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Article Title: Perkey's Names of Nebraska Locations

Full Citation: Elton A Perkey, "Perkey's Names of Nebraska Locations," *Nebraska History* 59 (1978): 606-628.

URL of article: <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/history/full-text/NH1978PerkeySeward-York.pdf>

Date: 2/19/2015

Article Summary: This represents the final installment of the listing of Nebraska place names and their origins by county. This series of articles appeared in the magazine before it was published in book form.

PERKEY'S NAMES OF NEBRASKA LOCATIONS

By Elton A. Perkey

(Continued from Spring Issue, 1978. Following its serial publication in *Nebraska History*, it is planned to publish the entire listing of "Perkey's Names," with any additions or corrections, in book form.)

SEWARD COUNTY

Named in honor of William Howard Seward (1801-1872), secretary of state during President Abraham Lincoln's Administration. County was originally called Greene, established January 26, 1856. Name was changed to Seward January 3, 1862.

Bateville. Post office established January 9, 1878; discontinued October 15, 1878. Possibly named in honor of L. D. Bates, county commissioner at the time the office was established.

Beaver Crossing. Peak population (1940), 550. Post office established January 22, 1868. Town named after a place near the town site where the Overland Trail from Fort Leavenworth crossed Beaver Creek. Beaver Creek got its name from the numerous beaver in the vicinity. Town platted by Pioneer Town-Site Company.

Bee. Peak population (1920), 228. Post office established September 7, 1887. The 16 precincts in Seward County are lettered A to P. The town of Bee is in B precinct, so a double "e" was added to the initial to coin the name.

Camden. Census not available. Post office established September 8, 1862; discontinued October 29, 1900. Possibly named for Camden, New Jersey.

Carlisle. This place, chartered March 15, 1855, was the proposed county seat of Greene County.

Cordova. Peak population (1920), 205. Post office established March 27, 1888. C. W. Hunkins, the postmaster, suggested the town name for Cordova, Spain, because of its dissimilarity to any other post office name within the state. The idea was accepted by both postal authorities and the railroad.

Garland. Peak population (1920), 279. Post office name changed from Germantown, 1918. Named in honor of Ray Garland, soldier who died in France during World War I.

Germantown. Post office established March 19, 1874; name changed to Garland, 1918. Named for the German settlers who predominated in the population.

Glendale. Post office established May 10, 1877; discontinued September 23, 1878. Named for the physical surroundings of the neighborhood.

Goehner. Peak population (1920), 150. Post office established March 13, 1888. Named in honor of John F. Goehner of Seward, merchant and member of the Legislature. Platted by Pioneer Town-Site Company.

Greenville. Proposed town that never got beyond the platting stage when the region was first formed as Greene County.

Groveland. Post office established April 5, 1871; discontinued April 7, 1875. Origin of name not learned.

Grover. Post office established November 9, 1885; discontinued October 31, 1908. Probably named for Grover Cleveland, US President when this office was established.

Hartford. Early locality in Seward County.

Hartman. Post office established April 13, 1871; name changed to Marysville December 29, 1873. Named for family in Seward County.

Hunkins. This was Cordova before a post office was established; named in honor of C. W. Hunkins, who became postmaster of the new town of Cordova. The name Hunkins

ANNUAL REPORT OF 1978

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Helen Nance Anderson Trust	40,706.12	42,586.91
Fund #15754		
Sterling Morton Trust Fund	11,836.21	12,386.87
#15755		
Rosanna Carson Trust Fund	6,357.51	6,593.30
#15756		
Historical Heritage Center	11,476.65	12,178.10
Trust Fund #15757		
Woods Charitable Trust	24,983.63	26,263.39
Fund #15758		
Total Foundation Fund	\$256,961.27	\$275,760.19
Society Private Fund:		
Nebraska Centennial Non-	\$ 835.34	\$ 885.61
Profit Assoc. Contingency Fund		
James H. Pratt Study Fund	938.40	0.00*
Norden Club Scandinavian	165.82	165.82
Research Fund		
Kennard House Fund	731.39	731.39
General Fund	17,308.63	28,283.24
Total Society Private Fund	\$ 19,979.58	\$ 30,066.06
Total Foundation Funds and Society		
Private Funds	\$276,940.85	\$305,826.25

*Pratt Study completed during Fiscal Year 1977-78.

was not accepted because of possible conflict with mail for Hoskins, Wayne County.

Lafayette. Post office established November 21, 1878; name changed to Tamora October 10, 1879. Possibly named for General Lafayette of France who had aided the American revolutionaries 100 years before.

Leahey. Former station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. Probably named for Mike Leahey, railroad contractor.

Marysville. Post office name changed from Hartman December 29, 1873; discontinued November 11, 1903. Possibly named in honor of Mary F. Augur, resident.

Milford. Peak population (1970), 1,855. Post office established April 24, 1868. J. L. Davison made the first settlement in the vicinity in the spring of 1864. He built a log house on the site of the present hospital building and opened a ranch on the steam wagon road. Later, Davison improved a ford on the Blue River, then moved a mill from Weeping Water Falls and placed it just above the ford. Thus, the name of Milford originated. Milford held county seat from 1867 to fall, 1871, when lost to Seward.

Neldon. Post office established February 13, 1871; discontinued October 13, 1871. Origin of name not learned.

North Fork. Post office established February 4, 1869; moved to Saline County July 13, 1877. Named for its site at the fork of the Big Blue and West Blue Rivers.

Norval. Post office name changed from West's Mill March 13, 1882; discontinued December 3, 1884. Named in honor of T. L. Norval, member of the State Supreme Court.

Oakgroves. Post office established December 22, 1874; discontinued July 21, 1884. Probably named for its location near a grove of oak trees.

Orton. Post office established September 8, 1871; discontinued December 11, 1888. Origin of name not learned. There is also an Orton, Minnesota.

Ost. Former station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad named in honor of Louis E. Ost, railroad agent.

Pittsburgh. Census not available. Post office established May 2, 1873; discontinued April 23, 1875. Former town surveyed by Chris Lezenby and probably named for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Pleasant Dale. Peak population (1910), 257. Post office established February 13, 1871. Town named for the beautiful valley in which it is located. Captain J. H. Culver, US Army, suggested the name for its appropriateness. The town was originally 1½ miles from its present site and was served by passenger stage coaches and freighters.

Ruby. Peak population (1910, 1920, 1930, 1940), 71. Post office established September 25, 1883; discontinued December 12, 1894. Mail served from Milford. Town probably named in honor of James Ruby, Civil War veteran and county resident.

Seward. Peak population (1970), 5,332. Post office established April 3, 1867. Platted in 1868, Seward was named for the county and became the county seat in 1871. Concordia Teachers College was established here in 1894. In 1973 Seward was designated "Nebraska's Official Fourth of July City" for its annual patriotic observances.

Staplehurst. Peak population (1930), 254. Post office established February 8, 1877. Town named for Staplehurst, England, by Ebenezer Jull who, with his family, came from there in 1873.

Success. Community with a store operated by John C. Tissue who hoped it would be a success.

Tamora. Peak population (1910, 1920), 205. Post office name changed from Lafayette October 10, 1879; discontinued, 1970. Mail served from Seward. Each of three or four donors of land for the townsite wanted the place named for himself. After every discussion about the matter, they would put off the final decision "until tomorrow"; thus, they eventually coined the word Tamora.

Unitt. Post office established, 1904; discontinued, 1921. Probably named in honor of Philip Unitt, stockman who came from England in 1880.

Utica. Peak population (1920), 571. Post office established June 23, 1874. Town named for Utica, New York, by G. A. Derby. Post office first established in Derby's home; later he platted the town.

Welden. Former locality whose name origin has not been learned.

West's Mill. Post office established January 22, 1868; name changed to Norval March 13, 1882. Named in honor of Thomas West, who with his son Thomas West, Jr. and Orin Johnson established the settlement in June, 1859. They erected a saw and grist mill on the West Blue River.

Wickoff. An early community. Origin of the name not learned.

SHERIDAN COUNTY

Named in honor of Civil War General Philip H. Sheridan (1831-1888). Boundaries were defined by act of the Legislature approved February 25, 1885.

Adaton. Post office established January 11, 1886; discontinued December 15, 1930. Named by cowboys of the vicinity for Ada Foster, first postmistress and first white woman to live in Beaver Valley.

Albany. Census not available. Post office established November 19, 1886; discontinued, 1939. Former town named after Albany, New York, by William B. McIntyre, first postmaster. His former home was New York state.

Alcove. Post office established November 6, 1885; discontinued September 21, 1891. Probably descriptive of the land which this area represented.

Antioch. Peak population (1920), 764. Post office name changed from Reno August 17, 1891. Town named by the family of W. G. Wilson after a town in Iowa or Ohio from which they had come. Antioch is a familiar biblical name. Five potash factories in the area made Antioch a boom town during World War I.

Appleton. Post office established September 25, 1889; discontinued December 26, 1894. Possibly named for Appleton, Wisconsin.

Billing. Post office established July 1, 1912; discontinued, 1934. Possibly named in honor of Henry Billing, foreman on the Creighton Ranch.

Bingham. Peak population (1940), 149. Post office established June 7, 1888. Town named for the precinct. The precinct may have been named for a settler, a railroad official, or for Bingham, Minnesota.

