

JULY 9 1885

ROWANS SECOND COURTHOUSE

BUILT AFTER LOG COURT HOUSE BANISHON

From The Collection Of:

Dr. Jack D. Ellis

552 W. Sun St.

Morehead, KY 40351

606-784-7473



*Dedication of the
Rowan County Judicial Center*

July 14, 2011 • 2 p.m.

700 West Main Street
Morehead, Kentucky



☞ In Appreciation ☞

Rowan County Fiscal Court

Rowan County Judge-Executive Jim Nickell
Magistrates Harry Clark, Darrell Glover, Troy Perkins and Ray White
Former Magistrates Nick Caudill and Jerry Flannery

Rowan County Project Development Board

Rowan County Judge-Executive Jim Nickell
Chief Circuit Judge Beth Lewis Maze, 21st Judicial Circuit
Circuit Judge William E. Lane, 21st Judicial Circuit
Chief District Judge Don Blair, 21st Judicial District
Senior Judge William B. Mains
Former Magistrate Jerry Flannery, Fiscal Court Representative
Rowan County Circuit Court Clerk Jim Barker
Paul Stokes, Kentucky Bar Association Representative
Jerry Ravenscraft, Administrative Office of the Courts Representative
Jerry Alderman, Citizen at Large

Sponsoring Agency

Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr.
Director Laurie K. Dudgeon, Administrative Office of the Courts
Manager Vance Mitchell, AOC Division of Capital Construction
Project Coordinator David Whittaker, AOC Division of Capital Construction

State Legislators

State Senator Walter Blevins Jr.
State Representative Rocky Adkins, Majority Floor Leader
State Representative John Will Stacy

Project Completion Team

Sherman Carter Barnhart, Lexington, Architect
Alliance Corporation, Glasgow, Construction Manager
Packs' Inc., Morehead, Construction Manager
Ross, Sinclair & Associates LLC, Financial Agent

Special Guests

Justice Will T. Scott, Supreme Court of Kentucky
Judge Sara Walter Combs, Kentucky Court of Appeals
Judge Janet L. Stumbo, Kentucky Court of Appeals
District Judge William W. Roberts, 21st Judicial District

œ Dedication Ceremony œ

Welcome

Executive Director Rodney Hitch
Rowan County Economic Development Council

Invocation

Pastor Allan F. Hutchison
First Church of God

Pledge of Allegiance
American Legion Post 126

National Anthem
True Tones

Recognitions

Rowan County Judge-Executive Jim Nickell

Remarks

Coleman Eldridge, Executive Assistant to Governor Steve Beshear
Chief Circuit Judge Beth Lewis Maze
State Senator Walter Blevins Jr.
State Representative John Will Stacy
State Representative Rocky Adkins, Majority Floor Leader

Dedication Address

Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr.

Closing Remarks

Judge-Executive Nickell

"My Old Kentucky Home"

Harvey Pennington and Jessie Wells

Benediction

Pastor Aaron Mansfield
Morehead United Methodist Church

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

Dignitaries

You are invited to a reception immediately following the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

œ The Rowan County Judicial Center œ

The dedication of the Rowan County Judicial Center completes a project that began when the Kentucky General Assembly authorized it in 2006 and approved its funding in 2008.

"It is a privilege to celebrate with the people of Rowan County as they dedicate this outstanding new judicial center," Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr. said.

"Since the early days of the commonwealth, Kentucky courthouses have held a special place as the center of our communities," he added. "The Rowan County Judicial Center will provide an efficient facility where citizens can carry out court business and seek access to justice. I appreciate the county leaders and state legislators who joined the Judicial Branch in making this project a reality."



*Chief Justice
John D. Minton Jr.*

The judicial center consists of approximately 39,200 square feet and includes space for Circuit Court, District Court, the Office of Circuit Court Clerk and ancillary services.

The new facility is designed to greatly enhance the delivery of court services. It is equipped with the latest computer, video and networking technology. The judicial center also provides the highest level of Kentucky court security through a single-point entry with magnetometers and security personnel. In addition, prisoners will be segregated from the public by separate entrances and corridors.

The Rowan County Judicial Center was designed to meet the standards required by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Sherman Carter Barnhart architectural firm of Lexington designed the building. Alliance Corporation of Glasgow and Packs' Inc. of Morehead were the construction managers for the project and Ross, Sinclair & Associates LLC, which serves Kentucky and six other states, is the financial agent.

As the administrative and fiscal agent for the state court system, the AOC oversees the construction and maintenance of court facilities statewide. The AOC also supports the activities of nearly 3,300 Kentucky Court of Justice employees and 403 elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks.

From The
Dr. Victor D. Mills
500 W. 5th St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-1479



*Groundbreaking
for the
Rowan County Judicial Center*

May 26, 2009 • 1 p.m.

700 West Main Street
Morehead, Kentucky



Groundbreaking Ceremony

Welcome

Rowan County Judge-Executive Jim Nickell

Invocation

Pastor Allan Hutchinson

First Church of God

“My Old Kentucky Home”

Sandy Knipp

Pledge of Allegiance

Corbie Ellington

American Legion Honor Guard Post 126

National Anthem

Vickie Fraley

Recognitions

Senior Judge William B. Mains

Legislative Remarks

State Senator Walter Blevins Jr.

State Representative Rocky Adkins

State Representative John Will Stacy

Remarks

Morehead State University President Wayne Andrews

Supreme Court of Kentucky Justice Will T. Scott

Groundbreaking Address

Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr.

