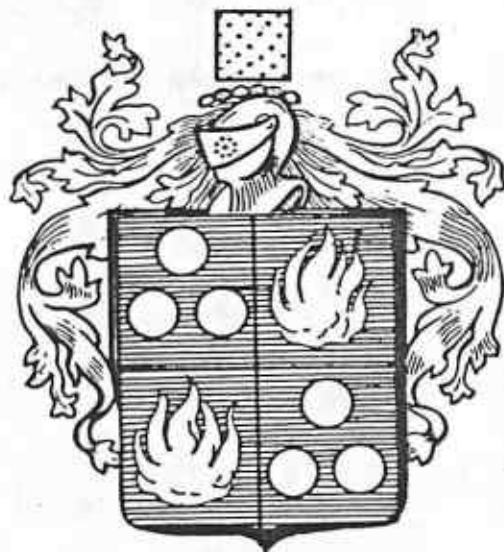


WINKLER - STESKAL
FAMILIES

Donated by Lucy & Henry
Swires

Coat-of-Arms Research Report



Winkler

Heraldic Description

Arms (shield)

Ec.: aux 1 et 4 d'azur a trois
bes. mal-ordonnes d'arg.:
aux 2 et 3 d'or a une flamme
d'arg.

Crest

une equerre d'or.

Motto

Historiography

This Coat of Arms was officially recorded in ancient heraldic archives. Its design is the only one of its kind in existence. The written heraldic description is worded in the language developed by the heralds as it appears in the records. The first use of a Coat of Arms was for identification on the battlefield. Many times deeds of valor were recorded with a memorable symbol. The fact of the recording of a Coat of Arms means its bearer's surname had its origin at least as far back as medieval times. As not everyone was granted a Coat of Arms, it also means the family name was singled out ages ago to be lifted from conformity and personal extinction. As many people of the same name are unrelated, we have not traced anyone's individual family tree to obtain the information in this report. It should be remembered, however, that many people may be direct descendants of a particular bloodline and be unknown to each other. Although bearers of this old and distinguished family name comprise a small fraction of the population, a surprising number of them have gained world-wide recognition. Space here permits only the listing of a scant few of its famous members, they include:

JOHANN HEINRICH WINKLER (b. 1703) A Professor of Latin. Member of the Electricite Statique.

EDWIN THEODORE WINKLER (b. 1823) Clergyman. In 1854 he was called to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church. Dr. Winkler was the author of a catechism for the instruction of colored people.

VALENTINE WINKLER (1865-1956) Minister of Agriculture in Manitoba 1915-20. In 1892 he founded the village of Winkler by opening a grain-elevator and lumber business, which he operated for ten years.

GEORGIA GERTRUDE WINKLER (b. 1883) Writer. Author of short stories about outdoor Canada. Member of Protestant Church of England. Member of the Press Club, she was against woman's suffrage.

As is evident, this family name is a very old and distinguished one. The above is but a mere hint of its illustrious history.

PEDIGREE CHART

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

COMPILED BY

CHART NUMBER

1 Lucy
You
Born 12-02-02
Where Nebraska
Married 1943
Where Yuma, Ariz
Died
Where
Henry
Spouse of

2 Winkler
Father Henry
Born 1848
Where Germany
Married 1882
Where Nebraska
Died 1928
Where Nebri

3 Mother Agnes
Born 1863
Where Austria
Died 1935
Where Nebraska

4 Winkler
Grandfather Joseph
Born April 2 1817
Where Germany
Married
Where Germany
Died Jan 16, 1893
Where
Bismarck
Neb
Germany
Susanna Keilman
Grandmother Keilman
Born Jan 26 1819
Where Germany
Died Dec 18, 1892
Where Germany
Bismarck
Neb

No 1844

5 Steskal
Grandfather Joseph
Born 23 Aug 1808
Where Austria
Married
Where
Died
Where

7 Grandmother
Born 11 Aug 1844
Where Austria
Died 1923
Where Nebraska

6
Great grandfather
B Karl Winkler
D March 27 1793

8 Anna Maria Breckner
Great grandmother
B Feb 24 1793

10 Heinrich Keilmann
Great grandfather
B
M
D

11 Sophia Bildstein
Great grandmother
B
D

12
Great grandfather
B
M
D

13
Great grandmother
B
D

14
Great grandfather
B
M
D

15
Great grandmother
B
D

16
17

18
19

20 Kasper Keilmann
21 Susanna

22
23

24
25

26
27

28
29

30
31

Date

March 1880

County

Nebraska

1880 CENSUS - UNITED STATES

Town

Butler

Township

Call No.

24920 P 7

Page	Dwelling No.	Family No.	Name	Color	Sex	Age prior to June 1st	Month of birth if born in census yr.	Relationship to head of house	Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Married in census year	Occupation	Miscellaneous information	Cannot read or write	Place of birth	Place of birth of father	Place of birth of mother	Enumeration Date
95	95		Winkler Joseph	W	M	26		Boarder						Farmer			Nebraska			
365	365		Winkler Henry	W	M	31		Bachelor						Farmer			Germany			
371	371		Stegskel John	W	M	29								Farmer			Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia	
			Anna	W	F	23		wife									Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia	
			Andrew			4											Nebraska			
			Frank			1														
			Mary			4 1/2														
			Kriz Frank			60		Father in law						Retiree			Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia	
			Mary			58		Mother in law												
376	376		Stegskel Frank			37														
			Agnes			37														
			Frank			4														
			Francescha			5														
			John			3														
			Joseph			1														
			Stegskel Frank	W	M	56		farmer												
			Antonia			56		wife												
			Michael			19														
			Francescha			95		mother						no employment						

my father

Ed's grandfather

2nd page
Nebr.

1890 CENSUS - UNITED STATES

State

County

Butler

Town

Franklin Branch

Cell No.

Page	Dwelling No.	Family No.	Names	Color	Sex	Age prior to June 1st	Month of birth if born in census yr.	Relationship to head of house	Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Married in census year	Occupation	Miscellaneous Information	Cannot read or write	Place of birth	Place of birth of father	Place of birth of mother	Enumeration Date
378	379		Stephal Anton			25		Farmer									Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia	
			Mary			21		H. House									"	"	Iowa	
			Mary			2/12														
* 396	396		Stepskal John	W	M	42								Farmer			Bohemia	Bohemia	Bohemia	
			" Josephine	W	F	40		wife						Keep house			"	"	"	
			" Agnes	W	F	18		daughter						daughter employed			"	"	"	
Leopoldine			" Leopold	W	M	14		Son						Farmer			"	"	"	
			" Mary		F	6		daughter									"	"	"	
			" Leopold		M	3		son									"	"	"	
			" Jennie	W	F	1		daughter									Nebr.	"	"	

Emmet Native Joe Winkler Is Dead

Funeral services for Joseph F. Winkler, who died at Atkinson Memorial Hospital January 9, were held at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Monday at 11:30 a.m. The Rev. Edward Gill officiated.

A Rosary service was conducted at Seger's Funeral Chapel Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Ray Verzal, Linus Judge, Leo Kramer, Tom Troshpnski, Bernard Pongratz, and Robert Keating.

Joseph F. Winkler, son of Joe and Barbara Spaatz Winkler, was born September 8, 1886 at Emmet. He was united in marriage to Lena Weber at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Stuart on Feb. 9, 1915 and to this union six sons and two daughters were born. Mr. and Mrs. Winkler spent all of their married life on a farm north of Emmet until they retired to town about six years ago. Mrs. Winkler died on Feb. 9, 1969 and Mr. Winkler spent the last year of his life in the Good Samaritan Center at Atkinson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, and three brothers, Martin, Henry and Casper. Surviving are sons, Ed of Emmet; Charley of Atkinson; Ray of North Platte; Leonard of California, Bob of Omaha; Harold of Denver, Colo. and daughters, Mrs. Robert (Leona) Hanus of Omaha and Mrs. Leo (Florence) Weichman of Atkinson. Twenty-three grandchildren also survive.

Winkler

TEXAS
PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

COMMISSIONERS

PEARCE JOHNSON
CHAIRMAN, AUSTIN

L. P. GILVIN
MEMBER, AMARILLO

HARRY JERSIG
MEMBER, SAN ANTONIO



J. R. SINGLETON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ROBERT G. MAUERMANN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MONAHANS SANDHILLS STATE PARK
P. O. Box 1738
MONAHANS, TEXAS 79756

May 26, 1970

Mrs. Henry Winkler Swires

Huntington Beach, California 92647

Dear Mrs Swires:

I am forwarding your letter to The Kermit Chamber of Commerce, Kermit, Texas 79745 which is the County Seat of Winkler County. I am quite sure that they can give you the full name of the man Winkler County was named from and maybe just what he was doing and why.

The Monahans Sandhills State Park is mostly in Ward County with a portion extending into Winkler County comprising of 3,840 acres. Monahans, the County Seat of Ward County was also named from a man who was the driller of the first "sweet" water well in this country for the T & P Railroad.

To the best of my knowledge Winkler County was so named from a U.S. Army Col. Winkler back about the turn of the century.

Best Regards and best of luck,

J. A. Jaynes

J. A. Jaynes
Park Supt
cc: Kermit C of C

(Not printed at Government expense)

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 85th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

The Monahans Sandhills of Texas

EXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF

HON. LYNDON B. JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Wednesday, May 14, 1958

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be printed in the Appendix of the Record a portion of an address delivered by J. Conrad Dunagan, of Monahans, Tex., president of the Monahans Sandhills Park Association, before the Fort Stockton, Tex., Historical Society.

There being no objection, the excerpts from the address were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

ADDRESS BY J. CONRAD DUNAGAN, PRESIDENT, MONAHANS SANDHILLS PARK ASSOCIATION, MARCH 21, 1958

Mr. Chairman, members of the Fort Stockton Historical Society, guests, you probably realize that the Monahans Sandhills State Park and Museum are close to my heart, and you probably know that I'm going to have to watch my time to keep from getting carried away with enthusiasm for this development and speaking too long.

Because I might get carried away and forget to say it, I want to say a couple of things about Fort Stockton before I begin on the Monahans Sandhills.

One thing which I admire about your community and your people is the evidence of intellectual and cultural maturity of which your very organization—the historical society—is a most prominent example. I've heard of few communities in our part of the country which have developed an organization such as you have here. It seems to me a sign of civic maturity.

