

Town Voting

Mary J. Packer
Town of Providence Historian

As our new Community Center is being built I think back of the places we voted in our town and the memories when I voted for the first time in Barkersville. That was in the old parsonage where one climbed the stairs and used paper ballots. It was across the road from my parent's house. As children we used the swing and yard to play in when it was empty. In later years, we had church services there too, as it was easier to heat for the winter. We always had lots of visitors on voting day. Some waited their turn to vote, some walked down to the store and I remember the smoke filled room as the men enjoyed their cigars. The church ladies served a church dinner at the Parker house and many a person had a ticket given to them. The children sure collected candy that day which they enjoyed and the pond rides and walks.

When the Matteson Garage was sold to the Town, they made an office and voting place, later it was used for the fire department where the truck was kept. Also we used that space for the dances and dinner that the ladies held for their auxiliaries helping to raise money for our projects and for the firemen.

Around 1950, when Bill Mickan was supervisor, a new Town house was built for the machinery and as a voting place. We were growing and needed space for our snow plows. We all worked having barbeques and dances. Many people came from around Town and the Lake Nancy campers helped and loved it. Some are still living there.

Now we will be voting in our new center in Barkersville and Hagadorn Mills, as we are growing and changing. The building looks great and Dick Hunter is a great supervisor, we also have a great board.

God bless you all and a prayer for our President too.