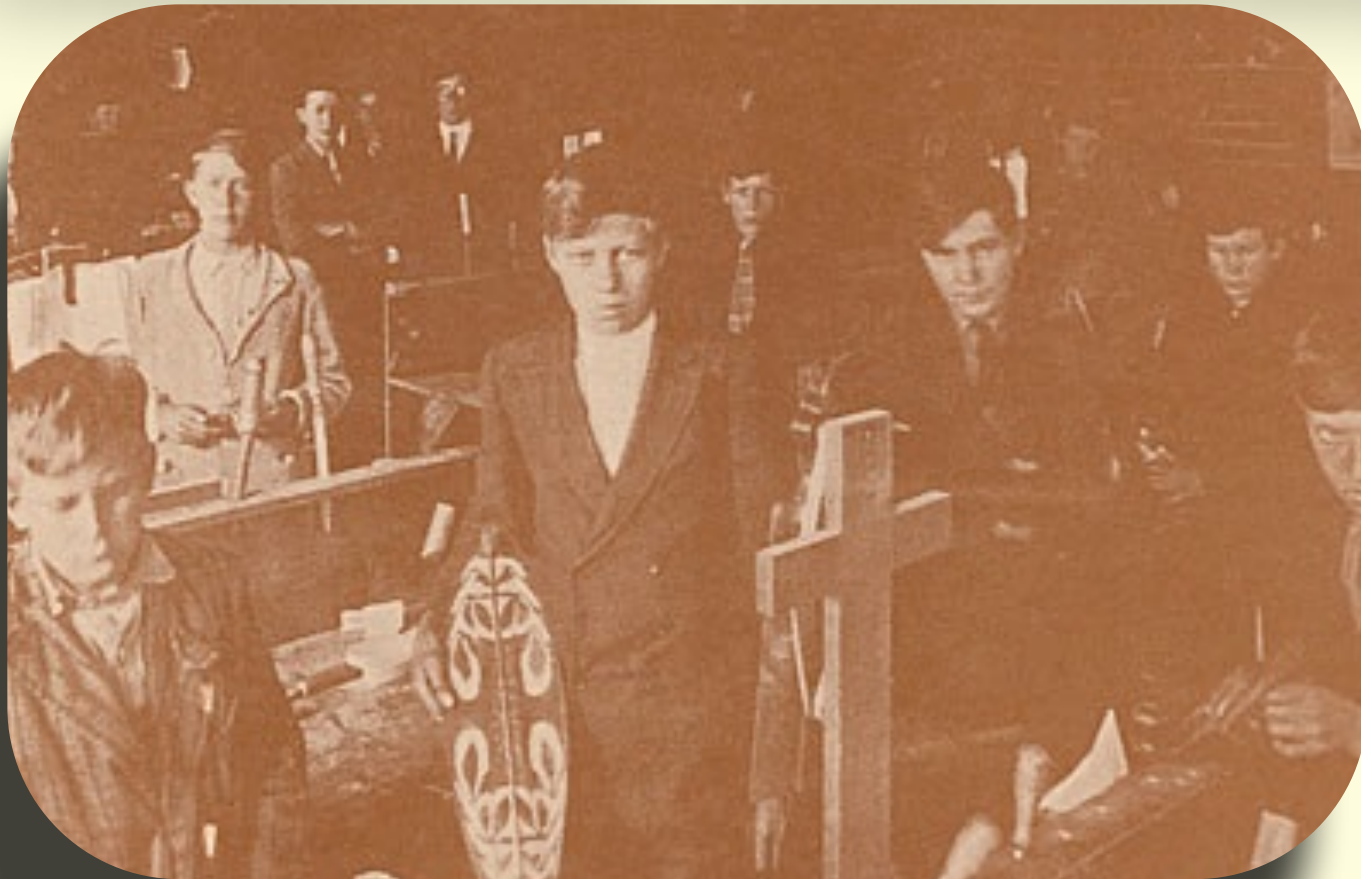


# Entries From William Carter's Journal



This journal is a work of fiction. Any relation to a living person or idea is completely **coincidental**.



# Intro to Carter Children

Harry is the oldest. He is fourteen years old, a horrible babysitter, creates trouble with his siblings, and is a spoiled brat.

James is the middle child. He is twelve years old and is William's closest sibling.



William is also the middle child. He is ten years old and the writer of this journal. He is always being blamed for Harry's delinquent-like actions.

Anna is the youngest. She is four years old and is always the brunt of Harry's **disobediencies**. William and James always try to protect her from Harry, but almost always fail due to Harry's good-little-boy mask.