In many of our west Texas communities, there is historical material which could be preserved and kept for the instruction of future generations, but I'm sorry to say that much of this material is gradually being lost. Perhaps the most perishable are the memories of the old timers. Unless their recollections are written down, it will be all too soon that they are lost forever. There must be thousands of fading

photographs and letters—and papers—lying forgotten in back-room closets which could be preserved to give those who come after us a true picture of many aspects of life in this part of the world in pioneer days. I commend you for the work which your organization is doing along these lines.

Another thing upon which I would like to compliment you people of Fort Stockton is your awareness of the economic value of the tourist industry. The company to which I devote most of my time has the privilege of serving some 15 west Texas counties with soft drinks and I don't think there is a single community which has shown as much appreciation for the value of the visitors and a willingness to do something to interest them, as has Fort Stockton. The construction of your tourist center, the decisive action which you took in preserving the Comanche Springs swimming pool, are among the visible manifestations of this spirit of appreciation for the visitor.

I hope that other nearby communities will follow your lead in developing facilities to attract the tourist. It is an obvious fact that tourists seldom come to a popular area to visit just one attraction—they like to visit an area which has many attractions. Look at southern California for example—or northern New Mexico—and Colorado. Each of our west Texas communities has some particular feature which can be developed into an interesting and different type of recreational facility. You have more than most: Old Fort Stockton, Comanche Springs, Rooney Park, the Riggs Museum, and, no doubt, others. McCamey has the Mendoza Trails Museum, Castle Gap, and the King Mountain. Alpine has the Big Bend Memorial Museum; near Fort Davis is the Davis Mountains State Park; there is Balmorhea State Park and Big Bend National Park. Odessa has a potentially great attraction in the Meteor Crater, a few miles west of town; right here between Pecos County and Crane County lies the famous Horsehead Crossing; and Monahans has the Sandhills.

Friendly rivalry between these communities in our area to see which can develop the most attractive points of interest can do nothing but good for all of our communities. The more that each community in this area helps itself, the more the entire

group is helped to capture a share of this neglected gold mine of tourist dollars.

But, of course, we develop these facilities for more reasons than simply to gather in a harvest of tourist dollars. We develop them so that our own local and area citizens can enjoy and appreciate what nature—and man—have provided for us in this part of the world.

However, oftentimes it takes somebody from outside our own area to point out to us what we have that is unusual or interesting. I must admit that such was the case with me. Several years ago a banker friend of ours who is a vice president of the California Bank in Los Angeles, stopped at our house one Friday afternoon on his way to a banker's meeting in Dallas. We knew that the banker's convention didn't start until Sunday and we asked if he were going down early. "No," he said, "I've read and heard of Old Fort Stockton, and I just want to go down there and look at what remains of it. I've been fascinated by its history." He then asked me what sort of shape the fort was in, and I was ashamed to say that I had just never had the curiosity to go and see for myself.

The Monahans Sandhills was no exception. The first time I heard a man say he was going to take his family out and spend a day in the sandhills, I thought he was "nuts." I'd spent my boyhood in a part of that same strip of sand which extends northward for about a hundred miles into Gaines County. As a kid I rode horses through a lot of sand—helping on roundups and herding goats, in the days before we had any goat-proof fences. Sandhills meant nothing to me except just a stubborn obstacle to locomotion. I'd helped push our old Model "T" out of many a sandbed. The idea that anyone would deliberately choose to go spend a day in the sandhills just didn't make sense to me.

I was living in Midland in about 1931, when that "foolish man" proposed to hike through the sand, and within a year or so Kitty and I married and moved to Monahans, and I went out to the sandhills with a group of Boy Scouts. I began to realize certain recreational aspects of the sandhills. A couple of years later, my wife, Kitty, and I went back to the University of Texas and I chose the sandhills as a subject for a paper which I wrote in an English composition class.

However, it was not until more than 12 years later that we realized what we had in the sandhills. It came about in this way. Kitty had a program for the Wednesday Study Club. Her assignment was to speak on some local area subject. Another member of her club, Mrs. E. W. Sampson, while browsing through the Cockebury Book Store in Dallas, had noticed a book which had a chapter in it on the Monahans sandhills. The book was *Adventures With a Texas Naturalist*, by Dr. Roy Bedichek, of the University of Texas. Kitty read the book and was quite enthusi-

astic about it, especially the part about the Monahans sandhills. I read it and became very enthusiastic, too. I want to read you 1 or 2 paragraphs from this book on the Sandhills:

"I found myself in the midst of a miniature forest of oak and mesquite. Each dune is crowned by an oak tree, 10 to 24 inches tall, loaded with acorns. Interspersed among the oaks and towering above them is scrub mesquite, heavy with clusters of long, yellowish beans hanging nearly to the ground.

"I venture the statement, without research, that in no other forested section, the Amazon Valley not excepted, is there to be found a higher proportion of fruit to wood than in this lilliputian jungle in the northern portion of Ward County. Vegetatively considered, it is as much a natural curiosity as the Painted Desert or the wonder areas of Yellowstone. This hummocky expanse of stunted growths, or an ample sample of it, should be reserved and protected as a State or national park.

"Dr. B. C. Tharp informs me that the little oak (*Quercus havardii*) is confined to the sandy south plains of Texas and of eastern New Mexico. Rarely reaching to a height of 30 inches, its slender stems arise from a thick rootstock buried 4 to 8 inches below the surface. It bears a fat acorn nearly an inch long and more than half an inch thick. Thus the old proverb, 'Great oaks from little acorns grow,' is reversed in this topsy-turvy land where only miniature oaks from giant acorns grow."

Dr. Bedichek's words sounded wonderful and gave us an appreciation of a phase of the sandhills which we had not had before. However, we were at that time having postwar growing pains in our business and in our preoccupation with the daily details, it never occurred to us that probably nobody would ever develop the sand hills into a park unless we did it.

The years wore on, and finally, in 1951, we had occasion to visit in Washington, D. C., and through our Congressman, Ken Regan, we set up an appointment with the National Park Service. The national park people were very cooperative, but when they found that practically all the land in our area was under lease for oil and gas, they advised us to go the state park route, because national parks must own their minerals and, obviously, the lands upon which the park could be developed were too valuable to acquire for park purposes, if the minerals were included.

Thereafter, we did get in touch with the Texas State Park Board and they requested the National Park Service to make a survey to determine the feasibility of establishing a park in the area. This was done and I want to read to you a couple of excerpts from the National Park Service report:

"Investigation of the recreation resources of west Texas indicates that the Odessa-

Monahans-Pecos area lacks adequate park facilities.

"The Monahans Sands is attractive in terrain, plant life, and archeological and historical significance, and is located so as to provide a useful and centrally located State park for this area.

"The local communities are interested in establishing a park in this part of the State and probably will be willing to acquire a site and present it to the State."

I will not try to tell you the story of how we worked and tried for years before we made our dream come true. Any of you who have spearheaded a drive to create something new and different for your community, knows of the many obstacles which present themselves and which must be overcome, one by one, before you can realize the goal. Some of the things which we had to overcome were:

1. The oil company lessee didn't want us to put the park on their lease; they were uneasy at the prospects of visitors, especially children, who might damage or be hurt by oil producing and drilling equipment.

2. The prominent rancher who had the grass lease was strongly opposed to giving up any ground and violently opposed having people in there who might chouse his cattle.

3. The owners of the land refused to sell.

4. The city had no way to acquire the land five miles from the city limits, and the county's park tax assessment had been raised to the maximum in the building of four community center buildings. Besides that, any funds which our county has are always divided into four parts (unless it's something like a courthouse, where you can't have one in each precinct), and usually each commissioner gets in the neighborhood of one-fourth of the total.

5. The land which was by all odds the most desirable for the park lay in two counties. Even if Ward County had the money, and the land was for sale, Ward County money couldn't be expended for land in Winkler County. Winkler County was in no mood to put up money for a park which would benefit Monahans.

6. Ninety-five percent of the voters in our county had no conception of what the sand hills were like—they had been fenced off for years—and had little interest in the project.

7. We were going through a school scrap, where the board replaced the superintendent and the head football coach, and our town was divided into two bitter factions over this issue.

Perhaps you can understand that, with these things and other small troubles, it took us years to bring the park into reality. But we did finally make a dream come true and, after a long search we found a man to run our park and museum. A little later on in the program, Mr. Bob Larson is going to show you what we have.

Mr. DONAGAN: I think you might be interested in a few historical notes on the impressions the sandhills made on early-day explorers. The first traveler who kept a fairly complete journal seems to have been Capt. R. B. Marcy. In 1848, Captain Marcy had commanded a military escort from Fort Smith, Ark., to Santa Fe, N. Mex., protecting a party of gold seekers, and he then sought a new return route to the southward.

Dropping down the Rio Grande to Dona Ana, he engaged a local man to supplement Manuel, a Comanche Indian guide he already had, and struck out along the 32d parallel, about where the present Texas-New Mexico boundary line is, until the party came to the Pecos. They followed this river to the southward until they reached a point about 20 miles below the site of the present town of Pecos. There they crossed the river and headed eastward.

The following is an excerpt from Marcy's own report as given in Senate Executive Document No. 64 (31st Cong., 1st sess.), being reports of the Secretary of War, transmitting among others, the reports of Marcy and Michler:

"September 22: This morning we made a march of 9 miles down near the left bank of the river in a direction north 82° east, where we struck a narrow laguna or lake, which we followed for about 2 miles and encamped near the southern extremity. There the soil has been a rich loam, and I have no doubt would prove very productive. There has been a chain of sandhills in sight today, running from north to south across our course, about 20 miles to the east of us (upon the Llano Estacado) in which our guide informs me that there is water, but that we are obliged to pass over a sandy road for some 15 miles to get through them. I have, therefore, determined to remain at this place until I can send ahead and ascertain whether I cannot pass to the south of them.

"September 23: I sent out Lieutenant Sackett, with an escort of dragoons, this morning, to explore the country in the vicinity of the sandhills, and shall remain here until tomorrow evening, by which time I expect to learn the result of his exploration.

"September 24: After filling our water barrels, and giving our animals all they would drink, I made a start this evening at 2 o'clock and traveled 10 miles in a direction nearly perpendicular to the valley of the river. Shortly after we left the laguna, an express from Lieutenant Sackett, informing me that after making a thorough examination of the range of sand for 40 miles south of our course, he was of the opinion that there was no place within that distance where they could be crossed with wagons. The whole surface of the country in that direction

seemed to be one continuous succession of white sand hills, from 20 to 100 feet high, in which his horses sunk to their knees at almost every step, from which I infer that the route indicated by our guide is the only one in the vicinity where this formidable obstacle can be passed. I shall, therefore, take a direct course for the pass in the morning, and expect to reach the hills during the day.

