

## **FORGOTTEN CROSSROADS: SAINT LUKE COMMUNITY**

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**PUTNAM COUNTY** – In their search for “almost forgotten crossroads” of Putnam County, the Putnam County Archives has been collecting information from local residents about the Saint Luke community. Saint Luke is located in the valley just down Martin’s Creek from Bloomington Springs.

Little is known about this community today. A post office was located near the intersection of Martin’s Creek Road and Carrington Road. In 1892, the Saint Luke area was in Jackson County, and the post office continued there until 1899, when the county lines moved and that area became Putnam County.

James G. Jackson was postmaster between 1988-1900, and the last postmaster was Lum M. Goolsby. Goolsby delivered mail out of his general store from 1904 until 1909, when the mail service was moved to Bloomington Springs.

On June 29, 1928, a major flood hit the community and the raging waters carried off the home of a man named Lee Lock.

“Mr. Lock searched for his wife and son,” Glenn Jones, Putnam County archivist, said. “the next day he found his son buried in a sandbar with his hand sticking up, and his wife was found in a drift.”

Funds to purchase the signs to mark the old community of Saint Luke were donated by James McHenry, Morgan McHenry and Billy Lewis.

“Saint Luke does not exist on a map, but we knew a post office existed in Jackson County – and later Putnam County- named Saint Luke from the federal post office records,” Jones said.

“These gentlemen (who donated for the Saint Luke sign) read articles in the Herald Citizen about lost communities, and they wanted to make sure their community of Saint Luke, where they were born and raised, was marked for posterity.”

Those who would like to share more information on the history of the Saint Luke community or any other local “forgotten” community, or to donate the funds for other unincorporated communities in Putnam County can visit the Putnam County Archives at 121 B. S. Dixie Ave. or call (931) 520-0042.

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

**Saint Luke Post Office (historical)** is classified as a **Post Office** in **Putnam County, Tennessee**.

Feature Name: Saint Luke Post Office (historical)

Feature Type: Post Office

County: Putnam

Primary State: Tennessee

Latitude: 44.460 North

Longitude: -110.798 West

Elevation: Feet above MSL  
( Meters)



Pictured celebrating the sign marking the St. Luke community are, in front, from left, Billy Lewis, Jimmy Rodgers, Dorothy Long, Shirley Long, Winnie Jackson, Willene Goolsby, James West, Joyce Walker West, Ruby McHenry, Lynn Allen, Bernice Long, Helen Bates, Betty Stark, Carol Bradford, Sue Neal, Lacy McDonald, Ron Williamson, James E. Maddox, and Kim Phann.

In back: Glenn Jones, John Ludwig, Bruce Lewis, Clayton Long, Morgan McHenry, Marston Rodgers, James McHenry, Bennie Skimmiehorn, Richard Vaughn, Ernest Sadler, Johnny Bates, Larry Goolsby, Guy Goolsby, Laryssa Waller, Robert Sadler, Bailey Goolsby and Brownie Vantrese.

Photo by Ty Kernea.