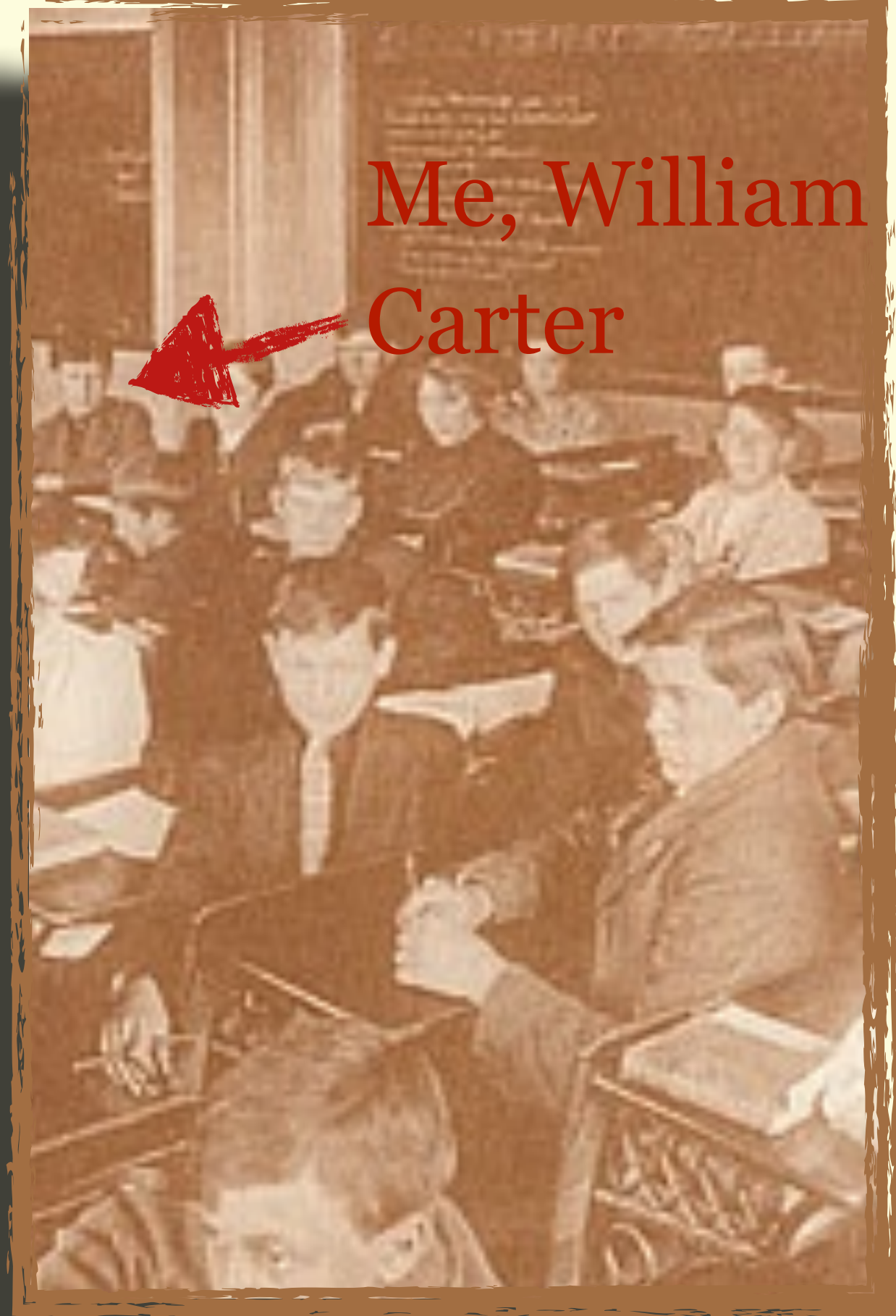


WILLIAM CARTER'S JOURNAL

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10 MAY, 1902

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# INTRODUCTION TO MY LIFE

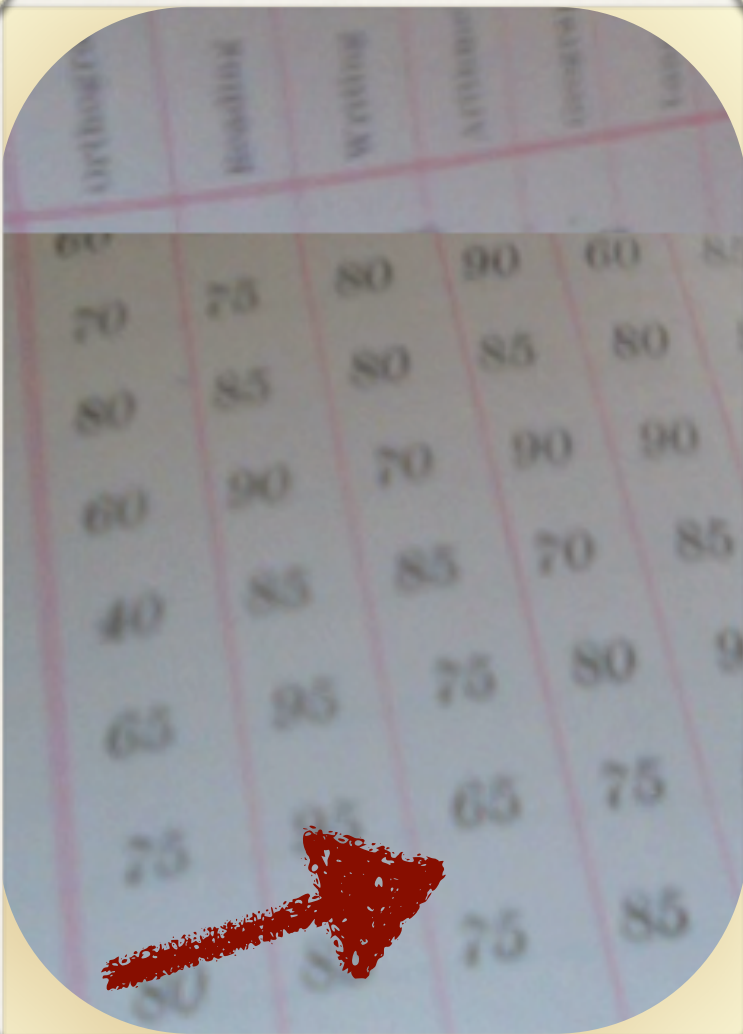
Blair, Ne in 1902



We have been living in this small town for a few years now when Pa decided to give me this book. He said that it would be good to write down my thoughts about living here. The few friends that I have here know that I'm not a very good writer, and I especially don't

My grade in writing.

like to write about my thoughts or feelings. Might as well write something down, though, to please Pa. My name is William Carter. I am 10 years old. My pa is Thomas M. Carter. I have two brothers and a sister. My brothers are named Harry and James, and my sister is named Anna. Harry is fourteen, James is twelve, and Anna is four. We moved here from Ohio in 1899. I really liked Ohio, and I didn't want to leave, but Pa made me come anyway. He said that it would do me good to get out of the city and breathe in the fresh air of the western frontier. Harry was ecstatic about going. He really wanted to see a real live Indian. James more or less agreed with me about leaving. He had to leave





many friends and memories back in Ohio. Anna was just a few months old when we left. All that she can remember is living in this small town. Today, 33 years ago, the town was

Tap to view photos of historic Blair.

[http://blairhistory.com/archive/photo\\_archive/gallery\\_subject.asp?Subject=Downtown](http://blairhistory.com/archive/photo_archive/gallery_subject.asp?Subject=Downtown)



Downtown Blair



named. It was called Blair, after some John I. Blair that I had no idea existed until today. Pa was so excited that the town naming anniversary was here that he went off with some of his buddies and left Harry in charge of us.



Harry was not a very good babysitter. He made poor little Anna clean the entire house with only a small brush. After about three and a half hours of doing this, Anna just collapsed right in the middle of the kitchen, and James had to take her to her room. When Pa finally got back, I tried to testify about what Harry made Anna do, but Harry admitted to nothing and I got sent to my room without supper. I'm always getting sent to my room for stuff that Harry did. Pa just doesn't see that Harry is just being a spoiled little brat. Only James and I understand that Harry can not be trusted to do the things that Pa asks him to do. James later testified against Harry, and he too was thrown in his room without supper. When Pa asked Anna later about what Harry had done, she had been too exhausted to speak so he left her in her room all alone for the rest of the night. After Pa had sent us to our rooms, he again left Harry in charge and went to the train depot, got a ticket, and left for the town that John I. Blair was in so that he could meet him. What he didn't know was that John I. Blair wasn't even in Nebraska. The weekly paper said that he was in Illinois. Ha! Let's see how he swallows that information when he gets back. James had really wanted to meet Mr.

Blair, so he sulked in his room until finally he went to sleep. I just wish that Pa would see all of us children equal in his eyes.

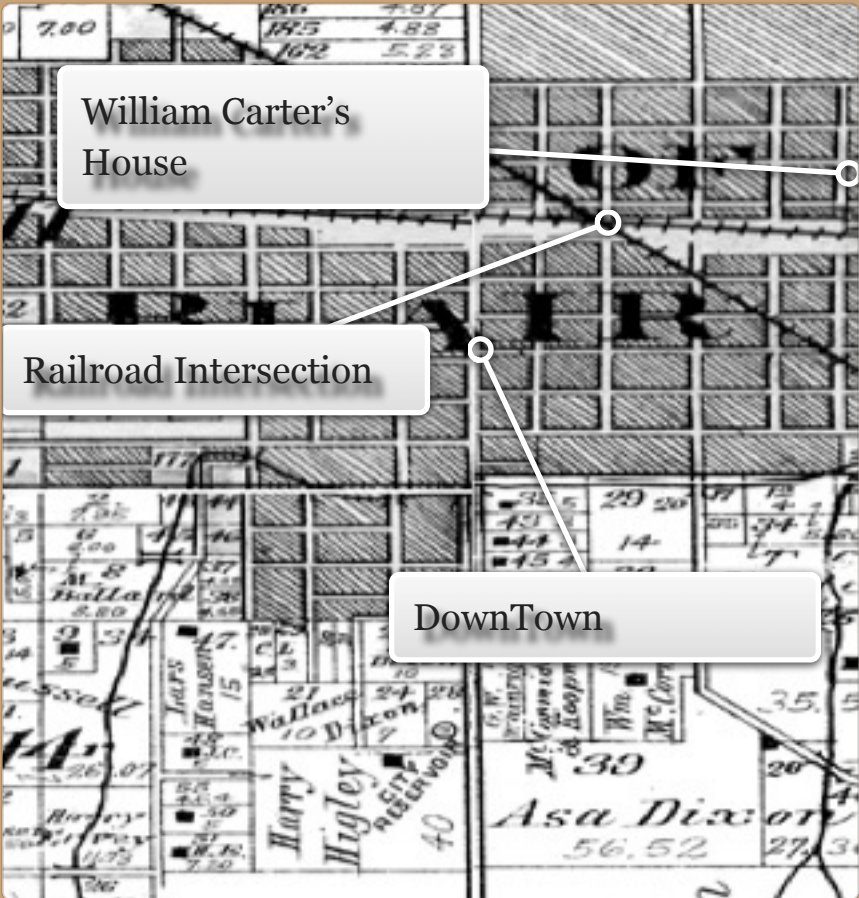


John I. Blair



First Railroad Depot

Tap to view interesting points of interest from historic Blair NE





16  
September,  
1902



# THE START OF SCHOOL

Tap to test your knowledge over what you read.

Question 1 of 3

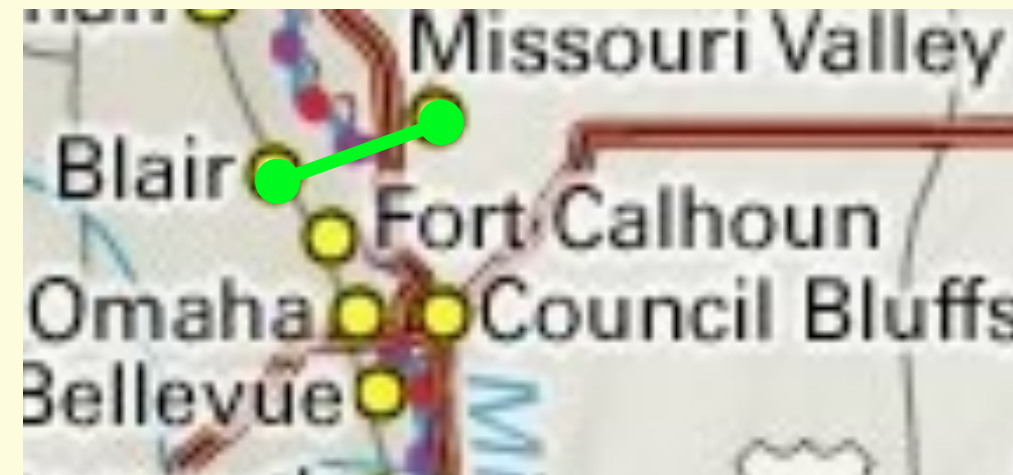
**Who was Harry?**

- ☐ A. An 8 year old peacemaker
- ☐ B. A 10 year old hard worker
- ☒ C. A 14 year old troublemaker
- ☐ D. A 4 year old loud mouth

