

RAYTOWN, MISSOURI, ITS ORIGIN

In 1966 The Raytown Historical Society set as one of its goals the researching of records to discover more about the founder of the City of Raytown. With neither prejudices nor preconceptions they proceeded with that task.

Older citizens, remembering old tales told and taught in schools that Absolom Wray located his shop on the southwest corner of the intersection of 63rd and Raytown road, became upset when county court minutes and abstract records began to change the legend. William Ray was here and his blacksmith shop stood on the southeast corner of the intersection.

The society has continued in its efforts to inform the newer citizens of these records and have never desired to discredit other versions, however they continue to invite the public to read the records and make their decision.

The first reference found in a printed history naming Raytown is that made by Rev. James J. Robinson, *History of Jackson County, Missouri, (Union Historical Company, Kansas City, MO., Birdsall, Williams & Co., 1881) page 367* , in speaking about the new Brooking Township: "*We have two post-offices, Raytown and Little Blue...*" He also told of the history of the Westfork Baptist Church. He did not relate for whom Raytown was named or why it became a town. This same book states on page 652: "*Rev. J. J. Robinson, who now lives at Raytown, was also one of the pioneer preachers of this county. He is a good man but possessed of strong prejudices, intense in his views and unique in character.*" these characteristics may be the clue why he did not honor the founder.

The next mention of Raytown was found in Chapter II, Page 114 through 126, *History of Jackson County, Missouri, Topeka, Historical Publishing Co., 1920*, by W. Z. Hickman, as he relates stories about the Santa Fe Trail.

"One of the favorite places of assembling teams was out where Raytown is. The grass was fine and water plentiful. If the trains came in from Mexico in the spring they stopped there. A man by the name of Absolom Wray had gone out there and put up a blacksmith shop, to be in close contact with the freighters. He did general repair work, but did not make wagons. By the time wagons reached there a great many would need repairing, tires to be set, new tongues to be mended or couplings renewed, new spokes or fellows put in, chains to be mended, or wagon

bolts replaced for new ones, ox shoes made and a great many other things done. Soon a Doctor Smith came and located for the practice of medicine. Then it was given the name of Raytown. Although the township land had never been surveyed or put upon the government market, settlers had been coming and locating homes."

No source was given for the Hickman information. The land on which Raytown was started was surveyed and sold in 1844. Dr. Minor Smith came and purchased land in 1849 but returned to his home to bring his family here in the fall of 1850. He died in 1914 so that statement cannot be attributed to him. The Rev. J.J. Robinson died in September 1895 so neither could he have supplied that information.

Why is there no mention of this Santa Fe blacksmith in earlier histories?

Now let us pursue the records of Absolom Wray. He and Melvina Chiles were married in Mercer County, Kentucky on October 19, 1832. (*Kentucky County Records*). March 31, 1841 he purchased Lot 42 in Old Town, Independence, Missouri. In 1881 history, page 647, concerning the incorporation of the city of Independence: "*The Board of Councilmen of the city of Independence appeared at the upper room of the courthouse in pursuance of the proclamation of William McCoy, mayor, on the 20th day of July, A. D. 1849, Messrs. J. B. Hovey, John W. Modie, Robert S. Dukes, Hobart A. Stone, B. F. Simpson, T. J. Shaw, Porter McClanahan, R. D. Green, and Absolom Wray produced their credentials and took their seats in the council.*"

In the 1850 census of Jackson County, Missouri, Absolom Wray is listed as a carpenter, 42 years of age, from Kentucky; his wife, Melvina, 35, of Kentucky; two older children born in Kentucky were Elizabeth, 15, and Susan M., 13; the next three born in Missouri were John W., 9; Anna, 8; Sarah E., 5; also John Stone, a carpenter; and Mary Smith born in Ireland; and one slave.

In the 1860 census, same county, Mr. Wray is still listed as a carpenter, same real estate value with an increase in personal property, two daughters are at home and he now has two slaves.

Among the Absolom Wray estate papers, *Probate records*, #86, we find a bill for shaving his corps, \$5, by T. F. Hunter on October 6, 1865, \$25 for his coffin, receipts for taxes on Lot 42 in Old Town, Independence. His family remained in the

Independence area.

Now to see about William Ray.

The historical society has copies of two diaries written by men going to California and stopping to camp at the Archibald Rice farm. They were not traveling together but arrived about the same time.

