

Scott Township

Excerpts from Bassett, Chapter XL, p293

The first settlements in Scott Township appear to have been by Benjamin Scott and John Laro in 1873, W. Hanshen, J. P. Gilmore, James A. Betts in 1874, J. J. Moore and James Broadfoot in 1878, and W. W. McLea and O. H. Lowry in 1879.

P296 - SCOTT TOWNSHIP

This township was first settled by Benjamin Scott, after whom it was named who settled on his homestead on Deer Creek in 1873, and on which he lived continuously till 1907; when he hung up his armor and was put to rest.

His good wife went some years before him. There was nothing remarkable about Ben Scott, except that he was a model citizen, as I believe he had been a model soldier.

On the west bank of the river Cornelius Cook erected a rather nice frame house. He and his family were people of education and refinement; they tried to live like white people should live; at this undertaking their means soon quit them and they quit the country.

Mr. Cook's land was transferred to his son-in-law, T. J. Parish, who has added many acres to it since and made it a good size ranch. Frank, his son, lives on the place now (1915) and is prosperous.

The first Klunders, the Sohrweids, the Wheelers and the Dickmans, were there when I came on the river. Just where they settled I do not know, but I know they have been and are prosperous; they are worth from twenty-five to one hundred thousand dollars, every one of them, and though some of the first settlers are dead and some gone to other places, their children have succeeded them and are worthy successors, making wealth and improving the country.

Bassett, Vol II, p. 139

THOMAS J. PARRISH.

No history of Buffalo county would be complete without extended reference to Thomas J. Parrish, who is one of the most extensive landowners in this part of the state, having about two thousand acres in the northern part of Buffalo county, whereon he and his sons are extensively engaged in farming and stock raising. He was born in Shelby county, Indiana, September 28, 1848, and was there reared and educated, attending the public schools. His youthful days were spent upon the home farm until he was about seventeen years of age, when he left home and began clerking in a hardware store in Franklin, Indiana, there remaining until 1874, which year witnessed his arrival in Kearney. He became identified with the business interests of the city as a clerk in the hardware store of V. B. Clarke, with whom he spent five years. The county seat at that time was a small village just emerging into some commercial importance. During that period he secured a homestead and timber claim in Sartoria township, proved up the property, secured title thereto and is still owner of the land. In 1879 he embarked in the hardware business on his own account and continued in active connection with the trade

until 1885, when he sold his store and turned his attention to the live stock business, although he continued to make his home in Kearney. He purchased railroad land until he now owns about two thousand acres, his holdings making him one of the extensive landowners of the county. He breeds pure blooded Polled Angus cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs, conducting the business on a very large scale, his annual shipments constituting one of the important features of the live stock industry in this part of the state.

Mr. Parrish was united in marriage to Miss Letitia Megran, a native of Stevens Point, Wisconsin, where she was reared and educated. They have four children as follows: Frank M., who is associated with his father in the operation of his ranch; Leo M., who is engaged in business as an insurance collector of Boise, Idaho; Jay M., a practicing attorney of Boise, Idaho; and Ina M., who is the wife of Frank L. Empey, of Kearney. Mr. and Mrs. Parrish also have five grandchildren.

Politically Mr. Parrish is a republican but was reared in the faith of the democratic party. He has never cared to accept office, as his time has been fully occupied by business affairs. He has not confined his attention solely to his farming, stock raising and merchandising interests, for he has been a stockholder in the cotton mill, also in a military school, in a bank and in other enterprises which have contributed to the welfare and improvement of the community and at the same time have constituted a source of individual success. Fraternally he is connected with the Masonic order, in which he has attained high rank and is a member of the Mystic Shrine at Omaha. He and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church. Wherever he is known he is held in high esteem because of his activity, his thorough reliability and many other sterling traits of character such as command confidence, goodwill and high regard in every land and clime.

Sartoria Township Minutes

Aug. 27, 1887

Joint meeting of Sartoria and Scott townships.

Part of Sartoria township was cut off and included in newly formed Scott township

Township property had to be divided.

