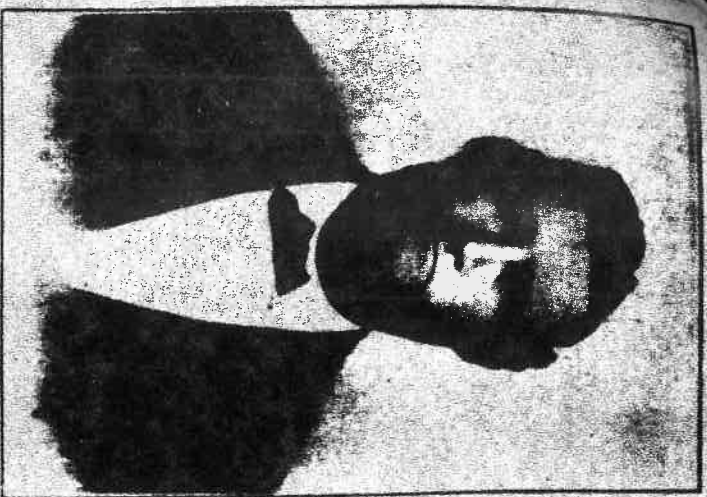




JAMES E. BEAVANS
B 12/6/1815 D Nov 1878

Mountain man - Indian Trade,
Indian Commissioner; killed
Trading Post; in 1851 built
Lake Valley & Deer River ways.
1853 & 1846 upr. Mo. R.R.
St. Louis. One the Road 5
mile below St. 1859 built
Road Lake County & called
the Road's quality with
1868

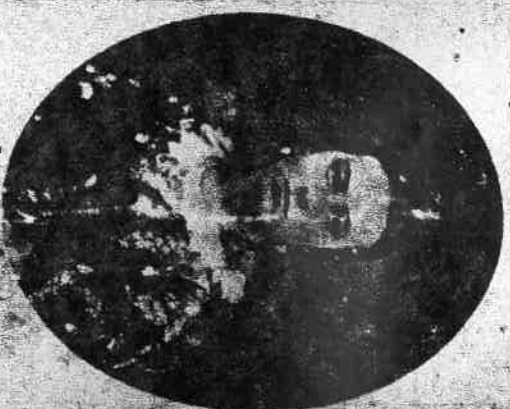


Marie Louise Montard
wife of James P. (O.P.) Beavans
of Independence mo.



1835
1901

Edward C. Beavans;
Apr 9 P. P. Beavans & wife a Indian
Trade: 1960 ancestry in 1863 to 1868;
and Chas. Beavans in 1863 to 1868;



B 12/1/1844
D 12/14/1953

Mary E. Beavans
wife E.C. Beavans



Ed. C. Beauvoir.
 son
 Edlin
 children



1815-1878

James P. (D.P.) Beauvoir

James P. (D.P.)
 Beauvoir
 1815-1878



Top. Left to Right: Willie Eugene Beauvoir (1819-78).
 Helen Anne (Bell) Beauvoir - Estelle Louise - Birdie Bell.
 Bottom: E.C. Beauvoir Sr. - Josephine - Mary J.
 Adeline Beauvoir. Taken 1900

*Beaumont Trading Post
at this site 1848-1868
4 miles West of Buhl Ark.
on Platt River*

COMFORT

Oh, deem not they are blest alone
Whose lives a peaceful tenor keep;
The Power who pities man has shown
A blessing for the eyes that weep.

The light of smiles shall fill again
The lids that overflow with tears;
And weary hours of woe and pain
Are promises of happier years.

For God has marked each sorrowing day,
And numbered every secret tear,
And heaven's long age of bliss shall pay
For all his children suffer here.

WILLIAM CHALLEN, SECRETARY

Service For

MOLLIE E. (MARIE) KINGERY

BORN: September 28, 1873 — DIED: October 16, 1961

ROSARY - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 - 8:00 P. M.

MILES CHAPEL

MASS - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 - 10:00 A. M.
SS. PHILIP and JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

— CLERGYMAN —

FATHER, JAMES LEITRIM

— MUSIC —

CHURCH CHOIR

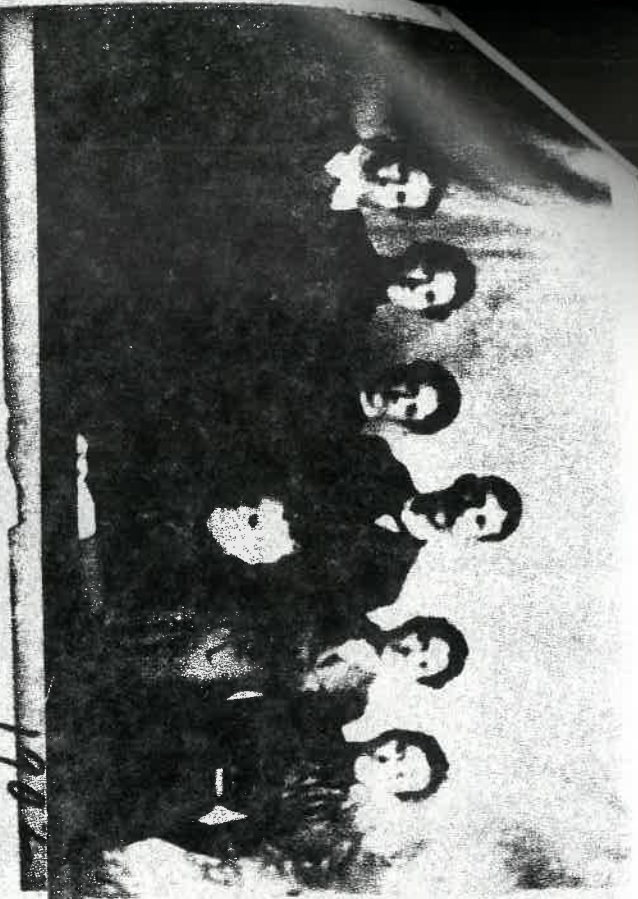
— CASKET BEARERS —

ART GROTE PAT CARLE
ALDEN KENDALL DEVAUN ADAMS
JERRY RICKET RICHARD NONAMAKER

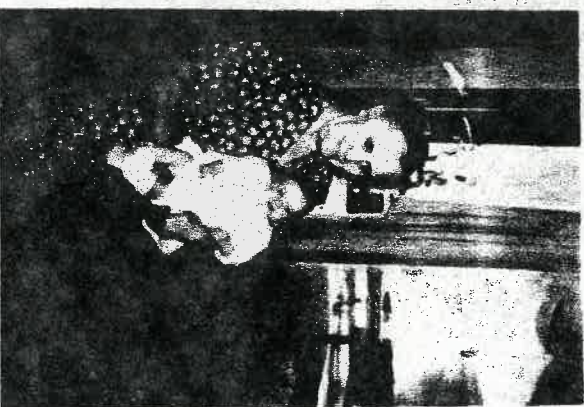
— INTERMENT —

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY

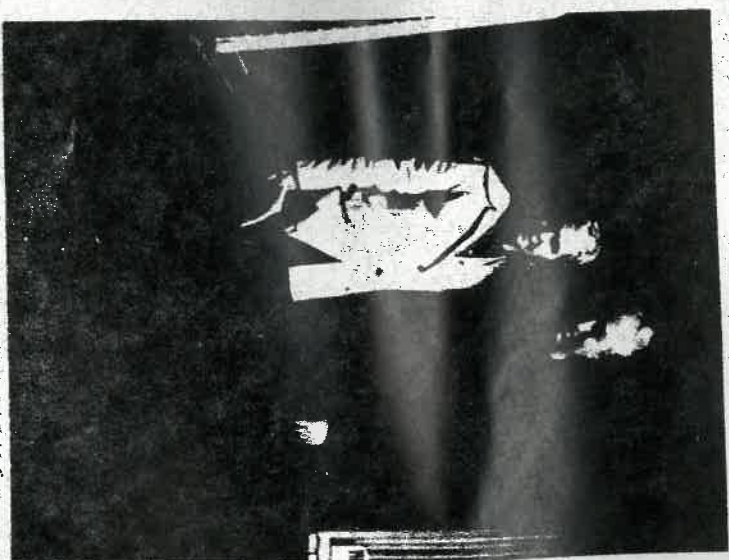
MILES FUNERAL HOME



Left to Right:
Josephine Beauvais, Estelle Louise Beauvais, Binnie Belle Beauvais,
Edward C. Beauvais, Jr., Helen Irene (Jeff) Beauvais, Nellie Eugene
Beauvais, Center: Mary Jane Beauvais



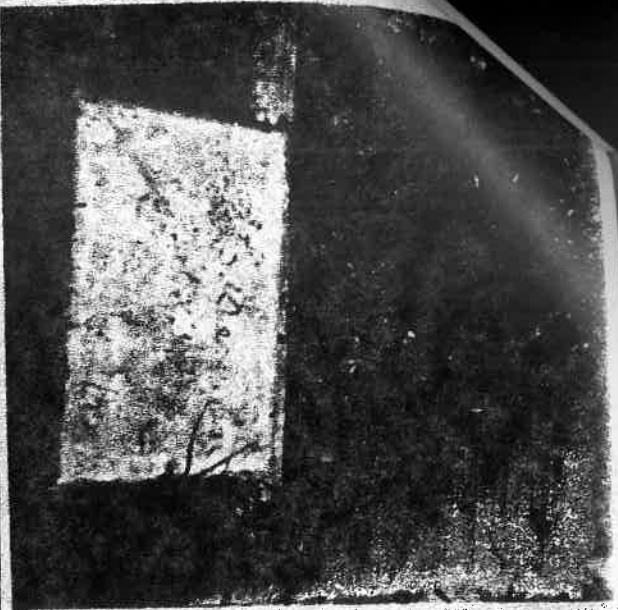
MARIE KINGERY HOLDING
GRANDDAUGHTER ROBERTA KINGERY
Dec. 1939



ESTELLE BEAUVAIS WILLIAMS
MRS. JAMES ALVA WILLIAMS
March 1913
SALT LAKE CITY

C. Beauvais Jr.
Born 1864
Died 1948
Buried 1961
Nellie (Marie) Eugene
Beauvais (Kingery)
Born 1893
Died 1961
Buried 1961

Place marker
E.C. Beaumont, of Stockville
Ala.
Born April 1833 (1839)
Died 1901



1895

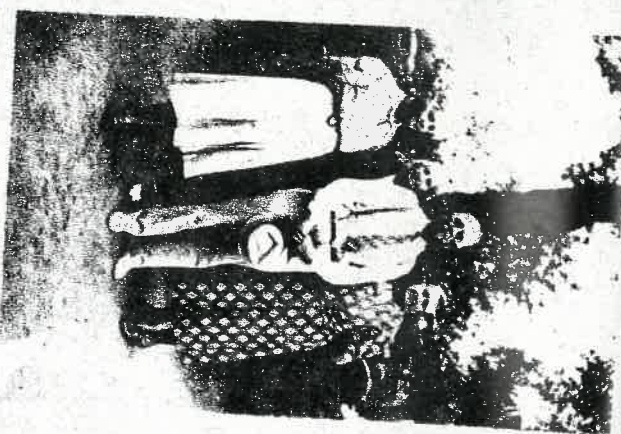


Mary G. Robinson Beaman
1st Daughter, Gardiner
Beaman, 1st of Grand
son Robert M.

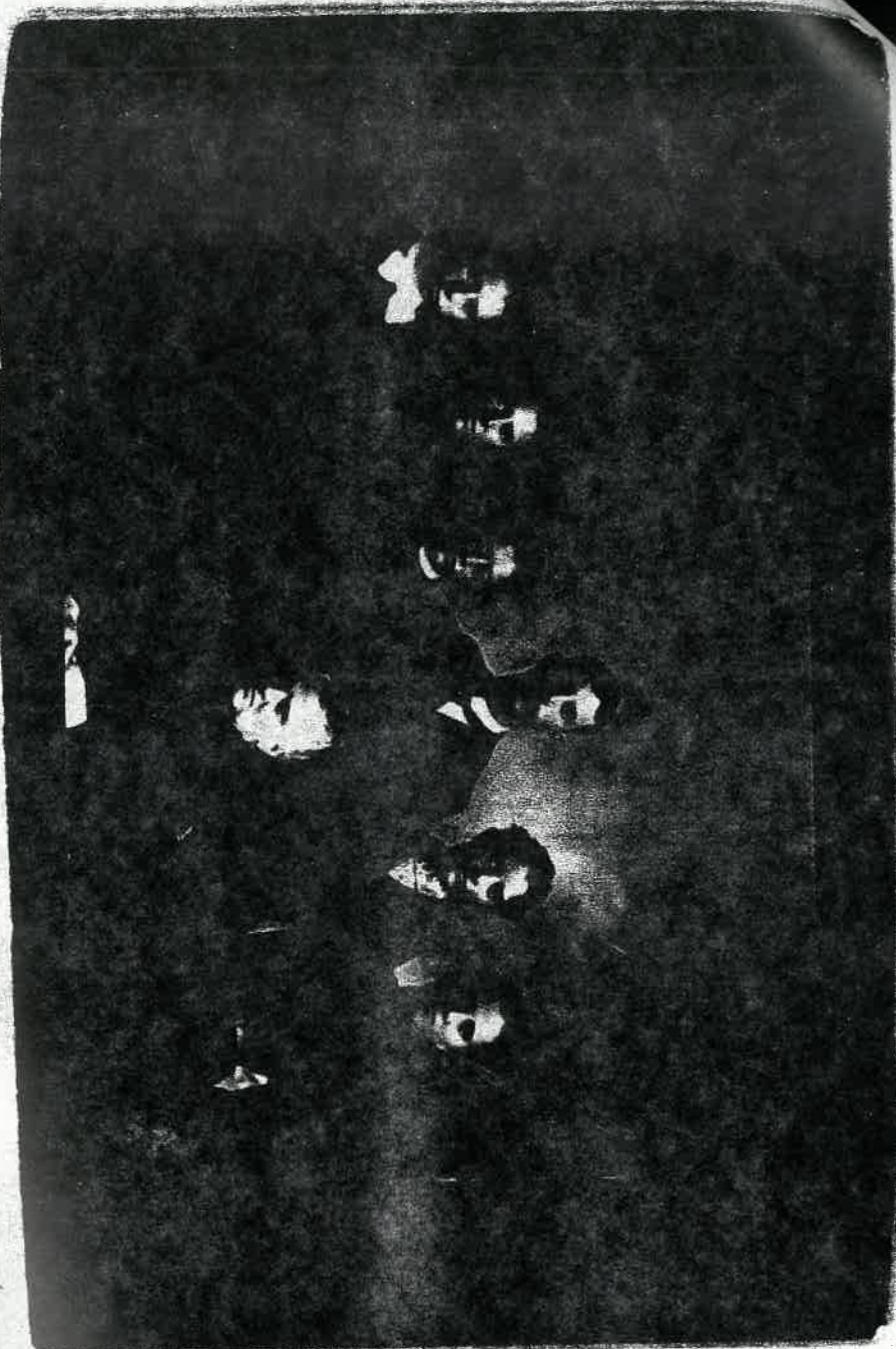


TUCKER'S
STUDIO
FINISH
KANSAS.
1894
2/23/93
MASSACHUSETTS

Mollie Eugene Beaman
Kingery B. 1873 D. 1961 14 Oct 1961
married 22 Aug 1893
Wm. H. Kingery



Mary - Gardiner
Bell - Pickens Bell
Taken about 1922



Picture Taken
1902.

Left to Right:
Josephine Beauman Reuther
1885-

Estelle Louise Beauman Williams
1890

Birdie Bell Beauman Crary
1882-1954

Edward C. Beauman Jr.
1867-1948

Melen Gene (Bell) Beauman Wyckhoff.
1878-

Mellie Eugene (Maie) Beauman Tingley
1873-1961

Archie M. Tingley

Mary J. Reuther Beauman
1844-1933.

8-1750
Died Nov. 17, 1809. 60 yrs.

Went to St Louis 1770 with Father also named Joseph

3
Not known.
Octavia.
Solis.

3 loads.
Franklin.

1820	1831-1851	1811-1840	No. 1850.
Poliz.	Charles.	Parson H.	Hessman J.
1820	1831-1851	1811-1840	No. 1850.
Poliz.	Charles.	Parson H.	Hessman J.