The first diary is that of Amos P. Josselyn, one of ten members of the "South Zanesville Company of 49"s, who had left Zanesville, Ohio on April 2, 1849 to go overland by wagon but they traveled by boat from Cincinnati to Independence on the Steamer Enterprise.

"April 25, Wednesday left camp at 8 ½ o'clock and drove to Mr. Rice's (6miles) where corn was plenty at 1.25 per bbl.

April 26 Thursday Drove back 1 mile to a smith shop and got our tyre cut. Fine day.

April 27 Friday in camp all day working at wagons, fixing ox tongue, etc. Fine day.

April 28 Saturday Hitched up and drove 8 miles to Blue river, before leaving Rice's we bought corn enough to feed our teams for 6 or 7 days thinking the grass would be good enough for grazing by the time the corn was out. Weather fine.

From the one diary we have found there was an established smith shop in 1849.

In 1850 the census taker evidently had difficulty sorting the Rays from the Prines for William Ray, father of seven children, had married the widow, Alsey Prine, mother of seven, on February 10, 1850. And to complicate matters daughter, Elizabeth Ray, had married son, David Prine, in April 1850 by the Rev. J. J. Robinson, local minister. William Ray, 42, was a blacksmith from Ohio.

In an abstract loaned to the society concerning the southeast corner of the intersection of 63rd and Raytown road, Section 4, Toanship 48, Range 32 West, we found the location of the blacksmith shop on the Santa Fe road. There are ten references made in the same period of time mentioning William Ray's blacksmith shop on the Santa Fe Road here.

For a short summary of transactions: Land was first sold by the government

to Francis M. and Elizabeth Emerson on July 2, 1844; on August 26, 1845 they sell ten acres to David Vance, who had land to the west of them; Vance had sold ten acres on his north side of farm to Reuben Mockbee so they (Vance) would not own land on the north side of the Santa Fe road. Part of the Emerson land was sold to William Cox who sells to John Cocks. Then in Book 162, page 67, on November 16, 1850 was recorded the sale of seven acres by David Vance to William Ray, being a part of the West half of Section 4, Township 48, Range 32, commencing at the southwest corner of William Ray's lot and then south to Rice's corner. We have not found a record of an earlier land transaction to Ray. Later Ray sells this corner to Johnson Childers, who states on January 10, 1853, he sold a blacksmith shop and tools to Jarvis Horner.

A recent researcher endeavored to malign the reputation of William Ray as selling land he had not bought and therefore Raytown should not be named for this thief. If you follow through the land transactions closely, Ray did not take the Cox property but bought it from David Vance and the lost deed is between Cox and Vance.

Ray also owned a fifty by ninety foot lot on the northeast corner, now the site of the Fox Drug Store (1004 East 63rd street). This section was bought by George W. Rhoades, from the government, February 19, 1844. From his estate papers filed October 28, 1850 we find he had sold this lot to Joseph C. Davis but had failed to give him a deed, but Davis had sold the lot to William Ray November 23, 1850.

Joseph C. Davis was having trouble with his church about this time. We found this as we read the church minutes of the Westfork Baptist Church as related by Ethylene B. Thruston for the Raytown Baptist Church Centennial, December 6, 1942. They give an insight to the demands of the congregation for the morals of their members. Here are the quotes:

October, 1848, item "2nd The fellowship of the church cold for and brother Simon Staton brought in a charge against himself for geting into difficulty with one of his neighbours and from his explanation of the affair the Church excused him."

At the Saterdag before the fourth Lords day in Dec. 1848..thareby became arule in our Church disciplin and reads as follows - Any male member failing to atend two Church meetins in Succession without a good excuse Shall be Delt with by the Church for Sutch neglect of duty.

....So at the July 1849 meeting on Sunday after preaching, "The council composed of Brethern Jerymier Farmer and B. E. Adams preceded to ordane and

Set a part Brother James J. Robinson to gospel ministry."

.... In December 1850, "the case of brother Joseph Davis was taken up and he being present was requested by the Church to discontinue his occupation which is that of (grog-keeping) and up on his refusing to do so the case was continued till our next bisnofs."

....In March 1851, a comitee of two brethern consisting of Mickelborough and Zion Flanery to see Bro. B. F. Fisher and invite him to attend our next meeting of bisnofs and answer the complaint for absenting himself from church meetings for a length of time.

