

Davis County Iowa Genealogy

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Wanted ! Family Reunion Stories

Wanted !
Volunteers to Plat
Rouch Cemetery this Fall

CD 3 Available
\$15.00
Add \$1.05 tax
\$3.00 if shipped

2005 Meetings
August 18
Sept 15
Oct 20
Nov 17
December
Meeting will be
announced

Taking orders for the
reprint of the 1924
Dillon Payne
History Book

Oh What A Fair!

Davis County Genealogy 2005 Fair Results- Judging was done by Jay DeYoung of New Sharon. Over 40 exhibits were presented and 4 entries by non-members. New Memberships were acquired. The new CD of Tax Assistance Records was released for sale. Judging was open to the public. The interest from fairgoers is growing and comments are positive. The ribbons for the judging were provided by the fair board, but the judge and the volunteers were by the Davis Co. Genealogical Society. There were several unidentified pictures that were on display in hopes of finding their families. See the societies web pages at [HTTP://IAGENWEB/DAVIS](http://IAGENWEB/DAVIS) to identify. CONGRATULATIONS to Christine Richardson for BEST of SHOW

Pictorial Family History-

Shirley Willcoxson Blue

Legal Documents-

Phyllis Thomas Blue

Pat Howk Red

Land Documents-

Alice Huffman Blue

Deb Barker Red

THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS!!

3rd CD Available

The 3rd CD in the series is now available for purchase. It is The 1934-1937 Tax Assistance Records for Old Age Payment. This publication is very rich in information for that time period. It lists alphabetically, and indexed, surnames, given names, dates of birth, parentage and township residence. In some instances, there are birth places. A great way to find the parent of the person, their siblings too.

Family Records-

Deb Barker Blue

Ione Friend Red

Phyllis Thomas White

Pedigree-

Deb Barker Blue

Lineage-

Wayne Richardson Blue

Record Book-

Alice Huffman Blue

Rosalie Kinney Red

Picture People-

Deb Barker Blue

Phyllis Thomas Red

Rosalie Kinney White

Picture Bldg-

Phyllis Thomas Blue

Picture Family-

Joann Hutchings Blue

Christine Richardson Red

Rosalie Kinney White

True Stories-

Phyllis Thomas Blue

Deb Barker Red

Picture DC History-

Phyllis Thomas Blue

Pat Howk Red

Richard & Ione Friend White

Article of Publication-

Phyllis Thomas Blue

Deb Barker Red

Eileen Taylor White

Scrapbook-

Christine Richardson Blue

Pat Howk Red

Deb Barker White

Church History-

Shirley Willcoxson Blue

Pat Howk Red

Miscellaneous-

Wayne Richardson Blue

Deb Barker Red

Ione Friend White

The Genealogist's Psalm

Genealogy is my pastime, I shall not stray; It maketh me to lie down and examine half-buried tombstones.

It leadeth me into still Court Houses, It restoreth my ancestral knowledge.

It leadeth me in paths of census records and ships passenger lists for my surname's sake.

Yea, Though I walk through the shadows of research libraries and microfilm readers, I shall fear no discouragement; for a strong urge is

within me, curiosity and motivation, they comfort me.

It demandeth preparation of storage space for the acquisition of countless documents; it anointest my head with burning midnight oil, my family group sheets runneth over.

Davis County

Come and Explore

Beautiful Davis County



Surely birth, marriage, and death dates shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of a family-history seeker forever.

New Collection for Library

We recently purchased the Collection of Ottumwa Obituaries Books 1 through 11, covering over 50 years of obituaries published by the Ottumwa Courier. These are being put into a useable format by members. They are by Book, By year, and indexed. A nice addition to our shelves. There are many Davis County Folks mentioned, and the information is

*Over 50 Years of Ottumwa
Obituaries*

irreplaceable. Although some of the quality of these is not A+ please feel free to browse. Queries are welcome. Many members have these in electronic format.

