MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


"Fort Wallace and Other Historical Events of Interest," Western Times, October 13, 1932.


"Fort Wallace Memorial Association," 1 p. pamphlet.

Gove Republican-Gazette, May 1, 1959.


GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

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<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

[Table with states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries]

FORM PREPARED BY:

Richard Panek, Director, Historic Sites Survey

Kansas State Historical Society

Oct., 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:

120 West Tenth Street

TOPEKA

STATE: Kansas

66612

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STATE LIASON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [ ] State [x] Local [ ]

Name: Nyle H. Miller
Title: Director, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

DATE: 11/24/71

ATTEST:

Keepers of The National Register

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Register of Deeds

Wallace County Courthouse

Sharon Springs

KANSAS 67758

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REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS:

Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas

DATE OF SURVEY: 1957

[Form fields for survey date and other details]

DEPARTMENT FOR SURVEY RECORD:

Kansas State Historical Society

120 W. Tenth St.

TOPEKA

STATE: Kansas

66612

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[Form footer information]
The Pond Creek stage station is a two-story rectangular frame structure approximately 16 feet by 32 feet, which now located in the Fort Wallace Memorial Park. This solidly constructed building has four by six framing held together with wooden pins and is covered with vertical siding of yellow pine. Narrow strips of one-inch lumber were used to cover the joints of the siding. There are four rectangular window openings on the front of the station plus a double door. The simple gable roof is covered with wood shingles. At the present time the building is painted red with white trim. The exterior condition of the building is believed to be much like the original. Bullet holes are still visible from Indian attacks of a century ago. The Pond Creek stage station was moved to Wallace from its original location in 1971, and during the next 27 years stood at a number of sites in Wallace before being moved to the Thomas Madigan ranch in 1980. Although the building has been relocated a number of times, it is believed that its historical significance outweighs that factor. Presently the building is used for display purposes by the Fort Wallace Memorial Association.

The Pond Creek Station, originally located one and one-half miles southwest of Wallace in Wallace county, was built in 1865 for use by the Butterfield Overland Dispatch as a "home" station. The B. O. D. was organized in the spring of 1865 by David A. Butterfield of Atchison, Kansas, to provide transportation for passengers and merchandise from the Missouri river to Denver, Colorado. That summer Butterfield sent out an expedition to determine the best route west, which became known as the Smoky Hill route, and Pond Creek Station, named after James R. Pond, the commander of the military escort accompanying the surveyors, was built that fall. Constructed of wide vertical siding on four by six framing, the two-story, 32 feet by 16 feet structure served as the stage tender's quarters and an eating station.

Because the Smoky Hill route ran directly through Indian hunting grounds, military protection of the B. O. D. employees and passengers became necessary. Fort Wallace, originally called Camp Pond Creek, was established in September, 1865, about three miles east of the Pond Creek Station to defend the area and remained active until 1882.

In 1866 David Butterfield sold his company to Ben Holladay, who in turn sold to Wells Fargo and Co. in that same year. Wells Fargo continued to operate the stage line at least in certain areas until the Union Pacific railroad was completed in August, 1870. Consequently the Pond Creek Station may have been used as a stage station until 1869 or 1870.

Tom Madigan, an Irishman who arrived in the Wallace area in 1868 (1869), acquired the Pond Creek Station in 1871 and moved it to the town of Wallace where he used it as his home and merchandise store. While in Wallace, Madigan added two lean-to's to the building. In 1898 the Madigan family moved to a ranch 14 miles north of Wallace, taking the Pond Creek structure with them for use as a grain-storage facility.

The Pond Creek Station was given to the Fort Wallace Memorial Association by the Madigan family in 1960. It was moved to a Fort Wallace memorial park near Wallace just one-half mile from its original site. The lean-to's have been removed and the building now resembles its original appearance. The Pond Creek Station is believed to be the oldest man-made structure in northwest Kansas and the only surviving state station of the B. O. D. in Kansas.
9. cont.

The Oakley Graphic, April 3 and May 1, 1936.
"Pond Creek Stage Station Survives Century of Moving," Oakley Graphic, June 17, 1965.
Trull, Suxanne E., "Little Remains of Fort Wallace, Last Post in Kansas to Protect Route West," (Kansas City, Mo.) Weekly Star Farmer, April 6, 1955.