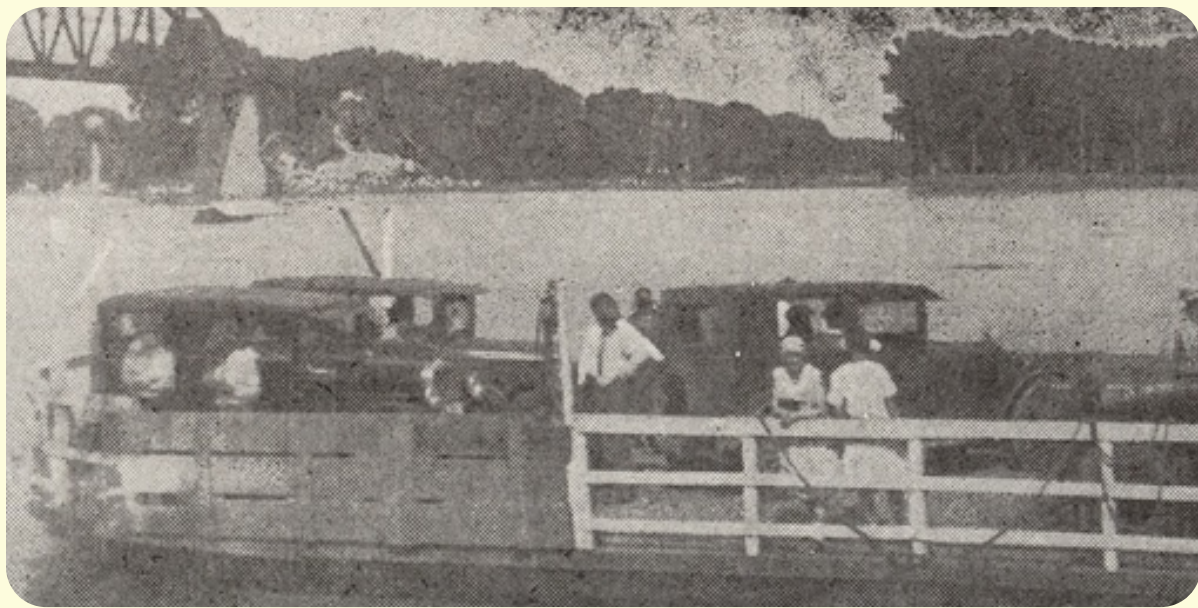
Check Answer

Today was the start of school. Harry started high school, James and I went to the elementary

school, and Anna just started kindergarten. I was a little nervous because this was the first time I went to school in Blair. The last few years, I had to go to school in Missouri Valley, Iowa. Not exactly great travel considering that Blair was in Nebraska on the other side of the Missouri River. We would have to get on a train, ride a few miles, get on the ferry, ride again for a few miles, and get to school before eight o'clock. Not exactly very easy to do. Well, I'm just glad that we don't have to cross the river to get to school any more. I am also glad that Harry is in a different school than me so he won't keep annoying me all day. The bad part is that Harry will most likely **pummel** me when we come home from school. At least I'll have James to watch my back. Harry always seems to get more **riled** up in the school year than in the summer. I wonder if it's just to get at me while Pa isn't watching or if there is something in the air that makes him angrier. I really believe that Blair is really getting to Harry. He seemed pretty much the same throughout the year in Ohio. Why would he change his attitude? Then again, Harry never really seemed to pick on James, Anna, or I until we got to Blair. Maybe he's hiding his true feelings about coming here,







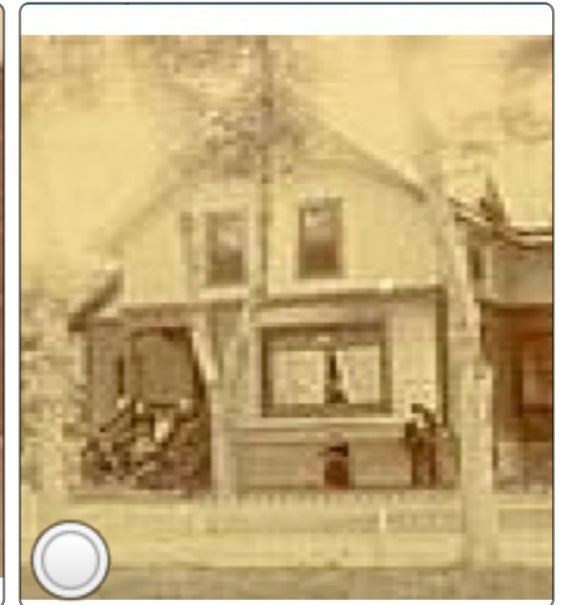
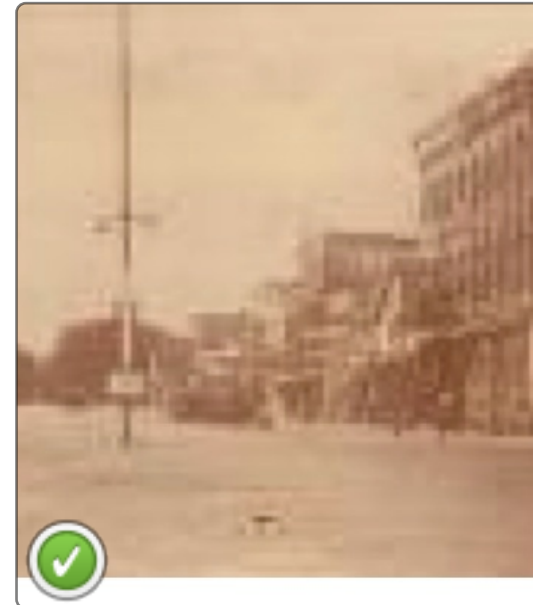
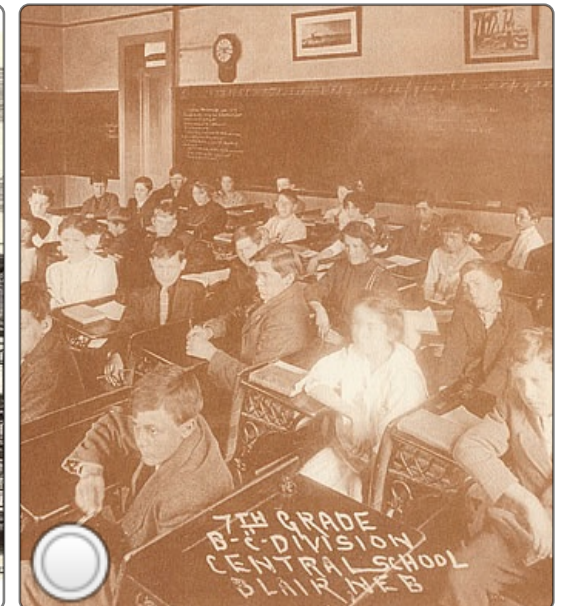
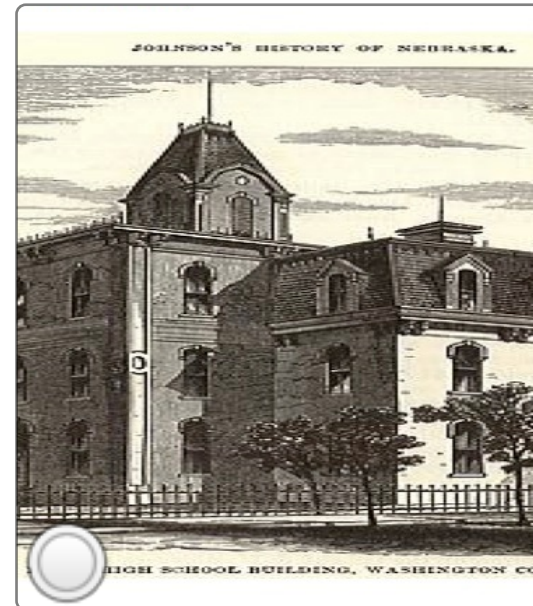
Pontoon on the Missouri River

and now that I think about it, we haven't seen a "real live Indian" yet since we got here, or even any Indian signs. Maybe the air is getting to me too. I have felt different since we got here, and I just thought it was my way of coping with a new place, but now I see that it really does have something to do with the air. Maybe, people that have lived in the city for most of their lives change when they move out into the countryside, or maybe it's just me. Anyway, Anna's birthday is coming up, and I want to get her a special present. I don't know what to get her, but I'll figure it out by then. James is also getting Anna a present. He hasn't told me what it is, but I'm guessing that it is a doll of some sort. I have a feeling that Harry is going to give Anna something disgusting. I'll try to make sure that Pa is around to see it. Harry will be busted for sure. I will definitely want to see Pa yell at Harry so hard it will mark him deaf for the rest of his life. Harry will not know what hit him until it stares at him right in the face. I will want to be there to see the look on his face when he has just learned that he is grounded for life, but that would be a very high hope.

Tap to test your knowledge about historic photos of blair

Question 1 of 2

**Which picture is of downtown Blair NE?**



Check Answer





21 October,  
1902



# The Secret

Tap to test your knowledge about Blair, NE

**Where did William have to go to school before the school was opened in Blair?**

- ☐ A. Springfield, IL
- ☐ B. Detroit, MA
- ☒ C. Missouri Valley, IA
- ☐ D. Omaha, NE

Check Answer

Today was Anna's birthday, and just as I predicted, James got her a doll, but not any doll that I thought he would get. Turns out, he had been saving his money for the past few years and raised enough of it to get Anna an authentic doll made of porcelain china. Anna loved that doll. She went everywhere with it. In fact, we couldn't even take it out of her arms when it was time to eat. The only way she would let go was for us to set up another place at the dinner table with a full plate of food for the doll. It was hilarious. Pa actually talked to the doll about the latest news. I will probably never forget how Pa was talking politics with the doll and was acting as if it was actually participating in the conversation. I wonder how Harry put up with it. It looked like he was going to explode, but he didn't. Although, later he shoved me into my closet and placed a chair in front of the door. What was funny about that was that he forgot that my closet door opens inward instead of outward, so when he left, I just opened the door and exited the room.