April 1851. "References coled for and the case of Bro. Jos. C. Davis was taken up and he requested to quit or close up his grog shop-keeping in that time (being postponed six months)

Nov 3rd Sat 1851 - Finally, "Brother Joseph Davis has complied with the request of the Church that was the occupation of grog-keeping and has a bandoned that colling, the church has excused him."

About this time William Ray had filed suits against two estates to collect for whisky bills; from Arch Rice who had died October 14, 1849; and from the George Rhoades estate filed October 1850.

Could it be that the Church was unhappy with this blacksmith who sold whisky to church members? Mrs. Ray was a staunch Methodist and could not be disciplined. Did the trials and troubles of the Civil War blot out this memory? Did they choose to ignore this man who had helped his community to get better roads for them?

In a telephone conversation with Mrs. W. L. Hiatt, now deceased, she related that she lived in a log house with her parents, Samuel and Elizabeth Shumate on the southeast corner of the intersection, 63rd and Raytown road. She had always been told that the blacksmith shop, owned by Mr. Ray, stood on the southeast corner and later Dr. Minor T. Smith built a drug store there. (Abstract of Hall's Addition indicates that Samuel Shumate owned property there from January 1883 to 1894)

In the Forty Years Ago column of the Lee's Summit Journal dated May 27, 1926, "New-Old Raytown" is this quotation: "It is known by everyone that Raytown is possibly the second oldest town in Jackson County. William Jennings, who had a general store there for 38 years was born one mile east of Raytown and he says

his father settled on that farm in 1852 and there was a little hamlet on the present corner of a farm belonging to a man by the name of Ray, who wearied of the long trail to California and stopped on the beautiful hill and began a home."

Abstracts also settle the disagreement concerning the William Jennings store. Book 273, page 602, dated May 28, 1908, for \$200 William Jennings gives a 99 year lease to the Raytown Realty Company....."*That the first party does grant to the second party the right to build a second story on his brick store room, 40 x 70 feet ...additional story to be built of brick and the roof of gravel..."*

Back to the southeast corner, no one recalled Book 218, page 542 quit claim of Orlando Jennings to Samuel G. Robinson, July 28, 1900: Said party of the first part reserves the wagon scales now on said premises which he is to remove within 30 days from this date?

Who built the Grist Mill?

Where was the George blacksmith shop and when?

After reviewing the above questions and looking at the maps included the answer may lie in the information given and shown in Map 6, Halls Addition, the southwest corner of the intersection of 63rd and Raytown road:

County land records: Book 132-222 January 20, 1883 - John R. and Jennie Hutchinson to Samuel Shumate 1 1/8 acres. It is remembered that on page 5 of this report that in the telephone conversation with Mrs. W. L. Hiatt that she had lived on the south west corner of the intersection with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Shumate, in a log cabin and she was told that the blacksmith shop, owned by Mr. Ray, had stood on the opposite southeast corner.

1880 United States Census Records, Jackson County, Brooking Township: 41-43 Samuel Shumate, age 47, born in Ohio; wife, Elizabeth, age 40, born in Ohio; William, son, age 16, farmer; John, son, age 14, farmer; Charles A., son, age 11, laborer; George M, son, age 8, laborer; Silas, son, age 5; Susan, daughter; age 8; Maria Holly, age 12, black, servant.

County land records: Book 195-604 July 30, 1894 Warranty deed to Eualie M. George for \$650. George have a blacksmith shop or a grist mill or both?

The warranty deed was issued to Eualie M. George, wife of Harris George.

They as many of the prior owners began a series of obtaining loans.

County land records: Book 213-216 October 25, 1897 Harris George to Samuel G. Robinson for \$700.

County land records: Book 218-542 July 28, 1900 quit claim mentions wagon scales here.

County land records: Book 228, page 607, warranty deed, April 25, 1901, filed May 13, Samuel G Robinson and Vira Robinson, his wife, to William F. Hall and wife, Mary, \$1,000.00

P. P. Lewis Lumber Company incorporated February 5, 1916, dissolved January 12, 1928 Obituary of Phillip P. Lewis November 22, 1934 states he retired in 1925 and sold the lumber company to Leidigh-Havens Lumber Company.

