

1880 – On September 19, while applejack was being made, the still blew up. A coil became stopped up with the apple pumice, and when the boiler pressure was increased to clear the coil, it exploded – employees Daniel Perrow, his son, Will, and Tommie Lester were killed. Six others were seriously injured.

1881 – August, Preacher Cunningham paid \$9.65 in cash for a keg of peach brandy that he had purchased in Nov. 1880.

— March 21, John Quick and his wife commenced work for one year, to be paid \$275.

1883 – George Henry has three large tobacco barns where tobacco grown around Lone Jack is dried, graded, and made into plugs, sack tobacco, and cigars. His prices were modest – you could buy 25 pounds of Gold Nugget tobacco for \$8.75, 50 Adigo cigars for \$2, and 15 pounds of Licorice Twist tobacco for \$6.

1898 – On November 6, the saloon owned by George Henry in Kansas City, at the corner of Missouri and Oak Streets, had a record business day. On the same day, his daughter Sally Shawhan, who had married Homer Rowland, celebrated the birth of a son; at Grandfather George Henry's command, the child was named "Record Rowland".

1900 – In January, at midnight, the distillery caught fire and burned down. The fire was caused by a defect in the wall around the boiler. The warehouse was not touched – it held about 800 barrels at the time of the fire. Federal Records in Missouri identified this Lone Jack, Jackson County distillery as No. 59.

George Henry moved quickly to maintain his distillery business despite the Lone Jack fire. He went to Weston, Missouri, in Platte County, and purchased the Holladay Distillery, which had been established there in 1856 by the brothers Major Ben Holladay and David Holladay. Located near the limestone bluffs of the Missouri River, it had access to a wonderful spring, producing some of the purest water to be found, drawing the comment from George that using that water with his formula he could "beat the Bourbon County fellows all hollow." The property includes a cave within which whiskey was once aged. In Federal records it was registered as No. 8. At the time, Distillery No. 8 was not distilling, but spirits were being drawn from its warehouse.

1901 – G. H. Shawhan was withdrawing whiskey from Warehouse No. 59 at Lone Jack, but was not distilling there.

1902 - the George H. Shawhan family was occupying a beautiful home in downtown Weston, Missouri.

Note: In 1998 the home is a Bed & Breakfast, called the Benner House, located at 645 Main Street, in "Historic Weston". It advertises itself as a "fine example of steamboat gothic architecture", originally built by "Mr. George Shawhan, who owned what we know today as the McCormick Distillery." It's a picturesque 2-story Victorian-style home, with a wrap around porch on both the first and second floors. It features: "The main parlor provides an especially inviting atmosphere for conversation and getting acquainted. Slip away into the sitting room where you can curl up in a rocking chair with your favorite book. Enjoy a full candlelight breakfast in the Victorian dining room."

1903 – G. H. Shawhan was still withdrawing whiskey from Warehouse No. 59 at Lone Jack.

George Henry maintained a correspondence with other Shawhan family members. A copy of one such letter, dated in 1903, has been found. It was written on Shawhan Distillery Company stationery. "IT KEEPS ON TASTING GOOD" was printed across the top. Arched across the top is "THE SHAWHAN DISTLLERY COMPANY", appearing in bold and shadowed capital letters. Slightly below this is a picture of a tree flanked on both sides with a picture of two large kegs. The keg on the left has a stalk of corn arched around both sides of its head. On the Keg-head are these words, "SHAWHAN Old Style Sour Mash – Formula established 1786". The keg on the right is surrounded by two stalks of rye. Printed on the keg-head are the words, "HOLLADAY pure Rye – Formula Established 1849." The body of the letter is written in pen and ink. The text reads verbatim:

*"Weston Mo. April 17, 1903
Mr. Joseph Shawhan*