



# MANHATTAN/RILEY COUNTY PRESERVATION ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

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## The Paddleford Family of Riley County and Beyond by Linda Glasgow

Solon Marion Paddleford, born in 1861, was the son of Stephen and Caroline Paddleford, who farmed in Grant Township in Riley County. Solon attended Kansas State Agricultural College (K.S.A.C.), where he met his future wife, Jennie Romig, a classmate of his younger brother. Over the course of his life, Solon was at various times a teacher, farmer, postmaster, merchant, and, eventually, landlord.

Jennie Stroup Romig, born in 1866, was the daughter of Henry and Margaret Romig, who farmed 1,400 acres along Wildcat Creek between Manhattan and Keats. At the age of 18, after two years at college, Jennie began her teaching career at the Grant School near Riley.

Solon and Jennie married in 1887 and rented a farm near Mill Creek in Riley County, about five miles west of the small community of Stockdale. Jennie taught at the Mill Creek School until the end of the 1889-1890 school year, which ended on February 28th. The couple moved to the Guthrie area in Oklahoma Territory where they farmed for two years. They sold their claim after two successful crops and returned to Mill Creek in November of 1891. They were able to purchase Alex White's "home farm" in January of 1892 for \$5,000. After twelve years, the couple moved to a different farm,



Above, the Paddleford Apartments, formerly located at 513 N. 16th St., circa 2006. The photo is courtesy of the Riley County Historical Society and Museum.

near Stockdale on the Blue River, where they built themselves a "completely modern" house.

The couple's children were Glenn, born in 1890 in Oklahoma Territory, and Clementine, born in 1898 at Mill Creek. The middle child, Margaret, born in 1895, died in infancy.

In February of 1912, the family traded farm life for town life by purchasing the general merchandise store in Stockdale. In June of 1912, the store caught fire. "Every citizen, including women and children, joined the bucket brigade and several wells were pumped dry. The post office which was in the front part of the store did not suffer and has since been moved into the bank building. The stock was partially covered by insurance" (**The Manhattan Republic**, June 6, 1912). Be it from fire, smoke, or water, the entire stock was a loss estimated at \$1,500.

The year was eventful for the family in another way. In February of 1912, Glenn Decatur Paddleford, a student at K.S.A.C., and Daisy

Walter of Manhattan, eloped and were married in Clay Center. After a few days away, the couple returned to Manhattan. Glenn resumed his studies and Daisy went back to living with her parents and was rehired at her job. The couple eventually moved to Stockdale.

In June of 1913, the Riley County Common Schools commencement ceremony for students who attended rural, village, and third-class city schools was held at the Christian Church in Manhattan. Clementine Haskin Paddleford was one of two students from Stockdale to receive a diploma. After the ceremony, graduates were treated to ice cream, a streetcar ride, and a visit to the college and other points of interest in Manhattan. By September, Clementine was enrolled as a freshman in Manhattan High School, living in town during the week and returning to her family on weekends.

A year later, in September of 1914, Solon and Jennie purchased the house at 1017 Poyntz Avenue, which shortened Clementine's commute considerably. Glenn and Daisy also moved to the Poyntz house. A permit was granted in October to build a garage. Because the cost of living in Manhattan was higher than in rural areas, the family took in boarders to  
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compensate. Despite the family's exodus from Stockdale, the store there was still in operation. "Miss Gertrude Harris of Garrison is clerking in S. M. Paddleford's store" (**The Riley County Democrat**, December 4, 1914). But, things changed again in two years.

"S. M. Paddleford has bought a half interest in the Star Grocery and will assume full charge of the business, John Coons retiring from active control. Mr. Paddleford is a well known merchant of Stockdale and vicinity and knows everybody in Riley county from Manhattan to Randolph and most of those in Pottawatomie" (**The Manhattan Tribune**, June 15, 1916). The Star Grocery was located at 327 Poyntz.

