Information Sheet

R Howell County Historical Society (Mo).


Sixteen folders.

MICROFILM

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are data forms, church histories, miscellaneous papers, and photographs collected by the Committee On Church History of the Howell County Historical Society. The papers include information on churches at Hocomo, Mountain View, Pomona, South Fork, West Plains, White Church, and Willow Springs. Non-denominational “Union” churches are also included.

The Howell County Historical Society formed the Committee On Church History in July 1968. It was to compile an authentic record of the churches and religious life of Howell County from the time of the earliest white settlers. The committee consisted of the Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Galloway, the Rev. D. J. King, Mrs. Ella Horak, and Mrs. Jack (Lena) Cooper.

The members began their work in October 1968. A card file and master list of churches in Howell County were created and a standardized data sheet was devised. The forms were mailed to church officials, members, or ministers, or to local informants in the cases of inactive churches. The data sheets contained twelve categories for responses in statement, list, or questionnaire formats. The categories include the dates of organization, acquisition of property and improvements, the names of founders and former ministers, the types of church programs supported, participation in the work of any other local, regional or national organizations, and the number of members when the data were submitted.

Eighty-seven churches ultimately responded to the survey or are represented by some type of material on file. Most of the information was collected during the committee’s active work, 1968-1971, but some churches submitted updated material as late as 1984. Most of the churches are represented by only the data sheets, which vary in the amount of information completed. Wider ecclesiastical affiliations are not always specified. Some churches submitted histories, directories, or other printed materials, and a few included photographs for the files.

Committee members Rev. Douglas Galloway and Mrs. Ella Horak contributed greatly to the survey from their original research. The Rev. Galloway’s History of the First Congregational Methodist Churches in Howell County (1970) is included in the files for Methodist churches. Ella Horak of Willow Springs wrote brief histories and provided photographs for many of the Baptist churches in that area. She continued to deposit information through 1975.

The church survey papers were stored at first in the vault of the Howell County Collector at the courthouse in West Plains. In 1974, the materials were transferred to the West Plains Public Library. The files are arranged according to denomination, thence by the various communities in which they were located. The data sheet begins each file, followed by additional materials arranged in chronological order.

r453 9 August 1989 West Plains Public Library Loaned for microfilming
Shelf List

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- Amish community near Mountain View, 1970
- Assembly of God, Pomona, 1971
- Assembly of God, West Plains, 1968
- Assembly of God, Willow Springs, 1968

Folder 3: Baptist churches (affiliation otherwise unspecified), ca. 1893-1973.
- Howell County Baptist Association, minutes, 1936
- Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Hutton Valley, ca. 1893-1969
- Center Grove Baptist Church, Moody, 1969
- Immanuel Baptist Church, Pomona, 1968
- Bible Baptist Church, West Plains, 1970-1973

Folder 4: Baptist churches (Freewill and General), 1968-1971.
- First Freewill Baptist Church of West Plains, 1971
- Burnham General Baptist Church, 1971
- General Baptist Church, Cureall, 1971
- Dry Creek Baptist Church, Dry Creek, 1971
- Little Vine Association of General Baptists, minutes, 1970
- First General Baptist Church, West Plains, 1968
- Greenwood Baptist Church near West Plains, 1968
- Union Grove Church near West Plains, 1968
- First General Baptist Church of Willow Springs, 1968

Folder 5: Baptist churches (Missionary and Regular Primitive), 1908-1971.
- Union Baptist Association, minutes, 1908
- Union Chapel Baptist Church, Amy, 1969
- Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Pomona, 1971
- Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, West Plains, 1968
- Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church, Willow Springs, 1970
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- Berean Baptist Church, Berean, 1968
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Folder 11: Episcopal/Latter Day Saints churches, 1963-1971
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Folder 12: Methodist churches (Congregational), 1968-1971
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Folder 13: Methodist churches (United), ca. 1890-1969.
Forest Dell Church (formerly Ebenezer Church) near Mountain View, 1969
United Methodist Church, Mountain View, 1971
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Folder 16: Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and Union/Community churches, 1968-1971.
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