

Kansas historical quarterly

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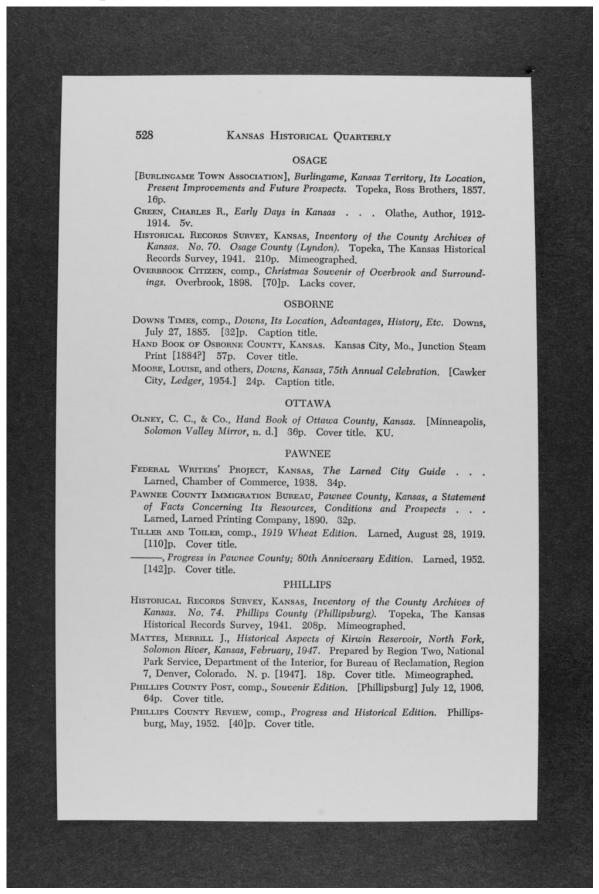
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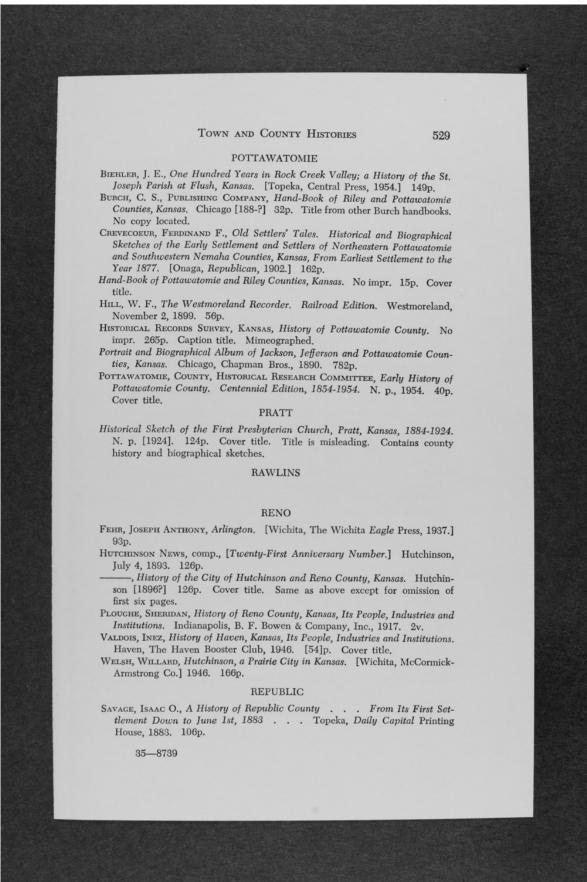
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KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

