The town of Iberia was incorporated as a city in 1875. The first town board consisted of Mr. Frank Lombar, a merchant; George Johnson, a blacksmith; Isaiah Latchem, an attorney; Dr. Jesse B. Smith, and James S. Martin. Other men instrumental in getting the city incorporated were Dr. John H. Moore, Dr. S.P. Hickman, Felix B. Gardner, who owned a hack line; Joseph and John Humes who were blacksmiths in the Iberia area.

In the following section I will try to record some of Iberia’s former businesses and professions that have existed in the past 120 years. I suppose the first business for any pioneer area was a trading post and Iberia’s first one was called the Lenox Trading Post which I have mentioned earlier. Its livelihood was short lived for it was destroyed during the Civil War and was never rebuilt. The Blacksmith was an important and popular man to the population and as a rule, he generally served as a liveryman and wagon maker as well. Samuel Caulk was one of Iberia’s earliest residents although he actually lived about 1½ mile southeast of town on land that is owned today by Robert Perkins. He purchased 80 acres of prime land from Cornelius and Malinda Bilyeu in 1852. He was a blacksmith by profession and he set up his livery and blacksmith shop under trees that stood on the north corner of St. Louis and Main Streets which is the exact spot where Iberia’s City Hall stands.
today. It later passed into the hands of Thomas Garner and he sold it later on to J.S. Casey. Mr. Casey sold the lot to the new Bank of Iberia in 1899 when they established Iberia’s first bank in that year.

Other blacksmiths who have lived and worked in Iberia are John and Joe Humes, James Smith, J.C. Thompson, Rector Thompson, J.D. Rowden, George Johnson, Franklin Roark, James R. Sloan and John Hayes, a Negro.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/090420.html

Other businesses in Mary’s Home around this time included a lime kiln, a copper shop, a wagon shop, a blacksmith, and a doctor’s office.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/090323.html

After Dad’s trek out west, he worked for Henry Carroll who had a blacksmith shop in Iberia, Missouri. Dad stayed in their home while he worked there learning to work with iron and how to shoe horses.

MEMORIES OF DAD
I’m sure that many people, as they get older, realize things about their parents that they did not appreciate when they were growing up. It is that way for me. I now can see how talented my father was and how he tried to pass on the correct way to live to his children.

First, let me talk about his talents. As a young man he grew up on a farm, raised by his grandparents, since both his parents had died when he was very young. I’m sure this caused him to mature rapidly and miss much of childhood, as we know it today. When he was a late teen-ager he went to St. Louis to work. One of his jobs was as a streetcar conductor. In his early twenties, he learned the blacksmith business, working in Henry Carroll’s shop in Iberia. After marriage in 1911, he mainly was a farmer. During this period up through the 1930’s, he moved his family several times to various farms in Miller and Maries Counties. In one move, he got away from farming and bought a general store at Frank’s Switch, near Dixon, Mo.

Over the years he also became an accomplished carpenter. This skill, I’m sure was largely self taught and as blacksmithing, was a necessity as a farmer. From the early memories that I have of the 1930’s, I now realize how talented he was. His carpentry skills are most evident. On the Lurton Farm, he built a large barn around 1931 and this structure is still being used today.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/070728.html
Also volunteering Wednesday was RoseAnn Sewell. Her grandfather, Bird Kelsay, was a blacksmith years ago in Tuscumbia. In times past, Tuscumbia usually had more than one blacksmith and had at least one blacksmith up until my early twenties who was Elmer Flaugher. RoseAnn said that Bird's blacksmith building was located across the road from the where the old bank is now, overlooking Shut In Branch creek.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/stanthy.html

When everything was going well, ‘Uncle John’ thought the town needed a blacksmith shop. There was one up at St. Elizabeth run by an old gent named John Luckenotto. He had a son named Alfonse who was a blacksmith. ‘Uncle John’ made a deal with Mr. Luckenotto and same as give him the land and he built a small shop where the Fred Wieberg home is today. Mr. Luckenotte was killed in a car accident (this was the son, Alfonse) and John Luckenotto took over the house and he and his wife lived there till they died...the town had a blacksmith shop again.

Back in World War I, the Army used a lot of horses and mules. There were several families named Dake living east
of St. Anthony at that time. One of the young lads was named Everett Dake and he entered the Army. The Army made a horse-shoer out of him. When he was discharged, he came home and John got in touch with him. Mr. Dake came to St. Anthony and ‘Uncle John’ sold him the land and shop and some land close where Lambert lives. Everett Dake built a 2-room house on it and opened a blacksmith shop. That is where his son was born (Woodrow Dake). Mr. Dake was a strong Democrat and a strong supporter of president Woodrow Wilson, and he named his son after him.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/commerce/hotels.htm

Frederick Joseph Wilde was an early resident of Charlestown/St. Elizabeth after the town came into existence about 1882. He was a blacksmith by trade and built a blacksmith shop at Charlestown as well as a new house, one of the first in the new community. The best I can determine they lived just south of the cemetery and his neighbors were Henry Box/Bax, Rev. Christopher Putz, Bernard Hake, Fritz Oligschlaeger, Henry Doerhoff, Henry Boedecker, J. R. Whalen, and Wesley Rhoades (according to the 1900 census).
Shepard Bourne/Bowin was born on 7 December 1870 at Hawkeye, Pulaski County, Missouri, in the heart of the Ozarks. His parents were William Lankford Bourne and his wife Elmira Shelton. When he was 1 1/2 years old his sister, Mary, was born on 16 May 1872. On 2 June 1875, their sister Elizabeth (Bettie) was born with a physical handicap. Shortly thereafter they lost their father. It is believed the spelling of Bourne was changed to Bowin by a school teacher when Shepard started school.

