

F
545
.B83
I68
1975

Report:

ANSEL BRIGGS PROJECT

Iowa State Historical Department
Division of the State Historical Society
Iowa City, Iowa
Peter T. Harstad, Director

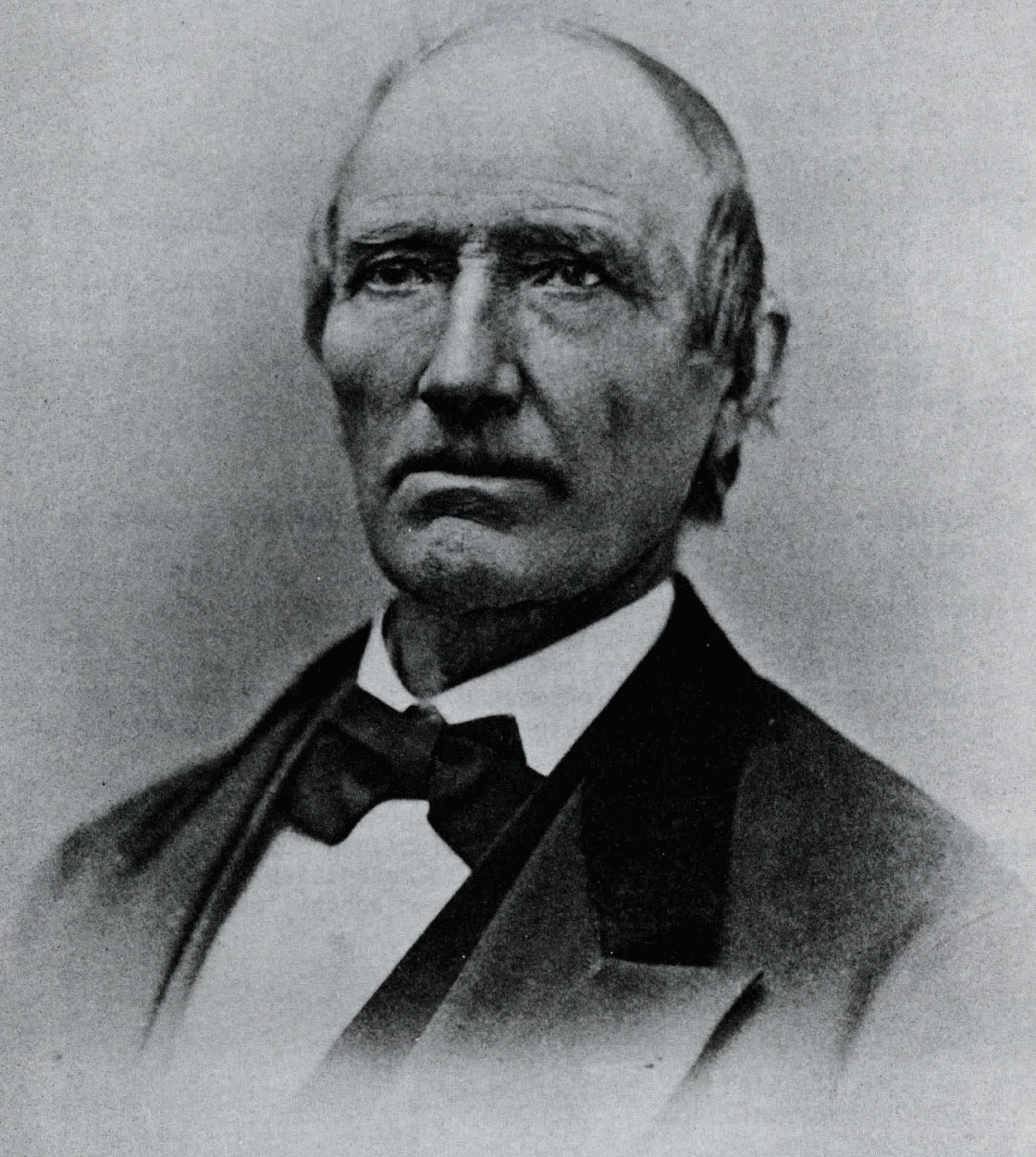


Project Director: Loren N. Horton

Research Consultant: Timothy N. Hyde

May, 1975

State Library Of Iowa
State Documents Center
Miller Building
Des Moines, Iowa



A. Briggs

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Peter T. Harstad, Director

Iowa City, Iowa 52240



May 30, 1975

To the Honorable Members of the 66th General Assembly:

The State Historical Society of Iowa, a Division of the newly created State Historical Department, herewith transmits its final and complete report in compliance with Senate File 1325, Section 1, #4 of the 65th General Assembly. The public now has at its disposal sufficient information for making decisions about a fitting memorial to the first Governor of the State of Iowa, Ansel Briggs.

The same General Assembly that appropriated \$2,500 for the planning and study of a memorial to Ansel Briggs also created a State Historical Board and assigned to that body the power to: "Acquire historic properties by gift, purchase, devise or bequest; preserve, restore, transfer and administer such properties;" (303.5 #11 of the Code of Iowa) Therefore, if property acquisition is contemplated in the context of a memorial to Governor Briggs, the State Historical Board should be involved.

Many people cooperated with Loren N. Horton and Timothy Hyde in the preparation of this report. I take this opportunity to thank all such parties, but particularly Catherine Robertson of Rock Springs, Wyoming, a direct descendant of Governor Briggs who shared with us an important parcel of Briggs manuscripts.

Sincerely yours,

Peter T. Harstad

Peter T. Harstad
Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Genealogical Charts.....	3
Outline of Briggs' Life.....	7
Time Line of Briggs' Life.....	8
The Governorship of Ansel Briggs.....	29
Bibliography.....	39
Inventory of Briggs Primary Documents.....	54
Index to Deeds in Jackson County.....	61
Index to Deeds in Pocahontas County.....	73
Index to Deeds in Douglas County, Nebraska.....	75
Notes Connected with Briggs, and an Appraisal of Their Potential as Historic Memorials to Him.....	76
Register of Existing Monuments and Memorials to Briggs.....	78
Recommendations.....	81
Log of Correspondence for the Briggs Project.....	84
Log of Trips and Telephone Calls Pertaining to the Briggs Project.....	87
Photographs.....	89
Reproductions of Some Briggs Documents.....	94

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Genealogical Charts.....	3
Outline of Briggs' Life.....	7
Time Line of Briggs' Life.....	8
The Governorship of Ansel Briggs.....	29
Bibliography.....	39
Inventory of Briggs Primary Documents.....	54
Index to Deeds in Jackson County.....	61
Index to Deeds in Pottawattamie County.....	73
Index to Deeds in Douglas County, Nebraska.....	75
Sites Connected with Briggs, and an Appraisal of Their Potential as Historic Memorials to Him.....	76
Register of Existing Monuments and Memorials to Briggs.....	78
Recommendations.....	81
Log of Correspondence for the Briggs Project.....	84
Log of Trips and Telephone Calls Pertaining to the Briggs Project.....	87
Photographs.....	89
Reproductions of Some Briggs Documents.....	94

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
Generalized Charts.....	3
Outline of Bridge Life.....	7
Time Line of Bridge Life.....	8
The Governorship of Ansel Briggs.....	29
Bibliography.....	39
Inventory of Bridge Primary Documents.....	54
Index to Needs in Jackson County.....	61
Index to Needs in Polk County.....	73
Index to Needs in Douglas County, Nebraska.....	75
Sites Connected with Briggs, and an Appraisal of Their Potential as Historic Monuments to Him.....	76
Register of Existing Monuments and Monuments to Briggs.....	78
Recommendations.....	81
Log of Correspondence for the Bridge Project.....	84
Log of Trips and Telephone Calls Pertaining to the Bridge Project.....	87
Photographs.....	89
Reproductions of Some Bridge Documents.....	94

INTRODUCTION

In June of 1974, Governor Robert Ray approved Senate File 1325, an Act passed by the Sixty-fifth General Assembly. This Act directed the State Historical Society of Iowa to utilize the sum of \$2500 "For the planning and study of a memorial to Ansel Briggs, the first governor of Iowa." The Society was given one year, beginning on July 1, 1974, in which to complete its report.

In July and August of 1974, the Staff of the Historical Society began to map out the requirements, form, and range of this project. In September the project began in earnest with the hiring of a research consultant. It was quickly learned that there has been very little research or writing, of a substantive nature, done on Ansel Briggs. Although he served as Governor in one of the most important and formative periods in Iowa history, he has been largely ignored by historians. And even less was known about his personal life. Before the State could properly memorialize this Governor, we felt it necessary to know much more about his private and public life. The first and most lengthy part of this project, then, involved extensive biographical research.

We first surveyed the things that have been written and said about Briggs, the secondary sources. A complete enumeration of these sources appears in the bibliographical section of this report. For the most part, the secondary materials are not very well researched, nor very scholarly. They include speeches, memorial addresses, county histories, and many books and articles that mention Briggs in connection with one problem or another. The information about Briggs in all of these sources is thin and contradictory. The various accounts of Briggs' travels in the 1850 to 1880 period, for example, are so contradictory that the researcher is compelled to dismiss them all and start over again with the primary sources.

Unfortunately, there is also a paucity of reliable primary evidence about Ansel Briggs. He was not a letter writer or diary keeper, and he apparently did not preserve large quantities of documentary and manuscript material. One of our best sources of primary evidence was in county land records. Briggs bought and sold a great deal of land, both in Iowa and Nebraska. These records revealed not only the extent of Briggs' holdings, but his various residences in these two states. In addition to these and other county records, we looked at the archives of the Territorial and General Assemblies, and of the executive departments, published government documents, and various manuscript collections which contain information about Briggs. Although not many newspapers from that period still exist, we were able to extract much valuable information from the few that are extant. And we were very lucky in discovering that Mrs. Catherine Robertson, the great-granddaughter of Ansel Briggs, had a small but valuable collection of family papers in her possession. This collection contained a few key documents that helped us clear up some of the many ambiguities in Briggs' life.

A major problem we encountered in our research was the wide geographical range with which we had to work. Briggs lived and worked in Vermont, Ohio, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, and Montana. It was impossible, in a project of this scope, to travel and do research in all of these areas. We were able to accomplish much by mail, but there is also much that remains to be done in any full-scale biographical study of the Governor.

After completing as much biographical research as time and money would allow, we constructed a time line of Ansel Briggs' life out of the raw data. This time line formed the basis for our subsequent activity. Before we could make recommendations, however, we needed to complete two other tasks: a survey of physical sites connected with Briggs, and a survey of existing memorials to him. We limited our survey of physical sites to those within Iowa. We tried to do on-site inspections for each of these locations, and when possible, we collected photographic evidence about them.

In order to avoid duplication, it was especially important to survey and describe previous efforts to memorialize Briggs. We were somewhat surprised by the quantity and quality of existing memorials to the first Governor. This reflects well on the citizens of Jackson County and their sense of history. At least two of these memorials have been erected with public monies, and several more through private endeavors.

The heart of this project is the list of recommendations. Because of the existing markers and monuments to Briggs, we wanted to propose memorials that would have a somewhat wider historical interest. We sought to develop proposals that would help people understand Ansel Briggs as he lived and worked within a particular historical context, and we tried to tie these to ongoing programs of historical interpretation. More than any other aspect of this project, the recommendations are a product of the collective efforts of interested citizens, the Staff of the Historical Society, and those directly connected with this project. Rather than concentrate and develop a single proposal, we decided to present the General Assembly with a range of options. This allows maximum flexibility in terms of how much money the General Assembly wishes to spend, and what it feels is the best way to memorialize the first Governor. The recommendations are listed in a priority order, but they are not mutually exclusive. We are willing to develop any of them in much greater detail if requested to do so.

We feel that any one of these proposals would be an appropriate memorial to Briggs. His public career, although short, came at a crucial period in Iowa's development. It was during his administration that Iowans learned how to govern themselves as a state. And his private life, in many ways, symbolizes the frontier Iowan: he was constantly on the move West, helping to form new communities as he went; he was a public-spirited land speculator, a small-town storekeeper, and a stagecoach driver. These endeavors were essential for the development of the frontier.

We hope this project itself, in some way, stands as a memorial to Governor Briggs. Never before has so much been known about our first governor. There is still a great deal left to discover, but the substantial quantity of material we have collected will remain in our archives as an aid and impetus to further research on the man and his period. We also feel that it might be worthwhile for the State to fund a similar study, or at least the biographical section of it, for Iowa's second governor, Stephen Hempstead of Dubuque. Although he had a long and distinguished public career in Iowa, even less has been written about him than about Briggs. It was during Hempstead's administration that many of the policies and ideas of Briggs' Governorship were carried to fruition. And Hempstead was the last Democratic Governor for nearly a half century.

Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler Loren N. HortonPerson No. 1 on this chart is the same
person as No. _____ on chart No. _____.Chart No. 1Address 402 Iowa AvenueCity, State Iowa City, IowaDate 4 April 19754 Abner Briggs
(Father of No. 2)b.
p.b.
m.
d.
p.d.2 Benjamin Ingley Briggs
(Father of No. 1)b. 1784
p.b. Freetown, Massachusetts
m.
d.
p.d. Guernsey County, Ohio5 Sarah Philips
(Mother of No. 2)b.
p.b. 1759
d. 1850
p.d.1 ANSEL BRIGGSb. 3 February 1806
p.b. Shoreham, Vermont
m. 11 November 1830
d. 5 May 1881
p.d. Omaha, Nebraska

8 (Father of No. 3)

b.
p.b.
m.
d.
p.d.3 Electa Trippman
(Mother of No. 1)b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

7 (Mother of No. 3)

b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

Nancy M. Dunlap

(Spouse of No. 1)

b. 3 Feb. 1806 d. 30 Dec. 1847
p.b. Ohio p.d. Andrew, Iowa8 David Briggs
(Father of No. 4)b.
p.b.
m.
d.
p.d.9 Sibyl Cudworth
(Mother of No. 4)b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.10 Ralph Philips
(Father of No. 5)b.
p.b.
m.
d.
p.d.11 Deborah Ingalls
(Mother of No. 5)b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

12 (Father of No. 6)

b.
p.b.
m.
d.
p.d.

13 (Mother of No. 6)

b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

14 (Father of No. 7)

b.
p.b.
m.
d.
p.d.

15 (Mother of No. 7)

b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.16 David Briggsb. 1701
m.
d. (Father of No. 8,
Cont. on chart No. _____)17 Sarah Babbittb. 1788
d. (Mother of No. 8,
Cont. on chart No. _____)18 (Father of No. 9,
Cont. on chart No. _____)19 (Mother of No. 9,
Cont. on chart No. _____)20 (Father of No. 10,
Cont. on chart No. _____)21 (Mother of No. 10,
Cont. on chart No. _____)22 (Father of No. 11,
Cont. on chart No. _____)23 (Mother of No. 11,
Cont. on chart No. _____)24 (Father of No. 12,
Cont. on chart No. _____)25 (Mother of No. 12,
Cont. on chart No. _____)26 (Father of No. 13,
Cont. on chart No. _____)27 (Mother of No. 13,
Cont. on chart No. _____)28 (Father of No. 14,
Cont. on chart No. _____)29 (Mother of No. 14,
Cont. on chart No. _____)30 (Father of No. 15,
Cont. on chart No. _____)31 (Mother of No. 15,
Cont. on chart No. _____)

FAMILY GROUP No. _____ **Husband's Full Name** Benjamin Ingley Briggs

This Information Obtained From:	Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
	Birth			1784	Freetown	Massachusetts		
	Chr'dnd							
	Mar.							
	Death				Guernsey County,	Ohio		
	Burial							

Places of Residence Shoreham, Vermont Guernsey County, Ohio
 Occupation _____ Church Affiliation _____ Military Rec. _____

Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc.
 Make separate sheet for each mar.

His Father Abner Briggs Mother's Maiden Name Philips

Wife's Full Maiden Name Electa Trippman

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth							
Chr'dnd							
Death							
Burial							

Compiler _____ Places of Residence Shoreham, Vermont Guernsey County, Ohio

Address _____ Occupation if other than Housewife _____ Church Affiliation _____

City, State _____ Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc.
 Make separate sheet for each mar.

Date _____ Her Father _____ Mother's Maiden Name _____

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
-----	--	-----------------	-----	-------	------	---------------------	--------------------------	------------------	------------------------

1	Benjamin Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death			1851	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
		Burial							

2	Albert Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

3	Roswell Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

4	Electa Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

5	Hanna Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

6	Amelia Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

7	Ansel Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	3	Feb	1806	Shoreham	Vermont		
		Mar.	11	Nov	1830	Guernsey County	Ohio		
		Death	5	May	1881	Omaha	Douglas	Nebraska	
		Burial							

8		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

9		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

10		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. info. on children" column. Use reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.