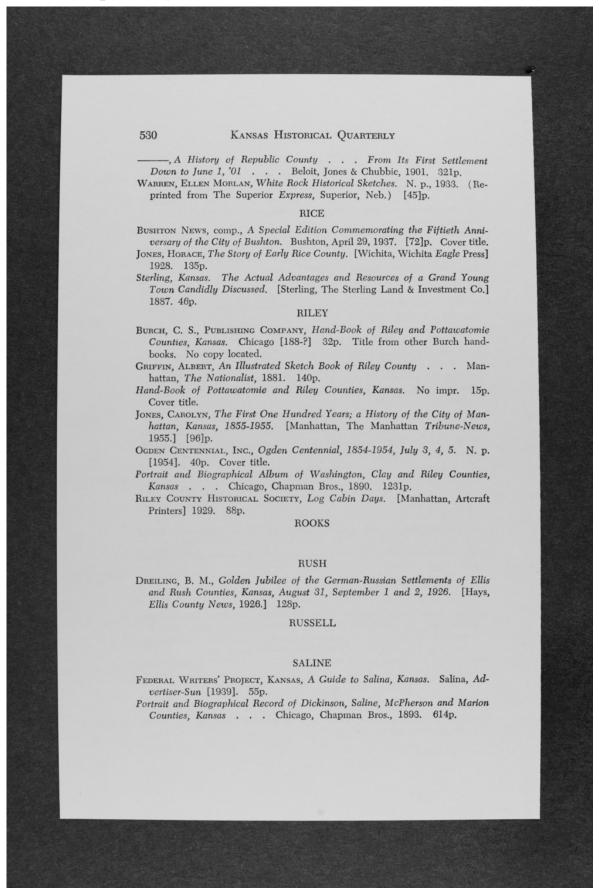








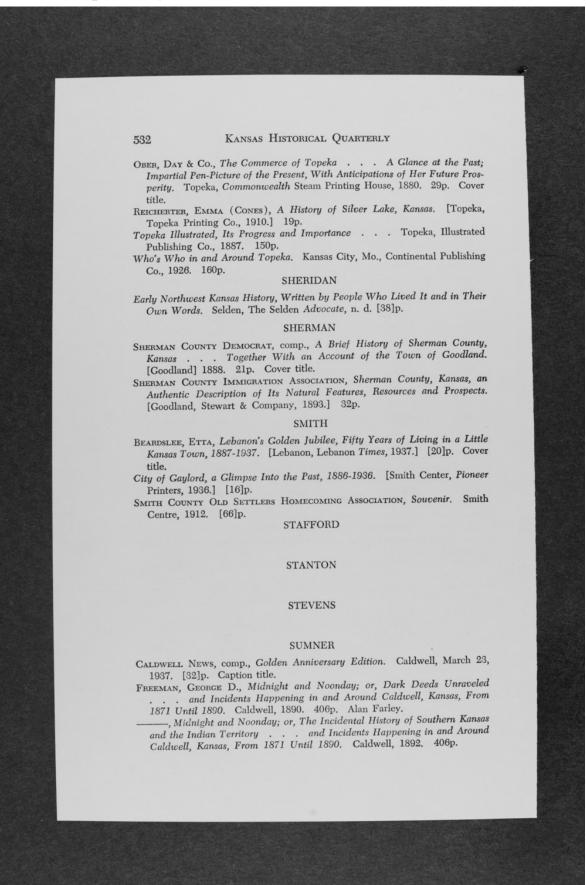




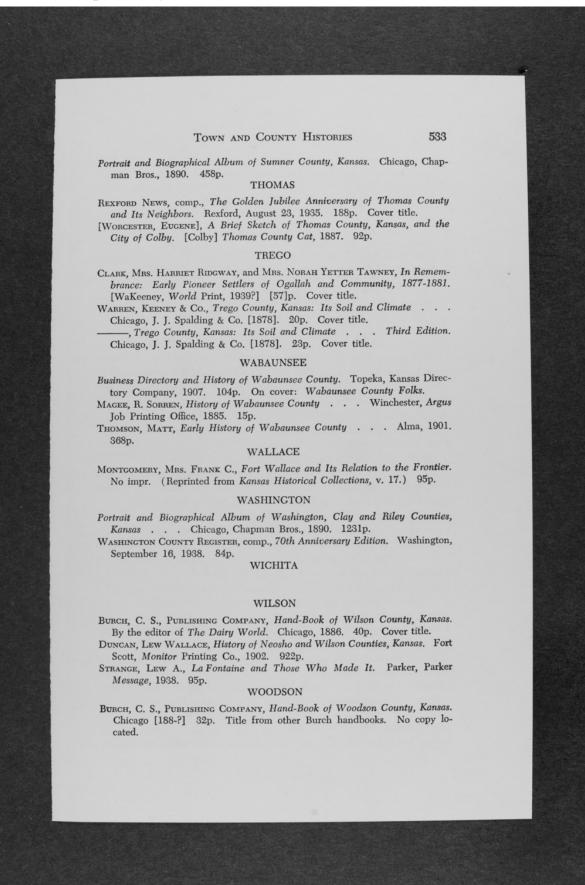


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Towns and Corners Harroning 501	
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SCOTT	
Burch, C. S., Publishing Company, Hand-Book of Scott County, Kansas. By the editor of The American Sheep Breeder. Chicago, 1887. 16p. Cover	
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Bentley, O. H., History of Wichita and Sedgwick County, Kansas	
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DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, KANSAS, EUNICE STERLING CHAP-	
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Portrait and Biographical Album of Sedgwick County, Kan. Chicago, Chapman Bros., 1888. 1123p.	
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HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY, KANSAS, Inventory of the County Archives of	
Kansas No. 88. Seward County (Liberal). Topeka, The Historical Records Survey, 1938. 186p. Mimeographed.	
SHAWNEE	
BERRETT, HOWARD D., Who's Who in Topeka. Topeka, Adams Brothers, 1905.	
139p. BIOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, The Blue Book of Topeka 1910. Topeka,	
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Cone, William W., Historical Sketch of Shawnee County, Kansas Topeka, The Kansas Farmer Printing House, 1877. 16p.	
CROW, BLAINE, A Community of Silver Lake Rural High School District. Sil-	
ver Lake, Mirror Print [1925]. 80p. [GILES, FRYE WILLIAMS], Historical Sketch of Shawnee County, Kansas. To-	
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——, Thirty Years in Topeka, a Historical Sketch. Topeka, Geo. W. Crane & Co., 1886. 411p.	
HENNESSEY, LOLA, Tecumseh, Kansas, 1854-1954, Centennial. No impr. 19p.	
Cover title. HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY, KANSAS, Inventory of the County Archives of	
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Crane & Co., 1890. 192p. King, James Levi, History of Shawnee County, Kansas, and Representative	
Citizens. Chicago, Richmond & Arnold, 1905. 628p.	
Leading Industries of Topeka Together With an Historical Sketch. Chicago, Reed & Company, 1882. 110p.	
Markley, Walt, Builders of Topeka. Topeka, The Capper Printing Co., 1934.	
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[Topeka, 1954.] [29]p. Cover title.	













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Duncan, Lew Wallace, and Charles F. Scott, eds., History of Allen and Woodson Counties, Kansas. Iola, Iola Register, 1901. 894p.

Hand Book of Woodson County, Kansas. No impr. 20p. Cover title. Possibly published in Chicago by Modern Argo in 1883.

WYANDOTTE

COWICK, KATE L., The Story of Kansas City. [Kansas City] Central High School Press, n. d. 30p.

HARRINGTON, GRANT W., Historic Spots or Mile-Stones in the Progress of Wyandotte County, Kansas. [Merriam, The Mission Press] 1935. 360p.

MORGAN, PERL W., History of Wyandotte County, Kansas, and Its People. Chicago, The Lewis Publishing Company, 1911. 2v.

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THE COUNTY ATLASES OF KANSAS

As in the making of books, the making of maps has no end. Maps have been made by primitive peoples and by skilled cartographers. The oldest surviving maps are those of the ancient Babylonians. Credit for giving the name "atlas" to a collection of maps is said to belong to the geographer Mercator, who used that term because the picture of Atlas supporting the world usually appeared at the front of the collections.

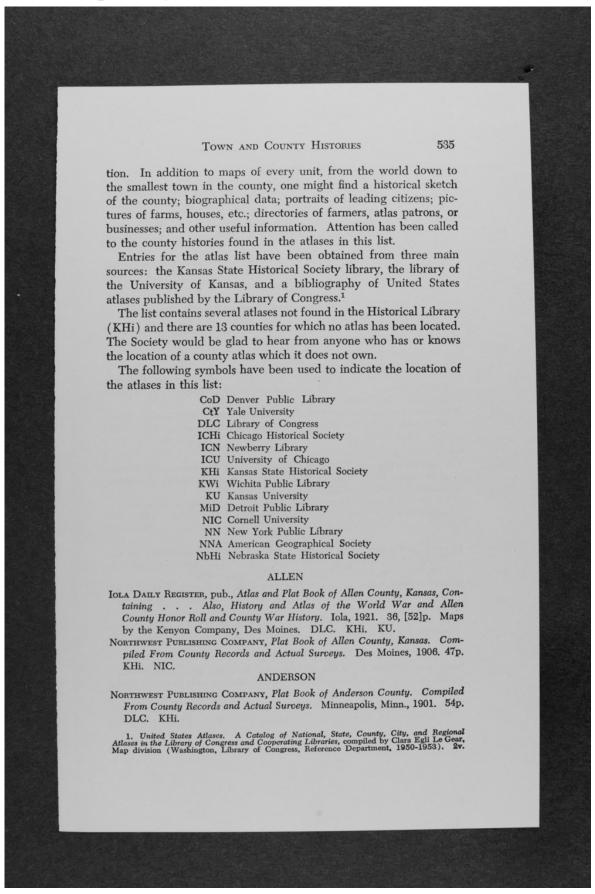
Atlas publishing in the United States began between 1790 and 1795. Probably the first state atlas to make its appearance was Robert Mills' Atlas of the State of South Carolina (1825). The first state atlas of Kansas was published by L. H. Everts in 1887.

