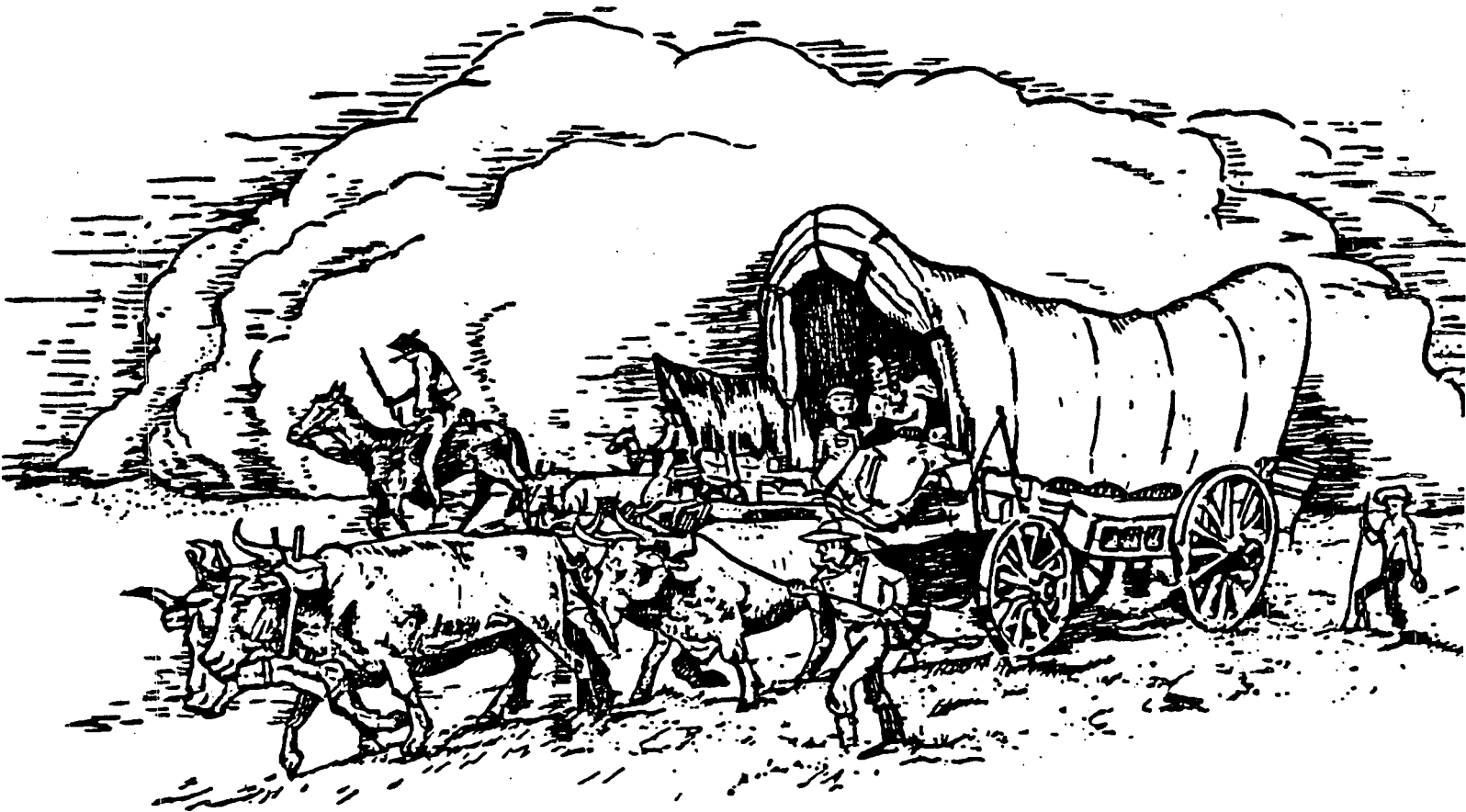


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THE PIONEER



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The Douglas County Genealogical Society is a non-profit organization. Meetings are held at intervals and announced in the *Lawrence Journal World*. Membership fees are \$15 single. Checks should be made payable to the Douglas County, Kansas, Genealogical Society (DCGS) and sent to the address above. The fiscal and membership year is from January 1 to December 31. Visitors are always welcome at meetings.

The Douglas County Genealogical Society Library is located in the Helen Osma Room on the lower level of the Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont, Lawrence. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:30 - 9pm; Saturday 9:30am-6pm; and Sunday 2-6pm. Anyone may use the Library, but items may not be checked out. Microfilm readers are available in the Osma Room.

WEBPAGE

<http://skyways.lib.ks/genweb/douglas/dckgs.html>

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Fay Stainbrook Talley, Lawrence

1916 - 2006

Services for Fay Stainbrook Talley, 90, Lawrence, will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Rumsey-Yost Funeral Home. Burial will be at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mrs. Talley died Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006, at Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

She was born May 18, 1916, at LaCygne, the daughter of Aral and Ada Pellet Stainbrook.

She graduated from Parker Rural High School in 1935 and attended Lawrence Business College.

She worked as a bookkeeper for Talley Welding and also worked in Watson Library at Kansas University from 1952 until 1982. She wrote a book on the Talley history in 1998.

She was a member of Topeka State Historical Society, Linn County Historical Society, LaCygne Historical Society, Parker Historical Society, Lecompton Historical Society, Jefferson County Historical Society, Douglas County Genealogical Society and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary No. 852. She was also a member of the Central United Methodist Church, Lawrence Doll Club, Kansas University Liberty Assn., Rebekah Lodge No. 754, Betty Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, Topeka Genealogical Society, Autumn Club, Antique Dealers Assn. and Friends of the Library.

She married Lloyd Murphy Talley on Aug. 24, 1940, in Topeka. He died in 1995.

Survivors include a son, Robert Lloyd Talley, Oklahoma; two daughters, Betty Sue Moon, Lawrence, and Martha Fay Sage, Perry; a sister, May Hightower, Linn County; eight grandchildren, Andy Moon, R.J. Talley, Pam Wiggins, Jackie Frazee, Lloyd Michael Mast, Paul Sage, Deana Sage and Allison Talley; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Friends may call from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home, where the family will greet them from 10 a.m. until service time Wednesday.

Online condolences may be sent to www.rumsey-yost.com.

-
- [E-mail this obituary](#)
-

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Announcing



Two new databases for history and genealogy searching!
Available with your Lawrence Public Library card!

Ancestry Library Edition

Genealogy database with coverage of the United States and the United Kingdom, including census, vital, church, court, and immigration records, as well as Social Security Death Index and record collections from Canada and other areas. This collection of more than 4,000 mini-databases and 5 billion names is a strong complement to HeritageQuest Online. The Ancestry Library Edition collection contains U.S. Federal Census images and indexes from 1790 to 1930; the Map Center collection of over 1,000 historical maps; American Genealogical Biographical Index; Daughters of the American Revolution Lineage; The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-1630; Social Security Death Index (updated monthly); WWI Draft Registration Cards; Federal Slave Narratives; Passenger and Immigration Lists Index and a strong Civil War collection. Rich in Kansas birth, marriage and death records.

**Available at library computers only. See public computer area, library lower level.*

Sanborn Maps, 1867-1970 (ProQuest)

Digital access to Sanborn fire insurance maps for Kansas and Missouri.

These maps are detailed property and land-use records, useful for urban specialists, social historians, architects, genealogists, environmentalists and planners. Founded in 1867 by D. A. Sanborn, the Sanborn Map Company was the primary American publisher of fire maps for over 100 years, repeatedly mapping towns and cities as they changed. The maps provide a wealth of information, such as building outline, size and shape, construction materials, height, building use, windows and doors, street and sidewalk widths, boundaries, house numbers, and more. The plans often include information and shading for steel beams or reinforced walls, plus symbols for stables, garages, warehouses, etc. Factories are labeled with the owner's name, as well as the products manufactured there. In large industrial and commercial buildings, even individual rooms and their uses are recorded. Also depicted are pipelines, railroads, wells, water mains, dumps, and heavy machinery. Combined with city directories, local photographs, small-scale maps, census records, genealogies, and statistical data, the Sanborn maps provide an unparalleled picture of life in American towns and cities.

***Available remotely at your personal computer with library card login, or at public computers on the library lower level.*

More About PERSI - The Periodical Source Index

What is PERSI?

The Periodical Source Index, or PERSI, is the largest and most widely-used index of genealogical and periodical articles in the world. (Periodicals are simply publications produced regularly as part of a series of magazines, newsletters, journals, etc.) There is an amazing amount of genealogical information and knowledge published in these periodicals every year. Created by the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and under the editorship of Michael B. Clegg, **PERSI** is widely recognized as essential for high-quality genealogical research.

PERSI began as an ambitious project of the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Their goal was to gather all genealogical periodicals, both past and present, and index their contents. This growing database has become the largest dataset of its kind, containing over 1.7 million references to helpful articles.

Source Information: Allen County Public Library. *Periodical Source Index*. Updated semi-annually. [data from Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 1998-. Original data: Allen County Public Library. *Periodical Source Index*, IN: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1985-.

Where to Go from Here:

Once articles of interest are located in the Periodical Source Index, there are several methods a researcher can employ to acquire a copy of the full text of the original article(s).

Be sure to record from the index the information about the article you wish to obtain, including article title, periodical title, volume, issue, etc.

Clicking the article's hyper-linked title will reveal the appropriate periodical entry in the **PERSI** bibliography. Each entry lists the name and address of the periodical's publisher. Call or write to the organization or individual to request information about ordering back issues of their publication.

When you find an appropriate citation in **PERSI**, you will be able to follow a link from the citation to the publisher of the periodical.

Below is an example of a publisher's information:

Periodical Title: Essex Institute Historical Collections
General Subject Area: U.S.
Topics: MA
Other Titles: new title: Peabody Essex Museum Collections
Notes:
ACPL Holdings: v.1-128 1859-1993
ACPL Call Number: 974.401 Es7esa
ISSN Number: 0014-0953

Other repositories holding this title include: Allen County Public Library, Los Angeles Public Library, Dalhart Public Library, Family History Library, Library of Congress, New York Public Library, Newberry Library, New England

Historic Genealogical Society Library, Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton Co., State Historical Society of Wisconsin Library

Publisher: Essex Institute
Publisher Address: 132 Essex St
Publisher City: Salem
Publisher State: MA
Publisher Zip: 01970
Subscription Price: 0.00
PERSI Code: MAEI

The periodical is the "Essex Institute Historical Collections," also known as "Peabody Essex Museum Co. At the bottom, you find the publisher's name and address. If the publisher no longer exists, you will be expected to check with your local library or historical society for availability of the periodical. There is also a list of repositories which hold this title included in the information. Check with these repositories before you visit to be sure they have the particular issue/article that you need.

You may also contact the Allen County Public Library, which owns a copy of each periodical indexed in the database. Photocopies of articles. A form for ordering photocopies is available at:

http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/database/graphics/order_form.html

Send the form describing the articles to be copied, and provide the full entry from **PERSI** with the name of the journal. You may request a maximum of six articles at a time. The charge is \$7.50 for each letter, plus \$0.20 per page copied to be billed to you. Requests are NOT accepted by phone, fax, or e-mail. Mail the form to:

Allen County Public Library Foundation
P.O. Box 2270
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

Please allow at least eight weeks for processing. Also, be sure to double check your requests, and give complete citation (Article Title, Periodical Title, Code, Volume, Issue, Date, etc.). Incomplete information may delay processing.

GENEALOGICAL WITTICISMS FROM ANCESTRY.COM

Submitted by Tammy Bloyd:

Family History: It is not just a hobby. It is a vitally important preservation mission for future generations of our family.

- **George G. Morgan** (yes, one of our own!)

Submitted by Judith Mable:

The farther back you look, the farther back you see.

- **Winston Churchill**

What is research but a blind date with knowledge?

- **Will Henry**

To live in the hearts we leave behind, is not to die.

- **Thomas Campbell**

If you want a place in the sun, you must leave the shade of the family tree.

- **Osage saying**

As the leaves on the trees is the life of man.

- **Homer**

There is something about a closet that makes a skeleton terribly restless.

- **John Barrymore**

The only thing wrong with immortality is that it tends to go on forever.

- **Herb Coen**

Paul Jordan gave me some clippings from newspapers of the late 1800's, all from Lawrence papers.

This article is from The Daily Journal dated Saturday, April 5, 1879.

THE HILLMAN MYSTERY

A Coroner's inquest on the body purporting to be that of Hillman was held at the court house, yesterday. A jury consisting of W.G. Hubbell, G.W. Morris, S.W. Adams, E.B. Good, A Tosh and O.D Pickens was impaneled. Mr. J.H. Brown, who claims to have accidentally shot Hillman, was placed on the witness stand. He questioned in regard to every minute particular by Mr. Geo. Barker. The testimony is too long and mixed up to be given in full, but principal facts are about as follows: He has been acquainted with Hillman for some time, and has been with him in Colorado, Texas and other parts of the country. He went with Hillman on his last trip, having no particular contract with him, but an understanding that he was to go to work and receive pay as soon as he got a cattle ranch. After leaving Wichita they met a stranger, who disappeared again near Cow Creek. Another stranger came into camp, whom he described as small with sandy complexion. He did not learn the stranger's name. He had never seen the man since the day after his coming to camp, and would not be able to recognize him. On the 17th of March they did not travel, but remained at the place of their last camp. The wagon was facing to the southwest. A fire was built about ten feet from the wagon. They had supper about four o'clock in the afternoon, and about sundown or a little later the tragedy occurred in the manner already given to our readers. On hearing the report of the rifle, witness turned around and saw Hillman stagger, and fearing he would fall in the fire caught him and whirled him around and dropped him down on the ground. Hillman made no outcry. Witness left the body in position it fell until he returned with a Mr. Graves.

The clothing, papers, etc. belonging to Hillman were given to the Coroner and afterward back to Brown. The articles were produced in court. The shoes which Hillman had on were not to be found with the other articles, yesterday. Witness said he did not that had become of them.

On being closely questioned about the provisions which they had with them as the time of the accident, Brown said that they had about forty pounds of flour a small quantity of meat, and some coffee. During the trip Hillman complained of soreness in his arms, caused by vaccination; otherwise his health was tolerably good.

At about six o'clock Coroner Morris adjourned the inquest to eight o'clock this morning. At that time the examination of Brown will be continued. The body purporting to be that of Hillman was buried yesterday afternoon.

(Editor's note). You will recall that this summer the body in the grave was exhumed and tested to see if it was really Hillman. No conclusion was reached.

From The Republican Journal Thursday, October 19, 1876.

Died in this city on the 18th instant, Mrs. Almira Haskell, in the seventy third year of her age.

The death of Mrs. Haskell was not unlooked for as her health had been feeble for several months and for some time she had evidently been rapidly approaching her end.

Mrs. Haskell was born in Weathersfield, Vermont. In March, 1855, accompanied by her son Hon. Dudley C. Haskell, then a boy of thirteen, she reached Lawrence and joined her husband who had preceded her a few months in coming to Kansas, and had taken a claim adjoining the town-the same upon which the Haskell brothers now reside-where he had erected a cabin. From that day to the present more than twenty-one years, Mrs. Haskell has been a resident of Lawrence, leading during the most of the time an active, and all of the time a useful life. She has survived to see all of her children well settled in life, with growing families about them, and honored and useful members of society.

Mrs. Haskell was a woman of great force of character, of rare judgment and good sense, a consistent member of the Congregational church, an affectionate wife, a good mother, a kind neighbor and in all respects a noble and excellent woman. When such a person passed away, in the fullness of years and with life's labor so well done, although we cannot but feel grave and serious in the presence of death, we yet recognize it as the appropriate earthly termination of a well accomplished career.

The pioneers of our State are rapidly thinning out. Those who were in middle age when Kansas was first settled are now old people. Among those who by their labors and trials did so much not only for the freedom of Kansas, but to lay her foundations broad and deep upon the enduring basis of public and private virtue, few will be longer remembered or more sincerely mourned than his daughter of New England, this "Mother in Israel", who has just passed away.

From The Republican Journal Sunday, June 11, 1876

OUR CEMETERY

A drive through Oak Hill and what we saw.

The work of Prof. Wiltz-his admiration for the ground-what has been done, what will be done and what ought to be done.

In company with Ex-Mayor Grovenor, for six years superintendent of our city cemeteries, we drove through Oak Hill, last week and must here at the start express our surprise at what we saw and were told.

Ten years ago, or thereabouts, Oak Hill became the property of Lawrence. It was then a series of shapeless hills and gulches, densely overgrown with hazel brush, scrub oak and thick underwood, altogether uncaptivating to any but the eye of an artist, who could see its natural advantages and the thing of beauty which time and money could easily render it, and which it has even now

become.

As we enter the Cemetery from the south side and upon turning slightly to the right we find ourselves between the wide-apart heads of two ravines leading towards the potter's field in the north eastern corner of the grounds. For the present we are compelled to reach this field by following the extreme eastern fence, but according to Mr. Wiltz's design, and in about one month when certain bridges shall have been constructed, a beautiful roadway will lead down through the rich luxurious shade, between the two ravines, to the point of their junction. Here are to be erected two rustic bridges, sixteen feet in width, the one leading to the right into the potter's field, the other to the left into a newly graded carriage-way which skirts the northern boundary of the grounds, and by a series of graceful curves brings the sight seer to the foot of the central eminence. The part now most familiar to our citizens. The point where the two bridges are to be built, is one of the great natural beauty, and when art shall have rendered it accessible and seeable we know of no place more generally attractive. The potter's field, Mr. Wiltz says, is about the best portion of the whole cemetery. It slopes from the eastern line toward the west, down to the edge of the ravine. The homely graves of the friendless or penniless dead are carefully located, marked and tended. Several groups of trees and shrubbery in this field are exquisitely beautiful. Leaving the two bridges by the new roadway we find a gracefully constructed track bordered on either side by natural and artificial eminences, sloped, ledges and grouping of shrubbery. Other roads and drives there are which we cannot mention in detail. The slopes either way from the Lane monument, are under the most careful cultivation, and present every attraction to the visitor. Which reminds us of what Mr. Wiltz says about the estimation in which cemeteries should be held. "They ought" says he, "to be considered almost as much a place for the living may repair with pleasure". Mr. Wiltz, we may explain, is a perfect master of the situation. For two years he was head gardener for the Emperor of Germany, and perfect a beautiful park near Moscow. Most of his work in America has been done near Cincinnati and it is all preeminently fine. He considers our cemetery a place of great natural advantages, one of the best, in fact, which he has seen in the whole west. Could the city carry out even the plans which he perfected during his short stay here, very much would be accomplished. There are growing at present in the ground fourteen varieties of the oak whence the name "Oak Hill." These oaks were to a great extent grouped off by Mr. Wiltz so as to secure the very best sort of an effect. Mr. Wiltz was especially delighted with one view which he secured by his management of trees. It takes in a most beautiful section of the cemetery, and a far off sight of the blue bluffs north of the Kansas valley.