"September 25: We reached the sandhills this afternoon about 2 o'clock, over a good level road, except about 4 miles near here which is sandy, making the distance from the Pecos 23.4 miles. There is a great abundance of good water at several places in the sandhills, but it is necessary to drive the animals to it as it is half mile from the road and wagons cannot pass nearer. There is a trail leading to the water from where the road strikes the hills. These hills, or mounds present a most singular and anomalous feature in the geology of the prairies. They extend (so far as we have explored) at least nearly 50 miles in a north and south direction, and from 5 to 10 miles east and west; they are white drift sand thrown up with much uniformity into a multitude of conical hills, destitute of trees, soil, or herbage.

"In the following up the trail from our road into the midst of this ocean of sand, we suddenly came upon several large, deep pools of clear water—the very last place on earth where one would ever think of looking for it. We are told by our guide that water can always be found here in the driest season, and judging from the rushes and other water plants growing in the ponds, I have no doubt that such is the case.

"September 26: As we have a long march before us still, and as the road through the hills is sandy, I have concluded to double teams today, and send one-half of the wagons to the last watering place, 5 miles from here; and take up the remainder tomorrow.

"September 27: We moved up today with the wagons we left behind yesterday, and found water at this place equally as good as the other. Although there are but two particular points at which trails lead from the road to water in the hills, yet it can be found almost anywhere between the two points by going about half a mile to the east of the road, among the highest hills.

"September 28: 8 miles of sandy road which we passed over today brought us to the hard prairie today. Thus the entire distance from where we first encountered the sand to this place is about 17 miles; but only about one-half that distance is bad, and this not worse than some parts of the road on the Rio Grande. There is good grass near the hills, and sufficient wood for fuel."

(Note.—Three months after Marcy traversed the sandhills, Lieutenant Michler, Jr., traveled Marcy's route in a reverse direction.)

Upon reaching the sandhills, he said, "We found for the first 12 miles, low ridges of sand, running parallel to each other, plains of the same kind interspersed between them with small hillocks. The sand here was of a black color. Then came the white sandhills which are really an object of curiosity. They are perfect miniature Alps of sand—the latter perfectly white and clean; in the midst of them you see summit after summit spreading out in every direction, not a sign of vegetation upon them, nothing but sand piled upon sand. They form a belt 2 or 3 miles in width, and extend many miles in a north-west direction. But a matter of the greatest surprise is to find large waterholes among them; they are found in the base of the hills, are large, deep, and contain most excellent water, cool, clear, and pleasant. The water is permanent."

The next early-day explorer of whom we know who wrote of the hills was Capt. John Pope, who passed this way in 1854, and whose account is contained in a paper called "Report of Explorations and Surveys To Ascertain the Most Practicable and Economical Route for a Railroad From the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean, being House Executive Document No. 91, 33d Congress, 2d session, volume II, page 70:

"Camp No. 24, Friday, March 24, 1854: Left last camp at 20 minutes past 6 o'clock a. m., and moved in the direction of the trail discovered yesterday (probably Marcy's). We struck our road at the emigrant crossing about 9 o'clock a. m., distance from camp upward of 4 miles. This is an extremely bad crossing; our oxen swam for upward of 30 feet to the opposite bank. It would be utterly impossible for wagons to cross without rafting. It cannot for a moment compare with the crossing of the Pecos (mouth of Delaware Creek), the former presenting many difficulties—soft bottom, deep stream, and on the east side miry banks. The latter affords many facilities, and is strongly recommended to emigrants. We halted here to water, which had to be done with buckets. As we will not reach water until we strike the sandhills our kegs were filled. We are now upon the long-desired trail.

"Camp No. 25, Saturday, March 25, 1854: Left last camp at 20 minutes after 6 o'clock a. m., and moved in the direction of the sandhills. Our road today, for 9 miles, was over a level prairie; the road for this distance was excellent. Before reaching the hills we had nearly 7 miles of bad, sandy road. We could perceive them at a distance of 12 miles, stretching away as far as the eye could reach. For 2 miles, before camping, we passed around their western base. We arrived in camp at 20 minutes after 2 o'clock p. m. These hills present a curious and interesting formation. They extend about 50 miles from north to south, and 15 miles east to west. They consist of white drift sand, thrown up into innumerable conical mounds, totally destitute of all vegetation. One would sup-

pose that this region of sand is the last place where water could be expected; yet, however incredible as it may seem, there is an abundance of water in these hills, contained in basins of the finest sand. When amongst the hills, one would suppose that there had been a heavy fall of snow. Our camp was about a quarter of a mile from water. The animals were driven up to water, sinking to their knees in the sand. The team mules were fed with corn; six animals picketed in camp for the purpose previously mentioned.

"The soil for 10 miles from the Pecos was good, with plenty of prairie grass and mesquite root. As we near the hills these become scarce. At camp we had some brush. The grass was very poor and scanty. The weather changed suddenly to cold with a high wind. A slight rain fell during the night.

"Our camp is 31.2 miles from the emigrant crossing the Rio Pecos. No observations taken during the day. Heavens cloudy at night. General direction north 7°30' east; miles 10.4.

"Camp No. 23, Sunday, March 23, 1834: Left camp 20 minutes to 7 o'clock a. m., and proceeded in the direction of the next watering place in the sandhills, 5 miles distant from camp. There is a well-marked trail here leading to the water, which can be obtained, however, at any point in the hills by driving the animals about half a mile from the road. The mules and stock were watered and turned loose to graze some time. We passed from last camp from northeast to southwest in arriving at this point, over a deep, sandy road, which was very trying to the animals. From the great quantity of fragments of abandoned wagons, this place has evidently been a general camping ground.

"Having halted an hour and a half, the command started. The remainder of our route for this day was over a very fine and deep sand; we encountered many steep hills of the same nature. There could not, indeed, be a worse road, as was sufficiently evident from the exhausted condition of our animals. We fortunately overcame all the difficulties of this miserable road without doubling teams or meeting with any accident. As we did not expect to reach water until the following day, all the casks were filled at the above halting place. The grass is poor and scarce; there is no wood, although we found vegetation on this arid and sandy plain.

"From the point where we first struck the sandhills, we proceeded along their western base and crossed the main ridge of sand at the lowest apparent point. At 5 miles across we came to the last known watering place to the eastward. In this direction we passed over many ridges of deep sand separated by valleys of the same character. They are in reality impassable for heavy wagons. From the above point to the hard prairie east of the sandhills, a distance of 13 miles, we continued to cross deep sandy ridges, with in-

tervening bottoms of a similar description, totally destitute of vegetation. From the Pecos River to the level prairie east of the sandhills, the road passed through about 30 miles of the heaviest sand. It is the worst road to be found in New Mexico, on the Rio Grande, or indeed anywhere else. It cannot be too strongly urged on emigrant parties never to attempt traveling by this route, except in the rainy season from August to the middle of October, as the distance without water from the sandhills to the first permanent water to the eastward is 67 miles, 13 of which (immediately to the eastward of the hills) are through sand to deep and heavy as to be absolutely impassable to heavy-laden teams. With animals perfectly fresh, and lightly loaded wagons, it required all our exertions to overcome the difficulties of this dreadful road. It is also to be observed that our animals were in fine order, with 8 and 10 mules to each wagon."

This apparent contradiction between Pope's appraisal of the difficulties of crossing the sand and Marcy's appraisal, may have been caused by a slightly different routing, difference in equipment, or merely a difference in the subjective attitude of the two men.

I'd like to read you one more impression by an early traveler as recorded by Mody C. Boatright, in a West Texas Historical and Scientific Society Bulletin:

"One oldtimer relates that in the early days he was traveling on horseback from El Paso del Norte to the settlements further east taking the route afterward followed by the Texas and Pacific Railroad.

"One night he found himself overtaken by dark near where the town of Monahans is now. He unsaddled his trusty mount, as was his custom, and tied him to a small cottonwood tree, the only shrub available. Using his saddle blanket for a bed and his saddle as a pillow the traveler was soon lulled into a sound sleep by the melodious music of the coyotes and the haunting harmonies of the panthers and the lobos.

"He slept peacefully until morning, when he awoke to find himself near an immense cottonwood tree. His horse was nowhere in sight. The beast, however, was an animal of unusual intelligence, whom he always called by name, and addressed as an equal.

"He called, 'Frijole, where are you?'

"A pathetic neigh came from among the leaves of the cottonwood, and looking up into the branches, he saw poor Frijole suspended and almost choked to death.

"The explanation dawned upon him instantly. He had tied the animal on top of a sand dune. During the night the wind had arisen, the sand had shifted, and what had appeared in the evening to be a small shrub had turned out to be a tree so large that the lariat was not long enough to let the horse over halfway to the ground.

"With great presence of mind the traveler whipped out his six-shooter, severed the rope,

and released poor Frijole just in time to save his life.

"After the horse had 'blowed' for awhile, he was none the worse for his experience, and the traveler continued on his way. As the day advanced, the sandstorm increased in intensity, and it was only by tying huge rocks to the saddlehorn that the equestrian could keep his horse on the ground. As he rode through the drifting sand, however, his own misfortunes were mitigated somewhat by the deep sympathy which he felt for the prairie dogs, many of whom he observed as high as 10 feet in the air, digging with all their might in a vain effort to regain their holes."

And now I would like to introduce to you the man whom we found after a search of the whole country. He was selected from a field of thirty-odd applicants to be manager of our park and director of our museum. We had applications from literally every section of the Nation—from New England to Florida—from Washington to southern California and every region in between. He is a talented painter—having studied at the Layton School of Art, and served as staff artist for the Milwaukee Public Museum, under Keith Gehhardt, art director, during the time when that institution was emerging as one of the most progressive museums in the country. He has successfully created and operated his own small business for 7 years in Minnesota's northern vacation country. He returned to creative work as staff artist for the Missouri Resources Museum at Jefferson City, and from there he came to us.

