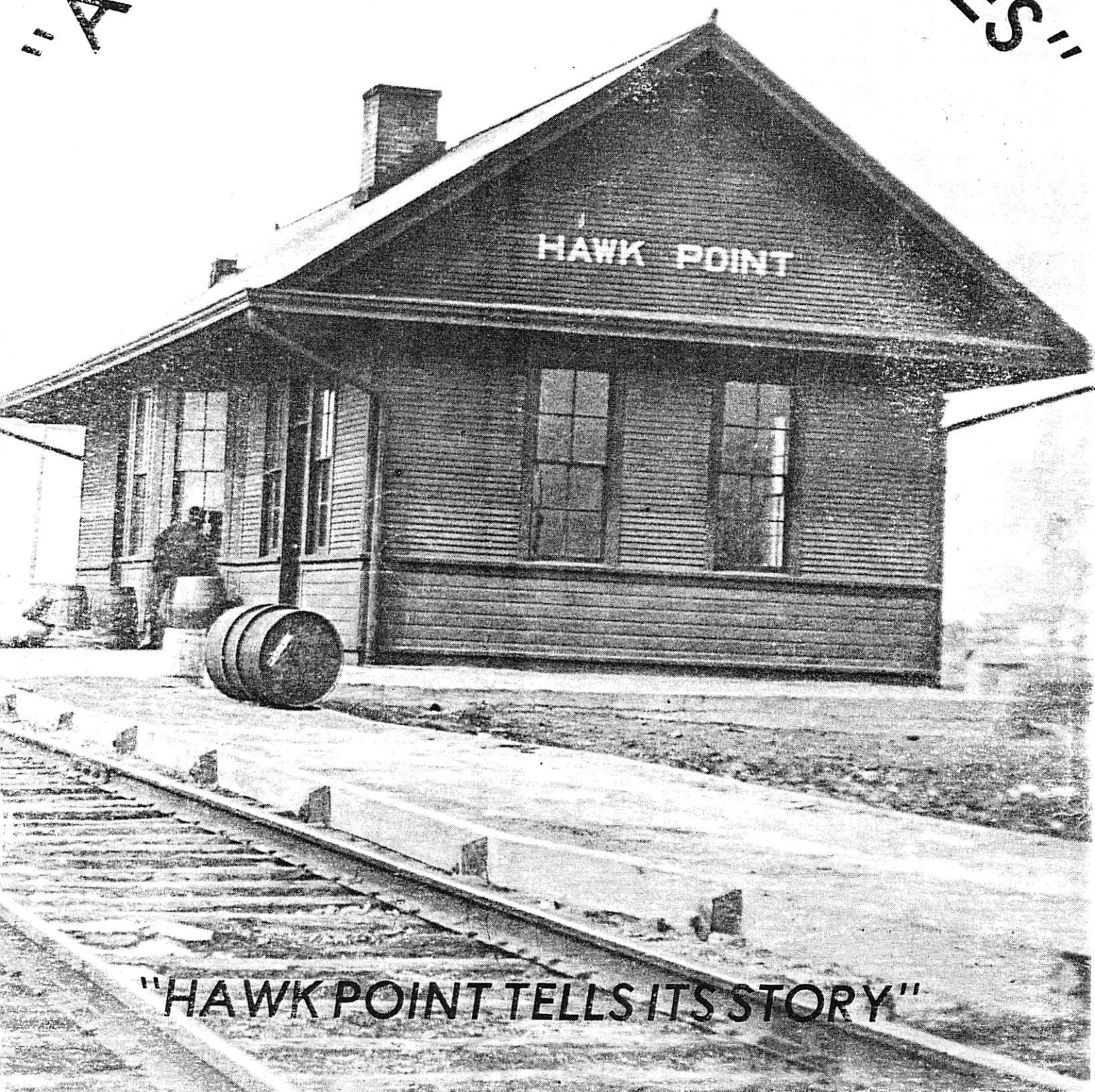


**"A HARVEST OF MEMORIES"**



**"HAWK POINT TELLS ITS STORY"**

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS



**Don Gordon** is a former resident of Hawk Point, from 1948 until 1957. From 1959 until the present, he has been a professional journalist, working for daily newspapers in Missouri, Illinois and Oklahoma. His present position is managing editor of The Southeast Missourian, a newspaper in Cape Girardeau, Mo.



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## PREFACE

The history of Hawk Point from its origins in the prairies surrounding the town site to the present was in the major sense written by Hawk Point itself -- or more accurately by its people. Hence the title: "Hawk Point Tells Its Story".

To a large degree, this is an oral history of the community, told by word of mouth by many citizens who remember their own experiences or can relate the experiences told to them by others.

Hawk Point relates its own story by documentation as well. The chroniclers of the town government minutes, the keepers of the church records, those who saved business data all contributed heavily to the book.

Another major source was that premier recorder of contemporary history in any age -- the newspaper.

The authors of the book merely have collected, compiled and organized the mass of material presented to them and now offer it in what is hoped to be a readable and understandable manner.

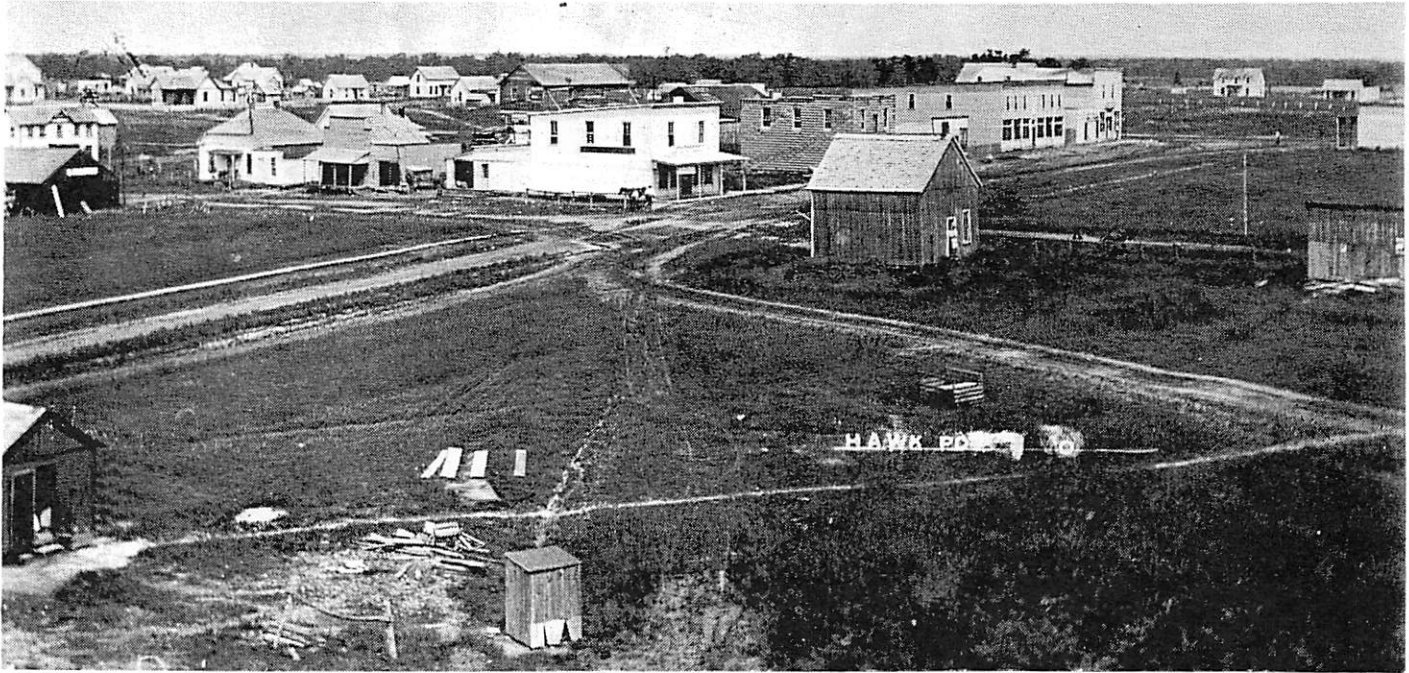
These points should be made:

- (1) Not every piece of material could be used because of the volume available. Therefore, a selection process was necessary.
- (2) The authors cannot vouch for the accuracy of every fact presented, but we can attest to the faithful attempt to accurately relate material given by sources and to reconcile the inevitable contradictions. It must be noted that much that is included is legend and folklore and that time can play tricks on memory.
- (3) The authors felt it imperative that this work be done now, within the lifetime of those who have lived throughout the major portion of the history of Hawk Point. To have waited much longer would have been to have lost that history forever.

## LIST OF CHAPTERS IN ORDER

1. THE TOWN'S ROOTS .....	3
2. A TOWN IS BORN .....	6
3. TOWN GOVERNMENT .....	9
4. BOHEMIANS .....	12
5. GOOD OLD DAYS .....	14
6. CHURCHES .....	16
7. POST OFFICES .....	24
8. NEWSPAPER .....	25
9. COUNTRY SCHOOLS .....	27
10. HAWK POINT SCHOOL .....	32
11. CEMETERIES .....	39
12. BURLINGTON RAILROAD .....	40
13. MARTINEK'S GARAGE .....	42
14. BANKS .....	43
15. THE ENTERPRISE AND TOMEKS .....	44
16. THE ELEVATOR .....	45
17. HARDWARE-LUMBER BUSINESS .....	47
18. DRUG STORES .....	47
19. FUNERAL HOMES .....	48
20. BLACKSMITHS .....	48
21. HAIR CARE .....	48
22. TELEPHONE COMPANIES .....	49
23. AUTOMOBILES .....	49
24. TRUCKERS-HAULERS .....	50
25. GARAGES .....	51
26. INSURANCE AGENTS .....	51
27. RESTAURANTS .....	52
28. AUCTIONS .....	52
29. TAVERNS .....	53
30. COAL MINES .....	54
31. TIMBER-STAVE BUSINESS .....	54
32. LIVESTOCK BUSINESSES .....	54
33. RECENT BUSINESSES .....	55
34. SPORTS IN AND AROUND HAWK POINT .....	56
35. CLUBS .....	61
36. DOCTORS-DENTISTS .....	63
37. LONG LIVES .....	64
38. TWINS .....	64
39. FIRES AND FIREFIGHTERS .....	65
40. WEATHER .....	65
41. TRAGIC DEATHS .....	66
42. FISTICUFFS .....	66
43. CRIME .....	67
44. GENEALOGIES .....	69





*Hawk Point about 1905*

### THE TOWN'S ROOTS

Long before the coming of the Kennedys, Masheks, Tomeks, Duncans or Howells, the prairie hawks came to roost in a point of woods where timber left off and open, rolling hills began. Quite naturally, the area came to be known as hawk's point, then the Hawk Point community and finally the town of Hawk Point.

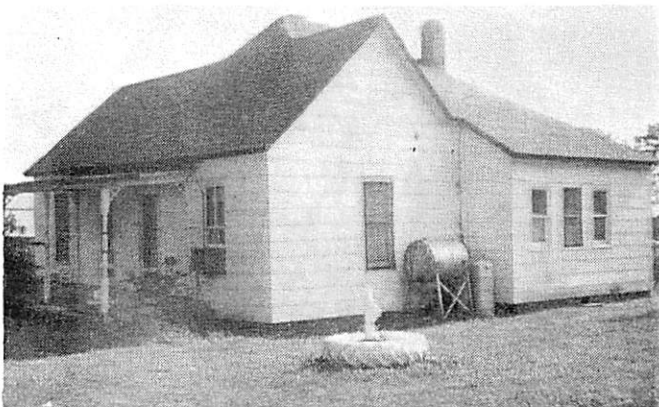
Early settlers, farmers mostly, began drifting into that section of Lincoln County during the first half of the 19th century to stake out homesteads and start new lives on the land that afforded more open space than the eastern regions they had left.

A first, their communities centered on the church as the primary social institution of the time. Nearly all the churches of the area had their origins in the mid-1800's, the Catholic community springing up in the Bohemian settlement at Mashek northeast of Hawk Point, and the Baptists, Christians and

Methodists on the east, north and west of the present town site.

Hawk Point's first public official undoubtedly was the postmaster who may have been either John Kennedy or Oliver Holmes. According to papers of former U.S. Rep. Clarence Cannon, the first Hawk Point post office was established on Feb. 20, 1840, with Mr. Kennedy as postmaster. The other version of the establishment of a post office is more detailed, except no dates are given.

On property now belonging to Vannie Vejvoda, in fact at the corner of his yard, the post office reportedly was established in the farm home built by Mr. Holmes and he was put in charge. Federal Authorities had heeded the application for mail service for the growing population of the area. The same account has it

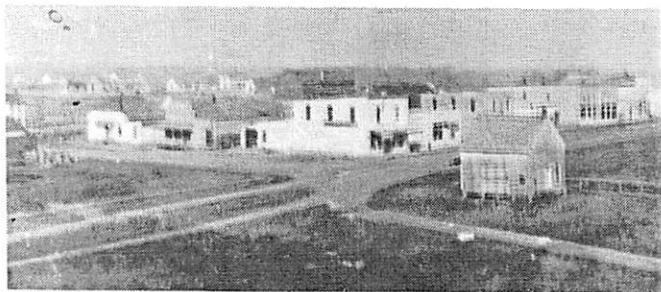


**JOHN MARTINEK HOME**  
*First building in Hawk Point*



**LOUIS HIMMEL STORE**  
*1910 - sat where Hawk Point Hardware stands*





*Hawk Point - 1907 or before*

that the name Hawk Point was officially adopted at that time because of the roosting place near the post office site, which is along the first road west of Hawk Point and perhaps two miles or so south.

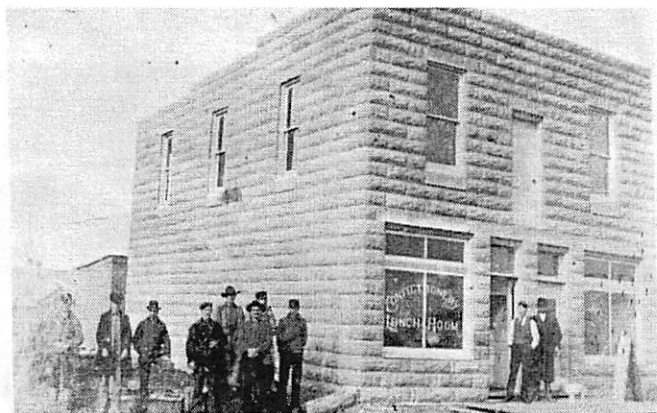
Mr. Holmes supposedly was postmaster for a number of years -- the mail then was carried from Troy once a week (this is where Bill Doll Sr. now lives) before the office was moved to the home of another pioneer, Armstrong Kennedy.

There is no indication what relation, if any, Armstrong Kennedy was to the John Kennedy mentioned in Clarence Cannon's papers, but in 1840, Armstrong Kennedy's family had been in Lincoln County for 20 years, so John conceivably, could have been a son. The Democratic political tradition that to this day is strong in Hawk Point was evidenced in the Kennedy family. Armstrong Kennedy was affiliated with the party and later his son Alexander likewise would be holding office as justice of the peace under that label.

After another interlude during which Mr. Holmes was postmaster, the post office was moved in 1860 to the Alexander Kennedy home where he took over the office he would hold until his death in 1895.

Alexander Kennedy also was Hawk Point's first merchant, establishing a store in his home in 1860. This major figure in the community's early history was married three times and twice widowed. His first two wives were sisters, first Sarah Howell and then Mary Howell. His third wife was Mrs. Rhoda Williams.

A year after Mr. Kennedy's death, his store building and contents burned to the ground. Merchandising quickly was taken over by Alex Owens and a man named Sparks who built a store that over the following eight or so years would have an



CONFECTIONERY 1910  
*John Witthaus - Barber*

interesting existence. The store was built on property now owned by Hurley Creech.

Mr. Sparks bought out Mr. Owens and put the store on wheels and moved it to his home. Then in about 1900, Mr. Sparks sold the store to W. L. Duncan who put it on wheels and transported it to the farm property he had purchased from Alexander Kennedy.

Four years later, the store building took to wheels once again and was moved into town, behind the present site of the Enterprise building. It held the stock while the Enterprise was being built and later was used as the poultry house for the Enterprise.

By this time, the Burlington Railroad was coming through Hawk Point, houses were being built, more businesses were being established.

Hawk Point was changing from a collection of scattered farm homes centering as a community on a store and post office into a bona fide town.

Before the town was established, there was a store where Leonard O'Hanlon lives and also a post office there, though not necessarily the Hawk Point office. This was in about 1895.

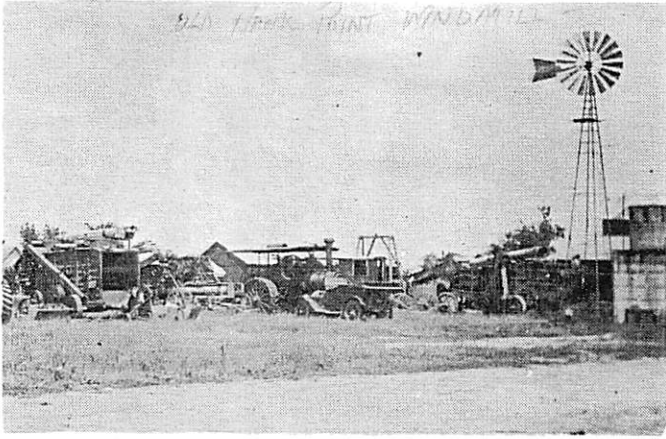
Tom Blair ran the store at first. Later, George Nasser operated a grocery on the site and lived upstairs in the present house, which he built. Others who operated a store at that location were Henry Meyer, Charles Gililand and Frazier Riddle until it closed in 1916.



*H. H. Eversmeyer Store*



*Charles Broz Store - 1937*



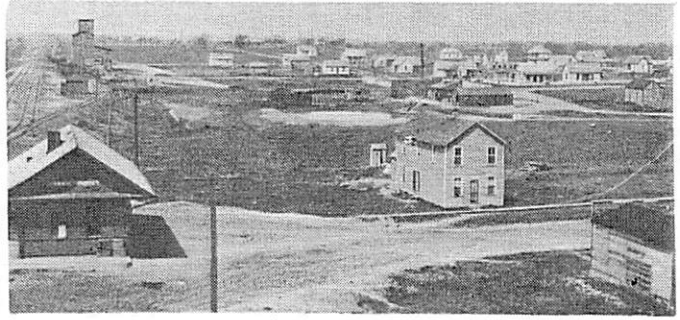
*Hawk Point Windmill and Water Tank on right*

Some of the early settlers in and around Hawk Point included Peter Rinaman who homesteaded land his great-grandson Derwood Rinaman still farms and Sheridan Howell, whose land has remained in the family more than 100 years.

The 1878 atlas shows that these men came into Lincoln County or were born there during the early to mid-1800's: Peter Keller, blacksmith, S. D. Cannon, G. H. Copher, Henry T. Lansche, Alexander Kennedy, Henry Frank, Jacob Mosely, J. R. Witt, P. M. Colbert, A. L. Kennedy and E. D. Ownes, a Baptist minister.

The atlas also shows these landowners in and around Hawk Point in 1878: Ben Kelly, J. H. Bishop, J. Havener, C. R. Abel, T. Bishop, G. H. Copher, H. P. Allen, I. J. Stewart, J. J. Allen, J. W. Skurlock, J. Abbott, R. J. Lockwood, T. E. Tutt, E. Overall, J. H. Walton, D. E. Barley, J. A. Elmore, W. H. Elmore, L. Johnson, J. M. Russell, J. H. Mourning, W. E. Shelton, W. F. Slavens, E. Baker, A. J. Elsberry, S. J. Bowles and M. H. Burgess.

Hawk Point is and has always been first and foremost, a farming community, existing in large part as a trading center for the agricultural society surrounding it. Farming obviously has changed greatly in the century and a quarter since settlers began to migrate to the area.



*South side 1907*

For one thing, early day farming was on a smaller scale but was more diversified. Farmers on the one hand operated more of an independent unit in terms of the commodities they needed to buy but were more interdependent in terms of each other. That is, before the days of one man and many machines as the farm producers, neighbors would have to pitch in to help with butchering and harvest.

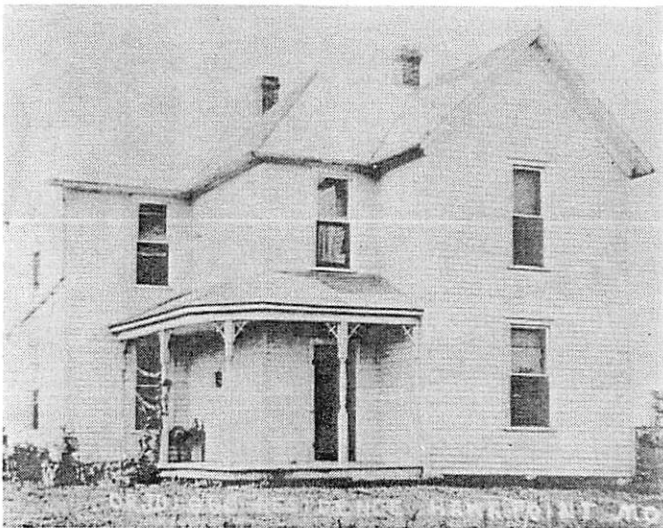
The typical cash and feed farm was perhaps of 40 to 100 acres in size and produced corn, wheat, oats and hay as crops and possibly some tobacco for home use. Hogs, chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, milk cows and beef cattle made up the livestock roll and the produce from these, principally chickens, eggs, cream and butter, were used in a barter fashion to obtain other goods at the stores in town.

In the early days, these would have been Himmels, Tomeks and the Enterprise. When farmers said their dairy and poultry products set their table, that is what they meant.

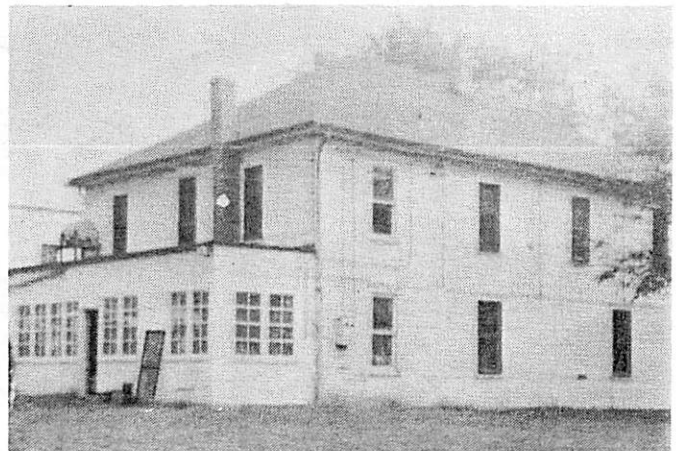
Farm diet was heavy on pork and poultry and during the warm seasons the fresh green vegetables from the garden. During the winter, farmer's wives would raid the fruit cellar for the goods that they had canned.

Hog butchering day meant work from sun-up to dusk and usually involved some neighbors. The results would be ham, sausage, lard, head cheese and crackling, all done in one winter's day.

Most farmers of the day made their own soap, commonly called grandma's lye soap. Meat was kept in the smokehouse and some produce was buried under the snow or dirt to preserve the fresh taste.

