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COHIST

Mt. Sterling, Montgomery co., Ky.

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Federal Buildings.

613

Post Office. The Mt. Sterling post office is located on West Main St. It is built of a very light pressed brick, with stone trimmings. The erection of this building was started in the fall of 1911, and completed and occupied on February 11, 1913. The cost of erection was about \$65,000. The architecture is modern with large stone columns across the front of the building. All modern conveniences and equipment.

County Buildings.

615

Court House. The Montgomery co. court house fills an entire block in the center of the town. The main entrance is on Court SE., with a side entrance on North Maysville St. It is surrounded by a good-sized lawn with shade trees and shrubbery.

In 1890 bonds were issued by Montgomery co. for the erection of a courthouse, the cost not to exceed \$20,000.00. The plans and specifications cost \$572.50, and later an amendment was carried for an additional \$1,000.00 to spend for red pressed brick with white mortar. The building is three stories with a tower, and is built of red pressed brick with stone foundation and trimmings.

On the first floor you will find the offices of the county clerk, circuit clerk, county agricultural agent, sheriff, and tax-commissioner. On the second floor you will find the county court

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room, county superintendent of schools' office, and the third floor furnishes a balcony for the court room and attic.

A stone facade forms the front entrance to the building. The Montgomery county court house was completed in 1892.

County Jail. The county jail in use today was built in 1883 on the corner of North Maysville and High Sts., and cost the county \$10,500.00. It is of red brick, but sadly in need of repair and renovation.

City Buildings.

616

City Hall. The city hall of Mt. Sterling is situated on Broadway, in the central part of the town. The building is of red brick and of very good appearance. The fire department is housed in the main part of the building which is on street level, as is also the mayor's office. The firemen's quarters are on the second floor, with the council or court room to the rear of them. Through another entrance one finds the county relief offices, and on the second floor the club rooms used by the various women's clubs of the city, and the Mt. Sterling Public Library.

To the rear of the city building is an attractive little garden with flowers and a gold fish pool. Both the garden and building are well kept.

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Reference Sources:

Information on mounds given on assignment #7, Clell Cockereil, Mt. Sterling, Ky.
Information on location of Estill's Defeat given by Edward Crooks, Mt. Sterling, Ky.
Information on Location of Birthplace of General John S. Williams by his
grandson, John S. W. Holloway, Winchester, Ky.

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Literature.

665

Montgomery County. A historical sketch of the county, written by Judge Richard Reid in 1876. Re-published in 1926 by the Woman's Club of Mt. Sterling.

William Calk, Kentucky Pioneer. A sketch of that noted settler of Montgomery co., by Lewis Killpatrick in the Kentucky Magazine of January 1918.

Red, White and Blue. A magazine article by Nina Wilcox Putnam, in the Saturday Evening Post of Nov. 14, 1931.

Authors. (Montgomery co. persons who have written books, and articles for magazines and newspapers.)

Judge Richard Reid, born and reared in Montgomery county.

Col. John A. Joyce, not a native of Montgomery co., but lived here a good part of his life, and wrote poetry and newspaper articles about this section. He claimed the authorship of "Laugh and the World Laughs with You, Weep and You Weep Alone". This claim was contested in the courts for many years by a woman, but finally settled in favor of Col. Joyce.

Lewis Killpatrick, born in Bath co., Ky. May 20, 1895 and reared in Mt. Sterling, Ky. He is now a resident of St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Killpatrick has written the following:

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William Calk, Kentucky Pioneer. Kentucky Magazine. Jan. 1918.

Historic Owingsville. Kentucky Magazine. August 1917.

Louis Phillippe in Owingsville. Kentucky Magazine. Sept. 1917.

Kentucky Vengeance. Black Cat. Sept. 1921.

The Chimes of Courage. McClure's Magazine. June 1923.

Mr. Killpatrick wrote many other short stories which were published from time to time in magazines.

Col. Webster P. Huntington; altho born in Columbus, Ohio, he has resided in Mt. Sterling for the past 20 years. Until 1934 Col. Huntington wrote editorials for the Columbus, Ohio Times but recently, due to poor health, he writes only occasionally. He also contributes to the Toledo Times, the Columbus Dispatch, and to a small paper in Columbus called The Week.

Louis Wiley, for many years previous to his death in 1935 Business Manager of the New York Times, was brought to Mt. Sterling by his parents when only 4 years old, and lived here until he reached the age of 15. As a boy he worked in the office of the Mt. Sterling Sentinel-Democrat, where he got his start in the newspaper world. From Mt. Sterling he went to Rochester, N. Y., and leaving a newspaper there he went to New York to one of the Hearst papers. Soon after reaching New York he was selected as business manager of the Times, and at the time of his death in 1935 was one of the

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highest paid newspaper men in the U. S.

Reference Sources:

Mrs. W. S. Killpatrick, Mt. Sterling, Mother of Lewis Killpatrick.

Mr. Squire Turner, Veteran newspaper man and editor, Mt. Sterling.

Eliza Harris, Secretary to Col. Webster P. Huntington, Mt. Sterling.