He is also a talented photographer, and he has taken a number of exquisite colored slides of the sand and sky in their many moods. He has something to say to you and something to show you. I am glad to present to you Mr. Robert G. Larson, manager of the Monahans Sandhills State Park and director of the Sandhills Museum:

Mr. LARSON: Mr. Chairman, members of the FSHS, guests, since first being informed of the Sandhills Park plan, it represented an exciting adventure in cultural development with unlimited possibilities. I believed then, as I do now, that our project at Sandhills Park will become a great asset to this area of west Texas.

All across our Nation there is a need for cultural institutions geared to general public appeal. These institutions should fulfill the recreational and cultural appetites of the greatest number of responsive people. When people are allowed these cultural and recreational satisfactions it has a great civilizing effect.

Some people have never been afforded an opportunity to know this better side of life.

What is never known and appreciated cannot be passed on to the youngsters. This failure leaves a great number of children wholly without concern or appreciation for the arts and sciences.

These notions of the cultural world should be fostered as early as possible in the young minds, and quite certainly the youngsters will develop an acceptance and admiration for the finer pursuits during their life span.

The modern museum has every opportunity to aid in awakening the youngsters and the whole public to a wonderful world around them, both past and present.

If an institution such as the Sandhills Museum is to be a means of introducing the cultural life of the area and exhibiting the products of that life, its facilities, and exhibits must be designed to carry the message clearly, precisely, and, above all, in a manner that will be interesting, colorful, and understandable.

In developing Sandhills State Park proper we are convinced of this. If it is to function as a first-rate recreation center it must be built on a foundation of sound ideals carried to realization through a program of creative action.

Whatever and whenever it is possible I hope we may be able to build installations in Sandhills State Park that will be a source of pride to every visitor.

To achieve these lofty goals we will face many difficult hours of negotiations and painstaking work, both in the park and in the museum.

In the past months we have built exhibit equipment that has enabled us to make a start in the direction of a dynamic program of changing exhibits which will include, as time permits, paintings, drawings, sculpture, architecture, and many of the crafts.

We are working at this time on the more complex problem of setting up our historical exhibit which will be permanently housed in the east end of the museum. This hall will eventually show and explain the gargantuan effort man has made in settling and developing this west Texas area.

Though we will begin with a number of temporary exhibits based on objects we have borrowed from other institutions, we hope eventually to cover thoroughly a period dating back to the Stone Age Indian of the lower Pecos River up through the Spanish era, the buffalo hunters, Indian fighters, trail drivers, ranchers, railroaders, irrigators, and, finally, the modern oil industry.

The accomplishment of this outlined show will represent must time and effort, but I feel confident that Sandhills Park and Museum will grow in beauty, prominence, and importance as time passes.

A

B

C

D

E

This Map Furnished Thru
The Courtesy of Your
Chamber of Commerce

KERMIT TEXAS

STREET INDEX

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Amelia St. H-4
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Austin St. E-4
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Ave. B D-5
Ave. C D-5
Ave. D D-5
Ave. H F-6

Baird St. H-1
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Bert St. I-5
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Cecil Ave. G-7
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Concho Ave. G-3
Concho St. G-3

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Joseph St. I-6

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Sherwood Ave. G-4
Spruce St. F-2
Standard Ave. H-1
Stephen St. I-5
Sweetwater Ave. D-4
Sycamore St. F-2

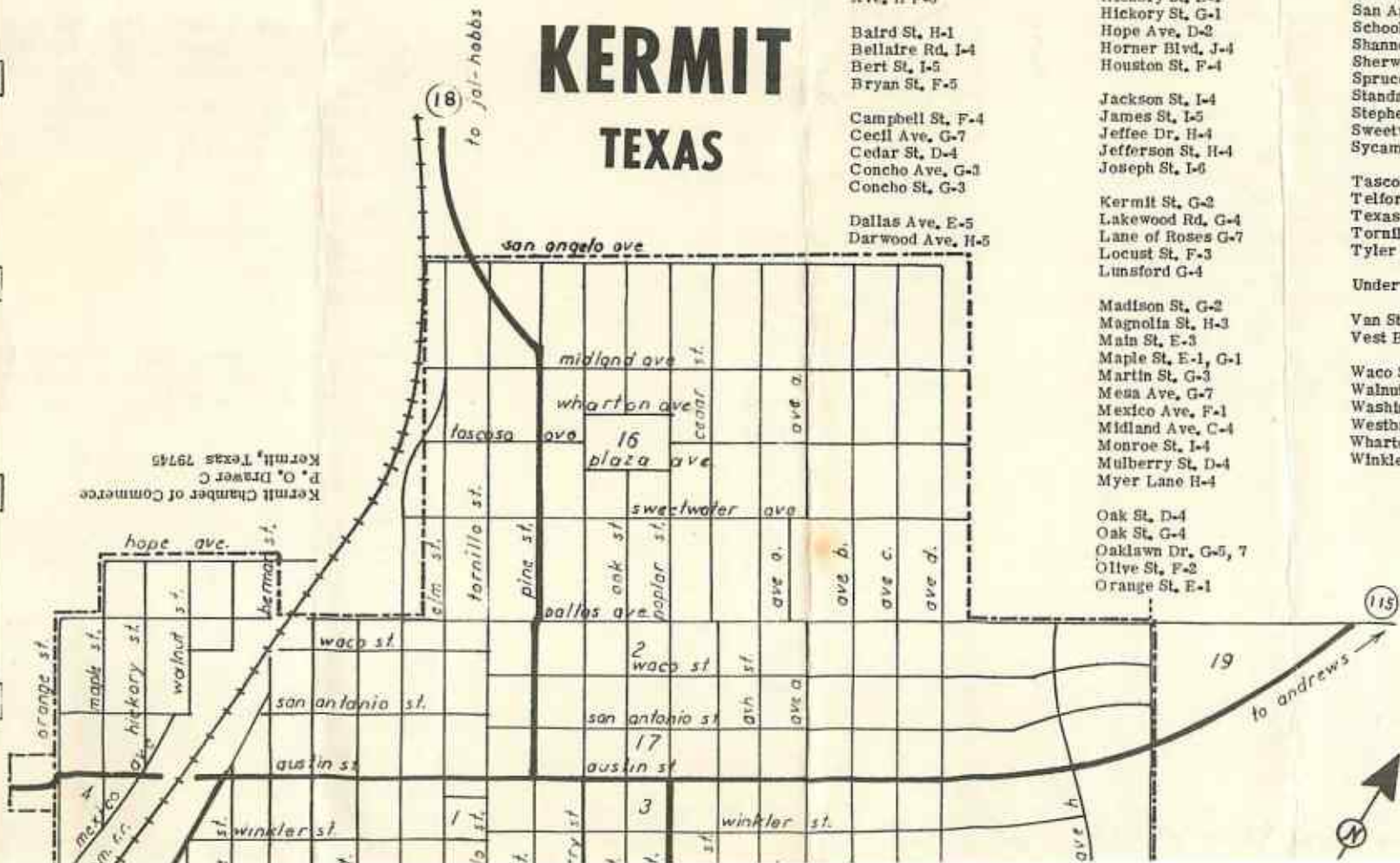
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Underwood St. G-3

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Westbrook Ave. G-2
Wharton Ave. D-4
Winkler St. F-2

Kermit Chamber of Commerce
P. O. Drawer C
Kermit, Texas 79745



GENERAL

Banks: 2 with total deposits of 16.2 million as of 5-1-69.
Savings & Loan: 1 with deposits of 2.9 million as of 5-1-69.
Medical: 1 hospital with 85 beds, 9 physicians and surgeons, 2 dentists, 1 chiropractor, 1 optometrist.
Newspaper: Winkler County News, semi-weekly.
Radio: KERB (1000 watts).
Television: All 3 major networks, with excellent reception.
Motels: 3 with 83 rooms.
Housing: 80 per cent home owners with median value of \$11,000. Current median rental at \$75.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Kermit is located on the West Texas plains near the Southeast corner of New Mexico, forming the Southeast corner of the Texas-New Mexico Panhandle. The land area of 887 square miles ranges in elevation from 2,700 to 3,500 feet, with Kermit being 2,890. The rolling-to-level plains are covered with grass and brush mesquite. The County is just below the High Plains whose west-facing escarpment runs along the East line of the County. A corridor of low, shifting sand hills run North and South through the Eastern part of the County. Blue Mountain landmark is located in the Northeastern part. Kermit, almost the geographical center of the County is served by State Highways 302, 18 and 115.

TRANSPORTATION

Rail: Texas-New Mexico Railway Co., South to North (tri-weekly).
Freight Lines: Railway Express, Merchants, Copperstate.

LEGEND

HISTORICAL MARKERS

a. Marker commemorating the Compromise of 1850 to be erected on the state line of Texas-New Mexico. This marker was dedicated by Governor Campbell of New Mexico in 1967.

b. The Sand Hills Park of Winkler County, 10 miles north-east of Kermit on Highway 115.

retire from daily use. In service from June 1, 1930 to Feb. 13, 1966. Given by R. O. Moorhead to City of Kermit. Was moved 35 miles from site to Pioneer Park without being dismantled.

f. Nester's Shack, moved from northwest part of County to Pioneer Park in 1967.

g. Marker to City of Kermit near east city limits on Highway

Texas-Pacific Motor Transport, Consolidated Copperstate.

Bus Lines: Continental Trailways (2 buses daily).

Taxi: Yellow Cab Co.

Air: Winkler County Airport has modern hangars, FFA Flight Service Station, excellent lighted loading runways.

MAJOR INDUSTRIES

Perry R. Bass, Inc.
Cabot Corporation
El Paso Natural Gas Company
Gulf Oil Corporation
Humble Oil & Refining Company
Kermit Sewing Industries
Mobil Oil Company
Pan American Petroleum Corp.
Phillips Petroleum Corp.
Standard Oil Company of Texas
Shell Oil Company
Sinclair Oil & Gas Company
Texaco, Inc.
Transwestern Pipeline Company

UTILITIES

Electricity: 16,250 KVA
Gas: 8,000 MCF per day
(Community Public Service Co., Distributor)
Telephone: Southwestern Bell
Water: City: 2,500,000 GPD from 14 wells supplied by underground reservoir.

TAX RATE

Body	Per \$100 Assessed Valuation	Assessment Basis per cent of Actual Value
City	\$2.15	1-3
County	\$1.25	10
School	\$1.78	1-7
State	\$.47	10

j. Old Wink Cemetery located northwest of Wink, 1.6 miles on Airport Road.

k. Marker to City of Wink. In Wink on Highway 115.

l. Willow Springs, 12.6 miles south of Kermit on Highway 18. Indian massacre site in sand hills.

m. Blue Mountain, 13.2 miles east of Kermit on State Highway 302, Indian camp site.