Closing Remarks

Judge-Executive Nickell

Benediction

Father Paul Prabell

Jesus Our Saviour Catholic Church

Groundbreaking Ceremony

Dignitaries



The Proposed Rowan County Judicial Center

The Kentucky General Assembly authorized the Rowan County project in 2006 and approved its funding in 2008. The total project cost is \$13 million. The building will be approximately 37,750 square feet and is expected to be completed in January 2011.

“Today marks an exciting time in Morehead’s history as we break ground for the Rowan County Judicial Center project,” said Rowan County Judge-Executive Jim Nickell. “This project lays the foundation for having a judicial and governmental complex to serve the citizens of Rowan County.”

New judicial centers replace older, inadequate facilities, greatly increasing the efficiency of services and public flow. All new judicial centers are equipped with the modern infrastructure to support data, computer, video and networking technology. The facilities provide the highest level of Kentucky court security through a single-point entry with magnetometers and security personnel.

Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr. said he appreciates the legislators and county officials who have supported this project for Rowan County.

“Kentucky citizens generate more than 1 million court cases each year,” Chief Justice Minton said. “Our citizens deserve safe, efficient facilities in which to conduct their business before the courts.”



Chief Justice
John D. Minton Jr.

Sherman Carter Barnhart architectural firm of Lexington designed the Rowan County Judicial Center. Alliance Corporation of Glasgow and Packs’ Inc. of Morehead are the construction managers for the project and Ross, Sinclair & Associates, which serves Kentucky and six other states, is the financial agent.

The Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts provides oversight and administration of court facilities in accordance with House Bill 734, which was passed by the 2000 General Assembly. As a result of this legislation, the AOC created a process that would fairly and objectively determine facility needs. The AOC’s Facilities Management System has earned the Kentucky Court of Justice a national reputation for being able to identify facilities with the greatest needs for new construction, renovation, expansion and adaptation.

Once funding for a judicial center is authorized, the AOC Department of Facilities works with local communities to assemble a Project Development Board. This board ensures that county and court officials have input on all aspects of the project, including decisions on the site, architect and contractor. The PDB consists of the county judge-executive, a fiscal court representative, the chief circuit judge, the circuit court clerk, the AOC director or designee and a Kentucky Bar Association designee. The AOC’s executive officer of the Department of Facilities and AOC legal counsel serve in an advisory capacity.

As the administrative and fiscal agent for the Kentucky Court of Justice, the AOC oversees the construction and maintenance of court facilities statewide and supports the activities of 3,800 court system employees, including the elected justices, judges and circuit court clerks.

In Appreciation

Rowan County Fiscal Court

Rowan County Judge-Executive Jim Nickell
Magistrates Nick Caudill, Jerry Flannery, Troy Perkins, Ray White

Rowan County Project Development Board

Rowan County Judge-Executive Jim Nickell, Chair
Chief Circuit Judge Beth Lewis Maze
District Judge William E. Lane
Senior Judge William B. Mains
Rowan County Circuit Court Clerk Jim Barker
Magistrate Jerry Flannery, Fiscal Court Representative
Paul R. Stokes, Kentucky Bar Association Representative
Jerry Ravenscraft, Administrative Office of the Courts Representative
Jerry Alderman, Citizen at Large
Lois L. Hawkins, Secretary

Kentucky Court of Justice, Sponsoring Agency

Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr.
Laurie K. Dudgeon, Administrative Office of the Courts Deputy Director
Doug Teague, Acting Executive Officer, AOC Department of Facilities
Vance Mitchell, Manager, AOC Department of Facilities
David Whittaker, Project Coordinator

Architect

Sherman Carter Barnhart, Lexington

Construction Managers

Alliance Corporation, Glasgow
Packs' Inc., Morehead

Financial Agent

Ross, Sinclair & Associates

Special Guests

Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge Janet L. Stumbo
District Judge Don Blair, 21st Judicial District
Senior Judge John R. Cox
Commonwealth's Attorney Keen W. Johnson
Rowan County Attorney William W. Roberts



2006
Renovation Old
Rowan Co. Courthouse
Main St. - Morehead, KY

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473



2006

Renovation of
Old Rowan Co. Courthouse
Main St. Morehead, KY
Side View - Normal Ave.

From The Collection Of
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473



From The Collection Of
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

RC
Court House
2006



**From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473**

RC COURTHOUSE
2006



From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

RC

COURT HOUSE 2006



ground Breaching New Judicial
Bldg.

6/09

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

W. Martin



Rowan County Court House - Morehead, Ky.