1862-1864. Edwin Chas--
 1864-1867. Josephine A. Ellis
 1867-1869. Charles Albert
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 2209-2211. Charles Albert
 2211-2213. Charles Albert
 2213-2215. Charles Albert
 2215-2217. Charles Albert
 2217-2219. Charles

Charles Albert
1859-
Louis.
1860.

1923
- Sarah (P)
- Ken from letter from June 1926 who was then 96 yrs old.

Shots Mar Historic Spot

Antoine Robidoux: son group Robidoux A.



Special to The Tribune
CISCO, Grand County—More than 122 years ago a pioneer fur trader moved through the Utah area near here, paused and established a monument which has taken everything nature could hurt at it.

NOW THOUGHTLESS HUNTERS have done what nature never could during the more than a century of existence—they have marred the monument.

Antoine Robidoux, who established the first year-long abode of white men in Utah at the present Whiterocks, Utah County, was on a trapping trip back in 1837 when he passed about 20 miles from this small town near the Colorado border.

HE PAUSED AND SCRATCHED into a bare stone face of rock "Antoine Robidoux

passed this way November 13, 1837, to establish a trading house on the Green or White River."

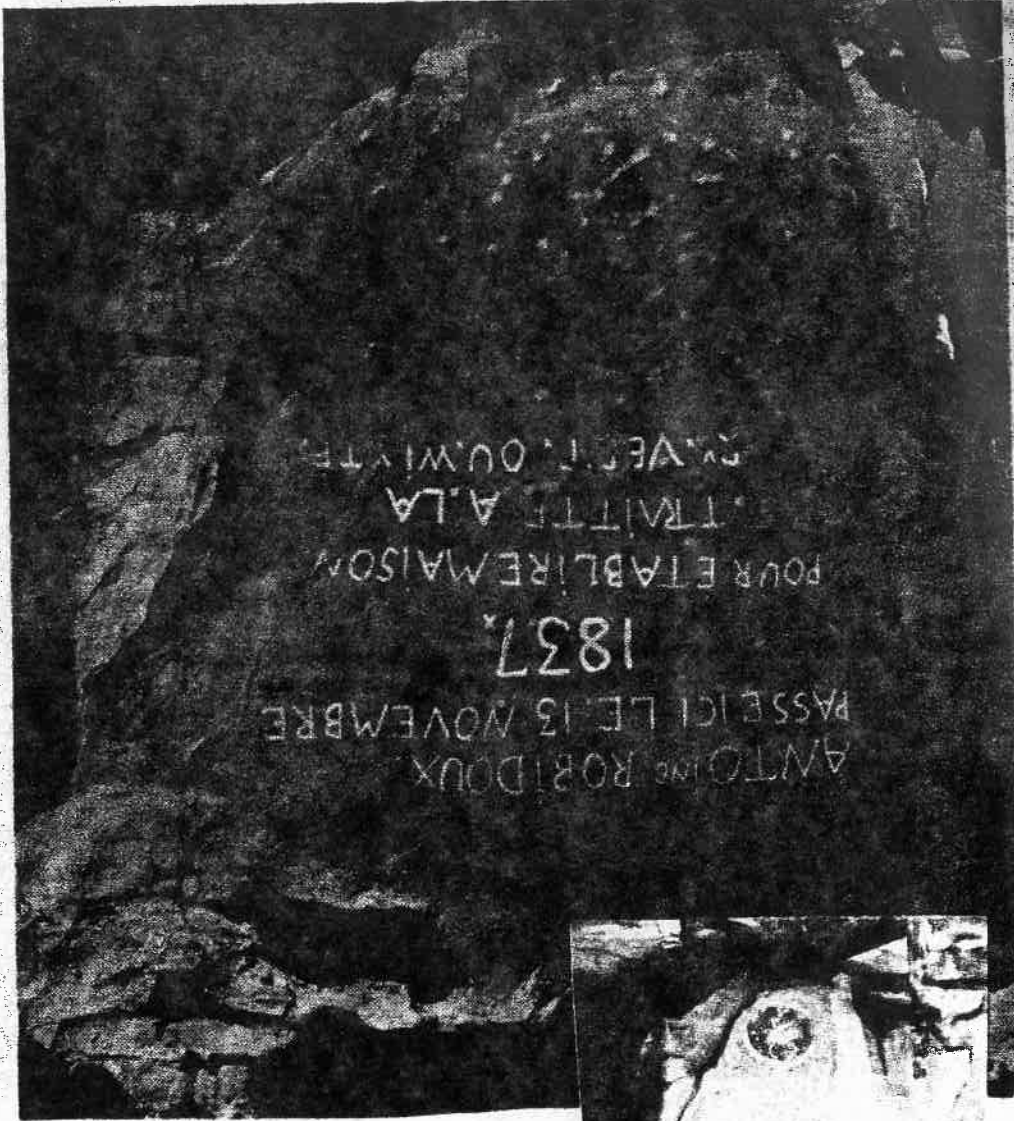
RECENTLY, ROBERT L. CRANNEY, 2193 Laird Way (2280 East), an attorney, saw the monument and noticed the damage done by bullets from hunters' weapons. He had a photograph taken and appealed for protection for the bit of history chiseled into Utah's eastern rocks.

"**MAYBE SOME GROUP** will want to try to preserve it," he said.

Even the last line of the trader's 122-year-old inscription is destroyed—a monument to the stupidity of some hunters.

Monument to Hunters' Carelessness

Thoughtless hunters have defaced this monument inscription left by Antoine Robidoux, a pioneer trapper, who founded trading house.



Antoine Robidoux

Mr. J. P. Robidoux & Mr. Robidoux, looking out
 1000 Highway on Lake - West - Lake - Robidoux



By Joel V. D. Patch, artist, who saw the property of placing a painting of Joseph Robidoux, founder, in the lobby of hostelry, Robidoux Hotel. It is a study of Joseph Robidoux, represented as seated before an old-fashioned fire place, clad in the familiar butternut clothes of the time. His left leg is crossed over the other, and his left hand rests on the uppermost knee. He holds a pipe in his right hand. He appears to have turned from a perusal of a bundle of papers on a small table to the cheery comfort of the open fire, over which is suspended from a crane an old-fashioned iron pot. The andirons and a potato pot at the edge of the hearth, and a bellows were reproduced from old models. A pair of fire tongs was painted from memory. When J. V. D. Patch's work was finished he discovered a pair of tongs that were the exact likeness of those that he represented. Before Robidoux rests a small old-fashioned rocking chair with red tufted seat and back which Robidoux had brought up the river for his wife, Angeline. In the background is a small, flat topped stand with a case of shelves and drawers resting on top. This rocker, stand and shelves owned by Robidoux are in the possession of his grandchildren.



Joseph Robidoux Dr.
 Son of
 Joseph Robidoux Dr.

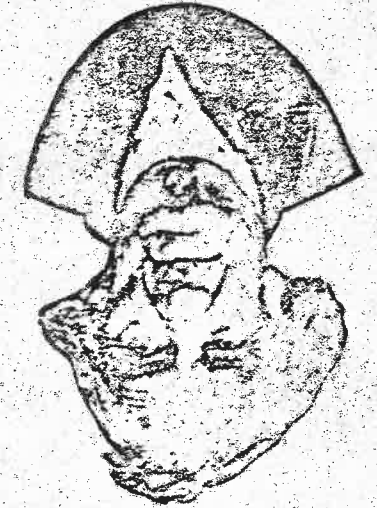
WHEN ROBIDOUX DIED

FIFTY YEARS AGO TODAY ST. JOSEPH'S FOUNDER PASSED AWAY.

Death occurred in House Standing at Second and Poulin Streets—Portion of Old House Has Since Been Removed to Krug Park.

Today is the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Joseph Robidoux, the founder of St. Joseph. At 1:30 a. m. on May 27, 1868, the old man slept away, at the age of eighty-five years. His death occurred at the family home, Second and Poulin streets. A portion of the old log house is now located in Krug Park.

JOSEPH ROBIDOUX



Joseph Robidoux was the son of a Canadian-Frenchman, who went from Montreal to St. Louis shortly after the war of 1812. He had several sons and daughters. He became wealthy and influential, and was a member of the first general assembly of the territory of Missouri, held in 1820. He died in St. Louis, where he had lived for many years.

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BEATING THE HOME TAX.

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MITCHELL ROBIDOUX

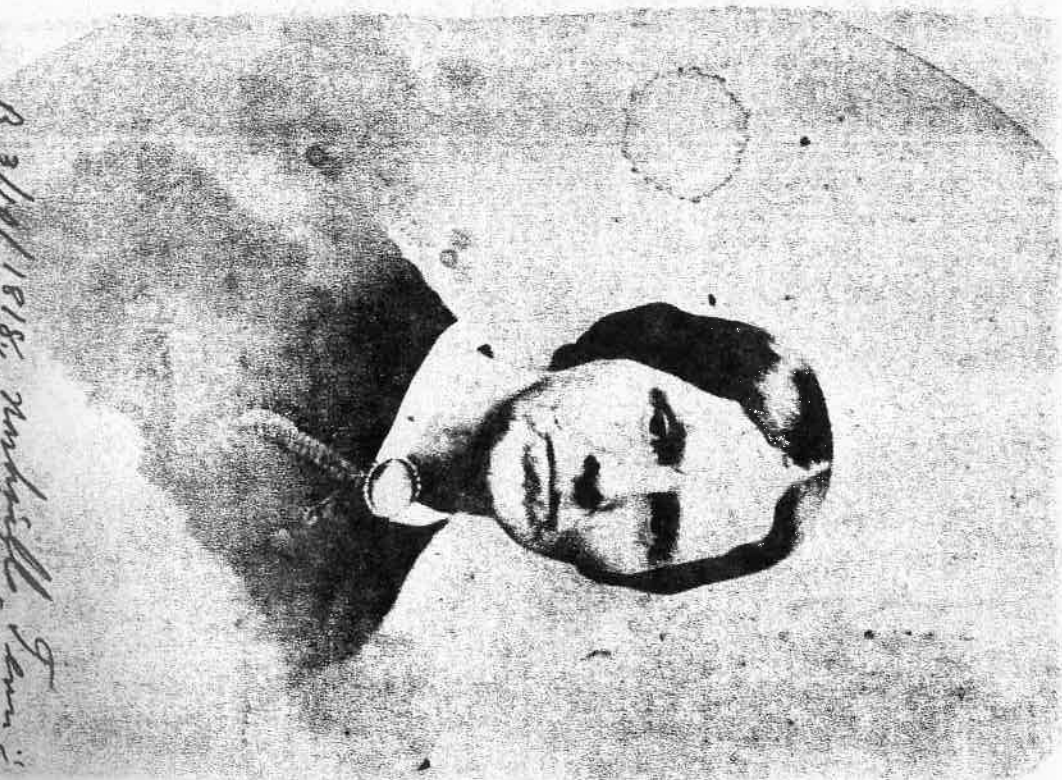


LOUIS ROBIDOUX



Felix Robinson

Son of Joseph Robinson
 B. 1835; 1818; 1818; 1818;
 married 1842.
 Catharine Smith; born
 Nashville, Tenn; Md. 10 +
 Died. M. Lewis; m. 1895



B. 3/10/1818; Nashville, Tenn;
 D. 12/130/1895; M. Lewis m.
 Catherine Jane Robinson
 wife Felix Robinson



Maria Friend Cook
 Catherine A. Robinson
 (her) Son of Jane



1844-1933
 1864

Mary Jane + her
 E.C. Robinson &

married E.C. Robinson A. 1866

Tribal Leader Dies

1971

by a Washington staff writer
Rosebud, S. D. — Antoine Roubideux, 65, one of the leaders of the Rosebud Sioux Indian nation for two generations, died Monday.

For many years he was called by his friends "Antony," as he was called by most tribesmen, had served as secretary of the tribal council since 1954.

And since the Indian reorganization act of 1935 he had continuously served the tribe either as its tribal chairman, secretary or councilman from the Ring Thunder District. Roubideux had suffered three heart attacks since September.

Funeral services and a special memorial are pending.

His death throws greater emphasis on the Oct. 23 general tribal elections. His seat was not contested, but a complete renomination of the tribal leadership had already been assured with the defeats of Cato Valandria, who had been tribal chairman for the last eight years.

ONE OF COUNTY'S EARLIEST PIONEERS PASSED AWAY AT DAUGHTER'S HOME IN SO. DAK.

News has been received here of the death of Mrs. E. C. Beauvais at the home of her daughter, Mrs. T. Wyckhoff, at Belle Fourche, So. Dak., Thursday, Dec. 14.

Mrs. Beauvais was among the very earliest settlers in Frontier county and lived near and in Stockville until 1927. Mr. Beauvais died in the early 1900's. Mrs. Beauvais was born in St. Louis, Mo., and was 89 years old Dec. 1, 1933. She was educated in a convent in that section. Her father was active in the first white settlements west of the Missouri river in Nebraska. His trading post at Julesburg, Colo., prior to the building of the Union Pacific railroad is mentioned prominently in historical accounts of the west. Mrs. Beauvais was the first white woman to ride on a Union Pacific train from Omaha to Julesburg, Colo.

The Beauvais established ranches in the vicinity of Stockville, among the earliest in this section, one of them being the farm now owned and occupied by Earl Watkins, one mile north of Stockville on the Medicine.

Mrs. Beauvais was the mother of six children, all of whom are living. They are: E. C. Beauvais, Pueblo, Colo.; Mrs. J. E. Williams, Bladen, Neb.; Mrs. Wm. Kinney, Phillipsburg, Kans.; Mrs. W. T. Wyckhoff, Belle Fourche, So. Dak.; Mrs. C. A. Crick, Denver, Colo. and Mrs. S. B. Robertson, Denver, Colo.

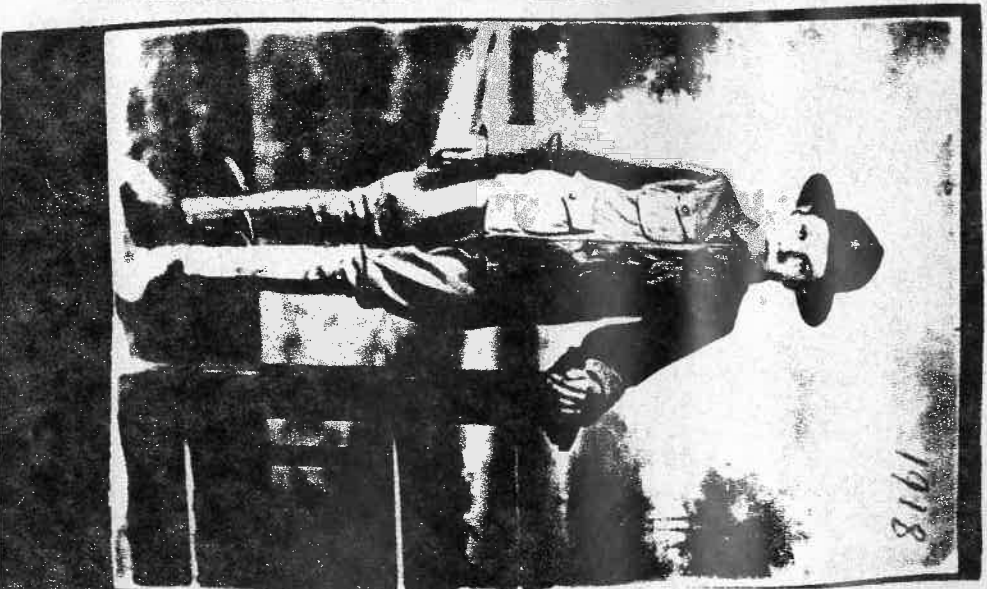
In addition to her six children, Mrs. Beauvais is survived by twenty-five grand children and fourteen great grand children. Among the grand children is K. F. Williams of Curtis.