The publishing of county atlases began about the time of the Civil War. L. Fagan's Map of Berks County, Pennsylvania, published at Philadelphia by H. F. Bridgens in 1861, is the earliest known atlas of a county in the United States. The earliest known Kansas county atlases are Frederick W. Beers' Atlas of Douglas County (1873) and his Atlas of Shawnee County (1873).

A number of companies specialized in publishing county atlases, which proved to be popular and attained a wide distribution. Foremost among these publishers was the firm of George A. Ogle & Co., Chicago, which is said to have produced some 500 county atlases between 1893 and 1923. At least 90 of these were for Kansas counties.

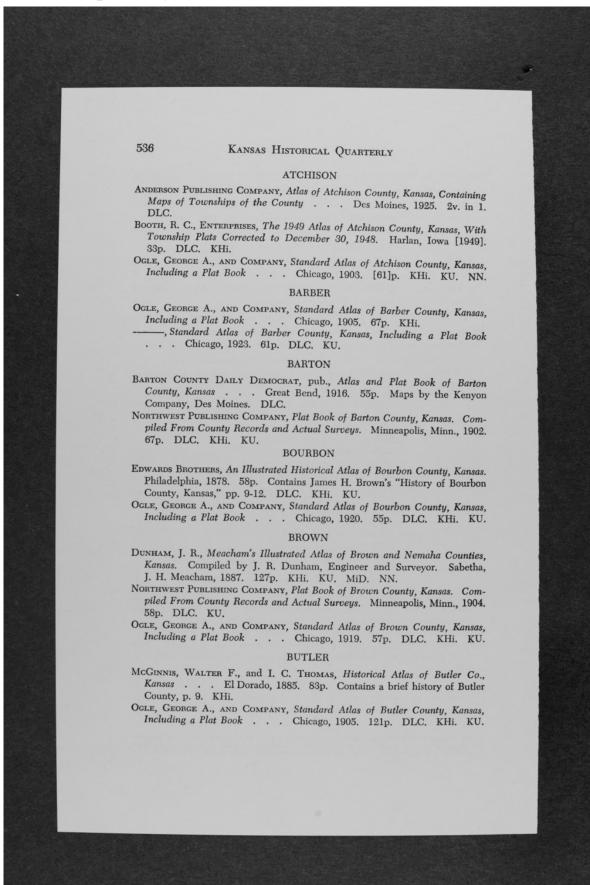
Because of their size and the difficulty of caring for them, county atlases are of somewhat less interest to a collector than to a library, where they form a vital part of the local history collection. In recent times atlases have become simply small volumes of surveyors' plats, but formerly they contained a wide variety of informa-



