

Sumner County organization records

Section 1, Pages 1 - 30

In order for an unorganized county to be recognized by the state of Kansas, a certain number of householders/legal electors had to petition the governor. The governor would appoint a census taker. Initially, unorganized counties were required to document that they had at least 600 inhabitants in order to be recognized as a county by the state legislature. Over time the number of residents needed to organize a county changed to 1500 and later to 2500 residents. The census was submitted to the governor who then issued a proclamation indicating that the requirements had been met, appointing county commissioners and a county clerk, and naming a county seat. Not all of these documents are available for each county.

Included in this file is the memorial to the governor, a census for Sumner County, miscellaneous letters on county status matters, an abstract of votes cast for the location of the county seat, and the proclamation appointing county officials and designating Meridian as the temporary county seat.

Creator: Kansas. Secretary of State

Date: 1871-1873

Callnumber: Kansas. Secretary of State's Office, County Organization files, ca. 1861-1912

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 217180

Item Identifier: 217180

www.kansasmemory.org/item/217180



n.d.

To His Excellency James M. Harvey Governor
of the state of Kansas.

The undersigned inhabitants
and freeholders of and in the County of
Sumner, an unorganized County of
the state of Kansas, respectfully
petition Your Excellency to appoint
Jasper N. Warren, R. D. Bagley and
M. L. Binkley to act as special
County Commissioners, and
E. H. Doyle to act as special County
Clerk for said County of Sumner
for the purpose of enabling the citizens
thereof to organize said County under
the laws of the state of Kansas.

And your petitioners would recommend,
that Sumner City being located near
the center of said County, and centrally
located with reference to the inhabitants
of said county, it be designated by
your Excellency as the temporary County
seat of said County.

B. G. Thompson
J. H. Hilliard
M. Beal

J. L. Cooper
John Peyton

Paquies Thomas
E. A. Mayhew
Victor Dodson

Wm. L. Dougherty
Richard Cook



Sumner County organization records

H. W. Mayhew	Almon Beach
Albert Morrill	Richard M. Mabel
Payson Bynum	L. C. Hoffkins
Mr. White	Daniel Chesnut
M. P. Rinsley	R. D. Bayley
J. W. Payne	E. S. Davis
Franklin Bryan	John Bowser
J. M. Cortin	David Thornton
Perry Pinkley	John Thornton
J. B. Massey	W. H. Darake
Hamilton Miller	John Case
Bachelor Wells	James Parker
William Pike	Thomas Shafer
Emory Chase	August Taylor
Le W. Peters	Peter Rozard
George Raines	Alison Gray
Rubin Hunt	Henry Wirtman
Paul Broadbent	Charles Armstrong
John Donagan	O. W. Harrington
Thomas Hill	S. Spencer
Samuel Endacott	Det. Truman
Thomas McCannon	
Lester N. Warren	
C. J. Craig	

little about
opportunity certain

consequence

Sumner County de made
Recd.

no date.



State of Kansas
Sumner County

[Ind.]

This is to certify that the undersigned is one of the County Commissioners of Sumner County in the State of Kansas as duly appointed by the Governor of said State according to law as such, and that J. J. ~~Abel~~ and John McMahon were appointed with the undersigned and that one Charles A. Phillips was appointed Special County Clerk at the same time for said County; that said ~~Abel~~ ^{Abel & Phillips} at this time of their appointment were residents of Sumner County but that they and each of them have removed from Sumner County to Wichita in Sedgewick County that the other two Commissioners are unable to organize the County on account of the vacancies thus ~~filled~~ ^{created} occasions and that as soon as the Governor shall fill said vacancies by the appointment of other persons residents of Sumner County, that said County will be duly organized in all its branches and that it is absolutely necessary that the Governor should appoint a new Commissioner and Special County Clerk for such purpose

Charles A. Phillips, County Commissioner



State of Kansas
Sumner County

I hereby certify that I
have examined the within Certificate
of Wm J Niles and that his statement
is true and I further recommend
that new men be appointed in
their stead who live in this County

J. S. McMahon
Special County Commissioner

State of Kansas
Sumner County

Be it known that before
me the undersigned Notary Public
within and for Sumner County came
the above named Wm J Niles and
J S McMahon Special County
Commissioners and signed the foregoing
Certificate in my presence and that
their signatures are genuine

J. W. Lewis
Notary Public





[n.d.]