More transitions were to come in short order. "Forgetting how hot it is a delivery horse of the Star grocery started to run away Saturday p.m. from in front of the store. It ran east on Poyntz, but before it had gone half a block it had managed to tear a wheel off a buggy standing near the curb, and had run into the rear end of an automobile. Some one caught it there, threw it down, several bystanders jumped onto it, and the runaway was over. The course of the runaway was brief but exciting" (**The Manhattan Republic**, August 24, 1916). "The Star Grocery is sporting a fine new delivery motor truck since Wednesday" (**The Riley County Democrat**, September 15, 1916). "Glenn Paddleford took up his duties this morning as partner to S. M. Paddleford at the Star grocery" (**The Morning Chronicle**, September 27, 1916).

In January of 1922, it was announced that the Star Grocery would be sold to H. B. Estes and

O. F. Anderson. "Mr. Paddleford, the retiring proprietor, stated that he had no plans for the future but that he had no intention of retiring from active business" (**The Morning Chronicle**, January 3, 1922).

An article (**The Manhattan Tribune**, October 26, 1922) announced that S. M. Paddleford "will at once commence the construction of an apartment House at 16th and Fairchild that he expects to have ready for occupancy by Jan. 1."

The project architect was H. B. Winter. Plans included eight separate apartments of five rooms each. The basement would provide an assembly room with dance floor along with "many other features and conveniences for the tenants" (**The Manhattan Weekly**, November 4, 1922). The contract for general construction was awarded to Marion Tull for \$20,000. The wiring contract went to the Tri-Electric Company for \$597.25. Manhattan Sheet Metal Works was to install the heating and plumbing system. The anticipated occupancy date was revised to "early spring."

After a personal tour, a newspaper writer described the soon-to-be-finished building. "The structure is rapidly nearing completion, two of the eight, five-room apartments having been practically finished. Each apartment is to be equipped with a refrigerator placed in the hall, a gas stove, sink, and built-in kitchen cabinet and buffet" (**The Manhattan Republic**, March 1, 1923).

It was not long before social activities at the Paddleford Apartments were regularly featured in newspaper columns. Afternoon teas, thimble parties, church committee meetings, bridge parties, club meetings, and wedding and baby showers were among the

newsworthy events documented in print. The largest gatherings numbered around 35 participants. Paddleford tenants appear to have been primarily older, socially prominent empty-nesters interested in modern housing conveniently located to both the college and downtown.

Solon and Jennie sold 1017 Poyntz in November of 1923 and moved into the apartment building. A basement "den" was fitted up for Jennie so that she could write newspaper and magazine articles, having taken a correspondence course in journalism and learned to operate a typewriter. Her articles usually appeared either anonymously or under the byline of "Jane Stroup."

Jennie's choice of journalism as an avocation paralleled the career interests of the couple's daughter. Clementine began writing personals in the **Manhattan Daily Chronicle** while in high school, interviewing neighbors and staking out the railroad depot to witness and report on the town's newsworthy comings and goings. She even served as editor of the paper before she graduated from Manhattan High School in 1916.

**The Manhattan Mercury** profiled Clementine on October 11, 1920. "This is Miss Clementine Paddleford, a Manhattan girl, who holds the distinction of being the most versatile and at the same time the most thorough woman student in K.S.A.C. Her college honors would fill a column of Who's Who and a list of them looks like the work of twenty girls. Not yet out of her teens, Miss Paddleford is the youngest member of the Kansas Author's Club, a recognition of her successful writing for newspapers and magazines. As a newspaper woman she holds the most  
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important position in the power of her fellow students to bestow—editorship of the Kansas State Collegian, the Aggie student newspaper. Miss Paddleford is a senior in Industrial Journalism.

“But she doesn’t stop with leadership in college journalism. As an athlete there is none who has a better record. She has made every team that is open to coeds—baseball, hockey and basketball. Recognition is granted girls as well as boys by the Aggie athletic board and Miss Paddleford wears the ‘K.’

