

The Burnt District Players

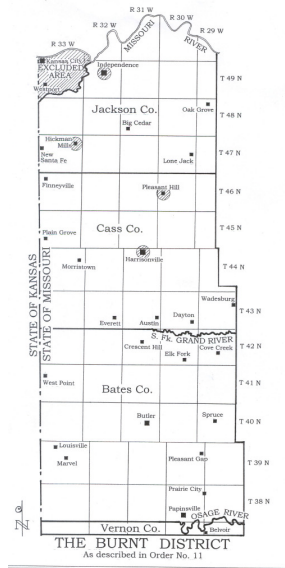
Members of the Missouri/Kansas Border War Network are developing a series of first-person presentations and plays to dramatize the experiences of citizens caught in the cross fires of Civil War in the border area. They have performed in Lecompton, KS, at the Kansas Sampler, and in Harrisonville. If you are interested in booking individuals or the group, call 816-380-4396 or email cchsmo@gmail.com

Peggy Buhr - lives in Adrian, Bates County and works as marketing director for the Bates County Museum in Butler.

Jackie Polsgrove-Roberts - lives in Harrisonville and is the genealogist in the Cass County Genealogy Library at 400 E. Mechanic. She is the author of the book *The Burning of Dayton, Missouri*

Diane Magness - lives in rural Cass County and is a research assistant with the Cass County Historical Society in Harrisonville. She is working on several books about the Younger family.

Carol Bohl - lives in Harrisonville, is the Executive Director of the Cass County Historical Society and President of the Border War Network.



Burnt District Monument, Harrisonville MO

What We Saw of Order #11

Women of the Burnt District Tell Their Stories

Sunday, October 17, 2010

2:00 p.m.

Carthage, Missouri

Produced by
The Burnt District Players



Missouri/Kansas Border War Network

For more information about the Civil War on the Missouri/Kansas Border, visit our website and the sites of our members. Listen to the podcasts from over 40 authors, historians, and events.

www.moksbwn.net

Also watch videos of site tours, period music and dancing along with events at our YouTube site: www.YouTube.moksbwn

And follow us on Facebook at : Missouri Kansas Border War Network

Stories

Martha Jane Rice Tate (1836 - 1870)

Widowed by execution of her husband Sept. 6, 1863

Her letter read by Carol Bohl

Mary Jane Gillenwaters Brown (1819 - 1890)

Wife of R. A. Brown, lost a son in the war, moved to Harrisonville during Order #11 Portrayed by Diane Magness

Asenath Vaill Barrows (1822—1908)

A Bates County widow who cared for eight children during the war

Portrayed by Peggy Buhr

Harriet Louise Gregg-Young (1818 - 1909)

Pres. Harry Truman's maternal grandmother

Portrayed by Jackie Polsgrove-Roberts

Bursheba Leighton Fristoe Younger (1816 - 1870)

Mother of Cole, James, John & Robert, widow of H. W. Younger

Portrayed by Carol Bohl

Frances Fristoe Twyman (1829 - 1909)

Wife of Lyddal Twyman of Blue Mills. Spent exile in Howard & Clay Counties. Portrayed by Diane Magness

Harriet Newton Noland (1828 - 1917)

Independence, Missouri resident who flees to Saline County

Portrayed by Jackie Polsgrove-Roberts

Prudence Miller Woodfin (1848 - 1936)

Her father, a classics scholar, died in a Federal prison; brother Henry died at Lone Jack Portrayed by Peggy Buhr

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Background

Following Quantrill's Aug. 21, 1863 raid on Lawrence, KS, Brigadier General Thomas Ewing, in command of the District of the Border, issued Order Number 11 on Aug. 25, 1863.

General Ewing's order mandated the evacuation of the entire civilian population of his district with the exception of a few specifically identified urban areas where those of proven loyalty could remain. The order allowed only 15 days for complete evacuation. The objective of this extreme measure was to create a neutral zone to reduce the violence and bloodshed.

Under a sweltering September sun and clouds of dust, most residents of Jackson, Cass and Bates County began a march to safe havens. At this point many of the men were away fighting, so the roads were filled mostly with women, children, and old men. The good horses, wagons, and buggies had been stolen by Kansas redlegs and jayhawkers, Federal soldiers or southern bushwhackers by this time. As a result most walked or led small oxen-pulled wagons.

Order No. 11 resulted in the leveling of 2,200 square miles, the burning of at least 2,000 homes, and the murder of countless men. Eight women will tell what they saw of Order Number 11.

“Order No. 11 became one of the most amazingly overlooked incidents of the Civil War and all of American history.”

Punitive War. Clay Mountcastle. Univ. Press of KS, 2009.

Order No.11

"All persons..are hereby ordered to remove from their present places of residence within fifteen days"

Brig. General Thomas Ewing