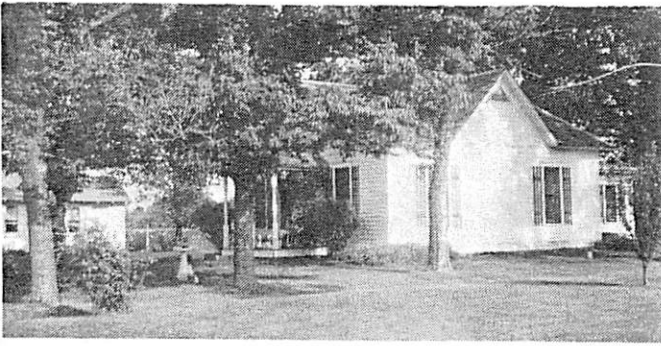


*Dr. Joe Diggs residence - 1908*



*Hammond Hotel 1905-1928 - torn down - 1963*





**IDA COLBERT HOME**  
*One of 10 oldest houses*

**A TOWN IS BORN**

If ever Hawk Point could have been described as a boom town, it must have been from 1904 until about 1909 when much of the original town proper sprang up on the north side of the new Burlington Railroad tracks.

Previously, the Hawk Point Community had been scattered about the prairie. The post office, what stores there were, the churches -- these all were in the country, in rural settings.

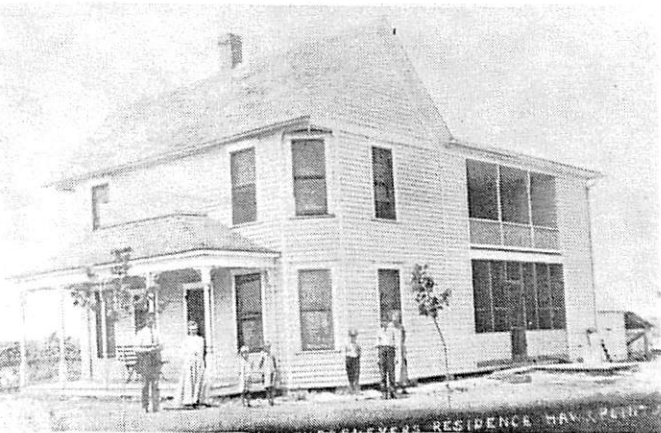
But like a magnet, the railroad attracted business and residents. The Enterprise was built in 1904 on its present site. Tomek's store went up the same year on the opposite side of Main Street and up the block.

William Elliott opened his lumber yard and hardware store on the present Dulin-Harrell site shortly after the town began to grow.

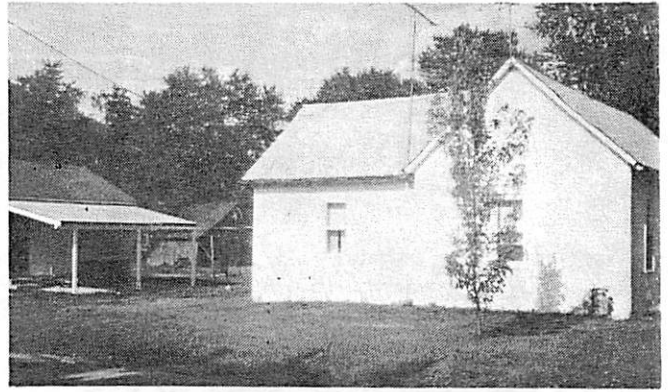
William Martinek came from Olney in 1904 to start a machine shop that has remained in that family to this day.

The railroad depot was built in 1904. Hotels soon followed to accommodate the business traffic the hustle and bustle of the little town had stimulated. One hotel was on the east side of Main Street in the middle of the block. This hotel was originally the Jones. The date of its construction is not certain, but a picture taken in 1904 shows it wasn't yet built at that time. Tullie and Dullie Jones ran it for five months and then it was sold to William Hammond.

He operated it until about 1923 when he sold it to the Catholic



*H. H. Eversmeyer Residence - 1908*  
*Perry Allen Home - 1977*



**PIEPER HOUSE**

*One of 10 oldest houses. Antique shop owned by Bill and Margaret Pieper 1968-1975.*

Church which used it as a priest's home.

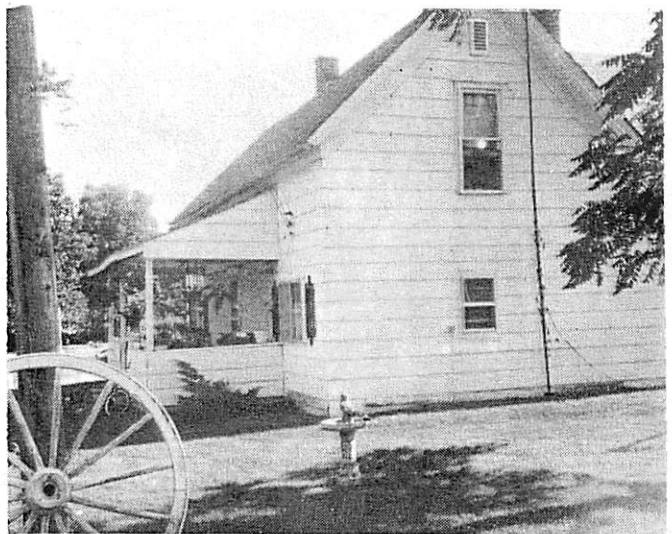
The hotel had eight rooms upstairs, a large living room, dining room and kitchen. Rates were \$1 per night and 50 cents per meal, or \$8 a week for room and board.

Hawk Point soon after its initial build up added an industrial employer, the Blue Oak Handle Co. The factory was established in about 1906 on land now occupied by Bob McCarty's trailer court. The company also had a barn where Gola Gordon now lives.

The plant, which employed about 15 men most of the time, made handles for all kinds of hand tools. It had hickory and oak stored all over the yard and a pond for steam to run the machines.

The manager was Guy Meeks. Some of the employees were Doug Smith, the Sparks brothers, Pen Shelker, Clarence McMahan, Joe Myrick, Clyde and Bill Cannon. The factory closed down sometime between 1910 and 1912.

A large square two-story building was erected near the depot during the early days of Hawk Point's existence. It first was the home of J. B. Gallagher, owner of the Hawk Point Transcript. Mr. Gallagher used the lower level as the newspaper office.



**CLIFFORD COLBERT HOME**  
*Built by Joe Tomek Sr. 1904-1905*





LISTENING IN

*C. A. Harper, R. H. Brown, Joseph Tomek, Jr., W. E. Giles, H. H. Eversmeyer, O. E. Barley, Charles J. Broz, and Mrs. R. H. Brown.*

Later the building became the Joe Burgess Hotel, from 1922 to 1928. The hotel had eight rooms and served meals. It was a handy stop for drummers getting off the train. The building, then the residence of Felix Steiger, was destroyed by fire in 1941.

A bank was soon started in the new town. The Baptist and Christian Churches moved from their rural location into town in 1904. The Catholic Church would follow later.

John Kliever, who came to Hawk Point to work on the railroad, stayed to start a blacksmith shop just west of the lumber yard. It was the same site that his son Eddie would occupy as a blacksmith for many years until his death in 1956.

Dr. Foreman came from Warrenton to set up practice in 1904 or 1905. His office was in a room that is now part of Clayton Duff's house. Houses, of course, were going up all over the town site.

The first one in town probably was built by Charles Owens where John Martinek lives now. Joe Tomek Sr. built the house where Clifford Colbert now lives in about 1904.

Other early-day Hawk Point houses still standing are Dan McCarty's, Ida Colbert's, Florence Begeman's, Perry Allen's and Mrs. Pieper's.

Another business was one started by Rudolph Holt, who came to Hawk Point from Moscow Mills, probably in 1904. He was a tinner by trade, who reputedly could make about



*Elda Tappmeyer  
Husband ran a general  
store about 1908  
Emma and Elda  
Tappmeyer*

anything out of tin. His business was where the stone building is now on Main Street.

Mr. Holt, who had had a stroke that twisted his mouth and face, put the tin on a house built by a Mr. Lansche in 1904. The house had no nails and still stands.

Two other businessmen who arrived in Hawk Point during this period were Louis Himmel and Charles Broz.

Mr. Himmel came from Linn's Mill in 1906 and opened a furniture store across from the present location of the laundry. Later he expanded into general merchandise and moved his business to the present location of the Hawk Point Hardware Store.

Mr. Himmel had the reputation of being the buyer and seller of just about any kind of merchandise, including animal skins and farm products.

He also had a flair for the persuasive advertisement, as evidenced by this newspaper ad: "There is a right corset for medium, stout, short, tall women. Each corset is guaranteed not to rust, break or tear."

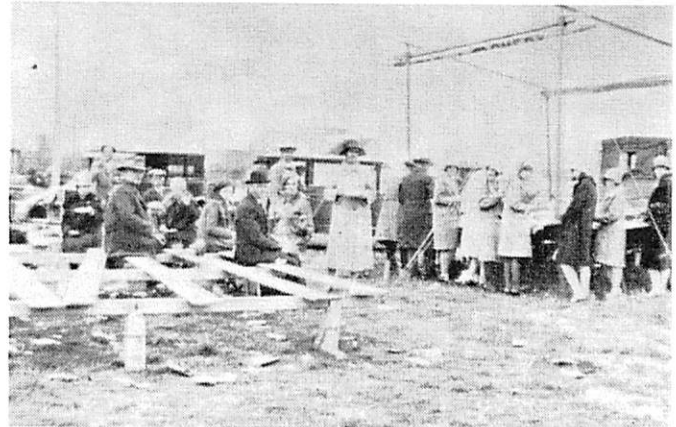
Mr. Himmel was a small man who had a hump on his back from an accident.

Mr. Broz, a native of Czechoslovakia, bought a harness business from Herman Werges in about 1910. He had learned his trade in the old country. The first location was north of Tomek's store, but five years later, he moved to a building just

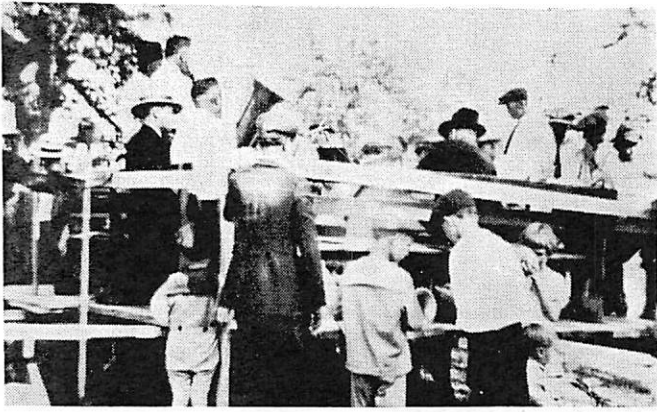


DAN McCARTY HOME

*One of five oldest houses - erected about 1906.*



*Granger Medicine Show - 1928*



*Hawk Point Band - 1924*

south of Tomek's where he branched out into the sale of shoes. Later, he sold Goodyear tires.

Mr. Broz and his wife ran the store until his death in 1959.

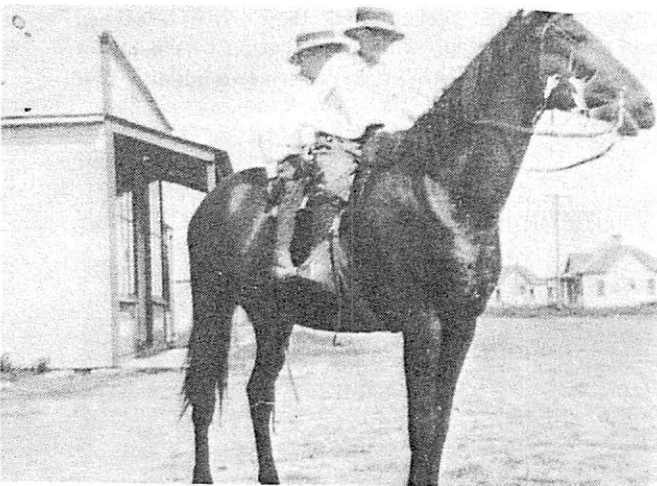
An early-day general store was Tappmeyer's which opened in 1907 where the funeral chapel is now. It was not in business very long.

An early figure in Hawk Point, important in commerce and farming, was W. B. Howell, who operated a 300-acre farm at the western edge of the present town site.

He was married to Kate Nichols and they had 10 children. His first wife was the daughter of Alexander Kennedy, a Hawk Point pioneer. She died shortly after their marriage in 1880.

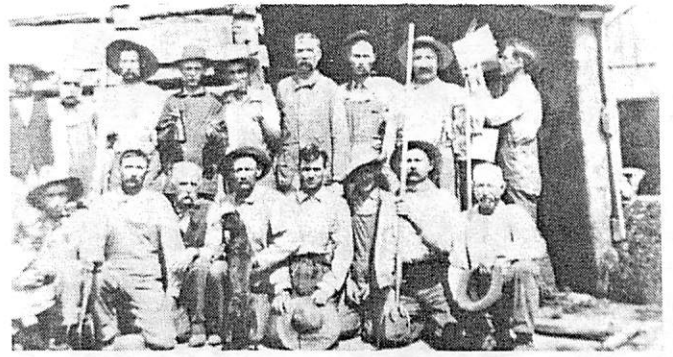
The Silex Index of 1902 praised Mr. Howell as being "a self-made man, starting in life with comparatively nothing. He has by industry, enterprise and thrift accumulated around and about him a competency that not only insures the comforts for his family but commands the confidence and admiration of his friends." The paper described Mr. Howell as Democrat and a member of the Christian Church who is known by neighbors as "charitable and upright".

Another early Hawk Point settler, one who still lives there, was Ed Fredde, who has a good memory for some of the flavor of living during that time.



**DR. PRUITT'S OFFICE — 1912**

*Russell Monroe and Loyd Duncan. Phillip Meister's shop, black building.*



**FASSE THRASHING CREW — 1912**

*William Fasse, Charley Fasse, Sam Fasse, Sid Shelton, Bill Reynolds, Charles Reynolds, Henry Krueger, Charley Martin, Henry Windmann, Harry Martin.*

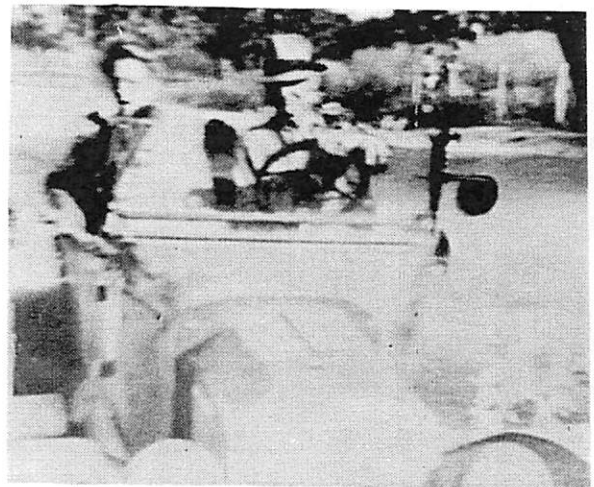
He recalls that in about 1909, a big picnic was held at John Knizel's. A Walton boy with a couple of girls in a buggy was stopped in the middle of the road when two of the Upson boys ran into them with their surrey. The two were going to fight Walton, so a race into town ensued, with Mr. Fredde in hot pursuit behind the two horse drawn vehicles. When they all got into town, the marshal, Silas Davis, wanted to know what was going on, so everyone pretended it was just a little game.

Meanwhile, the town continued to build. The elevator was erected in 1907, to stand until 1976 when it was razed to make way for new facilities.

Other businesses during the first several years of Hawk Point's existence included: Harrison Dunard's butcher shop, Joe Burgess's rooming house, Mrs. Shannon's hat shop, Tobe Barley's horse sales and Joe Brown's shoe cobbling shop in the old Shell Building.

Another business was started a little later in 1914 by William Fasse who ran a threshing machine in the summer and sawmill in the winter. He started when he bought a house from George Middlekamp, one now owned by Ida Colbert. Mr. Fasse ran the business until 1937.

The town was becoming fairly well populated. Joe Tomek



*Mr. and Mrs. Rolla Logan*

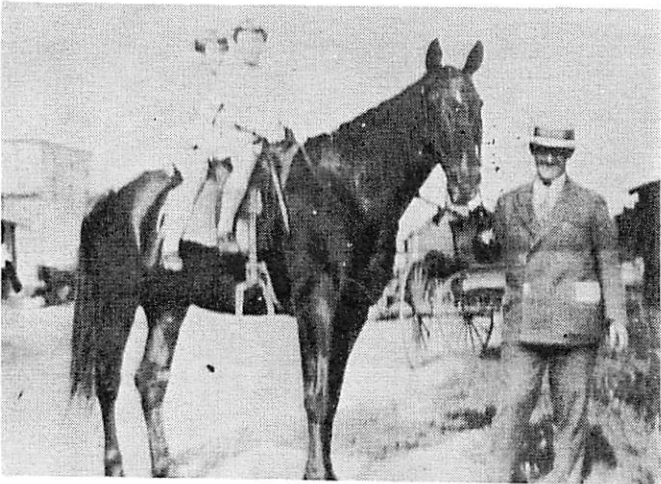


**COTTLE BUILDING**

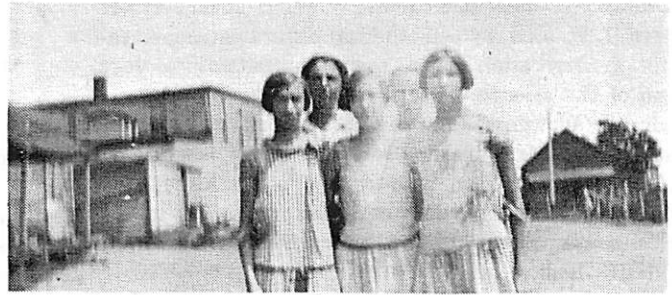
*W. R. and Billy Logan, bank, dentist, telephone office.*

can recall quite a number of Hawk Point and area residents from the period 1904-06.

- |                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| R. S. Chandler | Herman Withouse        |
| Pearl Hutton   | William Brown          |
| Frank Crouch   | Dr. Garrett Steinmesch |
| Lonzo Crouse   | Andrew Crouch          |
| John Brown     | Joe Martinek           |
| Roland Howell  | Sam Daugherty          |
| Edward Kumbera | Henry Crouch           |
| J. C. Crouch   | Bob Upson              |
| Louis Himmel   | W. F. Upson            |
| Cabe Brown     | Harry Brown            |
| John Elliott   | W. F. Allen            |
| Albert Shramek | John Slavens           |
| George Burgess | Andy Kinion            |
| Frank Himmel   | Dr. Prewitt            |
| Mrs. W. Able   | John Lynn              |
| J. H. Yeater   | Bob Kinion             |
| Price Allen    | Sam Daughtery          |
| Andrew Crouch  | James Brown            |
| A. S. Witt     | John Withouse          |
| John Slavens   | Joe Tomek Sr.          |



*Black shed where Beck's Garage stands. Betty, Louise, A. W. Howell.*



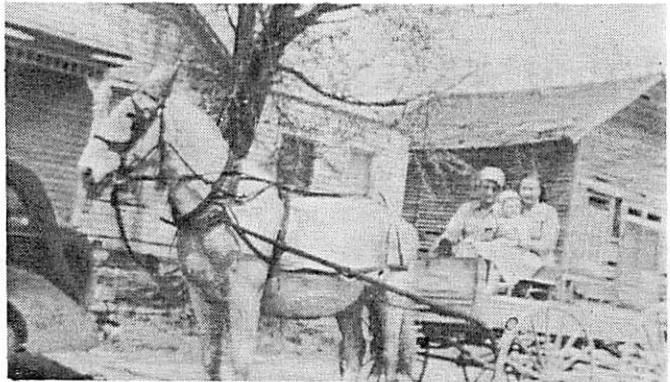
**LOOKING EAST — 1930**

*First store. Enterprise. Davis Grist Mill. Alice Wing, Rose Himmel, Cleo Logan, Omer Himmel, Bill Logan.*

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Walter Cregger  | Joe Burgess    |
| Fred Watson     | Frank Mallan   |
| Tom Brown       | Luther Shelton |
| Jerry Black     | Emil Shoeshank |
| Harry Brown     | Pearly Giles   |
| Doc Barley      | Frank Martinek |
| Pete Kuda       | James Reed     |
| J. B. Wells     | Doug Smith     |
| Cap Long        | May Elliott    |
| James Sadlo     | D. Smith       |
| Joe Crouch      | J. Russell     |
| Jerry McCulloch | Gola Gordon    |
| Joe Elmore      | Joe Palmer     |
| Lou Crain       | Joe Sheets     |
| Alex Owens      | W. F. Nicklin  |
| John Davis      | Charles Eames  |
| Lee Tuttle      | W. B. Howell   |
| Lee Witt        | True Crouch    |
| William Wilson  | John Barbee    |
| Frank Broz Sr.  | William Giles  |
| William Rinaman | Charles Lane   |
| Frank Stanek    | Mayron Sonner  |
| Hugh Milim      |                |

**TOWN GOVERNMENT**

Within three years of Hawk Point's precipitous growth starting in 1904, it became apparent to the town leaders that some legal status was needed for the community.



**FIRST STORE**

*Behind Enterprise — Bill, Ruth and Billy Logan*



Consequently, in February 1907, W. L. Duncan, H. H. Eversmeyer, T. W. Kelly and 40 other taxpayers petitioned the county for incorporation as a town, submitting a legal description of the area to be so designated.

Generally, it followed the Burlington Railroad tracks on the south, the west boundary of the Beverly Upson property on the east, and the Troy-Truxton road on the north, except the boundary took an irregular route on the northwest to take in the Charles Owens property and on the southwest to take in the Joseph Nichols land.

The charter was granted on March 11, 1907 and Hawk Point officially was a town.

The first chairman of the board of trustees -- he was considered to be the mayor -- was Joseph Diggs. Other original trustees were Flavius A. Walton, Charles Klustermeyer, William Westmake, Mr. Eversmeyer and John Kliever.

The clerk was James McLellan, the marshal, collector and street commissioner, Sam Daugherty, and the treasurer, George Middlekamp.

One of the first acts of the new government was the crackdown on suspicious and disorderly houses, those of ill fame and gambling. The marshal visited such establishments and presumably made some arrests, inasmuch as it is recorded that T. W. Tappmeyer and Joe Tomek Sr. went bond.

A calaboose was authorized in 1907 at a cost of \$100 but there is no record any was ever built.

In 1908, George Prewitt became a trustee in place of Mr. Klostermeyer.

The municipal election that year was presided over by Gabnee Brown, Joe Nichols and Louis Himmel as judges and M. J. Elliott as clerk.

The high votes were received by Joe Diggs, 36; W. L. Duncan, 34; George Presley, 28; and Joe Tomek, 26.

Guy Meeks was disqualified because he had not been a resident long enough. The new marshal was Silas Davis.

Also listed as marshals in 1909 (there may have been considerable turnover in this office) was Omer Lester and Joseph Burgess.

Through about 1921, the Hawk Point trustees, as members of the town board were known: Louis Himmel, A. W. Howell, William Elliott, Mr. Meeks, J. T. Remy, S. M. Davis, George Gibson, W. W. Downing, Harrison Dunard, C. A. Harper, J. C. Giles, John Peterson, Logan Armstrong, J. C. Welch, S. H. Young, R. G. Logan and F. L. Eversmeyer.

Mayors included Flavius Walton, George Burgess, John Reed, W. F. Guinn and W. H. Hammond.

Marshals were William Cunningham, Sam Daugherty, Everett Burgess, T. D. Hammond, S. L. McMahan, J. H. Monroe, John Witt, Joseph J. Crouch and Joe Brown.

Louis Himmel was listed as town clerk in about 1912.

