

# Kansas Memory



## Wilson County organization records

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 are two memorials to the governor from residents of Wilson County. Both memorials nominate certain citizens to be chosen for county official positions, and that Sycamore be designated the temporary county seat. A complete transcription is available by clicking "Text Version" below.

Creator: Kansas. Secretary of State

Date: 1864

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

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## Wilson County organization records

To his Excellency Thomas Barry  
Governor of Kansas

We the undersigned residents  
from Holders of the Unorganized County  
of Wilson would most respectfully ask  
Your Excellency for the immediate  
organisation of said County and would  
further ask that Syracuse may be  
disengaged as temporary County seat it  
being located as near as practicable  
to the center of said County

We also ask and recommend  
that George M. Coggingham W. M. Asher  
and William Brown may be appointed  
as temporary County Commissioners and  
Henry Pearson be appointed temporary  
County Clerk

We also ask and recommend  
Jacob Buzard of the town of Grant  
and John Craig of the town of Syracuse  
as temporary Justices of the Peace

We also ask that Robert  
Craig may be appointed as a  
Temporary Sheriff of said County of  
Wilson

E. Guestin	Daniel L. Fine
W. M. Asher	John G. Gray
H. E. Wilson	Robert Craig
C. C. Dewell	Thomas Rhoades

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## Wilson County organization records

James Rowles  
Dunay Lee  
John Mc Craig  
Geo. W. Cattigham  
W. H. Loring  
W. A. Craig  
E. Williams  
M. W. Craig  
Warren Greenhouse  
George Thompson  
Frank Thompson  
Thomas Fair  
John Shaffer  
J. E. Childs  
R. Graves  
Lewis Wickersham  
Harvey Jones  
J. A. Steel  
Robt. Dougherty  
 Jasper Sharp  
Hiram Neal  
Wm. Barr  
Wm. St. Cook  
William Mayes  
Jacob Burroughs  
Henry Purman  
James Welch

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Some days ago, a gentleman  
left for application  
to the same thing,  
and did not have time  
for them. You will  
see I expect that office  
will wait until  
the paper is issued  
to come as requested  
in this.

Should you need my  
signature to any of the  
papers you will send  
them to me here, and  
I will forward them  
to the gentlemen.

Cannery

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## Wilson County organization records

To his Excellency Thomas Carney.  
Gov of the State of Kansas.

We the undersigned  
William Mayes Robert Craig and John Shaffer  
resident Freeholders of the County of Wilson  
in the State of Kansas who being first duly  
sworn according to Law upon their oaths  
do state that aforesaid unorganized County  
of Wilson in the State of Kansas now has  
and contains a population of not less than  
Six Hundred Inhabitants and that twenty or  
more of such Inhabitants are freeholders

We would further state that a  
Large Majority of the Citizens of the Unorganized  
County of Wilson desire the immediate  
Organization of said County as by Statute provided  
would most respectfully ask your Excellency in  
behalf of the Citizens to appoint George C. Cotttingham  
W. M. Asher and William Brown to act as  
Special County Commissioners

We ask that Henry Pennington be  
appointed as Special County Clerk

We also ask that Syracuse  
may be designated as Unorganized County seat  
said Town of Syracuse being as near as  
practicable to the center of said County.

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## Wilson County organization records

John Mayes  
Robert Craig  
John Shaffer  
Sworn and Subscribed to before me a  
Notary Public in and for the County of Allen  
and State of Kansas. On Testimony whereof  
I have hereunto set my hand  
and official Seal at Lolo Kansas  
August 24<sup>th</sup> 1864  
A. Jones  
Notary Public  
Allen County Kans



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