

Ohio City

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Ohio City (located two miles north and west of Princeton) served as the county seat of Franklin County from 1857-1864. Ohio City had a population of 100 during those years. The town supported a general store, hotel, stage line, courthouse, numerous dwellings, a cemetery and a grist mill located one mile east of the town. The county offices were located in the building used for a store, and court was held in a building built for church and school purposes. The ford over the Marais des Cygnes at the site of Ottawa, established in 1864, was called the Ohio City Crossing of the river, since that was where one was usually going if one took the ford.

James Fitten was County Treasurer and Clerk of the Court; C.L. Robbins was Sheriff; Herbert F. Sheldon held the offices of County Clerk and Register of Deeds; William Tulloss, a banker, was Probate Judge.

In the 1880s, the railroad continued south from Ottawa and passed to the west of Ohio City where Princeton developed. Much of Ohio City moved or relocated to Princeton. Two houses from Ohio City were moved on rollers to its predecessor county seat, Ottawa, and remain in use today.

Catherine Jane Richards, 1993, and Deborah Barker, 2011