Shepard lived with his mother and sisters and grew up in the Hawkeye area in his grandparent's home (Shepard and Sarah Mashburn Shelton). He was a handsome muscular man of medium stature. He learned the carpenter's trade. Work was scarce, so he also became proficient in blacksmithing, and at one time he ran a sorghum mill in that vicinity. Like several members of his mother's family, he loved music, and could play the fiddle. With them, he often played the folk and bluegrass music of the Ozarks and he could call square dances and reels. His talents were often in demand at Saturday night gatherings in the settlements around Hawkeye.
No town could make do without a blacksmith and Bagnell’s was a mechanic of great ability. Melvin “Mel” Payne’s chief skill was that of an iron worker.

Mel retired the farm wagons; re wheeled the buggies, repaired metal parts of machinery and did odd jobs of welding iron works. The fire in the forge was kept alive and hot by the bellows. Sparks flew from glowing metal under the hammer, the ring of the iron anvil echoed and steam hissed from the tub of water used to cool hot horseshoes. The pungent odor of a singed hoof in contact with a hot shoe filled the air. The breeze carried the sharp smell of the sweaty horse, which were stomping their feet and swishing their tails at flies in the shade of a nearby tree as they awaited their turn to be shod. The shop was strewn with old, iron buggy and wagon wheel rims, worn out horseshoes and various odds and ends. Empty nail kegs supplied seats for town bums. It was truly a masculine place, a very satisfying spot for men to gather and pass the time of day. Payne’s Blacksmith Shop was a real asset to the town.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/090824.html

Konrad first went to Colorado with his step mother’s brother, a Mr. Shoup, to work in the gold mines. He worked there for a year and saved some money, but the
winter was too severe and the wild animals were so bad he decided to come to Tuscumbia, Missouri to seek work from Tony Weitz, who at the time was a blacksmith located just across the road from the old Tuscumbia bank overlooking Shut In Creek. Tony had previously written Konrad while Konrad was still in Germany telling him that he was hiring four or five blacksmiths for his business. Since Konrad had already apprenticed for two years as a blacksmith he thought he could always work at that as a trade.

Tony Weitz really did not need any help but said Konrad could go to work for $6.00 a month, room and board. But Konrad Wenzel’s luck was to improve, because while he was in Tuscumbia, he became acquainted with and worked for Ed Kallenbach, a top notch wagon maker, among other things. Ed’s sister, Louise, was married to John P. Artz and through John and Louise, Konrad Wenzel met and married Mary Artz, John’s sister, on October 12, 1884 at Aurora Springs. So, two short years after coming to America, Konrad was ready to settle down to become a full fledged American, husband, and father. Konrad and Mary did not have a place to live so they moved in with her parents, John and Christine Shaeffer Artz. They remained there for the birth of Christine and Lena. When Christine Wenzel died in 1894, at six years of age, John and Christine Artz fenced off a plot of ground and buried the little girl. That was the beginning of the Artz – Wenzel Cemetery and was to become the final resting place of John and Christine Shaeffer Artz, Konrad and Mary Artz Wenzel, infants of
Konrad and Mary, Sebastian Wenzel and wife, and Anna Strobel Wenzel.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/tuscumbia.html

John Kallenbach, Tony Weitz, Elmer Flaugher, Charles Winter

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_h.html

David Hawken was a blacksmith and practiced his trade all his life. After moving to Miller County, he ran a mill near Tuscumbia. It was probably located on his farm near the Saline Creek. Susan Weiker Hawken died prior to 1880 and was probably buried at Jesse Hawkins/Hawken cemetery near Tuscumbia. There is no record of her death or burial in county records. David married his second wife, Mrs. Elizabeth/Betsy Carson, on May 29, 1880. She was the widow of P. W. Carson, a native of North Carolina.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_h.html
Jeremiah Helsel

After the Civil War, he moved his wife (name not found) to Missouri to Ray County; then he moved to Johnson County; and sometime between 1880-1900, they moved to Miller County and bought a little farm about 3 miles south of Etterville in Saline Township. Mrs. Helsel died on this farm and was buried at Russell Cemetery on the Saline. Today this cemetery has been inventoried as the Harbison Cemetery and is located on the farm once owned by the Paul Martin family. The original owner of the land was a Harbison family who had a grist mill and blacksmith shop on the property. The old cemetery is in very poor condition and there is no record for the burial of Mrs. Helsel, so it is rather sad to know that she is buried in an unknown gravesite in Saline Township and her husband is buried in an unknown grave in Osage Township.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/etterville.html

During this time the Thomas brothers, Andy and August (Gus) built a large store on the south of the railroad survey and handled all kinds of groceries and tools and did a large business with the railroad people and the farmers in the locality. A man by the name of Jerry Mengers built a big blacksmith shop, also on the south of the tracks, and did a large business in keeping the railroad picks and things sharpened, also the horses shod as all the work was done with horses and mules and by hand.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/aurorasprings.html

Andrew Bridges and Peter Siegel, blacksmiths and wagon masters; Andrew J. Cook, sawmill and flour mill; J. B. Cracker, carpenter; Rev. W.C. Downing, Baptist minister; Joseph Duncan, photographer; William C. Fritter, railroad agent and telegraph operator; James H. Hagen, livery stable; A.C. Harding, lawyer; Henderson and Company, shoemakers; Hunter and Swartwood, furniture makers; James Justice, carpenter; Alexander Klinger, jeweler and tuff miner; W.M. Lumpkin, lawyer; Green McClure, livestock buyer; Jasper McKinney, grocery; Alonzo Masterson, barber; the Miller Brothers (Herman L. and William A.) grocers, bakers, and confectioners; Rev. Robert Morrison, minister of the Presbyterian Church; F. Peterson and Company, lumber company; William Radley, shoemaker; George W. Shelton, physician; Frank C. Smith,
sign painter; James A. Stevens, physician and postmaster; Mrs. J.A. Stevens, milliner; John H. Stover, lawyer and coal miner; Stover and Mansell, real estate; John T. Sullens, blacksmith; James M. Williams, tinsmith.

