Copeland, 1946-47; S. W. Freeman, 1947-48; Charles Brosh, 1948-49; Walter Heard Jr., 1949-50; Owen Stephens, 1950-51; Loyd Fulenwider, 1951-52; Charles Razer, 1952-53; Ransom Smith, 1953-54; Harold Mantooth, 1954-55; Joe Stafford, 1955-56; Raymond Rawlings, 1956-57; Phillip Long Sr., 1957-58; Bill Clift, 1958-59; Curtis Hubbell, 1959-60; Robert M. Twyford,

1960-61; Beryl Williams, 1961-62; Lonnie Winningham, 1962; Joe Churchman, 1962-63; Jeff Ellis, 1963-64; Jennings Stewart, 1964-65; Mack Brown, 1965-66; Fred Powers, 1966-67; John Minor, 1967-68; Donald E. Smith, 1968-69; Lynn E. Pinkett, 1969-70; Donnie Decker, 1971-72; Kaneaster Hodges Jr., 1972-73; Dr. Oras L. Dotson, 1973-74; C. A. Leidy Jr., 1974-75; and Larry Hooppaw, 1975-76.

Kiwanis Club of Newport was chartered May 22, 1955. Charter members were: Harold E. Riggs, Donald Chaney, Rufus "Steve" Stephens, Fred Ball, James W. Carman, James "Pete" Long, Cecil Bradley, Bob Huckaba, Billy Joe Brannon, Earl "Buddy" Black and Charles "Chuck" Morris. Presidents have been: Donald Chaney, 1955; J. W. Carman, Cecil Bradley, 1956; Harold E. Riggs, 1957; LaVon Kelley, 1958; Buddy Black, 1959; Billy Wayne Smith, 1960; Ralph Wyatt, 1961; Henry Arnett, 1962; J. C. McMinn, 1963; Ransom Smith, 1964; Andy Rhodes, 1965; George Marchand, 1966; David L. Johnston, 1967; Jerry Kelley, 1968; L. D. Spann, 1969; Carlyn Fish, 1970; Troy Montgomery, 1971; Eugene Johnson, 1972; Norris West, 1973; Boyce Smithee, 1974; and Palmer Fortenberry, 1975.

Optimist Club. The Newport chapter of Optimist International was chartered in April, 1969. Charter members were: George Bone, David Burris, Bruce Burton, Jim Burton, Alfred Couch, Ray Fann, Cloyce Fletcher, Burton Ford, Dean Garrett, Marvin Hare Jr., Blount Hohn, Billy Ivy, Franklin Keel, Stanley Kelly, Jerry Layne, David May, James Montgomery, Charles Morris, Dan Scott, and Frank Taylor. Presidents have been: Dean Garrett, 1969-70; Franklin Keel, 1970-71; James McLarty, 1971-72; Ray O. Fann, 1972-73; Billy Ivy, 1973-74; Quinton Long, 1974-75; and Harry Boretsky, 1975-76.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Newport Relief Society. "The first organized welfare society in Newport," the Newport Relief Society was established in the 1880's. Mrs. Sigmund Wolff and Mrs. D. W. Anderson were instrumental in its organization. Officers from 1905 to 1913 included: Mrs. J. S. Wilmans, Mrs. W. A. Billingsley, Lou Minor, Mrs. T. S. Stephens, Mrs. O. W. Scarborough, Mrs. Lazar Hirsch, Mrs. C. E. Crook and Mrs. S. R. Phillips.

In her report for 1914, Mrs. S. R. Phillips, the treasurer, reported a membership of 45 and recognized the free services of physicians and druggists, contributions by merchants, and other assistance. "During the long hot summer, Mr. R. J. Huguley, manager of the ice company, furnished ice free of charge to a number of families who had sickness and were unable to buy ice."

The funding of the society was originally by monthly dues, but in the 1920's the organization received income-producing property by the will of Isaac Gold-

man. The Newport Relief Society was incorporated on Feb. 15, 1926, with the following executive committee: Lou Minor (president), W. A. Billingsley, Mrs. S. R. Phillips, Mrs. J. S. Wilmans and T. J. Gregg. Other members at this time were Mrs. W. A. Billingsley, E. L. Boyce, C. M. Erwin, Mrs. James A. Gregory, Mrs. Tom Hutson, Mrs. B. W. Jamison, C. J. Saenger, John W. Stayton, Mrs. O. D. Watson, Mrs. Ira J. Mack and Mrs. T. J. Watson.

Later, the executive committee consisted of the following: Roy Hinkle (president until his death in 1965), W. A. Billingsley, L. McDougald, Bessie Watson, Lou Minor, Leo Saenger, W. B. Hurley, P. H. Van Dyke and Kaneaster Hodges.

Newport Relief Society (Negro) was founded in 1887 by Fannie Chatman, the first president. Mrs. Bryant was the first secretary. Other presidents have been: Dovie Green, Nellie Hodge, Fannie Lowe, Maggie Oates, Lou Johnson, Mary Alexander, Susie Armstrong, Laura Denty, Rosie Wade, Fannie Price, Georgia Carter, Eva Swanson, Julie Dent, Lena Henderson, Ada Williams, and Lillie P. Williams.

Bethlehem Tea Society (Negro) was organized on July 4, 1900, in the Bethlehem community east of Diaz. Presidents have included: Susie Gray, 1920-44; Lillie Parker, 1944-54; Beatrice Hendrix, Ethel Turner, Alice Donaldson, Myrtle Skipper and Mattie Parker. Vice-presidents have included Fannie White, Martha Harrington, Millie Churnn, Mrs. B. C. Warren and Lula F. Miller. Pauline Brown is the secretary. Among the members are Judie Phillips, who is over 100, and Minnie Harris, who is 99.

White Rose Club (Negro) was organized about 1905 at Emory Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church. Presidents have been; Elnora Dunlap, Adelia Thomas, Emmerline Reeves, Fannie Stevens, Laura Denty, Onie Reeves, Dezzie Reeves and Bernice Croal. Secretaries have been: Ida McEwen, Mollie Clingman, Hattie Clark, and Ardella T. Goodlow. Treasurers have been: Mrs. G. A. Phillips, J. H. Phillips and Ardella T. Goodlow (elected secretary and treasurer in 1966).

Union Aid Society (Negro) was organized on May 9, 1906, at Morning Star Baptist Church with these officers; Polly Bryant (president), Ella Chatman, Lula Bowdan, Emma Wheeler and Harriet Gilliam. Other presidents have been: Dona Ingram, Ella Parks, Malinda Mitchell and Lessie Roddy. Mrs. Bertha Woods has served as treasurer for 35 years.

The American Salvation Band, describing itself as a "religious and benevolent association and organization, military in its methods," was organized Dec. 10, 1913 at 111 Plum Street, Newport. The original members were: L. L. Lewis, President and "general-in-chief"; Mrs. Nettie Monroe, vice-president and

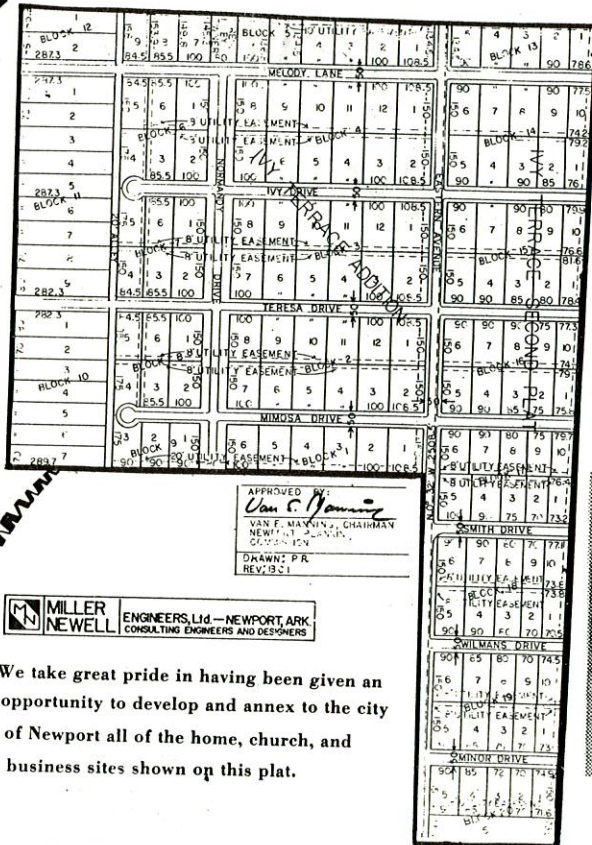


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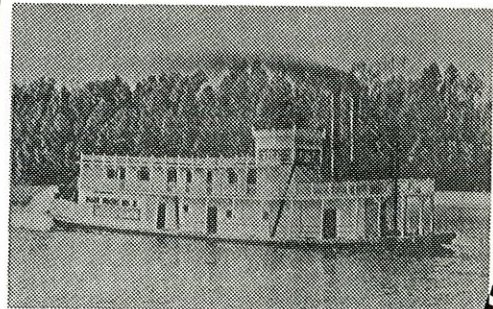
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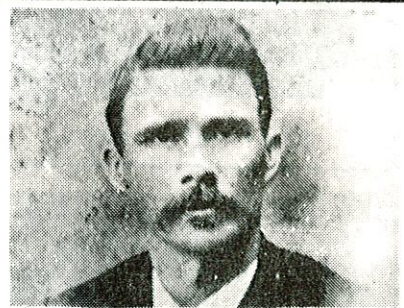


—Maggie Ball Howard

Walnut Street, 1915 Flood

J. W.
PhillipsC. M.
ErwinR. E.
JefferyGustave
JonesS. M.
StuckeyM. M.
Stuckey

—Faye Johnston

Newport Sanitarium
Dr. A. M. Elton

Dr. J. M. Jones



—Florence Moore

Dr. M. L. Harris
Dr. A. M. Elton

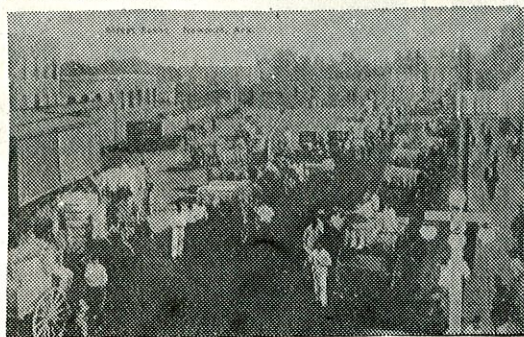


Hazel Street, 1884 Flood



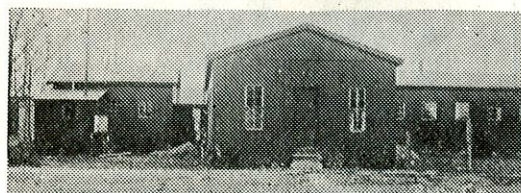
—V. L. Nelson

Newport Foundry, Water Tower



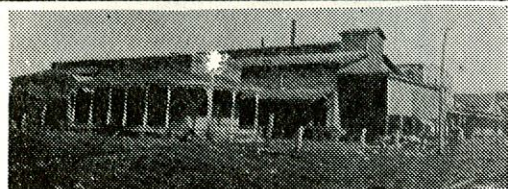
—Mrs. H. E. Bettie

Front Street, 1920's

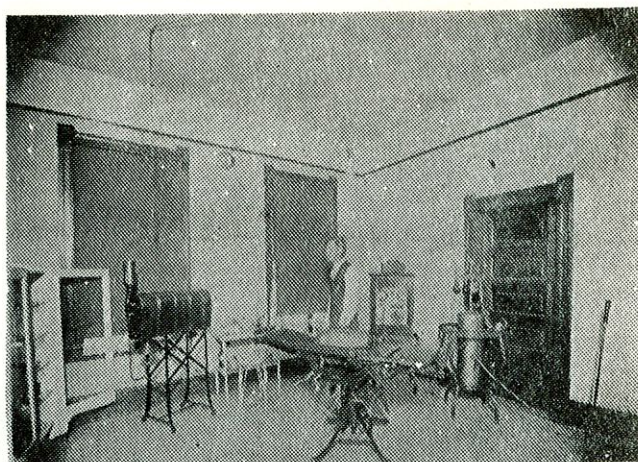


—Duane Huddleston

Heinemann Button Factory



Southern Cotton Oil Mill, 1905



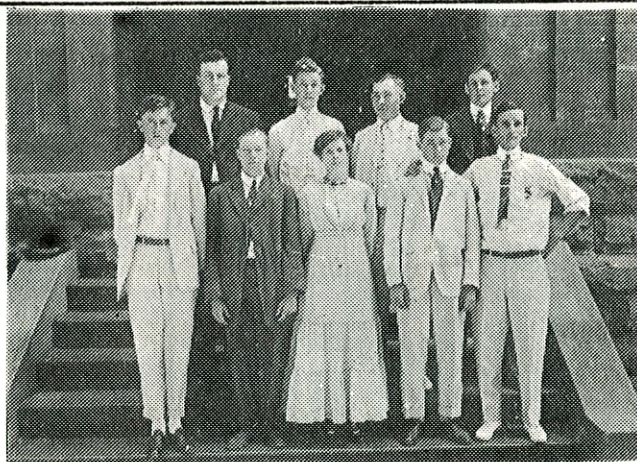
—Artemis Gray

Office; Dr. C. R. Gray



—Mary K. Graham

Sterling Store, 1931



—Elizabeth Morrow

Christian Church Sunday School Class
Courthouse, 1914

Front Row: Jeff Avera, Johnny McLain, Mrs. O. M. Bowen (teacher), Gus Rankin, Bert Sutton. Back row: Olie Oliver, Samuel Lockwood Burkett, R. T. Logan, Walker Stallings.



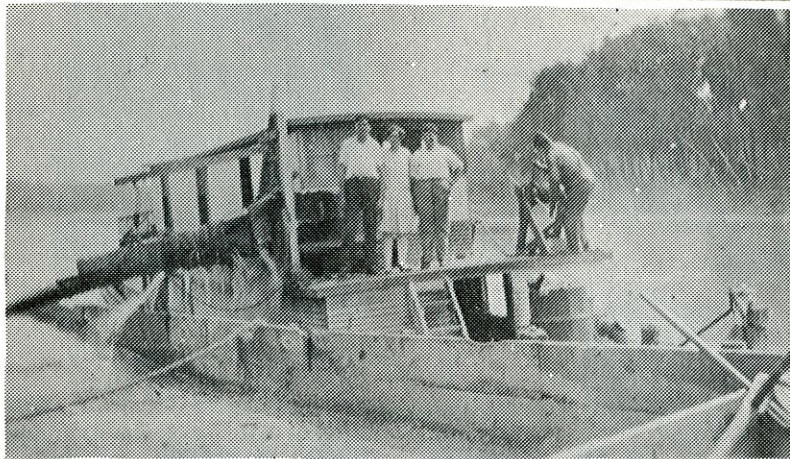
—Dr. S. Heinemann

Heinemann Boat "Pansy"
 Alfred Bierhoff; Hattie, Sylvan and Sol (Jr.)
 Heinemann; Albert Campbell; Slim Farrar



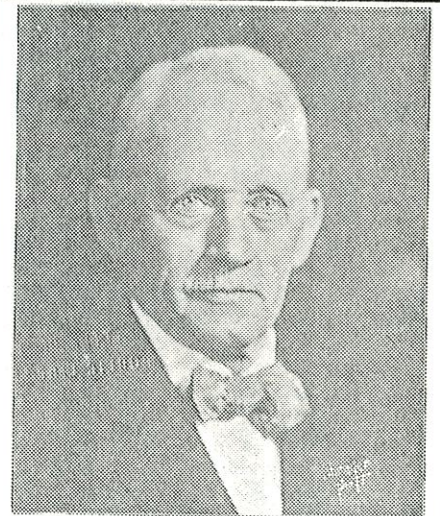
—Elizabeth Morrow

Otto M. Bowen



—Dr. S. Heinemann

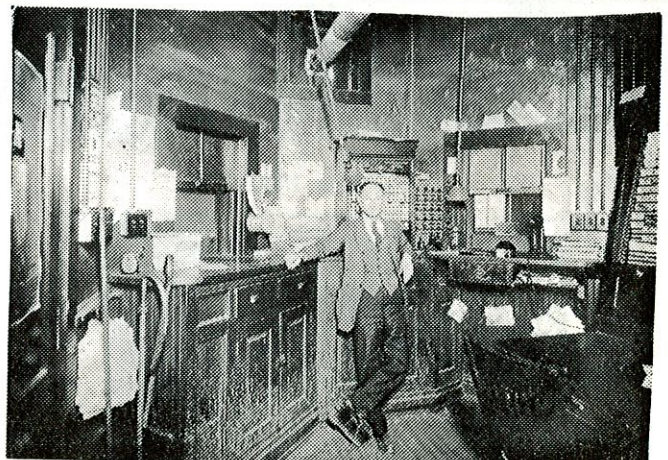
Heinemann Gravel Boat "S S"
 Sol (Jr.), Hattie and Sylvan Heinemann;
 Earl Whiteside



H. L. Rimmel



Josephine E. Brown
 Lucy Garrett, Mrs. John W. Garrett



—J. F. Graham

Missouri Pacific Ticket Office
 B. G. Graham, Agent, 1925



Newport Band, about 1929
400 Block of Front St.