To His Excellency, James M. Harvey, Govern-
or of the State of Kansas:-

We, the undersigned Inhabitants of the un-
organized County of Sumner in the
said State of Kansas, and being resident
freeholders thereof, respectfully represent
to Your Excellency, that the unorganized
County aforesaid now contains more
than Six Hundred (600) Inhabitants,
that the United States survey of the Lands
of said County is nearly completed, and
that the said Inhabitants with their rap-
id prospective increase now need and
require the protection and facilities due
them from an organized County Government.

Therefore, We respectfully, but
urgently, memorialize Your Excellency to
appoint & commission William J. Upker,
John J. Abel and John S. McMahon,
to act as special County Commissioners, and
to A. Phillip to act as special Clerk
for said County, in view of its immediate
organization according to law:- And fur-
ther We would request, that the Town
of Meridian centrally located and situated
on the South East quarter of Section
Thirty-two (32) Township Thirty-two (32) Range
One East in the said County of Sumner



be declared the temporary county seat of
said county.

In conclusion whereof we hereunto affix
our names.

John P. Almy.
S. M. Sawyer
Peter S. Shepler
H. A. Jackson
O. F. Short
Emory L. Angell
Nelson Hobbs
Wesley G. Spraker
J. W. Baird
Wm. Lemasters
Thomas Fuller
A. B. Robinson

Peter Bynum.
James Sullivan
Thomas Jaques
Lucius E. Myhr
William Massey
John H. Jamagan
Thos. J. Gill
Francis W. Harris
Reuben Harris
Charles F. Mitchell
Geo. W. Raird
R. S. Symington
T. C. McMahon
J. S. McMahon
J. W. G. Muck



[n.d.]

To his Excellency the
Governor of the State of Kansas
we the undersigned do humbly
petition your Excellency as
follows:

1. That this County be organ-
ized as the County of Sumner
in the State of Kansas and that
the following named persons
to wit: A. J. Lewis & M. Tompkins

Cambridge
be appointed to act as Special
County Commissioners and
that Union City being
centrally located in said County
be the temporary County Seat
We also represent to your Ex-
cellency that such County
contains a population of not
less than five hundred inhab-
itants.

and your Petitioners will
Ever pray &c. E. Talbot
J. A. Backwalter & R. M. Neaf
J. B. S. Sore & C. M. Welch
J. C. West & J. J. Hargenson
J. Harlan & D. Harlan



J. B. Lefore +
William Lefore +
James Kemmer +
L. Combridge +
Daniel Edmund +
P. M. Tomlinson +
A. F. Lewis +
E. E. Eaton +
John Lewis +
J. Dransworth +
J. Bocker +
J. Phillips +
A. Walton +
Shas Presto +
J. Spencer +



State of Kansas 2d.
County of Sedgwick

[Nov. 2, 1870]

Personally appeared
-ed before me the undersigned
three resident freeholders of the
unorganized County of Sumner
in the State aforesaid who being
duly sworn depose and say:
That such County contains
at the present date not less than
five hundred inhabitants.

Further these deponents say
not.

