

Furnas County Historical Society

Nelson Buck

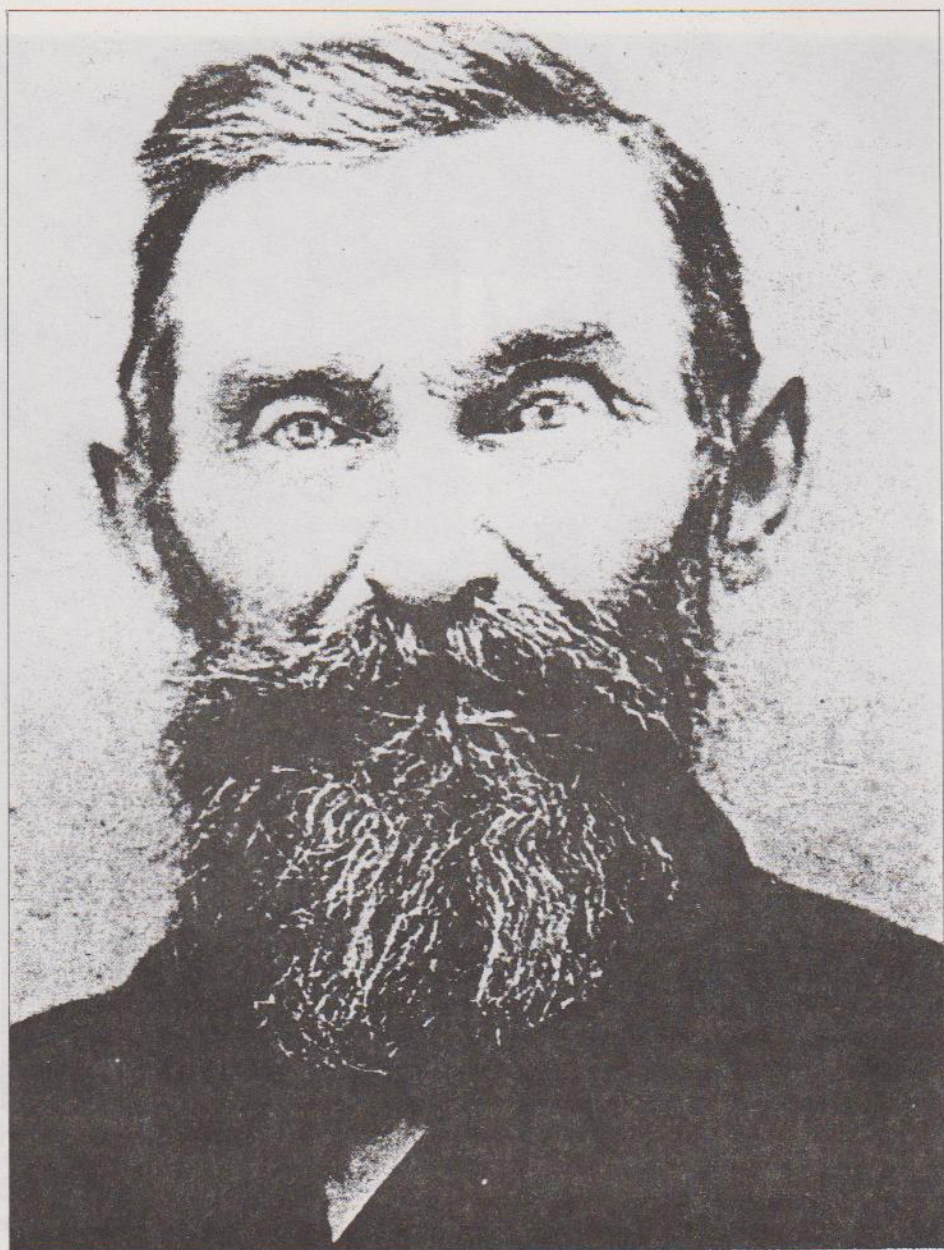
1808 - 1869

He led the ill fated survey party to their deaths



Furnas County Historical Society

Though said to be of Nelson Buck taken in the early 1840's, its authenticity is questioned. While possible (tin typing was introduced in the 1830's) a photo of this age is extremely rare. It is more likely a photo of Willard P. Buck, who came to Nebraska in search of his father.



