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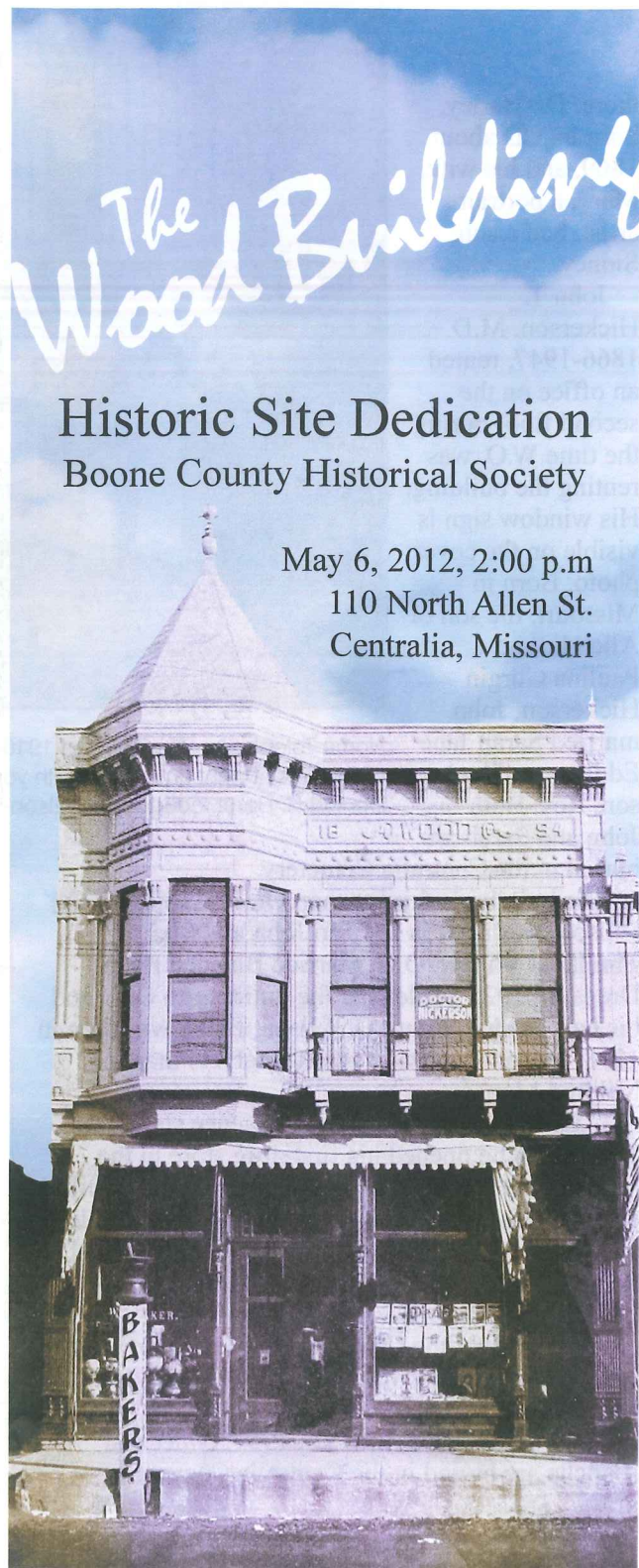
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Nomination submitted by Mary Helen Catlett Allen, Columbia Missouri assisted by Marjorie Motley, Centralia, Missouri

RESOURCES :

From *The Centralia Wizard: The Chance Company Story*, Volume I, 1996 thru 1936 by Donald R. Darst, 2007. Used with permission of the Donning Company Publishers.
Deeds and Abstracts from Boone County Missouri Government Center.
The History of Centralia, Missouri by Edgar T. Rodemyre, 1936
Missouri Census.

Cover photo: "W. O. Baker Drugs and Stationery" source: *Pictorial Centralia* by the *Centralia Courier*, January 1, 1906, Centralia Public Library



CENTRALIA DEDICATION PROGRAM
Welcome and opening remarks– Ray Beck, President of the Boone County Historical Society, and Jenifer Flink, Executive Director

Introduction of the Historic Sites Committee and special guests– Mayor Tim Grenke, City Manager Lynn P. Behrns,

Roscoe and Mary Kinkead and family, Frank C. Wilson

grandchildren: Steven W. Wilson, Cindy Plagge, Diana Sykes. W. O. Baker great-granddaughter Terri McClain

History of the Wood Building

Mary Helen Catlett Allen, Historic Sites Committee

Presentation of Historic Marker

Carolyn Doyle, Chair BCHS Historic Sites Committee, to Roscoe and Mary Kinkead

Closing remarks

Reception following, at Chance Museum, 319 East Sneed Street. Refreshments provided by the museum board

HISTORY

"The town of Centralia was laid out in February of 1857 by a company of Hon. J.S. Rollins, Thomas January, Col. Middleton, G. Singleton and others." Col. Middleton is listed on the abstract of this property on May 15, 1857. George W. Kimbrough, sold the property to James D. Wyatt, 1875.