FAMILY GROUP No. _____ **Husband's Full Name** **Ansel Briggs**

This Information Obtained From:	Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
	Birth	3	Feb	1806	Shoreham		Vermont	
	Chr'nd							
	Mar.	11	Nov	1830	Guernsey County		Ohio	
	Death	5	May	1881	Omaha	Douglas	Nebraska	
	Burial							
	Places of Residence	Vermont, Ohio, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Montana						
	Occupation	Church Affiliation Military Rec.						
	Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.	Frances Carpenter 27 October 1849						
	His Father	Benjamin I. Briggs Mother's Maiden Name Trippman						
	Wife's Full Maiden Name Nancy M. Dunlap							
	Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
	Birth	3	Feb	1806			Ohio	
	Chr'nd							
	Death	30	Dec	1847	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
	Burial							
Compiler	Places of Residence Ohio, Iowa							
Address	Occupation if other than Housewife Church Affiliation							
City, State	Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
Date	Her Father Mother's Maiden Name							

Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
1 James Dunlap Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	25	Apr	1832				
	Mar.							
	Death	12	Sept	1833				
	Burial							
2 Andrew Dunlap Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	2	June	1834				
	Mar.							
	Death	1	Feb	1836				
	Burial							
3 Washington Lafayette Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	2	April	1837				
	Mar.							
	Death	1	Sept	1838				
	Burial							
4 John Shannon Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	8	June	1839	Cambridge	Guernsey	Ohio	
	Mar.							
	Death	31	May	1900	Omaha	Douglas	Nebraska	
	Burial							
5 Ansel, Junior Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	31	June	1842	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
	Mar.							
	Death	15	May	1867	Helena		Montana	
	Burial							
6 Marcus Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	13	Aug	1843	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
	Mar.							
	Death	26	Apr	1851	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
	Burial							
7 Lafayette Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	1	May	1845	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
	Mar.							
	Death	30	July	1846	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
	Burial							
8 Martha Electa Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	10	June	1847	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
	Mar.							
	Death	2	Jan	1848	Andrew	Jackson	Iowa	
	Burial							
9 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
	Mar.							
	Death							
	Burial							
10 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
	Mar.							
	Death							
	Burial							

FAMILY GROUP No. _____ Husband's Full Name John Shannon Briggs

This Information Obtained From:		Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
	Birth	8	June	1839	Cambridge	Guernsey	Ohio		
	Chr'nd								
	Mar.	24	Dec	1867	Council Bluffs		Iowa		
	Death	31	May	1900	Omaha	Douglas	Nebraska		
	Burial								
Places of Residence									
Occupation									
Church Affiliation									
Military Rec.									
Other wives, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.									
His Father									
Mother's Maiden Name									
Wife's Full Maiden Name <u>Mary E. Blachley</u>									
Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife		
Birth	1	Jan	1846	Valparaiso		Indiana			
Chr'nd									
Death	17	Nov	1910	Washta	Cherokee	Iowa			
Burial									
Places of Residence									
Occupation if other than Housewife									
Church Affiliation									
Other husbands, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.									
Her Father <u>Dr. Julius Blachley</u> Mother's Maiden Name <u>Rousch</u>									

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
1	<u>John S.</u> Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	8	Sept	1869	Omaha	Douglas	Nebraska	
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
2	<u>Ansel S.</u> Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	12	Aug	1871	Omaha	Douglas	Nebraska	
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
3	<u>Nancy M</u> Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	27	Mar	1876	Omaha	Douglas	Nebraska	
		Mar.	2	June	1897	Omaha	Douglas	Nebraska	
		Death	3	Mar	1958	Rock Springs		Wyoming	
	<u>Alexander D. Robertson</u>	Burial				Cherokee		Iowa	
4	<u>Full Name of Spouse*</u>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
5	<u>Full Name of Spouse*</u>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
6	<u>Full Name of Spouse*</u>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
7	<u>Full Name of Spouse*</u>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
8	<u>Full Name of Spouse*</u>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
9	<u>Full Name of Spouse*</u>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
10	<u>Full Name of Spouse*</u>	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. info. on children" column. Use reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.

OUTLINE OF ANSEL BRIGGS' LIFE

3 February 1806 Ansel Briggs was born in Shoreham, Vermont, to Electa and Benjamin Briggs. He received a "fair" education.

1821-1824 The Briggs family moved to Guernsey County, Ohio, where Benjamin farmed. Ansel went into the freight business, acquiring wagons and horses.

ca.1827 Benjamin was killed. The family moved into Cambridge, in Guernsey County.

11 November 1830 Ansel married Nancy M. Dunlap.

1831-1837 Ansel became interested in politics, and served terms as Township Constable, Deputy Sheriff, and Jailor of Guernsey County. He ran unsuccessfully for County Treasurer as a Whig. He also was a partner in a store in Cambridge.

1839 Ansel and his family moved to Davenport, Iowa, where he engaged in the freight business and had several mail routes. John S. Briggs was born on 9 June.

1841 Briggs subcontracted his mail routes, and moved to Jackson County where he established a saw mill on Brush Creek in Perry Township.

1842 In partnership with John Francis, Ansel purchased the recently laid-out town of Andrew, and began selling town lots. He was elected to the 5th Territorial Assembly from Jackson County. Ansel Briggs, Jr., was born on 31 June.

1843-1845 Ansel served terms as Deputy County Treasurer (1843-44) and Sheriff (1844-46). He opened a store in Andrew.

1846 Ansel was elected to a four-year term as governor of the newly elected state of Iowa on the Democratic ticket.

30 December 1847 Governor Briggs' wife, Nancy M., died.

27 October 1849 Ansel married Francis Carpenter.

1850-1853 Ansel remained in Andrew, after the expiration of his governorship, and maintained his various business interests. He was also active in County politics.

1854 The ex-Governor went to Council Bluffs, where he helped form the Nebraska Winter quarters Land Company, and laid-out Florence, Nebraska. He had land investments also in Columbus and Bellevue, Nebraska.

1856-1859 Briggs spent much or most of his time in the Omaha-Council Bluffs area. Francis, his wife, died on 20 August 1859.

1860 Ansel and John S. Briggs, his son, went to Colorado in the mining rush. Ansel returned to Andrew in 1861.

1863-1865 Ansel, Ansel Jr., and John S. Briggs went to Montana.

1867 Ansel Jr. died on 15 May. The ex-Governor resided in Council Bluffs at this time.

1870-1875 Ansel's residence, during this period, alternated between Andrew and Council Bluffs. He stayed at the Butterworth Tavern when in Jackson County.

ca. 1875 The ex-Governor moved permanently to Omaha to live with John S., his son.

5 May 1881 Ansel Briggs died in Omaha.

TIME LINE OF ANSEL BRIGGS' LIFE

3 February 1806 Ansel Briggs was born in Shoreham, Addison County, Vermont to Electa and Benjamin Ingley Briggs.¹ He was one of several children.²

Ansel received a "Fair education improved by a term spent at the Norwich Academy."³

¹Briggs Family Bible, now in the possession of Miss Catherine Robertson, Ansel Briggs great-granddaughter, of Rock Springs, Wyoming; "Ansel Briggs Family Records," Hawkeye Heritage, April 1973; Rev. Charles N. Sinnett, "Ansel Briggs, The First Governor of Iowa: His Ancestry and Descendants," typescript, Minnesota Historical Society; Mrs. Edward D. Humphries, "The Early Life of Ansel /sic/ Briggs," ca. 1939, typescript, State Historical Society of Iowa (this is the only known product of original research in Guernsey County government documents on Ansel Briggs); Edna Anne Hannibal, Clement Briggs of Plymouth Colony and His Descendants, 1621-1965, 2 vols. (Japan: Edna Anne Hannibal, 1969), 2: 258, 366.

In all probability, Briggs was not given a middle name. In all the primary and secondary material on the Governor, there is only one reference to a middle initial: William R. Denslow, 10,000 Famous Freemasons, Vol. I (A-D), privately printed by the Missouri Grand Lodge.

²It is unclear how many brothers and sisters Ansel had, or what their names were. Wolfe refers to Benjamin's "large number of children." William G. Wolfe, Stories of Guernsey County, Ohio (Cambridge, Ohio: William G. Wolfe, 1942), 557. Sinnett, in his genealogy of Ansel Briggs, refers to two brothers. op. cit. And the Hannibal genealogy lists two brothers, Albert and Roswell. op. cit., 258-59. Mrs. Humphries mentions only three sisters, Electa, Hanna, and Amelia. op. cit. We know this is wrong, and that Briggs had at least one other brother, because an obituary of a Benjamin Briggs of Jackson County, Iowa, mentions that he is a brother of the ex-Governor. Andrew Western Democrat, 26 March 1851. The early censuses are not much help because they only list the name of the household head; other members of the household are simply counted by age group. The 1820 U.S. Census for Vermont shows that in Benjamin Briggs' household there were three males under ten, two males between ten and sixteen, one male between twenty-six and forty-five, two females under ten, one female between ten and sixteen, and one female between twenty-six and forty-five. The 1830 U.S. Census for Ohio, taken after Ansel's father had died and when he was head of his mother's household, lists one male between five and ten, two males between ten and fifteen, one male between fifteen and twenty, two males between twenty and thirty (one of whom, presumably, is Ansel) one female between five and ten, one female between fifteen and nineteen, and one female between forty and forty-nine (Ansel's mother, presumably).

³"Ansel Briggs," Iowa Historical Record, I (October, 1855). This fact--usually this exact statement--is repeated in almost every biography of Briggs. See, for example, Jacob A. Swisher, "The First State Governor," The Palimpsest, XXVII (December, 1946), 358.

ca. 1821-1824 The Briggs family moved to Guernsey County, Ohio, where Benjamin farmed.⁴ Ansel became interested in the stage business; before long, he acquired wagons and horses of his own, and a freight business on the Wheeling Road.⁵

⁴The 1820 U.S. manuscript census for Addison County (Shoreham), Vermont, shows the Briggs family still living in Vermont. Mrs. Humphries reports that Benjamin I. Briggs' name appeared as a witness on a deed of conveyance in 1824. op. cit. Wolfe says only that they came "Early in the 1820's." op. cit., 557.

As to Benjamin engaging in farming, see Wolfe, op. cit., 557; Swisher, op. cit., 358; John R. Adney, "Ansel Briggs--Stagedriver and Governor," The Preston Times, 20 August 1970. Mrs. Humphries says that Briggs was a leasehold tenant on a farm owned by Dr. Benjamin F. Bill. op. cit.

⁵Wolfe, op. cit., 557-58, 565; Swisher, op. cit., 358-59; Adney, op. cit. Both Swisher and Wolfe quote from the business ledgers of a William McCracken, who was a blacksmith in Cambridge, Ohio. He had rather extensive business dealings with Ansel. Some of these are enumerated: Briggs paid "fifty-seven and one-half cents for getting one shoe toed and two set; twenty-five cents for repair on his wagon-bed; twelve and one-half cents for a log-chain link; ten cents for getting a single-tree ironed; and twelve and one-half cents to have his harrow teeth sharpened." And Briggs furnished McCracken coal at six cents a bushel, and once hauled 4,266 pounds of goods for him from Wheeling. Swisher, op. cit., 358-59.

ca. 1825-1828 Ansel's father, Benjamin, was killed while driving one of Ansel's wagons loaded with salt.⁶ The family moved into the town of Cambridge in Guernsey County.⁷

The Hannibal genealogy says that Benjamin was killed after 1830, op. cit., 258. This is wrong. The 1830 U.S. manuscript census for Guernsey County, Ohio, lists Ansel Briggs as head of his mother's household. Mrs. Humphries implies that he was killed around 1825, op. cit. Wolfe also implies that he was killed in the mid-1820's, op. cit., 557. See also Adney, op. cit.

⁷Wolfe, op. cit., 557; Swisher, op. cit., 359; Mrs. Humphries, op. cit.

11 November 1830 Ansel married Nancy M. Dunlap.⁸ It is possible, but not probable, that he had been married earlier for a short time.⁹

⁸Briggs Family Bible, op. cit.; "Ansel Briggs," Iowa Historical Record, op. cit., 145; Mrs. Humphries, op. cit. For information on Nancy M. Briggs, see Mrs. John S. Briggs, "Biography of Nancy M. Briggs," 11 pages handwritten, ca. 1897-99, Briggs Family Papers, now in the temporary possession of the Field Services Section, State Historical Society of Iowa.

⁹The existence of the putative first wife has been asserted by several biographers: "Ansel Briggs," Iowa Historical Record, 145; Mrs. Humphries, op. cit.; and Earl B. Delzell, "Ansel Briggs, Iowa Governor and Mason," Bulletin of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. and A.M., October, 1933. Nobody has been able to give any information about her except to say that she was born on the same day and in the same year as Ansel. But there is no primary evidence that Briggs married anybody before Nancy M. Dunlap. In fact, the primary evidence strongly infers that Nancy was his first wife. Francis Carpenter, the woman Ansel married after Nancy died, is listed in the Briggs Family Bible, and apparently in Ansel's own hand, as his second wife. Moreover, the same document gives Nancy's birthdate as 3 February 1806, the same as her husband's. This fact was later re-affirmed by Mrs. John S. Briggs, "Biography of Nancy M. Briggs," op. cit.

1831 Through the influence of his father-in-law, Major James Dunlap, Ansel became interested in politics.¹⁰ He was elected Township Constable.¹¹

¹⁰"Ansel Briggs," Iowa Historical Record, 145; Wolfe, 557-58; Adney, op. cit.; Swisher, 359. Most of these sources say that Briggs was a Whig, politically, while he lived in Ohio.

¹¹Mrs. Humphries, op. cit.

25 April 1832 James Dunlap Briggs was born to Nancy and Ansel. He died on 12 September of the following year.¹²

¹²Briggs Family Bible.

2 June 1834 Andrew Dunlap Briggs, another son, was born. He died on 1 February 1836.¹³

¹³Briggs Family Bible.

1835-1836 Ansel served as deputy sheriff and jailor of Guernsey County.¹⁴ In 1836, he ran unsuccessfully for County Treasurer against John Ferguson, as a Whig.¹⁵ Also, about this time, he opened a store in Cambridge in partnership with Isiah Parrish.¹⁶

¹⁴Mrs. Humphries, op. cit.; Adney, op. cit.; Wolfe, 558; Swisher, 359.

¹⁵Mrs. Humphries, op. cit.; Adney, op. cit.; Swisher, op. cit., 359; Iowa Historical Record, op. cit., 145. Wolfe says that John Ferguson was the Whig candidate, op. cit., 558.

¹⁶Mrs. Humphries, op. cit.

2 April 1837 Washington Lafayette Briggs, a son, was born. He died on 1 September 1838.¹⁷

¹⁷Briggs Family Bible.

1839 Ansel Briggs came to Iowa and settled, for a while, in Davenport.¹⁸ It is possible that he had visited Iowa a year or two earlier, and had returned to Ohio to get his family. After moving to Iowa, he probably engaged in the freight business, and also had several mail routes.¹⁹ John Shannon Briggs, a son, was born on 9 June.²⁰

¹⁸Almost every one of his biographers has claimed that Briggs came to Iowa in 1836. But the evidence is compelling that he did not come until the fall of 1839. John Shannon Briggs was born on 9 June 1839 in Ohio. (Obituary of John S. Briggs, Omaha World-Herald, 1 June 1900; 1850 U.S. manuscript census, Jackson County, Iowa.) On 3 November 1839, John Shannon, the governor of Ohio, wrote a letter of introduction for Ansel Briggs to Robert Lucas, territorial governor of Iowa. Shannon states in this letter that it "will be handed you /Lucas/ by my friend Ansel Briggs of this place who is about to visit Iowa Territory."

(Ansel Briggs Collection, Iowa Department of History and Archives, Des Moines.) The 1856 Iowa State Census (manuscript) reports that Briggs had lived in Iowa for thirteen years. And finally, Mrs. Humphries discusses a note signed by James and Joseph Pollock, on 13 October 1839, to Briggs "as part of the payment for the business they had taken over from him." This was the store he owned in partnership with Isiah Parrish. op. cit.

Most biographers have also said that Briggs came directly to Jackson County from Ohio. Again, however, the evidence is strong that he lived first in Davenport. On 1 January 1841, Ansel signed a contract with Thomas Dillon and George Atherton, in which he was subcontracting his mail routes. Briggs gives his address as Davenport. ("Indenture of Contract," Ansel Briggs Collection, Iowa Department of History and Archives.) Also, many early observers report that Briggs took up his early Iowa residence in Davenport. Andrew Griffith, for example, relates in 1888 that when he came to Davenport in 1840, there was "a man living there by the name of Ansel Briggs." (Andrew W. Griffith, *Reminiscences of Early Days*, 1888, in "Memoranda," C.F. Davis Collection, microfilm reel two, book seven, 260-61.) In 1896, Ansel's granddaughter, Nannie Briggs, gave a speech in which she said, "I find by reference to some old papers in the possession of my father that Ansel Briggs...first settled at Davenport, owning, at one time, eighty acres of what is now the best part of that thriving city..." (Speech of Nannie Briggs before the Iowa Semi-Centennial Celebrations, Burlington, Burlington Hawk-Eye, 3 October 1896). See also, Sinnett, op. cit.; Harry E. Downer, History of Scott County, 2 vols. (Chicago: S.J. Clarke & Co., 1910), I:966; Willard Barrows, "History of Scott County, Iowa," Annals of Iowa (1st series), I (1863), 62; Franc Wilke, Davenport Past and Present (Davenport: Luce, Lane & Co., 1858), 40-41; obituary of Ansel Briggs, Omaha Daily Herald, 6 May 1881.

Jacob Swisher, while not mentioning Briggs' Davenport residence, says that Ansel went to St. Louis, for a while, before he came to Iowa. (op. cit., 359-60.) No other evidence corroborates this, although it may have been true.

In addition to Nannie Briggs' assertion (above) that her grandfather owned land in Davenport, Andrew Griffith said that, in Davenport, he "was the owner of a little one story frame house (two rooms) & a lot." (op. cit., 261.) Despite this, however, a thorough search of Scott County land records has failed to reveal any evidence that Briggs ever owned property in Davenport or Scott County.

¹⁹The evidence that Briggs had contracts to deliver mail for the United States government is beyond doubt. Virtually every secondary source mentions this fact. The National Archives' Registers of Iowa Mail Routes for 1839-1842 indicate that Briggs had the following contracts: #2962 (Dubuque to West Liberty), #2963 (Dubuque to Stephenson, Ill., through Davenport), and #2964 (Davenport to Rochester). This information is verified by a "Contract of Indenture" with which Ansel is subcontracting his routes to Thomas Dillon and George Atherton. (1 January 1841, op. cit.). See also, Benjamin F. Shambaugh, The Old Stone Capitol Remembers (Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa,

1939), 222, 223; and Nannie Briggs, *op. cit.*; "His first venture /on coming to Iowa/ was in establishing a mail route between Davenport and Dubuque."

