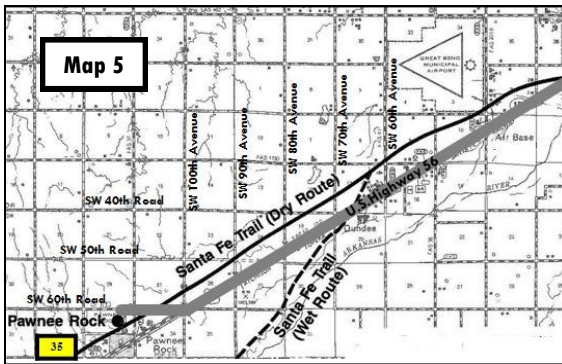


Walnut Creek Crossing. It was acquired later by George Peacock who was killed by Kiowa Chief Satank. The stone foundation of the Allison-Peacock ranche can be found in the farmyard on the east side of NE 40th Ave, south of East Barton County Road, & north of the creek. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **The Walnut Creek Crossing.**

32. **FIRST FORT ZARAH** - Fort Zarah was established at the junction of the Santa Fe Trail, Walnut Creek, and the Smoky Hill Military Road in the summer of 1864. Originally called Camp Dunlap, it was renamed Fort Zarah in July, 1864 and was abandoned in April, 1866. It was just west of the farmhouse on NE 40th Ave, south of East Barton County Road, & north of the creek. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **Fort Zarah.**
33. **SECOND FORT ZARAH** - A second fort was established on June 30, 1866 with new stone buildings about 1/2 mile to the northwest. This second fort was abandoned in December, 1869. It was just north of Highway 56 and east of Forth Zarah Park. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **Fort Zarah.**
34. **D.A.R. MARKERS** – Two DAR markers are in Great Bend. One in the park just east of the Highway 56/281 Bypass junction & one on the west side of the Barton County Courthouse.
35. **PAWNEE ROCK** - Pawnee Rock was a well-known Trail landmark. It is an outcropping of Dakota sandstone and named for a battle with the Pawnee Indians. Many travelers carved their names in the rock. Pawnee Rock was nearly 30 feet higher than it is today but rock was removed by pioneers and the railroad.

MAP 5



Get Involved in Trail History!

There are many ways to learn more about the historic sites on the Santa Fe Trail.

- Visit other Trail related sites
- Visit a local museum
- Follow the local auto tour of the Trail
- Join the Quivira Chapter
- Join the Santa Fe Trail Association
- Walk in the ruts that made history!

For more information visit the SFTA website at:

www.santafetrail.org and our chapter Facebook page at: Quivira Chapter of the Santa Fe Trail Association.



The Santa Fe Trail Chapter Tour Guide

The Quivira Chapter Santa Fe Trail Association



McPherson, Rice And Barton Counties in Kansas



MAP 1

1. **ED MILLER'S GRAVE** - East of Canton near the center of the Jones Cemetery is the black marble gravestone of Ed Miller who was killed by the Cheyenne Indians in July, 1864. Back-to-back with the gravestone is a stone Santa Fe Trail marker placed by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1906 to mark the Santa Fe Trail. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **The Ed Miller Story.**
2. **D.A.R. MARKER** – Located approximately 0.7 mile south of Canton on 27th Avenue.
3. **RUNNING TURKEY CREEK CROSSING** - Southeast of Galva near where the present bridge crosses Turkey Creek was located an overnight camp. This site was also known as Fuller's Ranche. In 1965, a monument was erected to mark the approximate location of Fuller's Ranche. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **Fuller's Ranche.**
4. **MIDDLE TURKEY CREEK CROSSING** - On the West side of the creek there is evidence of a cut down where the trail crossed the creek in the Embers pasture east of 17th Avenue between Iron Horse Road and Frontier Road.
5. **SANTA FE SCHOOL** - The old Santa Fe School was located on the East side of 15th Avenue in the NW/4 of Section 10, T20S, R3W at the north edge of the half mile line. Nothing is left now that can be seen but the built up area in the field where the stone foundation used to be. Historical records indicate that ruts were visible in the schoolyard. The D.A.R marker located south of McPherson on the east side of 14th Avenue and north of Eisenhower Road was originally located in the school yard north of the school and was later moved to its present location.
6. **KAW INDIAN PEACE TREATY SITE** - On the North side of Comanche Road and east of the creek, between 14th and