Homeless Photographs

I have been bombarded with long lost pictures of families from the Davis County area. I am currently creating family pages to add to our web, and including what information that was given to myself and others. We would like to place these in loving homes. Please feel free to browse the selection,



and identify, or give help. Some photos may no longer be available or have found a home.

Contact iadavis@mchsi.com

View them at <http://iagenweb.org/davis>

THE REGULAR OR MISSIONARY BAPTISTS

A Pioneer History of Davis County, published 1924

This branch of the Protestant Church was among the first to locate and begin evangelistic work in Davis County and had enough churches to form and hold an Association as early as 1848. Among the early preachers were A. O. Doom, H. Dooley, A. Smock, E. Kinman, T. T. Peak, F. M. Fenton and Felix Dickerson. The first association announced 100 members and of late years 1000. Its members have been intensely loyal to its doctrines and from the first piously evangelistic. Since the year 1848, The Fox River Baptist Association, as it has been named, has met every year in convention work with programs for both the ministers and laymen. The sessions have been held under a written Constitution, By-Laws or Rules of Decorum and Order of Business. It has its committees on Home and Foreign Missions, Christian Education and Sunday Schools. At each meeting a moderator and clerk are elected. All Baptist churches and regularly ordained Baptist ministers in good standing in the bounds of the Association are members of the Association. Like other early denominations in pioneer days, the meetings were held in the residences of members and in the school houses until churches could be built. This denomination preaches a Bible theology, Christian conversion and holy living. Its influence in moulding religious conviction in the minds of our people in the early days cannot be told or measured.

This Association included the Davis County Societies along with others from the adjoining Counties. The Davis County Societies were North Union, Chequest Union, North Fabius, Bloomfield, Mars Hill, Liberty and Floris. Perhaps the earliest of these was North Union which has a unique record.

The North Union Church of the United Baptist Church was organized and adopted a Constitution on November 20th, 1841, and we find among the names of early members Thomas Wisdom, George A. Jenkins, Henry Dooley, C. P. Sutton, Daniel W. Goods, James T. Watson, Israel F. Jenkins, Caleb E. Fenton, John H. Pry, Joel Fenton, Wm. M. Wray, F. M. Dabney, E. Kinman, members of their families and many other pioneers. It is worthy of comment that records of the monthly meetings from that early day down to the present have been well kept and they contain a splendid history of the church. It is doubtful if such another perfect record can be found in the County. You should take notice that this Society at the time thought it was in the State of Missouri. About two years later pioneers were admitted first into Davis County. A few years later the court picked them up and set them over in to Iowa. They have been loyal Iowans ever since.

PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS

A Pioneer History of Davis County, published 1924

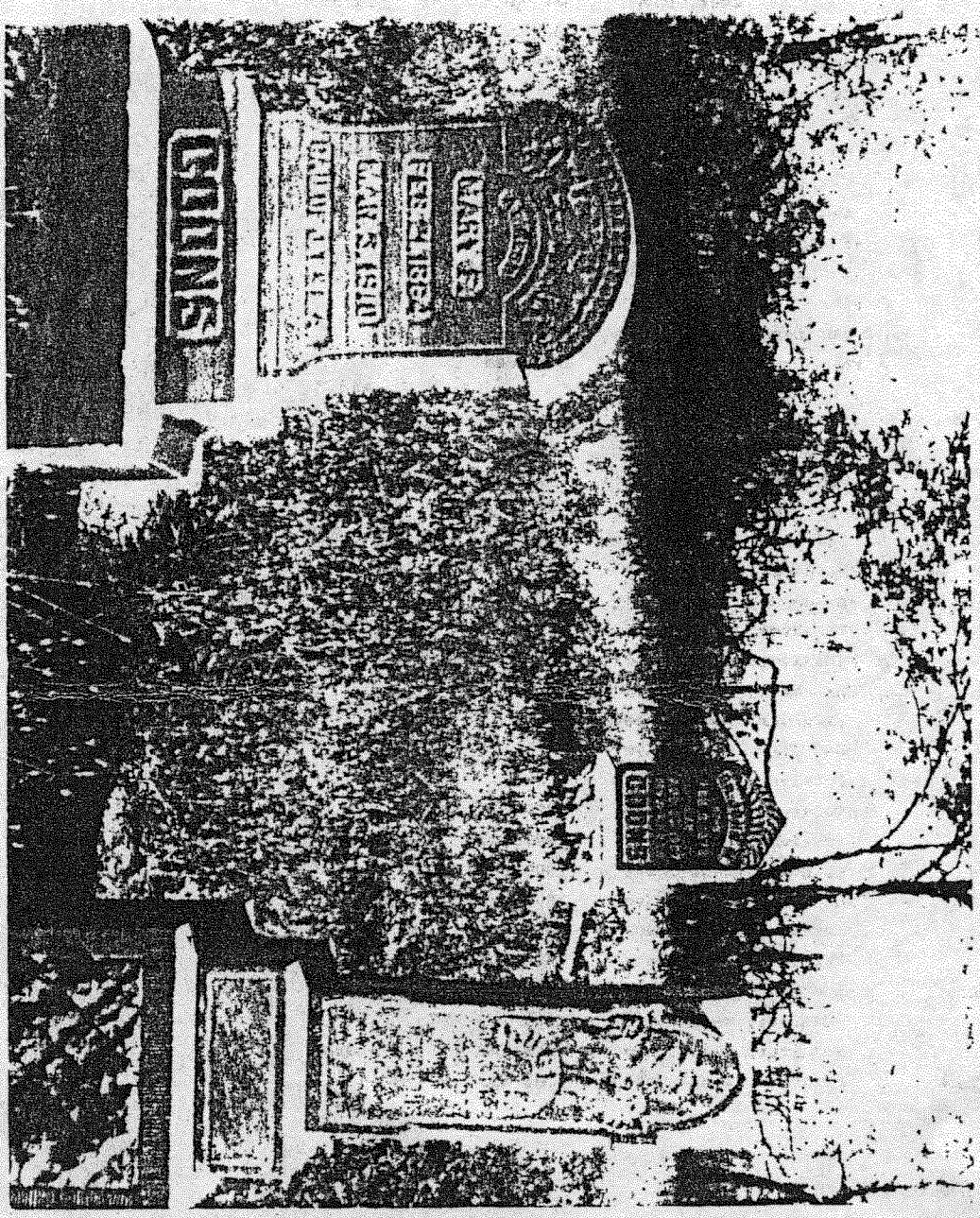
Most of the adherents to this denomination, who were early settlers to this County, came from the Southern states. Perhaps the main difference between this church and the Missionary Baptist was on the Missionary question. There were four early locations in the County where meetings were held very much as other denominations met in homes or school house. One was near Mark, another in Fox River Township, another in Savannah and another at Mars Hill. The first churches of the primitive Baptists were near mark, near the Atwood's in Fox River Township, and later a Union church in Savannah. In this latter church, for denominations, held services in turns once a month. Preachers came to preach to these brethren monthly. Some came from a distance and others lived in the community and were farmers as well as preachers. No salaries were paid, but if the preacher pleased the people real well he often received a donation. There was no such thing as passing a hat or a basket. We can give the names of a few men who, with their families, kept alive the faith: John Hockersmith, Isaac Blakely, Isaac Sidwell, David Sidwell, John McCullough, Mason Atwood, Dewey Clark, Silas Coons, Thomas Coons, Eliazer Spurgeon, Wiley Spurgeon, Hiram Morgan, James Stogdill, Marion Hockersmith, Jacob Hockersmith, the Monroes, Swinneys, Kinmans, Cheethams, and others. Isaac Blakely, Tippe Williams and Isaac Sawin were among the preachers serving these people. This denomination did not favor foreign missions and was close communionist, and held no Sunday Schools. The church was said to advocate the doctrine of foreordination. In those days the sideboard generally contained a decanter filled with standard whiskey. When a friend called it was considered a common and expected courtesy to fill the glasses and pass them around. The minister was never slighted, nor ever refused so far as history tells us. Perhaps this was the reason why they were later called Forty Gallon Baptists by the new fangled abstainers. The fact that they held so long and steadfastly to those primitive customs is perhaps the reasons that they later were called "Hard Shell Baptists." They were called good people, good citizens, and did their share in the civilizing and developing of our pioneer citizenry.