Scott township got 1/3 of property

\$16.50 of road fund to Sartoria & \$8.25 to Scott and one road scraper

[1/3 could be three tiers of sections. 9-3 made 6 for Sartoria; 3 for Scott]

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION 1929-1953, by Alice Shaneyfelt Howell, *Buffalo Tales*, Volume 13, No. 4, April, 1990

By the early 50s, most of the farms in Buffalo County had REA service. The last portion of the county was the northwest section, where a sub-station at Miller would serve remaining portions of Sartoria, Armada, Scott and Harrison townships, and lines westward into Dawson County.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF CHURCHES IN BUFFALO COUNTY, Part II, by Alice Shaneyfelt Howell, *Buffalo Tales*, Volume 19, No. 4, July - August, 1996

Many of the first Lutheran churches were rural. In the northwest part of the county in Scott Township several German families settled in the early 1880's and organized Immanuel Lutheran Church of the Missouri Synod. Members first met in a sod school at Greendale in 1882, then in homes until a sod church was built in 1885. A frame building erected in 1889 served the congregation for 87 years before it was razed in 1972. A parochial school operated from its earliest days until 1950. When disbanded in 1972 members joined Trinity Lutheran at Amherst.

Amherst 100 Years: 1890 - 1990

Schools –

District 80 – Liberty Hill – located in the NE ¼ of Section 27

In 1884 reported to be sod, 15 children, poor attendance because of weather, disease and farm work.

In 1887 a frame building was built. It was replaced in 1923 which was used until the district dissolved in 1986. Now (1990) the building serves as the Liberty Hill Community Hall.

The schoolhouse also served as a church in 1889 and was a polling place for many years.

(The above information about Dist. 80 from the BCHS Archives.)

In the early days there were Indians in the surrounding hills. Students were told not to tease them or treat them rudely. On one occasion a boy threw a clot at one, who retaliated. The children and teacher rushed to the security of the schoolhouse and prayed for deliverance. They must have been safe because one student was Paul Taubenheim, who was the first of four generations to attend Liberty Hill.

[Paul had a son, Elmer, who had twin sons, Tom and Terry. Tom passed away recently (summer 2004). Terry lives in Amherst.]

District 90 – Maple Grove/Prairie Rose – located in the NW ¼ of Section 5

The district was organized in 1885/6 and called Maple Grove. The first building was sod. A frame building was constructed in 1889/90.

The district merged with District 89 in 1857. School was held in the Dist. 90 building and the name was changed to Prairie Rose.

This combined district merged with Dist. 111 in 1958 and then with Amherst Dist. 119 in 1970.

District 102 – Lone Star – located in the SE ¼ of Section 19

This district was organized in 1886. For the first year school was held in a home. Then in 1887 a sod schoolhouse was built. A frame building came sometime later.

No classes met after the 1942 school year. When the district was finally dissolved in 1953 part of it was attached to Dist. 80. The last school board served from 1938 to 1954.

Immanuel Lutheran Church school – Started in 1882. Met in the sod church until 1892 when a frame schoolhouse was built. The pastor taught the school until 1911. Then teachers were hired. The school closed in 1950.

1919 Buffalo County Atlas – Scott Township

School in NE corner of NE ¼ of Section 10

District numbers are not included

Not near enough to Amherst to be included in their book

Taylor Precinct 1881 Property Tax Assessments book

Taylor Precinct was made up of present day Harrison and Sartoria Townships and the north three tiers of sections in Scott Township.

Residents in what was to become Scott Township included:

J. S. Seeman (240 acres) , Ben Scott (160 acres), and John Swensen (80 acres). He also owned 160 acres four miles north in Sartoria Township.

Where the Buffalo Roamed, Nebraska Centennial 1867 – 1967, Compiled by the Kearney Business & Professional Women.

Article about Scott township – The first settlers, Benjamin Scott and J. J. Moore, lived on Deer Creek. Dist. 102 school was organized in 1886. The first building was sod. A frame building was built in 1892. Immanuel Lutheran Church was located in the SE corner of Section 20.

When a new building was built in 1889, stone for the foundation was quarried from the hillside by the Wood River. A caravan of 24 wagons brought building materials from Kearney.

The T. J. Parrish Family by Mrs. Arlene Kahle

He owned a hardware store in Kearney. Some of his customers were Indians. He was one of the first trustees of the Presbyterian Church. He owned a farm north of Glenwood School. In the late 1880's he sold the store and bought a ranch on the Loup River near Sartoria which he and his brother, Frank, operated.