On his Iowa freight business, see Griffith, *op. cit.*, 261; obituary of Ansel Briggs, Omaha Daily Herald, 6 May 1881. This claim can also be based on simple logic: mail routes and the freight business were not only compatible, they were mutually dependent.

20Briggs Family Bible; obituary of John S. Briggs, Omaha World-Herald, 1 June 1900.

1841 It is probable that Briggs moved to Jackson County in 1841, and there ran a mill on Brush Creek in Perry Township.²¹ He maintained ownership of his mail routes, but subcontracted them.²²

²¹Most biographers have maintained that Ansel Briggs owned a mill on Brush Creek. This is an especially pervasive local myth today. There is an historic marker on the putative mill site, erected privately in 1936, with the following inscription: "J. H. JANSSEN * PARK MEMORIAL TO GOV. BRIGGS ON SITE OF HIS OLD HOME 1836-1842 * FRIEND OF EDUCATION HE SIGNED ACT TO CREATE SUI FEB. 25, 1847 * GOVERNOR 1846-1850." See also, the Des Moines Register, 2 December 1973, for an account of informal tours of the Briggs mill site given by a local resident, Edmond Sommers.

Dr. Rantz's account of Ansel's mill-owning period is typical, if a little more detailed than most: Briggs moved to Brush Creek directly from Ohio and built a mill. He lived there until 1842, when he sold his property rights and mill buildings to the hired man, Jesse Vandolah. He then moved into the town of Andrew. (W.L. Rantz, "Rover Governor," an unpublished booklength biography of Ansel Briggs, c. 1937, sections of which are in the manuscript collection of the State Historical Society of Iowa, 25-26.)

Except for the assertion that Briggs came directly to Jackson County from Ohio, this appears to be close to the truth. The Briggs Family Papers contain an "Article of Agreement" between Ansel Briggs and Jesse Vandolah, signed 13 December 1842. In this agreement, Briggs, the party of the first part, "hereby agrees to sell & convey all his right title and interest to the one undivided half of the saw mill now owned & in possession of the first part on Brush Creek in said County /Jackson/ together with the undivided half of all the buildings & improvements on the claim upon which said mill is built, being upon the public lands of the United States...." Vandolah agrees to pay for "the sum of seven hundred & twenty eight dollars & 75/100 as follows, the payments to be made in lumber at the said mill in payments monthly of thirty one dollars permonth at cash prise /sic/ the whole to be paid in good merchantable lumber & sawed to answer the purpose of the first part /Briggs/...."

This document suggests that Ansel sold out to his partner, Jesse Vandolah. It also shows that he did not have a title to the land it-

self, but squatted on it. The commonly agreed location of the mill site is the northwest quarter of section 14, in Perry Township (#85). The first public record of ownership for this quarter section, that we have been able to locate, comes in 1850, when a man by the name of John Bozard sells it to Jesse Vandolah. (Indenture of Contract, 20 March 1850, Deed Record, Lands, Book A, 446, Jackson County Recorder's Office, Maquoketa.) There is no record of how or when Bozard obtained title to the property. We do know that Vandolah ran a mill on this site, because the Andrew Western Democrat reported on June 4, 1851, that "Van Dolah's" mill was washed away by high water.

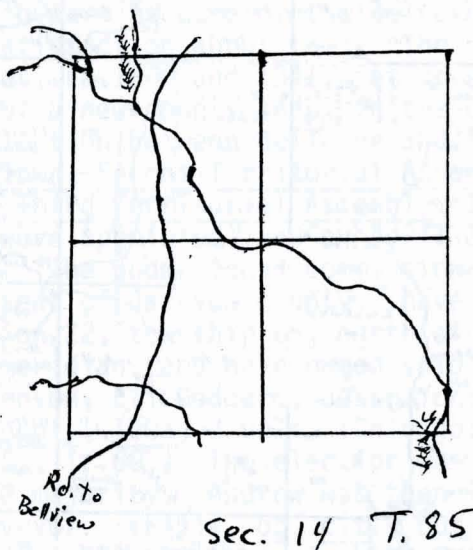
There is also some inferential evidence that Ansel lived on Brush Creek, in 1841 and 1842, and ran his mill. In August of 1842, the voters of Jackson County elected Ansel Briggs as their Representative to the Fifth Territorial Assembly of Iowa (see below). But it is unlikely that the voters would have elected a man who had lived in the county only a few weeks. We know that he moved into Andrew in the summer of 1842, or the early fall; he could not have done so earlier because the town did not exist (see below). He must have already lived in the county when Andrew was settled, and this would be, presumably, on Brush Creek.

For some reason, the various accounts of the Governor's life by his son, his daughter-in-law, his granddaughter, and in the early biographies and county histories all fail to mention this fact of his life. Andrew Griffith, however, in his 1888 account, remembered that Ansel left Davenport in 1841 for Jackson County where he bought a "little piece of land and a corn cracker mill." (Reminiscences of Early Days," op. cit., 261.) Judge Arthur F. Janssen recalls his father, who came to Jackson County twenty-five years after Briggs left Brush Creek, telling him about the mill, showing him the foundation logs, and so forth. The Janssen Family has owned this northwest quarter of section 14 for a number of years. Judge Janssen said that he asked his father "how he knew about Briggs and his Brush Creek connections. He told me about talking with people older than he who were witnesses" (Arthur F. Janssen to Timothy N. Hyde, 12 February 1975.)

It is doubtful that the exact location of Ansel's mill can be determined from printed and documentary sources alone. Although Judge Janssen remembers seeing the foundation logs for a structure of some kind on Brush Creek, there was at least one other mill here, and there may have been more. (see Maquoketa Jackson Sentinel, 10 November 1868 for information about a "Fountain Dale Mill" on the approximate site of Briggs' old mill.) The stream in this spot is subject to severe flooding. (see Andrew Western Democrat, 4 June 1851.) And, moreover, there is some question about the course of Brush Creek through this quarter section. A comparison of an 1838 map with an 1893 map (on the following two pages) shows that the course shifted considerably.

22"Indenture of Contract," Ansel Briggs to Thomas Dillon and George Atherton, 1 January 1841, op. cit.; History of Jackson County, Iowa (Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1879), 523.

Map 1



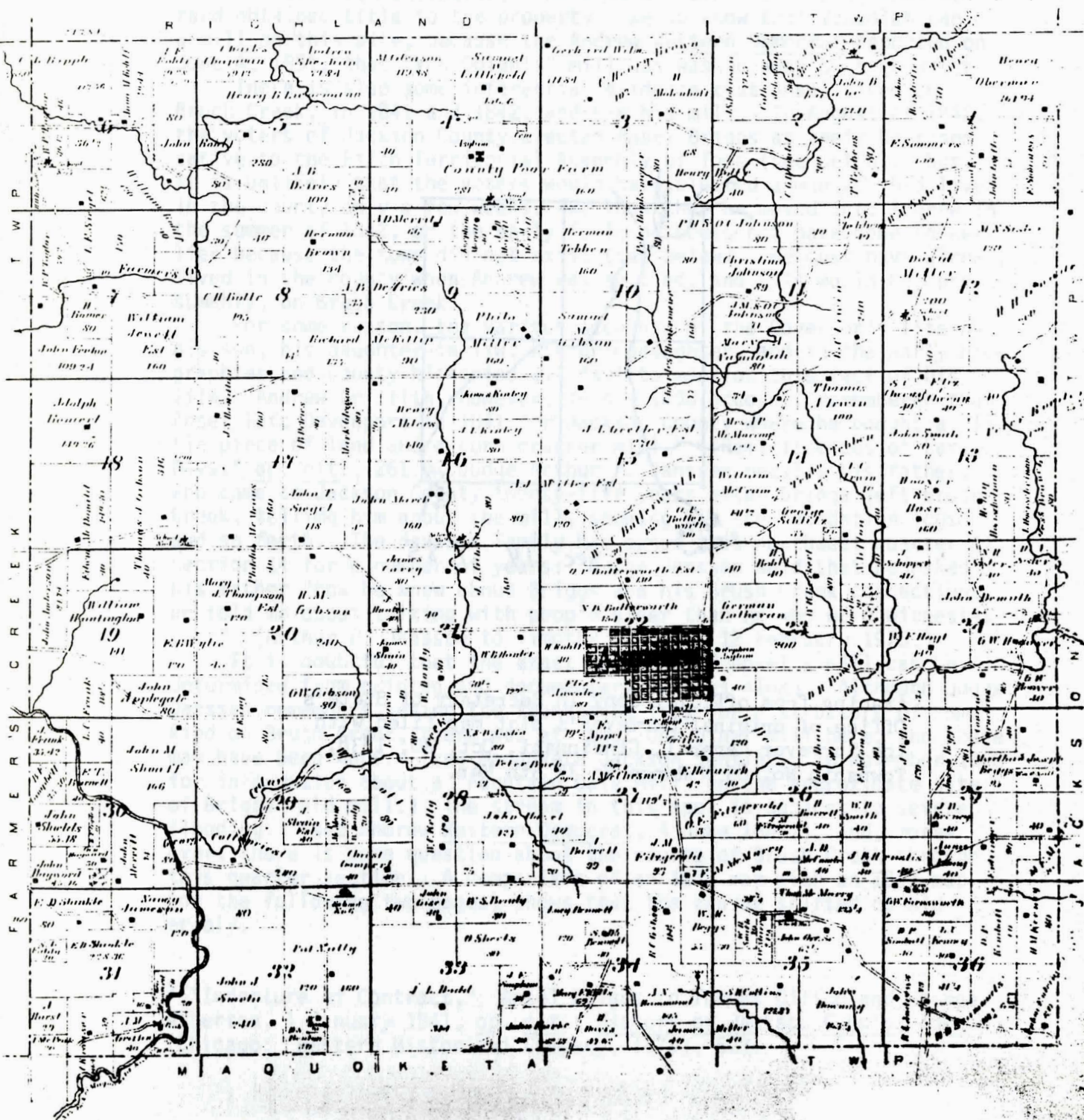
tracing from official copy in Secretary of State's
Office of original Surveyor's plat map filed with
the Surveyor General, Cincinnati, Oct. 20, 1838,
Township No. 85 N Range No 3E 5th Mer.

PERRY

JACKSON CO IOWA

of the 5th Principal Meridian

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile.



from: Platt Book of Jackson County, Iowa (Philadelphia: North West Publishing Co., 1893), 27.

1842 In the summer of this year, Ansel, in partnership with John Francis, bought the newly laid-out town of Andrew for \$2000.²³ During the following ten years he bought and sold lots in Andrew--at first with his partner, John Francis, then independently.²⁴ On 1 August, Ansel was elected to a term as Jackson County's Representative in the Fifth Territorial Assembly.²⁵ Ansel Briggs, Jr., was born on 31 June.²⁶

²³Until 1841, Bellevue had been the county seat of Jackson County. After 1840--perhaps in part because of the Bellevue War--there was apparently some dissatisfaction about this. The Second and Third Territorial Assemblies, in 1840 and 1841, set up procedures for the location and survey of a new county seat, in the center of Jackson County, and for an election between Bellevue and the new site. (Laws of the Territory of Iowa, Second Territorial Assembly, Special Session, 1841, 6; Laws, Third Territorial Assembly, 1840-41, 83-84.) Three Commissioners were appointed, and on April 15, 1841, they submitted their report: "The undersigned commissioners appointed to relocate the county seat of Jackson county...have selected the south-east quarter of section 22, township 85, north of Range 3 east of the fifth principal meridian, and have named said county seat Andrew. /signed/ Thomas S. Denson, Eli Goddard, Jesse Yont." (James W. Ellis, History of Jackson County, Iowa, 2 vols. (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1910), I: 60.) The election was held in May, and Andrew won by a large majority. Andrew was then laid-out by John G. McDonald, county surveyor. (Ellis, op. cit., 60; History of Jackson County (1879), op. cit., 335; Bellevue Jackson County Press, 15 June 1853; Rita Shoaf, "A Retrospect of Andrew," Maquoketa Jackson Sentinel, 23 January 1931; Nancy Gibbons Zook, "Heroes and Hangings," The Iowan, VI (June-July, 1958), 5-6.)

On July 5, 1842, a little over one year after the election, the town of Andrew was put up for auction by the County Commissioners. In this fashion, Ansel Briggs and John Francis acquired the town of Andrew, "less the public square.../which/ is hereby reserved forever to and for" the County of Jackson. (Deed of Indenture, County Commissioners to John Francis and A. Briggs, 8 October 1842, Deed Records-Lands, Book A, 136, Jackson County Recorder's Office; see also the sources cited at the end of the last paragraph.)

²⁴Ansel was involved, individually and with John Francis, in well over one hundred land transactions (mostly sales), during the next ten years. (Indexes to Deeds, Lands and Town Lots, Jackson County Recorder's Office.) On May 4, 1847, Briggs and Francis divided their property, and thereby dissolve the partnership. They each took an equal number of town lots. (John Francis to Ansel Briggs, and Ansel Briggs to John Francis, Deed Record-Lands, Book A, 452, 458.)

²⁵Certificate of County Clerk of Court, Jackson County, A.B. Malcolm, clerk, 6 August 1842, Archives of the Fifth Territorial Assembly-House of Representatives, Iowa Department of History and Archives. Briggs was not overly active in the Assembly, introducing only a couple of bills. He served on the Committee on Enrolled Bills and the Territorial Affairs Committee. (Journal of the House of Representatives of the Fifth Territorial Assembly, 1842-43; Iowa City Capitol Reporter, .)

²⁶Briggs Family Bible.

1843 Ansel Briggs began a term as deputy county treasurer of Jackson County.²⁷

It is also possible that he opened a store in Andrew in partnership with Stephen

S. Fenn.²⁸ Marcus Briggs was born on 13 August.²⁹

²⁷There are receipts, in the Briggs Family Papers, signed by Ansel Briggs, "Deputy Treasurer," ranging from 11 December 1843 through 5 July 1844. See also, Sinnett, op. cit.; Speech of Nannie Briggs (1894), op. cit.

²⁸Some scholars have maintained that Briggs' partner in this early Andrew store was John Francis: e.g., History of Jackson County, Iowa (1879), op. cit., 522; Rantz, "Rover Governor," op. cit., 37. This appears, however, to be in error. We know that Stephen Fenn was Briggs' mercantile partner later in the 1840's, and that the partnership was dissolved in 1849 when Fenn went to California. (Andrew Western Democrat, 1 February, 19 July 1850; various notes to Briggs & Fenn, Briggs Family Papers; D.H. Daudel to Charles Aldrich, 5 June 1903, Ansel Briggs Collection, Iowa Department of History and Archives; Iowa Writers' Program, Jackson County History (Jackson County, 1942), 47.)

In any case, we are unsure of the exact year when Briggs opened his store in Andrew. All agree, however, that it was one of the first stores in the town.

Stephen S. Fenn came to Andrew in 1841. In addition to his mercantile activities, he served as Jackson County Treasurer (1844-45) and County Recorder (1847-49). After leaving Andrew in 1849, he engaged in mining in California, studied and practiced law in the Territory of Washington, became an important figure in Idaho territorial politics, and served in the U.S. Forty-fourth and Forty-fifth Congresses from Idaho. Ellis, History of Jackson County, Iowa, op. cit., 68; Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1971, (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1971), 1934.

²⁹Briggs Family Bible.

1844 Ansel began a two-year term as sheriff of Jackson County.³⁰

³⁰There are receipts, in the Briggs Family Papers, signed "Ansel Briggs, Sheriff," ranging in date from 5 September 1844 through 5 January 1846; and there is a deed recorded in the Jackson County Recorder's Office showing "Sheriff Ansel Briggs" conducted a sheriff's sale in Bellevue on June 22, 1846. (Sheriff Briggs to Henry Jones, Deed Record - Lands, Book A., 439). See also, History of Jackson County (1879), op. cit., 449; Ellis, History of Jackson County, Iowa, op. cit., 70; Swisher, op. cit., 363.

In addition to his other activities, Ansel engaged in the formation, in 1844, of the "Dubuque and Jackson Mutual Fire Insurance Company." (Laws of the Sixth Territorial Assembly, 1843-44, 82-85.) And at least two researchers have claimed that he engaged in farming, during this period: Daudel to Aldrich, op. cit., W.C. Gregory, "Gov. Ansel Briggs: First Executive of the State," Annals of Jackson County, Iowa, IV (1907), 81. We know that he owned several pieces of farm land in Perry township, and he may have rented them out; but it seems unlikely that he farmed them himself.

1 May 1845 Lafayette Briggs is born.³¹

³¹Briggs Family Bible.

1846 On 24 September, Briggs was nominated as the Democratic candidate for governor of the newly-created state of Iowa. He was elected a month later, and on 3 December, he began serving a single four-year term.³² On 30 July, Lafayette Briggs died.³³

³²Inter alia, Edward H. Stiles, Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa (Des Moines: Homestead Publishing Co., 1916), 53-55. See the "Political Essay" for an account of the politics, events, and accomplishments during Briggs' administration.

³³Briggs Family Bible.

1847 Martha Electa Briggs is born on 10 June. Nancy M. Briggs, Ansel's wife, died on 30 December 1847.³⁴

³⁴Briggs Family Bible. Eight year old John S. Briggs would remember the circumstances of his mother's death vividly for the rest of his life. Fifty years later, he said he remembered being called out of his sleep by someone calling, "Johnnie your mother is dying. Come look now!!" (Mrs. John S. Briggs, "Biography of Nancy M. Briggs," *op. cit.*; John S. Briggs to Rev. William Salter, ca. 1897-99, Briggs Family Papers.) Observers noted that the Governor took his wife's death very hard. (*ibid.*)

1848 Martha Electa Briggs died on 2 January.³⁵ Governor Briggs went into the newspaper business this year, buying the Jackson County Democrat.³⁶

³⁵Briggs Family Bible.