LABOR

The present total labor force amounts to about 5,060 employees. Less than 5 per cent of this work force is unionized labor. In 1968, a survey showed 700 area women were willing to go to work for the federal minimum wage.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Industrial Development Inc. of Kermit, Texas stands ready at a moment's notice to encourage, aid, and support new industry. Information and assistance in locating a new plant in Kermit will be available to a good prospect at any time.

In April, 1969, Kermit received from the West Texas Chamber of Commerce the outstanding achievement award for community development known as the Blue Ribbon City Award. This award is given for excellence in Beautification, Local Government, Industrial Development, Parks and Recreation, Education, and Tourist Development.

CHURCHES & SCHOOLS

25 churches: 16 denominations
3 Elementary: 991
1 Junior High: 660
1 Senior High: 743

RESOURCES

Petroleum, potash, natural gas liquids, natural gas, limestone, and associated minerals in bedded underground deposits.

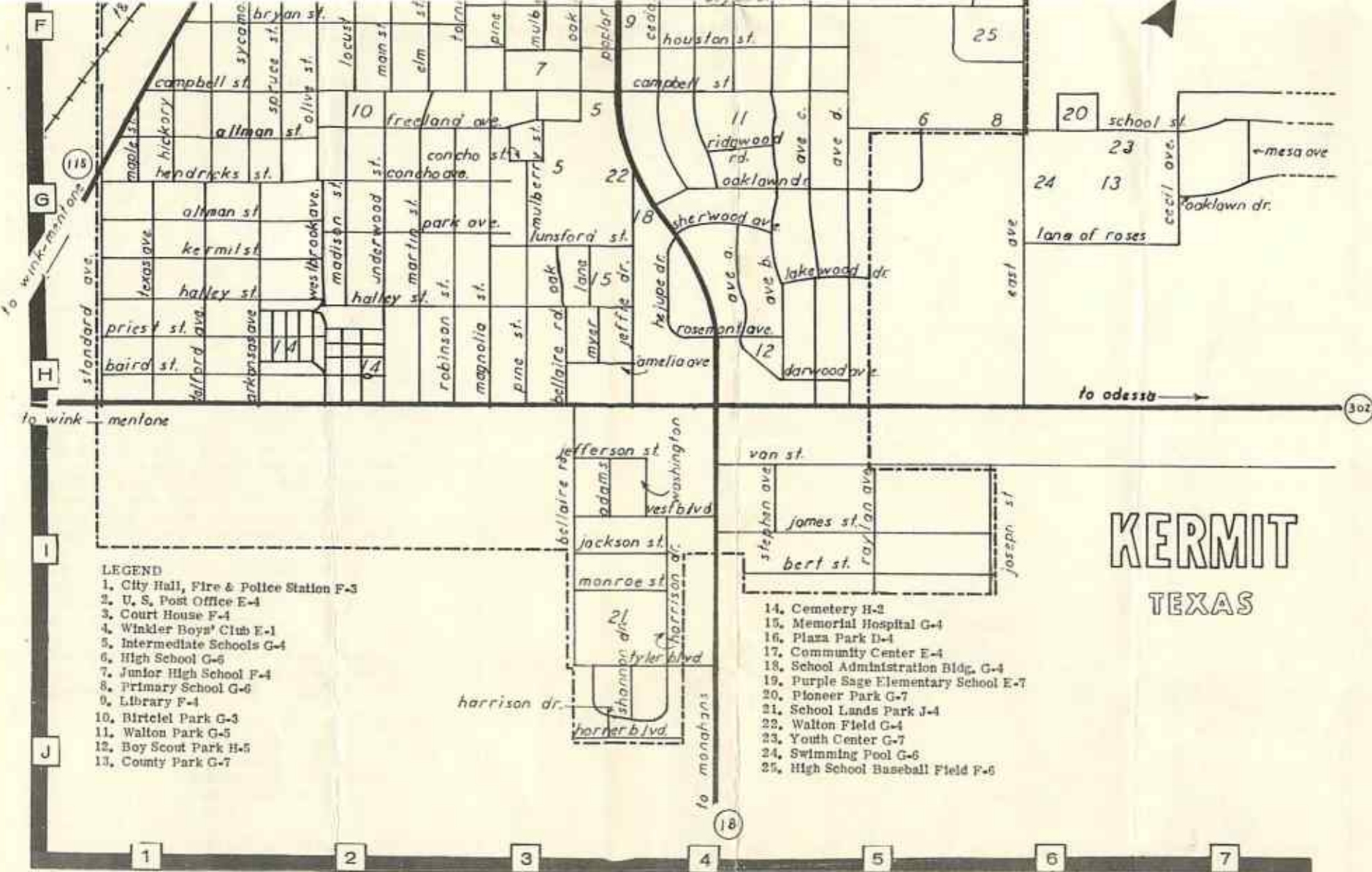
HISTORY

When the Texas legislature created seven new counties in 1887 from Tom Green County, its duty was to name each of these counties. Winkler received its name from Judge Clinton McKamy Winkler, a colonel in the Confederate Army, a member of the Texas legislature, and a Justice of the Court of Civil Appeals.

The 1890 census listed 19 people here; in 1900 there were 66. By 1910 enough homesteaders had filed on land and a petition for county organization was approved. The county seat, Kermit, named after Theodore Roosevelt's son, was laid out. Three houses, a four-room hotel, and a court house were built.

Kermit was established in 1910, and was incorporated in 1938.

On Nov. 6, 1926, the T. G. Hendrick No. 1



KERMIT

TEXAS

c. Winkler County Centennial Marker.
 d. The Medallion House, oldest house in Kermit. Moved to Pioneer Park in 1968.
 e. Moorhead Derrick, last wooden oil derrick in U. S. to

h. The Community Church of Kermit, a Medallion Building. First permanent church in County.
 i. Old Duval, First Post Office in Winkler County, 1910.

House grounds in Kermit. Erected to Col. C. M. Winkler, Confederate Colonel for whom County was named.

of Hendrick Field, some 10,000 oil producing acres. Until this discovery, the area was purely a ranching county. Many spectacular and wild gas wells marked the production in a second oil play in 1930. Oil exploration in deeper zones caused a renewal of activity in 1943. In 1950, new fields were brought into production in addition to important extensions to old fields. Also in this year, a new chapter in the petroleum industry came into national acclaim when the first underground storage of butane and propane was demonstrated in the Keystone Field by the Sid Richardson Oil Company utilizing washed-out salt domes. This practice, now widely used, provides a low cost method of storage. Rapid technological advances and changes in methods of production have been reflected locally in expanded job opportunities, increased business, and added tax revenues. Wealth from oil has made possible a fine school system and beautifully built churches, transforming dusty little towns into modern communities.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

City: Aldermanic form with Mayor, City Manager and 5 Councilmen. 15 man police force with 3 radio patrol cars. Volunteer fire department with 40 volunteers and 1 full-time paid employee. Fire Insurance Key rate, 26 cents. Credit for good record, 5 per cent. City provides garbage and trash service daily.

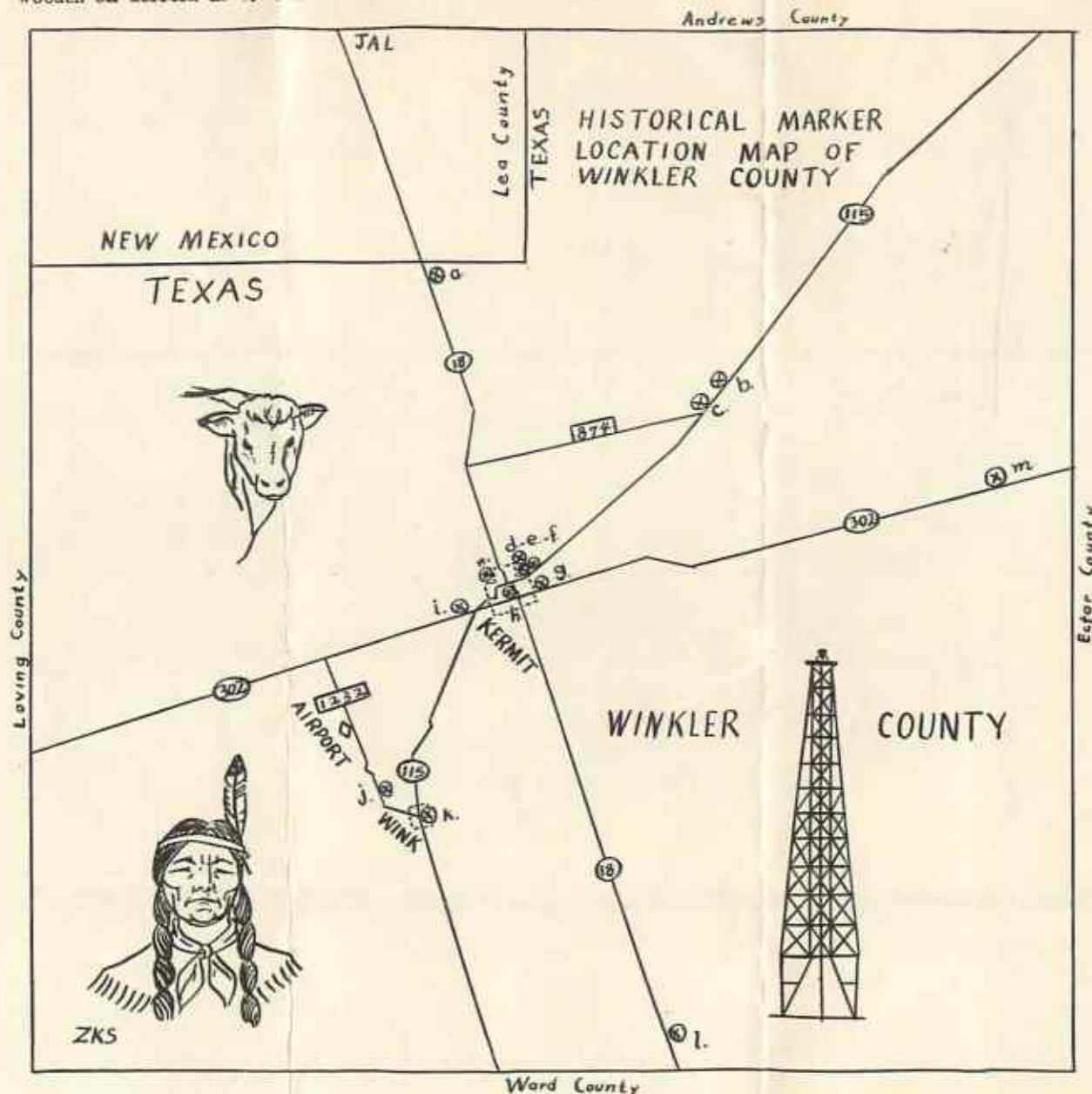
County: Commissioner's Court with 4 commissioners and County Judge serving as presiding officer. The Winkler County Sheriff's Department consists of the Sheriff and 5 deputies. The County maintains the library, hospital, parks and recreation, county roads, court house, Community Center, and many other facilities too numerous to mention.