Action taken by the early town boards toward civic improvement related mostly to streets and sidewalks.

In 1909, the board voted to put sidewalks on Main Street and the next year took the action to bring that about by awarding a contract to build walks either of concrete or granite.

The board also ordered the wooden sidewalks to the depot repaired.

As for streets, the town board decreed that every able bodied man was supposed to work on the graveled thoroughfares three days a year or pay \$3.

In 1910, the board voted to buy 215 loads of gravel for the street improvement.

That same year, the board initiated action that would be much farther reaching and in fact would set a pattern that remains to the present.

The board voted to dig a well west of Martinek's machine shop, the long-time site of the town well and later where the well was put down when a municipal water system was established.

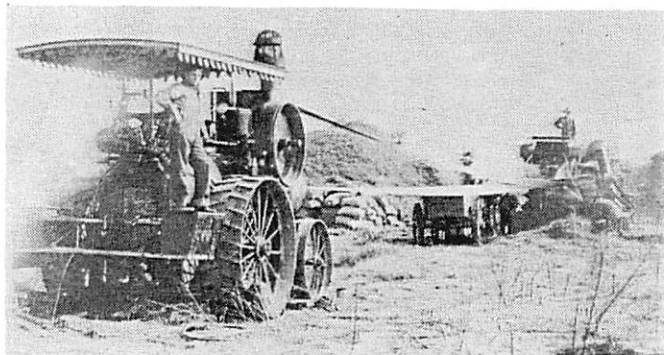
Streets and public accommodations continued to be a town board concern. In 1912, the board ordered construction of a hitching rack north of the millinery store. And in 1915, it voted to work on streets, paying a man and team \$3.50 for 10 hours work.

In 1918, the town government was confronted with a crisis that wasn't confined to small towns, nor was it peculiar to that day.

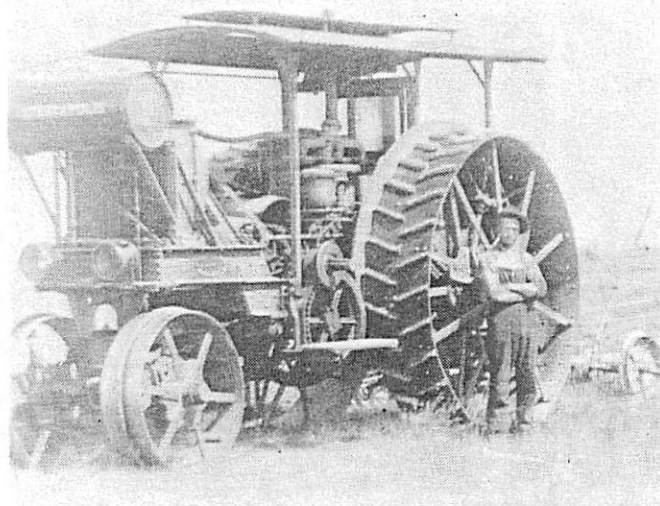
A worldwide influenza epidemic was raging that year and Hawk Point was not untouched by it.

On Oct. 25, 1918, Mayor Burgess proclaimed Oct. 28 as cleanup day with everything to be cleaned and disinfected with powdered lime, borax, or carbolic acid.

Nor was flu the only scourge that year. A smallpox epidemic led the board, after consultation with Dr. Smith and Dr. John Butler, to appoint a health board consisting of Dr. Butler, Joe Tomek and Harrison Dunard.



*Thrashing - 1920*



*Minneapolis 1920*

Mr. Dunard was to be paid 20 cents each for yellow cloth used to quarantine homes during the siege of illness.

An epidemic of LaGrippe also is recalled by some.

During the 1920's, many of the same men who earlier served in elected and appointed positions in town government were still on the scene.

George Burgess continued as mayor for a time. Others were F. L. Eversmeyer, Wiliam Duncan Jr., Harrison Dunard and Harry Thurman.

Some new men who came to the board of trustees were Charles Broz, Floyd Upson, Joe Powell, William Wing, S. M. Hammett, John R. Crouch, William Giles and H. H. Eversmeyer.

Mr. Himmel was town clerk during this period, as were W. H. Duncan, Mr. Broz and O. F. Barley.

A new name as marshal was William Earnest.

The town board of that era made big decisions and small. For instance, in 1923, the body ordered everyone to clean outside toilets, typical of a cleanup ordered annually.

The board was still hiring street work at 30 cents an hour and bought nearly 500 loads of gravel from John Colbert's at 10 cents a load.

The zealously of youth and the caution of their elders was evidenced in a March 1925 incident. The sophomore class at the school wrote the board asking that a health officer be appointed to inspect milk and test cows and watch for spoiled food. It was signed by Reba Young, Russell Butler and Frances Martinek.

The board postponed any action.

An example of major action by the board, one that would have lasting significance for Hawk Point, was that which led to a town referendum on March 10, 1926. The people voted to allow East Missouri Power Co. to bring electricity into town. The age of the kerosene lamp and stove heated flat iron was coming to an end in Hawk Point.

The final period of government under the village form, 1932-59, found many men serving on the board of trustees and in other capacities.

Some such as W. O. Giles, Harrison Dunard, W. F. Guinn, John Peterson and William Wing had served before.

Others were W. F. Martinek, Charles Prior, Richard Henebry, Robert Gililand, O. F. Drunert, Allie Allen, Al Claggett, Oscar Beck, O. F. Barley, Emmett Hoffmann, Felix Steiger, Martin Leek, Leland Witt, A. L. Todd, Gola Gordon, William Howdeshell, Frank Mashek, Ed Martinek, W. L.

Brown, Robert Shilharvey, Francis Zalabak, Dwight Casner, Donald Thompson and Lowell Cope.

Mayors were Logan Armstrong, Richard Brown, W. H. Duncan, George Presley, Joe Tomek Jr., Lee Brown, Gus Frank, George Colbert, Londo Luelf, Walter Crouch and Harold Leek.

Marshals included W. F. Nicklin, Felix Steiger, Cecil Cope, and Arch Taylor, as well as some familiar names from earlier days -- Everett Thurstin, Sanford McMahan, T. D. Hammonds and Allie Allen.

Charles Broz, Frank Fasse and Donald Thompson were town clerks.

The town board during that period did not have much money to work with. The 1933 budget, for instance, was \$837.32. In 1945, it had grown to \$2,052.86.

To help pad out the thread bare treasury, the board applied for WPA money for streets and sold water, in 1936, for 5 cents for 50 gallons.

The town marshal also had to double in brass as street commissioner, water commissioner, tax collector and burier of dead dogs.

In 1946, just 20 years after East Missouri Power Co. was allowed to bring electricity to Hawk Point, the board contracted with the successor power company, Missouri Edison, to furnish electricity for 10 years.

In May 1948, the city bought more land for the cemetery from O. F. Drunert and in the same year outlawed fireworks, their sale and use.

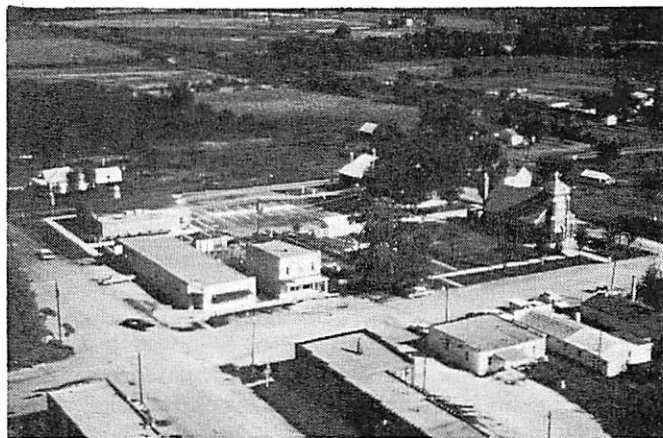
Street work continued to be in the fore front. The first oil and chips were applied in 1943 before the streets were blacktopped in the 1950s. It was in 1973 that a good grade of asphalt was put on some of the main thoroughfares.

In 1952, the town put a tax on cars by requiring purchase of city licenses, and voted to put up 10 stop signs.

A sort of throwback to an earlier time seems indicated in the 1952 ordinance that prohibited hogs in the city from April to October.

Hawk Point made a major change in town government in 1959-60 when the town became a fourth class city under the statutes of the state.

This meant that aldermen would be elected from wards and the mayor would be elected at large by the voters. Previously, the mayor was elected by the trustees from among their



Hawk Point by air — 1972

number.

More profound changes also began to take place after 1960. For one thing, the town started having money to spend for the first time, thanks to such innovations as gasoline tax rebates and later Revenue Sharing.

Modern facilities were added, first a municipal water system. In a community where before the mid 1950s a bathroom and running water were luxuries indeed, the cistern and the out house became the exception and ultimately virtually non-existent.

The water project came in 1960-61. Daniel Fowler was the first water commissioner of the new system. Gola Gordon took it over in 1967 and kept it until 1976 when he retired at the age of 80. Bill Doll Jr. succeeded him.

Next, a sewer system, with a lagoon for disposal, was added and Al Blacksher was appointed commissioner. Trash pickup service became available and natural gas lines were installed also.

Harold Leek was mayor during a great deal of the town's evolution into one with most of the modern conveniences. Other mayors after the changeover to fourth class city government were Daniel Martinek, Don Davis, David Hart, Emmett Hoffmann and Craig Amann.

Aldermen have included Julius Erbe, Joe Doll, Lawrence Kuda, Arthur Ray Schaper, Charles Tochtrop, Darlyne Colbert, John Schieffer, Oliver Steiger, Fred Hasekamp, and Donald Thompson, Bill Todd and John Howdeshell.

Hawk Point has had law enforcement sporadically over much of its history, but of recent years has kept a marshal on the payroll most of the time.

Among them were Roger Laughlin, Earl Amann, Bob Hilton and Ira Thornhill.

### THE BOHEMIANS

Because a handful of Central European immigrants staked out their futures in the rolling, timbered country northwest of Troy in 1848, Hawk Point has never been your typical Anglo-Saxon-German Midwestern farming town. Rather it has a different style and flavor.

Possibly no more than half a dozen Bohemian families were the original pioneers, but more came during the 1850s and 60s -- people with names like Knizel, Shramek, Martinek, Kallash, Kuda and Shilharvey.

The region these first-generation Americans chose later became the location for the village of Mashek which at one time had a church, a store, a post office, a blacksmith shop and a community hall.

Now only the Catholic cemetery remains to remind the present generation of life there long ago. But the picturesque countryside north of Highway 47 still is known as the Bohemian settlement; some descendants of the early residents still live there and the Old World quaintness has not been totally lost.

The real Old World, the settlers' native land of Bohemia, has a history dating to the establishment as a kingdom under the Holy Roman Empire about 1,000 years ago. The Czechs inhabiting Bohemia enjoyed relative freedom for about 350 years until the kingdom was absorbed by the Austrian-Hungarian Empire of the Hapsburgs. Bohemia is part of what now is the nation of Czechoslovakia.

Details of the original Bohemian migration of Lincoln County are sparse, but among the first families were those of Joseph

Shelker, John Sedlack and William Norton. Most of the early settlers came by way of St. Louis or Chicago. There followed in 1850 the Frank Martinek family and then many others, among them the Ignatious Knizels with 12 children in 1867. One listing of early Mashek residents included William Martinek, John Mashek, Joseph Shilharvey, Frank Tumpoch, Frank Havlik, John Stanek, John Kallash, William Wing, Albert Shramek, Peter Kuda, Frank Jisha, Frank Baker, William Kowazek and Frank Shelker. Many descendants of these men still live in the Hawk Point vicinity.

The land they settled was not rich and there was not an abundance of tillable soil, but it was well wooded and watered and was efficient for the needs of the new Americans. And maybe it reminded them of home.

In any case, these hard-working, fun-loving, frugal and tightly knit people built their lives together, prospering on the soil, and in some cases as merchants.

Getting started, however, had its problems. For instance, William Norton had to leave his family in Bohemia while he worked in St. Louis to raise enough money to send for them. Even after establishing his home in Lincoln County, he continued to work in the city, coming home only twice a year to bring his pay.

During the Civil War, the Nortons' home was virtually torn apart by renegades searching for money. They didn't find any because the family savings had been well hidden by Mrs. Norton in a wagon wheel hub in a cave and covered over by twigs and leaves.

Almost without exception the Bohemians were and are devout Roman Catholics and the history of the group in Lincoln County is virtually inseparable from that of St. Mary's Parish in Hawk Point and its forerunner church in Mashek.

It is a tribute to the important place religion had in the lives of the early Bohemian settlers that the first public building in Mashek was the church.

At first the villagers met in each other's homes to read prayer books and recite the Rosary, but in 1862 with logs donated by the various citizens, a church was built.



*Frank Knizel's birthday - 1927  
Frank - Mary Knizel*



This building served the people for many years, until it was replaced by a new church in 1886. The old church was dismantled, moved and reassembled as a community hall which became the entertainment center of the village. No one ever has accused the Bohemians of being backward about having a good time, so the community hall was well used for parties and dances.

A village brass band enlivened things for Mashek dwellers and if William Kowazek was right, there was no trouble recruiting members. All Bohemians, he maintained, are musicians and dancers.

One of the regular events was a community picnic with pies, cakes, soda, beer and fish.

Hawk Point residents of later years found that things had not changed a great deal. The annual St. Mary's picnic on Main Street and the church grounds traditionally was one of the more interesting events of the year and St. Mary's Hall was the scene of frequent dances and parties.

Besides the church and the recreation hall, the village of Mashek consisted of Joe Kallash's blacksmith shop, John Mashek's store and the post office in the store. Also, there was a distillery nearby at Cottonwood spring that supposedly produced excellent whiskey from the spring water.

When it came time to name the town, there was some little disagreement among the two reputed leaders, John Mashek and John Norton. Each wanted the village to bear his last name. But Mr. Mashek won out because the post office was located in his store.

Before Mr. Mashek established his store, dwellers of the area were forced either to walk two miles to the east to Howell's store in Pleasant Grove or to Linn's Mill, five miles to the south.

If Mr. Norton and Mr. Mashek had a mild disagreement over

the naming of the town, the completion of the new frame church created a full-blown uproar that left bitterness for many years to come.

The issue was seemingly the simple one of whether to dedicate the new building. This was opposed by some who remembering the old country feared strict control by the bishops. The pro-dedication side won out and ruled that those who had opposed it would be barred from burial in the church cemetery. Thus another cemetery was established on the opposite side of the road from the church for the descendants and members of their families. Priests would not conduct graveside rites there.

There was a happier side to the controversial dedication day. It also was the day Frank Martinek and Barbara Mashek were married.

In Mashek and later in Hawk Point, many of the Bohemian people made outstanding contributions to community, church and business life.

Two individuals, however, come in for special attention, partly because their lifetimes spanned the entire Bohemian history of the area. Both immigrated as children from Bohemia and lived long enough to have reached into the memory of many not-so-old Hawk Pointers today.

The first is Frank Knizel, one of the Ignatious Knizel's brood that came to Missouri from the Old Country in 1867. Frank had been born seven years earlier in Prague, now the capital of Czechoslovakia.

In retailing, in banking, in community and religious affairs Mr. Knizel established himself as a leader. He also has the reputed distinction of being on the first train to travel between Hawk Point and St. Louis.

For eight years in the early days of Hawk Point, Mr. Knizel was a partner with Joe Tomek in the mercantile business. He also was a major figure in Hawk Point's first bank from 1906 until 1924 when it was absorbed by the present People's Bank. He then became a director of the successor bank.

Mr. Knizel was the dispenser of justice in Hawk Point for many years, serving as justice of the peace from 1918 until the 1930s.

His name was considered almost synonymous with St. Mary's Catholic Parish. In 1935, the Catholic director described him as the lay apostle of the church.

In about 1880, Frank Knizel was married to Mary Martinek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wenceslaus Martinek. Their six children were Frank Jr., John, Mrs. John Peterson, Mrs. Frank Zalabak, Mrs. William Martinek and Mrs. Joe Folta. Mr. Knizel died January 8, 1940.

William Kowazek unquestionably was Hawk Point's last Civil War veteran when he died in 1948 at 101 years and 14 days after his birth in Bohemia.

William came to this country as an infant, was reared in Lincoln County and ran away from home in 1864 at 16 to join the Army and fight in the Civil War.

Fight he did, for when he returned home he carried the scars of bullet wounds in the stomach and right foot. He always said you could tell by the scars which way he was going when he was shot.

It was Mr. Kowazek who made the observation that Bohemians are especially gifted in music and he helped prove it by becoming part of the Mashek brass band.

Mr. Kowazek was married in 1871 to Mary Norton in



FRANK AND JOSEPHINE STANEK FAMILY

Henry, Agnes, Edward, Sarah Wing, William Wing, Annie, Chas., Mamie, Alice Wing, Josephine, Frank, Charlie, Paul, Sylvester, Marie.

Millwood by Father Cleary. They had 12 children: Benjamin, Felix, Andrew, William, Mary, Edena Hammett, Veronica, Frances Fines, Minnie Earnest, Annie Elton, Gertrude and Leona Langenecker.

### GOOD OLD DAYS

The years after Hawk Point's initial growth very well may have been the town's best, in terms of business health and a zesty community life.

A glimpse of how the village was put together, what the concerns were, who the major movers were is seen in the town board minutes of the period and from other sources.

In 1912, for instance, the town government decreed there would be a street fair with such attractions as a doll rack, can rack, rubber goods, shooting gallery, ocean wave, hot popcorn and lemonade stand. The meaning of some of those terms are lost in the later generations.

In April 1913, notice was issued that no more livestock would be allowed to run loose in the city limits.

A 1914 minute entry had a pugnacious tone. The marshal was instructed to tell C. A. Harper and everyone else to stop hitching their horses in front of the post office. "There is getting to be a filthy mess," the board observed. Why Mr. Harper was singled out for this warning when obviously others were guilty as well, is not clear.

A 1915 census showed 47 males and 43 females of school age in Hawk Point. Three years later, the total school age population in town had dropped to 80. The nose count was made to determine how much money from out-of-state insurance companies doing business in Missouri should go to Hawk Point.

The town board's get-tough policy continued in 1916 with the adoption of such edicts as prohibiting bike riding on sidewalks and ball playing in the street. Also not allowed would be the racing of horses in a careless manner, under pain of fines ranging from \$5 to \$50.

Another curious action by the board was to hire a watchman to keep people from climbing into cars of other people.

Even the least significant item did not escape the town board



FASSE FAMILY

*William, Susie, Sam, Martha, Frank, Bertha, Robert.*



APPLE BUTTER — 1971

*Clareen Rinaman, Wilhelmine Shramek, Betty Leek, Larry Black home.*

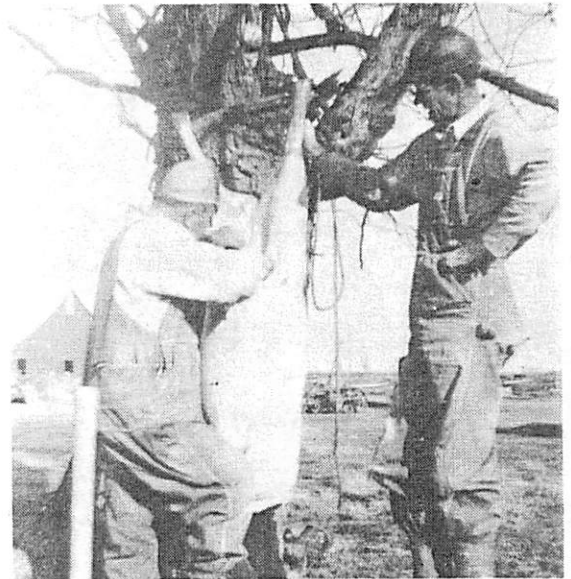
minutes. In 1917, it is recorded that Joe Brown was paid 50 cents for burying a dog.

Timber wolves that year also were reported to be killing farm animals. Of more serious consequence in 1917 was the permanent injury suffered by Glenn Gallagher in a fall from a large apple tree.

The minutes of the town board and other sources reveal some of the town leaders served in many roles over a period of time.

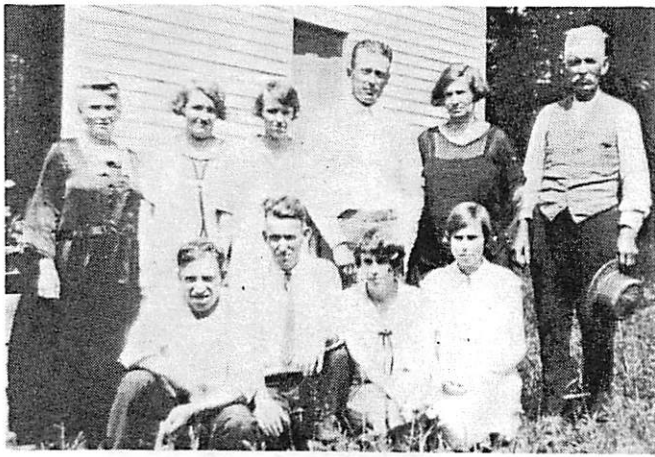
Two of these most versatile were the aforementioned Mr. Harper and William Guinn.

C. A. Harper was a school teacher, a notary public and an insurance agent for the Springfield Insurance Co., and also found time to operate the Model Grocery Store in 1915 and



HOG KILLING — 1945

*Petie Peterson, Vince Kirchoff.*



**WILLIAM NICKLIN FAMILY**

**LITTLE BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH — 1926**

*Front: Orum, Elbert, Florence, Grace.*

*Back: Emma, Maydee, Maggie, Dee, Anna, William.*



**GIRLS ABOUT TOWN**

*Back: Margaret Pieper, Bertha Fasse, Valeria Hamilton, Florence Sonner.*

*Front: Edith Burgess, Floy ??, Murlie Harper, Annie Wilson, Isabell Kumbera, Elsie Thurstin, Isabell Monroe.*

before.

Even more diversified was Mr. Guinn. He operated the Olney Realty Co. in Hawk Point in 1914, sold insurance and was a notary public, was an optometrist, specializing in the repair of frames and lenses. He did legal work, was a justice of the peace and in 1916, he was given a license to operate a public hall.

Other public officials of the period from Hawk Point were Frank Knizel, a Lincoln County judge of the second district, Amos Rinaman, who was elected Lincoln County clerk in 1918, and C. S. Eames, a judge of some description.

Early notes also give an indication of the business community in Hawk Point. For instance, G. G. English moved to Hawk Point in 1915 and started a jewelry store.

The same year, Mr. J. J. Devereaux and Ruby Howell ran a millinery shop. Joe Brown, a deaf man, operated a shoe store over the Enterprise and also ran a grocery store in the old Shell Building that was torn down in 1976.

Joe Tomek sold Baldwin pianos in 1918. His store at that time was called the Hawk Point Bargain Store.

In 1919 a new type of business made its appearance in Hawk Point. Riley Thompson was given a license for a picture show in

the Paramount Theater Building.

The following year, in June, George Burgess, also was granted a license to operate a picture show.

Business licenses issued during this period of Hawk Point's history give some indication of the brisk activity the village enjoyed.

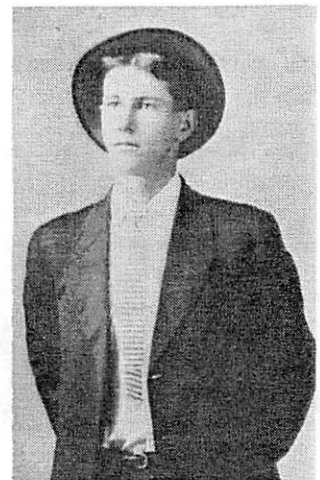
Licenses included William Pollock M and E Co., Rolla Logan, Ed Cottle Butcher Shop, F. A. Ordelheide Undertaker, Lee's Drugs, Logan-Fine Stables, Elliott Lumber Co., John S. Davis Grist Mill.