³⁶Bill of Sale, Clark to Briggs, Briggs Family Papers: "Know all men by these present that M.H. Clark of Jackson Co. Iowa for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars in hand paid by Ansel Briggs of the same place has bargained and sold him the Printing press type and fixtures subscription list and advertising dues and all things concerned with the printing establishment of the Jackson County Democrat. Witnessed ...this 3rd day of Dec. A.D. 1848." There are no known copies of this paper extant, so it is not known whether the Governor actually edited and published this paper, or whether he hired someone else to do it. The Jackson County Democrat is, apparantly, the forerunner of the Andrew Western Democrat, published by J.B. Dorr after 1849. See also, W.C. Gregory, *op. cit.* ; Nancy Gibbons Zook, *op. cit.*, 7; Clinton Herald, 26 October 1946; Maquoketa Sentinel, 1 December 1966.

1849 On 27 October, Governor Briggs married Francis Carpenter, the mother-in-law of his friend and political advisor, Philip B. Bradley.³⁷

³⁷Briggs Family Bible. The Andrew Western Democrat, on 14 November 1849, printed a perfectly ghastly marriage notice: "...This is the most daring attack of the Winged God which it has been our fortune to record in Iowa. If Cupid continues his conquests, sparing neither rank nor station, and is so irresistible in high places, we are not able to prophesy what may be the fate of the mass of bachelors and disconsolate widowers. They must yield of course. We almost fear for ourself--but hope that the victims of his recent victories may satisfy his thirst for glory--at least for the present." Francis Carpenter brought a son, Daniel (17), and two daughters, Illinois (10) and Henrietta (7), into the Briggs' household with her. 1850 U.S. manuscript census, Jackson County, Iowa.

1850-1853 Ansel remained in Andrew, for a while, after his term as Governor ex-

pired. He continued to be fairly active in politics--at the county level.³⁸ And he maintained a vigorous interest in his business investments.³⁹ On 26 April 1851, Marcus Briggs died from a horse kick to his head.⁴⁰

³⁸Andrew Western Democrat, 25 February, 12 May, and 19 May 1852. Governor Briggs' private secretary, Fred Bangs, entered the Jackson County Bar, and became chairman of the Democratic Party in this county. ibid.; Ellis, op. cit., 87.

In the spring of 1851, Ansel became involved in an energetic county seat fight. Andrew had lost the county seat to Bellevue in 1848, and now they were trying to win it back. Along with five other prominent citizens of Andrew, he signed a bond for \$3000 for the erection of buildings for the county. Bond, Briggs, et. al. to County Commissioners, 24 March 1851, Deed Record - Lands, Book E, 351, Jackson County Recorder's Office; Andrew Western Democrat, 26 March through 4 June 1851; Shoaf, op. cit.

³⁹In addition to land sales and speculation, Briggs continued his involvement in the mercantile business. After Stephen Fenn dissolved his partnership with Briggs and went to California in 1849, the Governor continued to run his store alone, for a while. In the late fall of 1851, he took on a new partner in this business, a Mr. Malcolm. This partnership was maintained until the fall of 1853, when they were both bought out by Jason Watkins. Andrew Western Democrat, 19 June 1850, 3 December 1851; various notes due "Briggs & Malcolm," Briggs Family Papers; bill of lading from Merchant's Transport Company for "Briggs & Malcolm", 24 October 1851, ibid.; Bellevue Jackson County Press, 5 October 1853.

In 1853, ex-Governor Briggs became involved--for the only known time--in the railroad excitement. He helped found and was vice-president of the Great North Western Railroad Company. Incorporated 29 July 1853, this company proposed to build a railroad from the Mississippi River in the northeastern section of Jackson County--across from Galena--through northwestern Iowa and into Minnesota. Although never really more than a "paper railroad," there was some preliminary surveying done, and some stock was sold. The company apparently withered away after an unfavorable county bond election in Jackson County. Bellevue Jackson County Press, 20 July, 10 August, 20 August, 24 August, 12 October 1853.

Briggs himself was also heavily invested into county bonds. The Andrew Western Democrat recorded \$87 interest on "co. bonds" in both 1850 and 1851: 1 February 1850, 29 January 1851.

⁴⁰On 21 April 1851, the Andrew Western Democrat reported, in gruesome detail, Marcus Briggs' accident and injury: "Several small children were playing around some horses in a stable, into which they had crept through a crevice, when the youngest son of Ex-Governor Ansel Briggs, was kicked on the head in a most horrible manner. The injury done the scalp was that of a contused and lacerated nature, of about three inches in length. The injury done the skull was something more extensive, extending from immediately below and forward of the superior and posterior portion of the brain, commencing in the temporal bone,

passing through the entire length of the parietal and into the occipital bone, or terminating near the base of the skull, making a wound in the skull of about three and a half inches in length, and about one and three-fourths in width. The entire portion of the injured skull was drawn into the substance of the brain, some of it to the depth of one and a half inches; the loose portions were removed, together with a large spoonful of the brain. That portion which was not entirely detached was raised up to its proper position and dressed. The wound now appears to be in a healthy condition and doing well." Marcus Briggs, not surprisingly, died five days later. Briggs Family Bible.

1854-1856 1854 marked the beginning of Ansel Briggs' gradual detachment from Andrew and Jackson County. During the remaining twenty-seven years of his life, he resided in the West for periods of increasing length. In 1854, he travelled to Council Bluffs, where he participated in the formation of the Nebraska Winter Quarters Land Company, the company that founded and laid-out Florence, Nebraska.⁴¹ He returned to Andrew the following year, but left for Council Bluffs a second time in 1856. This time he took his oldest son, John S., who stayed in the Council Bluffs-Omaha area permanently.⁴² Ansel was reputed to have owned land not only in Florence, but also in Columbus and Bellevue, Nebraska. These Nebraska investments were apparently failures.⁴³

⁴¹On 9 September 1854, the proprietors of the Nebraska Winter Quarters Land Company held an organizational meeting in Council Bluffs at the store of B.R. Pegram & Company. Ansel, along with his old Jackson County friends M.H. Clark and James C. Mitchell, was one of the proprietors. This company, which was later to become the Florence Land Company, laid out the town of Florence at the site of the old Mormon Winter Quarters encampment, several miles above Omaha--which Florence would rival for a while. Ansel appeared at meetings of the proprietors, according to the company's minutes, on 13 September and 5 November 1854. And in February, 1855, he was one of the incorporators of a related company, the Florence Bridge Company. Donald F. Danker, "Social Beginnings of Territorial Nebraska," PhD dissertation, University of Nebraska, 1955, 70, 77, 78, 90-91.

⁴²We cannot be sure of the exact date of Ansel's return to Jackson County in 1855. One method of checking his location at a given time is through the county land records. All deeds had to be notarized, and the notary had to attest to the appearance of the grantor before him, and give the date and location of the notarization. Through

this device, we know that he had returned to Andrew by 8 March 1855. Ansel Briggs to Charles A. Moulton, Deed Record - Lands, Book J, 8, Jackson County Recorder's Office.

John S. Briggs would later clearly remember his trip from Andrew to Council Bluffs and Omaha: "It is forty years ago last May /1896/ since I left my home at Andrew to take up my residence in Omaha, Nebraska. How well I remember that morning in May, 1856, although I was but a young lad just out of school, when I started in company with my father to cross the state of Iowa in a carriage, our route being via Iowa City and Des Moines. In those days the prairies of Iowa were like the plains of Wyoming of today--quite as sparsely settled. The trip was made in eight days and a half, though not without many trials and tribulations. Long drives had to be made--very often far into the night to find a suitable place where man and beast could get food and shelter." "Recollections of Hon. John S. Briggs," Burlington Hawk-Eye, 3 October 1896.

⁴³Evidence of Ansel's Columbus and Bellevue investments is secondary and inferential. Although Donald Danker does not mention the ex-Governor in his discussion of the founding of Columbus, the founders were mostly people who had been involved in the Florence endeavor. (op. cit., 101.) John S. and Ansel Briggs, Jr., did purchase a number of lots in Columbus in 1860 and 1861. (Deeds, John P. Becker, Trustee, to J.S.B. and A.B., Jr., 12 December 1860; and Mayor of Columbus to J.S.B. and A.B., Jr., 9 May 1861, Briggs Family Papers.) And there is a plat map in the Nebraska Historical Society of original settlers in Sarpy County (Bellevue) showing an "A. Briggs" owning a section of land in that county. See also Earl Delzell, op. cit., 309; Omaha Daily Herald, 6 May 1881; Daudel to Aldrich (1903), op. cit., and John R. Adney, op. cit.

Both Delzell and James W. Savage mention that Ansel helped to found the Masons in Bellevue. Delzell, op. cit., 309; Savage and John T. Bell, History of the City of Omaha, Nebraska, and South Omaha (New York: Munsell and Co., 1894), 383.

Evidence that Briggs regretted his Nebraska investments or that they were failures is also secondary: Omaha Daily Herald, 6 May 1881; Daudel to Aldrich, op. cit.; John R. Adney, op. cit.

1858 Ansel bought more land in Florence, and listed his residence on the deed as Douglas County, Nebraska.⁴⁴

⁴⁴Warrantee Deed, James C. and Elvira K. Mitchell to Ansel Briggs, 20 January 1858, Briggs Family Papers. There is no evidence that Ansel returned to Jackson County after his trip west with John S. in 1856 (in fact, there is no evidence that he returned until 1861). Although John S. Briggs' 1896 recollections of the 1856 trip suggest that his brother and stepmother did not accompany them, they could have come out later.

There is a possibility that John S. and his father could have

been involved in the freight business in the Omaha-Council Bluffs area during these years. This is asserted in an obituary of John S. in the Omaha Daily Bee, 1 June 1900. And in John S. Briggs' diary, kept in 1863, there are many ledger sections listing transactions in feed and the buying of horses. There seem to be too many of these dealings to be accounted for by their trip to Montana during that year. Diary of John S. Briggs, Briggs Family Papers.

10 August 1859 Francis Carpenter Briggs, Ansel's last wife, died.⁴⁵

⁴⁵John R. Adney, op. cit.; unsigned and undated note in the Ansel Briggs Collection, Iowa Department of History and Archives. It is unclear where she died or where she is buried.

1860 Ansel went to Colorado with John S. to participate in the "mining excitement." He probably returned to Andrew in June, 1861.⁴⁶

⁴⁶There is a mining claim in the Briggs Family Papers that was filed 13 June 1860: "Ansel Briggs claims No. 18 of 100 foot on Bishop lead running South west from the Discovery. John S. Briggs claims No. 19 of 100 foot on Bishop Lead running South west from the discovery. Both the above Claims were made on the 9th day of June 1860." Although the place where this claim was filed is illegible, it was probably somewhere in Colorado. There is a consensus about this 1860 Colorado trip in the Briggs' literature. See, for example, Iowa Historical Record, op. cit., 150; Edward Stiles, op. cit., 56; Portrait and Biographical Album of Jackson County, Iowa (Chicago, 1889), 112.

Although there is no evidence that Ansel Briggs, Jr. accompanied his father and brother, it is unclear just where he was. A check of the 1860 U.S. Census (manuscript) for the Jackson County, Pottawattamie County, Nebraska and Colorado areas fails to turn him up--or any of the family, for that matter.

Also, a search of the rosters of soldiers from Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, and Montana reveals that neither Ansel, Jr., nor John S. served in the Civil War. Ansel himself, of course, was too old.

In the spring of 1861, there was another vigorous county seat fight back in Jackson County. Andrew succeeded, this time, in winning it back from Bellevue. But the ex-Governor's absence, in this fight, is conspicuous. It is fairly certain that he was not in Jackson County until late June, when he sold some property to the wife of his old partner, Harriet Francis. Weekly Maquoketa Excelsior, 26 March through 23 April 1861; Maquoketa Jackson Sentinel, 27 October 1868; Ansel Briggs to Harriet Francis, Deed Record - Lands, Book P, 621, Jackson County Recorder's Office.

1863-1865 Ex-Governor Briggs and his two sons, John S. and Ansel, Jr., went to Montana during this period.⁴⁷ In 1865, John S. Briggs returned to Omaha, and

Ansel returned to Council Bluffs, where he apparently remained until about 1869. Ansel Briggs, Jr., stayed in Montana.⁴⁸

⁴⁷It is extremely unclear whether Ansel and Ansel, Jr., or both, accompanied John S. Briggs to Montana in June of 1863. John S. kept a diary of this trip, and he mentions an Ansel three times: "Ansel come very near getting shot--so near that two revolvers were cocked and pointed at him when he spoke the guard took him to be an Indian." "Ansel & the hired man we have started with the horses over the mountains to find grass while I prepared supper." "Ansel is sick to-night." There is no mention anywhere in this document of "father." (Diary of John S. Briggs, 1863, transcription by Janet Toy, 2 June 1971, Briggs Family Papers.) It seems probable that John S. is referring here to his brother.

Other evidence, however, indicates that Ansel, Jr., remained in Andrew while his father went with John S. in June of 1863. On 9 May 1863, John S. and Ansel, Jr., give their power of attorney to Ansel Briggs. (John S., incidentally, gives his address as Pottawattamie County; Ansel and Ansel, Jr., give theirs as Jackson County. The document is notarized in Jackson County.) But seventeen days later, on May 26, John S. gives his power of attorney to Ansel Briggs, Jr. (Both of these documents are in the Briggs Family Papers.) Moreover, there is a telegram in the Briggs Family Papers from Ansel, Jr., to his father, dated 9 May 1864, wherein Ansel, Jr., informed his father that "I am at this place enroute for Idaho." It is unclear where the telegram was sent from or where it was sent to.

More evidence is needed before this question can be answered. But it is certain that Ansel Briggs and his two sons all made it to Montana in the 1863 to 1865 period. John S. and Ansel Briggs, Jr. sold some property to William H. Thomas on 20 January 1865. Although the property is in Jackson County, Iowa, the brothers' addresses were listed as Madison County, Montana, and the deed was notarized in the same place. (Deed Record - Lands, Book V, 132, Jackson County Recorder's Office.) And Ansel received a letter of 25 February 1866 from R.W. Steele, wherein Steele mentions that he was "glad to hear of your return from Montana." Steele to Briggs, Briggs Family Papers.

There are only faint clues as to what the Briggs family did in Montana. There is a contract in the Family Papers unsigned and incomplete. The specific day in January, 1865--the day on which the contract would be finalized--is left blank, as is the name of the party of the second part. One William A. Ammons, the party of the first part, is proposing to sell "his entire stock of goods which he has on hand at his store in Central City County and Territory aforesaid /Madison County, Montana Territory/ together with the store room used by him." His price is "the sum of fifty-four ounces (oz 54) Seven Penny weights and Nineteen (19) grains being equal to Nine Hundred and Eighty (\$980) Dollars, said payment to be made in clean gold dust. also Seventy Sacks of Flour at the rate of Seventy Dollars per sack, and also...Twelve Yokes of good work oxen and four wagons at Seventy Dollars per Yoke for said Cattle and Seventy Dollars a piece for said

wagons...." If the presence of this document in the Family Papers implies that Ansel or his sons considered entering in to such an agreement, this would be significant indeed. The fact that perhaps they were considering such an agreement is itself important. Such a consideration would imply that they owned twelve yoke of oxen, four wagons, and seventy sacks of flour. This suggests that they may have had a freight business in Montana.

All of this, of course, is speculation--stretched fairly thin, at that. Much more research needs to be done in Montana sources before we can know the answers to these questions about the Briggs' Montana period.

⁴⁸R.W. Steele, in his letter of 25 February 1866 to Ansel, made the assumption throughout that Ansel's home was now in Council Bluffs. (op. cit.) There was a hiatus, in this period, of land transactions in Jackson County for Ansel Briggs. And, in 1867, Henry Allen wrote a letter to Ansel informing him of Ansel Jr.'s death. This letter also implied that the ex-Governor was now living in Council Bluffs. Allen to Briggs, 20 May 1867, Briggs Family Papers.

15 May 1867 Ansel Briggs, Jr., died of consumption in Helena, Montana.⁴⁹

⁴⁹Henry Allen wrote to the ex-Governor, "it becomes my painful duty to inform you that your son Ansel died here on Wednesday May the 15th. I knowing you several years ago in Iowa and knowing you to be a Mason, had the Brethren here to take charge of him and everything was done, that could possible /sic/ be done to make him comfortable; we had made arrangements to send him to Council Bluffs on the first Boat; but he was called to a better world before my Boat arrived." (op. cit.) See also, death notice, Virginia City Montana Post, 25 May 1867; and Briggs Family Bible.

John S. Briggs married Mary E. Blachley on 23 December, of this year, in Council Bluffs. Briggs Family Bible.

1869-1874 Ansel returned to Jackson County, in 1869, and remained for a while. He probably stayed at the Butterworth Tavern.⁵⁰ He may have gone back to Council Bluffs or Omaha, after 1870, but he was a resident of Jackson County again in the 1873 to 1874 period.⁵¹

⁵⁰On 13 December 1869, Ansel wrote a letter from Andrew to John S. in Omaha. This is the only known personal letter of the Governor's that is extant: "I received yours of the 27 'ult and was truly glad to hear that your health had improved. and I hope that it may Continue good. that you May get along and prosper. if you was in any kind of business that I could help you it would be a pleasure for me to do so. I arrived safely and in as good health as usual found the

folks all well. and appeared glad to see me. your aunt Laura /Briggs, nee Butterworth/ has moved out here Sherman is Deputy Sheriff The Town has improved some there has been several new houses put up this season. They to have a paper here the first number will be struck off this week. I will send you a copy I should like to hear from you often." (Briggs Family Papers.)

