

ESTILL COUNTY'S CEDAR GROVE - A Kentucky Community and Its People

The following is the 15th in a series of articles about the community of Cedar Grove and the west-central part of Estill County that have been compiled by Jerry G. Rose and are from information included in his book, "ESTILL COUNTY'S CEDAR GROVE - A Kentucky Community and Its People"

by JERRY G. ROSE

Cedar Grove Farms

A dozen or so farms operated for various lengths of time in the Cedar Grove community. Most of these are no longer operational except for grazing land for cattle and for raising hay. In the latter 1800s and through the mid to late 1900s, the farms provided primary incomes for a few of the residents and supplemental incomes for several of the residents.

A portion of the farms were along Clear Creek to the south side of the community bordering the Pea Ridge area. Clear Creek basically flows parallel in a west to east direction. This was bottomland, some of which was "wet" and unsuitable for most crops except grass for hay and grazing for cattle. Certain portions of the upland areas were suitable for vegetable and fruit crops and at times corn.

Additional farms were located in a similar pattern along the north side of the community bordered by the Kentucky River. These contained significant acres of rich bottomland and portions of the uplands were equally as fertile. Large acreages for raising corn and hay and grazing for cattle were available. Also, vegetable and fruit crops were raised from time to time.

Following are brief descriptions of the farms. These are divided based on the two drainage areas. The sketch of the area shows the approximate locations of the farms.

Clear Creek Farms

CC-F1 - The Henderson family farm was located on Stacy Lane on the West Irvine end of Cedar Grove.

CC-F2 - The Kirby/Witt/Wilson farm was located further back from the Henderson family farm.

CC-F3 - The Stacy/White/Congleton farm located upland from the creek at the top of the hillside.

CC-F4 - The Ben Wilcox/Tip Alexander farm occupied a substantial portion of the middle area of Cedar Grove.

CC-F5 - The Wilgus McIntosh farm joined the Alexander farm on the Rice Station end of Cedar Grove.

CC-F6 - The T. J. Wolfenbarger, later Herbert McIntosh, farm was located on primary upland above the

Wilgus McIntosh farm. The McIntosh's raised a variety of farm crops.

CC-F7 - The Chaney family had a small farm.

CC-F8 - The Fred Wolfenbarger family had a small farm.

Kentucky River Farms

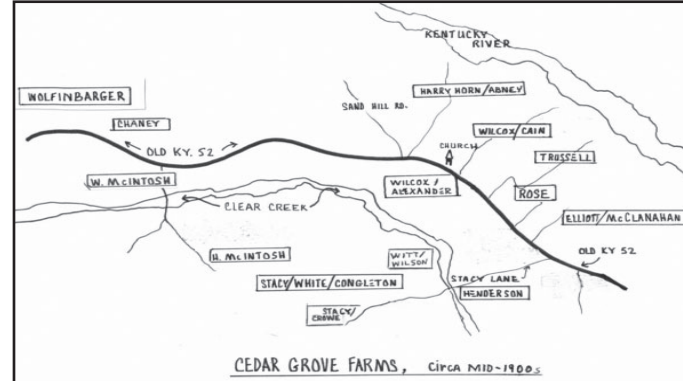
KY-F1 - The John Elliott, later McClanahan, farm was large sized with many acres of rich bottomland. The Auxier family later owned the farm.

KY-F2 - This was known as the Belle Trussell farm. It was a large farm joining the residence. It consisted of a river bottom for growing corn and hay and upland cattle grazing fields. A large barn was located near the residence. Mrs. Trussell normally rented or leased the farm. The Ray Hardy family later owned the farm.

KY-F3 - The original Wilcox farm joined the Trussell farm downriver. This was owned by Grove Cain for many years and later by his widow, Mary Cain.

KY-F4 - The Harry Horn farm joined the Wilcox/Cain farm at the base of Sandhill. It also had ample river bottom land and upland land. The Jessie Abney family later owned the farm.

KY-F5 - Edgar Rose operated a small cattle farm while growing early tomatoes commercially.



The Edgar Rose farm (left) where he raised early tomatoes, cattle, and sometimes tobacco. The Belle Trussell farm (right) behind the house; additional river bottom acreage is beyond the hilly cattle pastures where corn was normally raised.



Typical Clear Creek farm land. This is on the Alexander farm, this was typically used for hay and some cattle grazing. Portions of the land was prone to wet conditions; difficult to raise row crops.



The upland portion of the Wilcox/Grover Cain Farm. This was used for grazing cattle and raising hay. The farm also had considerable river bottom acreage, just beyond the raised area, that was useful for raising corn.



The eastern end of Cedar Grove's Clear Creek bottom land. This end was not as prone to being wet as was the western end. The re-aligned (1970) KY 52 in the foreground.



The Kentucky River bottomland of the McClanahan Farm looking toward West Irvine bottomland farms.

Spanish Club Entertains Scouts

Last Monday afternoon, the Spanish Club invited members from a local girl and boy scout troop to a Halloween party at the high school. This was part of a Big/Little sister and brother program that provides mentorship and guidance to the youths of Estill.



Annual Kiwanis Christmas Parade

The Kiwanis Club of Irvine will again sponsor the annual Christmas Parade but with a new look this year! An evening parade with the theme, "The Wonder of Christmas" will be sure to delight young to old and allow the community to come together. It will be held Friday, December 1 with the parade line-up from 6 to 7 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park in Ravenna. At 7 p.m. the parade will proceed on River Drive to Main Street in Irvine and end at Estill Springs School allowing parade-watchers plenty of viewing opportunities.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be riding in their sleigh. All groups, churches, schools, fire departments, businesses, and organizations are invited to participate by entering a float, band, antique car, or other related parade unit (no

walkers). For safety reasons, no animals, bicycles or unlicensed motorized vehicles will be entered. Parade participants will not be allowed to toss candy or other objects to the crowd in the interest of safety of the community. Candy can be handed out.

Prizes from the Kiwanis Club of Irvine-Ravenna will be awarded for the floats in the amount of \$100, \$75, and \$50 for first, second and third place respectively for the most attractive floats. Floats will be judged on creativity, originality, and beauty (use of lights).

To register entries in the parade contact Larry Stewart at 723-4002 or Richard Snowden at 723-2135, or email thb@irvineonline.net by Wednesday, November 29. There is not an entry fee.

Light Up Rivertown

WHEN: Saturday, November 18th, 2017

***SET UP:** 8 am

***SHOPPING HOURS:** 9 am – 5 pm

WHERE: Estill County Courthouse

WHAT: Come join us at Light Up Rivertown on November 18th at the Estill County Courthouse for crafts, food and more!

If you or someone you know would be interested in setting up a booth, please contact Paula Short at Paula.Short@estill.kyschools.us or call (606) 723-3537 and ask for Paula Short.