“Between work and play she finds time to take an interest in five college clubs, is prominent in the social life of the college as a member of the Alpha Delta Phi Sorority, is a capable member of half a dozen governing boards, and always has plenty of time for her friends. She also tutors in history. How? System. Every night she makes out a program for the following day. Every hour is provided for, and she lives up to it. That is part of the explanation. Brains and pep are the rest.”

After graduating from K.S.A.C. in 1921, Clementine’s ambition, work ethic, and tenacity--characteristics modeled by her parents--took her first to New York City, a detour to Chicago, and back to New York to stay. Her diary reports that she was scared to leave home, but pretended not to be. Jennie promised to send the egg money until Clementine could find a toehold. That took a while. She worked in a variety of jobs in journalism in addition to non-career jobs as shop girl and baby sitter.

Eventually, millions of regular readers devoured Clementine’s words. She wrote about regional home cooking and had a special

interest in the blending of immigrant food traditions with readily available American ingredients. As Food Editor of the **New York Herald Tribune** from 1936 until 1966, she traveled, roving reporter-style, from kitchen to kitchen throughout the country and eventually throughout the world. Human interest stories introduced her readers to home cooks willing to share their stories, recipes, and cooking techniques. Professional test kitchen resources were used to test recipes before publication.

From 1940 to 1967 Clementine also wrote for **This Week Magazine**, syndicated in forty-three big city Sunday papers throughout the nation. The public responded, sending mountains of letters her way, each of which she answered with the assistance of her staff. The work ethic she developed as a student in Manhattan became the pattern of her life and an important key to her success.

Clementine traveled 50,000 miles each year, many of those miles in a Piper Cub, which she personally piloted. Because navigation was not her strong suit, she flew with a road map in her lap. Chef, cookbook author, and champion of American cuisine James Beard (1903-1985) wrote in a private letter to a mutual friend “she is surely the getting-aroundest person I have ever known, except for Eleanor Roosevelt.”

It had taken over a year of “finagling” to get clearance for one of Clementine’s most dramatic kitchen tours—a 1960 visit to the USS *Skipjack*, the fastest nuclear submarine in the world. Meals for seventy-five to one hundred mariners were prepared in a “capsule kitchen,” measuring just six feet by nine feet. Clementine recounted her day at sea, giving her



Top, the demolition of the Paddleford Apartments in progress in May 2020. Bottom, an architectural detail from the building. Both photos are courtesy of the Riley Co. Historical Society and Museum.

readers the vicarious thrill of submerging into Long Island Sound. Her most famous book, ***How America Eats*** (1960) was developed from columns such as this.

Clementine’s mother, Jennie, had a profound influence on the formation of her character. “Never grow a wishbone, daughter, where your backbone ought to be” (***Hometown Appetites***, Kelly Alexander and Cynthia Harris, Gotham Books 2008). Because Jennie died of cancer in 1927 at age 60, she did not witness the height of Clementine’s success. Jennie was memorialized in Clementine’s touching and very popular book ***A Flower for my Mother*** (1958).

In 1931, Clementine had faced her own health crisis when at the age of thirty-three the reason for her chronically hoarse voice was (continued on pg. 4)

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 diagnosed as being laryngeal cancer. Removal of her larynx and vocal cords would probably effect a cure, but leave her unable to speak. Selective removal of cancerous parts and insertion of a sterling silver tracheotomy tube to regulate her breathing and speech was the riskier option. Faced with the choice of a cure that would leave her mute or the procedure that held some hope for preserving speech, Clementine chose the latter. For the rest of her life she placed a finger on a button in her throat and spoke in a low, hoarse whisper.

Fortunately, the surgery preserved her ability to swallow and eat normally. So, despite this setback, Clementine was able to travel the world, dine with people of all walks of life--from hobos to royalty--and share the recipes she discovered—or pried loose. “In her day she was as popular as Julia Child and as respected as James Beard” (**Kansas City Star**, August 27, 2008). She was also the highest financially-compensated K-State alumna and one of the most highly-compensated women in the entire United States.