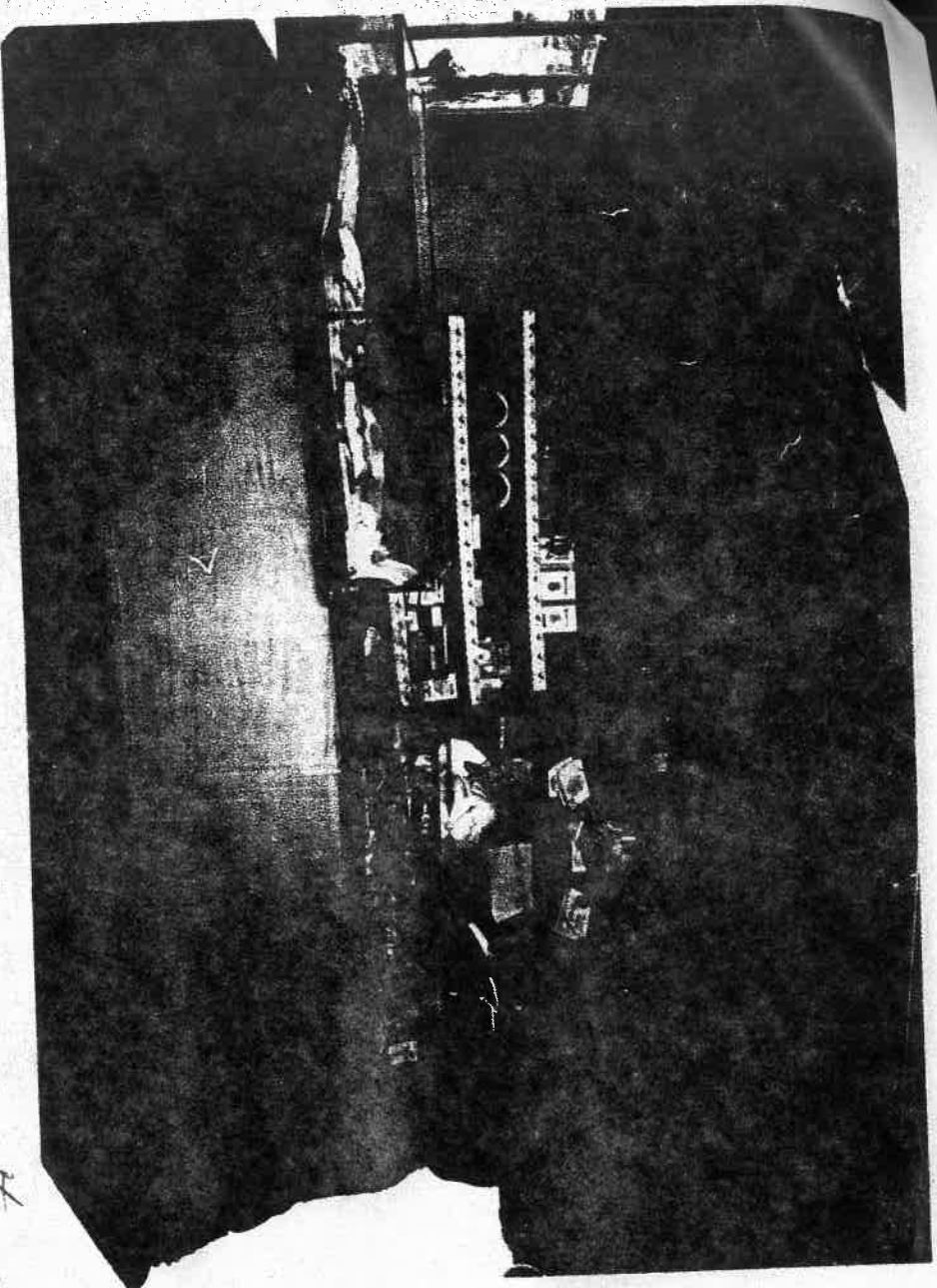
Since 1927 Mrs. Beauvais had made her home with her daughters at Denver, Colo., and at Belle Fourche. Death was attributed to heart trouble and old age. While Mrs. Beauvais had not been in good health for about a year, she was up and around until the day before her death. She passed away in her sleep some time between midnight and early morning.

The funeral services were held from the daughter's home in Belle Fourche Friday afternoon at 2:30. Burial was in Pine Slope cemetery. Rev. Tracy conducted the services. The pall bearers were the grandsons, two great grandsons and son-in-law of the deceased.

Mrs. Beauvais retained remarkable command of her faculties for one of her age and was interested in all that was going on in the world today. But she never lost interest in her Frontier county friends and was much interested recently in the historical and biographical accounts recently prepared by Judge Bayard H. Palmer.

ANNEAL FARM BUREAU MEETING





Mary F. Bauman in the at
Hicksville N.Y. 1915



Mary F. Bauman in the
Hicksville N.Y. 1902

Cecil Kingery
President



Phillips County Abstract Company, Incorporated

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ESTABLISHED 1918

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369 F Street

Residence Phone 913-543-2345

Post Office Box 447

Phillipsburg, Kansas, 67661

17th June 1982

Brenda Kingery Chance
Vice President

Grace Kingery
Secretary-Treasurer

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
Poney Express Stables Museum
914 Penn Street
St Joseph, Mo. 64503

Dear Mr. Reynolds.

Sorry for the delay in supplying you with some of the information relative to my mother's people the Robidoux's and Beauvals I also enclosed copies of a few letters I received a few years back. This John Lee is a Cousin his grandfather and my grandfather were half brothers.

As I told you in St Joseph I have the Beauvals Guns with my gun collection. One of his traders rifles (Flint Lock) Aspencer Carbine and a Sharps Carbine, and a Colt pistol which belonged to my Grandmother Mary J. Robidoux Beauvals. (You will note in the interview with my grandmother how firing of the pistol diverted the Buffalo stampede) The pistol was my grandmothers, the Sharps Carbine belonged to Geminian F. Beauvals, and the Spenser Carbine and traders rifle belonged to my grandfather Edward C. Beauvals Sr. I received these guns from my Uncle Edward C. Beauvals, Jr. my mothers only brother many years ago.

Some 50 years ago I traced my ancestors on both sides of the family to the immigrants with not much excitement on either side. My grandmother always denied having any Indian blood, she said her husband had some which she was not proud of. After her death while visiting with my Uncle E.C. Beauvals I found my grandfather was part Osage and Sioux while my grandmother was part Cheyenne. He remembered Spotted Tail and Red Cloud both blood relatives. At the time he gave me the guns and a world of information I received a Sioux Indian Headdress which is very old I had some work did on it some 30 years ago to help preserve it.

The other day was only the 2nd time I had been in St Joseph the time before was in 1938, then only about an hours tour of the City. My health permitting I do look forward to another visit and spend more time.

Respectfully,
Cecil Kingery

Cecil Kingery

The trader having obtained his permit, built his boats, whether light, rocky, bateaux made of boards, or birch-bark canoes, or pirogues, which were simply hollowed out logs. He loaded them with paint, powder, bullets, blankets, beads, and rum, manned them with hardy voyageurs, trained and their lives in the use of pole and started off. It took him weeks, often months, to get to the first trading point, usually some large winter encampment of Indians. He might visit several of these, or stay the whole winter through at one, buying the furs. They lived with them as members of the tribe, marrying squaws and rearing children. When the trader had exchanged his goods for the peltries of these red and white skin hunters, he returned to his home, having been absent perhaps a year or eighteen months. It was a hard life; many a trader perished in the wilderness by cold or starvation, by an upset where the icy current ran down the rapids, by the attack of hostile tribes, or even in a drunken brawl with the friendly Indians, when voyageur, half-breed, and the Indian alike had been frenzied by draughts of fiery liquor.

Robidas + Beauvoir

Early French settlements.

Several of the old Colonies urged vague claims to parts of the Northwestern Territory, basing them on ancient charters and Indian treaties, but the British heeded them no more than the French had, and they were very little nearer fulfillment after the defeat of Montcalm and Pontiac than before. The French had held adverse possession in spite of them for sixty years; the British held similar possession for fifteen more. There were statement of the facts is enough to show the intrinsic worthlessness of the titles. The Northwest was acquired from France by Great Britain through conquest and treaty; in a precisely similar way--Clark taking the place of Wolfe--it was afterward won from Britain by the United States. We gained it exactly as we afterward gained Louisiana, Florida, Oregon, California, New Mexico, and Texas; partly by arms, partly by diplomacy, partly by the sheer growth and pressure of our spreading population. The fact that the conquest took place just after we had declared ourselves a free nation, and while we were still battling to maintain our independence, does not alter its character in the least; but it has sufficed to render the whole transaction very hazy in the minds of most subsequent historians, who generally speak as if the Northwest Territory had been part of our original possessions.

The French who dwelt in the land were at the time little affected by the change which transferred their allegiance from one European King to another. They were accustomed to obey, without question, the orders of their superiors. They accepted the results of the war submissively, and yielded a passive obedience to their new rulers.

All public transactions were recorded in French by notaries public. Orders issued in English were translated into French so that they might be understood. The original French commandants had exercised the power of granting to every person who petitioned as much land as the petitioner chose to ask for, subject to the condition that part of it should be cultivated within a year, under penalty of its reversion to "the King's demesnes". A large quantity of land was reserved in the neighborhood of each village for the common use, and a very small quantity for religious purposes. The common was generally a large patch of inclosed prairie, part of it being cultivated, and the remainder serving as a pasture for the cattle of the inhabitants. The portion of the common set aside for agriculture was divided into strips of one arent in front by forty in depth, and one or more allotted to each inhabitant according to his skill and industry as a cultivator. The farms held by private ownership ran back in long strips from a narrow front that usually lay along some stream. Several of them generally lay parallel to one another each including something like a hundred acres, but occasionally much exceeding this amount.

The French inhabitants were in very many cases not of pure blood. The early settlements had been made by men only, by soldiers, traders, and trappers, who took Indian wives. Their children were baptized in the little parish churches by the priests, and grew up holding the same position in the community as was held by their fellows both of whose parents were white. There were many freedmen and freedwomen of both colors, and in consequence much mixture of blood. They were tillers of the soil, and some followed in addition, the trades of blacksmith and carpenter. Very many of them were trappers or fur traders. Their money was composed of furs and peltries, rated at a fixed price per pound; none other was used unless expressly so stated in the contract. The pursuits of the fur trader and fur trapper, were very adaptable to the early French and it was upon these that they chiefly depended. The half-savage life of toil, hardship, excitement, and long intervals of idleness attracted them strongly. That was perhaps one among the reasons why they got on so much better with the Indians than did the American, who wherever they went, made clearings and settlements, cut down the trees, and drove off the game.

The trader having obtained his permit, built his boats, whether light, roomy, bateaux made of boards, or birch-bark canoes, or pirogues, which were simply hollowed out logs. He loaded them with paint, powder, bullets, blankets, beads, and rum, manned them with hardy voyageurs, trained and their lives in the use of pole and started off. It took him weeks, often months, to get to the first trading point, usually some large winter encampment of Indians. He might visit several of these, or stay the whole winter through at one, buying and selling. When the trader had exchanged his goods for the peltries of these red and white skin hunters, he returned to his home, having been absent perhaps a year or eighteen months. It was a hard life; many a trader perished in the wilderness by cold or starvation, by an upset where the icy current ran down the rapids, by the attack of hostile tribes, or even in a drunken brawl with the friendly Indians, when voyageur, half-breed, and the Indian alike had been frenzied by draughts of fiery liquor.

Phillips County
Albion
Company, Inc.

Phillips
County

Phillips
County

Phillipsburg,
Kansas

Sheet
No. 1

Beauvais dit Steme or StGeme, Father of G.P. Beauvais also known as P.G. Beauvais, and as James P. Beauvais. This was one of the wealthiest and most important families in Kaskaski. The members of the family were descendants from Jacques Beauvais who emigrated to Canada in 1653. In 1725 they came to Kaskaska (Now in Ill). The Beauvais family were not counted among those favorable to the American cause. For some reason no representative of the family was elected at the first election of judges, but that was corrected in the second election, after which a member of the family was always in the magistracy. The Beauvais family held on to the possessions in Kaskaski as long as possible but finally like their associates they were driven to the Spanish side. Their descendants are living to-day in Ste Genevieve Mo. The men of this period always wrote Beauvais not Beauvais. The family name has been spelled Bauway--Beauvais--Beauvaix. The family name in France being StJames.

tails camp who was chief of the Brule Sioux tribe so that he might better learn the customs of the Indians the better to fit him for the Indian trade. Spotted tail insisted they stay for dinner which they did and while they were talking the squaws prepared the meal which was before them. They all partook of the food and G.P. asked his son how he liked the meal which he informed him he never tasted anything better. Before they had finished their meal one of the squaws took a sharp stick and sticking same hard into the kettle pulled out a dog. It is said while he was skinned his tail, head and legs were still intact to such an extent there could be no doubt about what it was.

Mr. Beauvais had in his employ several Frenchmen, who made regular trips with mules from StJoseph Mo. to his trading post. That on one of these trips, hostile Indians attacked the wagon train and burned all the wagons, taking around 100 mules and horses as well as all the supplies, as a small boy I remember well the family talking of this and of how the Government would not pay the loss for which they held government insurance. For some reason G.P. Beauvais apparently never tried very hard to collect this insurance but after he died in 1876, an action was had in the Court of Claims of the United States Washington D.C. listed as Chas M. Mapton Admr of the estate of G.P. Beauvais Dec. filed on the 15th Jan. 1892 for recovery of this loss. This action was kept alive for a number of years and finally was Dismissed for want of prosecution, October 17, 1910. In this action Frederick J. Beauvais, was plaintiff for said estate in March 1892.

The records in StLouis Mo. shows Mr. Gemenian P. Beauvais died in StLouis Mo. in November 1876, and listed as his heirs Placide M. McGindley, a daughter, residence City of StLouis Mo. Frederick J. Beauvais, son, residence City of StLouis Mo. Reno A. Beauvais, son, residence City StLouis Mo. Pierre A. Beauvais, son, residence StLouis Mo. Edward C. Beauvais, son, whose residence was unknown to the petitioner.

C. Thomas & Son, Inc. Englewood, Mo. Jan 1885-Prod 1879

Geminian Pierre Beauvais, whose name in Baptismal Records of Church of SteGenevieve, is listed as Pierre Geminien Beauvais, Child of Geminien Beauvais and Placide Aubuchon, later going by name of Geminian Pierre Beauvais and the Edward C. Beauvais heirs as James P. Beauvais, was born on the 6th day of December 1815 and was Baptized in the above named church on the 10th December 1815 by the Reverend Henry Fratte, the Sponsors being Pierre Menard and Pelagie Aubuchon. The Church records of SteGenevieve shows he was married to Mary Louise Montardy by the Rev. Francis Xav Dahmen in the presence of Pierre Bolduc and Eliz Janis as Witnesses, on the 17th day of August 1832. He entered the Indian fur trade in the later 30's and in the early 40's establishing trading posts on the South Platte and Republican Rivers in Nebraska, wherever the business seemed most profitable. He operated one post near Julesburg Colorado, (Old California Crossing, 3 miles West of the present town of Brule Neb.) Also one in the Northern part of Hitchcock County Nebraska on the Frenchman Creek, being north of the present town of Trenton Nebraska, and ~~xxxxxxx~~ one a short distance Southwest of the present town of North Platte Neb. and one for a short time near the present town of Kearney Neb.

Family tradition has it that in order to carry on a successful Indian trade it was necessary to have or support a family taken from each tribe in which they did business with and at one time it is said he was keeping as high as 17 Indian families.

The following stories have been handed down through the family.

A young Indian around 18 years old and one of the men on the Wagon trains stopping over for provisions got into an argument over something or other and proceeded to fight it out during which fight the white man was killed. Mr. Beauvais took custody of the Indian and in a short time Chief Spotted Tail came to the post and requested he take charge of the Indian for punishment for the crime which he had committed. He was tied to a post before witnesses at Old California Crossing and they proceeded to whip him until no life was longer left in the body.

Another story is that G.P. Beauvais took his son Edward C. Beauvais to Spotted Tail's camp who was chief of the Brule Sioux tribe so that he might better learn the customs of the Indians the better to fit him for the Indian trade. Spotted Tail insisted they stay for dinner which they did and while they were talking the squaws prepared the meal which was before them. They all partook of the food and G.P. asked his son how he liked the meal which he informed him he never tasted anything better. Before they had finished their meal one of the squaws took a sharp stick and sticking same hard into the kettle pulled out a dog, it is said while he was skinned his tail, head and legs were still intact to such an extent there could be no doubt about what it was.

Mr. Beauvais had in his employ several Frenchmen, who made regular trips with mules from StJoseph Mo. to his trading post. That on one of these trips, hostile Indians attacked the wagon train and burned all the wagons, taking around 100 mules and horses as well as all the supplies, as a small boy I remember well the family talking of this and of how the Government would not pay the loss for which they held government insurance. For some reason G.P. Beauvais apparently never tried very hard to collect this insurance but after he died in 1878, an action was had in the Court of Claims of the United States Washington D.C. listed as Chas M. Napton Adm'r of the estate of G.P. Beauvais Dec. filed on the 13th Jan. 1892 for recovery of this loss. This action was kept alive for a number of years and finally was Dismissed for want of prosecution, October 17, 1910. In this action Frederick J. Beauvais, was plaintiff for said estate in March 1892.