15th Avenues, is a marker placed in 1907 that commemorates the site where the United States Commissioners, while surveying the trail, met the chiefs of the Kansa Indians in council on August 16, 1825. The actual treaty site is south of the road and west of the creek. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **The 1825 Kaw Indian Peace Treaty.**

7. **HISTORICAL HIGHWAY MARKER** - At the southeast edge of Elyria on Old Highway 81, a Kansas Historical Marker describes the Kaw Indian Peace Treaty.
8. **D.A.R. MARKER** - The D.A.R marker located south of McPherson on the east side of 14th Avenue and north of Eisenhower Road was originally located in the school yard north of the Santa Fe School and was later moved here.
9. **DRY TURKEY CREEK CROSSING** - The crossing of the Dry Turkey Creek was right at the half mile line in Section 9, T20S, R3W and East of Old Highway 81. There was a trading post and a campsite here. Numerous artifacts have been found in the area. Part of the campsite area west of the crossing was covered up when a previous owner built a pond there.
10. **SPOON RUTS** - Traces of the Trail can be seen in the pasture on the west side of the road.

MAP 2

11. **TRAIL SPLIT** - Traveling north on 3rd Avenue from the intersection of Comanche, the Trail split in preparation for the Little Arkansas crossings. The northern branch also split once again near the intersection of Dakota and 2nd Avenue. The northern branch angled northeast across the Nelson and Berg pastures in Section 17, T20S, R3W. The southern branch of this split followed Dakota Avenue for about 3/4 of a mile before turning straight north from the Andover Lutheran Church.
12. **TRAIL** - The southern trail route traveled a west/northwest route for three miles and crosses Plum Avenue (31st) just north of the

intersection with Dakota Road which becomes Avenue P as it crosses into Rice County. It then angled southwest and crosses near the bridge on Avenue P.

13. TRAIL- There is evidence that the trail crosses south of Dakota Road/Avenue P through the Ekholm homestead headed towards the crossing just to the south of the present bridge on Avenue P at the Cottonwood Cemetery. There is also evidence of a ford about 1/4 mile south of Avenue P in Rice County which indicates a more southerly route. Both routes merge back together just south of the intersection of Avenue P and 29th Avenue.

14. RUTS, BERG COTTONWOOD TREE AND CAMPGROUND - There are several sets of swales in the Nelson pasture and the northeast corner of the Berg pasture in the middle of the section and are not easily accessible. On the old Berg homestead, on the east side of 1st Avenue between Dakota Road and Eisenhower Road, there is a large Cottonwood Tree. It measures 29 feet 9 inches in circumference at the five foot level. Trail travelers used the area around the tree as a campsite. All sorts of artifacts littering the area were found here in earlier days. North of the Berg cottonwood, evidence of ruts and a cut down are found as the trail crossed the creek.

15. D.A.R. MARKER - Located on 1st Avenue. Both northern trail branches probably came back together near here, turning west near where the D.A.R. marker sits. The Fort Harker/Camp Beecher road intersects the trail here as it comes from the north.

16. SWANSON SWALES - 4 1/2 miles S. of Highway 56 on Plum (31st) Avenue in Joe Swanson's pasture is one of the best sets of swales found on the Santa Fe Trail. These ruts are lined up at least eight wide and very deep. This is the area where wagon masters would begin or end using double and triple teams of oxen and mules for the trip across the ford of the Little Arkansas which accounts for why the trail widened out so much right there.