One good thing about all this excellence is the fact that what has been done and what will be are amply provided for pecuniarily. Under Mr. Grovenor's careful management the cemetery fund now stands at about \$6000. This amount is safely invested.

The burials thus far number about 1500. The average price of lots is 12 ½ cents per square foot, 600 feet (usually) to the lot. The grounds are large enough to provide room for fifty or seventy-five years to come.

Mr. Grovenor feels a great interest in the welfare of the cemetery, gives to it a great deal of his time, and has done a work there which our people should appreciate. We hope they will lend him

all possible assistance and encouragement in this rare good work.

From The Daily Journal Wednesday, July 30, 1879.

The funeral of Hon. Joel Grover took place from his late residence yesterday afternoon at four o'clock, Rev. Mr. Richardson officiating.

Mr. Grover was born in the State of New York, In August, 1824, where his early youth was spent. He removed with his father's family to Michigan about 1838 or '40. Afterwards he went to California, where he remained about one ear. He came to Kansas with the second party of emigrants in 1854, arriving at Lawrence on September 15 of that year. Soon after he selected a claim of 160 acres of land on which he erected comfortable buildings for a home, and there he has lived, reared his family and died.

He was the first Colonel of the Free State forces, in our early troubles, and took a prominet part in the border ruffian war. He commanded a company at the taking of Fort Titus, in 1856. He was for six years on of the County Commissioners of Douglas county, and in 1860 served as a member of the Legislature.

He was a man of decided opinions and had no patience with men who ere more easily swayed. His temperance principles carried him so far that he would use nither tea, coffee, wine, cider, or any kind of liquors.

In 1857 he was married to Emily J. Hunt, who has a mother, two brothers, and a sister still living in this city. The fruits of their marriage has been eight children, seven of whom are still living, the eldest, Frank G, being twenty years old. The other children are Nellie, aged 17; Charles, 14; Cora, 11; Ernest, 9; Lily, 5; and Joy, an infant.

About the first of last January Mr Grover was attacked with pleurisy, and gathering soon after formed on his side, which has been opened three times, which seemed to form an abscess. The post mortem examination showed that his lungs had almost entirely ran off in this way. During all these months he has been a patient sufferer, his greatest care seeming to be that he was so much a burden to his friends. For the last two months Mssrs. Blake, Crutchfield, Wm Brown, and Mr. Foster have taken upon themselves the entire care of Mr Grover at night,, and he friends feel deeply grateful to them for their untiring devotion. In accordance with mr. Grover's wishes he was buried upon the far, a short distance south of the house.

(Editor's note) I believe that this is the man who built Grover's barn on 23rd street. It has been the home of a fire station for several years.

WORLDVITALRECORDS.COM

To:

From: David Lifferth, President of World Vital Records, Inc.

RE: **Exciting News from WorldVitalRecords.com**

Dear ,

I am excited to announce that according to Alexa.com, a company that tracks internet usage, **WorldVitalRecords.com is now the 3rd Most Popular Genealogy Database site on the Internet!** Additionally, we are ranked #4 in the Genealogy Services category. You can read about this and other exciting news from WorldVitalRecords.com in our latest newsletter. Click here to read our 16th newsletter. Click here to sign up to receive the WorldVitalRecords.com newsletter.

2006 was a great year for us at WorldVitalRecords.com. It is

exciting to see the impact that we have had on **Ancestor Search, Family History, and Genealogy** in such a short amount of time.

We sold our first subscription on October 4th, 2006 and we now have almost **5,000 paying subscribers** from all fifty of the **United States, Canada, Australia, Germany, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, France, Norway, and Switzerland!** Our usage logs show that we have users from all over the world visiting WorldVitalRecords.com from **Aruba to Zimbabwe** and everything in between including **Singapore, Iran, Egypt, Czech Republic, Senegal, Nepal, and Iceland**--just to name a few.

I would like to invite you to try out our site, WorldVitalRecords.com free of charge. As you may know we have a lot of free content on the site including the **United States Social Security Death Index (SSDI)**, over a hundred **Small Town Newspapers, Military Records (Civil War, World War I, Vietnam, etc.)** just to name a few of our free databases. With all of the free content on our site, it is easy to try it out free of charge. Click here to see a list of our free and paid databases.

I've included the search results below for your surname, , so you can try out our site.

Click here to see the search results for your surname: .

We charge only **\$49.95** for an annual subscription to our collection of valuable and in many cases exclusive databases. (That is about what some genealogy sites charge per month!) .

I get great responses from our users about how much they love our site. Let me share a quote from a subscriber in Colorado:

"I have already gotten a bunch of info from your website! Thank you very much. The Lafayette

Ledger from Minnesota is wonderful. Thanks for your valuable resource!"

And another subscriber testimonial from Tennessee:

"I absolutely love the death records with neighbors. They are my relatives and I don't need to look for individual people, they're all grouped together."

We now have **Georgeann Malowney as our Director of Online Training for WorldVitalRecords.com!** She will start our online family history training next week on January 10th, 2007! You get two free family history classes when you **subscribe to WorldVitalRecords.com.**

I hope that you will like what you see on our site and join the World Vital Records family.

Thank you,

David Lifferth
President
World Vital Records, Inc.
1234 North 9th East
Provo, Utah 84606

P.S. Stay up to date on our latest data sets and features with our FREE weekly WorldVitalRecords.com newsletter. If you **sign up for the newsletter** you receive a free *eSourcebook of American History* (from eBooksArchive.com that contains over 1,000 key works of American History from 1000 to 1999).

To unsubscribe from this email, forward this email to Unsubscribe@WorldVitalRecords.com.

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City, State, & Zip Code _____

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Phone # _____

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Total cost is \$650.00 per person based on double occupancy, which includes round-trip motorcoach, seven nights lodging, and seven breakfasts. A \$100.00 deposit is required when making reservations. \$250.00 is due on April 1st and the balance of \$300.00 is due on July 1st, 2007. All pickup points and times, in addition to lodging facilities and phone numbers, will be mailed to you prior to departure.

Cancellation Policy: Full refund up to 45 days prior to departure. \$25.00 cancellation fee up to 30 days prior to departure. Any cancellation made after the 30 day deadline will forfeit the cost of the trip, unless a person can be found to fill the vacancy. We are sorry that we have to have such a rigid policy, but the lodging facilities and bus companies require payment in advance and will not make refunds after the 30 day deadline. All monies received will be refunded, if the motorcoach is not filled and the trip has to be cancelled.

Please make checks payable to: Washington County Tourism
214 "C" St.
Washington, KS 66968

Please feel free to make copies for other interested family researchers.

Motorcoach to the
Annual Conference - August 15-18, 2007
Federation of Genealogical Societies
Plus Allen County Public Library

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Heartland Chapter, Association of Professional Genealogists, in cooperation with Washington County Tourism is inviting you to join fellow genealogists on this escorted motorcoach trip to the Annual Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference to be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana August 15-18, 2007. If you don't want to attend the conference but only want to research, you are only one block from the Allen County Public Library, which is extending their hours during conference week at the Historical Genealogy Department.

Depart August 13 from pickup points in Salina, Manhattan, Topeka, Kansas City, and Columbia, Missouri. Overnight stop at Effingham, IL.

Depart August 14 from Effingham to Fort Wayne, Ind.

Your home away from home for the next five nights is the Hilton Fort Wayne and the Grand Wayne Center

August 15-18 Conference at the Grand Wayne Center

Allen County Public Library Historical Genealogy Department has extended their hours

Depart August 19 Homeward bound via reverse route

Overnight stay in Warrenton, MO

Depart August 20 for stops in Columbia, MO, Kansas City, Topeka, Manhattan, and Salina

The motorcoach trip includes all transportation, two bags per person, lodging, and breakfast each morning. The cost is \$650.00 per person based on double occupancy.

The Conference Registration will be the responsibility of the attendee. For Conference Information only, you may e-mail fgs-office@fgs.org or check their website at fgs.org.

Please feel free to make copies to give to other interested family researchers.

DECORATION DAY EXERCISES WELL CARRIED OUT

The Baldwin Ledger, 4 June 1920

A Fitting Program was well Chosen; One Hundred and twenty old Soldiers are on the Roll of Honor.

The Decoration Day services were the most complete and interesting of any that have ever been held here. Services were held at the cemetery in the morning following which all the old soldiers' graves were fittingly decorated by the G. A. R. members. In the afternoon at 2:00, the address by Rev. C. H. Montgomery made a fitting close to the week's services. His talk was unusually fine and the members of the G. A. R. and friends are exceedingly pleased with the whole list of services which started with the Memorial day sermon by Rev. Enyeart.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Soldiers who have died in Baldwin and vicinity as taken from the G. A. R. records:

[NOTE: The names have been alphabetized from the original list. George W. Stewart appeared twice on the list, not sure if by mistake or whether there were two persons with same name.]

Allen, Jonah B.
Anderson, S. D.
Armstrong, G. W.
Bailey, C. W.
Bell, J. S.
Bell, John P.
Benedict, George R.
Boaz, E. C.
Bradshaw, R. C.
Brill, Binamin F.
Brown, H. R..
Brown, R. M.
Buckner, Allen
Burgoon, Thomas
Callahan, Patrick
Carpenter, Lewis R.
Cavaness, A. A. B.

Cecil, L. P.
Chandler, John
Clark, James
Cole, C. A.
Cooper, C. T..
Cooper, J. S..
Crader, E. K.
Cradit, N. C.
Cunningham, A. W.
Davidson, John
Davis, Wenter R.
Deel, James A.
Derryman, Wm.
Duff, James A.
Dyer, John
Eberhart, A.
Ellis, J. W.

Elwell, James
Feihler, Henry
Feihler, John
Follin, James M.
Gaddis, Ed
Gossage, Jackson
Graham, C. H.
Green, L. F.
Haas, George F.
Harbison, W. A.
Harpster, Frederick
Harris, George
Harvey, J. W.
Hew, Moses S. Lee
Highby, Damon
Hill, John
Hindman, Bud

Hobbs, W. H.
Howard, S. T.
Humbert, Henry
Hunt, Jonathan
Ives, C. P.
Jay, H. C.
Jones, W. T.
Jordan, Arson
Junkins, Wm. W.
Kalb, A.
Kenedy, D. G.
Kerns, Solomon
King, George
Kuhn, Philip
Leonard, Wm.
Lewis, A. O.
Lovejoy, C. H.
Lowe, Sandy
Martin, Fred
Masher, C. F.
McCombs, __
McDonald, W. J.
Milford, Sanford
Morgan, Calvin P.
Moseley, George W.
Mulvaney, M. E.
Murphy, S. S.

Murray, James
Natt, George
Osborn, W. F.
Pearson, Robt. H.
Peddycord, N. T.
Pefley, Thomas
Pendleton, S. E.
Pingrey, L. W.
Price, F. M.
Price, Israel
Price, John H.
Price, Samuel C.
Priestly, Wm.
Reynolds, Clarke
Reynolds, Wm.
Ripley, Hermon
Robinson, Job
Rogers, Michael
Sammers, Thomas
Samson, Seth
Schwartz, Frederick
Shores, Thomas B.
Short, David T.
Skinner, W. T.
Smith, John F.
Snyder, L.
Sowers, Alfred B.

Stewart, George W.
Stewart, George W.
Stewart, Wm. W.
Stickle, Isaac
Stover, H. C.
Stump, John B.
Sullivan, J. M.
Swayzee, David
Taylor, A. B.
Tyron, Spencer W.
VanLandingham, J. A.
Veinson, Darchfield A.
Watt, James
Wilkins, Isaac
Winters, Lester
Wolf, Wm.
Woods, Isaac

How do you find your English roots?

Internet – four useful sites to start with:

Surname Profiler (www.spatial-literacy.org) shows densities of specific names 1881 (or 1998). Also, CD *The British 19th Century Surname Atlas* shows density by areas of country, registration districts, etc. (www.archersoftware.co.uk) - \$20.

International Genealogical Index (www.familysearch.org) - baptisms, marriages, some burials (pre/post 1837)

Census records (www.ancestry.co.uk; www.familysearch.org; www.findmypast.com; www.1901census.nationalarchives.gov.uk) (1841 to 1901)

Births, marriages, deaths (www.freebmd.rootsweb.com; www.findmypast.com)

County:

England divided into administrative counties, each has main town/city where offices are located. (Boundaries of the counties were re-organized in 1974 [www.genuki.org.uk has information]. (Entering "County" Record Office should give you the web site for that county record office with information on their collections, etc.)

Parish:

Many parish (Church of England) records available through the IGI, a few parish records have been posted online by individuals, many can be ordered through a nearby LDS Center (www.familysearch.org; for availability; small charge for this).

Besides baptisms, marriages, and burials, until recent times parishes were also administrative units for: road repair, maintaining parish boundaries, taking care of the poor and needy. (Poor Law Records available in record offices include: settlement certificates, bastardy orders, work house records, etc.)

Civil Registration:

Civil Registration of births, marriages, deaths began in 1837; registration was by quarter year, e.g., March, June, September, December (does not show exact date). Registration districts made up of several parishes; registration districts have changed over the years, combined/split. (Sites such as FreeBMD include information on changes in registration districts.)

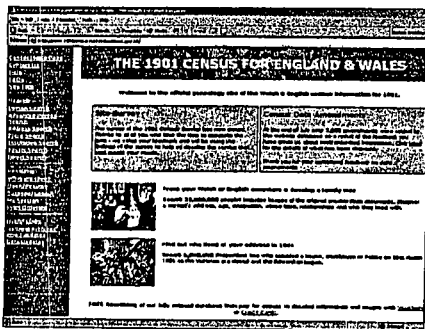
Jan Elder
(bilbo@ku.edu)
November 2006

Twenty Online Sources for English and Welsh Ancestry

Alan Stewart recommends 20 of the top sites for English and Welsh genealogy research.

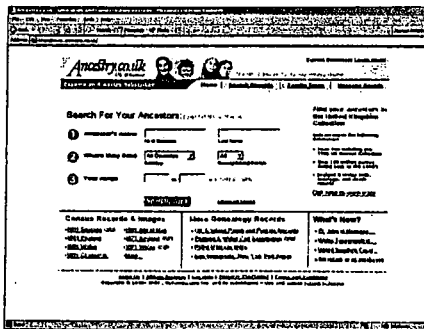
IF YOU HAVE ANCESTORS who came to North America from England or Wales, there are many websites you can turn to for help in tracing their roots. Census returns, for example, have been indexed for 1871 (partially), 1881, 1891 and 1901, and are accessible over the Internet. In addition, you can also view online the indexed images of wills dating from 1384 to 1858. Unfortunately, vital records and parish registers are not yet on the web, unlike those of Scotland.

You can, however, view images of the vital records indexes at several websites, and a fully searchable computer index is being prepared by volunteers. Some local indexes of vital records are also online, as are various parish register, census and monumental inscription indexes. Here is my choice of the most useful websites for English and Welsh research:



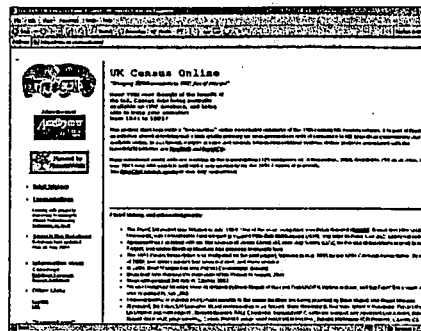
1. 1901 Census of England and Wales
www.1901census.nationalarchives.gov.uk
Since 1801, a census of the population of Britain has been taken every 10 years (except in 1941, because of WWII). Until 1841, however, names and addresses didn't have to be recorded, although in some places they were anyway. You can view fully indexed images of the census returns for 1901 on the 1901

Census of England and Wales site, which is owned by the UK's The National Archives (TNA). Searching the index is free, but there is a charge of 75 pence to view the digital image of an actual page of the census. It will cost you 50 pence for a transcription of one person's entry in the census, and a further 50 pence will buy an additional transcription covering the remaining people in the same household. A credit-card session costs a minimum of £5 and lasts 48 hours, but vouchers to the value of £5, £10 or £50 last for six months from the date you first use them. In Canada, you can buy the vouchers from the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (www.bifhsgo.ca).

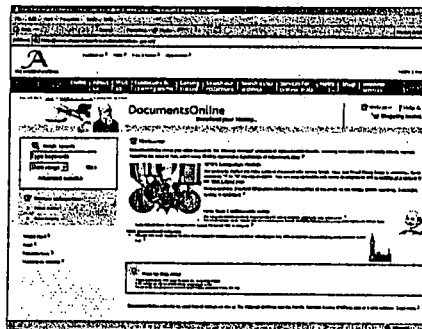


2. Ancestry.co.uk
www.ancestry.co.uk
Ancestry has already indexed and uploaded digital images of the whole of the 1891 census of England and Wales, and is in the process of doing the same for those carried out in 1871 and 1901. The 1901 census is accessible either on a pay-per-view basis from TNA or on subscription from Ancestry, where access to the UK and Ireland Collection will cost you \$99.95 US or \$139.95 Cdn. per year, or \$39.95 US or \$59.95 Cdn. per quarter. The Collection also includes the Pallot Index of marriages that took place between

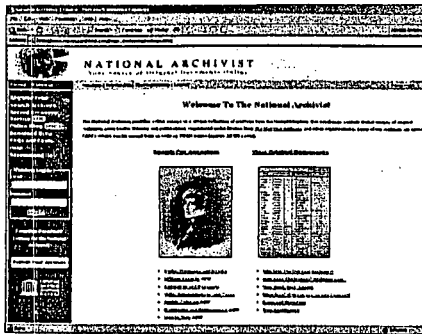
1780 and 1837, mainly in London and the county of Middlesex.



3. FreeCEN
freecen.rootsweb.com
This is a volunteer project to index the 1841-91 censuses and make transcriptions available online free of charge at FreeCEN. At present, only a few English counties have been completed, including Cornwall for 1841 and 1891.