Widespread cancer finally claimed Clementine in 1967. As with her mother, her loss was keenly felt by family and friends. Unlike her mother, her passing was national news. “Clem,” as she was known to her friends, was personally acquainted with thousands of interviewees, food industry professionals, and members of the press. Her readership was estimated at twelve million households per year.

Glenn and Clementine had shared ownership of the Paddleford Apartments after the death of their father in 1944. Upon her

death Clementine passed her share of the ownership to Glenn’s adult children, Pauline Paddleford Lantz and Donald Paddleford. A treasure trove of personal papers came to K-State’s Hale Library. These papers comprise one of the most distinguished primary research collections for the history of food writing in journalism. Clementine’s legacy, and that of her family, is secure.

And yet... The Paddleford Apartments--a unique building associated with the family, designed and constructed to high standards by talented local professionals using quality materials and celebrated in its time-- is gone. It was not destroyed by fire or wind or flood, but purposely pulled apart on May 13th of this year. The remnants were hauled away, presumably to fill a hole in the ground where the pieces will mingle, at least metaphorically, with the remains of other once-valued historic buildings.

We, as a society, talk about aspiring to be good stewards of our environment. As preservationists we are taught that the greenest building is the one already built. Why do so many quality buildings capable of lasting hundreds of years get replaced by buildings of inferior craftsmanship and materials designed to last mere decades?

While the Paddleford Apartment Building is gone, a sibling, if not quite twin, remains: the Tattarrax Apartments. “S. M. Paddleford, owner of the Paddleford Apartments, announced yesterday he would soon start construction of another apartment building in the same block, but facing on Laramie street in the 1600 block. The new building will be of brick, will be three stories in height, with probably six-room apartments on the first and second floors, and

smaller apartments on the third floor. The building will contain eight apartments all together. The probable cost of the structure will be between \$25,000 and \$30,000, according to Mr. Paddleford, who will begin work about March 1” (**The Morning Chronicle**, February 13, 1926).

Our neighbors of the past invested their time, talent and money in the built environment. Their legacy is ours to enjoy and appreciate. Distinctive architecture, particularly historic architecture, provides a sense of place and continuity like no other. Historic preservation and economic development work hand in hand to strengthen communities.

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Top, the Tattarrax Apartments at 1611 Laramie St., which were originally owned by S. M. Paddleford. The photo is courtesy of the Riley County Historical Society and Museum. Bottom, the former Laramie Street Grocery, which was adjacent to the Paddleford Apartments, was also demolished in May 2020.

## If This Block Could Talk: 1300 Block of Fremont

Over the decades, various blocks in Manhattan have earned nicknames. For example, Houston Street was nicknamed “Cut Glass Alley” in reference to the ornate details found in homes along its stretch. The 1900 block of Leavenworth Street and surrounding area were known as “Dean’s Row” due to the large number of Kansas State deans and department heads who lived in the area. In the early years of the 20th century, Fourteenth Street west of City Park was nicknamed “Faculty Row” as a result of the high number of faculty members who lived on the street. In the same manner, the 1300 block of Fremont Street could have been christened with a similar nickname due to the high number of deans, faculty members, and prominent citizens who have resided there over the years.

During the 1920s, two deans of Kansas State and a department head lived on the block. Mary Van Zile resided at 1318 Fremont and was the Dean of Women; Ira Pratt resided at 1320 Fremont and was the head of music and sometimes referred to as “Dean of Music”; and Andrey A. Potter resided at 1328 Fremont and was the Dean of the Division of Engineering.

Ira Pratt came to Kansas State in 1921, and his family lived on Osage Street for a time. A short 1923 newspaper notice announced that Dean Pratt had purchased 1320 Fremont from A. M. Patterson, who was also a Kansas State faculty member (“Dean Pratt”). It’s unclear how many years the Pratts lived in the house, but by 1930, the U. S. Census shows the Pratts lived in Topeka.

