

DONALD COMMUNITY RECOGNIZED BY COUNTY ARCHIVES

Putnam County, TN

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, 20 November 2016, A-9

In their search for “almost forgotten crossroads” of Putnam County Archives has been collecting information from local residents about the Donald Community.

The unincorporated community of Donald is located at the intersection of Hopewell Road and Mill Pond Lane.

These roads were formerly known as Young Hollow Road and Little Indian Creek Road. The Donald Community had a post office, a dry goods store, a blacksmith shop, and a watermill.

The Maddux Cemetery is located on the Wanda Shanks farm in the Donald Community. Maddux Chapel Church was located up Young Hollow Rd. In 1912 the Sunday School teachers were Virgil Timothy Denny, Dona Florence (Boyd) Shanks, and Robert Maxwell.

The Donald Post Office opened at this intersection on September 19, 1902, and closed April 29, 1905, when mail service was Moved to Silver Point. The building was built for a post office and a dry goods store by Robert Lemuel “Lem” Maddux and his wife, Lassie (McDonald) Maddux. They lived in the back rooms and were going to build a residence later but never did. They continued to live in the building after the post office closed and were living there when Lem died in 1919.

In notes, Lem’s son, Enon, states that his uncle in California insisted that the family move there. In 1923, the crops were harvested and sold, along with the farm animals; the house-hold goods and farm equipment were auctioned.

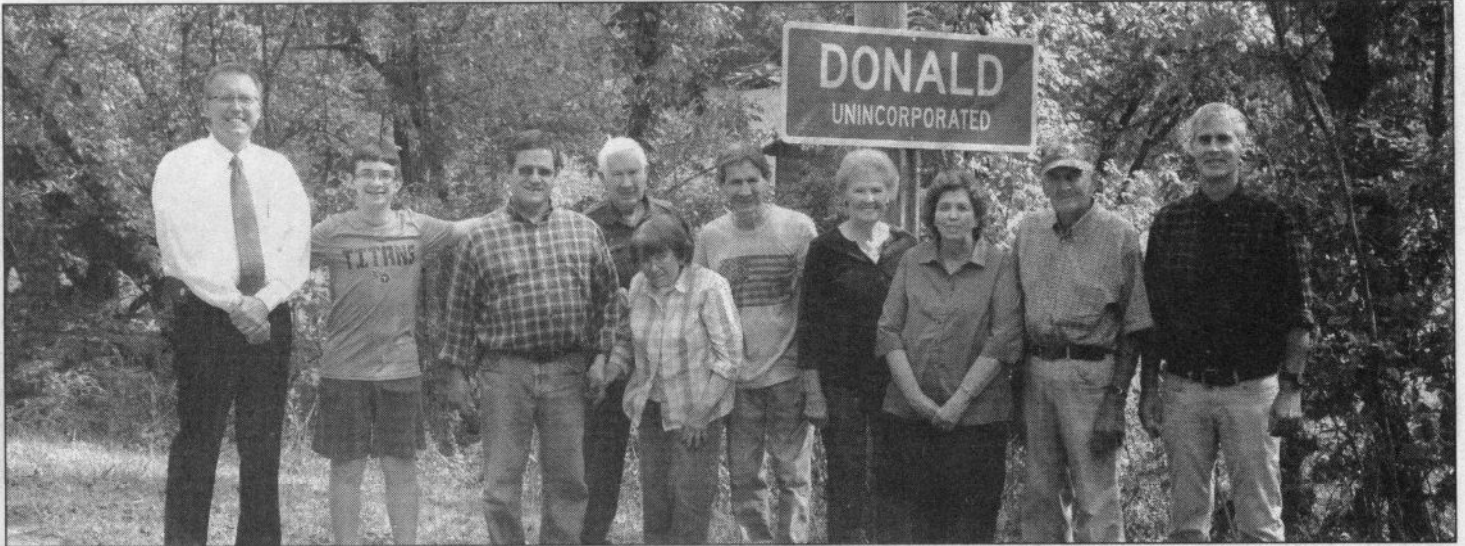
The house was sold to P. Y. Jared. Enon’s mother and brother rode the train to her brother’s in Murfreesboro; Enon rode his horse there. After resting a few days, they rode the train to California.

Miriam (Shanks) Gwaltney states in her notes that the post office building was torn down in 2009. The land now belongs to Ted and Carolyn (Shanks) Huddleston, who donated the Donald Community signs.

If anyone has information regarding the Donald Community or any other unincorporated community, visit the Putnam County Archives at 121 B South Dixie Ave., or call (931) 520-0042.

(See pictures next page)

*Read more about Forgotten Crossroads at: <http://www/ajlambert.com>



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Standing at the sign to mark the Donald Community are, from left, Randy Porter, Jared Herren, Donald Huddleston, Ted Huddleston, Carolyn Huddleston, Gary Huddleston, Wanda Shanks, Carol Bradford, Robert Shanks and Glenn Jones.



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Standing at the site of the Donald Post Office are, from left, Randy Porter, Oval Herren, Jared Herren, Donald Huddleston, Ted Huddleston, Carolyn Huddleston, Gary Huddleston, Wanda Shanks, Carol Bradford, Robert Shanks and Glenn Jones.