

Kansas Kin

A semi-annual publication of Riley County Genealogical Society
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Panoramic View of Camp Funston during the First World War

Family Military History Issue — How have wars affected your family history?



Riley County Genealogical Society

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Kansas Kin is a semi-annual publication of Riley County Genealogical Society whose purpose is to collect, preserve and share information for researching Kansas family histories.

From the President

Hello Members,

Welcome to the May 2018 edition of Kansas Kin. This issue focuses on military history and connections to family history research. We also continue with articles of historical and general interest in an expanded page format and also posting the edition on the web. We have had a good response from readers and trust this continues. If you have a story to tell, including photos, please consider submitting an article. Guidelines are on the inside back cover. You are not limited to submissions about Riley County.

I remind readers of two monthly events.

(1) Public presentations at the Manhattan Public Library on a variety of topics held on Sunday afternoons at the end of the month; these are announced in the press, our website and the *FYI* newsletter. (2) The Round Table at Aggieville's Blue Stem Bistro the third Friday of every month from 10:00 to 11:30. This is open to the public. We always have a free-wheeling and lively discussion of all sorts of topics regarding research, historical/social insights and resources.

Also, please let others know about the benefits of RCGS membership that include not only receiving Kansas Kin but also on-line access to our growing data base connecting to articles and records, many of which are digitized. We have about a million names in our surname search.

Please check out our website: <http://www.rileycgs.com>.

Barry Michie

President, RCGS



WWI Window Banner for Son in Service

It's always amazing how mementos, however fragile, survive and are passed down through the family. The photo is a typical example of banners that families put up in their windows during WWI to show they had a son in the service, a blue star for each son.

This banner was for my father, William Roy Michie, created by his parents when he was in service in WWI. It includes small plastic floral decorations, buttons for various bond campaigns to support the war effort, Red Cross buttons and a ribbon welcoming troops back home for Armistice Day 1919. His collar discs were added when he came home. This is the only memento in the family related to his service, other than the red artillery hat cords he kept after giving away his uniform to a boy scout; he had no use for the high collar rough wool service coat that chaffed his neck. My Dad's service was very short, a little less than six weeks and here in the U.S. He never-the-less endured a life-threatening ordeal during those weeks from which he recovered and happily made it to 99 years of age.

My father was born 1897 in San Mateo, California, to Scottish immigrant parents who were very proud of their adopted country as evidenced by the banner and the buttons displaying their commitment to the U.S. war effort. The family was living in Santa Rosa, California, from before WWI and thereafter. Before enlisting Dad was attending University of California, Davis. As he didn't like school – thought of it like being in prison – he decided to enlist to go off to fight Kaiser Bill. He en-



listed in Santa Rosa and led a contingent of recruits to Fort Rosencrans in Southern California where he entered training as a Private in Battery C, 25th Regiment, California Coastal Artillery. His service was from 14 October to November 26th, 1918.

While in training he came down with influenza, curiously named the "Spanish Flu". He had memories of witnessing his fellow recruits dying in hospital, often big strong, strapping fellows who would sit up with glazed eyes and fall back dead onto their beds. He recovered, left hospital and had a relapse that put him back in the hospital. By the time he recovered again, armistice came and his unit was demobilized. On the train home he came

Continued on next page.

World War I Window Banner for Son in Service, continued

It's always amazing how mementos, however fragile, survive and are passed down through the family.

down with scarlet fever that affected a heart valve for which he received veterans benefits for a number of years. He was a very sick boy when he arrived home.

The "Spanish Flu" was a pandemic, killing 11 million plus people in the U.S. and around the world, although today practically erased from U.S. public memory and lore. This was a zoonotic flu strain thought to have been passed from pigs to humans. The first diagnosed case was here in Kansas with a soldier at Ft. Riley. Dad had a cousin, John Alexander Mich-

ie, from Colorado who enlisted 1917 in Company A, 355th Regiment, 89th Division, a unit recruited in Nebraska organized and trained at Camp Funston, Ft. Riley. His unit finished basic before the outbreak of the flu epidemic, went to France in June 1918 for further training before going to the front near Amiens during the Battle of the Somme. Three days fresh on the line he was gassed and died from burns about a week later 15 August 1918, an event described in the unit's history as a debacle for which these fresh troops had not received instructions for what to do during and after a gas attack. He was a victim of the fog of war but not influenza, a Hobson's Choice among others for cause of death for a soldier at the time.

Barry H. Michie



Doug Meloan takes genealogists on "A Route 66 Road Trip" in a Sunday afternoon program in April.

Penny Socolofsky with Tree Dedicated to Her Husband, Homer Socolofsky

Penny Socolofsky stands beneath the beautiful fall leaves of the tree dedicated to her husband Homer Socolofsky. The tree stands in the front yard of the Platt House, 2005 Claflin Road in Manhattan, Kansas.

Manhattan/Riley County celebrated their sesquicentennial founding for the entire year of 2005. It started with the ball drop in Aggieville on New Year's Eve, included a huge parade followed with tents and entertainment in City Park in July. Many societies and organizations in Manhattan held their own celebrations.

A local nursery donated trees to any society that wanted to dedicate a living memorial to a special member. Riley County Genealogical Society chose long time member and well known local historian Homer Socolofsky for the honor. As it happened Homer died at age 83 on September 6, of 2005.

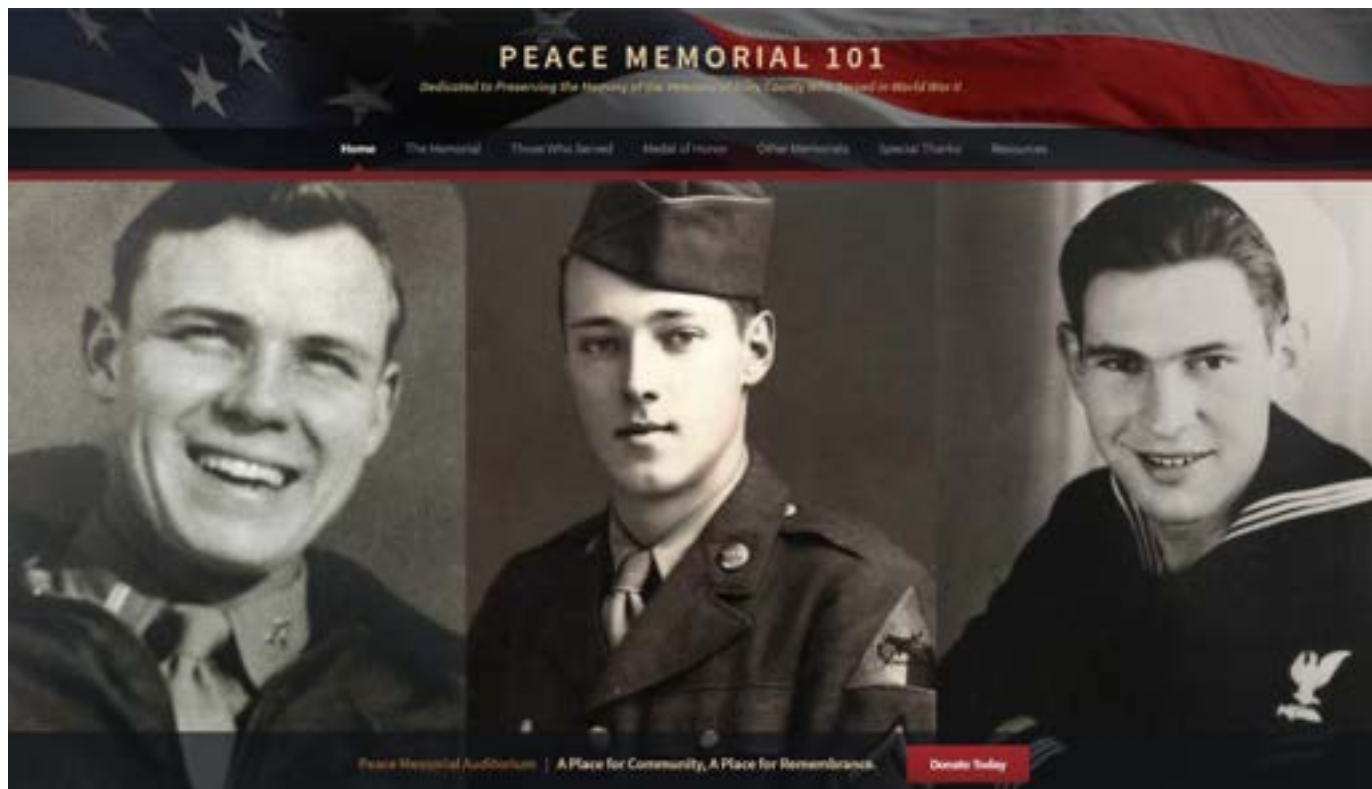
Socolofsky served as an artillery battery commander in the 3rd Marine Division in the battle of Iwo Jima in WWII. Professor Socolofsky taught in the Kansas State University history department for 45 years. He was the author of many articles



and books on Kansas history. RCGS library has three family history books and several First United Methodist Church of Manhattan, Kansas, books compiled by Homer.

Wann Towers

Peace Memorial 101 Dedicated to Preserving Memory of Veterans of Riley County Who Served in WWII



Do you have a relative from Riley County (Kansas) who served in World War II? If so, the *Peace Memorial 101* may be of help for your family research. The Kiosk Steering Committee and the Friends of Peace Memorial Auditorium, with the help of many local donors, have compiled information on the men who lost their lives in the war. So far, the research has primarily been with the men who were killed in the war.

You can access this information at the interactive kiosk, which will soon be set up in the lobby of the Peace Memorial Auditorium in Manhattan City Hall on Poyntz Street, or on their website:

<http://peacememorial101.org/index.html>

Or here:

<https://cityofmhk.com/2898/Peace-Memorial-Auditorium>

There were 2,610 men and women with a connection to Riley County who served in World War II. Eventually, each of these will be profiled in the Memorial. Especially touching are the stories of the 101 men who were killed while serving. The stories of these “Forgotten 101” have been compiled first. However, the work is

ongoing and eventually there will be information on all that served.

For an example of the type of information included in the Peace Memorial 101, see the featured biography of Richard Jaccard.



Peace cannot be achieved through violence; it can only be attained through understanding.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Jaccard was a local Kansas boy. He attended both Manhattan High School and Kansas State College where he was president of his freshman class. He joined the elite and glamorous ranks of the U.S. Navy's sea pilots in the months before Pearl Harbor. Ensign Dick Jaccard and his classmates were in the last phases of their Advanced Carrier Training when they heard about the Japanese surprise attack on December 7, 1941. Dick was soon assigned to the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Enterprise and sent off to the Pacific. If you read further into his biography, you will learn that, despite his bravery and major contributions to stopping the war, the ship he was on was torpedoed and sunk in 1942.

In addition to the biographies of the soldiers who served in World War II, the Peace Memorial kiosk and website include a walking map to guide you to each of 18 different memorials in Manhattan. Some highlights of the *Manhattan Memorial Walk* include (among others):

- Peace Memorial Auditorium
- Riley County Sunset Memorial
- Memorial Stadium
- Vietnam War Plaque K-State Union
- Roll of Honor plaque housed in the Riley County Historical Museum.

Kathy Dzwaltkowski and Judy Regehr

The kiosk with information on those who served in World War II will soon be located in the lobby of the Peace Memorial Auditorium in the Manhattan (Kansas) City Hall on Poyntz Avenue.



Tracing Genealogy Through the First World War

By Jed Dunham

Building a family history consists of two parts, locating the available clues and then assembling them into a narrative which provides context for present and future generations to understand. A personal desire to trace family lineage can result in a vast collection of artifacts, rumors and hints but without knowledge of peripheral history these clues often produce more questions than answers. Internet sites such as Ancestry.com have provided tools accessible at the fingertip level which seasoned genealogical artists once had to find through postal services, county libraries and family lore. From these a rumor about “Great Grandad in the war” might be verified, yet verification only resolves part of the story for a single document confirming a relative’s participation in great events does not explain the events themselves.

A century has passed since the United States endured its greatest evolutionary change, the nineteen months between April 1917 and November 1918, known today as World War I. It was an event which consumed the nation and many families today proudly claim a relative’s participation in the war which shaped the modern world. But what did that participation mean and what did that relative experience? What stories do the clues of an old draft registration card or an unexplained military unit tell us? With minor knowledge of the period and adherence to a known family timeline they can reveal much. This article’s intent is to help solve what the World War I experience may have looked like for a relative who endured it.

Timelines:

Time is the indisputable constant of humanity. The first, and often most important, step in organizing a family history is to place events on a singular timeline. By doing so many questions can be answered and a broad understanding of events is absorbed. To better understand an ancestor’s World War I experience a few important dates should be considered. By tracing where a relative was or who they may have been with when these events occurred adds weight to the family timeline.

April 6, 1917- United States enters World War I

June 5, 1917- Men between the ages of 21 and 30 required to register for the draft

Summer 1918- Summer offensives begin and American troops begin suffering large casualties

September 26, 1918- Meuse Argonne Offensive, largest battle in American history, begins

November 11, 1918- Armistice signed

June 28, 1919- Treaty of Versailles signed, World War I concludes

When America entered the war there was little to suggest the country was prepared for it and the first obstacle facing the nation was figuring how to expand the armed forces. The answer to that challenge created the first possible clues to a

813

Form 1 **319** **REGISTRATION CARD** | No. **36**

1	Name in full <u>Cedric Nadzwany Shaw</u> (Given name) (Family name)	Age, in yrs. <u>26</u>
2	Home address <u>12 S. 2nd St. Pratt, Kans.</u> (No.) (Street) (City) (State)	
3	Date of birth <u>May 8 1891</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)	
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? <u>Natural-born</u>	
5	Where were you born? <u>Philadelphia Ill. USA</u> (Town) (State) (Nation)	
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?	
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office? <u>Amateur</u>	
8	By whom employed? <u>Self</u> Where employed? <u>Pratt</u>	
9	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? <u>Wife and child</u>	
10	Married or single (which)? <u>Married</u> Race (specify which)? <u>Caucasian</u>	
11	What military service have you had? Rank <u>None</u> ; branch _____ years _____; Nation or State _____	
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)?	

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

C. H. Shaw
(Signature or mark)

If person is of African descent, insert

tion and marital status are also present. And towards the bottom of the card a reason for why the individual may have sought a deferment might be present. Many of those who requested deferments were denied and a relative's military service, something which possibly defined the person's life, may have been against their original will.

The existence of a draft card does not equal military service; men were required to register for the draft but not all who did were called. However, the existence of such a card can be a valuable family resource.