On 9 August 1869, John S. and Mary Briggs give Ansel their power of attorney. Although Ansel's address is listed as Douglas County, Nebraska, it appears that they are delegating him to handle their affairs in Jackson County, when he goes. (Briggs Family Papers.)

When the U.S. census is taken, in 1870, Ansel is enumerated as a resident of Jackson County, living in the Butterworth household. Moreover, the editor of the Maquoketa Sentinel, on 12 May 1870, reports that "While in Andrew I had the pleasure of meeting two of the ablest and most esteemed citizens of the county, viz. Ex-Governor Ansell /sic/ Briggs and Nathaniel Butterworth, Esq. They are both in excellent health." (emphasis mine.)

Most biographers have said that Ansel lived in the Butterworth Tavern for a while: the estimates range from a couple of years to ten years. Other than the implication in the 1869 letter to John S., and the census enumeration in 1870, there is no primary evidence that he lived there for any extended period. Logic suggests that he may have used the Butterworth Tavern as a temporary residence when he was in Jackson County, from time to time, after 1859, when his wife dies.

⁵¹Most scholars have claimed that, with the exception of his Colorado and Montana trips, Ansel only left Andrew on a semi-permanent basis in 1870. We know that this is wrong, and that he spent much--if not most--of his time after 1854 living in Council Bluffs. But what interests us here is the 1870 departure date. It is possible that the ex-Governor did leave Jackson County again in late 1870. There is no primary evidence to link him with either the Jackson County or the Omaha-Council Bluffs areas from 1870 to 1873. But he was living in Jackson County again in 1873. Although he did not take part, apparently, in the 1873 county seat fight--and this time Andrew lost the court house to Maquoketa, for good--but he was nominated as a delegate from Perry Township, and he served, to the Jackson County Democratic Convention in September of 1873. (Maquoketa Jackson Sentinel, 11 September 1873.) Moreover, he purchased lots in Andrew at a tax sale in the fall of 1874. Certificate of purchase, 5 October 1874, Briggs Family Papers.

ca. 1875 Ansel moved permanently to Omaha to live with his son, John S.⁵²

⁵²It is unclear when he moved to Omaha to live permanently with his son. Some researchers say 1875 and some claim it was 1858. There is no known documentary evidence to support either claim. But there

is a consensus that Ansel spent the last few years of his life living with John S. in Omaha.

5 May 1881 Ansel Briggs died in Omaha.⁵³

⁵³Briggs Family Bible; Omaha Daily Herald, 6 May 1881.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF ANSEL BRIGGS, 1846-1850

The progression from territorial status to statehood had not come easily or quickly to Iowa. Although there was no national opposition to Iowa becoming a state--there were no real national issues involved, as there were in Missouri and Kansas--there was, however, much local opposition. This opposition tended to be concentrated in the Whig party. Whigs were a minority in Iowa, but they believed they were gradually gaining in strength. They hoped to forestall statehood until the day when they outnumbered the Democrats, at which time they would be able to control and dominate the organization of the new state. The Democrats, on the other hand, consistently favored statehood for Iowa.

In 1884, a Constitutional Convention had met and promulgated a Constitution for the proposed state of Iowa. The Whigs succeeded in getting it rejected by the voters of the Territory. A second Convention met in May of 1846, and another Constitution was drawn up. This time, after acrimonious debate and campaigning, the voters accepted it. On September 9, 1846, Territorial Governor James Clarke issued a proclamation declaring the Constitution valid and calling for the election of state officers. He set October 26 as the date for these general elections.

Iowa's first State Democratic Convention met in Iowa City on September 24. Having just succeeded in getting the new Constitution approved over Whig opposition and realizing that they were the majority party in Iowa, the Democrats were loud and self-assured.

They adopted a nine-point platform which contained little in the way of a program for the new State, but it did reflect their vigorous opposition to banks. The question of banking was the primary issue dividing Democrats from Whigs in Iowa. The Democrats, in the Jacksonian tradition, felt that banks were unnecessary and parasitical. They had succeeded in having the Constitution completely prohibit banking in the new State. The Whigs, however, felt that banking was essential to economic growth. This was one reason why they had strongly opposed the Constitution of 1846.

The main item of business at the Democratic Convention was the nomination of candidates for state offices. The most important office was felt to be that of governor. Three men had been mentioned as likely Democratic candidates: William Thompson of Henry County, Judge Jesse Williams of Jefferson County, and Judge J.J. Dyer of Dubuque. Although Dyer was perhaps the strongest candidate, he declined to allow his name to be submitted. Instead, he offered to the Convention the name of Ansel Briggs. On the first ballot, Briggs received 62 votes, Williams 32, and Thompson 31. Williams and Thompson withdrew from the contest and Briggs was nominated by acclamation.

The nomination of Ansel Briggs came as something of a surprise. Although he had been elected to the Fifth Territorial Assembly in 1842 and had served as Sheriff of Jackson County, he was not well known outside of that County. Briggs had not been a delegate to either Constitutional Convention. Moreover, he had neither the education or the experience one would have thought necessary to be con-

sidered seriously for this post.

However, there was not a rush of qualified men seeking the job. The salary was set by the Constitution at less than \$1000--a small sum even in 1846. Highly qualified men like J.J. Dyer could find greater remuneration in private business or a federal judgeship.

A number of other reasons have been advanced to explain Brigg's nomination. At a banquet several days before the Convention, Briggs offered a toast: "No banks but earth, and they well tilled." This was received with some excitement by the anti-bank Democrats, and it served to introduce his name to the delegates. Moreover, Jackson County had earned the deference of Iowa's Democrats because it had returned, by a large margin, the highest percentage of affirmative votes on the Constitution of 1846. Ansel Briggs did have strong support in Jackson County.

Ansel Briggs' Whig opponent was Thomas McKnight, a well-known and successful lawyer from Dubuque. The ensuing campaign was fought more on the basis of personalities than issues. Briggs was accused of being unqualified and ignorant. One imaginative man (apparently a Whig) testified that he had "seen Mr. Briggs drunk in Dubuque for the last three weeks, and that he was bantering Mr. McKnight to stake their respective pretensions to the gubernatorial chair upon a game of poker." (Iowa City Capitol Reporter, 21 October 1846.) Despite this abuse, Briggs was able to defeat McKnight by a margin of 247 votes out of 15,005 cast. This victory can be attributed, in large part, to inherent Democratic strength in Iowa: they carried all the state administrative offices, the two positions for

Representative to Congress, and the State Senate. The Whigs won a majority in the State House of Representatives.

On December 3, 1846, Ansel Briggs appeared before a joint session of the First General Assembly, where he was given the oath of office by Charles Mason, Chief Justice of the Territorial Supreme Court. After being sworn in, Briggs sat down while Philip Bradley, a close friend and Andrew neighbor who was a member of the State Senate, read the Governor's Inaugural Address. In this address, Briggs said that he only learned of his election four days previously, so he was unprepared to discuss any specific program. Moreover, he stated, "From my want of experience in the affairs of civil administration, I must naturally feel a great degree of embarrassment in my present position; but that feeling will be greatly lessened from the hope and belief which I entertain, that in your character of representatives of an enlightened constituency, you will kindly extend to me your aid and indulgence."

It was generally conceded that the most important immediate duty of the new state government was the election of two Senators to represent Iowa in Washington. This election was to take place in a joint session, or convention, of the General Assembly. The Governor's participation in this endeavor was supposed to be peripheral. The two bodies met in joint session on December 10 to elect Iowa's Senators and three Supreme Court Justices. Neither party was able to command a majority at this meeting, and after several ballots they remained deadlocked. They decided to adjourn until January 5, 1847. But fearing that the Whigs would be able

to muster a majority at this next joint convention, and thereby elect Whig Senators, the Democrats used their majority in the Senate to prevent that body from participating in the planned January 5th meeting. The regular session of the First General Assembly adjourned on February 25 without having elected Senators.

In August, 1847, a special election gave the Democrats one more seat in the General Assembly. Now confident that the Democrats would have a majority in a joint session, Governor Briggs called a special session of the General Assembly to meet on January 3, 1848. This action was not purely one of political expediency: in addition to the Senatorial question, he felt there were several other important unfinished pieces of business for this body to take up. Several matters were considered and dealt with by this extra session of the General Assembly, but the election of U.S. Senators was not among them. Realizing that they were now in a minority, the Whigs repeated the tactics of the Democrats by using their majority in the House to prevent the two bodies from going into joint session. The extra session of the First General Assembly adjourned and Iowa was still without representation in the U.S. Senate.

In the elections of 1848, the Democrats managed to win a solid majority in the Second General Assembly. This body convened in December of that year and quickly went into joint session. On December 7, 1848, two years after Iowa became a state, Augustus C. Dodge and George W. Jones were elected its first U.S. Senators.

The major accomplishments of the Briggs' Administration--perhaps the only solid accomplishments--came in the area of education.

Briggs seemed to have a clear idea of what he wanted in this area. He was persistent and firm in his efforts to get these ideas accepted by the legislature. In his Message to the Special Session of the First General Assembly, Briggs said "Our Laws relative to Common Schools, in my judgement, call for your immediate and careful attention. The people of Iowa have ever manifested an earnest and commendable zeal in the spread of education, and, especially, in the establishment of an efficient and permanent system of Common Schools." Unhappy with the legislative results of the Special Session, Briggs raised the subject again in his First Biennial Message delivered at the opening of the Second General Assembly in December of 1848: "There is no object for the promotion of which an enlightened legislature will more readily apply his best energies, than that of education. It is generally conceded that our present school law is, in many respects, exceedingly defective. One of the prominent purposes for which the General Assembly was convened in extra session in January last, was the amendment of this law.... It is to be regretted that the earnest wishes of the people in this particular, should have been frustrated." The Governor then proceeded to specifically delineate what he wanted done in the following Session. He was somewhat more successful this time.

In the four years of Briggs' Governorship, the foundations and framework of Iowa's educational system were established. Normal Schools, for the training of teachers, were established at Mount Pleasant, Oskaloosa, and Andrew, Briggs' hometown. The University of Iowa was set up in Iowa City, with branches in Dubuque and Fair-

field. And the complex bureaucratic and financial structures were organized to manage these institutions, and to handle the various land grants that financed them.

There was, unfortunately, a bitter controversy that resulted from one aspect of this legislation. The First General Assembly, in its Regular Session, had established provisions for the election of a State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The election, held in April of 1848, pitted James Harlan, a Whig, against Charles Mason, a Democrat. To the great surprise of everybody but Harlan, Mason was defeated. The Democrats were shocked, but they soon found a technicality through which they could invalidate the election.

The Whigs were incensed, but there was little they could do. Governor Briggs had full complicity in this affair: he refused to issue a "certificate of election" to Harlan. The Special Session of the First General Assembly made arrangements for a second election to be held in April of 1848. Harlan ran again, this time against Democrat Thomas Hart Benton, Jr. As before, Harlan received the most votes, but for a second time the Democrats were able to deny this victory by technicalities and legerdemain. The Elections Board, including Governor Briggs and Secretary of State Elisha Cutler, interpreted the five variant spellings of Harlan's name in the returns as votes for five different ^candidates. No^t one of these five "Harlans" received enough votes to defeat Benton. James Harlan, believing it futile to struggle any further, bitterly retired from the fight.

There were other accomplishments during Ansel Briggs' Admin-

istration, but none as substantive as improvements in education.

The Boundary Dispute with Missouri was finally settled during these years. A Commission was appointed by Briggs to "draft, revise, and prepare a code of laws for the State of Iowa," the result of which became the "Code of 1851." There was progress in internal improvements in Iowa, with many roads being completed or extended, and bridges built. Briggs made sure that Iowa contributed its full share to this nation's war against Mexico. And plans were developed for the laying of railroads in the State.

On December 3, 1850, just before Briggs left office, he delivered his Second Biennial Message. He concludes with a kind of grand summary of his Administration: "I am now about to retire from the office of Chief Magistrate of this State. Four years ago the people thought proper to elect me to that office, and I assumed its duties and responsibilities, distrusting at the same time, my ability to properly discharge those duties....You are familiar with the course which I have pursued. Whether it has been calculated or not to advance the interests of the State, you and the people are the judges. During my administration I may, and undoubtedly have, committed errors; but if such be the case, I shall ever be supported by the reflection that they sprang from no vicious or wrong motive. The courtesy and assistance extended to me by the Legislature, and by all connected with the government, will ever be a subject of grateful remembrance. In laying down the reins of government, I feel an additional gratification in the assurance that they are to be transferred to more able and competent hands. Permit me,

in retiring, to express the fervent desire that this, my adopted State, may ever be distinguished for virtue, intelligence, and prosperity, and may she ever receive the care and protection of that Being who governs the Universe."

Ansel Briggs served his four years as Governor in a period of intense political partisanship. Each party felt a desperate need to gain control and impose its views and policies on the emerging structure of this young state. The few blights on the Briggs Administration are all products of this frequently ugly party strife. Briggs was not able to rise above this extreme partisanship, but neither did he sink below it.

Ansel Briggs was neither especially educated or intelligent. It is unlikely that he wrote any of his own speeches or messages, nor is it likely that he even originated his own policies. He depended very heavily on the advice and direction of two men: M.H. Clark and Philip B. Bradley, both fellow residents of Andrew. This group was sometimes called the "Andrew Clique." J.J. Dyer was frequently associated with this group, although he moved away from Andrew to Dubuque before Briggs became Governor. During most of his administration, Briggs resided at his home in Andrew, traveling only infrequently to the Capitol in Iowa City. This allowed him to remain involved in his various business investments--and they proliferated during this period--while also avoiding the office and favor seekers. This indicates a somewhat leisurely and remote attitude toward his office.

Governor Briggs was a weak governor by all standards. His administration was marked by neither brilliance or corruption. This weakness may have been good for the new State: Iowa could slowly and carefully feel its way, as it took those first experimental steps as a State.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books and Articles

Adney, John R. "Ansel Briggs, Stagedriver and Governor." Preston Times, 20 August 1970.

Aldrich, Charles. "Dr. Sylvester Grinnell Matson." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), III (1897-99), 450-53.

"Ansel Briggs." Iowa Historical Record, I (1885), 145-52.

"Ansel Briggs Family Records." Hawkeye Heritage, April, 1973.

Aurner, Clarence Ray. History of Education in Iowa. 5 vols. Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1914.

Barrows, Willard. "History of Scott County, Iowa." Annals of Iowa (1st series), I (1863), 8-85, 99-134, 150-76.

Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1971. Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1971.

Briggs, John E. "The Removal of the Capital from Iowa City to Des Moines." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XIV (1916), 56-95.

Brigham, Johnson. Iowa: Its History and Its Foremost Citizens. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1918.

Brigham, Johnson. James Harlan. Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1913.

Buffum, Hugh S. "Federal and State Aid to Education in Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, V (1907), 3-45.

Caldwell, J.R. A History of Tama County, Iowa. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1910.

Carrol, Gov. B.F. "Address delivered at the dedication ceremonies of the Ansel Briggs Monument, Andrew, 22 September 1909." Annals of Jackson son County, Iowa, VI (1908-1909), 89-90.

"Celebrating the Territorial Centennial." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XXI (1937-39), 272-74.

Cole, Cyrenus. Iowa Through the Years. Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1940.

"Contrasting Iowa Inaugurals." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XXXIV (1957-59), 241-56.

- Danker, Donald F. "The Nebraska Winter Quarters Company and Florence." Nebraska History, XXXVII (1956), 27-50.
- Deemer, Horace E. "The Part of Iowa Men in the Organization of Nebraska." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), IX (1909-11), 161-85.
- Delzell, Earl B. "Ansel Briggs Iowa Governor and Mason." Bulletin of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. and A.M., October, 1933.
- Denison, John D. Iowa Democracy: A History of Politics and Personalities of the Democratic Party, 1846-1938. 4 vols. Democratic Historical Association, 1939.
- Denslow, William R. 10,000 Famous Freemasons. Volume I (A-D), Missouri Grand Lodge.
- Downer, Harry E. History of Scott County. 2 vols. Chicago: S.J. Clarke & Co., 1910.
- Ellis, Hon. James W. History of Jackson County. 2 vols. Chicago: S.J. Clarke & Co., 1910.
- Erickson, Erling A. Banking in Frontier Iowa, 1836-1865. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1971.
- Fairall, Herbert S. Manual of Iowa Politics. Iowa City: Republican Publishing Company, 1884.
- Fulton, C.J. "The Beginnings of Education in Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XXIII (1925), 171-91.
- Gallaher, Ruth A. "Deadlock on Senators." The Palimpsest, XXVIII (1947), 1-11.
- Gallaher, Ruth A. "A Decade of Iowa Centennials." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XXXV (1937), 227-55.
- Gallaher, Ruth A. "The First Hundred Years: A Brief History." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XXXI (1933), 531-75.
- "Genesis of the Iowa Homestead Law." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), III (1897-99), 148-51.
- Graham, Hon. William. "Address, delivered at the dedication ceremonies of the Ansel Briggs Monument, Andrew, 22 September 1909." Annals of Jackson County, Iowa, VI (1908-1909), 92-95.
- Graham, William. "County Seat Contests in Jackson County." Annals of Jackson County, Iowa, IV (1907), 72-77.
- Grahame, Orville Francis. "Stagecoach Days." The Palimpsest, V (1924), 176-85.

Gregory, W.C. "Gov. Ansel Briggs: First Executive of the State." Annals of Jackson County, Iowa, IV (1907), 55-60.

