

#20: Harry S Truman Visitor Center

The Harry S Truman Dam and Reservoir Visitor Center, located atop Kaysinger Bluff on the east abutment of the dam, built and completed in 1978, offers a panoramic view of the lake and interpretive displays on the area's history, wildlife, archaeology, and the lake's function.

Kaysinger Bluff belonged to the Lay family and Judge James H Lay made arrangements with the county court to provide the use of the bluff by the people for recreation.

Evidence gathered from the Pleistocene Spring Bogs on the Pomme de Terre River indicates that approximately 30,000 years ago, during the last glacial period, animals such as the mastodon, tapir, musk ox, ground sloth, and giant beaver roamed the upper Osage River Basin.

Depictions can be found at the Visitor Center.

Ike Parker Paintings: The paintings on display have been selected from a representative collection of Ike Parker paintings, acquired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Elliot Major "Ike" Parker was a well-known and highly respected artist in west central Missouri and spent his lifetime learning of its people and places. As this area was his native locale, he had a great understanding and appreciation, allowing him to artistically portray the area as it used to look before Truman Reservoir inundated the area. Ike spent many years documenting the Osage River Valley for posterity and a glimpse into yesteryear. He worked mainly in pure transparent watercolor and used "the great outdoors for a studio", as he would say. Mr. Parker passed away June 1, 1995 at the age of 82.