Military Duty in WWI:

A relative who experienced the First World War as an American combatant did so in one of three ways; by serving in the armed forces

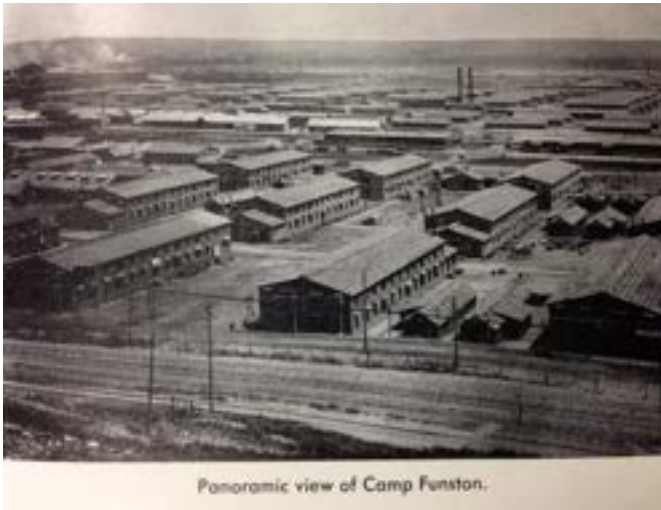
when war was declared, by volunteering after war was declared or by being drafted. There were just over 200,000 men in uniform in April 1917 but within eighteen months that number exceeded four million with half of those serving in Europe. The major phases of an American World War I experience consisted of entry to the service, training, deployment overseas, service at the front, return to the United States and discharge from the military. The numbers within each phase naturally diminishing in size as not everyone who entered military service was transported overseas.

Continued on next page.

genealogical researcher's investigation, the 1917 Draft Registration card.

To build a modern army the United States required every man between the ages of 21 and 30 to present himself to his local draft board on June 5, 1917. An entry into the website Ancestry.com may return a copy of a relative's 1917 draft registration card. This often allows the researcher a place to begin construction of a WWI timeline.

At first glance the information gathered may not appear valuable. But look again. Examples of a relative's handwriting and signature can be seen. Address, occupa-



Training:

Training centers sprouted across the United States during the summer of 1917 and they began accepting massive arrivals of raw recruits by fall. One of the largest of these cantonments was Camp Funston, located just west of Manhattan, Kansas within the present-day confines of Fort Riley. The empty land of Ogden Flats was turned into a thriving military city within weeks and a new building was completed every forty-five minutes during peak construction. Shortly after it opened 45,000 men from across the Midwest arrived there to learn the ways of modern soldiering.

It was in the cantonments where young American men learned how to march, salute, shoot and drill. They lived in barracks, ate in large groups and spent day after day preparing for a war which many considered an adventurous break from

the routine of life at home. Understanding a relative's military service is aided greatly by knowing which branch of service and which particular unit they belonged to. The army was completely reorganized during World War I from the pre-war regimental design to the divisional structure recognizable today.

As the ranks swelled new units were created. If a family member was part of the US Army, which the majority of WWI veterans were, knowing which division they served in greatly aids the quest to understand their experience. The numerical designation of each division reveals much about where the members of that division may have been drawn and much can be derived from that knowledge. This table may aid the genealogical sleuth in that quest:

Regular Army: 1st Division through 15th Division

National Guard: 26th Division through 42nd Division

National Army: 77th Division through 92nd Division

The first divisions to arrive in France were the 1st Division and the 2nd Division. These were assembled from regular army units and formed into divisions after their arrival in France in June 1917. By fall two more divisions had sailed from America, the 26th and the 42nd. Both were National Guard divisions, the 26th consisting of New Englanders and the 42nd taking its men from various National Guard elements across the USA. Legendary WWII general Douglas MacArthur was a member of the 42nd Division and he dubbed it the "Rainbow Division" because it was comprised of Americans from across the nation and stretched "like a rainbow over the whole country." The 35th Division was assembled from units belonging to Missouri and Kansas and many Kansans trace their wartime participation to this storied and historical division.

The National Army was composed of draftees.

Overseas Duty:

Not every soldier who served did so “Over There” but if a relative did make the journey to France it would have followed a route similar to one described here. From the cantonments the men received orders for overseas service and were shuttled by rail to the embarkation points on the east coast. By spring 1918 the system had been perfected and troopships were loaded with precision. 10,000 Doughboys could be placed aboard ship in mere hours and convoys steamed towards Europe with relentless momentum. The journey took between 10-14 days and the experience of crossing the ocean was one which left lasting impacts on all who experienced it.

The Front:

The combat trials for the World War I American soldier generally fell into two categories, prolonged or extremely brief. Those troops who arrived in France earlier, perhaps with the 1st Division or 42nd Division, saw extensive front line service and were shuttled into the trenches at regular intervals. They knew the horror of the Western Front with its endless shelling, gas and miserable living conditions. These men were seasoned veterans of war by the time the majority of American soldiers arrived.

For the vast majority though their war consisted of extensive training in the US, a rapid move overseas followed by more training and then, as the summer of 1918 ended, they were thrust into the war and sent “over the top” in the American offensives of the autumn. For them their war may have lasted three minutes or three days and it defined their lives into the simple terms of “before” and “after.” The violence of what their eyes saw left marks

which seeped into the deepest parts of their being and became the reason why many stories of the First World War are lost, they were simply too terrifying to tell.



Conclusions:

The most fascinating element of history is realizing how little of it is actually recorded and how much remains to be known. A search into a family's past can be rewarded by an exclusive glimpse into a major world event through the eyes of a relative.

Knowing a relative experienced the World War may open a deeper curiosity into what that war meant and how impactful it remains to our daily lives. If a family member served you are encouraged to unearth what that service meant. Find the clues whether they be a draft card, a unit

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Your family history may very well be a valuable component of American history.

designation or discharge paper. Place them on a timeline and build the peripheral events. Locate the related histories like regimental diaries, newspaper accounts or letters and create your family's history. Your family history may very well be a valuable component of American history.

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Panoramic View of Camp Funston- Camp Funston Illustrated (on cover)

USS Leviathan- History of the USS Leviathan

Draft Card of Lt. Cedric Shaw- Ancestry.com

Fame, Flood, and Fire: The Surprisingly Short, Dynamic Story of Eureka Lake Riley County, Kansas, 1900-1916

By Alexander Woodson

Chapman Center for Rural Studies

History 589: Lost Kansas Communities Fall 2017



Figure 1: The majestic stone architecture of Eureka Lake Resort, date of photo unknown.

Source: Riley County Historical Museum

A cruel wind is whistling through the bare branches overhead as the early December, 2017 sun begins to set over a thickly wooded ridge of the Flint Hills. Only leaves rustling over the ground are a reminder of what once was here: a vibrant forested river bottom in a summer not really so long ago -- the start of a new

century, 1906. Leaves blow now across the corn fields and skip across a dry lake bed, a mere hollow in the landscape overtaken by brush and woods. This too, is a physical reminder of one man's dream that was once alive, prospering, and yet abruptly snuffed out by the forces of nature.

Nestled in Eureka Valley, four miles west of modern Manhattan, was once a small ox-bow lake that resembled a fish hook. It was formed from a bend in the Kansas River suddenly cut off by either erosive waters or a buildup of sediment from a flood. Geologists conjecture that this lake may have been created from the river during the great flood of 1844. Eureka Lake, as it was soon known, was approximately two and a half miles long and anywhere from 200 to 400 feet wide. At its deepest, it was forty feet from the surface to the bed.¹

The idea of a resort here was conceived by C.P. Dewey of Chicago. It is important to understand the entrepreneurial character of this man, for he always envisioned the future. C.P. Dewey introduced himself to Kansas perhaps twenty years before the creation of the resort.

His arrival in Manhattan, Kansas was noneventful; however, it would not remain that way for long. Not even a month after he got off the Union Pacific in Manhattan, he purchased a cattle ranch a few hundred acres in size in southern Riley County. This was especially interesting to the people of Riley County, because C. P. Dewey did not consult a bank but rather paid for the entire ranch on the spot with cash. Soon he bought more land, pushing the ranch to an astonishing 11,000 acres of prime Flint Hills grazing land for beef cattle.² And his ambitions did not stop there. In Manhattan, with the purchase of Kaw River bottom land, Dewey constructed enormous (for the time) feedlots, as well as “commodious sheds and pens that followed as fast as the carpenters could build them.”³ Dewey also held land in



Figure 2: Dewey overlooking Eureka Lake from veranda of Eureka Lake Resort, ca. 1901

Source: Geary County Historical Society

Dewey also held land in Rawlins County, a cattle ranch exceeding 100,000 acres. It was said that the labor force required to keep such an operation running was equivalent to a small town....

Rawlins County, a cattle ranch exceeding 100,000 acres. It was said that the labor force required to keep such an operation running was equivalent to a small town, and that mail sent to the area usually ended up at Dewey's Ranch, as opposed to the small, long-vanished town of Pan-theke located right beside it.

Mr. Dewey also invested in various other projects around the city of Manhattan, aside from his feedlot. One especially notable example was the Dewey Transfer Livery Barn on Third and Houston, extending the length of an entire city block. When he found that the electricity provided by Manhattan was inadequate to sufficiently light his stable, he decided to purchase the city power plant; he then retrofitted it with the best equipment he could find. Yet of all these grand economic projects, the one that ended up captivating his mind and heart was the little lake in the valley right outside the city.⁴

C.P. Dewey first made plans to build at Eureka Lake in 1899. Originally, he wanted to call the fashionable getaway Manhattan Beach.⁵ When the idea came to him to develop the land around Eureka Lake, it was not with the intention of creating a large resort but rather a more humble, personal establishment, a second home that would serve as a respite for him and his close friends.⁶ In the spring of 1900, from owners William and Mary Wood, Dewey secured a lease for the land encompassing the southwest side of Eureka Lake. He began construction on July 16, 1900. The work on the resort was carried out at a feverish pace,



Figure 3: The entrance to Eureka Lake Resort as seen from the county road approaching it, circa 1906.

Source: Riley County Historical Museum

reminiscent of Mr. Dewey's other projects. One reporter wrote, "The construction of the buildings will be rushed as fast as the workmen and material can be had."⁷ The haste paid off, for the resort opened later that year.⁸ Soon word about the lakeside get-away spread throughout the state. Suddenly, and with little to no effort, Eureka Lake Resort was born. By 1902, visitors were booking rooms at the resort a full two weeks in advance, and many hopeful guests had to be turned away. In October of 1902, Mr. Dewey hired a renowned architect out of Chicago to expand the resort to its final, sprawling size.⁹ Small, private "Manhattan Beach" had disappeared.

The original resort had boasted an impressive three-story building, "consisting of sixteen sleeping rooms, a large dining room, kitchen and billiard room." The

Suddenly, and with little to no effort, Eureka Lake Resort was born. By 1902, visitors were booking rooms at the resort a full two weeks in advance, and many hopeful guests had to be turned away.

1903 expansion was an annex described as “160 feet long and forty feet wide and [was] two full stories with a mansard story above a large hall which [ran] the full length.” A first hand account from a visitor to the resort helps provide an image of what guests would have seen as they walked through the hotel at Eureka Lake:

On each side are large sleeping rooms all fitted with handsome rugs, curtains, dressers, iron beds and bedroom furniture. A number of the rooms are extra large and contain from two to four beds especially designed to accommodate house parties or families desiring to be together. The annex also contains the office, the music room with a piano, pianola music boxes and gramophones. In the second story above the office is the pool room. A large, airy room has been filled up with a ping pong set and games especially for the children. A veranda, running the full length of the building and around the dining room, is an ideal lounging place. ¹⁰

The annex was simply the beginning of the amenities the grand resort provided. Eureka Lake also offered a large bowling alley, an enormous dancing pavilion, a toboggan slide, bathhouse, high dive tower, Shetland ponies, rowboats, and naphtha (gasoline) powered launches. ¹¹ These boats and the high dive tower were kept at the water’s edge, where guests could rent the launches for an hour-long tour of the entire lake. The equivalent of a modern day zip line was strung from the shore to the center of the lake, and guests used it to sling themselves far out over the water. A pasture and barn with enough space for 25 horses, brought from the Dewey Transfer Livery Barn, provided open air riding for guests. Slaughter houses sat on the far end of the premises, and hogs, and cattle were butchered for hotel use. Poultry, eggs, and vegetables came from nearby farms. Paths

Lights strung up across the property twinkled in the night, and on Sunday evenings, guests would have seen and heard a live band, filling the air with music. Couples danced into the wee hours of the morning....

wound along the edge of the lake, where guests could fish or walk along the landscaped terrain, observing the calm water and heavily wooded ridge just behind the resort. ¹² Lights strung up across the property twinkled in the night, and on Sunday evenings, guests would have seen and heard a live band, filling the air with music. Couples danced into the wee hours of the morning. ¹³ Porch swings, rocking chairs, and easy chairs lined the veranda which framed the stone, fort-like construction of the resort. ¹⁴ Visible in Figure 3 is the beautiful white limestone cut from area deposits.

Visitors arrived at Eureka Lake via a small country road that ran to both the city of Manhattan and the Union Pacific



Figure 4: Young women enjoying the lake in row boats provided by the resort. Diving platforms and the walkway surrounding the lake can be seen in the background, circa 1906.

Source: Riley County Historical Museum

Railroad depot, not far from the lake.¹⁵ The resort was at most a forty-minute buggy ride from Manhattan, making it a popular destination.¹⁶ Guests often took a Tally-Ho coach with a four horse team and teamster when traveling to and from Eureka Lake.¹⁷ Those who took the Union Pacific were just as well off, paying a whopping \$1.75 for a round-trip from Topeka. This trip lasted a comfortable hour and 45 minutes. Guests could stay at the resort for \$2 a day or \$10 for the week. For this, they had access to first class meals from the best chefs, a certified physician from Chicago, and a direct telephone connection to all nearby towns. This was a considerable bargain compared to other summer resorts in the United States at the time and greatly added to the growing appeal of Eureka Lake.¹⁸ There was even talk of drilling wells into the lake bed to pump extra water into the lake, creating enough depth to allow steamboat traffic from the Kansas River.¹⁹ Of course, as the saying goes, all good things must come to an end, and it has never held truer than at Eureka Lake Resort.