Mary Van Zile came to Manhattan in 1908, and she was a professor of domestic science at Kansas State Agricultural College (KSAC). The following year she



Both photos show the 1300 block of Fremont Street.

was made Dean of Home Economics, and Dean of Women was added to her duties in 1912. By 1919, her duties as Dean of Women had become great enough to demand all of her time, and she relinquished her position as Dean of Home Economics in order to dedicate her focus to Dean of Women (*Royal Purple*). Newspaper and U.S. Census records indicate Dean Van Zile owned the house at 1318 Fremont in the 1920s and lived there with her two sons. One notice stated two classes in carpentry at Kansas State were working on a garage for Dean Van Zile. The garage was constructed and painted on campus, and when it was completed, the garage was transported by truck to 1318 Fremont and placed on a foundation. The garage was described as “one of the best looking garages in town” (“K.S.A.C.”).

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Mary Van Zile was still Dean of Women and lived as a boarder in a house on Houston Street. The Van

Zile residence hall on the Kansas State campus was named for Dean Van Zile.

Andrey A. Potter arrived in Manhattan in 1905 to work at KSAC as an assistant professor in mechanical engineering. The following year, he married a local woman and started a family.

By 1914, Andrey Potter was appointed Dean of the Division of Mechanic Arts (i.e. engineering) and Director of the Engineering Experiment Station, and the young family lived at 1330 Fremont. A short newspaper notice indicated Dean Potter had a sleeping porch added to his residence in 1915 (“Dean A. A.”). In 1918, the Potter family is listed as living at 1328 Fremont. Today, there isn’t a house with the address of 1330 Fremont.

Merrill A. Durland, who had graduated from Kansas State in 1918, became a faculty member in 1919. He became the Assistant Dean of the School of Engineering and Architecture in 1926. He held that position until 1949 when he became the Dean of the School of Engineering as well as Director of the Engineering Experiment Station (“M. A. Durland”). In the 1940s, Merrill Durland lived at 1300 Fremont. He served as dean for 12 years, retiring in 1961, and he returned to teaching. Under Dean Durland’s guidance, two major additions were made to Seaton Hall and the departments of nuclear and industrial engineering were established (“Durland”). He later lived at 520 Fairchild Terr. for many years. Durland Hall on the Kansas State campus is named for Dean Durland and houses the chemical engineering department.

In addition to these deans, other prominent citizens lived in the 1300 block of Fremont Street. One of those prominent citizens was Ladek (*continued on pg. 6*)

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C. "Lud" Fiser, whose family lived in the former home of Dean Van Zile at 1318 Fremont. The Fiser family came to Manhattan in 1942 when Lud, who was a graduate of Kansas State and multi-sport college athlete, was hired to be the high school's football and track coach ("Fiser"). The 1943 high school football team was undefeated. In 1945, Lud Fiser was named temporary head coach of the Kansas State football team and was referred to as the first "home grown" coach, meaning he was a graduate and former football player of Kansas State ("Fiser is named"). The following year, he became the freshman football coach with the charge to help Kansas State develop a successful program. He was also Kansas State's head baseball coach for the 1947-48 seasons and helped to organize youth baseball in Manhattan.

In addition to coaching, Lud Fiser was heavily involved with the community and was selected as secretary-executive manager of the Chamber of Commerce, with duties beginning in February 1949 ("Ruddick"). He held the position with the Chamber of Commerce until he retired in 1975, which remains the longest tenure of any Chamber leader. He played an important role during the devastating 1951 flood, coordinating the distribution of supplies to residents impacted by the flood, clean-up after the water receded, and coordinating reconstruction. He was a central figure in the creation of CiCo Park ("Services"), and the Lud Fiser Youth Sport Complex in CiCo Park is named in his honor.

Another prominent citizen to reside in the 1300 block of Fremont was Jack Gardner, and the Gardner family lived at 1328 Fremont, the former home of Dean Potter. Jack Gardner was Kansas State's head men's basketball coach during 1939-42 and again during 1946-1953 and known as the "Father of Kansas

State Basketball" (Janssen). Jack left Kansas State in 1942 to join the Navy during World War II, where he provided physical training to Navy pilots ("Jack"). After military service, he returned to his position as head coach in the fall of 1946 and coached until 1953. Under Jack Gardner's leadership, the men's basketball team won the Big Seven conference title three times, the Wildcats competed in the Final Four twice, and the 1950-51 team competed in the NCAA championship game and was the runner-up.

