

Map "Welcome to Polk County, Arkansas"

SCREENED
By *dag* Date *3/18/2010*

Recreation

Queen Wilhelmina State Park Situated along Talimena Scenic Drive atop Rich Mountain, 13 miles northwest from the town of Mena, stands out as one of the state's most scenic areas and reaches nearly 3,000 feet above sea level.

Shady Lake Shady Lake Recreation Area lies on the extreme southern edge of the Ouachita National Forest adjacent to the 14,433 acre Caney Creek Wilderness Area. The 25 acre lake and recreation area accommodates thousands of visitors each year who enjoy hiking, camping, fishing, boating, swimming, and picnicking.

Cossatot River State Park Natural Area One of the most rugged and spectacular river corridors in the central United States, encompasses more than 4200 acres. It is located from near Mena to the Little River southeast of DeQueen. The stream features Class III, IV, and V rapids - the Cossatot River, Indian name for "skull crusher," is not for beginners.

Ouachita National Forest Consists of 1.5 million acres and is the South's oldest and largest National Forest. Visitors can enjoy thirty-two recreational areas by picnicking, camping, hiking, horseback riding, swimming, fishing, hunting, and boating. Ouachita National Recreation Trails span 75 miles east to west across the forest from Arkansas Hwy.9 near Little Rock, AR to Talimena State Park in OK.

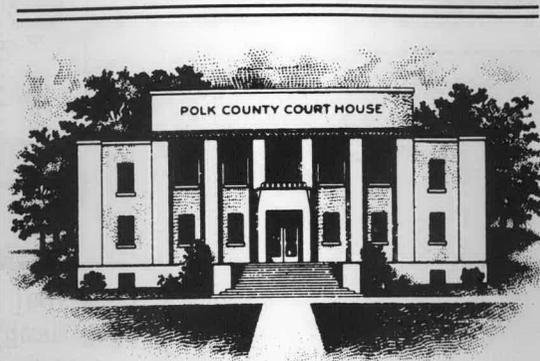
Talimena Scenic Drive Spans the highest mountain range (Ouachitas) between the Appalachians and the Rockies. It is Mid-America's only official scenic drive winding 54 miles from Mena, AR, to Talihina, OK.

Janssen Park A 10 acre community park listed in the Register of Historic Places hosts a historic deer park, spring fed lakes, an 1851 log cabin-the first homestead built by William Shelton in the area which now comprises Mena.

Mena Depot Built in 1920, serves as a focal point of Mena, and greets any visitor who passes through on U.S. Hwy. 71 or State Hwy. 88.

Welcome To **POLK COUNTY** **ARKANSAS**

Cove • Grannis
Hatfield • Vandervoort
Wickes



Polk County Courthouse

County Map - City Maps
Points of Interest

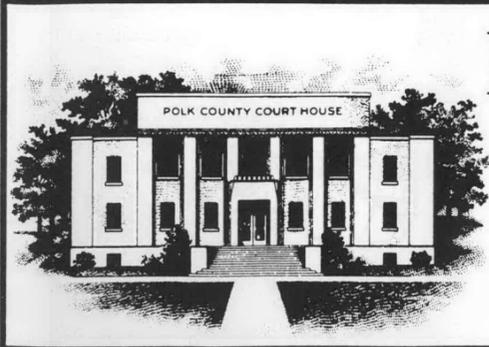
POLK COUNTY

Polk County's early days saw a host of Quapaw Indian settlements, while the eastern edge of the area can lay claim to a famous visitor by the name of Hernando Desoto. It is believed that Desoto trekked through this Ouachita Mountain region shortly after departing the healing waters of the "hot springs." True settlement in the area began around 1830 and Polk County was founded in 1844, taking its name from President-elect James K. Polk.

Located on the Arkansas-Oklahoma border, nearly half of the county is in the Ouachita National Forest. Lumber and wood products, tree farming, cattle and poultry are among the important industries in this predominately agricultural area. The county seat of Mena was established on August 19, 1896, the arrival date of the first train of the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf Railroad (now the Kansas City Southern). The community was formed as the principal town between Fort Smith and Texarkana on the new railroad.

Polk County, with a population of a little more than 17,000 is a rural county which has been characterized by farming (beef cattle and poultry). The character of the industrial structure has been changing for about twenty (20) years, becoming more diversified. Industries of Polk County are U.S. Motors, Aalfs Manufacturing, Rogers Lumber Products, Tyson Poultry, Goodner Brothers' Aircraft Painting, and twenty-six smaller businesses. The county's population is mostly rural with Mena having about 34% of the total population of the county. The county has a population per square mile of 16. The average educational mean of Polk County is 9.6.

In recent years, Polk County has become a popular place to breed champion Arabian horses. Currently, there are 15 such farms, with several others in the planning stages.



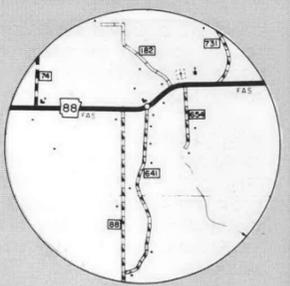
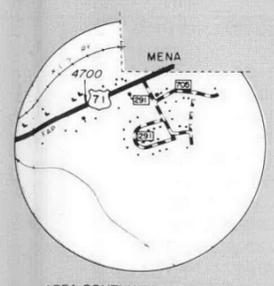
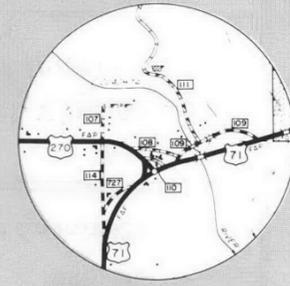
POLK COUNTY

YOUR COUNTY OFFICIALS

394-8133

Ray B. Stanley, County Judge
Mike Oglesby, Sheriff-Collector
Pat Myers, County Clerk
Linda Jones, Circuit Clerk
Linda Clark, Treasurer
Joyce Deramus Alexander, Assessor

Justices of the Peace
Curtis Powell, Jim Neugent, Joe Mannon,
William C. (Bill) Reed, Frankie Davis, Benny Parks,
Ronnie Richardson, Tommy E. Floyd, Terry Scott



ACORN
Sec. 21, 28, T. 1 S., R. 30 W.

AREA SOUTHWEST OF MENA
Sec. 23, T. 2 S., R. 31 W.

INK
Sec. 7, 8, 17, T. 2 S., R. 29 W.