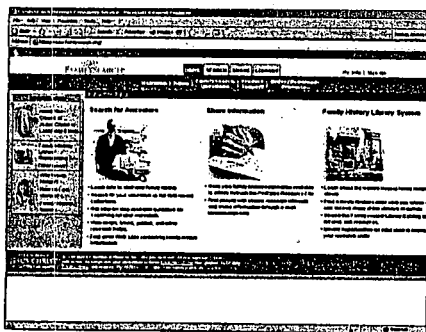


4. DocumentsOnline
www.documentsonline.nationalarchives.gov.uk
At DocumentsOnline, you can search free of charge in the index of over one million wills proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (covering the south of England and most of Wales) during the period 1384-1858. It'll cost you £3.50 to view an image. In addition, a card index of campaign medals awarded during WWI is currently being digitized and made available on the same charging basis.



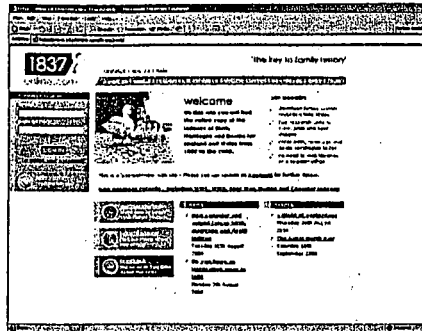
5. The National Archivist
www.nationalarchivist.com
 This pay-per-view site contains indexes to digitized images of births, marriages and deaths at sea (1854-90), army lists, passport applications (1851-62 and 1874-1903), death duty registers (1796-1903) and some profession directories. Records are frequently added to the site.

Although searching the indexes is free of charge, you'll have to pay to view the actual records. Charges range from £7 for 35 credits valid for 45 days to £50 for 360 credits valid for 75 days. Viewing a record costs between one and four credits.

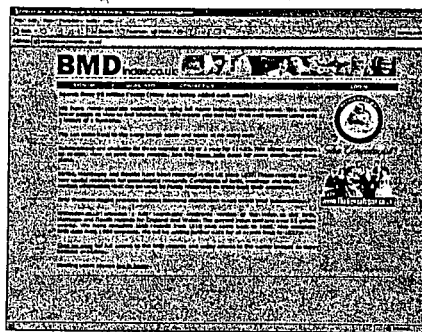


6. LDS FamilySearch
www.familysearch.org
 In 1553, baptisms, marriages and burials were ordered to be recorded in the approximately 11,000 English and Welsh churches, but a number of parishes didn't start until much later. In some cases, although many early registers have been lost, the transcripts that were sent to bishops or archdeacons from 1598 have survived. The International Genealogical Index (IGI) on the website of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints can point you to entries in the English and Welsh parish registers from

the 16th to 19th centuries. You can also search the 1881 census for England and Wales at this free website.

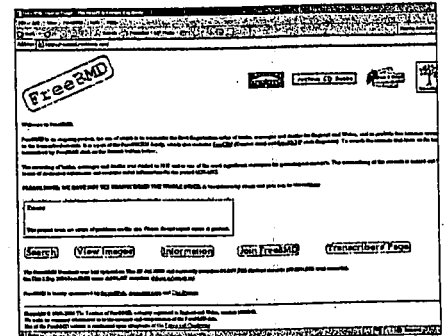


7. 1837online.com
www.1837online.com
 On 1 July 1837 civil registration of births, marriages and deaths was introduced in England and Wales. This site provides pay-per-view access to on-screen images of the indexes to the vital records from 1837 to 1983. You can view fully computerized indexes to the records from 1984 onwards. To view index pages, you pay between £5 for 55 units valid for 45 days to £120 for 2,640 units valid for 365 days. Viewing a page costs one unit.

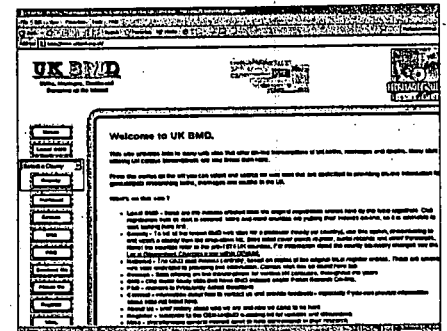


8. BMDIndex.co.uk
www.bmdindex.co.uk
 A new competitor to 1837online.com, this site offers you subscription-based access to the English and Welsh birth, marriage and death indexes. The index of births is fully computerized from 1950 to 1983, as are all the indexes from 1984 onwards. A subscription for three months costs £5, and for a year £14.95.

9. FreeBMD
freebmd.rootsweb.com
 This volunteer project (a sister to



FreeCEN) is providing a fully searchable index to the English and Welsh births, marriages and deaths from 1837 to 1983. The index, which you can access free of charge, contains over 80 million entries. The site has also recently begun to compete with 1837online and BMDIndex by introducing free access to images of the birth, marriage and death indexes used by its volunteers.

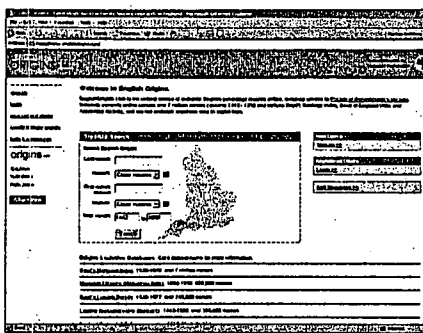


10. UK BMD
www.ukbmd.org.uk
 UK BMD is a portal leading to around 15 local indexes of births, marriages and deaths that have taken place in England and Wales since 1837. The indexes, which are not yet complete, have been uploaded by local register offices, beginning with Cheshire County Council's in 2000. You can access most of the indexes free of charge.



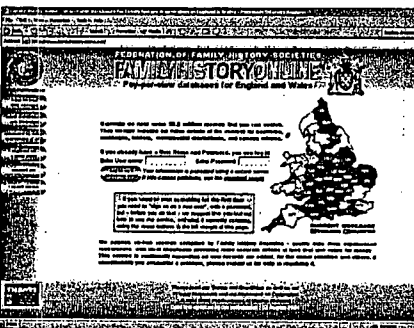
11. The Genealogist
thegenealogist.sandn.net

The indexes to various censuses for a number of English counties (14 so far) are being uploaded to The Genealogist site by S&N Genealogy, publishers of the British Data Archive census data CDs. You can search the indexes on a subscription basis at this site, which is a sister site to the BMDIndex site.



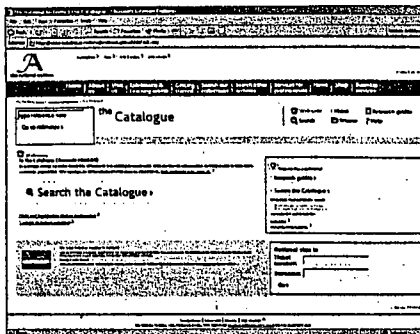
12. English Origins
www.englishorigins.com

You can view various indexes provided by the Society of Genealogists, the UK's oldest genealogical society, at English Origins on a pay-per-view basis. These include Boyd's Marriage Index, containing over six million entries for marriages that took place in England and Wales between 1538 and 1840.



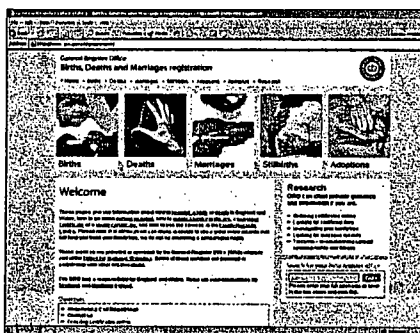
13. FamilyHistoryOnline
www.familyhistoryonline.net

The pay-per-view website of FamilyHistoryOnline contains various databases compiled by local family history societies, including baptisms, marriages, burials, monumental inscriptions and census returns for most English counties and some of those in Wales.



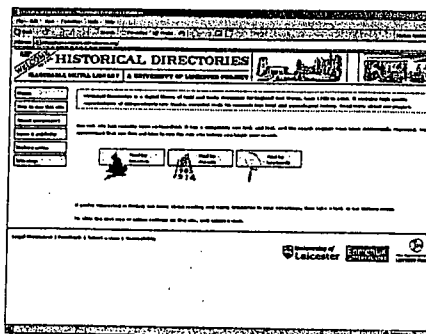
14. National Archives Catalogue
www.catalogue.nationalarchives.gov.uk

At the National Archives site, you'll find this free online index to documents held by the UK's National Archives. The index includes entries containing information on soldiers (but not officers) in the British Army who were discharged to pension between 1760 and 1913.



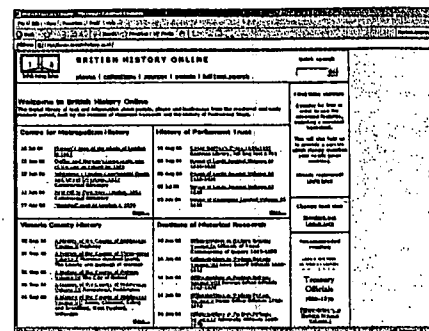
15. General Register Office [for England and Wales]
www.gro.gov.uk

At the General Register Office's official site, you'll find information on how to order certificates for English and Welsh births, marriages and deaths. The online ordering facility is expected to be extended to non-UK residents shortly.



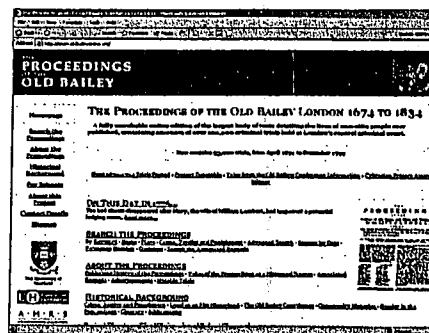
16. Historical Directories
www.historicaldirectories.org

The University of Leicester has digitized and uploaded county and town directories dating from 1766 to 1919 for many of the counties of England and Wales. You can search these directories free of charge.



17. British History Online
www.british-history.ac.uk

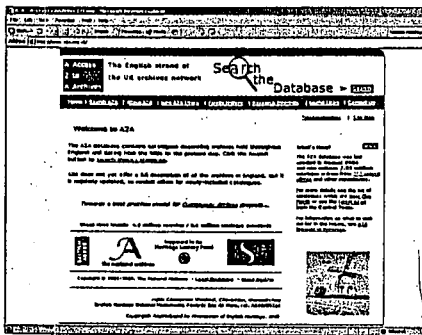
Built by the University of London's Institute of Historical Research and the Houses of Parliament Trust, British History Online contains the searchable text of several volumes of the Victoria County History series (including parts of Cambridgeshire, Essex, Gloucestershire, Middlesex, Oxfordshire, Somerset, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Wiltshire and the East Riding of Yorkshire), as well as various other historical resources. Access is free of charge.



18. Proceedings of the Old Bailey
www.oldbaileyonline.org

The Proceedings of the Old Bailey site lets you search the accounts of over 50,000 trials held between 1674 and 1799 at the Central Criminal Court in London free of charge. The site is a joint project

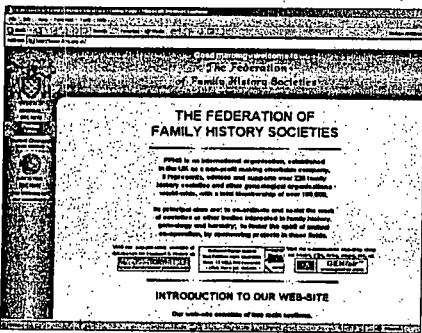
between the University of Sheffield's Humanities Research Institute and the Higher Education Digitization Service at the University of Hertfordshire.



19. Access to Archives (A2A)

www.a2a.org.uk

Access to Archives, which bills itself as the English strand of the UK Archives Network, allows visitors to carry out a free online search of the catalogs of over 350 archives in England.



20. Federation of Family History Societies

www.ffhs.org.uk

At the site of the Federation of Family History Societies, you'll find links to nearly 90 English and eight Welsh family history societies.

The federation is an umbrella organization for the societies in England and Wales, and also has many member societies in North America, Australia and New Zealand.

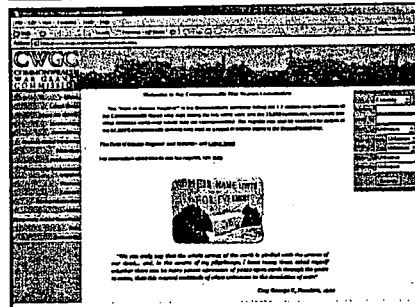
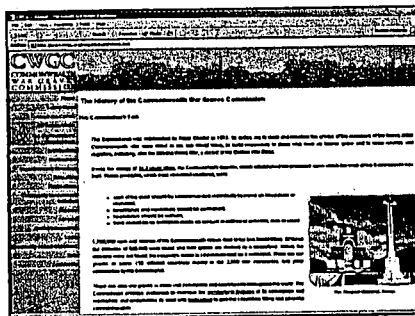
Alan Stewart is the author of Gathering the Clans: Tracing Scottish Ancestry on the Internet (Phillimore, 2004), available in North America from the David Brown Book Company (www.oxbowbooks.com).



Commonwealth War Graves Commission

www.cwgc.org

Britain's Commonwealth War Graves Commission was created to mark and maintain the graves of the members of the forces of the Commonwealth who were killed in WWI and WWII, to build memorials to those who have no known grave and to keep records and registers, including, since WWII, a record of the civilian war dead.



As well as maintaining graves for 925,000 Commonwealth soldiers killed during the world wars, the Commission maintains an online database called the Debt of Honour Register. While this database does not feature service records or regimental histories, it does list basic information on the 1.7 million men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died during the world wars and the 23,000 cemeteries, memorials and other locations worldwide where they are commemorated. The database can be searched by surname and initials, and limited by fields for the conflict and the casualty's year of

death, force and nationality. In most cases, the results will feature the casualty's rank, unit, regiment, service number (if known), age (if known), date of death, grave or memorial reference and the name of the cemetery or memorial.

Visitors to the site can also search the database for details of the 67,000 Commonwealth civilians who died as a result of enemy action in WWII.

Information on web sites from:

Family Chronicle (November/December 2004)

Use genealogy publication ... web site is: www.familychronicle.com

FACTS ABOUT KANSAS AND DOUGLAS COUNTY

The Baldwin Ledger, 25 June 1930

Figures compiled reveal startling information

Gas Tax in This County Alone Amount to \$127,929.34 in 1929.---Motor License Tax is \$7,273---are 4,549 Cars

In view of the fact that this edition of *The Baldwin Ledger* is being sent out as a special highway celebration paper, we have delved into "Kansas Facts," and are able herewith to produce some figures concerning the whole state, and especially Douglas county, that will be startling news to many of our readers.

Do You Know?

That the 3 cent gasoline tax collected in Kansas during the twelve months period, beginning April 1, 1929 and ending March 31, 1930, amounted to the total income of \$10,056,687.76?

That of this amount the sum of \$1,701,112.84 was refunded to the various counties to be used for roads and bridges, leaving a balance of \$8,355,474.92 for the state's use?

That of the above amount, Douglas county motorists paid in \$127,929.34 for gas tax alone?

That the total amount collected by the state for automobile licenses during that period was \$4,585,497.13?

That the total net left for the state from the above sources was \$12,940,972.05?

That in 1929 Douglas county had 7,278 automobiles and 1,059 trucks registered for licenses in the state. That last year only 4,549 of the cars and 595 trucks were on the assessment lists of Douglas county, that the average value of the automobile was \$270.20 and of the trucks \$175.29?

That in the whole state there were 507,520 automobiles licensed, 73,694 trucks?

That the assessment lists show only 318,375 cars listed for regular taxation and 45,154 trucks assessed?

That the county road and bridge fund of Douglas county received from the state last year was \$66,764.42?

That the county bridge fund was \$55,319.08?

That the township road and bridge fund was \$61,548.70?

That the total of the above three items was \$183,632.20?

That the state of Kansas harvested from 11,475,780 acres of wheat, 137,646,278 bushels, that had a value of \$138,100,966.79?

That Douglas county harvested 242,064 bushels of wheat from 30,258 acres, having a value of \$271,111.68?

That the whole state harvested 106,804,960 bushels of corn from 6,324,219 acres, and that it had a value of \$82,633,728.52?

That Douglas county's part of the corn crop was 1,046,486 bushels from 61,558 acres, valued at \$839,188.80?

That Kansas harvested 1,723,748 tons of alfalfa from 722,029 acres and that its value was \$21,750,058.55?

That Douglas counts's share of the alfalfa crop was 22,158 tons, harvested from 9,684 acres, having a total value of \$867,822.90?

That there were a total of 165,875 separate farms listed in the state, of which number 2,054 are in Douglas county?

That in 1929 the whole state of Kansas produced \$86,670,283 worth of dairy products, showing an increase of \$1,428,427 over 1927?

That the state had, according to figures from the census taken in June, 1929, a total of 544,524 school children, or persons of school age?

That at that time there were 19,706 teachers employed in the public schools of the state?

That the estimated value of the public school buildings in Kansas then was \$117,887,618?

That Douglas county had 6,676 persons of school age?

That Douglas county teachers numbered 233?

That the valuation of the public school buildings was \$1,759,700?

That last year there were a total of 19,679 marriages; 33,861 births and 20,917 deaths in the state of Kansas?

That Douglas county had 438 marriages, 422 births and 370 deaths?

That the population of the state in 1929 was 1,852,114?

That the assessed valuation of all railroad properties in the state last year amounted to \$417,597,374?

That the Santa Fe's valuation is \$161,439,781, which is more than any other railway operating in the state?

That in 1929 there was a total of 380 fatal automobile accidents in the state of Kansas.

That there were 1,492 fatal accidents from all causes during 1929?

That the cement industry of Kansas has a capacity of 8,500,000 barrels of cement a year, employing capital amounting to more than twenty-five million dollars?

That the cement industry adds more than \$10,000,000 to the industrial revenue of the state annually?

That in Kansas a total of 567,775 tons of coal were produced in 1929 with a value of \$1,192,828?

That Kansas produced 2,191,140 cotton sacks, having a value of \$350,582.

That Clyde Tombaugh, a Burdett Kansas farmer boy discovered the "Trans-Neptunian planet," in March 1929, gaining world wide fame?

That the new election law passed by the 1929 legislature gives absentee voters the right to ballot even if out of the state on election day by applying for a ballot from thirty to two days before the election in writing to his county clerk in his home county?

The absentee must go before a notary public or

U. S. Official on election and being sworn. The ballot must be returned to the county clerk within ten days after election.

That the state of Kansas produced 40,658,170 barrels of oil during 1929?