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Local Tours.

Tour #1. 28 mile Trip. Leave Mt. Sterling on Ky. #11- (Levee Pike) and go 2 mile. south to stop #1. D. A. R. marker in memory of Wm. Calk, Montgomery co. pioneer. Turn right through gate and travel 1 mile over dirt road to the Calk home. A good collection of Indian relics and of reputed pre-historic relics of man are to be found in this home. On this farm, Wm. Calk built one of the first cabins in Montgomery County. Return on road to Ky. #11 and turn right traveling south about 2 mile and turn left on Oldham pike-stop #2. A large mound, excavated by Furdhouser in 1934, will be found on the farm of W. L. Ricketts, left side of the road. This was the first mound in Ky. to show Hopewell cultured. After this visit turn left on Oldham pike and follow road to Ky #10 turn left, travel 4 mile back to Mt. Sterling and turn left off E. Locust St, on Spencer road travel 5 mile to spencer turn left and go about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to old rock house known as Morgan station. Stop #3 one of the first stations built in Montgomery County by the early settlers. There is a very quaint and attractive mantel in this house. Continue from stop #3 across dirt road which leads to Howard's Mill road (Macadam) and turn left, travel 2 mile to Ewington on US #60. Turn right at Ewington and travel 1 mile to Longview (left) stop #4. Home of General John S. Williams, "Cerro Gordo", return to US #60 and turn right traveling 4 mile back to Mt. Sterling. About half way between Ewington and Mt. S. will be seen a marker, on the right side of the road, in memory of James

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Estill. This marker is made of two stones from an old burr mill.

Tour #2. 17 mile trip. Leave Mt. Sterling turning right off North Maysville St. or Ky. 40 onto Hinkston Pike, go about 2 miles to farm of Rice Crooks, stop #1. On left side of road will be found the exact location of Estill's Defeat. Return to Hinkston Pike turn right and back to Ky. 40 turn right and go $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to Gaitskill farm on left of road, stop #2. A large mound found here which was excavated and yielded some of the finest artifacts ever found in Ky. Continue north $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile on Ky. #40 and Ky. #11 to forks of Ky. #40 and 11 and turn left on Ky. #40 go $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to Roy Greene farm Stop #3. A remarkable group of mounds in the form of a triangle, return to Ky. 40 and turn left and travel 2 mile to T. J. Bigstaff farm, stop #4. Back of the present dwelling, the site of the home of General Samuel L. Williams and the birthplace of General John S. Williams, "Cerro Gordo" is located the house has been destroyed by fire. Return to Ky. #40 turn right and travel 1 mile to forks of the road turn left on Grassy Licks Pike, travel $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile to Grassy Lick where the first blue grass was found in the county and it earned its name from the buffalo grazing there. Turn left and follow macadam road for 5 mile returning to Mt. Sterling, Ky.

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Old Churches

The old Springfield Church is located in the extreme N. W. corner of Bath Co., between Stoops, Montgomery Co., and Sharpsburg, Bath Co., it was organized about 1797 in what was then Montgomery county, but due to the fact that Bath was formed from Montgomery it is now located in Bath county.

Rev. Joseph Price Howe the pastor was especially distinguished as a singer, having a voice of most extraordinary power. His last sermon was preached at Peeled Oak, Bath County. He died on the 11th of July 1827.

Rev. Dewey Whitney in April, 1827 succeeded Rev. Howe in the charge of this church, first as stated supply and afterwards, on 7th. of April, 1828, was pastor for the whole of his life time. In May, 1832, he resigned his charge here and accepted a call to Springfield, Ill., he afterwards moved to Mississippi where he died from injuries received when the horse on which he was riding fell on him.

Rev. Solomon G. Ward Succeeded Mr. Whitney and began to preach here on August 1, 1832. He had been a lawyer from Maryland.

Rev. Daniel S. Todd was the next pastor from May 1834 to April 1839. He was born of scotch parentage and born in the city of Lexington, Kentucky.

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Rev. Robert F. Caldwell was called to the pastorate after Mr. Todd left. His time lasted from 1839 to 1854. From this date to 1861 the church was without a pastor. Rev. H. O. Thompson and Rev. Wm. George preached here from the time of 1861 until a regular pastor was chosen. It was decided that Rev. George would pastor the church until he was called to Midway in 1863. He was succeeded by Rev. Thos. H. Urmston, who was stated supply until 1864--1865. From this time until 1876 the church had no regular pastor.

Rev. E. O. Guerrant, M. D. was called to supply the pulpit once a month in July 1876.

In the long history of this church there have been many great revivals. On the first of August 1801 conducted by John Lyle, Dr. Campbell, Jos. P. and John Howe and Barton Stone before he was dismissed from the Presbyterian church. During this revival the falling down prevailed largely in Kentucky and Tennessee. Afterwards followed by shaking and jerking. The greatest in the history of the church was in 1828 by Ross and Gallagher, the celebrated evangelists. In one day, the 2nd of June, 1828, sixty were added by confession of faith.

