

HISTORY of PLEASANT

PRAIRIE SCHOOL

DISTRICT No. 14

By: Mattie Stewart
Historian 1917

HISTORY OF PLEASANT PRAIRIE SCHOOL No. 14

EARLY PIONEERS:

Charlie Dort, Sr., was one of the first settlers, he having forty acres of homestead land. He came in the early sixties. Mrs Horton Harlan and Mrs Diel Jones were neighbors, coming shortly afterward. Charlie Dort gave the land for the first school house which was built in the Sixties. This was a building of cottonwood boards, built up and down. It was sixteen by eighteen feet in size with benches placed around the walls. The second structure was built on in front. It will perhaps be interesting to know that this building may be seen on the Evan Davis farm. This building was replaced by the present brick building in 1893, which until the last few years was considered the best country school building in the county.

Mr Evan Davis has lived in the district the greatest number of years. He came with his parents in the year 1870. He attended school in the first school house. His children attended school in both of the other buildings and soon his grandson will be attending school in the home district.

When Mr Davis first came to this country there were but five houses between Pawnee City and Table Rock. At one time in the school's early history there were as many as one hundred in attendance. Students came for a few years from Kennedy School until that District was organized.

Some old residents of this district still living in this county are Mr Will Hazzard, Mr J C Dort, Mr A D Dort, Mrs I E Foose, the three last mentioned being children of Charles Dort, Sr and receiving their education in this country school.

The school received its name PLEASANT PRAIRIE from the rolling prairie which surround it. In October 1915, Mr Frank Harrison took a picture of this school house and the few patrons who gathered there for a moving picture slide.