That in 1929 individual income taxes paid in Kansas amounted to \$3,528,185, that corporations paid \$13,746,423?

That in Douglas county 225 individuals made income tax statements, and the corporations number fifty-two?

That the resources fo 824 state banks in Kansas under the statement call of September 26, 1929, amounted to \$270,146,208.66?

That the 246 national banks had total resources of \$269,944,000.00 at the time of the report made to the comptroller of currency on October 4th, 1929?

That the total assets of the 155 building and loan associations doing business in the state of Kansas on December 31, 1929, were \$132,235,307.35, showing an increase of \$6,122,102.26, over 1928?

That the state of Kansas had 105,889 radios last year; 64,585 talking machines and 108,503 pianos?

That of this amount Douglas county lists 1,762 radios, 1,402 talking machines and 2,144 pianos?

POTATO PRODUCTION

The Valley Falls New Era, 1 June 1901

Jefferson Co. is one of the half dozen heavy potato producing counties of the state. Leavenworth stands first in the number of bushes produced last year, with 609,000 bushes; Wyandotte next, with 654,000, then Douglas, with 392,000; Johnson with 335,000; Jefferson fifth with 325,000; and Shawnee sixth, with 260,000 bushels.

A PARTIAL LIST OF THE DEEDS OF FRANKLIN, KANSAS.

(Franklin was a town in Douglas County, Kansas
from April 29, 1857 to March 1, 1877)

K
929.3
- 874 de

^{K-78}
Compiled by Loraine Howard (Mrs. Paul E.),
1641 Illinois Street, Lawrence, Kansas 66044

(1976)

AUG 16 1977

Mrs Paul E. Howard

Abstract of Title

- - To - -

Beginning at a point in the West line of the Northeast Quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) of Section Ten (10), Township Thirteen (13) South of Range Twenty (20) East of the Sixth Principal Meridian, 447.82 feet North of the Southwest corner of said quarter section; thence due West 396 feet to a stone; thence North parallel to the West line of said Quarter section, 1123.24 feet to the center of a drain ditch; thence North 44 and no minutes West 549.47 feet to a point in the West line of said quarter section, said point being 723.59 feet South of the Northwest corner of said quarter section; thence South along the West line of said $\frac{1}{4}$ section 1504.94 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning, containing 12.04 acres, more or less.

FRANKLIN, KANSAS DEEDS

(1)

Patent

United States of America by the President
to

John E. Barritt

Date: 25 February 1870

Book 64, page 246

Recites that there has been deposited in the General Land Office Warrant No. 40383 for 80 acres with evidence that same has been duly located upon the Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 and the Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 10, Township 13, Range 20 in the District of Lands formerly subject to sale at LeCompton, now at Topeka, Kansas containing 80 acres to John E. Barritt as Mayor of the Town of Franklin, Douglas County, Kansas in Trust for the several use and benefit of the occupants of said town in whose favor said tract has been located. Therefore there is granted by the United States unto said John E. Barritt, as aforesaid, and to his successors.

(The above is taken from the record of a certified copy from the records at Washington, D. C.)

(2)

In County Book A, page 43, appears the following: "Territory of Kansas, County of Douglas. This day personally appeared before me, R. C. Bishop, Probate Court Clerk in and for the County and Territory aforesaid, J. M. Wallace, Agent for the Franklin Town Association and acknowledges that the said town was laid out upon Section 10, Township 13, Range 20 of the Sixth Principal Meridian in Douglas County, Kansas Territory and the within map is correct as returned by the surveyor Charles Spalding. In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and seal the 29th day of April, A.D. 1857.

R. C. Bishop, Clerk"

On Plat Book 2, page 21, is filed a copy of Plat of Franklin, Kansas Territory endorsed as follows: "This plat was filed previous to August 21, 1863 and was destroyed on that day in the burning of the Office of the Register of Deeds.* Dated September 12, 1870.

S. S. Horton, Register of Deeds."

(Said plat gives no section, Township or range on which it is located and there is no information shown as to width of streets, alleys nor dimension of lots. A rough draft is given of a portion of said land on Sheet #12 of this abstract, covering land described)

*During Quantrell's Raid of Lawrence, County Seat of Douglas County, K

(3)

AGREEMENT

Jeremiah Church with Robert Charles

Date: 12 August 1858

Book B, page 285

(4)

WARRANTY DEED

Franklin Town Company by Jeremiah Church, President, to James McKinsy

Date: 29 April 1859

Book B, page 336

Town of Franklin, Douglas County, Kansas Territory.

(5)

Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to Jeremiah Church
Date: 12 October 1860 Book D, page 447

(6)

Deed.

Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to B. C. Talley
Date: 13 October 1860 Book H, page 70

(7)

Deed

Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to John G. McClelland
Date: 15 October 1860 Book F, page 339

(8)

Warranty Deed

William M. Barritt and Louvenia T. Barritt, his wife, to John G. McClelland
Date: 2 April 1862 Book F, page 341

Sheet #4

(9)

Quit Claim Deed

John G. McClelland and Lidia McClelland, his wife, to R. L. Williams
Date: 11 July 1865 Book 24, page 493

(10)

Deed

Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to John M. Wallace
Date: 12 October 1860 Book G, page 213

(11)

Deed

Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to John M. Wallace
Date: 12 October 1860 Book G, page 221

(12)

Deed

Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to John M. Wallace
Date: 12 October 1860 Book G, page 222

(13)

Deed

Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to John M. Wallace
Date: 12 October 1860 Book G, page 224

(14)

Deed

Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to H. M. Menger
Date: 18 October 1860 Book G, page 476

(15)

Deed

Town of Franklin by R. L. Williams, Mayor, to John Cole
Date: 19 May 1862 Book H, page 64

(16)

Warranty Deed

John Cole and Mary J. Cole, his wife, to R. L. Williams
Date: 19 September 1863 Book 24, page 489

(17) Deed
Town of Franklin by John E. Barrett, Mayor, to R. L. Williams
Date: 6 March 1861 Book 24, page 485

(18) Warranty Deed
R. L. Williams and Mary Williams, his wife, to George Miller
Date: 31 March 1864 Book I, page 5

(19) Agreement
George Miller with Margaret Miller, his wife.
Date: 30 April 1866 Book P, page 84

(20) Warranty Deed
George Miller and Margaret Miller, his wife, to William Miller
Date: 19 October 1866 Book U, page 631 Sheet #7

(21) Warranty Deed
William Miller to Margaret Miller
Date: 29 October 1867 Book U, page 614

(22) Warranty Deed
George S. Miller and Margaret Miller, his wife, to R. L. Williams
Date: March 1869 Book 4, page 564

(23) Mortgage
Jeremiah Church to R. L. Williams & Robert McFarland
Date: 16 October 1860 Mortgage Book D, page 301
Sheet #8

(24) Quit Claim Deed
Taylor Stevens and Sarah Ellen Stevens, his wife; John Jacob Ott and
Catharine Ott, his wife; O. H. Herrington (body of deed Oliver H.)
and Almira Herrington, his wife; R. H. Tolle; J. M. Still (in body of
deed James M.); Rahab M. Still; J. B. Gilliland
to R. L. Williams
Date: 12 July 1862 Book F, page 351

(25) Quit Claim Deed
John E. Barrett and Eliza E. Barrett, his wife; Christian Raitz and
Etta Raitz, his wife; H. M. Menger and Sophia Menger, his wife; Michael
Glenn and Margaret Glenn, his wife; George Miller and Margaret Miller,
his wife to R. L. Williams
Date: 12 July 1862 Book F, page 336

March 1, 1877 Vacation of Townsite of Franklin Session laws 1877
Chapter 201, Section 1.

(26) District Court, Douglas County, Kansas #435

R. L. Williams and Robert McFarland, plaintiffs
vs. Jeremiah Church, defendant.
Date: 9 May 1866

Journal B, page 21

Sheet #10

(27) Sheriff's Deed

Henry Brown, Sheriff, Douglas County, Kansas to R. L. Williams
Date: 18 December 1862

Book G, page 24

Sheet #11

(28) Authorization

Recorded: 14 March 1863

Book G, page 174

"Franklin, Kansas, March 12, 1863

Know all men by these presents, that we the Citizens of the Town of Franklin authorize S. R. Hungerford, Mayor of the Town of Franklin in the County of Douglas, State of Kansas to deed all our right, title and interest in and to the undivided part of Franklin to R. L. Williams and we bind ourselves to abide by the acts of said Mayor and to never ask or contend for any part of the undivided portion of said Town of Franklin provided always that for and in consideration of the above that R. L. Williams is to perfect the titles to the premises that each of us now hold and live on and known to belong to us individually.

J. B. Gilliland, Christian Raitz, George Miller, George W. Herrington, Michael Glenn, John Jacob Ott, J. M. Still, John E. Barrett, Taylor Stevens.

(29) Deed

Town of Franklin by Simon R. Hungerford, Mayor, to R. L. Williams
Date: 13 March 1863

Book G, page 175

(Named: James M. Still, George Miller, William J. Kennedy, B. C. Talley, J. D. Herrington, Jared Carter, George W. Herrington, Richard Leach, Stephen Perkins, Taylor Stevens, O. H. Herrington, J. B. Gilliland, Eliza E. Barrett, William P. Harrington, Michael Glenn, John G. McClelland, Henry Johnson, Mary Ann Boote, Milligan Wallace, Isaac Tolle, H. M. Menger.)

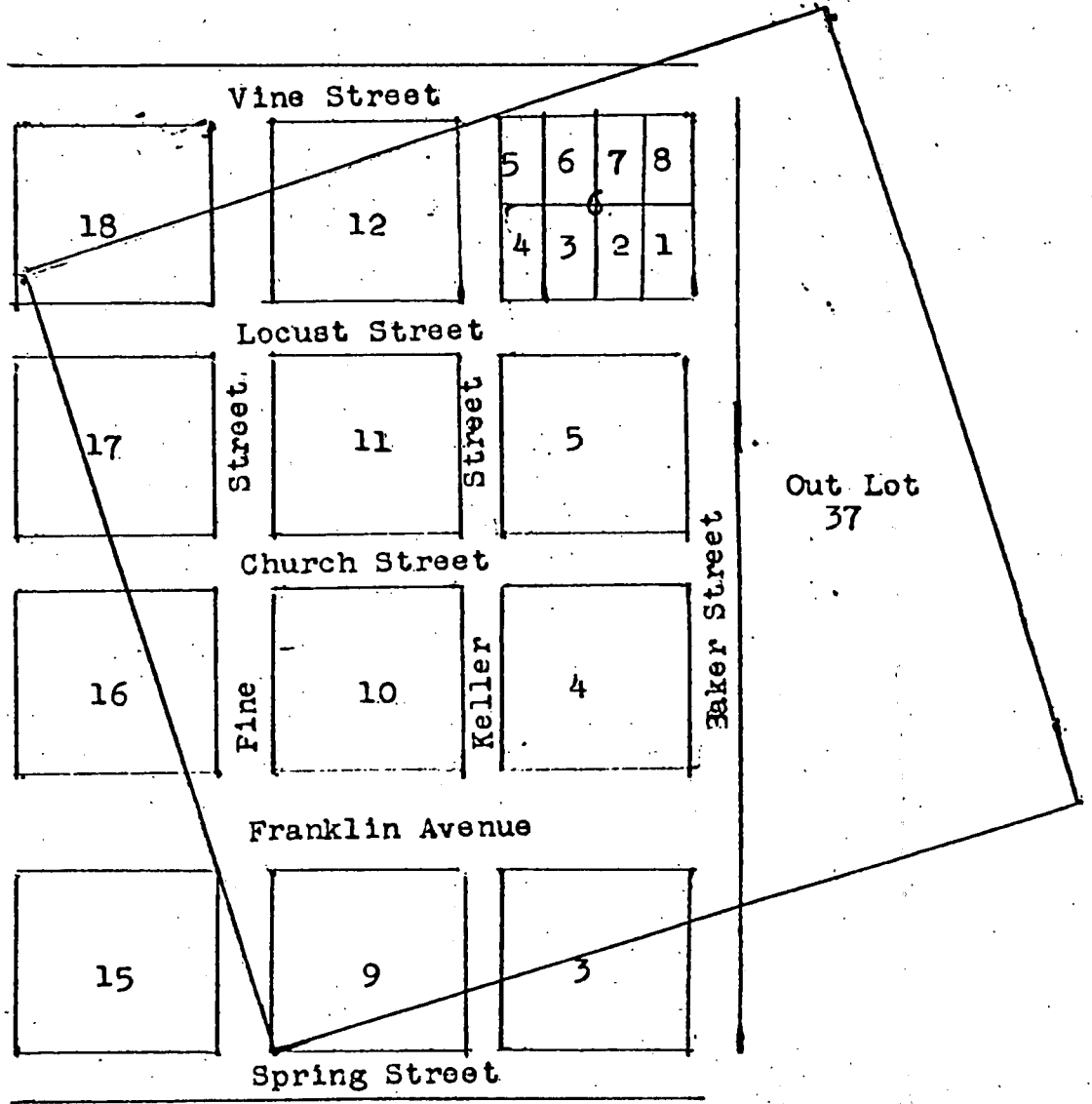
Sheet #12

(30) District Court, Douglas County, Kansas #212

John M. Wallace, plaintiff, vs. R. L. Williams, Defendant
Date: 6 October 1864

Part of Franklin - Sketch of Streets, page 4a

Part of Franklin



(31) Quit Claim Deed

William J. Kennedy and Lucinda C. Kennedy, his wife, to R. L. Williams
 Date: 20 July 1868 Book 3, page 267

(32) Mortgage

Ralph L. Williams and Mary Williams, his wife, to Henry Gay
 Date: 9 July 1873 Mortgage Book Q, pages 264-65

(33) Release

Margin of Mortgage Book Q, page 265: above mortgage acknowledged
 fully paid on 8 July 1878 to Henry Gay (Witness, G. W. E. Griffith)

(34) Partial Release

Recorded: 26 December 1876 Book V, page 122
 Acknowledged Litchfield County, Connecticut, 20 November 1876
 Release of above mortgage in Book Q, page 264

(35) Mortgage

R. L. Williams and Mary Williams, his wife, to C. T. Cavaness
 Date: 3 November 1876 Book U, page 621

(36) Release

Above mortgage of C. T. Cavaness of Lyons County, Kansas paid in
 full on 8 August 1877.
 Recorded: 15 February 1878 Book W, page 279

(37) Mortgage

Ralph L. Williams and Mary Williams, his wife, to Henry Gay of the
 firm of Gilbert & Gay
 Date: 11 August 1877 Mortgage Book V, page 559

(38) Release

Margin of Mortgage Book V, page 559: Above mortgage paid in full
 to Henry Gay on 1 November 1881.

(39) Mortgage

Ralph L. Williams and Mary Williams, his wife, to G. W. E. Griffith
 Date: 19 December 1879 Mortgage Book Y, pages 415-17

(40) Release

Margin of Mortgage Book Y, page 416: Payment in full of above note
 acknowledged by G. W. E. Griffith. (Recorded on said margin 1 Nov. 1881.)

(41) Quit Claim Deed

Taylor Stevens and Sarah Stevens, his wife, to R. L. Williams
Date: 30 May 1868 Book 24, page 495

(42) Mortgage

Ralph L. Williams and Mary Williams, his wife, to David G. Swain
Date: 29 October 1881 Mortgage Book 2, page 250

Sheet #16

(43) Release

On Margin, Book 2, page 250: Payment in full of above mortgage to
David G. Swain. Recorded 21 January 1887 on said margin.

(44) Warranty Deed

R. L. Williams and Mary Williams, his wife, to Ritti Patterson
Date: 17 May 1884 Book 34, page 498

(45) Affidavit

Retti Patterson, duly sworn, states that she is the "Ritti Patterson"
(husband H. C. Patterson) mentioned in Book 39, page 167. Also
states that she is mentioned in Warranty Deed of Book 34, page 498.
Recorded: 3 November 1898 Book 64, page 194

Sheet #17

(46) Warranty Deed

Retti Patterson and H. C. Patterson to Frederick E. Brooks and
Royal C. Bradshaw, partners under the name of Brooks & Bradshaw.
Date: 23 September 1885 Book 39, page 167

(47) Bond For Deed

Frederick E. Brocks and Royal C. Bradshaw with Homer W. Moore
Date: 20 November 1886 Book 40, page 17
(Acknowledged 21 January 1886 in Shawnee County, Kansas)

(48) Agreement

Frederick E. Brooks and Royal C. Bradshaw with Homer W. Moore.
Date: 20 January 1886 Book 40, page 18

Sheet #18

(49) Warranty Deed

Frederick E. Brooks, Susan A. Brooks (his wife) and Royal C.
Bradshaw to Homer W. Moore.
Date: 20 January 1886 Book 40, page 15

(50) Warranty Deed

Royal C. Bradshaw and Eva M. Bradshaw, his wife, to Homer W. Moore
Date: 29 January 1886 Book 41, page 422
(Acknowledged 25 February 1886 in Shawnee County, Kansas)

(51)

Mortgage

H. W. Moore and Marium L. Moore, his wife, to Frederick E. Brooks and Royal C. Bradshaw.

Date: 20 January 1886 Mortgage Book 11, pages 415-17
(Acknowledged 20 January 1886 in Shawnee County, Kansas)

(52)

Assignment.

Frederick E. Brooks and Royal C. Bradshaw to M. P. Hillyer.

Date: 6 February 1886 Book 11, page 488
(On margin appears viz: "For mortgage - see page 415")

(53)

Release

Margin of Mortgage Book 11, page 416: Received of Homer W. Moore the within named mortgagee, a new mortgage in full satisfaction of the within mortgage. Signed by M. P. Hillyer.
Recorded 21 January 1887 on said margin.

(54)

Mortgage

Homer W. Moore and May L. Moore, his wife, to the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Date: 1 November 1886 Mortgage Book 15, page 26

Sheet #20

(55)

Mortgage

Homer W. Moore and May L. Moore, his wife, to "Frederick E. Brooks and Royal C. Bradshaw".

Date: 20 January 1886 Mortgage Book 15, page 118

(56)

Warranty Deed

Homer W. Moore and May L. Moore, his wife, to John Wilkins.

Date: 2 December 1886 Book 43, page 64

(57)

Warranty Deed

John Wilkins and S. E. Wilkins, his wife, to J. S. Emerson.

Date: 18 January 1887 Book 44, page 33

Sheet #21

(58)

Mortgage

James S. Emerson and Jane Emerson, his wife, to Margaret A. Emerson.

