

Bassett –

RIVERDALE TOWNSHIP--TOWN NO. 9, RANGE NO. 16
Also town No. 8, range No. 16, as embraced in Buffalo County.

1871—17

George E. Smith, **Jas. A. Smith,**

W. F. Marsh - ne quarter Sec. 4 - from Ohio via Wisconsin and Lancaster Co. near Lincoln, farmer (1870), corn merchant (1880). Wife died here (1882) . Remarried, moved to Duel Co. (1900)]

E. T. Jay – Son of Hannah Jay, homesteaded in Sec. 4

W. W. Patterson,

N. Gould - Presbyterian, alternated services at Collins home with Asbury, Organized Prespb. Church in 1873, died in 1875 at age 76

Pattie Giddings,	Mahlon White,	L. S. Dickenson,
J. W. Whitlock,	J. Q. Potter,	J. F. Chace,
G. S. Ball,	W. S. Croy,	A. M. White,
I. White,	H. Van Arman.	

1872—42

George E. Smith – Second filing

A. M. Gay – Came with Collins family, one of original members of Methodist Church

Ashbury Collins,

F. W. Dart – first store in Kearney

F. G. Keens – Leading Kearney business man

L. B. Cunningham – Homesteaded near Riverdale, published first newspaper in Kearney

I. Webb, **F. Cuddebach,** **J. Cuddebach,**

Wm. Morse – first official pastor of Methodist church

John Henning,	D. Lewis,	W. Slote,
D. M. Logan,	James Jenkins,	F. L. Perkins,
J. M. Winterbottom,	I. J. Hillman,	Anna M. Smith,
J. W. Leland,	L. B. Fifield,	D. Rowan,
A. Fellows,	A. W. Barlow,	F. N. Colwell,
C. Winterbottom,	A. J. Gibson,	A. Larson,
H. Miller,	J. C. Bunnell,	B. C. Byrd,
C. Sisco,	J. F. Jones,	P. Calhoon,
C. Stevenson,	J. W. Kick,	E. S. Perkins,
W. G. Carson,	J. B. Sammons,	S. Wenzell,
C. Gould,		

1873—26

Hannah Jay, **Geo. E. Norris,**

F. R. Woods, J. N. Keller, J.W. Bradley,

W. J. Perkins, J. G. Carson, E. P. McDonald,
J. C. Bunnell, J. R. Hurst, J. Carr,
A. E. Russell,
E. Spencer,

W. Smart, A. W. Reddish, Wm. Swartwood,
W. C. Griffith, A. H. Connor, J. A. Smith,
M. Smidt, W. S. Gregory, W. C. Turner,
Max Boetsch, J. Williams, Walter Colby.

1874—12

J. W. Nash, C. Baumgartner, M. M. White,
C. Israel, J. Fish, E. H. Wilcox,
W. Hewitt, N. C. Honnold, E. L. Lull,
P. Keefer, F. Reynolds, H. W. Ross.

1875—10

M. N. Hildebrand, J. B. Wicker, J. R. King,
C. Larson, Ole Larson, B. Tuesdale,
C. Abrandt, W. B. Brown, Wm. Moner,
T. C. Roberts.

1876—6

T. S. Nightengale.

John Pfrom, C. S. Hill, S. S. Hill,
C. W. Porter, L. Wenzell,

1877—1

H. H. Magill.

1878—15

N. Campbell – One of first mayor's of Kearney

M. Nevius – Brother of first teacher in Kearney

H. E. Swan – ancestor of Swan's furniture Swan??

Joseph Black, - Born in (West) Virginia, moved with family to Illinois and then Iowa. Came to Buffalo County in 1875. Owned a ranch on the South Loup and another on an island in the Platte south of Kearney. From 1885-88 had a mercantile business in Kearney. [lived in south Kearney according to someone's Come Back letter memory.] Active in county and Kearney politics. Served as county treasurer for 2 years, and was a county commissioner. In Kearney he was mayor for 1 year, on school board for 8 years, library board for 20 years. State senator for 3 years.

D. Lowenstein

H. Lantz, C. L. A. Klatter, Julia Haven,
C. C. Black, J. S. Atwood, John Barnes,

E. Kleber, J. M. Feather, James Cox,
W. S. Slate.

1879—11

H. Lowenstein

A. J. Crossley – west of Kearney in Dove Hill area. Buried family members in that cemetery. When he died he was buried in Kearney cemetery and the rest of the family was moved there.