—Dr. S. Heinemann

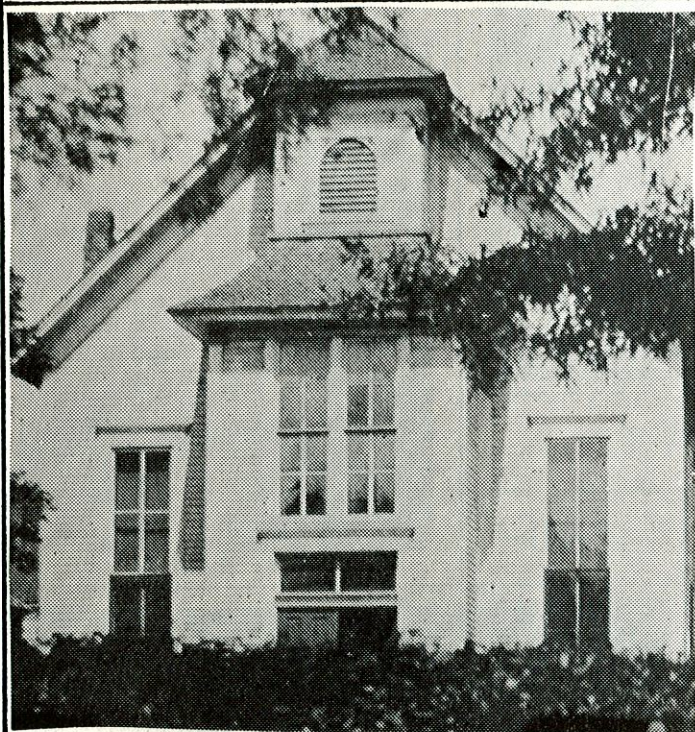


Creighton Hotel, 1905
208 Walnut



Walton Building, 1929
(Ideal Laundry)

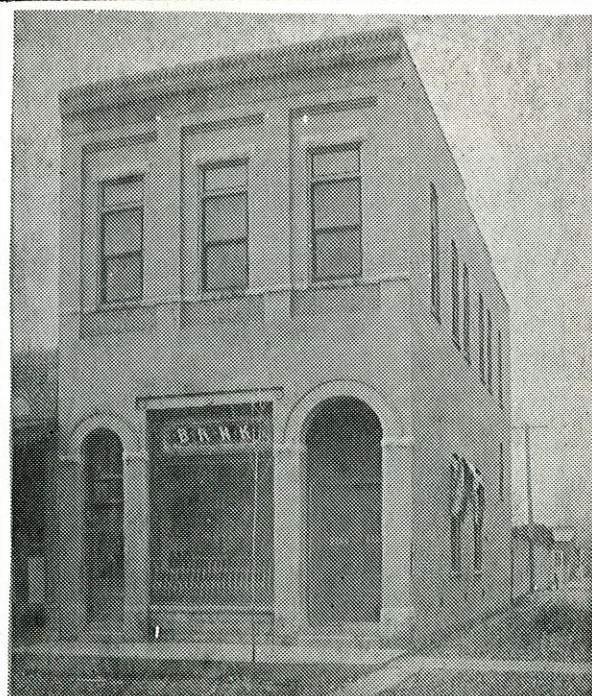
—V. L. Nelson



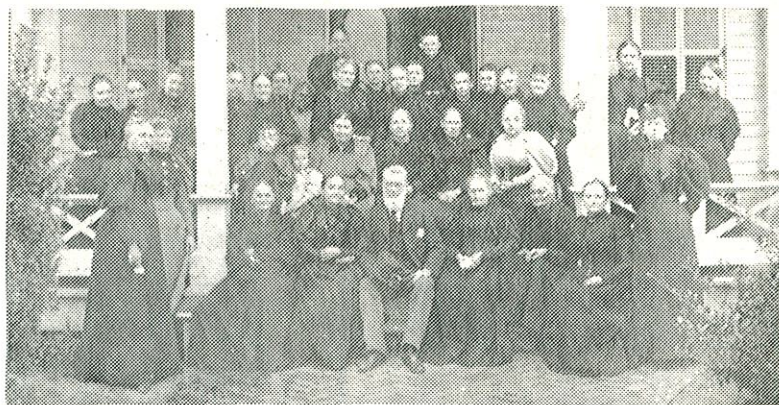
First Presbyterian Church
(Built 1890's)



Hotel Hazel, 1905
120 Hazel

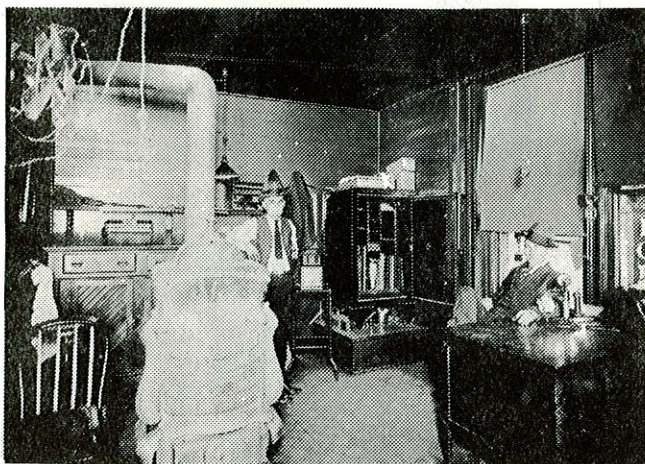


Jackson County Savings Bank
(First National Bank)
111 Hazel



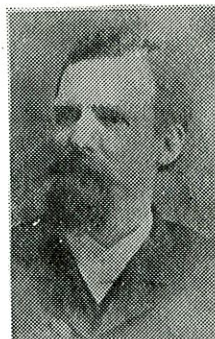
"Old Ladies Dinner" at the home of Mrs. E. L. Watson, Mar. 28, 1896

Front row (seated): Aunt Mary Daugherty, Mrs. Hal Dyer, E. L. Watson, Mrs. Martha Frances Huddleston, Aunt Tant Foushee, Mrs. Guy Smith. Second row: Aunt Joe Brown, Mrs. Laura Dills, Minnie Lee Jago, Madie Stephens, Mrs. E. L. Watson, Mrs. Ella Doswell; Aunt Lizzie Robinson, Mrs. Sallie Stayton, Aunt Molly Lucas. Third row: Aunt Tom Matthews, Mrs. Bach, Mrs. Lester, Mrs. T. J. Watson, Mrs. Fanny Jago, Aunt Eliza Guynn, Aunt Violet Robinson (Negro), Mrs. Anna Magoffin, Mrs. Mag Hudson, Mrs. Jennie Dillard, Mrs. Virginia Hobgood, Mrs. M. B. Umsted, Mrs. F. G. Smith, Mrs. Louis Empie, Mrs. John Flynn, Aunt Dink McDonald, Mrs. Charles Hite, Jr. Top row: Aunt Lou Bell, Mrs. Josie Brandenburg.



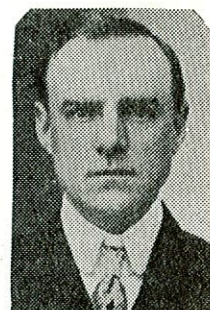
—John Best Fellows

Newport Ice and Coal Co. Office
Berry J. Best, D. J. Etheridge, 1921



—Mrs. H. E. Bettle

Lancelot Minor



R. H.
Askew



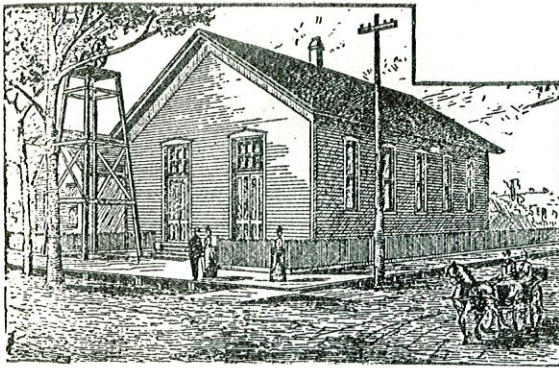
Hazel Street, 1915 Flood
Hotel Hazel (burned 1916); Post
Office; McLain (renamed Hazel) Hotel



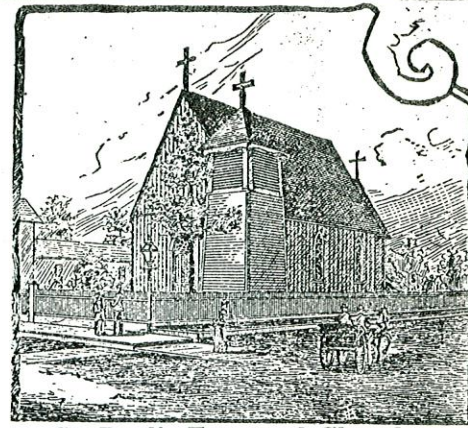
—Elizabeth Morrow

Swimming Party, 1901

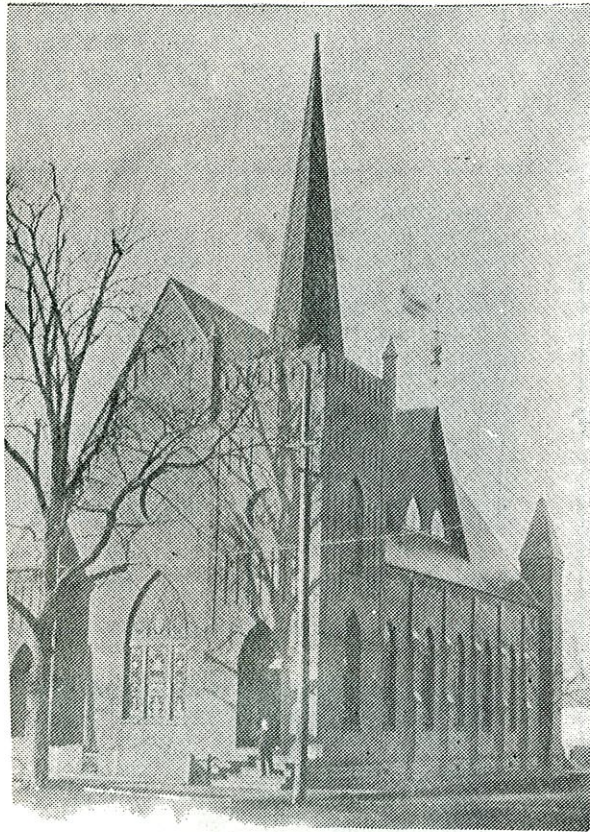
Standing: S. S. Prewitt, Raymond Bowen, T. S. Stephens, Otto M. Bowen. Others: Mrs. O. M. Bowen, Jetta Ross, Mrs. T. S. Stephens, Harry, Janie and Lutie Mae Stephens



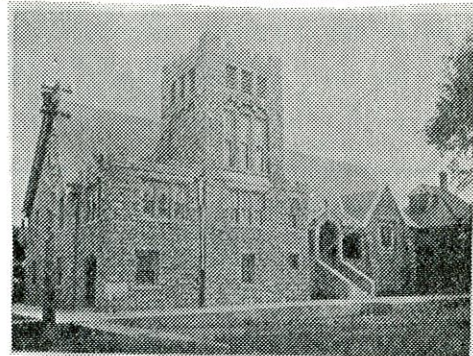
Methodist Episcopal
Church, South
201 Laurel, 1889



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Hazel and Third, 1889



Methodist Episcopal Ch. S., 1905



—Elaine McCall

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Hazel and Third, 1905

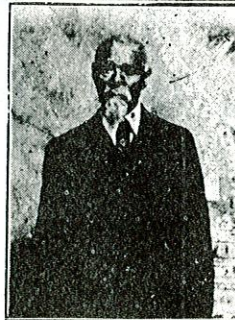


—Lovie Warren

Carolyn Dye



Rev. J. M. Conner
St. Paul A. M. E. Church



—Georgia Walker

Rev. J. S. Reed
C. M. E. Church



—Georgia Walker

Rev. G. W. Robinson
C. M. E. Church

"general"; Mabel Greeling, secretary and "field commander"; and Eva Greeling. The group had, however, been formed earlier, and it had provided food for Thanksgiving dinners in homes unable to afford more than the bare necessities.

Goodfellows Program. The Goodfellows program, which distributes Christmas boxes for needy families, was begun in 1925. In the 1930's, it was supported by the American Legion and Grace Community, with Lou Minor as secretary and treasurer. In 1964 a group of merchants and others formed the Goodfellows board: Charles Morris (president), Mildred M. Gregory, Bill Gullic, T. S. Stephens, "Red" Parker, Doug Holmes Roy Evans and Edith Evans.

Grace Community, devoted to "the care of the destitute and of their bodily and mental health and general welfare," was organized in 1932, by W. T. Holt, C. E. Campbell, C. J. Burris, J. M. Baker, S. D. Teeple, Freida East, Mrs. R. T. Simmons, Miss Lou Minor, Mrs. J. S. Wilmans, Mrs. M. A. Dorsey, Jim Fagan Watson and Gustave Jones.

Jackson County Social Service Agency, a private organization, was incorporated on Dec. 20, 1934, by W. A. McCartney, Leon Mack, L. McDougald, William T. Holt, W. P. Davis, A. C. Wilkerson, Mrs. W. T. Parish and Alvis W. Jackson.

Newport Service League, a volunteer service organization, was formed on Jan. 9, 1948. Charter members were: Lady Elizabeth Luker (president), Virginia Holmes, Josephine Biggadike, Eran Pickens, Amanda Woodson, Harryette Hodges, Margaret Van Dyke, Virginia Umsted, Maurine Heard, Christine Cross, Eleanor Jowers, Pauline Parish, Katherine Harris, Anna Mack Martin, Dorothy Mack, and Mary Alice Wilmans. Presidents (with year of election) have been: Lady Elizabeth Luker, 1948; Margaret Van Dyke, 1950; Clyde Williams, 1952; Maurine Heard, 1953; Clemmie Jones, 1954; Kay Tiberiis, 1955; Dorothy Hout, 1956; Dorcas Jeffery, 1957; Doris Travis, 1958; Colleen Thaxton, 1959; Betty Newell, 1960; Edith Parham, 1961; Phyllis Boyce, 1962; Marianne Denton, 1963; Lawana Miles, 1964; Anna Holk, 1965; Lucille Harris, 1966; Donna Gene Hout, 1967; Mary Keel, 1968; Hollis McDonald, 1969; Betty Tucker, 1970; Marian Hodges, 1971; Beverly Bone, 1972; Sue Johnson, 1973; Wilma Heffington, 1974; and Brenda Crocker, 1975. The first of the "Service League Follies," a Newport tradition, was held in 1952.

Greater Newport Jaycees is the name of a group which succeeded the Newport Jaycees. The older group was chartered June 9, 1964. The charter officers and board members were: Al Evans (president), Jerry Kelley, Darrell Fortune, Jim Adcox, Jackie George, Carl Hagar, Jerry Jackson, David Goodin, Tom Dulaney and Billy Joe Brannon. Presidents were: Al Evans, 1964; Wayne Beard Jr., 1965; Stanley Kelley, 1966; Joe Long, 1967; Dwayne Millikin, 1968; Lynn

Jackson, 1969; Jody Tapp, 1970; Bill Hale, 1971; Talmage Harbison, 1972; and Bob McCartney, 1973. The Greater Newport Jaycees received a charter on Mar. 11, 1975, with these officers and directors: Bobby D. Evans (president), Gregory Sills, Jesse Davis, Bobby Justus, Mike Dolle, Rodger Brand, Terry Dillon and J. C. Piker.

FRATERNAL ORDERS

American Legion of Honor. Equity Council No. 532 was active at Newport in the late 1880's and during the 1890's.

Ancient Order of United Workmen. White River Lodge No. 75 was established before 1884, when Orval Pool was executive officer and D. Pelz was recorder. The lodge became inactive but was later revived. In 1920, Gus Jowers and J. T. Richardson were among its officers.

Ben Hur. Newport Court No. 43, Tribe of Ben Hur, was organized about 1910. In 1913, a Newport attorney, James H. Johnston, delivered a history of the order at one of its meetings.

Beta Sigma Phi. The Newport chapter of this sorority was organized Mar. 19, 1948. The charter members were Harriet Umsted, Leonta Costello, Julia Garrich, Julia Lacy, Geraldine Best, Katherine Stokes, Peggy Murphy, Mary Ann Burkett, Shirley Young, Elizabeth Coltharp, Peggy Younger and Mary Frances Stokes.

Presidents have been (with year of election): Harriet Umsted, 1948; Julia Lacy, 1949; Mary Ann Burkett, 1950; Shirley Young, 1951; Harriet Lee, 1952; Sue Boyd, 1953; Joyce Hulett, 1954; Peggy Gullic, 1955; Shirley Young, 1956; Franchelle Harrell, 1956; Betty Green, 1957; Iva Lou Toler, 1958; Evelyn Pearce, 1959; Margaret Mitchell, 1960; Lawana Miles, 1961; Maryann Carter, 1962; Kay Babb, 1962; Carolyn Brannon, 1964; Linda O'Daniel, 1965; Phyllis Davis, 1966; Lois Black, 1967; Vivian Ward, 1968; Karen Delgado, 1969; Donna Allen, 1970; Peggy McCollum, 1971; Linda Tracer, 1972; Marilyn Martin, 1973; Nelda Adams, 1973; Benjie Sue Massey, 1975; and Carolyn Womble, 1975.

Colored United Sons and Daughters of Friendship and Cooperative Union, a local organization, was established at Newport in 1896. The charter members were: R. U. Wisdom, W. H. Hawthorne, A. H. Rosamond, Robert Johnson, G. W. M. Blossomgame, Jesse Williams, L. H. Martin, S. M. Robinson, D. C. Parks, J. W. Turner, James Blossomgame, Spencer Blossomgame, Joe Hackett and William Fields.

Eagles. Union Aerie No. 788 of the Fraternal Order of Eagles was organized July 25, 1904, at Newport and disbanded about 1910. Officers of the lodge included:

R. T. Simmons, Peter Anderson, Park Deaderick, A. M. Ballew, J. W. Jackson, W. T. Baird, T. S. Henry, G. P. Clark, George L. Robinson, Dr. O. E. Jones, A. W. Anderson, W. H. Carouthers, William Mosby, V. E. Pierson, Dick Brundridge, M. M. Stuckey, T. W. Shaver, Sam Webb, T. W. Dillard, C. W. Wood, Sol Heinemann, Peter Bach and Al Harper.

Elks. Newport Lodge No. 968 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was chartered on May 23, 1905. Joseph M. Berger Jr., who had belonged to the order at Jonesboro, was instrumental in the organization of the Newport lodge. The first officers were: J. M. Berger Jr. ("exalted ruler"), W. T. Dunn, Alcorn Ferguson, Joseph M. Stayton, L. N. Nouss, Lancelot Minor, Charles Meyer, C. G. Henry, J. O. Taylor and S. D. Campbell.

Other officers between 1906 and 1909 included: John W. Stayton, John J. Blanchard, Dr. Charles E. Carroll, J. W. Grubbs, H. E. Cobb, W. G. Magoffin, W. R. Thompson, J. L. Bevans, Rev. G. B. Norton, M. M. Stuckey, J. M. Gibson, H. G. Bunn, J. O. Powell, Sam Meyer, Gus Coffin, Tom J. Gregg, Adam Lockard, W. A. Billingsley, Grover Gates and S. M. Stuckey. Other exalted rulers included: T. J. Gregg, 1911-12; S. M. Stuckey, 1912-13; Dr. Charles E. Carroll, 1913-14; James Q. Blackwood, 1915; A. N. Walker, 1916; and John E. Williams, 1920.

In 1906, meetings were held in lodge rooms in the Board Building, southwest corner of Walnut and Second streets. The Elks Realty Company was organized to purchase property and build a lodge hall. The hall was built in 1908 at the northwest corner of Laurel and Second streets. It was sold in 1927 to Drs. Elton and Harris, who converted it to serve as the Newport Sanitarium. The building is now part of the Newport Hospital.

The Newport Elks lodge was noted for several seasons for the Elks minstrel shows. In 1912, an Elks baseball team was organized. Newport players that year were Walker Stallings, D. Vaughan, Eugene Hirsch, Sam Bennett, Roy Hinkle, Anschutz Lockard, Joe Bevans, Clay Childers, Warren Dunaway and Jim Blackwood. Rex McCuistion was the umpire.

International Order of the Twelve Knights and Daughters of Tabor (Negro). Lee's Tabernacle No. 512 was established in Newport about 1905.