Date: 23 February 1887 Mortgage Book 14, pages 594-95
(Acknowledged 23 February 1887 in Ellsworth County, Kansas)

(59)

Release

"James S. Emerson, Mortgagor to Margaret A. Emerson, Mortgagee Assignee.
Dated 13 September 1887 (Recorded pages 594-95, Mortgage Book 14, Douglas County, Kansas"
(Acknowledged 13 September 1887 in Ellsworth County, Kansas)

(60) Warranty Deed

James S. Emerson and Jeannie Emerson, his wife, to George Masterson.
 Date: 27 August 1887. Book 44, page 462
 Acknowledged 27 Aug. 1887 by Jeannie Emerson in Ellsworth County, Ks.
 Acknowledged 10 Sept. 1887 by James S. Emerson in Jackson County, Mo.

Sheet #22

(61) Warranty Deed

George W. Masterson & Hephzibah Masterson (his wife), to Julia D. Summers.
 Date: 9 July 1888 Book 46, page 448
 Acknowledged 9 July 1888 in Ellsworth County, Kansas

(62 District Court, Douglas County, Ks., 26 November 1888 #6198

The Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, Plaintiff, vs. Homer W. Moore, Mary L. Moore, John Wilkins & S. E. Wilkins, James S. Emerson, Jeannie Emerson, George W. Masterson, Frederick E. Brooks, Royal C. Bradshaw, Julia D. Summers, Defendants.
 (1 August 1888, said defendants not found in Douglas County, Ks.)

(63) District Court, Douglas County, Ks., 26 November 1888 #6233

George M. Noble, Plaintiff, vs. Homer W. Moore, Marium L. Moore, Frederick E. Brooks, Royal C. Bradshaw, M. P. Hillyer, George W. Masterson, Julia D. Summers, Defendants. (continued)

Sheet #23

Date: 8 February 1889, Journal O, page 161. Consolidation of items 62 & 63 into one action for trial.

Date: 10 Aug. 1889. Order for sale issued for sale of SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 (and other land) of Section 10, Twp. 13, Range 20, Douglas County, Kansas.

Sheriff's Sale

The Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, Plaintiff
 vs.

Homer W. Moore, et al, Defendants

(Sheet #24)

On Saturday, the 14th of September, 1889, at half past one o'clock in the afternoon at the front door of the court house in the city of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas, for sale at public auction to highest & best bidder for cash in hand, all right, title & interest of above-mentioned defendants. (12 Aug. 1889 by Sheriff A. Love)

11 November 1889, Journal O, page 410. Above real estate sold to George M. Noble for \$3800 (225 acres, more or less). By his agent, J. L. Durrnam.

Sheet #25

(64) Sheriff's Deed

Sheriff, Douglas County, Kansas to George M. Noble
 Date: 30 November 1889 Book 50, page 578
 (Ack'gd 30 Nov. 1889 before L. S. Steele, N. P., Douglas County, Ks.)

(65) Quit Claim Deed

George M. Noble and Eva R. Noble, his wife, to Frederick E. Brooks
 Date: 30 November 1889 Book 50, page 580
 Acknowledged 30 November 1889 in Shawnee County, Kansas

(66) Trust Deed

Frederick E. Brooks and Susan E. Brooks, his wife, to the Kansas
 Loan and Trust Company, Trustee, party of the second part and H. C.
 Flower, party of the third part.
 Date: 1 November 1889 Mortgage Book 22, pages 165-69
 Acknowledged 2 December 1889 in Shawnee County, Kansas

Sheet #26

(67) Release

Margin of Mortgage Book 22, page 165: Mortgage above paid in full on
 6 November 1894 to Theodore Pechler. Witness: James Brooks, Register
 of Deeds.

(68) Release

Margin of Mortgage Book 22, page 165: This mortgage paid in full to
 H. C. Flower on 28 February 1903. Recorded 2 March 1903 on said margin

(69) Release

The Kansas Loan and Trust Company, Trustee, by George M. Noble, vice
 president - owner of note - to Frederick E. Brooks and Susan E. Brooks,
 his wife.
 Date: 29 October 1894 Book 29, page 126
 Acknowledged 29 October 1894 by George M. Noble in Shawnee County, Kansas

Sheet #27

(70) Mortgage

Frederick E. Brooks and Susan A. Brooks, his wife, to the Kansas Loan
 and Trust Company.
 Date: 1 November 1889 Mortgage Book 22, page 169

(71) Release

Margin of Mortgage Book 22, page 169: Above mortgage paid in full and
 is released by George M. Noble of the Kansas Loan & Trust Company.
 Recorded 10 November 1894 on said margin.

(72) Warranty Deed

Frederick E. Brooks and Susan A. Brooks, his wife, to Levi Wilhelm.
 Date: 20 March 1890 Book 53, page 189

(73) Warranty Deed

Levi Wilhelm and Rachel Wilhelm, his wife, to Emmer E. Horner.
 Date: 21 March 1891 Book 53, page 191
 Acknowledged 21 March 1891 in Jefferson County, Kansas

(74) Warranty Deed

Emmer E. Hornor and Levi Hornor to R. C. Johnston
 Date: 28 March 1891 Book 52, page 613

(75) Mortgage

R. C. Johnston and Helene A. Johnston, his wife, to Wilder S. Metcalfe
 Date: 1 November 1894 Mortgage Book 29, pages 124-25

(76) Assignment

Wilder S. Metcalfe to H. M. K. Haskell
 Date: 8 April 1898 Book 33, page 254

Sheet #29

(77) Release

Margin of Mortgage Book 29, page 125: Above note paid in full by
 H. M. K. Deacon (formerly H. M. K. Haskell) on 7 August 1899.
 (Sworn statement by Irving W. Metcalfe that he is personally acquainted
 with H. M. K. Deacon and knows her to be the same person as H. M. K.
 Haskell)

(78) Patent

United States of America by the President to Daniel Scannell.
 Date: 25 February 1870 Book 7, page 456

(The above is taken from the record of a certified copy from the
 records at Washington, D. C.)

(79) Warranty Deed

Daniel Scannell and Julia A. Scannell, his wife, to John K. Stone.
 Date: 11 April 1859 Book B, page 313
 Acknowledged 11 April 1859, Douglas County, Kansas Territory

Sheet #30

(80) Sheriff's Deed

Recorded: 1 December 1862 Book F, page 600

"Know all men by these presents that whereas Maltravers Solomon,
 administrator of John Stroup did by the judgment of the District
 Court within and for the county of Douglas and Territory of Kansas
 at the October term thereof A.D. 1859 recover judgment against
 Daniel Scannell for the sum of \$289.00 and costs of suit and it was
 further ordered that in default of the payment of the judgment by
 the said Daniel Scannell, the N 1/2 Section 10, Twp. 13, Range 20
 East in Douglas County, Kansas should be sold". Sale of the above
 land is acknowledged by Sheriff Henry Brown of Douglas County, Kansas
 on 29 November 1862, before Louis Carpenter, Judge of the Probate
 Court of Douglas County, Kansas. Land sold to K. Solomon.

(Records of the said Court were destroyed by fire August 21, 1863.)

(81) Warranty Deed

John Stroup by his attorney in fact, George W. Smith, and Minerva J. Stroup, his wife, to Levi J. Sperry.

Date: 14 January 1865

Book K, page 573

(82) Power Of Attorney

John Stroup to George W. Smith

No Date

Recorded: 2 April 1863

Book G, page 255

Acknowledged 26 February 1863 in Green County, Missouri.

(83) Mortgage

Levi J. Sperry and Nancy J. Sperry, his wife, to Henry Stevens

Date: 17 April 1873

Mortgage Book Q, page 15

(84) Release

Sheet #32

Margin of mortgage book Q, page 15: Payment in full on 23 April 1878 to Henry Stevens.

(85) Mortgage

Levi J. Sperry and Nancy J. Sperry, his wife, to Mary Stevens

Date: 20 April 1878

Mortgage Book W, page 438

(86) Release

Margin of mortgage book W, page 438: Payment in full of above mortgage to Mary Stevens on 7 May 1878. Recorded 10 May 1878 on said margin.

(87) Mortgage

Levi J. Sperry and Nancy J. Sperry, his wife, to Alice M. Beers

Date: 7 May 1878

Mortgage Book W, pages 485-86

Sheet #33

(88) Release

Payment in full of above mortgage by Levi J. Sperry and Nancy, his wife, to Alice M. Beers (now Alice M. Risdow) of the city of Ann Arbor and State of Michigan and recorded in liber W of mortgages on pages 485, 486, 487 on 8 May 1878.

Acknowledged 12 October 1883 in Washtenaw County, Michigan.

(89) Mortgage

L. J. Sperry to Edward Russell

Date: 1 January 1885

Mortgage Book 8, page 486

(90)

Release

Margin of mortgage book 8, page 486: Above mortgage acknowledged paid in full to Edward Russell on 19 January 1886. Recorded 23 January 1886 on said margin.

(91)

District Court, Douglas County, Kansas

#5502

Appearance Docket I, page 609

Nancy Jane Sperry, Plaintiff vs. L. J. Sperry, Defendant
30 July 1884: Petition filed asking for a divorce and alimony.
Summons issued.

23 December 1885: Journal M, page 207, divorce granted. Plaintiff granted land (Section 10, Twp. 13, Range 20 and other land) as alimony.

Sheet #34

(92)

Quit Claim Deed

Levi J. Sperry, an unmarried man, to Nancy J. Sperry
Date: 6 January 1886 Book 40, page 69

(93)

Mortgage

Mrs. Nancy J. Sperry (single) to W. C. Beardsley.
Date: 1 March 1886 Mortgage Book 12, page 84

(94)

Release

Margin of Mortgage Book 12, page 84: Above mortgage acknowledged paid in full on 22 December 1892 to W. C. Beardsley. Recorded 27 December 1892 on said margin.

(95)

Warranty Deed

Nancy J. Sperry, an unmarried woman, to R. C. Johnston
Date: 20 January 1887 Book 43, page 190

Sheet #35

(96)

Mortgage

R. C. Johnston and Helene A. Johnston, his wife, to William T. Sinclair
Date: 1 March 1892 Mortgage Book 24, page 465

(97)

Assignment

William T. Sinclair to Helen E. Allen
Date: 24 March 1892 Book 26, page 27
(Sale and assignment of above mortgage, mortgage book 24, page 465.)

(98)

Assignment

Helen E. Allen to Mrs. Thirza D. Ham
Date: 10 January 1898
(Sale and assignment of above mortgage, mortgage book 24, page 465.)

(99)

Release

Margin of mortgage book 24, page 465: Mortgage above paid in full on 8 August 1899 to Mrs. Thirza D. Ham. Recorded 8 August 1899 on said margin. Witness: H. C. Vaughn.

Sheet #36

(100)

District Court, Douglas County, Kansas

#9008

Robert C. Johnston, Plaintiff, vs. James McKensey, B. C. Talley, H. M. Menger, J. D. Herrington, Jared Carter, Stephen Perkins, Richard Leach, Henry Johnson, William P. Herrington, Mary Ann Boote, Mittigan Wallace, Isaac Tolle, Robert Charles, John K. Stone, Smith Herron, John F. Soulkie, Catherine Soulkie, John Stroup, Zachariah Stroup, James Stroup, William Stroup, Maltravers Solomon, administrator of Estate of John Stroup, deceased, and the unknown heirs of said defendants except J. D. Herrington, Defendants.

28 May 1898: Petition filed by Plaintiff in action to quiet title, claiming legal title to SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 10 for more than 15 years. Petition accompanied by affidavit that all defendants except J. D. Herrington are non-residents of Kansas. Summons issued and returned on J. D. Herrington only, all other defendants not found.

State of Kansas, County of Douglas, 7 November 1898. Journal N, page 46

Court finds that all defendants except J. D. Herrington are and were at commencement of this action, non-residents of Kansas. Plaintiff is thereby to have his title and possession of said land quieted against all of said defendants.

Sheet #37

(101)

Mortgage

Robert C. Johnston and Helene A. Johnston, wife, to the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, a corporation of New Jersey

Date: 1 July 1899

Mortgage Book 37, page 176

(102)

Satisfaction

Margin of mortgage book 37, page 176: Mortgage above acknowledged paid in full to the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company. Recorded 16 January 1907 on said margin.

(103)

Warranty Deed

Robert C. Johnston and Helene A. Johnston, wife, to Eli Cole

Date: 19 April 1902

Book 72, page 40

Sheet #38

(104)

Warranty Deed

Eli Cole and Lucy Cole, his wife, to Jefferson D. Martin

Date: 7 February 1906

Book 81, page 358

(105) Mortgage

Jefferson D. Martin and J. Ella Martin, husband and wife, to Mutual Benefit Life Insurance, a Corporation under the laws of New Jersey
 Date: 1 November 1906 Mortgage Book 44, pages 243-46

(106) Release

Margin of mortgage book 44, page 243: Mortgage above acknowledged paid in full to Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company. Recorded 27 August 1914 on said margin.

Sheet #39

(107) Mortgage

Jefferson D. Martin and J. Ella Martin, his wife, to J. O. Shannon
 Date: 31 October 1906 Mortgage Book 43, page 355

(108) Release

Margin of mortgage book 43, page 355: Mortgage above acknowledged paid in full to J. O. Shannon. Recorded 11 May 1914 on said margin.

Sheet #43

(120) Warranty Deed

Jefferson D. Martin and Joseph Ella Martin (also known as J. Ella), his wife, to James Edward Martin and Mary Edna Martin, his wife.
 Date: 14 January 1930 Book 147, page 152

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HISTORY OF

TERRITORIAL

LECOMPTON, KANSAS

By the Centennial Committee
(See page 16)

HISTORY OF TERRITORIAL LECOMPTON

by

The Centennial Committee (See page 16)

Lecompton, Kansas, is located in the northwestern part of Douglas County, on the Kansas River. It has an elevation of 846 feet. Topeka is located eighteen miles west of it, and Lawrence is twelve miles east of town. It is located amongst seven hills, which are tree covered; along the river to the southward lies a beautifully rolling farm region.

It is believed that the site of Lecompton, Kansas, was first visited by French traders who followed the Kansas River as they ventured to explore the west for fur trade with the Indians in the first part of the eighteenth century.

By an Act of May 26, 1830, Kansas Territory was designated as Indian Reservation. The tribes east of the Mississippi were encouraged to go there and were promised aid. Indian Reservation Agents and missionaries were allowed in that territory, but it was not open to white settlement. By 1850, due to the pressure of settlers desiring to move west, the land was purchased from the Indians, and they were persuaded to move to new and smaller reservations.

In May of 1854, Kansas was organized as a territory, by the Kansas Nebraska Act, with the right of settlement. The state was to be settled and then at such time as it had reached the necessary population quota and was desirous of becoming a state, it could by popular election, decide if it wished to be slave or free state.

This condition immediately interested both the north and the south, and each started fund raising expeditions to send emigrants to Kansas. The balance of power between the two sections of the country was so evenly matched, that could either section obtain the dominance in Kansas, it would be greatly to the advantage of both north and south. Accordingly, each started sending settlers to Kansas.

The first actual settler at Lecompton seems to have been **William R. Simmons**, who had previously joined **J. H. Lane's** regiment in Indiana, and fought in the Mexican War, during which war he received two major wounds. In March, 1852, Mr. Simmons left Indiana and wandered on foot along the Kansas River, until he came upon what was later to be the site of Lecompton, Kansas, where he took a squatter's right claim. Mr. Simmons immediately started a ferry across the Kansas River.

Ely Moore recounts in an address, a visit he had with Mr. Simmons. Moore, on his way to Fort Leavenworth with an order for troops to keep trespassers off Indian Lands, stopped at the future town of Lecompton where he heard there was a ferry. There he spied a man sitting astride a log skinning a catfish. Without even looking up, the man saluted Moore with these words, "Stranger, light and look at your saddle," meaning "Dismount and rest".

After a few words Moore inquired about a ferry. Mr. Simmons pointed to a huge sycamore log some twenty feet long, five feet in diameter and with a center excavation about five feet in length. "Thar's the ferry", he explained, "and hyar's the ferryman." Noting a slight distrust in Moore's manner, he added, "Don't feel skeery mister, for she's as dry as a Missourian's throat and as safe as the American flag!"

With that they embarked on the "Fairy Queen", as the ferryman termed the sycamore log, and were soon afloat on the Kaw, with but a single paddle to guide and propel them. The only mishap sustained while crossing, was to the horse, who as he swam after the boat, was struck on the shoulder

by a huge drifting log, turning him completely over. However, he soon recovered from the shock and struck out for shore.

Somewhat later a ferry boat larger (sic) enough to transport a stage coach and six or eight horses were used to cross the river.

In the fall of 1854, **Dr. Rodrique** and **A. G. Boone** started out to explore that part of Kansas, their object being primarily to locate claims for themselves and incidentally to select an eligible site for the capital of the territory.

They traveled in their own conveyance and were attended by a driver who did duty as a cook. When night overtook them, they camped, pitched their tent, picketed their horses and "roughed it". There were but few roads and little opportunity to get information, as everyone they met, was like they were, explorers.

In the absence of roads they did the next best thing and followed the river. By following this from Rock Crossing, then in the course of a few miles coming upon what is now Lake View, which was so large and impractical to cross, they decided to camp for a day, and while the horses were resting, and the cook replenishing their food supply, to reconnoiter on foot. It was early in the morning when they started and the grass and undergrowth was covered with dew. By the time they had gone three or four miles they were wet to the skin.

At length they came to a ridge that terminated abruptly at the river. They climbed to the summit and sat down under a big tree to rest. The longer they rested the less inclined they were to go further. "I think we have gone far enough, Colonel," said Rodrique, and Boone replied that he was about to say the same thing. As the beauty of the landscape impressed itself more and more upon them, they became enthusiastic and predicted that in the great amphitheater of the hills before and below them, that a great metropolis would arise, and would command the admiration of the whole state. Dr. Rodrique pointed down the slope, indicating a spot he would make his home, (which later became the old graveyard east of town, and where he was subsequently buried).

Boone said it was difficult to decide among so many beautiful locations, but he would stay somewhere.

Then the question of a name was discussed. Rodrique suggested "Eureka", but Boone objected and then Rodrique suggested, "Hazel Dell". Boone let out a roaring laugh and proposed "Pell Mell". "Oh!" said Rodrique, "I know what you want to call it, Boonboro." "No, I don't," retorted Boone, "but I consider that more appropriate than your sentimental nonsense."