Gregory, W.C. "Memorial Address delivered at the dedication ceremonies of the Ansel Briggs Monument, Andrew, 22 September 1909." Annals of Jackson County, Iowa, VI (1908-1909), 81-85.

Gue, Benjamin. History of Iowa. 4 vols. New York: Century History Company, 1903.

Hannibal, Edna Ann. Clement Briggs of Plymouth Colony and His Descendants, 1621-1965. Japan: Edna Ann Hannibal, 1969.

Hansen, Marcus L. "Phantoms on the Old Road." The Palimpsest, II (1921), 35-38.

Hart, Irving H. "The Governors of Iowa as Educational Leaders, 1838 to 1949." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, LIV (1956), 233-62.

Hebard, Hon. Alfred. "Recollections of Early Territorial Days." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), II (1895-97), 212-20.

Herriott, F.I. "Legislation in Iowa Prior to 1858." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), VI (1903-1905), 498-533.

Herriott, F.I. "Whence came the Pioneers of Iowa?" Annals of Iowa (3rd series), VII (1905-1907), 446-65.

The History of Jackson County, Iowa. Chicago: Great Western Historical Company, 1879.

History of Tama County, Iowa. Springfield, Ill.: Union Publishing Co., 1883.

Hunt, Charles W. History of Harrison County, Iowa. Indianapolis: B.F. Barven & Company, 1915.

Ingalsbe, Gene. "Mobile County Seat Left Sturdy Courthouse." Farmland, 28 February 1967.

"Iowa Started as a State." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XXXIV (1957-59), 233-35.

"Iowa's Thirty-five Governors." Picture Magazine, 24 January 1965, 8-11.

Iowa Writers' Program (WPA), Jackson County History. Jackson County, 1942.

Johnson, Jack T. "The First State Election." The Palimpsest, XXVII (1946), 257-70.

- Kent, Dorman B. "One Thousand Men." Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society for the Years 1913-1914.
- Landers, Frank E. "The Southern Boundary of Iowa." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), I (1893-95), 641-57.
- Martin, Charles W., ed. "Joseph Warren Arnold's Journal of His Trip to and from Montana, 1864-1866." Nebraska History, LV (1974), 463-552.
- Martin, Ethyl E. "A Bribery Episode in the First Election of United States Senators in Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, VII (1909), 483-505.
- Mitchell, G.L. "Address delivered at the dedication ceremonies of the Briggs Monument, Andrew, 22 September 1909." Annals of Jackson County, Iowa, VI (1908-1909), 85-87.
- Morton, J. Sterling. Illustrated History of Nebraska. 2 vols. Lincoln: Jacob North & Company, 1907.
- Mott, David C. "Abandoned Towns, Villages, and Post Office of Iowa." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XVIII (1931-33), 42-69, 114-48.
- Mott, David C. "Early Iowa Newspapers." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XVI (1927-29), 161-233.
- Mott, David C. "Iowa Territory and General Jackson's Fine." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XVI (1927-29), 58-64.
- Owen, C.O. Portrait and Biographical Record of Guernsey County, Iowa. Chicago: C.O. Owen & Company, 1895.
- Parvin, T.S. "Hon. John James Dyer." Iowa Historical Record, XIII (1897), 1-12.
- Parvin, T.S. "Who Made Iowa, or Who are the 'Pioneers and Old Settlers' of Iowa?" Davenport: Egert, Fidler, & Chambers, 1896.
- Pelzer, Louis. Augustus Caesar Dodge. Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1908.
- Pelzer, Louis. "The History and Principles of the Democratic Party of the Territory of Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, VI (1908), 3-54.
- Pelzer, Louis. "The History and Principles of the Early Democratic Party in Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, VI (1908), 163-246.
- Petersen, William J. "Beginnings of Davenport." The Palimpsest, XX (1939), 241-80.

Petersen, William J. "Legal Holidays in Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XLIII (1945), 113-91.

Petersen, William J. "Robert Lucas." The Palimpsest, XIX (1938), 301-312.

Plat Book of Jackson County, Iowa. Philadelphia: North West Publishing Co., 1893.

"Political Changes in Our State Government." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XVIII (1931-33), 551-54.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Jackson County, Iowa. Chicago, 1889.

Powell Clifford. "History of the Codes of Iowa II." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, X (1912), 3-69.

Proceedings of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Held at Brownsville, Commencing Tuesday, June 5th, A.D. 1860. Brownsville, Nebraska: R.W. Furnas, 1860.

Rantz, W.L. "Iowa's First Governor and Andrew, His Home Town, Today." The Iowa Magazine Picture Section, December, 1924, 514-16.

Ross, Earl D. "Tap Roots of Iowa Agriculture." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XXVII (1945-46), 304-310.

Sage, Leland L. A History of Iowa. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1974.

Salter, William. "Journal of a Missionary in Jackson County, Iowa Territory, 1843-46." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), VII (1905-1907), 592-607.

Salter, William. Sixty Years and Other Discourses with Reminiscences. Boston: The Pilgrim Press, 1907.

Savage, James W., and Bell, John T. History of the City of Omaha, Nebraska, and South Omaha. New York: Munsell and Company, 1894.

Sayre, Edward L. "Early Days in and About Bellevue." Nebraska State Historical Society, Collections, XVI (1911), 82.

Schmidt, Louis B. "History of Congressional Elections in Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, X (1912), 463-502.

Schmidt, Louis B. "The Miller-Thompson Election Contest." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XII (1914), 34-127.

Seerley, H.H., and Parish, L.W. History and Civil Government of Iowa. New York: Werner School Book Company, 1897.

Seeley, John O. "The Country's Territorial Pioneers. Shadarac Burleson and Some of the Incidents in His Life." Annals of Jackson County, Iowa, II (1906), 51-76.

- Shambaugh, Benjamin F. Constitutions of Iowa. Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1934.
- Shambaugh, Benjamin F. Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of Iowa. 7 vols. Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1903.
- Shambaugh, Benjamin F. The Old Stone Capitol Remembers. Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1939.
- Sherman, Gov. Buren R. "Address at the Iowa Semi-Centennial Celebrations." Iowa Historical Record, XIII (1897), 28-38.
- Shoaf, Rita. "A Retrospect of Andrew." Maquoketa Jackson Sentinel, 23 January 1931.
- Snyder, Rev. Charles. "Antoine Leclaire, the First Proprietor of Davenport." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XXIII (1941-42), 79-117.
- Snyder, Charles E. "Forgotten Men: James L. Thompson." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XLIII (1945), 357-69.
- Snyder, Charles E. "Forgotten Men: Thomas McKnight." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XLIII (1945), 254-82.
- Snyder, Charles E. "Statesmen and Politicians in Early Iowa." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XXVII (1945-46), 15-36.
- Snyder, F. "History of Jackson County, Iowa." Annals of Iowa (1st series), VII (1869), 48-50, 187-91.
- "Steps to Statehood." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XXVII (1945-46), 217-19.
- Stiles, Edward H. Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa. Des Moines: Homestead Publishing Company, 1916.
- Stong, Phil. Ivanhoe Keeler. New York: Farrar & Rinehart, 1939.
- Swisher, Jacob A. "A Century of School Legislation in Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XLIV (1946), 174-204.
- Swisher, Jacob A. "Early Governors of Iowa." The Palimpsest, XVI (1935), 1-32.
- Swisher, Jacob A. "The First General Assembly of Iowa." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XLV (1947), 62-84.
- Swisher, Jacob A. "The First State Governor." The Palimpsest, XXVII (1946), 357-68.
- Upham, Cyril B. "Historical Survey of the Militia in Iowa, 1838-1865." Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XVII (1919), 299-405.
- Van Ek, Jacob. "Great Seals of Iowa." The Palimpsest, V (1924), 378-83.
- Welty, Susan. A Fair Field. Detroit: Harlo Press, 1968.

White, John B. Published Sources of Territorial Nebraska. Volume 23.
Lincoln: Nebraska State Historical Society, 1956.

Wilkie, Franc. Davenport Past and Present. Davenport: Luce, Lane & Co.,
1858.

Wilson, Ben Hur. "The Marion Meteor." The Palimpsest, XVIII (1937), 33-47.

Wilson, Ben Hur. "The Des Moines Rapids Canal." The Palimpsest, V (1924),
117-32.

Wolfe, William G. Stories of Guernsey County, Ohio. Cambridge, Ohio:
W.G. Wolfe, 1942.

"The Writings of Judge George G. Wright, VIII: Associates on the Supreme
Bench." Annals of Iowa (3rd series), XV (1925-27), 139-45.

Zook, Nancy Gibbons. "Heroes and Hangings." The Iowan, VI (June-July, 1958),
4-11.

Newspapers

Andrew Western Democrat, 1849-1851.

Bellevue Jackson County Press, 1852-1854.

Bellevue Union Banner, 1863-1864.

Bellevue Western Democrat, 1851-1852.

Blairstown Press, 15 May 1947.

Bloomington Herald, 1846.

Burlington Hawkeye, 1 October 1846, 3 October 1896.

Burlington Iowa Territorial Gazette and Advertiser, 1839-1843.

Cedar Rapids Gazette, 11 March 1907, 12 June 1927, 19 January 1969.

Cherokee Chief, 28 October 1938.

Cherokee Daily Times, 10 April 1958.

Clinton Herald, 2 November 1933, 26 October 1938, 28 May 1934.

Council Bluffs Bugle, 1855-1856.

Council Bluffs Nonpareil, 10 May, 15 May 1881, 19 May 1909, 25 July 1938,
3 November 1972.

Iowa Sun and Davenport and Rock Island News, 1838-1839.

Davenport Times, 22 September 1909.

Decorah Journal, 13 November 1947.

Des Moines Register, 6 June 1909, 23 October 1960, 2 December 1973.

Dubuque Iowa News, 1837-1838.

Dubuque Herald, 18 May 1881.

Dubuque Telegraph-Herald, 12 September 1909, 27 May 1934, 30 November 1946.

Dubuque Times-Journal, 4 March 1909, 25 October 1925.

Esterville News, 5 August 1946.

Fort Dodge Messenger, 3 December 1946.

Iowa City Capitol Reporter, 1841-1849.

Iowa City State Press, 18 May 1881.

Iowa City Press-Citizen, 4 November 1972.

Maquoketa Community Press, 27 April 1939.

Maquoketa Jackson Sentinel, 1854-1857, 1868-1870, 1873, 1881, 18 September 1917, 18 June 1954, 8 August 1963, 17 March 1966, 1 December 1966.

Weekly Maquoketa Excelsior, 1861-1864.

Marshalltown Times-Republican, 15 August 1946.

Muscatine Journal, 1 December 1934, 7 December 1850.

Oelwein Register, 25 July 1946.

Omaha (Nebraska) Arrow, 1854.

Omaha (Nebraska) Bee, 16 May 1900.

Omaha (Nebraska) Daily Herald, 6 May 1881.

Omaha (Nebraska) World-Herald, 1 June 1900, 24 February 1904.

Ottumwa Courier, 20 July 1934.

Preston Times, 31 July 1946.

Rockwell City Republican, 4 February 1926.

Sabula Gazette, 25 July 1946.

Sheldon Sun, 25 August 1943.

Sioux City Journal, 23 September 1909.

Virginia City (Montana) Montana Post, 1864-1865, 1867.

Washta Journal, 3 November 1927.

Unpublished Articles and Theses

- "Biography of Iowa's First Governor." 17 pages typescript, no author, no date, State Historical Society of Iowa.
- Bliss, Marion. "Interview with Mrs. Nancy Briggs Robertson, granddaughter of the first governor of Iowa--Ansel Briggs." Federal Writers' Project, n.d., State Historical Society of Iowa.
- Bliss, Marion. "Notes on Ansel Briggs, First Governor of Iowa." 12 pages typescript, ca. 1938, State Historical Society of Iowa.
- Briggs, Mrs. John S. "Biography of Ansel Briggs." 5 pages handwritten, n.d., Briggs Family Papers.
- Briggs, Mrs. John S. "Biography of Nancy M. Briggs." 6 pages handwritten, n.d., Briggs Family Papers.
- Danker, Donald F. "Social Beginnings of Territorial Nebraska." PhD dissertation, 1955, University of Nebraska.
- Humphries, Mrs. Edward D. "The Early Life of Ansel [sic] Briggs." n.d., 3 pages typescript, State Historical Society of Iowa.
- Rantz, Dr. W.L. "Rover Governor." booklength biography of Ansel Briggs, typescript, sections of which are in the mss. collection, State Historical Society of Iowa, ca. 1937.
- Rantz, Mrs. W.L. "Ex-Governor Briggs and His Home; Ansel Briggs--Iowa's First Governor." Paper delivered in Andrew, 18 September 1925, 4 pages typescript, State Historical Society of Iowa.
- Stoddard, Helen O. "The Early History of Maquoketa, Iowa, 1838-1880." MA thesis, 1933, University of Iowa.
- Sinnett, Rev. Charles N. "Ansel Briggs, The First Governor of Iowa: His Ancestry and Descendants." 14 pages typescript, n.d., Minnesota Historical Society.
- Wright, Hon. George G. "Address to the Pioneer Law-Makers Association of Iowa." Proceedings of the Reunion of 1892, p11, State Historical Society of Iowa.

Manuscript Collections

Governor Ansel Briggs Collection, Iowa Department of History and Archives.

Briggs Family Papers, Catherine Robertson, Rock Springs, Wyoming, now in the temporary possession of the Field Services Section, State Historical Society of Iowa.

John Burmeister, Preston, Iowa, Scrapbooks.

Katherine Daudel, Andrew, Iowa, Scrapbooks.

C.F. Davis Collection, microfilm, State Historical Society of Iowa.

C.C. Horton, Bowen's Prairie, Iowa, Diary, 14 September 1860-31 December 1862.

Jackson County Records Collection, State Historical Society of Iowa.

Government Documents--Published

Journal of the House of Representatives of the First Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Iowa. Burlington, 1839.

Journal of the House...Second Legislative Assembly. Burlington, 1840.

Journal of the House...Third Legislative Assembly. Dubuque, 1841.

Journal of the House...Fourth Legislative Assembly. Dubuque, 1842.

Journal of the House...Fifth Legislative Assembly. Iowa City, 1843.

Journal of the House...Sixth Legislative Assembly. Dubuque, 1844.

Journal of the House...Seventh Legislative Assembly. Ft. Madison, 1845.

Journal of the House...Eighth Legislative Assembly. Keosauqua, 1846.

Journal of the Council of the First Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Iowa. Dubuque, 1839.

Journal of the Council...Second Legislative Assembly. Burlington, 1840.

Journal of the Council...Third Legislative Assembly. Bloomington, 1841.

Journal of the Council...Fourth Legislative Assmebly. Bloomington, 1842.

Journal of the Council...Fifth Legislative Assembly. Davenport, 1843.

Journal of the Council...Sixth Legislative Assembly. Burlington, 1844.

Journal of the Council...Seventh Legislative Assembly. Iowa City, 1845.

Journal of the Council...Eighth Legislative Assembly. Dubuque, 1846.

Laws of the Territory of Iowa (Second Territorial Assembly). Burlington, 1840.

Laws of the Territory of Iowa (Third Territorial Assembly). Burlington, 1840-41.

Local Laws of the Territory of Iowa (Fourth Territorial Assembly). Iowa City, 1841-42.

Local Laws of the Territory of Iowa (Fifth Territorial Assembly). Iowa City, 1843.

Revised Statutes of the Territory of Iowa. Iowa City, 1843.

Laws of Iowa (Sixth Territorial Assembly). Burlington, 1844.

Laws of Iowa (Seventh Territorial Assembly). Iowa City, 1845.

Laws of Iowa (Eighth Territorial Assembly). Iowa City, 1846.

Journal of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa. Burlington, 1847.

Journal of the House of Representatives...at the Extra Session Thereof. Keosauqua, 1848.

Journal of the House of Representatives of the Second Regular Session of the General Assembly. Ft. Madison, 1849.

Journal of the House of Representatives of the Third Regular Session. Iowa City, 1850.

Journal of the Senate of the First General Assembly of the State of Iowa. Iowa City, 1847.

Journal of the Senate at the Extra Session of the First General Assembly. Iowa City, 1848.

Journal of the Senate of the Second Regular Session of the General Assembly. Andrew, 1849.

Journal of the Senate of the Third Session of the General Assembly. Iowa City, 1851.

Acts, Resolutions and Memorials passed at the Extra Session of the First General Assembly. Iowa City, 1848.

Acts, Resolutions and Memorials passed at the Second Regular Session of the General Assembly. Iowa City, 1849.

Government Documents--Unpublished

- 1820 U.S. Census, Vermont, Ohio.
- 1830 U.S. Census, Ohio.
- 1840 U.S. Census, Ohio, Iowa.
- 1850 U.S. Census, Iowa.
- 1854 Nebraska Territorial Census.
- 1855 Nebraska Territorial Census.
- 1856 Nebraska Territorial Census.
- 1856 Iowa State Census.
- 1860 U.S. Census, Iowa, Nebraska Territory.
- 1870 U.S. Census, Iowa.
- 1880 U.S. Census, Nebraska.
- Deed Indexes - Lands, 1838-1883, Jackson County Recorder's Office.
- Deed Indexes - Town Lots, 1855-1883, Jackson County Recorder's Office.
- Deed Records - Lands, Jackson County Recorder's Office.
- Deed Records - Town Lots, Jackson County Recorder's Office.
- Record of Wills Transcribed, A-B, Jackson County Clerk's Office.
- Archives of the Second Territorial Assembly of Iowa, Iowa Department of History and Archives.
- Archives of the Fifth Territorial Assembly.
- Archives of the Sixth Territorial Assembly.
- Archives of the Seventh Territorial Assembly.
- Archives of the First General Assembly of Iowa, Iowa Department of History and Archives.
- Archives of the Office of the Secretary of State of the State of Iowa--
Notarial Appointments, 1846-1851, Iowa Department of History and Archives.