M-94

PHOTO POST CARD

Kodak

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

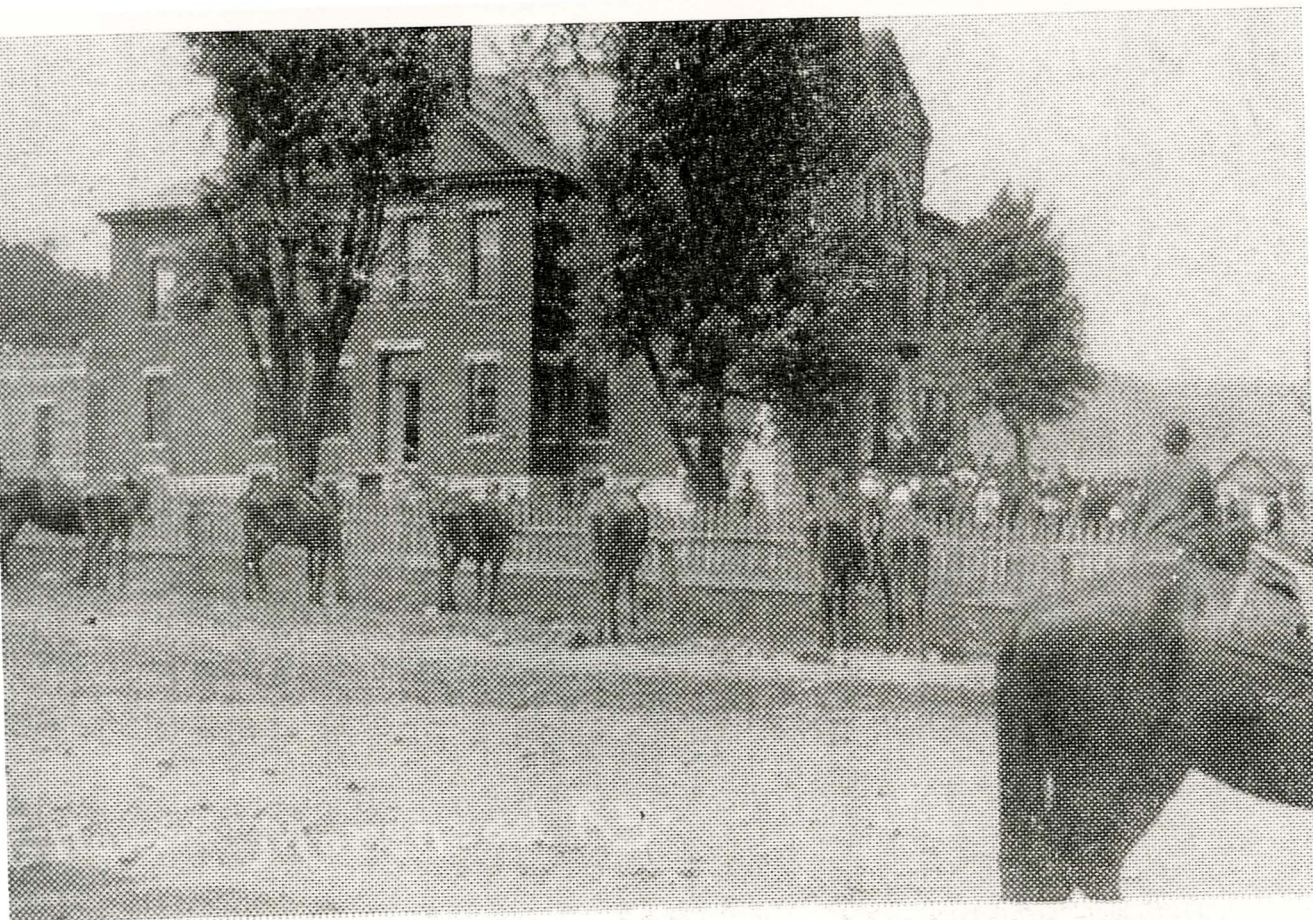
Paper

ADDRESS

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

1935-

Don't
forget
me
1



Rowan County Courthouse before Street Paving

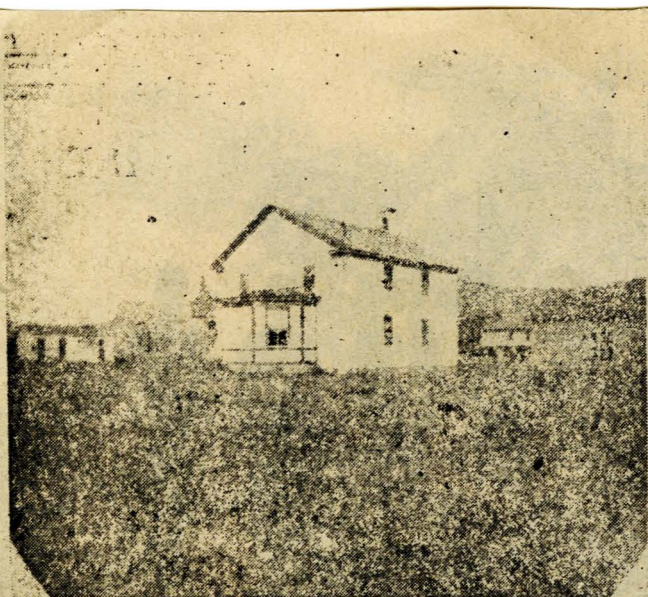
Early 1900s

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7478

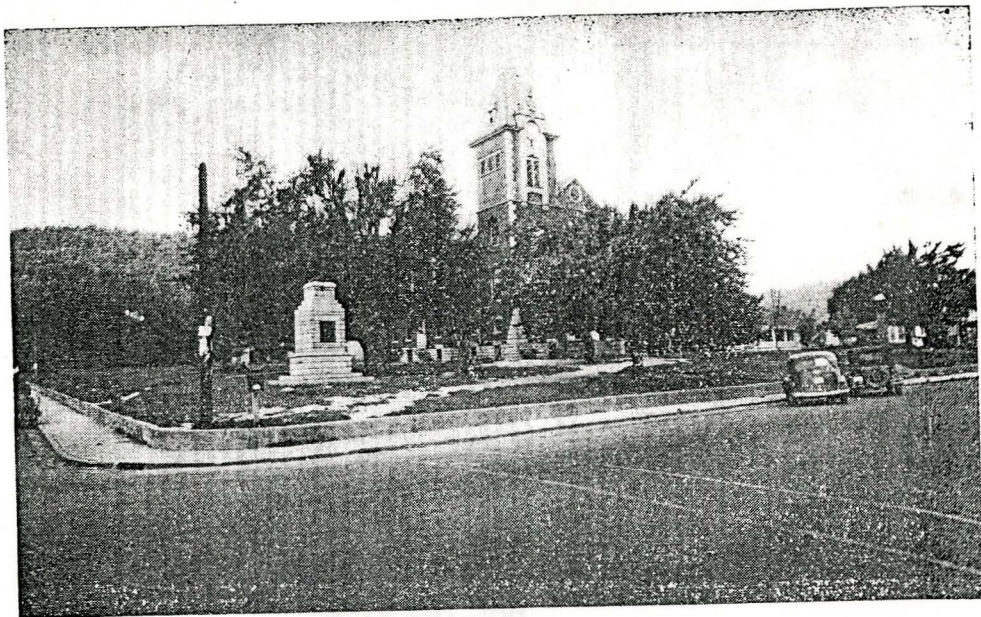


ROWAN COUNTY

Old Courthouse — Burned — Replaced in 1899



OLD COURTHOUSE—This is the second of the three courthouses Rowan County has had. First was of logs and burned down.



ROWAN COUNTY
COURT HOUSE
Morehead, Ky.

Boys from Rowan County
who gave their lives in the
World War **I**

Andrew Alfred
Elisha Conn
Earl Cornell
William Cundiff
Thomas Deeman
Corbie Ellington
George Jones
William M. Jordan
Roy McClure
Troy Mullins
Clarence Ratliff
Charles E. Reynolds
Thomas Riggsby
Robert Lee Rayse



and Rawson Co.
CENTROIDE
Built in 1898

**From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473**



From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473