Birdsell. Station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad probably named for a railroad official.

Buff. Post office established June 13, 1906; discontinued May 16, 1907. Origin of name not learned.

Burrough. Post office established December 14, 1891; discontinued September 11, 1895. Possibly named in honor of John H. Burroughs, first postmaster, with the last letter of the name omitted.

Camp Sheridan. A military post located 1 mile below Spotted Tail Agency on the east bank of the west fork of Beaver Creek, tributary of the White River. Named in honor of General Phil Sheridan when founded on September 9, 1874. This post was probably abandoned in 1878.

Cillela. Post office established July 12, 1917; discontinued November 15, 1923. Origin of name not learned.

Clinton. Peak population (1930), 157. Post office established August 4, 1885; discontinued, 1960. Named for Clinton, Iowa. Platted by Pioneer Town-Site Company in 1894.

Colcesser. Post office established May 23, 1899; discontinued January 15, 1924. Named in honor of Henry Colcesser, first postmaster.

Craven. Post office established June 23, 1892; discontinued April 28, 1894. Possibly named in honor of Gus Craven, pioneer settler.

Dewing. Probably the former name of White Clay before a post office was established. Possibly named in honor of C. M. Dewing, rancher.

Dullaghan. Post office established July 24, 1915; discontinued December 31, 1921. Origin of name not learned.

Ellsworth. Peak population (1910), 30. Post office established March 2, 1904. Origin of name not learned. There are towns in Maine and Minnesota having this name.

Located on the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad, Ellsworth was an early cattle shipping point. For a time it was the headquarters of the Nebraska Land and Feeding Company, operated by pioneer cattlemen Will Comstock and Bartlett Richards.

Gordon. Peak population (1960), 2,223. Post office established March 3, 1884. Town named in honor of John Gordon of Sioux City, Iowa. During the 1870s Black Hills gold rush, Gordon, with a train of wagons under his command, attempted to travel to the Hills when the country was still Indian territory and closed to white settlers. He was overtaken about 5 miles from the present location of the town by a United States cavalry detachment. Gordon's oxen were turned loose and his wagons burned as an example to other gold seekers attempting to illegally enter the Black Hills.

Grayson. Census not available. Post office established December 9, 1889; discontinued December 31, 1928. Former village named in honor of Charles Grayson, first postmaster.

Hamilton. Post office established April 8, 1908; discontinued June 30, 1911. Possibly named in honor of Alexander Hamilton, first postmaster.

Hay Springs. Peak population (1950), 1,091. Post office name changed from Moakler September 28, 1885. Town named for its location in the center of meadow country where the soil is moistened by numerous springs.

Hazelton. Post office established November 28, 1913; discontinued November 30, 1914. Probably named in honor of Frederick Hazelton, minister and homesteader.

Hilton. Census not available. Post office established March 14, 1910; discontinued, 1932. Former village named by Mrs. Carrie E. Smith, first postmistress, in honor of her nephew, William Hilton Merrill.

Hinchley. Post office established December 1, 1911; discontinued December 15, 1930. Named in honor of E. W. Hinchley, rancher.

Hoffland. Post office established June 13, 1916; discontinued October 15, 1927. Named in honor of the Hoffland family.

Holland. Former station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad located west of Antioch.

Holly. Post office established March 5, 1890; discontinued February 11, 1904. Probably named in honor of Thomas Holly, northwest Nebraska pioneer.

Holton. Locality listed in Sheridan County history.

Hunter. Post office established February 5, 1910; discontinued December 31, 1917. Named for the precinct, which was probably named for Hunter and Evans Ranch, established by David Hunter, R. D. Hunter, and David Evans at an earlier date.

Ingomar. Post office established September 10, 1885; discontinued August 5, 1887. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was Darwin Clark.

Jennings. Post office established January 18, 1913; discontinued April 30, 1920. Possibly named in honor of F. M. Jennings, rancher.

Jess. Post office established March 13, 1890; discontinued August 15, 1913. Possibly named in honor of the wife of the first postmaster, C. C. Joy.

Kenomi. Post office established February 20, 1907; discontinued December 31, 1920. Kenomi was coined for the names of two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Orr.

Lakeside. Peak population (1940), 152. Post office established July 28, 1888. Town named for a nearby lake when the railroad was built. There are many lakes surrounding the town.

Long Lake. Post office established April 1, 1904; discontinued August 30, 1930. Derives its name from a lake 2 miles long and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide near the post office.

Luella. Post office established March 13, 1890; discontinued March 1, 1907. Named in honor of Luella M. Keller, first postmistress.

Lulu. Post office established July 3, 1913; discontinued November 29, 1914. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was Birdie B. Zinmaster.

Marple. Post office moved from Box Butte County April 23, 1908; discontinued, 1933. See name in Box Butte County.

Mirage. Post office established August 18, 1885; discontinued February 15, 1913. Named for the precinct in which the office was located.

Moakler. Post office established December 16, 1884; name changed to Hay Springs September 28, 1885. Named in honor of a local settler.

Moomaw. Post office established January 28, 1890; discontinued December 15, 1916. Named in honor of Jacob P. Moomaw, first postmaster.

Mosser. Post office established December 22, 1885; discontinued October 22, 1895. Possibly named in honor of Mrs. Emma Mosser, first postmistress.

Peters. Post office established January 17, 1902; discontinued, 1934. Named in honor of George S. Peters, first postmaster.

Reno. Post office established July 23, 1888; name changed to Antioch August 17, 1891. Possibly named for one of two military officers: (1) Major General Jesse Lee Reno, Union officer during the Civil War, killed in 1862 at the battle of South Mountain, Virginia; Reno, Nevada, was named for him. (2) Major Marcus Reno, who participated with General George Custer in the battle of the Little Big Horn. Name of Reno changed to avoid confusing mail directed to Reno, Nevada.

Riggs. Post office established August 6, 1888; discontinued June 14, 1895. Possibly named in honor of John Riggs, first sheriff of Sheridan County.

Roosevelt. Post office established May 10, 1907; discontinued August 17, 1907. Possibly named in honor of Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), President of the United States at the time post office was established.

Rosecrans. Post office established June 27, 1888; discontinued September 20, 1890. Probably named in honor of Civil War General William Rosecrans (1819-1898).

Rushville. Peak population (1950), 1,266. Post office established October 17, 1884. County seat was named for nearby Rush Creek. Generally dry, the creek was named for a growth of rushes in its bed.

Russell. Post office established February 3, 1911; discontinued September 30, 1911. Possibly named in honor of Harvey H. Russell, first postmaster.

Sandoz. Post office established August 25, 1885; discontinued December 31, 1895. Named in honor of Jules Sandoz, pioneer and father of Mari Sandoz, Nebraska author.

Schill. Post office established February 28, 1902; discontinued January 31, 1917. Named for the precinct in which it was located. Precinct probably named for the Schill Brothers cattle ranch.

Sharp. Post office established March 4, 1904; discontinued March 28, 1904. Origin of name not learned.

Sioux. Post office established May 20, 1884; discontinued May 7, 1888. Named for the Sioux Indians who lived in this region.

Smoot. Post office established April 12, 1892; discontinued December 14, 1892. Origin of the name not learned.

Spade. Census not available. Post office established June 20, 1908; discontinued September 29, 1923. Town and precinct both named for nearby Spade Ranch, operated by Nebraska cattleman Bartlett Richards.

Spotted Tail Agency. Indian agency located at the junction of Beaver Creek and White River. Served the Brule Sioux from 1873 until its removal to Rosebud Indian Agency in South Dakota in 1878. Named for the Indian Chief Spotted Tail. Camp Sheridan was located nearby.

Spring Lake. Post office established April 22, 1907; discontinued July 15, 1907. Named for a spring which fed a lake near the post office.

Strasburger. Post office established December 5, 1908; discontinued July 15, 1916. Named in honor of John B. Strasburger, first postmaster.

Whiteclay. Peak population (1940), 112. Post office established December 22, 1904. Named for nearby Whiteclay Creek. The creek had been named for its clay-like color. The first post office was located 1½ miles from present site.

SHERMAN COUNTY

Named in honor of Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman (1820-1891). County was created by legislative enactment March 1, 1871.

Ashton. Peak population (1940), 488. Post office name changed from Zeven March 22, 1880. Named by John P. Taylor for his former home of Ashton, Illinois.

Austin. Peak population (1890), 26. Post office established July 11, 1877; discontinued, 1919. Former hamlet named in honor of Austin Butts, settler.

Balsora. Post office established September 9, 1879; discontinued April 6, 1888. Origin of name not learned.

Bentora. Post office established October 2, 1882; name changed to Hazard January 14, 1887. Probably named for the Bent family. Mary Bent was first postmistress.

Bluffton. Post office established April 17, 1879; discontinued May 26, 1888. Origin of name not learned.

Bunnell. Proposed name for the town of Hazard.

Cedarville. Post office established January 14, 1884; name changed to Litchfield June 19, 1886. Probably named for cedar trees growing in the vicinity.

Cleoria. Post office established January 14, 1884; discontinued November 3, 1884. Named in honor of Cleoria Woods, resident.

Denniston. Post office established February 6, 1885; discontinued July 28, 1885. Possibly named for Dewitt C. Denniston, first postmaster.