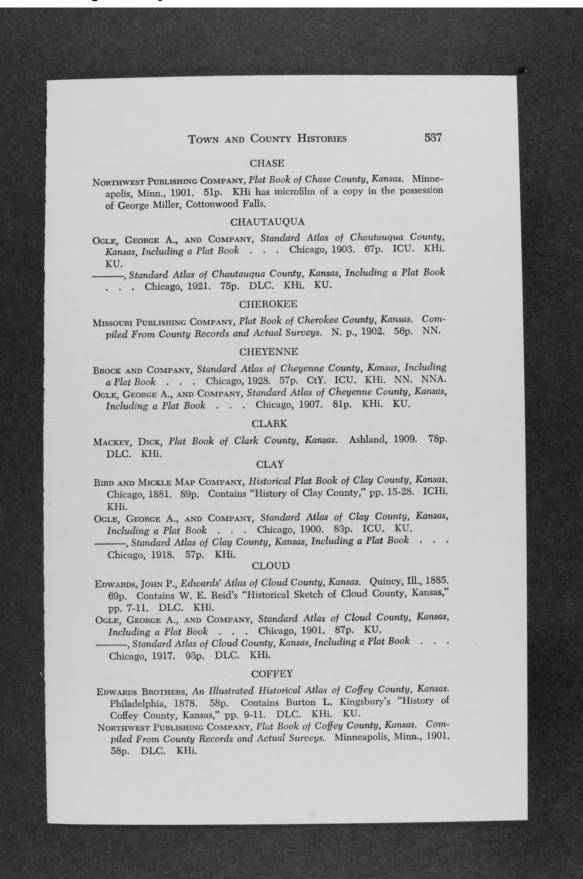




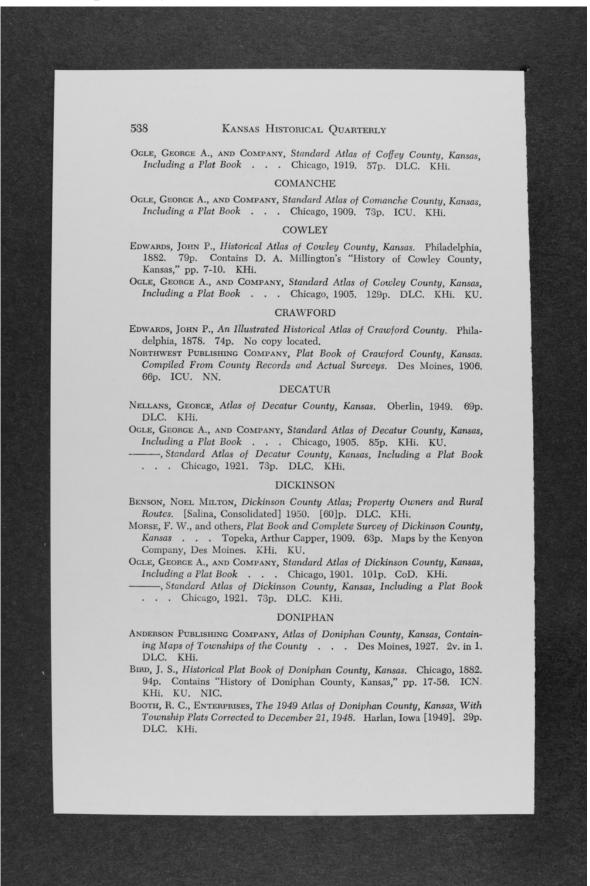




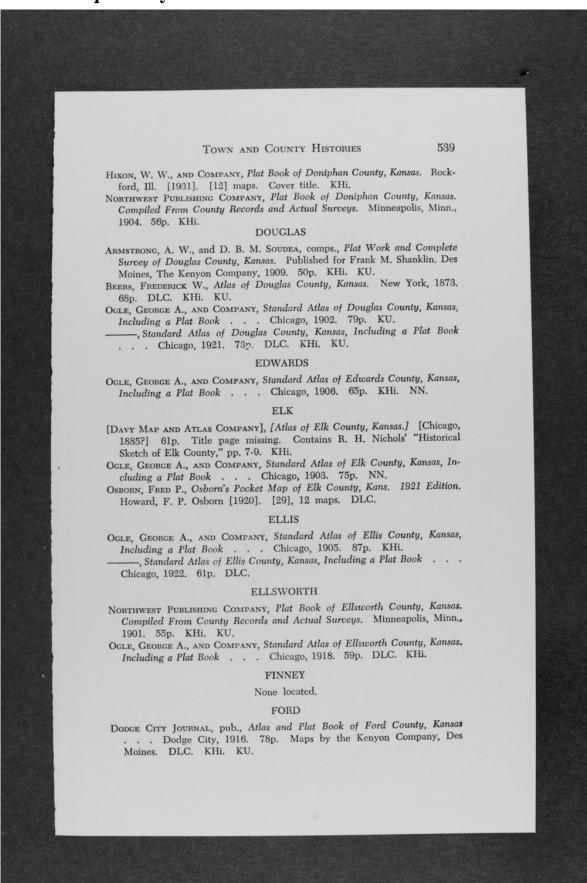




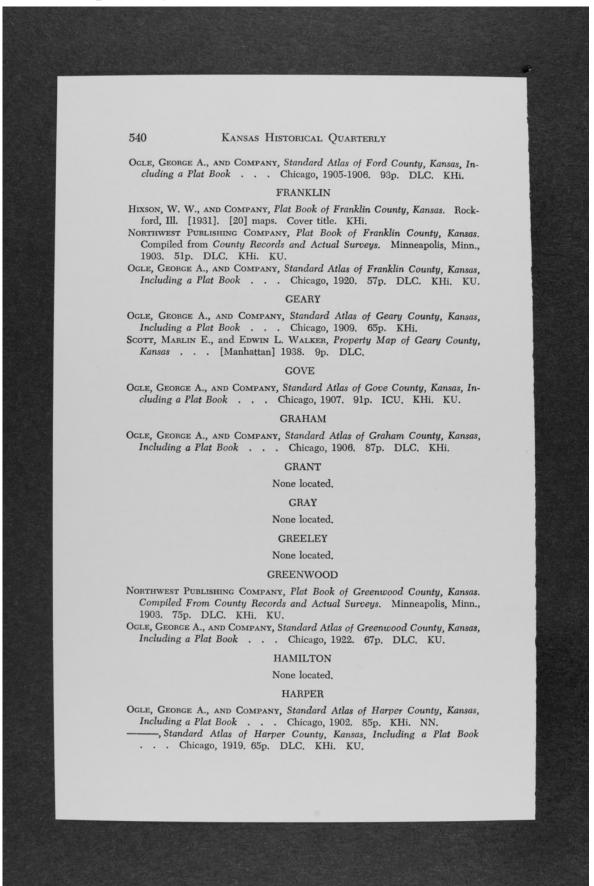




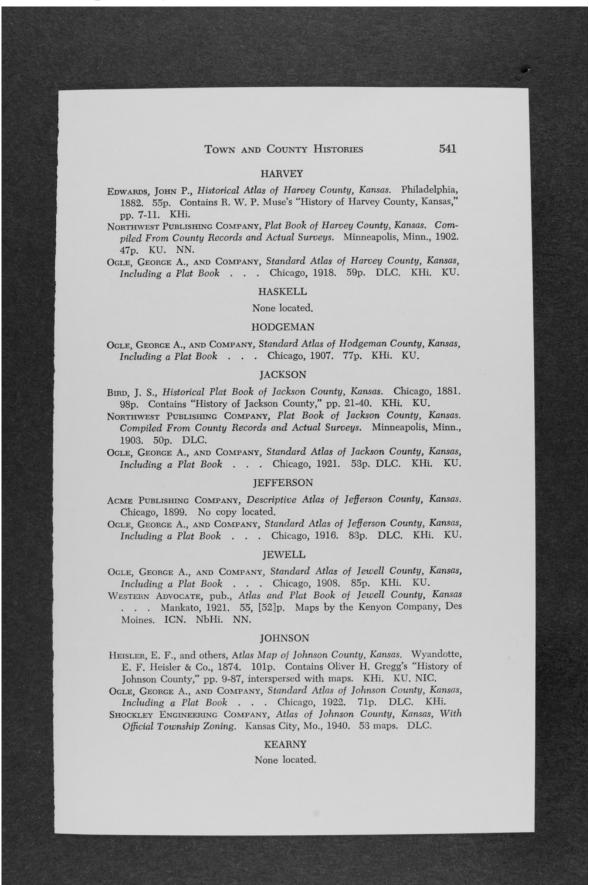




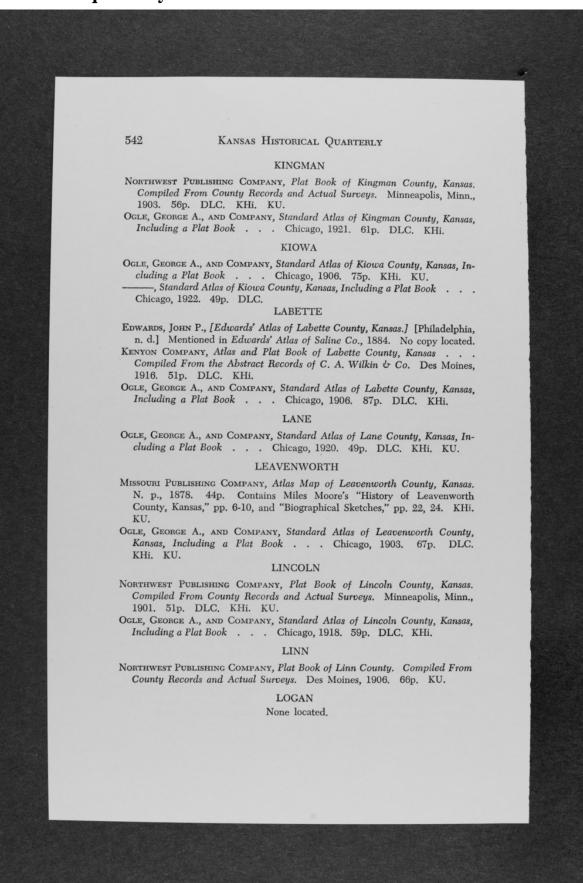














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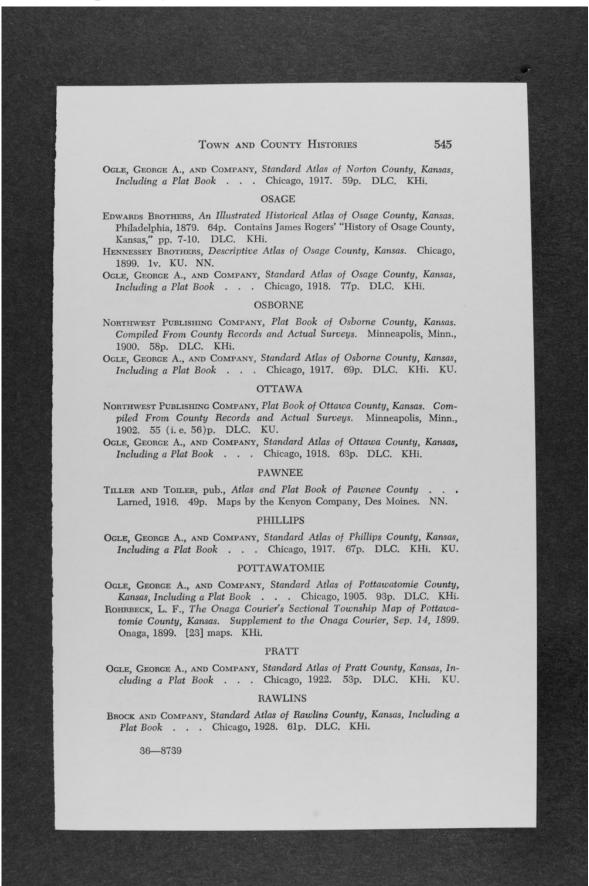
TOWN AND COUNTY HISTORIES 543 LYON EDWARDS BROTHERS, An Illustrated Historical Atlas of Lyon County, Kansas. Philadelphia, 1878. 65p. Contains Jacob Stotler's "History of Lyon County, Kansas," pp. 5, 8, 9, 11-14. DLC. KHi. KU. -, An Historical Plat Book of Lyon County, Kansas. Philadelphia, 1879. OGLE, GEORGE A., AND COMPANY, Standard Atlas of Lyon County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1901. 99p. KU. -, Standard Atlas of Lyon County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1918. 77p. DLC. KHi. **McPHERSON** EDWARDS, JOHN P., Edwards' Atlas of McPherson County, Kansas. Quincy, Ill., 1884. 83p. Contains H. B. Kelly's "History of McPherson County, Kansas," pp. 7-9. KHi. KU. NIC. NN. HIXSON, W. W., AND COMPANY, Plat Book of McPherson County, Kansas. Rockford, Ill. [1928]. [27] maps. Cover title. KHi. NORTHWEST PUBLISHING COMPANY, Plat Book of McPherson County, Kansas. Compiled From County Records and Actual Surveys. Minneapolis, Minn., 1903. 