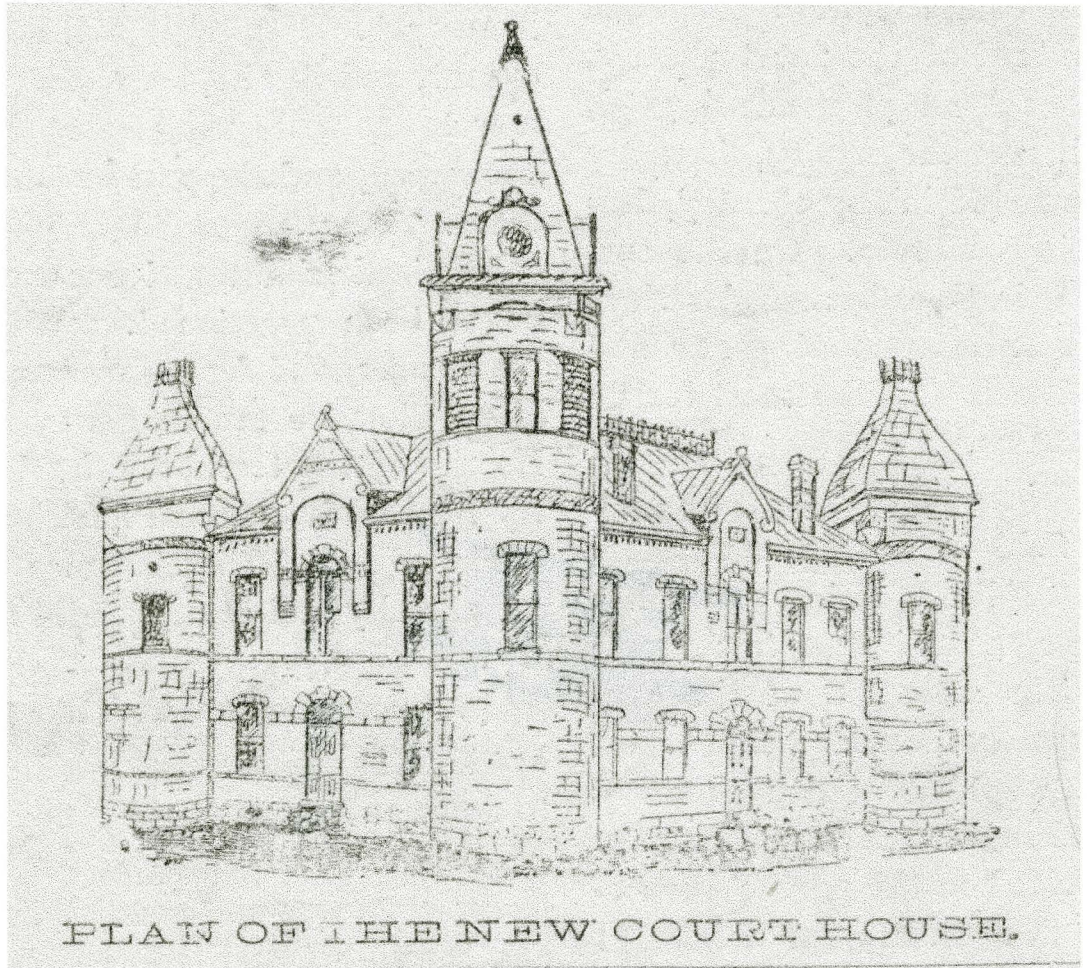
Rowan County
COURTHOUSE
BUILT 1898

From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473



Rowan County Jail 1870's

The jail and stockade were built of logs and Prisoners were allowed in the small space inside the stockade during the daytime.



PLAN OF THE NEW COURT HOUSE.

ORIGINAL PLAN FOR ROWAN COURTHOUSE
BUILT IN 1898.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY



The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hereby congratulates and applauds

**THE ROWAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE, INCORPORATED**

for your contributions to the citizens of your community in refurbishing the eighty-nine year old Rowan County Courthouse in Morehead. This beautiful old building is now a museum and center for community distribution and storage. Without your leadership and vision and the involvement of the citizens of Rowan County this difficult project would not have been realized.

