



DAY TRIP TO OLD GREENVILLE

From Poplar Bluff · Wayne County, Missouri



Photo: Jon Roanhaus, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0

FOUNDATIONS IN A CORPS PARK

Foundations, steps, sidewalks and a cemetery in a Corps of Engineers campground, open for the 2026 season through November 2 per Recreation.gov. A visit video posted July 2024 shows the lettered signs and remains along Memory Lane.

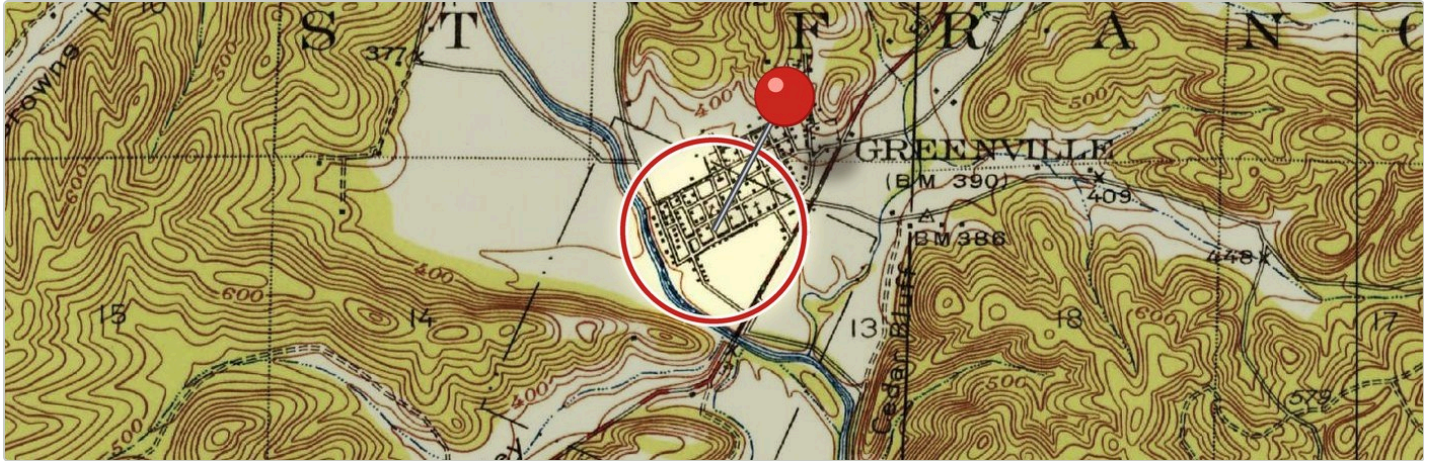
Old Greenville makes an easy morning from Poplar Bluff: a 40-minute drive up US 67, a one-mile walk on paved paths through the old streets, and the town cemetery. The site is the Greenville Recreation Area, a Corps of Engineers campground at the head of Wappapello Lake, with picnic sites and restrooms. Recreation.gov lists it as staffed from April 1 to November 2 in 2026.

A SAMPLE DAY

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|--------------------------------|---|
| ☐ 9:00 | Leave Poplar Bluff on US 67 north. |
| ☐ 9:45 | Park at the recreation area and start the Memory Lane loop at the gazebo signs. |
| ☐ 10:45 | Visit the old town cemetery and its Civil War graves. |
| ☐ 11:30 | Drive a mile north to the new Greenville, where the town moved in 1941. |
| ☐ 12:30 | Back to Poplar Bluff. |

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **Sidewalks to nowhere.** Old concrete walks and steps in the woods show the street grid best in late winter, before the leaves.
- **The river.** The St. Francis beside the campground explains why the town had to go.



USGS topographic map, 1934 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	30 mi, about 39 min each way from downtown Poplar Bluff. From St. Louis: 124 mi, about 2 h 28 min.
SEASON	Staffed April 1 to November 2, 2026, and unstaffed from November 3, 2025, to March 31, 2026, per Recreation.gov.
FEES	Recreation.gov does not list a day-use fee. Ask the office.
WALKING	Memory Lane, a one-mile paved loop with interpretive signs. A 2021 visitor warned of uneven concrete and wet spots.
FACILITIES	Picnic sites, a playground, a day-use shelter, restrooms and a boat ramp, per Recreation.gov and the National Recreation Trails listing.
DOGS AND BIKES	Leashed dogs and bicycles are allowed on the trail, per the National Recreation Trails listing.
CONTACT	Greenville Recreation Area (573) 224-3884 in season; Wappapello Lake office (573) 778-5404.
WEBSITE	recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233688

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Keep out of unstable buildings and off fenced ruins.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 37.10089, -90.45484 • 37°06'03"N
90°27'17"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/missouri/old-greenville/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.