EARLY CHURCHES IN DAVIS COUNTY

The New School Presbyterian in Union Township in 1841
Fox Fiver Baptist, Union Township, in 1842
Shunem Presbyterian, Perry Township, in 1844
Methodist, Bloomfield, in 1844
Bethel Methodist, Union Township, in 1846
Drakeville Christian, Drakeville Township, in 1846
Union Baptist, Lick Creek Township, in 1848
Wesley Methodist, Marion Township, in 1850
Stilesville Christian, Grove Township, in 1850
Christian, Salt Creek Township, in 1850
Christian, Bloomfield, in 1851
Round Grove Methodist, Roscoe Township, in 1856

Atwood, Catherine	Fox River, West Grove	1853 Mar	-1881
Atwood, Elder Mason	Fox River, West Grove	1857 Jan	
Atwood, Louisa	Fox River, West Grove	1882 Sep	
B... Catharine	Fox River, West Grove	1908 Oct	
B... William K.	Fox River, West Grove	1855 Jul	1821-1891
Blakely, Catherine Stone	Fox River, West Grove	1855 Jul	1814-1887
Blakely, Elder Isaac	Fox River, West Grove	1870 Jul	-1872
Blakely, Margaret	Fox River, West Grove	1861 Sep	
Bragg, Arzila	Fox River, West Grove	1898 Apr	
Bridges, Louisa	Fox River, West Grove	1889 Aug	1848-1910
Burgher, Elder Pleasant	Fox River, West Grove		-1867
Bussey, Edward	Fox River, West Grove	1905 May	1820-1906
Bussey, Jesse	Fox River, West Grove	1887 Apr	
Buttry, George	Fox River, West Grove	1870	1828-1913
Bybee, Francis J.	Fox River, West Grove	1871 Jul	-1907
Bybee, J. Hiram	Fox River, West Grove	1877 May	
Bybee, Minerva J. Coons	Fox River, West Grove	1889 Aug	
Camic, John	Fox River, West Grove	1871 Jul	-1915
Camic, Nancy Ann	Fox River, West Grove	1900 Jan	
Cate, Della Turner	Fox River, West Grove	1879 Feb	
Cathey, Elizabeth	Fox River, West Grove		
Clark, Drury C.	Fox River, West Grove		
Clark, Elizabeth	Fox River, West Grove		-1874
Clark, Ollie Burgher	Fox River, West Grove	1894 Apr	1872-1964
Coons, Elizabeth	Fox River, West Grove	1853 Feb	
Coons, James T.	Fox River, West Grove	1859 Jul	1832-1890
Coons, Lucy A.	Fox River, West Grove	1859 Jul	
Coons, Mary	Fox River, West Grove	1894 Jul	
Coons, Nancy E.	Fox River, West Grove		
... Silas	Fox River, West Grove	1853 Feb	
Elliot, Levica	Fox River, West Grove	1859 Feb	
Flock, Paline	Fox River, West Grove		-1862
Fraday, Lucinda	Fox River, West Grove	1859 Nov	1814-1886
Freeman, Margaret	Fox River, West Grove	1898 Sep	
Freeman, P. E.	Fox River, West Grove	1898 Sep	
Freeman, William J.	Fox River, West Grove	1901 Dec	
Grisham, Fanny	Fox River, West Grove	1853 Jan	
Grisham, James	Fox River, West Grove		-1868
Hale, Mary Ann	Fox River, West Grove	1858 Oct	
Hale, Meshack	Fox River, West Grove	1859 May	-1874
Hale, Polly	Fox River, West Grove	1868 Jul	-1885
Hale, Thomas	Fox River, West Grove	1857 Sep	
Harpster, Sarah	Fox River, West Grove	1855 Apr	
Hifner, Bartholomew	Fox River, West Grove		
Hifner, Minerva	Fox River, West Grove		
Hill, Cora	Fox River, West Grove	1894 Oct	
Hill, Isaac	Fox River, West Grove	1887 Jul	1848-1894
Hockersmith, Angeline	Fox River, West Grove	1909 Sep	
Hockersmith, Emily J.	Fox River, West Grove	1866 Apr	
Hockersmith, Emma	Fox River, West Grove	1878 Sep	
Hockersmith, F. M.	Fox River, West Grove	1888 Apr	
Hockersmith, Hallie B.	Fox River, West Grove	1907 Mar	
Hockersmith, Jacob	Fox River, West Grove	1889 Jul	
Hockersmith, John	Fox River, West Grove	1853 Jan	-1882
Hockersmith, Laura Clark	Fox River, West Grove	1888 Apr	1840-1911