J. Sughrue Collection

Royal Buck
1820 - 1890



J. Sughrue Collection

John Longnecker

1844 - 1923



John Byfield, one of South-west Nebraska's earliest "retail merchants," was born Oct. 22, 1842, in Canada, and died Feb. 2, 1906, in Oklahoma City, Okla. From 1872 to 1876, his trading post of Red Willow Creek was an important establishment to the lives of homesteaders and hunters in the area.



In about 1870, John and William Byfield, two of Red Willow County's earliest settlers, were manufacturing Byfield organs at Nebraska City. They arrived at Red Willow Creek in late June, 1872, and built a sod house just north of the Republican River. Shortly thereafter, John established a trading post on the Willow which catered to settlers and buffalo hunters.

J. Sughrue Collection



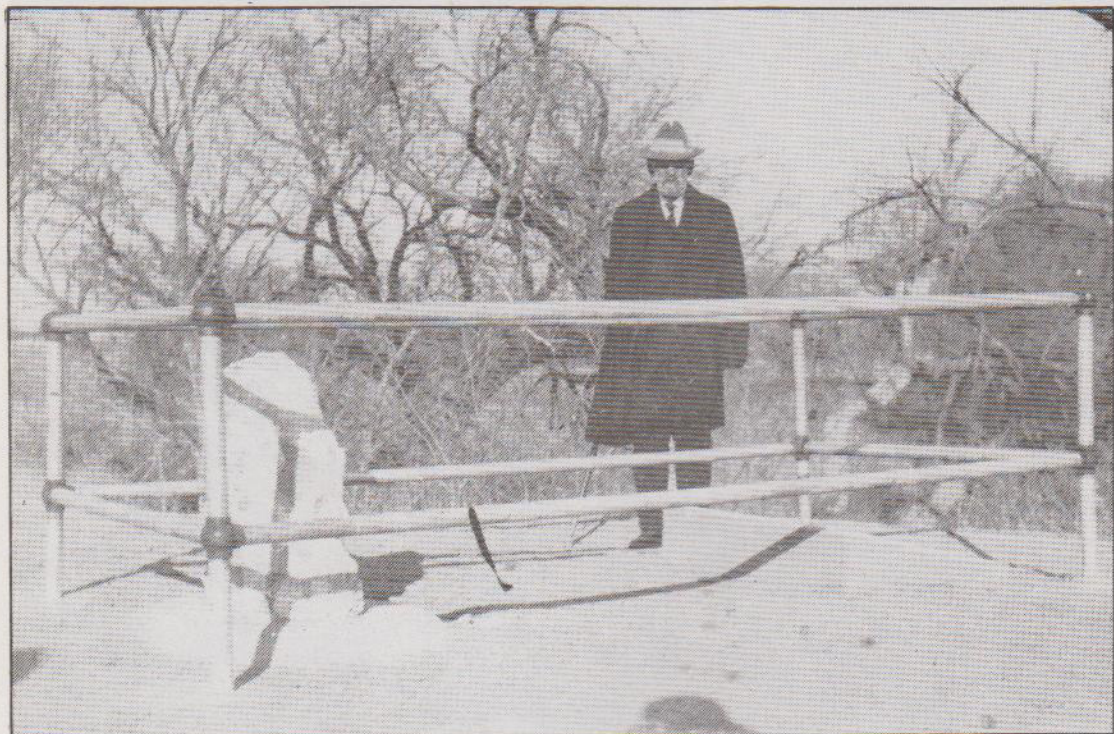
J. Sugroue Collection

Pictured are E.S. and Delia S. Hill
with their children, George and Lena.



J. Sughrue Collection

E.S.Hill, John Longnecker, and L.B.Korn
taken in 1920



J. Sughrue Collection

E. S. Hill



F. Olson Collection

Elias and Ellen Canaga with children, Thomas and Nellie.



F. Olson Collection

Mr. and Mrs. G.B. Nettleton



F. Olson Collection

W.S.Fitch and his wife Estelle with their children
Frank and Eurilla

During the fall of 1873, G.B.Nettleton's home was destroyed by fire. Fitch offered the use of his home until they could build another. A relationship grew between Nettleton's daughter and Fitch and they were married March 26, 1874.