Joseph E. Wood bought the downtown Allen Street property from Bettie E. Wyatt, guardian of Rowena Wyatt, minor in 1893. Bettie was the widow of James D. Wyatt.



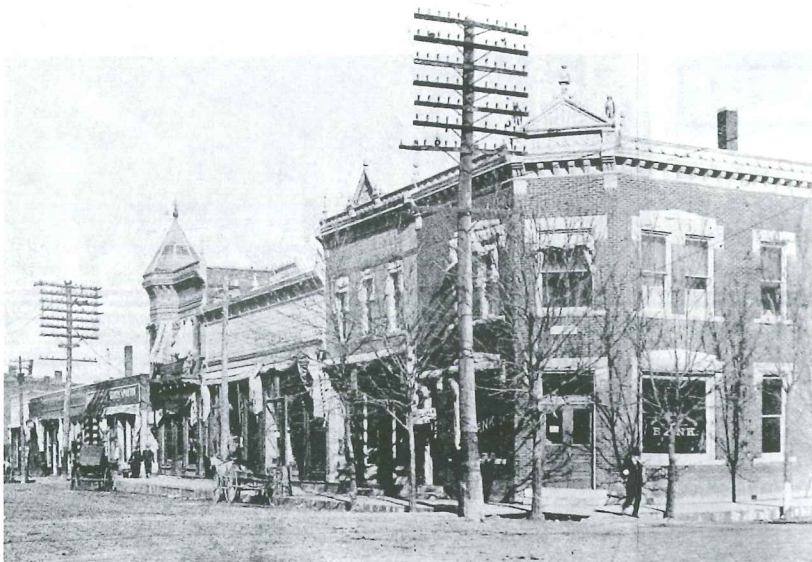
(Above, right) Interior about 1917. Omer Gaines Wilson is at left. Right is Mary Lamm. The other two are unidentified. Notice the child-size table and ice cream chairs at center.
(Below, left) About 1937, Mrs. Billie Adams is at left, Frank Wilson, center; Grace Lepper and Florence Fountain behind counter.



Wood was born on March 2, 1849, son of John Wood and Sylvia R. Whitaker in West Lebanon, Grafton, County, New Hampshire. According to the census of 1870, at the age of 21 years, he is listed as single, as a clerk in a store.

In 1880 census, he was married to Mary L. Wood. Also living with Joseph in 1880 was his father, John, age 81, as a widower. Joseph is working as a "Wholesale Trading Agent for Hanke Notions. On February 27, 1892, Joseph married Mrs. Gertrude (Hawkins) Finlay in Boone County, Missouri. Joseph had a stepdaughter, Florence "Flossie" as Gertrude had a daughter listed in the 1900 St. Louis, Missouri, Ward 25 census.

The "Wood" building was completed in 1894. Wood sold the property in 1899 to Charles W. Settle and James O. Tinsley. Wood and his wife moved on to St. Louis, where he is listed in the 1900 census as a "Liquor salesman." The couple then moved on to



(Top) Street view about 1905-06 from "Pictorial Centralia" 1906, Centralia Public Library. The building on the corner was Farmers and Merchants' Bank. (Bottom) The corner in 2009, Jack Allen photo.



Jefferson, Monroe County, and Joseph was listed in the census there in 1910 and 1920 as a druggist. In the 1930 census Joseph is listed at the St. Louis, Missouri Masonic Hospital. He died there on August 1, 1933. His wife, Gertrude died in the same Masonic Home in 1946. Joseph and Gertrude are both buried in the Valhalla Cemetery in St. Louis.

Settle was listed as Secretary Treasurer of the Farmers & merchants Bank in 1905. James Tinsley and wife, Helen, sold out to Settle in 1906. Settle

(chicken and bug remedies) in Waterloo, IA. Centralia served as a branch location. W.O. served as the treasurer for this company. Soon after, "Mr. Baker, we understand, is working in the John N. Taylor establishment in Moberly at present, although his residence and family are still in Centralia." Baker was living in Kansas in 1930 and died in a car accident there in 1932.

Dr. Stanley Harley, a dentist, had an office on the second floor when the telephone office was located

was part owner of the "Home Telephone Company" in 1926 with J.A. and A.B. Chance along with W. S. McBride. Settle served as Secretary-Treasurer of the telephone company.

RENTERS :

"Doctor" William Oscar (W. O.) Baker, a druggist, son of Joseph L. and Sarah Jane Sutliff Baker, rented the "Wood" building around 1900-1910. There is no evidence that he ever owned the building, even though many people called it the "Baker Building." Baker was born in Randolph County, MO on May 14, 1878. W. O. married Lida Jane Taylor from Columbia. He closed out his business at this location in 1917, after a fire that started in the "Home Telephone Office" on the second floor. Around 1920, he became involved with the Baker-Lake Chemical Company

there. Dr. Harley, born in MD about 1869, and his wife, Mary, a portrait artist, had a son, Sidney.