Fox River
Cemetery.
Church Bldg. there
is no longer
standing.



OAK HILL CHURCH
Mark, Davis County, Iowa

Oak Hill Church was organized on Monday, July 28, 1845, with four members, by Elder David Wortman. The first church record book (1845-1862) is missing, but notes taken from it indicate that the charter members were Hiram Reeves, E. G. Reeves, Isaac Atteberry, and Savena Dabney. The church first united with the Des Moines River Association in August 1846. The statistics show that the church had five members at that time, one of whom had been received after the constitution. Messengers named between 1846 and 1852 included Hiram Reeves, E. G. Reeves, Simeon J. Good, David Sidwell, Tippo S. Williams, Isaac Sidwell, John Hockersmith, and Meshack Hale. The first clerk was Isaac Atteberry. The first deacon was John Taylor.

The membership had increased to 13 by 1852, at which time the church was admitted into a new association which was being formed called the Western Association. Finally, in October 1854, the church took part in the convention which organized the Hazel Creek Association of Iowa and Missouri.

The first pastor was Elder David Wortman. Later pastors included Elders Hiram Reeves, Isaac Sidwell, Isaac Blakely, T. S. Williams, George Jackson, Mason Atwood, E. W. Kinkade, Isaac Sawin, Pleasant Burgher, Samuel Cates, W. T. Walters, E. E. Vestal, Burt L. Nay, A. J. Conlee, J. Bryan Adair, Orvel Prior, Clyde Johnson and Walter Acton.

Elder Hiram Reeves was ordained by this church (the date is unknown since the first church record book is missing). Elder George Jackson was ordained in August 1873. Elder Wesley Jones was ordained to the ministry by this church in August 1928; and Elder Walter Acton was ordained by this church in August 1945.

In July 1854 the church agreed to build a meeting house. In April 1855 the trustees of the church received title to the site for the church building. At this time it was agreed that the meeting house would be 20 feet square with one story 10 feet tall. The church met for the first time for worship in the new meeting house in April 1856. However, by 1866 the records show that meetings were being held in homes, and in 1867 the church authorized the trustees to sell or rent the church house, but in 1869 the authority to sell it was rescinded. In April 1868 the church offered \$12 to the trustees of the meeting house in Martinsville for use of that building for one year. In June 1869 the church agreed to hold their monthly services in the Union meeting house in Savannah. In April 1870 the church agreed to fence part of the church grounds. In August 1880 the church sold some bricks from the old meeting house to help pay expenses.

A 1923 newspaper clipping which is pasted in the front of the last church record book, states that the church building was erected 32 years ago by Frank Rominger of Bloomfield. If this is correct, it appears that a new church building was erected in about the year 1891.

The church was active until about 1950. The building was sold, and the proceeds were given to Hazel Creek Church, in 1953.

(We are seeking a picture of this church.)