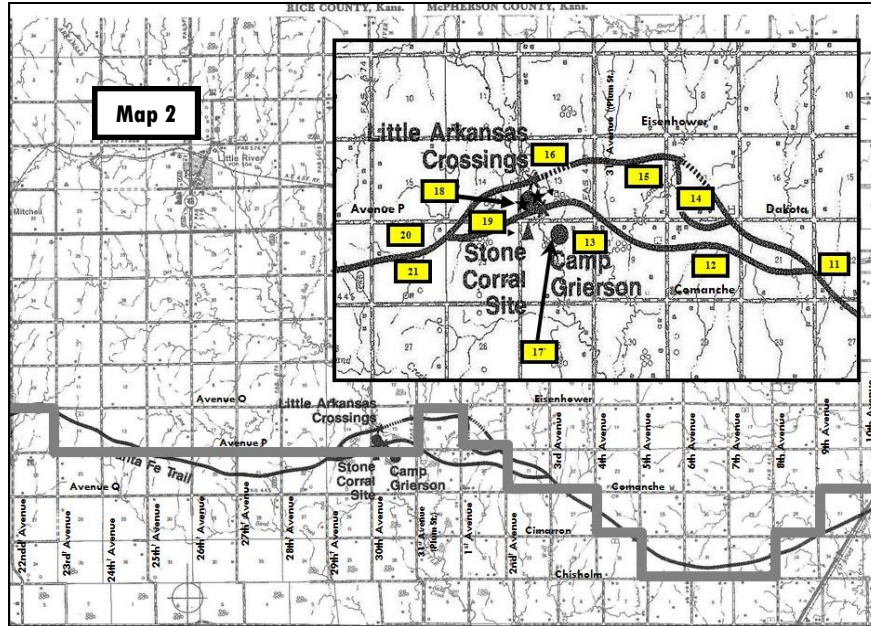
17. CAMP GRIERSON - In 1864, troops were stationed here and this was originally called Station Little Arkansas. It was later named Camp Grierson in honor of Col. Benjamin Grierson of civil war fame. Galvanized Yankees and Buffalo soldiers served here. COTTONWOOD GROVE CEMETERY AND DEPRESSIONS - Soldiers who were killed or died in the area were buried here. The shallow depressions north of the Cottonwood Grove Cemetery were once rifle pits or dugouts used during the times troops were stationed here.

18. LITTLE ARKANSAS RIVER CROSSING - The Little Arkansas River crossing was located less than a mile over McPherson County's west line into Rice County. The huge, forked, Marker Cottonwood tree at the crossing's east bank may have been a reference point in locating the river crossing.

19. STONE CORRAL - The Stone Corral was located to the southwest of the main crossing. This 200 by 300 foot stone enclosure, having walls eight feet high and 30 inches thick, was an over night camping spot for trail travelers. For

more information on sites 16 - 19, refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **The Little Arkansas Crossing.**

20. D.A.R. MARKERS - There are four DAR markers within a mile of the Stone Corral Site location. One is 5 miles south of U. S. 56 highway on the SE corner of the Plum Ave/Ave P intersection. Another is located one half mile north of the 30th Ave/Ave P Intersection. Yet another can be seen from the 30th Ave marker looking in a slightly NE direction at the site of the main river crossing. Another is located on the south side of Avenue P less than one mile west of the Stone Corral Site.



21. FRY RUTS - Trail ruts can be seen to the south of Avenue P in the Fry pasture. A silhouette of oxen pulling a wagon along the Trail can be seen behind the ruts in the pasture.

