

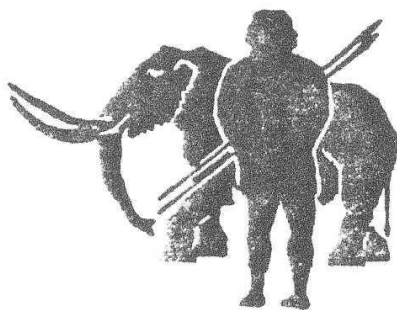
Jefferson  
Heritage and Landmark  
Corporation

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MASTODON STATE PARK

We have not only a delightful small State park in our County but one that has a very big historical background and is known internationally. In the 1981 Spring issue of EARLY MAN, it was listed as one of the top 10 most important archaeological digs. Finds from this site have found their way to many parts of the world. Bones were on display at the 1909 Buffalo World's Fair and the mastodon in the British Museum came from our park. The following is an excerpt from an article by Kenneth W. Cole, Archaeologist of the Missouri Division of Parks and Historic Preservation, provided for this newsletter, and he also tells us of plans for the park.



JEFFERSON COUNTY CONTAINS ONE OF THE EARLIEST KNOWN AND SCIENTIFICALLY MOST IMPORANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN EASTERN MISSOURI. LOCATED IN MASTODON STATE PARK JUST WEST OF I-55 NEAR THE KIMMSWICK EXIT, THE LOCALITY HAS BEEN KNOWN AS A SOURCE OF LATE PLEISTOCENE ANIMALS SINCE ALBERT KOCH DUG THERE IN 1839. MASTODON, GIANT GROUND SLOTH, MUSK OX, AND OTHER NOW-EXTINCT SPECIES HAVE BEEN FOUND AT THE SITE FOR OVER A CENTURY AND A HALF. SINCE 1979, THE ILLINOIS

STATE MUSEUM HAS CONDUCTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS IN THE PARK UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DR. RUSSELL W. GRAHAM. THE EXCAVATION TEAM, SEEKING TO CONFIRM OR REFUTE THE MASTODON, FOUND SPEAR POINTS, IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE ANIMAL BONE IN THE "KIMMSWICK BONE BED." THE LARGE SPEAR POINTS, MADE OF STONE BY CLOVIS CULTURE BIG GAME HUNTERS, WERE USED TO KILL AND BUTCHER THE MASTODON (MAMMUT AMERICANUM) AN ELEPHANT-LIKE ANIMAL WITH LONG TUSKS WHICH INHABITED MISSOURI DURING THE ICE AGES.

THE PARK HAD BEEN OBTAINED BY THE STATE IN PART THROUGH THE DILIGENT AND CONSCIENTIOUS EFFORTS OF RESIDENTS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY AND OTHER CONCERNED CITIZENS OF MISSOURI. TO GIVE BACK TO THE PEOPLE A SMALL PART OF THEIR HISTORY, THE PARK SYSTEM IS CONSTRUCTING A SIZEABLE

VISITOR CENTER ON THE ... THE BONE ...  
FACILITY WILL INTERPRET THE IMPORTANCE OF THE KIMMSWICK BONE  
BED IN LATE PLEISTOCENE AND LATER TIMES. AN AUDIO VISUAL ROOM  
AND WALK-THROUGH NATURAL EXHIBIT AREA WILL GIVE THE VISITOR A  
FEEL OF TRAVELING THROUGH A PART OF THE PAST. THE CENTER,  
WHICH WAS DESIGNED BY WILSON-JONES ARCHITECTS, INC. OF ST.  
LOUIS, SHOULD BE UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY LATE THIS SUMMER, AND  
WHEN COMPLETED, WILL PROVIDE A MAJOR EDUCATIONAL FACILITY  
FOR THE AREA.

WHILE IT MAY BE SOME TIME YET BEFORE ALL DEVELOPMENTS ARE  
COMPLETED AND READY FOR PUBLIC USE, KEEP IN MIND THE  
SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS SITE IN MASTODON STATE PARK RELATIVE  
TO UNDERSTANDING MISSISSIPPI RIVER VALLEY AND JEFFERSON  
COUNTY PREHISTORY AND ENVIRONMENT. MEANWHILE, CONTINUE TO  
ENJOY THE PICNIC AREA AND WALKING TRAILS IN THE PARK, SO  
SKILLFULLY MAINTAINED BY SUPT. WES JOHNSON AND HIS HARDWORKING  
STAFF.