However, the Missouri Pacific railroad station was located about a half mile southwest of Aurora Sprigs and it was here the town of West Aurora sprang up. It was laid out by A.J. Armstrong in 1882. P.J. Davidson had the first store here and also operated a large tie-contracting business. A hotel and blacksmith shop opened there. Stock, lumber and ties were the chief shipments from the West Aurora depot which by 1889 reported about $120 express and $550 freight receipts a month.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_w.html

Joseph Frederic Wilde (called Fred) married Margaret Strumpf/Streumph in 1879. She was born near the small community of Koeltztown. After marriage, they first settled in Westphalia where Fred learned the trade of Blacksmithing from Steve Bertels. He decided to move westward to Miller County to the new town of Charlestown, which was hardly settled at all when he arrived, Fred Wilde once stated, "There was no water within a half quarter of town and only one log cabin and part of a shack there when I started my blacksmith
business. "Shortly thereafter, Joseph Sone, William Luetkemeyer and Fred Wilde built a new building for his blacksmith shop and he also built a new house, among the first in Charlestown/ St. Elizabeth.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_w.html

John Weitz evidently sent word to his brother and sister in New York and informed them he needed help at his Tuscumbia home which was located half-way across the nation. They arrived in Miller County in early 1866 and for several years Elizabeth/Lizzie kept house and helped to rear John's children. He owned a blacksmith and wagon shop in Tuscumbia and was active in that trade for many years. Earlier, John Weitz had served in the Civil War in Company B of the 6th Missouri Infantry. When he died no stone was put at his gravesite but in later years a U.S. government military stone was placed on his grave which only indicated his military service.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/brumley.html

In Brumley at that time were three general stores, Lev Thompson had the biggest one. Then there were the Helton-Topping Store and the Carson-Rodden Store. A person by the name of Howser ran a restaurant. Henry
Halsey and sons, John and Walker, had a blacksmith shop. Cordell Robinett also operated a blacksmith shop. Perry Martin operated a hotel and livery barn.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/100705.html

John Bilyeu, father of the aforementioned children, died at his home in the Big Richwoods, near Bray’s Mill now, on January 21, 1853. He was a farmer and blacksmith. By will, he had given his plantation, livestock, mechanical, blacksmith, and farming tools to his widow, Rachel, and upon her death, or marriage, to his sons, Andrew Jackson and Larkin, equally. The sale of personal property belonging to his estate was held on March 15, 1853; 400 pounds of bacon excepted to the use of the widow.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/civilwar/cw_05.html

When the crowd of gunmen rode into Iberia on Christmas Day, John Arnold was at Thompson's blacksmith shop. William Madden came there with Ruel Elsey and several other men. Elsey took a gun from George Long. Joshua D. Cochran said he was talking to George Long when 15 or 16 men came riding up. George Long was asked by Elsey where young Johnnie Long was, but George did not know. George had told Joshua Cochran that he feared of being killed.
Clark lived with the Jemphrey family for seven years working on their farm. But he quickly began to find other ways of making money. In 1891, at age 20, he set up a blacksmith and machine shop in Eldon. He also worked in a drugstore.

A four horse gasoline engine kept the 2000 gallon water tank filled. A two inch pipe across Fourth Street supplied a barn and the Vanosdoll home which was located where Gier’s Standard Service is now *(Now the BP station)*. The well also supplied Vanosdoll’s businesses…a machine shop, oil agency, well drillers and blacksmiths.

The Big Richwoods is a term given by early settlers to what is now the center of Miller County's largest township. Richwoods was named for the extraordinary timber found there. The Big Tavern Creek flows north, dividing the Big Richwoods in half. Flowing west into the Big Tavern is Bolin's Creek. On a hillside north of Bolin's Creek, Bray's
Union Church was founded by neighborhood families during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. The church grew amidst a rural hamlet which had developed a thriving mill, general stores, a blacksmith shop, and school.

The community consisted largely of southern upland immigrants. Old families in the Bray's community migrated during the 1850's, 1870's, and 1880's. An industrial attraction east of Bray's, the Massey Iron Works at Meramec, was a focus of much pre-Civil War activity. People in the Osage-Gasconade region sought to bargain their services for a share of iron or wages. Many pioneer men became farmers or blacksmiths. The frontier demanded the smith—the first small industrial unit. He was a horse-farrier, fashioned tools, mended wagons, sharpened picks, tempered axes, and shrunk wagon tires. Iberia postmaster, Ruben Short, offered Massey's the service of a mason, miller, or sawyer early in 1843. Morrow immigrants from the Carolinas and northern Georgia obtained work in 1854 at Massey's. The following Spring they joined James Morrow in the Big Richwoods, and began farming.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/100322.html

Clark Family History

By Mike Wieneman

George and Mary (Barker) Clark resided in Washington County Virginia until about 1845. Nothing is known of his
boyhood except that he was reared in the county of his birth and received some form of education. The Clark farm was near Abingdon Virginia. Their first four children, William G., Joel B., Catherine E., and Rebecca J. were born in Washington County. The family removed to Sullivan County Tennessee where three more children were born, namely, Edward L., James and George H. After a brief residence in Tennessee the Clark family came to Missouri in 1850 settling in Warren County. Sometime between the years 1850 and 1856 the family settled in Moniteau County near the important trading center town of California. Farm land was purchased there. The route they took is unknown but they traveled in a covered wagon drawn by a team of fine horses. They had extra horses and the two older boys William G. and Joel B. rode horseback or walked whenever it suited their pleasure. Mr. Clark, being a farmer as well as a blacksmith, needed land for his former occupation yet close enough to a town for the successful operation of his blacksmith trade. The children received their formal education at subscription schools and at home from their parents. In 1860 George and Mary Clark purchased a 96 acre farm north and west of Eldon in Miller County from F.O. Andrews, and the family moved to this farm.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/100809.html

During the heyday of the town there were several stores and businesses. These included general stores, blacksmiths,
garages, sawmills, milliner shops, drug stores, restaurants, barber shops, hotels and a telephone exchange.