The records in StLouis Mo. shows Mr. Geminien P. Beauvais died in StLouis ~~xxxxxx~~ in November 1878, and listed as his heirs Placide W. McGinley, a daughter, residence City of StLouis Mo., Frederick J. Beauvais, son, residence City of StLouis Mo., Reno A. Beauvais, son, residence City StLouis Mo., Pierre A. Beauvais, son, residence StLouis Mo., Edward C. Beauvais, son, whose residence was unknown to the petitioner.

(This was a willie English who was born 1865 + died 1879)

Book 13
Abstract

The oldest and one of the best-known ranches on the South Platte, in the late '50's and early '60's, was BEAUVAIS. It was located on the old overland route, a few rods from the river, about 420 miles northwest of Abilene. The place in early days was known as "Old California Crossing." It was thus named because nearly all the travel overland after the California gold discoveries of 1848 that went west on the south side of the Platte crossed the great stream at that point. During the immense travel occasioned by the gold excitement, however, the place was known as "Ash Hollow Crossing." Some of the Mormons also forded there when they emigrated to "Zion," in the early days. In fact, nearly all the travel to Utah, California and Oregon forded at this point, there being no other crossing known on the South Platte west of there at that time.

Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, when he took his army across the plains from Fort Leavenworth, in the summer and fall of 1857, to put down the Mormon rebellion also forded at this crossing. Subsequently the late Gen. F. W. Lander crossed there on his return from an expedition overland late in the fall of 1858, in charge of a Government party sent out to look up and locate military wagon road from some point on the upper Missouri to Oregon. The ranch was also used as one of the early stations of the Jones-Russell Pike's Peak state line in 1859, and, at the crossing, the John Hockaday mail and express coach, drawn by six mules, between Atchison and Salt Lake City, also forded, in the late '50's and early '60's. It was also a station for the pony express, and it finally became one of the most widely known ranches on the overland route.

The South Platte, at Beauvais, was just half a mile across from bank to bank. Fifteen miles north of this is Ash Hollow, where General Harney slaughtered the Brule Sioux Indians in 1855. It is a mile through that memorable hollow to the North Fork of the Platte; thence the road ran up the south side of that stream, via Court-house Rock, Chimney Rock, Scott's Bluffs, and the mouth of Horse creek, to Fort Laramie.

The river was always fordable at Beauvais, but difficult to cross in the Spring, from the annual rise caused by melting snow in the mountains. Usually there was not much trouble in fording except from quicksands. During August, September, and October, 1857, Hon. P. G. Love, of Leavenworth, a pioneer Kansan and a veteran frontier plainsman, was wagonmaster, and camped at Beauvais and escorted most of the troops and trains that went out with General Johnson on the Mormon expedition, in the fall of 1857. Mr. Love was familiar with every rod of the river in that vicinity, having frequently measured the fording places and safely piloted the train over.

Beauvais's name was known on the plains all the way from the Missouri river to the Pacific. He was a Frenchman, from St. Louis, who went on the frontier among the Indians at a very early day, and traded with them wherever the business proved profitable. He finally settled on the South Platte, after the breaking out of the Pike's Peak gold excitement, and put up his trading post at that crossing in 1859. This was ten years after the date of the California gold excitement. When he settled on the Platte he was about forty years of age; a large, fine-looking man; very reticent, even to moroseness. Though intelligent and pleasant with his friends, he was sullen when bored by emigrants. He was on the plains, as those who frequently met him could see, for business only. He took the leading St. Louis papers, and fully intended to close his life in the great metropolis, after accumulating a fortune on the plains. He succeeded in the latter, and returned to his old home after the completion of the railroad to the Pacific, which had ruined his trade of pioneer days along the Platte. He may have been a Mormon and a polygamist, for he appeared to be a much married man, and no less than three squaws and a large number of half-breed papooses running about the premises indicated that he had accepted the Mormon faith as to plurality of wives.

The immense travel to Denver and other points in Colorado, as well as the vast immigration that had set in for the Great Northwest, was the opportunity for this pioneer trader of the South Platte to amass a considerable fortune. His building as originally put up was a square, hem-log structure, but in the early '60's it had been considerably enlarged, to meet the increasing demands of his trade. In it was a large stock of buffalo robes, elk and antelope skins, furs, and such other goods as he could get by trading coffee, sugar, blankets, tobacco, beads, trinkets, etc., with the various tribes of Indians that roamed up and down the Platte and occupied the gulches and canons some distance away from the river. It was one of the most prominent trading posts in the Platte valley, and in it he kept one of the best stocks to be found along the overland route. He was well equipped for trading with the Indians, as well as for supplying the needs of parties on the plains.

Phillips County
Abstract

Phillips County
Abstract

Sheet 4
No. 4

Genealogical Records
also known as Steno or
St Gomo Beauvais.

Geminian P. Beauvais.

Born. 10th Dec. 1815.

StGenevieve Mo.

Married. 17th Aug. 1832

in StLouis Mo.

Baptismal records shows

Pierre Geminien Beauvais.

Placide Aubrechon.

Calliste Montardy.

Mary Louise Montardy.

Mary Ann Valle.

Pierre Isidore Robidoux.

Born 1791

Franklin Robidoux.

Born StLouis. 1822.

Died 1/16/1847. 25 yrs.

Married 12/14/1843 at

StJoseph Mo.

Julie Desjarlias.

Mary J. Robidoux.

Born. Dec. 1, 1844.

StLouis, Mo.

Died. 1933.

BelleFouch S.D.

William Langston.

Nancy (Bally) Langston.

Phillips County
Abstract
Company, Inc.

Bonded
Abstracter

Phillips
County

That was cut down to \$24,000 and it was allowed at 90,000, but our
lawyer would not accept that, and it stands at that to day. These
depredations were committed during the years 1863, 1864, and 1865.

When I left there Spotted Tail was there with 300 Indians.
His nephew went down to Diamond Springs and committed some depredation.
Spotted Tail, he took him, his nephew and took him and stripped him
and whipped him until the blood ran down him, and he took his arms
away from him and killed his horse. That was the punishment he
inflicted on him. My husband and his father had to give them a feast
of beans, dried apples, coffee and rice. The common Indians sat
around on the floor and ate their food, but Spotted Tail sat at the
table. I knew all the chiefs.

The depredations were not committed at the ranch. But when
my father-in-law got his trains out on the trails with other men,
they would get them, kill the men and take the goods. Generally,

Phillips County
Abstract
Company

Sheet
1

INTERVIEW WITH
Mrs. Edward C. Beauvais
as told to John F. Cordeal

In 1862 there was nothing of importance occurred at all, any more than it took three days trip from Atchison, Kansas to our ranch. The Indians were quiet then. My husband and I came out in a stage. Another trip I made, I don't remember the year. That must have been in 1863 or 1864 or 1865. There were seven in the coach. I was going out without his consent. They told us the Indians would take us. We were all prepared with our suitcases up to protect us against the bullets. That was the same year the Union Pacific Railroad was built as far as Kearney. My husband's ranch was at the South Platte, at the old California crossing. The ranch was called the Star. It was owned by my father-in-law. His name was G. P. Beauvais. He was commonly called "Jim" Beauvais. His name was Gamma Pierre Beauvais, but was always called "Jim" Beauvais. My father-in-law was out there in 1849. He traded with the Indians, had trading posts. All the freighting was done overland, from St. Joseph or Atchison, with six or eight mule teams to the wagon, mules and oxen. We have a claim against the Government for \$40,000 that was cut down to \$22,000 and it was allowed at \$8,000, but our lawyer would not accept that, and it stands at that to day. These depredations were committed during the years 1863, 1864, and 1865.

When I left there Spotted Tail was there with 300 Indians. His nephew went down to Diamond Springs and committed some depredation. Spotted Tail, he took him, his nephew and took him and stripped him and whipped him until the blood ran down him, and he took his arms away from him and killed his horse. That was the punishment he inflicted on him. My husband and his father had to give them a feast of beans, dried apples, coffee and rice. The common Indians sat around on the floor and ate their food, but Spotted Tail sat at the table. I knew all the chiefs.

The depredations were not committed at the ranch. But when my father-in-law got his trains out on the trails with other men, they would get them, kill the men and take the goods. Generally,

Phillips County
Abstract
Company, Inc.

COPY.

LARNICE R. CONNERY
BLACK HAWK, COLORADO.
December 28th 1918.

Mr. Cecil Kingery.
Phillipsburg, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Kingery.

My typewriter is out of kilter and if you will excuse lead pencil I will take up our Beauvais Trading Post history. I have not heard from Mrs Brown or from two Ogallala Nebraska pioneers, or from the County Clerk at Stoolville Nebraska. As the cost of printing books at present is terrific, I may for the time being, content myself with writing the story for the Omaha World Herald. I don't know about the Nebraska Historical Magazine. I have from 30 to 50 personal letters concerning historical matters of the West which Luther H. North Captain of the Pawnee Indian Scouts and former ranch partner of Buffalo Bill, wrote me in the years that we cruised the old western trails together. I think considerable of them and would consider no cash offers for them, but I wrote the Neb. State Historical Society that I expected to give the letters to them for preservation as soon as I could make copies.

The Superintendent wrote me that they would send me copies if I would send them the letters. I sent them nine and instead of sending me copies he is trying to me out of all of them. It looks as if I would have to write the Beauvais story Governor about it. Anyway I am going to go ahead and write the Beauvais story.

I wish had met your or E.C. Beauvais Jr. 20 years ago. I am enclosing a copy of what Morton's History of Nebraska says of Genimian Pierre and Edward Colliste Beauvais, copy of letter of Andrew Carpenters of 1930, which will explain themselves, together with a rough map of the Beauvais Post and Overland Trails. There are a few confusions in the Morton story and "Foot and Connelly's Overland Trail" which I will have to work out. Morton says the Trading Post was established in 1849 while Foot and Connelly indicate 1859. I imagine 1849 is correct; Aunt Sure. I think it was the California 1849 gold excitement that first lured your great grandfather, as well as the fur trade, to the west, and then the Colorado gold excitement of 1859, right here at Black Hawk, helped him afterwards.

In your first letter you said you thought the Trading Post was near Julesburg, but I guess they called 19 miles east "near Julesburg".

The Land where the Beauvais Trading Post was located was always in Keith County and the Keith County records do not record that anyone named either Beauvais or Robidoux ever owned any land in the County. Just have held it by squatters right, but I can't understand why Beauvais did not file on the land as he was there until 1867. Can you tell me to whom I would write in Washington D.C. to learn if your Beauvais ancestors had government permits to trade?

As my father owned Frontier County land since 1865 and I still own land there I am quite familiar with the Medicine Creek land that your grandfather owned north of Stockville. I feel certain that land is now owned by Fred Mipple who owns and operates the Lakeview Hotel in Curtis, Nebraska. I stayed with him one month about a year ago.

I have a very fine picture of Genimian Pierre Beauvais, which was reproduced from Morton's History about 20 years ago and would like to have a good one of Edward C. Sr. for use with a story.

I wish to get more details of the ranches that G.P. (Jim) and or Edward C. Sr. owned near Trenton, and will write County Recorder there.

I guess this about all now, may write more when I study over the "Beauvais Abstract" that you sent me.

I have several extracts that I copied from "Foot and Connelly's Overland Trail" but none so complete as what you sent me. Foot & Connelly are O.K..

My friend Captain Luther North, who died in 1935 knew the last word about firearms, but I know practically nothing about them.

In addition to what "Foot & Connelly's Overland Stage says about Beauvais Trading Post "Profess New Overland Tourist and "Solific Coast Guide" of 1882 says:

"While near the Old California Crossing. On the south side of the river, opposite in plain view, is the old rancho and trading post of the noted Indian trader and Peace Commissioner-Beauvais-now deserted."

I guess I have written enough for once-and it is mail time.

Very truly yours
Clarence Nickmeyer.

Phillipsburg,
Kansas

Phillips
County

Beauvais
Abstract

Phillips County
Abstract
Company, Inc.

Now (1906) resides in Stockville Nebr. When the U.P. R.R. extended as far west as Star Ranch the business became less profitable and G.P. Beauvais closed out his interests and went to St. Louis with a fortune of nearly \$1,000,000.00. He built a fine mansion, intending to reside there the rest of his life. He soon tired of the City, however, and was making arrangements to remove to Frontier County Nebr., and engage in the cattle business, when death overtook him in 1874. Mr. Beauvais was a Roman Catholic in religion and is said to have been a good man, a fine scholar and a friend to all.

Phillips
County
Abstract

Phillips
County

Phillips County
Abstract

Birth date of Edward Colliste Beauvais given as April 1, 1837, when in fact he was born in 1833. Frederick Town Mo. Nearly 12 years older than his wife Mary J. Robidoux. Mary J. Robidoux, listed as being a granddaughter of Joseph Robidoux. Records show she was the granddaughter of Pierre Isidore Robidoux a brother of the Joseph Robidoux the founder of St. Joseph however her parents died when she was very young and she was adopted by this Joseph Robidoux and educated in a Convent. It was while at this convent she became acquainted with Edward C. Beauvais, whom afterward she married, in 1862. This was not the first Beauvais to marry into the Robidoux family. A sister of Edmond Robidoux named Sylvanie A. Robidoux married Francis A. Beauvais, a cousin of G.P. Beauvais. Article states Geminian Pierre Beauvais was married to Marie Louise Montardie and that his wife died two years later, leaving one son Edward Colliste Beauvais, and further shows a daughter as Placide M. Tinsley. Our records shows her name should have been Placide M. McIndley and that she was the only other child born of Geminian Perre Beauvais and Marie Louise Montardie, the others listed being all half brothers of Edward C. Beauvais. Edward C. Beauvais was the only son who would or did go west and engage in the Indian trade with his father. For this reason it appeared he was the favorite son, and after the profit went out the Indian trade, he furnished the money to establish him in the cattle business. Mr. Beauvais spent considerable time while located in Frontier county running trap lines and fish lines. At one time he had several hundred head of cattle, and besides raising cattle they would go on buffalo drives and get calves to run with the cattle. This took place on ranches on Stinking Water and the Frenchman in Northern part of Hitchcock Co. Neb. While living on a Ranch and trading post near NorthPlatt Neb. I have heard my grandmother Mary J. Beauvais tell a good many times of their experiences on the frontier. One of the stories was of the card games the men folks would have. On one of Mr. Beauvais trips to St. Joseph he returned with a large silk stove pipe hat, and the next morning after the games you could always tell the winner by who was wearing the hat which was a custom to pass around to the winners Bill Cody (later known as Buffalo Bill) also operated a ranch as a neighbor and was in on most of these card games. He also worked for G.P. Beauvais for a time on the wagons, and as a scout. Article states G.P. Beauvais died in 1874, when in fact copies from his estate show he died in St. Louis Mo. in November 1878.

Sheet
No. 11

Top left to right: Mollie Eugene Beauvais, Helen Irene (Nelle) Beauvais, Estelle Louise Beauvais, Birdie Belle Beauvais, Bottom row: E.C. Beauvais, Sr., Josephine Beauvais, Mary J. Beauvais.

(Tanguary-Dictionnaire Genealogique Francois-Canadiennes et Missourians.
Volume 1 and Volume 6 from 1608)

Robidoux-Variations et Surnoms, Robidou--Robidout--Robidoux. Paris
Andre Robidoux of StGermain, Paris, France, Son of Manuel Robidoux, Paris,
France and Catharine Allue of StMarie deGalice, eveche of Burgoes, Spain, of
married le duc Jeanne, eveche of Paris. They came to the concession of St
StGermain of Auxerre, eveche of Paris. They came to the concession of St
Lambert in the Parish of Lepreire, Quebec in Canada, June 7, 1667 and took up
farming. From their issue is four generations of Joseph Robidoux through
Canada to Missouri, and many Francois-Antoine--Louis among the numerous other
family names.

IV. Joseph Robidoux, Born 1722. Maitre Cardonnier et Marie Anne Leblanc
born 1724. This father and son came to StLouis 1770. Son, Joseph Robidoux
born 1750. Married on Sept. 21, 1782 to Cathrine Rollet. Theirs were the
Missouri issue came the six sons that blazed the Western trails to civilization.