Robert L. Lewis and wife, heir of P.P. Lewis, sell to Oscar L. and Mabel Hansen, May 22, 1944

ORIGINAL PLAT OWNERS

Raytown, Jackson County, Missouri

Section 5, Township 48, R 32 W
Northeast 1/4

REUBEN MOCKBEE

1-23-1844

153.52 acres

Patent filed Dec. 21, 1923
Book 449, p. 303

Section 4, Township 48, R 32W
Northwest 1/4

GEORGE W. RHOADES

2-19-1844

154 acres

Patent in Book 287, p. 567

(Present 63rd)

Aug. 26, 1845 Vance sold 10.12
acres to Mockbee, middle
of Santa Fe road, \$70
L 42

Bk L 43-10 poles or 165 ft.
Francis Emerson to D. Vance,
10 acres, \$70, Aug. 26, 1845
? Oct. 9, 1845 to R. Mockbee

L 521 Vance to Wm. Cocks, 10
70 sq. poles
S 463 Wm. Cocks to John Cocks
Dec. 2, 1850

Section 5, SE 1/4

DAVID W. VANCE

9-11-1844 160 acres

Section 4, SW 1/4

FRANCIS M. EMERSON

7-2-1844 160 acres

L 89 - L 520

Oct. 9, 1845 Emerson sold
150 acres to James J. Robin-
son

(Raytown Rd.)

Haytown, Missouri

Township 48, range 32 West

<p>Section 5 - NE 1/4</p> <p>Heuben Mockbee</p>	<p>Section 4 - NW 1/4</p> <p>Estate of George W. Rhoades filed Oct. 28, 1850 154. 3 ac</p> <p>Record 8, p. 299 filed May 5, 1851 includes petition of Wm. Ray - before Nov. 23, 1850 Geo. W. Rhoades had sold 50x90 foot lot to Joseph C. Davis, who had not received a deed but had sold lot to Wm. Ray, Nov. 23, 1850</p> <p>Bk S-457 June 28, 1852, deed given to Ray but land had been sold to Johnson Childers, Aug 16, 1851, several pieces for \$775</p> <p>Bk 5 or T-141 Johnson Childers gives power of att'y may 4, 1852</p> <p>Lot north 50 feet east 90 feet (63rd)</p>
<p>Mockbee - Aug. 26, 1845</p> <p>SE 1/4 DAVID W. VANCE 150 ac,</p> <p>Deed of trust, Feb. 1852 mentions ten acres lying north of Santa Fe road</p> <p>Bk S, p. 256 Feb. 4, 1852 David and Lucinda Vance to Joshua Hobbs, \$1500 - 149 ac</p> <p>S-464 May 4, 1852 Vance sold 1 1/8 acres to Johnson Childers (farmer), \$50 west pt.</p> <p>Jan. 1853 Hobbs paid Childers \$155 for east part of 1 1/8 acres</p>	<p>County Court minutes have many references to Ray blacksmith shop on Santa Fe road</p> <p>J.J. Robinson 150 ac.</p> <p>7 ac. S 463 - or 162, 27 90 poles Oct. 16, 1850 Vance to Wm. and Ailey Ray, 7 ac for \$72.61 1/2</p> <p>To S-462 Aug. 16, 1851 Ray to Johnson Childers 3 pieces of land, 5 ac Corner for \$175</p> <p>S-492 Apr. 9, 1852 Thomas & Anna Breeze to Joshua Hobbs, 5 ac \$110 (not clear how they got it)</p>

NEW RAY TOWN ROAD

Map 3

Raytown, Missouri Township 48, range 32 east

<p>Section 5 - NE 1/4 REUBEN MOCKBEE 153.52 acres</p>	<p>Section 4 - NW 1/4 in estate of GEORGE W. BRCADES filed Oct. 28, 1850 E - 494 Jan. 10, 1853 Johnson Childers sold Joshua Hobbs, 2 pieces of land, Feb. 13, 1856, Childers had died in California Bk 28-79 Aug. 4 or 18, 1857 Hobbs asks administrator for deed, granted Aug. 1860</p>
<p>(Present 63rd st.)</p>	
<p>Mockbee- Aug. 26, 1845 (Santa Fe Road)</p>	<p>1/2 5/8 1/2 ac</p>
<p>Section 5 - SE 1/4 X-72 Sept. 5, 1855 Joshua and Lurana S. Hobbs to SAMUEL B. HOBBS 149 acres 25-557 Oct. 16, 1857 Samuel and Jemima S. Hobbs to JAMES N. WEST 149 acres, 25250, except corner T-285 Oct. 15, 1852 Johnson Childers W 1/2 acre to RICHARD HEWITT (a doctor) in NE corner 27-453 Apr. 13, 1857 Samuel Hobbs to Hewitt, East 1/2 acre</p>	<p>Section 4 - SW 1/4 28-79 Jan. 10, 1853 Johnson Childers had sold to Jarvis Horner a blacksmith shop and tools, Horner had not paid Z 392 Mar 18, 1856 1/2 acre sold to Reuben Mockbee Feb. 16, 1857 Mockbee to Thomas Breeze (could clarify S-492) Apr. 25, 1854 County Court Minutes, Vol. 9 p. 658, mention road to Raytown</p>