Divide. Post office established March 19, 1886; discontinued July 11, 1906. Named for the summit of a railroad grade.

Elting. Post office established June 1, 1883; discontinued February 9, 1887. Named in honor of Elting Johnson, first postmaster.

Fern. Post office established August 3, 1882; discontinued February 17, 1887. Name selected by Thomas A. Coverly.

Fitzalon. Post office established January 4, 1880; name changed to Furay April 6, 1882. Origin of name not learned.

Furay. Post office name changed from Fitzalon April 6, 1882; name changed to Paris May 3, 1882. Named in honor of Major Furay, a postal inspector.

Hayestown. Peak population (1880), 100. Post office established January 19, 1877; discontinued July 25, 1899. Former town named in honor of President Rutherford B. Hayes (1822-1893), who was in office when Hayestown was established.

Hazard. Peak population (1920), 167. Post office name changed from Bentora January 14, 1887. Town residents had difficulty selecting a name until one resident remarked that they "would hazard some name." Another person took up the comment and proposed the name Hazard.

Jericho. Post office established April 3, 1883; discontinued May 26, 1888. Probably named for the biblical town in the Old Testament.

Litchfield. Peak population (1920), 428. Post office name changed from Cedarville June 19, 1886. Probably named for Litchfield, Connecticut.

Lonelm. Post office established May 26, 1882; discontinued February 29, 1884. Office, located in the eastern part of the county, named for a lone elm tree that survived a prairie fire.

Loup City. Peak population (1940), 1,675. Post office established August 26, 1873. County seat named for the Wolf or Skidi band of Pawnee Indians. Loup is the French translation of the Pawnee word skidi, meaning wolf. Loup City was made county seat in 1873. The town is also the terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad from Grand Island.

McAlpine. Former station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. Possibly named for Thomas McAlpine, railroad official.

Noah. Post office established April 19, 1881; name changed to Souleville March 20, 1882. Named in honor of Noah D. Vanscoy, first postmaster.

Paradise. Post office established September 7, 1883; discontinued February 20, 1884. Named for the descriptive location of the post office.

Paris. Post office name changed from Furay May 3, 1882; discontinued November 25, 1890. One source says post office was named for Paris, Wisconsin, former home of Mrs. A. H. Gray, the postmaster's wife. Another source says named for Miss Lydia French, called Miss Paris.

Poplin. Locality with a store 5 miles northwest of Ashton.

Rockville. Peak population (1930), 241. Post office established December 1, 1873. Platted by John H. Frease in 1886, the town took the name of the rural post office, which had been named for its site on Rock Creek.

Schaupps. Census not available. Post office established July 27, 1905; discontinued June 15, 1915. Former town named for the Schaupp brothers, who owned the land where the town site was located.

Souleville. Post office name changed from Noah March 20, 1882; discontinued August 27, 1886. Named in honor of the Soule family.

Verdurette. Post office established January 9, 1880; discontinued December 15, 1897. Reasons for the name, however, have not been learned.

Walhelms. Former locality named either for a local settler or for a place in Germany.

Wilhelmshohe. Post office established September 4, 1879; name changed to Zeven November 13, 1882. Possibly named for a town in Germany.

Zeven. Post office name changed from Wilhelmshohe November 13, 1882; name changed to Ashton March 22, 1888. Named for a town in Hanover province, Germany.

SIoux COUNTY

Named for the Sioux Indians. County boundaries were defined by an act of the Legislature approved February 19, 1877, and redefined February 19, 1885.

Addis. Former station on Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. Post office was Orella.

Adella. Post office established May 27, 1891; name changed to Orella November 23, 1910. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was Andrew P. Rosenburg.

Agate. Post office name changed from Royville April 26, 1899. Named by James H. Cook after his ranch, the Agate Springs Ranch. Deposits of agate found at this point and there are springs in the area.

Aldine. Post office established December 17, 1899; discontinued August 31, 1929. Named for a female acquaintance of R. H. Brown, first postmaster.

Andrews. Peak population (1910), 45. Post office name changed from Hunter May 8, 1906; discontinued, 1953. This present railroad station and former town is said by one source to be named for a Mr. Andrews, who homesteaded the land on which town was platted. Another source says named for Jew Andrews, a locating engineer for the Chicago and North Western Railroad.

Arid. Post office established July 22, 1910; discontinued March 27, 1912. Name descriptive of the locale.

Ashbrook. Peak population (1910), 12. Post office established July 20, 1903; discontinued July 31, 1919. Former town named in honor of Link and Harry Ashbrook, who owned a ranch and had charge of the post office.

Asp. Post office name changed from Curly October 12, 1923; discontinued, 1935. Named for the initials of A. S. Powell, first postmaster.

Bell. Post office established July 5, 1894; discontinued August 20, 1901. Named in honor of a local settler.

Bodarc. Census not available. Post office established March 19, 1896; discontinued August 31, 1901. Town of Bodarc was named by John W. Hunter and C. F. Slingerland, partners in a store on Hat Creek. They wanted a post office, and the name of Hunter's little daughter Oressa was suggested. About the same time a Texas community requested that its post office be named Bodarc, a corruption of bois d'arc (a tree native to eastern Texas—the Osage orange tree, commonly known as hedge apple). Postal authorities crossed the names and called the Texas post office Oressa and the Sioux County office Bodarc. Bodarc vied for county seat with Harrison and two other contenders and lost.

Böwen. Name suggested for the town of Harrison, but there already was a post office so named within the state.

Canton. Post office established February 8, 1890; moved to Box Butte County December 28, 1891; re-established March 10, 1921; discontinued June 15, 1921. Probably named for one of 18 Cantons in the United States.

Carey. Post office established July 20, 1899; discontinued September 27, 1904. Possibly named for Samuel W. Carey, early settler.

Casmella. Post office established June 30, 1892; discontinued April 28, 1894. Origin of the name has not been learned.

Coffee. Post office established May 22, 1908; rescinded September 3, 1908. Named for the Charles F. Coffee family, residents.

Coffee Sliding. Station on the Chicago and North Western Railroad.

Colville. Post office established April 18, 1907; discontinued October 15, 1908. Said to be named in honor of David Colville, an Australian settler.

Cross. Post office established March 14, 1910; discontinued January 4, 1911. Named in honor of a settler.

Curly. Post office established July 22, 1907; name changed to Asp October 12, 1923. Named in honor of Cyrus H. Henderson, the first postmaster, known as "Curly" for his curly hair.

Dancer's Hill. Stage stop on the old Fort Pierre and Fort Laramie Trail.

Deadman Creek. Former locality in Sioux County.

Dome. Post office established April 17, 1911; discontinued December 31, 1915. Named for a land characteristic which resembled a dome.

Dowling. Post office established September 15, 1913; discontinued September 15, 1916. Possibly named in honor of Elizabeth M. Dowling, first postmistress.

Dubert. Post office established May 12, 1911; discontinued March 15, 1912. Probably named in honor of Ada Dubert, first postmistress.

Eckard. Post office established January 18, 1889; discontinued September 25, 1890. Possibly named in honor of John Eckard of Ardmore, South Dakota.

Empire. Post office established October 3, 1906; discontinued March 31, 1911. Probably named for the Empire Cattle Ranch or for the "cattle empire" in the surrounding area.

Gilchrist. Post office established September 11, 1889; discontinued September 20, 1902. Possibly named in honor of L. W. Gilchrist, member of the Nebraska Legislature at the time the office was established.

Glen. Census not available. Post office established August 22, 1887; discontinued, 1954. Former town named for its location in a glen.

Gramercy. Post office established February 28, 1887; discontinued June 13, 1893. Probably named for Gramercy, England.

Harold. Name of Adelia before a post office was established.

Harrison. Peak population (1940), 500. Post office established August 6, 1886. County seat named in honor of President Benjamin Harrison (1833-1901). Harrison won county seat in election with Andrews, Bodarc, Montrose and the S. E. Smith Ranch in the first week of January, 1887.

Hewitt. Post office established July 1, 1899; discontinued September 4, 1904. Named in honor of a local settler.

Hunter. Post office established March 19, 1903; name changed to Andrews May 8, 1906. Named in honor of the Hunter family, well-known in ranching activities. David and R. D. Hunter, with David Evans, established the Hunter and Evans Ranch on the Niobrara River at an earlier date.

Joder. Station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad located near Orella.

Kelley. Post office established January 6, 1908; discontinued November 15, 1911. Named in honor of Mattie A. Kelley, first postmistress.

Mallinda. Post office moved from Box Butte County August 14, 1910; discontinued December 31, 1916. See note on Box Butte County.

Mansfield. Former station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad named for a railroad official.

Montrose. Peak population (1910), 24. Post office established February 28, 1887; discontinued, 1949. Former town located on the high, rose-covered banks of Hat Creek. It is a name used in Scotland to describe wild roses. Montrose vied for county seat in 1887.

Mud Springs. Post office established June 9, 1909; discontinued July 15, 1918. Named by a ranchman because of the muddy soil near a local spring whose waters seeped over a large area.

Orella. Post office name changed from Adelia November 23, 1910; discontinued, 1956. Named in honor of a young lady resident.

Porter. Former station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad.

Royville. Post office established March 29, 1890; name changed to Agate April 26, 1899. Named in honor of Roy Green, son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Green.