The success of the men's basketball team helped to emphasize the need for a new fieldhouse. Fans packed Nichols Gym to capacity to watch the winning team play, with others waiting outside in hopes of squeezing in. Plans for a new fieldhouse and the funds to build it were approved by the Kansas Legislature in 1946, but construction was slow to start (Hilgendorf). Jack Gardner is credited for his leadership in navigating hurdles with the Legislature and getting Ahearn Fieldhouse built (Janssen).

Manhattan resident and former mayor Dave Fiser, who is the son of Lud and Vivian Fiser, grew up on the 1300 block of Fremont and has many fond memories. He recalls spending summers in City Park, saying, "We loved living on the 1300 block. We could walk to the park, pool, band concerts, the baseball fields, and there was ice skating in the winter." When his family lived at 1318 Fremont, there was just an alley behind the house and no apartment buildings. The family patronized Aggieville, shopping at the variety of businesses found there such as a hardware store, jewelry store, pharmacy, furniture shop, grocery store, and photographer's studio. He vividly remembers all of the neighbors who shared the block and can easily list them off as well as which houses they resided in. He remembers the real estate and plumbing offices that operated from private homes, the

family on the corner who shared their home with fraternity members, the barber who was an Aggieville fixture, Coach Jack Gardner, and the older neighbor who wasn't fond of children and whose yard he was afraid to cross. Dave recalls that residents felt a responsibility toward City Park and says, "We used to want to keep it a nice park, those of us who lived around it."

A few changes have taken place since Dave Fiser lived on the block, namely that the houses at each end have been replaced. Dean Durland's former home at 1300 Fremont was demolished in 2012 and replaced by a structure that provides office and meeting space for the New Hope Church. At the opposite end of the block, the house at 1334 Fremont, which Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity shared with a family in the 1950s, was removed and replaced by a duplex in the late 1990s. The other houses remain, and while many have become rentals over the years, it was not uncommon in years past for residents to board a student or two if they had the space.

While it may be a little unusual to find a high number of deans and prominent citizens living on the same block, the history of the 1300 block of Fremont demonstrates that every block has a story to tell.

"Dean A. A. Potter." The Manhattan Mercury. 29 March 1915: 3.

"Dean Pratt buys a home." The Manhattan Mercury. 26 March 1923: 1.

"Durland to retire from K-State post." The Manhattan Mercury. 14 June 1961: 1.

"Fiser is named new KSC head coach." The Manhattan Republic. 9 August 1945: 1.

"Fiser named as new grid mentor." The Manhattan Mercury. 28 July 1942: 1.

Hilgendorf, Bob. "Sport spotlites [sic]." Manhattan Mercury-Chronicle. 8 February 1946: 3.

"Jack Gardner to leave KSC." The Manhattan Mercury. 8 May 1942: 3.

Janssen, Mark. "Gardner: KSU legendary coach dies at the age of 90." The Manhattan Mercury. 11 April 2000: B1.

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"K.S.A.C. carpenter shop a busy place this summer." [The Kansas State Collegian](#). 9 June 1922: 4.

"M. A. Durland named as Dean of Engineering." [Manhattan Mercury-Chronicle](#). 12 May 1949: 1.

"Potter is dean." [The Kansas Industrialist](#). 16 May 1914: 4.

*The Royal Purple*. Ed. James Chapman. Manhattan, KS: Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, 1932. Web 13 May 2020.

"Ruddick named president; Lud Fiser, manager." [Manhattan Mercury-Chronicle](#). 23 December 1948: 1.

"Services set for Lud Fiser." [The Manhattan Mercury](#). 26 August 1990: 1, 8.