F. Olson Collection

Home of W.S.Fitch

It was the first frame house built in Red Willow County
and is still standing (1992).

x



D. Doyle Collection

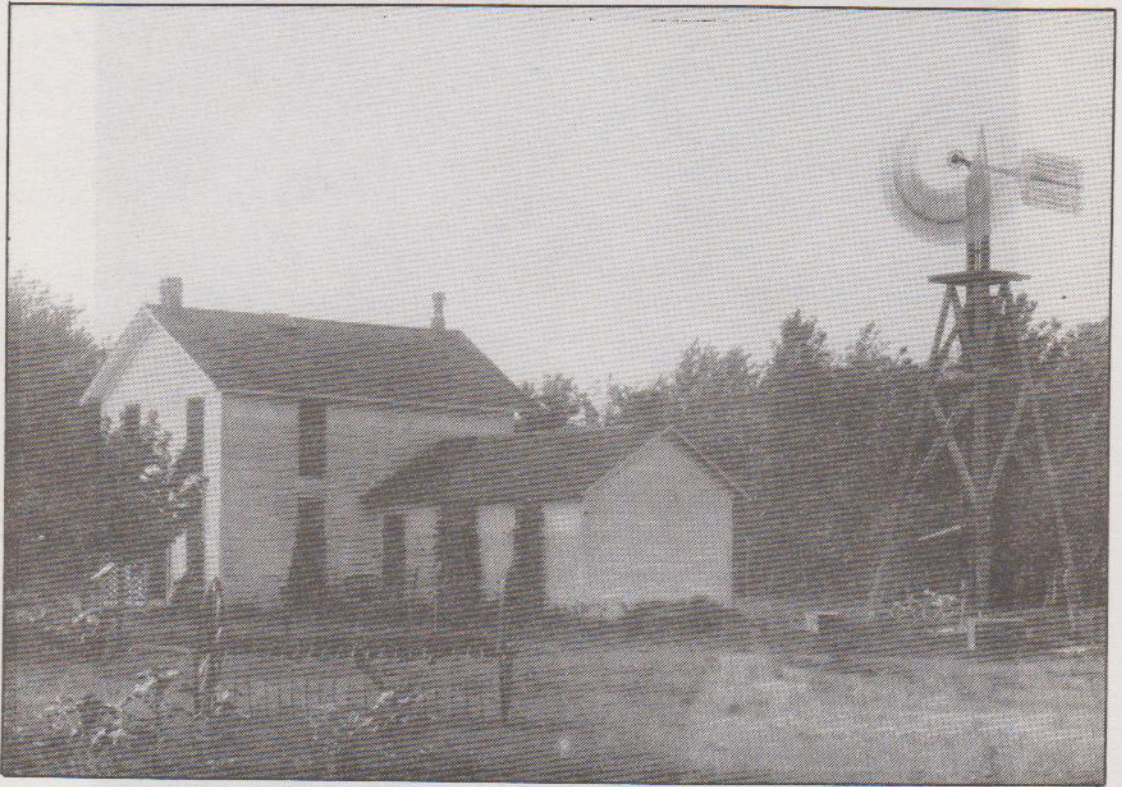
The Doyle Family Reunion on the occasion of William Doyle's death

James Doyle (1848-1927) is standing in the ~~second~~ ^{third} row, right of the sidewalk. He is not wearing a hat.

See reference on pg. 59

Dan Doyle (1840-1915) is sitting on the step. He has a beard which distinguishes him.

Mrs. William Doyle is sitting behind Dan with her hands crossed.



