

1. In the fall of 1868, Erick Calene homesteaded 80 acres on which he built a one-room rock house. He lived alone there until he was married in 1877 to Bertha Molander. Three children were born in their one-room house. About 1887, seven rooms were added to the original home and in 1908, the large stone barn was built.

Notice the stone fence. At one time, there was miles of stone fence in this community, but as modern roads and fencing were put in, the stone fence was crushed and was used for road work. This house is located on Oat Road, just south of the Baptist Church on 2100 Avenue.

2. Jacob Ostrom moved to this location from Iowa with his children in 1869. They lived first in a dugout; the stone house was built in 1872. The kitchen was erected around an old open well, dug by hand in 1871. The depth of the Ostrom well is not recorded, but at least two wells in the community were hand dug and walled with rock to over 100 feet.

The large stone barn was started in 1890 and finished in 1904. The remains of a small stone building near the road was the original blacksmith and carpenter shop built in 1878. This house is also located on Oat Road and is just south of house number one.

3. The Mission Church still stands on its five-acre plot. The building was completed in 1881. The first seats in the newly built church were planks without backs and coal oil lamps were used for years. In those early days the men sat on the south side and the women on the north. Newly married couples were permitted to sit together in a middle section provided for them. In 1891 the church steeple and bell were demolished by a storm. No regular services have been held since 1934.



4. Born in Sweden in 1831, P.E. Calene obtained deed to this land in 1876. The original house consisted of four rooms with one upstairs. The first "Jul-Otta" (Swedish Christmas service) was held by Rev. H. Blom in this "upper room". Eight babies were born in the home before it was enlarged about 1890. The large stone barn was constructed in 1887. The rock for all of these buildings was taken from the farm. This home is located on 2000 Avenue.

shows that on March 1, 1878, the first teacher, Miss Mabel White, received \$100 for a three-month teaching term. About 20 pupils were in attendance that first year. The school is located just east of house number four.

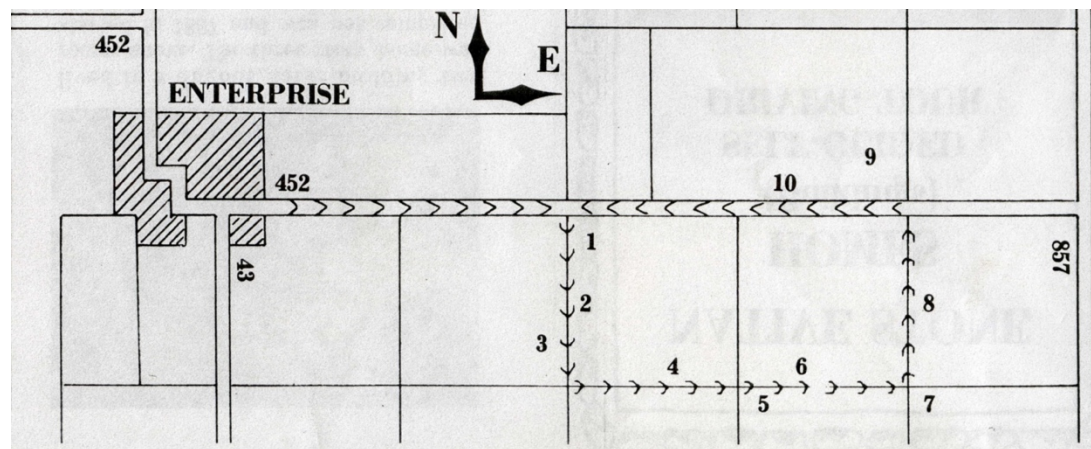
In the 60 years of its use, 300 pupils attended this school. Classes have not been held here since 1956. The building was eventually used for social gatherings as it was in those early days.



Notice the decorative stone facing on the wall facing the road? This is called "woodpeckering".

5. Before 1870, school was held in various dugouts. In 1877 work began on a one-room structure, known as Pleasant Hill School, for the cost of \$600. Records

For forty years until a well was drilled in 1917, all water for the school had been carried from a spring ahead near the road.



6. Once upon a time, there was a cottonwood tree that stood here. It was estimated to be at least 150 years old and measured 24 feet in circumference and was located near the spring that furnished water for Pleasant Hill School many years ago. Olof Nystrom, or "Sorghum Olle" as he was called, operated a sorghum mill under its branches. Nystrom lived in a dugout on the east side of the creek. The old cottonwood tree met its demise and is no longer standing. Memories of the tree are in the hearts and minds of those who lived in the area.

7. This is an old rock quarry. During pioneer days, native limestone sold for 50 cents a cord (8'x4'x4'). Lime was sold by the bushel. You may have noticed the different types of stone facing. Some terms used in the building stone trade are pitched face, cut stone, and quarry face. One method to excavate is by drilling holes in the rock. Water freezes in the holes and breaks the rock.

8. Peter Forslund bought this land from the railroad in 1868 at \$4 an acre and built a one-room stone house. In 1892, A.R. Diehl bought the 160-acre farm for \$4,000. His only son, Allie, was married in 1897 and continued to farm. The wheat crop in 1897 sold for 37 cents a bushel. Also at that time, Mr. Diehl was milking 17 cows by hand. In 1898, he began a cheese



factory, which was located on the north side of the present home, making about 300 pounds a day. In 1900 he put in a building just east of the house for groceries and hardware and the same year installed

a telephone. Later a switchboard was installed in the home with 300 telephones and became known as the Pleasant Hill Telephone Exchange.

Two railroad carloads of cement at 37 cents a sack went into construction of the barn in 1913. The two silos were erected before 1915. This house is located on Quail Road.

9. The big barn to the right was built in 1883. It was about 1870 when Mr. and Mrs. Jackson and their two children came to Kansas. At first, they lived in a dugout, later building two rooms above. The three-story home was started in 1887 and was not completed until 1905. The whole second floor of the home, including a balcony for the band, was dedicated as a social center. The Jackson family musicians provided the music for community dances. This house is located on 2100 Avenue.

10. E.A. Engstrom came to Enterprise in 1868 and the following year, Mrs. Engstrom came from Sweden with their two children. Three more children were born in their little one room stone house. That original home has been removed. The stone home you see was built in 1883, with the wood frame additions much later. The stone barn, grainery, and other buildings were constructed by Jacob Strom in the early 1900's.

Continue straight ahead back to Enterprise or take some other side roads to see more of the native stone homesteads.

Native Stone Homes and Buildings Self-Guided Driving Tour



The Swedish settlement east of Enterprise, Kansas began when the first settler, John Swenson, came in 1858. Others followed him and built their homes in the "Swenson" Creek community. Many stately reminders of those first pioneers still stand. This 10-mile tour begins and ends at Enterprise, Kansas. You will see a few of the beautiful native stone homes, barns, and other buildings built before 1900. Most of the homes on the tour are still lived in, therefore, please respect the privacy of others and view the buildings from the road only. Some townships roads may be difficult to traverse in wet weather, so use caution at such times.