S. E. Smith Ranch. Contender for county seat in early county history.

Spud. Post office established May 27, 1926; discontinued November 30, 1928. Probably named after the slang word for potato. Area was well-suited for growing potatoes.

Story. Census not available. Post office established May 23, 1891; discontinued, 1936. Former town named in honor of Solomon R. Story, Civil War veteran and first postmaster.

Townsend. Post office established June 18, 1907; discontinued January 31, 1909. Possibly named in honor of Addie Townsend, first postmistress.

Unlt. Post office established April 26, 1906; discontinued August 15, 1927. Origin of name not learned.

Warbonnet. Post office established September 12, 1882; discontinued May 29, 1886. This office established at the Emmons and B. E. Brewster Ranch, probably named for an Indian warbonnet found in the area.

White Glen. Former locality in Sioux County.

STANTON COUNTY

Named in honor of Edwin M. Stanton (1814-1869), secretary of war from 1862 to 1867 in Cabinets of Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. Organized by Legislature January 10, 1862, it had previously been called Izard County after territorial governor Mark Izard.

Bega. Peak population (1880), 60. Post office established January 30, 1879; discontinued January 31, 1902. Town probably named by Postmaster Andrew Johnson for a locality or subdivision in Sweden.

Berry. Former locality in the early settlement of Stanton County.

Butterfly. Post office established January 14, 1886; discontinued March 15, 1901. Named by area surveyors for the numerous butterflies found around the creeks in dry seasons.

Canton. Post office established July 24, 1868; name changed to Pilger July 10, 1884. Probably named by Irving Layton, first postmaster, who was born in Canton, Ohio.

Clinton. Census not available. Post office established October 19, 1868; discontinued February 24, 1875. Former county seat located 3 miles east of the present town of Stanton. Town said to be named for Clinton, Indiana, by some of the early settlers from there. Clinton lost its identity when railroad bypassed the town.

Craig City. This former locality did not exist long enough for a post office to be established; probably named for Walter Craig, a settler.

Degen. Post office established January 11, 1886; discontinued September 14, 1886. Origin of name not learned; it is probably British.

Devon. Early community in Stanton County named by Thomas Mortimer, British settler, for the Duke of Devon.

Dimick. Locality was the Marshall Field Ranch and was named in honor of Ed Dimick, the ranch manager.

Donupe. Post office established April 3, 1871; moved to Wayne County October 30, 1882. Probably named by early German settlers for a German locality.

Farmington. Post office established September 1, 1875; discontinued September 11, 1876. Probably named for its location in a farming community.

Gassey Hollow. Later site of the Pleasant Run post office.

Haymow. Post office established April 23, 1884; discontinued March 2, 1904. Named for the precinct in which it was located. The word pertains to ricks of wild prairie hay in nearby fields.

Hoosier Hollow. Locality near Pleasant Run named by settlers from the Hoosier state of Indiana.

Horace. Post office established February 13, 1886; discontinued July 31, 1886. Named in honor of Horace B. Wheeler, first postmaster.

Hunton. Designated as county seat for Izard County. Hunton existed in name only.

Kingsberg. Post office established August 4, 1876; discontinued prior to 1885. Office originally called Koenigsberg by early German settlers after a city in Germany.

Orion. Post office established October 23, 1872; discontinued April 26, 1876. Origin of name not learned.

Pilger. Peak population (1930), 578. Post office name changed from Canton July 10, 1884. Platted by the Valley Land and Town Lot Company of the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad. Named in honor of Peter Pilger, owner of the land on which town site was platted.

Pleasant Run. Post office established July 11, 1868; name changed to Stanton April 3, 1877. Descriptive name of post office located at the A. J. Bartoff farm.

Schwedt. Post office established August 19, 1873; discontinued August 1, 1895. Probably named by Carl Feyerham for a town in the Prussian province of Germany.

Stanton. Peak population (1940), 1,490. Post office name changed from Pleasant Run April 3, 1877. County seat platted by S. L. Holman in 1871. Holman named the town in honor of his wife, whose maiden name was Stanton. Another source says the town named for the county.

THAYER COUNTY

Named in honor of Civil War General John Milton Thayer, governor of Nebraska from 1887 to 1892. He was also a US senator from Nebraska from 1867 to 1871. County was originally called Jefferson, created in 1867. The present Thayer County was established by legislative enactment in 1871.

Alexandria. Peak population (1910), 447. Post office established June 10, 1872. Named in honor of S. J. Alexander, Nebraska secretary of state, 1879-1882. Town platted by Nebraska Land and Town Company.

Belvidere. Peak population (1910), 475. Post office name changed from Elm Grove July 17, 1873. Colonel Thomas Harbine, an official of the St. Joseph and Grand Island Railroad, named this town in accordance with the railway's A-B-C-D system of naming stations along its route. It may have been named for either Belvidere, Illinois, or Belvidere, New Jersey.

Big Sandy. Post office established March 8, 1872; discontinued April 5, 1875. Named for Big Sandy Creek.

Bruning. Peak population (1960), 289. Post office name changed from Prairie Star February 19, 1884. Town named in honor of Frank Bruning and his three brothers, who settled in the area. An Army Air Force base was located here during World War II.

Bryant. Post office established August 1, 1871; moved to Fillmore County April 25, 1873. Probably named for Bowater Bryant, a settler from Indiana.

Byron. Peak population (1930), 206. Post office established January 29, 1885. Town commemorates the English poet, George Noel Gordon, Lord Byron (1788-1824).

Carleton. Peak population (1890), 458. Post office name changed from Pioneer February 13, 1873; named in honor of Carleton Emory, son of the owner of the town site.

Chester. Peak population (1940), 634. Post office established September 2, 1880. Probably named for one of the 26 places in the United States called Chester. Town established by Lincoln Land Company.

Coldrain. Name suggested and rejected for the present town of Carleton.

Coleraine. Locality listed in early county history.

Davenport. Peak population (1890), 513. Post office established June 23, 1874. Named by the St. Joseph and Grand Island Railroad for Davenport, Iowa.

Deshler. Peak population (1930), 1,176. Post office established, 1887. Named in honor of John Deshler, who owned the town site.

Dryden. Post office established June 6, 1870; discontinued September 29, 1879. Possibly named for John Dryden, the English poet. First postmaster was Richard D. Preston.

Elm Grove. Post office established July 5, 1871; name changed to Belvidere July 17, 1873. Named for a grove of elm trees in the vicinity.

Fort Butler. The Indian raids of 1869 caused organization of Company A, 1st Nebraska Cavalry, numbering 65 volunteers. They built a stockade on Spring Creek named Fort Butler in honor of the territorial governor, David Butler. In 1870 a company of regulars stationed at Kiowa replaced Company A, most of whom were settlers. The next year, on March 18, the citizens again formed a company subject to the order of the governor. The founding of Fort Butler led to the establishment of the town of Hebron.

Friedenau. Peak population (1910), 30. Post office established May 9, 1878; discontinued April 23, 1903. Former hamlet established by German colonists who named it "the vale of peace."

Gazelle. Post office established June 23, 1874; moved to Fillmore County February 18, 1879. Named for the antelope or gazelle which frequented this region in an earlier period.

Gilead. Peak population (1910), 181. Post office established June 23, 1874. Probably named for Mount Gilead in Palestine or Mount Gilead in Ohio.

Hebron. Peak population (1950), 2,000. Post office established April 25, 1870. County seat located in the valley of the Little Blue River and named for the ancient city of Hebron in Palestine. Named by members of the Disciples of Christ congregation who were among settlers platting the town in 1869.

Hillsdale. Proposed town in early county history.

Hubbell. Peak population (1900), 375. Post office established August 16, 1880. Town named in honor of Hubbell Johnson on whose farm the town site was platted by the Lincoln Land Company.

Jersey City. Post office established March 8, 1872; discontinued September 30, 1872. Possibly named for Jersey City, New Jersey.

Kiowa. Pony Express Station No. 6 in Nebraska, about 10 miles north of Hebron.

Kiowa. Census not available. Post office established July 14, 1870; discontinued April 23, 1903. Former village named for the Kiowa Indians.

Millersville. Nebraska Pony Express Station No. 5, probably located north of Hebron. Sometimes called Thompson's station because it was operated by George B. Thompson.

Pioneer. Post office established July 18, 1871; name changed to Carleton February 13, 1873. Named for the pioneers of the westward movement.

Prairie Star. Post office established December 29, 1873; name changed to Bruning February 19, 1884. Probably named for the Prairie Star school in the vicinity.

Sickler's Mill. Post office established May 8, 1876; discontinued November 4, 1881. Named in honor of a settler who operated a grist mill.

Stoddard. Peak population (1910, 1920, 1930), 56. Post office established May 21, 1886; discontinued, 1935. Former town and present railroad station probably named for an official of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad.

Williams. Peak population (1930), 126. Post office established June 25, 1901; discontinued, 1935. Named in honor of William Lamb, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lamb, who owned the land of the town site. Postal authorities added the letter "s."

THOMAS COUNTY

Named in honor of Civil War General George H. Thomas (1816-1870). County boundaries were defined by an act of Legislature and approved March 31, 1887.

Comfort. Post office established January 8, 1913; rescinded December 9, 1913. Probably named for the comfort of his home or ranch by Thomas M. Lucas, first postmaster.