Milam-Eatin, Joe Brown, Burgess-Giles Butcher Shop, Fine-Howell Stable, John Witt Draying, William Holcomb, barber, Shannon Sisters Millinery, Tom Elton, barber, Mil Elton, Model Grocery, Charles Richter Stable, Purity Pharmacy, Rudolph Holt tinner, Gililand-Howell Butcher Shop, Hunter-Upson Butcher Shop.

Frank Meyer picture show, C. A. Harper Insurance, Notary, Teague Barley, Harrison Dunard Butcher Shop, Lee Tuttle Stables, Hammond Stables, Mr. H. Werges Millinery, E. V. Burgess Stable, Herman Werges Harness, Roland Howell Stable, John Long Stable, C. A. Harper Butcher Shop, Charles Broz Harness Shop, G. G. English Jewelry, Otho Barley, barber, John Kliever Grist Mill.

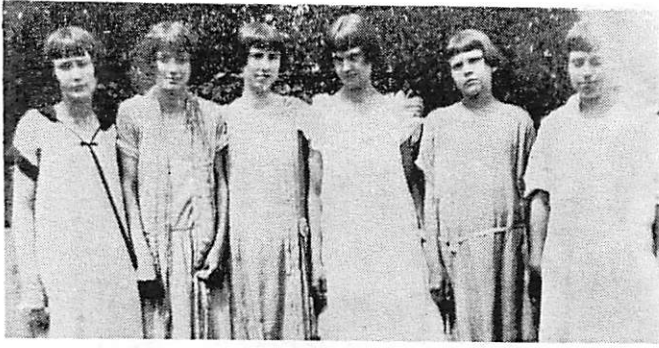


*Anna Nicklin Colbert  
1912  
1892-1960*



*Omer Dyer Colbert 1912  
1890-1941*





*Madge Thurstin, Miss Thurstin, Miss Walton, Stella Allen, Mildred Witt.*

C. A. Terry, Alvin Cregger Grist Mill, Moley Burgess Stable, Alfred Gililand Butcher Shop, C. R. McMahan, freight hauler, Clint Turnbull, barber and J. H. Monroe and Sons Butcher.

From the number of butcher shops it would appear there never was a shortage of meat in Hawk Point. There also were many listed as stable operators, but most of these merely were freight haulers between the train depot and the stores.

The town board was still in somewhat of a law and order mood as the decade of the 1920s began to wear on.

In 1921, the board ordained that no pig pen shall be in the city limits unless it was kept clean and free of odor. The potential fine was \$1 to \$100.

The board also voted to ask Mr. Turnbull, a barber, to refrain from shaving people on Sundays.

In April 1926, muzzles were required for all dogs under penalty of \$25 fines. And in 1927, the board voted not to allow any drunkenness on the streets.

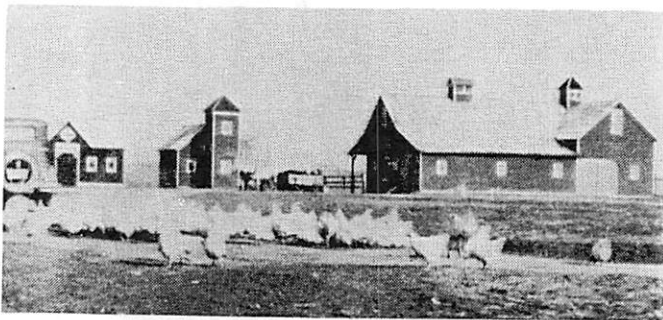
After this period, the homely little items began to disappear from the town board minutes. The community apparently was beginning to mature.

## CHURCHES

Long before Hawk Point became a town, rural churches were sprouting up in the surrounding countryside not only to meet the spiritual needs of the early day citizens of the area, but also to serve as community and social centers.

It was the church that stood as the solid local institution for the little pockets of farm population that dotted Lincoln County west of Troy and this remained true in later years in Hawk Point.

The three churches that serve Hawk Point today --



*Fred Martinek Farm - 1930's*



*Back: Rose and Willa Witt and Bertha Fasse, Florence Kuda, in front of Christian Church.*

Community, Baptist and Catholic -- all have roots reaching into the outlying region and dating well before townhood.

Even in the early days there was not a great variety of denominations. Most people were Catholic or some type of Baptist, Christian or Methodist.

The forerunners to all three present town churches date to mid-19th century and it is difficult to determine exactly which is the oldest.

From available information, however, the earliest organized congregation of the three seems to be the Baptist which started as Cottonwood Church in October 1852 four miles northeast of Hawk Point with 19 charter members.

A year later, the church joined the Salt River Baptist Association and sent as its first messengers W. Brunk, E. Owen and J. H. Bain. It was a few years before the first building was erected. The foundation of that log structure remains near Cottonwood Spring on the farm of the late Charlie Mallan.

The first pastor was W. W. Grant and he was followed by R. S. Duncan and W. D. Grant. Duncan, who lived in Olney for many years, was noted as a powerful preacher as well as a prolific writer and denominational leader.

While the Hawk Point church claims an ancestral kinship to



### CHRISTIAN CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL — 1914

*Front row: Russell Monroe, Nuetie Long, Glen Gallagher, Mary Brown, Berl Gallagher, Frank Fasse.*

*Back row: Cleo Monroe, Mary Sonner, Helen Hamilton, Tina Holmes, Laura Eversmeyer, Irene Cregger, Viola McMahan. Near Milner Shop near railroad.*



**BAPTIST GROUNDBREAKING  
EDUCATIONAL BUILDING — 1976**

*Front: Eric Corcoran, Mark Spence, Kris Leek, Wanda Spence, Mike Schaper, Paul Wood, Scott Stewart, Tim Stewart, Bob Corcoran, Leonard Stuck, Dave Wolff, Alva Krieg, Louise Black, Jeremy Wood, Lynsey Corcoran, Debbie Schaper, Shelly Hart, Dale Black, Ron Hall, Marilyn Shaw, Estelline Black.*

*Second row: Barry Leek, Jeff Corcoran, Mike Hart, Gary*

*Hart, Vickie Steiger, Carol Corcoran, Wilhelmine Shramek, Carolyn Wood, Lorna Biggers, Marilyn Hall, Barbara Wolff, Dwayne Wolff, Phil Colbert, Margaret Burkard, Clayton Shaw, Norman Shaw, Betty Shaw.*

*Back row: Rev. Hall, Gola Gordon, Jerry Spence, Russell Stewart, Art Schaper, Derwood Rinaman, George Colbert, Della Rinaman, Kathleen Colbert, Irene Krieg and others.*

the original Cottonwood Church, there was a break in the continuity when it became a union church made up of Methodists and Christians as well as Baptists.

Methodists and Christians each built their own buildings later and the Cottonwood Church fell into disuse, but on Oct. 2, 1877 a group of interested Baptists met there and organized -- or perhaps reorganized -- as Mt. Gilead Church under Elder M. M. Modisett. Baptists called their pastors "elder" in those days. Also listed as a 1877 Baptist pastor was F. M. Birkhead who perhaps was the last one under the old organization.

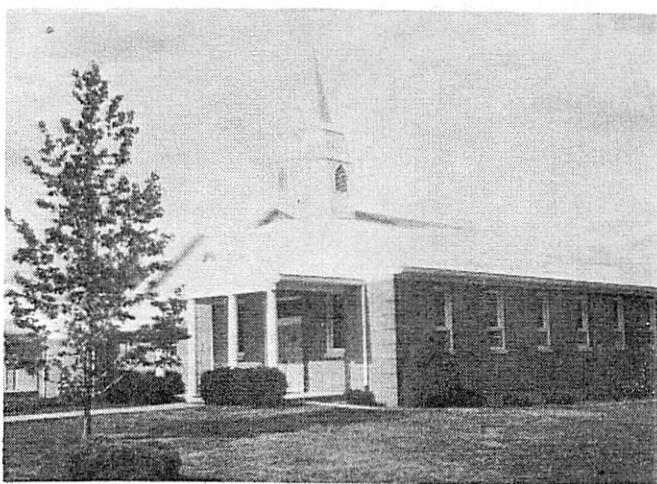
On Dec. 8 of that year, the Mt. Gilead Baptists held their first service, not at Cottonwood as might have been expected, but at Slavens Chapel Wesleyan Methodist Church. The congregation continued to meet at Slavens Chapel once a month until the

following June when its new building, built by Albert Upson, was completed about a mile east of Hawk Point. The site is less than a hundred yards southwest of what is now John Dunard's home.

The tie between Mt. Gilead and Cottonwood is further indicated by the sale of the old building to Tom Gibson for \$5 in 1883 under the supervision of Mt. Gilead trustee J. C. Capps.

By 1890, the church had 44 members -- its growth from 29 in 11 years was slow but steady -- and was a member of the Cuivre Baptist Association, as is the present church. Messengers that year were T. J. Mourning and Jack Moseley.

With the village of Hawk Point beginning to come alive, the members in 1905 decided to move the church to town and George Hiler was named to supervise. Joseph Sheets and son Rufus dismantled the frame building and moved the lumber to Hawk Point on a wagon drawn by four white mules. The building was reassembled and five years later became Hawk Point Baptist Church.



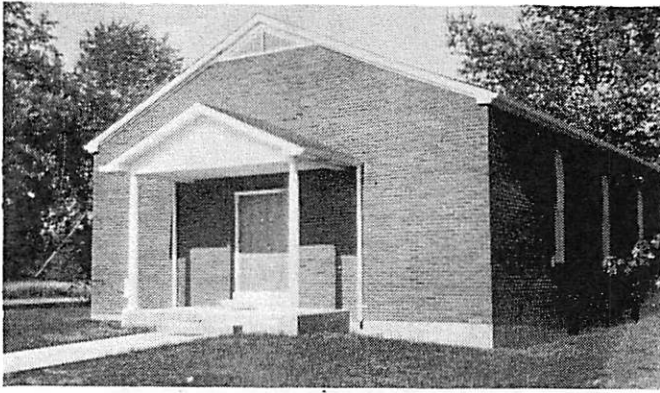
*Baptist Church and educational building erected — 1976*



**ST. MARY'S RECTORY**

*Built 1975*





**COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
*Rededication day - June 5, 1977*

Pastor during the years of the move was W. N. Maupin who had followed a succession since Mr. Modisett of Mr. Birkhead, W. C. Womble, J. W. Swift, W. D. Grant, S. P. Dawson, P. W. Halley, J. J. Griffin, O. A. Gordon, Mr. Halley and H. B. Rice.

As shown in that listing and in the roster of subsequent pastors, many served two or more tenures. After Mr. Maupin came Mr. Birkhead again, Mr. Rice J. J. Griffin, Mr. Gordon.

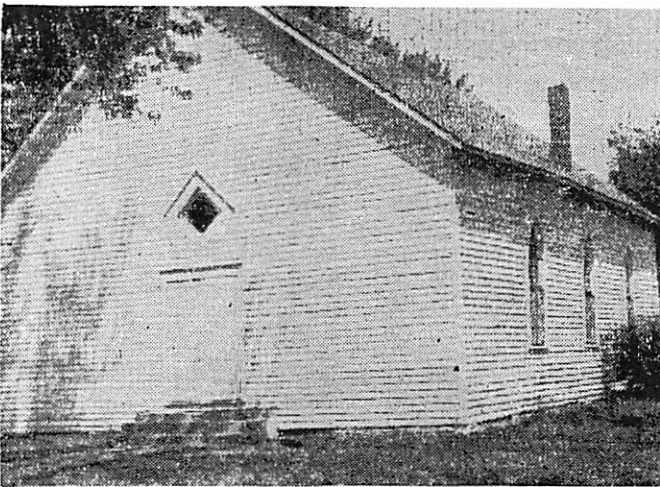
It was the later, O. A. Gordon, who served the longest single pastorate. After preaching at Mt. Gilead in 1896-98, Mr. Gordon, uncle of Gola H. Gordon, present deacon of the church, returned in 1916 and remained until 1940.

There followed H. W. Gibson, R. H. McKay, 1943, Homer Arendall, 1947, J. V. Crenshaw, 1952, Herbert Clinton, 1955, B. Earl Lett, 1959, Clinton Taylor, 1960, James R. Hall, 1961, Lynn Richardson, 1963, James E. Huffman, 1967, and Mr. Hall, 1969.

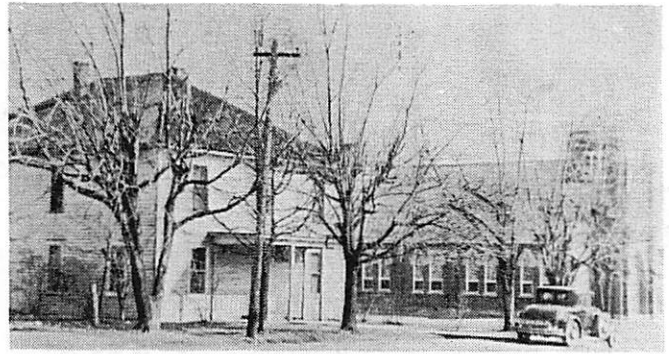
Until recent years, Hawk Point pastors were not full time, serving one or more other churches. As a consequence preaching services were held only on alternate Sundays.

Mr. Taylor in 1959 became the first full-time man on the field when the church went to services every Sunday.

Other landmarks in the church's history have included the beginning of Sunday School in 1903. The addition of new educational space in 1956, the construction of a new church in 1964, the building of a parsonage in 1968 and the addition of an educational building in 1976.



*Christian Church*



*Catholic Rectory - 1942*

The present site at Main and Walton was purchased from Molly Thurstin. Leonard Stuck, later to become a member and deacon, contracted to build the 34 by 70 foot brick veneer structure.

The old building at Chestnut and Duncan was sold and later became the home of Don Davis after extensive remodeling.

Ordained deacons from present to past have been James Wood Jr., Alva Krieg, Larry Black, John Howdeshell Sr., David Wolff, Leonard Stuck, Gola Gordon, Walter Wallace, Gerald Gober, Donald Thompson Sr., George Colbert, Manuel Shaw, William Howdeshell, Ernest Shaw, Floyd Howdeshell, Sam Young, S. M. Hammett, W. P. Rinaman, Charlie Glear, George Hiler, Joseph Diggs and Joe Rinaman.

There are gaps in the records of the Hawk Point Baptist Church as some were lost and others were destroyed by fire.

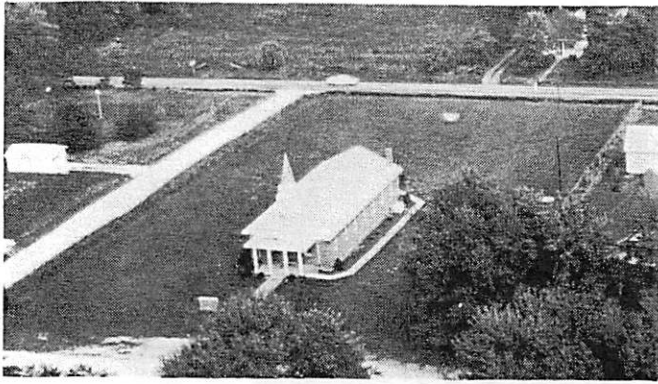
This is a misfortune experienced also by the Community Church whose records were destroyed when the house of the clerk, Alexander Kennedy, burned in 1896.

Other parallels between the Baptists and the Community Church are noted. They both started at about the same time and like the Baptist Church, the Hawk Point Christian Church, as it was known then, was dismantled and moved to town when Hawk Point started to grow under the impetus of the



**SLAVENS CHAPEL**  
*Charles Douglas*





*Baptist Church building erected - 1963*

**Burlington Railroad.**

Though two men by the names of Armstrong and Hopkins began holding services in homes in about 1845, it was not until 1854 that the Christian Church was organized with 45 members. The congregation took note of this in 1904 and 1954 with anniversary celebrations.

Services in the early years were held at any place available including the Elmore and Cannon schools and brush arbors. The main brush arbor was located on property O. F. Drunert owned in 1904.

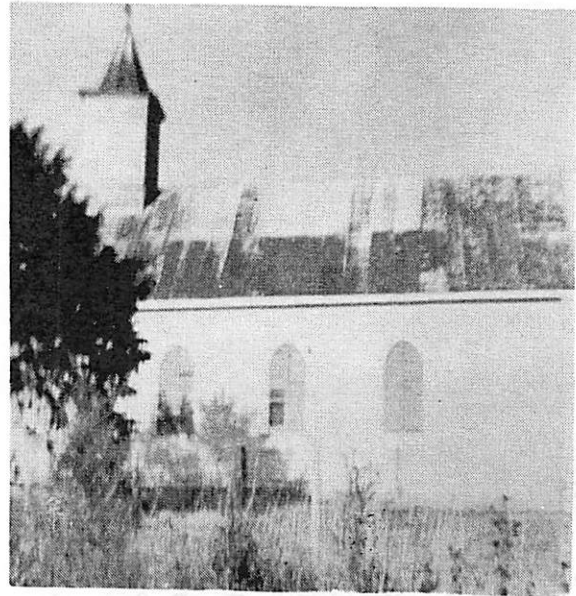
Finally in 1874, David Barley and Armstrong Kennedy donated land for a church site and the building was finished two years later.

The pastor at that time was Timothy Ford who had been on the field for a number of years and continued until his death in 1878. Another of the early pastors was D. M. Grandfield who served about the time of the Civil War.

On Nov. 11, 1905, the congregation chose to move the



*Hawk Point Baptist Church - 1950*



*St. Mary's - side of Mashek Catholic Church - 1963*

building to Hawk Point and a Mr. Wiggs was given the job. However, he encountered problems and the building was dismantled piece by piece and reassembled at the corner of Maple and Duncan Streets on two lots, one donated by the town and the other bought by the church.

The first services there were held on Feb. 10, 1906, at 7 p.m. and the dedication was in April of that year. D. H. Walton was the first to join the church at the new location.

While the Hawk Point Christian Church has often been referred to as a Campbellite Church, it in fact was of the Disciples of Christ denomination.

Early pastors through 1904 were T. A. Abbott, S. J. Copher, Robert S. Morton and William Hobbs.

The church was known for holding protracted meetings lasting two weeks or more in those days. One of note occurred in 1904 under Mr. Copher who had come from Moberly. More than 20 persons were added to the church during that meeting.



*St. Mary's Catholic Church - 1930*



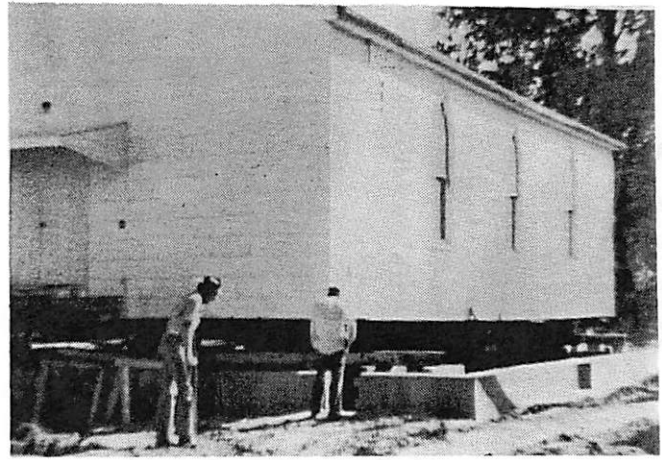
*St. Mary's First Priest  
1919-1939  
Rev. Wenceslaus Svehla*

Another meeting later had an even more historical impact on the church. This was in 1921 when Brother B. G. Reavis preached "unionism" in a tent and as a result the church became a multi-denominational Community Church embracing not only Disciples of Christ but also Methodists, Presbyterians, and Lutherans. Baptists were invited to be part of the union but declined.

Mr. Reavis became first pastor of the Union Church and was followed through 1954 by Dewitt Matsler, O. L. Martin, M. D. Dudley, Hally M. Hale and Miss Ruth Nicklin.

Subsequent pastors were Guy Carrell, Harold Nebel, Virgil Sweeney, Harold Stanley, Jan L. Mundy, William L. Bass, John M. Graham, William Hass and Herbert Lambert.

Lay leaders serve the Community Church as elders and deacons. Past and present they include Ralph Wolff, George Heimburger, Bill Lawrence, Glen Barley, Bill Duncan, Ben Borgman, Tom Lawrence, Joe Jones, Clarence Jones, Allie



*Community Church building being moved - 1976*

Hall, Logan Armstrong, Ray Duncan, Dee Harper, Leslie Harper, O. F. Drunert, Dr. Butler, R. A. Nichols, Charlie Eames, C. A. Harper, Will Giles, H. H. Eversmeyer, D. H. Walton, Martin Leek, George Leek, Lum Thurman, Matt Giles, W. B. Howell, Alex Kennedy, Armstrong Kennedy, Allen Harper and Martin Thurstin.

The migration of Bohemians first to what became the village of Mashek and then throughout the Hawk Point area accounts for the fact that St. Mary's has been and is a strong Catholic parish.

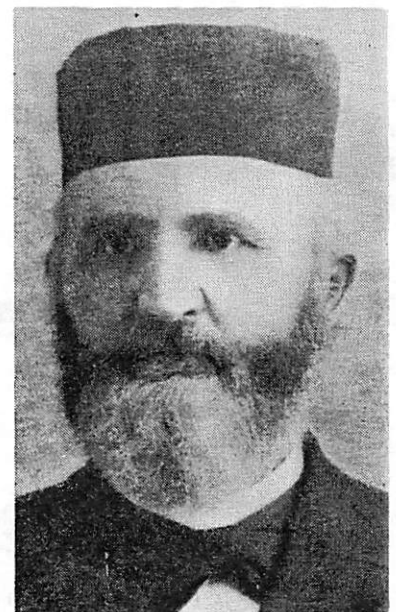
Its roots are in Mashek, the Bohemian settlement four miles northeast of Hawk Point where, after the first immigrants arrived in 1848, services were held in homes by visiting priests who came rather infrequently. For instance, the Millwood pastor led in services six times a year at first.

The first Mashek Church was a log building and then a new frame building was erected, but still the people depended on outside priests for spiritual leadership, usually from St. Louis or St. Charles. Father Joseph Hessoun of St. Louis came once a year to preach to the Bohemian families.

A major turning point in the life of the parish began in 1918



**MASHEK CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
*Torn down - middle 1960's*



*R. S. Duncan  
Baptist Preacher  
Pre and Post  
Civil War*





BAPTIST SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL  
1972

*Frances Colbert teacher, Robbie Howdeshell, Steve Stuck, Kenny Shaw.*

*Standing: Robin Hall, Sue Stonebarger, Dixie Colbert, Terry Reese.*

*Back: John McCarty, Ed Scovel, Jeff Leek, Russell Reese.*

when a week-long mission was held at Mashek by Father Lepsa after which a committee of three -- Frank Knizel, Frank Martinek and Joseph Shilharvey -- was named to purchase a building in Hawk Point to serve as a chapel and home for a permanent pastor.

The committee acquired the two-story Hammond Hotel building on Main Street for this purpose and the first permanent pastor was Wenceslaus Svehle whose first name fittingly enough is that of the patron saint of Bohemia. Father Svehle began his Hawk Point ministry in 1919 and remained for 20 years. He gave first consideration to retiring outstanding debts which he accomplished in a short time.