Israelites Cooperative, Protective and Beneficial Association (Negro), a local fraternity, was established in 1916, with H. F. Burton as president and A. D. McClain as secretary.

Knights of Honor. Harmony Lodge No. 1158 at Newport was established in 1878 or 1879. In 1881, H. A. Ridley was executive officer and T. H. Phillips was secretary.

Knights of Pythias. Seneca Lodge No. 4 listed its meeting place as "their Castle Hall in the Brick building on East First Street" in 1877 and these officers: G. W. Hurley, A. J. Miller and J. E. Williams. In 1888, Samuel Kehrman, William D. Haddock and George W. Hurley were trustees for Newport Lodge No. 26. Officers in 1891 were: Orval Pool, Charles Meyers, W. D. Ross, Sam R. Phillips, O. D. Watson, G. B. Harder and Herman Bernstein. In 1901, these men were the officers of Orestes Lodge No. 102 at Newport: E. L. Boyce, M. M. Stuckey, Alcorn Ferguson, Henry Schott, F. S. Gullette, H. E. Cobb, C. W. Beard and James Hobgood. Orestes Lodge No. 102 reverted to Newport Lodge No. 26 that year. Officers in 1905-09 included: C. H. Walton, H. S. Simmons, C. F. Davidson, T. P. Umsted, George L. Robinson, L. L. Bowen, H. M. Payne, C. R. Hite, W. D. Ross, T. W. Shaver, Abe M. Ballew, Dr. E. L. Watson, J. D. Carvell, Sol Heinemann, J. Monroe Deaton, Tom Mooney, R. C. Wallace and M. M. Stuckey. The lodge disbanded about 1910.

Knights of Pythias (Negro). Sunset Lodge No. 42 was established in the 1880's. In 1901, the officers were: Joseph Vagner, Joseph Miller, Thad Arrington, Walker Kuhler, A. J. Turner, Rev. S. E. Johnson, D. S. Cooper, Dr. J. M. Robinson, James Johnson, Joseph Freeman, and J. D. Davis. Its women's group, the Court of Calanthe, also had an organization in Newport.

Knights of the Golden Rule. White River Castle No. 111 at Newport was formed in 1880 or 1881. In 1881, James B. Waddill was commander and S. W. Johnson secretary.

Knights of the Maccabees. White River Tent No. 5 was established at Newport on Jan. 29, 1899. Officers in 1905-09 included: Gustave Jones, J. R. Cox, L. N. Nouss, O. I. Hubert, W. B. Chastain, R. W. Bandy, B. B. Bond, W. M. Harris, T. E. Kelly, O. B. Ferguson, L. C. Bevans, A. T. Cummins, J. T. Hall, J. D. Carvell, William Bengel, G. M. Sink, Dr. I. H. Erwin, O. I. Hubert Jr., Porter Martin and D. J. Etheridge.

Lily Hive No. 18, Ladies of Maccabees, was also active in Newport. Officers in 1905-06 were: Mrs. M. E. Newbern, Mrs. Mary F. Johnson, Mrs. W. D. Ross, Mrs. George Herndon, Miss Minnie Ross, Mrs. J. A. Volkmer, Mrs. G. R. Hopkins, Mrs. Marie Brown, Mrs. J. V. Ridley, Mrs. A. D. Holland, Claire E. Hawn, Mattie Littleton, Emma Bengel and Georgia Pierson.

Modern Order of Magians (Negro), a local fraternity, was organized in 1919 with these charter members: Emmett P. Wheeler, Elisha David Bryant, T. J. Clingman, Dr. D. B. Taylor, Robert E. Williams, E. J. Wheeler and Rev. H. R. McMillan.

Modern Woodmen of America. Newport Camp No. 13674 was organized about 1907. Officers in 1909 were: W. R. Thompson, B. W. Jamison, R. D. Dennis, J. H. McFarland, F. J. Smith, J. P. Hester and H. S. Sink.

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Later executive officers included: W. A. Mink, 1910-11; Ben Bray, 1911-12; and R. T. Simmons, 1912-13. In 1920, O. I. Hubert was executive officer and F. J. Harmon clerk.

The women's group, Oak Leaf Camp No. 5612, Royal Neighbors, was active in 1909, when the officers were: Mrs. Lizzie Bullard, Mrs. Dora Albright, Mrs. Dora Carvell, Mrs. Lucian Shaver, Mrs. Samuella Davis, Miss Laura Journey, and Miss Freddie Benson. In 1920, Mrs. W. H. Bacus, Mrs. P. S. White and Mrs. Maud Risner were among the officers.

Moose. A Newport chapter of the Loyal Order of Moose was organized Apr. 19, 1911, with the election of L. L. Campbell as past dictator, required before current officers could be selected. In the election of officers, J. N. Jagers was chosen to serve as dictator, and the other officers were: William Bengel, H. E. Grant, W. W. Dunaway, L. B. Harris, G. L. Robinson, C. L. Fox, A. M. Ballew, J. E. Doherty and John Umsted.

Odd Fellows. Newport Lodge No. 71, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized May 17, 1875, through the efforts of George W. Hurley, and was chartered by the grand lodge on Oct. 14, 1875. Its charter was taken up in 1931. The charter members were: G. W. Hurley, J. E. Williams, A. W. Horton, R. D. Bond and T. V. R. Dovi. In 1877, A. J. Miller was noble grand and Hugh Grimes secretary. In 1881, G. W. Hurley was noble grand, and Robert West was secretary. In 1885, William Mosby was noble grand. Officers between 1905 and 1909 included: R. F. Drummond, J. C. Herron, O. W. Scarborough, Alcorn Ferguson, W. A. Joyce, M. M. Stuckey, Passmore White, George L. Robinson, H. S. Simmons and J. F. McCuistion.

Noble grands who served later included: W. H. Bacus, 1911-12; W. B. Hurley, 1912-13; S. J. Blackburn, 1913-14; Gus Jowers, 1914-15; Fred R. Suits, 1916; James H. Johnston, 1916-17; J. T. Richardson, 1920; and S. M. Parsley, 1930.

Silver Star No. 52, Daughters of Rebekah, was the women's group affiliated with this lodge.

Odd Fellows (Negro). Alpine Lodge No. 2107 of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows was chartered at Newport in 1880. Its women's group, the Household of Ruth, was established in 1889.

Red Men. Chickasaw Tribe No. 10, Improved Order of Red Men, was chartered on May 5, 1896. Among the early leaders were G. W. Sexton and George M. Sink. Harvey E. L. McCollum was sachem in 1901. Officers in 1905-09 included: J. F. Hoofman, G. C. Robinson, W. S. Brasch, G. M. Sink, L. B. Harris, A. M. Ballew, H. A. Stiles, W. A. Barker, J. P. Eubank, T. B. Chastain, A. T. Hubly, H. E. L. McCollum, and W. B. Chastain. The tribe disbanded about 1910.

Royal Arcanum. Newport Council No. 322 was established May 3, 1879. In 1881, W. C. Wishon was regent, and T. H. Phillips was secretary. Officers in 1905-09 included: W. C. Wishon, S. R. Phillips, S. M. Beattie, J. R. Cox, W. A. Joyce, J. D. Neal, T. D. Kinman, R. F. Drummond, R. C. Harder, G. L. Grant, J. E. Neal, George Foushee, F. L. Reiff, J. O. Turner, J. L. Jones, W. W. Campbell, Sam Dorr, Lancelot Minor, J. O. Taylor, S. Brasch, R. B. Hooker, R. T. Robertson and R. J. Wise.

Royal Circle of Friends of the World (Negro). Bonner Circle No. 108 was established in Newport in 1910 and functioned until in the 1920's.

Woodmen of the World. Pecan Camp No. 3 in Newport was chartered Feb. 18, 1892. Officers in 1905-09 included: L. B. Harris, W. D. Ross, Dr. A. D. Holland, R. C. Harder, W. D. Fry, P. S. White, A. B. Drummond, F. P. Foushee, W. H. Bacus, H. L. Younger, Ira Best, F. J. Smith, W. B. Journey, J. W. Mullins, L. J. Davis, W. R. Thompson, J. D. Neal and D. A. Carr. The 1911-12 officers were: George F. Fox, William Bowen, J. L. Mathews, P. S. White, J. W. Mullins, James Long, L. B. Harris, Joe Younger, William Bengel and R. W. Wallace Jr. In 1913, R. T. Simmons was council commander. In 1920, D. D. Rutledge was council commander, and P. S. White was clerk. The Newport camp was consolidated with Camp No. 284 at Grubbs in 1961.

An organization of the Woodmen Circle was also established at Newport at an early date. In 1920, Mrs. Chester Robinson was clerk of this organization.

MASONIC BODIES

St. Mark Lodge No. 7, Free and Accepted Masons (Negro), Prince Hall Affiliation, was organized about 1880. Early officers were: Dan S. Cooper, George W. Yandell, J. C. Bridges and Peter J. Anderson. The members in 1905 were: Oscar Minor, L. W. Wright, C. Dolphet, G. H. Warren, G. W. Warren, G. W. Yandell, E. B. Thompson, Dock Owens, James Jones, G. W. Strickland, Smith Williams, Allen Bryer, Sam Williams, W. H. Heblet and Dr. A. H. Brown. Worshipful masters since 1948 have been: Oscar Minor, Ollie McSpadden, W. F. Branch, J. N. Alcorn, Thomas Watson and Cleveland Brown.

St. Mary Chapter No. 410, Order of Eastern Star (Negro), Prince Hall Affiliation, was chartered in Apr. 1954 with these members: Ollie McSpadden (patron), Mary E. Hornberger, Alice L. Whitmore, Rhodie Mae Ruffin, Elmeater Harris, Alice Nelson Harris, Ruth Mae Ruffin, Hester Wilkerson, Nellie Watson, Rosa Mae Williamson, Victoria McSpadden, Texas Ann Patterson, Willie A. Holmes, Ruby Mae Battle, Sarah Robinson Smith and Dorothy Dean Webster. Worthy matrons (with year of election) have been: Mary E. Hornberger, 1954, 1957; Vitula

Montgomery, 1956; Jo Ann Wilson, 1958; Eddie Mae Jones, 1966; Lillie B. Waters, 1967; Mary E. Hornberger Fitzhugh, 1969; and Ellen Mary Montgomery, 1974.

Fortitude Lodge No. 397, Free and Accepted Masons, was instituted in Newport on Aug. 14, 1882, and chartered Nov. 7, 1882, with these members: Dr. W. H. Heard, worthy master; William L. Harris, senior warden; William B. Chastain, junior warden; and G. W. Hurley, Henry P. Cleveland, James C. Grubbs, Andrew Boschwitz, James T. Henderson, Dr. J. M. Jones and J. E. Wilmans. The roster of this lodge in Oct. 1884 contains these names of officers: Lancelot Minor, Dr. J. M. Jones, J. E. Wilmans, William L. Harris, Lazar Hirsch, W. B. Chastain, W. M. Baird, Dr. W. H. Heard, George K. Stephens and J. H. Wells. These were shown as members: A. Boschwitz, H. P. Cleveland, William B. Empie, J. C. Grubbs, J. T. Henderson, G. W. Hurley, M. Jacobs, H. P. Mortensen, J. W. Parish, T. H. Phillips, O. Pool, R. W. Robins, M. L. Robinson, Dr. S. R. Spain, G. K. Tozer, O. M. Wallace, and T. J. Watson. Initiates during 1883 and 1884 not listed above were: J. M. Cook, W. S. Fifield, J. B. Hirsch, J. T. Rankin, H. L. Rimmel, Herman Schott, and James Smith.

Delegates to the Grand Lodge of Arkansas from Fortitude Lodge No. 397 were: Dr. W. H. Heard, 1882-83; J. E. Wilmans, 1884; Dr. J. M. Jones, 1885, 1889; William Mosby, 1887, 1890; Lancelot Minor, 1888, 1891-92, 1895; W. A. Joyce, 1892; and A. D. Bailey, 1892-93, 1895. Secretaries were: J. E. Wilmans, 1882-83, 1885-86; Lazar Hirsch, 1884-85; W. L. Harris, 1886-87; L. Minor, 1887-91; W. C. Wishon, 1891-94; and W. A. Joyce, 1894-95. In 1891, the officers were: Lancelot Minor, O. M. Wallace, A. D. Bailey, W. C. Wishon, W. A. Joyce, G. B. Harder, J. H. Wells, A. Harris, William Mosby and Dr. J. M. Jones.

In 1895, committees from Fortitude Lodge No. 397 and Jacksonport Lodge No. 191 drew up a joint resolution requesting the Grand Lodge to consolidate the two lodges. Lancelot Minor, Leon Lippman and J. R. Mayhan were the committeemen from Fortitude Lodge. The petition was granted.

Jackson Lodge No. 191 is the successor of Jacksonport Lodge No. 191, which was chartered at Jacksonport on Nov. 7, 1866. In 1892, the domicile was moved to Newport, where Fortitude Lodge No. 397 was also domiciled. In 1895, the two lodges requested a merger, which was granted, with the result being Jackson Lodge No. 191. The committeemen from Jacksonport Lodge No. 191 were R. L. Baker, J. J. Walker and J. M. Stayton.

Worthy masters of Jackson Lodge No. 191 (with year of election) have been: Adam Bach, 1892, 1894; T. T. Ward, 1893; John W. Stayton, 1895; Lancelot Minor, 1896; J. R. Mayhan, 1897, 1900; J. J. Walker, 1898; O. W. Scarborough, 1899; Dr. J. M. Jones, 1901,

1908; E. L. Boyce, 1902; C. W. Beard, 1903; Dr. O. E. Jones, 1904; R. H. Askew, 1905; G. B. Norton, 1906; E. A. Shaver, 1907; C. M. Erwin, 1909; Dr. H. E. Dowell, 1910; G. M. Sink, 1913; William N. Dunaway, 1915; P. M. Clark, 1916; Jack Montgomery, 1917, 1925; Jesse E. Williams, 1919; J. F. Parish, 1920; F. J. Harmon, 1921; J. L. Brownd, 1922; T. J. Murphy, 1923; L. D. Daugherty, 1924; F. A. Stuart, 1926; John L. McLain, 1927; W. L. Reed, 1928; Lee Reed, 1929; C. O. Burkett, 1930; H. E. Tyler, 1931; F. G. Raggett, 1932; R. H. Runyan, 1933; C. E. Neighbors, 1934; J. L. Blancett, 1935; J. Fred Ball, 1936; W. E. Bacus, 1937; W. M. Morgan, 1938; J. G. Armstrong, 1939; S. G. Thompson, 1940; Roy Evans, 1941; H. H. Martin, 1942; J. R. Farmer, 1943; D. H. Atkinson, 1944; B. L. Kanady, 1945; S. A. Watson, 1946; H. O. Norman, 1947; E. D. Sharp, 1948; William D. Paige, 1949; Owen Stephens, 1950; Dewitt L. Scroggs, 1951; James Solon Atkinson, 1952; Rufus McKee, 1953; Orville E. Knopp, 1954; E. T. Scarborough, 1955; J. J. Coffey, 1956; B. F. Williams, 1957; B. R. Wiggins, 1958; W. O. Blagg, 1959; W. H. Duncan, 1960; W. E. McDaniel, 1961; H. E. Henderson, 1962; T. H. Treadway, 1963; J. B. Montgomery, 1964; B. B. Davis, 1965; B. R. Cockrill, 1966; C. A. Foushee, 1967; Joe R. Thompson, 1968; E. L. Kirkwood, 1969; Joe Treadway, 1970; J. M. Jones, 1971; H. O. Hicks, 1972; J. B. Flewellen, 1973; J. S. Atkinson, 1974; and N. G. Webster, 1975.

Secretaries of Jackson Lodge No. 191 (with year of election) have been: W. P. Robinson, 1892; J. J. Walker, 1893; Dr. A. J. Brewer, 1894; J. G. Walker, 1895; W. A. Joyce, 1896; S. R. Phillips, 1897; Adam Bach, 1898; J. R. Mayhan, 1899; L. Minor, 1900; T. P. Umsted, 1901; J. R. Mayhan, 1902; Dr. C. E. Carroll, 1906; S. M. Beattie, 1910; J. L. Brownd, 1927; W. E. Bacus, 1948; and Rufus McKee, 1955.

DeMolay. DeMolay groups have functioned at least twice under the sponsorship of this lodge. In 1946-50, Owen Stephens was the sponsor, and in 1954, Ed Sharp was the sponsor and Billy Dean Paige was the executive officer.

Newport Chapter No. 417, Order of Eastern Star, was organized July 28, 1920, with these members: Blanch E. Parish, Lima Mae Burkett, Ethel Leidy, Ora Ivy, Mary L. Burkett, Zoe Ella Stallings, Florence L. Cathey, T. J. Murphy, Z. L. Ford, Emanuel Mayer, W. L. Heard, Ada T. Montgomery, Irma Mayer, Eva McDonald, Mattie L. Deaderick, Florence Finley, Cora Heard, J. Fred Parish, Jessie E. Williams, Park Deaderick, Howard G. Porter, Franklin H. Morrow, Fannie E. Porter, Mable Schultz, Lula Shoemaker, Fannie Allen, Hettie Ivy, Alice Jordon, Jack Montgomery, Charles O. Burkett, C. R. Schultz, John L. Finley and S. M. Beattie.

Presidents, in order and elected every year beginning with 1920, have been: Blanch E. Parish, Ada T. Montgomery, Florence Finley, Ethel Leidy, Grace

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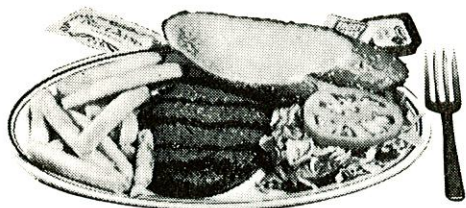
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Newport Rainbow Assembly No. 87 was reorganized May 23, 1966, with 31 members. Worthy advisors of this chapter have been: Connie McGaughey, Brenda McElrath, Diane Johnson, Andrea Elliott, Wanda Cordell, Sharon Montgomery, Janie Blagg, Sue McElrath, Paula Jones, Cindy McAlister, Carol Fish, Jeannie Rogers, Nina Jo Tooley, Kathy Wiggins, Mary Jo Raney, Becky Holloway, Betty Ann Davidson, Jonna Belva, Sheree Holloway, Linda Davidson, Carolyn Davidson, Phyllis Stapleton, Pam Kirkwood, Pam Treadway, Martha Cox, Kerrie Anne Arnold, Debbie Wright, Sally Foushee and Robin Stahl. Mother advisors and "Rainbow dads" have been: Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones, Mrs. Joe Raney, Mrs. Rickey Lowery, Mrs. Tommy Treadway, Mrs. Jim Flewellen, Mrs. Douglas Jones, Harvey Henderson, Bill Nelson and Leroy Kirkwood.

