

Santa De Fe

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EMIGRANT ACCOUNTS OF WELL KNOWN CAMPSITES
ON THE BLUE PRAIRIE
ALONG THE INDEPENDENCE TO SANTA FE,
OREGON AND CALIFORNIA TRAILS
IN JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
1845 TO 1853

RESEARCH OF WALTER L. COOK

ARCHIBALD RICE PLANTATION
(Emigration Accounts)
Home, 8801 East 66th street, Raytown, Missouri

1849: Additional Individual Accounts -

19. "The Diary and Letters of Dr. Joseph Middleton." Typescript of the original manuscript. Originally joined with the McCoy brothers at Independence. Arrived at campsite on Friday, April 27, 1849. Left camp on the morning of May 2nd. Later left the McCoy Company and traveled off and on with the Wolverine Rangers.

20. "Journal of the Granville Overland Company. Arrived at Rice's, 8 miles from Independence, on Saturday, April 21st and left on May 1st. Got corn for cattle. Nearest place that corn could be had at a reasonable price, that is 25 cents a bushel. Houses, even among the wealthiest, are not of the first cut, and as for barns, they are corn cribs; everything filled with corn. The houses (on the prairie) are some distant apart. Saw Bryant's Company pass by on Thursday, April 26th.

1850

1. "Day Book of Hugh McCanne, from Randolph County, Missouri, to Independence on May 6th, got on the "Santa Fee Road" and travelled 8 miles (Rice's) and struck camp for the night.

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JESSE BARNES' RESIDENCE - INN AND TAVERN
(Emigration Accounts)
Home, about 72nd Street and Blue Ridge, Raytown, Missouri

1849: Individual Accounts:

1. "Thomas N. Eastin Journal". From Henderson County, Kentucky. Arrived at Col. Grant's, 9 miles from Independence, on May 5th for an overnight stay.
2. "James Lyne's letter of May 4, 1849. From Henderson County, Kentucky. Same company as Thomas N. Eastin.
3. David T. McCollum, an attorney from Michigan (a member of the Turner & Allen Pioneer Line), spent two weeks suffering from Bilious fever at Col. Grant's. Was well taken of - paid \$5 dollars doctor bill and \$2 per week for board and trouble.

1850 Accounts:

4. "Journal of Edmund Cavileer Hinde." On April 25th camped 9 miles from Independence on Santa Fee road in sight of Col. Grants' residence.
5. George Willis Read - A Pioneer of 1850. Camped for two weeks at Col. Grants, 9 miles south of the town of Independence, a fine old Kentuckian.
6. "Journal of Captain James A. Payne." Encamped one mile south of Independence, and on May 2nd, travelled about 8 miles and put up at a tavern.
7. "Diary of Samuel M. Jamison" Arrived at Col. Grant's (Barnes Residence-Inn) on April 24, in company with Tanagaman and Green County (Pa.) Company.

1853 Accounts:

8. "Calvin H. Graham Journal of 1853." Encampment seven miles this side of the Big Blue at a pretty ground and a spring close by. Crossed 3 or 4 streams (or) runs enroute from the town of Independence. April 30th.
9. "Diary of Seth Stoughton." Arrived Saturday, April 30th; " a pretty close by a spring." 7 miles to the Big Blue River.

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TEN-MILE EMIGRANT ENCAMPMENT

About 80th Terrace and James A. Reed Road, Kansas City, Mo.

This 40-acre tract of land was government owned until 1854 and easily available for encampment.

1848 Account:

1. "A Sketch of A Migrating Family to California in 1848" , by Richard M. May or "The Schreek of Wagons": "1848 Diary of Richard M. May. Stayed here May 12th.

1849 Accounts:

2. "Niles Searls' Diary." Was a member of the Turner-Allen Pioneer Line and stayed here from May 9th to 11th.

3. "Charles A Tuttle, Letters of 1849" Letter mentions staying here on April 19th.

4. "Overland Journal of John B. Wier." Stayed here May 7th and 8th.

5. "Letters of Henry Atkinson Stine." He was with the Glen and Company Passenger Line. Arrived Wednesday, May 22nd.

6. "Journal of a Trip Across the Plains from Independence, Mo., to California, May 11, 1850 - October 11, 1850, by Micajah Littleton. He, as well as Stine, were with the 124 passengers on the Glen and Company Line, May 22nd.