The next major event for the growing parish was the construction of a new brick church, the cornerstone of which was laid Sept. 12, 1927. The building on the east side of Main Street was dedicated on the following July 4.

The St. Mary's Altar Sodality, which had been formed in 1920 by 30 parish women, was able to pay for the altar through various projects undertaken over the years. Later when the church was remodeled, the sodality bought a statue of the Blessed Mother, vestments, altar cloths and other needs. A later project of the sodality was a Quilt-of-the-Month Club whereby ladies made as many as 26 quilts through the winter months.

Catholic education took a big step forward in Hawk Point in 1937 with the construction of St. Mary's School which was staffed by sisters from O'Fallon and offered classes in grades one through eight, not only for Hawk Point youngsters but those from Troy and Warrenton as well.

Later Catholic schools were built in those two communities.

The school was closed in May 1962, and since then the sisters have offered religious instruction on Sunday. The school council at that time was Mrs. Joe Martinek, president; Mrs. Bill Graham; Mrs. Charles Shilharvey; Mrs. Sam Tomik; Mrs. Charles Martinek; Mrs. Frank Mashek; Mrs. Bob Henebry; Mrs. Paul Stanek; Miss Alvina Martinek; Mrs. Earl Tompkins; Mrs. Frank Stanek; Mrs. Bob Martinek; and Mrs. Emmett Tesson.

The succession of priests after Father Svehle was Henry Wiesmann, 1939; Leo Oligschlaeger, 1962; Ferdinand Wieberg, 1965; Joseph Eilers, 1955; George Haar, 1967; Charles Frey, 1973 and Charles Frankey, 1977.

Father Wieberg's pastorate ended prematurely and unfortunately because of burns he suffered in lighting a furnace.

While St. Mary's in Hawk Point was continuing to progress, some of the vestiges of the past were moving from the scene. The original St. Mary's Church in Mashek was sold in November 1963 to J. C. Kumbera and William Shramek.

The bell from the belfry of the old church was taken by the Troy Catholic Church with the intention of using in their new church, but for some reason it was not used. Father Good, pastor at Hawk Point at that time, was unable to persuade the Troy pastor to give the bell back to the St. Mary's Parish.

Another piece of history that passed from the scene about that time was the original rectory which was sold to Ambro Aubuchon and torn down in 1963. The furnishings were sold on Oct. 13, 1962.

BAPTIST ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL — 1972

*First row: Norman Shaw, Larry Black, Louise Black, Jerry Hill, Leonard Stuck.*

*Second row: Dona McCarty, Betty Scovel, Ruby Howdeshell, Nettie Norton, Syl Norton.*

*Third row: Jewell Fredde, Darlene Leek, Helen Rainwater, Mala Colbert, Barbara Wolff, Carol Schaper.*

*Others: Harry Taff, Margrett Burkard, Gola Gordon, Bertha Sonner, Meda Stallard, J. L. Stallard, Calvin Shaw, Ira Ingram, Carolyn Wood, Jim Wood, Jewell Strus, Bill Howdeshell, Linda Krieg, Rev. Hall.*

*Standing: Wayne Krieg, Irene Krieg, John Howdeshell.*







**WOMEN'S CHOIR BAPTIST CHURCH — 1972**  
*Seated: Barbara Wolff, Estelline Black, Betty Scovel, Louise Black, Marilyn Hall, Ruby Howdeshell, Betty Faye Shaw.*  
*Standing: Dona McCarty, Anita Patton, Deloris Shaw, Jo Ann Hill, Frances Colbert, Freda Howdeshell, Jewell Strus.*

A new rectory was built in 1975.

More than any other church in Hawk Point and area, St. Mary's was much a center of community activity for Catholics and non-Catholics. St. Mary's Hall was the scene of many dances and post-wedding celebrations.

Perhaps one of the most memorable weddings was the double marriage of the two Shilharvey brothers, Charles and Frank, to the Kadlec sisters, Sylvia and Mamie, respectively. The wedding was conducted by Father Svehle.

St. Mary's also was host to an annual summer picnic on the grounds and on Main Street, an event always well attended. One little nugget of detail lifted from the past was the raffle of donated prizes at the picnic July 26, 1941. Among the many prizes were a quilt donated by Christine Martinek, a rug donated by R. A. Quinn and a part-wool comforter donated by Mrs. Ed Zalabak.

During Hawk Point's early history and even before, a number of rural churches flourished in the vicinity. Most of them have since long ceased to exist.

One of the notable churches among these was Slavens Chapel, a Southern Episcopal Methodist Church which was built in 1865 three miles southeast of Hawk Point on what is



**CATHOLIC SODALITY — 1974**

*Left to right, back row: Carmenetta Zalabak, Alvina Martinek, Agnes Stanek, Mae Schmidt, Ruth Cope, Pauline Martinek, Alice Rose Martinek, Dotty Stanek.*

*Front row: Tony Schonhoff, Geneva Henebry, Syl Shilharvey, Norma Zalabak, Monica Schaper, Mary Ann Christopher.*

now Highway 47. The site is about a quarter mile east of Fred Martinek's house.

The forerunner church to Slavens Chapel was Cottonwood Methodist Church which was built in the same vicinity in the middle of the 19th century.

The land on which Slavens Chapel was located was donated by the Slavens family and Wesley Slavens was one of the ministers of the church.

Others were a Brother Martin, a Brother Hess and a Brother West.

Slavens Chapel was noted for great two and three week revivals during which there would be both morning and evening services. Crowds would pack the interior of the building and more people would stand outside looking through the windows.

Leaders of the church included Mrs. Frank Finley who was organist for many years, John Boyes, Joe Slavens, George James, Welty Smith and Tom Gibson.

It was said of Mr. Smith that he could deliver the most articulate prayer of anyone in the history of the church.

The name of Tom Gibson is one that crops up throughout the church history of the region. For instance, he was the only known member of the Cottonwood Methodist Church. He also was a charter member of Slavens Chapel, which he helped build, and when that congregation disbanded in 1920, he



**BAPTIST CHURCH DEACONS — 1972**

*Front row: William Howdeshell, George Colbert, Leonard Stuck, Alva Krieg, Gola Gordon.*

*Back row: David Wolff, Donald Thompson, John Howdeshell, Larry Black.*



Near church on left: Mrs. Charles [Anna] Stanek, Charles Stanek, Sr., Mrs. Paul [Dorothy] Stanek, holding Jeanne, [lady in background by church, Mrs. Tom Henebry], Mrs. Arnold Johnson.

Children in front, left: Evelyn and Charlotte Stanek, Geraldine Johnson, Pat Johnson, Jean Johnson, [Mrs. Johnson's grandchildren].

In back on right side of picture: Moratha Johnson, Alice Martinek, Bob Martinek, Frank Martinek, boy in front unknown.

nevertheless retained his name on the church roll.

It was Mr. Gibson, it is recalled, who bought the Cottonwood Baptist Church building from the Mt. Gilead Church.

Mr. Gibson, who was born in 1849 near the chapel, was buried in the chapel cemetery just south of the church. He died in the 1920s.

The building was torn down in 1924. Little now remains except the cemetery, where many of the Slavens family are buried. In 1970, someone dug into an old well on the church site.

A devout group of worshipers made up the Little Bethel Primitive Baptist Church just southwest of Hawk Point off Highway A.

The Primitive Baptists were called Hard Shell Baptists by many and their worship was marked by foot-washings and an absence of musical instruments, and few if any hymnals. The preacher would read a line of the hymn and the congregation would repeat it back in unison.

The Primitive Church had three-day annual meetings each fall for which preachers of the faith would come in from miles around.

It was said that "If he was not wringing wet with sweat and could talk above a whisper when he finished his sermon, he was not much of a preacher." There might be as many as six preachers at one meeting and each was expected to preach an hour. The meeting usually would break up late in the afternoon for chores and might reconvene spontaneously wherever the most members happened to gather.

Ministers included S. A. Elkins of Middletown, and Brothers Sears and Branstetter. They were paid in goods rather than by salary.

In August 1904, the Cuivre Siloam Association met at Little Bethel. Records show 38 members and Mr. Elkins was moderator. The church gave \$10 to association work that year.

Some of the members were Semor and Louisa Cannon, grandparents of Mrs. Florence Begeman; Abe and Melissa Monroe, grandparents of Mary Thurstin's husband; Mrs. Fanny Barley, Ben Borgmann's grandmother; Anthony Monroe, grandfather of Mrs. Alfred Zalabak; and Richard and Mildred Giles, grandparents of Gola Gordon.

The countryside north of Hawk Point, closer to Olney actually, was served by the Bethlehem Baptist Church in the early years and this was the forerunner of the Fairview Baptist Church where services were held until recent years.

Mahlon Spyre seemed to be one of the initial major movers in the church when it organized on April 26, 1845, at his home and he later was ordained to preach in that church and became its pastor though he was then late in life. Earlier pastors were Jacob Capps, L. C. Musik and Robert Gilmore. The first building was a log structure and this was replaced in 1875 by a frame building.

The most remarkable occurrence in the church's history probably was the great revival of 1857 which began in August and continued to bear fruit for three months.

This was during the pastorate of R. S. Duncan who was helped by Lewis Duncan, his father, Walter McQuie and T. T. Johnson. The results were 37 converts for baptism and a jump in the church roll from 21 to 67.

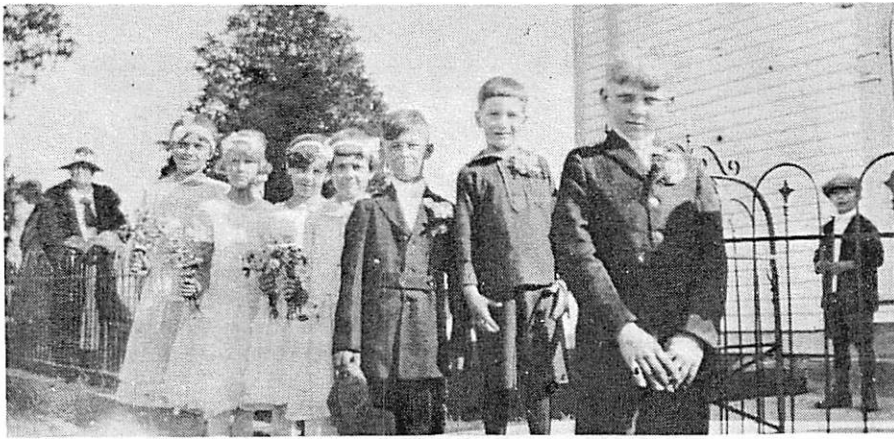
Methodist worshipers in the same area attended Zion Methodist Church during that church's relatively short life. A building was erected in about 1885 on land about a mile or more west of the former Gertrude Lansche farm. The church was torn down and used later to help build the Palmer School house. The work was supervised by Phillip Colbert, Mrs. Lansche's father.

Mrs. Ora Mae Riddle recalls the church sat on beautifully



FIRST COMMUNION — 1947

?, Marlene Stanek, Betty Kirchoff, Robert Shramek, Frank Stanek, ?, Josephine and Margaret Martinek.



#### MASHEK CHURCH — 1928

*Left to right: Mrs. Schuster; 1st girl - Katherine [Wing] Mueller; 2nd girl - Marie Wing; 3rd girl - Clara Mashek; 4th girl - Dorothy [Wing] Mashek; 5th boy - Paul Kerpash; 6th boy - Robert [Bob] Henebry; 7th boy - Joe Mashek; boy by church - Frank Mashek.*

kept grounds. The only known ministers were Clarence Tucker and a Brother Hess. Sunday School was held on Sunday afternoons and many children would go to Fairview Baptist in the morning and Zion Methodist in the afternoon. The church building was sold about 1908.

Camp Creek Baptist Church, west of Hawk Point, was organized possibly as early as 1840, but not much else is known about it, except as W. J. Patrick, who wrote about it in 1909, recalled it. He said as a boy during the 1840s he would attend Sunday morning services there and it seemed to him to be a great throng of people and horses and buggies lining the woods.

There were enough blacks in the Hawk Point area to form a church. It located in one of the settlements near Turkey Creek. Their first worship was under a brush arbor, but Charles S. Eames, father of Mrs. Della Hall, gave them two acres to build a church building. It was recalled that Emil Susank, Joe Stransky's uncle, would listen outside the church to the singing as he walked past. This was in about 1870.

Another recollection was that of William Kowazek who was looking for cattle one day between Truxton and Hawk Point when he heard a kind of chant. He followed the sound and saw a group of black people dancing.

These people were devout worshippers. One woman named

Liza, who worked for Mrs. S. D. Cannon, came to work one day with bandages. Her little granddaughter explained that "Mamma Liza" had gotten so excited at church that she fell and burned her hands in the fire. Eliza said, "Shut up child, I was jest servin' the Lawd."

Liza's parents were slaves for Isaac Cannon, Mrs. Begeman's grandfather. After the Civil War, he freed them giving each 10 acres and a mule.

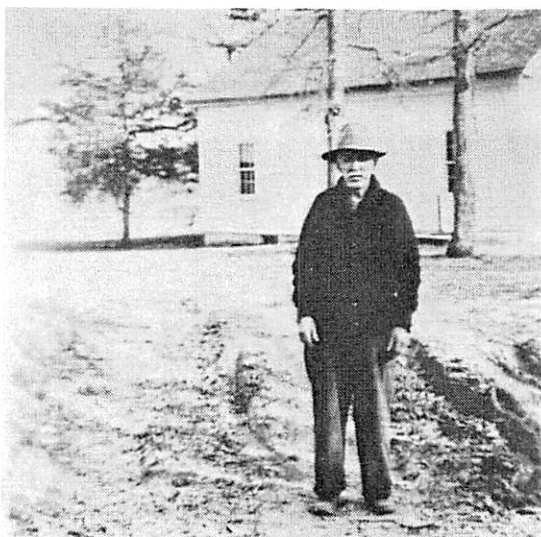
But before the first year, they came back. "Massa Cannon," they asked, "what is we gonna do. We don't know nothin about how to work for ourselve." Mr. Cannon helped them and let them work for him also.

The black people drifted away from the Hawk Point area early in the century. Most went to Troy and Warrenton so they said they could live where they could see the smoke of trains as they passed.

The remains of their shanties in their settlements could be found as late as 1950.

#### POST OFFICES

There has been a Hawk Point Post Office a lot longer than there has been a Hawk Point town, but the exact whens and wheres of the origin or the office are in some conflict and the



*W. F. Nicklin - Little Bethel Church*



*Rev. O. A. Gordon  
Pastor Baptist Church  
1919-1940*



truth is lost in the midst of time.

One version, which has behind it the authenticity of the records of former Ninth District Congressman Clarence Cannon, is that John Kennedy was the first postmaster and that the office was established in 1840.

The other version, which has going for it the continuity of what followed, has it that Oliver Holmes established the first post office in his home southwest of the present town site, but the year is not certain.

In those days, the postmaster invariably operated the office out of his home. The next postmaster was Armstrong Kennedy and then the office moved back to the Holmes residence before Alexander Kennedy took over in about 1860 at his home and store. He continued as postmaster until his death in 1895.

There is a gap in knowledge between then and 1902 when W. L. Duncan started running the office, continuing until 1923.

At that time, the Hawk Point Post Office became a fourth class office and tests were given to applicants for the job. The nature of the tests are uncertain since political affiliation still had a lot to do with postal appointments.

Sarah L. Armstrong became the first postmaster in the fourth class office, receiving her commission on Sept. 6, 1923 and continuing until 1946. The post office had become a third class office in 1946. Rebecca Walton received her commission on July 3, 1946 and continued until her death in June 1955.

August Mordt was postmaster briefly, August 1955 until March 1956, and Francis Zalabak served as acting postmaster until the appointment of Bill Graham on June 28, 1958. He retired on March 31, 1973 and Kathryn Busse, the current postmaster, received the appointment.

Other postal personnel have included an assistant postmaster, Mary Cannon, who started in 1915; clerks, Helen Hamilton, Valley Henebry, Dorothy Cope, Noretta Todd Martinek and Linda Doll; rural carriers, Douglas H. Walton, 1935, J. R. Pollard, 1936-37, John Mispagel, 1938-60, David Hart, 1961 to present and Roy Phillips.

Substitute carriers have been Glen E. Winter, Linda Grateke, Mary Thurstin, Everett Thurstin and Harry L. Thurman. Messengers who hauled mail from the train to the office were A. E. Thurstin, Allie Allen, Charles Pitts and Everett Thurstin.

Aside from the homes of the early days, the Hawk Point Post Office has had three locations, all on Main Street. The first was on the corner where Marsh Funeral Chapel is located. When it was opened there is uncertain, but it moved on May 1, 1952 to the Enterprise Building where it remained until Oct. 1, 1961, when the new post office, built for that purpose, was opened.

## NEWSPAPERS

During its early history, Hawk Point had at least two newspapers, though apparently not at the same time.

The few issues of the one that remain offer a tantalizing glimpse at life in the town in the days before World War I.

Just as in the modern press, the contemporary history of the day was being written. The newspapers contained rail schedules, personal happenings of the townspeople with all the flavor papers of that era offered and told of the businesses and professional services available.

The town's first paper apparently was the Hawk Point Motor which was established in about 1904 or shortly after by two

sisters, Vida and Joy Thompson, who had moved into the community from Davis.

The newspaper office was downstairs in the old town meeting hall which is approximately where the Hawk Pointer Restaurant is now.

As the girls were at work setting type the story is told, men would go upstairs in the meeting hall and peep down through the floor cracks at them.

One day, Vida ground up red pepper, put it into a squirt can filled with water and fired, hitting the peeper squarely in the eye.

The Motor was stridently political in editorial viewpoint, promoting the Republican Party and speaking out against the Democrats.

The Motor was quoted in a 1910 issue of the Silex Index as reporting the trade of 71 acres north of Hawk Point by Willie Giles to Virgil Slavens for the latter's house and lot in town and \$825 cash.

Mr. Giles had bought the place six years before for \$550 and together with part he sold earlier, realized \$1,900.00. The newspaper added an editorial comment that it was "not a bad investment" for Mr. Giles. The Motor ceased publication on or before 1912.

Since the town's second newspaper, the Hawk Point Transcript, was started on March 7 of that year, it may have bought out the Motor, but this is not certain.

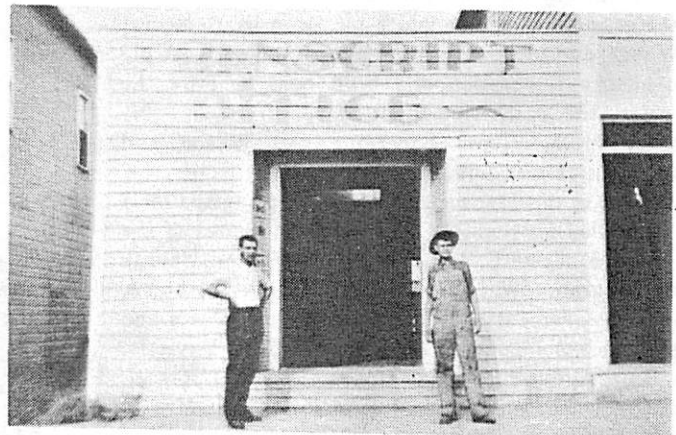
James B. Gallagher was the editor of the Transcript which came to an end some years later.

The subscription rate in 1916 was \$1 per year, but a notice in the Nov. 16, 1916, issue told of a rate increase to \$1.50 scheduled for Jan. 1, 1917. Increased cost of newsprint was cited at the reason.

An April 1916 issue of the Transcript lists the Burlington Railroad schedule through Hawk Point, showing six trains a day, four passenger and two freight.

Westbound passenger trains arrived at 1:08 and 11:08 a.m. and east bound passenger trains stopped at 5:41 a.m. and 4:19 p.m.

The westbound freight came through at 11:20 a.m. and the eastbound at 8 p.m. The train schedule information is accompanied by one of those little insights into small town life at the time. It is reported that the boys would meet the 11:08 Sunday passenger train after attending Sunday School.



*J. B. Gallagher - 1927  
Editor - Transcript Newspaper*



*J. B. Gallagher - Editor of  
Transcript Newspaper - 1916*

In fact, meeting the train was a general diversion for the Hawk Point people during the years passenger trains stopped at that town.

A substantial crowd would be on hand, presumably to see who got on and off. Generally, salesmen alighted on a regular basis at Hawk Point for a business stop over, usually staying at one of the town's hotels or boarding houses.

That issue of the Transcript carried political advertisements for George Middlekamp for state treasurer, an office he would win in November, and Frank Knizel Sr. for judge of the county court.

Other advertisers were W. F. Guinn, optometrist and notary public, Davis and Giles Hardware, Joe Stepanek stock farm and W. W. Downing stock farm. The latter had moved to Hawk Point in 1911 from Olney to a farm owned by Rolla Logan.

Himmel's Department Store advertised rocker prices ranging from \$1.49 to \$9.

Later in the year in the Nov. 16 issue, advertisers included Dr. G. L. Steinmesch, a dentist who had offices upstairs in the J. F. Cottle building; Ordelheide and Co. Undertaking; Elliott Lumber Co.; George Burgess Carpentry; C. L. Harper for Moorman stock food, Hawk Point Elevator; the Enterprise; the Burlington Railroad; George Middlekamp and C. A. Harper, both notaries public.

The paper also carried considerable advertising from Troy professional people and merchants.

The November issue which was found among the papers of the late Pearly Giles by his son Opal, carried the results of the presidential election that month which was won by Democrat Woodrow Wilson, and told of Mr. Middlekamp's victory. A big Democratic victory celebration had been held in Troy the previous Friday, the Transcript reported.

A poem by Mollie Giles concerning the Wilson and Middlekamp victories was published on the front page.

An earlier issue of the Transcript, in 1915, told of plans for a street fair scheduled for Sept. 18 that year. Members of the committee were: Finance - C. A. Harper, D. H. Walton, George Middlekamp; Program - W. L. Duncan, W. W. Downing and J. B. Gallagher; Arrangements - W. B. Howell, John Davis and Joe Holmes; Music - Joe Tomek, Leslie Harper, S. M. Davis Jr. and Charles Broz; Agriculture - Ray Duncan, Art Hall, Mrs. G. H. Middlekamp, Mrs. D. H. Walton, Mrs. W. L. Duncan, Mrs. J. H. Thompson, Miss Vina Thurman and Miss Minnie Knizel.

Other items in the 1915 copy included a card of thanks from Joseph Shelker and family in their time of bereavement and

news of the Brown District, which mentioned Mrs. Frank Sauer, Miss Anna Sauer, Frank Crouse, Mable Witt, Ruth Witt, Reba Claggett, Jerry Black.

Similar personal items were in the other Transcript issues available.

For instance, in 1917, readers of the Transcript were informed that "Grandpa Prewitt's" property was for sale and that Virgil Slavens had sold his "splendid milch cow" to Sheridan Howell for \$75.

They also found out that Mrs. William Brown of Orchard Farm was a business visitor in town between trains, that J. A. Thompson had a new tractor, that William Colbert suffered a badly fractured arm when kicked by a mule, and that Harry Thurman had a new rubber-tired buggy.

Other names in the news included Mrs. John Gililand, Elsie Colbert, Mrs. Clint Barley, Charles Connelly, Mrs. Frank Crouch, Anna Mae Martinek, Mrs. John Barbee, Grace Upson and Earlie Harper, Mrs. Della Eames, Mayme Lansche, Mrs. Devereaux, Mrs. J. E. Raney, Ruth Howell and Pete Wing.

