

### Clearfield Schoolhaus -2162 N 600 Road – Eudora Area



The Clearfield Community began in 1850s when Fredrick Breitaup came as a young man from Germany to settle in this area of Douglas County in 1854. As other Germans arrived, a settlement formed. A school was established by the immigrants who taught in German. The Clearfield Schoolhaus building is the 2<sup>nd</sup> schoolhouse to serve school district 5, and was originally built in 1900 a mile east, then moved to its current location in 1908. The school is a wood-frame, rectangle building with wood clapboard siding. It features a front gable roof and is built on a stone foundation. Two entrances with vestibules provided separate spaces for the boys and the girls. The intact interior features wood floors, plaster walls, wainscoting, chalkboards, and a tin ceiling. The teacher’s desk was placed on a raised platform. Two WPA privies (built during the Great Depression in the 1930s) still stand behind the school. \*Local interpreters greet visitors.

### Vesecky Family Farms –1814 North 600 Road, Baldwin City Area



Mature oak trees line the long drive to the house and have stood to welcome visitors to the farm for generations. The historic gabled roof barn displays a quilt block. The original stone farmhouse was built in 1866 and has received several additions. Three generations of the Vesecky family work on the farm and welcome you. Great stop for families with small children.

### Blue Jacket Crossing Vineyard & Winery – 1969 North 1250 Road, Eudora Area



The Blue Jacket Crossing on the Little Wakarusa River, was located on the historic Oregon Trail. The area is named in honor of the Shawnee Indian family who operated a ferry crossing for travelers. According to Carlyle Henshaw who shared his BlueJacket family history: “The three Bluejacket brothers that establish Bluejacket Crossing were George, Henry and Charles. The three brothers were grandsons of Shawnee Chief Blue Jacket, 1737-1808. He was the last principal war chief of the Shawnee Tribe of Indians. Carlyle explains: My great grandmother, Emma Bluejacket, was born at the Crossing in 1854. Her father was Henry Bluejacket and Henry was an older brother of Rev. Charles Bluejacket. Along with their older brother, George Bluejacket, the three brothers established Blue Jacket’s Crossing (established May 1855). It was also called the Lower Crossing of the Wakarusa.

#### Helpful Tour Tips

**Privacy** – Thank you for remembering that the properties on the heritage tour are privately owned. Please respect the properties and the neighbors’ privacy as well. Thank you!

**Parking and Handicapped Parking** – In Vinland, please park near the library or at the United Methodist Church and walk to the sites. You may also drive up the hill to the Barnes Apple Barn to see the historic stone barn built by the Barnes family as well as the farmhouse and antique vehicle collection.

**Water Station** – located at the Coal Creek Library in Vinland

**Porta Potty Station** – located across the road from the Coal Creek Library in Vinland. Handicapped Accessible.

**The Vinland Grange is accessible only by a steep stairs at the back of the building. Please exercise caution with young children.**

**Thanks to... This tour is made possible through the support of Douglas County Heritage Conservation Council and the Kaw Valley Farm Tour.**



## Welcome to the Kaw Valley Farm Tour Heritage Sites

## Providing Glimpses of the Past in Rural Kansas



### The Historic Vinland Area

*In 1854 this area of the Kansas Territory was known as Coal Creek. With the completion of the railroad through the area in 1868 an application for a post office was submitted to the U.S. Government. An error was made by the federal agency and when official authorization was given the “e” had been dropped from the requested name of “Vineland” and thus the official name became “Vinland.”*

*The agricultural success of the area’s farmers and fruit growers became etched in local culture and folklore. Local farmers became state leaders in agricultural and horticultural pursuits.*



### Stop #1 Coal Creek Library – 698 E 1719 Road



Established in 1859, the Coal Creek Library Association is one of the oldest organizations in Kansas. Library books were contributed by the early settlers and include interesting historical works written during and shortly after the Civil War. The library building was erected in 1899-1900 in the Pyramidal National Folk style with Italianate details, especially at the window hoods. The library operates much like a museum reflecting the rural Vinland heritage in its agricultural focus. Don't miss this tour stop. \*Local interpreters greet visitors.