Board members for the chapter have been Mrs. Myrtle McElrath, Mrs. Eloise Jones, Mrs. Daveene Raney, Mrs. Ruby Davidson, Mrs. Verneal Henderson, Mrs. Nina Treadway, Mrs. Lucille Flewellen, Mrs. Lyda Jones, Mrs. Helen Foushee, Richard Jones, Harvey Henderson, Leroy Kirkwood, Joe Raney, Mrs. Ruth McGaughey, and John McGaughey.

Jacobs Lodge No. 303, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (Negro), was chartered in 1960. Lodge officers have included: Cardell Green, Melvin Worsham, Rev. James Brown, James Robinson, Rev. G. Worsham, Tommy Lee Smith, A. D. Green and Charles Love.

Rachel Chapter No. 304, Order of Eastern Star (Negro), Mount Moriah Grand Chapter, ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was organized in 1960 and chartered in 1962 with these members: Bernice Croal (worthy matron since the organization), Annie Mae Green, Rachel Green, Ollie Holmes, Febbie Green, Rachel Moten Harris, Lillie Carter, Ora Townsend, Jewel Brisco, Odessa Brown, Clinton Jordan and W. L. Hampton.

MILITARY ORDERS

United Confederate Veterans. Tom Hindman Camp No. 318, U. C. V., was organized at Newport on

June 19, 1889. The first officers were: Richard M. Davis, former acting colonel of the 45th Arkansas Cavalry, commander; John A. Schnabel, former lieutenant colonel of Schnabel's Battalion of Missouri Cavalry, vice-commander; T. J. Watson, treasurer; and T. T. Ward, secretary. Commanders included: J. A. Schnabel, 1896; V. Y. Cook; Lancelot Minor, 1911-13; H. C. Nuckolls, 1916.

United Daughters of the Confederacy. Lucien C. Gause Chapter of the U. D. C. was organized at Newport in 1901 at the residence of Mrs. Josie Brandenburg with 26 charter members. Officers elected were: Mrs. R. M. Laird, president; Miss Lou Minor, vice-president; Mrs. T. J. Gregg, second vice-president; Mrs. Charles H. Wilmans, secretary; Mrs. R. T. Robertson, treasurer; and Mrs. O. D. Watson, historian. Other ladies who served as officers in 1905-09 were: Mrs. B. W. Stainback, Mrs. C. R. Hite, Mrs. E. B. Wilmans, Mrs. R. M. Johnson, Mrs. Harry Bunn, and Mrs. George A. Hillhouse.

The officers in 1914 included: Mrs. John W. Stayton (Jr.), president; Mrs. Richard Robertson, vice-president; Mrs. Samuel R. Phillips, secretary; and Miss Thelma Hays, treasurer. In 1914, the chapter published W. E. Bevens' *Reminiscences of a Private*, a history of the Jackson Guards, and used the proceeds to help pay for the Jackson Guards monument which was placed at the Jackson County courthouse in 1914 but is now located at the Jacksonport State Park.

A chapter of the Junior Memorial Association for young boys and girls was organized in 1903 with Mrs. O. D. Watson as president. In 1905, the officers were Mary Laird, Minnie Minor and Charles Hite Jr.

Veterans of World War I. Jackson County Barracks No. 336 was chartered May 26, 1956.

American Legion. Neill Griffin Post No. 47, American Legion, applied for a charter on Aug. 12, 1919, with these persons signing as charter members: Eugene G. Wallace, Garland Hurt, M. H. Littleton, Charles Sprigg, Elmer Patton, H. O. Pettet, John W. Petter, M. James, Norman Hudson, H. A. McCallister, James W. Long, J. N. Oylin, Arthur G. Johnston, Sam Ratterree and Eugene B. Baker. The charter was issued on Aug. 22, 1919.

The post was named for Neill Griffin, who was killed in action at Argonne Forest in France on Oct. 18, 1918. He was inducted on Aug. 5, 1917, and was a member of Company E, 154th Infantry, which was raised at Newport. Griffin was Jackson County's first fatality in World War I.

In 1920, Jeff Avera was the post commander, and Ransom Hayden was an officer of the post. In 1930, George E. Coleman was commander. In 1934, the post built "Legion Hut" in Remmel Park. The post was in-

incorporated after the hut was built, on Feb. 12, 1935, and the executive committee at that time consisted of Roy E. Barrett, Ray Brown, S. L. Burkett, Guy B. Snow, E. W. Lavoy, W. P. Brazeale and A. B. Bevans.

Post commanders (with year of election) since 1938 have been: Frank Leach, 1938; O. O. Hamilton, 1940; Dr. O. A. Jamison, 1942; Jeff Mack, 1943; E. A. Fullbright, 1944; L. P. Mann, 1945; Frank Rogers, 1946; Roy Evans, Leonidas Mack, 1947; Fred M. Pickens Jr., 1948; Ottie Dillinger, 1949; Ray O. Fann, 1950; E. T. Ridgeway, 1951; Fred Williams, 1952; Wayne Collier, 1953, 1955; Neal Rogers; Wesley Bengel, 1954; Ed Madison, 1956; W. R. Pratt, 1957; Kern Steen, 1958; Sam Penix, 1959; Dr. Walter A. Rossington, 1960; John Baker, 1961; O. E. Guinn Jr., 1962; Iverson C. Campbell, 1963; Sam Boyce, 1964; Orville Richolson, 1965; Ralph Parker, 1966; Al Goss, 1967; Jeff Ellis Jr., 1968; Gerald Madden, 1969; Eugene Johnson, 1971; Billy R. Cockrill, 1973; and Tom Collier, 1975.

American Legion Auxiliary of Newport was organized Aug. 1, 1927, with the following charter members: Mrs. George Coleman (president), Miss Lina Mae Burkett, Mrs. Mary L. Burkett, Mrs. Mollie Jamison, Mrs. Arthur C. Blonde, Mrs. E. J. Lemley, Mrs. Harry Ponder, Mrs. J. E. Parrott, Mrs. Ray Rutledge, Mrs. Paul Gray, Mrs. S. L. Burkett, Mrs. Henry Penix, Mrs. O. A. Jamison, Mrs. O'Neal Jamison Bjorkman. In 1936 Mrs. Albert Bevans was president, and Mrs. J. R. Sink was president in 1937. Myrtle Farmer Gaddy has been president for 1974-75, and Mrs. Rebecca James is president for 1975-76.

Veterans of Foreign Wars. Collier-Massey Post No. 4683, V. F. W., was chartered Feb. 27, 1946, with the following members: Thomas C. Armstrong (commander), Cleveland M. Adair, Lloyd P. Archer, Luney B. Breckenridge, Robert C. Brin, Ruel E. Burkett, James C. Carr, Lee Carter, James D. Carvell, Henry Denton, William H. Duncan, Arthur Faulkner, Jack Grimes, Joe C. Hardin, Luther B. Harrell, Marvin K. Harrelson, Charlie Henderson, Jeff D. Henderson, James M. Henley, Jewel B. Henley, Eugene B. Jackson, John T. Jackson, Harry R. Jordan, Virgil G. Knopp, Samuel Lamitina, Don D. LaVoy, John H. McGuire, R. C. McKee, Jerry L. Midkiff, Edgar L. Nave, Cyrus O'Neal, Thomas E. Owens, John W. Pearce, Wardell B. Pennington, Gustave J. Rankin Jr., Thomas C. Reid, Joseph M. Schratz, John N. Skaggs, Roy N. Skaggs, Eugene G. Wallace Jr., Hubbard R. Williamson, Cecil W. Baker, Van J. Bell, Orvel Balch, Richard L. Bandy Jr., Wesley H. Bengel, James A. Boston, George M. Bowden, Alvin L. Brannon, Hugh Bullard, Burl N. Campbell, James K. Carr, Titus J. Christian, A. F. Clark, Hall C. Coe, Joseph C. Coe, Albert L. Collier, Billy W. Davis, Chester C. Doyle, Harry A. Eden Jr., John L. Ennis, Raymond W. Erickson, Almon C. Evins, Manuel H. Grossman, Wilkerson Hanley, Donald B. Harris, Ezra P. Heather-

ly, Charles D. Henley, Alex L. Hogan, John W. Hogan, Paul K. Holmes, Boyce A. Huey, Joseph W. Hunter, Peel A. Johnston, Oscar H. Jones, Glenn W. Hale, Samuel M. Lewallen, Dale A. Martin, Paul K. Massey, Roy L. McAllister, Alfred L. McCullar, Cecil D. McDonald, Robert H. McDonald, Kelly J. Murphy, Jasper N. Nance, Bryan Ormsby, Thomas L. Parish, Henry Patton, Fred M. Pickens Jr., Robert W. Poore, Gale Reese, Jake L. Reineccius, Clayton L. Rice Jr., Felix L. Roberts, Doyle W. Rogers, James H. Rogers, Tuck Romines, Roy L. Runyan, Robert A. Schulz, Robert S. Simmons, William L. Simmons, Reuben E. Skaggs, Maurice H. Steenburgen, John L. Shoffner, Evert C. Stephens, William M. Stephens, Earl B. Sullivan, Roy L. Sweatt, Ray S. Tucker, Bill C. Turner, Ralph P. Turner, Lowell A. Wagster, Raymond Wagster, Emmett G. Wallace, Elbert Watson, Lester D. Weaver, William W. Whybrew, Jesse E. Williams Jr., Virgil L. Wilson, Woodrow W. Wilson, Hosea Woodard, J. L. Woodruff, Herman A. Young and James P. Young.

Post commanders have been: Tom C. Armstrong, George Heard, Joe Hunter, John W. Hogan, Peel Johnston, Bob Jackson, W. O. Hulett, Charles Darling, John T. Worthen, Harold G. Rutledge, Otto Barron, D. T. Allen, Wardell Pennington, John K. Hipp, Gerald Bullard, James P. Young, Roy L. Sweatt, Leo E. Stuart, Earnest P. Heatherly, W. C. Vest, G. B. Kennedy, Albert Collier, Ernest C. Dyke, Karl E. Kunkel, J. D. Maris, Joe W. Thompson, Frank Durham, Alvin L. Brannon and Wayne Harrington.

The charter members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the V. F. W. were: Eunice Hayden, Lucy Jones, Nadine Hogan, Thelma Kyle, Mrs. Alvis W. Jackson, Roseland Jane Lamitina, Verna Gravette, Evelyn Draper, Pauline Dix, Hazel Davenport, Ludene Bullard, Freda Bell, Edna Butler, Sue Schratz, Maurine Nichols, Geraldine Ozbirn, Bernice Owens, Evelyn Pearce, Myrl E. Runyan, Edna P. Williams, Maxine Jackson, Lillian Abernathy, Helen Morris, Dorothy McDonald, Virginia M. McDonald, Bertha Dix, Elizabeth Abraham, Margaret R. Armstrong, Margaret Gillihan, Bessie Holmes, Chrystine M. Etheridge, Celia E. Leach, Kathleen Worthen, Almarie Carr, Irma Holt, Dorothy Pennington, Mrs. Jack Dill, Grace Fortune, Jean LaVoy, Annie Sue McDonald, Rachel M. Johnston, Eugenia Collier, Edith Evans, Ollie Schratz, Imogene Morris, Bertha Draper, Mary Ann Cudd, Lucille Harris, Virginia Erickson, Cleda Stephens, Irepe T. Moore, Vernice Pickett, Alma Fann, Kathryn Ann Torian, Ida Gardner, Montine Jones, Elizabeth Jones, Evelyn Gochenour and Mary Fulenwider. The auxiliary was organized in Jan. 1947.

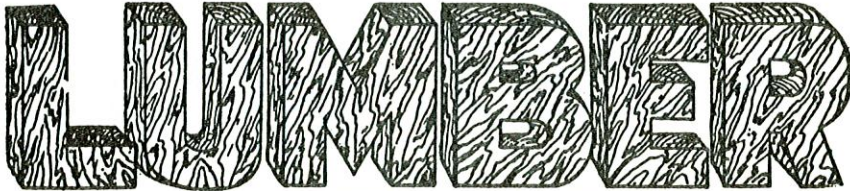
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Presidents of the Ladies Auxilliary of the V. F. W. have been: Kathleen Worthen, Rachel Johnston, Geneva Hipp, Laura Collier, Freda Bell, Lula Largent, Dorothy Hulett, Rena Leo, Myrtle Bates, Maxine Thompson, Evelyn Campbell and Edna Odom.

Disabled American Veterans. The local unit of the Disabled American Veterans has had the following presidents: George Bowden, Chester Wymer, Charles Darling, Ernest C. Steel, G. B. Kennedy, Wayne Harrington, George Hulett, Franklin Durham and Roy E. Scott.

The Ladies Auxilliary of the D. A. V. was chartered on Nov. 26, 1968, with these members: Odene Wymer, Dorothy Hulett, Charline Altom, Normagene Hughey, Selma Gilmore, Valeria Dyke, Fanny Brannon, Darline Robinson, Barbara Camp, Clair Greer, Sandra Steel, Betty Bowden, Jo Vest, Loretta Kennedy, Wilmalee Wymer, Maisie Lawson, Leviathan Hale, Willie Huey, Harriet Baker, Betty L. Smith, Pauline Caldwell and Sue Greer.

Presidents of the Ladies Auxilliary have been: Odene Wymer, Loretta Kennedy, Geneva Rickett, Gladys Harrington, Geneva Hipp, Doris Bowden, Sandra Steel and Tressie Durham.

RECREATION

Newport Gymnasium Club. This notice appears in an 1889 issue of the *Jackson County Herald*: "The Newport Gymnasium Club is having the oil mill fitted up for a practice room."

Newport Fair Association was organized Sept. 7, 1893. Officers and directors were: Isaac Goldman (president), J. J. Walker, Lazar Hirsch, T. D. Kinman Sr., W. C. McDougal, J. M. Hobgood, J. O. Taylor, J. Y. Harrison, J. T. Henderson, T. J. Graham and G. B. Irby. It bought a 40-acre tract adjoining the experimental station, which was owned by the White River Valley Stock Breeders Association. An annual county fair was held under the auspices of this organization from 1894 to about 1898. In 1904, the fairgrounds property was sold. Henry Bordwell was president at that time, and Charles R. Hite was secretary.

Newport Tennis Club was organized in 1901. It used a park at Pine and Second streets. J. W. Sullivan was the grounds keeper.

Newport Base Ball Association (1908) was organized Mar. 3, 1908, with these officers: Tom J. Gregg (president), John F. Lyons, J. G. Walker, C. G. Henry, A. D. Bailey, H. C. Sanders, R. T. Simmons, A. M. Ballew and W. T. Allison.

Jackson County Fair Association was organized on Dec. 10, 1913, at the Jackson County courthouse, with the election of Will Harvey of Swifton as chairman and A. T. Hubly as secretary. The major business was the appointment of a stock subscription committee: A. T. Hubly, George R. Hays and W. A. Billingsley. The association was formally organized on Apr. 30, 1914, at the courthouse, with the election of these officers and directors: W. R. Harvey Jr., president; A. T. Hubly, vice-president; W. T. Parish, secretary-treasurer; Norman C. Wolff, general manager; and John R. Loftin Jr., H. C. Sanders, F. L. Bleakley, W. A. Bowman, J. W. Lindley, W. W. Beede and C. T. Bateman. It purchased 40 acres of land from the W. H. Morris estate and established its fairgrounds and racetrack on that site. County fairs were held for a few years beginning in 1914.

Newport Golf Club was incorporated in 1928 by Garland Hurt, Tom J. Gregg, Freeman B. Irby, R. D. Brown, H. D. Stephens, W. E. Johnson, H. W. Burke, J. Vernon Ridley, W. de B. Hooper, Ben H. White, S. L. Burkett, P. G. Lockard, Edwin Boyce, Bess Sisson, Roy C. Latimer, Roy H. Hinkle, W. B. Hurley, A. C. Wilkerson, Clay C. Sisemore, W. A. Billingsley, W. T. Parish, Tom Hutson, J. N. Lewis, Ray Brown and Ira J. Mack. After the Newport Country Club was organized, its golf course was consolidated with the later club.

Rommel Playground Park Association was incorporated on Dec. 26, 1930, by the trustees of the Civitan (Playground) Park to administer bequests made in the will of Martha Orff Willis. The first trustees were: C. G. Henry (president), C. M. Erwin, E. E. Best, John E. Williams and P. H. Van Dyke. In 1935, C. M. Erwin was president and Ras Priest was secretary.

Martha Elizabeth Orff Willis had expressed, in her will, a desire to dispose of her estate "in a manner that will accomplish the greatest and most lasting good." She provided for the maintenance of what was then the Civitan Playground Park. In 1926, the park property was bought from H. L. Rommel by its trustees, C. G. Henry, C. M. Erwin, John E. Williams and P. H. Van Dyke, for a nominal price, and the name of the park was changed to Rommel Park. A swimming pool was built in the park in 1928 in memory of Mrs. Willis (the widow of Dr. L. E. Willis).

Newport Horse Show Club was organized in 1940 but was not active very long.

Jackson County Livestock Show and Fair Association was organized in 1941. The first officers were: Owen Burton, president; T. R. James, vice-president; Curry Martin, secretary; and Willis H. Clift, treasurer. Other charter members were: E. F. Smith, Roy Evans, K. F. Mason, Joel E. Anderson, C. M. Erwin, S. C. Mack, and F. L. Penix.

Jackson County Fair and Livestock Show Association was incorporated Jan. 7, 1951, by Fred M. Pickens, P. L. Copeland, S. C. Mack, Owen Burton,

Mollie Hinkle, R. P. McCuiston, Simpson Feed Co., Denton Brothers of Grubbs, First National Bank of Newport, and the Merchants and Planters Bank. The original directors were: Ray O. Fann (president, 1951-57), P. L. Copeland, Joe Simpson, Henry Denton, Owen Burton and Mollie Hinkle. Owen Stephens was president, 1957-59. Through another corporation, the organization bought and maintained a tract of land north of Newport (at that time) for use as a fairgrounds. The first directors of the Jackson County Fair and Livestock Realty Association were Henry Denton, P. L. Copeland, Joe Simpson and S. P. Brownlee.

Newport Country Club was incorporated in 1953. Presidents since 1955, in order, have been: Fred Pickens, S. P. Brownlee Jr., Dr. Haymond Harris, Kaneaster Hodges, Dr. Troy Gray, Frank A. Rogers, Paul K. Holmes, Thomas G. Graham, Jerry Jeffery, L. H. Conditt, Earl Vanhook, Willis Martin, Van Smith, A. F. Minor Jr., Robert W. Newell, Jack C. Owen, Wayne Boyce, Phillip Hout, Alfred N. Moon Sr., Dr. Oras L. Dotson, and Frank Plegge.