Speaking of Harry, remember when I said he was going to give Anna something disgusting? Well, I was wrong. He gave her a small brush for the doll's hair. When I saw the brush, my mouth dropped to the floor. Harry wasn't supposed to do that. He was supposed to give Anna a dead mouse or something. What is going on in this household?

When I was heading off to bed, I saw James come out of his room and, without saying anything to me, left the house. I wondered what James could be doing at this hour. Finally, my curiosity won over and I decide to follow him. He left the

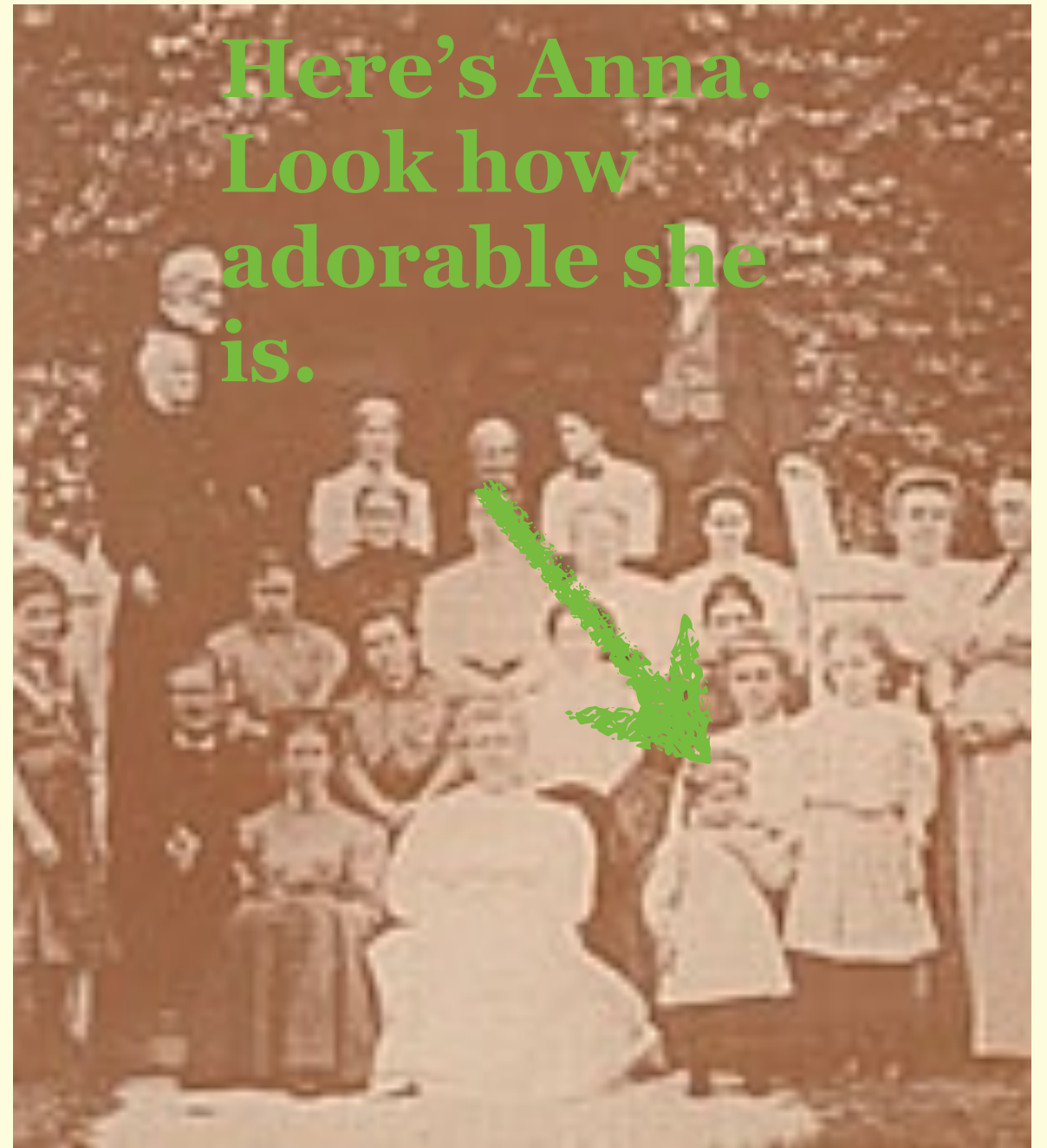
house and headed straight for the side streets. It looked like he was headed for the warehouse at the end of 11th street. He turned a corner (so not the warehouse) and headed for the old abandoned O'Hanlon house. No one has lived there for years and it is said to be haunted by the dead owners. Those people are so paranoid about what cannot possibly be true. Even so, I am careful as I open the creaking door and walk across the old flooring and slowly approach a door that is slightly ajar. I open it and out pops James, Harry, and a scrawny looking kid about my age. The kid had torn clothes, old shoes, and what looked like a tattered, old backpack, presumably filled with whatever food he could find. James started to talk. He said that the kid's name was Henry O'Hanlon. Henry was part of this household before his parents died. He eventually ate up all the food in the cupboards and had run out of money to pay the bills so he had to scavenge for whatever food and water he could find. He was cowering in the cellar when they found him and was very timid. Eventually he was coaxed out and they had been taking care of him ever since. Harry started to say that he had only been using his trouble maker attitude as a cover up so that I would never find out. Now that I have found out, they have decided to let me in on the job. I had to bring Henry food and water at lunch time. Harry and James would take care of the rest.



Anna's Doll  
(Photo taken at Fraum House in Fort Calhoun, NE)



12 January,  
1903



Here's Anna.  
Look how  
adorable she  
is.

# The Illness

Tap to test your knowledge about Blair, NE

**What did Harry give Anna for her birthday?**

- ☐ A. Toy Truck
- ☒ B. Brush
- ☐ C. Dead Mouse
- ☐ D. Doll

Check Answer



Taking care of Henry wasn't easy at first. I had to sneak out of school to get food to him, and after I snuck out, the teachers would notice and call Pa, and after they called Pa, he would send me to my room without dinner. Luckily, it got easier as the weeks moved on. I learned how to be sneakier, how to be completely invisible, and how to hide food under my clothes without anyone being able to see it. James and Harry are a big help. They are teaching me how to get to Henry's house by different routes every time efficiently. Harry has also stopped being mean to me. It seems that everything is going just fine until one day when I go to see Henry on a Saturday. He looks as if he has diminished in weight and the skin around his face has a reddish-looking rash. It seems that he has a very high fever.

I didn't know what this illness was but it looked bad. The only choice would be to get Pa and have him take Henry to a doctor, but that would mean that he would find out about James, Harry, and me and shut us down. That wouldn't be good. On the other hand, it wouldn't be good if Henry died either. Which would be worse, if we got grounded for life, or if Henry died. When put it into those terms the decision was easy. We had to tell Pa.

Pa was not happy with us. He said if we had found a "homeless" boy, we should have taken him to him immediately, but he was glad that we had taken Henry to him sooner rather than later. Pa did ground us but not for life. That was a relief. Henry has what is called scarlet fever. Pa says that it is caused by a strep infection. He asked Henry if he had had a



sore throat lately. Henry said that he had had a sore throat many times during the past few months. That wasn't good. He could have passed it on to any of us which means that any of us could have scarlet fever in a short time. Not good.

Henry was taken to the hospital in Omaha, NE because the hospital here in Blair didn't have the resources to help him and, there was a **quarantine** for a certain disease that I didn't pay attention to because Henry wasn't looking so good. I hope he will be alright. What I'm worried about is that James, Harry, Anna, or I will get scarlet fever. All we can do is hope and pray for something better to happen.



The Carter's Automobile



The O'Hanlon Household  
Built in 1884



# 24 February, 1903



Here's my house. I wish  
we had a bigger one.

# Anna is Ill

Tap to test your knowledge about Blair, NE

**What was the disease that Henry died from?**

- ☒ **A. Scarlet Fever**
- ☐ **B. Bronchitis**
- ☐ **C. Common Cold**
- ☐ **D. Cancer**

Check Answer

We just got news back from the hospital. Henry isn't going to make it. He was diagnosed far too late and they could do nothing for him. Anna was crying for hours, James sulked in his room, and Harry was silent for the entire day. I felt like I was useless to any one of my siblings. I wanted to go back, back to before Henry died, back before I met him, back before the start of school, back before we moved to Blair.

Anna got sick. I was worried about this. She has been having periods of warm and cold. She isn't hungry much either. I had better tell Pa.

