



**SOUTHEAST GREENWOOD COUNTY
 MINI-HISTORY OF SOUTHEAST GREENWOOD COUNTY**

At the time Greenwood County was being established, over 2/3 of the southeast quadrant was part of the Osage Indian Reservation which prevailed in southeast Kansas. In 1870 the U.S. government removed the Osage, and it became possible to homestead the land.

The dominant features of this part of the county were found to be the rivers and creeks, the lush valleys, and the rolling hills carpeted with bluestem grass. The major waterway was Fall River. The settlers soon found that its valley was capable of growing a variety of grains, fruits, and vegetables, and also supported a remarkable diversity of wildlife. The surrounding grassy hills which the people had bought, soon became pastures for livestock grazing.

Various small towns began to develop, but with the coming of the railroad only those near the tracks survived. They were Severy, Fall River, Neal, and Climax. Eighteen post offices were established, but there are now only three. Thirty-four school districts prevailed for many years. All the students in the quadrant today attend Eureka, Fredonia or West Elk schools.

After several devastating floods, the government in the 1940's started taking land to complete a major conservation dam on Fall River, just north of the town by the same name. Landowners experienced great anguish, but the dam has helped control flooding since the completion of that dam and two others on the same river system. The Toronto Dam also brought about much change to the extreme eastern section of southeastern Greenwood County.

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:

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Southeast Greenwood County – Tour Guide

1. **NEAL** – Founded in the 1880's. Served the railroad and cattle industry at one time. Located 10 miles east of Eureka on Highway 54.
 - A. **NEAL METHODIST CHURCH** – Started in 1902 and has had services continuously.
2. **STONE HOUSE** – Built in the 1870's or 1880's and was lived in until the 1990's. Located at the southeast corner of the intersection of 155th Street and BB Road.
3. **ROCKY FORD** – Used to cross Walnut Creek. Ask about safety before crossing it. From the intersection of 140th Street and CC Road, go north on CC Road .6 mile.
4. **ROCKY FORD CEMETERY** – Pioneer cemetery located at the intersection of 140th Street and CC Road on the northeast corner.
5. **PLEASANT POINT SCHOOL** – Built in 1872. Converted into a home now. Located on the northeast corner of 130th Street and T Road.
6. **UNION SCHOOL** – Started in 1888, burned down and was rebuilt. From the intersection of 130th Street and V Road, go east on 130th Street, .4 mile. The schoolhouse is located on the south side of the road.
7. **CLIMAX** – Town that grew with the coming of the railroad. Railroad left in the 1970's and so did the few remaining businesses and school. Located 10 miles south of Eureka on Highway 99 and ¼ mile east.
 - A. **METHODIST CHURCH.** – Built in 1884 and has had services continuously. Located at 2nd and Center Street.
 - B. **MILL STONE HOUSE** – Display of mill stone (embedded in the fireplace) taken from the town of Twin Falls, which was east of Climax. From the intersection of 5th and Center Street go east on 5th Street. The first stone house on the south side of the street that has a fireplace on the west side of the house and a green roof is where the millstone can be seen.
 - C. **MASONIC LODGE** – Located at the northwest corner of 5th Street and Center Street. One of the oldest Lodge Halls in the state.
8. **MOSSY FORD** – A longtime crossing point of Fall River. (Use caution if wet, four-wheel drive is recommended). From intersection of V Road and 100th Street, go south on V Road 2 miles. At the intersection of V50 Road and 85th Street, turn west on 85th Street for 1/10 mile to get to the ford.
9. **LADD BRIDGE** – Last bridge over Fall River above Fall River Lake. From the intersection of 70th Street and W Road, go east on 70th Street about 1.2 miles.
10. **WHITEHALL SCHOOL** – Built in 1875. School functioned until Fall River Dam, was finished. Later used as a church. Outside has been remodeled. Located just east of the intersection of 55th Street and AA50 Road.
11. **VAUGHN'S ACRES** – Area of privately owned cabins and homes. Located at the intersection of 50th Street and AA50 Road.

12. **FALL RIVER DAM AND LAKE** – Built in 1949. Dam is 5,545 feet long, 470 feet wide and 94 feet higher than the riverbed. It covers 2,450 acres with 40 miles of shoreline.
13. **PIONEER STONE HOUSE** – Built in the 1870's or 80's. A cozy home. Note the size of the tree in the yard. From the intersection of 50th Street and DD75 Road, go east .2 miles on 50th Street. The house is located on the south side of the road.
14. **CHARLESTON SCHOOL** – Built in 1899 of sandstone. Originally a part of a small town by the same name. Located on the southwest corner of 27th Street and CC50 Road.
15. **ROCK RIDGE COVE** – Area of cabins and homes where people have access to lake facilities. From the intersection of 40th Street and Y25 Road, go east on 40th Street .2 mile.
16. **FALL RIVER** – Established in 1879. Two small villages named Charleston and Salt Springs declined as Fall River grew. From the intersection of Highway 400 and DD25 Road, turn south and go .6 mile on DD25 Road to Fall River.
17. **SEVERY** – Developed in 1879 when the railroad missed two settlements in the area. Got its name from a Santa Fe Railroad executive. Was the location for making the movie "Bad Company". GOULD was the original town located ½ mile south of present Severy.
 - A. **HOME BANK BUILDING** – Built in 1907.
 - B. **WELL** – Located in the middle of the intersection of on Main Street.

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