Sworn to and } A. J. Lewis

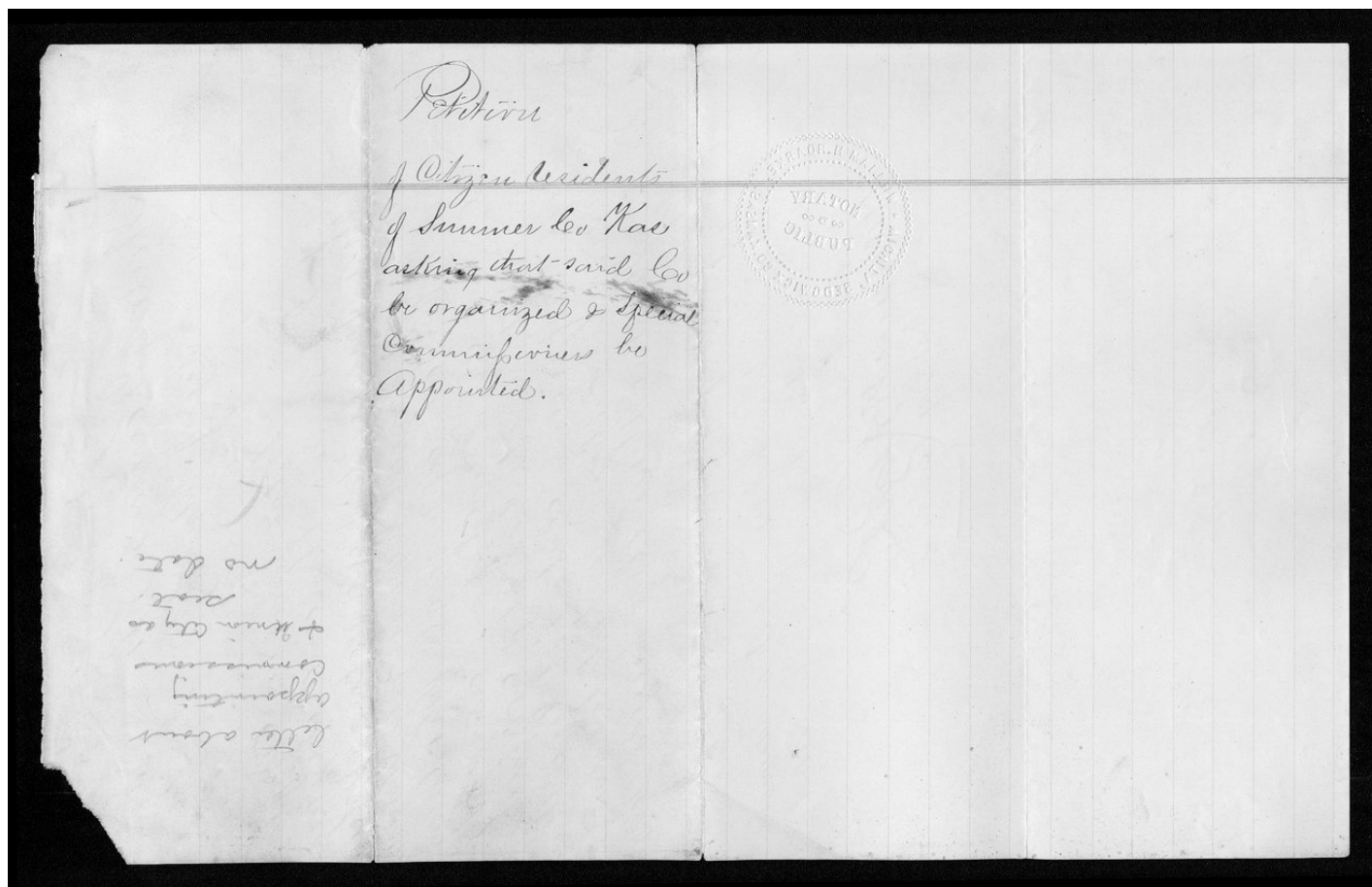
Subscribed before } J. M. Parmenter

me this 2d day of } L. L. Combridge

Nov. 2 A.D. 1870

William H. Fisk
Notary Public

Sumner County organization records





Feb. 28, 1871

State of Kansas
Sedgewick County

Before D. A. Bright clerk
of the District Court within and for the County
and State aforesaid personally came
M. Beal C. G. Thompson & E. H. Doyle
who being first duly sworn, upon their several
oaths, depose and say, that they are resident
freeholders in the County of Sumner in the State
of Kansas, and that said County of Sumner
contains a population of not less than
Six hundred inhabitants, and their knowledge
of the number of inhabitants in said County
is based upon an actual enumeration
of the same by E. H. Doyle.

E. H. Doyle
C. G. Thompson
M. Beal



Subscribed and sworn to
before me this 28th day of
February A.D. 1871

D. A. Bright
Clerk Dist Court
Sedgewick Co. Ks.



*affidavit of
enumeration
Feb 28, 1871*





Jan. 3 [23rd], 1871

State of Kansas }
County of Sedgwick } p.

The undersigned, resident freeholders
of the unorganized County of Sumner
in the State of Kansas, being first
duly sworn according to law, state
that to the best of their knowledge
and belief the said County of
Sumner contains not less than
a population of six hundred

