

DID YOU KNOW.....

A look back at early area history as found in the archives of the Enderlin Historical Society and Museum by Susan Schlecht

The following information is another excerpt from the files of The Writers' Project for Ransom County with information on Enderlin as collected by early Enderlin resident Mrs. Susan Vance for a 1936 tourist guide.

“Points of Interest: Patrick Pierce Park, containing five blocks lying along the Maple River in the northern part of Enderlin, (was) named by and given by relatives of Patrick Pierce to the city of Enderlin in 1909, to commemorate and perpetuate his name. The Boy Scouts have a cabin in this park.

Baxter or Soo Line Park, one block lying in the center of Enderlin, (was) named in memory of George Baxter Sr., Superintendent of this division of the Soo Line, for many years.

Gateway Park, at the top of the hill at the intersection of Third and Fourth Avenues, (was) set out and cared for by the War Mothers, and a natural wooded hill near the water tower, (was) given to the city by Albert Kaber for a children's playground.”

“Recreation: Enderlin has a good municipal bathing pool in the Patrick Pierce Park, also good playground equipment for the children, two public tennis courts, an excellent ball park for football and baseball, donated by Dr. G. Hendrickson, an eighteen hole golf course operated by the Enderlin Golf Club and a large floor for basketball in the city hall.”

Sue's comments: Note that our Patrick Pierce Park will be 100 years old next year! What wonderful foresight on the part of our early citizens to provide this park for our enjoyment! Notice that what we would call a swimming pool today was called a “bathing pool” in the early days. Since this article was written in 1936, the new school built in 1933 did not yet have a gymnasium so it was noted that the city hall had a large floor for basketball. Also, maybe someone has information as to where the 1930's golf course was located.

Watch for more history next week!