A post office was established at the site of "Ulman's Ridge" in 1857 with James Karr as the postmaster, but a town or village was not platted and filed for record until Nov. 4. 1889. It had a population of about 50 people at that time, with a general store and a blacksmith shop set up for the folks who lived in the surrounding countryside. It was actually considered a "settlement" in 1889. Other "settlements" in Miller County at the time included Charlestown/St. Elizabeth, Mary's Home, Rocky Mount, Pleasant Farm and Ramsey (per Goodspeed's 1889 history of the area). In 1885, William Coburn was postmaster and livestock dealer.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/080908.html

“William Morrow was my great-grandfather and James Morrow was one of his uncles (James immigrated from Georgia to Missouri). He was a blacksmith and probably knew about Massey Iron Works near Meremac, as that industry drew many skilled artisans to the region in the late antebellum years, and I'm guessing that James informed his relatives in Georgia about the Massey Iron Works and job opportunities; the other Morrows then immigrated to Massey's Iron Works for a while and worked cutting cord wood for the furnace, while positioning themselves later to
'join their kinsman James' in Miller County. George Morrow was my grandfather and my father was Jennings Morrow. Joe and Jewell Morrow were my uncles.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/100628.html

There were two blacksmith shops at the Cross Roads. Barney Tyler owned one from 1913 to 1915. James Albert Hannah built the other one around 1920. It was operated by Leslie Long.

In 1920 a new means of transportation was brought to Cross Roads. The village blacksmith was the first person to buy a car. In 1923 Mr. Hannah’s father, James Albert Hannah, bought a new car for the price of $430.00. In 1935 the first school bus came through Cross Roads. A few people even had telephones.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/090323.html

First, let me talk about his talents. As a young man he grew up on a farm, raised by his grandparents, since both his parents had died when he was very young. I’m sure this caused him to mature rapidly and miss much of childhood, as we know it today. When he was a late teen-ager he went to St. Louis to work. One of his jobs was as a streetcar conductor. In his early twenties, he learned the blacksmith
business, working in Henry Carroll’s shop in Iberia. After marriage in 1911, he mainly was a farmer. During this period up through the 1930’s, he moved his family several times to various farms in Miller and Maries Counties. In one move, he got away from farming and bought a general store at Frank’s Switch, near Dixon, Mo.

Over the years he also became an accomplished carpenter. This skill, I’m sure was largely self taught and as blacksmithing, was a necessity as a farmer. From the early memories that I have of the 1930’s, I now realize how talented he was. His carpentry skills are most evident. On the Lurton Farm, he built a large barn around 1931 and this structure is still being used today.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_k.html

Hugh Kelsay Sr., perhaps the father of the other four men, was in the area in 1825 (per Goodspeed's 1889 History). They settled on Moreau creek about 6 miles east of present-day Versailles and the area became known as the "Kelsay Settlement". James Kelsay, father of Bird, was a farmer, a gunsmith, and blacksmith by trade. It is reputed that he built some of the first wagons that crossed the American desert in the westward movement.

After Bird married Rosetta, they lived in the Bear creek area where he became a blacksmith. Over the years he continued his profession in Tuscumbia, Bagnell, and Eldon.
Bird became a Baptist deacon at the age of 28 years in 1883 and was one of the members of the original board of deacons of the Eldon Baptist Church.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/071210.html

When I was a young boy, the store still retained most of the features described by Doris above. I had a saddle horse from about the age of ten which I used a bit on the farm mostly to ride the fence line to find where the cows were getting out (and where Jim Harrison's bull was getting in). Elmer Flaugher was still blacksmithing then as well as serving as the local ferrier. He always sent me to Hauenstein's to get the shoes for my horse when it needed shoeing. I remember the bins of shoes and square horse shoe nails stored in the west section of the store where farm tools and equipment could be found as well as a lot of horse tack. Elmer usually didn't need me to buy any "toes" for the shoes; however, by the time I came along times had changed and some of the roads had been paved in town causing my horse to slip and slide as I was riding it to the saddle club arena in the ball park. So I remember one time he had me get some toes from the store which he forged at the front of the shoe and he heated the shoe horns at the rear to bend up some "caulks," all to give the hooves some traction on the pavement. Elmer was a man of many talents. Besides being the town blacksmith for many years he also
was well known for the "John Boats" he constructed as well as having been a "tie whacker" and fiddle maker.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_s.html

After they grew to manhood, William Harrison (called Harrison) and John Wesley Jr. heard there was a demand for stonemasons over in Miller County near Lenox Trading Post (a trading post and early post office near Iberia). It was located on Rabitthead Creek southwest of Iberia. In 1861, the trading post was destroyed by the Home Guards (Confederate troops) during the Civil War.

Lenox had the trading post and a blacksmith shop and it was there the two Smith brothers walked to try to obtain work prior to the Civil War years. The store was located on the David Condra farm which passed on to Archie Condra and later was sold to Herman Golden. Today the farm is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Vineyard.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/olean.html

Others who operated a business in Olean during the early years of the 20th Century include Willis; M. Burris, grocery store, (he later owned the livery stables); W.E.
Enloe, grocery; Franklin Bros., Haynes Merc. Co., operated by A.J. Haynes and J.W. McFarland; J.R. Proctor, lumber, who also was a state representative; A.E. Walser, T.J. May, Roy C. Wilson, Mrs. Nannie B. Renken, and Earl Wisner, general merchandise; W.J. Hahn and W.W. Walker, grain elevator; J.M. Stevens and Charles Henegar, blacksmith shop; C.B. Rea, Clinton McMillian, the J.M. Wienekes, Cleve Markles, Walter Pierceys, grocery and restaurant; Paul Inglish, Raymond Shipman & Clayton Dooley, Lewis Comer, garage; J.E. Hite, drug store; T.H. McMillin and the Howard MacMillins, sundries; F.W. Inglish, Boyd D. Miller, Jesse Dyer, E.W. Morris, hardware; Miss Becca Hite, milliner.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/events/heaththomas.html