POPULATION

City: 10,465 (1960 census)
 9,000 (1969 estimate)
 County: 13,652 (1960 census)
 10,300 (1969 estimate)

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Pioneer Park, Winkler County Park with AAU swimming pool, modern community Youth Center, tennis, volleyball, and croquet courts, etc. Complete program of summer youth activities. Sand Hills Park offers complete picnic area, plus areas to search for Indian artifacts. Winkler County has a private country club located 7 miles west of the City. Associated with it, the County owns and maintains a 9-hole golf course.



KERMIT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*****DUST-DEVILS, DOGIES & DRILL-BITS*****

BY: RAY C. KAYSER, CHAIRMAN
Winkler County Historical Survey Committee

A survey of present day Winkler County by a casual observer would result in an impression of growth, modernity, and efficient industrial activity. More derricks and oil drilling rigs are visible than cattle. More petroleum installations than ranch houses; and more pick-ups than cow ponies are in evidence. This was not always the picture. It was once an area richly endowed with the colorful history of the Old West.

Delving into the far-distant past reveals that none of the horde of western-bound travelers found cause to linger here. Tourism passed us by --- with good reason.

The White Sandhills, extending across the eastern part of the area, was a physical barrier, a deterrent to a direct route westward. Furthermore, the hostile Comanche Indians had occupied this landmark for two-hundred years, using it as a stopping place on their murderous forays into Mexico to steal horses each September. They hunted and roamed here because of available surface water.

That one depredation occurred in this miniature desert was revealed in 1901, with the discovery of the remains of a 40-wagon train in "V" formation, whose unknown fate the ever-shifting sands had hidden for many years. This incident, referred to locally as the "Willow Springs Massacre," occurred at a water hole. Human bones, flintlocks, ox yokes and numerous articles are housed in college museums, perhaps waiting identification.

The Indians left vestiges of occupancy on Blue Mountain also. This projection of the Llano Estacado is the highest point in Winkler County, ten miles east of the City of Kermit. Captain John Cook, while a captive of the Comanches in 1864, at the age of twelve, related incidents of Indian life of Blue Mountain, and described the pictographs painted on the walls of the cave there, in his memoirs.

In order to protect the forty-niners enroute to California gold fields, the government sent military expeditions to map a safe trail through this unknown zone. It required Captain Marcy, with the first detachment, three days to cross the Sandhills. He described grazing in the area as incomparable and recommended in his report that the 32° parallel, which marks the state line today, also a part of Winkler County's boundary, be the future route for a railroad to the Pacific.

Congress, interested in the report, four months later sent Lt. Michler to study Marcy's trail. He also described the "pure white sand" and was surprised to find water.

In 1853, Captain Pope of the U. S. Topographical Engineers, began a hazardous four year survey while drilling wells along the proposed route for the railroad. The going was harder and he found no water.

The Civil War caused Federal troops to be withdrawn and suspended progress toward settlement.

These army operations were climaxed by Colonel MacKenzie's successful campaign against the Comanche Indians in 1874 - '76. The threat of their presence was completely eliminated. At the same time, Colonel Shafter, with nine companies of Cavalry, was making a final and thorough exploration of the entire area. His reports were widely circulated.

The first settlers arrived here in 1880 before the county was created. Living in covered wagons and cooking over open fires until a dugout or adobe house could be built, they endured incredible hardships. But land could be had for fifty cents an acre with forty years to pay, and enterprising ranchers took advantage of the opportunity.

The Johnson Brothers great "W" was the largest ranching operation in the area, extending thirty miles on both sides of the Pecos River, and maintaining a headquarters and five "line" camps.

Cattle drives, round-ups and all the picturesque activities of the cow country were part of that era which produced colorful figures, including a world champion bronc buster who appeared in the first Madison Square Garden Rodeo and later toured the world with Will Rogers. Longhorns gave way to a speckled cattle; blooded Herefords replaced these in time. Windmills kept water flowing, and barbed wire conquered the open range.

The 1890 census listed nineteen people here; in 1900 there were sixty-six. By 1910 enough homesteaders had filed on land to increase the population to four hundred and forty-two, and a petition for county organization was approved. The county seat, Kermit, named after Roosevelt's son, was laid out. Three houses, a four room hotel and a courthouse was built. County officials were elected --- and life went on as usual. Lean years followed with "dry offs" and droughts but those who stayed on were compensated when their dry ranges became rich oil pools.

In the summer of 1926 a major oil strike was made with the completion of Roy Westbrook's Hendrick No. 1. The Hendrick Pool eventually had six-hundred wells producing an excess of 350,000 barrels daily. The resulting boom revolutionized Winkler County industrially and began the modern progress and prosperity of the entire area. The unpleasant side-effects which accompanied the boom were felt long before any progress was seen.

The population soared from 81 to 15,000 at the height of the frantic drilling activity. A new townsite, Wink, was created in Horse Wells Pasture, becoming the second town in the county. Tent cities sprang up. "Wide-open" conditions prevailed. Death was sudden and violent.

The contemporary scene reflects the great achievement accomplished in converting the oil boom into substantial growth. Oil and oil men have dominated the picture for thirty years, because the county was unprepared for the great change. Major oil companies have provided housing, water, electricity, telephones and most important of all, roads through the sand.

The oil transportation problem was relieved in 1929 when the Texas-New Mexico Railway, a branch line, reached Wink and Kermit.

In 1928 oil proration slowed the drilling. In 1930, with the decline of the Hendrick Pool, many people moved from Wink to Kermit, where a second oil play had developed with 900 pro-

2732

ducing wells. Many spectacular and wild gas wells marked the production. Oil exploration in deeper zones caused a renewal of activity in 1943. In 1950 new fields were brought into production in addition to important extensions to old fields, until today there are 80 oil and gas fields in Winkler County, placing it among the top ten as an oil producing county and second in the production of gas. The value of oil and gas produced per year exceeds 100 million dollars, and a great reserve indicates the future potential of the area.

Expansion of the natural gas industry in recent years has been the most remarkable factor in the economic picture. Natural gas, before serving principally as a domestic fuel has had sensational development as a raw material in the new petro-chemical field. Pipeline systems have opened new markets on the West Coast, stimulating production greatly. Ten gasoline extraction plants in the area meet the state's demand for conservation and produce great quantities of liquified petroleum products.

In 1950 a new chapter in the petroleum industry came into national acclaim when the first underground storage of butane and propane was demonstrated in the Keystone Field by the Sid Richardson Oil Company utilizing washed-out salt domes. This practice, now widely used, provides a low cost method of storage.

Rapid technological advances and changes in methods of production have been reflected locally in expanded job opportunities, increased business and added tax revenues. A good highway system facilitates travel demands. The dry, mild climate is similar to that of Arizona but lacks the oppressive humidity. Wealth from oil has made possible a fine school system and beautifully built churches, transforming dusty little towns into modern communities.

Against the backdrop of the White Sands and Blue Mountain, cattle raising altered to assume its present character; the oil industry, in the same setting has had its pioneers, claimed a frontier and anticipates the future. With no regard for these facts, the coyote renders the same nocturnal concert to the field pumpers now, as he did to the Comanche two hundred years ago.

Grandma 16yr old at marriage

My Maternal Ancesters

Johann (John) Steskal was born in Dfterreich, Germany on August 28, 1838. Josepha (Josephine) Betnach (Bettnach) was born in Austria on August 11, 1841. They were married in Germany (date unknown) ¹⁸⁵⁷. Four children were born while living in Deutsch, Gros Siegharts, Austria. Agnes born December 25, _____; Leopoldine (Tena) born November 9, 1866; Mary born November 1, 1873; Leo (Lee) born April 8, 1877. In about year of 1878 the family came to America to David City, Nebraska. Here two more children were born: Jennie born May 22, 1879; Josephine born April 23, 1882. In 1883 they came to O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska and settled on a home-
stead ten miles northwest of O'Neill. Susan born June 12, 1884 and Edward born September 18, 1885.

John and Josephine sold their farm _____ ¹⁹⁰⁸ _{date} and moved to Atkinson, Nebraska. John died on March 28, 1912 and Josephine died May 26, 1925. Both are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Atkinson, Holt County, Nebraska.

If there are any corrections for above, please make them.

Dear Lucy,

I subscript to the Genealogical Helper and saw an ad about finding the origin of names for one dollar so I sent it in, but so far have no answer. I also wrote to the Chamber of Commerce in David City for Newspaper, Catholic Priest, and Courthouse name and addresses. They replied and also sent me a Photostatic copy of six names in phone book. The spelling was Styskal. I wrote to a Miss Frances Styskal, 1077A, David City, Nebraska 68632. I have received no reply as yet. I'll write to the priest Msgr. A.J. Lisko in a day or two.

I have recied a reply from the Oliver Gift family. She said Ann ^{Oliver's daughter}, who live in Gilmore City, Iowa should have necessary information but hadn't heard from her yet. Oliver retired the end of April and now they are planning on traveling, going West and north. She wrote a very interesting letter.

I have written to Theresa, Susan Meyers Allen, Marguerite Englehart, and Ken's wife In March so far no reply.

Here are a few questions I wonder if you can answer for me:

Where did your folks live after they were married? Were all their children born on (over)

farm north east of Atkinson? What year did they move to Atkinson?

Do you know your father and mother's birth dates ? Was Teresa adopted or just a foster child?

When I hear more on the Steskal family will let you know.

Hope you are feeling better now. I am pretty well , do have a few aches and pains now and then but guess that is old age creeping up on me.

We are having rainy weather. Everything looks wonderful.

Love,

Martha

P.S.

Enjoyed your newsy letter. Thanks for all the information you sent.