Surveyors Field Notes, East 5 Mer., Iowa, T84-85, R3, Vol. 9 (transcribed from the original as part of W.P.A. Project N.3320, 1938), State Land Office, Office of the Secretary of State of Iowa.

Iowa Executive Council Legislative Journal (later Census Board Journal), 1838-1873, Iowa Department of History and Archives.

Executive Journal of Iowa, 1846-1857, Typescript copy, State Historical Society of Iowa.

Territorial Papers of the United States, The Territory of Iowa, 1838-1846, microfilm, roll T-5, 54, 6, National Archives.

INVENTORY OF ANSEL BRIGGS PRIMARY DOCUMENTS

I. Governor Ansel Briggs Collection (Iowa Department of History and Archives, Des Moines)

- 1) Indenture of Contract, 1 January 1841, Ansel Briggs to George Ather-ton and Thomas Dillon, all of Davenport. re: Briggs is subcontracting his mail routes to these two men.
- 2) Letter, Wilson Shannon, Cambridge, Ohio, to Robert Lucas, Iowa, 3 November 1839. re: letter of introduction for Ansel Briggs.
- 3) Letter, R. Gorwig, Des Moines, to Ansel Briggs, 4 March 1860. re: asking for photograph for preservation in State Executive Office.
- 4) Letter, William Penn Clarke, Iowa City, to Ansel Briggs, 29 May 1847. re: school legislation.
- 5) Deed, Ansel Briggs and John Francis to John Colder, 7 August 1947. Lots in Andrew.
- 6) Bond, John Colder to Ansel Briggs, 10 March 1845, secured with lots in Andrew.
- 7) Petition to Governor Briggs, 28 May 1847. re: requesting that John Brophy be appointed "agent for selecting Salt Springs & lands thereto attached."
- 8) Letter, L.A. Herroz /?, Clinton County, to M.H. Clark, 31 May 1847. re: above petition (item #7) and general politics.
- 9) Letter, Isaac Cutler, Iowa City, to Ansel Briggs, 17 May 1847. re: issuance of election certificate by Briggs to Harlan, and approval of his bond. This letter also contains transcriptions of letters to and from Charles Mason on school legislation.
- 10) Authorization, from Frederick Bangs, Andrew, to Ansel Briggs for the deduction of \$62 from Bangs salary as private secretary to the Governor for "value received," 5 June 1849.
- 11) Letter, Ansel Briggs to Cutler, 4 December 1847. re: the publication of several proclamations.
- 12) Letter, D.H. Daudel, Andrew, to Chas. Aldrich, Des Moines, 12 October 1901. re: biographical material on Ansel Briggs.
- 13) Letter, Daudel to Aldrich, 5 June 1903. re: biographical material on Ansel Briggs.
- 14) Letter, Charles Mason, Bloomington, to Ansel Briggs, 22 November 1848. re: Missouri-Iowa Boundary dispute.

15) Letter, David Rorer to Ansel Briggs, 25 March 1847.

II. Jackson County Records Collection (State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City)

1) Certificate of Transfer, 5 April 1853, resulting from a judgement of the Jackson County Court, in favor of Peter Halligan and against Ansel Briggs and Hannah Chambers for \$85.53.

2) Writ of ad quod damnum, 2 October, 1855, Hunting and Waterman vs. Curtis, listing Ansel Briggs as one juror serving 15 October 1855.

3) Records, in suit of McCormick and Gray vs. Briggs and Fenn, May 1850 term of Jackson County Court: writ, filed 30 April 1850; note, Briggs and Fenn to McCormick and Gray, 18 March 1849, for \$90 on one "McCormick Patent Virginia Reaper;" summons to Briggs and Fenn, 30 April 1850; and receipt from plaintiffs' attorney to Briggs and Fenn for \$93.80 in "damages in the above suit," 2 November 1850.

III. Briggs Family Papers (Miss Catherine Robertson, Rock Springs, Wyoming; this collection is in the temporary possession of the Field Services Section, State Historical Society of Iowa)

1) Diary of John S. Briggs kept during 1863 Montana trip.

2) Diary of John S. Briggs, transcription of above (item #1), made 2 June 1971.

3) "Donations to Historical Society of Iowa by John S. Briggs, son of Governor Briggs." List of documents and letters, some of which are in this collection, some of which are not.

4) Letter, Secretary of State Cutler, Iowa City, to Briggs, 31 March 1847. re: requesting the arrest of a certain individual.

5) Letter, Thomas H. Benton, Dubuque, to Briggs, 3 April 1847. re: upcoming election in Dubuque, temperance, and the Whigs in Iowa.

6) Letter, Burton to Briggs, 21 April 1847. re: wants arms for his militia company; his own candidacy for some office; and discussion of the Senate fight.

7) Letter, J.M. Woods, Burlington, to Briggs, 20 May 1847. re: asking for special election in Burlington to fill vacant General Assembly seat.

8) Petition for "Executive Clemency" for Mary Brophy, Scott County, who is ten years old. She was sentenced on 5 May /no year given/ to ten days in jail and a fine of ten dollars for petty larceny. She served the ten days, but couldn't pay the ten dollars, so she remained in jail.

- 9) Letter, Cutler to Briggs, 23 April 1847. re: Harlan's election--Briggs is warned against hastily approving his bond.
- 10) Letter, George Greene, Lexington, Iowa, to Briggs, 15 May 1847. re: requesting judgeship appointment; willing to move to Linn County.
- 11) Article of Agreement, Briggs to Jesse Vandolah, 13 December 1842. selling a saw mill on Brush Creek in Jackson County.
- 12) Letter, George Catlin, Jr., Buffalo, N.Y., to Briggs, 6 October 1848. re: requesting appointment as Commissioner of Deeds.
- 13) Letter, Isaac R. Atlee, Keokuk, to Briggs, 6 May 1847. re: application for Superintendent of Work, for improvements on penitentiary at Ft. Madison.
- 14) Letter, E.S. Waeg /?, Davenport, to Briggs, 9 January 1848. re: resignation as notary public.
- 15) Letter, Charles Corkeny, Office of Public Works, Ottumwa, to Briggs, 15 April 1849. re: report on Des Moines River Improvement.
- 16) Letter, Orlazon /? Smith, Keosauqua, to Briggs, 28 November 1847. re: request for help in getting captain's commission in U.S. Army from President Polk.
- 17) Letter, Henry L. Salmion /?, Ft. Madison, to Briggs, 18 March 1847. re: withdrawing his name from consideration as Superintendent of Construction at Ft. Madison in favor of Atlee.
- 18) Letter, Edgar Harlan, Des Moines, to Mrs. John S. Briggs, Omaha, 25 November 1908. re: Briggs Family Papers.
- 19) Petition, J. E. Goodenow, Maquoketa, to Briggs, 10 April 1847, asking that Jonas Clark be appointed notary public.
- 20) Deed of Trust, Ansel Briggs, Trustee, to William Allison, 20 December 1849.
- 21) Letter, Stephen Gardner and W.D. Downey, Iowa City, to Briggs, 20 May 1847. re: recommendations for agent to select salt springs.
- 22) Letter, Charles Corkeny, Ottumwa, to Briggs, 2 October 1848. re: Des Moines River Improvement.
- 23) Letter, L. /? A. Bissell, Tipton, to Briggs, 17 April 1847. re: favoring the appointment of Joseph K. Snyder as clerk of district court.
- 24) Circular, U.S. Pension Office, 4 March 1847, printed.
- 25) Bill of Sale, M.H. Clark to Ansel Briggs, 2 December 1848, selling type, printing press, and subscription lists of the Jackson County Democrat.
- 26) Receipt, Jackson County Treasurer's Office to Ansel Briggs, 19 January 1854, for taxes paid on lands.

- 27) Telegram, Ansel Briggs, Jr., to Ansel Briggs, 9 May 1863, points of origination and destination are unclear: "I am at this place enroute for Idaho."
- 28) "Accrostic, Nancy M. Briggs--1836," probably by George Dunlap.
- 29) Letter, John S. Briggs to [unknown], no date. re: removal of Governor Briggs body from Omaha to Iowa.
- 30) Letter, John S. Briggs to William Salter, 2 March 1897. re: memories of John S. Briggs' early childhood in Andrew and his father.
- 31) Letter, N.B. Butterworth to Mrs. John S. Briggs, 16 July 1910. re: genealogy of the Briggs family.
- 32) Receipt, Jackson County Treasurer's Office to Ansel Briggs, 5 January 1855, for taxes on lands.
- 33) Receipt, Jackson County Treasurer's Office to Ansel Briggs, 14 April 1862, for taxes on lands.
- 34) Mining Claim, Ansel and John S. Briggs, 9 June 1860, with description of property.
- 35) Bill and Receipt, to Ansel Briggs for school fees for John and Ansel Jr. Briggs and Illinois and Natty Carpenter, 28 April 1855.
- 36) Letter, J.J. Dyer to Ansel Briggs, 14 April, no year given. re: Congressional nomination of T.H. Benton; fond memories of Dyer's residence in Andrew; political conditions in Iowa.
- 37) Letter, Charles Corkeny, Agency City, to Briggs, 27 October 1848. re: suggestions for items in executive message on Board of Public Works.
- 38) "Biographies of Nancy M. Briggs and Ansel Briggs," by Mrs. John S. Briggs, no date, 11 pages handwritten.
- 39) Deed, J.B. Dorr and O.J. Wright to Ansel Briggs, 4 November 1850, to Andrew Western Democrat. Deed is security for \$300 loan from Briggs.
- 40) Bill of Lading, 14 October 1851, for various enumerated goods shipped to Briggs and Malcolm in Andrew.
- 41) Letter, A.B. Vanderford, N.Y., to Briggs, 29 October 1848. re: appointment of Charles Bushnell as Commissioner of Deeds.
- 42) Letter, Henry Storm, N.Y., to Briggs, 28 February 1878. re: request for Briggs autograph.
- 43) Letter, Henry Allen, Helena, Montana, to Briggs, 20 May 1867. re: notifying Briggs of the death of his son, Ansel, Jr. Also, included, is an obituary from a Montana newspaper.

- 44) Letter, Isaac Brandt, Secretary of the Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa, to Mrs. John S. Briggs, 13 March 1904. re: resolution asking for the removal of Governor Briggs' body to Iowa at public expense.
- 45) Letter, B.F. Gue to Mrs. John S. Briggs, 13 February 1904. re: Mrs. John S. Briggs attendance at upcoming Pioneer Lawmakers meeting.
- 46) Letter, B.F. Thomas, Maquoketa, to Mrs. John S. Briggs, 29 October 1908. re: political support for J.W. Ellis in Jackson County for his candidacy for representative to General Assembly; Thomas' memories of his old friend and schoolmate, John S. Briggs, in Andrew.
- 47) Letter, J.W. Ellis to Mrs. John S. Briggs, ca. 1908. re: the Ansel Briggs Monument Dedication in Andrew.
- 48) Letter, R.W. Steele, Denver, to Briggs, 25 February 1866. re: Briggs' return from Montana to Council Bluffs; political conditions in the country.
- 49) Deed, State of Iowa to Ansel Briggs, 23 July, 1947, for two lots in Bellevue, Iowa.
- 50) Deed, M.H. Clark to Ansel Briggs, 28 November 1846, for lot in Andrew.
- 51) Deed, Henry Todd to Ansel Briggs, 16 January 1851, for lot in Andrew.
- 52) Quit Claim Deed, Henry Corinth, Trustee, to Ansel Briggs, 8 February 1855, for lots in Andrew and land in Jackson County.
- 53) Deed, Jason Watkins, Sheriff, to Ansel Briggs, 1 May 1861, for farm land in Jackson County.
- 54) Deed, S.S. Fenn to Ansel Briggs, 17 November 1847, for undivided half interest in Jackson County farm land.
- 55) Deed, Harriet Francis to Ansel Briggs, 6 June 1861, for lots in Andrew.
- 56) Deed, S.S. Fenn to Ansel Briggs, 21 March 1850, for land in Jackson County.
- 57) Chattel Mortgage, William Chapman to Roswell Briggs, 14 October 1852.
- 58) Deed of Trust, Joseph H. Smith to Harriet Francis, 20 March 1854.
- 59) Deed, Fayette Milland to R.C. Briggs, 18 April 1849.
- 60) Deed of Trust, L.H. Warriner to Francis Briggs (P.B. Bradley, Trustee), 30 April 1858, to secure loan given by Mrs. Briggs.
- 61) Deed of Trust, David Stover to J.H. Smith, 15 August 1855.
- 62) Deed, Peter Mullen to R.C. Briggs, 24 March 1849.

63) Deed of Trust, Ansel Briggs and wife to L.H. Warriner (Trustee for Laura A. Briggs and Nathaniel Butterworth), 2 November 1852. Ansel and his wife were borrowing \$1350 from the estate of Benjamin Briggs and using parcels of land for security.

64) Deed, S.S. Fenn to Ansel Briggs, 27 April 1859, for land in Jackson County.

65) Bill of Sale, Richard Cobb to Ansel Briggs, 9 April 1855, made as security for \$160 loan from Briggs.

66) Deed, John Francis to Ansel Briggs, 4 May 1847, for lots in Andrew.

67) Letter, B.H. Baldwin, Ticonderoga, N.Y., to Ansel Briggs, 24 December 1856. re: requesting information on Abner Briggs and David Briggs.

68) Deed, M.H. Clark to Ansel Briggs, 31 January 1850, for land in Jackson County.

69) Deed, L.H. Warriner (Trustee) to Ansel Briggs, 15 March 1855, quit claim rights put up to secure money from Laura Briggs and N. Butterworth.

70) Power of Attorney, John S. and Mary E. Briggs, Omaha, to Ansel Briggs, Omaha, 2 October 1869.

71) Power of Attorney, Ansel Briggs, Jr., Jackson County, and John S. Briggs, Pottawattamie County, to Ansel Briggs, Jackson County, 27 May 1863.

72) Deposition, Ansel Briggs, Jr., Jackson County Court, 8 May 1861, wherein he states that he is a minor but over 14, and asks that his father, Ansel Briggs, be appointed to take charge of his property in Pennsylvania.

73) Quit Claim Deed, Joseph Kelso to Ansel Briggs, Jr., 3 November 1862, for land in Jackson County. On 16 November 1863, Ansel, Jr., signs this property over to his brother, John S. Briggs.

74) Power of Attorney, John S. Briggs, Council Bluffs, to Ansel Briggs, Jr., 26 May 1863.

75) Land Patent, to Martha Prosper, 1 May 1852; deeded to Ansel Briggs, 29 February 1856.

76) Certificate of Purchase, Ansel Briggs, 5 October 1874, for several lots in Andrew at a tax sale.

77) Tax Sale Deed, Ansel and J. S. Briggs, 16 November 1863.

78) List of "notes for collection" with names and amounts due Ansel Briggs, given to Joseph Palmer, Jackson County.

79) Warrantee Deed, James C. Mitchel, Douglas County, to Ansel Briggs, of same county, 20 January 1858, for lot in Florence, Nebraska.

80) Indenture of Agreement, William A. Ammons, Central City, Madison County, Montana Territory to /blank/, entire stock of goods in store for several yoke of oxen, etc., /blank/ day of January 1865.

81) Deed, John P. Becker, Trustee, Columbus, Nebraska, to John S. and Ansel Briggs, Jr., 29 May 1861, for 30 lots in Columbus, Nebraska.

82) Mayor's Deed, Mayor of Columbus to John S. and Ansel Briggs, Jr., 12 December 1860, for lots in Columbus.

82) 63 miscellaneous notes and receipts, 1843-1860, some to, for, or by Ansel Briggs as Sheriff, Deputy County Treasurer, or store owner.

83) Letters from the County Clerks of the following counties giving the aggregate number of white, able bodied males between the ages of 18 and 45, to Governor Briggs, 1918: Buchanan, Cedar, Clayton, Clinton, Dallas, Davis, Henry, Iowa Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Keokuk, Lee, Linn, Louisa, Poweshiek, Van Buren, and Washington. The letter from the County Clerk of Johnson County lists each such male by name.