V. Joseph Robidoux, born 21st Sept. 1750, born of Joseph Robidoux the IV
and Cathrine Rollet born 1767.

Joseph Robidoux, born in Montreal, Canada in 1750 was the son of
Joseph Robidoux, Maitre Cordonnier (Dealer in Shoes) born in 1722 and
Marie Anne Leblanc, born in 1724 in Canada. The father and son came to
StLouis in the year 1770 from Montreal. The father died September 12th 1771,
at the house of Kery Denoyer. An inventory of his son, September 21, 1782,
placed by the Governor in possession of the fur business, which he
Joseph married Cathrine Rollet (dit Laderoute) in the fur business, having
also Canadian descent. He had embarked in the fur business, which he
prosecuted for over thirty years quite successfully and prosperously, having
acquired a handsome fortune. He died March 17, 1809 at the age of 60 years
leaving a widow and six sons, all grown to manhood. The children of this
union were as follows. Joseph Born August 10th 1783. Lewis 1785 and
Francis 1788 and Margaret 1790 and Pierre Isidore Born 1791, Antoine 1794,
Louis 1796, Michel 1798. Bulahie 1880 and Yelagie 1802. Colonel Auguste
Chouteau was appointed his executor and closed up the estate.

Joseph Robidoux's estate was probated in August 1810. His slaves were listed
as follows. Pelecite, with child at breast, 200 piastres; her daughter of
8 years at 150; a girl of 6 years at 125, and one autre petite negresse,
100 piastres. It was exceptional indeed when a negro brought over \$500.00
before 1850.

When Auguste Chouteau's negroes were appraised in 1829 the eleven men among
them who were between the ages of 16 and 35 averaged \$186.35 each, the
highest being worth \$500.00 and the lowest \$300.00 The eleven women between
the ages of 16 and 39 averaged \$316.35 the highest valuation being \$350.00 and
the lowest \$130.00 Men brought considerably more in the late thirties.

The first General Assembly, of the new territory met on December 7, 1812 at
StLouis in the house of Joseph Robidoux. (The father of the six sons that blazed
the western trails, returning to the old house in StLouis each year from their
long voyages into the primitive wilds.

In 1779 and for a number of years thereafter Joseph Robidoux, was listed
as a Lieutenant in StLouis Militia Company, was one of the principal merchants
of Old StLouis and extensive fur traders and was interested in the Spanish
Commercial Company as Stockholder.

Journalism was Born in 1808 in the North room of Joseph Robidoux's house
on the 12th July. The Missouri Gazette by Joseph Charles, had come into existen-
ce. In the year 1822 the Missouri Gazette was changed to StLouis Republic.
His home was a large mansion located between Walnut and Elms, where he died in
March 1809.

All the Robidoux are related, as only one came over from the old country to
settle in Nouvelle France. His name was Andre Robidoux son of Manuel Robidoux
StGermain France and Cathrine Alue of Saint Marie deGalice Diocese of Burgoes
Spain. This son, Andre married leduc Jeanne the fifth daughter of Antoine &
Catherine Denote of StGermain de Auxerre of Paris. They came to the concession of
StLambert in the parish of Lepreire Quebec in Canada June 7, 1667 & took up farm-
ing. One of their sons called Guillaume was married to Marie Guern in

Montreal on July 11th 1697. They had a son called Joseph who married Anne Fontenau in Laprairie on January 7, 1721. One of their children called Joseph was married to Marie-Anne Leblanc on February 3, 1749 at Sault au Recollet near Montreal. They had a son called Joseph who was married to Marie Kollet at StLouis, Missouri on September 21st, 1782. From this issue the six sons that blazed the western trails to civilization. The names of their children, Joseph Robidoux, born 1783. Francois Robidoux born 1788. Isidore Robidoux born 1791. Antoine Robidoux born 1794. Louis Robidoux born 1796. Michel Robidoux born 1798. Eulalie Robidoux born 1800. Pelagie Robidoux born 1802.

Pierre Isidore Robidoux.

Pierre Isidore (Son of Joseph Robidoux who was born 1750 and his wife Cathrine Rollett) was born 6th May 1791 and married October 11th 1815 to Julia Desjarlais at Cahokia. The sons of Joseph Robidoux kept their business in StLouis as well as the post on the Upper Missouri, (Now StJoseph Mo) Joseph Robidoux, was at StJoseph. Louis and Antoine Robidoux went to Santa Fee New Mexico and Michel trading at Fort Laramie in Wyoming. Isidore Robidoux went to Santa Fee and Francois attended the business in StLouis. StJoseph was the business center for the whole river district and from here supplies were sent all over the western mountains and plains that Michael and Francis and Isidore Robidoux had traversed to and from Fort Laramie trading with the Indians in the valleys. It was here too, that most of the California pioneers of 1849-1851 and 1860 were supplied with outfit for the long journey to the Pacific coast. The six brothers were all interested in the best advantage in the American Fur Company until the company quit business in 1833. All returning each year from their long voyages into the primitive wilds to the old house in StLouis. Francis and Isidore Robidoux, traded principally on the plains of Northern Kansas, and upon the Yellowstone River. When they arrived at StLouis, they would transfer to a steamboat for transportation to the West had developed to such an extent that pack mules and wagons were no longer regarded as sufficient means of transportation to meet the needs of the growing commerce of the middle west. ~~xxxxxxx~~

As the furs were purchased and had to be transported where river transportation was not available, the use of the horse and mule pack trains were used to convey the furs to the trading posts and settlements with the recurring trouble with the Indians along the trails. The caravans were organized for the purpose of transporting persons and property along these trails and these caravans consisting of long lines of deep wagon beds with heavy canvas covers stretched over them, were frequently seen winding their weary way over the great American desert in the past century.

The caravans, if large, were organized into divisions, each under charge of a sub officer, whose duty it was to superintend the details of the march, select the best creek crossings and look after the arrangements for the evening camps. The vehicles consisted of heavy wagon carts and light carriages. The draught animals were horses, mules and oxen. There were always a large number of saddle horses. The progress of these huge caravans was always slow and rarely averaged more than fifteen miles a day.

Isidore's route from StJoseph with his caravan of wagons was over the Oregon trail route up the North Platte to where the North and South Platte joined, where the trappers come in from Old Tacos, thence northward for the rendezvous at FtLaramie and Ft. Platte below. The country was wild and the Indians plentiful. The fan shape trail to Santa Fee and Tacos north to Robidoux post on Robidoux River to the Platte and Ft. Laramie, the Yellowstone back to the Missouri River, in the '40's.

We have read with delight the expeditions and travels to the mountains and the Pacific ocean, the difficulties and dangers to be encountered, the perilous advantages and hairbreadth escapes of which we have read and heard, and the hunters themselves we have looked upon as most daring, intrepid. If there is any merit in untiring, perseverance and terrible suffering in the courses of trade, in searching out new channels of commerce, in tracing out the courses of unknown rivers and discovering the resources of unknown regions. There is no reflection on the character of the Robidoux merchants and trappers.

They were exact in their requisitions of duty, determined and persevering and always confident of success. When their affairs were in danger they were always among the foremost to meet its difficulties. In all their dealings with the Indians they were strictly honorable and always endeavored to give them favorable ideas of the whites. They never molested them except in their own defense.

From the Robidoux objective points in the Northwest were the three forks country of the Missouri River, the North and South Platte River and Yellowstone River; to the Columbia and Oregon region on the other side of the mountains, to the Southwest, the metropolis of the Spanish settlements that Pike had reported upon in 1806. Antoine Robidoux, first fur trader out of old Taos, whose post in the Southwestern Colorado was the pioneer trading post beyond the Continental Divide of the Rockies, going up White River to the Utah River where he established a post, now White Rocks, Utah. The intrepid traders and trappers who first explored the wilds of the West, who traced the streams which flow through Missouri to their source, who sealed the mountain passes, and who first laid out and established the routes of travel which now are avenues of commerce, were the real "Pioneers of the West."

It was the trappers and traders of the early portion of the eighteenth century who first took their perilous voyages into the heart of the savage wilds of the unexplored West.

The pioneers of science went venturing, hand in hand, with the pioneers of trade in the early explorations into the western wilderness. It was thus the combined knowledge of the traders and the maps of the explorers that aided the emigrant in the great movement to the West. The maps, many of which were made by Joseph Robidoux and his six sons are still to be found in the Astor Library in New York and the archives of the Government of France.

Antoine Robidoux's trading post was located just below the junction of the Uncompahgre and Gannison Rivers in Delta County of western Colorado. The town of Robidoux and Robidoux River commemorate the Antoine Robidoux old trading post, which was on the point between the Grand and the Uncompahgre Rivers. This was the Ute country, and the Ute Indians were friendly with the trader. On the right bank, in latitude 40 degrees, 27 minutes 45 seconds north, longitude 109, 56 minutes, 42 seconds west, was located Robidoux Fort, or Fort Utah. Here was established the veteran Antoine Robidoux from Santa Fe, where he, and his brothers had their headquarters. In the fall of 1832 Kit Carson spent the winter 1832-33 at Robidoux Post.

He died leaving two sons Louis Robidoux who was baptized at St. Louis August 12, 1820, and Franklin Robidoux who married Nancy Langston Bailly

FRANKLIN ROBIDOUX,

Franklin Robidoux, son of Pierre Isidore Robidoux, was born 1822 and married Nancy Langston Bailly on 14th Dec. 1843, she being the daughter of William Langston of St. Joseph Mo. originally coming from Kentucky. Franklin Robidoux died on 16th January 1847 at the age of 25 years leaving one child called Mary J. Robidoux, who married Edward Beauvais, son of G.P. Beauvais. Nancy Langston had a son William T. Bailley by a former marriage. During the War W.T. Bailley was a Lieutenant under Price in the Confederate Army. After the war he moved to California where he worked on most of the old time journals in Oakland. For some time he was foreman of the Vidette and he also ran the West Oakland Star. When he died he was 56 years of age and left a wife and grown family.

Franklin Robidoux, often went on the freighting trips to Santa Fe and Taos, etc. to be with his uncles Antoine and Louis.

FIRST WEDDING SOLEMNIZED IN STJOSEPH, BUCHANAN COUNTY, MISSOURI.

Mr. Franklin Robidoux, son of Pierre Isidore Robidoux and a brother of Joseph Robidoux, the founder of the city of St Joseph, was united in the holy bonds of matrimony on December 14, 1843, to a young widow, Mrs Nancy Bailey, daughter of an old citizen, William Langston.

Being the first wedding, the boys wanted to have fun and frolic. A great many were invited to the wedding. The House was entirely too small to accommodate the parties invited. The ceremony was performed by a Cumberland traveling preacher, and a large hall and supper was prepared on the occasion. The only musicians or fiddlers in the country at that time were Julius C. Robidoux and Isidore Robidoux, sons of Joseph Robidoux, who did all the fiddling for the

dancing during the night of the wedding.

A man named Scott, a brick layer and a very good man, took in his head to the scene of the wedding equipped with horns, tin pans, cowbells, sleight bells, etc

and made a considerable show and they came to the house of William Langston, where the parties were enjoying themselves in dancing, and commenced their music. With all their noise everything turned into confusion and excitement and a general row was anticipated. William Langston and his son Jake took it as a great insult to them and the company present, and was about to stop their proceedings.

Julius and Isidore and Mitchell Robidoux and others informed Mr. Langston that it was all in fun and frolic and for him to treat the company, giving them cake and so forth, and the disturbers would quit and go off peacefully, for the Robidoux's were acquainted with these charivaries as they were quite common in St Louis and other places when a young man married a widow.

He could not see it in that light and was determined to break it up. Things became worse and no compromise could be had upon any terms. There was kept a drum shop on the same street below the premises where the wedding took place and both parties frequented very often to drink and cut up. About twelve o'clock at night a party from the wedding and a party of the charivari, met in said saloon and a general fight took place, which caused quite an excitement in our little village and everybody was on the alert to what had been done. As soon as the excitement subsided, the saloon was lighted and a man was found lying upon the floor. Upon examination, Mr. Scott, the captain and ring leader was found stabbed in the abdomen and his life was extinct. The scene that followed was very great and exciting prevailed. The question was, "who had committed this awful deed?" It was generally understood that a plot had been made to capture the captain. The next day several men were arrested. They were William Langston and Jake Langston. Isidore Robidoux and several others. Jake ran off. The other parties were examined before a

squire of Buchanan County and Isidore Robidoux was acquitted with two others. William Langston was bound over with some other men to appear before the circuit court of Buchanan for trial. Wm Langston and others took a change of venue to another county for trial and the case was sent to Platte City, Missouri.

After a long and prolonged trial the parties all came clear and free. It was quite a lesson for the young people of the town and it broke up all charivaries for some time.

Franklin Robidoux, son of Isidore, died in St Joseph January 16, 1847, age 26 years. he left one child Mary who married Edward Buhrvais.

MARY J. ROBIDOUX.

Mary J. Robidoux was born Dec. 1, 1844 in St. Louis Mo. the daughter of Franklin Robidoux and Nancy (Bailey) Langston. Both her parents died when she was young and she was educated in a convent, and married Edward Coleste Beauvais, son of G.P. Beauvais on 20th Dec. 1862 in St. Joseph Mo. and died at her daughter's home Mrs. T. Wyckhoff, at Belle Fourche, So. Dak. Dec. 14, 1933. She was among the very earliest settlers in Frontier County and lived near and in Stockville until 1927, at which time making her home in Phillipsburg with her daughter Nellie Taggart (Marie) Kingery, later moving to Denver Colorado with her daughter Josephine Robertson, and still later with her daughter Helen Irene (Nellie) Wyckhoff, at Belle Fourche S.D. where she died and is buried. After she was married in 1862 she made several trips to the Beauvais Ranch and trading post, and spent most of her life on the frontier. Those who knew her and had the pleasure of listening to her stories of life on the frontier, and who have heard her relate the thrilling adventures, romantic episodes and hairbreadth escapes through which she passed, will ever carry in their memories the pleasant recollections of her.

Following is copy of notice put in the Curtis Neb. paper at the time of her death.

ONE OF COUNTRY'S EARLIEST PIONEERS PASSED AWAY AT DAUGHTER'S HOME
IN SO. DAK.

News has been received here of the death of Mrs. E.C. Beauvais at the home of her daughter, Mrs. T. Wyckhoff at Belle Fourche, So. Dak.

Thursday Dec. 14.

Mrs. Beauvais was among the very earliest settlers in Frontier County and lived near and in Stockville until 1927. Mrs. Beauvais died in the early 1930's. Mrs. Beauvais was born in St. Louis Mo. and was 88 years old Dec. 1, 1933. She was educated in a convent in that section. Her father was active in the first white settlements west of the Missouri river in Nebraska. His trading post at Julesburg, Colo., prior to the building of the Union Pacific Railroad in mentioned prominently in historical accounts of the west. Mrs. Beauvais was the first white woman to ride on a Union Pacific train from Omaha to Julesburg, Colo.

The Beauvais established ranches in the vicinity of Stockville, among the earliest in this section, one of them being the farm now owned and occupied by Earl Watkins, one mile north of Stockville on the Medicine.

Mrs. Beauvais was the mother of six children, all of whom are living.

They are: E.C. Beauvais, Pueblo, Colo. Mrs. J.E. Williams, Bladen Md. Mrs. Wm Kingery, Phillipsburg, Kans. W.T. Wyckhoff, Belle Fourche, So. Dak. Mrs. C.A. Craig, Denver, Colo. and Mrs. S.B. Robertson, Denver Colo.

In addition to her six children, Mrs. Beauvais is survived by twenty-five grand children and fourteen great grand children. Among the grand children is K.F. Williams of Curtis.

Since 1927 Mrs. Beauvais had made her home with her daughters at Denver Colo., and at Belle Fourche. Death was attributed to heart trouble and old age. While Mrs. Beauvais had not been in good health for about a year, she was up and around until the day before her death. She passed away in her sleep some time between midnight and early morning.

The funeral services were held from the daughter's home in Belle Fourche Friday afternoon at 2:30. Burial was in Pine Slope Cemetery. Rev. Tracy conducted the services. The pall bearers were the Grandsons, two Great Grandsons and son-in-law of the deceased.

Mrs. Beauvais retained remarkable command of her faculties for one of her age and was interested in all that was going on in the world today. But she never lost interest in her Frontier County friends and was much interested recently in the historical and biographical accounts recently prepared by Judge Bayard H. Paine.