64p. DLC. KHi. OGLE, GEORGE A., AND COMPANY, Standard Atlas of McPherson County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1921. 73p. DLC. KHi. DAVY MAP AND ATLAS COMPANY, Atlas of Marion County, Kansas . . . Chicago, 1885. 87p. KHi. HIXSON, W. W., AND COMPANY, Plat Book of Marion County, Kansas. [Rockford, Ill., 1928.] 31p. KHi. OGLE, GEORGE A., AND COMPANY, Standard Atlas of Marion County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1902. 103p. KHi. KU. -, Standard Atlas of Marion County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1921. 77p. DLC. KHi. MARSHALL Anderson Publishing Company, Atlas of Marshall County, Kansas, Containing Maps of Townships of the County . . . Des Moines, 1922. [70]p. DLC. KHi. ICE, R. P., AND COMPANY, Plat Book of Meade County, Kansas. Ashland, 1909. 82p. DLC. KHi. **MIAMI** Brock and Company, Standard Atlas of Miami County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1927. 77p. DLC. KU. EDWARDS BROTHERS, An Illustrated Historical Atlas of Miami County. Philadelphia, 1878. 58p. Contains E. W. Robinson's "History of Miami County, Kansas," pp. 9-12. DLC. KHi. KU. OGLE, GEORGE A., AND COMPANY, Standard Atlas of Miami County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1901. 83p. KHi.



