

**Britton House
Troy, Missouri
Lincoln County**

The Britton House, as it is called today, was built about 1832 by Joseph Cottle on lot number 189 in Troy, Missouri and is one of the longest standing residences in Troy. The house is next to the Great Elm Spring that was near the Sac and Fox village before the town of Troy was platted by Joseph Cottle on 1819. The spring in front of the Britton House was accidentally and permanently disrupted by a dynamite blast in 1929. The spring was used by many farmers who came into the town of Troy just for the water, so the spring was certainly missed by many people.

The house is Federal style with four working fireplaces and all four mantels are original to the house. The floors consist of pit-sawn, inch-thick, random width oak floorboards. The two downstairs rooms, kitchen, dining room and the two rooms above are of the original structure and contain the working fireplaces. The original structure was the added onto in the 1860s and again at the turn of the century.

The second owner was James H, Britton who came to Troy in 1840 and was in the general merchandising business. James Britton also served as Lincoln County Treasurer and Postmaster in Troy. From 1853-1856 James Britton was in the State Legislature representing Lincoln County and was Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives. From 1875-1876 he was the Mayor St. Louis.

After James Britton's ownership, the home was used as a private residence and as a boarding house for a number of years.

In the 1980's, the home was purchased by Clay Marsh and Chet Brietweiser. Although Clay and Chet did extensive remodeling and made plans for the garden behind the house, it was still called the Britton House.

Lorene Creech purchased the house from Clay and Chet. In 1997, Glenna Udre undertook the garden as her project to honor her friend, Lorene Creech. Glenna's many hours of toil have produced a beautiful English garden and is a complement to the grounds around Britton House.

Lorene Creech deeded the Britton House to the Lincoln County Historical Society in 1997. The house is lovingly maintained and the house and gardens are available to the Community for weddings, parties, showers and other events.

In 2009 the Margaret Wyatt Allyn Chapter of the National Society Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century dedicated the Britton House and placed a marker next to the house facing Glenna's Garden.



Figure 1 - Britton House (Troy, Missouri)