Map 4

Raytown, Missouri Township 48 Range 32 West

<p>Section 5 - NE 1/4</p> <p>REUBEN MOCKBEE 1-23-1844 153.52 acres</p>	<p>Section 4 - NW 1/4</p> <p>Estate of GEO. W. RHCADDES filed Oct. 28, 1850</p> <p>56-629 Dec. 1858 sold by sheriff to Wm. Whitehouse, \$265 20/100 acre with stone house, also 1.5 acres..contiguous with a dwelling house thereon</p> <p>Record P, Mar. 12, 1867 Sarah J. Rhoades receives 28.63 ac. as part of estate, marries M. Thomson, March 7, 1867</p> <p>64-66 Matthew & Sally Thomson sell 1/4 acre to Wm. Whitehouse</p> <p>64-69 Wm. & Miranda Whitehouse to Eleanor Rawlings, both Dec. 28, 1868</p> <p>SARAH J. THOMSON (present 63rd st.)</p>
<p>Mockbee - Aug. 26, 1845</p> <p>1 acre</p> <p>JAMES N. WEST, 149 acres Oct. 16, 1857 West of Cass County</p> <p>38-280 Nov. 8, 1862 Richard & Hannah Hewitt to James N. West, east acre in NE corner, \$400</p>	<p>Section 4 - SW 1/4</p> <p>26-234 Nov. 12, 1857 Joshua Hobbs to James West..8 or 9 acres to south boundary of Ray Town</p> <p>Feb. 10, 1858, West 8 or 9 acres to ROBINSON</p> <p>56-159 March 14, 1868 West, 1/2 acre with blacksmith shop, to Wm. Whitehouse, \$120</p> <p>60-309 Apr. 17, 1868 Minor T. Smith, trustee for Elizabeth, 2 acres to Whitehouse</p> <p>64-69 Dec. 28, 1868 40 poles, Whitehouse to Rawlings</p>

Raytown, Missouri Township 48, Range 32 West

Section 5 - NE 1/4

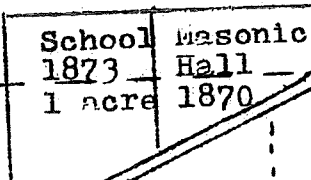
REUBEN MOCKBEE, 1-23-1844
54-481 Feb. 11, 1868
Mockbee placed property in
brother's name, later disputed

74-350 and 116-69 Apr. 21, 1870
1/3 acre for store & Masonic
Hall, \$1. Minor Smith to build

Sept. 13, 1873, 1 acre for
public school, \$5

1875 - Hall burned

Oct. 15, 1876 Sarah & Reuben
Mockbee married. He died
Dec. 20, 1878



Section 5, SE 1/4

107-514 Sept. 13, 1865
West to Minor T. Smith, trustee
for Elizabeth, east acre, \$400

109-85 Sept. 6, 1872 Minor T.
& Catharine to Mary B. Cassell,
corner, \$425

Aug. 2, 1871 James N. West died
149 acres in estate

Section 4 - NW 1/4

77-163, corner lot, Moses &
Eleanor Rawlings to James &
Ellen Campbell

112-506 Jan. 18, 1878 T.W.
& Mary Cassell to Ardenia Gray
1/4 acre, \$300

130-305 June 25, 1883 Gray of
Jefferson Co., Montana, to
Orlando Jennings, 1/4 acre \$200

119-25 Aug. 15, 1879 W.T. &
Sally Thomson, 1/2 acre to
Christian Church

Christian
Church
1879

M.T. & SALLIE
THOMSON

(present 63rd st.)