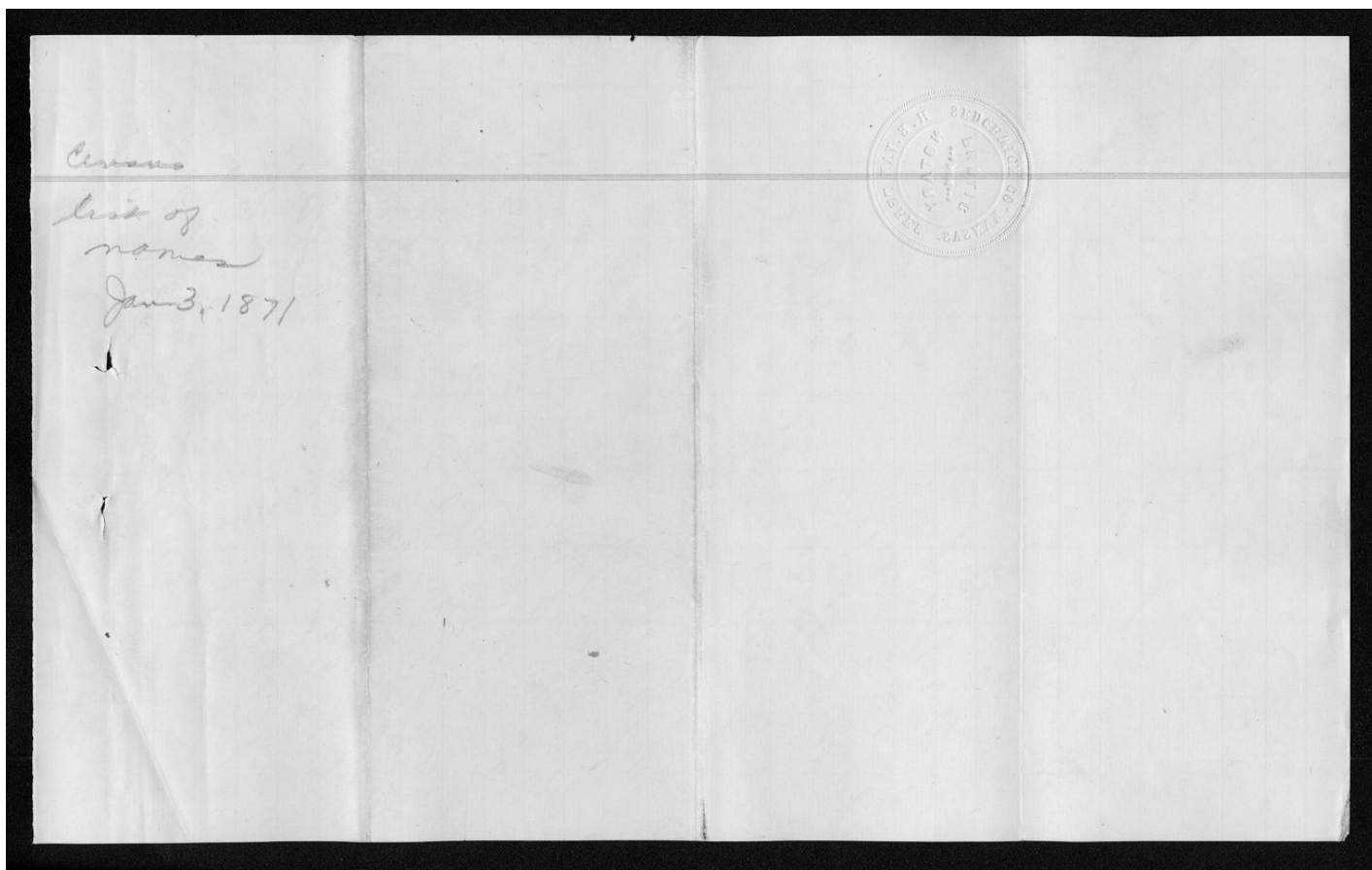
W. W. Jordan
John, P. McCulloch
John, S. McShane

Sworn to & subscribed before me this
3rd day of January A. D. 1871

In testimony whereof
I hereunto set my
hand & affix my Seal
Notarial.

M. E. Van Dries
Notary Public







E E Eaton	Emily Pettigrew
L Woolbridge	Wm M O'Neill
James Ferguson	W J Howard
Wm Thompson	Silas Harlan
E S Broadbent	J P Harlan
Thomas Jaques	Michael Emmons
William Macey	Lafayette Osborn
Samuel Bullock	Luther L Osborn
L C Mayher	Catharine Osborn
Wm Sherman	Sarah Osborn
J Hutchings	James Osborn
Margaret Lemaster	George Lemmon
Samuel Lemaster	John Osborn
R E Lemaster	Jacob Kraft
Abraham Lincoln Lemaster	Henry Rollman
Frank Lemaster	Chas Wiostner
W H Lemaster	Alfred Boyle
E Norton	John Boyle
George Knider	Nancy Boyle
Martin Knider	Napoleon Boyle
Augustus Knider	Mary J. Boyle
Adam Strub	John T Boyle
W Strub	W J Boyle
Jacob Luck	Henry Boyle
L K Myers	Gustavus Ferriat
W J Pettigrew	James Long
Damon Cook	John Gordon
Harry Pettigrew	John Reed



