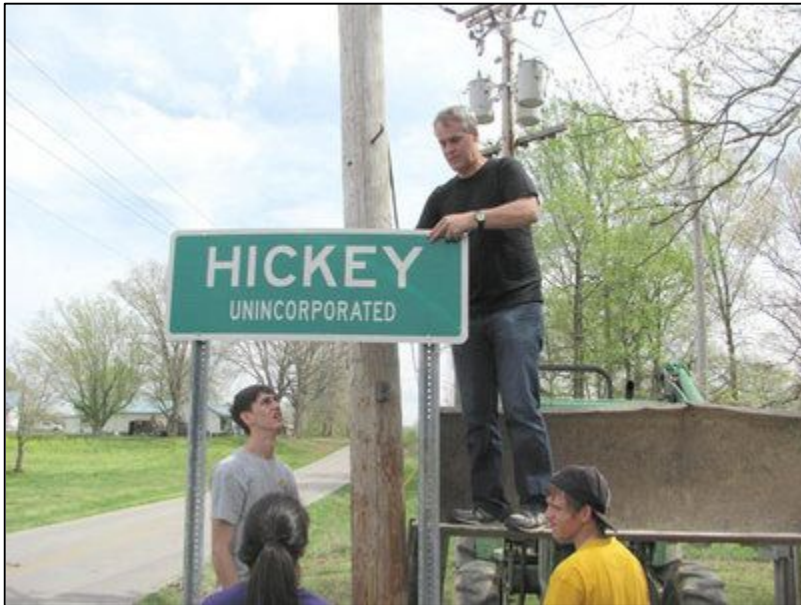


ALMOST FORGOTTEN CROSSROADS: HICKEY COMMUNITY

by Megan Trotter

Putnam County Archivist Glenn Jones erects a sign for the Hickey community with help from TTU student volunteers and community service workers.



PUTNAM COUNTY -- The Hickey community is located in southwest Putnam County on Old Baxter Road between Roberts Switch and Silver Point. The main intersection is at Carr's Chapel Road and Old Baxter Road. The community is named for the Hickey family who were among the early settlers to the area. Elijah Hickey is the earliest known Hickey family in the area, showing up in

the mid to late 1800 censuses.

Hickey's community buildings consisted of general stores, churches and an elementary school. It never had a post office or a railroad stop although the railroad runs through the area.

The first church was built by the Methodists in the early 1900s. Matthew "Mash" Carr and his wife, Verney Lou (Wallace) deeded land in 1909 for the purposes of establishing a church. The church trustees were J. L. Wallace, James Carr, Byrd Carr, C. (probably Cornelius) Lee, and S. Bussell. The church was known as Carr's Chapel.

After the church was established, some also began calling the community Carr's Chapel while many continued to refer to the community as Hickey. The church ceased operation in the 1960s and the property has since been sold to private individuals. The Charismatics have also had a church at Hickey off and on for several years. Currently the Christ Apostolic Faith Church fills this role.

Many individuals ran general stores at Hickey over the years. The last general store operated in the old elementary school building with T.C. Huddleston as proprietor.

The exact date of the establishment of the elementary school is unknown but early 1900 deeds refer to the Hickey schoolhouse. Some later deeds call it the Carr's Chapel schoolhouse, again reflecting the influence of the Carr's Chapel church being built in the community.

Although there are no Hickey descendants in the area now, their name lives on in the name of the community their forefathers helped establish.

May we remember and be proud of the work of all the pioneer families that established our communities. Their hard work provided us with the opportunity for a more prosperous life today.

If you are interested in having signs posted for your community, contact Glen Jones at the Putnam County Archives office at 520-0042.

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*Read more about the History of Putnam Co., TN at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>