Jack Kingery
President

Brenda Kingery Chance
Vice President

Grace Kingery
Secretary-Treasurer



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24th Jan. 1974

Ira Goddard
525 Boice S.
Salem Oregon, 97302

Dear Ira:

In regard to your letter as to property purchased from Terry Case. Where the cases do not show the amounts, there has been no judgment taken, just Cases Pending. The County Court Cases No 496 Lee Schick VS Opal A & Terry Case, there has been a motion to dismiss this case but no dismissal. Frank Hahn, is the attorney on this.

Case No 492 T.E. Troyer VS Terry Case, Recovery of Money.

Frank Hahn is the attorney on this, I believe this is to be dismissed according to Clerk Dist. Court, with payment costs \$10.50 (No authority for this)

Case 472 Ace Builders Center Inc. D.B.A. Home Lbr. Co. VS Terry Case Judg. \$208.00 Steve Sage is the attorney on this.

Case 410 Dr. D.B. Foote VS Terry Case, \$125.00 Frank Hahn is the attorney on this.

Case 363 Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital VS Terry Case \$218.20 Frank Hahn is the attorney on this.

Case 348 Robert Dawley VS Terry Case Judg. \$1000.00 Keith G. Sebelius, Norton Ks. is the attorney (He is our U.S. Congressman) but Norton would be the address to write.

Case 347 Bill Wells VS Terry Case, \$1000.00 Keith G. Sebelius is also the attorney on this.

Case No 4-271 City of Phillipsburg VS Terry J. Case. Failure to Yield Right of way. I Understand Court costs is all there is due on this (No authority)

Case 10431 Dist. Court, Irwin McDonald VS Terry Case, Date of Commencing 3/25/69, recovery of money. (I understand this has been settled but not released. I believe Hahn is the attorney.

Case No 10576 Ray Imm VS Terry J. & Opal A. Case, foreclosure on Contract for Deed, date of Commencing 8/12/71. (This covers other lands and unless deficiency judgment would be taken would not affect the property in question.

Trust the above is the information you wanted. There are a lot of cases on Terry and if the property was valuable enough might give some trouble. I cannot help but feel these cases will all take care of themselves in time, if you do want to clear this

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portion of the property, you could secure partial releases as far as your tract and to remain on all other properties. Steve Sage, contacted me yesterday on the Home Lbr Co. No one else has said anything about this.

It was interesting as to your memory of Bill Cody. Bill Cody did visit at our home I believe in 1915 or 1916. He had a Wild west show in connection with Sells-Floto Circus, they showed where the Race Trace stood at the time just a block South of where we lived. I still remember the Stage coach, with the Indian Raid with a lot of shooting, the the U.S. Cal. came on the scene to drive off the Indians. Luther North was also along on this trip and also at the house. Grandmother Beauvais was well acquainted with both these men Bill Cody as a neighbor and at one time a Scout with G.P. Beauvais Wagon Trains. The season of 1916 was Cody's last appearance on the circuit and he died Jan. 10, 1917. William Lillie known as Pawnee Bill was also in Buffalo Bill's Wild west and Pawnee Bill's Far East show. This combine toured for a time, but misfortune seemed to follow and this show also failed. Bill Cody was 70 years old when he died, and he passed into history. According to Grandmother he was a great show man and a poor scout. He had the same trouble I had "Drinking too much". Irene Sutley (Mrs Walter Sutley) of Speed was a relative of Bill Cody. I heard him say he had been in Phillipsburg many times during the 70's & 80's he served with the 5th Cavalry on various expeditions against the Indians 68-72. This part of Kansas was actually his old stomping grounds.

The Supp. abst. along with the Bases were delivered to Stephen S. Sage, Attorney to-day. We combined these titles into one because of being least expensive I assumed this was being sold as one tract. If not please advise and we will proceed with extensions on both tracts. It is possible one of the requirements will be is to re-compile the old hand written portions of these title. This we can wait for the Attorneys requirements.

With best personal regards, I am

Respectfully yours

Cecil Kingery

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Trenton, Nebr.
Jan. 9th, 1924

Mr. Cecil Kingery
Phillipsburg, Ks.

Dear Mr. Kingery:

I had been thinking of you-and today comes your letter and more fine material on the noted Beauvais family. And thanks so much for it.

Sutton and I had been talking-and writing about coming down to see you, but the weather has been something (18 days straight below zero) and Everette does not drive too much (yaeyes) alone, and he lives 30 miles west of Trenton.

There is no doubt in my mind that the first permanent settlement of white people was made in the Frenchman-Beauvais area, by your people. I refer to southwest, Nebr. in general and the Hitchcock Co. area in particular.

I have an old friend (95 years old) living in a rest home in Wauneta-Guy Sims, who was in the Beauvais Canyon in the late 1800s. He was just a small boy, but was with some cowboys who knew about the Canyon. He tells of a dugout-or the remains of one-that was up the Canyon, about a half mile above the r.r. crossing. He says that it looked real old then-maybe as much as 30 years or so. He says that he'd go right to it today, if he could walk-he is in a wheel chair.

Just last week I talked with the man who owns the land in question. He thinks that he knows the spot, and will go with us soon so that we can get there. With 15 inches of snow on the ground, that will be a few months. This will give you plenty of time to get that in shape. Better get that hip x-rayed. I had a new ball & socket hip put in a year ago last Oct. It is fine now, better than the other one.

About 15 miles almost due north from Wauneta, Nebr., and just below where the Spring Creek and Stinking Water come together to form the main Stinking Water, is a large grove of trees, in a very rugged canyon. This was one of the main winter camps of the Sioux. Spotted Tail used to camp there. This is where Cody came late in 1871 to find Spot, and make plans for him to send Indians to the Red Willow to meet the party of the Grand Duke Alexis, and his military escort. The famous buffalo hunt in Jan. 1872 followed this meeting, and the location of the camp is in a beautiful place. I have been there many times. It is now called Camp Duke Alexis. I took the North Platte Posse of The Westerners there two years ago.

The Spotted Tail camp site is still in a very wild area.

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--you can drive to it, but not thru' it. I think that this is the place mentioned as the "Indian Camp" in the material you sent me. This whole area is beautiful-wood, water and grass. The ideal place for a winter camp-deer on the river (and a few elk) antelope and buffalo on the divides. This is about 18 miles above the junction of the Stinking Water and the Frenchman, and a short days ride above the mouth of the Beauvais Canyon.

I have a feeling that the big dugout on the Frenchman - four miles east of Wauneta may have been one of the Beauvais trading spots. It was there some forty years or so before the Homesteaders came in the 1880s. Guy's father homesteaded in 1883 just across the river from it.

There is a creek just south of Palisade that may have had a trading post on it. It has been called several names. In 1865 it was called Ten Mile Creek. In 1867 it was called Pallardie Creek (by Custer-he camped on it). In 1865 Leon Pallardie was with the 1865 Military Expedition of General Mitchell - later the Creek was called Palisade Creek, and for the last 90 years it has been called Bobtail Creek. It could not be crossed by wagons. Mitchell and his 700 men went south of the west side of the creek, and Custer on the east side.

Many other military groups camped here, and one had a big fight with the Sioux just west of the mouth of the Bobtail - in 1865. Gen. Heath and party.

Leon Pallardie was a noted guide. He was pure French - a jolly type, who was also an Indian trader. He knew the country like a book, and most certainly knew the Beauvais. He may even have been a trader for Jim Beauvais. He was with the Cliffords at Stockville, when they took trading wagons out to the Indian villages. Where the lake is now located above Trenton was the site of the Big Timbers of the Republican. On a big island in this area, a military group found wagon tracks and a log stockade in 1856. This was on the old Traders Trail from the Forks of the Platte to the Republican country.

Some twenty years ago in Lincoln, I had a good visit with Bill McDonald of North Platte. He was about 95 years old at the time (he died at 100). When he was 14 years old he went to the Medicine country to visit the Cliffords. I asked him if he had ever seen Leon Pallardie - he said that he had seen him there, and at his father's trading Post at Cottonwood Springs - later Fort McPherson. He told me that Pallardie laughed a lot, was pure French, spoke English, but brokenly, was a red haired or sandy complexioned type.

I have always felt that Pallardie may have had a trading spot on the Bob Tail - there was some connection as to why would Custer call it Pallardie creek??

Must have a visit - or visits. Get healed up, and the snow will go away, and a trailing we will go.

Sincerely,

Arthur Carmody

Pine Ridge, SD. 57770
June 18, 1973

Dear Cecil:

I have been back up here in the Sioux country since May 17th so your welcomed letter was forwarded here. I was still living in Montrose, Colorado when the Wounded Knee takeover happened so I had to keep up with it only through the news media, I did call my daughter Shirley when we first heard about it. She works for the Tribe as a switchboard operator but she was sent home as the FBI and Marshalls took over everything, so she didn't work for about 2 weeks and her kids also missed 2 weeks of school. Everything was at a stand still for the first 2 weeks of the ~~six~~ takeover. Things are back to normal now but there is still an air of uncertainty and tenseness among the towns people and the whole Reservation.

A person has to be careful who they talk to or what they say as one doesn't know who is an AIM member or sympathizer. The incident has split relations, friendships and religions. My daughter and her mother haven't attended Church since the Minister and the lady co-worker of the Episcopal Church were helping the Renegades during the occupation with food & money.

Sorry to hear about Grace's health but I do hope she comes out of it OK. My wife, Bass, gets around very well now, to a point where she has stored away her crutches and then the cain. There are days when she gets a pain in her leg but they are getting less and far in between now.

I am enclosing a pamphlet about Wounded Knee that pretty well tells the true story. There is a magazine called the Man's magazine, July issue, that has a very good account of it, from the takeover of the BIA office in Washington to Wounded Knee.

The Tribal work crews are in the process of ^{cleaning} Wounded Knee now.

It is a mess, they left it in such a filthy mess, I wouldn't dare try to describe it in a letter. I don't know if I've ever told you before but Dick Wilson, the President of the Oglala Sioux Tribe is my nephew, my sister Julia's youngest boy. He has his hands full right now, he will be in D.C. next week. He's so busy, I've seen him only twice since I came back.

I will leave here Tues. June 19th for Montrose, I intended to be here for a couple of months but the situation is not too good so I'd better return to Colorado, at least it's quiet and peaceful there ---- and cheaper to live.

Wishing you and the Mrs. good health, I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

144 So. 2nd. St
Montrose, Colo. 81401

John Lee
John Lee

Thanks for the copy of the gun donation, you made a wonderful gesture to the museum

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Trenton, Nebr.
Jan. 9th, 1974

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LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68508

Mr. Cecil Kingery
Phillipsburg, Ks.

Dear Mr. Kingery:

I had been thinking of you-and today comes your letter and more fine material on the noted Beauvais family. And thanks so much for it.

Sutton and I had been talking-and writing about coming down to see you, but the weather has been something (18 days straight below zero) and Everett does not drive too much (yeyes) alone, and he lives 30 miles west of Trenton.

There is no doubt in my mind that the first permanent settlement of white people was made in the Frenchman-Beauvais area by your people. I refer to southwest, Nebr. in general and the Hiawatha Co. area in particular.

I have an old friend (95 years old) living in a room in Wauneta-Guy Sims, who was in the Beauvais Canyon in the late 1800s. He was just a small boy, but was with some cowboys who knew about the Canyon. He tells of a dugout-or the remains of one-that was up the Canyon, about a half mile above the r.r. crossing. He says that it looked real old then-maybe as much as 30 years or so. He says that he'd go right to it today, if he could walk-he is in a wheel chair.

Just last week I talked with the man who owns the land in question. He thinks that he knows the spot, and will go with us soon. That we can get there. With 15 inches of snow on the ground, it will be a few months. This will give you plenty of time to get your hip in shape. Better get that hip xrayed. I had a new ball & socket hip put in a year ago last Oct. It is fine now, better than the other one.

About 15 miles almost due north from Wauneta, Nebr., and just below where the Spring Creek and Stinking Water come together to form the main Stinking Water, is a large grove of trees, in a very rugged canyon. This was one of the main winter camps of the Sioux. Spotted Tail used to camp there. This is where Cody came late in 1871 to find Spotted Tail, and make plans for him to send Indians to the Red Willow to meet the party of the Grand Duke Alexis, and his military escort. The famous buffalo hunt in Jan. 1872 followed this meeting, and the location of the camp is in a beautiful place. I have been there many times. It is now called Camp Duke Alexis. I took the North Platte Posse of The Westerners there two years ago.

The Spotted Tail camp site is still in a very wild area.

THE DOWDLE FAMILY.
THEIR JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF PROMISE TO SEARCH OF WEALTH.

EX-MAYOR MILLER'S R. COLLECTION.

Description of the long journeying over the plains and incidents that occurred during the trip.--First days experience as a miner proved ~~imprax~~ profitable. But Indiana Proved Best after all.

Fifty years ago today the "Dowdle Family" started for California. The company consisted of Dr. J.A. Henricks, Dr. D.W.C. Willougeby, Mat B. Miller, John Lindeman, Cyrus Johnson, W.S. Woodward, W.J. Snavelly William Maslin, George Pierson, E.S. Reynolds, and William Miller, each paying their prorata of expenses and each the owner of one eleventh of the outfit. The question at this late date may be asked, "Why did you call yourselves the "Dowdle Family?" At that time Elder Dowdle was preaching through the country trying to get recruits to go to Salt Lake, and as none of our company were related to each other we thought it might be a good representative of some of the Mormon elders' family" giving the name of each member of the "family," of course all being Dowdles.

On Sunday, April 1, the "family" all massed together at Ottawa, Ill. From there we shipped hat provisions we had with Dr. Henricks and E.S. Reynolds, leaving in the same boat, and buying the balance of our outfit at St. Louis; and met the teams at Council Bluffs. On Friday, April 27, the teams arrived at Council Bluffs. On the third day after our arrival we heard the rumor that a boat had snagged in the Missouri river with 120 Californians and their outfit on board. Next morning we got a letter that our goods were on the boat. We immediately started for the boat for the purpose of refitting again, but as we were now in Missouri, we could not replace all of our lost goods, but got plenty of flour, bacon, etc, after which we got our provisions in the wagons and crossed the river on May 14. We are now in that dark and mysterious country where it is supposed every trading place contained redskin ready to do some scalp-lifting. For the sake of safety we organized, a company of 21 wagons. When evening came we made a corral of the wagons, putting our animals side of the corral, with a strong guard to protect ourselves.

By the time we got 230 miles from the frontier we broke up the company by mutual consent, finding that that mode did not give our animals time enough to feed. Our company was then made up of our four wagons and one wagon from Pittsburg. By the time the Indian scare had all passed off and two of us would take the animals a mile or two from camp, one sleeping and one on watch, neither having gun or pistol along. On June 12 we overtook the South Bend oxen company; traveled through the Black Hills and ferrying the North Platte July 8, arrived at Salt Lake City with five of the family sick with the mountain fever. The Mormons recommended a certain hot spring to bathe in and to drink the water. By July 13 our sick were all able to travel again. We again resumed our long journey up the valley of Salt Lake and across the country for the head of Humboldt river, traveled down the river to the sink, then across a 43 mile sandy desert for Carson river. As we neared the banks of the Humboldt some of our finds that commenced "packing" at Salt Lake caught up with us. They had no provisions and very poor horses. While we had no provisions to sell, we were all ays willing to divide, and gave them enough to reach the end of their journey. I don't know how many we helped, but should say 10 to 15 and be it said to the credit of the "family," that for help extended to friends they neither charged or received a dime for it said.

September 3 we arrived at Sacramento City, having traveled 2,774 miles without the loss of a man or animal. We found that our outfit and expenses amounted to \$3,082.20. After selling our animals, wagons, etc, we realized \$2,574.56 making each man's expenses only \$46.15 from South Bend to Sacramento. Besides we had three or four weeks provisions on hand which we did not sell.

After settling up our affairs we started to different mines,

expecting to get together again in the winter, but as we had no mill facilities we could not communicate with each other. At that time good mines were far at secrets. Through the influence of an old acquaintance who went to Oregon in 1847, I was permitted to make one of a party of five. On the second day's travel we were told our destination was to be Trinity river 220 miles north of Sacramento. Then reports from the river were bad. Three of the five returned south. Bob Newcomb and myself crossed the coast range of mountains and got to Trinity river on the evening of the second day. We traveled down the river two days, and on the morning of the third day we made a stop. Bob went prospecting, while I pitched the tent and looked up pasture for the animals. At noon he reported that he had found good paying dirt. After dinner I carried dirt to the river in a six quart tin pan, while he put our cradle together. Returning to the bar an hour or so before sunset I told him I had little faith in our paying dirt, as I had watched very closely and had not seen a speck of gold. We washed out the little pile of dirt, and found we had \$37 in pure gold. Thus ended my first day's experience as a good miner.