## Palatial Home on Pottawatomie Ave.

Located on the south edge of Manhattan, the brick house found at 431 Pottawatomie Avenue has connections that extend back to some of Manhattan's earliest residents -- the passengers aboard the steamship *Hartford*. The *Hartford* ran aground 165 years ago in June 1855 near the confluence of the Kansas and Blue Rivers. Early settlers, such as Isaac Goodnow and Joseph Denison, invited the stranded passengers to stay. They accepted the invitation, and the parties agreed to name the new settlement Manhattan.

In the early 1870s, the land along Pottawatomie Ave. was owned by George and Sallie Brown, and a 1874 newspaper account indicates a one-and-a-half story house had been built on the property. George was a carpenter, so this early house was likely wood-framed. Tax records show the tax rating for the property made a dramatic increase in 1877, which is a clue that something significant had occurred, such as the construction of a large brick house (O'Brien).

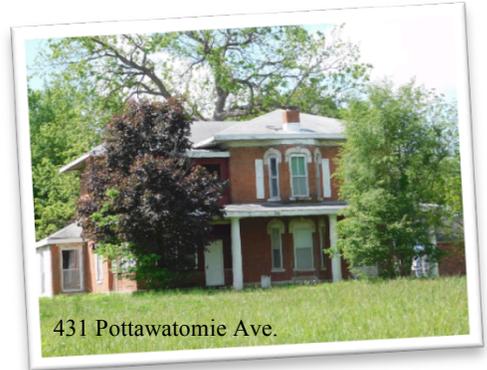
Sallie Brown was a passenger on the *Hartford* along with her brother

and widowed father. When Sallie passed away in 1921, her obituary indicated her brick home had been built by her father, Judge John Pipher, who was the head of the Cincinnati and Kansas Land Company whose members arrived on the *Hartford*. Judge Pipher was Manhattan's first mayor, first postmaster, and he helped to organize the Methodist church while the *Hartford* was en route to Kansas ("Judge").

Sallie married Thomas Platt in 1856, which is described as the first wedding in Manhattan, with Rev. Joseph Denison officiating ("The first"). She is also listed as the mother of the first child born in the "new city" ("Mrs. Geo."), which appears to reference after Manhattan was officially incorporated in 1857.

Thomas died, and in 1859, Sallie married George Brown, who had also been a passenger on the *Hartford* along with his father. George worked for the government at Ft. Riley and went on to be involved with a variety of business endeavors, including furniture, mercantile, and lumber businesses ("Geo. F. Brown").

A short 1877 newspaper notice indicates George Brown hosted a party at his new residence "at the foot of Fourth street," which is another indicator that the brick home was constructed in 1877 ("The New"). Sallie's obituary described the house as, ". . . one of the palatial residences of the young city, set in beautiful grounds, which for years were kept with care and beautified with trees and flowers" and goes on to say the house was "the meeting place of the society of the day" ("Mrs. Geo.").



When an "old settlers" picnic was held in 1920, Sallie was one of only two passengers from the *Hartford* still living, with the other being Amanda Arnold, who was an early schoolteacher ("Old"). George had died in 1905, and Sallie died in 1921, leaving Miss Arnold as the last survivor from the *Hartford*.

When Sallie passed away, her obituary indicated she had been living in the home at 431 Pottawatomie Ave. Today, George and Sallie Brown's 140-year-old home is showing its age, but it isn't hard to imagine the "palatial residence" it once was.

"The first brides." [The Riley County Democrat](#). 21 April 1916: 1.

"Geo. F. Brown dead." [The Manhattan Nationalist](#). 18 October 1905: 1.

"Judge Pipher dead." [The Manhattan Republic](#). 15 June 1900: 1.

"Mrs. Geo. Brown dies." [The Manhattan Republic](#). 7 July 1921: 1.

"The New Year's party." [Manhattan Enterprise](#). 3 January 1877: 1.

O'Brien, Dr. Patricia J. [The Architects and Buildings of Manhattan, Kansas](#). Manhattan, Kansas: Riley County Historical Society, 2008.

"Old settlers have picnic." [The Manhattan Republic](#). 1 July 1920: 6.

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