F. Olson Collection

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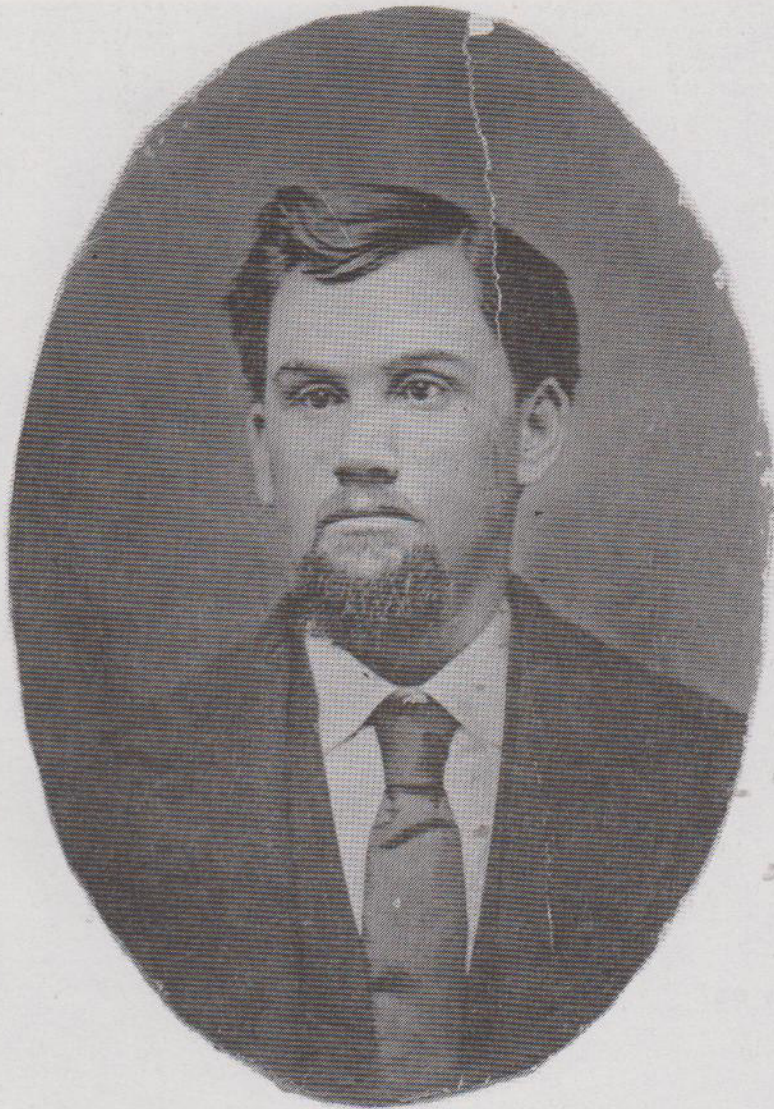
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Mrs. G. Ruggles Collection

