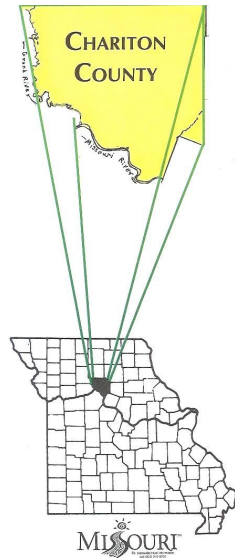


Directions to Charles Ingalls Homestead Site



From Keytesville: Take Highway 5 North for 12 miles to Route C. Turn left on Route C and go 4 miles to Route F. Turn right on Route F and go 2 miles to Ingalls Road. At Ingalls road turn left and go 1/2 mile. The Ingalls Homestead Site Sign is on the right.

From Brunswick: Go 1 mile west on Highway 24 to Highway 11. Turn north on Highway 11 and proceed 15 miles to Route C. Turn right on Route C and go 3 miles to the Junction of Route F. At Route F turn left and go 2 miles to Ingalls Road. At Ingalls Road turn left and proceed 1/2 mile. The Ingalls Homestead Site Sign is on the right.

From Marceline: Go south on Highway 5 to Route E. Turn right on Route E. Proceed to the junction of Route F. Turn left or south on F. Proceed to Ingalls Road and turn right. Go 1/2 mile to the Ingalls Homestead Site Sign.

Come visit the site of the Ingalls Homestead in central MO, see the beautiful countryside and enjoy the other attractions in the area while here. Missouri was the site of many important battles in the Civil War, including some locally in Central Missouri. This area is also home to many of our nation's generals, including: General John J. Pershing (WWI) of Laclede, General Sterling Price (Civil War) of Dalton, General Maxwell Taylor (WWII) of Keytesville, and General Omar Bradley (WWII) of Clark /Moberly, MO.

AREA ATTRACTIONS

- Mendon --

Convenience Store with Restaurant, Park, Old Fashioned Saturday late August.

-- Brunswick --

Lewis & Clark Campsite, Antique Stores, World's Largest Pecan, Quilt Shop, Old Fashioned Dime Store, MO River Access Point, Agri-Tourism, Bed & Breakfasts, Pecan Festival 1st weekend in October, KC Catfishing Tournament 3rd weekend in July.

-- Keytesville --

General Sterling Price CSA Monument, General Price Museum (seasonal), National Historic Register Presbyterian Church, Reconstructed Log Cabin, National Historic Register Redding-Hill Homestead, Birthplace of General Maxwell Taylor and sports figure Cal Hubbard, Restaurant, General Price Days 2nd weekend in September.

-- Sumner --

Canada Goose Capital, Statue of Maxie the Canada Goose, Senator Wm. Fulbright Museum, Pioneer Kitchen (seasonal), Swan Lake Wildlife Refuge, Stanley Lake, Purvis Cemetery (many Civil War veterans buried there), Pershing State Park located nearby, Wild Goose Festival late October.

-- Salisbury --

Chariton County Historical Society Museum, Bed & Breakfasts, Restaurants, Stately Old Homes, Potts Park, Golf Course, Swimming Pool, Sterling Price Lake nearby, Salisbury Steak Festival 2nd weekend in June, Pumpkin Fest in late September.

-- Dalton --

Rich farmlands and frequent floods, Home of well-known author Joel Vance, Cut-Off Lake, Old Jail, Dalton Days Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend.

-- Rothville --

Bank of Rothville, City Park, Laura Ingalls Wilder's homestead site nearby.

ROTHVILLE

Childhood Home of Laura Ingalls Wilder 1868-1869



While the cabin has been lost to time, visitors to Rothville can still visit the tract of land where the Ingalls family spent one year farming. A sign stands as a marker for all who visit. Travelers can access the sign by pulling off Ingalls Road into the convenient turn around for automobiles. While there are no amenities in this remote farming area, neighboring towns of Mendon, Marceline, Sumner, Brunswick, Keytesville, and Salisbury offer conveniences for the traveler.

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The Ingalls' Year in Rothville:

Adamantine Johnson was a large landowner in northern Chariton County, Missouri, during the Civil War (1861-1865). During this time, he opened a dry goods store in St. Louis, which prospered until the war's end. Involved in a number of other business ventures, including banking and tobacco shipping, Johnson found he had stretched his investments too far and was in desperate need of funds by the end of the hostilities. He returned to Chariton County and hired agents to sell off parcels of his land in order to raise money. These agents placed advertisements in multiple states and traveled as far north as Wisconsin and Minnesota searching for potential buyers.



Charles and Caroline Ingalls

One agent found two prospective buyers seven miles outside of Pepin, Wisconsin in an area commonly known as the Big Woods. Charles Ingalls and his brother-in-law, Henry Quiner, agreed to purchase 80 acres from Johnson for \$900 sight unseen in late May 1868. The Quiner land joined the Ingalls land on the west. The two families, Charles and Caroline with their daughters Mary and Laura, and Henry and Polly Quiner with their three children Louisa, Charles, and Henry, set out for Missouri by wagon. The men hoped to work as carpenters until the next spring when they could start planting crops on their newly purchased land.

Events in Wisconsin during the next year caused problems for the transplanted Missourians. Gustaf Gustafson, who had bought the Ingalls' land up north in the Big Woods on credit was not making payments due to poor crops.

By August of 1869, Charles Ingalls ran out of patience with Gustafson and signed a power of attorney for his (Ingalls') father, who was still living in the Big Woods, to act as his agent to compel payment - to no avail.

Charles and Henry had similar disappointments as Gustafson, with their crops also failing. Henry and Polly Quiner returned to Wisconsin with their children, but Charles Ingalls decided to move his family west to Kansas. The move to Kansas was not the last move Pa, Ma, and the children made through the years. They were in Kansas in 1869, Walnut Grove, Minnesota, in 1874, Burr Oak, Iowa, in 1876, back to Walnut Grove for a year, then on to DeSmet, Dakota Territory, where 18 year old Laura met and married Almanzo Wilder in 1885.

With no memory of her short time in Chariton County, Missouri, where she would have celebrated her second birthday, Laura never wrote about her family's brief time here, although other places she lived during her childhood affected her literary efforts and formed the foundation for the *Little House on the Prairie* series.



Laura Ingalls Wilder, approx. 27 years old

Adamantine Johnson Home



This stately, two-story brick dwelling was the home of Chariton County landowner Adamantine Johnson. Charles Ingalls and his brother-in-law Henry Quiner bought parcels of land from Johnson's land agents in 1868.

The current home owners are in the process of restoring the home. The house is located 1/2 mile east and then north of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Homestead Site Sign.

Interested in learning more about Laura Ingalls Wilder?

Be sure to visit Rocky Ridge Farm in Mansfield, Missouri, where Laura wrote the Little House books.

Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home & Museum
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