27	27
Mrs John Reed	H. Walker
Sarah Reed	Mary Walker
Samuel Reed	L. A. Walker
A. F. Reed	E. D. Davis
Joseph Reed	Sarah Davis
Thomas Beard	Daniel Blake
Chas Kramer	Caroline Blake
Henry Shrimel	Abram Blake
J. Hilbert	Sarah Blake
William Mayaver	Juliette Blake
Mrs Wm Wagner	John Millridge
Sarah E. Wagner	C. Cheatum
George Wagner	Alia Cheatum
John Gerritt	Jane Cheatum
Mrs John Gerritt	Emily Cheatum
Chas J. Gerritt	Julia Cheatum
Henry L. Gerritt	Norath Cheatum
William Gilchrist	Amos Cheatum
Mrs William Gilchrist	Wm. Cheatum
John Gilchrist	Susan Cheatum
Harvey Makey	Daniel Cheatum
Mrs Harvey Makey	Minerva Cheatum
George Makey	Morace Cheatum
Mrs George Makey	Geo. M. Black
S. E. Makey	Sarah L. Black
William Griest	Susan Black
Mrs Wm Griest	Jane Black
E. H. Griest	Mary Black
28	



Charles Jemison	Janice Milow
Mrs Chas Jemison	John A Brumagau
William R Garton	Mary Brumagau
Adam Roberts	S E Brumagau
J Ruggles	G D Brumagau
Henry Ruggles	J P Lutton
A H Hull	George M Lutton
James M Hull	Elizabeth Lutton
George Wilmont	Sallie Lutton
John E Wilmont	Nancy Lutton
B Hull	Robert Lutton
Thomas Key	Thomas Lutton
W J Hull	Charles Mitchell
R Harris	James M Corbin
F J Harris	Susan Corbin
F M Harris	Luc Corbin
Mary E Harris	Sallie Corbin
E E Harris	Richard Corbin
J M Harris	Bellie Corbin
Ransom Dexter	G W Raines
Mary Dexter	F T Hill
Elizabeth Dexter	Samuel Indicut
John Dexter	Charles Indicut
Samuel Dexter	Henry Indicut
Julia Dexter	John P Indicut
Fannie Dexter	William Grey
Samuel Dauford	Janis Grey
Henry Dauford	J D Bates
George Matlow	O W Lewis
29	29



Orson Rodman	George Routlett
Elizabeth J Rodman	George Day
Marisa Rodman	William Row
Henry Rodman	John Thomas
Ara Rodman	William Thomas
R E S Rodman	S E Thomas
Julia A Rodman	Doctor Hoban
E H Nugent	Frank Barrington
J E Nugent	J O Duckworth
Army R Nugent	W H Saunders
William J Usher	Mrs W H Saunders
S Hartman Usher	John Saunders
John J Asel	Chas Saunders
E A Phillips	Araun Saunders
J Conner	Emily Saunders
M E Gager	Josephine Saunders
John H Gager	Peter Bynum
Chas Rhinberger	Vol G. Martin
Frederick Fredley	Thos McMahon
E G Brattin	John McMahon
E W Wolby	William H Davis
J J Conner	J W Reynolds
George Gaul	George Wagner
John Reed	James Short
William Reed	Elizabeth Short
Margaret Reed	Addie Short
Jane Reed	John Williams
Annie Reed	Betsy Williams



L. Wallernice	John Flynn
Jane Wallernice	Patrick Flynn
Saml. N. Wallernice	J. M. Harnd
William Wallernice	Adeline Coate
Catherine Wallernice	Amanda Bayle
Virginia Wallernice	June Bayle
Johnsten Wallernice	Thomas Bayle
R. L. Wallernice	Elizabeth Bayle
William Banner	E. C. Ausbern
C. M. Horner	James L. Fosse
D. M. Horner	Lewis L. Fosse
Wm. A. Horner	Charles Dayton
Samuel Preston	Henry C. Dayton
Sarah Preston	Margaret Dayton
Cyrus Preston	Ann Maria Dayton
M. Thompson	Charles Michern
Henry Stephens	Charles Cracauer
Hiram Hitchcock	Albert Hilbert
John Hitchcock	Thomas Bayle
Charles May	James Jones
Benjamin Wutlake	Patrick Murray
John Morse	William Sullivan
John Holmes	Robert Lailor
Mary Holmes	Albert Turner
Frank Holmes	Alban E. Turner
Charles Holmes	William Bailey
Sauie Pierson	Limothy Bates
George Pierson	Frank Jerrett.
28	28



Phillip Nostan
 J. C. Walton
 Sarah Walton
 Allen Walton
 Thomas Walton
 William Walton
 Ellen Walton
 Joseph Walton
 Edmund Walton
 Eleanor Walton
 Jesse Walton
 John Bower
 Edward Brown
 Henry Beagle
 Mattie Simpson
 Mary A. Simpson
 John A. Simpson
 Ann M. Simpson
 Franklin Palmer
 Jack Palmer
 Robert Simpson
 Catherine Simpson
 Jane Simpson
 Sumner Simpson
 George Elkens
 William Thompson
 George Palmer
 Thomas Palmer
 Eugene Hatchkiss