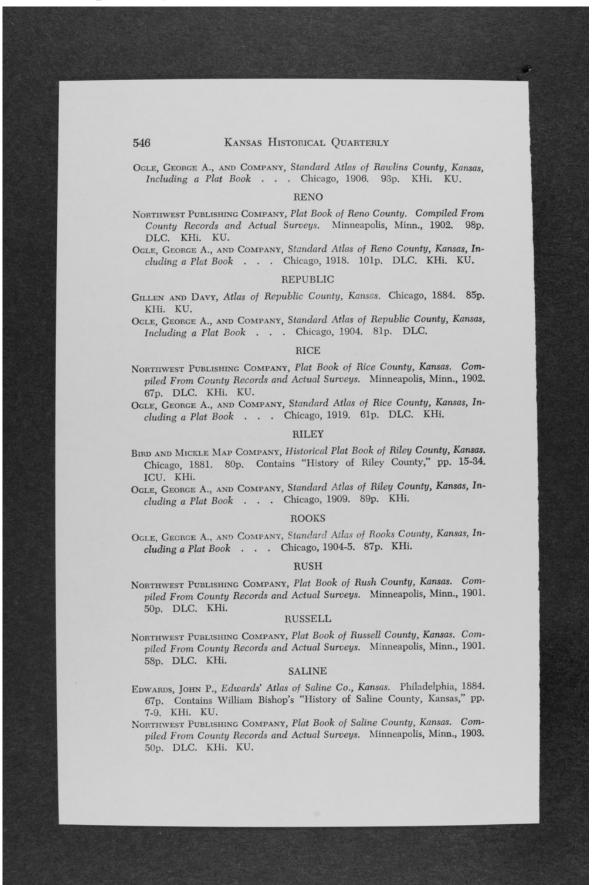
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KANSAS HISTORICAL QUARTERLY 544 MITCHELL GILLEN & DAVY, Atlas of Mitchell County, Kansas. Chicago, 1884. 83p. DLC. KHi. Ogle, George A., and Company, Standard Atlas of Mitchell County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1902. [55]p. Contains "Historical Sketch of Mitchell County, Kansas," pp. 53-54. KU. -, Standard Atlas of Mitchell County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1917. 61p. DLC. KHi. MONTGOMERY EDWARDS, JOHN P., Historical Atlas of Montgomery County, Kansas. Philadelphia, 1881. 45p. Contains Ebenezer E. Wilson's "History of Montgomery County, Kansas," pp. 7-9. KHi. KU. RICHMOND, H. J., Atlas and Plat Book of Montgomery County, Kansas . . . Independence, 1916. 49p. KU. NN. OGLE, GEORGE A., AND COMPANY, Standard Atlas of Morris County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1901. 76p. KHi. NN. -, Standard Atlas of Morris County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1923. 53p. KHi. MORTON None located. **NEMAHA** Anderson Publishing Company, Atlas of Nemaha County, Kansas, Containing Maps of Townships of the County . . . Des Moines, 1922. [61]p. DLC. KHi. BOOTH, R. C., Enterprises, The 1949 Atlas of Nemaha County, Kansas, With Township Plats Corrected to February 11, 1949. Harlan, Iowa [1949]. Dunham, J. R., Meacham's Illustrated Atlas of Brown and Nemaha Counties, Kansas. Compiled by J. R. Dunham, Engineer and Surveyor. Sabetha, J. H. Meacham, 1887. 127p. KHi. KU. MiD. NN. Stinson, A. R., Plat Book of Nemaha County, Kansas. Seneca, 1908. 49p. KHi. KU. **NEOSHO** OGLE, GEORGE A., AND COMPANY, Standard Atlas of Neosho County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1906. 79p. DLC. KHi. KU. OGLE, GEORGE A., AND COMPANY, Standard Atlas of Ness County, Kansas, Including a Plat Book . . . Chicago, 1906. 93p. KHi. KU. NORTHWEST PUBLISHING COMPANY, Plat Book of Norton County, Kansas. Compiled From County Records and Actual Surveys. [Minneapolis, Minn.] 1900. 59p. DLC. KU.

