



WILDWOOD

March 28, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Wildwood Historic Preservation Commission Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
The Honorable City Council of Wildwood
Steve Cross, Co-Interim City Administrator
John A. Young, City Attorney
Jill Von Gruben, Wildwood Historical Society

Re: **Updated Outline from Author Relative to Next Chapter in Wildwood's Written History Covering 1920 – 1990 (Wards – All)**

Since the Historic Preservation Commission's January 24, 2019 meeting, members have been working with Jill Von Gruben, of the Wildwood Historical Society, to develop an outline, provide a list of key events to be covered in the next chapter of the City's written history project, which is 1920 to 1990, and offer additional direction to Ms. Von Gruben, as the chapter's author, to draft the content. As Ms. Von Gruben has begun writing the text of the chapter, she has revised the overall outline and wanted to provide its changes to the Commission for review and, if warranted, comment. To this end, this revised outline is attached to this memorandum for Commission Members to review.

If you should have any questions or comments in this regard, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning at (636) 458-0440. This outline, in revised form, will be discussed at tonight's meeting. Thank you for your review of this information and input on the same.

Wildwood Historical Society
Celebrate the History of Wildwood, Missouri; 1920-1990
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(Shorthand used below: MT = Meramec Township)

1920s

Post WWI effects

Roaring Twenties

Prohibition and its effects in MT

Taverns in MT

Moonshiners

women get the vote

Agricultural depression (which predated world-wide financial depression)

A major section/separate chapter:

Add to outline: ROUTE 66 – entire history

State mandate Market-Main Street to Jefferson City

Grover, Pond, etc.

Photo of WHS roadbed and bridge abutment

Eureka HS

Late 1920s and 1930s

Black Friday, etc.

The Depression and its effects in MT

Major Public Parks – separate section

Babler, Rockwood Reservation, Rockwood Range, Greensfelder

The number of acres of park land, % of Wildwood

FDR & programs

CCC in Babler Park & projects in MT

eg. Stone retaining wall in front of Old Pond School – Jill take photo

Pre WWII, WWII — story told thru MT servicemen (NOTE: STL Records Center Fire in 1970s destroyed 70% of all army, and army air records — we may only have vignettes, or just names on photos)

POWs housed in Chesterfield Valley, Japanese Internment Camp at Chesterfield Valley

Army training Use of Babler Park

WWII major events timeline

Perhaps a map showing where MT guys served or the campaigns....

WWII On the HomeFront

Rationing, victory gardens

Blue Star and Gold Star Window Flags

How long it took for information to come to families about MIA, injuries, death

Recipes in newspapers, call for recycling

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Post-war - Late 1940s

- Beginning of suburbanization
- The role of the VA, VA loans
- Beginning of fragmentation of county,
with possible timeline of founding dates for suburban cities

VFW & American Legion Posts that serve MT
Eureka, Chesterfield, Ballwin

Cold War timeline and mini-section (1945-1991)
Churchill's Iron Curtain Speech 1946 in Fulton MO
Cold War in Schools— air raid practice

1950s and Korean Conflict/War (same note re: Army Records Center Fire)
Korea major events timeline
On the home front (rationing, etc)

- McCarthyism (1950-54)
- Rosenburg spy trial, etc.
- 1954- US Supreme Court decision: Brown vs Board of Education
- Education changes in MT

1960s

- Culture
- 1961: Bay of Pigs
- 1962: Gary Powers U-2 spy plane
- Desegregation in Schools
- Formation of Rockwood School District
Besides listing: reference The OneRoom Schoolhouses book by Karen Fox
- Public Water District – formation and why formed

Vietnam War (same note re: Army Records Center Fire)
Vietnam major events timeline

1970s - 1990+/-

- Additional schools built, etc. in Rockwood
- Additional churches

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Miscellaneous sections:

Transportation advances // Sidebar/Timeline

Technology, including agricultural, advances // Sidebar/Timeline

Medical Care advances

Shopping –

Local: Grazics – “grocery store”

Clothing and appliances: Maplewood: Goldies and Sears

Long time Businesses in MT

Fahrs

Kelpe Contracting

Larry’s Tavern

Schott’s Pontiac and Garage

Pond/Grover long-time businesses

Funks Store

Von Gruben Tavern

Wetterers-Koch’s-Glazers

Stovall’s

Liewicke Building in Centaur

Others

Glencoe Summer Homes, etc.

WF&P RR in Glencoe

Additional topics:

With 1860-1919 Chapter, in end material we added listing of Registers of Historic Places:

Add photos of buildings/properties

Bring in a bit about US Presidents & Timelines for each era — since a certain percentage of our readers will have been alive during these Presidencies.

The above outline will be adjusted in response to how the research and submitted stories are available and molds Our Story.

The more relatively current time, specific family info & service personnel info will be more difficult to flesh out — for the reason most folks don’t consider their own lives and times “history”.

We’ll do some targeted info requests in City Friday Newsletter (thru Facebook, etc) and see if we can gain further detail that way.