Section 4 - SW 1/4

77-163 Apr. 12, 1870
Moses V. & Eleanor
Rawlings to James Camp-
bell, 40 poles

102-269 Dec. 25, 1872
Moses V & Eleanor Raw-
lings to Minor T. Smith
24 1/2 x 10 1/2 poles, \$750

JAMES J. ROBINSON

Raytown, Missouri Township 48, Range 32 West

<p>Section 5 - NE 1/4</p> <p>Estate of Reuben Mockbee #834, widow, Sarah J., states she has married Christopher Reed Searcy - petition in 1882</p> <p>Oct. 26, 1895 - will of J.J. Robinson mentions storehouse, and Masonic Hall, also willed land for use to Baptist Church</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="503 882 812 1155"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Robinson Estate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Baptist Church</td> <td>1895</td> </tr> <tr> <td>School</td> <td>1873</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Masonic Hall</td> <td>1870</td> </tr> </table>	Robinson Estate		Baptist Church	1895	School	1873	Masonic Hall	1870	<p>Section 4 - NW 1/4</p> <p>213-22 June 17, 1887 Orlando Jennings to Wm. Jennings, \$100</p> <p>273-602 May 28, 1908 Wm. Jennings to Raytown Realty to build second floor, \$200, 99yr.</p> <p>Corner. 130-305 Wm. & Ardenia Gray, 1/4 acre to Orlando Jennings, \$200, June 25, 1883</p> <p>154-80 Oct. 30, 1886 M.T. & Sally Thomson to Orlando Jennings, 4.25 acres for \$650</p> <p>Jennings later states he Hobbs kept the corner 50 years</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="828 798 1153 1092"> <tr> <td>Wm Jennings</td> <td>1887</td> <td>O.V.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Christian Jennings Church</td> <td>1886</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>O.V. Jennings</td> <td>1883</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Jennings sold 1/5 acre to Elizabeth Waver but bought back next year</p> <p>(63rd)</p>	Wm Jennings	1887	O.V.	Christian Jennings Church	1886		O.V. Jennings	1883	
Robinson Estate																		
Baptist Church	1895																	
School	1873																	
Masonic Hall	1870																	
Wm Jennings	1887	O.V.																
Christian Jennings Church	1886																	
O.V. Jennings	1883																	
<p>Section 5 - SE 1/4</p> <p>The triangular corner still seems to contain two lots and abstracts are definite</p> <p>114-634 Sept. 16, 1880 Wm. & Wannie Carmichael to John R. Hutchinson 1 1/8 acres</p> <p>132-222 Jan. 20, 1883 John R. & Jennie Hutchinson to Samuel 1 1/8 acres, Shumate</p> <p>195-604 July 30, 1894 Shumate to Harris & Eualie George \$650</p> <p>213-216 Oct. 25, 1897 George to Samuel G. Robinson, \$700</p> <p>218-542 Jul 28, 1900 quit claim mentions wagon scales here</p>	<p>Section 4 - SW 1/4</p> <p>166-269 Feb. 22, 1888 Minor T. & Laura Smith to J.J. Robinson, \$1200</p> <p>24 1/2 x 10 1/2 poles</p> <p>311-310 Oct. 26, 1895 Robinson will filed</p> <p>Dec. 15, 1923, heirs Georgia & Buster McIntyre and Sarah Robinson, widow, sell to W.F. Muir</p> <p>164-164 Jan. 14, 1924 W.F. & Laura Muir 1/2 interest in lots to Andrew Smith</p> <p>Plat Bk. 7-99 Jan. 11, 1924 Muirsmith Addition</p> <p>April 27, 1914-right of way sought for Raytown Depot Rd.</p>																	

WILLIAM RAY, For Whom Raytown Is Named

On September 21, 1969 the Raytown Historical Society dedicated a marker at the southeast corner of 63rd and Raytown Road indicating that William Ray, a blacksmith, was the founder of the city of Raytown, Jackson County, Missouri. This premise was based on material compiled by Mrs. Arva Lee Vineyard, a resident of Independence who had spent years in the Jackson County Courthouse researching local county history, and Roberta L. Bonnewitz, a beginner in researching Raytown history through county records. Sources are identified in the following references.

County Court Minutes, January 1848: Charles G. Brockman, superintendent of the Poor House (County Home) asked that William Ray be paid \$2.00 .

THE JOURNAL OF AMOS P. JOSSELYN, April 2, 1849-September 11, 1849: mentions a blacksmith shop and visiting the Archibald Rice farm on the Santa Fe Trail. Archibald Rice died October 14, 1849. William Ray petitioned his estate to pay a \$12.88 whiskey bill owed him.