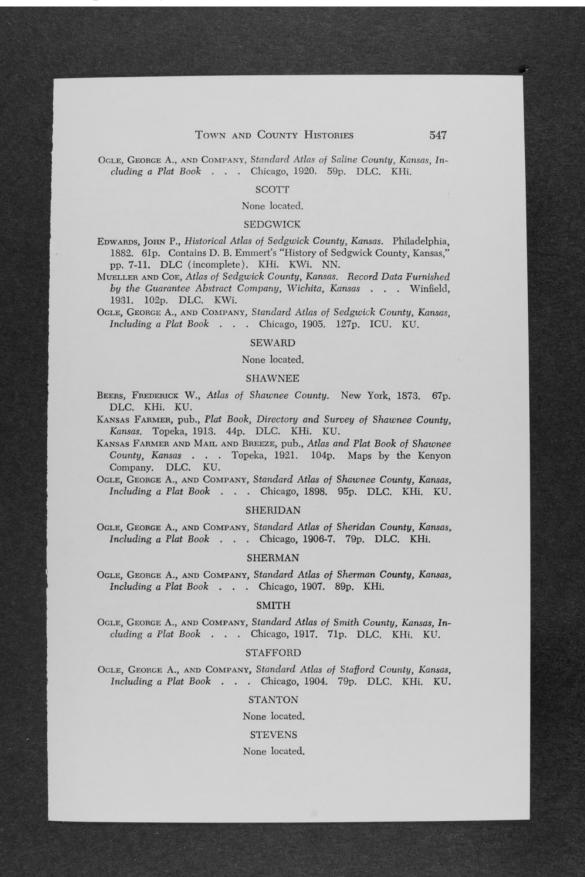




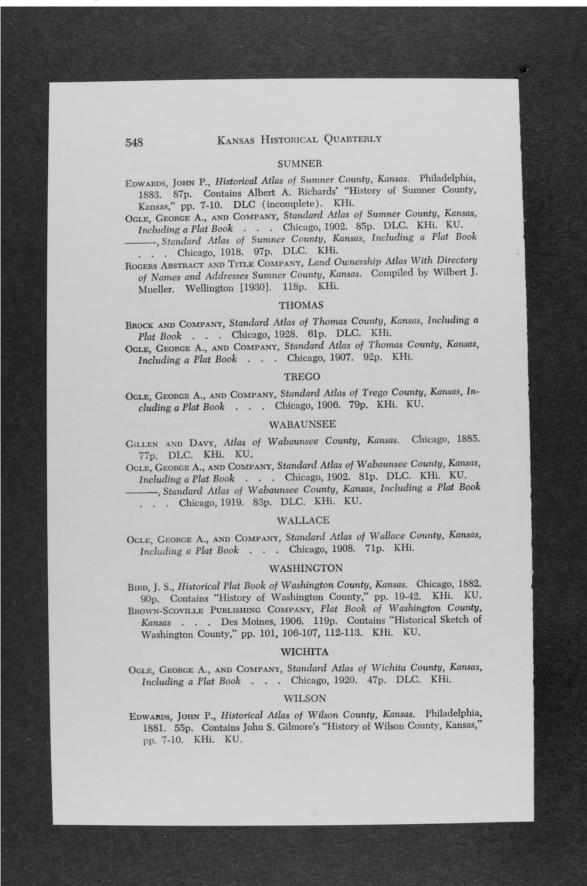




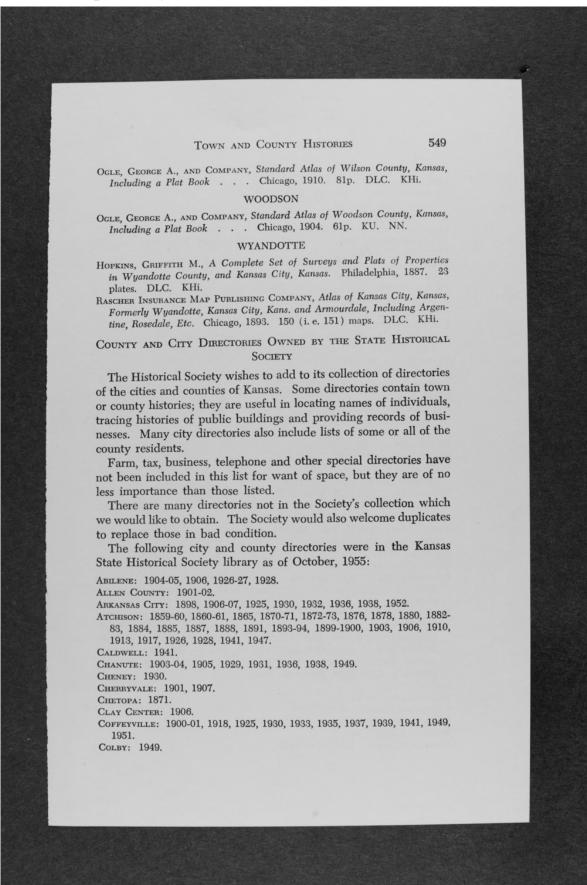




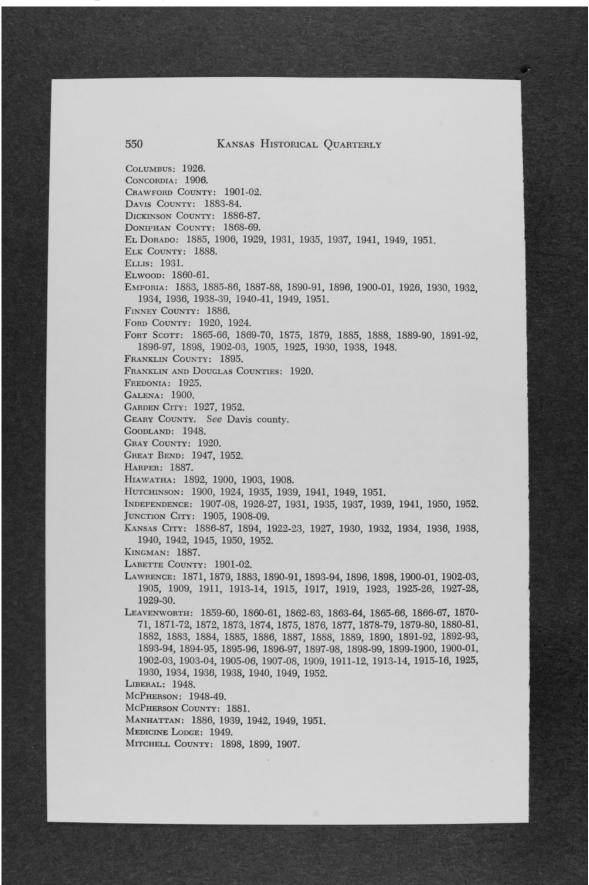




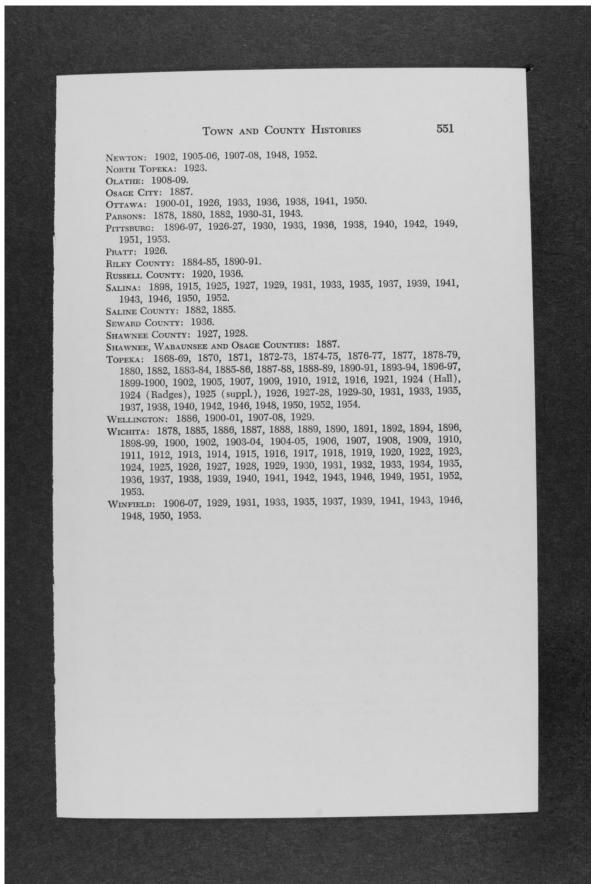














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The Old Ghost Town of Lindsey in the Solomon Valley

THEO. H. SCHEFFER

THE name of the town of Lindsey, unhappily, can be accounted for only by reference to Cutler's history of Kansas, published in 1883, in which he chronicles as follows:

In 1857-'58 the hunters and trappers who visited Solomon Valley gave names to many of its creeks. For some unexplained reason these wayfarers left a wagon-load of plunder behind them, just above Minneapolis, for the ownership of which a lawsuit was subsequently tried in the District Court, at Junction City. Judging from the evidence there produced, the "gentlemen" who gave Fisher, Lindsey, Brown and Chriss creeks their names, were not the most savory morsels of humanity in the world. Most of the names of these Solomon Valley creeks have since been changed—in respect to the living.1

Not so brave a start for the pioneer town of Lindsey in Ottawa county of the valley. Cloud county, adjoining, was apparently stuck also with the name of one of these "gentlemen"-"Fisher" creek, entering the Solomon near Glasco. Capt. Zebulon M. Pike crossed the river there, September 23, 1806, on his way to the Pawnee Republic, of the Indian people.

The governor of Kansas territory signed the bill creating Ottawa county-and two others-on February 27, 1860. Section 2 appointed county commissioners for these counties, to wit: ". . . for the county of Ottawa, R. C. Whitney, Henry Martin, and _ Branch, of Pike Creek." (Probably Pipe creek as now known.) 2 Though thus created, the county of Ottawa was not formally organized until six years later, 1866. Ayersburg was designated as the temporary county seat. However, on May 21, 1870, an election of the local settlers on the river was held and the permanent county seat was established at Minneapolis. (If they could make it stick, which they eventually did.) Thereby hangs a tale of community rivalry, which we may not recount here for lack of space. The standard bearers of this conflict were the Solomon Valley Pioneer, first published at Lindsey in September, 1870; editor, W. Goddard; and its "mendaceous contemporary," the Minneapolis Independent, first issued in October, 1870; editor, George Mackenzie. It may be

Theo. H. Scheffer, formerly of Ottawa county, is a collaborator with the United States Department of Agriculture. His present address is Puyallup, Wash.

