

PREFACE

Purposes of the Book

The author's first purpose was to make an accurate listing of all of the men who served Riley County in a county office, either by appointment during the Territorial Period or by election during the nineteenth century after Kansas became a State. To obtain an accurate list a study was made of the Territorial appointments, the Riley County Commission records, and election results. The names of 162 men were determined. Various sources have lists of the men who served as officials in Riley County, but it was found that these lists were not always complete; for example, the list given in the *Historical Atlas of Riley County* included only those men who were elected to office; whereas, several of the officials were appointed by the County Commissioners to fill vacancies. In addition, it was found that the *Atlas* list gave the year of election to office as the beginning year of an officer's service. Elections were in November, but the time of service began in January of the following year.

The second purpose, and probably the one of greatest interest, was to obtain biographical and genealogical information concerning each of the men who was an official in Riley County. To accomplish this purpose a search was made for anecdotes, newspaper items, and letters that would aid the reader in assessing the personality of the men and in understanding the history of the period.

A third major purpose was to aid researchers in the future. The genealogical information was limited to the officer, his wife, and their children. Effort was made to provide genealogical records as complete as possible for these individuals. Some of the birth years were determined by census records; these are always listed with the abbreviation, "ca" The genealogical information was obtained from many sources--family members, legal documents, and newspaper items.

Major Research Sources

Relevant materials for the book were found in the following places: the Riley County Genealogical Society Library; Historical Museum libraries in Riley, Geary, Shawnee, Clay, and Ottawa counties; public libraries in Manhattan, Clay Center, Junction City, Wamego, and Council Grove; the Kansas State Research Center in Topeka; Texas State Library; and the Austin (Texas) History Center. Additional sources were courthouse records in Riley, Clay, Ottawa, Geary, Pottawatomie, Shawnee, and Morris counties. Of great importance were the correspondence or telephone conversations with cemetery offices, individuals, and courthouse employees in several states.

Two published biographies were very useful; they were *Pioneers of the Blue Stem Prairie* and *Portrait and Biographical Album for Washington, Clay, and Riley Counties*. For the individuals whose biographies appear in these references a footnote indicates the fact. Only a short synopsis of the material found in these references was used. An attempt was made to find additional material not included in these references. The genealogical material in the *Pioneers* book was supplied by descendants. Every attempt was made to verify, correct, and supplement that which was given. The *Portrait and Biographical* book was published in 1881; therefore, genealogical events occurring after that date needed to be determined.

Plan of the Book

The book is divided into two major parts. Part I concerns those men who were either appointed or elected during the time Kansas was a Territory--1855-1861. Part II records those who were elected or appointed after the admission of Kansas to statehood until the end of the nineteenth century: 1862-1900.

Following the biographical and genealogical information, three appendices have been included. Appendix A provides information concerning the occupation, political party, and religion of each man. Information was not attainable for some men. The political preference was at times determined by checking the election campaign information in the newspapers. The religious preference of the officials, unless specifically stated in the biographical materials, was determined by the religious service

held at the time of the official's death.

Appendix B gives the military record of those men who were in the Indian Service, the Mexican War, or the Civil War. The dates for the study, 1855-1900, would preclude service in other wars.

Because Riley County was the home of Bluemont College and Kansas State College, many of the men who held offices in the county had a role in founding, teaching, or administrating in one of these institutions. Appendix C lists the roles that the individuals had in these institutions.

A Selected Bibliography gives the names of the books, newspapers, census records, county records, individuals with whom there was correspondence or interviews, and unpublished sources. Two Indices have been included. Index A lists the county officers for whom biographical material has been written. Index B is a general index of all surnames included in the book. It is important to note that the numbers refer to the number of the biography, not page numbers.

Abbreviations Used

Two abbreviations used in the footnotes are of particular importance. They refer to books which are quoted for several of the county officers. They are: *PBSP--Pioneers of the Blue Stem Prairie*; and *P&BA--Portrait and Biographical Album of Washington, Clay, and Riley Counties*.

Additional Abbreviations Used in the Genealogical Sections

ae--age	d.--died
aft--after	d/o--daughter of
b--born	m--married
bf--before	m/1--first marriage
bpt--baptized	m/2--second marriage
btw--between	m/3--third marriage
bu--buried	n.d.--no date
ca--circa, about	r--resided
cem--cemetery	s/o--son of
co--county	y--year
da--day	

States and Countries

The abbreviations for states are those used by the United States Postal Service and approved for use by genealogists. For countries the abbreviations are: Eng-England; and Ger--Germany