William Doyle

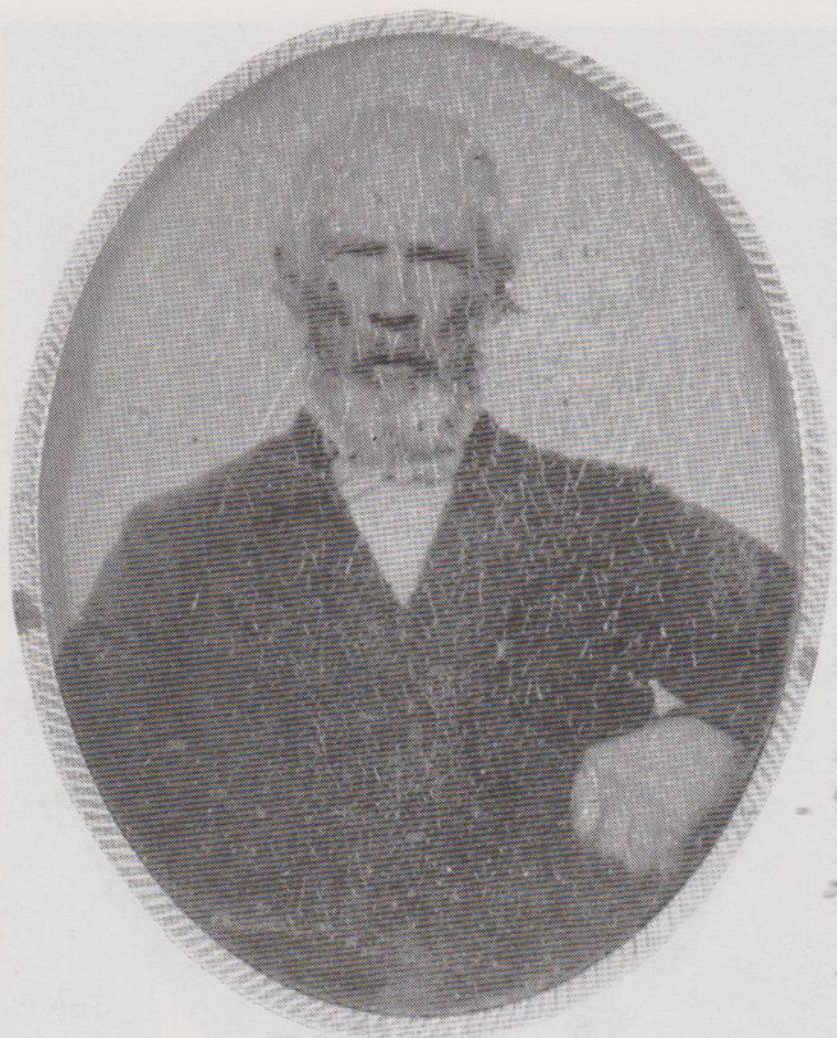
1842 - 1914



J. Sughroue Collection

Frank P. Allen

Frank P. Allen was born June 13, 1853 at St. Charles, Illinois. As a young man he came to Red Willow County establishing himself as a cattleman before moving to Indianola, where he owned a freight business between there and Culbertson. He later managed a hotel in Indianola for a number of years before moving to McCook in 1882. He died in 1929.



M. Edmister Collection

Benjamin F. Bradbury

1825 - 1906



M. Edmister Collection

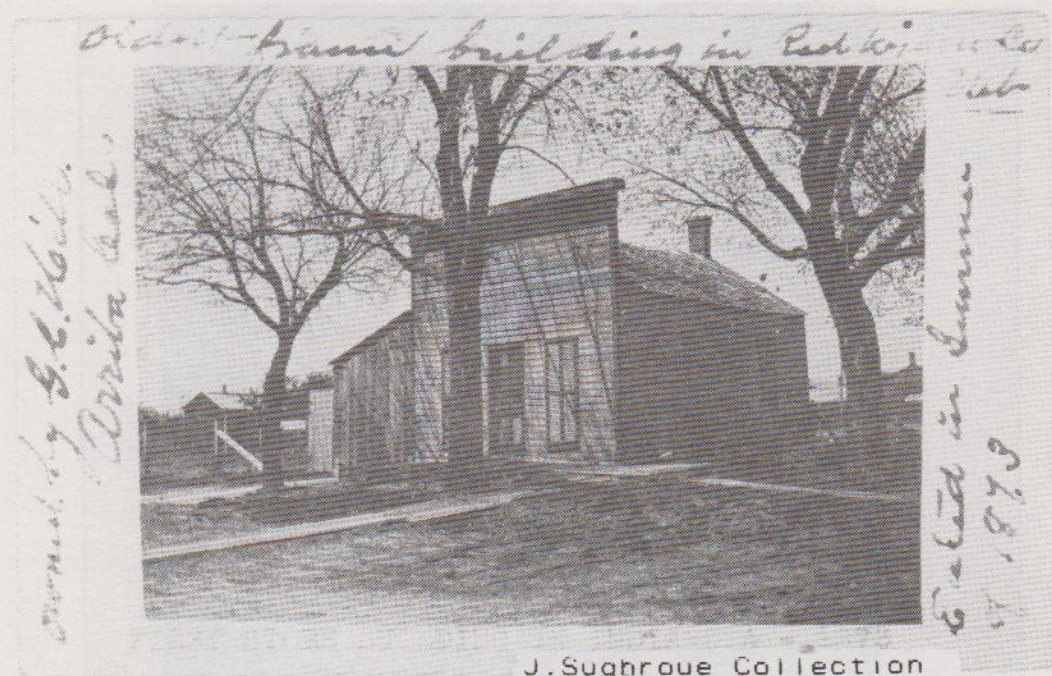
Lola Bradbury McComb



H. Deffer Collection

Dr. James S. Shaw

Came to Red Willow County in 1873. He served as a physician in the Indianola Community until his death in 1902. ~~His mother, Elizabeth Shaw, was one of the first eleven to homestead at Red Willow.~~



J. Sughrue Collection

Built during the summer of 1873, it was one of the first three constructed by the Lincoln Land Company. It served as a general merchandise store and was occupied by Allison & Wood. It also served as a post office for a number of years.