The House of Representatives joins Representative Walter Blevins in recognizing you for your efforts.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky this thirtieth day of March, nineteen hundred and eighty-eight.



Donald J. Blandford
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Dr. Walter Blevins
Member of the House of Representatives

Clyde A. Thomas
Rowan County Judge Executive
627 East Main Street
Morehead, Kentucky 40351
Office: 606 784-5151
Fax: 606 784-3535

December 30, 2002

Dr. Jack Ellis
550 West Sun Street
Morehead, Kentucky 40351

Dear Dr. Ellis:

The Rowan County Fiscal Court will be holding a special fiscal court meeting, January 6, 2003 at 9 a.m. in the Rowan County Courthouse. During this time plans for restoration of the old county courthouse to a museum for arts and history will be discussed.

We will be voting on borrowing and raising funds to match a private grant up to one million dollars. As an organization you have a huge stake in this restoration project. Our objective is to allow the fiscal court members to know that there is support for borrowing these matching funds.

Please express to everyone involved in your foundation how important their role in being present will be.

Thank you in advance for your support. With your help we can make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Clyde A. Thomas

Clyde A. Thomas
Rowan Co. Judge/Executive

Basement Bookmobile
Small W. N. Young
Bill Young
WA Yoder
Construct

Rowan County Arts Center

Tom Burn
by Mrs
Walter Rowan Mule
City Attorney fees
Donner

Grand Opening Weekend Celebration

Mall
Matthew Fye Neal

January 20-21, 2007



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Rowan County Arts Promotion Foundation, Inc. is to sponsor the creation of a community based educational center for the facilitation of arts awareness and expression in Rowan County and Eastern Kentucky, by fostering diverse creativity and developing appreciation for all the creative and performing arts through an inclusive program of instruction, performance, and display, as well as maintaining and preserving historical memorabilia and records for the preservation of Rowan County's heritage.

RCAPF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. D. Reeder, Chair
Jo Anne Setser, First Vice Chair
Gary Lewis, Second Vice Chair
Carolyn Boyd, Secretary
Diana Lindsey, Treasurer
Christine Barker
Nick Caudill
Lloyd Dean
Shirley Hamilton
Anita Rummage

The Old Courthouse Restoration/Renovation Project

In mid-2003, at the request of Rowan County Judge Executive Clyde A. Thomas, a group of citizens representing several community organizations, including the Morehead Art Guild, the Cave Run Arts Association, the Morehead Theatre Guild, and the Rowan County Historical Society, met with architect Chenault Woodford to discuss the feasibility of approaching the Lucille Caudill Little Foundation for a \$1 million grant to be matched by local funds which would be used to create the Rowan County Arts Center to be housed in the old Rowan County Courthouse.

The need for such a facility was already well established. Although there are at present several organizations in Rowan County committed to the development and promotion of creativity and fine arts education for all age levels, there is no single, centrally located facility in the Morehead/Rowan County area where a comprehensive program of arts education, appreciation, and performance for local citizens has first priority. The lack of such a facility seriously limits the amount of arts programming that can be provided.

The principal goal of this project was set out as follows: to make available a dedicated facility within Rowan County where all its citizens, young and old, could have active experiences with the full spectrum of creative and performing arts, including but not limited to painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, music, dance, drama, and film.

To accomplish this goal, the old Rowan County Courthouse, which dates from 1899 and is arguably

*From The Collection Of:
Dr. Jack D. Ellis
552 W. Sun St.
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-7473*

continued from page 1

the most historically significant structure in Rowan County, would undergo an aesthetically pleasing exterior restoration, which would return the grand bell tower to the southwest corner on the front of the building and a major interior renovation, which would convert the presently abandoned array of old county offices into a working arts showplace, with a variety of well-appointed gallery, studio, and performance spaces that would unquestionably raise the arts awareness level for the people of Rowan County and the surrounding area. The Rowan County Fiscal Court made a commitment to match any grant made by the Lucille Little Foundation.

By December 2003, the formal application for funds from the Little Foundation was complete and on its way. Representatives from the Little Foundation came to Morehead for a site visit in February, 2004. They were pleased with the overall plan and were especially excited about the anticipated renovation of the old courtroom into an auditorium/theatre. At its quarterly meeting in April, the application for funds was approved in the amount of \$1 million.

In June, 2004, the Rowan County Fiscal Court adopted an ordinance creating the Rowan County Arts Promotion Foundation whose mission would be to develop policies and programs for the Rowan County Arts Center to be permanently located at the old courthouse. The ordinance further specified that the permanent members of the Foundation shall be two representatives of each of the following organizations: Cave Run Arts Association, the Morehead Art Guild, Morehead Theatre Guild, the Rowan

County Historical Society, as well as one representative each from the Morehead City Council and the Rowan County Fiscal Court. The ordinance requires that these members be appointed by the Rowan County Judge Executive, subject to approval of the Rowan County Fiscal Court. Further, the ordinance specifies that the ten members of the Foundation shall constitute a Board of Directors, which will oversee and operate the Rowan County Arts Center when the facility is completed.

In June 2004, the Board, composed of Jo Anne Setser and Carolyn Boyd from the Cave Run Arts Association, Christine Barker and Anita Rummage from the Morehead Art Guild, Diana Lindsey and J. D. Reeder from the Morehead Theatre Guild, Lloyd Dean and Gary Lewis from the Rowan County Historical Society, Shirley Hamilton from the Morehead City Council, and Nick Caudill from the Rowan County Fiscal Court, began meeting on a regular basis. Judge Executive Thomas appointed J. D. Reeder to serve as interim chairman.