Family Bible Records of the William Ray Family: First wife of William Ray, Nancy Harding Ray, died November 15, 1849.

*County Court Minutes, Book 8, page 86, No 92923, January 7, 1850: ... (on changing roads) ...*running south to the intersection of the Santa fe road at Ray's shop.

County Court Minutes, Book 8, page 98, No 92965, February 1, 1850: ... Lay out a county road from William Ray's Shop on the Santafee road in a Southern direction (then called Independence to Harrisonville Road - Ganzer Road- Raytown Road)

∴ Bride's Book. 2 and 3, page 201 (County record): This is to certify that I solemnized the rites of matrimony between William Ray and Alcey Hocker on the 10th day of February 1850. Given unto my hand this 11th day of March 1850.

John A. Moore, Justice of Peace, Washington Township
(This piece of evidence created much speculation with no explanations: 1. Alcey also was listed, in county records as Aalsey, by her family, Alice. She was the widow of

Francis Prine, mother of seven children, her maiden named was Dealy, and why Hocker at this time ? 2. In Washington Township - because Brooking Township was created from Washington and Blue Townships in March 1872, twenty-two years after 1850.)

County Court Minutes, Book 8, page 149, No 93150: ... beginning at Ray's Shop on the Santafee Road running nearly east course in the line between the lands of George W. Rhoads and Thomas Clarkson

No 93151 ... Beginning at Ray's Blacksmith Shop on the Santafe Road and running East on the line between Ray and Robinson and Dehoney on the South and Clarkson on the North

(This line between is called 63rd street today intersecting with Woodson road. The southern boundaries of each of Rhoades and Clarkson , each plat of nearly 160 acres, on the north side of 63rd street - and - Ray (shop), J. J. Robinson and Dehoney, each with nearly 160 acre frontage on south side, would make it about one mile (?).

County Court Minutes, Book 8, page 214, No 933273, April 2, 1850:
... road from Ray's Blacksmith Shop South by the Rock Ford on Little Blue to the High Grove

Marriage Records, Bride's Book, 1,2,3, page 203: David Prine, son of Mrs. Ray, married Elizabeth Ray, daughter of William Ray, on Sunday afternoon, May 8, 1850 by Rev. J. J. Robinson.

County Court Minutes, Book 8, page 287, No. 93606, July 1850: ... two more references ... from Ray's shop ...road south...

County Court Minutes, Book 8, No. 93618: ... Beginning at William Ray's Blacksmith shop and running nearly a south course to the plantation of Butler Howell....among the petition signers to relinquish property for the new road was William Ray.

County Court Minutes, Book 8, page 289: ...new road from Ray's Blacksmith shop to high grove

Jackson County, Mo. Land Deeds, Book 162, page 67: David and Lucinda Vance, warranty deed to William Ray, dated October 16, 1850... being a part of the

West half of Section 4, Twp. 48, Range 32, commencing at the southwest corner of William Ray's lot and the south to Rice's corner. The east 10 poles, thence North to William Ray's south east corner...containing 7 acres (confusing because William Ray owned the 50 x 90 foot lot, now Fox's Drug Store (1004 E. 63rd) across the street and all the corners do not designate which lot corner is mentioned. This must be a strip of land, including blacksmith shop and going south along Raytown road to about 67th street intersection).

Road District No. 92 ... beginning at the Blacksmith Shop of William Ray

County Court Minutes, Book 8, page 441, No. 94173, November Term, 1850:
County Court Minutes, Book 9, page 74, No. 94610, Feb. 1851 ... two references to public road leading to high grove from Ray's blacksmith shop.

County Court Minutes, Book 9. Page 130, No. 94812, March court, 1851:
... road leading from Ray's shop to high Grove

County Court Minutes, Book 9, page 140, March 1851: Elizabeth N. Johnson, paid two vouchers to William Ray, \$10.38 from her husband's estate

Land Deeds, Book S, page 462, warranty deed dated August 16, 1851, filed May 4, 1852, William and Ailsey Ray sold both corners (Fox Drug and filling station (Brakes) for \$ 775 to Johnson Childers.

County Court Minutes, Book 9, page 198, No. 95075, dated May 1851:... William Ray petitions for a deed to the land he bought from Joseph Davis, 23 November 1850, who had bought from George Rhoades, May 14, 1850, but died without giving a deed (southwest corner of NW quarter, Sec. 4, Twp. 48, Rg 32, 50 x 90 feet

County Court Minutes, Book 9, No. December 1851: ... road from Ray's shop

Land Records: March 19, 1852, William and Ailsey Ray bought 30 acres of land in the Lake Lotawana area, from her sister and brother-in-law, Mary and William Tucker. January 1853 they sold this to John Westly Adams.

