



NORTHEAST GREENWOOD COUNTY **MINI-HISTORY OF NORTHEAST GREENWOOD COUNTY**

When the first settlers began to arrive in the northeast quadrant of Greenwood County in the 1850's, they found the dominant geographic features to be the beautiful fertile valley of the Upper Verdigris River, and its tributaries and the uplands, which they drain.

Those early pioneers were of many nationalities, but the large number with German heritage are noteworthy. Farming and ranching became the major industries and remain so today.

Small towns almost immediately began to appear along the river. As railroads crisscrossed the area, the towns prospered and were joined by others, which built strategically along the rail lines.

The discovery of oil in the 1920's gave a boost to the economy, and it still contributes to the economy today. Events, which began around 1940, caused a decline in the population. The shifting obligations of WWII, the removal of the railroads in the later years, and modernization of farming techniques all have contributed to the population loss.

Records reveal that 19 post offices have served the area. Today only those at Madison, Hamilton and Virgil remain.

There have been at least 28 school districts in the quadrant; however, only Madison and Hamilton have functioning schools now. All the students in the area attend one of them or Eureka.

We have identified many structures and sites of historical significance for your drive-by pleasure.

NOTE: All places can be seen from public roads. Please do not trespass on private property unless you get special permission from the owners.

For more information, write or call:

The Greenwood County Museum

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Northeast Greenwood County, Kansas - Tour Guide

- HALE SCHOOLHOUSE** -- Built in 1882 of stone. From Highway 99 and 340th Street intersection, go east on 340th Street 1.5 miles. Schoolhouse is located on the south side of the road.
- MADISON** – Town that was built on a river and the railroad and has both hills and valley. Turn-of-the-century homes and buildings.
 - FRAZEE HOUSE** –Built in the 1890's and located at the west end of Main Street. English manor house with 12 rooms and 2 baths.
 - SANTA FE DEPOT** –Built in 1879. National historic site. Oldest building in town. Now the community museum. Located at 3rd and Boone
 - THIRD STREET (STANDPIPE HILL)** – Have the up and down experience.
 - STONE HOUSE / SUMMER KITCHEN / ROOT CELLAR** – Built in the 1870's and is located atop the hill on Fourth Street.
 - STONE RETAINING WALLS** -- Located all about the town
 - BRICK STREETS** – Check out Main Street
- ARCH BRIDGE OVER VERDIGRIS RIVER** – National Historic Site. From Main Street and 5th in Madison, go north ½ mile on old Highway 99.
- NO. 8 SCHOOL / CEMETERY** – Brick schoolhouse that has been well preserved and could be used today. From Madison, go east on Highway 58 about 4 miles. School is located on the east side of the highway and the cemetery is to the north and east of the schoolhouse.
- OLD PIONEER CEMETERY** – May be the oldest in the county. One headstone visible on the south side of Highway 58. From Highway 58 and BB Road, go ¼ mile east on Highway 58.
- NATURAL MOUND** – Used by Indian scouts to assure safety of traveling tribes, located west of Lamont. From the intersection of Highway 58 and CC Road, mound is located on the north side of the highway.
- LENA VALLEY CEMETERY/ COMMUNITY** –Early German settlement that once had a post office, school and church. Located west of the intersection of 380th Street and DD Road.
- LAMONT** – Founded in 1887 by Swiss-German settlers on the railroad. Community revolves around two churches. Located 8 miles east of Madison on the south side of Highway 58.
- MONUMENT /CEMETERY OF APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH** –Site of first church built in 1881 and later replaced by church in Lamont. Tight knit religious community. From the intersection of 330th Street and EE Road, go west 1 mile on 330th Street. Cemetery is located on the north side of the road.
- HILLTOP** – Site of town that rose near the railroad and disappeared. From the intersection of 310th Street and CC 50 Road, go west on 310th Street ¼ mile down the hill. The town was located in the bottomland on both sides of the road.
- UNIQUE WOODEN SILO** – Wood to build this multi-sided silo came from buildings destroyed in an early 1900's tornado. From the intersection of 290th Street and AA Road, go north on AA Road across a small bridge about 1/8 mile. The silo is located on the east side of the road in the trees. The best time to see the silo is late fall or winter when the leaves are off the trees.
- DALTON HOME** – Stone home built in 1871. One of the oldest surviving homes in the county. Located 1/8 mile north of Virgil on the west side of the road. Take Main Street out of Virgil.
- VIRGIL** – Settled in 1857. Post office established in 1863. Oil boom had a big impact and it was a lively town in its day. Located 12 miles east of Hamilton. Take the Virgil Road out of Hamilton.
 - METHODIST CHURCH** – Built in 1878. It is the only remaining church and is located at Main and Randolph Streets.
- SITE OF TOWN OF PHILADELPHIA / PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL / CEMETERY** – No records of town except it lost election for county seat by four votes. Town site and school were north of the cemetery. From the intersection of DD Road and 200th Street, go east on 200th Street ½ mile to the first road north (DD50 Road). Go north .2 mile and the cemetery is located on the east side of the road.
- QUINCY** – Settlement started around 1869. The railroad made it a shipping center in the early 1900's. 300 residents at its height with many businesses around 1900. Little remains today. Atom Corn Popper manufactured in old brick building on the south side of Main Street. From Highway 54 and GG Road, go north on GG Road to the intersection of FF 50 Road and go north on FF 50 Road to 190th Street, turn west on 190th Street to get to Quincy.
- QUINCY CEMETERY** --Unique iron fence around the cemetery. From the intersection of 190th Street and GG Road, go north on GG Road about ½ mile. The cemetery is located on the west side of the road.
- GREENWOOD CITY** – Existed from 1869 to 1874. 900 citizens at its height. Founded fraudulently. Railroad missed the town and it died. Had 5 saloons, distillery, brewery and gambling facilities. From the intersection of Highway 54 and GG Road, turn north on GG Road. The Town site was 1/10 of a mile north on the west side of the road. Nothing remains today.
- KANSAS HISTORICAL MARKER** – Located at the rest stop on the south side of Highway 54, just west of the Verdigris River bridge.
- TONOVAY** 23 blocks platted in 1885. Highway 99 was Greenwood Avenue. There was a railroad siding, stockyards, depot, post office, general store, lumberyard and large rural school. The brick school building still remains. From Highway 54 and Highway 99 North, go north on Highway 99 about ¾ mile. The town was located on the east side of the highway.
- OTT CEMETERY** – Very old cemetery. The Ott's were some of the first settlers in the county. Most of the graves date before or near 1900. From the intersection of 250th Street and W Road, go east ½ mile on 250th Street. The cemetery is located on the south side of the road.
- HAMILTON** – Founded in 1870. Was called Fullerton originally. Town moved to the railroad and became an important shipping center and shopping point. Oil discovery in 1920's spurred its economy.