Between June and October 2004, the Board drafted by-laws for the Foundation, which were approved by the Rowan County Fiscal Court in October, 2004. Since that time, the Board has elected officers and appointed committees and conducted site visits in Georgetown, Danville, and Lexington, gathering information concerning the operation of similar facilities in those cities. Other tasks have included drafting articles of incorporation, creating an official logo (designed by Carolyn Boyd), and remaining in close contact with the office of the Rowan County Judge Executive as the project moved closer to bidding and actual construction.

A Description of Plans for the Spaces in the Old Courthouse And on the Historic Courthouse Square

The Grounds

Although the Foundation has no authority concerning the placement of any permanent structure on the grounds, it will establish policy for the temporary use of the grounds as a performance and/or exhibit space. The building project budget does include a modest amount for landscaping, primarily the removal of the diseased and unsightly older trees and replacement with a few larger new trees as well as some smaller ornamental trees and shrubs.

The Building Exterior

The building's exterior has much more of its original 1899 look. The front and rear gables, removed in a renovation to simplify roof maintenance some 25 to 30 years ago, have been restored, as well as the corner bell/clock tower which was removed in at least two stages, the first being in 1934. The tower is not quite as tall as the original because of modern-day earthquake code restrictions, but it still gives a grand and imposing look to the front of the building. The front and side steps have been re-worked, reusing as much of the original stone as possible, and equipped with new handrails. A new code-approved handicapped accessible ramp has been constructed at the rear of the building.

The Basement

Current plans call for conversion of the central and side corridors into galleries and the creation of three studios in existing rooms (the average size of these being 17 x 21 feet). Another room on the basement level (21 x 24 feet) serves as the mechanical room.

The First Floor

The central and side corridors will become galleries. Three of the former county office rooms will become studios (the average size being 18 x 23 feet). One former county office room will become a reception/gift shop/meeting room, and a smaller room toward the rear of the first floor will become the administrative office for the facility.

The Second Floor

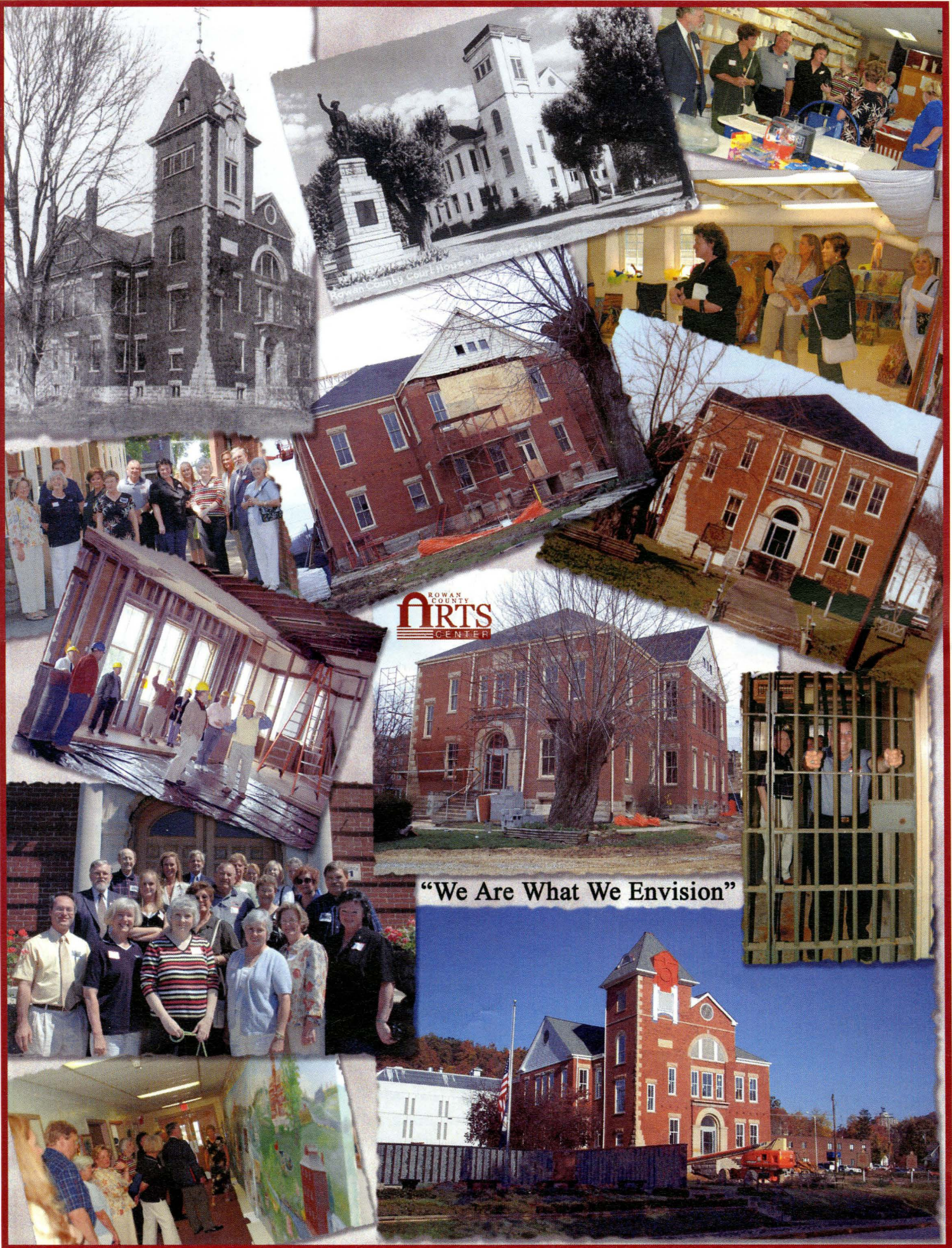
The most important feature on this level is the old courtroom (54 x 58.5 feet), which will become a small auditorium. The original seats have been kept, refinished and repaired as necessary. The original hardwood floor has been refinished. The lobby in front of the old courtroom remains and the small rooms behind the stage have been fitted out as dressing areas. Future plans for the space include a projection system and screen.