J. H. Lantz, N. D. Bort, S. R. Black,
I. J. Sommers, W. L. Nash, W. M. Guardian,
M. Smith, J. L. Seymour, A. Sheifeldt.

Genweb site

Sometime after 1919, Collins Precinct was formed out of parts of Riverdale and Center Precinct. It comprises the area around the city of Kearney.

Towns and Post Offices, Past and Present

Buffalo County, Nebraska

Riverdale, post office and town about 6 miles north and 4 miles west of Kearney. Post office was open from 1883-1886, and re-opened in 1890 when the railroad came through.

Cemeteries

This cemetery is located on the south east edge of Riverdale.

Turn south on Cottonmill Rd. and go 0.2 miles.

The cemetery is on the east side of the road.

The first organized published meeting appeared in May 12, 1899. Mrs Frederica Fredrick owned the land and was allowed \$75.00 and other expense.

Seven members were chosen for the cemetery board. There were three (3) as trustee who were: A R Rose-Trustee; C Jacobson-Trustee; A Browne-Trustee; Christian Jacobson President; W T Keyes-Secretary; J Rydlund; C Erickson.

It was published in the New Era Standard-Newspaper Courier in Buffalo, County.

G. S. Prascher was Justice of the Peace at this time.

Last minutes of the cemetery board were recorded in 1957. Perpetual care started in 1964. A \$1.00 a year for each lot owner.

The records are at the State Bank of Riverdale and Mr & Mrs Leonard Prascher have a set of records in their home (as of about 1976.) *Given by Mrs Leonard (Dora) Prascher.*

Information gleaned from Atlas map 1919

The section contains the extra mile on the west side to accommodate the earth's curve

Wood river – enters 2 ½ miles from western boundary from the north, winds southeast to exit on east side about 2 ¼ miles from the north boarder.

Kearney Canal – [Cottonmill Lake not on this map]

Union Pacific Railroad

Union Pacific spur northwest (former Kearney Black Hills Railroad)

Riverdale 1 ½ miles from western boundary, on north edge of the township

Kearney east edge of township, half way down

Farms had names –

Valley view farm, Green view alfalfa farm, Homestead farm, Louis grove farm, Grand View farm, 1733 Ranch,

Schools –

Dist. 15 – Riverdale – organized in 1871 [1873]

Dist 114 – Alfalfa Center – Sect. 1 of Collins Township

Sec. 14, east edge se corner of ne quarter

Dist. 118 – Dove Hill – Sec. 20, east edge se corner of ne quarter

Dist. 120 – Green Hill – Sec 8, nw quarter

2007 Farm & Home Atlas

Riverdale Township – Evergreen Road on west to Ave N

6 sections across, 4 sections down – 115th Road on north

56th St. on south

Collins Township – Evergreen Road on west to Ave N

6 sections across, 4 sections down – 56th St. on north

Interstate on south

1 row of partial sections – Interstate on north

Platte River on south

Buffalo Tales

Come Back Letters – Part III, Mardi Anderson, *Volume 29, No. 6, Buffalo County Historical Society*
November-December 2006

Elizabeth Looker Brown

Elizabeth Looker Brown of Council Bluffs, Iowa, wrote: *"I will say that my father Dave Looker came with his family of two little girls to Kearney in 1875. I was about 4 yrs old at the time and remember distinctly that Buffalo Bill and his Indians had just arrived in town, starting out with his first show coming direct from North Platte to Kearney. It was no uncommon thing to see Indians on the street every day. Kearny consisted at that time of two Hotels, the Grand Central and the Commercial – These sat across from the Depot between that and our home were a large Livery Stabel where we watched the stage coaches come and go.*

"...my father died nine years ago and is buried in the Riverdale Cemetery a corner that he donated from his farm."

Where the Buffalo Roamed

p. 55 – Presbyterian church organized by missionary, Nahum Gould at the Kearney Times building March 7, 1873.

p. 75-77 – Memories of Riverdale – First schoolhouse for Dist 15 was a mile south and ½ east of the town site. It was organized in 1873. Church was held there when a circuit rides came by.

Route to Kearney – East down Wood River valley, over the hills to where Kearney Lake is now,

Down that valley to where the football field is now

1890 – railroad came through. Depot was built. August Raymond built a general store beside it.

p. 139-142 – Nahum Gould became a minister in New York. In 1834 he moved to Illinois where he organized several churches. In 1871 he came to Kearney and settles just northwest of Kearney Lake. He built a house on the side of a hill. It had 3-4 levels and ended up sitting deserted and known as a haunted house for many years.

Hub

Crime – Jan. 14, 1893 Wheat stolen, boy suspected left the state.

Land sold – Feb. 13, 1893 \$31 per acre