Just then a great bird left its nest in a big sycamore, that stood near by, and as the two watched its flight, Rodrique turned to Boone and said, "Why not call it 'Bald Eagle'?" "It's a go," said Boone. "I'll consent to that much nonsense—we dedicate it Bald Eagle; let it soar."

During the winter of 1854-1855, **Samuel D. LeCompte** of Maryland, was appointed Federal Judge of the territory. His good character had been liberally heralded throughout the territory and so in his honor the name of the town was changed from Bald Eagle to Lecompton, as it was felt Bald Eagle was not a dignified enough name for a town that was a proposed capital.

The men returned to Missouri and at once set about organizing a town company. **Elias Armstrong**, a half breed Wyandotte Indian, who had been given a concession of land for services to his tribe, located a float on the fractional section and started something of interest in inducing settlers to come to Kansas. The start was slow as the Free State papers would not mention the project because of its southern affiliations, and the Pro-Slavery papers feared it was a rival town and refused to print anything about it.

The Lecompton Town Company was finally organized at the Pottawatomie Agency and consisted of Judge **LeCompte**, President: **John Haldermen**, Secretary; **Daniel Woodson**, Treasurer; **George Clark** and **Chauncey Donaldson**. They decided to send men to the west to locate definitely a town site.

The last of July, 1854, there were four men who arrived at Bald Eagle. They were **Dr. Rodrigue**, **Colonel Boone**, **Samuel Jones**, and **Major Lyman Evans**. Stopping to rest on Court House Hill, they heard a snapping and crackling of brush, after which a man in tattered garments, hatless, with hair awry, and a very red face, jumped into their midst, exclaiming, "I saw your smoke and smells a fuss. What are young doing hyar? This air my land, plumb sure and nobody can jump it with a whole skin. Do un's hear my clatter?" This was ferryman Simmons, guarding his claim against jumpers. However, after a parley and a pressing invitation to join them in a good supper, diplomacy won. Simmons was to possess one eighth of the city, free of expenses. Thus the town site was practically established.

In the spring of 1855, the town company held a meeting and reported that **D. H. Harting** had surveyed the town site, consisting of 600 acres, and had laid out the principal streets and blocks. It was the design and expectation that Lecompton would become the capital and a large city as well; therefore, the streets were planned to be 75 feet wide, to accommodate the traffic of such a place.

In the summer of 1853, a caravan of settlers, of which Mrs. **Rachel Jane Coulter Todhunter** was one, camped at Lecompton, where buffalo and all sorts of wild game abounded. These people decided to stay, and built a cabin and dug a well. This well became the watering place for passing ox trains, and a camping spot for emigrants. Some of these men returned to Missouri in the fall. They came back in the spring of 1854 with their families. As soon as the Land Office opened, **Mr. Todhunter** filed on his claim. During the month of May, 1855, a steamer came up the river. The settlers were so over-joyed to see the boat and its occupants that they prevailed upon the captain to tie up for a day and a night and give the people a ball. It was a memorable occasion. Mrs. Todhunter joined in the festivities and danced with **Governor Reeder**. She also helped serve a dinner to members of the territorial legislature in the Constitutional Hall.

During the territorial conflict when there were raids on the settlers' homes, and much horse stealing, single shot rifles were the only available defense. In emergencies it required more than one rifle if there was to be more than one shot. Mr. Todhunter kept a group of loaded guns in a corner of his cabin. One evening upon hearing a disturbance at his horse corral, he hurriedly reached for a gun, accidentally discharging it, killing himself. Mrs. Todhunter was left a widow with three children, but she remained on the farm. Later she became **Mrs. W. R. McCarty**, and they farmed their original 160 acres. This is probably the oldest farm in the state in continuous ownership.

In 1854, a small group settled around Lecompton. They were **A. W. and A. G. Glenn**, father and son; **G. W. Zinn**, **J. G. McClanahan**, **David Martin**, **M. S. Winter**, and **William Shirley**.

The McClanahan and Zinn families traveled together to Lecompton from Missouri, in covered wagons. There was, then, no sign of habitation where the city of Lawrence now stands. Where the future Lecompton was to be located, there was but a single log cabin. The families continued westward for miles and finally decided to locate on the Kansas River. The McClanahans built a pre-emption cabin to live in until a large one could be built.

The following year, a two room log house was built. It consisted of a large kitchen and a smaller room adjoining. There was a large fireplace in the north end of the kitchen and a smaller one on the east side of the small room. The kitchen fire place was used as a place to cook. They used a dutch

oven over which they raked coals and baked their breads and other foods.

Their food consisted mostly of meat, both tame and wild, breads, and what vegetables they could raise. They used grease lamp for lighting. It consisted of a covered bowl containing two spouts, one on either side, out of each protruded a wick. This made a dull smoky light. Soon, on a trip to Leavenworth after supplies, **Mr. McClanahan** came home with candle molds and wicking with which to make candles that produced a better light than the grease lamps. A few years later a kerosene lamp was obtained, and to their delight they had a lovely, yellow, glowing light.

Their clothing was very simple, the first few years, consisting mostly of garments made of a coarse shirting material. As the McClanahans kept sheep, they sheared them, washed the wool, and the children spent a great deal of time picking burrs from it. It was then sent to a carding mill at Leavenworth, Kansas, where it was carded and made into yarn. Later **Mrs. McClanahan** obtained a spinning wheel and spun the yarn for the family. All the women of the family knitted and the evenings were spent in knitting socks and various other articles. These woolen socks were worn the year around, as they were the only ones obtainable. Shoes were bought only when a trip was made to a trading post, as at Leavenworth. Whenever the family went visiting or to church in the summer, if they walked, the children went barefooted until they were within sight of their destination, and then sat down and put on the shoes which they had carried. Shoes were scarce and relatively expensive, therefore, they were to be treasured.

Upon completing the cabin, Mr. McClanahan had made rude chairs, a table, and beds. In the winter, the family slept on feather beds, using another feather bed for covering. This was a very warm covering, and very needed in a drafty log cabin. The cabin was well chinked and weather tight, but even so, the doors and windows didn't fit as tightly as in a frame dwelling. Mr. McClanahan later made two walnut cupboards from boards sawed out of logs on the place. These cupboards were used for storing dishes and food. Later a carpenter at Tecumseh made a six foot long, drop leaf table, and a **Mr. Spencer** at Big Springs made a number of chairs, that had hand woven, hickory bark bottoms. One of these was a large rocking chair and is still in use.

There were still Indians scattered around, but they were friendly with the family. It was a cardinal rule among the settlers, that should an Indian come to the cabin, to give him whatever he wanted, never cross him, as he became ugly. One day an Indian squaw came to the McClanahan cabin, and spying the small daughter **Martha** playing with a tiny cup, demanded it. Normally, Mrs. McClanahan would have instantly given her what she desired, but it was the only toy the child had. It was unlikely that she could get another, because it had been brought from their home in Missouri, so she refused. The child cried, and the Indians squaw insisted. Finally the harried woman said, "No, it belongs to my papoose." The Indian squaw was then satisfied, as Indians were notorious child spoilers, and left.

It was unusual for the Indians to ask for things other than food. One fall after Mr. McClanahan had butchered, an Indian buck appeared and asked for "hoggy" meat. He gave him a head and some jowl. The Indian then asked for a sack, which they greatly prized. Mr. McClanahan found him one and away he went. Soon another Indian appeared, asking for meat. Mr. McClanahan offered head and jowl to him. He also asked for a sack. but Mr. McClanahan said he had no more. Whereupon, the Indian pulled a sack from inside the front of his garment, filled it with the meat and left. Sacks were of great interest to the Indians, as theirs that they contrived were so clumsy and heavy, and not as easily carried.

Somewhat later, when the Indians were almost gone, an old Indian buck came to the house and

asked for something to eat. **Mrs. McClanahan** had just finished churning and had a great deal of butter milk setting there in the churn. The Indian grabbed up a cup, and drank and drank. Mrs. McClanahan feared he would burst. Suddenly he clapped his hand over his mouth, ran for the yard, and was violently sick. Just then, an old squaw came riding into the yard, intent on asking for food also. She stopped to converse with the sick buck, who warned her away, whether he told her, he had been poisoned or what, they never knew, as the Indians never came again.

There was little social life for these people for the first few years, only an occasional visitor, or a chance to go to church. School was later held three months in the summer for the girls and three months in the winter for the boys. The purpose of this was to send the boys when there was little else for them to do. The children studied and played games as they have always done. They played ball with homemade balls. They played King William, which was a favorite with the girls.

The year following the arrival of the McClanahans and Zinns, the **Zinn's** daughter, **Ann**, died. **Mr. McClanahan** made coffins for the settlers, so he made one for little Ann, and she was taken to Big Springs and buried on the **George Duncan** place. Next day **Mr. Zinn** got to worrying about water getting into the tiny coffin, so he and Mr. McClanahan drove in the lumber wagon to the burial place, disinterred her, brought her back to the Zinn place and buried her in a field on the western edge of the farm, in what later became Maple Grove Cemetery. He gave an acre of that field to be used as a local cemetery; later another acre was added to this tract. This cemetery was used by the community, but subsequently was organized and used by the town also.

There were two other burial places in territorial Lecompton, one located on the hill east of town and called the Bald Eagle Cemetery, where **Boone** and **Rodrique** had sighted the Bald Eagle, and another south of town, known as the Migliario Cemetery

In 1855, **Moses McCall**, **Major Lyman Evans**, **F. P. Walter**, **John Damm**, **Aloyius Riedmuller**, and others came. In August of 1856, **Carolyn Wetheim** and **John Jacob Bahnmaier**, immigrants from Germany, came to Lecompton, and were later married. They settled on a farm southwest of Lecompton, where they lived the rest of their lives. Riedmuller, Walter, and Damm were stone masons, who came here from Ohio to ply their trade and take up land. They were owners of land warrants that had been issued to soldiers of previous wars. These warrants were issued in blank, and filled in later when the description of the place was available. After the warrants had been proved, that is the homestead requirements fulfilled, a land patent was issued by the United States Land Patent Office. F. P. Walter filled out his land warrant, built a cabin, and in February of 1856 went to Germany to obtain a bride and visit his parents. He was back by August of that year. While he was gone, a squatter built a shelter on a corner of his land, preparatory to taking over the claim. To discourage him, Walter, Riedmuller, and Bahnmaier would hide in the scrub brush at the top of the hill, and fire their guns down over the squatter's shelter on a corner of his land. He finally took the hint and departed overnight. The Walters used a spring about a quarter of a mile from the house as the water supply, as did some neighboring Indians. One day when **Mrs. Walter** went to the spring she saw what she took to be a mother cat and kittens. As she was lonely for household animals, she decided to catch some of the kittens and have them for pets. She cornered the mother cat, who promptly reared her tail erect and shot a stream of vile smelling liquid all over her face, hair, and dress front. Partly blinded and very sick she hurried to the house for help. Mr. Walter told her, too late, that those kittens were to be treated with respect and never molested, as they were skunks.

Indians were frequent visitors at the Walter cabin, and were particularly fond of bread, to which

they helped themselves, if it was in evidence. Once when they were particularly hungry, they came to the door and asked for a chicken or a cow. Needless to say, they were given the chicken. Mr. Walter worked in Lawrence, walking there early Monday morning and returning late Saturday night. The rest of the week, Mrs. Walter spent alone, often walking to the Big Springs with a bucket of produce in one hand and carrying a baby.

There was soon a steady stream of settlers, politicians, and land speculators to the area of Lecompton. There were seven, four-horse stage and express lines, giving daily service to Kansas City, Leavenworth, Atchison, St. Joseph, Topeka, and Fort Scott. They were always loaded with persons seeking novelty and wealth. Small steam boats early plied the waters of the Kansas River. Usually these boats carried whiskey, but not much was unloaded at Lecompton, as a nearby still kept the town bountifully supplied.

Most of the steam boats were owned by a company, located at Westport. These boats were attractively painted and bore names. The fare from Westport to Lecompton was five dollars. Lecompton possessed a small wharf which had been constructed of large oak planks that extended from the bank out over the river.

In addition to the steam boats, the Indians had small canoes in which they shipped things for the white settlers. Often an Indian would transport a passenger for five or ten cents, and sometimes for nothing.

Many stories are told by the old residents, of the struggle by **Captain Beasley**, to control the traffic on the river. He took all the freight he could stow on his boat without sinking her, even if he had to unload a part of it to get over the sand bars. Once, in coming up the river, his boat ran aground just above Rising Sun, which was located across the river and to the east of Lecompton. It happened in July, the river was getting low, and when his steamer ran aground he unloaded 1500 sacks of flour in a paw-paw patch. He left a deck hand to guard it until his next trip up the river.

At Topeka, several thousand bushels of corn were taken on board, to the consternation of the passengers and the trip started back down stream. At Tecumseh, the corn was unloaded to make room for a corn consignment from that place. This was, in turn, dumped out on a bar above Coon Creek to make room for a lot more at Lecompton. When the boat reached the wharf at Lecompton, the banks were piled high with sacks of corn. **George Zinn** was there with a group of laborers to load the boat. After it was loaded, it left the wharf, but piled up on a sand bar and had to wait for a rain to float it.

The first store in Lecompton was opened in a log house, by **John K. Sheperdson**, in the spring of 1856. He purchased and pursued his business but a short time when he sold it to **William K. Leamer**, who purchased a six-room, native lumber house, to which he moved the store.

August 8, 1855, Shawnee Mission Legislature, located the permanent territorial capital at Lecompton. The legislature passed a law appointing a commission to select suitable grounds for the location and erecting of public buildings for the accommodation of the Governor and other executive offices, and the legislature. The act required the governor to cause a building to be erected out of appropriations by congress. While waiting for these buildings, the Territorial Governor, desiring to move to Lecompton from Shawnee, engaged **William M. Nace** to erect a suitable building in which to hold their sessions, agreeing to pay \$1,000 rent, if the building was occupied for 40 days. Mr. Nace undertook and fulfilled the contract. Subsequently the legislature assembled in a hall across Elmore Street, east from the Rowena Hotel and known as Rowena Hall. As Lecompton had been made the territorial capital and the county seat, the legislature was required to convene there, even

after the ascendancy of the Free-State party, although it adjourned each time to Lawrence.

In 1855, the territorial government commenced the erection of a capital building in the east part of town. It was to have been a large stone building and had it been completed would have cost a half million dollars, provided the United States Congress would have continued to appropriate until it was completed. Fifty thousand dollars were appropriated, and this amount was exhausted when the basement was completed and the walls to the height of the first story. Work upon it was discontinued and the structure, as it stood, was used as a fort. Ten acres of the town company's land had been allotted for this building, and others that would be built to supplement it.

For a place having such a wicked reputation, strangely enough Lecompton had four church organizations; the Presbyterians organized in 1857 and built a church the following year, the Southern Methodist organized and built a church of stone in 1857. This building was used as the first school. In 1858 the Catholics organized and began to erect a church and parsonage, but neither were completed. **Colonel Hoole**, in a letter to his mother, told of attending a Methodist Church service on April 12, 1847, (probably means 1857?) and mentioned that it was the first one he had heard at Lecompton since the previous July. He wrote that he had to stand during the entire service as there were only enough seats for the ladies.

The first churches were rude structures that contained seats made of planks set upon stones, chunks of wood, or anything else available. The accouterments were rude, but were lost sight of by the people in the midst of a sermon, as they were eager to participate in any worship service. The United Brethren Church was started early, the exact date not known. In February, 1855, **W. A. Cardwell** was appointed missionary to the Kansas Territory, and his work in the United Brethren Church included Big Springs, Tecumseh, and Lecompton. The Lecompton Church was formally organized in 1858 with five members, of whom **W. A. Cardwell** was one. Although he was a Free-state man, he was asked to address the Pro-slavery legislature when in session at Lecompton.

On June 30, 1854, **Andrew H. Reeder** was confirmed as Kansas Territorial Governor, **Daniel Woodson** as Secretary, and **Judge Samuel D. LeCompte** as Chief Justice. **Judge Cato** was later appointed Associate Justice. It was recommended that Governor Reeder take a prolonged inspection trip through the territory, and then take a census so that there could be a territorial legislature election, and also elect a delegate to the U. S. Congress. On November 29, the congressional election was held and a Pro-slavery candidate, **Mr. Whitfield**, was elected to Congress, the voting being 2,258 for and 647 against. This indicates the feeling in the State of Kansas at that time.

In February, 1855, a census was completed of the territory indicating there were 8,501 residents; 2,905 voters, 408 people of foreign birth, 151 Negroes. In March, an election was held for the territorial legislature; to be elected were thirteen members to the Council, and twenty-six members to the House. This was a definite Pro-slavery victory. In this election, the people of Lecompton voted in the home of **Colonel I. B. Titus**, one and one-half mile south of Lecompton. The vote then was 210 Pro-slavery and 231 Free-state. For being a flagrant Pro-slavery town, this was a peculiar vote. Douglas, a small settlement about two miles east of Lecompton voted 127 Free-state and no Pro-slavery votes.

Governor Reeder called the legislature to meet at Pawnee. It was purported that he owned land there and was desirous of making it the Capital of Kansas, for selfish financial reasons. The legislature later convened there on July 2, but over-rode the Governor's veto and moved to Shawnee. As Governor Reeder could not satisfactorily explain how he had purchased the half-breed's land at Pawnee, at the price he had paid, he was removed from Office on July 28th.

This legislature then decided to move all the territorial offices to Lecompton and to reconvene there at the next session. This legislature also granted authority to establish a bridge and ferry at Lecompton, incorporated the city of Lecompton, established the Kansas Medical College, and designated Lecompton as the Capital of the Territory, and county seat of Douglas County.

The legislature was so eager to prepare a code of laws for the territory, and as their time and experience was limited, that upon finding several excellent copies of the Missouri Code of Laws at hand, the clerk offered their passage by page, not topic, after much of it had been torn out of the original form. Thus was our territorial code of laws passed. This was supposed to contain the most slave owner laws of any state in the nation.

Among these Slave owner Laws were some that were to harass the Free-state people later: To wit: "If any person print or circulate any book, or speak about it being wrong to own slaves, he shall be guilty of treason and the said nuisance abated." These acts became laws on September 1, and the Kansas Code of Laws consisted of 1,058 pages.

In August, **Shannon** was appointed Governor of the Territory. He prepared to move to Lecompton and ordered the territorial militia to proceed there. There was, by this time, a sizeable Free-state community at both Lawrence and Topeka, and they were jockeying for position.