Jackson County Saddle Club was organized March 25, 1955, with 79 charter members. The presidents of this organization included: B. A. Mullins, 1955; Gay Lacy Jr., 1956; Bob McDonald, 1957; Ray O. Fann, 1958; Walter Beede, 1959; Owen Stephens, 1960; Dr. T. E. Williams, 1961; and C. D. McDonald, 1962; Clifton Jones; Bill Wallace; David Johnston; Bill Nuckolls; Bobby Teal; Kenneth Thaxton; Ray Tucker; Bob Fellows; L. H. Beaumont; and Wayne Collier.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Clover Club was organized on May 19, 1894, with 16 members, meeting every Thursday afternoon. Irma Watson in later years described the Clover Club: "This was a group of good friends who met regularly to have a happy afternoon together. They had no officers and no dues or prizes, but they had out-of-this-world refreshments." Members in 1901 were: Mrs. W. W. Dutton, Mrs. Robert Hooker, Mrs. William Bailey, Mrs. E. L. Maris, Mrs. A. D. Bailey, Mrs. B. B. Bond, Mrs. W. W. McMinn, Mrs. W. L. McDonald, Mrs. R. M. Johnson, Mrs. Gustave Jones, Mrs. T. D. Kinman Jr., Mrs. Narcie Minor, Mrs. T. J. Watson, Mrs. T. J. Gregg, Mrs. S. W. Taggart and Mrs. J. G. Walker.

Newport Club was organized on Dec. 18, 1896 for "the benefit and pleasure of social intercourse among its members, in furtherance of which object it will maintain club-rooms for the convenience, comfort and enjoyment of its members, and render the club-rooms an attractive and beneficial place of resort."

The charter members of the Newport Club were: J. L. Abbott Jr., A. G. Anderson, A. Bach, A. D. Bailey, William Bailey, Bob Baker, H. Bernstein, W.

A. Billingsley, Morris Bloom, B. B. Bond, Henry Bordwell, L. L. Bowen, H. G. Brandenburg, L. D. Bronson, E. Cahn, George W. Decker, J. E. Doherty, W. W. Dutton, Percy Finch, John T. Flynn, J. P. Foster, R. B. Fowler, Ike Goldman, S. J. Graves, T. J. Gregg, J. W. Grubbs, Bob Hooker, G. W. Hurley, R. M. Johnson, F. A. Jones, Gus Jones, T. D. Kinman, P. McArthur, J. A. McCauley, L. B. McDonald, W. L. McDonald, L. Minor, L. N. Nouss, S. R. Phillips, C. J. Saenger, Henry Schott, Joseph M. Stayton, T. B. Stewart, M. M. Stuckey, J. O. Taylor, D. Terry, W. R. Thompson, J. G. Walker, J. J. Walker, Dr. L. E. Willis, C. H. Wilmans and S. Wolff.

The club acquired rooms above the Jackson County Bank (later the First National Bank). Many of its members joined the Newport lodge of the Elks fraternity after it was established in 1905, and the Newport Club was disbanded in 1906.

Round Dozen Club, a social and sewing club, was organized in 1903 with twelve members. Among those active in the organization were Mrs. John W. Stayton, Mrs. John Wallace, Mrs. S. M. Bains, and Mrs. Claude M. Erwin Sr.

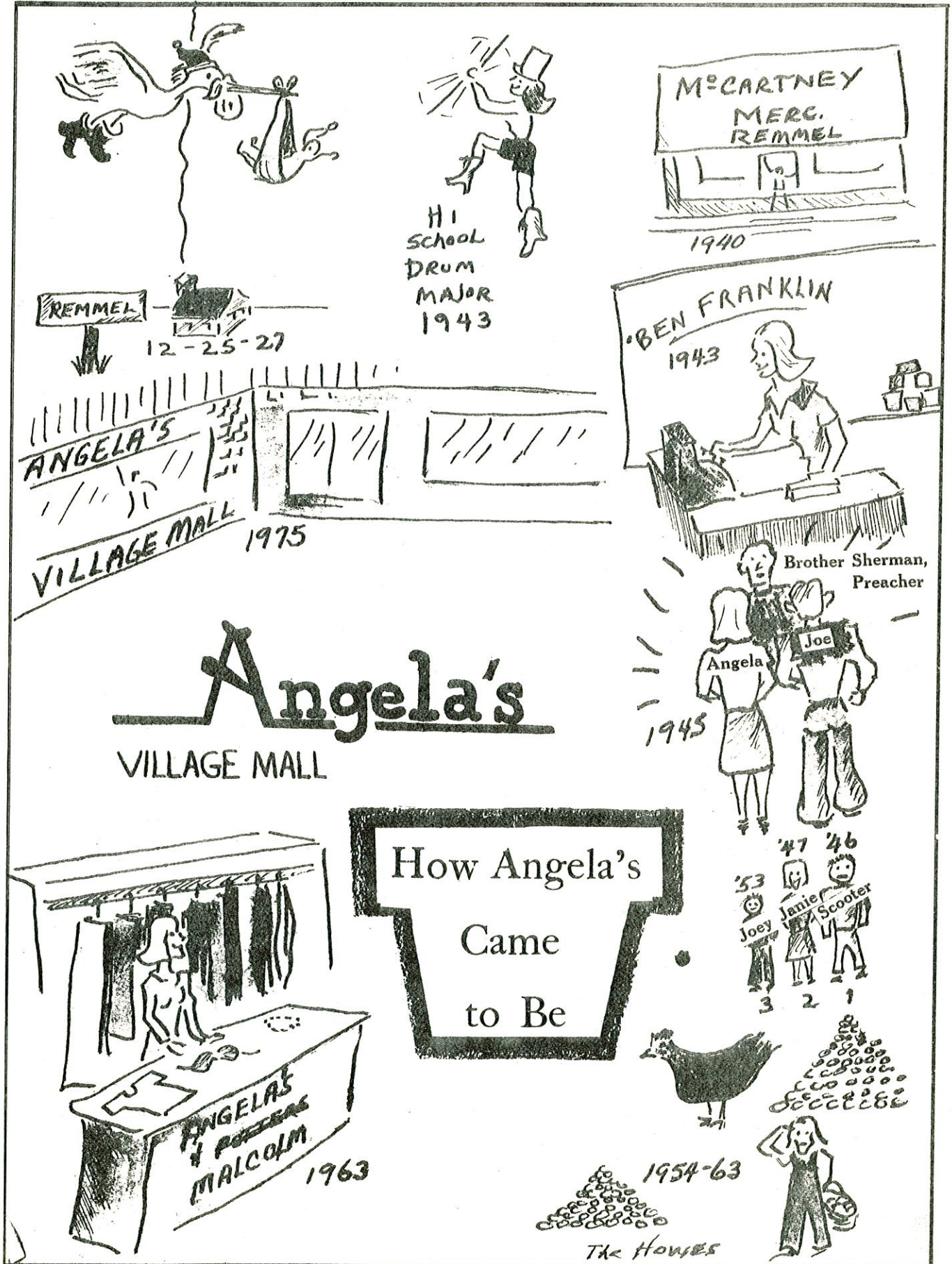
Pioneer Club, a social organization, was begun in 1911. Members included: Minnie Minor, Lucy Bailey, Franchelle Hooker, Hortense Hite, Garland Hurt, Norman Wolff, Warren Dunaway, Lawrence Bailey, J. L. Bevens, Adam Lockard and Eugene Hirsch.

Jackson County Newcomers Club was organized in 1968 with these charter members: Mary Ann Arnett, Barbara Canard, Gail Clark, Jo Ellen Deacon, Gidget Denton, Nomenia Dilday, Patti Dunn, Jean Edmondson, Linda Parrett, Jean Janecek, Doris Manning, Mary May, Jean Melton, Alinda Moorner, Kathryn May, Beverly Rodgers, Marsha Sivils, Alice Szabo, Molly Welch and Betty Wooten. Presidents have been: Mary Ann Arnett, Gidget Denton, Phyllis Stokes, Linda Parrett, Carolyn Millis, Betsy Gore, Virginia Phipps, and Linda Hartsell.

LITERATURE

The Reading Club was active in Newport around 1890. There is a record of a meeting of this club at the residence of Franklin Doswell. "The play they selected for the occasion is *Cymbeline*" and the cast was: Judge John W. Stayton, Kelly Monteith, Franklin Doswell, Joseph M. Stayton, John Neal, Lazar Hirsch, Mattie Stayton, Ada Rammel, Ida Huddleston, Miss E. Doswell and Allie Huddleston.

Twentieth Century Book Club was organized in 1899 at the suggestion of Mrs. J. B. Hirsch, of Little Rock, made while visiting her sister-in-law, Mrs. Lazar Hirsch, in Newport. Its purpose was and is to buy and exchange books among its members. The charter members were: Mrs. R. M. Johnson, Mrs. Junius Cox, Mrs. Farley Price, Mrs. J. W. Sullivan, Mrs. Robert Hooker, Mrs. O. D. Watson, Mrs. J. W.





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Mrs. Sigmund Wolff was the first secretary. In 1905-09, Mrs. W. A. Billingsley was president, and Mrs. E. B. Wilmans (1905), Mrs. W. M. Hooker (1906) and Miss Bessie Watson (1909) were secretaries. Bessie Watson served as secretary until her death in 1968, at which time Mrs. Wayne Boyce was elected secretary.

Pastime Book Club was organized in 1903. In 1905, Mrs. William Hooker was president and Miss Hal Phillips secretary. In 1909, Mrs. H. E. Cobb was president and Mrs. R. L. Pennington secretary. In 1911-12, Mrs. Joseph M. Berger Jr. was president. Irma Watson explained the demise of this club: "It ceased to function with the advent of rental libraries and magazine serials."

Woman's Club was organized at the Literary Club on Apr. 11, 1904, at the Hotel Hazel by Mrs. R. B. Willis of Searcy. Charter officers were: Mrs. Charles Wilmans (president), Mrs. L. E. Willis and Mrs. R. M. Johnson. The name was soon changed. Other early members were: Mrs. O. D. Watson, Bessie Watson, Mrs. L. R. Curry, Mrs. R. L. Pennington, Rina Price, Mrs. W. E. Bevens, Mrs. J. M. Hobgood, Mrs. Elbert Watson, Mrs. B. F. Whitaker, Mrs. O. M. Bowen, Mrs. J. W. Grubbs, Pearl Martin and Mrs. R. T. Robertson.

Book Reviewers was organized in 1905 "for literary and historical pursuits." Its officers in 1905-06 were: Mrs. M. A. Dorsey (president), Miss Elizabeth Gullette, Miss Louise Irby and Miss Ray Brandenburg.

Newport Public Library Association, established in 1930 by Rev. W. T. Holt and Mrs. M. A. Dorsey to support the Newport library, was incorporated in 1933 with these directors: Rev. W. T. Holt (president), C. M. Erwin, Jr., Dr. Charles E. Carroll, D. J. Etheridge, Mrs. M. A. Dorsey and W. T. Parish, Jr.

Centennial Study Club was organized in 1936, the year Arkansas celebrated its centennial as a state. Mrs. J. Fred Parish was president, and Mrs. F. M. Tolleson was vice-president. Officers in 1937 were: Mrs. G. K. Stephens (president), Mrs. James H. Johnston, Mrs. F. A. Stuart, Mrs. W. L. Heard, Mrs. A. G. Anderson and Mrs. C. A. Coltharp.

Creative Writers Society was organized in 1972 as a result of a creative writing class held by Mike Masterson, editor of the *Newport Independent*. The

charter members were: Ardith Foster (president), Margaret Ray, Lois Fisher, Georgie Durham, Ken Fuqua, Neva Nicholson, and Norman Prose. Martha Hosto is the current president. The group publishes *The Quill*, which contains poetry and prose produced by its members.

MUSIC

Musical Coterie was organized in 1903. Irma Watson said of this group: "There have always been lovers of good music in Newport and the Musical Coterie reflected the talents of its members. They gave beautiful concerts at the Opera House." Officers in 1905-06 were: Mrs. G. A. Hillhouse, Mrs. George Sink, Mrs. R. W. Bandy, Mrs. William McMullen, Mrs. C. E. Crook, Mrs. T. H. Reamey and Mrs. Robert Cox.

MacDowell Music Club, an affiliate of the Arkansas Federation of Music Clubs, was organized in 1944 to encourage the development of music as an art form and to promote music appreciation. The first slate of officers consisted of the following: Mrs. H. T. Johnson, president; Mrs. E. W. Lawrence and Mrs. T. C. Armstrong, vice-presidents; Mrs. Minor Collingsworth and Mrs. Curry Martin, secretaries; Mrs. Frank Jones, treasurer; Mrs. W. H. Bengel, historian; and Mrs. Marion Dickens, parliamentarian. Other members in 1944 were: Mrs. E. A. Billingsley, Mrs. C. A. Coltharp, Mrs. A. J. Crawford, Mrs. F. Fallert, Mrs. Howard Grant, Mrs. Fred Holden, Miss Alice Johnson, Mrs. N. B. Ladd, Mrs. C. E. Neighbors, Mrs. Fred M. Pickens, Mrs. Leo Saenger, Mrs. O. Schratz, Mrs. Ralph Wiles, and Mrs. C. F. Wilkins. The following have been presidents of the MacDowell Music Club: Mrs. H. T. Johnson, 1944-45; Mrs. E. W. Lawrence, 1945-46; Mrs. W. H. Bengel, 1946-47; Mrs. C. E. Neighbors, 1947-48; Mrs. Lawrence Lancaster, 1948-49; Mrs. J. A. Jowers, 1949-50; Mrs. D. P. Burton, 1950-51; 1968-70; Mrs. W. H. Keedy, 1951-52; Mrs. Millard Hardin, 1952-53, 1964-65, 1974-75; Mrs. W. D. Walker, 1953-54; Mrs. Lloyd Groves, 1954-55; Mrs. Melvin Gordon, 1955-56; Mrs. R. O. Burton, 1956-57, 1963-64, 1970-72; Mrs. Kenneth Thaxton, 1957-58; Mrs. M. O. Volentine, 1958-59; Mrs. J. R. Sink, 1959-60; Mrs. Fred Holden, 1960-61; Mrs. Jack Grimes, 1961-62, 1972-73; Mrs. Roscoe Nance, 1962-63; Mrs. J. T. Binning, 1965-66; Mrs. J. D. Collier, 1966-68; and Mrs. R. J. Stites, 1973-74.

Community Concert Association was organized in 1952 to arrange for the performance of classical music in Newport. The first president was Claude Erwin; Margaret Van Dyke was vice-president; and Elaine Burton was membership chairman.

DRAMA

L. L. Y. G. This organization of young women was established about 1890 and was also known as the Young Ladies' Philomathean Society. In 1891, the officers were: Dutie Hite (president), Pearl Sparks,

Bessie Wilmans, Blanche Ames, Willie Morrison and Mattie Stayton. The organization was instrumental in securing the support of the businessmen in town for building the opera house.

Newport Dramatic Company was organized in 1891. The Gazette in 1892 reported that it "made a hit at Batesville in that beautiful melodrama, 'Nevada, or The Lost mine.'" Lena Beatrice Wishon (Beatrice Keller) was a member of this group.

YOUTH

Boy Scouts of America. Newport Troop No. 1 of the Boy Scouts was organized in 1913, with George A. Hillhouse as scoutmaster. In 1915, Vernon Ridley, Reuben Hays, Owen Ard, Phillip Pennington, Tom Harder, Frank Jones, Alcorn Minor, George Jowers, Norman Campbell, Shelby Campbell, Hiram Jeffries, Elbert Umsted, Roy Wirthlin, John A. Hinkle, Thornton Bandy, Lawrence Hillhouse, Ralph White, Milton McGuire and John McCuiston Jr., members of the troop, along with Noble Massey and Vernon-Massey of Augusta, S. R. Phillips and J. F. McCuiston, assistant scoutmasters, Mrs. Fred A. Jones and George A. Hillhouse, the scoutmaster, went on a camping trip to Sylamore.

Newport Troop No. 2 (national number 9008) was organized in 1914, with Rev. L. W. Heaton as scoutmaster. Original members were: William Mayhue, Herman Tribue, Guy Churchwell, Paul Knowles, Byron Bursott, Oris Barber, George Montgomery and Clarence Harrington. In 1915, this troop hiked to Little Rock to publicize the work of the Boy Scouts in towns along the way. New scouts participating in this activity were: Donald Mink, Robert Johnson, Jernigan Reamey, Elton Ross, Gordie Barber, Clyde Patton, Leslie Bursott, John McLain, Ford Rankin and Frank Rankin. The troop was reorganized in 1916, with G. K. McNish as scoutmaster.

In 1930, M. S. French and Paul Gray were scoutmasters of the two troops of scouts in Newport.

Troop 67, sponsored by Rotary Club, was organized in 1937 with Roy Evans as the first scoutmaster. Ray O. Fann is scoutmaster. Troop 164 was organized in 1960 with St. Paul's Episcopal Church as sponsor; Van Manning and Bill Hobbs have been scoutmasters. Troop 207, organized in 1963, is sponsored by First Baptist Church (Negro); Jessie Davis was scoutmaster. Troop 368, which has been sponsored by the Newport Fire Department, First Methodist Church, Umsted Memorial Methodist Church, and the Holden Avenue Church of Christ, and has had these scoutmasters since it was organized in 1964; George Rash, Howard Norman, Jerry Ashley, Charles Moyer, Hugh Johnson, and D. W. McFall. Cub Scout packs in Newport, with dates organized and sponsors, have been: pack 34, 1951; Albright Elementary School; pack 58, 1953, Gib Castleberry School; and pack 466, 1965, First Baptist Church (Negro).

Girl Scouts of America. This organization has been active in Newport for many years. In 1930, Mrs. R. D. Bandy was captain. In 1940, Mrs. L. K. Smith was scout leader. In 1954, Mrs. T. E. Williams led in the reorganization of the Girl Scout movement in Newport. Mrs. Williams was head of the local organization for several years. In 1954, the Crowley's Ridge Girl Scout Council, a multi-county organization, was established with Newport as its headquarters. The office was established at Boyce Cottage, owned by the Newport Board of Education, on Walnut Street. Beatrice Faye was executive director, and Mrs. W. A. Lindsay was secretary. The office was moved to Jonesboro in 1956.

In 1964-65, Mildred Minor Gregory led in the reorganization of the Girl Scouts in Newport. Neighborhood chairmen who have served since 1964 include Mrs. A. F. Minor Jr., Mrs. Albert Miller and Mrs. W. L. McDowell. Mrs. Charlie McAllister was a troop leader for many years and troop consultant to other leaders. Leaders for 1974-75 were: Brownie Troop 38, Mrs. John Clark and Mrs. Edward Cambron; Junior Troop 88, Mrs. Sally Steinsek; Junior Troop, 119, Mrs. Oras Dotson and Mrs. Robert Gilliam; Junior Troop 162, Mrs. W. D. Young and Mrs. Edward Swann; Junior Troop 227, Mrs. Frank Plegge, Mrs. Jerry Hinkle and Mrs. Orville Thompson; and Cadette Troop 139, Mrs. Loren Iverson and Mrs. Joyce Marks.