Samuel Caulk, the man who brought the criminal charges against Heath, stayed in Miller County until after the Civil War era. Samuel married Milly Catherine Castleman in the county on 23 July 1846 with the marriage being performed by David Reed, County Court Judge. It is interesting to note in the petition that Samuel was one of the signers and after his name he wrote....."I am the man Mr. Heath hit with the rock". Samuel Caulk was one of Iberia's earlier pioneers. He lived about 1 ½ miles southeast of the present town on land owned today by the Perkins family. In 1852, he purchased 80 acres of prime land from Cornelius and Malinda Bilyeu. He was a blacksmith by profession and set up his livery and blacksmith shop under trees that stood on
the north corner of St. Louis and Main Streets (once the location of the Bank of Iberia)

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/rockymount.html

By November 1870, Rocky Mount had become a country village with a general store, two blacksmith shops, a drugstore, a post office in the store and several homes. Its post office was one of the first four post offices to be established in Miller County.

Among the merchants of these early years, were John H. Simmons and a man named Daniels; Frank Stover and Lem Wisdom were blacksmiths; a man named Cordry had a drugstore, and later sold to Jim Jobe. At least one doctor practiced medicine there—Dr. Elliott.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_black.html

In the census of 1880, two families of black people lived in the small community of Iberia. There were very few homes listed in the town during that census. I will try to reconstruct Iberia as it appeared in 1880....inside the town limits were John Moore, a doctor/druggist; Marcus Fancher, a grocer; John Brown, carpenter; Clary Amos, teach of music, Martha Hayhurst, school teacher; Joseph Hume, blacksmith; Thomas D. Garner, dry good merchant; Rector Thompson, blacksmith; Isabelle Ferguson,
seamstress. The two black families living in Iberia in 1880 were the Landers and Lawless/Lollis families.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/101129.html

The old log barn has collapsed as has the old black smith cabin.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_b.html

Hite remembered Hawkeye as a busy little village over the many years that have passed by. There were several general stores and mercantiles in the town. Some of the storekeepers were Anderson Keeth, Joe Whittle (my great grandfather), Fred Ferguson, Elijah Strutton, 'Black' Jim Wall, Elbert Pemberton, and Jack Brumley. A blacksmith shop was owned by Fred and Jim Slone. Upstairs over one of the stores was a Modern Woodmen of America hall, a civic organization of which Hite was a member. He could remember several post offices operated by his area neighbors in various locations. The churches of Hawkeye have been the Christian Church (Campbellite) built c/1880, a Baptist Church built on a hill about a half-mile from Hawkeye and later another Baptist Church was constructed in town. It is in use today, remodeled and renovated.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_b.html
Emil A. Becker was born in Prussia/Germany 31 January 1858, the third child born to P.W. and Caroline (Severing) Becker. About 1870, at the age of 12 years, Emil came to America with his parents and they first settled in St. Louis where his father practiced his trade as a blacksmith. Circa 1873, they moved to central Missouri and settled on a farm in Jim Henry Township in northern Miller County near the families of Wilbers, Bond, Klindt, Lepper, Kelly and Loesch. Emil had two brothers and one sister who also lived in Miller County: F. W. Becker born July 1853 in Germany m. Mary vonHoan (probably in Texas about 1882); Earnest D. Becker b. Nov. 1861 in Germany; and Emma P. Becker born January 1865 in Germany m. Robert J. Rush 1888.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/iberia.htm

In 1880 the face of Iberia had change somewhat. The town had been officially incorporated as a village on Aug. 3, 1875 and by 887, many businesses had been established including: Marquis W. Fancher, merchant; John L. Arnold, lawyer; Thomas D. Garner, merchant; Rev. J.S. Harris, Methodist minister; Rev. W. W. Hicks, Congregational minister; Joseph Hume, wagon maker; Joe Jacob and Thompson, merchants; F.E. Lombar, merchant and postmaster; George Johnson, James. M. Rowden, and J.C. Thompson, blacksmiths; John H. Moore physician and
druggist; J.W. Wade, physician; T.D. Garner and Son Roller Mills; E. Hendericks, proprietor of the Iberia Hotel; John Kellison, saddlery and harness; Miles J. Davidson, merchant; Dr. R.T. Harrison, dentist; Robert A. Harper, jeweler; Henry R. Hoover, boot and saddlemaker; and Sarah J. Hughes, keeper of a boarding house.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/081020.html

Preceding Bagnell was the village of Adelaide, also on the Osage River, a short distance from the Bagnell community. In 1889, Adelaide had a population of 75 and boasted a blacksmith’s shop, post office, saw and grist mill and a large store. In 1885, the Adelaide post office was moved to the new town of Bagnell, according to research by Clyde Lee Jenkins, deputy county clerk.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/100125.html

As Hawkins’ dream prospered so did the town. The thriving atmosphere attracted more and more business. Two general stores were established, two wagon and blacksmith shops were built, a physician had already begun practice while stocking the latest drugs and medicines, a mill was built to serve the agricultural commerce, and a hotel to accommodate visitors and weary travelers. Homes and residences began to spring up.
About 1877, Bray hired Albert Arendall to run the mill and the Arendall family moved from Pay Down to Miller County. It was at that time that "Brays Mill" became known as a permanent location and has remained so all these years; the name suggested by Al Arendall. The community around Brays Mill was also called Brays and at one time there was a one-room school that sat on a hill to the east of old Brays. The settlement had a general store, blacksmith shop, and post office that existed from 1894-1923. On a 1904 map, Brays is recorded standing near an old road that ran from Hancock in Pulaski County (an old mail route), past the Atwell community in southeast Miller County and on northwest to Brays. Further north the old road passed by the post offices named Blyze, Claxby, and crossed the Big Tavern creek then onward to St. Elizabeth. Old Brays began to die out in the 1940s after almost 100 years of existence. All that remains today is the old /general/grocery store, which long ago was abandoned to nature and its elements.