Mother said that Grandpa Steskal's brother's name was Antoine (Antone). I remember that picture also as Mother has one.

Too bad we didn't start this project before the old timers died. Guess I was too busy raising a family and keeping them fed.

Love,

Martha

The Steskal Family

Steskal, John (parents unknown) born August 28, 1838 in Dfterreich, Germany. No marriage date known but was married in Germany to Josephine nee Betn (parents unknown) born August 11, 1841 in Austra. They came to America after their fourth child was born, settled in Butler County, Nebraska; then later came to Holt Count, Nebraska and homesteaded a Timber claim ten miles northwest of O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska. Eight children: Agnes born *Aug 25 1862*; Leopoldine born November 9, 1866; Mary born November 1, 1873; Leo born August 8, 1877; Jennie born May 22, 1879; Josephine born April 23, 1882; Susan born June 12, 1884; Edward born September 18, 1885. John died March 28, 1912 and Josephine died May 26, 1925. Both are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Atkinson, Nebraska.

First Generation

Winkler, Agnes nee Steskal daughter of John Steskal and his wife Josephine nee Betnach, born December 25, *1862*. On at married Henry Winkler son of *Joseph Winkler* and his wife *Susanne Keelman* born *Jan 26 1819* at *Gürstätt, Hesse, Germany*. Nine children: Anna born April 16, 1882; Susanna born August 22, 1883; Josie born ; John born May 30, ; Joseph born August 20, ; Agnes Barbara born October 30, 1890; Henry Jr. born October 9, 1893; Matilda born February 10, 1896; Luc born December 12, *1902*. Henry Sr. died December , 1928 and Agnes died May , 1935. Both are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Atkinson, Nebraska.

Second Generation

Henderson, Agnes nee Winkler daughter of Henry Winkler and his wife Agnes nee Steskal, born October 30, 1890 at . On May 10, 1912 at married Frank Henderson son of and his wife , born February 20, 1884 at . Eight children: Melvin Willis born March 22, 1913; Wilmer Harold born November 22, 1914; George Glenn born October 28, 1917; Josephine Elzene born March 19, 1920; Frank Lloyd born November 26, 1922; Calvin Henry born December 19, 1926; Charles Donald born June 26, 1929; Patricia Marie born March 17, 1935.

Third Generation

Henderson, Melvin Willis son of Frank Henderson and his wife Agnes nee Winkler, born March 22, 1913 at . On April *12*, 1934 at married Elfretta nee Spencer, daughter of and his wife , born July 5, 1917 at . Eight children: Myra Belle born March 28, 1936; Bette Jean born July 15, 1938; LaVern Allen born May 2, 1940; Karen Kay born July 24, 1942; Jo Mae born May 19, 1945; Patricia Ann born February 2, 1944; Melvin Lee born October 28, 1947; Diana Lynn born January 11, 1950.

Fourth Generation

McNobl, Myra Belle nee Henderson..daughter of Melvin Willis Henderson and his wife Elfretta nee Spencer, born March *28*, 1936 at on June 11, 1954 at.....married William G. McNobl, son of.....and his wife..... born, May 4, 1934 at..... Five children: Geo L. born Jan 13, 1956; Carol L. born Jan. 16, 1963 Robert L. born Sept. 30. 1966; Cheryl L. born March 17, 1968



The Steskal Family

Steskal or Styskal Johann (JOHN) parents unknown was born in Pittereich (Bastereich), Austria on August 28, 1830. Josephine (Josephine) nee Betnach parents unknown was born in Austria on August 11, 1841. They were married in Germany about 1861. Children born while living in Germany were Agnes born December 25, 1862; Percze born about 1864 and died at the age of fourteen; Leopoldine (Tena) born November 9, 1866; Four children born and died in infancy; Mary born November 1, 1873; Leo (Lec) born April 8, 1877.

Grandfather didn't want his son to have to join the German army so about the year of 1872 brought his little family to America to David City, Butler County, Nebraska. Here two more children were born : Jennie on May 22, 1879 and Josephine (Jorie) on April 23, 1882.

In 1883 the family traveled to O'Neill, Holt County, Nebraska and settled on a homestead ten miles northwest of O'Neill. Susan (Susie) was born on June 12, 1884 and Edward on September 13, 1885.

John and Josephine sold their ^{farm} either 1909 or 1910 and moved to Atkinson, Holt County Nebraska. Here John died March 28, 1912 and Josephine died May 26, 1925. Both are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Atkinson, Holt County, Nebraska.

Winkler, Agnes nee Steskal daughter of John Steskal and Josephine nee Betnach born December 25, 1862 in Gros Sieghart, Austria. On December 25, 1881 at David City, Saunders County, Nebraska ^{married} Henry Winkler son of Daniel Winkler and Susanna nee Keilman, born October 19, 1849 at Bornstedt (Holt) Germany.

Children: Anna born April 10, 1882; Susan born August 22, 1883; Josie born September 1, 1884 and died as a infant, buried in Atkinson; John born May 30, 1885; Joseph born August 20, 1886; Agnes born October 30, 1890; Henry Jr. born October 9, 1893; Matilda born February 10, 1896; Lucy born Dec. 12, 1902; Thomas born 1904 foster child born

Henry and Agnes came to Holt County, Nebraska and settled on a homestead nine miles northwest of Atkinson, Holt County, Nebraska. Here they raised their family and 1900 they bought and moved to a small tract of land on the outskirts of east Atkinson, Holt County, Nebraska. They made their home here until their death.

Frank Rehberg to father — (sisters)

The Steskal Family

Henry died December 22, 1928 and Agnes died May 5, 1935. Both are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Atkinson, Holt County, Nebraska.

Gift, Anna nee Winkler daughter of Henry Winkler Sr. and Agnes nee Steskal, born April 16, 1882 at Wahoo, Saunders County, Nebraska. On July , 1902 at Atkinson, Holt County, Nebraska married George E. Gift son of Daniel Gift and Charlotte nee , born at

Children: Oliver E. born April 1, 1903; Arthur Theodore born April 8, 1905; Cornelious (Connie) Roy born February 13, 1907; George Elmer born March 21, 1909.

Anna died May 23, 1909 and buried in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska. George E. Sr. died August 1, 1943 and was cremated at Rowberry, County California.

Gift, Oliver E. son of George E. Gift and Anna nee Winkler, born April 1, 1903 at Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska. On October 14, 1924 at Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie County, Iowa married Gertrude Rose nee Helferich daughter of Phillip E. Helferich and Charlotte Rose nee Bundenbach, born June 13, 1907 at Muscatine, Muscatine County, Iowa. Children: Anna Mae born July 24, 1925; Marguerite Ann (Peggy) born November 7, 1926; Oliver E. Jr. born September 13, 1928.

Gertrude Rose was confined to the State Hospital in Clarinda, Page County, Iowa.

On May 24 1943 Oliver obtained a divorce from her and on June 6, 1943 in Las Vegas,

Clark County, Nevada married Dorothy Morris nee Lane daughter of and , born March 27, 1903 at Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. No children.

Musselman, Anna Mae nee Gift daughter of Oliver E. Gift and Gertrude Rose nee Helferich, born July 24, 1925 at Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie County, Iowa. On June 16, 1942 at Blue Earth, Faribault County, Minnesota married Earl F. Musselman son of Elmer Elsworth Musselman and Elizabeth nee Walters, born April 30, 1923 at Brainerd, Crow County, Minnesota. Children: Lou Anna born January 22, 1947; Allen Louise born April 26, 1949; Patricia Jean born December 20, 1951; Wanda Lou born September 3, 1952;

The Steskal Family

David Mark born June 22, 1954.

Brewer, Ed Anna nee Musselman daughter of Earl F. Musselman and Anna Mae nee Gift, born January 28, 1947 at Pittsburg, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. On December 18, 1967 at Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin married Russell Henry Brewer son of Lawrence Brewer and Betty nee Case, born July 7, 1946 at

Children; Adopted daughter *Acqueline Minnie*

born July 9, 1971.

Cronk, Ellen Louise nee Musselman daughter of Earl F. Musselman and Anna Mae nee Gift, born April 20, 1949 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. On August 5, 1967 at Humbolt, Humbolt County, Iowa married John Howard Cronk son of Howard Louis Cronk and Violet nee

Nebraska.

Children; Howard John Jr. born March 15, 1968.

Ruger, Patricia Jean nee Musselman daughter of Earl F. Musselman and Anna Mae nee Gift, born December 20, 1951 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. On August 19, 1967 at Luvern, County, Iowa married Harry Ruger son of Walter Ruger and nee , born November 2, 1950 at Luvern, County, Iowa. Children; Randie Kay born June 9, 1968; Carol Lynn born June 9, 1968; Ramona Jean born June 23, 1971.

Myers, Wanda Lou nee Musselman daughter of Earl F. Musselman and Anna Mae nee Gift, born September 3, 1952 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. On November 15, 1967 at Maryville, Modaway County, Missouri married Russell Eugene Meyers son of Garhart Meyer and Ruby nee , born March 14, 1949 at Luvern, County, Iowa. Children: Russell Eugene Jr. born October 4, 1970; John Edward born September 24, 1971.

The Steskal Family

Hupton, Marguerite Ann nee Gift daughter of Oliver E. Gift and Gertrude Rose nee Helfferich, born November 7, 1926 at Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie County, Iowa. On , 1944 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa married Joseph Benjamin Hupton II son of Joseph Benjamin Hupton Sr. and Lola nee , born October 25, 1926 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. Children: Joseph Benjamin III born June 19, 1945; Kenneth James born June 25, 1947; Sharon Marie born August 25, 1948. Marguerite divorced Joseph Benjamin Hupton II on . On March 28, 1955 at Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska Marguerite married John Henry Owens son of Robert Owens and Anna nee , born November 15, 1908 at Cresco, Howard County, Iowa. Children: John Henry Jr. born November 1, 1955; Scott Lee born September 18, 1961; Kelly born October , 1964.

Hupton, Joseph Benjamin III son of Joseph Benjamin II and Marguerite Ann nee Gift, born June 19, 1945 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. On September 15, 1967 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa married Tammy nee Napzok daughter of Demitry Napzok and Irene nee , born in . Children: James Paul born September 15, 1968, died in infancy; Joseph Benjamin IV born December 2, 1969; Michelle Marie born October 28, 1971.