The Athletic Club was organized Mar. 19, 1914, with the election of Allen Martin as president. Other officers were: Thomas Harder, Charles Minor, and Wiley McMinn. The group planned its first encampment to begin after school had closed at Lock No. 3 above Batesville.

4-H Clubs. Starlight 4-H Club was organized in 1966 with these charter members: Charlene Landrum, Joyce Robinson, Doris Landrum, Naomi Smith, Marva Borders, Debra Smith, Robert Donaldson, Willie Smith, Odell Hatchett, Paula Young, Terry Hatchett, Loyce Mansko, Frankie Hillard, Kathy Coburn, Walter Kirk Jr., Darlyne Kirk and Arphlue Coburn. Presidents have been: Charlene Landrum, 1966, 1969; Doris Landrum, 1967; Paula Wesley, 1970-71; Grace Morgan, 1973; Patsy Curry, 1974; and Dana Dillingham, 1975.

Horse and Pony 4-H Club was organized in 1966. Charter members were: Becky Tucker, Ran McDonald, Rebecca Ann Ivy, Amy Jean Fellows, John Twyford, Jeanie Johns, Mike Tucker, Phil Lassiter, Ruth Johnston, Linda Twyford, Billy Hardin, Kem Johns, Kathy Jeffrey, Mack McGaughey, Karen Jeffrey, Larry Sexton, Lanny Johns, Linda Fann and Bobby Tucker. Presidents have been: Lanny Johns, 1966, 1968; Kem Johns, 1969; Billy Joe Hardin, 1970; Ran McDonald, 1971; Kirby Lynn Simpson, 1972; Don Free, 1973; Beth McCollum, 1974; and Paul Baty, 1975.

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Dyn-O-Mites 4-H Club was organized in 1975 with these members: Cissy Nicholson (president), Tracy Burgin, Angie Neskaug, Terri Reaves, Sheri Hall, Mitzi Landthrip, Tina Vaughn, Michelle Willhite, Sharon Holloway, Debbie Hutchins, Janet Morehand, Sissy Ann Bradley, Lynn Bradley, Terri Heatherly, Cora Brantley, Valarie Campbell, Gina Honeycutt, Michelle Nance, Karen Holloway, and Donna Pankey.

Live Wires 4-H Club was organized in 1975. Charter members were: Tammy Rogers (president), Cindy Boretsky, Susanne Dunn, Danny Fulk, Tammy Gilliaum, Donna Hulett, Julie Edwards, Joy Couch, Jennifer Boretsky, Jetta Moss, Susie Reynolds, Patty Rogers, Robbe Fulk, Cindy Olsen, Kathy Arnold, David Couch.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Newport Senior Citizens Club was organized Aug. 24, 1967. Presidents have been: Ells L. Huff, Lyda Ridgeway, Vesta Cathey, L. J. Jones, Herman Massey, Otis King and Fred Ball.

WOMEN

The Women's Political Equality League of Newport (organized as the Newport chapter, Arkansas Woman's Suffrage Association) was formed on Apr. 25, 1916, with Mrs. Mildred A. Dorsey as president. Other women who were leaders of this group included Mrs. C. R. Hite, Mrs. S. R. Phillips, Mrs. John W. Stayton Jr., and Mrs. O. D. Watson.

Newport Business and Professional Women's Club was organized in 1932 with the following charter members: Mabel Best, Jessie Dickens, Ruth Hunter, Helen McDonald, A. P. Pridmore, Gladys Raggett, Louella Weaver, H. E. Graham, Nita Jeffery, C. C. Sisemore, R. L. Bullock, Turnmire Carroll, Janie White, Florence Black, Iva Baker, Sally Crow, Marie Sullivan, Pearl Lavoy, Ann Hawze and Lela Beattie. The Newport group was organized through the efforts of Mrs. Clare Neill Phillips and Mrs. Mildred A. Dorsey.

Presidents of the Newport club have been (with year of election): Sally Crow, 1932; Jessie Dickens, 1934; Mabel Best, 1935; Marie Sullivan, 1936; Irma Shoffner, 1937; Georgia McClard, 1938, 1946; Daisy Arnoff, 1939; Ehrline Rowden, 1940; Marjorie Ridley, 1941; Ruth Hunter, 1942; Dorothea Jowers, 1942; Hazel Morgan, 1943; Jessie Bach, 1944; Roberta Carpenter, 1945; Clara Runyan, 1945; Kathryn Bessen, 1947; Malissa Clark, 1948; Fannie Beard, 1950; Edith Evans, 1952; Kate Harder, 1953; Ada Marie Mink, 1954; Pinkie Watkins, 1955; Mary Nance, 1957; Alice Shreeves, 1958; Allie Mae Stephens, 1959; Anna Willis Tinsley, 1960; Pansy Razer, 1961; Etta Reid, 1962; Celestine Morton, 1963; Shirley Young, 1964; Oneida Chapman, 1965; Aileen Donley, 1966; Carol Thomas, 1967;

Dorothy Grady, 1968; Lois Adcox, 1969; Charlotte Tinsley, 1970; Myrtle McElrath, 1971; Lucille Flewellen, 1972; Eloise Bell, 1973; and Nora Lee Wilson, 1975.

EDUCATION

Jackson County Literary and Athletic Association, a teachers' group designed to promote communications between different schools and to help motivate students, was organized in 1912. Ernest McKenzie, Newport school superintendent, was president, and F. J. Harmon, principal of the East Newport School, was secretary.

P. E. O. Chapter R of P. E. O., a philanthropic and educational sorority, was organized at Newport on Mar. 24, 1938, by Mrs. Katie Cate Campbell, of Augusta, the state president, under the sponsorship of Chapter L of Augusta. The charter members were: Mrs. A. G. Adams, Mrs. Ted L. Gray, Mrs. Albert Bevans, Mrs. Roy Hinkle, Mrs. Kaneaster Hodges, Mrs. L. P. Mann, Mrs. Guy D. McCoy, Mrs. Clyde P. McDonald, Mrs. Franklin H. Morrow, Mrs. Lain McDougald, Mrs. W. L. Reed, Mrs. George K. Stephens, Mrs. J. M. Williams and Mrs. F. M. Parker.

Presidents of Chapter R, P. E. O., have been: Mrs. L. P. Mann, Mrs. Lain McDougald, Mrs. Joseph Williams, Mrs. Clyde P. McDonald, Mrs. Claude M. Erwin, Mrs. Emerson Conner Sr., Mrs. Reuben Harper Sr., Mrs. Sam Walton, Mrs. Albert B. Bevans, Mrs. Everett Sartor, Mrs. P. K. Holmes, Mrs. Lonnie Etheridge, Mrs. L. H. Beaumont, Mrs. Ralph McDonald Jr., Mrs. John L. Conner, Mrs. Ralph Appleton, Mrs. Emerson Conner Jr., Mrs. Troy Gray, Mrs. Van Manning, and Mrs. Fred Holden.

Associated Women for Harding, organized to support Harding College at Searcy in particular and Christian education in general, was established at Newport in 1965. The charter members were: Mrs. Henry Arnett, Mrs. David Paul Burton, Mrs. Rusty Billinger, Mrs. Homer Beard, Mrs. John Brownd, Mrs. Ottie Dillinger, Mrs. Rudolph Dixon, Mrs. Millard Hardin, Mrs. Dan Holbrook, Mrs. Ed Holt, Mrs. Margaret Hopkins, Mrs. Bob Jennings, Mrs. Charles Leonard, Mrs. Luther Julian, Mrs. Ray Langston, Miss Clara Melville, Miss Geneva Mills, Mrs. Vester Nance, Mrs. Charles Penix, Mrs. Harold Rutledge, Mrs. Ralph Sink, Mrs. Kenneth Scroggs, Mrs. Ransom Smith, Mrs. Vernon Smotherman, Mrs. R. J. Stites, Mrs. R. M. Twyford, Mrs. Fred Williams and Mrs. Paul Young.

Presidents have been: Mrs. Ransom Smith, Mrs. Hazel Nance, Mrs. Rudolph Dixon, Mrs. Margaret Hopkins, Mrs. John Brownd, Mrs. Eunice Beard, Mrs. Boyce Arnett, Mrs. Donald Bowman, and Mrs. Chester Hale.

Others. In addition, Parent-Teacher Associations have functioned over the years in every school, and organizations such as the Band Boosters and the Greyhound Boosters have supported various school activities.

ECOLOGY

Newport Fish and Game Protective Association was organized in 1932. John W. Stayton was the first president, and Fred M. Pickens, J. N. Lewis, L. L. Bowen and S. L. Burkett were other directors.

Jackson County Wildlife Federation was organized in Jan. 1965 with the following charter members: Claude A. Foushee, Jeff Ellis Jr., Ralph Henderson, John Minor, Blount Hohn, Pudge Pearl, Mac McCustion, Billy Mac McCustion, Gardner "Willie" Williamson, Clarence Honey and David May. Presidents have been: Jeff Ellis, 1965; Mac McCustion, 1966; Billy Mac McCustion, 1968; Pudge Pearl, 1969; David May, 1970; John Minor, 1971; Blount Hohn, 1972; Kinard Gates, 1974.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Ceramics Club was organized in Aug. 1949 by Mrs. Perle Raney, who began giving classes in the art at that time. Charter members included: Mrs. Raney (president), Mrs. Sallie Davis, Mrs. C. M. Gatlin, Mrs. Fay Altom, Amelia Williams and Martha Williams.

HORTICULTURE

Newport Garden Club was organized in the spring of 1931. Although it is no longer active, it was the first garden club organized in the county, and it helped form several similar clubs in this area. The charter members included: Mrs. John W. Stayton (president), Mrs. J. Robert Holden, Mrs. H. E. Tyler, Mrs. Marion Dickens, Mrs. Lain McDougald, Mrs. B. J. Best, Mrs. Kendall Moore, Mrs. George S. Stephens, Mrs. Roy Hinkle, Mrs. F. A. Lockard, Mrs. H. O. Walker, Mrs. Cap Wilmans, Mrs. M. A. Dorsey, Mrs. E. B. Wilmans, Miss Lucile Taylor, Miss Bessie Watson, Mrs. E. L. Watson, Mrs. Eugene Wallace, Mrs. Tom Houston, Mrs. Bob Simmons, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. J. A. Gregory, Mrs. R. D. Wilmans, the Rev. Mr. W. T. Holt, and Claude Erwin Sr. Mrs. J. Robert Holden, who was a charter member and at one time president of the Newport Garden Club, was president of the Arkansas State Federation of Garden Clubs, 1939-41, and a regional officer of the National Federation.

Plain Dirt Gardeners were organized in Oct., 1948, at the home of Mrs. Perle Raney by Mrs. Marion Dickens. Among the charter members were: Mrs. Jack Roberts (president), Mrs. Joe Brown, Mrs. Charles Gatlin, Mrs. Frank Moore, Mrs. W. B. Huff, Mrs. A. L. Best, and Mrs. Frank Wright. The presidents of this group have been: Mrs. Doris Roberts, Mrs. Bess Gatlin, Mrs. Erma Brown, Mrs. Golda Adcox, Mrs. Coltharp, Arlena Purifoy, Mrs.

Perle Raney, Mrs. Barbara Clark, Mrs. Norma Best, Mrs. Volentine, Mrs. Edith Parham, Mrs. Helen Jones, Mrs. Marcella Twyford, Mrs. Betty Hill, Mrs. Nan Vanhook, Mrs. Raymond Hardin, Mrs. Jeffie Wright, Mrs. Mary Hook, Mrs. Alda Copeland, and Mrs. Kathryn Gatlin.

Town and Country Garden Club was organized in 1949 with the following charter members: Mildred Appleton, Mary Alice Conner, Polly Fellows, Helen Gray, Billie Hare, Mary Ellen Hosley, Dorcas Jeffery, Marion Lindsay, Helen Long, Sue Pratt, Doris Rogers, Virginia McDonald Vanhook, Tommie Walker and Edna Williams. Presidents have been: Polly Fellows, 1949-50; Dorcas Jeffery, 1950-51; Dorothy Conditt, 1951-52; Edwina Bartlett, 1952-53; Marion Lindsey, 1953-54; Sammie Ritter, 1954-55; Bobbie Sibley Harper, 1955-56; Sue Pratt, 1956-57; Helen Gray, 1957-58; Mildred Appleton, 1958-59; Mary Alice Conner, 1959-60; Helen Long, 1960-61; Doris Rogers, 1961-62; Patsy McDonald, 1962-63; Virginia McDonald Vanhook, 1963-64; Catherine Bellingrath, 1964-65; Sammie Minor, 1965-66; Ruth McDowell, 1966-67; Eleanor Salenfriend, 1967-68; Charlotte Plegge, 1968-69; Ruth McDowell, 1969-70; Marilyn Craig, 1970-71; Kay Spencer, 1971-72; Jean Boyce, 1972-73; Rosanna Purdy, 1973-74; and Donna Gene Hout, 1974-76.

CARD CLUBS

Whist Club was organized in 1902. In 1905, Mrs. R. M. Johnson was president and Mrs. Narcie Minor was secretary.

Euchre Club was organized in 1903. Irma Watson described this club: "It was composed of married couples. It was lavishly entertained with supper parties following the game and sterling silver flatware for prizes." In 1905-06, Mrs. J. L. Jones was president. Mrs. B. B. Bond was president in 1909.

Early Bridge Clubs. Irma Watson wrote several years ago: "When euchre became passe and bridge was the favorite game, three bridge clubs furnished delightful entertainment for several years. They were 'The Young Ladies Saturday Afternoon Bridge Club,' a club of young married women and a club of the best women bridge players in town. It was very flattering to be invited to substitute in that club. They were affectionately called 'The Bear Cats.'" The Saturday Card Club was organized in 1904. In 1906, Miss Hester Phillips was in charge of arrangements.

Bridge Club (1911). A bridge club which restricted its membership to young married women was organized Sept. 21, 1911, with these charter members: Mrs. John W. Stayton Jr. (president), Mrs. Elbert Watson, Mrs. Joseph M. Berger, Mrs. W. T. Parish, Mrs. Tom Hutson, Mrs. Rex McCustion, Mrs. George K. Stephens, Mrs. Charles E. Carroll, Mrs. H. O. Walker and Mrs. Sprigg Foushee.

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RELIGION

Newport Sunday School. The Newport Weekly News of Oct. 16, 1875, carried this announcement: "Sunday school every Sabbath at the brick hall, on East First Street, at 10 a.m. All are invited." William Magoffin, who was teaching at the private Newport Academy, was superintendent, and W. A. Evans was secretary.

East Newport Sunday School was organized July 30, 1911, at the East Newport School by Rev. B. L. Harris, a Methodist minister, with 52 members. Officers were: F. J. Harmon, superintendent; George Fox, assistant superintendent; Gertrude Sharp, secretary; and Jennie Stuckey, organist.

Jackson County Ministerial Alliance can trace its origin to the Newport Pastors' Alliance, which was organized at the Newport Christian Church, June 24, 1901, with Rev. J. W. Smith (Methodist) as chairman and Rev. H. E. Gabby (Baptist) secretary. The name was changed to the Newport Ministerial Alliance. Officers in 1930 were: Rev. J. F. Lawson (president), Benjamin C. Few and Harvey D. Booth. In recent years, the current name was adopted. Rev. O. I. Ford, of Diaz, is head of the organization.

The Men's Forward Movement, an interdenominational organization for men, was formed in Newport in 1914. The first set of officers consisted of: Fred Suits, president; W. D. McLain, vice-president; S. M. Beattie, secretary; and P. S. White, treasurer.

Inter-Church Council of Laymen was organized in 1930 with J. G. Albright as president, Otto M. Bowen as vice-president, and John T. Foote as secretary-treasurer.

Union Missionary Baptist Board (Negro) was organized in the 1890's for home missions in the Consolidated White River Baptist Association. In 1900, Mrs. Tennie N. Black, wife of the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Newport, was employed as missionary ("this work extends to Batesville, Bald Knob, Tuckerman") by the board at a salary of \$15 per month. Will Curry was president, and Dan Jackson was secretary.

TEMPERANCE

Woman's Christian Temperance Union was established in Newport at an early date, perhaps as early as 1885. Mrs. Mildred A. Dorsey, who was active in the local chapter, was state president for many years. In 1901, the Newport chapter elected Mrs. M. J. Lucas as president, May M. Brewer as secretary, Mrs. Andrews as treasurer, and Mrs. Anderson as delegate to convention in St. Louis. In 1915, Mrs. W. B. Grant was president. In later years, Miss Mabel Stayton was active in the organization.

ALUMNI GROUPS

University of Arkansas Alumni Association. The Jackson County chapter was one of the first three alumni organizations established under the sponsorship of the University of Arkansas (at Fayetteville) Alumni Association. The Jackson County chapter was chartered Feb. 1965. Presidents have been: Robert W. Newell, 1965-66; Owen Burton, 1966-67; Claude Byrd, 1967-68; and James A. McLarty, since 1968.

Delta Delta Delta Fraternity Alumnae. This group does not have a formal organization. Members are: Mrs. Harold Fincher, Mrs. John D. Ashley, Mrs. A. L. Goss, Mrs. Jerry Molleston, Mrs. Kenneth Thaxton, Mrs. Gustave Graham, Mrs. Robert J. Lambert, Sherry Stuart, Terry Long, Mrs. Woody Freeman, and Becky McDaniel.

Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumnae. This is an informal group affiliated with the North Arkansas Alumnae Association of Kappa Kappa Gamma. Members are: Josephine Biggadike, Jane Ford, Grace Graham, Donna Gene Hout, Sally McLarty, and Charlotte Plegge.

Newport Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club was chartered Oct. 1960. The following were charter members: Mrs. Katherine Brumm, Mrs. John Conner, Mrs. Roy Craig, Mrs. Peyton Daniel, Mrs. James Denton Jr., Mrs. Arnold Fellows, Mrs. S. W. Freeman, Mrs. Marvin Hare, Mrs. Kaneaster Hodges Sr., Mrs. P. K. Holmes, Mrs. Van Manning Jr., Mrs. Ralph McDonald Jr., Mrs. Alcorn Minor Sr., Mrs. Andrew Ponder, Mrs. W. R. Pratt, Mrs. Orville Richolson, Mrs. Bill Ruddell, Mrs. Ed Scoggins, Mrs. James Spencer, Mrs. Marvin Thaxton, Mrs. Milton Umsted, and Mrs. J. E. Wilmans.

Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter. The Newport chapter was organized June 6, 1966, and chartered Feb. 11, 1967, with these members: Kenneth A. Thaxton (president), Max O. Bowie, John L. Conner, Emerson Conner Jr., Robert Gardner, R. L. "Buzz" Harper, Kaneaster Hodges, Douglas Holmes, Paul K. Holmes, Phillip McDonald, Ralph McDonald Jr., Toby McDonald, Robert W. Newell, Fred M. Pickens, Andrew G. Ponder, William R. Pratt, Marvin Thaxton and James A. Wallace.