Andrew Hatchkiss
 Martin Bulick
 Willard Algine
 Frank H. Bulick
 M. H. Greene
 E. Harrington
 James LaFonce
 S. LaFonce
 Thomas LaFonce
 George LaFonce
 Luther LaFonce
 Sarah LaFonce
 William LaFonce
 Margaret LaFonce
 Henry LaFonce
 Louis LaFonce
 Jane A. LaFonce
 Lucinda LaFonce
 Joseph Spencer
 Sarah Spencer
 Mattie Spencer
 John Preston
 Ellen Preston
 Tillman Preston
 Charles Jackson
 Jesse Beems
 George Beems
 George Holmstein
 Benj. Holmstein



Mary Wells
 C. Shores
 M. Shores
 Wm. Shores
 Andrew Jackson
 Ellen Shores
 C. Shores
 E. Shores
 Martha Shores
 Adalack Shores
 John Shores
 Francis Franklin
 Walter Filer
 James Richards
 Frank Lawhead
 William Mason
 Lurmer Paterman
 Becker Paterman
 Laura Paterman
 John Paterman
 Hattie Paterman
 Tillman Paterman
 Susan Paterman
 James Paterman
 Charlotte Paterman
 Rosa Paterman
 Gilbert Paterman
 Robert Paterman

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Charles Paterman
 Joseph Ruggles
 Thomas Smith
 F. Freeman
 Joseph Freeman
 F. C. Freeman
 John Richards
 M. Cambridge
 L. Cambridge
 Emory Cambridge
 James Cambridge
 Charles Cambridge
 Anna Cambridge
 Mary Cambridge
 Rosa Cambridge
 Solomon Cambridge
 Nora Cambridge
 Joseph Stevens
 Mary Stevens
 Charles Smith
 Napoleon Smith
 James Steber
 J. W. Steber
 Thomas Brown
 Geo. M. Brown
 Jacob Steber
 Henry Willett
 John M. Willett

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A. B. Mayhew	Mrs. Lutz
E. Mayhew	James McComan
H. Hudson	Sarah McComan
B. Percell	Fanny McComan 2d
S. Percell	Mary McComan
J. H. Daugherty	Thames McComan
Mrs. Daugherty	James McComan
B. M. Humphrey	S. M. Spencer
Mrs. Bateman	M. M. Spencer
E. E. Bateman	E. H. Spencer
June Martin	Grace Spencer
Charles Martin	Hamok Miller
John Martin	Frank Miller
Anna Martin	M. R. Meek
James Meek	Frank Meek
John Meek	Laylor Meek
Lewis Meek	Nathan Meek
Andersson Foster	Rachel Meek
Peter Miler	William Pike
John Racks	William Miler
Joseph Russ	James Roberts
Frank Russ	Adaline Roberts
James Wheeler	L. Roberts
Mrs. Lutz	A. Pike
B. M. McComan	E. Pike
Mrs. McComan	James Patenham
Fanny McComan	William Wells
Robert Lutz	Emma Wells



Mary Taylor	James Sullivan
William Jones	Thomas Woodward
R W Huntington	J P M ^c Cullock
J W Meeks	Sarah M ^c Cullock
J Weeks	M D M ^c Cullock
R Myers	E P M ^c Cullock
E D Brauden	H E M ^c Cullock
James Johnston	William E M ^c Cullock
John Hellman	Philip Doss
Nancy Hellman	James P Doss
Sallie Hellman	Mary A Doss
B Robinson	John Hornum
J B Robinson	George Gates
John Trasfer	A. J. Jordan
Mary Trasfer	Richard Gibbons
Fannie Trasfer	Robert Hunter
John Alley	H D Ruggles
Robert Jones	Catharine Ruggles
Richard Jones	W H Jackson
T W Webster	Peter Shepper
Sallie Webster	Phoebe Shepper
Ida Webster	John Shepper
Mollie Webster	O F Short
Fannie Webster	Mary Short
Sarah Webster	John Athey
Robert Hellman	Emory Angell
Nelson Holmes	Henry A Redman
Wesley G Firaker	Sarah Redman