Acton, Arthur E.	Oak Hill, Mark	1909 Nov	
Acton, Elder Walter P.	Oak Hill, Mark	1928 Sep	1910-1991
Acton, Faye Tracy	Oak Hill, Mark	1942 Oct	
Acton, Lola Bell Spurgeon	Oak Hill, Mark	1919 Jun	1892-1948
Acton, Waneta	Oak Hill, Mark	1928 Sep	
Arnold, Cynthia	Oak Hill, Mark		
Arnold, Thomas	Oak Hill, Mark		
Atteberry, Isaac	Oak Hill, Mark	1845 Jul	
Atteberry, Stephen	Oak Hill, Mark	1886 Nov	
Barnett, Amanda	Oak Hill, Mark	1891 Jul	1859-
Barnett, William T.	Oak Hill, Mark	1891 Jul	-1907
Beasley, Jessie	Oak Hill, Mark	1896 Sep	
Bowen, Dabney	Oak Hill, Mark		
Briggs, James T.	Oak Hill, Mark	1927 Jul	-1960
Burch, Elizabeth	Oak Hill, Mark		
Burch, William H.	Oak Hill, Mark		
Calvert, Sarah	Oak Hill, Mark		
Carter, Martha	Oak Hill, Mark		
Carter, William	Oak Hill, Mark		
Dabney, Riena	Oak Hill, Mark		-1901
Dabney, Savana	Oak Hill, Mark	1845 Jul	
Ethel, John	Oak Hill, Mark		-1861
Evelan, H.	Oak Hill, Mark		
Gibson, Ella Spurgeon	Oak Hill, Mark		
Good, Simeon J.	Oak Hill, Mark		
Hale, Elder Meshack	Oak Hill, Mark		-1874
Henderson, Ebenezer	Oak Hill, Mark	1898 Sep	-1901
Hill, Levicy	Oak Hill, Mark		-1871
Hockersmith, John	Oak Hill, Mark		-1882
Hockersmith, Thomas Jefferson	Oak Hill, Mark	1925 Aug	1875-1946
Holloway, Nettie	Oak Hill, Mark	1896 Nov	
Humphrey, Rebecca Jane Price	Oak Hill, Mark	1893 Sep	1852-1940
Jackson, Elder George	Oak Hill, Mark		
Jackson, John	Oak Hill, Mark	1871 Nov	
Jackson, Martha	Oak Hill, Mark	1870 Apr	
Jackson, Mary Ann	Oak Hill, Mark	1870 May	
Jones, Elder Wesley	Oak Hill, Mark	1927 Dec	1897-1977
Jones, Fay Arnold	Oak Hill, Mark	1929 Aug	1910-
Kirkpatrick, Martha J. Morgan	Oak Hill, Mark	1883 Sep	-1912
Kirkpatrick, William R.	Oak Hill, Mark	1890 Oct	
McCullough, Martha Francis	Oak Hill, Mark	1869 Jun	
Meritt, Mary	Oak Hill, Mark	1869 Jun	-1869
Mobley, Anna	Oak Hill, Mark	1896 Oct	-1920
Mobley, Drewry	Oak Hill, Mark	1896 Oct	
Mobley, Lewis C.	Oak Hill, Mark	1896 Oct	-1919
Morgan, Anna	Oak Hill, Mark	1860	1830-1903
Morgan, Davis F.	Oak Hill, Mark	1880 Sep	1853-1914
Morgan, Dotia	Oak Hill, Mark		-1877
Morgan, Hiram L.	Oak Hill, Mark		-1916
Morgan, Levi J.	Oak Hill, Mark		
Morgan, Preminter	Oak Hill, Mark		-1874
Patterson, Emeline	Oak Hill, Mark	1885 Aug	-1898
Payne, Judah	Oak Hill, Mark		-1880
Reeves, E. G.	Oak Hill, Mark	1845 Jul	
Reeves, Elder Hiram	Oak Hill, Mark	1845 Jul	-1889