Forty-five were dismissed from this church to organize a new church at Sharpsburg, Ky, Ginead, Mt. Sterling, Point Pleasant, Hinkston, and Indian Point Ill. were also organized from old

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Springfield.

The Somerset Church is located on Maysville road better known as US #40 leading from Mt. Sterling to Maysville. The original church was on a dirt road running off #40 to the left of the present church.

The first church was organized about 1832, this church burned and the new one was built and dedicated in 1875. Rev. L. H. Reynolds the minister at that time.

This church was organized of the Presbyterian and Baptist churches who had followed Barton W. Stone and Raccoon John Smith into the new Reformed or Christian Church. It has always been a church of country folks who were well-to-do. In looking over old records of Somerset one finds the report on a church trial

The Trial

Decision of the Church in case of Michael Clarke,

December 21, 1844

Michael Clarke had been brought to trial before the church board because he wanted to divorce his wife Mary Clarke. Both sides were heard in the case and the board decided in favor of Mary Clarke and deprived Michael Clarke from fellowship in the church, in other words he was "kicked out"

Student minister have supplied this church for years and years. These young men are sent out from the College of the Bible, Lexington, Ky. Among some of the most notable in the

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Brotherhood are Brother J. W. McGarvey, (deceased) Dr. A. W. Fortune, Central Christian Church, Lexington, Ky. Rev. E. B. Bourland, Flemingsburg, Kentucky. Prof. Ernest Delcamp, college of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky Rev. Hassell Bowen, First Christian Church, Harrodsburg, Ky.

The Old Salem Church is located inside the Montgomery county line beyond Jeffersonville, commonly known as "Ticktown", on the US #40. The exact date of the organization was not known, but it must have been in the early 1800's or possibly sooner.

Old Baptists, this church was the property of the Indian Bottom Association of Old Regular Baptists of Jesus Christ. Elder Ira Combs preached there for the better part of sixty-five (65) years and died only a few years ago at the ripe old age of 88 years.

Silas Amburgy is the present preacher and services will be held regularly.

The old Lubebrud Church, is located on the Prewitt Pike in a bend of the road about three miles from Mt. Sterling, Kentucky

The date of its organization was not obtainable but it must have been in the early 1800's.

The church was Old Baptist Denomination and the first building was built in the shape of a cross with the pulpit back in a corner. This church must have gotten its name from Lubebrud creek which in turn was named by some early pioneers who discovered it and made their camp fire on its bank.

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While sitting around the fire that night they named the creek
Lulbegrud after the name in Gulliver's Travels.

The old church burned and a new one was built. There have
been no ~~services~~ services held here for years and the old building
stands in a grove of trees a grim reminder of the religion of a past
generation.

Reference Sources:

Mrs. W. S. Hamilton, Mt. Sterling, Kentucky

Mr. Nat young, Age 89, Member of the Somerset Church, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

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Mrs. Gladys Robertson
Local Worker,
The American Guide,
Mt. Sterling, Kentucky.

Old Mill Sites and Mill-stones.

Old Drake's Mill on Slate Creek was once an old burr water-mill. A burr mill is so-called because of its resemblance to a cocklebur. The rough or burr edges of the stone turning in opposite directions grind the corn between them. When they get hot the odor is almost unbearable. There is nothing left at the Drake site but the foundations of the old mill. It is located on the Spencer Road, about seven miles from Mt. Sterling.

Howard's Mill was located on Slate Creek, some eight or ten miles down-stream from Drake's Mill. About thirty years ago this property was bought by the Kentucky Utilities; a dam and power-house was built from which the city of Mt. Sterling is supplied with water. An oil painting of this old mill hangs in the lobby of the Hotel Montgomery at Mt. Sterling today. To reach Howard's Mill, one travels east from Mt. Sterling over US 60 to Ewington. Turn right at Ewington, and follow Howard's Mill road for 4 or 5 miles.

The first saw-mill was built in the county by Wm. Calk, under the hill on which the residence of Price Calk now stands. It was built on a level at the foot of the hill, so that the logs might be rolled down the hill. This site is on the Calk farm, on the Levee Pike, Ky 11.

There is a grist-mill located beyond Jeffersonville, (Ticktown), off of Ky. 40, which is still in operation. It is

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Mrs. Gladys Robertson
Local Worker,
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Mt. Sterling, Kentucky.

a burr water-mill, known as the Pete Lee grist-mill.

Mill-stones.

The Mill-stone used for the upper part of the monument of James Estill came from the farm of Gen. Samuel Williams, where he was born and reared. It was on this farm that he said: "I have lived in two states and four counties and never changed my residence".

This stone was one of two used in a sweep mill for the grinding of corn and wheat by horse-power.

The stone used for the base was given the D. A. R. by Wm. Moberly, and is presumably the mate to the other. This marker may be seen on the Midland Trail, US 60, about two miles from Mt. Sterling, Ky.

Reference Source:

Wm. Tyler, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

F. D. Richardson, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

Thomas Bigstaff. (Obtained from a letter to the local chapter of the D. A. R. by him.)