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DOWSING OR DIVINING

... "to dowse: to search for underground supplies of  
water, metal, etc. by the use of a divining rod."  
(The Random House Dictionary, c1968)

The art of dowsing, or divining, goes back to prehistoric  
times and over the years it has been used in many other ways  
than just to find water. Since the process is difficult  
to prove scientifically there are still many persons who  
do not accept dowsing - or divining. But there are untold  
city governments who would hate to admit that they maintain  
a dowser on their payrolls to help find lost or uncharted  
water and sewer lines. Telephone and gas companies as well  
as archaeologists, police departments, farmers and natura-  
lists, will use a dowser from time to time. The use of a  
dowser is usually a very well-kept secret!

There are many ways dowsing can be used and many types of  
instruments besides the traditional L-shaped metal rods or  
the forked branches of the hazel or rowan trees. Pendulums  
made of most anything can be used, especially if map-dowsing

is to be done. A small carpenter's plumb bob, whale bones, or even knitting needles stuck into a cork, are some of the things used as indicators. In the Vietnam war the American G.I.s used bent coat hangers to find the mine fields. An extremely proficient dowser can operate with just his hands.

One man in Jefferson County will tell a pregnant woman whether she is going to have a boy or a girl by the use of a small rock on the end of a piece of string. She holds the strings and if it swings parallel to her body, it will be a boy; perpendicular, the child will be a girl.

Our interest in this activity was heightened by a local man who showed me how to "call up a grave." This will be a very decided help in our grave crawling as there are always times when there are signs that an area should have graves, but beyond the ground covering, the yucca or iris plants, there are no tomb stones to show where there might be a grave.

Hitchings, Francis, EARTH MAGIC  
Wm. Morrow & Co. c1978 PP. 194-215  
ST. LOUIS GLOBE DEMOCRAT, July 5, 1985  
p. 2D.

#### OLD HERCULANEUM CEMETERY (RANKIN CEMETERY)



Several months ago a survey was made of the old Herculaneum (Rankin) Cemetery. There were obviously many unmarked graves that could have had stones covered over if it had been possible to look for them. The cemetery is in bad shape, but we understand a church in the area is going to take it over and maintain it. But in surveying the cemetery, two stones were found of Jefferson County historic personages. JOSIAH CRAFT came from New Jersey in 1809, and was of German descent. He married the half sister of C. B. FLETCHER, a MISS WEATHERBY. This made him the uncle of GOVERNOR THOMAS FLETCHER. He built the first jail in the county after Jefferson County was established and the local county government was being established. He also was made a school commissioner in the area in 1847.

JOSIAH CRAFT  
September 22, 1787      August 14, 1861

The other name of interest was County Judge CHARLES S. RANKIN, who laid out the town of Pevely in 1860. He had the first store in town and was the first postmaster for Pevely.

## HERCULANEUM CEMETERY (continued)

CHARLES S. RANKIN

July 1, 1801

March 24, 1879

In 1971 a hearing was heard before the late Judge Herbert K. Moss, pertaining to the incorporation of Herculaneum into a town. There was a certain amount of historical research done as groundwork for the eventual establishment of this area as a municipal government. One of the things found was the fact that in 1819 a survey was ordered by the County to establish the boundaries of the town. While this was done, the circuit judge at that time never acted upon the report. Judge Moss accepted that 1819 survey as part of the evidence for the town boundaries. There was also a survey made when the County Seat was moved to Hillsboro. The testimony of this particular item of information has been typed and given to the Jefferson Heritage and Landmarks Society by Mrs. Wanda Toulouse who was the Court Reporter for Judge Moss. She has donated the testimony in memory of Judge Moss. We are very happy to add this information to our information about Jefferson County.

### GENEALOGICAL HELP NEEDED!!

There have been several requests for help by people tracing their families through Jefferson County. One, a Miss CHARLOTTE MANESS, is interested in the MANESS family who comes from around Frumet or Fletcher. Her grandfather was WILLIAM RILEY MANESS.

The other request was from SARA MEGLITSCH of Vancouver, Washington, who is interested in information about a MARGARET BROWN from Washington County who married a JACOB HORINE. There is a relationship to THOMAS MADDEN and REUBEN SMITH.

We have been able to help the two ladies just a little, but if anyone has any information they would like to pass on, the material can be mailed to me and I will forward it to the proper person.