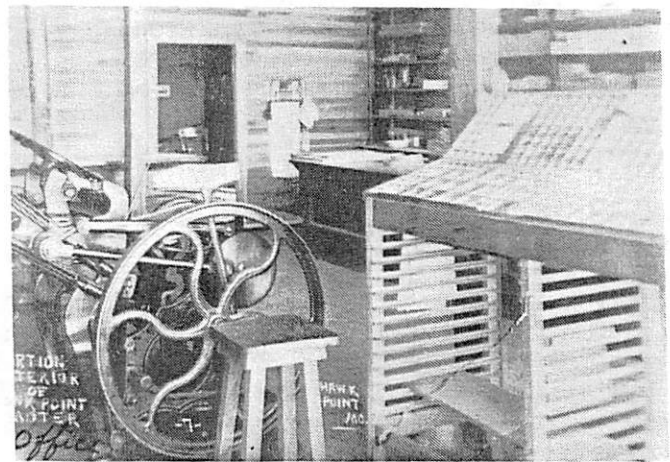
Church news was an important part of the Transcript's offering. On April 27, 1916, in the Baptist Sunday School notes, members were reminded that the following Sunday was to be Rally Day, apparently a high attendance promotion. Also it was reported that Sunday would be Brother Bartine's last day with the church, that the primary class enjoyed an egg hunt at Mrs. Presley's, that the juniors were disappointed that rain had spoiled an outing and that the morning class was pleased with the way attendance had held up.

Reported in the same issue was a shower for Miss Eva Cottle, attended by Sarah Gallagher, Vina and Josephine Thurman, Lillian Hammond, Anna Downing, Vira Eversmeyer, Fannie Barley, Mrs. W. G. Ball, Mrs. John Howell, Rebecca Downing, Stella Moseley, Dona Howell, Bertha Cottle, Hilda Heidtmann, Florence Eagan, Vira Heidtmann, Mary Cottle and Kathryn LaRue.

Finally, the April 1916 issue of the Transcript carried the account of a picnic attended by about 50 young people from the Baptist and Christian Sunday Schools on the banks of Coon Creek.

Refreshments consisted of bacon, lemonade and a "dainty lunch the girls brought". Games included stealing the goods, drop the handkerchief, wolf on the ridge and wood tag.

But perhaps the most interesting event of all was what



*Hawk Point Moter News - about 1910*

happened to one young man in the crowd. For some reason, Harry Thurman and his class of boys came up unexpectedly on a group of pretty girls, which so shocked Harry that he tried to hide by sliding down the bank of the creek. As the Transcript put it: "His trousers were thin; the snag slipped in and my, oh, my, what a fix Harry was in."

It was not mentioned how Harry got out of the fix.

### COUNTRY SCHOOLS

One of the key institutions of any rural community at one time was the one-room school and Hawk Point was no exception.

No fewer than six of these once ringed Hawk Point at three to six mile distances, most of them closing down with the reorganization of the smaller school districts into the system centered in Troy in the late 1940s.

The rural schools were Palmer, north of town; Elmore, south; Shelton, southeast; Brown, northeast; Copher, northwest and Kelly, southwest.

Nearly everyone who grew up outside of town during much of the Hawk Point area's history attended one of those schools or another like them.

The schools for the most part were located near the center of their districts; consequently the children as a rule did not have to walk more than two miles to school.

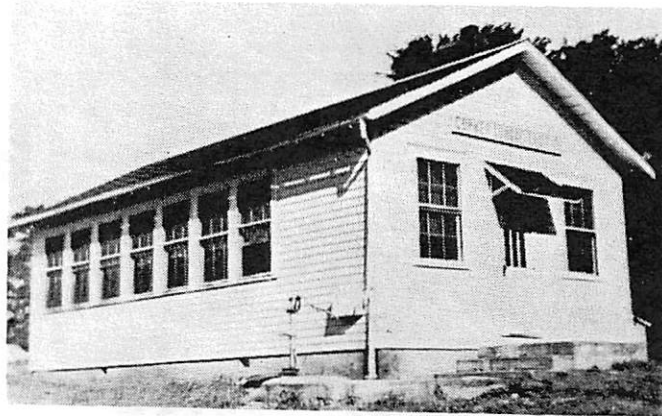
The first eight grades usually were taught in the one-room buildings, but later grades five through eight were offered only on alternate years. That is, one year the sixth and eighth grades would be taught; the next the fifth and seventh.

The education was basic -- the so-called three R's. The older and better students sometimes helped the teacher with the younger ones.

Spelling bees and ciphering matches were part of the curriculum, particularly on those days that the county superintendent would visit. On Friday afternoons, the blackboard and classroom were cleaned.

Outside, the children often played ball, sometimes with makeshift equipment. Another game was annie-over, which called for two teams standing on opposite sides of the schoolhouse. One would roll a ball over the roof for the other to catch.

Scores of individuals, most of them from the Hawk Point



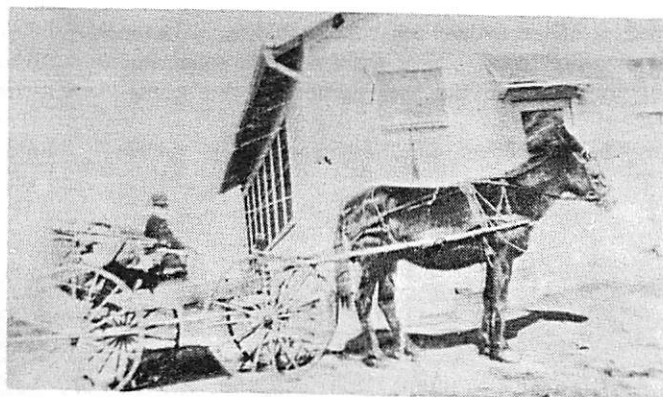
*Copher School*

area, who had qualified by graduating from grade school, taught in the one-room schoolhouses, indicating considerable turnover from year to year.

One teacher who probably knows as much about one room schoolhouses as anyone is Mrs. Valley Henebry who taught in Copher and Shelton Schools and perhaps others for a number of years.

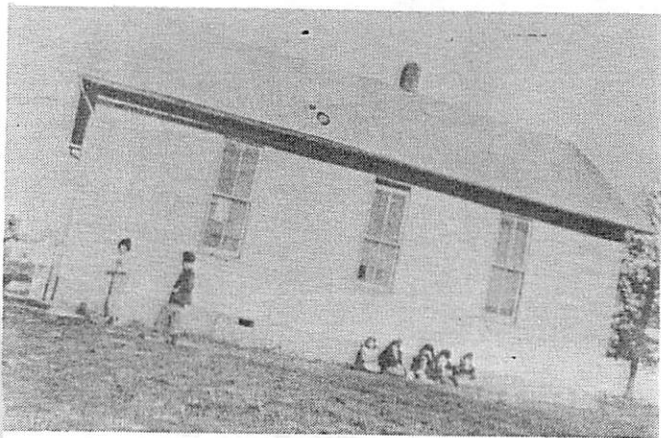
She started her career in the fall of 1929 for \$75 a month. In addition to her professional duties, Mrs. Henebry, like most other teachers, also was responsible for janitorial work, which included cleaning the room and building a fire in the morning.

On bitter cold mornings, Mrs. Henebry recalled, the teacher and children would sit around the fire for a while after school

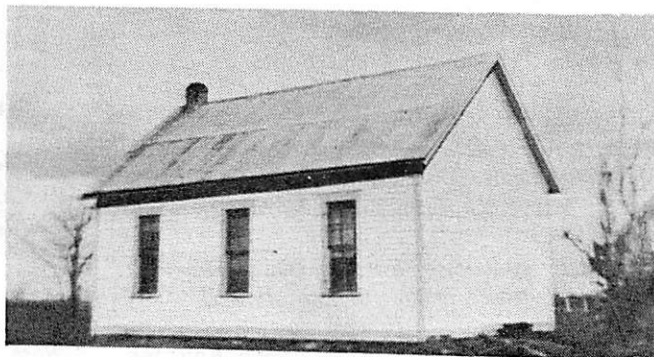


COPHER SCHOOL — 1943

*Lavern Howdeshell*

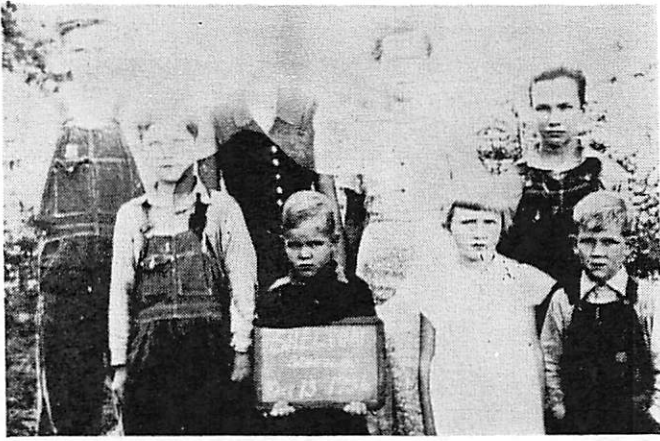


*Palmer School - 1920*



*Kelly School - 1935*





**SHELTON SCHOOL — 1936**

*Back row: Fred Charles Shilharvey, Teacher Vallie Monroe Petersmeyer, Lorene Crouse, Lloyd Thornsberry.*

*Front row: Harry East Jr., Robert E. Monroe, Alta Mae Schroer Weinrich, Franklin East.*

started to recover from the cold walk and also to allow the ink to thaw.

A custom of the day — though one that was dying out about the time Mrs. Henebry started — was for the teacher to spend one night with each family during the year.

The teacher usually boarded in the district, even if his or her home was relatively close, and usually walked back and forth.

A recitation bench usually was placed in the front of the room to be used for class discussion and the blackboard was widely used.

The absence of the conveniences that would come later created their own problems. There were no bathrooms, but two little buildings adorned the back corners of the school-ground.

There were no telephones in the schoolhouses, which

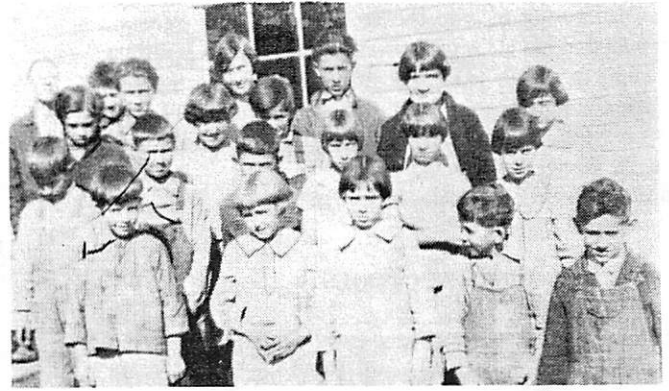


**PALMER SCHOOL — 1921**

*Left to right, back row: Capitola Black, Lillie Neumann, Ada Crouch - teacher, Bertha Hechler, Daisy Glear, Opal Black, Claudine Hammett, Mamie Neumann, Carrie Morris, Elizabeth McCulloch.*

*Second row: Odessa Sauer, Leonie Sauer, Gladys Hammett, Lillian McCulloch, Myrtie Crouch, Clarice Howell, Cecil Rinaman, Eugene Neumann, J. B. Howell.*

*Kneeling: Jessie Neumann, Hilda Black, Naomi Kowazek, Mary Nassar.*



**COPHER SCHOOL — About 1927**

*From left to right, back row: Otis Lansche, Harris Cape, Maurice Torreyson, Marie Drewer, Tony Knizel, Anna Frank, Maggie Rector.*

*Second row, from back: William Colbert, Floy Howdeshell, William Rector, Winnie Lansche, Opal Lansche, Capatola Starkey.*

*Third row, from back: Hubert Colbert, Russell Torreyson, Jerome Knizel.*

*Front row: Desley Starkey, Eileen Cape, ?, Starkey, William Howdeshell, Paul Frank.*

presented a severe problem in the case of illness. Usually, if a child became ill, he was made as comfortable as possible and the teacher took him home after school. In serious cases, an older boy would be sent for the parents.

Children brought their lunches, usually in a dinner pail and in some schools one hot dish was prepared to supplement the lunch.

One of the larger schools was probably Copher School, located near the Larry Black farm. It had 48 students one year.

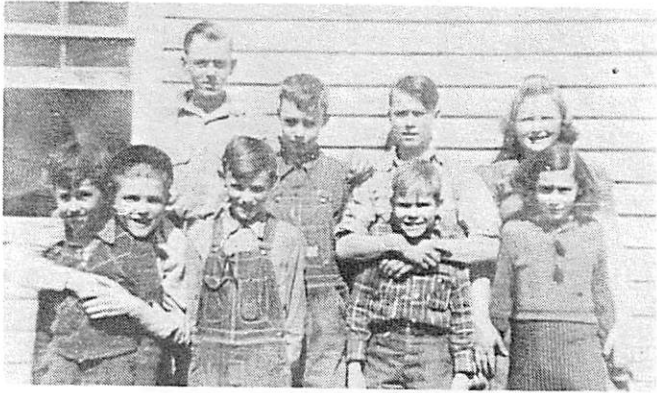
Teachers included Della Giles Gililand, Shelton Phillips, Reba Young, Fern Feldman, Dorothy Baird, Mrs. Henebry, Paul Frank, Frank Slater, Grace Upson and Edna Brown.

Board members included Mack Hammett, John Monroe,



**SCHOOL PLAY — SHELTON**

*Lawrence Mallan, Elmer Schroer, Jerome Krupt, Virginia, Rose Mary Krupt, Lillian Schroer, Opal Giles, Francis Krupt, Harry Norton.*



**SHELTON SCHOOL**

*Back row: Robert Johnson, Raymond Corrigan, Carl Gerding, Howard Corrigan, Alta Mae Weinrich.*

*Front row: Joel Budde, Ralph Gerding, Robert Monroe, Doris Gerding.*

Floyd Howdeshell and John Barbee.

Shelton school dates at least as far back as 1902, a year Florence Rinaman was the teacher. School was dismissed in February that year. It was not uncommon during the early days for the school year to end in late winter or early spring.

Another early Shelton teacher was Vernon Smith, 1904. A long list of teachers followed. Before 1934, they included Bob Tomek, Dorothea Giles, Thelma Quigley and Elizabeth Barley.

Then there followed Isabelle Monroe in 1934, Vallea Monroe in 1936-37, Virginia Lou Haines in 1939, Mrs. Henebry in 1940, 44, 47, Otis Lansche, 1941, Mary Ellen Spires, 1942-43 and Mrs. Catherine Thornhill, 1946. Other teachers at Shelton included Alma Howell, Everett Colbert, Bertha Hechler, Joe Mudd, Paul Frank and Lucille Simmons.

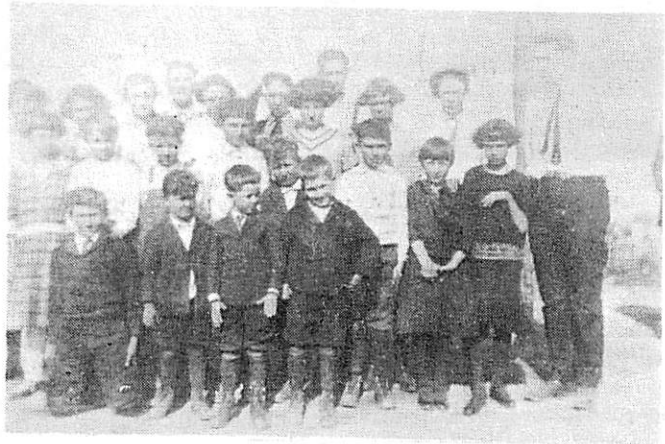
The school was closed for two years, 1937-38 and 1938-39 while the children were transported to Elmore School. It then reopened in the fall of 1939.

Board members included Glen Barley, Russell Monroe, Florence Gerding, Fred Norton and Herbert Schaper.

Shelton School closed in 1947. Students the last year were Joyce Detweiler, Marline Broz, Norma Detweiler, Ralph Wolff, John and Roberta Broz.



*Palmer School - 1921*



**BROWN SCHOOL**

*Buel, Buford Witt, Lawrence Kuda, Neomie Crouch, Mattnew and Charles Burle, Elsie Douglas and Lois Claggett.*



**KELLY SCHOOL ABOUT 1920**

*Back row: Chester McGuire, Mitchell McGuire, Charles Hall Louise Louis - teacher, Lillie Winter, Henry Winter, Bill Allen, Perry Allen, Flora Mordt, Clarence Jones, Louis Mordt.*



**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL — SHELTON**

*Adults on picture: Mr. and Mrs. Will East, Mr. and Mrs. Pearly Giles, Mr. and Mrs. Cola Homesley, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Norton, Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Schroer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Conley, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mallan, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Norton.*





#### KELLY SCHOOL — 1903

*Kneeling: Josephine Thurman, Marie Allen, Irene Giles, Imogene Giles, teacher - James L. [Little] Dryden, Louis Henke, Mattie Bebermeyer, Julia Bebermeyer.*

*Second row: Elmer Bebermeyer ?, Gertrude Kelly, Della Hall, Charlie Bebermeyer, Fred Henke, Mamie Lansche,*

*Missouri Kelly, Jessie Kelly.*

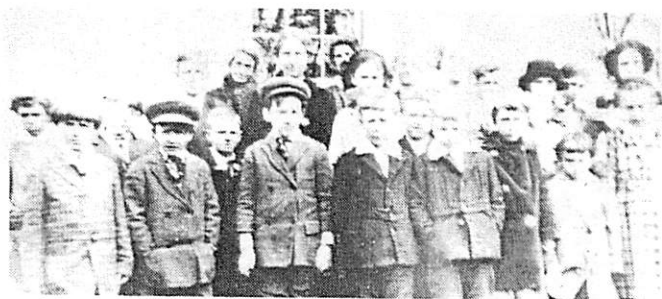
*Back row: Vina Thurman, John Bebermeyer, Irvin Leek, Allie Allen, Katie Lansche, Emma Bebermeyer, Ernie Henke, Harry Thurman.*

Brown School near the old Bohemian settlement had a long list of teachers. They included Andy Brown, Frank Crouch, Josephine Thurman, Bertha Jabin, Mae Elgin, Maude Arnold, Maggie Clark, Bessie Elgin, Bessie Barton, Frank Slater, Jessie Hunter, Grace Upson, Grace Barbee, Ralph Colbert, Mrs. Walter Norton, Dora Anderson, Sallie Mae Groshong, Isabelle

Monroe, T. B. Walton, Ogden Scheer, Lizzie Purdom, Laura Thompson and Elizabeth McCulloch.

Some of the board members were John Boyce, Frank Martinek, Lee Witt, Walter Cregger, Chris Douglas, Pete Kuda, Frank Crouch, Tony Baker and Lilard Brown.

One of the schools that dates well back into the 18th century is Kelly School, built on land owned by Benjamin Kelly and allotted by him for that purpose. The acre site was to be returned to the heirs when it was no longer used as a school. This is near the present home of Jackie Jones.



#### BROWN SCHOOL

*Front row: Buford Witt, Clellon Crouch, Buell Witt, Annie Martinek, Elsie Douglas, Della Crouse, Isabelle Brown, Neoma Crouch.*

*Second row: Omer Brown, Raymond Crouch, Ed Crouch, Helen Domazlicky, Mable Brown, Mary Domazlicky, Ruth Witt, Willa Witt, Nellie Crouse, Lillie Martinek.*

*Back row: Leroy Crouch, Lawrence Kuda, Artie Brown, Walter Norton, Joe Jishe, Pete Witt, Rosa Witt, Annie Chaney, Victoria Shramek, Mae Elgin - teacher.*



#### BROWN SCHOOL

Teacher Mae Elgin

*Lawrence Kuda, Ruth Witt, Ora Mae Crouch, Isabell Brown, Mabel Brown.*





**ELMORE SCHOOL — 1936**

*Little boys: Donald Thompson, Ron Nordwald, Norman Shaw, Lowell Shaw, Frankie Stanek, Lowell McMahan, David Thompson.*

*Girls: Virginia Reese, Evelyn Witt, Mary Margaret Thompson, Mardell Colbert, Marie Stanek, Martha Lane, Clareen McMahan.*

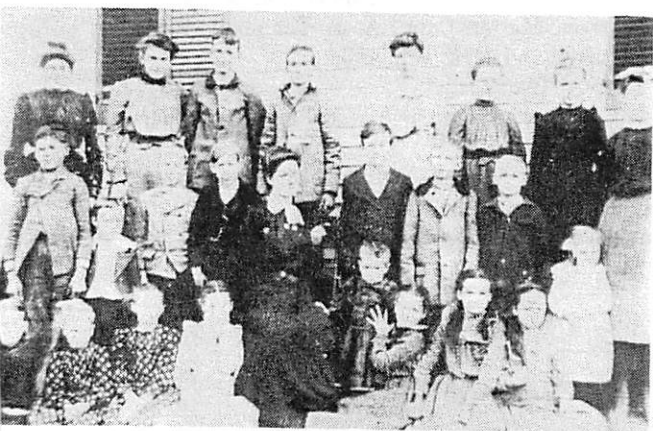
*Big boys: Eric Lane, J. W. Thompson, George Allen.*

*Teacher: Ada Davis*

The original schoolhouse was moved onto the farm then owned by Louis Lansche and used for a granary and in 1896, on the same school site, a new school house was built. Kelly School was discontinued in 1947, but the building still stands.

Teachers included May Taylor, Ethel Cropper, Lillian Ward, Frank Crouch, Dona Duttone, James L. Dryden, Jack Means, Vallea Monroe, Luella Means, Bessie Elgin, Pearl Diggs, Lemuel Thurman, Bada Wilson, Vera Lawrence, Velma Evans, Wilena Howdeshell, Kathryn Lovelace, Rebecca Gibbs, Bessie Elgin, Fern Feldman and Vira Thurman.

Among board members were Louis C. Lansche, James Kelly, J. W. Jones, W. W. Giles, Allie Hall, Charles S. Eames, Louis P.



**SHELTON SCHOOL — 1903**

*Kneeling: Hattie, Mammie Tucker, Willie Conley, Jewell Nichols, Hazel Nichols, Annie Nichols, Cliffie Barley, Ruby Eversmeyer.*

*Second row: ? Earnest, Frank Eversmeyer, Jasper Holmes, Mrs. Lillian Dryden, Sidney Gipson, William Marsh, Richard farsh.*

*Third row: Hattie Pine, Corrie Gipson, Gene Powell, Leonard farsh, Noona Upson, Jessie Nichols, ?, Vira Eversmeyer.*

Lansche, Casper Lansche, Clarence Jones, Henry Winter and Harold Leek.

Palmer School of the six mentioned was farthest from Hawk Point proper, about six miles north and past Pieper's Corner.

Teachers included Bertha Hechler, Miss Eddy Parson, Ocie Custer, Anita Hammond, Herbert Bracht and Miss Monroe. Board members included Phillip Colbert, Mack Hammett and Alton Morris.

Elmore School, which is south of town on Highway 47 where Robin Eveland lives, had as teachers Estelline Black, Della Giles, Alma Howell, Melva Hunter and Winnie Lansche.

Board members were Fount Colbert, George Reese, Ernest Shaw, Charlie Stanek, Bill Barley, Johnny Harper, Les Harper, Jack Thompson, Adeli Thompson, Bill Giles.

The 1878 atlas shows that a school for black students was located then on the south side of Turkey Creek about two miles north of Hawk Point. It was in this same vicinity that a Negro church also was located indicating there was a black community there.