In the late spring of 1903, a series of sleet storms, freezes, tornadoes, hail, and massive rainstorms unleashed a tremendous amount of water onto the Kan-

sas countryside. On May 29, the Kansas River exceeded its banks, flooding Junction City, Manhattan, and Topeka successively; on May 31, Lawrence and Kansas City were inundated.²⁰ Eureka Lake Resort was destroyed. Thousands of dollars of C.P. Dewey's property swept away down the Kaw River Valley, never to be seen again.²¹ Luckily, there were no deaths at the resort; however, mud and debris carried by the roaring river waters almost completely filled in the lake, altering the landscape beyond recognition.²² Restoration attempts ultimately failed, and a year later, C.P. Dewey passed away in Wheeling, West Virginia at the home of a relative. Perhaps the loss of his cherished resort hastened his death.²³

Eureka Lake Resort was destroyed. Thousands of dollars of C.P. Dewey's property swept away down the Kaw River Valley, never to be seen again.

Dewey's son and heir, Chauncey, had no interest in the property and put it up for sale.²⁴ On February 2, 1906, paying just \$14,200, the Kansas Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows purchased the entire 134 acres of resort land and its buildings. C.P. Dewey's total investment had been \$75,000.²⁵



Figure 5: Dedication of the juvenile center at the Odd Fellows and Rebekah Home, circa 1906.

Source: Kansas State Historical Society

Today, Flint Hills Job Corps Center stands where Eureka Lake Resort once was.

In 1910, the I.O.O.F. also purchased the land between the resort and the Kansas River from William and Mary Wood, who had originally leased the Eureka Lake Resort property to Dewey. The resort was converted into a home for orphans and the elderly. Yet tragedy continued to haunt the area. On November 26, 1916, a fire, encouraged by a brisk south wind, swept through the buildings on the property, leveling them all. This was the death knell for Eureka Lake. Although the buildings were reconstructed and the care home re-opened in 1919, Eureka Lake soon faded into the ether of history.

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Today, Flint Hills Job Corps Center stands where Eureka Lake Resort once was. Red brick buildings, parking lots, and a guard shack claim the land.²⁷ Visitors likely never realize that for a brief decade, this was a place where people danced under the stars and row boats skimmed across the water. A thick stand of trees covers a barely noticeable, fish hook-shaped depression in the land, easy to miss when driving by. Like most things that have come and gone, the resort requires a slowing down of the mind to notice and hear its story. But if you stand still, shin-deep in the dry, whispering grass, traces will appear: a glint of water in the mind's eye...a glimpse of a ruined stone wall in the distance.

End Notes

¹Winifred N. Slagg, *Riley County, Kansas: A Story of Early Settlements, Rich Valleys, Azure Skies and Sunflowers* (Brooklyn, NY: Theo. Guas' Sons,

Inc.), 81.

² The Riley County Dewey ranch became Konza Prairie Biological Research Station, and the stone house and barn still stand.

³ "Character Sketch of the Late C.P. Dewey," *The Salina Evening Journal*, June 11, 1904.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Slagg, *Riley County, Kansas*, 81.

⁶ "An Ideal Summer Resort in Kansas," *The Topeka State Journal*, July 29, 1903.

⁷ "Eureka Lake Club House," *The Manhattan Nationalist*, July 20, 1900.

⁸ Slagg, *Riley County, Kansas*, 82.

⁹ "An Ideal Summer Resort in Kansas."

¹⁰ Ibid. A pianola was a small piano played automatically using a metal music roll.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Slagg, *Riley County, Kansas*, 82.

¹³ "Character Sketch of the late C.P. Dewey."

¹⁴ "An Ideal Summer Resort in Kansas."

¹⁵ Slagg, *Riley County, Kansas*, 82.

¹⁶ "Eureka Lake Clubhouse."

¹⁷ Slagg, *Riley County, Kansas*, 82.

¹⁸ "An Ideal Summer Resort in Kansas."

¹⁹ "Character Sketch of the Late C.P. Dewey."

²⁰ "Flood of 1903." *Kansas State Historical Society*. Accessed December 10, 2017. <http://www.kshs.org/kansapedia/flood-of-1903/17221>.

²¹ "Rebekah-Odd Fellow Home," *The Burlingame Enterprise*, January 4, 1906.

²² Slagg, *Riley County, Kansas*, 82.

²³ "Rebekah-Odd Fellow Home."

²⁴ "Character Sketch of the Late C.P. Dewey,"

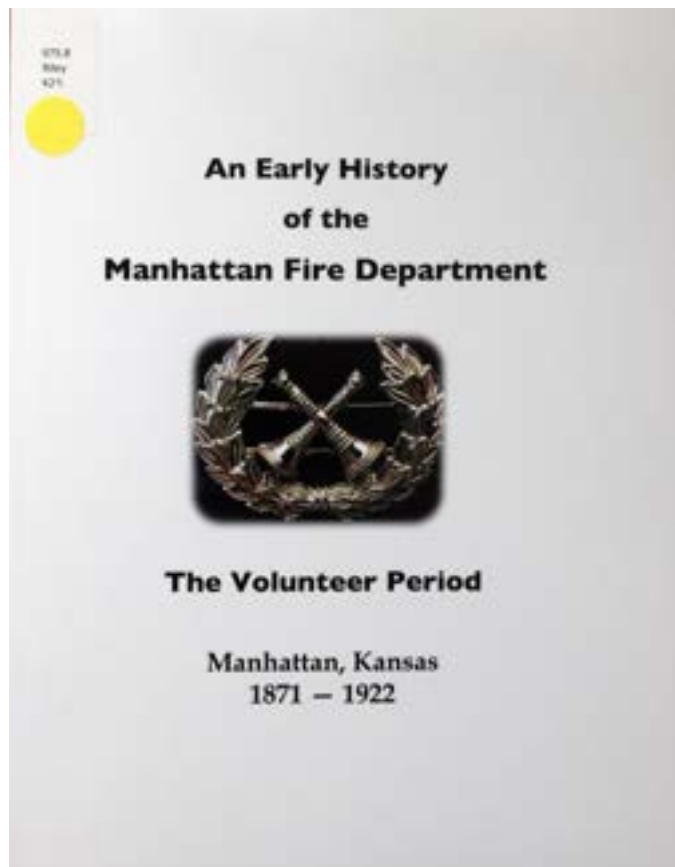
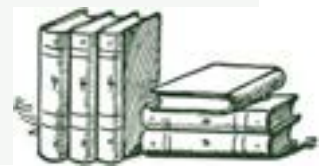
²⁵ "Rebekah - Odd Fellow Home."

²⁶ Slagg, *Riley County, Kansas*, 83.

²⁷ However, the road leading to the old resort area is still called Eureka Drive.

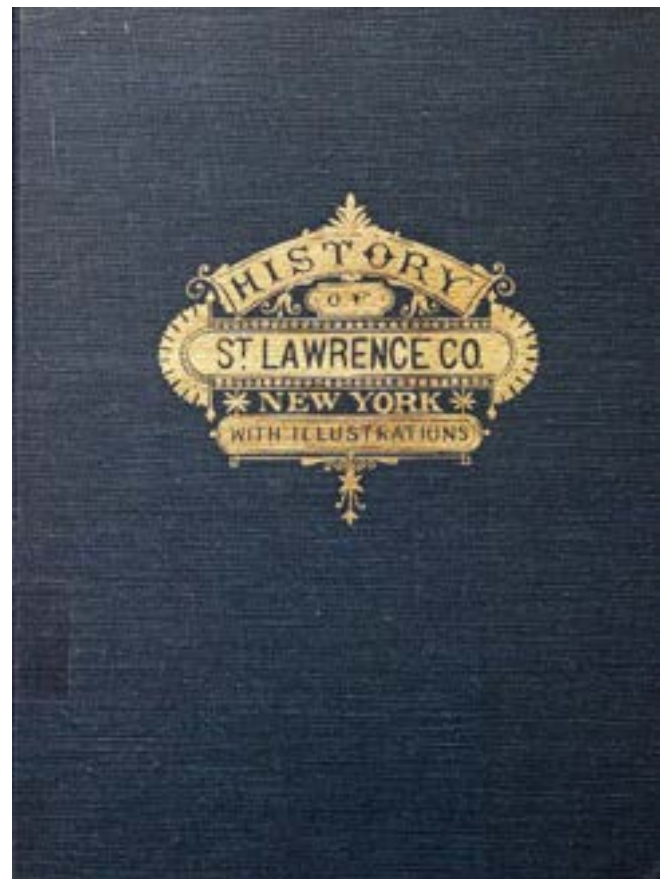
New Books at the Research Library

By Virginia Beddow



An Early History of the Manhattan Fire Department: the Volunteer Period.
Tannehill, Charles R. Manhattan, 2017.

Tannehill wrote this book to document the early volunteer period of the Manhattan Fire Department. He has tried to be as detailed as possible while still being interesting. This short history covers the period from the founding of Manhattan up to the appointment of the first full-time fire chief and two full-time fire drivers. The book includes a chronological list of the volunteer era fire chiefs, a bibliography, and an index. The appendix includes the constitution, by-laws, and some anecdotes. Illustrations and photographs add interest to the reading.



History of St. Lawrence Co., New York With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches. Philadelphia: L. H. Everts & Co., 1878.

This book of over 500 pages covers the county's history from 1759 to 1878. The first section includes with the physical features, pre-historic period, French Occupation, History of Land Titles, Civil Organization, Statistics, St. Lawrence Civil List, The Learned Professions, Education and Religion, and Internal Improvements.

The second section covers the towns of the county. The final section tells the military history with muster rolls. There is an index.

Continued on next page.

New Books, Continued

Year 2000 Historical Calendar: Historical facts for Riley County and all its cities past and present. Lowell Jack. Manhattan: Hawley Printing, 1999.

This calendar was one of Lowell Jack's early calendars. It contains over 50 sepia photographs of people and places in Riley County. Each date box contains information about the history of the county,

In several cases the story of some subject is spread throughout the calendar because there are a number of things connected that that subject which happened on various dates. Because of this, an index has been prepared so the reader will know where to look in the calendar for more information on a particular subject.

The calendar does not pretend to be a definitive and all-inclusive history of Riley

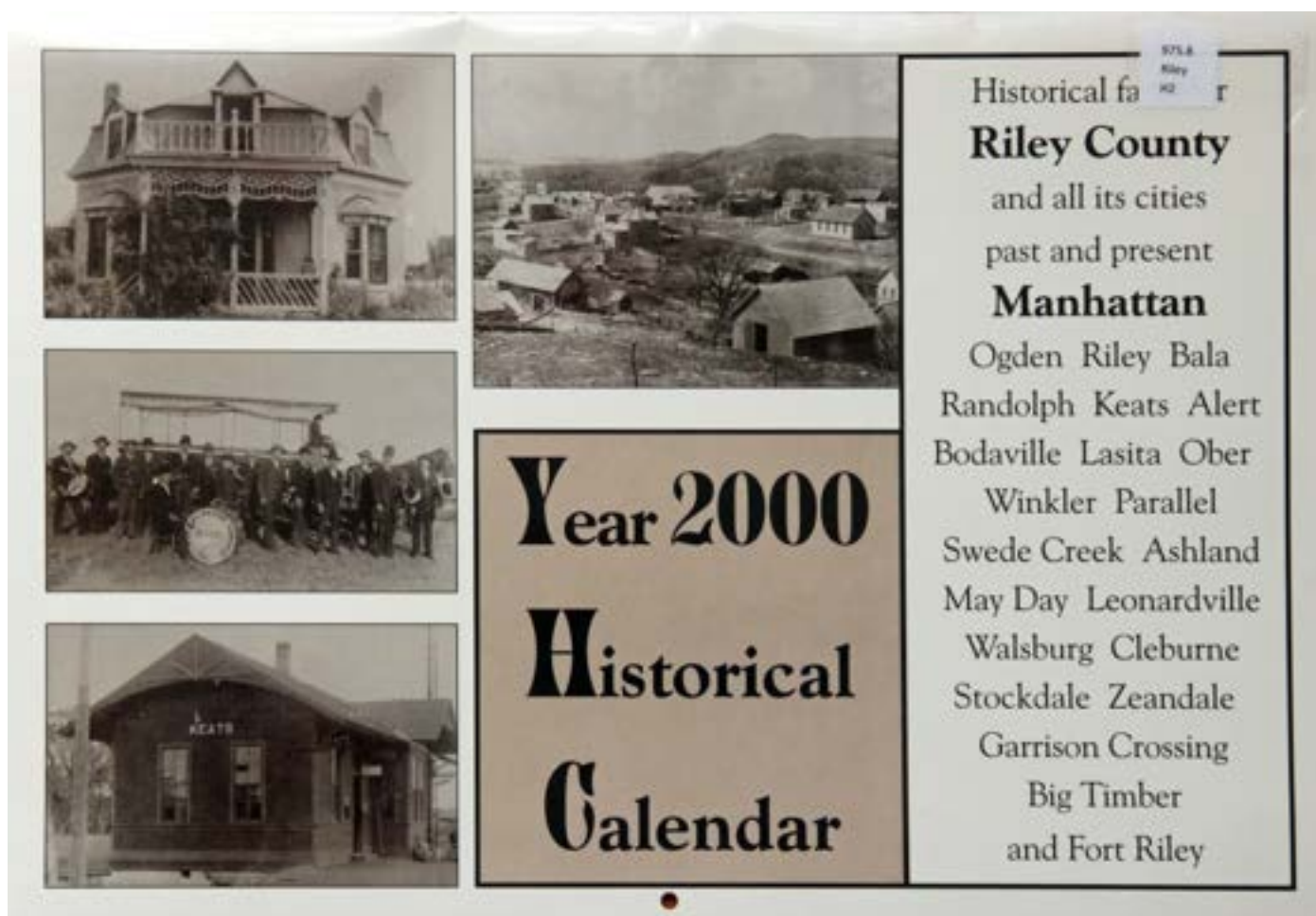
County. It includes what the author judged as interesting, curious, unusual, sometimes humorous.