Dismal. Post office established September 30, 1916; discontinued August 14, 1920. Named for the Dismal River, on which the office was located near the ranch of Billy and Fred Black.

Halsey. Peak population (1950), 160. Post office established May 11, 1892. Named in honor of Halsey Yates of Lincoln, member of a surveying party for the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad.

Imhof. Post office established April 12, 1919; discontinued, 1933. Named in honor of George Imhof, on whose ranch the post office was established.

Natick. Post office established November 30, 1887; discontinued June 15, 1916. Presently a railroad station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. Post office and precinct named by railway officials for Natick, Massachusetts.

Norway. Census not available. Post office established November 30, 1887; discontinued, 1936. Former hamlet and present railroad station named for Norwegian settlers.

Purdum. Post office moved from Blaine County, November 19, 1891; moved back May 5, 1894. Named in honor of George F. Purdum, first postmaster.

Robeda. Post office established February 15, 1906; rescinded October 15, 1906. Origin of name not learned.

Seneca. Peak population (1920), 476. Post office established January 23, 1888. One source says town named for the Seneca Indians in New York state. Another source reports the town named by a railroad contractor from Seneca, Kansas. Town established by Lincoln Land Company, and vied with Thedford for county seat in 1920 election.

Shidler. Post office established February 11, 1914; moved to Logan County September 15, 1915. Probably named in honor of Richard Shidler, first postmaster.

Summit. Post office established March 9, 1912; moved to McPherson County January 10, 1923. Named by J. W. Shutts for its elevated location.

Sunflower. Post office established March 13, 1909; discontinued April 30, 1913. Named by Fred Maseberg, first postmaster, and John H. Evans, local settler, for a field of sunflowers nearby.

Thedford. Peak population (1960), 303. Post office established November 30, 1887. One source says this county seat named for Thedford, Ontario, Canada. Another source attributes name to Thedford, England, birthplace of the parents of homesteader W. W. Cowles from Massachusetts. Thedford was made county seat when the county was established. It won county seat election with Seneca in 1920.

THURSTON COUNTY

Named in honor of former Nebraska US Senator John M. Thurston. Boundaries were defined by an act of the Legislature and approved March 7, 1855. Previously known as Blackbird County, it had been named for Chief Blackbird of the Omaha Indian tribe.

Athens. Post office moved from Cuming County January 29, 1885; name changed to Pender February, 1886. Possibly named for Athens, Illinois; Athens, Ohio; or Athens, Greece.

Blackbird. Post office established April 1, 1856; discontinued December 10, 1858. Named in honor of the noted Indian leader, Chief Blackbird of the Omaha Indians.

Flourney. Post office established, 1886; name changed to Thurston July 2, 1895. Probably named for a local settler.

Lake Quinnebaugh. Resort on the Missouri River.

Logan. Former station on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad located north of Lyons.

Macy. Peak population (1950), 203. Post office name changed from Omaha Agency March 16, 1906. Name was changed from Omaha Agency because much mail was mistakenly sent to Omaha. To form the new name, the second syllable of Omaha was

combined with the last syllable of agency. The town is an Indian trading post. The Omaha Indian reservation is nearby.

Middle Creek. Former station on the Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul and Omaha Railroad. Location was south of Winnebago.

Omaha Agency. Post office established October 9, 1861; name changed to Macy March 16, 1906. Named in honor of the Omaha Indian tribe.

Pender. Peak population (1970), 1,207. Post office name changed from Athens February, 1886. County seat named in honor of John Pender, an Englishman noted as a cable builder and director of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad. Town was moved from old site when railroad built nearby.

Quinton. Post office established June, 1892; name changed to Walthill June 15, 1906. Origin of name not learned.

Rosalie. Peak population (1920), 321. Post office established July 13, 1906. Named in honor of Rosalie LaFlesche, daughter of Joseph LaFlesche, French-Indian chief of the Omaha Indians.

Thurston. Peak population (1930), 236. Post office name changed from Flourney July 2, 1895. Town named for the county.

Walthill. Peak population (1940), 1,204. Post office name changed from Quinton June 15, 1906. Town named in honor of Walter Hill, son of James Hill, builder of the Great Northern Railroad. Walter Hill worked for the building of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad through the county in 1905. He joined with a Mr. Hutchins in organizing the town site company.

Winnebago. Peak population (1940), 800. Post office established January 16, 1867. Town named for the Winnebago Indians. It lies within the Indian reservation but is not part of it.

VALLEY COUNTY

Named because it was composed mostly of valley land, lying between higher table lands in the North Loup Valley. County was created and its boundaries defined by an act of the Legislature approved March 1, 1871. County was finally established by the Legislature in 1873.

Adair. Post office established March 5, 1878; discontinued March 12, 1879. Possibly named for Adair, Iowa, by an early settler.

Alta. Post office established May 14, 1890; discontinued January 31, 1905. Name is derived from the Latin word "altus," referring to a high or elevated position.

Arcadia. Peak population (1920), 745. Post office established June 23, 1874. Mrs. Samuel A. Hawthorne, postmistress, suggested the name Arcadia, which means "feast of the flowers." At that time the valley was filled with wild roses, and the name was appropriate for the season.

Barracks. Post office established October 14, 1874; name changed to Calamus March 25, 1875. Named for the Army barracks at nearby Fort Hartsuff.

Brownville. Proposed name for Arcadia before it was established, but there was already a Brownville post office within the state.

Burris. Former station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. Possibly named in honor of William Burris of Ord.

Calamus. Peak population (1890), 65. Post office name changed from Barracks March 25, 1875. Town platted by Lieutenant Thomas Capron and located at the southeast corner of Fort Hartsuff. When there were rumors of abandonment of Fort Hartsuff, most of the residents moved to Ord. Calamus is a Dakota Indian word meaning "food of the muskrat."

Chin City. Former name of Ord before the town was platted. Named in honor of A. T. (Chin) Tracy, first man to live in the area.

Dane Creek. Former settlement made up mostly of Danes.

Eldon. Suggested name for the town of Elyria, but there was already a post office in the state so named.

Elyria. Peak population (1950), 150. Post office established September 26, 1888. Town named by the Lincoln Land Company for Elyria, Ohio.

Fort Hartsuff. Army post located on Knife Creek (also called Lone Tree Creek and later Bean Creek) in 1874. The post was garrisoned by units of the 9th, 14th, and 23rd Infantry and was active until May, 1881. Comprised of nine concrete-like grout buildings, the fort was intended for the protection of settlers in the Loup Valley. Named for Union Civil War General George L. Hartsuff (1830-1874).

Garfield. Post office established August 2, 1880; discontinued April 5, 1884. Possibly named in honor of James Garfield (1831-1881), 20th President of the United States.

Geranium. Post office established April 28, 1879; discontinued June 5, 1905. Named for the precinct in which it was located. Name is floral in origin.

Goodenow. Former station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad named in honor of M. B. Goodenow, early settler.

Ida. Post office established February 1, 1876; discontinued September 19, 1887. Origin of name not learned. Jonas Sheperd was first postmaster.

Lee Park. Post office established January 15, 1879; moved to Custer County February 13, 1889. Town named in honor of James Lee, first settler.

Manderson. Post office established April 2, 1883; discontinued January 9, 1892. Possibly named for Charles F. Manderson, Nebraska US senator when the post office was established.

Mira Creek. Peak population (1880), 121. Post office established August 17, 1877; discontinued June 15, 1904. Named for nearby Myra Creek—after Myra Babcock. Since there already was a Myra post office in the state, the spelling was changed to Mira.

Netollee. Name of Geranium before a post office was established. Named for a place in Poland.

North Loup. Peak population (1930), 643. Post office established May 7, 1873. Named for its location in the North Loup River Valley. A colony established by Seventh Day Baptists from Wisconsin in the fall of 1871.

Olean. Former station on the Union Pacific Railroad. Possibly named for Olean, New York.

Ord. Peak population (1960), 2,413. Post office established November 17, 1873. County seat named in honor of General Edward O. C. Ord, commander of the military department of the Platte Valley. Town was surveyed in the spring of 1874 by O. S. and O. C. Haskill and A. M. Robbins.

Saunders. Station on the Union Pacific Railroad.

Sedlov. Post office established March 29, 1880; discontinued May 11, 1907. Named for a city in Bohemia province (Czechoslovakia). John W. Beran, first postmaster.

Spelts. Railroad station and elevator siding named in honor of Louis Spelts, settler.

Springdale. Post office established October 16, 1872; discontinued December 19, 1882. Named by R. W. Bancroft for its site on Spring Creek.

Sumter. Post office established May 24, 1894; discontinued November 12, 1895. Named by a Captain Phillips of the Lincoln Land Company, probably for Thomas Sumter, a local settler.

Vinton. Peak population (1880), 100. Post office established February 15, 1875; discontinued March 23, 1888. Former village platted by the Vinton Town-Site Company from Vinton, Iowa.

Yale. Post office established March 28, 1881; discontinued April 21, 1905. Named by C. H. Young, probably for shortness of the name or for Yale University in Connecticut.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Named in honor of George Washington (1732-1799), first President of the United States. Boundaries were defined by an act of the Legislature approved February 22, 1855, on the anniversary of President Washington's birthday and redefined November 2, 1858. The western boundary was redefined by an act approved January 12, 1860.

