

Marriage Records of Douglas County  
Copied by Cinita Davis Brown

The Douglas County Court House at Ava has twice been destroyed by fire so all of the earliest marriage records for the county were destroyed.

The first fire which destroyed the court house that stood on the east side of the square was in 1872. A second fire occurred in 1886 when the court house which was located on the northwest corner of the square, also burned. The first marriage recorded after that fire was that of James Hammons of Douglas County, over 21 and Hannah Deckart over 18, at Ava on March 25, 1886 by Wm. J. Fulton, Minister of the Gospel. The book which records this and the other marriage from this date until 1893 is marked Book 1 in the Circuit Clerk's Office.

There are two books of marriages which were re-recorded after the 1886 fire. They are marked Book 1 and Book 2 of marriages re-recorded.

As you can readily see these are in neither chronological nor alphabetical order. Also for some reason there were no more entries in Book 1 which was not nearly filled. Book 2 contain many more entries. "The Good Lord willin, and the creek don't rize" I'll have them for the next issue.

The following are the marriages from Book 1—re-recorded.

Name	Date	Place	Performed by	Witnesses
_____, Gills	Sept. 23, 1877	Brides home	James W. Buchanan MG	Wash Davis Amanda Davis
John F. Thompson to Sarah A. Robinson	July 3, 1879	Brides residence	James F. Davis M. G.	John Huffman Ben Hart
Dal Hartin to Darcas Huffman	July 18, 1889	Jesse Huffmans	James F. Davis M. G.	David M. Pratt G. W. Hale
Sylvester Johnston to Nancy A. Johnston	May 28, 1884	Ava	? S. G. Haws M. G. of Christ	Julins Miller W. T. Kelton
A.C. Kice to Emma Roby	March 2, 1879	Ava	? S. G. Haws M. G. of Christ	W. C. Kelton Maryline Kelton
Charles Davis to Ruth Wallace	Dec. 29, 1872	Thomas Singleton's	J. W. Buchanan M.G.	Thomas Singleton Barney Wallace
Leonard B. Shipley To Deborah Snelson	Sept. 19, 1865	Vera Cruz	Thomas S. Brown M.G.	D. B. Sloan John R. Gaulding
George D. Hale To Manerva J. Rogers	July 31, 1881	White Oak School House	W. L. Fannon M. G.	George Hale Thomas H. Martin
Bartlett E. Wilson to Parmelia M. Johnson	Nov. 29, 1866	Brides house	W. L. Fannon M. G.	David Barnes Bartley J. Barnes
Sampson Rippee to Julia Hayse	Aug. 26, 1874		William M. Brown M. G.	W. Nina Brown
John G. Martin to Nancy J. Hale	April 26, 1874	George Hales	D. C. Walker J. P.	Lewis Huffman Jacob Huffman

Matt J. Huffman to Mary H. Rutledge	February 26, 1885	David Rutledge's	Burgess Wright M. G.	James Tatum Wm. Rutledge
George W. Bullington To Janice M. Hughes	Dec. 4, 1894	John H. Hughes'	James Thompson J. P.	
Eson Fox to Mary Robertson	Oct. 12, 1862	Clark's Mill	W. L. Fannon M.G. (signed with x)	J. P. Mahan H. Inman
Henry Dye to Margaret L. Parnell	March 5, 1866	My residence	James P. Ince Assoc. Judge	
Jacob Casebolt to Eliza A. Igo	Oct. 16, 1878		D. C. Walker J. P.	
John P. Edwards to Mary S. Potter	July 3, 1886	Ava	S. G. Haws M. G.	L. O. Hailey Mattie Potter
John F. Arnold to Eliza Hargis	Aug. 6, 1878	At Eliza Hargis'		Nancy E. Cobb Elios Cobb
Alexander Lemons to Elizabeth Heard	Jan. 2, 1883	Ava	James Hailey Probate Judge	O. H. Gentry J. B. Hailey
John Faulk to Luvernia Frazier	Oct. 20, 1884	My office	William Walls J. P. of Boone Township	
J. W. Pool to Mrs. E. D. Lowery	Jan. 13, 1884	My office	Geo. W. Shaw J. P.	Marry Ann Shaw X her mark Sarah Jane Rackley