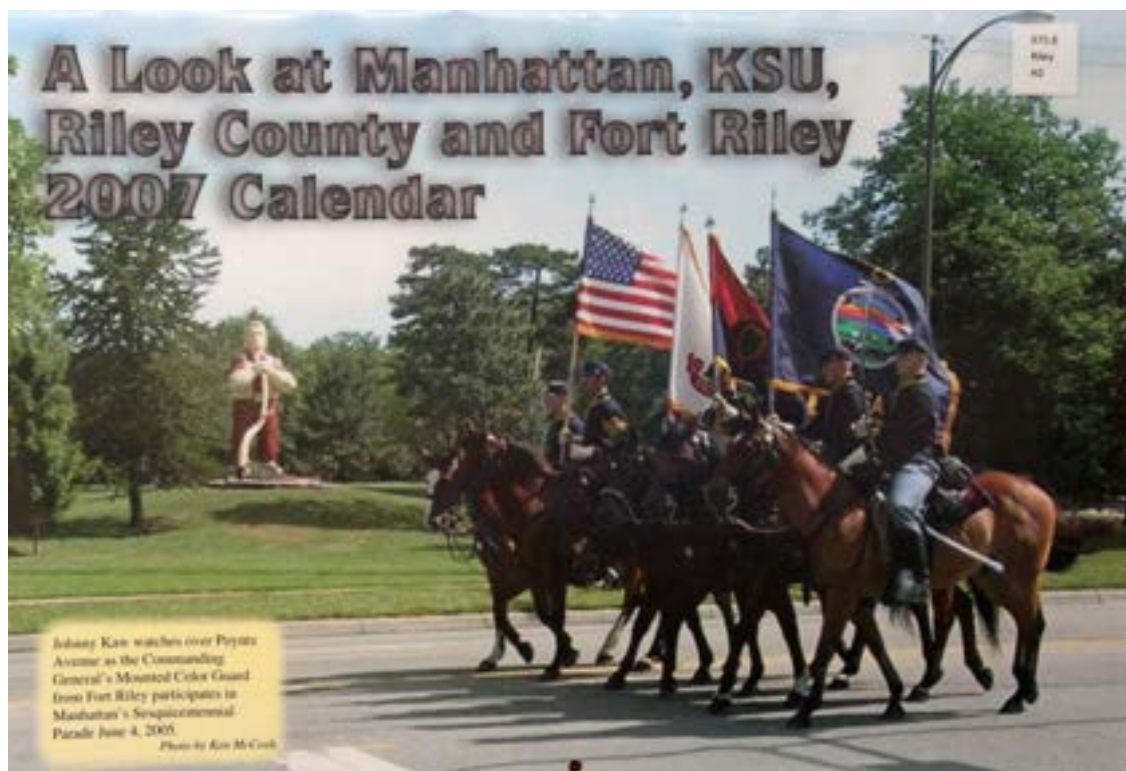
All the facts were checked for accuracy by the staff at the Riley County Historical Museum. Included also are maps showing early county boundary changes and a table of record temperatures in Manhattan, Kansas.

A Look at Manhattan, KSU, Riley County and Fort Riley: 2007 Calendar. Lowell Jack. Manhattan: Hawley Printing, 2006.

(See illustration of cover on next page.)

This calendar is the last in a series of historical calendars by Lowell Jack. It contains over 50 sepia photographs of people and places in Riley County. Each date box contains information about an event that occurred on the date or close





A Look at Manhattan, KSU, Riley County and Fort Riley: 2007 Calendar.

to the date. At the end of the calendar are an index, Manhattan streets with historical connections, a table of record temperatures in Manhattan, and author's comments.

More New Books

Index to the Births, Marriages, Deaths and Other Items Printed in the Manhattan Mercury During the Period of 29 May 1955 Thru 8 December 1955 at Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas. Ekart, Sylvester. Riley County Genealogical Society. 2017.

Index to the Births, Marriages, Deaths and Other Items Printed in the Manhattan Mercury During the Period of 9 December 1955 Thru 29 June 1956 at Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas. Ekart, Sylvester. Riley County Genealogical Society. 2018.

Index to the Births, Marriages, Deaths and

Other Items Printed in the Manhattan Mercury During the Period of 1 July 1956 Thru 11 January 1957 at Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas. Ekart, Sylvester. Riley County Genealogical Society. 2018.

Index to the Births, Marriages, Deaths and Other Items Printed in the Manhattan Republic During the Period of 4 January 1940 Thru 26 December 1940 at Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas. Ekart, Sylvester. Riley County Genealogical Society. 2017

Index to the Births, Marriages, Deaths and Other Items Printed in the Morning Chronicle During the Period of 7 February 1928 Thru 16 December 1928 at Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas. Ekart, Sylvester. Riley County Genealogical Society. 2018.

White City Telephone Co., Inc. DIRECTORY. White City, Kansas, 1962.

One Hundred Years Ago — World War I

Changed Local Life

These clippings are from the *Leonardville Monitor*, all in May of 1918. They illustrate how pervasive the influence of World War I was on local citizens.

The clipping to the right shows how people were allowed only six pounds of flour per month. Notice the high fine for disobeying the order.

Many people participated in the war effort by buying war bonds. Some of the people who purchased them are listed in the clipping at the bottom of this page.

What about the farmers who were left to harvest their grain without the help of sons gone off to fight in the war? The community rallied to help them. Names of these generous people are listed in the article on the next page.

Finally, it was the enlisted men who bore the brunt of the war. Some of their names were listed in the *Leonardville Monitor* in the article on the next page.

After May 15th. each person will be allowed only 6 lbs. flour per month. All flour must be returned to merchants by that time under penalty of \$10,000 fine & 10 years imprisonment

Notice

All those who have field glasses or opera glasses please bring them to the Post Office, as the Government needs them all. Your name and address will be stamped on each, and the glass will be returned after the war

Wm. Turner, P.M.

Clippings by Sherry Butler

Baby Bonds.			
Clement White	\$100 00	Wobin K. Leipersberger ...	\$10.00
Rosa Eib	\$100.00	Olive Arents	\$5.00
Ellen Carlson	\$100.00	Mabel Swenson	\$5.00
Lottie Carlson	\$100.00	Faber F. Simpson	\$10 00
Nestor Rose	\$ 90.00	Charles Edler	\$500.00
Orville E. Mathes	\$5.00	Verla M. Lowe	\$5.00
Carl A. Leipersberger	\$10 00	George Gravenstein	\$50.00
Walter A. Leipersberger ...	\$10.00	Erma Gravenstein	\$50.00
		Leroy Kulp	\$5.00
		Homer Lindstrom	\$5.00

The following names listed below are ready to help harvest your wheat in this emergency, as well as to serve you in any way that the town people may be of value to you in harvesting and saving this crop.

Alexander Lumber Co., L. A. Kepachek, S. A. Bevey, Chas. Johnston, Chas. Rothlesberger, Chas. G. Nyberg, A. H. Chaffee, Frank Lebenbard, Louis Pherson, Fred Bennenblust, Jno. Pheffer, F. S. Hohman, Oscar Rose, H. D. Wasburne, Edward Maxwell, Ed Nicleson, Farmers and Merchants State Bank, W. H. Sikes, Geo. Quick, J. L. Simpson, L. A. Lowe, W. P. Turner, L. R. Young, Ed Daniels, Geo. Barkyoub, Alva Larson, S. MacGreger, W. H. Newman, Stafford Hdw. Co., Harold Daniels, G. B. Schwartz, J. F. Gugenhan, B. W. Kendall, Henry Schwartz, Wayne Munn.

Those who are unable to put in their time at manual labor, will during the rush season be prepared, to deliver twine, machinery repairs, or perform any service to the farmer without his having to leave his work.

Almost any kind of a town man can do a better day's work than an I. W. W. Service Headquarters Telephone (15) or Liberty League Secretary, Telephone, (45). A telephone call to either of the above numbers will get you the desired results.

Enlisted

James Bond, H.Q. Amm. Train
Wm. Bond, Amm. Train
Simon Buss, Infantry
Earl Brelsford, Navy
Stein Bredberg, Amb. Corps
Louie Bergeson, Amm. Train
Lee Craig, Amm. Train
Vaughn Doyle, Amm. Train
Wm Danielson, Baker
Arthur Danielson, Baker
Elmer Davis, Amm. Train
Clyde Ford, Infantry
Herman Goers, Infantry
Ralph John, Amm. Train
Bill Karrigan, Signal Corps
Lloyd Lind, Field Artillery
Rudolph Lindstrom, Baker
Edwin Lindstrom, Infantry
Frank Lynch, With Pershing
DeWayne Munn, Amm. Train
Leland Shack, Coast Artillery
Stanley Swenson, Amm. Train
Clare Thompson, Baker
Ludolph Uhlenhop, Field-Art'y.
Henry Uhlenhop, Infantry
Dennis Houser, Infantry
Walter Dexter, Navy
Sam Lynch, Infantry
Walter Bergstrom, Marines
Paul Engstrand, Chaplain
Jach Huntsinger, Amm. Train
Elmer Hollister, Aviation
Ed Springer, Aviation
Fred Bolt, Infantry
Jas. E. Keller, Navy
A. N. Smith, Chaplain
Dudley Brees, Coast Artillery
Herman Schwartz - Depot Brig.
Alvin Bohnenblust " "
Alfred Kunze " "

POOL GAME WAITS ON WAR GAME

Manhattan Men Dropped Cues And Ran To Enlist For War; Finished The Game On Their Return.

How thirteen Manhattan young men deserted a game of pool and ran to catch a train that would take them to Blue Rapids where Company M. of the Twenty-Second Kansas Volunteers was being enlisted, is the story told recently by Elmer Holbert who now conducts a restaurant on North Fourth street.

It was the afternoon of May 2, 1898 and war talk was then much more in evidence than it is now. The United States being at that time engaged in war with Spain. Naturally the subject was brought up during the conversation around the pool table.

Ran For Train.

"I'll go if you will," was the statement made by George Crawford, afterward Second Lieutenant of the company.

"Let's, us all go," was the suggestion of Holbert.

There was only a few minutes left until the Union Pacific train for Blue Rapids would pull out of Manhattan, and according to thirteen of the crowd of about eighteen, sprinted down Poyntz avenue to the station, leaving the laggards to pick up the hastily dropped pool cues.

"Even a war won't stop that game from being finished," said Carlson as he covered the table. And for over a year that table lay just as the volunteers had left it, each ball in its proper place so that the game could be finished the day the soldiers returned from the front.

The Game Waited.

The thirteen men, eight of whom had been actual players in the game had been playing bottle game, the low man to pay for cigars for the crowd and for the use of the table. Carlson was waiting a long time to see who would pay.

Those who went were Elmer Holbert, Ed Van Antwerp, Frank Allen, Arthur Merritt, Charles Van Pelt, Frank Morris, George Crawford, Judy Williams, Wilbur Samuels,

George Creviston, Charles Palmer, and Homer Day. A. H. Hess was one of the party in the pool room but he waited a week or so before he finally decided to enlist.

The men were all enlisted in Company M. May 2, and were sent at once to Topeka where they were issued their uniforms and equipment and forwarded to Camp Alger near Washington, D. C., where they stayed four months learning their drills and holding target practice. The regiment was just in condition to go to the front when peace was declared and consequently none of the organization saw any active service.

All Were Heroes.

Never-the-less, when they returned to Manhattan early in September of 1899, they were all heroes in the eyes of the populace who turned out in a body to see them come in.

A great banquet was served the men and speeches of welcome delivered. For weeks thereafter, any

member of the company had but to ask for what he wanted and it was handed to him and payment refused.

"I was not actually present when the pool game was finally played off," said Elmer Holbert. "As soon as I could get away from that big supper they gave us, I beat it for home and the luxury of a real home made bed held me until noon the next day. When I got down town that afternoon I heard some of the boys say that George Crawford was the loser."

Of the thirteen men in that party of modern minutemen there are now only three in Manhattan and vicinity. They are Elmer Holbert, George Creviston and Frank Allen who runs a dairy north of town.

Only Three Here Now.

During the war, Elmer Holbert was cook for the company, being so chosen upon his testing the enlist-

ing officer that he was a restaurant man by trade. George Crawford, who is now some place in Colorado, was made lieutenant of the company when it was finally organized at Topeka.

Arthur Merritt is now a guard at the federal prison at Leavenworth. Ed Van Antwerp was killed in Arizona recently. W. H. Carlson, winner of the pool hall, is now dead. For a time after his pool hall was closed he ran the Commercial hotel.

Homer Day, who was quartermaster sergeant of the company, is now in Colorado. Hess is in St. Louis, Mo.

Two members of the company, Judy Williams and Wilbur Samuels, after being discharged from the volunteers enlisted in the regulars at Fort Leavenworth and both were later killed in the Philippines.

NO BOOM FOR THEM.

Roman Pawn Shops Are Decidedly on the Bum.

Rome, Italy, Jan. 6.—(By Mail) War, which has boomed almost every industry in the world, has put the Italian pawnshop not on the boom but on the bum. The Italian women say this has happened because their soldier husbands are not at home to spend their money for drink and the wives can use the government pay to take care of the family instead of pawning every-

thing. Hard times for the apothecary to make good is pawnbroker, but er trials and miseries inflicting upon Italian rs and sweethearts, it rather than increased worries. Pawnbrokers ne report a slump of thousands of dollars in net of those are gov- trolled pawnshops and ar their portals were not frequented in all

Italy. The government allowance to wives and families amounts to only a few cents a day, but the Italian women have learned frugality in a hard school and they know their lesson well. Not only are most of them taking care of their families, but many of them are scratching and saving enough soldi to redeem some of the pledged household articles. "Of course I can manage

TAKE SALTS TO FLUSH KIDNEYS

Eat less meat if you feel Backachy or Bladder troubles you—Salts is fine for Kidneys.

"TIZ" - SORE

Use "Tiz" puffed-

Good-bye, sore len feet, tend

Good-bye, cor raw spots. No

more limping with pain or drawing up your face in agony. "Tiz" is magical, acts right off. "Tiz" draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up the feet. Use "Tiz" and wear smaller shoes. Use "Tiz" and forget your foot misery. Ah! how comfortable your feet feel.

Get a 25-cent box of "Tiz" now at any drugist or department store. Don't suffer. Have good feet, glad feet, feet that never swell, never hurt, never get tired. A year's foot comfort guaranteed or money refunded.

spoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine and bladder disorders disappear. This famous salts is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to clean and stimulate sluggish kidneys and stop bladder irritation. Jad Salts is inexpensive; harmless and makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which millions of men and women take now and then, thus avoiding serious kidney and bladder diseases.

I will go if you will, was the statement made by George Crawford, afterward Second Lieutenant of the company.

Pool Game Waits on War Game

In researching the Palmer family, Marcia Schuley found this article on Charles Palmer, joining up for the Spanish American war. May, 2018, marks the 120th anniversary of the war. "Let us all go," said Elmer Holbert. And they went!

The article captures the spontaneity of what were surely the 'pool house guys' of that time — who became veterans of the war in Riley County. Charles Palmer is buried in California with a veteran stone. This article is from *The Manhattan Daily Nationalist* (Manhattan, Kansas) · Fri, Jan 21, 1916 · Page 6.