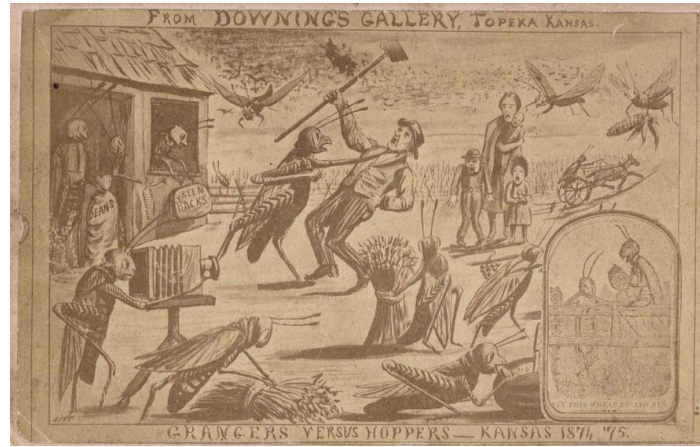
### Stop #2 Vinland Grange & WPA Privy (1930s) Corner of Oak & Main Streets



Land for the Grange Building was donated by William & Gertrude Barnes who also donated land for the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches. The Grange Building was built in 1884 of native limestone and mortared with twenty loads of sand hauled from the Kansas River. The two-story stone building was designed with an upstairs meeting hall over a downstairs business space, usually a farm cooperative store. The Vinland chapter of the grange was one of the oldest in Kansas and served the southern Douglas County community for over one hundred years. The building was deeded to the Santa Fe Trail Historical Society in 1985. The Vinland Fair was established as the Vinland Grange – an organization for local farmers. The first fair was held in 1874 and included fruit and vegetable displays. During

the 1920s and 1930s, the fair became the center of community activity, when winning fair entries meant income for struggling farm families. The Grange sponsored the fair until 1977 when it was incorporated as the Vinland Fair Association. \* Local interpreters greet visitors.

### Grangers vs. Grasshoppers – 1874-1875



This is a copy of a cartoon by Kansas artist Henry Worrall showing Kansas farmers (Grangers) battling grasshoppers. The National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry was originally founded with the idea of educating and connecting farmers across America. The first Grange was set up in Fredonia, New York. From there granges spread across the U.S., providing classes and social events to farmers. The first Kansas Grange was organized in 1872 at Hiawatha. Within a few years, over 1,000 Granges claiming more than 30,000 members. -From Kansas Memory – Kansas State Historical Society



### Stop #3 Vinland United Methodist Church Open Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 pm

The Vinland United Methodist Church building was built in 1880. It was rebuilt in 1940-1942 after it was destroyed by a fire caused by a lightning strike. The church was established by and built for a rural community. The members have held services at this location, or nearby, every Sunday since 1880.

### Stop #4 Historic William & Gertrude Barnes Farmhouse and Apple Barn – 714 E 1728 Road



This farm property was owned by Vinland co-founder, William Eliot Barnes (1832-1925). In 1856, Barnes purchased 160 acres of land and established the Coal Creek Nursery and started what is believed to be the first vineyard in the state of Kansas. Mr. Barnes brought Concord and Dracut Amber vine cuttings from his hometown of Dracut, Massachusetts, when he came to the Kansas Territory.

The business known as Barnes and Kelly at Coal Creek boasted 22 acres of vines “all in splendid condition, fruitful, and flourishing. On that part of the vineyard that has come into full bearing, the annual yield is \$1,000, or more per acre.” (The Emporia Weekly News, July 19, 1867)

The impressive limestone fruit barn was built by local stone mason Lewis Swanson in 1891 for the purpose of processing various products including grapes, apples, and pears. The fruit was brought into the lower level where it was stored in the cool, ventilated area. Later the fruit was brought up to the main level where it was sorted and packaged for shipment.

The stone barn is one of several historic buildings in Vinland listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Other Vinland Buildings on the NRHP include the Vinland Grange Hall, the Coal Creek Library, the former Presbyterian Church built in 1878 (where KU's first basketball Coach James Naismith served as minister from 1914-1916) and the exhibition building at the Vinland Fairgrounds.

\*Local interpreters greet visitors at this site.