Pleasant Mount (Mount Pleasant), just four miles from the present town of Eldon, was a prosperous trading center long before Eldon was established. Two roads led from the Osage River and the Missouri River. At Mount Pleasant the roads branched, one headed toward California and the other
going to Versailles. The California gold rush brought many people going toward California and many returning from California. The town boasted a physician, four taverns, a lawyer, blacksmith, three-story grist mill, and several homes. Both Pleasant Mount and Mount Pleasant appear in many records. When the post office was established the name Pleasant Mount was used. Later the name was changed to Mount Pleasant.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/090914.html

You can see the church on the left and the bank on the right with the street between. The building immediately behind and to the left of the bank was a blacksmith shop. Farther down in the valley (known as Goosebottom) behind the bank to the left is located the original Anchor Mill before it was moved east to the other side of town further down the river. To the right of the mill along the left side of the street (known as Goosebottom Street) are two houses. The one closest behind the tree was Dr. McGhee’s home. Here is a close up of his home on the left and in the distance on the right the Phil Hauenstein home.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/090309.html

Elva said no one ever knew from where this refrain originated; perhaps it was an old poem brought with early
In the backwoods country of southern Miller County, the small settlement of Faith began its existence in the late 1860s, after the Civil War. This small town/community in Richwoods Township, consisted of a trading post, general store, post office, blacksmith, a mill, school, and church. Faith's beginning was largely due to a man named James M. Wall, better known as "Black Jim" Wall to the country folks. Not long after 'Black Jim' married Mildred M. James in Virginia (mid 1860s), the newlyweds ventured west to Miller County and settled there for the rest of their lives.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/090316.html
Dr. Lansdown was married the second time in Miller County, in June, 1848, to Miss Eliza Tennessee Taylor, a native of Tennessee, and the daughter of Baily W. and Delilah (Austin) Taylor, natives of Tennessee. Her parents were married at Nashville and the father was a blacksmith and farmer by occupation. He immigrated to Miller County, Missouri in 1837, entered a tract of land in Saline Township, and soon became the owner of 600 acres of land. He died here in 1860. His wife is still living, and resides with her youngest son near Olean. Dr. Lansdown moved to his present residence in 1878, bought an improved farm, on which he continues to make improvements, and is now pleasantly situated. He has taken an active part in politics, and votes with the Democratic Party.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/070621.html

Another very popular exhibit on site at the museum Saturday was an old wagon hand made by blacksmith John Kallenbach before the turn of the last century. The old wagon has been restored by Brice Kallenbach who is the grandson of John of Brice and son-in-law Brian Ahart). Brice says that John drove a team of horses pulling the wagon to the Olean Mill every week or so to have grain ground and sell produce as well as pick up and deliver goods for the neighbors.
After moving to Tuscumbia, he operated a general merchandise store with Fred Short and with Zed Livingston. Other businesses in Tuscumbia at that time were a drugstore operated by Dr. Kouns and Dr. Dixon, who also had a general medical practice; a blacksmith shop owned by Ed Kallenbach; a restaurant operated by Burl Burris; a general merchandise store operated by George Hauenstein, a hardware store operated by George Swanson; Johnson’s Café; the Anchor Milling Company; the Bacon House Hotel; and a livery stable operated by Billy Burris.

Herman S. Tellman was born in Hanover, Germany on 31 May 1833. He was a son of Johannes Herman Tellman (1792-1881) and Susanna Tellman (1801-1876) both natives of Aschendorf, Germany and from the same Tellman ancestral family. Herman Sr. was a blacksmith and locksmith by trade. He also served in the German War under General Wellington and was at Waterloo where he fought against Napoleon Bonaparte. In the spring of 1837, Herman, Susanna, and their 6 children came to America on the Russian vessel, BRILLHUFF/BRAILOW and landed in
New York harbor after sailing the Atlantic for 93 days. Three more children were born after they settled in Central Missouri. Back in their native Aschendorf, Johannes and Susanna left many of their ancestors peacefully at rest in the cemetery at St. Amandus Church.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/stelizabeth.html

Did you know there have been two towns named St. Elizabeth in Miller County? St. Elizabeth was established as a community in the late 1860s. It was located about 35 miles by land or 50 miles by river southwest of Osage City, its river shipping point. Land was worth about $1 to $10 per acre. Its nearest bank was at Jefferson City. In 1874, there was a mail delivery three times weekly and the postmaster was William Wetlock. Other business places and their owners included Henry Boedecker, a wagon maker; Henry Evers, a blacksmith; Casper Morff, a shoemaker; Owen R. Pendleton, a clerk; and William Wetlock owned a general store as well as serving as the town's postmaster. In 1874, the town's population numbered 60 persons. It had a Catholic church, overlooking the Osage River, the only Catholic Church in the county in 1874.
Marilyn’s father, Dorsey Barron, also came from a historical family. Marilyn has written a short history about the Barron family as follows:

My paternal ancestors were English, Irish, and German, with a little speculation thrown in. My Barron side of the family is traced back to the Commander of an English naval frigate of the American Revolution. The Barron “Coat of Arms” suggests that of a feudal Lord of French ancestors. The name was next listed as residential in Germantown, Pennsylvania. Later the name appeared in Missouri, Miller County, Flatwoods community, at the junction of the old Tuscumbia and Bagnell road which is halfway between Tuscumbia and Eldon on Highway 52. This is where my great grandfather, George Barron, owned a farm and was a blacksmith who was in great demand at that time of history. He forged steel tools necessary for farming in early pioneer times. At that time, nails were cut by hand from flaming steel which was a major part of smithing. George married Ann Riley, of an Irish family, who also lived in the same community. From this union was born Bascumb (Bass) Barron, my grandfather, who was a farmer in the Osage River valley between Bagnell
and Tuscumbia. Bass Barron was married to Nancy Eleanor Crisp (nee Harbison).