Marcia Schuley

In Tribute — Bernie Butler

"It was a good ride." Those were the words that Bernie Butler felt best summed up his extraordinary life. Bernie's good ride ended on March 15, 2018 at his vacation home in Palm Desert, California. Born on March 4, 1937 in Topeka, Kansas to John Francis Butler and Virginia Camplin,

Bernie married Sharon Lee Tremmel (Sherry) on August 26, 1967. Bernie is best known for opening one of the world's first Pizza Huts in Aggieville in 1960 along with Dick Hassur and Jim Nellis. He went on to open Pizza Huts across the country and remained active in the company until his death. Even though he had business interests across the country, he considered Aggieville the center of his universe, serving as the long-running grand marshal of the annual St. Patrick's Day parade.

Bernie was an active booster of Kansas State University and the Manhattan community at large. An avid golfer, Bernie was able to spend his final moments with a view of the Bighorn Golf Course that he loved so much. Bernie is survived by his

wife, Sherry, of Manhattan, his children, Mark (Leslie) and Brenda (Joel), and his grandchildren, Isabel, Owen, Neal, and Alex.

Bernie was a great supporter of the Riley County Genealogical Society, helping to make the current library a reality. Sherry continues to volunteer at the genealogy library, providing research assistance to people who want to know more about their family history.

It is people like the Butlers who make family history research possible in our city and our county and our state.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 20, 2017. 2:00 pm

Historic Preservation and Its Place in 21st Century America. Presenters are Len and Linus Schamber, brothers in a 40-year-old partnership called Schamber Historic Preservation LLC.

Sunday, June 24, 2:00 pm

Historic Marshall County. Ann Walter and Brenda Staggenborg will guide you through one of the most historic counties in the State of Kansas.

Both events at Manhattan Public Library, 629 Poyntz, Manhattan, Kansas.

All Riley County Genealogical Society programs are free and open to the public.

For more information, see: <http://rileycgs.com/eventListings.php?nm=38>

In Memoriam

Bernie Butler

Annie Cunningham

Mary E. Joerg

Bonnie Nespor

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Kansas Kin submission guidelines

We are pleased that you have considered submitting an article to the Riley County Genealogical Society for possible publication. The *Kansas Kin* focuses on articles ranging from useful genealogical strategies and sources, to interesting accounts of personal research, to local histories as they relate to Kansas.

MANUSCRIPTS

500 to 2,000 words, including reference notes, is the suggested length of submissions. Submit your document in Word format via e-mail. Topical headings are preferred for longer pieces. All manuscripts and references should follow the *Chicago Manual of Style*. End notes are recommended, especially for books, articles, and websites.

IMAGES

Whenever possible, please provide images to accompany your submission. The image must be over 1MB in size, with good quality resolution. Please also include a caption for each picture which includes a photo credit or source. All images must be sent as separate files. We prefer jpg format.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Please provide a few sentences about the author(s) to accompany the manuscript.

DEADLINES

Submissions are due the first of the month in April and October. Address submissions to the editor at judy@rileycgs.com.

All submissions to *Kansas Kin* are subject to review by the RCGS Editorial Board and revisions may be made, either by the writer or the editor.

Editor: Judy Regehr

Assistant Editor: Margaret Parker

Editorial Board: Barry Michie, Sherry Butler, Virginia Beddow

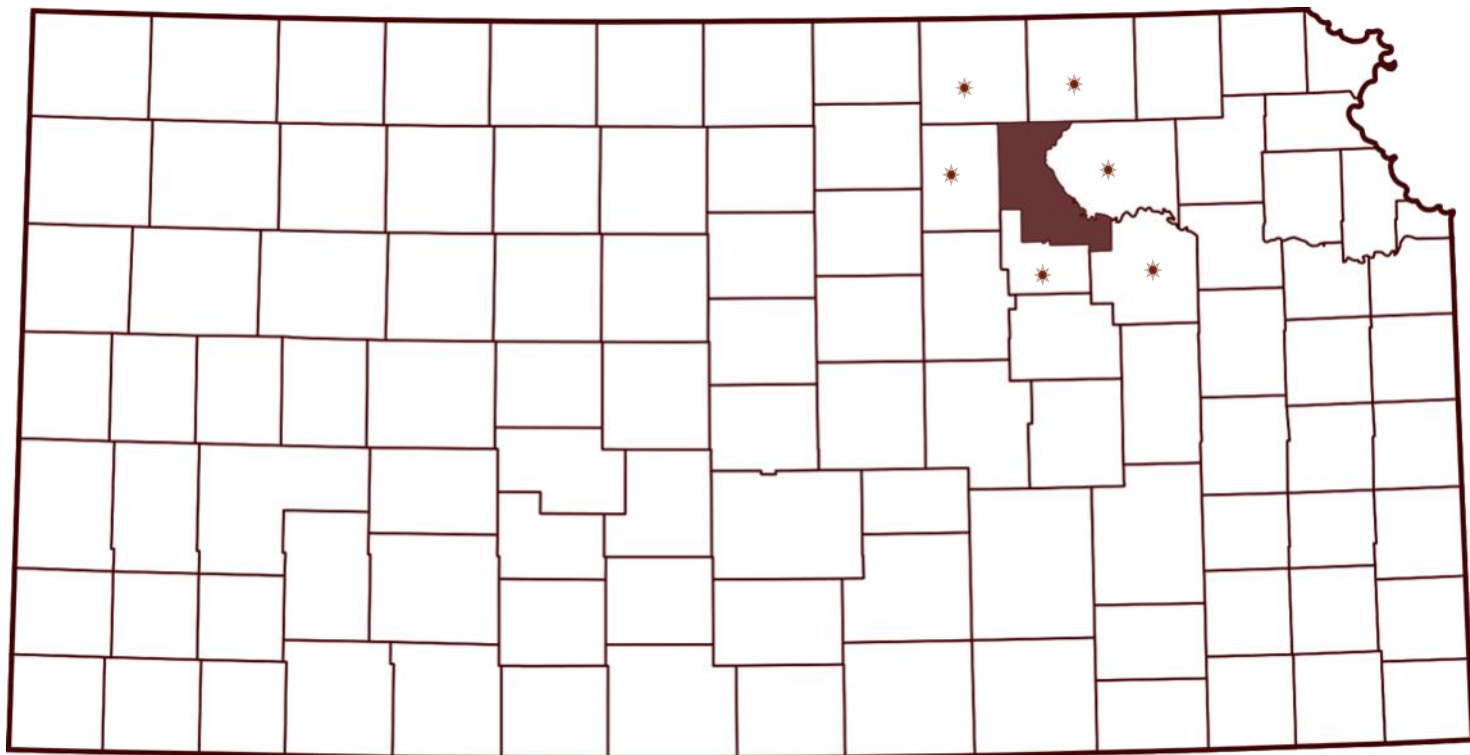




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Kansas Kin

A semi-annual publication of Riley County Genealogical Society
November 2018 Vol. 56, No. 2



**Polly Edgerton Davis Family Photo Album —
Lost and Found Again**



Riley County Genealogical Society

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Kansas Kin is a semi-annual publication of Riley County Genealogical Society whose purpose is to collect, preserve and share information for researching Kansas family histories.

From the President

Hello Members,

Welcome to this edition of *Kansas Kin*. We apologize for the late publication due to the health situation of our capable editor. We continue with articles of historical and general interest in an expanded page format and also posting the edition on the web. We have had a good response from readers and trust this continues. If you have a story to tell, including photos, please consider submitting an article. Guidelines are on the inside back cover. You are not limited to submissions about Riley County.



I remind readers of two monthly events. (1) Public presentations at the Manhattan Public Library on a variety of topics held on Sunday afternoons at the end of the month; these are announced in the press, our website and the FYI newsletter. (2) The Round Table at Aggieville's Blue Stem Bistro every third Friday of the month from 10:00 to 11:30. This is open to the public. We always have a free-wheeling and lively discussion of all sorts of topics regarding research, historical/social insights and resources.

Also, please let others know about the benefits of RCGS membership that include not only receiving *Kansas Kin* but also on-line access to our growing data base connecting to articles and records, many of which are digitized. We have about a million names in our surname search. Please check out our website: <http://www.rileycgs.com>.

Barry Michie

President, RCGS

Riley County Genealogical Society Past Presidents—They served to make today possible

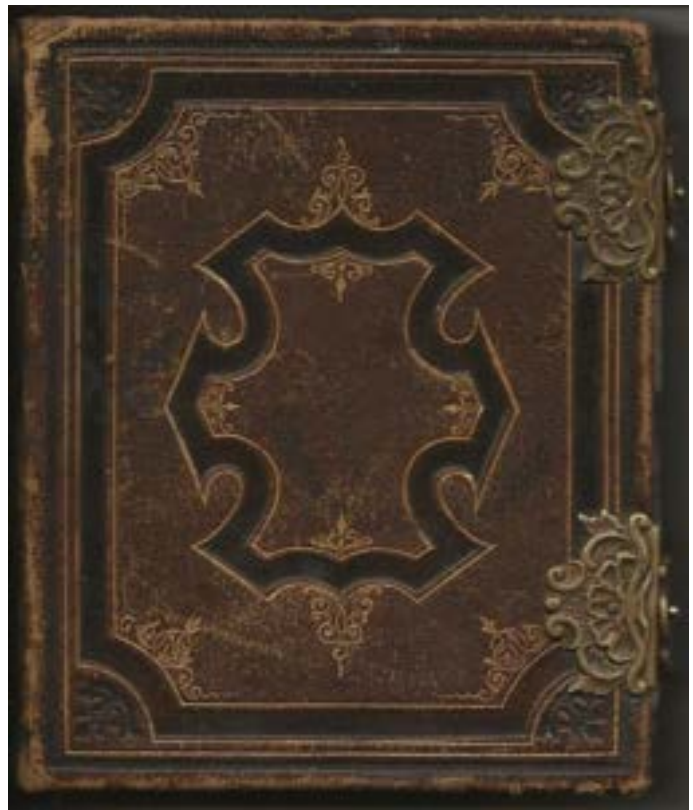
1963 Erik P. Conrad	1992 Miriam Field
1964 Loren Simmons	1993 Miriam Field
1965 Earl H. Teagarden	1994 Cecil Eyestone
1966 Earl H. Teagarden	1995 Cecil Eyestone
1967 Earl H. Teagarden	1996 Cecil Eyestone
1968 Earl H. Teagarden	1997 Jane Brown
1969 Earl H. Teagarden	1998 Jane Brown
1970 Earl H. Teagarden	1999 Jane Brown
1971 Earl H. Teagarden	2000 Jane Brown
1972 Earl H. Teagarden	2001 Sherry Butler
1973 Laurene Villard Pittman	2002 Wann Towers
1974 Laurene Villard Pittman	2003 Dorothy Dickerhoof
1975 Virginia Atkinson Chatelaine	2004 Dorothy Dickerhoof
1976 Virginia Atkinson Chatelaine	2005 Fred Delano
1977 Elaine Washburn Olney	2006 Fred Delano
1978 Elaine Washburn Olney	2007 Jim Bradley
1979 Mildred Loeffler	2008 Jim Bradley
1980 Mildred Loeffler	2009 Jim Bradley
1981 Mildred Loeffler	2010 Dorothy Dickerhoof
1982 Annie Cunningham	2011 Dorothy Dickerhoof
1983 Annie Cunningham	2012 Rebecca Rose
1984 Jay Harvey Littrell	2013 Rebecca Rose
1985 Jay Harvey Littrell	2014 Judy Regehr
1986 Naomi Johnson	2015 Barry Michie
1987 Naomi Johnson	2016 Barry Michie
1988 Evelyn Brown	2017 Barry Michie
1989 Evelyn Brown	2018 Barry Michie
1990 Della Wray Blythe	
1991 Della Wray Blythe	

A Treasure Found: The Polly Jane Edgerton 19th Century Photo Album

By Barry Michie, President, Riley County Genealogical Society

For a family historian the saddest thing encountered in antique malls and collectibles stores is boxes of old orphaned photos all intermingled and unnamed. They obviously came from someone's family. Who were these people? What was their history? What stories lurk behind these faces? For the most part such questions cannot be answered without names.

Now, imagine walking into such a shop and spotting a fancy leather-bound photo album. Upon opening the first thing noticed is the name of the album's owner: Polly Edgerton Davis. The back leaf has husband Moses Spencer Davis's civil war service information and pension numbers. The album also has a full index of names by page number. Each page and paper photo have names written on them. But



The photo album cover

there are no names but one on the 17 loose tintypes.

Going home with these names, a two-minute search on Ancestry.com identified Polly and Moses Davis as pioneers coming from Lake County, Indiana, to Pottawatomie County, Kansas, in the mid-1860's. Although not related to any of these people, but recognizing the significance for local Kansas history, I rushed back to the store, purchased the album and got to work figuring out the jigsaw puzzle of names and photos.

The Album and Types of Photos. The album contains 37 photos: 20 paper carte-de-visites and 17 loose tintypes. The paper photos are all identified by name, so they present little identification problem. Only one tintype has a name. The rest present challenges, not all of which have been successfully resolved. However, names written on empty page slots were useful for identifying the loose tintypes in conjunction with facial com-

parison with named paper ones.

The photo album provides period provenance. It has embossed leather covers with gold filigree decoration of Victorian period design. It is designed to display only one type of photo, carte-de-visites of about 2.5" X 4" that slide into frames on each page. Carte-de-visites were introduced in the U.S. in the late 1850's and superseded earlier copper daguerreotypes and glass ambrotypes. They were very popular through the mid to late 1880's until supplanted by larger cabinet cards more suitable for framing or display on shelves.

Tintypes were introduced in the mid 1850's, became popular in the 1860's through the 1870's and continued much less so as novelties into the 20th century. Despite the term they contain no tin and were produced on thin iron sheets. They were cheap and the "polaroids" of their time. They could be handed to patrons within minutes after exposure. Only one tintype has a name on it, "Rose", a daughter of Moses and Polly Davis.

A more thorough presentation of working with old photos to identify time periods by photographic technology, print production, peoples' costumes and genealogical research to identify persons will be presented in a future *Kansas Kin*. This will be a joint effort with Marla Day – Curator, KSU Historic Costumes and Textile Museum and Tom Parish – Emporia photographer, photography historian and KSU Chapman Center Associate.

The Families and Background. Below is a family group photo of Moses Spencer Davis and Polly Jane Edgerton family found on Findagrave.com. This family is the nexus of the families mentioned below. Space limitation precludes using

most photos or discussion of the people involved – many great photos and interesting stories. Moses and Polly were pioneers to Pottawatomie County from Indiana and then moved on to southern California. It was taken before Moses, Polly and the two youngest daughters left for California in 1888. The only person missing is daughter Lilly Belle who died in 1870 and is buried in Admatha cemetery outside Westmoreland.