Oregon Donation Land Claims, Vol. 1, page 79: Claim 1939 PRINE, David, Linn Vo; born 1831; arrived Oregon 24 Sept 1852; settled claim 28 Oct 1852;

April 13th 1848

Mr A Rice

To (William Rice

Jr

To Balance on settlement

\$ 50

June 5

To Repairing Singletree

13

19

Sharpening Plough

13

Ironing Flange

13

April 18

Sharpening Grub Hoe

13

29

Repairing Spades

25

Spade handle

13

Oct 4

Sharpening 2 Ploughs

25

18

do 3 do

38

24

Repairing Plough

50

28

do do

25

Nov 4

To L to Kay

13

14

Repairing wheat fan

25

To Shoeing

38

24

Repairing wagon

\$ 2.00

49~~th~~

Jan 11th Repairing wheat fan

25

making Iron wedge

50

Repairing Spur

13

do do

13

Repairing wedge

13

Shoeing

25

April 19th

To Sharpening Plow

13

23

Mending 2 Clevis

25

Repairing chains

25

May 31

sett. do

\$ 1.00

		George W. Rhoades	To William Ray	
1848				
May 17 th	To Repairing Chain			25-
	do " Hammer			25-
June 7 th	To Sharpening Plough			13
	mending Bault			13
9 th	Handle in Smoothing Iron			38
26	mending Ring			13
July 26	To 2 Linchpins			25-
	Fire nails			25-
	hooping Piggon			25-
Aug 24	To Branding Iron			1.00
Sept 5	To 1 gallon Whisky			50
7	To 2 do do			1.00
	" 1/4 " do			13
	" 1/2 " do			25-
10	making Corn Knives			25-
18	1/2 gallon Whisky			25-
29	1 Screw			13
	1 Clerk fork			25-
Oct 4	Sharpening 2 Ploughs			25-
11	Repairing Devices			38
14	Sharpening Plough			13
	mending device			13
18	1/2 gallon Whisky			25-
Nov 2	To Repairing waggon			88
4	To Shoeing			25-
	Repairing waggon			2.50
8	do do			

		150
Dec 15	To 1 gallon Whisky	50
Jan 30 th 1849	To Shoeing	50
March 26	Repairing 2 Ploughs	50
April 5	To yart hinge & nails	44
7	Dreping grubbing hoe	13
4	To Shoeing	25
		<hr/>
		\$14.37

	amount brought over	\$14.37
April 11 th 1849	To Repairing hoe	13
16	do do Plough	25
	do Chain on waggons	25
May 21	Repairing dog chains	2.00
June 16 th	To 1 gallon whisky	50
July 2	do do do	50
15	To 1 whiskey Barrel	50
Nov 26	Repairing Steelyards	25
	hooping overs	38
	Dreping 2 axes	63
Nov 6	mending Shovel	13
7	To Shoeing	88
25	Repairing Stove	50
Jan 13 th 1850	Repairing hand axe	50
	To Spikes	13
Feb 1	1 pair hinges	38
14	To head on bolt	13
16	Repairing waggon	25
March 20	To handles for Crowds	25

April 1	To trace chain	50
	Sharpening Plough	13
16	Ironing 2 Singletrees	1.50
	do 2 pair of Hames	1.00
17	mending Bault	25-
12	Lap Rings	25-
23	To Shoeing by atwood	50
25-	Repairing chain	13
26	S and Keys	25-
29	Repairing Singletree	25-
May 1	To welding Ring	13
2	gait hinges	38
8	do do	38
14 ^o	Repairing Plough	1.00
22	do do	1.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 30.56

	Amount brought over	\$ 30.00
May 24 th 1850	To Repairing hames	0
30	do Bault	1
	To Cash Loaned	2.00
	To 1 Sledge	2.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 34.99
		<hr/>
		20.8
		<hr/>
		\$ 14.0

	Contra	Rs
June 4 th 1849	By my order to J. Johnson	\$ 8.00
27	By 422 Rails and Stakes	8
Feb. 2 ^o 1850	By 100 lbs Flour	3
May 17	By 46 lbs old Snow at 2	
		<hr/>
		\$ 25