E.S.Hill was employed to help construct this building, as well as the other two. When they ran out of nails, Hill was sent to John Byfield's to buy more. "I went ... a distance of four and a half miles without incident. On the return trip, with a bag full of nails ... the horse's feet went through the [Red Willow Creek] bridge, and in his struggle to get up and out, I was thrown over his head ... barely landing on the home side of the creek."

Needless to say, Hill's horse got away and ran for home, leaving him with two broken ribs and a three and a half mile walk. "I do not remember what became of my horse or who went back after my abandoned freight. I do remember, however, that I lost my job on the building and only recovered in time to help Charlie Hotze finish putting the siding on.



P. Rice Collection

Leslie Lawton

Contested the Red Willow Townsite in October of 1873



P. Rice Collection

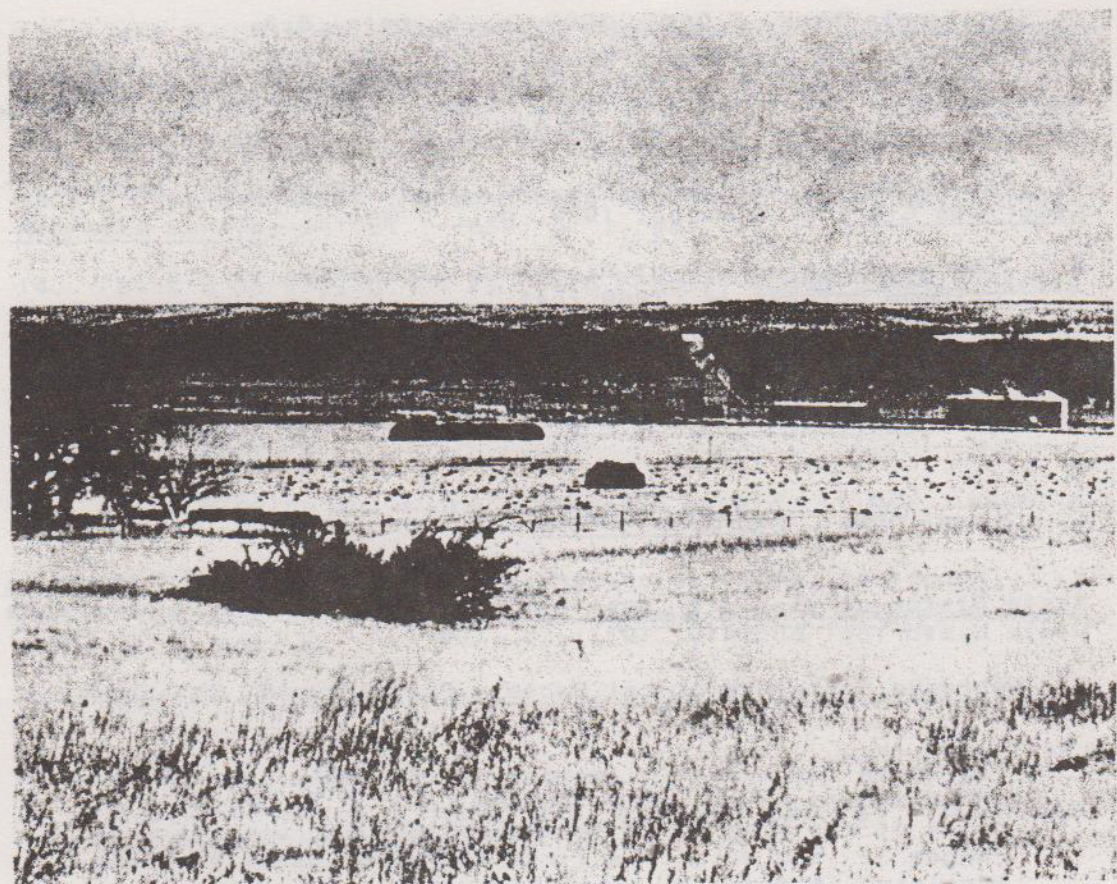
George Rowley

Contested the Red Willow Townsite in October of 1873



J. Sughrue Collection

John Helm



J. Sughrue Collection

Site of the third Red Willow townsite platted in 1896.
This photo was taken in the early 1960's.