General Considerations

To provide access to everyone, the building includes an elevator as well as handicapped accessible bathrooms. To meet fire safety standards, a new sprinkler system has been installed throughout the building. As far as possible, old woodwork has been refinished and retained. Damaged areas were replaced with similar materials and matched for appearance. The facility has all new electrical wiring as well as new heating, air conditioning, and ventilation systems. In compliance with safety codes, all hazardous materials were removed from the building before construction began.

Other Structures on the Courthouse Square

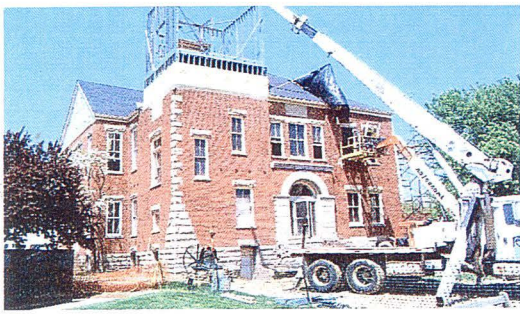
There are no funds in the current project for restoration or renovation of the old county jail. At present, it will be used for storage. Future plans do call for its rehabilitation and use for activities which will complement the programs and objectives of the Foundation, subject to approval by the Rowan County Fiscal Court. The former county school superintendent's office on the northeast corner of the old courthouse square has been released by the county school district, and the Rowan County Fiscal Court has recently given permission for it to be shared by the Rowan County Historical Society and the Rowan County Veterans' Association.



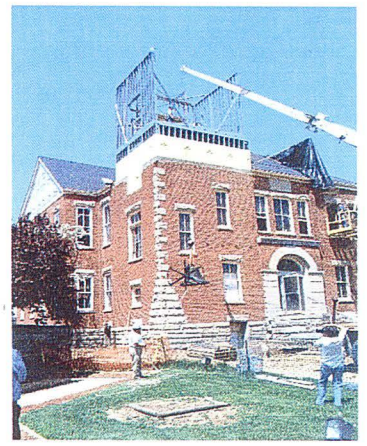
Rowan County Courthouse, November 1910

ROWAN COUNTY
ARTS
CENTER

"We Are What We Envision"



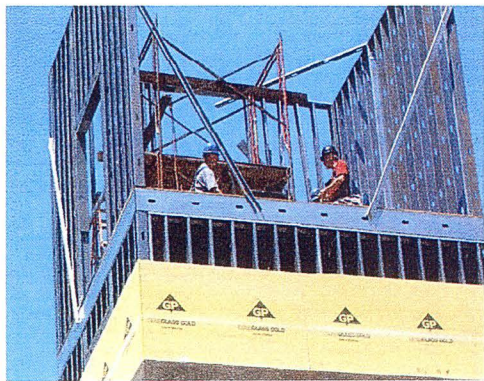
BELL TOWER
 OLD ROWAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY
 APRIL 28, 2006



Time for the 1600-pound bell to be hoisted to the top of the old courthouse

“Installing the Bell”

Moving the Bell from the Courthouse Square to its new home up in the newly constructed bell tower.



Now the test – ringing the bell!

Some members of the Rowan County Historical Society witnessed the placement and first ringing of the bell in the newly constructed bell tower.

l-r: Missy Jent, Betty Sharp, Lloyd Dean, Ruth Blevins, & Danny Blevins

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY



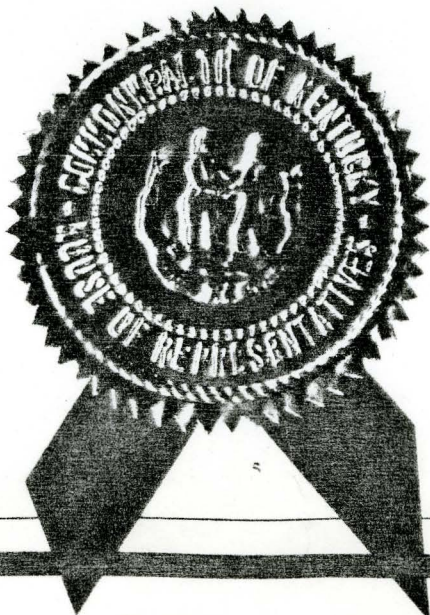
The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hereby congratulates and applauds

**THE ROWAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE, INCORPORATED**

for your contributions to the citizens of your community in refurbishing the eighty-nine year old Rowan County Courthouse in Morehead. This beautiful old building is now a museum and center for community distribution and storage. Without your leadership and vision and the involvement of the citizens of Rowan County this difficult project would not have been realized.

The House of Representatives joins Representative Walter Blevins in recognizing you for your efforts.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky this thirtieth day of March, nineteen hundred and eighty-eight.