John Austin	Isaac Brown
Mary Austin	Simon Bedkui
William Austin	James Bedkui
A. B. Barnes	Chas. Forts
Sarah Barnes	Susan Forts
Thomas Barnes	John Forts
Benjamin Barnes	L. C. Hefkins
Thomas French	James Sanford
Francis French	Charles Craig
Chas. Russell	G. Bettingham
Sarah Russell	Daniel Chestnutt
Francis Holcroft	Mary E. Chestnutt ✓
J. Beech	J. H. Chestnutt
Edw. Higgins	Daniel Chestnutt 2 nd
James Mead	E. J. Reid
J. R. Arnold	J. H. Reid
B. Warren	R. Bagley
Amanda Warren	W. Carpenter
Ellie Warren	Henry Carpenter
John Warren	W. H. Carpenter
James Smith	Catharine Carpenter
Erastus George	Daniel Carpenter
W. B. Garrison	John Smith
J. J. Matten	E. L. Davis
Samuel Houston	J. F. Davis
Robert Houston	Thomas Fuller
A. W. Powers	S. T. Taylor
George Brown	Ellen Taylor



	<p>Ruben Black</p>	<p>Eranseller Phillips</p>
	John Austin	Caroline Phillips
	Alaina Austin	A. Lincoln Phillips
	Colvin Austin	William Eagin
	Ferlina Austin	Lucretia Eagin
	Sylvanus Austin	Charles Eagin
	Edwin Austin	Margarette Eagin
	Mary Ann Austin	Henry Eagin
	Emily Austin	Carlos Eagin
	Joseph Blodoe	Elizabeth Eagin
	John Ackers	A. Jackson Eagin
	David Barker	Jack Eagin
	July Ann Barker	Lewis Dayton
	Jane Barker	John Seibert
	James Barker	Sarah Seibert
	David Barker 24	Geo. W. Seibert
	Elizabeth Barker	Josephine Seibert
	Amos Barker	Luther Seibert
	Susan Barker	Julia Seibert
	David Flint	Christo Roth
	Joshua Flint	Catherine Roth
	Ezekiel Flint	Eliza Roth
	William Everts	Jacob Roth
	Joseph Johnston	Emanuel Roth
	Maria Johnston	Phillip Roth
	George Johnston	Michael Roth
	Juliette Johnston	Wm. Winzell
	Horatio Johnston	Mrs. Winzell
	Rodman Johnston	Jane Winzell
	29	29



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George Gaddond	William Maxwell
James Gaddond	Thomas Maxwell
Emiline Gaddond	Thomas Maxwell 2d
Daniel Gaddond	George Maxwell
Robt. E. Gaddond	John Maxwell
William Coppack	John Wilson
Mary Coppack	Charles Waugh
Lizal Coppack	James Waugh
A. J. Rancord	Julia A. Waugh
Joseph Henderson	Newton Warren
Coraline Henderson	James Doyle
Joseph Coulter	Joseph Danner
Robt. E. Sanders	Antwain Ashlan
Calvin De'Samau	Peter Ashlan
Charles Bratten	

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State of Kansas } ss.
County of Sedgewick }

Before me, a Notary Public within & for said County
came John C. Nugent, who being by me first
duly sworn according to law, states that the
within & foregoing list of persons numbers
six hundred & fifty one who are known
by him to be bona fide residents of County
of Sumner in the State of Kansas, and that
said list, or census roll, does not embrace
the entire population of said County after ex-
cluding all Indians. John C. Nugent.

Subscribed before me this 28th
day of January A.D. 1875. Witnesses my hand & No-
tarial seal at date. H. E. Van Trees
Notary Public

H. E. VAN TREES
NOTARY PUBLIC
SUDENICK

Sumner County organization records

[Feb. 7, 1871]

Whereas: It appears from the records in the office of the Secretary of State, that a census of Sumner County has been taken according to law, properly sworn to by three resident freeholders of said County, showing a population of over six hundred inhabitants, citizens of the United States, and

Whereas: More than twenty inhabitants, freeholders in Sumner County, have petitioned for the appointment of three Special County Commissioners and one Special County Clerk, and have selected and named a place as the temporary County seat of said County: Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Kansas, I, James M. Harvey, have appointed and commissioned the special County Commissioners and Clerk asked for in that petition, and do hereby declare Meridian the temporary County seat of Sumner County.



