

Volunteers ready Evangel cabin for transport

From Our Staff

Evangel College students and members of the Royal Rangers spent Saturday morning taking apart the historic log cabin on the Evangel campus.

The cabin, originally built in 1848, will be rebuilt on the 1,500-acre Royal Ranger camp six miles south of Roaring River State Park in Barry County.

The Royal Rangers is the Assemblies of God scout-style program for young men and boys.

Students, Royal Ranger leaders and boys tagged the logs, diagrammed the building and took it apart. The materials then were loaded in a flatbed truck.

"The logs and the flooring were the original pieces, and so that's what they're taking," Evangel spokesman Paul Logsdon said.

A group from Pennsylvania will build the foundation and fireplace for the cabin in Roaring River State Park later this spring. They will then reassemble the cabin.

The cabin was given to Evangel in 1959 by the step-grandson and great-grandson of the original builder, Thomas Simkins. It was dismantled and reconstructed in 1960 by the History Club of Evangel.

The cabin was first built in 1848

about 20 miles from Springfield in Wild Cat Hollow near Panther Creek at Fordland.

The cabin is being moved to make room for the future site of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, which will be relocated from the Assemblies of God Headquarters. Logsdon said Evangel wanted to preserve the cabin as a part of Ozarks history.

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Ralph Glunt takes a load of shake shingles to the rear of the cabin. Left to right, Steve Copeland,

Jim Mayfield/The News-Leader
Matt Etheridge, Paul Etheridge and Pat Davis work on the roof.