Before the fall of 1850, some on account of sickness and others by unfortunate ventures in mining, changed the chorous of Mr. Leeper's quotation to read.

Oh California,

"Tis not the land for me;

I'm going to Indiana

With patches on my knee.
William Miller.

Taken from the South Bend Times.
under date March 24, 1899.

*When mills were bad with a
my father said
Cord*

1 Rabidoux's Post

" Was located near
the confluence of the
Black Snake Creek
and the Missouri R.
at what today would be
the northeast corner
of Jules and 2nd St.

R.F.C. in " A story and a half
log house - nine
rooms, six below
and three above with
a covered porch
on the south, south-
west side facing
the river. The porch
extended the entire length
of the building.

Robertson, James
From 1881 Hunt & Co
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"The only building that
stood on the property
tween mile of St-John's,
at that time, was the
one known as Robert-
son's. It occupies the
spot where the Decatur
Hotel now stands.
on the NW. corner of
and 2nd Street, and
was a building of con-
siderable magnitude.
It stood east and west
about a story and one
half high, and con-
tained many rooms

Three of which are above
and six below. A
covered porch was
built on the south
side, extending the
entire length of the
building. On the
north side was
a shed, divided into
three rooms. The west
room of this shed was
used by Mr. Robinson
as his sleeping apart-
ment. It is the room
was the middle room
of the main building.

To be
I have a door
to the north and then
the south side of the
room the door is
just there. It
has one of
these

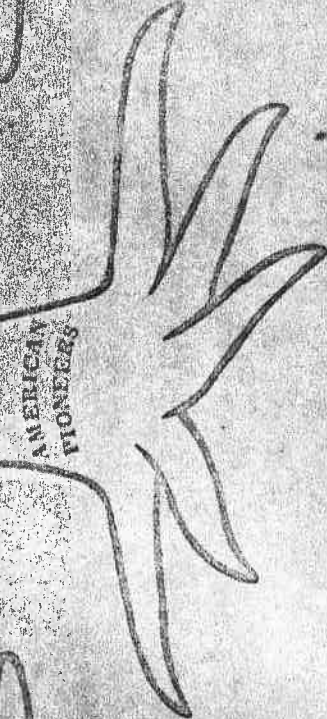
the entrance to which
was through a door
at the east end
first passing through
an outer room to
reach it.

the main building
is a deep one
of the main building
is a deep one
of the main building
is a deep one

ROB IDOUX-----BEAUVAIS
RANCHES-----TRADING POSTS



OUR FAMILY HISTORY



KINGERY



Blacksnake Hills and Joseph Robidoux House, 24 April 1833 by KARL BODMER

Joseph Robidoux's Family: Fur Traders and Trail Blazers

Merrill J. Mattes

Joseph Robidoux is well known as the proprietor of the trading post at Black Snake Hills which became the nucleus of Saint Joseph, Missouri. However, he has never been sufficiently recognized as an equal of Manuel Lisa, Pierre Chouteau, Jim Bridger, and other giants of the western fur trade. He was one of the earliest traders in the Omaha-Council Bluffs region, an entrepreneur whose initiative revitalized the Santa Fe trade, and the man whose western Nebraska trading posts and east-bound caravans were among the colorful highlights of the California Gold Rush. He was the king-pin of the prolific and energetic Robidoux family, the one who obtained the trading licenses, put up the capital, organized expeditions, and managed the headquarters post. Meanwhile his five brothers, one son, and two nephews operated in the field.

Anyone foolhardy enough to research the Robidoux family has several formidable problems. Though probably none of them were illiterate, none kept a journal. Accordingly, no full-scale scholarly effort has been attempted to produce a family history. What little is known of their Western wanderings is plagued with confusions of identity. The name "Robidoux" or one of its many variations crops up in numerous sources in the history of the fur trade and later in overland migrations, but rarely with any first name

so many of them that they seemed to be like so many interchangeable parts.) To make matters worse, the name – properly spelled R-O-B-I-D-O-U-X according to signed documents – has three wobbly French vowels so the name is spelled by contemporaries at least 75 different ways! My brief published biography of Joseph Robidoux, in the classic series entitled *Mountain Men and the Fur Trade of the Far West*, is an effort to relieve this confusion and obscurity. Perhaps someone else will discover important source materials that I have missed and might then be willing to attempt a full-scale family biography.

To begin with there was not just *one* Joseph Robidoux, but *four*, one in each of four successive generations, so I have differentiated them for the benefit of the reader as Joseph I, II, III, and IV. We can quickly dismiss the first two after saying that Josephs I and II, father and son, migrated from Montreal to St. Louis in 1771, and that Joseph II was the father of the six brothers, the third generation which figures prominently in the period under discussion. In order of their births these attached, so the researcher is thrown back on pure speculation. In a given case, which particular Robidoux is the writer talking about? (In most cases the contemporary observer probably didn't know *himself* which of several Robidoux he encountered; there were

were Joseph III (1783), Francois or Francis (1788), Isadore (1791), Antoine (1794), Louis (1796), and Michael or Michel (1798).

Also figuring in our story was the first-born of Joseph III, namely Joseph IV or Joseph E. or Joseph Robidoux, Jr. Two brothers who played roles in the overland picture were Antoine II and Sellico, both sons of Francois and therefore nephews of Joseph III and cousins of Joseph IV. To summarize, we have a total of nine different Robidoux to sort out here!

It is no secret that the western fur trade was the principal concern of early Saint Louis entrepreneurs. In the late eighteenth century Joseph II was involved in efforts to penetrate the Middle Missouri region of the Dakotas, long before Lewis and Clark explored that area. As early as 1799 Joseph III and his brothers were trading with the Indians of northwestern Missouri and Eastern Kansas, apparently building their first trading post at the Black Snake Hills. This, the present Saint Joseph vicinity, was noted by Lewis and Clark on July 7, 1804, but the explorers mentioned no visible trading post at that time.

Subsequently, Joseph III joined up with Manuel Lisa and others to erect trading posts among the Omahas, Otoes, and Poncas, between the mouth of the Platte River and the original Council Bluffs of Lewis and Clark. On the west bank of the Missouri River, in present North Omaha, there was a Fort Robidoux, later known as Cabannè's post. Its swarthy proprietor, Joseph III, was visited and described in 1823 by globe-trotting Prince Paul, Duke of Wurttemberg. While brother Francois worked the territory claimed by the Pawnees, during the period from 1823 to 1826, Joseph sent his other brothers westward on trading expeditions to the Plains

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Sheridan A. Logan • Saint Joseph Historical Association • St. Joseph, Missouri

tribes, and then southwestward along the Arkansas River, and down to Santa Fe, in Old Mexico. This resulted in the eventual domination of the southern Rockies by the Robidoux family, at the same time that William Ashley, William Sublette and others of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company came to dominate the central Rockies.

"Black Snake Hills metamorphosed into the town of Saint Joseph."

and Rocky Mountain fur companies; he was probably present in 1834 with Ferris as one of the first white men to behold the now famous Yellowstone geysers. More importantly, he was destined to play a stellar role in the gold rush—not as a gold-seeker or emigrant guide but as the most picturesque of the several Robidouxes at their famous trading post at Scotts Bluffs, the only such post in existence in 1849 in the 400 mile stretch between Forts Kearny and Laramee.

There is ample evidence that Joseph III set up several temporary trading posts at different points along the Upper Platte in the 1840s and 1850s, and that there were annual expeditions to these posts to take in supplies from Saint Joseph, and to return there with pelts and robes. Whiskey and trade goods were the main commodities going west, buffalo robes the main cargo returning. There is considerable testimony in emigrant journals about the east-bound Robidoux caravans, escorted by profane, piratical-looking crews, with creaking ox-carts groaning under odoriferous piles of buffalo robes. This phenomenon was one of the more pungent items relieving the tedium of plains travel.

Whiskey and trade goods were the main commodities going west; buffalo robes the main cargo returning.

In the mid-forties sundry Robidouxes crop

up here and there along the Oregon Trail but seldom with exact identification. The Aram train of 1846 was piloted by a Robidoux, who may or may not have been the same Robidoux whom Francis Parkman met that year east of Scotts Bluffs who told him that "the Navajo in Santa Fe make glazed pottery and beautiful ponches." While brother Antoine would seem to be the logical suspect, it could hardly have been he, for he was either in or bound for California at the time with the Kearny expedition. In September 1847 Mormon pioneers returning from their exploration of Great Salt Lake received some buffalo meat from two anonymous "Rubidoux" opposite Chimney Rock in western Nebraska.

We know that in the late 1840s the Robidouxes had a trading post near the famous Fort John or Laramee of the American Fur Company, but we know nothing of its exact location. Oral Messmore Robidoux, the family biographer, says that for years Michel was

Probably because of better source material, historians have focused primarily on the northern half of the mountain fur trade. It distresses me that so little is understood today of how the Robidoux brothers, in seven-league boots, swept across the southwestern United States. Antoine and Louis became nominal Mexican citizens and prime movers in the Santa Fe trade before the Santa Fe Trail itself was fully operational, and they built trading posts in wilderness areas of present Colorado and Utah. It is claimed that as early as 1837 Antoine reached southern California, which explains why he was drafted by Colonel S.W. Kearny as guide on Kearny's historic march from Santa Fe to Los Angeles at the outset of the War with Mexico. Antoine was badly wounded in the Battle of San Pascual that scattered the opposing Mexicans. Later, brother Louis settled in California, where he is reputed to have acquired vast land holdings; Mount Robidoux near San Bernardino is named for him.

The influence of Joseph III did not extend, of course, to California. His ramblunctious brothers went far beyond his authority to penetrate the Far Southwest. Meanwhile, Joseph tangled with the equally ambitious Pratte and Chouteau interests which soon emerged as the Western Department of the American Fur Company. Because of Joseph's aggressive-human cyclone – the forty-niners.

To keep our perspective on the Robidoux family and its relationship to the westward migrations it is necessary here to back up to the year 1830, best known for the Smith-Jackson-Sublette expedition out of Saint Louis, which took the first wagons up the south side of the Platte River. Less well known is the expedition of that same year up the north side of the Platte, that of the American Fur Company out of Bellevue, Nebraska, led by traders Lucien Fontainebleau and Andrew Drips. A member of that expedition mentioned in the Warren Ferris journal, was one Robidoux. I agree with Paul Phillips, son Joseph IV or Joseph E., who then would have been in his prime at age 27. This younger Joseph Robidoux played a major role in the bitter rivalry between the American

a trader there, but it may be questioned whether Michel was involved any more than several others. In fact there is reason to think that the real "old-timer" Robidoux on the Upper Platte was the son, Joseph E., because emigrants report having been told by him while at Scotts Bluffs that he had been in that part of the country for many years.

It is clear that the Robidoux clan was a thorn in the side of the American Fur Company. On 24 May 1849 Bruce Hubbard, acting chief trader for Fort Laramee, wrote to his superior, Andrew Drips, that emigrants arriving at Ash Hollow were intercepted by a "Mr. Robidoux who, in the interest of bolstering his own business, warned the emigrants against the Fort Laramee traders as 'all damned rascals and cheats.'" In late 1848 there was foreknowledge of the 1849 gold rush and the probability that Fort Laramee would become an army post, surrounded by a proscribed military reservation. Accordingly, both the American Fur Company and the Robidouxes decided to shift their ground 50 miles east, to Scotts Bluffs, because of good timber and water supplies there. While the American Fur Company, with its headquarters in remote St. Louis, was still dithering around with indecision, the Robidouxes seized the initiative and got to Scotts Bluffs first, in the autumn of 1848, and picked out the choicest spot – the low pass through the curved chain of bluffs, where precious wood and water were in abundance. This Robidoux trading post, which was operated in 1849 and 1850 in a beautiful setting commanding a view of distant Chimney Rock to the east and Laramee Peak to the west, was one of the memorable highlights of the gruelling westward journey.

In my research I have found well over 300 references in emigrant journals to Robidoux Pass and the trading post there. More than half of these also tell of one or more "Frenchmen" there as traders. Many of them refer to a "Robidoux" with a great variety of spellings, but only a small handful of these witnesses reveal a first name.

Charles Darwin, a forty-niner, had a conversation with "squawman Antoine Robidoux"; finding him to be a man of some learning who "regaled me with Indian lore"; George Gibbs, a civilian with the Mounted Riflemen, refers to a sign reading "A. Rubidue Tinware"; Ezekiel Headley in 1850 refers to "the blacksmith Antoine, one of the Robidoux brothers of St. Joe"; but the editors of the Peter Decker and G.W. Bruff journals

agree with me that it was Antoine the younger who was stationed at Scotts Bluffs. Another the blacksmith and his helpers as "hard-looking customers" but that "Rubedoux himself in 1850 emigrant, Solomon Gorgas, refers to whether Michel was involved any more than several others. In fact there is reason to think that the real "old-timer" Robidoux on the Upper Platte was the son, Joseph E., because emigrants report having been told by him while at Scotts Bluffs that he had been in that part of the country for many years.

While son Joseph Robidoux may not be identified specifically by many 1849 and 1850 emigrants, he is clearly identified by Thomas Cramer, an emigrant of 1859, who writes: "Here [at Scotts Bluffs] in 1854 my old friend Joe Robideau was located. . . . Joe is a curious specimen of the race. He has resided so long among the savages that he more resembles them in his habits and tastes than the people to whom he originally belonged." Thus it seems to me that while his cousin, the younger Antoine, filled the role of a "gentleman," it was Joseph Jr. who was the one disparaged by others, with the references such as "renegade white"; "a desperado"; and "a savage son of papal France."

Indian descendants from South Dakota reservations informed me when I was superintending of Scotts Bluffs National Monument that their common ancestor was Joseph, and that he was kicked in the head by a mule and buried at or near Horse Creek, west of Scotts Bluffs. However, Cramer, Coy, and Oral Robidoux all testify that Joseph the younger left western Nebraska some time in the 1850s and took up life in northeastern Kansas, marrying an Otoe woman. Subsequently, according to Kurz in 1859, this same Joseph became a problem to his father because of his fondness for the bottle, and on occasion had to be confined to his father's cellar. Clearly this was the same Robidoux described at Scotts Bluffs as a "savage" or "desperado." Susan Betteyoun, daughter of James Bordaoux, identifies the man buried at Horse Creek as "Joseph Silko Robidoux"; but it appears that she and the descendants I interviewed have got it wrong and that their true father, Joseph E. or Joseph IV, did abandon his Sioux family, but that his place was taken by his cousin Sellico Robidoux. Sellico may have felt obliged to tack on "Joseph" in front of his name to cover for his vanished cousin and preserve the family honor.

single, elongated log structure by the second but most often a "trading post." This was a

Emigrant diaries call the Robidoux establishment at Scotts Bluff a "fort" or "station" but most often a "trading post." This was a

The best clue as to which particular Robidouxes were involved at Scotts Bluffs or on their caravan route to St. Joseph is to be found in the trading licenses issued to priorior Joseph Robidoux III in three successive years, 1849, 1850 and 1851. I found these licenses more than 40 years ago when I was rummaging around in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Here named as his employees during that period are brothers "F" for Francois, "A" for Antoine, and "E" for son Joseph IV, a second "A" for nephew Antoine and, finally, an "S" for nephew Sellico. Every one of these six individuals is mentioned at least once in emigrant journals, as being at one of the trading posts, or on the road with robes of California fame apparently never figured in the Nebraska trade but the first Antoine referred to in the license could only be the hero of San Pascual, who later got involved in Nebraska doings in a limited way, though handicapped by battle wounds.)

In my *Great Platte River Road* there is a whole chapter on the Robidouxes of Saint Joseph and Scotts Bluffs so I will minimize repetition here to concentrate on problems of Joseph and Scotts Bluffs so I will minimize

spring north of the trail. It was composed of a store, a blacksmith shop, and a dwelling, usually with a number of Indian tepees clustered in the vicinity. These Indians were mainly relatives of one or more of the Robidoux, or rather, of their wives, because these Robidoux were genuine mountain men or squaw men. Other Indians came in to trade buffalo robes but the great migration of white men in the early years of the gold rush provided the Robidoux with a bonanza—primarily blacksmithing services, whiskey-peddling, and the resale of abandoned emigrant wagons and gear.

