Oct. 1, 1826

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Oct. 1, 1826, the day Jefferson City was chosen as the permanent seat of state government.

During the First Session of the First General Assembly, in 1820, lawmakers appointed five commissioners. Their task was to choose a permanent home for state government, starting with four properties. A key point in their duties was the site had to be on the Missouri River and within 40 miles of the Osage River. These criteria were set in place by the federal government.

When the area that would become the City of Jefferson was chosen, Maj. Elias Bancroft and Daniel Boone — the son of the famous pioneer — were named to lay out the design for the new town. They had four months to finish, at $4 per day.

The first Capitol’s first floor was the headquarters for all three branches of government. The governor lived on the second floor. That building, which burned to the ground in 1837, stood where the current governor’s mansion is now.

Nearly 200 years, and two Capitol buildings later, Jefferson City remains the seat of state government.

And, it all started on Oct. 1, 1826, the date marking state government’s move to Jefferson City, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: *Missouri’s Struggle for Statehood, 1804-1821*; and *Jefferson City, Missouri*)