

Rocky Point School

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No record has been found of the early school, but from information which has been handed down from early residents, we know that a school was located across the road north and west of the present Rocky Point on a rocky hill on land owned now by Virgil Bainbridge. Some of the foundation of the second school on this land can still be seen. His father, D.P. Bainbridge attended this school.

As early as 1852 we know a school was here. We know that the Rollins, the Akers and Bainbridge families attended school here, receiving their first rudiments in education.

The attendance in early years was large. From records in Book 50, page 632, on December 8, 1871, we find the deed of Wesley and Martha D. W. Martin, as follows:

"From all men by those present, That I, Wesley Martin and Martha D.W. Martin, his wife, of the County of Clay in the state of Missouri, have this day for and in consideration of the sum of \$20 to the said Wesley Martin in hand paid by the Board of Education of Township No. 53, Range 33 of the County of Clay in the State of Missouri, have granted, bargained and sold and by the presents do grant, bargain, and sell unto said Board of Education in trust for the district No. 4 in Township No. 53, Range 33 in the following described tracks or parcels of land situated in the county of Clay in the state of Missouri: that is to say, commencing at the N. end of the west half of the So. east quarter of section (11) eleven and to include one sq. acre of land and the school house in the center of said lot as near as possible. To have and to hold the said piece or parcel of land as located as said District No. 4 wishes to use it for school purposes, but if said district should decide to move the school house to some other place, then the above described acre of land shall revert back without building to said Wesley Martin, or his heirs, assigns.

In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names and affixed our seals this the 8th of December, 1871.

/s/ Wesley Martin

/s/ Martha D.W. Martin

(State of Missouri) seals

Then, also, on 14th December, 1871, that the wife, Martha D.W. Martin, of Wesley Martin, acknowledged, executed and delivered, the same deed relinquished her dower in the real estate mentioned, freely without fear, compulsion, as under influence of her husband. This deed was filed for record March 7, 1881 at 10:35 A.M.

We are told that the Rocky Point School is one of the older schools, as early as 1850. Also, that it was located north, across the road from the present school; also that there was a second building on that ground.

The present building was one large room, and later partitioned by sliding doors into two rooms. There was fairly large attendance through all the years at Rocky Point. The first four grades were taught in one room, the remainder of the grades, including 9th, were taught in the other room.

Many pie socials, contests and programs were held throughout the years. The sliding doors were opened to one large room to accommodate the large crowds.

Some of the early teachers were John Martin Aker, Mrs. Tracy, Katherine Scott, Nell Cockriel, Nick Conner, Cleora Cole, Amelia Stevenson, Ethel Ingram, Wylie Ecton, Maude Endecott, Alma McGee, Vernon Endecott, Iva Hamilton, Viola Spicer, Nannie Crow, Ruth Martin, Julia Mae Hill, Nova Bainbridge, Alta Ford, Ottie Miller, Thelma Hon, Dorothy Hendrix, Opal Winn, Minnie Margaret Arthur.

There have been many men who have served on the board as directors, some of whom were Lee Aker, John Purdy, George Breckenridge, D.P. Bainbridge, Nelse Olsen, Jim McGee, Walter Wright, D.P. Miller, Will Rice, Ed Scott, Herbert Aul, Walter Hamilton, Barton Miller, Claude Porter, Arthur Matthews, Henry Miller, Virgil Bainbridge, and C.O. Neth. Several years after closing the school, the tuition was paid by the district and their own children were transported to Smithville. In 1958 Rocky Point was voted into Smithville District No. 27.