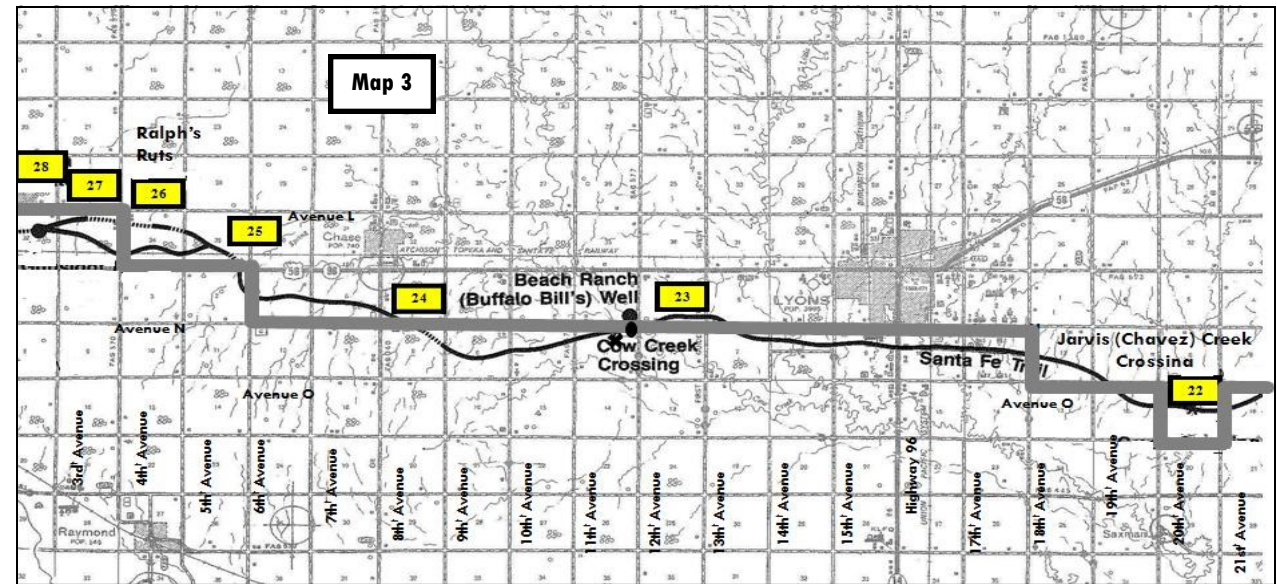
MAP 3

22. JARVIS CREEK CROSSING - Just south of the crossing on what was originally called Owl Creek, a prominent Mexican trader, Don Antonio Jose Chavez, was robbed and murdered in 1843. This incident was written about in a book by Marc Simmons, Murder on the Santa Fe Trail. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **The Chavez Murder.**

23. COW CREEK CROSSING - This crossing was adjacent to the south side of the present bridge one mile south of the Father Padilla Cross. Perhaps the best known surviving feature of the Cow Creek Crossing area is Buffalo Bill Mathewson's Hand Dug Well. The well, with a DAR marker to the north of it is still there. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **Cow Creek Crossing.**

24. D.A.R. MARKER - The Trail crosses the Chase/Alden county blacktop road about nine tenths of a mile south of U.S. 56 Highway. On the west side of the blacktop, is another DAR marker. The barn on this farm is sitting on the Trail.

25. TRAIL RUTS - The Trail crosses U.S. 56 Highway about 2 1/4 miles west of the Chase/Alden blacktop where a drainage channel also crosses the highway. Two trail ruts can be seen on the north side of the road in the pasture.



26. RALPH'S RUTS - These are among the most prominent trail ruts to be found anywhere. They have become known among trail buffs as Ralph's Ruts. PLUM BUTTES MASSACRE SITE - The northwest quarter of section 34 was where the wagon train of trader Franz Huning was attacked September 9, 1867 by a band of Indians led by Charley Bent, son of William Bent of Bent's Fort. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **Ralph's Ruts and the Plum Buttes Massacre.**

27. GUNSIGHT NOTCH - Several trail ruts converged to cross a low ridge west of Ralph's Ruts and just south of Ave L. Sixty years of commercial traffic wore a wide notch in this ridge known to some trail buffs as "Gunsight Notch".

28. PLUM BUTTES - There were three large sand dunes on west of 3rd Avenue and just north of Ave L which were said to have been 80 to 100 feet high. This was usually the noon stop and was a landmark that could be seen after crossing Cow Creek.

Shortly after the Trail closed, the wind began their reduction and only small, grassed-over dunes remain. TRAIL RUTS - There are ruts in the pasture south of the Plum Buttes site. A DAR marker is located on west of Plum Buttes.

MAP 4

29. D.A.R. MARKER - A DAR marker is on the north side of Santa Fe Boulevard (U.S. 56 highway) near the United Methodist Church in Ellinwood.

30. BIG BEND OF THE ARKANSAS RIVER - This was the next overnight campground after leaving Cow Creek and the only reliable source of water in the area. The location of the campground lays south of U.S. 56 highway in the present day golf course on the west side of Ellinwood. Refer to the Quivira Chapter Brochure: **The Great Bend of the Arkansas.**

31. WALNUT CREEK CROSSING - In the summer of 1855, William Allison and Francis Boothe established a trading post at