Northeast Arkansas Alumni Club of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity meets regularly in Newport. Alumni from Newport who have served as presidents of the group at various times have been: Wayne Boyce, Sam Boyce, Albert Miller, and Wayne Beard.

Newport Chi Omega Alumnae Club was formed in 1966. Founding members were: Martha Campbell Conner (president), Jamie Umsted Castleberry, Mary Frances Denton, Marian Alford Hodges, Burford Lipsey Lofton, Mildred Jarvis Minor, Sammy Watkins Minor, Betty Burt Newell, Rosanna Massey Purdy and Kay Bray Wilmans.

Presidents have been: Martha Conner, Sammy Minor, Kay Wilmans, Marian Hodges, Rosanna Purdy, Mildred Minor, and Mary Lou Osborne Vanhook.

HISTORY AND FOLKLORE

Centennial Commission of Jackson County was organized in 1936 in connection with the centennial of statehood of Arkansas. Officers were: Claude M. Erwin, chairman; R. D. Wilmans, J. Fred Parish and Marion Dickens. One of the principal activities of this organization was the sponsorship of a centennial pageant, with many events of Arkansas and Jackson County history portrayed. Descendants of pioneer Jackson County families played the roles of their ancestors in the parts with local significance.

Jackson County Historical Society was organized on Nov. 30, 1961, at a meeting called by Mrs. J. R. Sink and held at the W. A. Billingsley Memorial Library. At this meeting, Lady Elizabeth Luker was elected president, Robert Harvey vice-president and Myrtle F. Gaddy secretary-treasurer. Those present at the organizational meeting were: Dale Allen, J. G. Armstrong, Dr. J. D. Ashley, Mrs. Jessie Bach, Rev. Jim Balch, Steve Castleberry, Woodrow Castleberry, J. E. Doherty, Roy Evans, Mrs. Sue Mary Farrar, Myrtle F. Gaddy, Mildred Minor Gregory, Mrs. Reuben Harper, Robert Harvey, Fay Smith Holt, Ells Huff, Lady Elizabeth Luker, Van Manning, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde McDonald, Mrs. Mary Nance, Mrs. F. M. Parker, Mrs. Mary Renick, L. L. Sharp, Mrs. J. R. Sink, Mrs. Owen Stephens, Lucile Taylor and Mrs. Taylor Tinsley.

At the first regular meeting on Jan. 12, 1962, the following directors were elected: Lucile Taylor, Fay Smith Holt and Ells L. Huff. Nell Childers was selected to serve as librarian. The Jackson County Historical Society began a program to purchase and restore the old courthouse at Jacksonport. The restoration project was directed by Lady Elizabeth Luker, who has been museum curator since its completion. The building and land between it and the river were purchased by the historical society and donated to the state. The Jacksonport State Park was formally dedicated on June 5, 1965. Lairs Miller, who was employed originally by the historical Society to assist in the restoration, became superintendent of the state park after it was created. In 1963, publication of a historical periodical was begun. James Logan Morgan has been editor since 1964, when the name of the publication became *The Stream of History*.

Presidents of the Jackson County Historical Society have been: Lady Elizabeth Luker, 1961-64 and 1965-67; Van Manning, 1964-65; Mildred Minor Gregory, 1967-69; Phillip McDonald, 1969-70; Walter L. Heard Jr., 1970-71; Alcorn F. Minor Jr., 1971-72; Ann Ashley, 1972; William H. Heard, 1972-75; and Paul K. Holmes.

Northeast Arkansas Genealogical Association (family history) was organized in 1970 with the following officers: Ardith G. Foster (president), James Logan Morgan, and Irene Landrum Morgan. A general meeting was held in May 1971 at the Jacksonport Courthouse Museum. The organization publishes the *Arkansas Genealogical Register*.

Suggin Folklife Society was organized in 1972. Its officers were: Josephine Graham (president), Mildred Minor Gregory, R. L. Harper Jr., William Heard and Mrs. Dorothy Hout.

CEMETERY ASSOCIATIONS

Walnut Grove Cemetery Association. Walnut Grove Cemetery was platted and lots were sold by Napoleon B. Wishon, with upkeep of the cemetery dependent upon the families of those buried there. Early in the 1900's, an informal Walnut Grove Cemetery Association was organized to solicit funds for maintenance of the cemetery. For many years, Mrs. T. J. Watson and Mrs. E. R. Tyler managed the affairs of the cemetery association.

The Walnut Grove Cemetery Association was formally organized at the Newport Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 30, 1920. The following trustees were elected: C. M. Erwin, president; Dr. Charles E. Carroll, vice-president; Thomas W. Johnson, secretary-treasurer; and Charles G. Henry, S. Heinemann, Alcorn Ferguson, Otto M. Bowen, R. D. Wilmans, G. C. Martin, Dr. E. L. Watson, John W. Stayton, J. R. Holden, F. L. Bleakley, M. A. Stevens and Garland Hurt.

In 1923, the Walnut Grove Cemetery Association acquired title to the cemetery. In 1942, the following slate of trustees was elected: Mrs. Clare N. Phillips, president; J. Vernon Ridley, secretary-treasurer; and R. D. Wilmans, S. L. Burkett, and J. R. Purdy.

Presidents have been: C. M. Erwin, 1920-1938; Lou Minor, 1938-1942; Clare N. Phillips, 1942-1959; Narcissa W. Jackson, 1959-1963; and Anna Mack Martin, since 1963. Secretaries have been: Thomas W. Johnson, 1920-1927; Garland Hurt, 1927-1930; J. N. Lewis, 1930-1942; and J. Vernon Ridley, since 1942.

Gum Grove Cemetery Association (Negro) was reorganized Sept. 8, 1966, with the election of these officers: Mrs. Elmeater Harris (president), Mrs. D. B. Daniels, Ardella Goodlow, Mrs. N. A. Martin Holiday, Mrs. Massel Holmes, and Mrs. Effie Berry. Mrs. Elmeater Harris is the president, and Mrs. Ardella Goodlow is secretary and treasurer.

TOUZY OF NEWPORT!!!

THE LOTS in this Town will be sold, at public auction, on the premises, on the 8th day of November next, on a credit of twelve months. Bonds and approved security will be required.

Newport is situate on White river, in Jackson county, State of Arkansas, and, from the many advantages attending the location of this town, it is presumed that capitalists will seek an investment, to some extent, at least. The town is at the crossing of the main United States Road, lately opened, from Memphis, Tenn., to Batesville, Washington county, &c.; to the Far West, and which is much traveled. Steam-boats of any burthen can ascend the river to Newport, and the supplies for this flourishing section of country are now furnished by that description of boats. For health and fertility of soil, this town has no superior in this country; and, for easy and safe navigation, White river has no superiors and few equals.

The proprietors will, without hesitation, say to foreigners and those who wish to visit the west, that the rising prospects of this section of country fully justify an investment of capital; and they therefore invite all to call and see.

JESSE DAUGHERTY, } Proprietor
WM. B. HUTCHISON, } for.
Newport, Sept. 12, 1837. 40-8w

—Arkansas History Commission

Gazette, Sept. 19 1837



—John Morrow

Jackson County Courthouse
1905



—Mrs. H. E. Bettie

Charles L. Minor, 1st Lt.
"Hurley Rifles"
Arkansas State Guard



John P. Paul



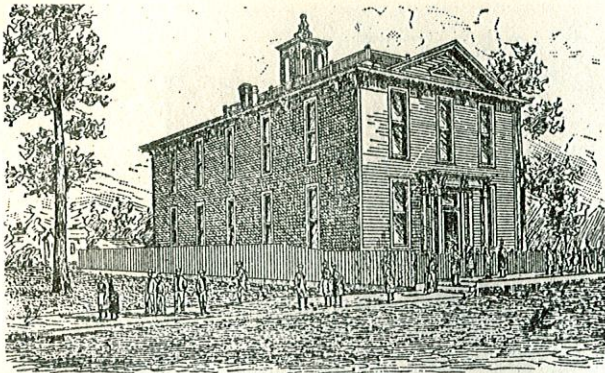
—F. R. Suits

Fred R. Suits

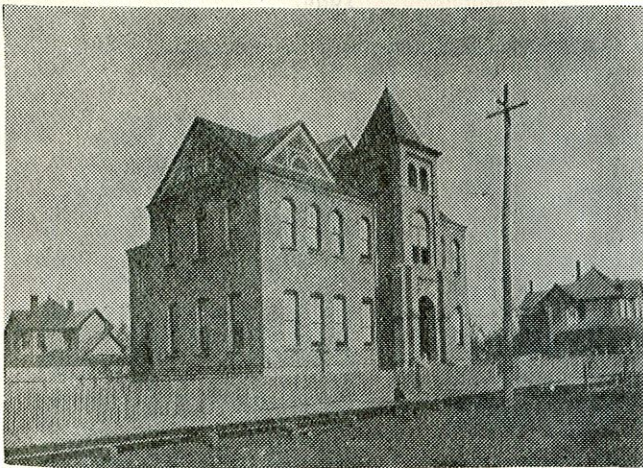


Who Will Win?"

Drawing executed by C. R. Hite about 1890 depicting contest between Lancelot Minor and J. M. Bell over county seat question.



Newport Public School
211 Walnut, 1889



Second Walnut Street School
400 Block, 1905

THE NEWPORT HIGH SCHOOL

MALE & FEMALE,

D. L. PAISLEY, . + . PRINCIPAL.

REPORT

Of Henry Owen Walker
for 1st month ending Oct. 6th, 1893.

Has been absent from School 1 days excused; _____ unexcused;
has been tardy 2 days excused; _____ days unexcused.

SCHOLARSHIP and DEPARTMENT.

Spelling	94	Physical Geography	
Reading	91	English History	
Writing	74	Natural Philosophy	
English	91	Astronomy	
Composition		Chemistry	
Arithmetic	77	Music	
Mental Arithmetic		Latin	
Algebra		Geometry	
United States History		Department	91
Geography	94	Average	

From 95 to 100% is First Distinction; from 85 to 95% Second Distinction; from 80 to 85% Third Distinction; from 70 to 85% Passable; below 70% Disapproved.

Henry Owen Walker, 1893



John D.
Neal



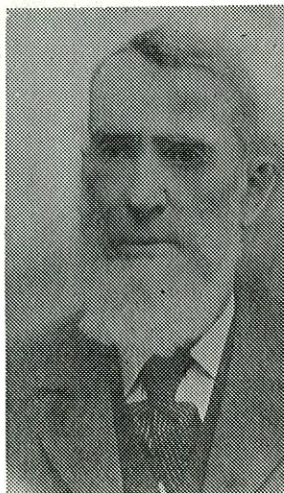
Joseph M.
Stayton



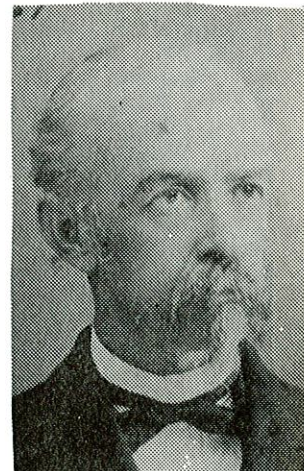
John W.
Stayton (Jr.)



Thomas J.
Watson



Elbert L. Watson



—Arkansas History Commission

John W. Jones
Newport News



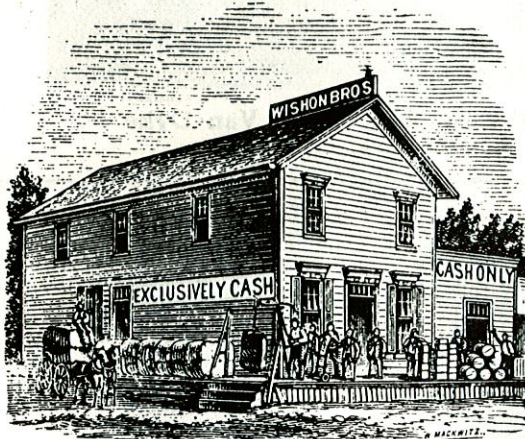
Iron Mountain Railway Yards
1907

—Elaine McCall

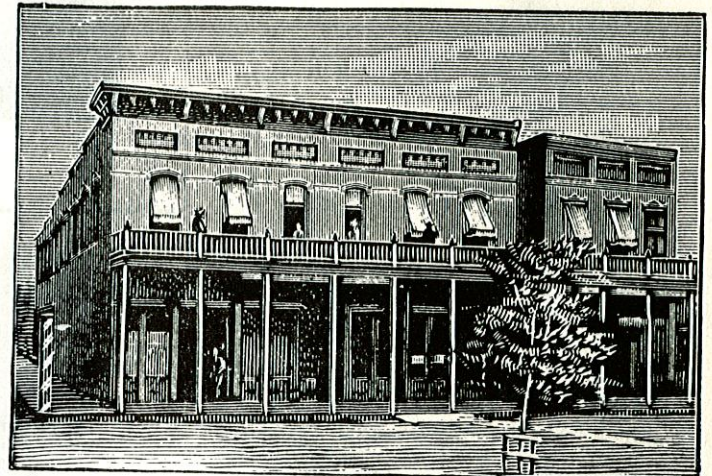


Iron Mountain Railroad
Station, 1908

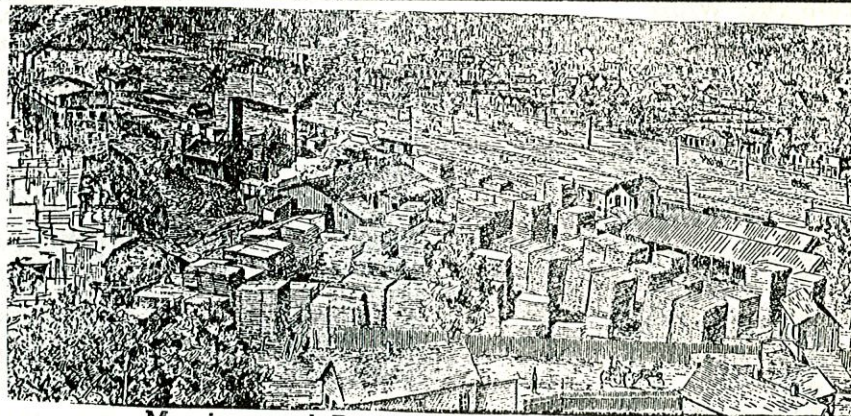
—Elaine McCall



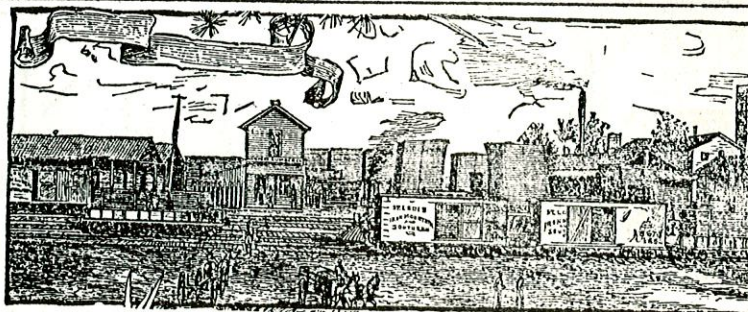
Wishon Bros. Store
401 Front, 1875



Planters House
500 Front, 1888



Morrison and Decker Manufacturing Co., 1889



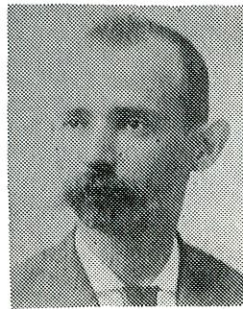
Newport Lumber Co., 1889



Martha Elizabeth Orff Willis
(Mrs. L. E. Willis)



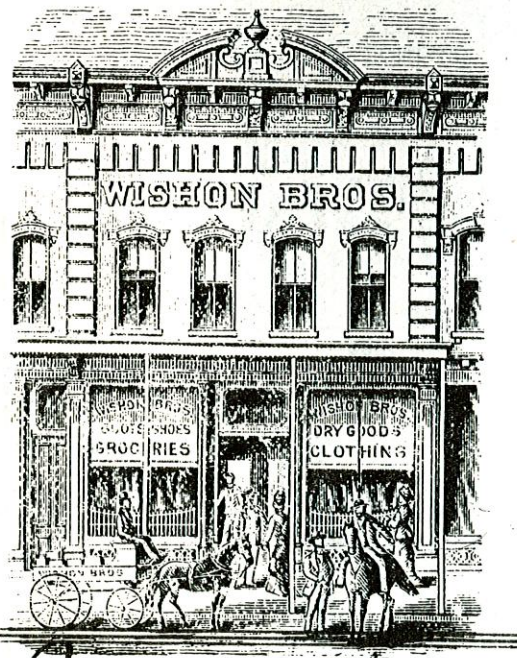
Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Van Dyke
Margaret Van Dyke



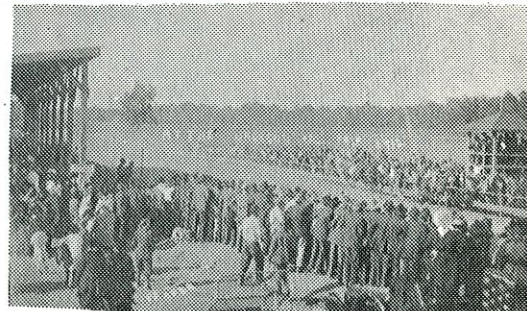
Isaac
Goldman



Mrs. I.
Goldman



Wishon Bros. Store
220 Front St., 1880



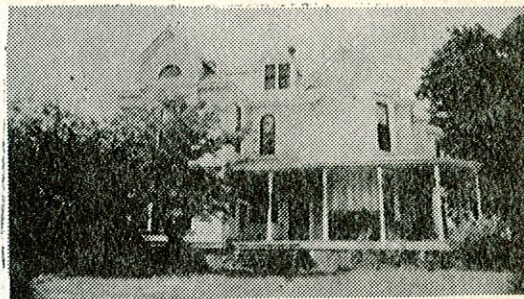
Jackson County Fair, 1914



Newport Grain and Milling
Company, 1895



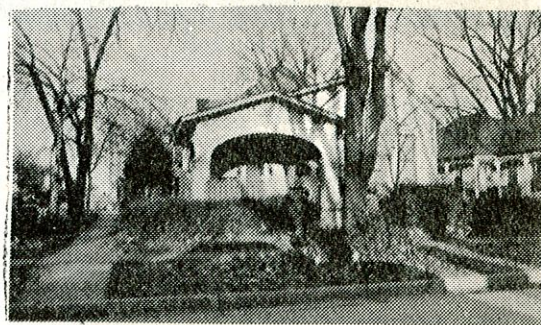
Arthur D. Bailey
823 Third



William Bailey
523 Walnut



S. M. Bains
423 Walnut



William Bengel
Hazel and Fourth



Otto M. Bowen
503 Hazel



Emma Buford
200 Laurel

Newport Homes

Edited by Mildred Minor Gregory

Arthur D. Bailey. This house was built in 1889 by A. D. Bailey. It burned in the 1926 fire. (Photo courtesy of Josephine Graham.)

