



Centerville, TN

Centerville is the county seat of Hickman County, Tennessee, a large rural county located on the Western Highland Rim of the Middle Tennessee Basin. Hickman County was named for Edwin Hickman, a surveyor who was killed in 1791 by Indians who (understandably) objected to his mapping of the Duck River, which runs through present-day Hickman County. Hickman County was established in 1807. Settlers followed the Natchez Trace and the Piney River into Hickman County with the first county seat being located at Vernon. After the south side of the Duck River was opened to white settlement in 1818, the county seat was moved to Centerville (a more central location) in 1821. Centerville is located on a bluff south of and overlooking the Duck River and the river served as the primary means of transportation in the early days until a bridge was built. Telephones came to Centerville in 1889. The first water system was installed in 1901. In 1916, the automobile arrived, and in 1925, electric lights were first turned on. Streets were paved in the 1920's.

In 1930, State Highway 100 came through Centerville and remains the main thoroughfare through the town to this day.