The Free-state element called a Free-state convention to meet at Topeka for the purpose of writing a Free-state constitution and elect officers. **James H. Lane**, a rabid Free-state man was leader of this convention. Lane had been sent to Kansas by **Stephen A. Douglas** to organize the Democratic party here. He was supposed to go to Leavenworth, but due to an error of judgement, he ended up in Lawrence. Upon arriving there, he saw that the Free-state element was the one with the money and was on the ascendency to the power, and immediately became a Free-state leader, as he desired to hold high public office. He probably was the deciding factor in making Kansas free, by the leading of great hoards of settlers to Kansas, and the shipping in of ammunition and guns.

At the Topeka convention, over which he presided, a constitution was adopted and **Charles Robinson** was elected Governor. This convention was held out-doors, and attended by 500 people. The delegates were garbed in blue woolen shirts, slouch hats, rough boots, and full unkept beards. Lane was described as being uncouth, unscrupulous, zealous without conviction, pungent, fiery, and magnetic.

Although Kansas was not a state, Robinson assumed the duties and privileges of the office of governor which was usurping power and an act of treason. **A. H. Reeder** and **James H. Lane** were elected to the U. S. Senate, but they did not attempt to take their seats.

In May, a Grand Jury was called at Lecompton for the purpose of investigating these acts. Reeder was called on to testify and the verdict of this jury was that the "Herald of Freedom" and "The Kansas Free State", two Lawrence Free State newspapers, and the Free State Hotel at Lawrence be abated as nuisances, and Robinson, Reeder, and other so-called state officers be indicted for treason.

On May 10, 1856, Robinson and his wife were en route for the East, where they planned to solicit aid for the Free State cause. At Lexington, Missouri, Robinson was taken off the boat by Pro-slavery sympathizers. He was taken to Leavenworth where he was kept for several weeks before being brought to Lecompton on June 1, and put in the custody of U. S. troops at Camp Sackett. He was later taken to a cabin near Lecompton.

After Robinson's apprehension, **Sheriff Jones** was sent to Lawrence to destroy the Free State Hotel, the two newspapers, and take other men prisoners, who had been indicted by the Grand Jury. In this he was aided by the territorial militia and the U. S. troops. Colonel Eldridge had just finished

decorating and furnishing the hotel with expensive furniture from the East. He was ordered to be ready to leave the building in thirty minutes, after which it was completely destroyed. The two newspapers' presses were broken up and the type thrown into the river. **Charles Robinson's** house was pillaged and burned, stores were broken into and sacked. Lawrence was left badly mauled, but no one was killed or shot. **Sheriff Jones** of Lecompton delighted in this destruction, as on a previous trip there in line of duty someone of the city of Lawrence, shot him in the back while in a tent where he was in conference with a U. S. Army officer. He was nearly mortally wounded, but recovered.

Jones rounded up his prisoners and took them to Lecompton, where the army took charge of them. Later other prisoners, including **John Brown's** son were taken to prison there for massacres committed in other parts of the country.

These men were held until August, when they were tried for treason. The trial was held in a rude apartment furnished with three tables, two chairs, and six planks resting on wood chunks, stoves, boxes, etc. **Judge Cato**, tall, thin, closely shaven, with an overgrown mustache, was the presiding judge. He read a newspaper during most of the trial, giving only an occasional glance at the business before him.

Weir, the District Attorney, stout, florid, red whiskered, sat on a table with his feet elevated on the stove, "the better to spit into it." He charged **Robinson** with usurpation of office, which he admitted. The witness swore his being elected governor was just preparatory, and it had never been intended to put the government in force until it has passed through the proper channels. This was not quite true. Nearly all the Free-state men had designed to set the Topeka government in motion and support it by force of arms whenever the Pro-slavery factions drove them to the wall.

The judge was overbearing, and violent, but Robinson's counsel, confident and Pro-slavery rule nearly over, faced him boldly objected to certain jurors, and took exception frequently.

In summing up to the jury, the court charged the jury that if they found Robinson guilty as charged by the Grand Jury, and so of treason.

After two hours absence the jurors reappeared and asked that the case be reopened and one witness re-examined as they had forgotten his testimony. Judge Cato refused to do so and the jury soon returned a verdict of "not guilty".

The verdict "not guilty" did not bring the immediate release of the prisoners. There were certain legal technicalities to be cleared up. **James Lane**, tiring of waiting for their release, and desirous of some good publicity, collected a group of about 700 men and marched toward Lecompton with the idea of releasing the prisoners by force. He placed a cannon on White House Hill and demanded surrender. The U. S. Army troops (200) immediately fortified up in the basement and walls of the capital building, while the local men deployed themselves in the ravine to the west. The Lecompton force had two cannons and many men eager to fight, but U. S. Marshall ordered them not to fire until attacked. The Lecompton forces with the army numbered but 400 but they were eager for battle. Some of them could not be restrained and fired shots, killing several of the attackers. The General persuaded Lane to parley, and upon telling him the treason prisoners were acquitted and would soon be released, he and his force withdrew. For this valiant attempt, Lane received no thanks from Robinson. They were bitter enemies, although Robinson seemed to have been the more vitriolic.

In August 1856, Free-state depredators (sic) in large and small groups scoured the region, raiding opposition, or so-called Pro-slavery communities, filling the air with profanity, intimidating Pro-slavery settlers, shooting at those not properly docile, and plundering right and left.

While the Free-state men were thus occupied, the Pro-slavery element was not entirely idle. While their depredations did not match the Free State activities, they were not far behind.

As no forces were allowed to take the field, due to **Governor Geary's** executive order, and to the vigilance of **Colonel Sumner** at Camp Sackett, both parties established places of rendezvous from which they could emerge, accomplish their nefarious work and return.

The bases of the Free-state men were the larger cities, as Lawrence and Topeka, while the Pro-slavery men, denied the use of Lecompton, and having few towns of importance, resorted to isolated log cabins and camps. One of these was **Colonel Titus'** cabin near Lecompton.

The Free-state settlers had been successful in raiding Franklin, and on their return trip to Lawrence, decided to destroy Col. Titus' cabin and burn Lecompton. By some means, word reached Lecompton of the approaching raiding party and a force of thirteen men, including **Franz Walter, John Damm, Aloyius Riedmuller**, stone masons working at Lecompton, was sent out as skirmishers, to seek out and delay raiders. The remainder of the Lecompton force was, upon a pre-arranged signal to come to their aid. Upon meeting 200 Free-state men, the skirmishers were forced to take refuge in the cabin owned by Colonel Titus, one and one-half miles south of Lecompton. The Free-staters attacked with a cannon (Old Sacramento) using balls made from salvaged newspaper type that **Sheriff Jones** had thrown into the river. The cannon knocked the chinking from the cabin. The men in the cabin ran out of bullets but still had plenty of powder. As it was feared they would be murdered if they surrendered, one man proposed they light the powder and blow themselves up. He was overruled, and as no help came, they pushed a white rag out the door and started out with hands upraised. The only casualty occurred when a Free-state man became excited and shot one of the men through his upraised hand. **Captain Walker**, Free-state commander, cursed this man violently for the shooting, said he, "None but a damned pirate would do that." Although they were forced to surrender, their mission was accomplished; which was to prevent the burning of Lecompton. It was later learned that when Lecompton reinforcements heard the cannon, they gathered up the women and children and hurried across the river.

While the Lawrence men were looking for the prisoners and getting them ready to be taken to Lawrence, someone suggested that the cabin be burned. Just then a man appeared at the edge of the clearing and he was approached to seek out his business. He stated he was merely a homesteader, but **Bill Young**, who had heard the commotion and wondered what it was about. They told him that they were going to burn the cabin and started collecting kindling to start it. Mr. Young, who was a friend to the young stone masons, saw that he could do nothing to help his friends, so said, "Well, by God, let's burn it." and proceeded to help get the conflagration started.

Colonel Titus, unknown to the raiders, had quite a sum of money and a number of land patents, signed to him in blank in his house. They were apparently all lost.

The Lecompton men, not necessarily of Pro-slavery convictions, were taken to a point south of Lawrence where **Walter and Ridemuller** escaped. The others were held a few weeks as hostages and then traded to Lecompton for some Free-state prisoners that they held.

This small affair was given publicity in all the Eastern newspapers, and gave the impression that the Titus cabin was a great fort, manned by many Pro-slavery men and that this one incident had routed the Pro-slavery forces.

Another incident indicating the type of publicity the Pro-slavery forces received, concerned the small settlement of Rising Sun, directly across the river from Lecompton. This small town purportedly contained a saloon where many vile plots were hatched. Here also was supposed to be

the gathering place of horse thieves. As the story goes, these horse thieves perpetrated a raid on a nearby farm, but they were seen and chased to their place of concealment at Rising Sun, where they were caught with the horses. It was customary, at that time, to simply string up to a tree, a horse thief caught with the goods. As there were four of them a stout limb was located. It was well braced, and soon four men were stringing by their necks. Two weeks later, a picture of this hanging was featured in all the Eastern newspapers, with this caption, "This is what happens to all known Free-staters in Kansas." It helped to arouse the sentiment of the Free-state sympathizers and caused money to flow into their treasury. Due to the money at their disposal, they swung great weight, and left much garbled account of Kansas territorial happenings.

There is also the story told of three squatters from the areas several miles southwest of Lecompton, who went to Rising Sun, with the intent of getting drunk. While at their cups, they conceived the idea of murdering a man who owned land near them. They planned to make a noise at the man's corral, thus drawing him out doors to see what the commotion was, and shoot him down. **George Zinn** overheard them plotting and quickly left the place to go warn the intended victim, a **Mr. Cathers**.

Mr. Cathers, upon hearing the story, bundled up his wife and children and sent them to a neighbor, then he and Mr. Zinn barricaded the cabin and sat down to wait. Soon they heard a racket at the corral, but they stayed inside. Finally they saw three men approaching the house. Mr. Cathers called for them to halt. Their answer was to raise their guns and prepare to fire. Mr. Cathers then shot his gun, and in the ensuing melee, he killed one man, badly wounded another, and the other fled. This so preyed on Cather's mind that for the rest of his tenure on this place, he was restless, moody, and unhappy. He was in constant fear of retribution from the man he had not shot.

The years 1856 and 1857 were the peak years of Lecompton. The interchange of money was so great that the main street was called the "Wall Street of the West". Here was located the land office, which daily attracted hundreds of pre-empters with their witnesses to prove up their land and to attend contested cases. There were the legislative halls, district and federal courts, the Governor's office, the post office, express office, book and stationery store, drug store, Leamer's store, barber shops, printing office, lawyer's office, real estate, and land warrant offices.

Lecompton also had five hotels; the Novelty, Virginia, American, National, and Rowena. The Rowena, the better known, was most sumptuous. It was a three story stone structure, finished throughout in walnut, and lavishly furnished. It had mostly speculators and transients as its guest, but gave unusually fine services to them.

There were, four-horse stage and express lines giving daily service to Kansas City and Leavenworth, with more roads serving it than any other town of its size in the state. The population at this time was numbered more than five thousand.

The first physician to locate in Lecompton was Dr. **Aristides Rodrique**, who was also the first postmaster at Lecompton. The Post Office was established under the name of Douglas, Kansas Territory, March 3, 1853. It was placed in the cabin of **Andrew McDonald**, on November 6, 1855. It was moved to Lecompton with Rodrique as postmaster, and his son became postmaster in 1857.

Young Rodrique was something of a practical joker. He, with several others, seeking a bit of amusement at the other fellows expense, conceived the idea of playing a joke on a conscientious townsman. They circulated the report that the postmaster had a large amount of cash on hand and that a gang of outlaws were planning to burglarize the post office. After the report had been widely advertised, they approached their victim with the proposition of his guarding the office, to which he

readily agreed. He was given a muzzle-loading shotgun which had been previously loaded with paper wads, placed him in the lobby and instructed him if anyone attempted to enter the building to say three times, "Who comes there?" if they didn't answer when he repeated the question the third time, to shoot. A few hours later, one of the gang slipped to the door and attempted to pick the lock. The guard followed the instructions, or almost did. He made the demand and fired one shot at the same instant. Result? The door was almost blasted from its hinges. The panels were all blown out, and the fellow who rattled the door got the scare of his lifetime. A new door was provided, at the expense of the pranksters, and it was a long time before they told their friend, the guard, of the joke. This should have cured young **Roderique** of his inclination to practical joking, but it did not, and it was to have fatal results.

One day young Roderique and a number of friends were amusing themselves by tormenting a town character about his lady friend. The fellow finally left the crowd, went to Leamer's store where he bought a dirk knife. He returned immediately to where his tormentors were congregated in front of the post office. Roderique began teasing him again. He drew the knife and stabbed Roderique, causing his death in a few hours. A man, aiding Roderique, asked the tailor's son to hurry to his father's shop for cloths to use as bandages, which he did, but there was no help for Roderique.

The stabber was arrested for his act, but **Judge LeCompte**, sympathetic with the dull witted character, let him put up worthless bail, and told him if he would join the U.S. troops that were then bivouacked near town, he would be allowed to go free. This he did, and was never heard from again.

In August, 1856, **J. W. Geary** was appointed territorial Governor. As he entered Kansas, he held hearings along the way to determine the extent and type of trouble between the two factions. As a result of these, he made Federal troops out of both Free-state and Pro-slavery forces, as soon as he took over the office at LeCompton; this (thus?) they were all under his control, the same as all other army men. This was a master stroke and it did away with many private armies that were committing the local depredations, as such an act would be treason.

Immediately, there followed a number of arrests for pillaging and shooting. These cases were tried in the court of Judge LeCompte, resulting in the damning of his reputation by the Free-state forces, and his subsequent removal. **Colonel E. C. Little**, a U.S. Representative for many years and **Arthur Capper**, both personal friends of LeCompte described him as a quiet, inoffensive, polite gentleman.

The New England Aid Society was very active in aiding Kansans at this time. They appropriated great sums of money and sent great caravans of people to Kansas. **Lane**, himself, led them from Iowa, to the Nebraska border and on deep into Kansas. One caravan he was leading, upon hearing that they were to be met at the Kansas border by U.S. troops and searched, hastily dug holes and buried their cannon, and hid their guns in sacks of seed. There were seven women in a group and each was assigned to a different wagon, to give the impression that this was a family group. This fooled the army general somewhat, but some of the sabers and guns were found and confiscated. These were taken to LeCompton and kept stored until **Governor Denver** was forced to surrender them to an armed mob led by **Colonel Eldridge**. These deceitful acts were all right for the Free-staters to perform, but were liscientuous (lascivious?) acts when perpetrated by the Pro-slavery forces. It seemed that Kansas would go to whomever got there "fastest with the mostest".

In November, 1856, thirty-nine Free-state prisoners escaped, and **Sheriff Jones** resigned because of the poor jailing conditions. He did not feel that he could fulfill his duties properly. Judge LeCompte was notified that he had been removed, but his appointed successor did not qualify so he remained in office.

In January, 1857, the county commissioners appointed **William T. Shirred** as sheriff to succeed Jones. Shirred was loved and respected by all who knew him. As there was a personal difference between **Shirrad** (changed spelling?) and **Governor Geary**, he refused to issue a sheriff's commission. Writs and other documents were placed in Shirrad's hands, but as some of the writs concerned some of Geary's protegee's, he refused to issue the commission, thus keeping Shirrad from executing the writs. After some days Shirrad called on Geary asking why he was refused a commission, and there was a heated exchange of words. Finally Geary stated that in the absence of Secretary **Woodson**, he had not the right to issue such papers.

Shirrad withdrew, determined to wait a few days after Woodson's return, and then again demand his commission. This he did and took his troubles to the territorial legislature, who called Geary and his cohorts to the session for an accounting. Geary gave the excuse that Shirrad was a drunkard, brawler, and ill fitted to his proposed job. This was a deliberate falsehood, and upon Geary's withdrawal from the hall, was accosted by Shirrad who called him a liar and spat upon him. Geary and his two guards passed by Shirrad as though there had been no incident.

The governor's friends held an open air meeting as soon as it could be arranged to deliberately slander the fine reputation of Shirrad. There were men from Lawrence, and all the residents of Geary's official household at the meeting. **Hampton** had charge of the meeting and after various harangues, when Shirrad arose to defend himself a **Mr. Sheppard** arose and called him a liar. Where-upon Mr. Shirrad told Sheppard to defend himself. Both drew out pistols and shot. Shirrad was hit twice, but not mortally, so both threw down their pistols and grappled each other. A **Mr. Jones**, a friend of Governor Geary, whipped out his pistol and shot Shirrad in the head as Sheppard held him. Part of his brain was shot away and he died the next day. Jones was taken into custody, but was helped to escape, so no one was even punished for this crime. This act so discredited Geary that his office tenure lasted less than six months, and he accomplished little during that time.

The U.S. Senate refused to confirm **Harrison** to replace **Judge LeCompte**, the legislature could not work with Geary, so he became frightened. He resigned March 26, and enlisted the aid of some Free-state prisoners to help him get out of the state. They contacted their friends who offered to help him escape if he would pardon the Free-state prisoners. Geary was in such a hurry, he accepted their help but neglected to write out the pardons. He escaped the territory in disguise.

On February 19, 1857, the legislature passed an Act to provide for a census of voters to be taken by county sheriffs on April 1, the returns to be in by April 10. Upon the basis of this return the government was to apportion sixty delegates to the convention. The delegates to meet at Lecompton the first Monday in September. This bill was passed over Geary's veto. Each faction was hoping to write a constitution suitable to Congress, the one accepted would designate whether Kansas were to be slave or free.

In March, **R. J. Walker** was appointed governor of territorial Kansas and **F. P. Stanton** was Secretary of the territory. Stanton arrived in Lecompton in April and made a Pro-slavery speech, but promised to be fair. Governor Walker arrived in May and in an August address claimed that isothermal lines would indicate where slavery would be. In plain words this meant, the temperature would confine slavery to the south.

Slavery in Kansas was something of a joke. Those that were here were here primarily for propaganda purposes only. In the 1857 census there were only 200 in the entire territory, and by 1860 there were only two. There were approximately fifty slave holding settlers, who brought their slaves here at the peak of the strife. Some of the slaves were passing through the "underground

railroad”.

In 1857, a slave woman, **Anne Clarke**, owned by **George Clarke** and **Colonel Titus**, ran away and sought refuge in Topeka. Her whereabouts was discovered in her flight to Chicago.

A widow **Brooks** owned three or four household slaves in Lecompton. At Douglas, nearby, **Mr. Ellison** and **Mr. Willis** each owned slaves.