Teaching in rural Hawk Point schools was a stepping stone for some into careers in education that would take them further. For others it was a temporary employment before they launched into other endeavors.

Then there were others from Hawk Point who made their mark in education mostly outside of this area.

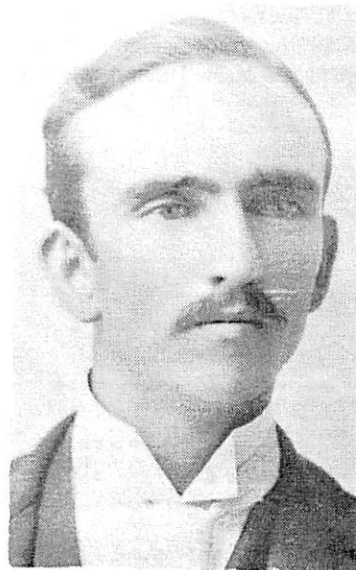
One of these was Melvin Colbert who was superintendent of school districts in Iowa and Illinois for many years before retiring in about 1976.

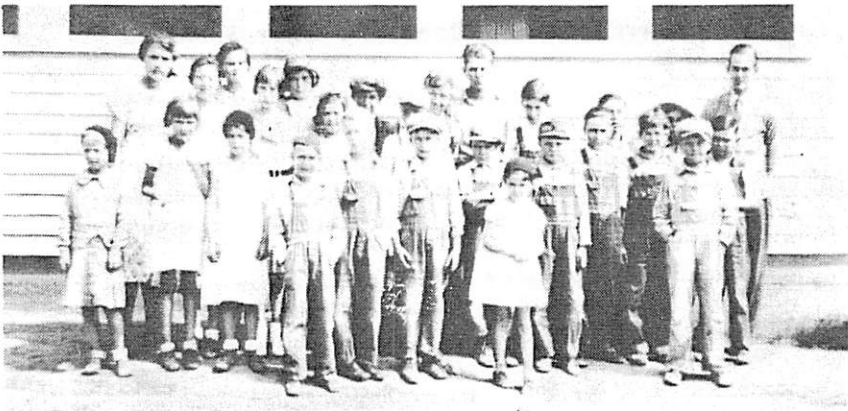
Enjoying long careers in education were two sisters, Pearl Diggs and Florence Diggs Begeman, both of whom got their starts in the rural schools of the county.

Mrs. Begeman taught in Elmore School and was later elected to four terms as the county superintendent of schools. Her next move up the ladder was with the state department of education where she was supervisor for northeast Missouri.

Pearl began her teaching career in the Kelly and Shelton schools. Most of both sisters' education career was spent in the public schools of Chicago.

*Tobacco chewing  
teacher  
Frank Slater*





*Copher School - Joe Mudd, teacher*

### HAWK POINT SCHOOL

From the day in about 1906 -- not long after the town of Hawk Point began to show signs of stirring -- when C. A. Harper and Miss Mae Elgin started pouring knowledge into the young charges, Hawk Point has had a school to educate at least some of its children.

In physical plant, students, teachers and grade, the school district grew through the earlier years of Hawk Point's history, perhaps reaching a peak in the late 1930s and early 1940s, and since then has fallen back to a diminished role.

Literally hundreds of names fill the roster of faculty, board and P.T.A. members through the years, not to mention the students.

Some of those who taught in Hawk Point early in their lives went on to long and distinguished education careers. For instance, Miss Philomene Muck once taught in Hawk Point. She later became virtually an institution in the Troy schools, teaching at one time or another almost every child who grew up in the Troy area.

Also with a Hawk Point background was Claude Brown who was principal at the school in 1946-47. He later became superintendent of the R-III school system centered at Troy.

Other Hawk Point school pioneers included the 1910 faculty, Dora Anderson, Ruben Anson, Deborah Brown and Lillian Muck. Then in 1923-24, the faculty and their salaries were I. K. Juergensmeyer, \$175 a month for teaching high school; Charley Juergensmeyer, \$90 for grades 7 and 8, Grace Creech, \$80 for grades 4 through 6; and Marie Davis \$80, for grades 1 through 3.

The school system spent money for other things as well. For instance in 1923, records show W. S. Shelton sold a cord of wood to the schools for \$4.25.

The principal in 1925 was the Rev. Dewitt Matsler.

Directors of the school system in 1922 were Logan Armstrong, A. L. Monroe, J. H. Wilson, E. D. Hamilton, O. F. Drunert, J. M. Davis and secretary, F. L. Eversmeyer.

The janitor was W. H. Witt who was paid \$10 per month.

School in those early days usually ran less than the nine months considered normal now and was supported by a tax levy of \$1 per \$100 as assessed valuation, probably no more than one fourth the current rate.

Other directors of the 1920s were J. S. Davis, Wm. Dunard, John Peterson, O. F. Barley, E. C. Howell, Everett Gililand, William Duncan, Mrs. D. H. Walton and Mrs. John McCarty.

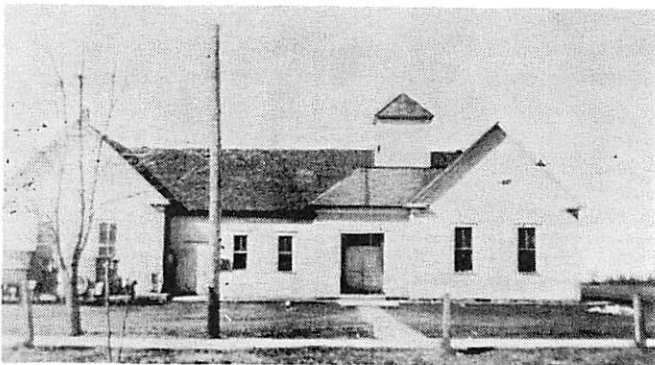
Other teachers during the early years through 1935 included Louise Lewis, Albert Thurstin, Mary Ingram, William D. Mudd, Elsie Baker, Ethel Bradley, Mrs. C. D. Matsler, Ruth Fethergill, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Estes, Fred Rector, Edna Mae Edwards, Georgia Uhrmacher, Miss Lelah Murphy, Miss Males, Beatrice Schmidt, Catherine Hensley, Jeannett Palmer, Mary Russell, Ethel Harvey, Marion Cape, A. E. Campbell, Ruth Lovell, E. T. Whitaker and Mrs. Whitaker.

Janitor was Mrs. Al Claggett.

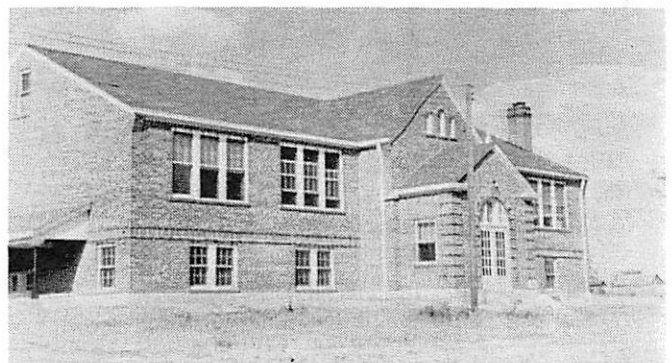
Hawk Point usually offered some high school but rarely four years of high school.

Most of the time, Hawk Pointers could attend two to three years of high school in their home town.

In 1927, for instance, subscriptions costing \$25 per month for



*Hawk Point School — 1941*



*St. Mary's School — 1940*



*Hawk Point School — 1941*

eight months were taken for the third year of high school. In 1930-31, three years were offered and the following year the cost for high school was \$60 and for the lower grades \$28.

As a result of the limited high school opportunity in Hawk Point, relatively few persons can claim the distinction of being graduates of Hawk Point High School.

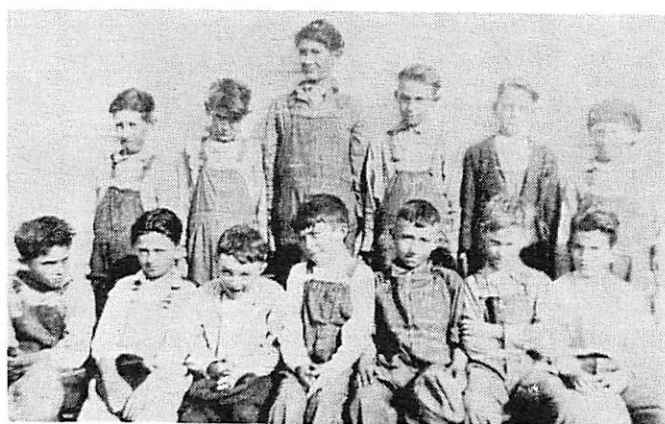
Those who can are George Colbert, Willard Winter, Aileen Dunard, William Dunard, Florence Young, Fayette Barley, Edith Witt, Eileen Cape, Vannie Vejvoda, Leland Witt, Paul Frank, Elsie Licklongberg, Becky Walton, John Logan Armstrong, Missouri Bishop and Juanita Shaw. At least some of these were from the class of 1937.

The name of Hawk Point High School's yearbook was *The Golden Past*. A copy of the annual for 1941-42 shows some of the activities at the school for that year.

The sophomore play was "Adventures of Grandpa". The cast included Raymond Mashek, Lawrence Nesselhauf, Lowell McMahan, Bill Baker, Dorothy Earnest, Mary Duncan, Ruby Prior, Rosie Duff and Reed Witt.

The eighth grade class prophecy looked ahead 10 years, to 1952, the Writer of the prophecy envisioned Ruth Thurstin as a New York chorus girl, Bobby Scott as an airline pilot, Marjorie Gililand as married to Billy Johnson and living in Memphis, and Sarah Howell living in St. Louis and engaged to James Dunard.

Another column asked the question: Can you imagine? Dona Smith not laughing at Billy? J. D. Hunter without his red hair? Bobby Joe saying anything sane? Ruth Thurstin not flirting



*Back row: Wilbert Powell, Robert Fasse, Alford Zalabak, Bill Young, Bill Brown, ?.*

*Front row: Kenneth Barley, Joe Logan, George Witt, Ike Broz, ?, George Walton.*



**HAWK POINT HIGH SCHOOL — 1924**

Irvin Juergensmeyer - Teacher

*Left to right, back row: Frances Martinek, Everett Thurstin, Alvina Mordt, Elizabeth McCollough, Ray Butler, Isabelle Monroe, Alice Cregger*

*Middle row: Opha Lee Kinion, Helen Cregar, Russel Butler, Beulah Femmer, Hazel Hammett, Elsie Thurstin, Anna Matejka, Isabelle Kumbera.*

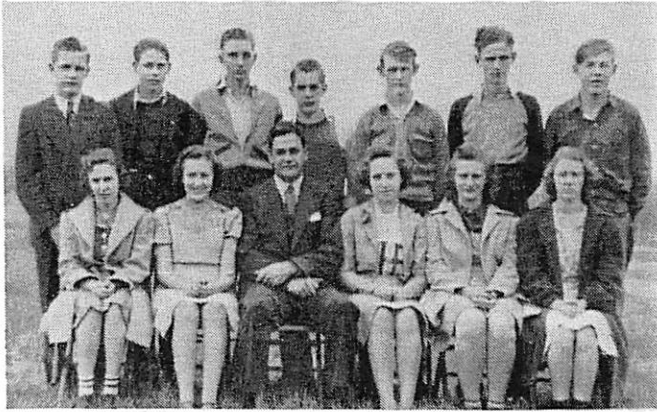
*Front row: Laura Cannon, Reba Young, Mary Leek, Anna Lee Wilson, Margaret Presley, Gwendolyn Anson, Malinda Winter, August Mordt, Lawrence Leek.*

*Front row: Bobby Fasse, Martin Earl Thurstin, J. T. Lockett, Bobby Gililand, Pearl Duff, LeRoy Steiger, Oliver Steiger, Harold McCarty.*

*Second row: Mickey Smith, Kathryn McCarty, Lorna Smith, Rosemary Johnston, Angelina Bracht, Wanda Allen.*

*Third row: Jackie Leake, Darlene Lockett, Jean Thurstin, Laura Sue Fasse, Delores Witt, Monte Leek, George Duff, Bobby Jo Walton.*

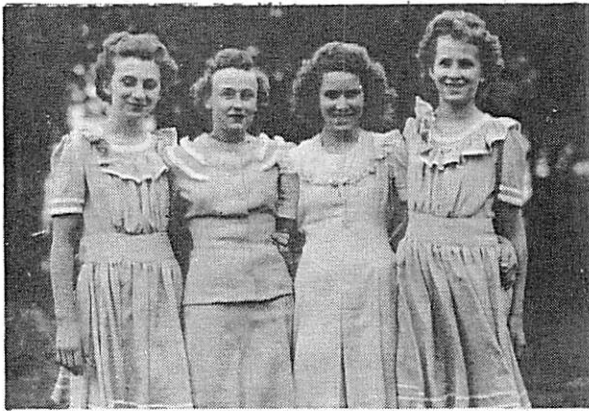




**JUNIOR CLASS — 1940**

*Front: Dorothy Burgess, Irene Broz, Mr. George Knight, Dorothy Witt, Mardele Kinion, Darlene Gililand.*

*Back: James Mispagel, Dene Langenecker, Gilbert Shelton, Charles Mispagel, Reavis Howell, Porter Walton, Walter Nichols.*

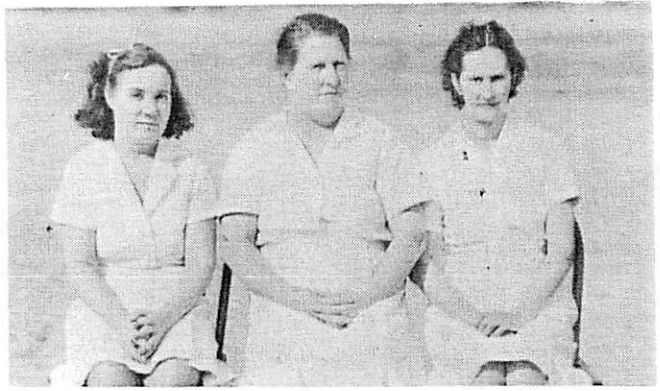


**ST. MARY'S 8TH GRADE GRADUATION — 1945**

*Mary Ann Shilharvey, Ann Johnson, Veronica Martinek, Ethel Jean Martinek.*

**GRADES 7-8 — 1952-1953**

*Teacher, Marjorie Creech, Johnnie Duff, Elizabeth Lockett, Gene Crouch, Katherine Broz, Lee Weinrich, Diane Norris, Charlie Colbert, Norma Detweiler, Jeanette Finger, William Kerpash, Jerry Lou Jones, Gene Todd, Janie Penrod, Ralph Wolff, Bonnie Lockett, Maryln Drunert.*



**HAWK POINT SCHOOL COOKS — 1941**

*Opal Earnest, Carrie Witt, Lucille Crouch*

with boys? Ella Margaret not talking about the boys? Mr. (Emmett) Hoffmann not giving themes?

The faculty that year was Reuel E. Schnelle, superintendent, Mrs. Claude Clare, Brunilda Bock and Mr. Hoffmann.

The yearbook was prefaced with this dedication: The student body of Hawk Point takes pride and pleasure in dedicating their 1942 yearbook to the boys who have graduated from Hawk Point and are now in the service of their country: Flay Walton, Bill Young, Tom Allen, Commelious Fasse, T. B. Walton, Bill Dunard and Clayton Colbert.

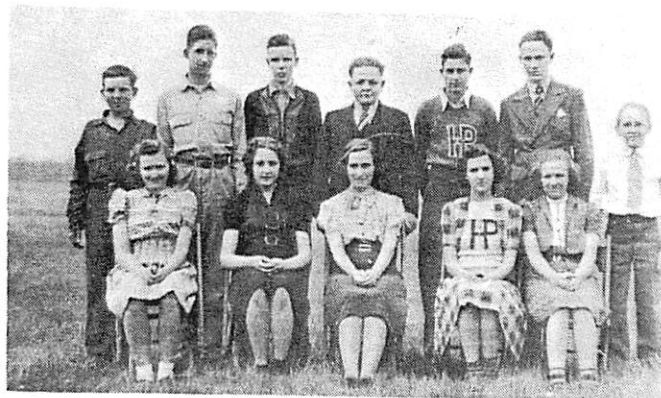
The last year for high school in Hawk Point was 1945. After that, local youths who wished to continue their education beyond eighth grade had to travel to Troy or Warrenton.

The early high school itself consisted of two rooms, one for study and one for classes. The classroom was a porch boxed in with windows.

When the present building was erected as a WPA project in the early 1940s on the same site, part of the old building was moved behind Duncan's Hardware Store where it remains.

Indoor toilets at the school were installed with money raised through plays and other events.

Later year school board members of the Hawk Point system were Harold Leek, Lawrence Kuda, Dell Black, Charley Prior,



**FRESHMAN CLASS — 1940**

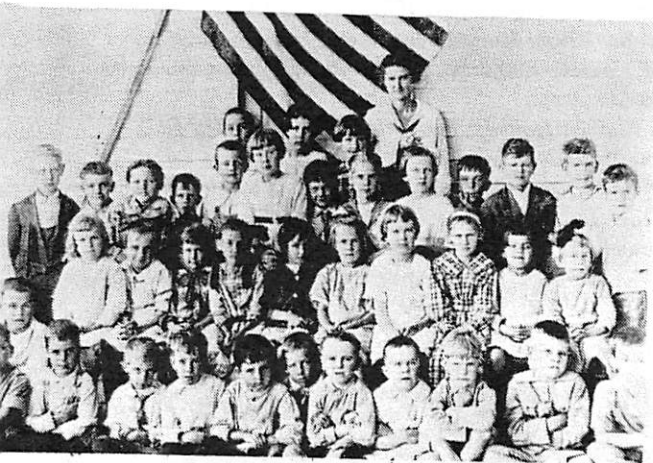
*Front: Leveria Vejvoda, Samolene Fasse, Miss Boals, Betty Walton, Norma Norton.*

*Back: Lowell Shaw, Gregory Bobeen, Tom Baker, Randall Duff, Junior VanDetta, Donald Gihlland, Walter Steiger.*

Raymond Crouch, William Drunert and Everett Thurstin.

After the reorganization that merged the Hawk Point system with Lincoln County R-III, only Ray Duncan and Larry Black from the area have served as directors.

The reorganization occurred in 1955 and with it, the Hawk Point School system ceased to exist as an entity. Shortly thereafter, the eighth grade was transported to Troy and by about 1963, only the first five grades remained in Hawk Point.



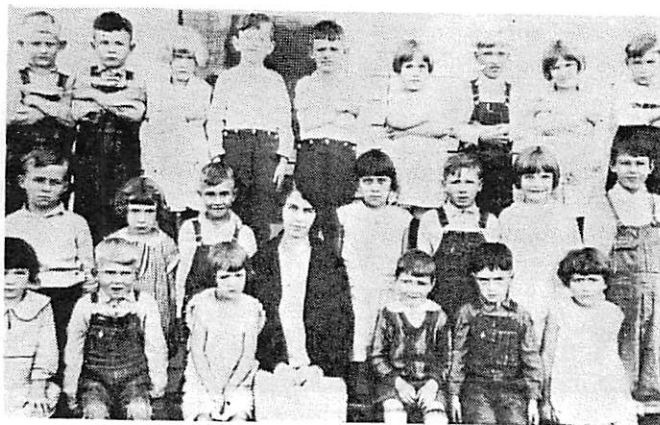
**HAWK POINT SCHOOL — 1917**

*First row: William Holcomb, Wesley Starkey, J. T. Thornton, Fayette Howell, William Logan, George Cregger, Ralph Monroe, Adrain Hamilton, George J. Cregger, William Wilson Drunert, Ralph Sonner.*

*Second row: Burton Kinion, Marguert Walton, Elizabeth Wilson, Vallie Wombles, Clara Belle Thornton, Madge Thurstin, Adelia Martinek, Valeria Hamilton, Erma Monroe, Mildred Holcomb, Pauline Martinek.*

*Third row: Russell Butler, Richard Monroe, Elsie Thurstin, Delbert Monroe, Curtis Davis, Bertha Fasse, Robert Tomek, Margaret Presley, Annie Lee Wilson, Albert Peterson, Vincel Colbert, Leslie Davis, Syl Colbert.*

*Fourth row: Gladys Crouch, Emlie Giles, Catherine Holmes, Teacher Miss Josephine Thurman.*



**HAWK POINT SCHOOL — 1929**

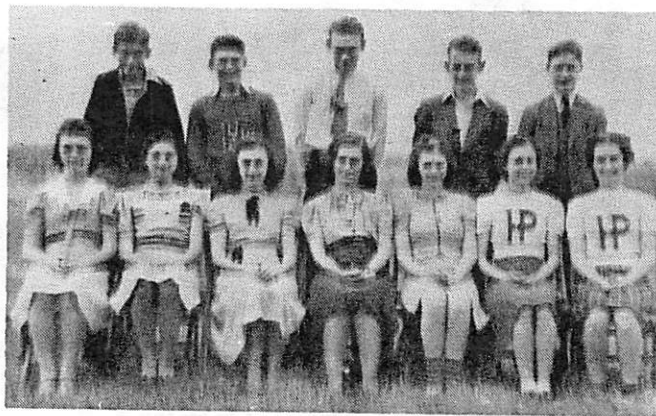
*Left to right, top row: Revis Howell, Wayne Tomek, Darline Gihlland, Phil Beck, George Walton, Dorothy Witt, Dorothy Burgess.*

*Middle row: Rose Himmel, Kenneth Lansche, Vivian Allen, Robert McCarty, Nadine Fasse, Commelious Fasse.*

*Bottom row: Marjorie Ernest, Monte Hunter, Samoline Fasse, Junior Hunter, Lee Witt, George Irene Broz.*

The list of teachers who have contributed to the education of Hawk Point's young is long. They include: Hugh Yeater, Helen Hartwig, Valley Henebry, Virginia Conder, Alta Harness, Jessie Gladney, Floyd Duncan, Alvin Juergensmeyer, Josephine Thurman, Della Giles, George Knight, Raymond Winter, Isabelle Monroe, Herbert Bracht, Pauline Thompson, Mrs. Claude Clare, Fern Allerman, J. E. Schroeder, Mary Ellen Spires, Evelyn Hechler, Ethel Ransdell, Abby Hill, Melba Wilp, Robert Long, Leslie Windman, Marjorie Creech, Kathryn Hoech, Tom Allen, Emmett Hoffmann, Ruth Werner, Brunnhilda Bock, Reuel Schnelle, Rev. N. N. Smelser.

And since the late 1950s: Lucille Lindsey, Rosemary Riemer, Lucy Harrell, Louise Protiva, Helen Thompson, Dean Baxter, James R. Hall, Jennie Preul, Hazel Smull, Dorothea Dent, Charles Kemper Jr., Leon Vandiver, Edna Dunard, Mr. James



**SOPHOMORE CLASS — 1940**

*Front: Marjorie Earnest, Virginia Shelton, Juanita Himmel, Miss Boals, Clairetta Colbert, Dorothy Steiger, Betty Sutton.*

*Back row: Roy Shilharvey, Monty Hunter, Bob Himmel, Junior Hunter.*





**JUNIOR CLASS — 1941**

*Mr. Cunningham, Robert Duncan, Marjorie Earnest, Bettie Sutton, Junior Hunter, Dorothy Steiger.*

Williams, Judy Parsons, Willa Long, Altha Marsh, David Wolff, Wanda Carter, Melva Eversmeyer, Gloria Kachulis, Judy Russell, Barbara Duff, Judy Herring, Lucille Simmons, Jan Jones, Donna Haage, Kenwood Bryant, Martha Hill, Susan Daugherty, Mary McCoy, Kathy Hardy, Gail Johnson, Zelda Baker, Rita Willer, Barbara Hardy, Maurita Nicholson, Linda Hopkins and Ruth Primeau.