Richards, Rachel	Oak Hill, Mark	1896 Sep	
Shelton, Ella	Oak Hill, Mark	1893 Jan	1825-1900
Shelton, John	Oak Hill, Mark	1893 May	
Shelton, Morrice	Oak Hill, Mark		
Sidwell, David	Oak Hill, Mark		
Sidwell, Elder Isaac D.	Oak Hill, Mark		
Sidwell, Elizabeth	Oak Hill, Mark		
Sidwell, Jane	Oak Hill, Mark	1869 Jun	
Sidwell, John	Oak Hill, Mark	1869 Jun	
Sidwell, Mary	Oak Hill, Mark		
Simmons, Dorothy Arnold	Oak Hill, Mark	1929 Aug	
Spear, Esau	Oak Hill, Mark		-1892
Spurgeon, Chloe	Oak Hill, Mark	1895 Sep	1850-1903
Spurgeon, Clayte Jennings	Oak Hill, Mark	1927 Jun	-1977
Spurgeon, David K.	Oak Hill, Mark		
Spurgeon, Dora	Oak Hill, Mark	1899 Jun	1874-1942
Spurgeon, Eleazer	Oak Hill, Mark		1809-1892
Spurgeon, Elizabeth	Oak Hill, Mark		1816-1893
Spurgeon, Elsie Pearl Veach	Oak Hill, Mark	1927 Jun	1902-1949
Spurgeon, Jasper N.	Oak Hill, Mark	1895 Sep	-1903
Spurgeon, Moriah	Oak Hill, Mark	1896 Oct	
Spurgeon, Phebe	Oak Hill, Mark		-1882
Spurgeon, Wiley F.	Oak Hill, Mark		
Stogdill, James	Oak Hill, Mark	1896 Nov	1839-1917
Stogdill, Julie Ann	Oak Hill, Mark	1890 Aug	-1910
Stogdill, Morris	Oak Hill, Mark	1918 Jul	-1920
Stogdill, Nancy	Oak Hill, Mark	1895 Sep	
Stogdill, Thomas	Oak Hill, Mark	1858	1840-1892
Sutton, Josephine	Oak Hill, Mark		
Sutton, Jane	Oak Hill, Mark		
Sutton, John	Oak Hill, Mark		-1857
Tharp, Will T.	Oak Hill, Mark	1899 Oct	1861-1944
Walker, Emma Morgan	Oak Hill, Mark	1895 Oct	
Walker, Logan H.	Oak Hill, Mark	1899 May	1865-1941
Westbrook, Deberiman	Oak Hill, Mark		-1864
Williams, Elder Tippo S.	Oak Hill, Mark		
Williams, Rebecca	Oak Hill, Mark	1866 May	-1867
Wilson, Sister	Oak Hill, Mark		
Young, Elizabeth	Oak Hill, Mark		-1864
Young, William	Oak Hill, Mark		-1864

FOR SALE

DAVIS COUNTY RECORDS ON CD

Volume #1 contains the 1870 Davis County IA Federal Census
 And WPA Gravestone Reagristration Records Volume #2 contains
 Probate Index, Marriage Index and Will Index

Price \$13.00 each. Send Orders to Society at P O Box 94 Bloomfield IA
 52537-0094 or order online at iadavis@chsi.com

FOX RIVER CHURCH
West Grove, Davis County, Iowa

Fox River Church was organized January 22, 1853, with five charter members, viz., Marena Riggs, Fanny Grisham, John Hockersmith, Lucinda Hockersmith, and Margaret J. Owens. These brethren and sisters, living near the head of Fox River, had petitioned Hazel Creek and Oak Hill Churches to constitute them as a church. The presbytery and council which met for that purpose consisted of Isaac D. Sidwell and Nathaniel Oliver, from Hazel Creek; Meshack Hale and T. Williams from Oak Hill; and Mason Atwood being present was invited to participate.

Elder Isaac D. Sidwell was chosen the first pastor, and served for many years.

Fox River church united with the Hazel Creek Association, and was listed as a member of that body until about 1942.

Part of the records of this church exist, and a microfilm of them has been made, and is kept in The Primitive Baptist Library.

FOR SALE
VOLUME # 3 DAVIS COUNTY RECORDS ON CD
CONTAINS THE RECORD OF OLD AGE
TAX ASSISTANCE &
1850 CENSUS

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