Pa wasn't happy. He was glad that we had told him, but he still wasn't happy. We all had to get in the car and drive for two hours to get to the hospital. Meanwhile, Anna wasn't looking so good. She had taken on a reddish color around her eyes and she has been shivering even though it was 75 degrees in the car.

Halfway to Omaha, Anna started to look better. She had stopped shivering and her face had gone back to normal. I was slightly relieved but we still had a ways to go and Anna could get worse on the way.

When we were about 25 minutes off, Anna suddenly went pale and the red rash was back around her face. This wasn't good at all. She could die before we got to the hospital. Luckily she didn't. We got her to the emergency room just in time. The doctor said that Anna was doing fine and that we should check back in a few days. I couldn't wait a few days. I wanted Anna to get better now! Pa said we had to go and that



Anna would be fine. I wasn't so sure that the last remark would be true.

When we checked back, the doctor said that Anna was doing fine and will survive. I was so happy. I didn't think it was possible that Anna could survive, since she looked a lot worse than Henry and she was much younger than him. It truly was a miracle. On the drive back home, everyone was relieved, even Pa.



The Home Theatre



# 7 April, 1903



# New Clothes

Tap to test your knowledge about Blair, Ne

**Where did they take Anna for treatment?**

- ☐ A. Springfield, IL
- ☐ B. Des Moines, IA
- ☐ C. Lincoln, NE
- ☒ D. Omaha, NE

Check Answer

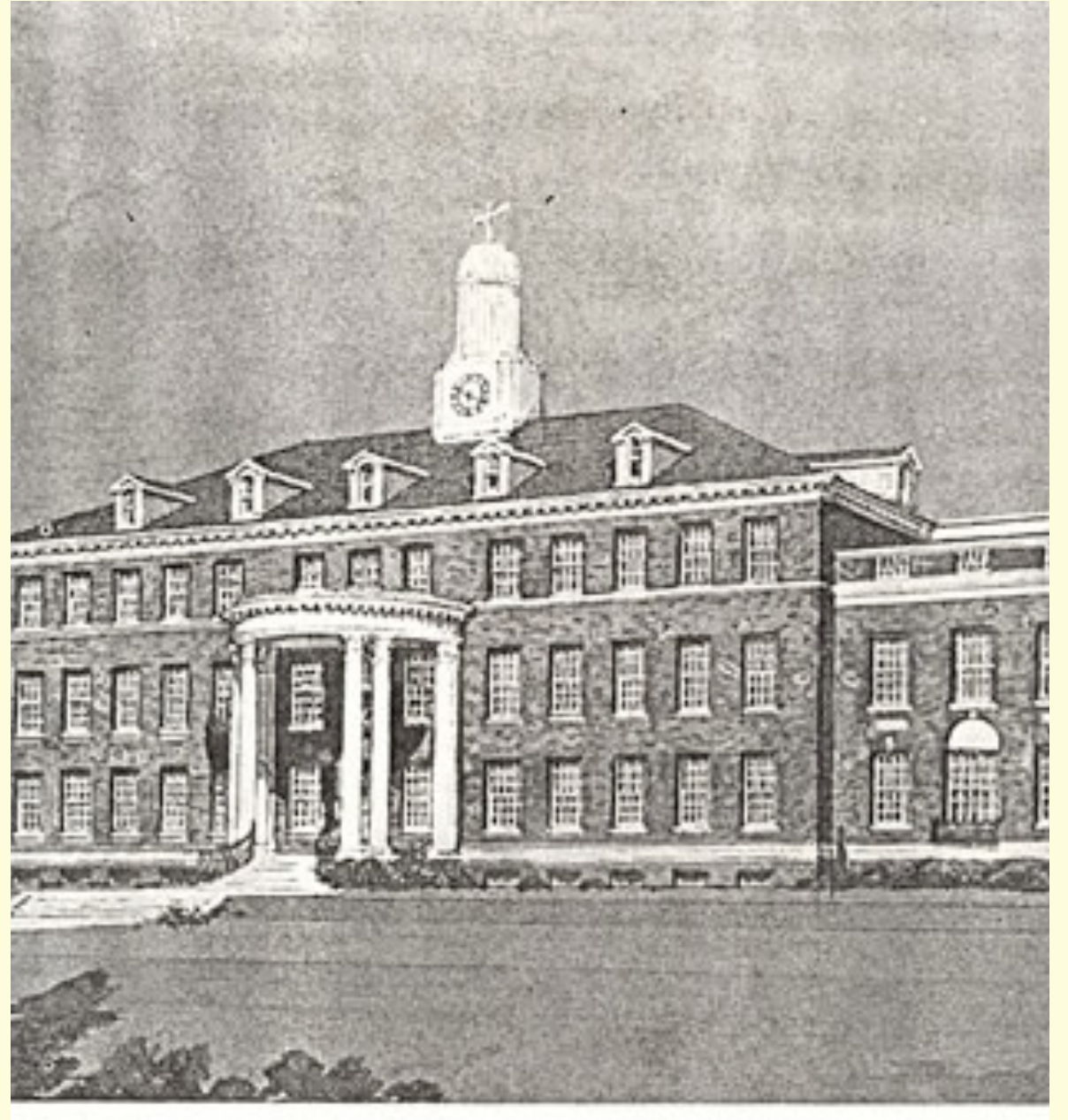
Today, Pa got his quarterly bonus from his job. He decided that we would stop in the clothing store in downtown and get everyone new clothes with some of the money. Harry picked out a pair of trousers, James picked out a new shirt, Anna got a new dress, and I got some new shoes.

When we got back home, we put our new clothes away and got back in the car for a special surprise that Pa wouldn't tell us about. It must be something really good.

It turns out that Pa was taking us to a home theatre. The feature of today was Rin-Tin-Tin. After the movie, it was dark, so we went home to sleep, but I wrote in this journal before I went to sleep. It looks like I'm running out of pages to write in so my last few entries will have to be spaced apart. It may be awhile before I write again.



19 May, 1910



Off to college. Hope to get good grades.

# The Final Entry

Tap to test your knowledge on Blair, NE.

Question 1 of 6

**Who got scarlet fever?**

- ☐ A. James and Harry
- ☒ B. Anna and Henry
- ☐ C. Henry and William
- ☐ D. William and James

Check Answer

I haven't written in a long time. So much has happened in seven years.

I guess I'll start with Anna. She is now 12 and has recovered from scarlet fever very well. She is now in middle school and has made dozens of

friends. I just wish that could happen to me. James is doing very well. He just went off to college last year and has been an A+ student. That really surprised me when he called and told us his grades. Harry has been in college for the past three years and is about to get his Bachelors degree in mechanics. I, however, have gotten my grades up, especially in writing. I guess this journal has helped me a lot with that. Pa has found a new hobby, ping-pong. He now plays all day with his old buddies. He wins almost every time. I'm glad he found something to do besides reading and writing. The O'Hanlon house has been occupied for the past year. It is now owned by yours truly. Henry has been gone for seven years now. It is starting to get really hard to remember him. Good thing I wrote about him in this journal. I will be going off to college in a few days.

I plan to get a degree in teaching elementary school. Maybe this journal helped with that too. Well, better get packing.

It's going to be a "long" drive to Dana College here in Blair, which was established in 1884, and I really want to get a head start. Ha ha ha!