Hupton, Kenneth James son of Joseph Benjamin II and Marguerite Ann nee Gift born June 25, 1947 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. On September 4, 1965 at Humboldt, Humboldt County, Iowa married Caroline Fitzgerald daughter of James Fitzgerald and Margarete nee Collins, born December 3, 1918 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. Children: Kurt James born November 26, 1966; Angela Jay born October 28, 1969.

Angelico, Sharon Marienne Hupton daughter of Joseph Benjamin Hupton II and Marguerite Ann nee Gift, born August 25, 1948 at Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa. On May 1, 1966 at Elk Point, Union County, South Dakota married Lawrence (Larry) Angelico son of Ralph Angelico and Leora nee Paternal, born June 28, 1940 at Seneca, LaSalle County, Illinois. Children: Terry born January 27, 1965; Rick born September 4, 1967.

The Sterland Family

Gift, Oliver Elmer Jr. son of Oliver E. Gift and Anna nee Winkler , born September 13, 1927 at Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie County, Iowa. On

at married Shirley nee daughter of

and , born at

Children: Lou Gladys born ; Junior born ;

Julia born ; Donna born

Mark born

O'Neill, Nebraska
February 7, 1971

Dear Lucy & all,

It's such a cold day, a nice time to stay close to fire and write letters. It hasn't gotten above the zero mark all day.

I have gotten myself pretty well adjusted. I am staying right here on the farm. Calvin, my youngest son is married, lives in his own house a short ways from mine. I not really alone. Have a few cows and Calvin feeds them in winter, along with his sheep, hogs, rabbits and chickens. I have 11 hens that I take care of myself. It gives me an excuse to get outside three or four times a day, to water them and gather the eggs. They more than keep me in eggs.

I have been working pretty steady now on the Stuckel Family Tree. I

need information on your brothers
John and Joe's families, along with
Lucie's and Anna's families. Can you
help me out there, perhaps by giving
me addresses of some of their children?

I understand you have been working
on the Thinkler Family Tree. Maybe if
you have it compiled you could send
me a copy of just your Mother and
Father's, and children, grandchildren, etc.
I would mail it back after I copied
what I needed.

Maybe you are doing it different
than I am. Will send you a sheet as
a sample.

How are you and your husband?
Are you working? I taught school for
19 years, then retired when Bill got
so he couldn't be left alone. I did
substitute for five weeks last Fall
while the teacher was in hospital. I
believe if the College work wouldn't be
so hard I would be tempted to renew
my teacher's certificate. I do love to teach!
Instead I may do a little traveling

this summer. I have a daughter in British Columbia, Canada, and a son in Bagdad, Florida.

I did go with Bertha and Ed Hinkler to Scatterbluff, Jan. 22 weekend. I have a son living there; we also attended Richard Ries' wedding there. He is the last one of Cecilia's children to get married. We came back on Sunday.

Next summer when I go out I'm going to try to meet Lucille Henderson. Guess she works in a Safeway store a short distance from where Billie lives.

Must close now and check on more letter writing.

Hope you are enjoying good health.

Love,

Martha

O'Neill, Nebraska

May 29, 1970

Dear Lucy,

Please don't faint. It's only me wanting information. You know one usually can get in contact when they want something - true?

How are you anyway? Sorry I didn't get to see you when you were here a year or so ago. My mother mentioned you stopped to see her.

We live NE of O'Neill about twelve miles. Don't do any farming but do raise a few cattle and chickens. Bill has been on the sick list for a good many years. (diabetic mostly) Last winter he was in and out the hospital three different times. Feels fair now since the weather has warmed up.

Guess I'd better not keep you in

suspend any longer.

I'm collecting all the information I can on the Stiskal family both ancestors and descendants.

Your sister Tillie sent me the addresses of her children, so I wrote to all of them. So far only Shirley Wilson has answered.

She^{by} gave me your address and mentioned that you were interested in family trees.

No doubt you probably have all the information of your immediate family (father, mother, brothers, sisters, and their families).

I do have Melvin Henderson, Wilma's, George's, Charles, and Elzene's family records. Your sister Agnes hasn't answered my letter yet.

What I'm interested in is the full maiden names of ladies, also of husbands, names of all children, grandchildren and great grandchildren if any - along with spouses' names of all married, the month, day and year of each ones birth,

marriage, death, divorced or separated.

You wouldn't by chance know or have any records of Grandma and Grandpa Steckel's marriage date.

I have been at this project since 1965 and have been sorry I didn't start it sooner while some of the old timers were among the living.

I'm searching for facts on all four sides of my family and Bill's.

I retired from teaching school a year ago and so now can spend more time on my hobby.

I have five children, four boys and one girl, all married. I have 20 grand children and 2 great grand daughters.

Our daughter, Margaret lives in Vanderhoof, B.C., Canada, one son in Scottsbluff, Neb., one in Atkinson, one in Baydod, Florida and the youngest here near us.

Shirley also told me Joe has been dead for years and that Tracey has

remarried.

One learns a lot about their relatives in this kind of a hobby.

Thanks for my bothering you and certainly would appreciate all the help you can give me.

Do you ever see or hear from Adeline? She does write to me at Christmas time but guess it's a real chore for her to write.

My mother went to Omaha this morning to see about her eyes. She has cataracts. Cecilia and Walt Rice took her down. Won't know before tonight if they'll operate or not.

Must close now hoping to hear from you in the near future.

Love,

Your cousin,

Martha Bruder
Murphy.

The Orange County California
Genealogical Society

Correspondence, Section of the Cache, Genealogical ^{Library}

Information desired ~~on~~ on searches being
in What information have you that might
help me in the search on the background
of my grandparents

John Steskal - birthplace - Gross Siegharts
province of Austria ^{born} yr —

Wife Josephine Bettinasch - Gross Siegharts
province Austria ^{born} yr —

married —

~~Came to~~

Came to Butler County Nebraska,
town of Abbe or David City — yr

moved to Hall County Nebraska,
O'Neill - homesteaded Kencaid claims

Oldest daughter Agnes born Gross Siegharts, Austria
married Henry Winkler — yr. David City
(Apollonia - Tina) born Gross Siegharts - Austria

married August Traskynski
Leopold (Leo) Steskal born Gras
Siegharts, Austria — yr. married
Mary Seger, O'Neill, Nebr. — yr.
Most interested in Steskal, Bittnach
and Winkler ~~so~~ research.

Henry Winkler, my father, born
Birstadt, county of Hessen
— yr, Germany. Came to Latta
County, Nebr — yr 1st naturalization
paper (Butler Co) — yr second papers — yr
~~Halt Co~~ O'Neill, Halt County.

Patricia
Claude
Frank
Huskel

Stepskal, Johann 39, Lucy
Marie 35, Petr 10, Swiss
Anna 8, Vyssachtice,
Bohemia, Frankfurt, 7 Jan.
1903; Mc Lennan County, Tx.

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Czech Immigration Passenger
Lists Vol II
Leo Baca 1985

STEFEK, Jan 31, Johanna 28, Arnost
10/12, Zarnvek, Silesia;
Breslau, 19 Nov. 1906; Trinidad,
Colorado

STEFEK, Jan 46, Ludmila 42, Ludvik 21,
Jan 15, Bedrich 9, Stefana 2,
Bucany, Moravia; Borkum, 23 Mar.
1905; Austin, Tx.

STEFKOVA, Frantiska 27, Drstkova,
Austria; Cassel, 31 Mar. 1903;
West, Tx.

STEHLIK, Anton 32, Nove Dovry,
Bohemia; Koln, 27 Oct. 1906;
Galveston, Tx.

STEHLIK, Jan 25, Ondrej 22, Vradist,
Hungary; Frankfurt, 9 Dec. 1905;
Houston, Texas

STEHLIK, Josef 26, Obora, Bohemia;
Hannover, 4 Apr. 1904;
Galveston, Tx.

STEHLIK, Prokop 24, Obora, Bohemia;
Hannover, 20 Dec. 1904;
Galveston, Tx.

STEJSKAL, Johann 39, Marie 35, Petr
10, Anna 8, Vyprachtice,
Bohemia; Frankfurt, 7 Jan. 1903;
McLennon County, Tx.

STENZL, Marie 10, Zasova, Moravia;
Ellen Rickmers, 8 Sept. 1898;
Schulenberg, Tx.

STERBA, Vaclav 26, St. Benatky,
Bohemia; Brandenburg, 23 Feb.
1906; Galveston, Tx.

STIBOREK, Anezka 45, Anna 11, Josef
11/12, Frenstat, Moravia;
Norderney, 27 June 1901; La
Grange, Tx.

STIBOREK, Frant. 44, farmer, Jan 16,
Frenstat, Moravia; Ellen
Rickmers, 8 Sept. 1898; La
Grange, Tx.

STIBOREK, Jan 27, Koprivnice, Moravia;
Frankfurt, 26 Sept. 1903;
Shiner, Tx.

STIGEL, Johanna 43, Heinrich 17, Marie
16, Matej 13, Anastazia 11, Anna
10, Cecilie 9, Leon 8, Silesia;
Breslau, 19 Nov. 1906; Krebs,
Indian Territory

STINECEK(?), Vincenz, Kostelec,
Bohemia; Koln, 27 June 1903;
Cameron, Tx.

STISKA, J. 34, Bohemia; Frankfurt, 3
Oct. 1902; Monterey, Mexico

STISKA, Marie 20, Ostravice, Moravia;
Frankfurt, 26 Sept. 1904;
Bartlett, Tx.

STITCEK, Vaclav 20, sadler, Hejskov,
Bohemia; Ellen Rickmers, 8 Sept.
1898; Omaha, Nebr.

STMHAR(?), Vaclav 34, Bilnice,
Moravia; Borkum, 23 Mar. 1905;
Galveston, Tx.

STOJAN, Jan 25, Lonky, Moravia;
Frankfurt, 1 June 1905; Deval
Bluff, Arkansas

STOKLAS, Josef 13, laborer
Kronsier(?), Moravia; Borkum, 1
Oct. 1901; Cameron, Tx.

STOKLASOVA, Frantiska 40, Frantiska 8
Vincenz 2, Bohemia; Hannover,
Dec. 1902

John Steskal born Aug. 28, 1838

Josephine Bettinasch born Aug. 11, 1841

Agnes born Aug. 1862

Buttman J. Steskal

Marriage (to find)

Frank Schlegel
Care Bay, Oregon
1503-2369-1914
Box 280

Father's sister
Kate
Hyacinth Campbell