Cooks in recent years have included Carrie Witt, Kathryn Luckett, Lena Hasekamp, Viola Colbert, Ann Barley, Darlene Leek, Dorothy Cope, Pauline Martinek, Jennie Ballwin, Barbara O'Hanlon and Ruth O'Hanlon.

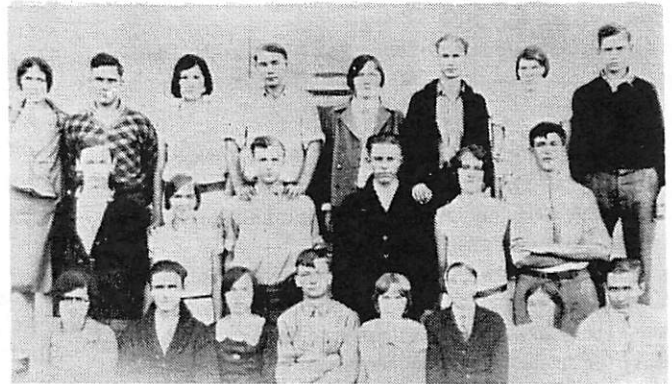
Janitors have been Charles Stanek, Harold Leek and Richard Witt.

Records of the Hawk Point PTA go back as far as 1947 when the president was Marjorie Creech and dues were 25 cents.

The PTA has been active in initiating the kitchen service, obtaining playground equipment, starting health programs.

Through the years, PTA presidents have been William Howdeshell, Frances Colbert, Melvin Luelf, Elsie Spires, Mrs. Ann Barley, Virginia Thompson, Mrs. Robert Walton, Pearl Davis, Donald Thompson, Bob Monroe and Clayton Duff.

In 1975 the PTA became the PTO. The officers have been Roger Stanek, John Martinek, Beverly Broz, Linda Seeger and Barbara Duff.



**HAWK POINT HIGH SCHOOL — About 1928**

*Left to right, back row: Mary Kochkeiser, Harold Leek, Cleo Logan, Gilbert Howell, Estelline Barley, Paul Holmes, Stella Allen, Clarence Jones.*

*Middle row: Manuel Holmes, Marie Martinek, Charles Hall, Melvin Colbert, Lois Claggett, Anthony Knizel.*

*Front row: Beatrice Schmidt, Harris Cape, Anna Jane Peterson, Oscar Luelf, Pauline Martinek, Otis Lansche, Gwendolyn Howell, Prof. Fred Rector.*

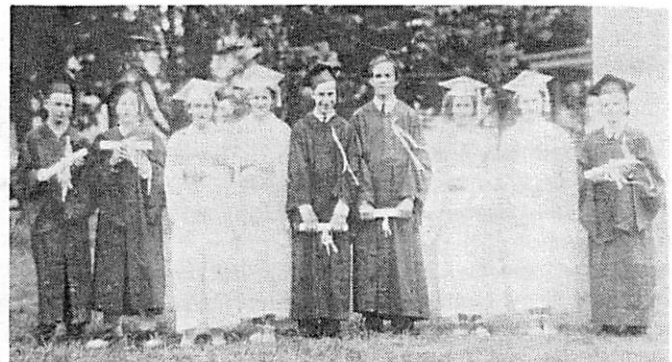


**GRADES 5-8 HAWK POINT — 1929**

*Top row: Anna Mae Witt, Harold Kliever, Doris Kliever, Ruby Himmel, Dorothy Knizel, Mary Elizabeth Armstrong, Mary Jane Walton, Robert Martinek, Veda Monroe.*

*Middle row: Inaz Burgess, Tom Allen, Ellen Carl, Erna Monroe, Robert Fasse, Erma Cunningham.*

*Bottom row: J. W. Kliever, Ruth Young, Halbert Walton, Winnie Lansche - teacher, Frankie Vejvoda, Nora Howell.*



**8TH GRADE GRADUATING CLASS OF  
ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL — May 1945**

*Left to right: Charles Quinn, Billy Dollard, Anna Johnson, Ethel Jean Martinek, Leroy Stepanek, John Norton, Veronica Martinek, Mary Ann Shelharvey, Charles Wing.*



**FIRST SCHOOL IN HAWK POINT — 1906**

*Small children on right side: Upson Twins, Meister, George Prewitt, Dick Russell, Jesse Holmes, Alvie Gililand, Eddie Kleiver.*

*Second row: Arlie Milliam, Bill Duncan, ?, ?, Bill Upson, Bessie Kliever, Neoma Giles, Lillian Lee, Drewer, ?, ?.*

*Third row: Mertle Milliam, Ernest Eversmeyer, ?, Leander Presley, Bob Howell, Bob Prewitt, Gola Gordon, ?, Teacher Mae Elgin.*

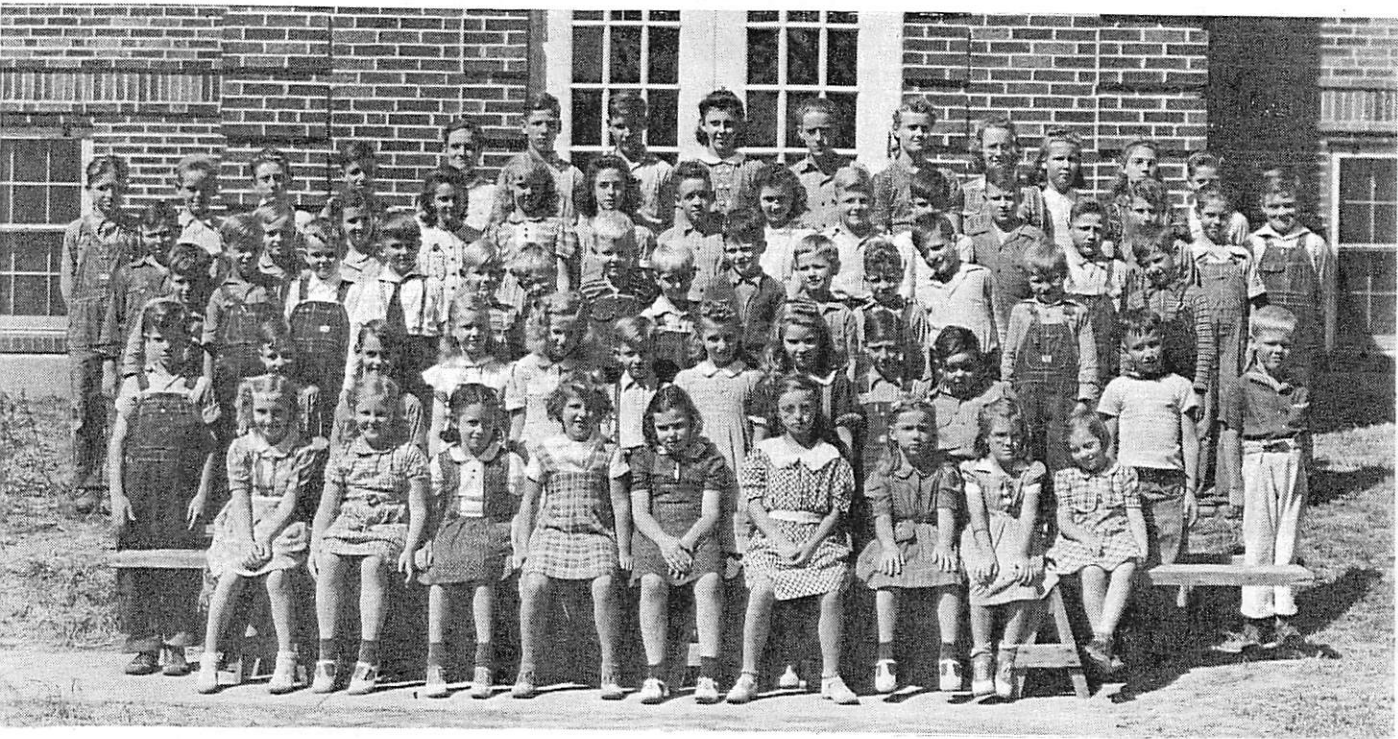
*Older children: Gene Upson, Schuster, Gracie Giles, Jesse Lee, Jesse Kelly, Dona Howell, Viola Gordon.*

*Second row: Alma Howell, Pearl Diggs, Frank Eversmeyer, Red Kliever, Earl Diggs, Furg Holmes, Drewer, Sparks, Jennie Smith.*

*Third row: Ira Overfelt, Vira Eversmeyer, Jack Giles, Julia Howell, Paul Diggs.*

*Fourth row: Gertrude Kelly, ?, Ruby Howell, Sparks, John Howell.*

*Fifth row: Marvin Holmes, Della Giles, Missouri Kelly, Elmer Howell, Teacher C. A. Harper.*



**ST. MARY'S SCHOOL - HAWK POINT — SEPT. 1941**

*Starting from left top row: John Chaminak, Francis Wagners, Joseph Hiedemann, Anthony Wing, John William Norton, Edward Graham, Robert Graham, Helen Shilharvey, Francis Stanek, Grace Wing, Helen Wagner, Mathilda Vondera, Virginia Stepanek, Eugene Bryant, Robert Kallash.*

*Fourth row: Jimmy Shepherd, Charles Wing, Mary Ann Norton, Joan Allman, Rose Marie Engemann, Ann O'Garman, Robert Norton, Elsie Mashek, James Flegile, David Belter, Donald Flegile, Eugene Graham, Leroy Stepanek, Billy Dollard.*

*Third row: Tommy Patrick, Homer Stepanek, Eddie Kohl,*

*Neil Belter, Billy Jo Hiedemann, Bobby Allman, Orville Engemann, Oscar Stepanek, Jerry O'Garman, Frank Wayne Martinek, Danny Norton, David Mitkos, Roy Patrick, Ronny Allman.*

*Second row: Stanley Martinek, Ralph Norton, Earl Stepanek, Joan Engemann, Ethyl Martinek, Richard Johannesman, Mary Ann Shilharvey, Veronica Martinek, Mike Chaminak, Leonard Hunn, Bobby Thomas, Alfred Wagner.*

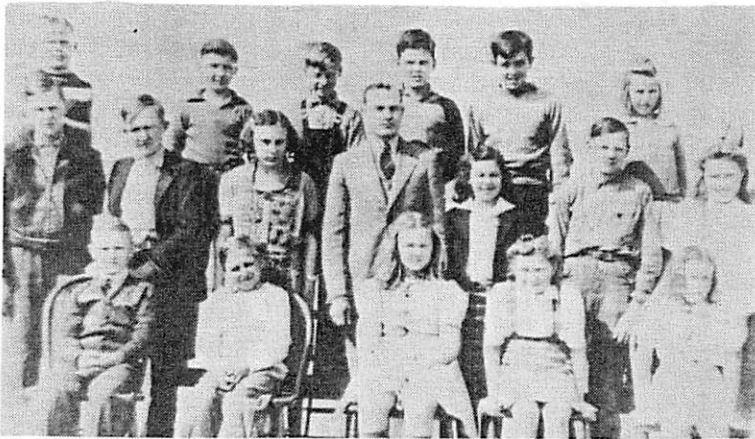
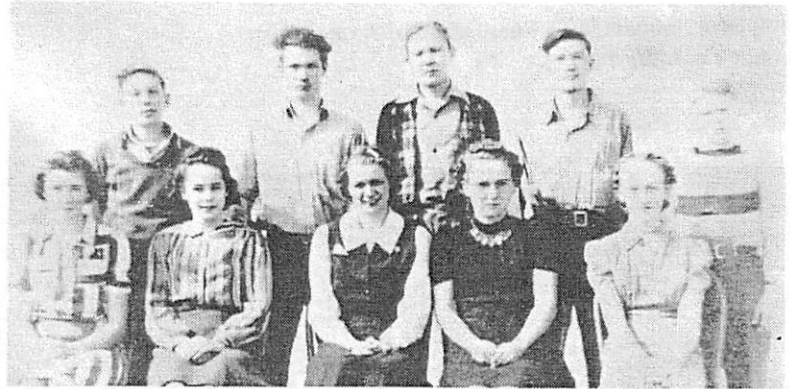
*Bottom row: Margaret Wing, Mildred Wagner, Maryln O'Garman, Evelyn Flegile, Jean Shepherd, Margaret Hunn, Betty Martinek, Margaret Kallash, Virginia Hunn.*



**GRADES 5-6 — HAWK POINT 1941**

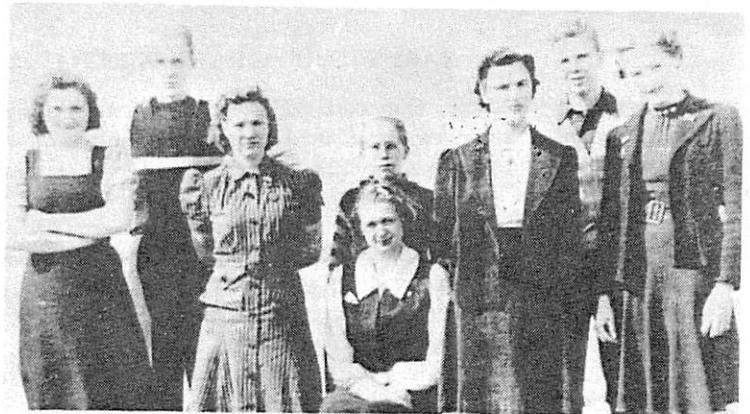
*Sara Sue Fasse, Naomi Holmes, Jackie Leake, Darlene Luckett, Milton Smith, Oliver Steiger, Jean Thurstin, Edward Beck, Gloria Branson, Ella Duff, J. D. Hunter, Mary Lou McCarty, Mary Jo Schaper, Everett Sheets, Vernon Witt.*

**FRESHMAN CLASS — 1941**  
*Mary Kay Duncan, Bill Baker, Rosie Duff*



**HAWK POINT SCHOOL — GRADES 7-8 1941**  
*Billy Brown, L. G. Cunningham, Marjorie Gilliland, Sarah Howell, Bobby Scott, Dona Smith, Ruth Thurstin, Jim Dunard, Daniel McCarty, Barbara Holmes, Harold Branson.*

**SOPHOMORE CLASS — 1941**  
*Junior Vandetta, Tom Baker, Betty Walton, Norma Norton, Miss Ruth Werner.*







### JUNIOR HIGH — 1940

*Front row: Mary Joan Schaper, Ruth Thurstin, Ella Margaret Colbert, Marjorie Gililand, Mary Lou McCarty, Sarah Howell.*

*Second row: Bobby Scott, J. D. Hunter, Lawrence Nesselhauf, Everett Sheets, Herbert Bracht, Bob McCarty, James Dunard, Vernon Witt, Reed Witt.*

*Third row: Billy Johnson, Billy Brown, Dona Smith, Mary Margaret Thompson, Rosie Duff, Doris Colbert, Mary Kay Duncan, Dorothy Earnest, Ruby Prior, Bill Baker, Edward Beck.*



### HAWK POINT 8TH GRADE GRADUATION — 1948

*Howard Reese, Marilyn Steiger, Norman Hunter, Judy Winter, Norman Wortman, Sarah Luelf, Donald Weinrich, Ruth Witt, Clyde Sheets.*



### STYLE SHOW — Early 1950's

*Norman Hunter, Martha Johnson, Bob Monroe, Joyce Detweiler, Sarah Luelf, John Matustik, Kenneth Detweiler, Earl Duff, Doretta Tomek, Elmer Cope Jr., Marilyn Steiger, Bob Inlow.*

### CEMETERIES

Written on the tombstones of more than a dozen cemeteries in and around Hawk Point is a capsule history of the people of the area; a genealogy that traces the generations from times before the town existed.

Besides the Hawk Point city cemetery and St. Mary's cemetery, both well-kept and expanding are no fewer than 15 private family graveyards scattered throughout the countryside. Many of the latter are deteriorating. Weeds have overgrown the crumbling tombstones and age has left the legends barely readable, if at all. Many at one time had been fenced but these barriers too have given way to time and neglect. Few people have been buried in the family plots in recent years and for the most part, getting to one is no small task.

The Hawk Point cemetery was started as such in about 1910 and is the resting place for upwards of 300 Hawk Point citizens. New grave plots are still being opened up.

The southwest corner of the cemetery predates 1910 by a number of years. This section is the original Kennedy plot where members of one of Hawk Point's pioneer families are buried. Some of those graves date into the 1800s. St. Mary's cemetery, which serves the Catholic parish at Hawk Point, has more than 100 graves. Some of the older ones are Emmett Peasel, 1928; Katherine Broz, 1927; and Lawrence E. Kallash, 1907, who was probably reburied there. Many of the old-time farm families no doubt had burial plots on their land, but relatively few of these can be found or identified today.

Following are some of those with their locations, distinguishing features and some of the people buried there:

Brown Cemetery cannot be seen from the road, but can be found by driving 2½ miles east of Hawk Point on Highway 47 and turning north for a mile on the second road out of town. The cemetery is 50 yards back in a field. The only marked graves are those of William H. and Sarah A. Barley Brown, William and Sarah L. Brown, Sarah A. Brown, Syrena Brown and the children of William L. and Mary A. Keller. There is a large unusually shaped pine tree in the cemetery.

The Shelton Cemetery, located on the Glen Barley farm, is much larger, with nearly 40 persons buried there. One of the oldest graves is that of Nathaniel B. Shelton who was born in Virginia in 1822 and died in 1843. Another is that of Jacob



Brunk, born in 1788 and died in 1864. Other names in the cemetery include Giles, Barley, Burgess, Conley, Davis, Richardson, Dyke, McCulloch, Hammond, Wells and Mann.

Brunk's Cemetery is about three miles east of Hawk Point and a half mile north of Highway 47 and contains only a few graves that can be distinguished. Among them are those of Joseph G. Powell who died in 1853, William Brunk, 1864, Nora J. Powell, 1877, Moses Bond, 1880 and Arthusa Brunk, 1864. The other gravestones are broken, faded and sunk into the ground and the cemetery is overgrown with brush.

Land for the Nichols Cemetery, located a half mile north of Hurley Creech's house, was sold to the County Court to be used as a graveyard by Tandy and Charlotte Nichols in 1875. Both Nicholsons are buried there.

One of the older graves is that of William Owen, who died in 1890. Also buried there is Beverly Eugene Upson, a Navy coxswain who died of illness in 1919 at the age of 24.

Other names in the cemetery include Wilson, Witt, Koester and Mourning. A small graveyard amidst large shaggy cedar trees is Elmore Cemetery which has a few identified graves and others marked only with rocks.

Some of the unidentified graves in this and many other old family cemeteries are believed to be those of slaves. Among those buried there are members of the Elmore family, including Virginia, who died in 1890, P. Y. who died in 1884 and J. C. 1886. An older grave is that of Jonathan D. Gordon, who died in 1866. Clarence Brown also is buried there.

The Elmore Cemetery is a half mile west of Highway 47 south of Coon Creek on property owned by Neal Leek.

The McCulloch Cemetery is on the west side of the Don Smith farm on the Vejvoda road behind the old Gus Frank home. Buried there are Jeremeiah R. McCulloch, James M. McCulloch, John and Rachel Havenner and Georgie Florence Shackelford.

The only distinguishable grave in the Gipson Cemetery, about a mile west of Paul White's house, is that of Randolph Gipson, who died in 1889 of 'Cuger', according to information written on the tombstone.

The Copher Cemetery is about four miles northwest of Hawk Point one half mile east of the Larry Black house on the Klopstein farm. Among the oldest graves are those of George H. and Jane E. Copher, 1864. Others are those of Odelia H. Walton, 1886, George Walton, Eliza M. Copher, Margaret Catherine Copher, 1899, Thomas E. Copher, 1903, Mary Alice Allen, 1920 and J. H. Walton, 1873.

One of the larger private cemeteries is Cannon located two miles west of town on Route A, three quarters of a mile North on the first road. Perhaps 60 to 65 people are buried there and include these names: Frank, Black, Palmer, Allen, Beck, Cannon, Fine, Mosley, Womble, Nicklin, Brown, Barbee, Colbert, Harbaum, Copenhauer, James, Hasselfeld, Lansche.

A fenced cemetery surrounded by beautiful oak trees, but difficult to get to, is the Douglas family plot located one fourth mile east of Cottonwood spring and a mile north of Fred Martinek's house. Lavinia Douglas, who died in 1932, is buried there as are Charlie A. Douglas, 1914, an infant of D. S. Howell, James and John Boyce, both infants and Ida and Joseph Shelker. One relatively recent grave is that of William Kuda, who died in 1950.

One of the older cemeteries is Slavens Cemetery a quarter of a mile off Giles Road behind Schupmann's Sheet Metal Shop.

Thomas Slavens, who was born in 1792, was buried there in 1875. An older grave is that of a Slavens infant, 1834. Other names on gravestones are Weber, Marsh, Cox, Baker, Reynolds, Jeans, Gibson, Clare, Brown and Douglass.

Just a few graves can be identified in Giles Cemetery, a half mile off Route D on the Alonzo Hammett farm. The cemetery is partly enclosed with an iron fence. Buried there are Henry Giles, Martha Nichols, W. C. Giles, Sarah Giles, Hattie Gililand and Matthias E. Giles.

Another of the larger private cemeteries bears the Harvey name and is located on Route U a mile past Delaloye's road.

Besides Harvey, it includes these names: Bufka, Crouch, McMahan, Garrett, Creech, Richardson, Carter, Burgess, Lowry, Doicourt, East, Meadows, Martin, Fisher, Bennett and O'Leary.

An old cemetery -- or what is left of it -- is located a half-mile south of the former Palmer School site. There were 15 or so graves there a few years ago, but in 1977, just one stone could be read. It marked the grave of Lavinia Verdier, wife of Robert, who died in October 1845 at the age of 40. The cemetery is in the midst of four large trees, two cedars, a hickory and a hackberry.

Possibly the oldest cemetery in Hawk Point, since it is situated on the place where Hawk Point got its start, the Vannie Vejvoda property, was the Holmes graveyard. Members of the Owens and Jones families also were buried there. About 15 stones were there as late as about 1960, but there is no trace now.

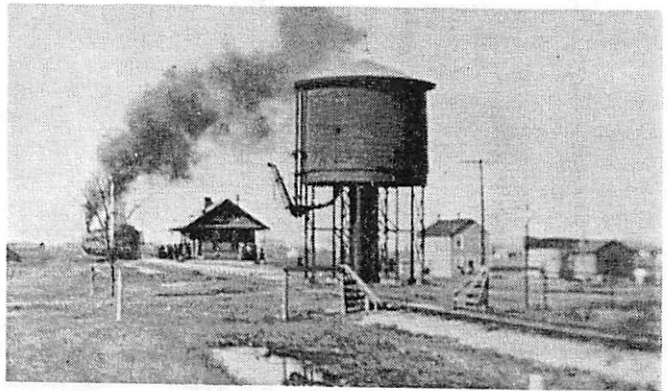
## THE BURLINGTON

By all accounts, the community of Hawk Point became the town of Hawk Point for one major reason, the construction of a railroad.

The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad began in 1902 to build a branch line between Mexico and Old Monroe that served as connection between Jefferson City and St. Louis.

The railroad construction created much employment in the area over two years time. Witnesses recall seeing wagon after wagon carrying dirt for the railroad dump making their circuits.

Railroad workmen went to homes along the way for food. One woman remembers one man who could eat pancakes faster than she could cook them.



*Hawk Point - before 1910*