Davis-Edgerton Family Portrait

A biographical sketch of the Moses Spencer Davis family by Lelia Whearty of Westmoreland, a descendant, was published in Riley County Genealogical Society's 1976 publication, *Pioneers of The Bluestem Prairie*. Moses and Polly were married in 1850 in Lake County, Indiana. In 1852 Moses with half-brother Harvey Augustus Davis and other relatives went

For a family historian the saddest thing encountered in antique malls and collectibles stores is boxes of old orphaned photos all intermingled and unnamed.

...imagine walking into ... a shop and spotting a fancy leather-bound photo album....

overland to California to make their fortunes during the gold rush. They were unsuccessful and on the return home in 1854 were shipwrecked but made it home in one piece. In 1858 Moses and Polly sold their farm in Lake County and came to Pottawatomie County, taking over a land warrant held by a veteran of the War of 1812. They found living and other conditions very harsh at the time and returned to Indiana. Moses had relatives in Illinois and through this connection enlisted 1861 in Co. K, 55th Illinois infantry for three years. He mustered out in 1864 and re-enlisted in a veteran's reserve unit for the rest of the war. In 1865 Moses and Polly returned to their land in Pottawatomie County. In 1866 they moved to Westmoreland where Moses entered the hardware business with his son-in-law, John Collins, husband of daughter Ida Adell Davis. In 1888 Moses and Polly followed his half-brother Harvey and son Alvis Hilon Davis to California along with their two youngest daughters, Rose Evelina and Fannie Eleanor.

Knowing the album's owner, research centered on the Edgerton-Davis families. Resources used were Ancestry.com, Familysearch.org, Newspapers.com, Findagrave.com and published resources in the Riley County Genealogical Society's research library. The natal families of Moses and Polly Jane Davis and relatives had all come together in Lake County, Indiana, beginning in the 1830's from New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Ohio and other states. They settled around Lowell, Creston and the County seat Crown Point in the lower

third of the County. These large families intermarried forming an extensive local web of kinship.

What emerged is a pattern of chain migration common long before the 19th and into the 20th centuries. One or more families would come to a new place followed by other relatives from whence they came. In this case many in the Indiana network remained in Indiana. Others came to Kansas and remained including their descendants. Still others migrated elsewhere from Kansas, creating a new chain. What is important is not just the individuals but their connections and movements.

Photos in the album represent the Edgerton-Davis families and their kinship links to other families: Spencer, Palmer, Taylor, Jenkins, Scritchfield, Dille, Barrows, Carl and others. Photos of many of these people are in the album. More than a few also came to Pottawatomie County and Kansas. Please notice below the surnames mentioned above; individuals with asterisks have photos in the album.

The Edgertons: Polly Jane Edgerton, born 1820 in Pennsylvania, was one of seven siblings in the family headed by patriarch Horace Edgerton born about 1795, and Betsey Taylor born 1799:

- 1) Freedom Edgerton born 1819 married George Dille
- 2) *Amos Edgerton born 1821 married *Maribah "Mary" Davis
- 3) Franklin Edgerton born 1823 died young
- 4) *Alfred Edgerton born 1823 married *Jane Hartly Scritchfield. Died of tuberculosis in Westmoreland while visiting Scritchfield in-laws. Buried in Admatha cemetery.

5) *Amasa Edgerton born 1825 married *Dorothy M. Palmer

6) *Polly Jane Edgerton born 1839 married *Moses Spencer Davis

- See discussion below

7) Ester Ann Edgerton born 1835 married William W. Barrows and George Carl.

- Ester came to Wamego with businessman second husband George Carl and daughter *Clara Loretta Barrows. She is buried in Wamego cemetery as are daughter Clara and her husband George Washington Warner.

Another Edgerton of Pottawatomie County interest is Almira Edgerton born 1808, sister of the above patriarch Horace Edgerton and aunt of the above Edgerton



Frank Jenkins, Mrs. Frank Jenkins, and Will Davis

Photos in the album represent the Edgerton-Davis families and their kinship links to other families: Spencer, Palmer, Taylor, Jenkins, Scritchfield, Dille, Barrows, Carl and others

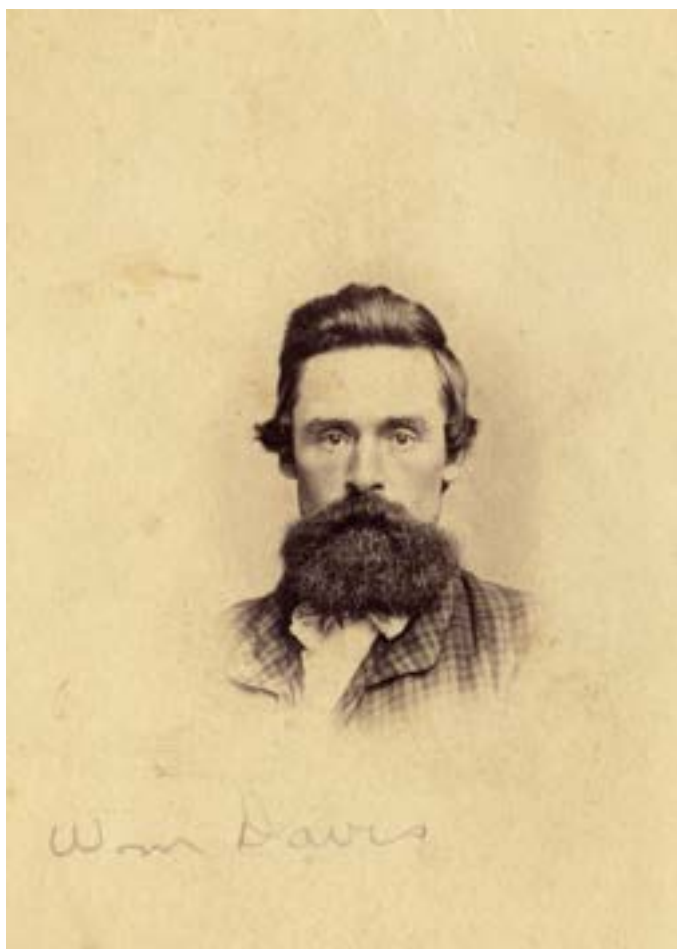
siblings. She married Charles Jenkins in Indiana. Charles Jenkins, born 1804, and Almira Edgerton were pioneers in Pottawatomie County before 1860, perhaps starting the migration chain from Indiana. Charles donated part of his farm for Admatha Cemetery near Westmoreland. The album has a photo of one of their sons, *Franklin H. Jenkins, his second wife, *Elizabeth Howe posing with *William Franklin Davis, half-brother of Moses Spencer Davis. Frank and Elizabeth left for Denver, he dying there in 1891; Elizabeth remarried and moved to Oklahoma.

The Davises: Moses Spencer Davis, born 1821 in New York, was the son of William W. Davis and Betsey Spencer. He was named after his grandfather Moses Spencer. His father disappeared about 1828. Betsey divorced him and remarried to Frederick Montgomery Davis, a widower with five children. Moses Spencer Davis was one of a number of siblings who figure in this discussion:

1) Full sibling *Maribah “Mary” Davis born 1823 married *Amos Edgerton (as above). They remained in Indiana.

2) Half sibling Harvey Augustus Davis born 1832 married Amy Lucy Mann and spent about a decade in Pottawatomie Co. in the 1870’s-1880’s, before moving to Santa Barbara County, California.

3) Half sibling *William “Will” Franklin Davis born 1833 married *Lucy Ann Taylor. Will and Lucy Davis came from Lake County to Pottawatomie County before 1866 with two sons, *Charles A. Davis and *Franklin William Davis. Charles be-



William Davis (above)



Lucy Ann Taylor Davis

came a farmer and didn't marry. Frank was a St. George banker, newspaper publisher and a Pottawatomie County clerk. He married twice. His first wife Cora May Combs died 1901 on a Rock Island train between Kansas City and Chicago while traveling to get TB treatment. His second wife, Grace Hannah Dalton, survived Frank for many years, dying in 1961. Cora Combs is buried in Wamego cemetery. Charles, Franklin and Grace Dalton are buried in St. George, the same cemetery as Will Davis and Lucy Taylor.

The Davis-Edgerton Family. Parents: Moses Spencer Davis and Polly Jane Edgerton ultimately settled in Santa Barbara County, California, and are buried

in Santa Maria, California.

Their children in birth order:

1) *Ida Adell Davis born 1851 married John Collins. They remained in Westmoreland, he dying in 1906 and buried in Westmoreland Cemetery. She joined her parents in California, died there in 1934 and is buried with her husband in Westmoreland Cemetery.

2) *Alvis Hilon Davis born 1858 married *Margaret Jane Schatz in Kansas. He was the first of the immediate family to go to California, perhaps following his half-uncle Harvey Augustus Davis. Both are buried in Santa Maria, California.

3) *May Lydia Davis born 1865 married John Henry Whearty. They remained as



Charles A. Davis and Franklin W. Davis

farmers in Pottawatomie County and are both buried in Admatha Cemetery near Westmoreland.

4) Lilly Belle Davis born 1868, the first child born in Pottawatomie County, died 1870 at age 2. She is buried in Admatha Cemetery.

5) *Fannie Eleanor Davis born 1869 went with her parents to California and married William H. Tunnell. Both she and husband are buried in Santa Maria, California.

6) *Rose Evelina Davis born about 1872 went with her parents to California. Currently she is untraceable thereafter but for a cheery mid-1890's Westmoreland newspaper announcement that she mar-

ried someone, sometime in Santa Maria.

The album contains many photos of family members in Indiana, Kansas and others including two civil war “bunk mates” of Moses Davis. About 8 photos remain tantalizingly unidentified.

Sources

Pioneers of the Bluestem Prairie, 1st edition. Manhattan, Ks.: Riley County Genealogical Society. 1976. 608 pps.

Ancestry.com: Look for the “Barry Michie Family Tree” although I am no relation.

Ancestry.com, Family Search.org, Findagrave.com, Newspapers.com

NOTE: A more thorough presentation of working with old photos to identify time periods by

- photographic technology
- print production
- peoples' costumes and
- genealogical research

to identify persons will be presented in a future *Kansas Kin*.

This will be a joint effort with Marla Day – Curator, KSU Historic Costumes and Textile Museum and Tom Parish – Emporia photographer, photography historian and KSU Chapman Center Associate.

Traveling the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway

by Mary Mertz

There are nine scenic byways that run through various regions of our state. This story highlights the **Native Stone Scenic Byway (NSSB)** that covers a 75 mile route from just east of Dover, Kansas, to the Konza Prairie south of Manhattan on Highway 177. These curving well-maintained roads provide riders with panoramic views of the valleys and hills that attest to the beauty of Kansas.

In 1867, a law was established abolishing the open range and calling for the early pioneer property owners to use the limestone rocks which were plentiful in the region to build property lines. They were paid 40 cents a rod (16 ½ feet) for a fence that stood 4 ½ feet high. Many of these stone fences remain largely intact and many have been knocked down or partially destroyed over the decades. Driving the NSSB brings to light these remarkable structures that are now being restored fence by fence.

Twice a year the NSSB sponsors a Stone Fence Building workshop, bringing in a master dry-stack stone mason to lead a group over the course of a weekend to learn about the skill and actively put into practice these instructions. This is a labor intensive workshop that brings folks from all over the state to help restore these historic fences.

Let's take a drive down the Byway and see for ourselves why this is such a breathtaking experience.

Starting in the quaint little town of Dover you come to the first set of informational



kiosk signs that are found at each significant stop along the Byway. These kiosks provide the history of the respective towns in which they are erected – with points of interests and suggested side excursions. In Dover, one must stop at the **Sommerset Hall Café** for their home cooked specialties and Coconut Cream Pie, which earned a Best in the Nation designation from Good Morning America Weekend Edition back in 2008. The Café still serves as a general store for the community.



Right across the road from the Café is the **1878 Sage Inn**. Currently a bed and breakfast, the Inn served as a stage coach stop for travelers. It was part of the Southwest Trail that connected the Oregon Trail in east Topeka to the Santa Fe Trail in Council Grove. The Inn was built by Alfred Sage, who named the town Dover after a town in England of the same name. The Sages were staunch abolitionists and there is a great possibility that the Inn was part of the Underground Railroad. General George Custer was a friend of the Sage



The author in front of Sommerset Hall Café and its famous pie

1878 Sage Inn





Stone barn outside Dover, heading to Eskridge

family and spent time at the Inn.

Driving west from Dover on Highway 4 you will see beautiful stone barns and houses along the way toward Eskridge. If you didn't eat enough at the

Sommerset Café, you can grab a bite at Big Bertha's Diner in Eskridge and then shop awhile for treasures at the Flint Hills Rustics Store on Main Street.

Lake Wabaunsee, aka "Gem of the Flint Hills," is the next stop. It is a lovely recreational area that includes fishing, golfing and an eatery – The Lodge. The stone fences that stand at the entrance of the Lake were built by those participating in an NSSB Stone Fence Workshop.

Leaving Lake Wabaunsee as you continue west on K4 you will begin to see the striking **stone fences** that run parallel to the road.

At HWY 99 you turn north toward Alma. Drive slow and take in the wonderful views on both sides of the road. Some of the most impressive fences stand on this strip of the Byway.

Alma is known as the City of Native Stone. Built in 1867, Alma's downtown is on the National Register of Historic Plac-



Lake Wabaunsee



Highway 99 stone fence



Stone fence

es. Walk down Main Street and stop in the Antique Emporium and the **Wabaunsee County Historical Museum**. Snap a picture of the Alma Hotel which is currently being restored to its original grandeur. Grab a bite to eat at El Corral Mexican Restaurant. And don't forget to stop by **Alma Cheese**, which has been producing its products since 1942. Pick up some cheddar curds for the remaining portion of your journey.



Wabaunsee County Historical Museum



Alma Cheese shop

The Native Stone Scenic Byway previously ended at Interstate 70 three miles north of Alma. Two years ago, the Byway was extended to continue up HWY 99 to HWY 18 then go west toward Manhattan turning south on 177.

Before the turnoff west onto HWY 18 from HWY 99, there is the **Mount Mitchell Heritage Park**, where you can explore the ruts and swales of a trail used by Native Americans, pioneers, immigrants and slaves seeking their freedom. Read about the Freedom Fighters on the informational kiosk and climb the winding trail to the top of the hill for a panoramic view of the Kansas River Valley.