During the peak season emigrants camped in Robidoux Pass in great numbers; one emigrant counted three hundred wagons camped here one evening. At the same time many emigrants abandoned their overloaded wagons here and made their way further west by pack animals, so the Robidoux had easy pickings in cast-off merchandise. Inevitably, some emigrants complained about the high prices but here in the wilderness they were blessed with valuable, even life-saving services by these entrepreneurs from Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Many observers simply refer to the traders or blacksmiths as "Spaniards." Most refer to them as "Frenchmen." Sometimes just one is mentioned, and sometimes two, but A.H. Thomason in 1850 speaks of "6 or 8 Frenchmen with squaws." The trading license for 1851 describes Michel and Isadore as "assistant traders," and Joseph E. and the younger Antoine as "clerks." I would judge that clerks were the ones who occupied the post, for the most part, while traders would be the ones who were in the field, dickering with the Indians for robes, or on the open road heading east with cargo. Fortunately, a few sources make positive identification by giving first names. Thus it is not surprising to learn that Joseph E. and his cousin Antoine were the two "Frenchmen" most often referred to here.

This Antoine, brother of Joseph III, famous for his exploits in Santa Fe and in California, merits a closer look here in terms of the Oregon-California Trail because there is evidence that he played a major role in inspiring the Bidwell-Bartleson expedition of 1841, "the first emigrant train." John Bidwell says that in 1840 he met "a Frenchman named Roubideaus" who had been to California and described it as "in the superlative degree favorable." Antoine's biographer says nothing about him appearing in California before 1846, but the biographer of Louis Robidoux

identifies Antoine the elder as the one who first went to California. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that in 1849 the elder Antoine is identified by A.J. McCall as guide to an emigrant train of 137 wagons, led by "Captain King of Ohio," both of these men being "veterans of the Mexican War."

In 1849 there seemed to be Robidoux from one end of the trail to the other, beginning with Joseph III or "old man Robidoux" in Saint Joseph. August Burbank calls the 1849 wagon train guide mentioned above as "Anthony Robidoux of St. Joe," and later notes a different "Rubedoe" at Scotts Bluffs. Later still, at the Green River crossing, he mentions yet another unidentified and misspelled Robidoux who, deplorably, "profaned our Lord's name continually." To use the vernacular, these guys seemed to be all over the place!

Finally, we take a look at identifiable Robidoux on the trail, ushering hide trains to Saint Joseph. In 1849, Elijah P. Howell noted Isadore Robidoux at Plum Creek. Joseph H. Johnson described this same outfit as six ox-wagons with "3,000 buffalo skins." That same year Captain Ruff, Fort Kearny commander, entrusted some mail to "Francis Robideaux, brother of old man Robidoux."

In 1850 William T. Parker tells of another Robidoux "with 6 carts and a buggy for himself," probably the same "old French trader" whom W.S. McBride says "we met this side of Fort Kearny." That same year James Arrington met three separate buffalo hide trains, one belonging to the Scotts Bluffs Robidoux, one to "Chouteau" of the American Fur Company, and one sent by "Ward and Company from the mountains," proving that not all hide caravans belonged to the Saint Joseph people; these other hides were destined for Saint Louis.

In 1852, Joseph C. Terrell, on the Little Blue, encountered Michel "Rheubedeaut" with yet more robes for Saint Joseph. This same outfit is described by John Clark of Virginia as eighteen creaking wagons piled high with robes, escorted by "a black and greasy crowd." Chester Smith criticizes this outfit as having "the worst looking teams I ever saw and the most inhuman drivers." One thing about a Robidoux caravan on the trail — it was not a thing of beauty but it was something to remember!

In 1851 Mitchell Pass, within present Scotts Bluff National Monument, replaced Robidoux Pass as a way through the rugged encircling chain known as Scotts Bluffs. Probably in consequence of this development

the Robidoux abandoned their famous post of 1849 and 1850 and built a new one in Carter Canyon, about one mile south of their pass. This was off the emigrant road and in 1851 there is little evidence of trade with emigrants here; it is believed an effort was made to concentrate once more on the Indian trade. However, in 1852 the Robidoux again positioned themselves athwart the emigrant road by occupying a place about one mile east of Mitchell Pass, near what would have been the junction of the old and new roads through the bluffs. For reasons unknown they later moved once more to Horse Creek, to the west of the bluffs, probably near where the old and new trails again joined to reach Fort Laramie.

The last reference to Robidoux post in western Nebraska is to be found in Richard Burton's book, *City of the Saints*: "Passed a place called Robidoux's fort, for the well known Indian trader of that name. It is now occupied by a Canadian or French Creole who, as usual with his race in these regions, has taken unto himself a wife in the shape of a Sioux squaw." It is not clear if this was a left-over Robidoux or a chance squatter. What is clear, however, is that the place Burton describes in 1860 was back at the junction of the old and new trails through Scotts Bluffs, to the east, according to a crude sketch accompanying Burton's narrative.

The Robidoux clan played a very important and colorful role in westward migration history, and Joseph III, the founder of St. Joseph, was the dynamo behind their far-flung enterprise.

In summary, the Robidoux clan played a very important and colorful role in westward migration history, and Joseph III, the founder of Saint Joseph, was the dynamo behind their far-flung enterprise. Scenes at famous Robidoux Pass which enliven the pages of countless overland diaries, and the caravans heading east with buffalo hides — sometimes accompanied by Indian travois columns, the whole gypsy-like circus panicking the emigrant oxen — are vivid images of a unique family of frontiersmen, based in Saint Joseph. They bridged the eras of fur trade and exploration and the great migrations which completed the conquest of a continent.

Exhibit
(St. Jo. Early Hist.)

The above letter was written by
the order of Robert M. Stewart
& Frederick W. Smith of
Blackhawk Hills (No. 10, 11, 12)
section of the north of
our brother.

Frederick W. Smith was
the postmaster of Blackhawk
Hills and Robert M.
Stewart would 2 years
later become Gov. of
Missouri.

(Check the
facts)

Mothers
Beauvoir
Francis
Joseph R.
Francis
Joseph R.
Francis
Joseph R.

Arthur S. Ellis
1710 Jones Street

His mother was a
daughter of Joseph R.
& Francis Beauvoir

He would be a great
grand son

I

See back 2 years
Were in C. 18 years

Vincent Perry 1100
Tight Street & Power
Officer Mgr. or best
Great. Best grand
of Joseph R.



(JOE ROBIDOUX)

Pueblo Metropolitan Museum Association

PUEBLO, COLORADO

Oct 14, 1970

Dear Don,

While doing some research on the early fort here and of the mountain men and trappers who were in this area I found a piece of info that you may like to put in your files. It was found in a book called "The Great Divide" by David Lavender. He states that Joe Robidoux was at the spring rendezvous on the Green River in the spring of 1825, trying to lure free trappers to work for him out of his post at Council Bluffs. There was much pressure on him from the American Fur Co. to force him to leave. The Fur Co. had his horses and equipment taken by Indians and Joe had to return without hiring any men. It stated that later that year he sold his Council Bluffs post for \$3500 and a \$1000 a year to stay out of their territory.

He then opened shop at St Joe, trading with the Indians in that area and sent his men and free traders out to trade with Pawnees, Sioux, Arapahoe and even edged into the Cheyenne area.



Pueblo Metropolitan Museum Association

PUEBLO, COLORADO

Here he came into conflict with the Bents who had set up a trading post down on the Arkansas River. He had to retreat back north again and began edging into the American fur Cos. area again.

It was stated that his men roamed from the Missouri River to the Rockies, the Arkansas and even edged north into the Montana area.

He had quite an empire if he did all this. I hope that you can use this info about some of his earlier moves. He had also been a "free" trapper before he opened a post of his own and had wintered near Pueblo the winter of 1821-1822 with a party of trappers who stopped here for winter. That party was led by Jacob Fowler and they built a small cabin on the north side of the Arkansas.



Pueblo Metropolitan Museum Association
PUEBLO, COLORADO

How is all back in St Joe, every one fine? I hope.
Lot of flu going around out here now. Poor weather
for Colorado, rain, mist, damp. Well give my
regards to the bunch and write once in
a while to let me know whats going on.

Sincerely
Chuck

ce
ent
ing
out
th
R
kahoe



MISSOURI STATE PARK BOARD

State Historical Survey and Planning Office • 909 University Avenue
Suite 215 • Columbia Professional Bldg. • Columbia, Mo. 65201 • 314/449-0725

January 7, 1972

St. Joseph Museum
11th and Charles
St. Joseph, Missouri 64501

Dear Sir:

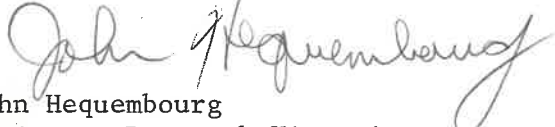
The Missouri State Historical Survey and Planning Office is researching Robidoux Row in an attempt to place the row-house on the National Register of Historic Places. It is essential that we have reliable references on this site in order to establish the historical significance of the site.

According to Leroy R. Hafen's Mountain Men and the Fur Trade Vol. VIII, 1971) the St. Joseph Museum provided photographs of Robidoux Row, and referred to it as the "first apartment building west of the Mississippi." Our office is interested in substantiating the belief that Joseph Robidoux rented space in his home to arriving settlers.

Any information or references you might have available would be welcomed.
Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY AND PLANNING OFFICE


John Hequembourg
Assistant Research Historian

JH:af

cc: Mr. Orval L. Henderson, Jr., Assistant Director
Historical Division

WARREN E. HEARNES

Governor

JOSEPH JAEGER, Jr.

Director

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PARK BOARD
January 13, 1972

Mr. John Hequembourg
Assistant Research Historian
Missouri State Park Board
909 University Avenue
Columbia, Mo. 65201

Dear Mr. Hequembourg:

Your letter of inquiry concerning Robidoux Row has been referred to me. I am sending along such information that we have been able to locate here in the St. Joseph Museum and in the Central Public Library. I believe that the last two references which were from our local newspapers may be the information that you seek. (Copies enclosed) I do not know if this information can be further documented or not since I suspect that its source may be the "old residents" then yet living.

If we can be of further service, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

Mr. Orval L. Henderson, Jr., Assistant Director

DLR:js
Enc.

35 Andrew Drive, # 144
Tiburon, California 94920
July 21, 1969

Don Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
~~11th & Charles St.~~
St. Joseph, Missouri 64501

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

Thanks you very much for your prompt and most helpful letter of July 17, transmitting five of the photographs requested. I send herewith my check for \$7.50 for the 5 at \$1.50 each. I am not certain all will be used, but just in case.

As indicated in my previous letter to you, my article on JOSEPH ROBIDOUX will be one of several constituting Volume VIII of the series entitled MOUNTAIN MEN AND THE FUR TRADE OF THE FAR WEST, published by the Arthur H. Clark Company, Glendale. If I do not hear from you further I will assume that your letter of July 17 ~~constituted~~ constituted permission to ~~publish~~ publish. Credit, of course, will be given to the Saint Joseph Museum.

I am glad that opportunity has been provided to ensure representation of Joseph Robidoux in this biographical series.

Sincerely yours,

Merrill J. Mattes

Merrill J. Mattes

June 5, 1970

Mr. Kenneth Townley, Dist. Engineer
Missouri State Highway Department
3602 North Belt
St. Joseph, Missouri 64506

Dear Mr. Towhley:

Pursuant to our June 4 conversation relative to the possibility of relocating the St. Joseph Historical Marker from its present site south of Carr Town on Highway A to Patee Park: On June 5 we called on our Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Byron Baker. He stated that he would consider the historical marker a fine addition to the already historic quality of the park and would be most happy to cooperate. No specific location within the park was discussed, nor much discussion of the long term spot lease that you mentioned. Mr. Baker has, however, shown special interest in Patee Park due partly to its exposure to the traveling public, and said that he thought any legal aspects of the proposed move would present no problem even if an ordinance were required. Mr. Baker will look forward to hearing from you and discussing the matter with you at your convenience.

We sincerely hope that this fine historical marker can be placed in Patee Park where I feel sure it will do a much better job of presenting our area's history to the public. The St. Joseph Museum and the Pony Express Stables Museum will be ready and willing to assist in any way possible.

Sincerely,

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

DLR:js

MISSOURI
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



Box 287
St. Joseph, Missouri 64502
June 15, 1970

M. J. SNIDER, Chief Engineer
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101
R. A. CURRIE, Ass't Chief Eng.
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101
L. V. McLAUGHLIN, Ass't to the Chief Eng.
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101
ROBERT N. HUNTER, Ass't to the Chief Eng.
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101
ROBERT L. HYDER, Chief Counsel
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101
MRS. IRENE WOLLENBERG, Secretary
Jefferson City, Mo. 65101

MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC: Roadsides
Historical Marker
St. Joseph Marker
Buchanan County

Mr. Don L. Reynolds, Assistant Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum
Eleventh and Charles Street
Saint Joseph, Missouri 64501

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

We are agreeable to your proposal of relocating the Buchanan County Historical Marker as per your letter of June 5, 1970.

In order to clear the move, it will be necessary for the following to be forwarded to this office.

1. Agreement from Buchanan County Historical Society (letter will be sufficient).
2. Agreement from city allowing the placement and maintenance of the marker. (A letter from the mayor with a sketch showing the location in the park is sufficient).

We are assuming that Pattee Park is city owned and operated as the marker cannot be placed on private property or in an area operated or controlled by commercial interests.

After the above items have been received, we will present the proposal to the Highway Commission for their approval.

Yours very truly,


K. C. TOWNLEY
District Engineer

August 3, 1982

Mr. Cecil Kingery
524 Fischer Dr.
P. O. Box 447
Phillipsburg, Ks. 67661

Dear Mr. Kingery:

Please accept my belated but most sincere thanks for sending to us copies of your genealogy workup of the Beauvais and Robidoux families. It is, of course, of much interest to us, and one copy will be placed in the Robidoux historical files here in the St. Joseph Museum Library. There it will be available to students and researchers.

On recalling our conversation about St. Joseph history, etc. on your visit to the Pony Express Museum, I remember showing a personal interest in Robidoux books and history so I suppose that the extra copy of the material that you sent was for myself. However, if you have no objection, I think that I will pass that copy along to the St. Joseph Historical Society for placement in the library at Robidoux Row. I shall make a second generation copy that will be good enough for my own use.

Again, many thanks for your interest and for taking the time to make the copies and for sending them along. I hope that you will visit St. Joseph again without waiting so many years. Maybe next time you can visit Robidoux Row where Joseph III lived and died. It is now restored and open to visitors on weekends during the summer months.

We are sending you 4 complimentary copies of MUSEUM GRAPHIC's (now out of print) with Robidoux history in them. I hope you will enjoy them.

Sincerely,

Don L. Reynolds, Asst. Director
St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

DLR:js
Enc.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Scotts Bluff National Monument
Gering, Nebraska

April 11, 1962

Mr. Bartlett Beder,
MUSEUM GRAPHIC,
St. Joseph Museum,
St. Joseph, Missouri.

Dear Mr. Beder:

I enjoyed very much reading your articles on the Robidoux family in the Spring issue of MUSEUM GRAPHIC. I was especially interested in the old photographs of Joseph E. and Antoine Robidoux.

As you may already know, we Historians of the National Park Service have been interested in the Robidoux family for some years. As the Historian at Scotts Bluff National Monument, I especially am interested in this family because of the close association of at least two of them to this area in the North Platte Valley between Ash Hollow and Fort Laramie. You are, of course, aware of their activities here, so I will not go into detail.

One thing which has puzzled us for many years is the exact identity of the Robidoux who operated a blacksmith shop and trading post in what was then usually referred to as "Scott's Bluff Pass," now known as "Robidoux Pass." This pass is one of two used by emigrants through these bluffs.

There are at least two references by journalists of this period who attest a sign above the door of the shop which read, "Tinware by A. Rubidue." This would indicate that it was Antoine who operated the post. However, there is other strong evidence which would indicate that his nephew, Joseph E., operated it. Also, there is evidence that the post was established as early as 1847 although most historians think that 1849 was the year. The first post was in what we now call "Robidoux Pass." In 1851 a second post was established a few miles away in Carter Canyon after the first one was abandoned. Robidoux left the area altogether after 1851.

Have you, in your own studies of the family, come upon anything which would throw some light on this subject? I would be most happy to hear from you regarding this. Also, would you allow me to make use of your articles and reproduce the photographs used. We have no such illustrations and portraits here and these would be useful to us. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Earl R. Harris
Earl R. Harris,
Park Historian.