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/sudheimer.html

**SUDHEIMER**

*By Kelly Warman-Stallings*

*The Ghost Towns of Central Missouri*

In the extreme eastern part of the county, bordering the Maries County line, was the settlement of Sudheimer. This was an average, small settlement of the nineteenth century which housed the usual general store, post office, and blacksmith shop. This hamlet, which was in Richwoods Township, was organized in the late 1800's and was located approximately 4 miles, as the crow flies, northeast of Iberia. Sudheimer has also been listed as being located in Maries County. An example of this is the post office was listed under Maries County, not Miller. The post office was in existence two different times (1905-1914; 1923-1936) and both times was considered housed in Maries County.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/100830.html
I am not sure when the settlement of Capps came into existence, but probably in the mid 1800s. The Capps family, for whom the vicinity was named, was in Miller County as early as the 1840s. The small river town, which was located near the Osage River in northeast Miller County, had several business places at the turn of the 20th century. Situated on the south side of the river, and located in Osage township, it contained several general stores, a post office, a hotel, a blacksmith shop, a doctor's office, and a ferry boat crossing. It also had a school nearby, about 1/2 mile south.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/mtpleasant.html

In 1881, some of the businesses and owners were: R.H. Franklin, postmaster; D.M. Bandy, druggist, Dr. H.H. Brockman, J. Etter, general storekeeper; A.J. Love, shoemaker and lawyer; J. Morris, blacksmith; R.P. Morris, hotel owner; John J. Pitchford, Justice of the Peace; Isaac Reed, shoemaker; J.P. Spalding, hotel owner; F.M. Swanson, saddler.
Frank Lawrence Thompson, a well loved resident of Tuscumbia, died suddenly on Wednesday night at Waynesville of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was born March 23, 1884, at Tuscumbia, the son of John and Hattie Thompson.

At an early age he began working in the blacksmith shop of his stepfather, J.E. Kallenbach, and then engaged in the garage business with him for many years. For three years during World War II he was employed as a guard at the Bagnell Dam, and since the close of the war was employed at the Bell garage in Waynesville.

Early in 1911 he was united in marriage with Stella Blackburn, who died a few months later in the same year. On June 24, 1917, he was united in marriage with Icie L. Burns, and to this union was born one daughter, Frances Laurice.

He is survived by his wife, Icie, and daughter, Frances (Mrs. LeRoy Snodgrass) his twin brother, Charles C. of GAGEVILLE.
In the northeastern section of Equality to township (today Jim Henry Township), the story of Gageville originates. It began its existence in the 1870s when a man named J. R. Gage of St. Louis bought up the land that was located five miles northeast of Tuscumbia and a few miles southeast of Etterville. Mr. Gage started a mining company and soon a settlement began to materialize around it. According to Clyde Lee Jenkins, author of "Jenkins' History of Miller County, Missouri", there were 32 clapboard houses built on the site and even a hotel. The small town also housed a general store, post office (1875-1878), a mill, blacksmith shop, church, and a school. Of course, Gageville received its name from Mr. Gage, who never actually resided there. Once his mining business got underway, J. R. Gage employed a trustworthy man to run the mining operation, and then returned to St. Louis.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/cappslanding.html

By Kelly Warman-Stallings
The Ghost Towns of Central Missouri
I am not sure when the settlement of Capps came into existence, but probably in the mid 1800s. The Capps family, for whom the vicinity was named, was in Miller County as early as the 1840s. The small river town, which was located near the Osage River in northeast Miller County, had several business places at the turn of the 20th century. Situated on the south side of the river, and located in Osage township, it contained several general stores, a post office, a hotel, a blacksmith shop, a doctor's office, and a ferry boat crossing. It also had a school nearby, about 1/2 mile south.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/springgarden.html

By 1885 Spring Garden's population was estimated at 60 and James R. Hoff was postmaster; E.A. Becker had a general store; Hoff & Spalding, grist and saw mills; C.N. Mitchell, sawmill; William Rosson, blacksmith; A.P. Wadley, general store; R. Witten, wagon maker; J.G. Hoff, carpenter; E.A. DeVilbiss, physician; M.C. Bond, livestock dealer, and the Rev. E.M. Lumpkin pastor of the Baptist Church and the Rev. G.L. Thompson, the Christian Church, according to a list obtained through Jenkins' research.
Among the rolling hills of southwestern Miller County, in Glaize Township, the small hamlet of Blackmer was established in the mid to late 1800s.

It was located a few miles south of the Osage River and situated close to Bear Creek, a tributary of the Osage. I have not found much information on this small town that was listed on a 1904 county map, but I do know it once had a general store, post office, blacksmith shop, church, school, and a mill in the nearby vicinity. The post office was in operation from 1891-1912 according to "Missouri Post Offices 1804-1981" by Robert G. Schultz.

ADELAIDE

By Peggy Smith Hake
Adelaide was a Miller County Post Office established in 1880. It was located in Franklin Township on the Osage River approximately 12 miles west of Tuscumbia and was the same distance south of Aurora Springs, its shipping point. The small hamlet had a steam saw and grist mill where railroad ties were manufactured and shipped downriver. The price of the land surrounding the small settlement ranged from $5.00 to $15.00 per acre surrounding the settlement. The population of 75 persons and the post office received mail three times weekly. Samuel Umstead owned a grocery store and was the local postmaster. A Mr. Saunders was the town's blacksmith; J.C. Bell was Justice of the Peace, and the grist/saw mill was owned by Adams & Marshall.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/communities/pleasantfarm.html

In the 1870s the following businesses could be found at Pleasant Farm: a grain and livestock dealer, Wm. C. Brumley; a blacksmith, B. Rawson; a cooper/barrel maker, John Shockley; a physician, A.P. Nixdorf; a school teacher, Perry Nixdorf; a justice of the peace, John Shockley. There is no mention of a general store or mercantile business so I am not sure if one ever existed in the settlement. The residents of the area could have traded in Tuscumbia, Iberia, or Ulman's Ridge for their needed provisions.
LOCUST MOUND

By Kelly Warman-Stallings
The Ghost Towns of Central Missouri

Locust Mound, named for a grove of locust trees nearby, was a small settlement situated in the northern part of Miller County. It was about one and a half miles southeast of Spring Garden and located in Saline Township. Locust Mound was one of the first settlements established in the county.