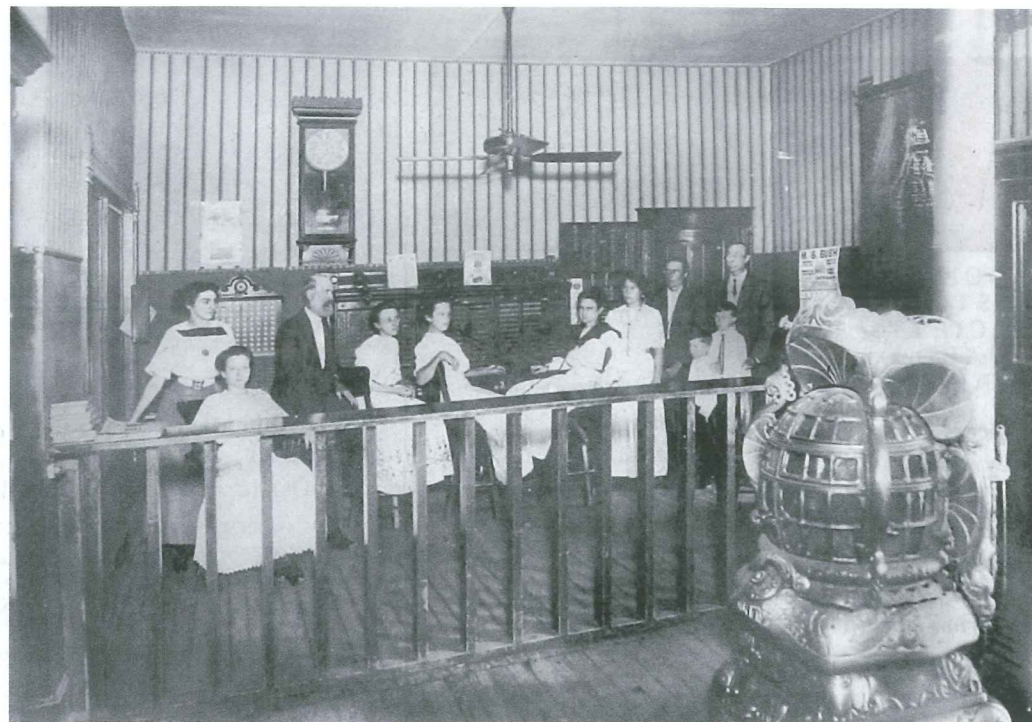
John T. Hickerson, M.D. 1866-1947, rented an office on the second floor during the time W.O. was renting the building. His window sign is visible on the cover photo. Born in Missouri, the son of Allen E. and Paulina Gurgin Hickerson, John married Sarah Jane Eddings and had a son, Roy. Both John and Sarah are buried in the Centralia Cemetery.

The building's third owner, Omer Gaines (O.G.) Wilson, was born in 1877 to John and Sue Threlkeld Wilson. O.G. married Blanche Bush Dreps. In 1925 Settle sold the building to O.G. and his half brother, Frank C. Wilson. Frank was born in 1898. His mother was Sallie Carter. He married Mildred Munson.

O.G. Wilson's pharmacy experience started in 1897 when he opened his first drug store in the now-extinct town of Victor, located about ten miles east of Paris. In May of 1901 he came to Centralia and went to work for R. B. Hulen. Wilson moved into the "Wood Building" in 1917, after the telephone office fire.

Frank bought the Centralia business from Omer in 1940. Omer then worked for Frank from 1947 until 1955.

O.G. Wilson died April 15, 1959. Omer and Blanche are buried in the Centralia Cemetery.



Home Telephone office around 1910. John Chance is on the left (under clock) and A. B. Chance is at right (in corner) with young sons Buford and Gano. From *The Centralia Wizard*, Donald R. Darst, courtesy of Wilson-Wulff library

In January of 1955 Roscoe Kinkead became a partner with Frank Wilson. Roscoe worked after school at the drugstore throughout high school and in the summer time. After attending St. Louis College of Pharmacy and serving in the military he returned to Centralia and married Mary Catherine Bradley on May 20, 1956. On June 1, 1973, Roscoe purchased the remaining half of the store from Frank Wilson and changed the name to Kinkead Pharmacy. After the death of Frank Wilson, Roscoe purchased the building on April 1, 1977, from Mildred Wilson, Frank's widow.

The Kinkeads joined as partners with their son, Mike and his wife, Wendy in 1988 and moved their pharmacy to the former Gladney's Hardware in 1989. In November of 2004, the Kinkeads moved to their present location at 105 N. Allen Street. The Kinkeads still retain ownership of the "Wood Building."