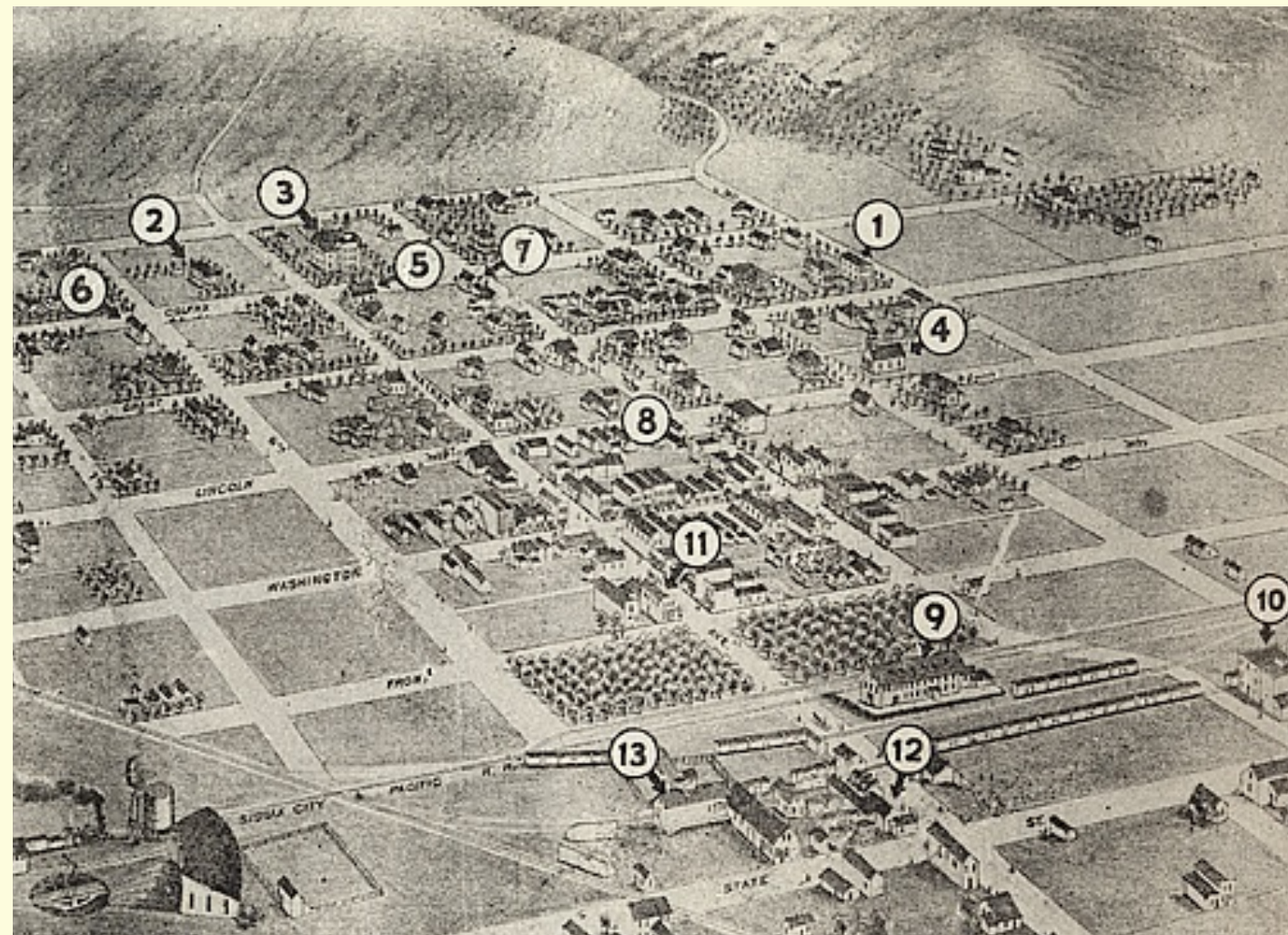


**Dana College**



# Actual History

These pages are about some of the people and events of this time period.



1. Old Courthouse building at Third and Grant Street, known now to many as the Ed Matthiesen corner at 19th & Grant
2. Jail on East Colfax Street in the present courthouse block;
3. High School on Colfax Street in High, demolished to make room for the new high school now known as Central School with its addition
4. Baptist Church at Second and Lincoln Streets
5. Congregation Church at Walker Avenue (16th Street) and Colfax Streets
6. Old Catholic Church at Sixth and Colfax Streets;
7. Methodist church at Fifth and Colfax Streets;
8. Office of the weekly Times, one of the Pilot-Tribune predecessors;
9. Railroad depot and hotel (Blair House) on north Walker Avenue, just north of the Railroad Park and Carnival grounds
10. City mills and elevator on north Fifth Street, on the side of Blair Flour Mill;
11. Old Farmers Hotel at Walker Avenue and Front Street
12. The C.C. Crowell grain elevator at Walker Avenue and State Street, site of Rivett Lumber & Coal Company (now S.E. Smith); and
13. Elan Clark & Son's mill on east State Street.

# Thomas M. Carter

From [http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/city\\_histories/carter.htm](http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/city_histories/carter.htm)

## Reminiscences about Washington County Nebraska

by Thomas M. Carter

Nebraska Pioneer Reminiscences compiled by Mrs. Laura B. Pounds. Second and Sixth State Regent, Nebraska Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. 1896 1897, 1901 1902

"In the spring of 1855, with my brother, Alex Carter, E. P. and D. D. Stout, I left the beautiful hills and valleys of Ohio, to seek a home in the west. After four weeks of travel by steamboat and stage, horseback and afoot, we reached the town of Omaha, then only a small village. It took us fourteen days to make the trip from St. Louis to Omaha.

While waiting at Kaneshville or Council Bluffs as it is now called, we ascended the hills back of the town and gazed across to the Nebraska side. I thought of Daniel Boone as he wandered westward on the Kentucky hills looking into Ohio. "Fair was the scene that lay before the little band, that paused upon its toilsome way, to view the new found land."

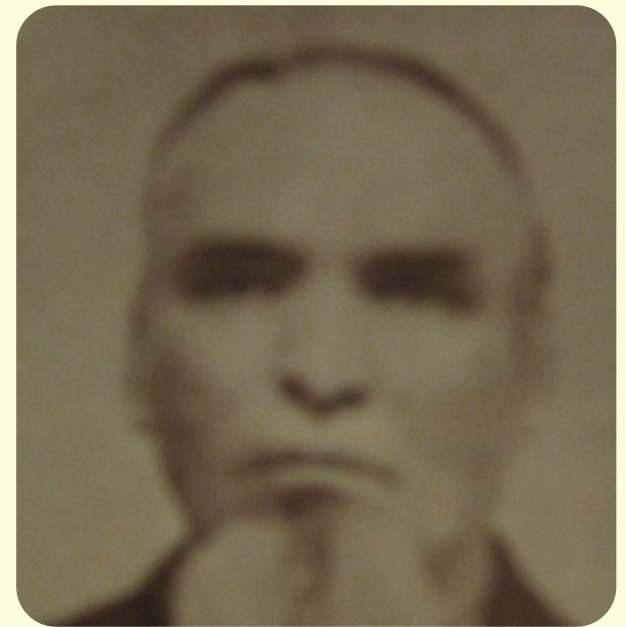
At St. Mary we met Peter A. Sarpy. He greeted us all warmly and invited all to get out of the stage and have a drink at his expense. As an inducement to settle in Omaha, we were each offered a lot anywhere on the townsite, if we would build

on it, but we had started for De Soto, Washington county, and no ordinary offer could induce us to change our purpose.

We thought that with such an excellent steamboat landing and quantities of timber in the vicinity, De Soto had as good a chance as Omaha to become the metropolis. We reached De Soto May 14, 1855, and found one log house finished and another under way. Zarembo Jackson, a newspaper man, and Dr. Finney occupied the log cabin and we boarded with them until we had located a claim and built a cabin upon the land we subsequently entered and upon which the city of Blair is now built.

After I had built my cabin of peeled willow poles the Cum- ing City Claim Club warned me by writing on the willow poles of my cabin that if I did not abandon that claim before June 15, 1855, I would be treated to a free bath in Fish creek and free, transportation across the Missouri river. This however proved to be merely a bluff.

I organized and was superintendent of the first Sunday school in Washington county in the spring of 1856. The first board of trustees of the Methodist church in the county was appointed by Rev. A. G. White, on June 1, 1866, and consisted of the following members, Alex Carter, L. D. Cameron, James



Alexander Carter

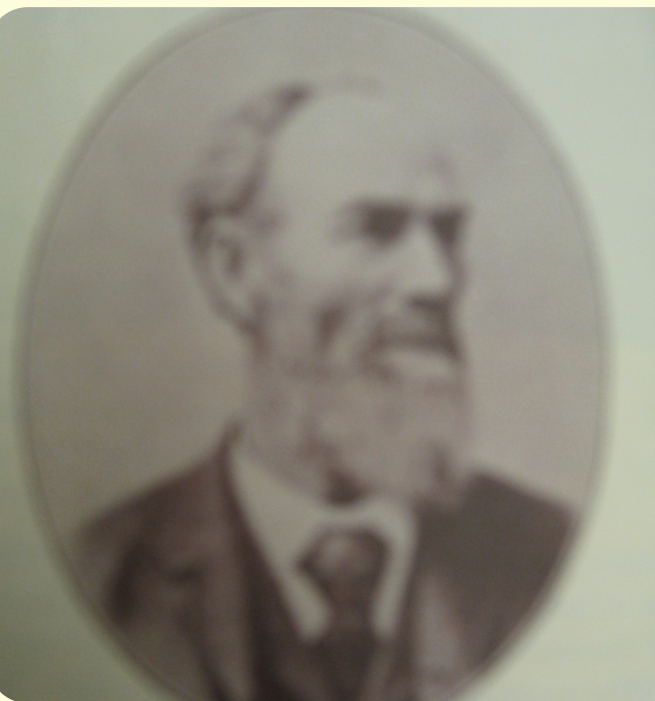


Van Horn, M. B. Wilds, and myself. The board met and resolved itself into a building committee and appointed me as chairman. We then proceeded to devise means to provide for a church building at Cuming City, by each member of the board subscribing fifty dollars. At the second meeting it was discovered that this was inadequate and it was deemed necessary for this subscription to be doubled. The church was built, the members of the committee hewing logs of elm, walnut, and oak for sills and hauling with ox teams. The church was not completely finished but was used for a place of worship. This building was moved under the supervision of Rev. Jacob Adriance and by his financial support from Cuming City to Blair in 1870. Later it was sold to the

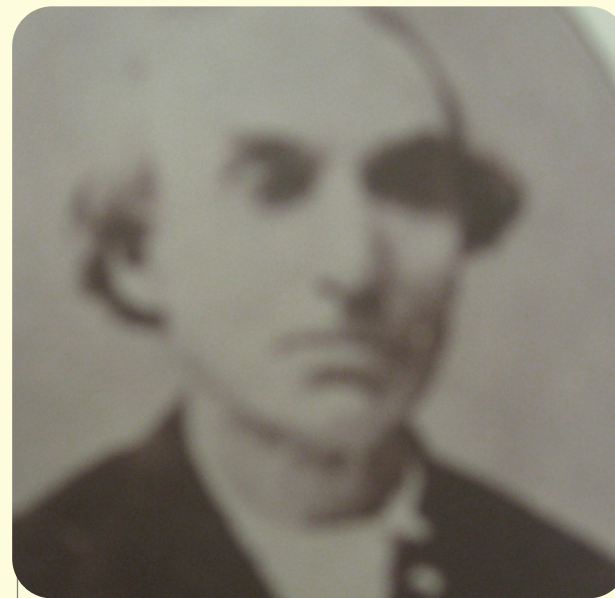
Christian church, moved off and remodeled and is still doing service as a church building in Blair.