Soon after the hamlet sprang up in the 1860's, a store was built with a post office in existence from 1867-1882. Later, a hotel was erected for travelers who came through the area and a blacksmith shop was begun also. It has been said that the lady who operated the wayside inn/hotel was named Mrs. Rawson/Rosson. For many years an old two-story house with a rock chimney, sat on the site.
The first homes were built in the west part of the town on Grand Avenue. An old colonial home, one of the finest in the country, stood on the southeast corner of Grand Avenue. This had been built by an early pioneer settler of the community. The first store was already located there. A livery stable and blacksmith shop were situated on this street. The first post office and a drug store were located there. This part of the town became known as Upper Eldon. It had been thought that the main part of the town could be there, but after much difficulty and failure to locate a depot there satisfactorily the Missouri Pacific station was built where it now stands, and the business district changed to Maple Street. This part of the town was then known as lower Eldon.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/bios/bio_ij.html

Several years ago I visited with Wm./Bill Cochran before his death and he told me an interesting story about Frank James. Bill could remember Frank coming to the Faith community of southern Richwoods Township and visiting with some of the kinfolks of Jesse and Frank James. He was speaking of the Wall family-----Jim and Mildred (James) Wall who operated a trading post, blacksmith shop, and post office in their home called "Faith". It is said that
Mildred James Wall was a cousin to Frank and Jesse James and all were born in the state of Virginia. Jesse Woodson James (1847-1882) and Alexander Franklin James (1843-1919) were born in the Old Dominion State and were sons of Robert Sallee James (1818-1875) and Zerelda Cole (1825-1911). Their ancestors came to America before the Revolutionary War from Pembrokeshire, Wales and settled in Goochland Co., Virginia.

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/080218.html

John Kallenbach and John Weitz were the blacksmiths and ran the wagon shops. The Kallenbach shop was at the east end of town and Mr. Weitz's shop was back of the bank. Mr. Kallenbach also built a large home just west of the old Woodman Hall, and Mr. Weitz had a large old log house just below the "Home Hotel." This my father bought when he remarried in 1890, with a plot of land following the "Shut In Branch into "Possum Flat." This was laid out in lots and is now known as Clarke's addition to Tuscumbia (see the plot map of Tuscumbia where Clarke's addition is on the west side on our website history of Tuscumbia:

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/100222.html

John Klug
He was a blacksmith but his main source of income when I knew him was to run a truck from Tuscumbia to St. Louis carrying livestock. He was married to Eva McNeely

http://www.millercountymuseum.org/archives/081027.html

Marilyn’s father, Dorsey Barron, also came from a historical family. Marilyn has written a short history about the Barron family as follows:

My paternal ancestors were English, Irish, and German, with a little speculation thrown in. My Barron side of the family is traced back to the Commander of an English naval frigate of the American Revolution. The Barron “Coat of Arms” suggests that of a feudal Lord of French ancestors. The name was next listed as residential in Germantown, Pennsylvania. Later the name appeared in Missouri, Miller County, Flatwoods community, at the junction of the old Tuscumbia and Bagnell road which is halfway between Tuscumbia and Eldon on Highway 52. This is where my great grandfather, George Barron, owned a farm and was a blacksmith who was in great demand at that time of history. He forged steel tools necessary for farming in early pioneer times. At that time, nails were cut by hand from flaming steel which was a major part of smithing. George married Ann Riley, of an Irish family, who also lived in the same community. From this union was born Bascumb (Bass) Barron, my grandfather, who was a farmer in the Osage River valley between Bagnell and Tuscumbia. Bass Barron was married to Nancy Eleanor Crisp (nee Harbison).
ISAAC MOON

Isaac S. Moon was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania on 27 Mar 1815 where he lived until 1866 when he migrated to Missouri, locating in Miller County. For about 8 years he lived at Excelsior in Morgan County, but most the rest of his life was spent in Miller County. For over 40 years he worked as a blacksmith until his age and hard work began to tell upon his physical powers and then began to solely farm the land. Isaac married Margaret_____ (1810-1881) and they reared 4 children: James and Joseph (the original owner of the Virginia Hotel at Aurora), Margaret/Maggie Moon, and Martha E. Moon who married James M. Allee. He was living with Martha and her husband when he died in July 1887. The boys were both living in Kansas at the time of Isaac's death and Miss Maggie lived in Lawrence, Kansas while the other daughter, Martha Moon Allee lived in or near Eldon. At the time of his death, on July 9, 1887, Isaac Moon was over 72 years of age. He was buried at the Mt. Pleasant Masonic Cemetery with Masonic honors to which order he had long been a member. Two weeks before his death, he complained of feeling ill and it was not long after that the disease appeared in the form of flux and his physical forces soon gave way,
completely prostrating him to a state of helplessness, notwithstanding the efforts of physicians and careful nursing...(as you can read, the old obituaries were quite colorful, realistic, and vivid in nature).

- In the census of 1870, in Saline Township, Isaac and Margaret Moon lived with their 4 children:
  - 1. James H. Moon b. c/1846 m.________
  - owned an old hotel at Aurora Springs
  - 2. Margaret/Maggie b. c/1849 m.________
  - was called Maggie; no marriage record
  - 3. Joseph R. Moon b. c1850
  - m. Nancy A. Savage 1874
  - 4. Martha Moon b. 1853
  - m. James M. Allee

Their neighbors in 1870 included the families of Conner, Etter, Hayes, Bond, Clark, Thompson, Jemphrey, Jobe, Mulkey, Hicks, Crisp, and Tracy.