7. "Journal of Robert Chalmers." He was a Scotsman from Haldimand County, Canada. Arrived 10 miles out from Independence, on May 9th, and stayed overnight on the prairie near a farm house. (John Flannigan's house, within a half-mile to the south ?)

8. Holmes D. Van Schaick, from New York, left Independence on May 11, 1852, at 2:30 P.M., and traveled "over hill and dale through the most beautiful region I ever saw." Trudged along distance of 10 miles and camped for the night.

TWELVE-MILE ENCAMPMENT
93rd street, one-half mile east of Bannister Mall,
Kansas City, Missouri
also known as "Russell's Encampment" and "Camp Bryant"

1845 Accounts:

1. "Diary of 1845 Overland Trip from Missouri to Oregon."

Claibourne Campbell Walker encamped 12 miles from Independence the night of May 5, 1845. Upon leaving the campsite, the next morning, May 6th, purchased horseshoes, a branding iron, and linch pins for wagon, a total of \$10.37. This would be the blacksmith business of John Milliron, located one-half mile west of the 12-mile campsite (today the Bannister Mall.

1846 Accounts:

2. Major David Campbell, from Virginia and son-in-law of the West family, encamped at Russell's Encampment, May 2nd to May 6th.

3. George Law Curry, editor of the St. Louis WEEKLY REVEILLE, (later the last territorial Governor of Oregon), arrived at Russell's Encampment, May 6th

4. Edwin Bryant arrived at Russell's Encampment at 2 o'clock the afternoon of May 6th. He spent that night at the home of John Milliron, one-half mile west of the campsite.

5. Jessy Quinn Thornton, a prominent attorney from Quincy, Illinois, arrived at Russell's Encampment on May 12, 1846, near a blacksmith's shop and two farm houses, John Milliron and Thomas Jenkins).

6. Daniel H. Good, arrived at Russell's Encampment, 12 miles from Independence, on May 12, 1846. He stayed overnight and mentioned the site was "tolerable and well-timbered with excellent water and soil.

1849 - CAMP BRYANT -Twelve Miles from Independence

7. Delos R. Ashley, from Monroe, Michigan, arrived at the campsite, at sundown, on April 21, 1849. He camped just south of the slew.

8. Charles F. Dulany sent a letter from Camp Bryant, Jackson County, Missouri, dated May 6, 1849. He was a member of Edwin Bryant's Pack Company of 150 mules, one supply wagon and 42 men. They had reached the campsite April 26th and planned to depart on May 8th. While there, on Sunday afternoon, they had a Kentucky barbecue for the neighboring residents.

9. Hugh Morgan Price had attended Bryant's barbecue.

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10. Elijah Bryan Farnham, from Indiana, arrived the evening of May 8 for an overnight stay.
11. David Staples, of the Boston - Newton Company, reached Bryant's Campsite the evening of May 15, 1849.
12. Charles Gould, also a member of The Boston-Newton Company spent the evening of May 15th at Bryant's Campsite
13. Joseph A. Stuart, of the Granite State Company, reached Camp Bryant at 10:30 A.M., Sunday May 20, 1849.
14. Dr. Amos Batchelder, also with the Granite State Company, stayed from May 20th until Saturday, May 26th, proceeding to Big Bull Creek.
15. Horace C. Ladd, board member of the Wolverine Rangers, stated in his letter of May 16th, that the group had stopped at Camp Bryant, on the afternoon of May 16th, before moving on.
16. James Scott Abell, from Warren, Ohio, reached the encampment on May 17th, 1849, and shot a large, fat rabbit.
17. D. Jagger, also from Warren, Ohio, stayed the night of May 17th.

1850 Accounts:

18. Hugh Alexander Skinner, from Hermann, Mo., (Gasconade Co.,) reached the Camp Bryant on Saturday, May 11th and left the next morning, May 12th.
19. Dr. Edward A. Tompkins, from New York City, arrived at Camp Bryant on May 8th and left on May 22, 1850. He described the area as a country beautifully diversified with hills and dale. It is singularly a wild and enchanting region.

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2. "James Lynn Letters", Yale University's Beineche Library, New Haven, Connecticut (1849)
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TEN-MILE EMIGRANT CAMPGROUND, 10 miles from Independence

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TWELVE-MILE ENCAMPMENT, BRYANT AND RUSSELL

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