Mount Mitchell Heritage Park



Captain William Mitchell homestead, Underground Railroad stop, currently owned by Morris and Michelle Crisler



Wabaunsee Cemetery Gates where there are Mitchell family graves

Did you know that there is an **Underground Railroad stop** just east of the junction of 99 and 18. Currently owned by Morris and Michelle Crisler, the original Captain William Mitchell homestead sheltered those seeking freedom as they

headed toward Nebraska. The original log cabin stands, though only one original exterior wall remains exposed. These logs were stacked and chinked in 1856. The Crislers hold an open house each June with knowledgeable presenters and



Beecher Colony Memorial



Beecher Bible and Rifle Church



Limestone residence on Zeandale Road

fascinating tours of the house and grounds.

The **Wabaunsee Cemetery** includes the graves of the Mitchell family. Captain Mitchell's daughter, Maude was a famous artist and she designed the rock entrance into the cemetery which includes a plaque that quotes abolitionist John Whittier – "They crossed the prairies as of old – our fathers crossed the sea - To make the West as they the East – The homestead of the free."

The **Beecher Bible and Rifle Church** would be the next stop. Built from 1859-62, this historical church got its name because Kansas was a free state and the colonists that came from Connecticut felt that rifles would help to protect the slaves more than Bibles would at the time. They received both in boxes sent from the East and forever more would have the two unlikely words bound together forever. Services are still held in the church each Sunday. There will be a

new kiosk in the town of Wabaunsee right next to the **Memorial pillar commemorating the Beecher Colony**.

Traveling the remaining miles on Highway 18 many limestone residences and barns, the community of Zeandale (Corn Valley), and fields of growing grain and grazing livestock are bordered to the north by the rolling Flint Hills. Lazy T Ranch, an event venue and agritourism business owned and operated by Ron and Chris Wilson, is also on Highway 18 and welcomes visitors to see their barn which has been placed on the Historical Registry.

The Byway passes the Konza Prairie scenic overlook, which gives travelers a breathtaking view of an awe-inspiring place. A new Byway kiosk will soon be erected by the overlook.



Stone Barn



Limestone residence

Native Stone Scenic Byway

On behalf of the Committee, I wish you Happy Travels! Mary Mertz

Continued on next page



Lazy T Ranch Barn, an event venue and agritourism business owned and operated by Ron and Chris Wilson, is on Highway 18

The Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee is under the auspices of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism. It is comprised of citizens residing along the ByWay route who take special pride in being involved in this Kansas travel opportunity. On behalf of the Committee, I wish you Happy Travels!



Scenic Konza Prairie Kansas Valley lookout point south of Manhattan on Highway

177

One Hundred Years Ago — Spanish Flu

Outbreak Clippings by Sherry Butler

To this day, the 1918 outbreak of the Spanish Flu is still considered this country's worst epidemic. It continues to shape a current approach to public policy that emphasizes annual vaccination initiatives and concerted measures to fight the spread of the disease.

The Spanish Flu beginning at Ft Riley, KS killed more people than the Great War (WWI) at somewhere between 20 and 40 million people. It has been cited as the most devastating epidemic in recorded world history. Riley County newspapers recorded its effect on citizens.

Various Clippings from Manhattan Daily Nationalist Newspaper, November 1, 4 & 5 1918.

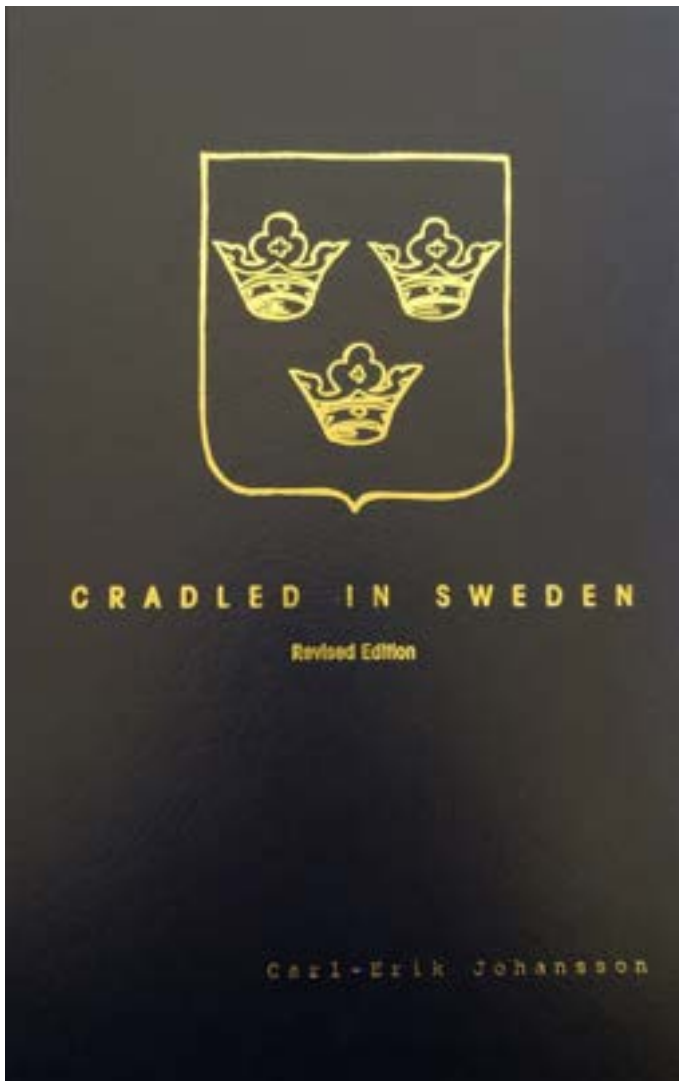
14 More Influenza Cases
The influenzaz report for November 3 is as follows:
Manhattan, 12.
Ogden, 2.
These are practically all new cases, the date of onset being November 2, in most instances. In Junction City November 2, there were 35 new cases reported. This is the reason the quarantine has not been lifted so far in that city.

THIRTY DEATHS IN OCTOBER
City Clerk's Report Shows Increase From 5 in September
The city clerk, Charles Lantz, has his report for October on vital statistics ready for publication. There were 30 deaths during the month, 17 males, and 13 females; 24 births are reported, 14 females and 10 males.
This is an unusual high record of deaths as there were only five deaths during September and 22 births. The influenza and pneumonia were responsible for the heavy toll. The deaths include all who died in this district, but not any whose bodies were sent here for burial. The district includes Zeandale, Wild Cat, Grant, Ashland, and Manhattan townships, and Manhattan City.

TWO DIE AT S. A. T. C.
Harold Peterson and Victor Welton Died at Charlotte Swift
Two more deaths were added to the toll of Influenza victims from the Student Army Training Corps.
Harold R. Peterson, 21 year old son of Hans Peterson of Riley county, died at Charlotte Swift hospital yesterday. Chetser Peterson, a brother is here to accompany the body to the home in Fordice, Nebraska, where the funeral will be held tomorrow.
Victor Wendell Welton, age 19, son of N. S. Welton, a farmer of Ottawa, Kansas, died of influenza at 3:45 this morning at Charlotte Swift hospital. The father is here to accompany the body back to Ottawa where the funeral will be held tomorrow.

New Books at the Research Library

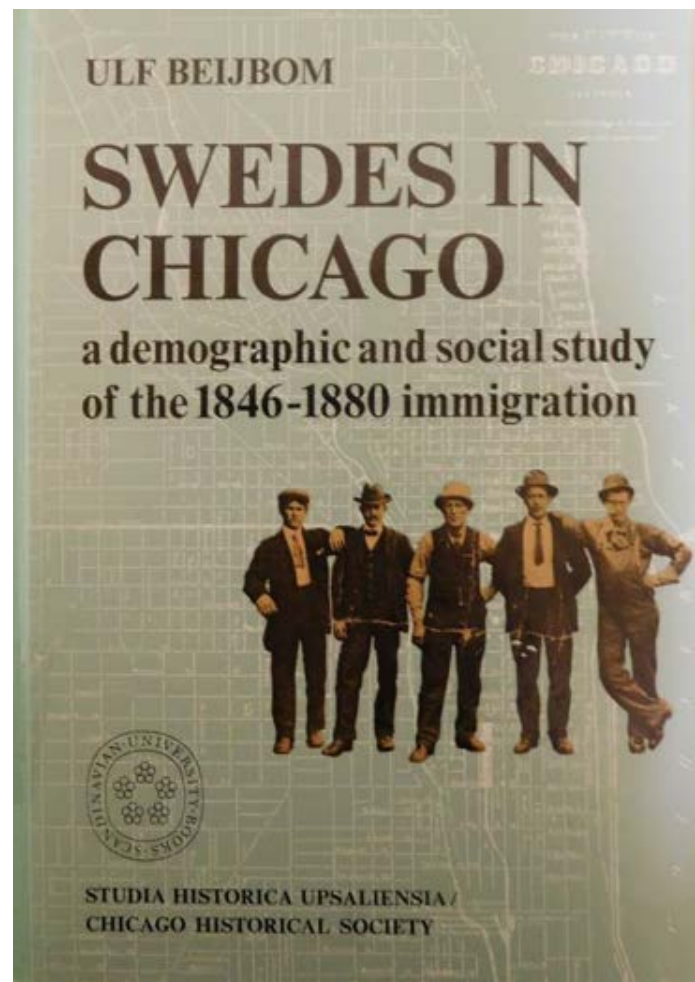
By Virginia Beddow



Cradled in Sweden, Revised Edition. Carl-Erik Johansen. Logan, Utah: The Everton Publishers, Inc. 1995.

Johansen wrote this book for people who are searching the millions of pages of Swedish genealogical records available on microfilm at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. He has written chapters to help researchers understand the language, the country, names of places, names of persons, archives, feast days, handwriting, emigration records, parish registers, clerical survey records, census

records and land records, court records, military records, genealogical associations, chronology, army units, probate records and indexes, Mormon congregations, some diseases, money, tax authorities, and more.



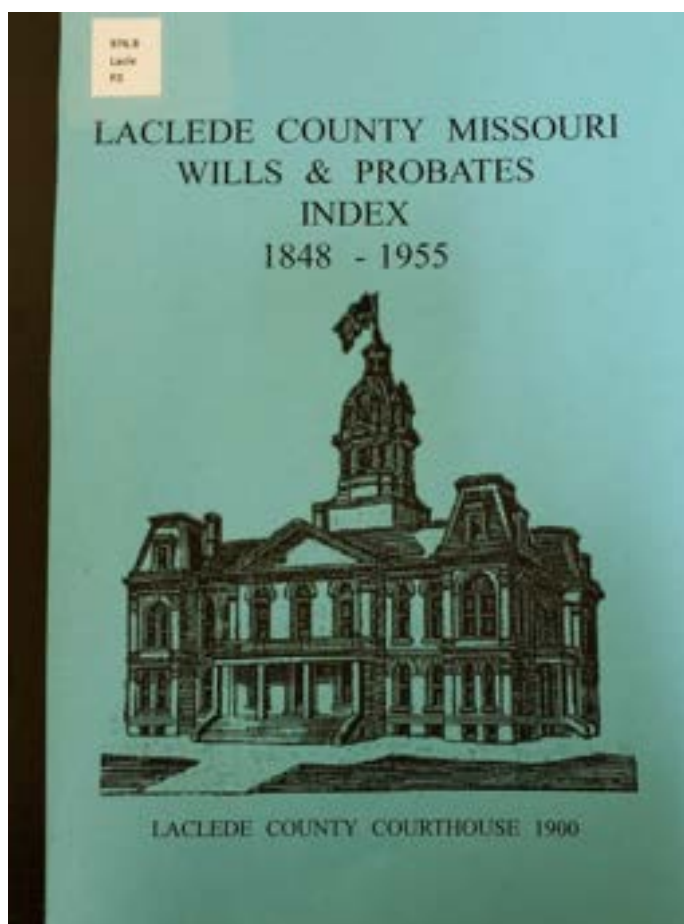
Swedes in Chicago: a demographic and social study of the 1846-1880 immigration. Ulf Beijbom. Translated by Donald Brown. *Studia Historica Upsaliensia/* Chicago Historical Society. 1971.

This research was a ten-year project for Beijbom. He utilized researchers at Uppsala Swedish University in addition to his

New Books, continued

own work. He concluded the work while head of the Emigrant Institute in Vaxjo, Sweden.

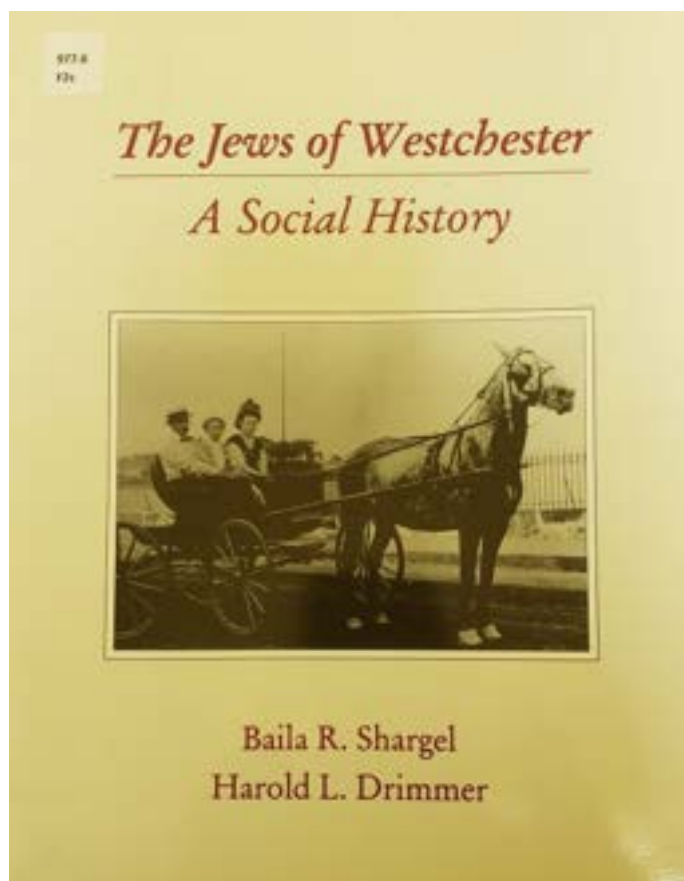
In this study he seeks to pinpoint the origin and development of Chicago's large Swedish colony. With the help of statistical source material, such as the population census and other written sources like Chicago's Swedish language newspapers, Beijbom gives a detailed account of one of the large immigrant groups in 19th Century Chicago. The Chicago Swedes spoke of their city as "the city the Swedes built." At the time of the First World War almost every sixth Swede lived in the U.S.A. Even today there are very few Swedish families without close relations in America.



