

Bushwhackers Kill Calloway Manes

The Calloway Manes home is significant as one of the oldest residences in Pulaski County, one of the first farm houses near the town of Richland, Mo., and the home of one of the county's earliest settlers and preachers. It is also a good example of the durability and practicality of a home built well before the Civil War that has remained functional and lived in to this day.

The alleged murder of its builder and legends of his hidden gold lend intriguing history to the stately southern style home.

Pulaski County historian and author, Mable (Manes) Mottaz, herself a descendent of the Seth Manes II, family has tried to preserve the story of her ancestors. According to Mrs. Mottaz, Calloway and his brother Seth Manes II both farmers and Baptist preachers, left Tennessee in the 1830's and after they "stopped for a time" in Indiana they finally settled in Pulaski County in time to be included in the 1840 census. They are credited with organizing at least three Baptist churches in the area, the Old Friendship Church, in the Fort Leonard Wood area; Swedeborg Missionary Baptist Church and the Eureka Baptist Church.

In 1840 Calloway laid the foundation for the house and staked off his farm

adjacent to Seth's farm. Together they built their homes and developed their farms. "Things went along beautifully for both of them for the next twenty years and each raised a big family," writes Mrs. Mottaz.

Just after the Civil War broke out, however, "bushwhackers" who disagreed with Calloway's preachings and reputed support of the Union, rode up to the house one night and shot the farmer-preacher as he stood in the front doorway. According to Mrs. Mottaz the details of that night of terror were written down in a letter from Samuel Jaspas Manes, Calloway's half brother, to Jesse Gustin.

Another account of the shooting was penned by May Gan Cox, who wrote that Calloway disregarded a warning not to preach anymore and "... next night came a knock on the door and when he answered was shot down by bushwhackers and commanded his two daughters to hold candles while they shot him again."

The original abstract of the property was recently found by Raymond Powers and his sons, Jerry and Jay, while cleaning out the old chicken house. It states that in 1870 the estate was legally settled after "Calloway H. Manes died or was killed."

The 1850 census reveals

that at that time both Calloway and Seth II had nine children. Many of those descendants became ministers, lawyers, teachers, and politicians who played significant roles in the histories of both Pulaski and Laclede Counties.

Ownership of the house

has changed hands several times since the Manes family settled on the land. Families that have lived there include the Bohannons, Shaftoes, Murphys, Kanzigs, Wrinkles, Brownings and the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Powers, who still farm the land.

Another story that is known to those involved with the house and the remaining descendants of the Manes family tells of Calloway hiding or burying either bars of gold or jars of money shortly before his death. One account relates that Calloway's "daughter saw him going to the barn

to hide or bury some money before she was ordered to go back in the house."

Because of its historical significance and on the recommendation of the Pulaski County Historical Society, the house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

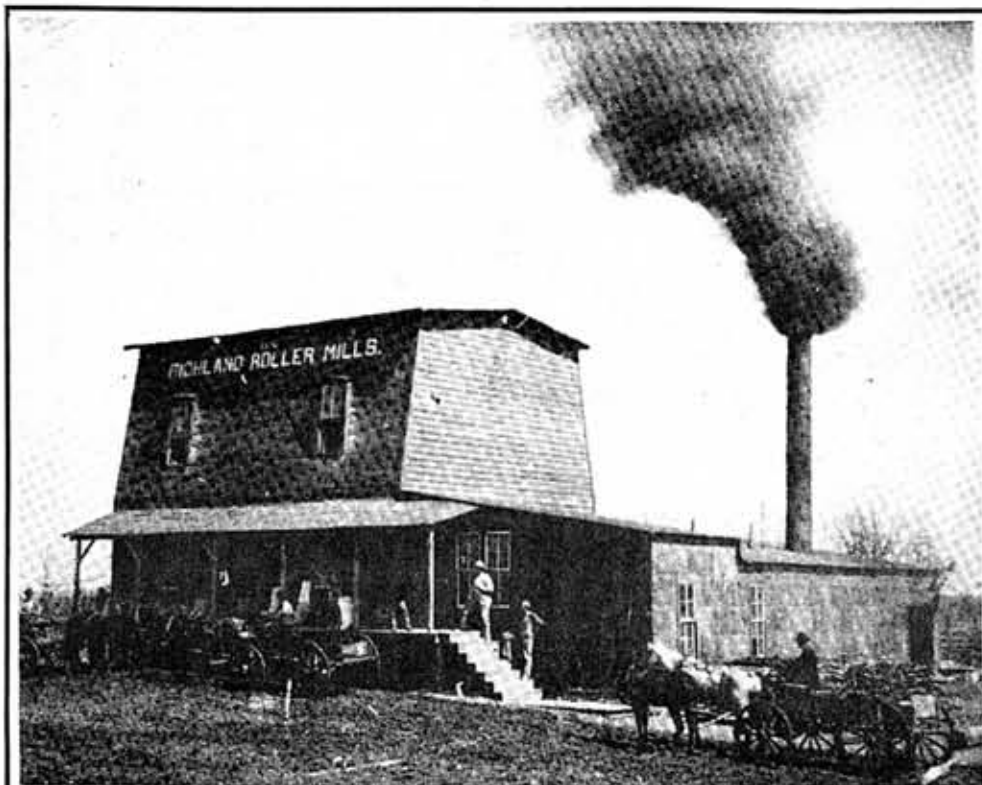


The Calloway Manes home is 143 years old. It was built near Richland in 1840.

Facts and Tidbits

1864. Bushwhackers killed Miles Carroll at his home, six and a half mile from Crocker. He was buried at Madden Cemetery, the first to be buried there.

June 13, 1903. The Pulaski County Court House, Waynesville, burned at 3 a.m. Cause blaze unknown, but reported "no clouds in the sky for lightning."



Students of Richland's early history will remember this scene of the Richland Roller Mills, which was built in 1891, located just across the railroad tracks from the old depot on McClurg Street. The mill was owned and operated by A.A. Parsons and Bill Parsons, brothers of M.B. Parsons, Richland.



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