Admah. Peak population (1880), 40. Post office established January 26, 1874; discontinued January 19, 1901. Former town named for a biblical site near Old Testament city of Sodom. Admah is Hebrew, meaning fortress.

Advance. Post office established August 1, 1871; discontinued October 20, 1871. Probably named by some party in advance of others at its founding.

Amherst. Post office established August 8, 1871; discontinued October 28, 1878. Possibly named for either Amherst College or Amherst, Massachusetts.

Arlington. Peak population (1960, 1970), 740. Post office name changed from Belle Creek January 16, 1882. Named for a city in Virginia, located on the Potomac River. Town platted by Sioux City and Pacific Railroad.

Belle Creek. Post office established October 2, 1857; name changed to Arlington January 16, 1882. Named for Belle Creek which was named for the Belle family.

Blair. Peak population (1970), 6,100. Post office established January 7, 1869. Named in honor of John I. Blair (1802-1899), of New Jersey, railroad builder and controller of railroad operations. At one time president of the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad, Blair owned the land on which the town is located. Won county seat from Fort Calhoun in 1869.

Bono. Post office established August 28, 1867; discontinued July 7, 1875. Origin of name not learned.

Bowen. Census not available. Former town, platted by the Pioneer Town-Site Company, was named in honor of John S. Bowen, a settler, in 1886. Mail from nearby Kennard was served to this area.

Calhoun. Name of railroad station for Fort Calhoun.

Cantonment Missouri. Constructed by soldiers of the Yellowstone Expeditionary Force under Colonel Henry Atkinson in October, 1819, near Council Bluffs. Abandoned in the spring of 1820 for new fortifications nearby, which became Fort Atkinson.

Coffman. Census not available. Post office established January 3, 1891; discontinued June 22, 1901. Former town named in honor of Dr. V. H. Coffman, who owned the land on which it was located.

Cuming City. Post office established February 8, 1856; name changed to Herman January 19, 1872. Town named in honor of Thomas B. Cuming, acting governor of Nebraska when the town was platted.

Dale. Hamlet and station on the Chicago and North Western Railroad eventually moved across the county line into Douglas County.

De Soto. Peak population (1860), 500. Post office established March 2, 1855; discontinued, 1934. Former town and present station on the Chicago and North Western Railroad named for the 16th century explorer, Hernando De Soto. De Soto was a popular steamer port and boom town on the Missouri River before the advent of the railroad. It dwindled in population after Blair was established. De Soto was made county seat in 1858 but lost it in election with Fort Calhoun in 1866.

Fairview. Post office established June 30, 1892; discontinued May 18, 1895. Locally descriptive name. Twenty states have post offices with this name.

Fletcher. Post office established March 22, 1883; discontinued January 19, 1901. Named in honor of Foxwell Fletcher, first postmaster.

Fort Atkinson. Military post located on the Council Bluffs on the Nebraska side of the Missouri River. When established in 1820, it was farther west than any other outpost in the United States. The fort was named in honor of Colonel Henry Atkinson, appointed by Secretary of War John C. Calhoun as the commander of the Yellowstone Expeditionary Force. Fort Atkinson abandoned in 1827 with troops removed to Fort Leavenworth.

Fort Calhoun. Peak population (1960), 458. Post office established June 15, 1855. Town named in honor of Secretary of War John C. Calhoun (1782-1850). Location was near site of old Fort Atkinson. Fort Calhoun, first county seat of Washington County, lost designation to De Soto in 1858; regained its status in 1866; and lost it three years later to Blair. Railroad name was Calhoun.

Fort Lisa. Post named in 1807 for Manuel Lisa, trader and sub-agent for the Indian tribes. He was the first white man to settle and farm in Nebraska Territory. Lisa maintained the post until 1820, when he died in St. Louis, Missouri. Fort Lisa was probably located near the present town of Fort Calhoun.

Giles. Post office established October 7, 1881; discontinued November 12, 1883. Named in honor of Giles Mead, first postmaster.

Hayes. Post office established April 16, 1878; moved to Douglas County April 26, 1887. Probably named in honor of President Rutherford B. Hayes (1822-1893), whose term of office occurred at the time post office was established.

Herman. Peak population (1940), 427. Post office name changed from Cuming City January 19, 1872. Town platted by Omaha and Northwestern Railroad officials on or near site of Cuming City. Named in honor of Samuel Herman, railroad conductor.

Hlawatha. Town site located on the Missouri River. Before a post office could be established, the town was washed out by a flood in 1857. Name is of Indian origin.

Hiland. Former station on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad, named in honor of J. H. Hiland, assistant traffic manager of the line.

Hillside. Former station on the Chicago and North Western Railroad near Blair.

Hudson. Town proposed by W. E. Walker, an enterprising citizen of Connecticut. He platted the town and drew imaginary streets, then went back East and sold 8,720 lots at \$1.00 apiece at promotional lectures. However, the scheme failed.

Kennard. Peak population (1920), 363. Post office established, 1871; established first as a rural post office. Town named in honor of Thomas P. Kennard, Nebraska's first secretary of state (1867-1870). Town platted by Sioux City and Pacific Railroad in 1895.

Lewisburg. Post office established, 1856; discontinued, 1859. Located on Clark Creek. Locality had a grist mill.

Meads. Former station on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad located north of Blair.

Melrose. Early settlement mentioned in Washington County history.

Miles. Early settlement mentioned in Washington County history.

Mills. Former Omaha and Northwestern Railroad station located north of Fort Calhoun. Store also located in the area.

Nashville. Post office established October 14, 1922; discontinued June 15, 1929. Probably named for Nashville, Tennessee.

Nero. Post office established June 15, 1871; name changed to Vacoma March 17, 1882. Origin of name not learned.

New York Creek. An early locality or a proposed town site.

Orum. Post office established June 30, 1890; discontinued March 23, 1904. Named in honor of Robert Orum, first postmaster.

Platteview. Post office established August 19, 1869; discontinued September 25, 1869. Named for its location on the Platte River.

Prairie Oaks. Former locality in Washington County.

Richland. Place listed in 1865 census as having 95 people. Probably a river town that did not last long enough to acquire a post office because of a flood.

Rocket. This town on the Missouri River had a short life due to severe floods in the early 1850s.

Rockport. River port on the Missouri. Its existence was brief, probably due to floods.

Sheridan. Proposed town in early county history.

South Blair. Former station on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad.

Spiker. Post office established June 6, 1890; discontinued May 23, 1902. Possibly named for Samuel R. Spiker, Civil War veteran and early settler.

Telbasta. Post office established March 17, 1890; discontinued September 20, 1900. Origin of name of this present-day community not learned.

Tyson. Former station on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad. Probably named for Watson Tyson, local pioneer.

Vacoma. Post office name changed from Nero March 17, 1882; discontinued January 14, 1901. Origin of the name not learned. There was a store in conjunction with the post office.

Walnut Creek. Post office established August 22, 1853; discontinued September 22, 1855. Location was near Walnut Creek. Named for the black walnut trees growing along the banks.

Washington. Peak population (1910), 150. Post office established August 16, 1871. Named for the county and platted by Pioneer Town-Site Company.

WAYNE COUNTY

Named in honor of Revolutionary War General (Mad Anthony) Wayne. County organized in 1870 by proclamation of Governor David Butler and the boundaries defined and legalized March 4, 1871.

Altona. Peak population (1910, 1920, 1930), 45. Post office established May 10, 1898; discontinued, 1936. J. G. Bergt and F. G. Panning, both of Hooper, Nebraska, erected a store on land purchased from George F. Theis. Postal authorities granted a petition request for a post office and suggested the name Altona. Theis platted the town in 1898. Some sources say named for a town in the Holstein province of Germany.

Apex. Former station on the Chicago and North Western Railroad, named for its elevated location on or near a divide 1 mile south and 4 miles west of Winside. This place was never a post office. A siding was put in Apex so that freight trains could be carried over the point in sections when they were too heavy for one pull.

Bird. Post office established March 30, 1898; discontinued March 23, 1900. Former post office located 6 miles north of Melvin on the farm of Erwin C. (Bird) Brooks.

Brookdale. Former name of Wayne before the post office was established.

Carroll. Peak population (1920), 448. Post office established August 19, 1887. Town first called Manning for J. R. Manning, an early settler. A difference of opinion arose, according to one source, between the railroad company and landowners over the town site. A Mr. Carroll arbitrated the matter, and the railroad company put the name Carroll on the depot. Another source claims that the town was named by E. W. Winter, general manager of the railroad, for Charles Carroll of Maryland, last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence. Another source says town named for Ed Carroll, former county commissioner and friend of J. R. Manning and the Berry brothers.

Donup. Post office moved from Stanton County November 7, 1879; discontinued and moved to Hoskins October 30, 1882. See Donup, Stanton County.

Gray. Post office established January 11, 1886; discontinued November 9, 1887. Possibly named for Emma E. Gray, first postmistress.

Hoskins. Peak population (1920), 274. Post office established October 30, 1882. Named in honor of a Mr. Hoskins, member of the land company that platted the site. He was from Sioux City, Iowa, and associated with the Peavey Elevator Company. First settled by Germans.