Jean O'Brien

SATURDAY AUGUST 7th, 1819

The Maid of Orleans got under way at half past 2 o'clock A.M. At 40 minutes past nine, passed the Barge Tennessee, Nathaniel Chaddick, Master, bound up (at the Second Bluffs). At quarter past 12 o'clock, passed a small topsail barge (in the Devil's Raceground) bound up. At three o'clock P.M. at island No. 41, passed steamboat Ohio, Captain Martin Banine, 15 days from Orleans, bound up, laying along shore, some part of her machinery broken, could not understand exactly waht. They expected to get her underway in about 2 hours. At half past four, spoke three men in a canoe, lay to, and engaged two of them, viz., Wm. Fletcher and Wm. Paine, to serve on board this vessel, at 25\$ per month, to New Orleans. At 10 minutes past 6 o'clock, passed a keel boat, painted blue, carrying a topsail. At three-quarters past 7 o'clock, came to anchor at the head of Island No. 50. Distance this day 122 miles.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8th 1819

The Maid of Orleans got under way at half past 4 o'clock A.M. At 11 o'clock sent the boat ashore with Wm. Fletcher (one of the hands I engaged yesterday) to his brother's to get his clothes, etc. The boat returned without him, and I was informed that his brother's child had died this morning, and that they requested him to stay with them, which was the cause of his not returning. At 8 o'clock P.M. came to anchor 1 mile below Island No. 68. Distance this day 115 miles.

MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 1819

The Maid of Orleans got under way at three quarters past 12 o'clock A.M. I had ordered the engineers last evening, to have the steam up by three o'clock, but they awoke about midnight and supposing it be near three o'clock had their fire made. I awoke and rose at 12 o'clock. and finding the steam up and it being a beautiful night, the moon shining very bright, and as the pilot informed me the night before that there were no dangerous places which we sould have to pass before day, I determined to get the vessel under way, eo enable us to reach a place about 35 miles below point Theco, in time to take in wood. At fifty minutes past one P.M., our wood getting short, put to, and took in 2½ cords. At 35 minutes past two o'clock, got under way. About half past one, the steamboat Henderson was in sight, distant about five miles. At 7 o'clock passed the Henderson, taking in wood. (The Henderson, when we first saw her was about three quarters of an hour ahead; we lost about 1 hour in landing and taking in wood, and getting under way again.) Put to about half mile below the Henderson and took in ten cords fire wood. At fifty minutes past 10 o'clock discovered that the Henderson had got under way, although they had informed our pilot and the passengers on board, that they did not intend starting until next morning. The Maid of Orleans lay at the landing all night. Distance this day 123 miles.

(CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE)

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SPECIAL INTERESTS: ☐ Genealogy ☐ Restoring old houses  
☐ Local History ☐ Other (please list if you check this  
what you are interested in or  
the kind of articles you like  
to see in the newsletter)

#### VIDEO TAPES MADE

At last two programs by Frank Magre of Herculaneum have been captured on film, courtesy of Bob Harrison and the Jefferson College Channel 8 TV Station, JCTV.

Betty Mueller served as hostess, interviewing Frank about the famous Jefferson County landmark, Selma Hall. The film which is an hour long, has slides of Selma Hall which Frank took and his explanation of what each slide shows.

A second taping was done on June 2. This time Frank covered the history of Jefferson County and the Mississippi River. Again Mrs. Mueller, former Jefferson Heritage and Landmark Society President, served as the hostess-interviewer.

#### MISS POLLY DANA'S PUDDING

One quarter pound of rice boiled with one quart of milk and a stick of cinnamon boiled until thick. Pour it into a pan and stir in a quarter of a pound of fresh butter and sugar to your taste. Grate in half a nutmeg and add a little rose water. Stir all well together and when cold add five beaten eggs. Butter a dish and pour the pudding into it and bake until it is light brown. You may lay a puff pastry over the top before baking if you like.

The above recipe is found in a book "THE BOOK OF FORTY PUDDINGS," by Susan Canna Brown. It was printed by Charles Scriber, New York publisher in 1882. In 1976 the Paramus Historical and Preservation Society of Ridgewood, NJ, reprinted the booklet as a Bicentennial project. The cost is 40¢. A companion book of sauces costs 10¢. If you are interested in obtaining the booklet call Jean O'Brien. 937-3543.

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