1. A. T. Andreas and W. G. Cutler, History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, 1883), p. 1425.

2. Laws of Kansas, 1860, ch. 44.

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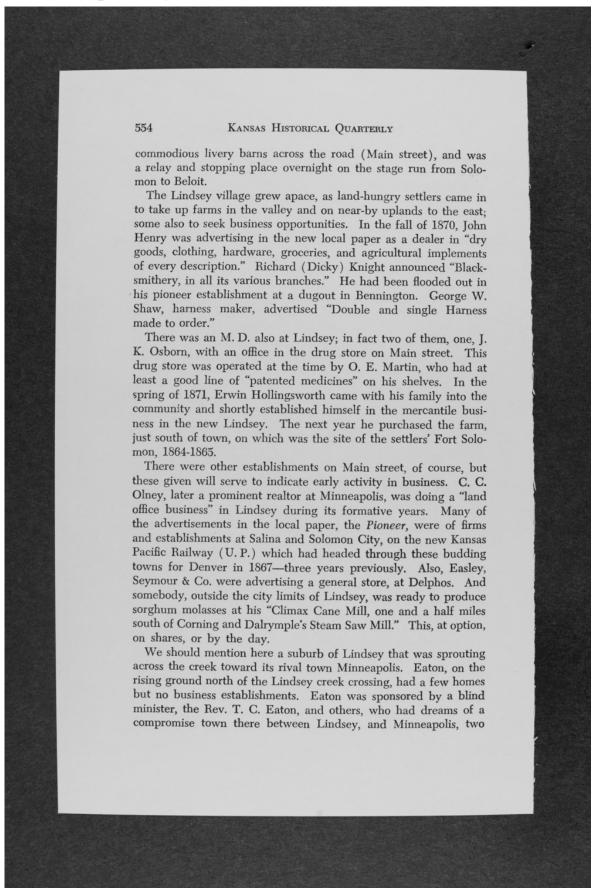


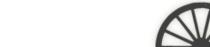




THE OLD GHOST TOWN OF LINDSEY 553 noted here that in the election just cited the vote had stood at 146 for Minneapolis and 139 for Lindsey, the small majority for Minneapolis being attributed to "Pipe creek vote." Ayersburg, originally designated by the governor as the county seat of Ottawa county, was a cabin in the fringe of timber on the banks of Lindsey creek, some little distance west of the old stage hotel in pioneer Lindsey. The site of this civic center, the Best Hotel, may now be located by a large cement slab covering the old brick-lined well at the hostelry, which once stood on the west side of the north-south highway where it is intersected by the sectionline road coming down from the east. A post office was established at Ayersburg on July 16, 1864, with one John Boblett as first postmaster. He lasted a little more than a year, when he was succeeded by Seymour Ayres, the only burger of Ayersburg, on September 12, 1865. He, in turn, was replaced by Thomas Waddell, of Lindsey, on July 5, 1867. And that was the last of Ayersburg, so far as official recognition was concerned, though the name appeared on Keeler's map of Kansas, in 1866-1867, and on Colton's map in 1867. George Washington never slept there, but we did, on a rainy night when fishing on the Solomon. The cabin must have been pretty leaky then, for we could not find enough dry material about or in the place to kindle a fire on the hearth. The Ayers family later moved up to Pipe creek on a farm, and established there a neighborhood of descendants, in school district No. 10. Lindsey was in school district No. 9. In the second issue of the Solomon Valley Pioneer, September 17, 1870, appeared an advertisement of the Ayers House, on Main street, Lindsey. This advertisement was accompanied by a picture of the hostelry, which Charlie Hollingsworth, still living at 95, says did not exist. He ought to know, for he came there the next year, and has prepared the sketch map of the old ghost town accompanying this story. Probably the picture was a "stock cut," for photographers were mighty scarce in those days. A post office was established at Lindsey, on July 7, 1868, with Harry Makee (McKee?) as first postmaster. This appointment followed discontinuation of the office at Ayersburg cabin, little more than a quarter of a mile away. The new community grew up about the Lindsey House, as first advertised, a stage hostelry at the intersection of two roads. This place was conducted by Francis W. Best, and in later years by his widow, Mrs. O. B. Potter. It had







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miles farther up the river, at the Markley mill site. Eaton's own statement concerning the founding of the town was published in the *Pioneer*, March 4, 1871:

I was put under \$6,000 bonds for the faithful appropriation of the money awarded to my youngest daughter, (Grace) for injuries received on the New York and Erie Railroad. . . . My bondsmen advised me to purchase lands in some part of the West. . . . I purchased with the funds two hundred and forty acres, lying at the center of the County of Ottawa. . . . Twenty acres are set apart for college grounds. . . . [There] is a public square . . .; streets are . . . one hundred feet wide. . . . lots will be given to those who will erect business houses or residences.

And so we find the following in an issue of the *Pioneer*, dated March 25, 1871: "We understand that the lumber is bought, and the teams are engaged to haul it, for the erection of four large buildings at Eaton, and that some ten or twelve mechanics are engaged to erect them forthwith. E. E. Eaton, Esq., and Mr. S. Y. Woodhull have each bought a fourth of the townsite." This issue of the *Pioneer* carried cards of S. Y. Woodhull, attorney and counsellor, at Eaton, and of Thomas Waddell, justice of the peace, "Office at his new building in Eaton."

Again, in the *Pioneer*, April 15, 1871, "Mr. Eaton is now building a large dwelling house in Eaton, which will probably be the largest house in the county. He has gone to Solomon, to contract for lumber to build a large Store at Eaton." The store never materialized. The requiem: July 1, 1871, "Lindsey and Eaton have joined hands and are united under one name—LINDSEY." This was a defense merger in the county-seat conflict.

There had been a little pioneer log schoolhouse at the northeast corner of the Hollingsworth homestead, on which the settlers' "fort" was located. But when the writer came to the nearly abandoned Lindsey townsite in October, 1879, he matriculated in the grades in a pretentious two-room building—only there were no grades; and the smaller, wing-room, was not then used, though it once had a teacher. As advertised for bids, in the Solomon Valley Pioneer, Lindsey, March, 1871, the original school building was to be 30 by 40 feet in dimensions. Charles Hollingsworth, who attended school there from the first, relates that a few years later, when A. B. Crosby was teacher, the school board added the wingroom to the schoolhouse, to accommodate the smaller children. Crosby's wife became assistant teacher.

Shorn of this wing-room, its porches, and the anteroom where we ate frozen lunches in season, the schoolhouse took flight, in the