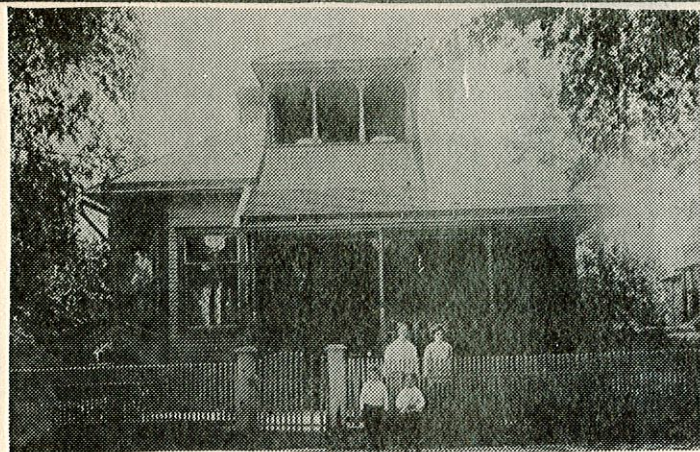
William Bailey. This house was built in 1892 by William Bailey for his bride, Laura. The house was razed in 1975.

S. M. Bains: This house was built by G. W. Decker in 1893. It was purchased in 1907 by S. M. Bains. It was burned in the 1926 fire. (Photo courtesy of Katherine Blackwood Brumm.)

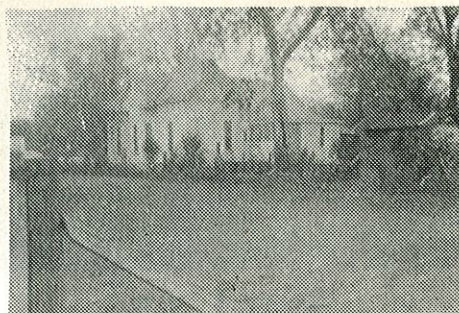
William Bengel. This house was built by William Bengel in 1903. It was acquired by Kitty Johnson in 1923 and is now owned by her son, Odell Johnson.

Otto M. Bowen. This house was built in 1904 by C. S. Maynard, who sold it to Elizabeth Stephens in 1907. It was sold to Otto M. Bowen in 1910. Mrs. O. M. Bowen continued to occupy the house until her death. It is now occupied by Eugene Jarvis, who bought the house in 1970.

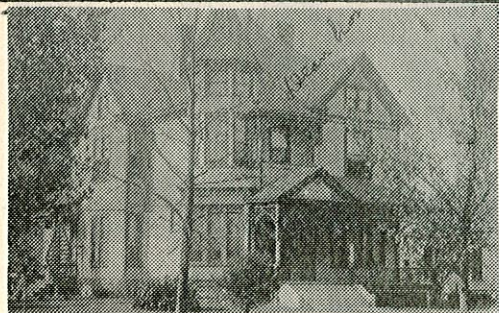
Emma Buford. This house was bought by Mrs. William Buford, a widow, in 1891 from Mrs. Laura J. Dills. It was sold by Mrs. Buford's heirs in 1912 to Zoe Ella Stallings. After Mrs. Stallings' death her daughters, Blanche Parish (deceased) and Lillie Revelle, have occupied the house.



S. D. Campbell
315 Walnut



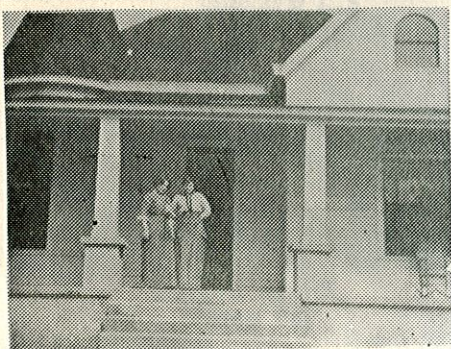
Dr. F. E. Christophe
1218 Remmel



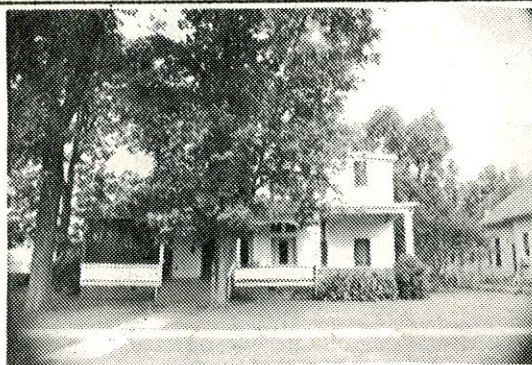
C. F. Dean
423 Hazel



Franklin Doswell
Second and Elm



James W. Grubbs
510 Walnut



Lazar Hirsch
304 Walnut

S. D. Campbell. Built in 1894 by John T. Flynn, this house was sold in 1903 to S. D. Campbell. The house is owned by Campbell's children, Leone Bagley and Norman Campbell, and is occupied by Norman Campbell. (Photo courtesy of Norman Campbell.)

Dr. F. E. Christophe. This house was built in 1907. It was later purchased by Mr. Compton, and in 1922 Percy Williams bought it. It is now the home of Lillie Williams and her daughter. (Photo courtesy of Lillie Williams.)

C. F. Dean. This house was built about 1903 by O. S. Lawrence. It was bought by Con Dean in 1918. It is now owned and occupied by Odell Johnson. (Photo courtesy of Jessie Bandy)

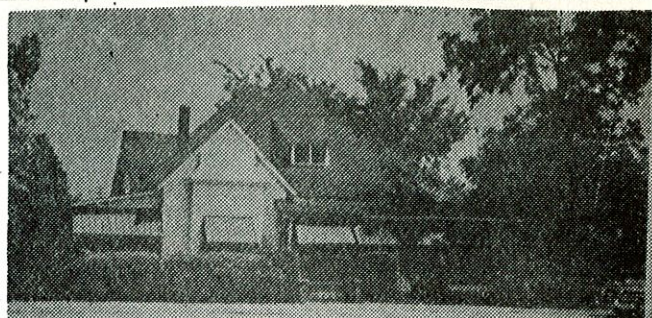
Franklin Doswell. This house was built at Jacksonport in 1867 and moved to Newport in the early 1880's (Photo courtesy of Lucile Taylor)

James W. Grubbs. This house was built by Grubbs in 1905. It was sold to Sol Heinemann in 1911. It burned in 1917. (Photo courtesy of Hattie Hienemann.)

Lazar Hirsch. This house was built about 1880. It was sold to W. S. Hinkle in 1910 and to Martin Dague in 1920. It was acquired in 1924 by Belle Armour. Mrs. Gertie Harrelson rented the house in 1935 and used it as a residence and rooming house. She purchased it in 1935, and it is still owned by members of her family.



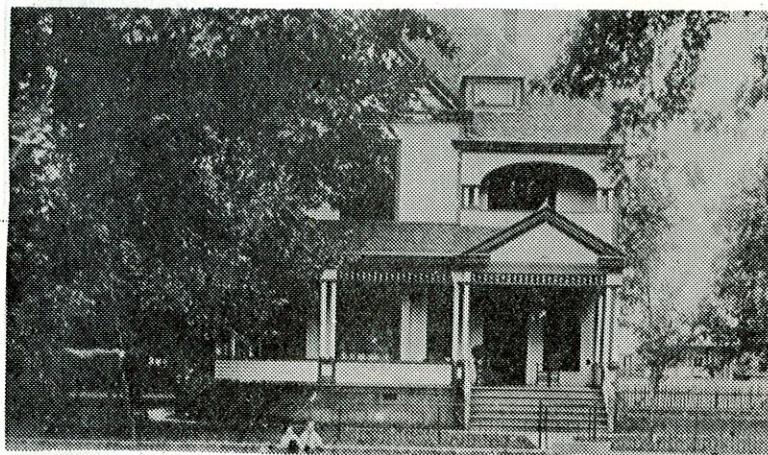
Thomas Hutson
Pine and Fourth



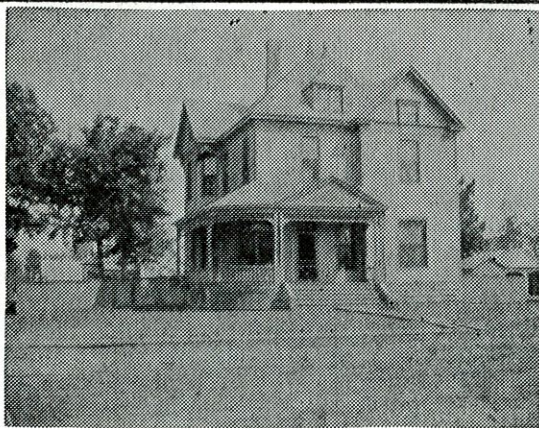
John A. "Bunk" McCauley
916 Fourth



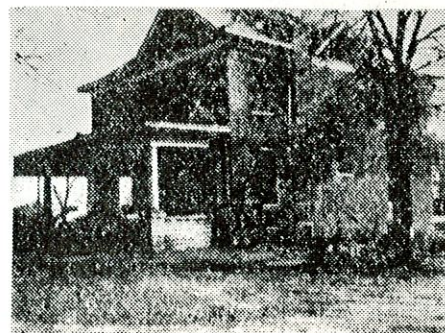
Lancelot Minor
919 Third



S. R. Phillips
224 Pine



John W. Stayton
500 Walnut



George K. Stephens
Malcolm and State

Thomas Hutson. This house was built by Hutson in 1914. The house is occupied by Glenn Breckenridge, who bought it in 1964. (Photo courtesy of Josephine Graham.)

John A. "Bunk" McCauley. This house was built by McCauley in 1890. It was purchased in 1918 by J. A. Gregory and is occupied by his son, J. A. Gregory, Jr., at the present time. (Photo courtesy of J. A. Gregory.)

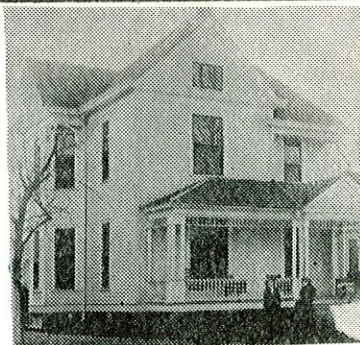
Lancelot Minor. This house was built in 1892 and burned in the 1926 fire. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. W. A. Dowell, Jr.)

John W. Stayton. This house was built in 1886. It is still standing, although remodeled, and is owned by Odell Johnson. (Photo courtesy of Mabel Stayton.)

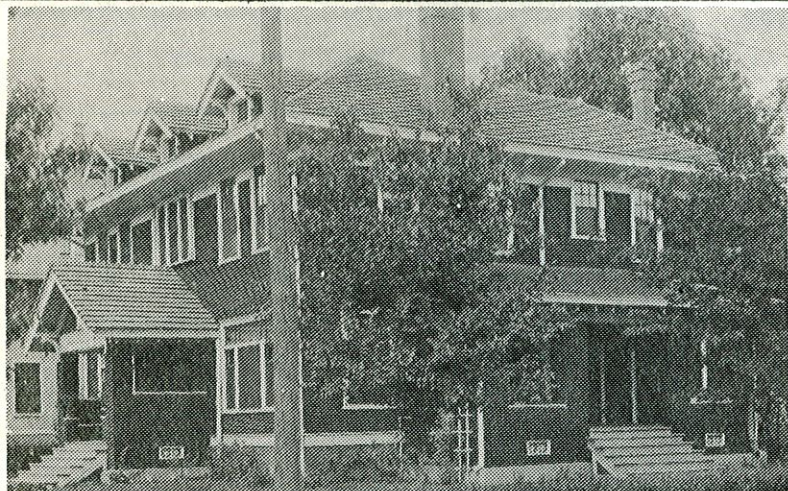
George K. Stephens. This house was built in 1897 by George K. Stephens. It was razed in the 1950's.



T. S. Stephens
208 Main



Fred R. Suits
405 Hazel



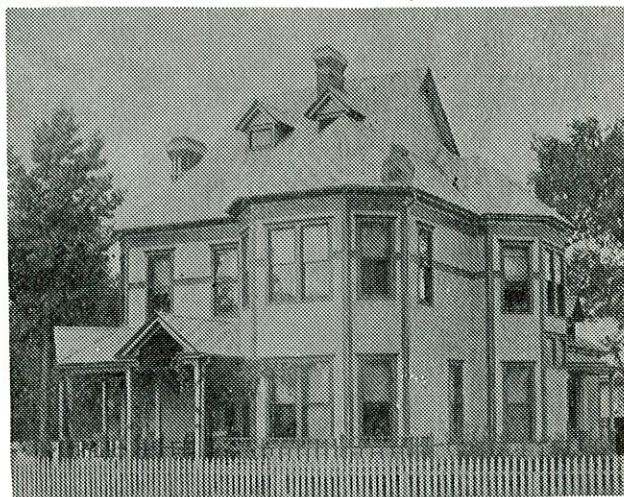
O. D. Watson
314 Vine



J. S. "Cap" Wilmans
400 Pine



Elbert L. Watson
Main and Second



James E. Wilmans
301 Pine

T. S. Stephens. This house was built in 1890 by T. S. Stephens. It is now occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Ben White, and family.

Fred R. Suits. This house was built about 1895 by William Magoffin and was sold in 1910 to Fred R. Suits. It is owned by Odell Johnson. (Photo courtesy of F. R. Suits, Jr.)

Elbert L. Watson. This house was built in the fall of 1884 by Elbert L. Watson. It was razed in 1959. (Photo courtesy of Lady Elizabeth Luker.)

O. D. Watson. This house was built in 1911 and burned in the fire of 1926. (Photo courtesy of Lady Elizabeth Luker.)

J. S. "Cap" Wilmans. This house was built about 1912 by a lumberman named Grant, who sold it about 1914 to J. S. Wilmans. It is now owned by Fred Holden.

James E. Wilmans. This house was built in 1893 by J. E. Wilmans. The R. D. Wilmans family moved into the house in 1922. It is still standing. (Photo courtesy of Jimmy Wilmans.)

Centennial History of Newport, Arkansas, 1875-1975

The Chairmen's Message:

It is our privilege to laud the success of the Centennial Celebration for the City of Newport; but more important, to express our appreciation to all those people: individuals, members of clubs and organizations, and business firms with whom we have worked to insure the success of this city-wide celebration during the year 1975.

How could any city not succeed in growth and progress in the next 100 years, when such citizens and their children are it's residents? May the future hold as much as the past has chronicled.



Mildred Minor Gregory

James A. Wallace

Chairmen, Steering Committee
Newport Centennial Celebration

NEWPORT CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

AUGUST 14, 15, 16, 17, 1975

Thursday, August 14

1:00 P.M.	Opening Ceremony	Centennial Headquarters Missouri Pacific Park
3:00 P.M.	Centennial Grand Parade	Front & Second Sts.
4:00 P.M.	Band Concert	Centennial Headquarters
5:00 P.M.	Special Movie	Twin Cinema Theatres
8:00 P.M.	Rodeo	Fair Grounds
10:00 P.M.		
-1:00 A.M.	Country Band Dance	Armory

Friday, August 15

9:00 A.M.	All Day Checker Tournament	Professional Building
10:00 A.M.	Sr. Citizens Band	Centennial Headquarters
1:00 P.M.	Youth Day	Rommel Park
3:00 P.M.	Visitors Centennial Tea & Musical	Episcopal Church Parish
7:00 P.M.	Gospel Singing	Centennial Headquarters
8:00 P.M.	Rodeo	Fair Grounds
8:30 P.M.	Street Dance & Costumed Street Walk	Centennial Headquarters

Saturday, August 16

10:00 A.M.	Downtown & Mall Merchants Activities (Contests)	Front St. & Village Mall
2:00 P.M.	Program & Awards	Centennial Headquarters
3:30 P.M.	Court Trial	Jackson Co. Courthouse
4:30 P.M.	Centennial Oak Planted	Courthouse Lawn
6:00 P.M.	Centennial Closing Pgm.	Centennial Headquarters
8:00 P.M.	Fireworks Display	Rommel Park
9:00 P.M.	Grand Centennial Ball	Village Mall
9:00 P.M.	Centennial Dance	Country Club

Sunday, August 17

Community Religious Service	All Churches
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Preceding Events — Friday, August 1

7:00 P.M.	Little Miss & Mr. Centennial Newport	High School Auditorium
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Continual Schedule for August 14, 15, 16, 1975

Historical Window Displays	Downtown Merchants & Mall Merchants
Art Exhibit	First National Bank
Arts & Crafts Displays	Centennial Headquarters
Agriculture Antique Display	Farmers Supply Parking Lot
Sidewalk Arts & Crafts Show	Downtown & Mall Walkways
Tennis Tournament	Newport Country Club
Golf Tournament	Village Creek Country Club
Antique 'Casket' Display	Strand Theatre

Sale of Medallions, Plaques, Plates, chances on Tapestry & Afgan, Centennial Book
and Special Edition Newport Independent

NEWPORT CENTENNIAL STEERING COMMITTEE

JAMES A. WALLACE
Chairman

MILDRED MINOR GREGORY
Co-Chairman

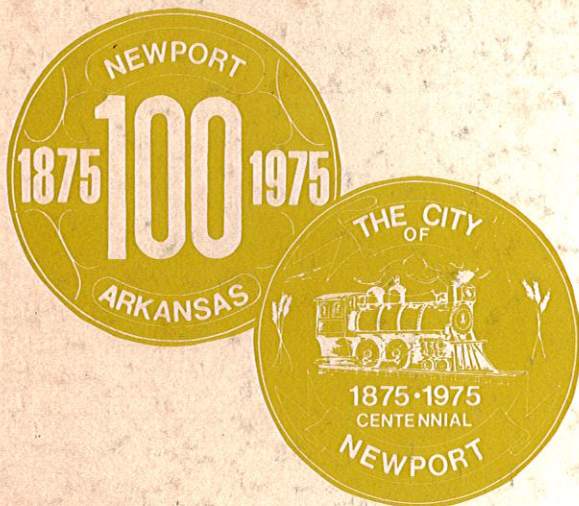


(Pictured left to right) James Logan Morgan, Roy Evans, Paul K. Holmes, Anna Mack Martin, Mildred Minor Gregory, James A. Wallace, Doris Travis, William H. Heard and Lady Elizabeth Luker. (Inset, Wayne Beard).

CENTENNIAL HISTORY ADVERTISING SALES COMMITTEES

KIWANIS CLUB
Palmer Fortenberry, Chairman

OPTIMIST CLUB
Billy Ivy, Chairman



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