Jacob Adriance was the first regular Methodist pastor to be assigned to the mission extending from De Soto to Decatur. His first service was held at De Soto on May 3, 1857, at the home of my brother, Jacob Carter, a Baptist. The congregation consisted of Jacob Carter, his

family of five, Alex Carter, myself and wife. The winter before Rev. Adriance came Isaac Collins was conducting protracted meetings in De Soto and so much interest was being aroused that



**Thomas M. Carter**



**Jacob Carter**

some of the ruffians decided to break up the meetings. One night they threw a dead dog through a window hitting the minister in the back, knocking over the candles and leaving us in darkness. The minister straightened up and declared, "The devil isn't dead in De Soto yet."

I was present at the Calhoun claim fight at which Mr. Goss was killed and Purple and Smith were wounded.

The first little log school was erected on the townsite of Blair, the patrons cutting and hauling the lumber. I was the first director and Mrs. William Allen nee Emily Bottorff, first teacher.

I served as worthy patriarch of the First Sons of Temperance organization in the county and lived in De Soto long enough to see the last of the whiskey traffic banished from that township.

I have served many years in Washington county as school director, justice of the peace, and member of the county board.

In October, 1862, I joined the Second Nebraska cavalry for service on the frontier. Our regiment lost a few scalps and buried a number of Indians. We bivouacked on the plains, wrapped in our blankets, while the skies smiled propitiously over us and we dreamed of home and the girls we left behind us, until reveille called to find the drapery of our couch during the night had been reinforced by winding sheets of drifting snow."

# John I. Blair

From

[http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/biographies/John\\_Blair/john\\_i\\_blair.htm](http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/biographies/John_Blair/john_i_blair.htm)

## John I. Blair

“Blair, Nebraska was named after a wealthy entrepreneur, capitalist, banker, railroad builder, John Insley Blair. He was born 22 August 1802 near Belvidere, New Jersey, on the banks of the Delaware at Four Rift, New Jersey. He was the fourth of ten children of Scottish immigrants John Blair and Rachel Insley.

It is doubtful that John Blair ever set foot in Blair, Nebraska, though, he (or his business manager) were in charge of plotting the city after the Railroad crossed the Missouri River in 1864. Many of the land abstracts note him and his wife Nancy Ann Lacke (1804-1888) as the originally land owners. In 1869, Blair's agents platted the new city of Blair, Nebraska and sold the first city plots.

At the time of his death in 1899, his estate was valued at about seventy-five million dollars, certainly one of the half dozen great fortunes of that day. A devout Presbyterian, Blair was

frugal, hard working, fiscally responsible, and emphasized ownership of land. At one point, he owned two million acres of land, and was the largest landholder in the country. He was honored locally, for his occasional support of civic needs. His donations went to building about a hundred churches, and to Princeton University, Park, Coe, and Grinnell Colleges.”



John I. Blair



# Blair Railroad Depot

From <http://www.blairhistory.com/landmarks/depot/default.htm>



The Depots

## The First Depot - Built 1869

"Blair House"

1869 Depot & Hotel

## The Second Depot - Built 1880

"1880 Depot"

## The Third Depot - Built 1910

"Brick Depot"

West End



The First Depot



The Second Depot



The Third Depot



The Depot Today



# Central High School

From <http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/default.htm>

The original High School in Blair occupied a hardware store. A new high school was constructed in 1899. In 1929, a new building was constructed north of the 1899 school. The building was retired as a school and is now used for apartments.



Central High School

# Newspapers

From <http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/newspapers.htm>

## **The Pilot**

The Pilot was established in Tekamah in 1871. It was rezoned to Blair in 1874. It was purchased in 1875. In 1879 it was sold to the present proprietors.

## **Blair Republican - Blair Times**

The Blair Times was established in July, 1870. In 1880, it was purchased and changed to the Blair Republican.

## **Blair Register**

The Blair Register was established in May, 1869.

## **Blair Courier**

The Blair Courier was established in 1821.



**The Newspaper Printing Facility**



# Schools

From <http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/default.htm>

## Old West School

Built: before 1894

Located: Block 98 Sixth Addition

Between 23rd & 22nd Streets North of Washington.

Destroyed: 195?

## Old North School

Built: before 1894

Located: Block 92 Fifth addition - 1326 Park Street

Facing South on Park Street

Destroyed: 19??

## Old East School

The old East School was built before 1894. The school closed in 1902. It then served as a hospital until the 1960s when it became a nursing home. An apartment building now stands on the site.



The Old East School

# Dana College

Dana College had started being built in 1886. The last addition was finished in 1993.

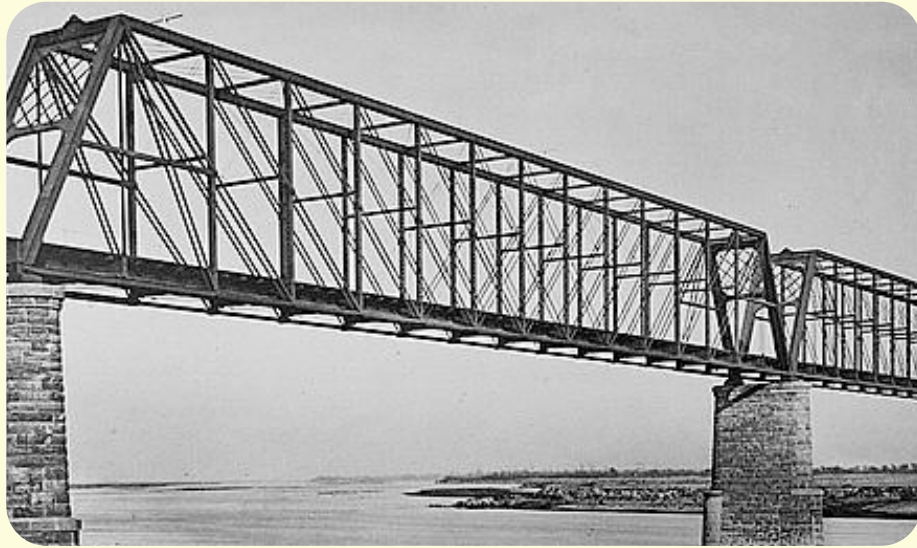
“In 1884 Danish Lutheran pioneers established Trinity Seminary at Blair, Nebraska, for the purpose of training men for the parish ministry. Reverend A. M. Andersen, founder of the institution, began teaching seminary courses in his home. Two years later, the first permanent building on the campus was completed. The main emphasis during those early days was on theology and, although some academic courses were offered, they were taught primarily as a background for theological study. The need for additional academic courses was recognized but not fulfilled until 1899 when the Danish College at Elk Horn, Iowa, was merged with the Blair school. The result was the establishment of Dana College as a separate educational institution.”



Proposed Campus in 1930



# Blair Bridges



**The Bridge That Was Built Over the River Where William Carter Crossed to Go to School**

## **Before the Bridge**

Before the bridges were built, people had to cross the river by ferry boats in the warmer seasons and pontoon and ice bridges in the colder seasons.

In 1881 plans to build the railroad bridge started to develop and once built, the town started to boom.

## **The Replacing the Bridge (1923)**

## **Rebuilding the Train Bridge**

In 1994 the railroad bridge was replaced.

## **A Bridge for A Highway (1929)**

In 1928 and 1929, another bridge was built across the Missouri River for automobiles. It still exists today.

## **The New Highway Bridge (1991)**

In 1991, the old railroad bridge was demolished.

For detailed history on Blair railroads, go to [http://www.blairhistory.com/landmarks/blair\\_bridge/](http://www.blairhistory.com/landmarks/blair_bridge/)



**The Blair Railroad Bridge**

# The O'Hanlon(Debel) House

Clark O'Hanlon and his wife lived here with their two children Carlisle and Maude. Both of the children died of scarlet fever in the 1900s.

It still exists today at 1824 Colfax Street.



1900s



Today



# Scarlet Fever

From Encyclopedia Britannica website

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/526724/scarlet-fever>

“Before the advent of antibiotics, **scarlet fever** was extremely serious, often causing long periods of illness, many dangerous complications, and even death. Children with scarlet fever used to be immediately isolated and quarantined, and entire schools and neighborhoods panicked when a case was discovered. Today, however, scarlet fever has declined in incidence and, when it does occur, in severity. Recovery is rapid and complete when antibiotics are administered promptly, and most of the potentially dangerous complications can be prevented if the full course of treatment is followed.”



