

LAWRENCE STREETS, notes by Katie Armitage (updated 2009-2010)

The Lawrence townsite surveyed in October 1854, by A. D. Searl. The information was sent to Boston, Mass. where the first map was printed. The streets were named by Dr. Thomas Webb, secretary of the New England Aid Society. An early description of the streets appeared in Thomas W. Webb's *Information for Kansas Immigrants* published in Boston in 1857.

"The streets thirty-two in number running north and south, are named after the several States constituting the Union. The main street is called Massachusetts, she having been the prime mover in the enterprise; to the east of this are twelve streets which are designated by the names of the remainder of the 'old thirteen'; to the west are nineteen more, which bear the names of the other States, in the order of their admission, beginning with Vermont and ending with California. All of these are eighty feet wide, with the exception of Massachusetts Street, which is one hundred feet. At right angles to these, run other streets, which are named after individuals, distinguished for their Patriotism, Philanthropy, and Love of Liberty."

1886 Aug. 12- the Street to KU being paved (14th)

1891 May 21- Lawrence Journal- Massachusetts is not in a condition to reflect great credit on our city fathers... This would have been a splendid day to have scraped the street, the mud being of just the consistency to scrape well."

1891 June 7 *Lawrence Journal* – The hackmen were kept pretty busy today, owing to the miserable condition of the streets....

1893 Feb. 11 *Lawrence World*, to the Lawrence Street Commission:

"In the name of the people of Lawrence and the merchants upon the street who pay the taxes that pay your salary, the World demands that you get to work upon the crossing. There are many idle men in the city and there is money to pay them for cleaning the streets; and it is your business to see that they are properly kept. Yesterday it thawed all day yet not a man was at work on the streets and every crossing is a mud puddle. You have had an easy time this winter, watching checker games, but now there is work to be done..."

VITRIFIED BRICK

1898 June 11 *Lawrence Daily Journal*-The Lawrence Vitrified Brick Company had recently been incorporated with a capital stock of \$32,000. The Santa Fe railroad will build a switch at the new brick company's yards (at First and Alabama –near today's Burcham Park in Pinckney neighborhood)

1900 Nov. 21 LDJ- brick paving on Mass. St.

1901 Jun 2 LDJ-Mass St. paved.

1909

1909, July 6. L D World-A huge steel plow drawn by six horses is tearing up the old macadam along Mass. St. to make way for laying of the tracks for the electric line.

1909 July 19, *Lawrence Daily World*

The private roadway to the home of Gov. Stubbs west of town is likely to be the most beautiful private drive in the state.

1909 Aug. 31, - *Lawrence Daily World*, The work of paving Connecticut Street is being rush along to take advantage of the labor available. The street car line is

taking away many working and paving must be done wherever there are sufficient workers.

1909 Nov. L D World-"The university boulevard which has been discussed and agitated for months is at last assured of success. The state penitentiary has offered to furnish the brick for the state's portion of the work. The brick will be made by the convicts at Lansing and can be brought here at little expense.

1910

1910 Jan 12 LJ World-Officials at the Lawrence Vitriified Brick Co are to meet to discuss increasing the capacity of the plant... Much of the delay in city paving contracts is secured by the inability to supply brick as fast as they are needed.

1910 March 21 L D World-New paving improvements are planned and are due to cost more than \$200.00. Lawrence already has the best paving of any city in the state.

1913-Dec. 3 -several downtown streets renamed for the convenience of visitors- numbers replaced patriot names on Pinckey (6th) Winthrop (7) and Henry (8) Warren (9) Berkley (10), Quincy (11)

20 the Century STREETS

1958 Oct. 10 LJW Four lane widening on Iowa street all the way south to 23rd was included in Ks Highway commission's new program for 1959.

1960 the city's list of street names numbered more than two hundred from Alabama to Yale.

1969 JUNE 19 LJW- City commission ordered the paving of the remaining portion of Kasold Drive and West 15th St.

1984 July 11 "The West 15th Street extension job had been refigured and the cost estimate was sliced by \$168,000 The extension was to be from Monterey way to Wakarusa Drive to provide access to the proposed research-office park, Estimated total cost was \$1.6 million.

? The City commission was expected to give the go-ahead soon on the paving work for a four-lane Kasold Drive on the western fringe of the city. At one time, there had been a petition and election on whether to keep Kasold a two-lane road. It was soundly eaten at the polls and four-lane planning was resumed."

2000 May 23 LJW "Mississippi St. comes together brick by brick" first major brick street repair in the modern age.

2009 July LJW- "Morning Dr." near Ks Turnpike misspelled?

Sound Off- Lisa Patterson spokesperson for city stated that the developer as part of the plat process for Stonegate Townhouses Addition that was recorded with the Register of Deeds Office on March 17, 2000 the street names as "Morning Dove Circle and Morning Dove Court"

2009 March 24 LJW "No new name for Missouri St. by Chad Lawhorn

March 2009- Commissioner Sue Hack proposed renamed Missouri St. near stadium for Don Fambrough. I and others protested. Commissioner Boog Highberger took up the cause.