

OAK HILL

Taken from the old Goodspeed Book that belonged to Wm. J. Simpson. Goodspeed Publishing Company, Chicago, Illinois, 1888

History of Crawford County - page 600
Oak Hill is a little town on Brush Creek. The post office was established in 1859. The small village began to grow in 1860. The first building was a mill erected by Miles Peace and Jacob Souders in 1862. A carding machine was connected with the mill and an engine was put in in 1864. The first dwelling was a log house built by Clark J. Elliot. The first merchant was Green Richardson in 1863 who kept general merchandise in a small box house. The town now consists (1888) of two stores, one saw and grist mill, one carding machine, one shoe shop, two blacksmith shops, two physicians, S. W. Meinke and Dr. Smith. The postoffice was kept by L.D. Vieman. The town has a population of about thirty.

OSAGE VILLAGE

In the 1820's a thriving village and post office were established near Osage Creek that would later be Courtois Township, Crawford County, Mo.

The village was named Osage after the beautiful stream that flowed near-by. This village was located on land owned by James Sanders, a native of Ky. who had moved to Mo. In the early 1800's.

He first settled in Washington County, Mo. After receiving numerous land grants, he and his family moved to Crawford Co. His first land grant, in 1828, was an eighty acre tract on which he established his home. The Osage Post Office established here served the southern part of Crawford Co. for many years. Mr. Sanders served as postmaster from 11, 30, 1837 to 8, 23, 1859.

By the time of the Civil War, the village of Osage served as the center of a network of roads. These road entered Osage from all directions and a birds-eye view would have resembled a wagon wheel with Osage as the hub. Roads lead southeast to Harmony and Webster, south to Granite Dyke, east to Potosi, northeast to Richwoods, north to Leasburg, northwest to Steelville, southwest to Montauk, and due north to Bourbon.

The oldest of these roads was the one going to Webster in Washington Co. From Webster the road followed Hazel Creek southwest to the confluence of this stream and Courtois Creek. At this junction the road left the streams and crossed over "Six Mile Ridge" and into the village of Osage. From Osage the road crossed the creek at

the Cornelius Brickey farm, wound its way over the ridge to Dry Creek and on into the village of Steelville.

It was over this road that the displaced Indians of the southeastern United States traveled on their infamous "Trail of Tears" journey. They camped in the fertile valley of Osage Creek, and down through the years the oldtimers told about finding numerous spears, arrowheads, and other relics, perhaps left behind by these hapless native Americans.

Twenty-five years later this same Webster-Osage road served as an escape route for the remnants of General Thomas Ewing's Federal troops who were retreating north after the Battle of Pilot Knob in 9, 1864. These troops with Confederate Generals Shelby and Marmaduke in hot pursuit, marched into the village of Osage, 9, 28, 1864.

Many of the names of the early settlers who were patrons of Osage Post Office are still familiar names in Crawford and surrounding counties. The following is only a partial list: Putnam Trask; Marvin Trask; Jerret Brickey; Peter Brickey; William Brickley, Sr.; Jeremiah Brickey; Cornelius Brick; Samuel Coleman; Thomas Coleman; John Chandler; Samuel Chandler; William A. Bryant; Thomas Whitehead; Samuel Turnbough; Joseph Turnbough; John Turnbough; George Turnbough; Jeremiah Turnbough; Patton McMurtry; William Holderman; Dabney Martin, Sr.; Simeon J. Martin; John W. Martin; Thomas L. Martin; Joseph Campbell; William Carroll; John Carroll; William Halbert; James Halbert; Joshua Halbert; Nathan Halbert; William H. Matthews; Thomas Jamison; George Bates; Green Huitt; James Huitt; Lemual Huitt; James Skaggs; James H. Mountry; William Augustus Moutray; Samuel Bunyard; Joshua Kinworthy; Job Harmon; Mary Dobkins; John Dobkins; Christian Earney and John Sanders.

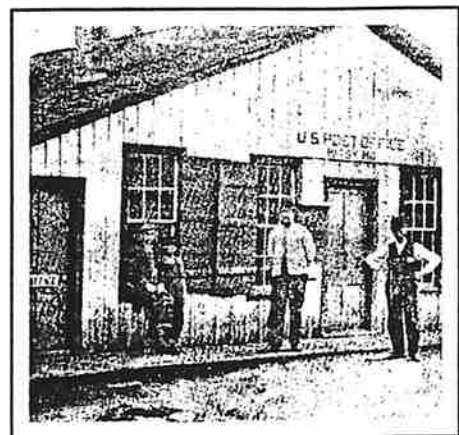
After the Civil War, the post office at Osage was moved to another location. The new location was on the west side of Courtois Creek near the confluence of Lost Creek and Courtois Creek. On 11, 12, 1886 Post master Cyrus N. Banta moved the post office to its present location on the east side of Courtois Creek, and it was renamed Berryan.

In the 150 years since the establishment of Osage Post Office, many other changes have taken place. The village of Webster is now called Palmer, and state Highway Y now follows the old Webster road on "Six Mile Ridge." The beautiful stream that was once called Osage is now known as Huzzah Creek. On January 28, 1898 a new post office named Huzzah was established at the site of the original Osage Post Office.

11-8-79 THE CRAWFORD MIRROR

PATSY A.K.A. ELAYER

Due to the mine at Cherry Valley as in so many boom towns, there was always a community called "Stringtown". Called "Patsy" The patrons of this new post office apparently had great admiration when they called it "Patsy" which was the nickname for Patrick Whalen. The little post office was first located on the Cherry Valley Railroad at the site where Highway 8 crossed the old railroad bed. Only person to have served as postmaster as far as the records show was Taylor Edwards. He was postmaster when the office was moved about a mile southeast nearer the mines. About half the distance between the site of the first post office building and the mines, a switching spur was used in shipping ties and cordwood. This spur was called, Elayer, named for William Elayer, an employee on the Salem Branch. It was relocated a short distance north of the Elayer yards and called "Elayer". "Uncle Bud" (Millard S.) Moutray was the proprietor and operator of the Elayer Store and Post Office, however it is known there was a Christian Church at Patsy, Mo. The community residents picked up their mail at "Patsy". By the 1920's, Mr. Hibner carried the mail on the rural route. "Uncle Bud" ran the store for many years and friends and neighbors gathered around the old stove and swapped yarns and ideas. Mr. Moutray ran the store until the 1930's, when his son Harvey, inherited it at his father's death, and ran the store for the next 10 years. In 1938, Ken and Dixie (Halbert) Payne purchased the store at Elayer which they owned for the next 20 years. Their daughter, Shirley, married Warren Hendrix, great grandson of "Uncle Bud" Moutray. In the 1960's Ray and Roberta (Hendrix) White purchased the store and had a very successful business until they sold it in the early 1970's. Roberta being the neice of "Uncle Bud" Moutray. The



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