La Porte. Peak population (1875), 300. Post office established February 27, 1871; discontinued June 17, 1876. Town named for La Porte, Indiana, by settlers from that state. Platted by Solon Bevins in May, 1874. La Porte was made second county seat of Wayne County in election with Taffee in 1871, but lost in election with Wayne in 1881. La Porte was bypassed when the railroad was built through Wayne, and the place eventually declined in population. Its buildings were dismantled and moved to Wayne.

Lealie. Post office established December 18, 1871; discontinued October 12, 1875. Office said to be named for a judge who served Wayne County.

Logan City. Former locality said to be named for an Indian called Logan, and situated southeast of Wakefield on the Childs place. The Childs family came here in 1880 when Childs and a Mr. Lash built a store, grist mill, and blacksmith shop on Logan Creek. The

railroad company constructed a grade through the Childs place, but the line eventually went farther north.

Lorain. Locality situated northwest of Wayne.

Manitou. Proposed town in McNeale County (later Wayne County).

Maze. Post office established May 13, 1890; discontinued July 12, 1893. Origin of name not learned.

Melvin. Post office established March 30, 1898; discontinued, 1904. Named in honor of Melvin Benedict, first postmaster.

Northside. Post office established October 3, 1882; moved to Winside December 6, 1887. Named for its location north of Winside. See Winside.

Sholes. Peak population (1910), 100. Post office established April 30, 1902; discontinued, 1966. Mail served from Randolph. Named in honor of Lyman Sholes, former official of the Chicago, Saint Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad. Established for use as a shipping point.

Taffee. Census not available. Post office established July 14, 1870; discontinued July 26, 1874. Former town, first county seat of Wayne County, named in honor of John Taffee, who served in the first Territorial Legislature. Taffee lost county seat in election with La Porte and thereafter disappeared.

Wayne. Peak population (1970), 5,459. Post office established August 12, 1881. Named for the county. Wayne won county seat from La Porte in election of 1881.

Weber. Census not available. Post office established September 11, 1899; discontinued January 22, 1903. Town named in honor of Frederick Weber, first postmaster.

Winside. Peak population (1930), 479. Post office established December 6, 1887. Winside was founded following rivalry between two locations, the present one and another three miles west called Northside. A side track and temporary depot were secured for Northside, but the competing town site company induced the railroad to select its location. The side track and depot were then moved on a Sunday to avoid injunction proceedings. The town was named Winside because that site won the railroad's favor.

WEBSTER COUNTY

Named in honor of Daniel Webster, American statesman (1782-1852). Boundaries were defined by an act approved February 16, 1867.

Amboy. Post office name changed from Webster Centre December 23, 1879; discontinued January 8, 1890. Probably named for Amboy, Illinois.

Batln. Post office established November 8, 1872; discontinued March 3, 1887. Named in honor of the mother of Dr. T. B. Williams; her maiden name was Batin.

Belmont. Probably the name of the community before Bluehill was established as a post office.

Berne. Post office established February 11, 1884; discontinued October 15, 1884. Probably named for Berne, Switzerland, or Berne, Indiana, where the official publishing house and General Mennonite Conference headquarters were located.

Bladen. Peak population (1900), 1,823. Post office name changed from Wells November 15, 1886. Probably named for a railroad official by the Lincoln Land Company, which platted the town. There is also a Bladen, Ohio.

Blue Hill. Peak population (1900), 823. Post office established December 20, 1878. Named for its location on the hills near the Little Blue River, town was platted by Anselmo B. Smith. It was to be called Belmont, but there was already a town in the state so named.

Blue Hill Junction. Junction for railroads of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy division.

Bole. Post office name changed from Hicks July 31, 1885; discontinued December 7, 1892. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was John B. Strausser.

Buffalo. Post office established December 18, 1871; discontinued February 10, 1873. Probably named for the buffalo that roamed the prairie in this region.



One of the largest round barns in the nation is located east of Red Cloud, Webster County. Built in 1902-1903 by the Starke brothers, the structure features a central silo 28 feet in diameter and 65 feet high. The interior, composed of three levels, is 130 feet in diameter.

Catherton. Post office established May 15, 1876; discontinued August 29, 1877. Named in honor of George P. Cather, an uncle of Willa Cather, noted Nebraska author.

Cloverton. Post office established June 23, 1874; discontinued April 2, 1887. Origin of name not learned.

Cowles. Peak population (1920), 222. Post office name changed from Edna January 27, 1879. Named in honor of W. D. Cowles, general freight agent of the Burlington and Missouri Railroad.

Eckley. Post office established October 12, 1874; discontinued April 29, 1879. Origin of name not learned. There is also an Eckley, Colorado.

Edna. Post office established May 10, 1877; name changed to Cowles January 27, 1879. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was Arando Edson.

Guide Rock. Peak population (1910, 1930), 690. Post office established February 3, 1871. Named for a high rocky bluff about 2½ miles southeast and across the Republican River from the town site. The rock served as a landmark to early western travelers.

Hicks. Post office established December 17, 1883; name changed to Bole July 31, 1885. Named in honor of a local settler.

Inavale. Peak population (1930), 252. Post office established April 3, 1873. Named by a vote of the residents: In-a-Vale, the vale being the Republican Valley. W. J. Vance platted the town in 1884.

Lester. Station on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad named in honor of a local settler.

Negunda. Post office established February 23, 1872; discontinued May 4, 1903. Probably derived from the botanical name of box elder trees.

Otto. Post office established September 12, 1884; discontinued December 22, 1903. Named for Norwegian settler Otto Skjelvar. First postmaster was Francis Payne.

Red Cloud. Peak population (1890), 1,839. Post office established January 14, 1872. County seat named in honor of Red Cloud, last warrior chief of the Teton Sioux. Local tradition states that he held a war council on what is now the town site. Another source says that Red Cloud was never in the locale. The town was platted by Silas Garber, governor of Nebraska, on November 12, 1872. Red Cloud was made county seat upon organization of the county. It probably has the distinction of being one of the last towns to have horse-drawn street cars, which operated from 1889 until October, 1917. Red Cloud is the site of the Willa Cather Historical Center, administered by the Nebraska State Historical Society.

Rosemont. Peak population (1930), 202. Post office established June 16, 1890. Named in honor of Claus Rose, Sr., who once owned the town site. Platted by Lincoln Land Company.

Saint Ann. Post office name changed from Wheatland December 14, 1885; discontinued February 9, 1887. Probably named for a local church in the neighborhood.

Scott. Post office established November 4, 1873; discontinued May 24, 1894. Origin of name not learned.

Stillwater. Post office established June 18, 1874; discontinued August 29, 1879. Origin of name not learned. There are places in eight states having this name.

Stockade. Post office established February 16, 1876; discontinued October 17, 1876. Probably named for the stockade built to protect settlers from Indian attacks.

Thomasville. Post office established December 29, 1876; discontinued July 12, 1888. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was William Longbotham.

Webster Centre. Post office established March 7, 1879; name changed to Amboy December 23, 1879. Named for its location in the center of the county.

Wells. Post office established May 20, 1872; name changed to Bladen November 15, 1886. Named in honor of Silas Wells, early settler.

Wheatland. Post office established March 5, 1875; name changed to Saint Ann December 14, 1885. Named for its location in a wheat-growing section.

WHEELER COUNTY

Named in honor of Major Daniel H. Wheeler, longtime secretary of the Nebraska Board of Agriculture. Boundaries for county were defined by an act of the Legislature approved February 17, 1877.

Arden. Post office moved from Boone County May 15, 1918; discontinued June, 1918. See Arden, Boone County.

Baird. Post office established May 17, 1902; name changed to Wheeler February 1, 1909. Town probably named for W. S. Baird. Post office name was changed to avoid confusing mail with Bayard.

Bartlett. Peak population (1940), 176. Post office established July 22, 1886. Town named in honor of Ezra Bartlett, founder and first settler. Bartlett won county seat in election with Cumminsville in 1885. Bartlett vied with Ericson for county seat in election of 1909 and won.

Bliss. Post office established April 29, 1884; moved to Holt County March 4, 1886. Named in honor of Nelson Bliss, first postmaster.

Buffalo. Peak population (1890), 12. Post office established July 31, 1883; discontinued May 1, 1895. Former town named by first postmaster, William J. Riddle, for buffalo bones and horns found in the region. Probably the second county seat of Wheeler County.

Cedar City. Locality did not last long enough to be identified with a post office. Cedar City became first county seat but lost out in election with Cumminsville in November, 1883. The community was named by Ben Johnson on July 19, 1881, for its site on the Cedar River.

Cumminsville. Peak population (1890), 25. Post office established September 23, 1880; discontinued, 1937. Named in honor of Frank Cummins, a homesteader. The old location of the town was 3 miles west of present site. The Union Pacific Railroad wanted to build its line from Albion, but the plan did not materialize. Cumminsville won county seat from Cedar City in November, 1883, and then lost in election to Bartlett in 1885.

Deloit. Post office established August 21, 1883; moved to Holt County December 12, 1905. Named for Deloit, Michigan.

Ericson. Peak population (1940), 279. Post office established December 8, 1887. Village named in honor of Christensen Erickson and his two sons, Eric and Peter. Postal authorities dropped the "k" from the name. Ericson vied for county seat with Bartlett in 1909.