Slavery was successful in those areas only where scanty clothing and little shelter were needed and an abundant supply of food available. These conditions were not characteristic of Kansas. One old gentleman in a nearby community had a very difficult winter with his slaves. After one froze, and another was permanently crippled due to frostbite, he put his slaves to bed to keep them warm, and he himself went out to cut wood for them.

Buck Scott, a slave, went to Lawrence with the agreement with his master that he would send him 70% of his wages were he allowed to go there. At the Big Springs hotel there were eleven slaves. So Kansas was not a successful slave state. She merely leaned toward the thinking of the South. The South wanted the state to be Pro-slave to gain two Senators in Congress.

The results of the April census showed 9,251 eligible voters. Douglas County had 1,318. In August when the election for the Lecompton Constitutional Convention was held, there were only 2,071 votes. The Free-state people refused to vote because the Governor would not correct the legal voter list to one Free-state man to one Pro-slave man. This of course, was illegal. The April census was also used for the apportionment of the members of the territorial legislature. There were to be thirteen Senators and thirty-nine Representatives.

The Lecompton Constitutional Convention met at Lecompton on September 7, but adjourned to meet in October 11. When the delegates started to assemble at Constitutional Hall, they found several hundred Free-state men gathered around the hall, barring entrance. As the U.S. troops were no longer stationed there, the delegates stayed away from the convention until the 19th, when the troops came to guard them and keep away ‘free-state rabble-rousers’. The U.S. Army established a camp of several hundred soldiers and some brass field pieces. This discouraged further interruptions from the Free-state hordes.

By November, the convention had completed its work. It has a complete section providing for slavery, and also allowed four sections of land for the schools, and a percentage of all the returns of all salt mines, mineral springs, and mines in the State. It also provided for a liberal university grant. These were the outstandingly good features of the constitution, which were fought by the people desiring personal gains.

On November 12, a political convention was held to nominate officers and serve under the Lecompton Constitution. **Frank J. Marshall** was nominated for Governor; **William G. Matheas**, Lieutenant Governor; **W. T. Spicely**, Secretary of State; **Blake Little**, Auditor; **J. B. Cramer**, Treasurer; and **J. P. Carr**, Congressman.

The Constitution was presented to the people on December 21, and they could vote for the constitution with slavery, or for it without slavery. The sulking Free-state people refused to vote. The vote was 6,226 for the Constitution with slavery, and 569 without. This document with the certificate of election was sent to the President to be given to Congress for their approval. This, **President Buchanan** did in February, Congress discussed it, but due to some Free-state pressure, it was recommended that it be sent back to Lecompton to be resubmitted to the people. Meanwhile, a congressional investigation committee was appointed to be sent to the Kansas Territory, to go into reported election frauds. The outstanding, so-called, fraud was the Delaware Crossing returns. **J.**

D. Henderson, was one of the first witnesses called. He finally admitted adding 336 names to the legal voter list. The election returns that had been given to Survey General **Calhoun** had been placed for convenience sake in a candle box. **MacLean** was Calhoun's chief clerk and was the custodian. Calhoun had gone to Missouri. MacLean was summoned to appear before the Senate committee and bring the election returns. He appeared, but stated he had sent the returns to Calhoun in Missouri. He then hastily returned to Lecompton, and hid them, as he supposed securely, in an adjacent wood-pile, at midnight. **Charles Torry**, taken to be only a stupid janitor of the office at the time, from whom it was not necessary to conceal anything, observed the movement at the wood-pile and sent word to **Colonel Walker**, of Lawrence.

Early the next day, Walker called MacLean with a search warrant. "They are not here," said MacLean, "I have sent them to Calhoun. You are welcome to search."

"Of course, they are not here, but I know where to find them," replied Walker, as he left the office with his posse and moved confidently toward the wood-pile.

When MacLean saw Walker's movement toward the wood-pile, he hastily left the office, procured a mule and set off across the prairie for Missouri.

The candle box was carried to Lawrence, where it purportedly (purportedly?) yielded up the fraudulent election returns. On the strength of this, the committee recommended a new election. The results of this election was a rejection of the constitution by a vote of 11,300 to 1,788. Where the extra votes came from was not questioned. Thus the Lecompton Constitution died for all time, on August 2, 1858.

In December, 1857, the territorial legislature again met at Lecompton. They received a message from **President Buchanan** endorsing the Lecompton Constitution. On December 17, Secretary **Stanton** was replaced by Secretary **Denver**, and on the same day **Governor Walker** resigned, leaving Secretary Denver as acting territorial governor.

Early in 1857, word had reached the Pawnee land office at Lecompton, of bushels of gold nuggets in streams at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. The people of Lecompton assembled and decided to send an organization there to form a town site and occupy the ground. An organization was perfected and money provided for this project. A train was made up of five wagons, twenty-five men provisioned for six months, seventeen were mounted, and there were eight wagon drivers. They arrived at the present site of Denver, laid out claims and attempted to name the place. They could not agree on a name, and so they decided to wait until they got back. They started for home in December; a few days before arriving here, they came upon many wild turkeys, a buck deer, and a buffalo calf. They decided to give a wild game supper to celebrate their return so provisioned themselves bountifully. At the supper, Governor Denver was the outstanding guest, and as everyone loved the kindly old man, it was unanimously decided to name the new town, Denver.

In January, 1859, the legislature convened at Lecompton, but was immediately adjourned to Lawrence, as the Free-state members wished to boycott the Lecompton hotel accommodations. This legislature provided for the Wyandotte Constitutional Convention, which wrote the constitution which was accepted by the territory November 1, 1859.

Each succeeding year, until 1861, the territorial legislature met at Lecompton and adjourned to Lawrence. The Governor preferred for economy of the time and money, that the legislature remain at Lecompton. The U.S. Congress had provided money for living accommodations at Lecompton, and as there was not much business at hand, it could be quickly concluded. There had been a nice hotel completed that winter, and the legislators could be more comfortably cared for at Lecompton

than elsewhere. The Free-state Legislators, however, were a vindictive lot and determined to get the legislators into Lawrence and pay for their lodging out of their pockets. This, they did, and continued to do so long as Kansas was a territory.

State businesses were drained away from Lecompton, houses moved, buildings torn down, and the town gradually became smaller and smaller, until it reached a population of 400. With a promoter, such as **Robinson** was for Lawrence, very likely much of the business could have been held here. The people seemed to prefer a quiet, rural existence and so did not fight to retain these businesses. They did keep a rich historical background.

The Kansas conflict was a "tempest in a teapot". It really involved few of the settlers and was more of a contest for power between few aggressive leaders, than a general embroilment. Money and ink won; the Wyandotte Constitution was adopted and Kansas became the thirty-fourth state, January 29, 1861.

This material was compiled and edited by: **Mrs. Joseph Childs, Mrs. George Bahnmaier, Mrs. Elton Dark, and Mrs. Frank Walter.**

Some of the family names of territorial Lecompton, whose descendants still reside here; **Bahnmaiers, Damm, Glenn, McClanahan, McCall, Noe, Shirley, Walter, Winter, and Wiser** are some of them. We wish to thank all those who have helped with our Centennial

THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Frank Walter

George F. Bahnmaier

Elton Dark

Mrs. Esther Pasley

Copied by **Mrs. Earl Sanford**, December 1960

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APPENDIX

The streets of Lecompton bear historic names. The principal thoroughfare, that was to be leading from the steamboat landing by the easiest grade to the Capital and Court House was named Shannon Avenue, for the Governor; the main intersecting street was named for Secretary Woodson; the one that became, in after years; the principal street was named Elmore for the U.S. District Judge; A. J. Isaacs, and John A. Halderman, U. S. Attorneys have streets named after them; there is a Boone street, but there is no street or avenue named for Roderique as there should have been according to early settlers.

The ruins of Fort Titus, built in 1851, named for Captain Titus, are found on the Dale Glenn farm located about one and one-quarter miles west. The fort was constructed of oak logs and measured about twelve by nine feet. The fort was intended to serve as a protection against the fury of some 200 Free-state men who looked to Captain Henry J. Shombre and Colonel Sam Walker as their leaders.

The battle of "Fort Titus" occurred August 16, 1856; Sam Walker and his command took twenty prisoners, Titus among the number and burned the "fort". The next day Governor Shannon, who has returned to Lawrence, accompanied by Dr. Rodrique and Major Sedgwick, liberated all the prisoners confined here. While there, he received the news of his removal as governor, and of Geary's appointment. Governor Geary arrived here on September 10, and the day following issued his inaugural address.

Captain Titus, Pro-slavery leader, was the only person in the fort on the night it was attacked by the Free-state agitators. Some fled by means of boats, across the Kansas River.

At one time, the most noted and expensive residence in Kansas was the home of Governor Frederick P. Stanton, built in 1857. It was located three miles east of Lecompton, Kansas.

The mansion was constructed of native stone, exhumed on the site where the house stood, and finished inside with walnut, which was brought from Pennsylvania, and erected in days when the territorial capitol was located in Lecompton, before the designation of Topeka as the capital city dealt a death blow to Lecompton's hope of becoming the center of the State's political activities.

The house was two stories high in addition to a spacious basement which was placed a little below the level of the ground. It had a hip roof. The building contained altogether, nineteen rooms, eleven of which had large stone fireplaces. The basement contained seven rooms, one of which had no windows and was probably intended to serve for a jail for the household slaves. The first floor and (had?) four large rooms in addition to one spacious hallway which extended the length of the house. Also on this floor was a large library. The second floor had been divided into eight rooms, six of which had fireplaces.

Frederick P. Stanton arrived in Lecompton on April 15, 1857. Since Governor R. T. Walker had not yet arrived in the territory, Mr. Stanton became the acting governor. According to some; Mr. Stanton shared the Democratic prejudices against the Free-state people, although later on of the most ardent champions of the Free-staters which he joined after he had been disowned by the President and his party.

On May 27, Governor Walker arrived and assumed the duties of the State. The Governor verified the administrative policy outlined by Stanton, and assured the Free-staters of protection in the coming elections. The fulfillment of the pledge constituted a turning point in Kansas affairs, thus enabling the Free-state men to triumph in spite of the election frauds perpetrated by the Pro-slavery

men. Even with a pistol at his breast, Stanton is said to have refused to certify voters cast at Oxford, which he knew to be fraudulent.

The outcome of affairs was disastrous to Walker and Stanton so far as their affiliation with President Buchanan and the Democratic party in Kansas were concerned. Governor Walker departed for Washington to appeal to President Lincoln; whereupon Governor Stanton again became acting governor. Walker did not return. Stanton was soon removed and was succeeded by J. W. Denver. Weary of the petty strife, Stanton withdrew to the mansion, east of town and resided there five years and invited guests there during that time.

In 1862, Mr. and Mrs. Stanton, with their two daughters, Alice and Virginia, moved to Virginia, where Mr. Stanton resumed the practice of law. Later the family moved to Florida where Mr. Stanton died in 1894, at the age of eighty.

Where once his beautiful mansion stood, there remains only the basement and parts of crumbling walls. When the broad roof still sheltered this home, one could reach through a hatchway and on a clear day see the smoke stacks of Lawrence, to the east and the Kansas State House in Topeka, to the west.

May of 1903 was a chilly, rainy month. There were only a few days on which actual sun shine was present. The rest were marked by almost continual rainfall. It rained not only in Kansas but also in Oklahoma and Nebraska. The tributaries of the Kaw had been filled to a great depth. These swollen streams were, for the most part, responsible for the flood.

Word reached Lecompton, Kansas, in the early part of May that the West had been having many rains and cloudbursts, but little the people of Lecompton thought that such conditions would in any way affect them. Papers stated that the Smoky Hill and the Solomon Rivers were out of their banks but still no flood dread was here.

Near the sixteenth of May, people began to notice the rise of the water, but as this had happened before, no heed was given it. A short distance from Lecompton, an old Kaw Indian, squaw had once lived. She had foretold the coming of the flood and also had declared that her tribe had witnessed a flood before that had extended from bluff to bluff. Her tribe believed that every sixty years, a flood might be expected.

On the night of May 24th, the people inhabiting the "Kaw" bottoms were placed in a terrible situation. The "Kaw" in over-flowing from the south had completely surrounded them and had for the time, at least, turned their valley into a miniature island. The citizens of Lecompton heroically volunteered their services in an attempt to rescue these who were thus cut off from the main land.

"Uncle" Jake Hill, one of the rural mail carriers of this time, relates that he made his customary rounds with the mail but that the only mail he picked up on the route was a post card.

On the 24th of May, the water was so high that the trains ceased passing through Lecompton. The mail they carried was hauled by livery truck from Topeka.

Realizing the dangerous position that Lecompton was in, some of its citizens thought of a plan whereby, if conditions grew still worse, they might still have enough food for everyone. The plan proposed that each family should be allowed a definite amount of sugar, flour, coffee, and other necessities. The plan was a wise one and it worked successfully.

Rain seemed the lot. For a time, it rained both day and night until the people feared that it was going to be a flood similar to the one experienced by Noah. It has often been recalled that the number of days it rained in 1903 nearly equaled that of Noah's time. Thirty days of rain in succession was recorded in Lecompton, and in places the river was five miles wide.

Post Office Curiosities

The ordinary run of mortals are not acquainted with the mysteries and curiosities of the internal machinery of a post office, and it is well for them that they are not, as thereby considerable worry and confusion is escaped. A brief interview with the mailing clerk, this morning, at the Lawrence post office revealed a condition of things that will be of interest. There are now about fifty letters in the post office here that are vainly asking a destination. These letters have accumulated within the past two or three days though the accumulation usually averages only about fifty a week. Running through the list, the following are a few of the directions, leaving out most of the names of the persons to whom the letters are directed: Cedar rabbits, Kansas; Holon Berg, Kansas; Mr. William M ge Kansas Stewart Osa qunmo (the letter, when deciphered, reads Mr. William M. Stewart, Quenemo, Osage county, Kansas); Mendon, Whitehall Co., Kansas; Begg Rock Co., Kan Gill (Big Rock, Kane county, Ill.); Eaxville Co. Post Office, Cansas; Onel creek, Kansas; Yemenien Sehswick Co. (Germania, Sedgwick Co.); Couper, Westen Co.; Secretary of Dekovin Lodge 85-577 Hog and H.M. Dekoven; Bone Walnut, Benton Co, Kansas, North Amerika (from Denmark); Rev. Fr. Hyacinth O.M. Capue, Herzog Kansas.

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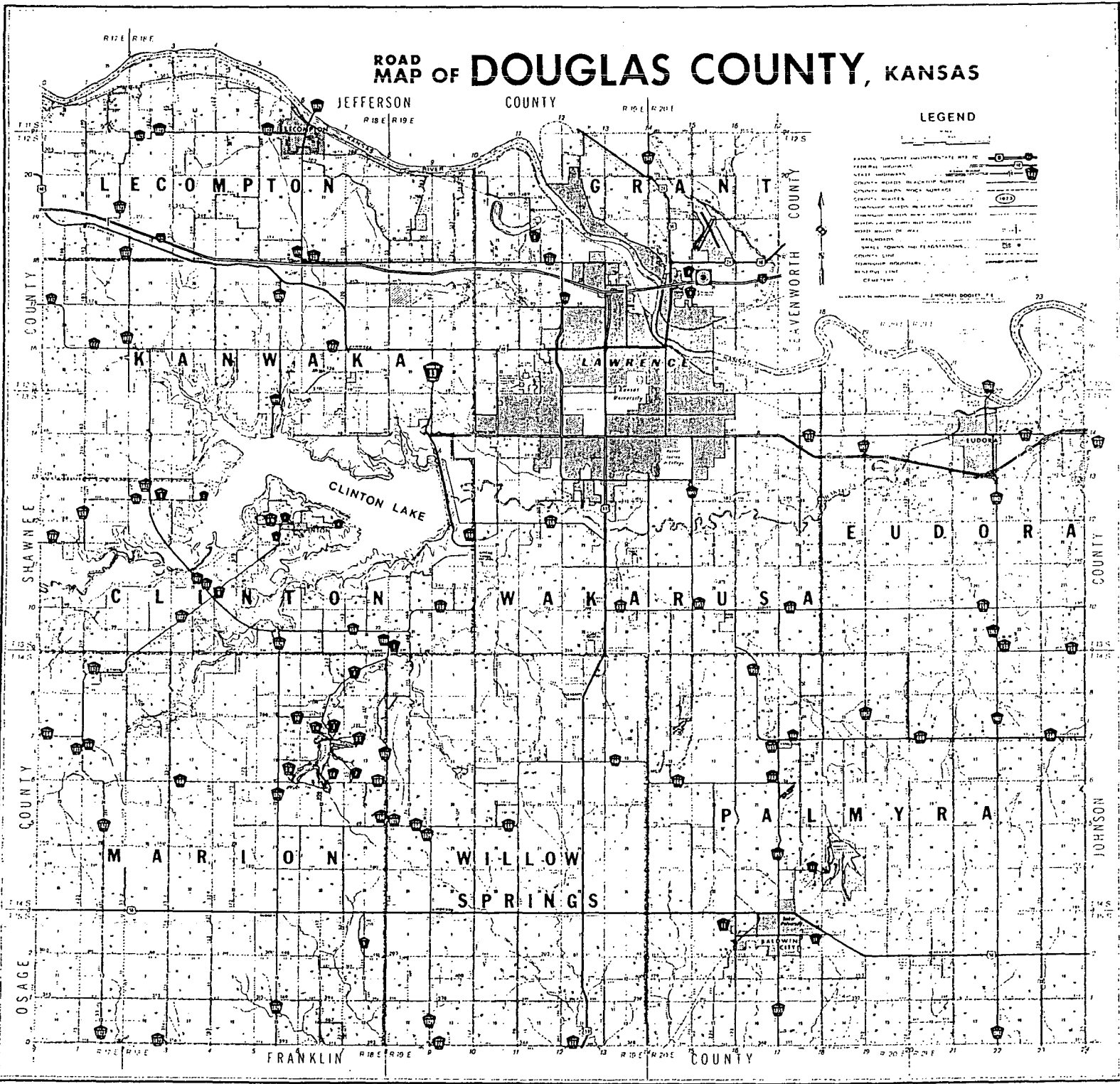
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ROAD MAP OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, KANSAS



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- COUNTY MAINT. GRAVEL SURFACE
- UNPAVED MAINT. GRAVEL SURFACE
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- RAILROADS
- SMALL TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS
- COUNTY LINE
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES
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- CITY LIMIT

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