

Divide Township

Description

Location:

3rd tier from top, north edge, of Buffalo County, 3rd from the west

7 sections wide, has that adjustment column; sections in western column are 2 miles east to west.

Bounded on north by Pole Line Road, on south by 115th Rd, on west by Evergreen Rd, and east by Hawk Rd.

North, northwest of Kearney

Physical features:

Wood River enters Sec. 30 about 3 ¼ mile from southern border, runs through slightly south in eastern path, exits south in Sec. 31 about half way.

Small amount of Wood River valley, mostly upland, streams flow south to the Wood

Mixed crop and pasture land, mostly cropland

Corn, wheat, flax

Transportation Routes:

Highway 10 from Kearney runs on the section lines 1 mile west of the eastern edge.

Kearney & Black Hills Railroad entered in center of Sec. 31, goes northwest to exit in Sec. 30 at point where Wood River enters. Railroad is on south side of Wood but appears to cross over to north side at the Divide/Grant border.

Highway 40 follows and replaced the railroad.

Towns:

Riverdale is half in Divide Township and half in Riverdale Township

Schools:

5 in 1919

Pleasant Hill, Dist 16

Dist. 36
Morning Star School
Bishop's School
Fair Oaks, Dist. 77

At least one of the schools had a Sunday School meeting in it

Bassett. Vol. I

DIVIDE TOWNSHIP--TOWN NO. 10, RANGE NO. 16

1872—
Wm. Willard,
W. Richardson,
V. O. S.
Reynolds,
A. D. Raymond,
W. F. Piercy,
J. L. Chevaux.

1873—
J. F. Young,
S. Herod,
A. E. Thomas,
G. N. McKeen,
M. J. Spry,
I. Neff,
E. A. Cutting,
W. L. Willard,
G. S. Duncan,
I. S. Knight,
Mrs. M. B. Fox,
D. Inman,
D. A. Dorsey,
E. W. Thomas,
C. A. McConkey,
J. Joseph,
A. L. Spry,
J. Brown,
S. A. Atwood,
G. L. Bakewell,
C. Lewis,
B. C. Sprague,
J. E. Spry,
S. N. Spry,
D. Vance,
R. H. Eaton,
H. W. Collins,
T. G. McLaughlin

1874—
T. J. McKee,
H. Mitchell,
G. Beal,
H. Sievert,
J. Ginther,
C. Kirk,
F. Siewert,
F. Riesenweber,
A. Davidson,
F. Willoper,
H. Baumgarn,
S. Miller,
T. Turney,
J. Rilinger,
A. H. Cleaveland,
C. Bishop,
John Swenson,
J. Schutt.

1875—
L. Logan,
J. H. Harrison,
L. N. Thorndike,
D. H. Compton,
J. Sommerville,
Thomas Ginther,
O. Neff,
Wm. Hueselton,
F. Weiss,
A. Gartley,
H. Randolph,
C. Schandt,
E. Cuddebach,
A. L. Hopwood,
A. Ayers.

1876-
L. G. Walter,
N. Boquet,
C. Stierlen,
L. Brucker,
A. A. Brucker,
T. Hutchinson.

1877—
V. H. Barrager,
Robert Scheiching.

1878—
F. Hone,
Lydia P.
Bever,
A. Stedwell,
Robt. Knittel,
F. Juhl,
C. Scheiching.

1879—
Emory Peck,
J. W. Lalone,
W. H. Pettit,
D. Hamilton,
B. Koeppe,
M. S. Stover,
H. A. Wells,
K. Holmes,
Xaver Hoell,
F. Juhl,
G. Scheiching,
Wm. Stover.

1919 Atlas

7 sections wide, has that adjustment column

Schools – 1 in Sec. 6, Sec. 20, Sec. 22, Sec. 30, Sec. 36

Churches – 1 in Sec. 4

Cemeteries

DIVIDE PIONEER CEMETERY



Divide Cemetery is in Section 4 of Divide Township, on the north side of 190th Road about 2 1/2 miles west of Nebraska Highway 10.

It was a Lutheran Church Cemetery at one time which disbanded about 1922. The church was sold and was converted into a barn. The first church was the Evangelical St. Paul's Lutheran and then the Evangelical Lutheran Christ Church.

Last burial in 1969.

About 40 graves

People:

People living there now:

Hadwiger

Richter

Altmaier

Biographical Souvenir

Early homesteaders:

1872 – 6

1873 – 28 including 4 Spry families

Alfred E. Thomas – arrived in March from Ohio via Missouri in time to experience the April blizzard

Milton J. Spry – the first Spry to arrive in March from Ohio via Iowa. Hunted deer, antelope and some elk on his 160. Pawnee hunted on Wood and Loup stopping at his place for food. Settled in Sec. 24 (same sec. as Moo Feedlot)

1874- 18 including John Swenson

1875 – 15 including a Cudabach

1876 – 6 (grasshoppers & drought)

Alexander A. Brucker (Bruker) – Born in France, came to US at 12 in 1854. In Burlington, Iowa, worked in hotel and printing office, then acquired 11 acres of land where he raised fruit and operated a winery. Arrived in Divide Township in Oct. 1875 and homesteaded on Sec. 16 in center of township.

1877- 2

1878 - 6

1879- 12 including J. W. Lalone & W. H. Pettit

John Swenson – homesteaded in 1874 – then moved up to Sartoria region

J. W. Lalone – homesteaded in 1879 – paint & paper store in Kearney – Freighters Hotel

Wm Pettit - homesteaded in 1879 in 30-10-16, 2-2 ½ miles northwest of Riverdale

Murdered by son

Sept. 11, 1889 – Julia Pettit was arrested as an accessory and put in the same cell as her son. She was not jailed earlier because of her age, 65, but she has been watched by her neighbors and if she had tried to leave the county she would have been arrested. “The surmise of the prosecution was that if she was allowed her liberty that all suspicion would be lulled, and that woman-like she would blab about her family relations to her neighbors. The surmise proved correct and a chain of testimony will be presented at the trial next week that will surprise the accused.

Kearney Hub