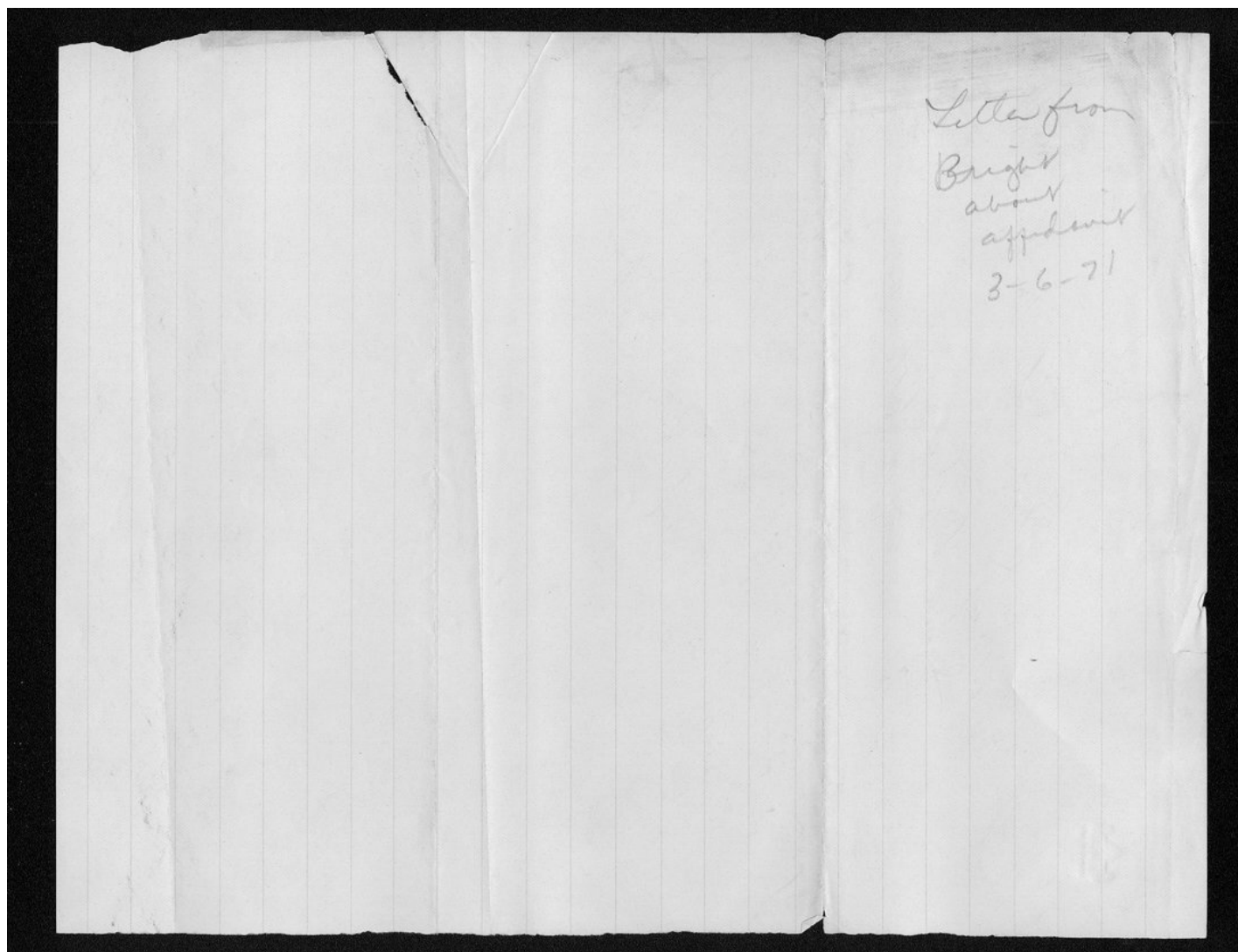
In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of State.

Done at Topeka, Kansas, this 7th day of February, A.D. 1871.

James M. Harvey
Attest
W. B. Smallwood
Secretary of State



Wichita Ks. March 6. '71
His Excellency
James W. Harvey
Governor of the State of Ks.
Dear Sir:
Enclosed please find affidavit and
Petition of Citizens of Sumner County,
Kansas.
Very Respectfully
J. H. Brough





Sumner City, Ks.
April 26. 1871.

James M. Harvey,
Gov. State of Kansas

We the undersigned
citizens of Sumner County, Kansas,
respectfully represent that Mr
Abel and Collier appointed by
you as Special County Commissioners
for the organization of Sumner
County, have refused to take
the necessary oaths of office
and to act as such Commissioners
Therefore in order that said
organization may be completed
and the necessary local officers
chosen, we request and recommend
that Jasper A. Warren and
Morgan Cox be appointed
commissioners in place of the
above named persons, and J. M. Fish
for Co. Clerk. Very Respectfully

E. A. Doyle,
J. A. Warren
Morgan Cox
W. H. Spence
J. A. Milliken
John Thompson

J. M. Fish
H. K. Simmons
D. Simmons
C. E. Forbes
W. H. Carpenter
C. A. Barlow