Photos from creative commons search

[http://images.google.com/search?as\\_q=scarlet+fever&surl=1&safe=active&tbs=sur:fmc&tbm=isch#imgdii=\\_](http://images.google.com/search?as_q=scarlet+fever&surl=1&safe=active&tbs=sur:fmc&tbm=isch#imgdii=_)

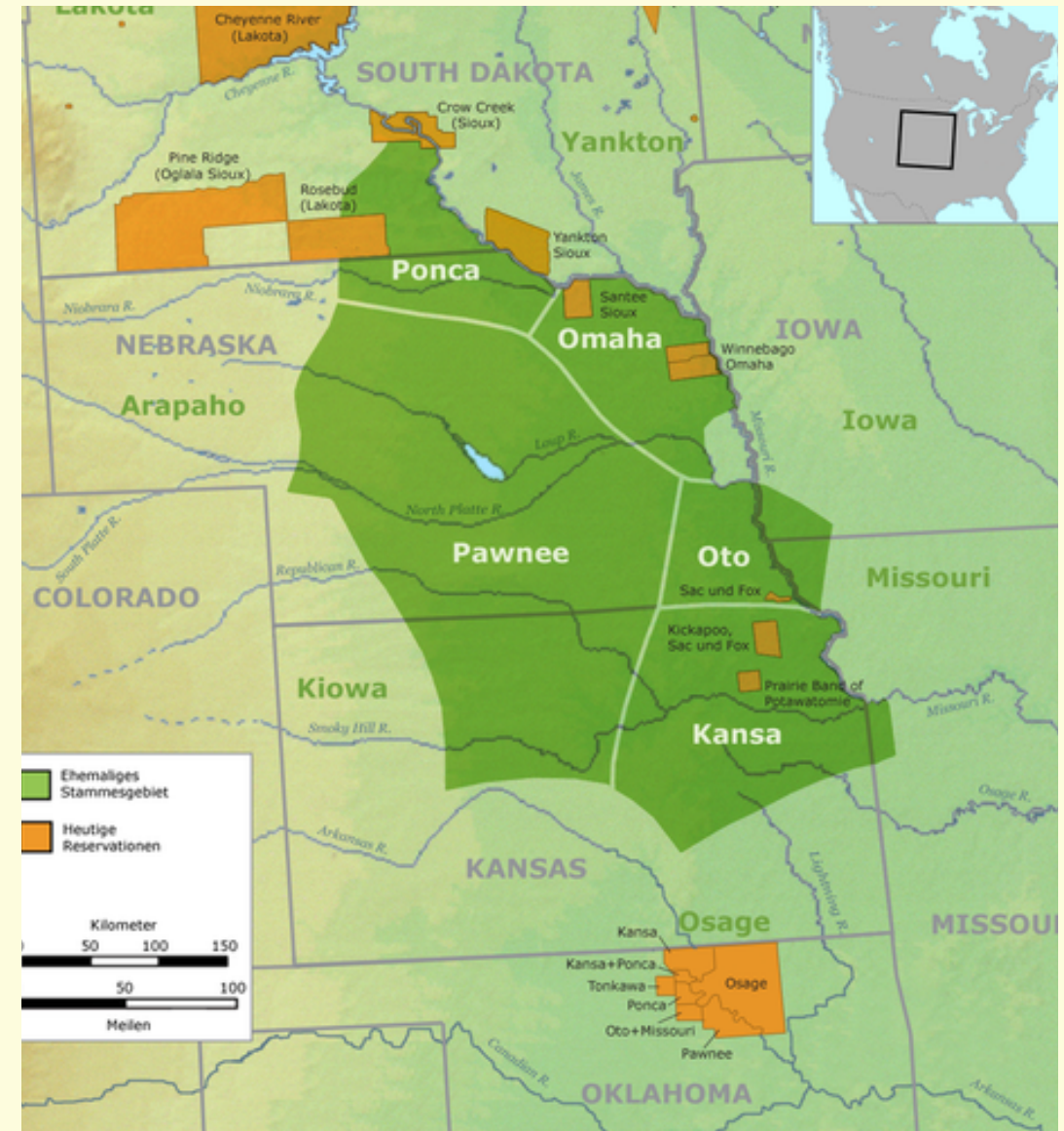
# Native Americans in Washington County

From [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omaha\\_people](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omaha_people)

The Native Americans that lived in the Washington County area were the Omaha. The Omaha tribe began as a larger Woodland tribe comprising both the Omaha and Quapaw tribes. This tribe coalesced and inhabited the area near the Ohio and Wabash rivers around year 1600. As the tribe migrated west, it split into what became the Omaha and the Quapaw tribes. The Quapaw settled in what is now Arkansas and the Omaha, known as U-Mo'n-Ho'n ("upstream") settled near the Missouri River in what is now northwestern Iowa. Another division happened, with the Ponca becoming an independent tribe, but they tended to settle near the Omaha. The first European journal reference to the Omaha tribe was made by Pierre-Charles Le Sueur in 1700. Informed by reports, he described an Omaha village with 400 dwellings and a population of about 4,000 people. It was located on the Big Sioux River near its confluence with the Missouri, near present-day Sioux City, Iowa. The French then called it "The River of the Mahas."

Here is one of their traditional songs:

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/90/Flag\\_song.ogg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/90/Flag_song.ogg)





# Photos



All photos were obtained either from the Washington County Historical Site primary documents, the Blair Historic Preservation Alliance website, or from creative commons searches. Some, however, I have edited to show some uniqueness. Some of these photos include:



# Interesting Sites About Blair NE

[http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/biographies/John\\_Blair/john\\_i\\_blair.htm](http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/biographies/John_Blair/john_i_blair.htm)

<http://www.casde.unl.edu/history/counties/washington/blair/>

[http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/1910depot\\_demolished.htm](http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/1910depot_demolished.htm)

<http://www.blairhistory.com/landmarks/schools/highschool/default.htm>





# Bibliography



Civil War Monument





[http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/city\\_histories/johnsons.htm#BLAIR](http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/city_histories/johnsons.htm#BLAIR)

<http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/default.htm>

[http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/city\\_histories/shrader.htm](http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/city_histories/shrader.htm)

<http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/newspapers.htm>

<http://blairhistory.com/default.htm>

<http://www.blairhistory.com/landmarks/depot/default.htm>

[http://www.kancoll.org/books/andreas\\_ne/washington/washington-p2.html](http://www.kancoll.org/books/andreas_ne/washington/washington-p2.html)

[http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/biographies/John\\_Blair/john\\_i\\_blair.htm](http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/biographies/John_Blair/john_i_blair.htm)

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~neresour/OLLibrary/Johnson/jhne58O.html>

[http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/city\\_histories/carter.htm](http://www.blairhistory.com/archive/city_histories/carter.htm)

[http://www.blairhistory.com/landmarks/blair\\_bridge/](http://www.blairhistory.com/landmarks/blair_bridge/)

[The Washington County Museum data base](#)

Thanks to all who made  
this book  
possible.



From left to right

Top: Sydney, Laurel, Karli, Emma,  
Brian, Quinton

Bottom: Zac, Morgan, Elena, Jacob  
Taken at the Fraum House in Fort  
Calhoun, NE





John I. Blair

# Anniversary <sup>n.</sup>

*the date on which an event took place in a previous year*

*from Apple dictionary*

---

## Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

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**Index**

**Chapter 1 - William Carter’s Journal**



# Coïncidental<sub>adj.</sub>

*resulting from a coincidence; done or happening by chance*

*from Apple dictionary*

---

## Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

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**Index**

**Disclaimer Page - Disclaimer Page**

# Disobediences <sup>n.</sup>

*failure or refusal to obey rules or someone in authority*

*from Apple dictionary*

---

## Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

---

**Index**

Intro to Carter Children - Intro to Carter Children

Pummel v.

strike repeatedly, typically with the fists

From Apple Dictionary

---

**Related Glossary Terms**

Drag related terms here

---

**Index**

**Chapter 2 - The Start of School**



# Quarantine n.

a state, period, or place of isolation in which people or animals that have arrived from elsewhere or been exposed to infectious or contagious disease are placed

From Apple Dictionary

---

## Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

---

**Index**

**Chapter 4 - The Illness**

Riled v.

make (someone) annoyed or irritated

From Apple Dictionary

---

Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

# Scarlet Fever n.

Scarlet fever (also called scarlatina in older literature)[1] is an infectious disease which most commonly affects 4–8-year-old children. Symptoms include sore throat, fever and a characteristic red rash. Scarlet fever is usually spread by inhalation.

From Wikipedia

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## Related Glossary Terms

Drag related terms here

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**Index**

**Chapter 8 - Scarlet Fever**



Testify n.

*serve as evidence or proof of something's existing or being the case*

*from Apple dictionary*

---

**Related Glossary Terms**

Drag related terms here

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**Index**

**Chapter 1 - William Carter's Journal**