Laclede County Missouri Wills & Probates Index, 1848-1955. Laclede County Gene-

alogical Society. 1997.

To ensure that these records would be preserved for future generations, the society prepared this record. Some of the older records were hand written and hard to decipher, but every effort has been made to eliminate any errors.



The Jews of Westchester: A Social History. Baila R. Shargel and Harold L. Drimmer. Fleischmanns, New York: Purple Mountain Press.1994.

This book was written to introduce both the general reader and the specialist to the rich history of the Jews of Westchester County, New York. Tables, maps, and photographs are plentiful. Joseph Hankin, president of Westchester County Community College, writes, "The painstaking care that the authors have taken to cover the subject from colonial times is evident in each chapter."

Continued

More New Books at Research Library

Lost Kansas Communities. The Chapman Center for Rural Studies. Manhattan, Kansas: History Department, Kansas State University. 2018.

Andersonville: A Swedish-American Landmark Neighborhood. Kerstin B. Lane with Carl Isaacson. Swedish American Museum Center. 2003.

My War. Warren B. Nelson. Published by Warren B. Nelson. 1995.

Naming Patterns Among Swedish-Americans. Nils William Olsson. Reprint from *Swedish American Genealogist*, Vol. XIV, No. 2. June 1994.

The Other Side of the Hill. Warren B. Nelson. 2012.

Understanding and Using Baptismal Records. John T. Humphrey. Humphrey Publications. 1996.

Virginia Map: Orange and Augusta Counties, 1736. J. R. Hildebrand. 1954.

Index to the Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Other Items Printed in the Manhattan Mercury, Jan. Thru July 1957 at Manhattan, Riley County. Sylvester Ekart. Riley Co. Genealogical Society. 2018.

Index to the Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Other Items Printed in the Morning Chronicle, 21 Aug. 1952 Thru 15 March 1953 at Manhattan, Riley Co. Sylvester Ekart, Riley Co. Genealogical Society. 2018.

Index to Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Other Items Printed in the Manhattan Mercury, 1 Aug. 1957 Thru 31 Jan. 1958 at Manhattan, Riley Co.. Sylvester Ekart, Riley Co. Genealogical Society. 2018.

Index to the Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Other Items Printed in the Manhattan

Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 31, 2019, 2:00 pm

**Manhattan Public Library,
629 Poyntz, Manhattan, KS**

Author, KelLee Parr, will talk about how he got started searching for his biological grandmother's information at the Kansas State Historical Society

Saturday, August 24, 2019

**Genealogy & History Fair, Pottorf Hall,
CICO Park, Manhattan, KS**

- Classroom Presentations
- Information Tables - *genealogy societies, museums, history projects, family projects and more*
- "Kansas History Book Corner" Meet authors throughout the day and books available for sale

All Riley County Genealogical Society programs are free and open to the public.

For more information, see: <http://rileycgs.com/eventListings.php?nm=38>

In Memoriam

Robert Brandenburg

Ted Hopkins

Ann Murphy

Chronicle, March-Oct. 1953. 2018.

Index to Births, Marriages, Deaths and Other Items Printed in the Manhattan Mercury, Jan. 1962 Thru June 1962 at Manhattan, Riley Co., KS. Sylvester Ekart. Riley Co. Genealogical Society. 2018.

Early History of Medicine in Manhattan Kansas

by Jill Frese with Photos by Patty Wadick

Early Medical Care

By the end of the 1870's Manhattan was a city of 2,104 inhabitants and was a "City of Second Class." Substantial residences, churches, brick and limestone businesses blocks, mills and lumber-yards stood testament to the town's prosperity. The first mention of a hospital was in 1883 with Dr. E. L. Patee's at 3rd and Poyntz. (2nd street before streets re-numbered.)

Prior to Dr. Patee's official "hospital" he had two bedrooms and a bath above his office. At one time, this was the only hospital between Kansas City and Denver. In 1889, Dr. Patee added a two-story addition to his home and enclosed a sun porch. This new building now contained ten rooms fitted and furnished for patients.

During this time nothing has been said about the "Pest Houses." The Pest houses were places that people were sent who had a communicable disease such as typhoid, cholera, malaria, TB, diphtheria, small pox, etc. The houses were located in the worst possible areas in the worst possible atmosphere.

Many were down by the railroad tracks, by the river, at the edges of town, etc. One was even placed on an island on the Blue River that since has been destroyed by flood. Several were located in schools if the demand was too great.

There were many epidemics, but the major were in 1859, 1860, 1865, and 1914 and of course the 1918 flu epidemic. According to records, some of the addresses

of the Pest Houses were south 15th street, one near Keats, Rocky Ford, on the KSAC campus, RR #1 south of town and in the round stone building in the City Park, now known as the Floral Hall. NIMBY (Not in my back yard) was alive and well in 1909, as one of the owners of a house rimming the City Park, sued to have the use of the Floral Hall not be that of a Pest House. It was tabled to a later time and continued to be used as a pest house.

Parkview Hospitals

In 1903 Dr. W. D. Silkman and Dr. W. H. Clarkson opened the Park Place Sanitarium at 412 N. 11th. Later, in 1904 Miss



412 N. 11th, Manhattan, Kansas



222 Juliette

Florence Driver took charge of the Sanitarium.

Nursing, of course, has always been important to the care of patients and one of the first doctors to advocate for a college education for nurses was Dr. Belle Little. To this end, a school to accredit nurses was established in 1908. It was entitled the Parkview Accredited Training School for Nurses. The first class to graduate was in 1913 with four graduates. The courses the nurses had to take were quite extensive and taught by physicians of the day. The rules to be a nurse were equally severe. According to accounts in the local papers, students came from far and wide to attend the school and later went on to bigger hospitals in Boston, Massachusetts; New York, New York; Lincoln, Nebraska; Topeka, Kansas; and many others across the nation.

M. M. Davis and Louise Spohr formed the Parkview Hospital Company in 1905. The company bought Park Place Sanitarium and renamed it Park View Hospital. Davis and Spohr tried to make a deal to purchase the building at 412 N. 11th, but it fell through, so instead they secured the Dewey house at 222 Juliette to continue operating the hospital. The



600 Juliette

building at 412 N. 11th still stands, is well cared for and divided into apartments

In 1907, Parkview Hospital moved to a new building built for the hospital at 600 Juliette. Although in rough condition, this building still exists and is divided into apartments.

Since more is always better, Kate Taylor opened another hospital at 419 Leavenworth. However, this must not have worked out, because she soon joined the staff of Park View Hospital. The building at 419 Leavenworth appears to be a private home.

On March 2, 1915, Dr. C. F. Little and his daughter, Dr. Belle Little, opened the Charlotte Swift Hospital. The hospital was named after Dr. Little's wife and Dr. Belle Little's mother, Charlotte Swift. This location was a new building built at the corner of Fremont and 11th streets with the address of 400 N. 11th. Eventually the building was used as a nursing home known as Parkview Manor and finally Parkview Manor Apartments before being torn down in 1961. A newer apartment building now stands in its place.

As more and more people came to Man-

hattan there was a greater need for more hospital rooms, so the Parkview Hospital bought the building at 500 N. 11th for \$3500 and turned it into another hospital. (Parkview Hospital)

St. Mary's Hospitals

The 1930's brought lots of changes to the hospital situation in Manhattan. In the early 1930's Dr. Brinkley, Milford, Kansas, the "famous" goat gland doctor tried to buy the Charlotte Swift Hospital, but local doctors talked Dr. Belle Little out of selling to Dr. Brinkley due to his notoriety. Dr. Belle Little's father had passed in 1932 so she was the sole owner of the hospital.

In 1936, the Sisters of St. Joseph bought the Charlotte Swift Hospital at 400 N. 11th and renamed it St. Mary's Hospital.

In 1944, Parkview Hospital at 500 N. 11th was slated to close. The hospital was offered to Riley County but they declined. Sisters of St. Joseph considered buying the hospital. The hospital continued to operate for two more years under the management of Mrs. D.I. Marker until again, Parkview was to close on August 1, 1946. The County once again was asked to take over the operation of the hospital but they refused.

A citizens' group raised \$31,077.12 for the Sisters of St. Joseph to buy Parkview Hospital and make repairs. This enabled the Sisters to purchase the hospital and rename it St. Mary Hospital-Parkview Maternity Hospital. It was also referred to as St. Mary Hospital Annex. This continued until 1955 when the building was sold to the Delta Sigma Theta Fraternity. The building still stands today at the corner of 11th and Fremont.

The Sisters of St. Joseph constructed a new hospital at 1133 College Avenue in



500 N. 11th

1961. The 2.5 million, 104 bed hospital was airconditioned, had an elevator and many more modern conveniences. This hospital retained the name "The St. Mary's Hospital." During a newspaper interview at the grand opening, the Sisters felt that the hospital was continuing in a fine tradition of 169,000 patients being served; 18,745 babies have been born; and 43,277 operations having been performed at St. Marys.

Memorial Hospital

In 1946, Riley County, after refusing to buy the existing hospital passed a bond issue to build a County Hospital. In 1954 The Riley County Hospital opened at 1105 Sunset Avenue. In 1962, the Riley County Commissioners changed the name of the Riley County Hospital to Memorial Hospital as a memorial to honor those who died in the military service from Riley County. The building still stands but is now the Lafene student health center.

Hospitals Combined

As many know, Manhattan and its people never sit still. This was still the case with the hospitals. In 1996, after many years of back and forth wrangling, the two hos-

pitals (Memorial and St. Mary's) merged to form Mercy Health Care Center. This was quite contentious, but eventually it was seen as the best possible answer for quality health care in Manhattan and the surrounding areas. The Memorial Hospital, as mentioned before, became the Lafene Health Center for the Kansas State University students and the St. Mary's Hospital became the new Mercy Health Care Center. The building still stands today although it has gone through many upgrades and renovations to make it one of the best facilities in the area. Also, of course, the name had to change several times; from St. Mary's to Mercy to Via Christi to Via Christi Ascension.

A group of physicians, in 2001 opened the Surgical Center across the parking lot from Via Christi. This is a one-day surgery and offers patients another choice for their health care.

Health Care for the Elderly

The Riley County Lutheran Hospital Association, Inc issued a bond to construct and equip Wharton Manor, a publicly owned facility for the care of elderly citizens. It was located at 2101 Claflin. In the last will and testament of E.A. Wharton, he stated that the grounds purchased with his estate funds be used for the care of the dependent aged of Manhattan. The tract of land was the Payne tract and like Mr. Wharton, the oldest surviving Payne family member stated that the family had always planned that the land be used for the care of the elderly. Wharton Manor had a very controversial life. It fought mis-management, lack of funds, County involvement, falling behind on current trends, etc. Even after merging with Meadowlark Hills (a retirement community) there was little that could be done to save it. Eventually the nursing facility closed, and the County took the building over and it contains of-



Current location of Ascension Via Christi Hospital, 1123 College Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas

fices of various community services.

On August 21, 1968, Nazareth Convent and Academy in Concordia purchased the tract of land north and west of St. Mary's hospital. This land was turned over to College Hill Nursing Center, Inc. The Southland Construction Company of Wichita, Kansas, was the contractor. The facility was built in the shape of a star with 4 wings for patients and one for a dining area. The nursing facility was built to hold 100 patients in private and semi-private rooms. The grand opening was February 23, 1969 at 2433 Kimball Avenue. The name was eventually changed to St. Joseph's Village. This building was torn down and offered for sale. A proposed multi-medical use space is in the works.

In November of 2003, a new facility was built on the northern edge of Manhattan. The two-story development includes 90,100 square feet of space, including 32 assisted living apartments and a 96-bed skilled nursing center. The new center has been built in courts, with the small nursing units of 14 primarily private rooms surrounding a larger commons area.

Manhattan has been very progressive always, not only with buildings but with its people. This article did not go into detail about its doctors, but Manhattan had and continues to have the best and the brightest. From Dr. E. L. Patee, the Dr. Bascoms, the Dr. Littles, Dr. Silkman, Dr. Clarkson, etc. The list goes on. That again, would be another article.

Timeline of Medical Care Facilities in Manhattan Kansas

<u>Year</u>	<u>Name of Facility</u>	<u>Address</u>
1860's	Pest Houses during the early years	Multiple Locations
1883	Dr. E. L. Patee Hospital	2nd & Poyntz
1903	Park Place Sanitarium	412 N 11th
1905	Renamed Parkview Hospital	412 N 11th
1907	Parkview Hospital moved	600 Juliette
1908	Parkview Accredited Training School for Nurses	412 N 11th
	Parkview Hospital moved	222 Juliette
1915	Charlotte Swift Hospital	400 N 11th
	Parkview Hospital #2	500 N 11th
1936	Charlotte Swift Hospital renamed St Mary's Hospital	400 N 11th
1946	Parkview Hospital renamed St Mary-Parkview Maternity Hospital	500 N 11th
1954	Riley County Hospital	1105 Sunset Ave
1961	St Mary's Hospital moved	1123 College Ave
1962	Riley County Hospital renamed Memorial Hospital	1105 Sunset
1969	St Joseph's Village	2433 Kimball Ave
1996	St Mary's Hospital renamed Mercy Hospital	1123 College Ave
2001	Manhattan Surgical Hospital	1129 College Ave
2003	St Joseph Village renamed & moved Via Christi Village	2800 Willow Grove Rd
2015	Mercy Hospital renamed Via Christi & later Ascension Via Christi	1123 College Ave

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Kansas Kin submission guidelines

We are pleased that you have considered submitting an article to the Riley County Genealogical Society for possible publication. The *Kansas Kin* focuses on articles ranging from useful genealogical strategies and sources, to interesting accounts of personal research, to local histories as they relate to Kansas.

MANUSCRIPTS

500 to 2,000 words, including reference notes, is the suggested length of submissions. Submit your document in Word format via e-mail. Topical headings are preferred for longer pieces. All manuscripts and references should follow the *Chicago Manual of Style*. End notes are recommended, especially for books, articles, and websites.

IMAGES

Whenever possible, please provide images to accompany your submission. The image must be over 1MB in size, with good quality resolution. Please also include a caption for each picture which includes a photo credit or source. All images must be sent as separate files. We prefer jpg format.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Please provide a few sentences about the author(s) to accompany the manuscript.

DEADLINES

Submissions are due the first of the month in April and October. Address submissions to the editor at judy@rileycgs.com.

All submissions to *Kansas Kin* are subject to review by the RCGS Editorial Board and revisions may be made, either by the writer or the editor.

Editor: Judy Regehr

Assistant Editor: Margaret Parker

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