Donald F. Blandford
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Dr. Walter Blevins
Member of the House of Representatives

**MOREHEAD MEMORIES: PEOPLE AND PLACES
CATS, COURTS, CORN CONTRACTS & F.E.R.A**

**By
Jack D. Ellis**

The law was our school master”...(Ga. 3:24)

Throughout the history of Rowan County there have been many bizarre battles in the courtrooms. There was one called the case of the “whopper-jawed” mule (about which this writer has previously written). That was a case where the judge ordered the mule brought upstairs into the courtroom so the jurors could look into the mule’s mouth to see if he was “whopper-jawed.”

In the fall of 1934 another unusual legal battle erupted in the County Court that resulted in more animals being brought into the courtroom. The cause of the case was when two women claimed ownership of the same cat. It could be called “The Case of the Cat Who ^{came to court} Strayed,” and was the result of a cross-bred cat and her scraggly kitten claimed by two women. That feline folly furnished the discourse for a half a day of the County Court’s time.

The Testimony Lengthy and Heated

According to court records, it all came up when Mrs. Willis Bailey’s cat strayed away from home and took up residence at the home of Mrs. J.A. Bays. While living with the Bays family, the cat became a mother of what a witness called “One scraggly kitten.” According to Mrs. Bays’ testimony, soon after the kitten was born, the mother cat was

People
10-1

found missing and was soon located at the home of Mrs. Bailey. Mrs. Bays said she then took the kitten to Mrs. Bailey and asked her to let it nurse from its mother. An argument ensued and Mrs. Bays told the court that Mrs. Bailey refused to take the kitten where upon Mrs. Bays claimed ownership of the mother cat. Heated words continued and according to witnesses, Miss Bailey threw a flower pot at Mrs. Bays with pretty fair aim. Thereafter followed the legal battle. Mrs. Bays indicted Mrs. Bailey for hitting her with a flower pot and Mrs. Bailey swore out a warrant for Mrs. Bays for breach of the peace.

Cat Called Into Court

The trial began when County Judge C.E. Jennings (who really was in the middle of this case since he lived about half way between the two complaining parties), ordered the cat and its kitten brought into the courtroom. The cat was tied to the desk of the prosecuting attorney and the kitten placed in a conspicuous spot near the rostrum of the Judge. (There was no record of any kitty litter being brought into the courtroom so perhaps both animals were housebroken). Testimony in the case was lengthy. The thirteen years old son of Mrs. Bays testified the kitten must be theirs because it looked just like his tom cat.

Comic Character Called

Once during a lull in the testimony, Judge Jennings told Sheriff Mort May to summon J. Wellington Wimpy. (Wimpy was a comic character in the Popeye Comic

strip who had just recently attempted to eat a cat.)

After due deliberation a verdict was returned that fined Mrs. Bays one cent and court costs. (About seven dollars) for breach of the peace, but gave custody of the cat and kitten to Mrs. Bailey who was found not guilty in the case.

Federal Relief Helped Feed Hungry

The Federal Emergency Relief Act (F.E.R.A.) was instituted by President Franklin D. Roosevelt soon after he took office in 1932. It was designed to give immediate help to the hungry in our land. By 1934, help for the hungry arrived in Rowan County with the doling out of free groceries to those "on relief." In one week during that summer the following free groceries were distributed to the hungry of Rowan County: 20,500 pounds of potatoes; 3,700 pounds of smoked pork; 2,260 pounds of lard; and 816 pounds of breakfast cereal. It was pointed out that this was a time when most of those "on relief" could work, and it was demeaning to them to accept free food.

F. E. R. A. ~~Also~~ ~~N. R. A.~~ Put People to Work

In 1934 the National Recovery Act, ^{A section of F. E. R. A. was} ~~(N. R. A.)~~ was passed that provided meaningful work to those who wanted to get "off relief" and work for their food. Men and women were put to work on both a half-time and a full time basis. Half-time workers drew \$1.80 per week and full time drew \$3.60 per week. Soon those on relief were forced to accept jobs under the ^{new} ~~N. R. A.~~ program. It was pointed out that the new

program would get rid of a bunch of "moochers" who have been living without having to work. Many were known to refuse jobs to stay on relief rolls. ↗

During the first year, 500 men and women were ^{move} from the relief rolls to the work rolls under the ^{new} ~~N.R.A.~~ program. Those working half time were paid \$1.80 per week, while those working full time were id \$3.60 per week.

Another section of the ^{F.E.R.A.} ~~N.R.A.~~ was designed to encourage farmer to grow more corn and hogs. The farmers were subsidized and the increased production provided more food for those on the relief rolls. It was one of the first attempts to subsidize farmers for their produce in this case growing more corn and hogs.

In August of 1934, 130 members of the local Corn-Hog farmers participating in that program held a meeting at the Courthouse and elected three members to serve on the Rowan County Corn-Hog Committee. The Committee consisted of I.E. Pelphrey, chairman; T.H. Caskey and John Ellis. (This writer's grandfather). Miss Edith Vencil (Cline) was selected as secretary and County Agent Charles Goff served as advisor. Miss Vencil (Edith Cline) long retired but still living in Morehead is alert, active and living alone. However, when asked about the program her reply was, "I don't recall very much about that job 70 years ago."

The committee announced there were 130 Corn-Hog Contracts in Rowan County with a total of \$4,000 benefits. One half of the money was paid when the contracts were approved and the balance was paid at the end of the crop year. Those Corn-Hog *Contracts*

resulted in a dramatic increase in Rowan County farm production as well as help feed many hungry Americans.