Farley. Post office established December 22, 1885; rescinded June 1, 1886. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was Eldridge F. Thisselle.

Francis. Peak population (1900), 180. Post office established August 21, 1883; discontinued April 14, 1917. Former village probably named in honor of a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stowell. Stowell was first postmaster.

Gem. Post office established May 15, 1908; moved to Logan County February 1, 1909. Name suggests a place prized by its founder.

Harrington. Peak population (1880), 25. Post office established December 3, 1880; discontinued November 19, 1893. Former town named in honor of John S. Harrington, early settler. US post office directories show Harrington as county seat from 1885-1888.

Headquarters. Post office established March 27, 1900; discontinued December 15, 1917. Name is locally descriptive.

Lisle. Post office established April 18, 1907; discontinued September 15, 1922. Named for brother-in-law of Harry Grout, first postmaster.

Middleport. Post office established August 28, 1883; discontinued November 20, 1885. Named by Postmaster Frank Mead because the office was midway between Scotia and Cumminsville.

Moran. Post office established June 20, 1881; discontinued October 7, 1890. Honors Louis Moran, early settler.

Newboro. Census not available. Post office established February 3, 1896; discontinued, 1935. Former town named in honor of Joe Newboro, early settler.

Ono. Post office established December 22, 1885; discontinued February 4, 1907. Origin of name not learned.

Pibel. Post office established November 4, 1892; discontinued February 29, 1916. Named in honor of Edwin Pibel, first postmaster, who had the office in his store.

Reilley. Post office established July 21, 1882; discontinued October 15, 1892. Honors William Reilley, first postmaster.

Sandy. Post office established October 9, 1890; discontinued October 15, 1892. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was Luther Bennett.

Sheridan. Census not available. Post office established February 11, 1885; discontinued, 1936. Former village named in honor of Civil War General Philip H. Sheridan, who commanded troops in Indian campaigns in Nebraska and the West.

Thompson. Post office established October 18, 1883; moved to Holt County November 20, 1885. Named in honor of John Thompson, first postmaster.

Walker. Post office established September 5, 1881; moved to Holt County November 20, 1885. Honors Horatio M. Walker, first postmaster.

Wheeler. Census not available. Post office name changed from Baird February 1, 1909; discontinued, 1934. Town named for the county.

YORK COUNTY

Organized in April, 1870. One source says county named by Alfred D. Jones for York, England. Another source credits the name to early settlers from York County, Pennsylvania.

Alkin's Mill. Post office established September 8, 1870; name changed to Plainfield January 3, 1873. Named in honor of Chauncey Aiken, first postmaster.

Arberville. Peak population (1880), 100. Post office name changed from Willard October 19, 1874; discontinued, 1943. Former town platted by the Reverend C. S. Harrison, formerly of York. He planted various species of trees to form an arbor along the streets.

Benedict. Peak population (1910), 336. Post office established August 6, 1887. Town named in honor of E. C. Benedict who was then president of the Kansas City and Omaha Railroad.

Bluevale. Peak population (1890), 42. Post office name changed from Blue Valley January 4, 1895; discontinued April 1, 1901. Name changed to Bluevale after relocation on the north side of the Blue River; another Nebraska office then took the name of Blue Valley.

Blue Valley. Post office established January 24, 1870; name changed to Bluevale January 4, 1895. Name derived from the valley of the Blue River.

Bradshaw. Peak population (1890), 434. Post office name changed from Lenox July 8, 1880. Town platted by Burlington and Missouri River Railroad in 1879. Named after Mrs. Jesse M. Richards, the former Mary Bradshaw.

Charlestown. Peak population (1900), 119. Post office established March 13, 1887; discontinued, 1943. Former town named in honor of Charles A. McCloud, railway right-of-way official. Town platted by Pioneer Town-Site Company in 1887.

Creswell. Post office established April 21, 1873; discontinued February 4, 1888. Probably named in honor of John A. J. Creswell, postmaster general in President Ulysses S. Grant's Cabinet at the time of the town's founding.

Dana. Post office established December 14, 1874; discontinued January 6, 1888. Named in honor of Charles A. Dana, American newspaperman and author. He was also assistant secretary of war in President Abraham Lincoln's Cabinet from 1863 to 1864.

Danby. Post office established January 28, 1877; discontinued March 2, 1888. Named by John S. Parris who formerly lived at Danby, Vermont.

Derby. Former elevator siding probably named for an early settler or railroad official. George Derby was a land agent for the Burlington and Missouri Railroad at the time.

Eureka. Post office established January 26, 1876; discontinued January 26, 1887. Name of this former post office probably derived from the Greek word "eureka" meaning "I have found it," or from the city of Eureka, Illinois.

Farris. Post office established May 2, 1872; discontinued August 13, 1873. Probably named in honor of John B. Farris, first postmaster.

Gresham. Peak population (1920), 492. Post office name changed from Palo December 9, 1887. Named in honor of Walter Quinton Gresham, secretary of state in President Grover Cleveland's Cabinet. Town platted by Pioneer Town-Site Company in 1887.

Henderson. Peak population (1960), 730. Post office established February 21, 1888. Named in honor of David Henderson, settler.

Houston. Peak population (1900), 58. Post office established December 22, 1881; discontinued August 15, 1928. Former town platted by Pioneer Town-Site Company honors Joseph D. Houston, settler who immigrated here from England in 1870.

Indian Creek. Post office established August 19, 1873; discontinued June 29, 1888. Named for the creek on which it was located.

Knox. Elevator siding and station on the Kansas City and Omaha Railroad. Probably named for the owner of land on which elevator was established. Located 5 miles south of York.

Lawrence. Proposed town chartered March 15, 1855, which never got beyond the platting stage.

Lenox. Post office name changed from Plainfield December 11, 1879; name changed to Bradshaw July 8, 1880. Origin of name unknown. There are also places in Massachusetts and New Jersey called Lenox.

Libon. Post office established May 7, 1879; discontinued November 13, 1879. Named by T. W. Smith after a town in Kendall County, Illinois.

Long Hope. Post office established December 14, 1874; discontinued March 5, 1883. Said to be named by Gus Gibbs, a homesteader who had cherished a "long hope" for establishment of a post office.

Lushton. Peak population (1910), 205. Post office established August 6, 1887. Town named in honor of William Lush, official of the St. Joseph and Grand Island Railroad and former engineer on the Kansas City and Omaha Railroad.

McCool Junction. Peak population (1910), 369. Post office name changed from Niota February 4, 1888. Town named in honor of Daniel McCool, general manager of the Kansas City and Omaha Railroad. Junction point of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad.

McFadden. Post office established January 22, 1868; discontinued April 23, 1884. Named in honor of Fernando B. McFadden, first postmaster.

Mapps. Elevator siding built on the Kansas City and Omaha Railroad 5 miles north of York. Probably named for William Mapps, settler.

New York. Town incorporated outside the city limits of York in 1880 and named for the "newness" of its establishment and for New York, New York. The city of York absorbed it as an addition in 1884.

Niota. Post office established June 8, 1887; name changed to McCool Junction February 4, 1888. Probably named for Niota, Illinois.

Palo. Post office established April 8, 1872; name changed to Gresham December 9, 1887. Name is of Spanish origin. There are also towns in Iowa and Michigan by this name.

Plainfield. Post office name changed from Aikin's Mill January 3, 1873; name changed to Lenox December 11, 1879. Probably called for a place in Illinois, Indiana, or New Jersey by a local settler. Name possibly chosen because it described the site.

Pleasant Home. Post office moved from Polk County November 15, 1877; discontinued February 4, 1888. Name suggests the environment of the locality.

Porcupine Bluffs. Stage stop near Hamilton County line established in 1863 by Benjamin F. Lushbaugh, US Indian agent of the Pawnee tribe and proprietor of the Nebraska Overland Stage Company.

Red Lion. Post office established March 31, 1884; discontinued January 11, 1888. Named for the Red Lion Flour Mills founded by C. Seeley and E. O. Wright.

Seeley. Post office established August 12, 1874; discontinued July 5, 1881. Probably named in honor of Horace Seeley, first postmaster.

Thayer. Peak population (1910), 250. Post office established September 8, 1870; made an independent station of York, 1958. Town commemorates Civil War General John Milton Thayer, later Nebraska governor and senator.

Waco. Peak population (1910), 310. Post office name changed from Westerfield October 22, 1879. Town named by a Miss Chapin, who owned and donated the land for a town site. She formerly lived in Waco, Texas, from which the name is taken.

Westerfield. Post office established February 12, 1872; name changed to Waco October 22, 1879. Origin of name not learned.

Wickliffe. Post office established May 2, 1872; discontinued May 7, 1873. Origin of name unknown.

Willard. Post office established February 24, 1873; name changed to Arborville October 19, 1874. Origin of name not learned. First postmaster was John W. Kingston.

York. Peak population (1970), 6,702. Post office established August 22, 1870. City named by a colony of homesteaders from the vicinity of York, Pennsylvania. Town site taken as a pre-emption claim by Messrs. Ghost and Sherwood, agents for the South Platte Land Company. The present site of York was platted October 18, 1869. The section of New York was added on the north in 1884. In the spring of 1870, the buildings in the county seat consisted of one sod house and a frame structure called the pre-emption house. The first courthouse was erected in 1872.