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 1

- From County Commissioners to Ansel Briggs and Francis, Oct. 4, 1842, Oct. 8, 1842, deed, Book A, p. 136, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22, T85 NR3E 5PM, 160 acres less public square
- Ansel Briggs to Alfred Snyder, Feb. 12, 1850, Sept. 19, 1852, deed, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 23 T85 R3, Book G, p. 128
- Ansel Briggs to Alfred Snyder, Apr. 22, 1850, Sept. 19, 1852, deed, Andrew, E $\frac{1}{2}$ L5&6, Blk30, Book G, p. 129
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to Wm. Collins, Nov. 29, 1842, Feb. 3, 1843, deed, Andrew, L8, Blk19, Book A, p. 146
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to N. Butterworth, Nov. 29, 1842, May 11, 1843, deed, Andrew, L4, Blk36; L6&7, Blk29, Book A, p. 160
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to McAuley, W (N?), Mar. 20, 1853, - , deed, Andrew, L6, Blk47, Book A, p. 174
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to W (N?) McAuley, Mar. 20, 1853, - , deed, Andrew, undivided 1/3 of L9, Blk49, Book A, p. 174
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to John Calder, Aug. 7, 1844, deed, Andrew, L1&2, Blk46, Book A, p. 235
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to Joseph Mathews, Apr. 11, 1845, Apr. 20, 1845, deed, Andrew, L1, Blk39, Book A, p. 278
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to A.G. Clark, Aug. 27, 1845, - , deed, Andrew, L3&4, Blk35, Book A, p. 298
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to E. Martin, May 10, 1845, deed, Andrew, L4&5, Blk19, Book A, p. 302
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to John Holroyd, June 3, 1845, Feb. 12, 1846, deed, Andrew, L1&8, Blk26, Book A, p. 305
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to A.G. Clark, Mar. 26, 1846, deed, Andrew, L1&8, Blk28, Book A, p. 325
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to O.C. Pratt, Apr. 10, 1845, deed, Andrew, L1&8, Blk13, Book A, p. 331
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to Jesse Van Ruskirk, Apr. 22, 1845, deed, Andrew, L5, Blk28, Book A, p. 340
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to A.G. Clark, Dec. 31, 1845, Aug. 28, 1846, deed, Andrew, L7, Blk36, Book A, p. 342
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to M.H. Clark, Apr. 10, 1846, deed, Andrew, Blk whole/2, Book A, p. 356

Ansel Briggs and Francis to R.B. McAuley, June 1, 1846, deed, Andrew, N $\frac{1}{2}$ of L3, Blk36, Book A, p. 357

Ansel Briggs and Francis to John Sawyer, July 7, 1846, July 13, 1846, deed, Andrew, L6&7, Blk28, Book A, p.373

Ansel Briggs and Francis to John Sawyer, July 7, 1846, July 13, 1846, deed, Andrew, L7&8, Blk27, Book A, p. 373

Ansel Briggs and Francis to Daniel G. Quigley, Aug. 24, 1846, Aug. 26, 1846, deed, Andrew, L1, Blk45, Book A, p. 382

Ansel Briggs and Francis to James Murphy, Nov. 29, 1842, Nov. 10, 1846, deed, Andrew, L5,6,&8, Blk44, Book A, P. 399

Ansel Briggs and Francis to James Murphy, Nov. 29, 1842, Nov. 10, 1846, deed, Andrew, L5&6, Blk27, Book A, p. 399

Ansel Briggs and Francis to James Murphy, Nov. 29, 1842, Nov. 10, 1846, deed, Andrew, L1, Blk20, Book A, p. 399

Ansel Briggs and Francis to R.C. Hotonhow?, Nov. 24, 1846, Dec. 14, 1846, deed, Andrew, L4, Blk39, Book A, p. 409

Ansel Briggs and Francis to School district No. 1, Perry Township, Oct. 5, 1846, Dec. 24, 1846, deed, Andrew, L8, Blk53, Book A, P. 416

Ansel Briggs to John Francis, May 4, 1847, May 4, 1847, deed, Andrew, Blks5,6,7, 8,9,10,11,12,14,16,17,23,24,34,40,41,55; L2,3,4,5,6,7, Blk13; Lots1,2,3,6,7, Blk19; Lots3&7, Blk26; Lots3&4, Blk28; Lots1,3,4, Blk30; Lots5,6,7,8, Blk53, part of S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 22, Tw. 85, R3, Book A, p. 452

Sheriff Ansel Briggs to Henry Jones, June 22, 1846, deed, Bellview, L191 (Sheriff's Sale), Book A, p. 460

M.H. Clark to Ansel Briggs, November 8, 1846, April 14, 1847, deed, Andrew, L1, Blk20, Book A, p. 439

J. Francis to Ansel Briggs, May 4, 1847, May 4, 1847, deed, Andrew, Blks4,15,21, 22,25,31,32,33,44,48,49,51,52,54,56; Lots1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,10, Blk18; Lots2,3, 4,6,7,8, Blk20; Lots2,3,&4, Blk27; Lots2, Blk28; Lots4,5,8, Blk29; Lots 5&6, Blk30; Lots2,5,6,7, Blk35; S $\frac{1}{2}$ of 3, Blk36; Lots1,2,3,4,5&6, Blk38; Lots2&3, Blk39; Lots1,2,&7, Blk44; Lots2,3,4,5,6,7&8, Blk45; Lots1,3,4,5,9,&10, Blk47; Lots1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,&10, Blk50; and out lots 1,2,4; also part of S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22, Tw. 85, Book A, p. 458

Ansel Briggs to Florida Nicholas, May 18, 1847, Aug. 22, 1847, deed, Andrew, L4, Blk47, Book A, p. 483

Ansel Briggs to Mahala Spence, May 18, 1847, May 18, 1847, deed, Andrew, L7,5,6, Blk35, Book A, p. 508

- Ansel Briggs to Alvira Ames, Oct. 22, 1847, Oct. 23, 1847, deed, Andrew, L1&2, Blk38, Book A, p. 510
- Ansel Briggs to Ebenezer Doe, Nov. 1, 1847, Dec. 15, 1847, deed, Andrew, L4, Blk45, Book A, p. 512
- Ansel Briggs to E.P. Collins, Oct. 23, 1847, Oct. 23, 1847, deed, Andrew, L2&3, Blk39, Book A, p. 514
- John Calder to Ansel Briggs, Apr. 26, 1845, Jan. 18, 1848, deed, Andrew, L1&2, Blk46, Book A, p. 521
- State of Iowa to Ansel Briggs, July 23, 1847, Jan 19, 1848, deed, Bellevue, L113, Blk195, Book A, p. 523
- S.S. Fenn to Ansel Briggs, Nov. 17, 1847, deed, undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 8, T85, R3, Book A, p. 529
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to J.J. Dyer, Nov. 1, 1847, Nov. 1, 1847, deed, Andrew, Blk46, Book A, p. 534
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to E.P. Collins, Feb. 25, 1848, Mar. 13, 1848, deed, Andrew, L8, Blk35, Book A, p. 555
- Ansel Briggs to Q. Day and W.C. Day, Feb. 18, 1848, Feb. 18, 1848, deed, Andrew, L4&8, Blk29; L1,2,7,8 Blk49, Book A, p. 561
- Ansel Briggs to Ebenezer Doe, Feb. 25, 1848, Feb. 26, 1848, deed, Andrew, W $\frac{1}{2}$ L5&6, Blk30, Book A, p. 562
- Ansel Briggs to Stephen Collins, June 6, 1848, July 21, 1848, deed, Andrew, L2&3, Blk39, Book A, p. 624
- Ansel Briggs and Harriet Francis to Joseph Palmer, Nov. 29, 1848, Nov. 28, 1848, deed, Andrew, Blk3, Book D, p. 40
- Joseph Palmer to Ansel Briggs, Nov. 29, 1848, Nov. 29, 1848, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 23, T85, Book D, p. 40
- Ansel Briggs to F. Bangs, Feb. 5, 1849, Feb. 5, 1849, deed, Andrew, Blks1&2, Book D, p. 122
- Ansel Briggs to Jackson Harzen, Mar. 7, 1849, Mar. 10, 1849, deed, Andrew, L1, Blk44, Book D, p. 174
- Ansel Briggs to Nancy Davison, Mar. 16, 1849, Mar. 19, 1849, deed, Andrew, Blk1, Book D, p. 178
- Ansel Briggs to John S. Graham, Nov. 13, 1848, Nov. 2, 1849, deed, Andrew, L3,4,5,&6, Blk38, Book D, p. 504
- Ansel Briggs to John G. McDonald, Apr. 10, 1846, Apr. 21, 1846, Andrew, L2,7,&8, Blk47; and out Lot #3 bounded N by Emmet, E by SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 23, T85, 3E, and S by Madison St. and W by Willoughby St.

- Ansel Briggs to Wm. Miles, Nov. 15, 1849, Dec. 20, 1849, deed, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 25
T86 R2, 80 acres, Book D, p. 570
- M.H. Clark to Ansel Briggs, Jan. 31, 1850, Feb. 6, 1850, deed, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 25
T86 R2, Book D, p. 664
- Ansel Briggs to Wm. Saltmarsh, Aug. 27, 1850, Sept. 24, 1850, deed, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 16
T85 R4, Book E, p. 135
- Ansel Briggs to Richard Hildrith, Aug. 19, 1850, Aug. 21, 1850, deed, Andrew,
L2, Blk35, Book E, p. 126
- Ansel Briggs to Elizabeth A. Cheeny, Sept. 10, 1849, Nov. 31, 1850, deed, Andrew,
L2,3,6,&9, Blk45, Book E, p. 169
- Ansel Briggs and others, bond to County Commissioners, Mar. 8, 1851, Mar. 17, 1851,
Bond for Court House, Book E, p. 334
- Ansel Briggs and others, bond to County Commissioners, Mar. 24, 1851, Mar. 25,
1851, Bond for County Court House, Book E, p. 351
- Ansel Briggs to Trustees of M.E. Church, Aug. 3, 1848, July 30, 1850, deed,
Andrew, L4, Blk18, "for 25 dollars specie", Book E, p. 112
- Samuel Huling to Ansel Briggs, Mar. 17, 1852, Mar. 23, 1852, deed, W $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$
Sec. 4 T84 R3; and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34 T85 R3, Book 7, p. 370
- Ansel Briggs to T.W.G. Mansker, May 13, 1852, May 31, 1852, deed, Andrew, L5&6,
Blk15, Book F, p. 517
- Ansel Briggs to P.B. Bradley, May 22, 1852, June 25, 1852, power of attorney,
Book F, p. 546
- Nathaniel Butterworth and Laura Ann Briggs to Ansel Briggs, Nov. 2, 1852, Nov. 2,
1852, deed, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ & S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ & S $\frac{1}{2}$ & NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22, T85
(190 acres) (\$1400) /witness Lydia M. Butterworth & P.B. Bradley/, Book G,
p. 200
- Roswele C. Briggs to Ansel Briggs, May 18, 1850, Jan. 6, 1853, power of attorney,
General Power of Attorney, Book G, p. 335
- Ansel Briggs to D.G. Quigley, Aug. 11, 1852, June 9, 1853, deed, Andrew, L8,
Blk45, Book H, p. 365
- Ansel Briggs to Jane E. Bagley, June 21, 1853, July 1, 1853, deed, Andrew, L5,
Blk 47, Book H, p. 511
- Ansel Briggs to Stephen Collins, Nov. 21, 1853, Nov. 29, 1853, deed, Andrew,
L6&7, Blk 39, Book I, p. 134
- Ansel Briggs to Henry Davis, Dec. 19, 1853, Dec. 23, 1853, deed, W $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 4
T84 R3, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ S34 T85 R3, Book I, p. 187

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 1

R.C. Briggs to E.A. Palmer, Nov. 30, 1848, Nov. 30, 1848, deed, $W\frac{1}{2}$ $SE\frac{1}{4}$ & $SE\frac{1}{4}$ $SE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34 T85, Book D, p. 41

John Hanna to B.I. Briggs, Dec. 23, 1848, Mar. 2, 1849, $S\frac{1}{2}$ $SE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 20 T85 R3, Book D, p. 170

Benjamin I. Briggs to Wm. King, Mar. 5, 1849, Mar. 10, 1849, deed, $S\frac{1}{2}$ $SE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 20 T85 R3, Book D, p. 171

Peter Muller to R.C. Briggs, Mar. 24, 1849, Mar. 26, 1849, deed (parcels of land in Sec. 27 & 35), Book D, p. 190

Fayette Mallard to Roswell Briggs, Apr. 18, 1849, Apr. 30, 1849, deed, Andrew, L1&8, Blk26, Book D, p. 270

Henry G. Mallard to Roswell Briggs, Apr. 18, 1849, Apr. 30, 1849, deed, Andrew, L5&6, Blk27, Book D, p. 272

Smith Hawkins to Benjamin Briggs, Sept. 22, 1849, Sept. 26, 1849, deed, $N\frac{1}{2}$ $NW\frac{1}{4}$ & $SW\frac{1}{4}$ $NE\frac{1}{4}$ & $SW\frac{1}{4}$, $NW\frac{1}{4}$ & $SE\frac{1}{4}$ $NW\frac{1}{4}$, $SW\frac{1}{4}$, $NE\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 22 T85 (240 acres), Book D, p. 447

David Briggs to Alexander Jones, Jan. 16, 1850, Mar. 18, 1850, deed, Sabula, L1&2, Blk5, Book D, p. 746

Samuel Baker to David Briggs, Mar. 31, 1849, Mar. 18, 1850, deed, Sabula, L1&2, Blk5, Book D, p. 746

W.I. Hinkley to John Briggs, Jan. 23, 1852, Jan. 27, 1852, deed, $NE\frac{1}{2}$ $NE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 17 T85, Book F, p. 234

Nathaniel Butterworth [& Sara B. (wife)] to B.I. Briggs, Sept. 22, 1849, Aug. 16, 1852, deed, $E\frac{1}{2}$ & $SW\frac{1}{4}$ NE of $NE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22 T85 R3 (30 acres), Book F, p. 614

John S. Dille to John Briggs, July 17, 1852, Dec. 29, 1852, deed, NW NE NE Sec. 23 T84 R6, Book G, p. 281

James McLellan to John Briggs, July 17, 1852, Dec. 29, 1852, deed, W pt. $S\frac{1}{2}$ $NE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 17 T84 R6, Book G, p. 282

R.C. Briggs to Thomas Manitta, April 23, 1852, Jan. 6, 1853, deed, see Record /By his Attorney Ansel Briggs/

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 4

Sheriff of Jackson County to Ansel Briggs, June 14, 1862, June 14, 1862, deed, $N\frac{1}{2}$ $SE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 9 T85 R3E 5PM, Book Q, p. 376

Ansel Briggs Jr. to John S. Briggs, Nov. 16, 1863, Nov. 16, 1863, Quit claim as acquired from Joseph Kelso, Undivided half of $N\frac{1}{2}$ of $SE\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 9 T85 NR3E 5PM (for \$1.00), Book R, p. 423

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (General), Book 2

Ansel Briggs to Elizabeth Silsbe, July 5, 1852, July 9, 1852, deed, Andrew, Blk20, Book J, p. 119

Ansel Briggs to Allen Palmer, October 23, 1854, October 27, 1854, deed, Andrew, L2, Blk44, Book J, p. 393

Ansel Briggs to James Hickson, Sept. 7, 1854, Mar. 14, 1855, deed, $W\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 25 T86 R2E 5PM, Book J, p. 639

Ansel Briggs to Charles A. Moulton, 8 Mar. 1855, 22 Mar. 1855, deed, Andrew, L4, Blk50, Book J, p. 8

Ansel Briggs to L.N. Warrenner, Mar. 15, 1855, Mar. 23, 1855, deed, $S\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{2}$ and $S\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and $S\frac{1}{2}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22 T85 R3E 5PM, Book K, p. 98

Ansel Briggs to Henry Corwith, Feb. 8, 1855, Feb. 23, 1855, deed, Andrew, Blks 4,15,21,22,25,31,51,52,54,56 Blk18, except L4, Blk 20, except L5, Blks32,33, except Lots4,5 in each and $S\frac{1}{2}$ L3 Blk36, Blk50, except L8,9,10, Lots4,5 in Blk29, Outlot4: L5, Blk45. Also that part of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22 T85 NR3E lying south of Andrew and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 23 and $W\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 23 T85 NR3E also SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 34 T85 NR3E 5PM, Book K, p. 98

Ansel Briggs to Francis Means, April 4, 1855, April 9, 1855, deed, all that portion of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ lying south of town of Andrew as set forth in the deed. Sec. 22 T85 R3E 5PM, Book K, p. 63

Ansel Briggs to Harriet Francis, Mar. 21, 1855, May 14, 1855, deed, $S\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, $S\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, $S\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22 and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and $W\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW (sic) Sec. 23 T85 R3E 5PM, Book K, p. 149

Michael A. Singleton to Ansel Briggs, Feb. 6, 1854, Mar. 28, 1854, deed, annulling power of attorney, Book J, p. 440

John Briggs to Joanan Dominick, April 8, 1854, April 24, 1854, deed, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 17 except 60 acres on the east side of said $\frac{1}{4}$ and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 23 T84 R6E 5PM, Book J, p. 91

James E. Leonard to John Briggs, May 11, 1854, Aug. 9, 1854, deed, Sabula, $S\frac{1}{2}$ L5, Blk16, Book J, p. 115

James E. Leonard to David Briggs, May 11, 1854, Aug. 9, 1854, deed, Sabula, N $\frac{1}{2}$ L5, Blk16, Book J, p. 116

Charles Briggs to David Laiing, Nov. 18, 1854, Nov. 16, 1854, deed, $W\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 27 T84 R6E 5PM, Book J, p. 389

John Briggs to James McClellan, Nov. 3, 1852, Nov. 6, 1852, deed, N by land owned Guist, E by farm of F. Best, S by said McClellan, Land W by land still owned by Mr. Cingeter, E part of N $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 17 T84 NR6E 5PM. Containing 30 acres, Book L, p. 335

Charles Briggs to Thomas Esmay, Jan. 20, 1852, Feb. 6, 1854, deed, W $\frac{1}{2}$
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 17 T84 R6W 5PM, Book L. p. 345

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (General), Book 3

Ansel Briggs from Martha Prosser, Feb. 29, 1856, Mar. 15, 1859, deed, E $\frac{1}{2}$
NW Sec. 8 T85 R3E 5PM (NW $\frac{1}{4}$ in deed sic) lists Briggs as resident of
Petersburg, Virginia, Book 0, p. 128

S.S. Fenn to Ansel Briggs, Apr. 17, 1859, May 7, 1859, deed, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{1}{2}$
acre see record Sec. 9 T85 R3E 5PM, Book 0, p. 246

Frances Briggs to P.B. Bradley, Oct. 20, 1857, Oct. 20, 1857, Power of
Attorney, Revocation of Power of Attorney, Book N, p. 35

R.D. Buggbee to C.B. Briggs, Nov. 10, 1857, May 28, 1858, deed, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$
Sec. 34 T84 R3E 5PM, Book N, p. 369

Joseph Kelso to Ansel Briggs Jr., Nov. 3, 1862, Nov. 16, 1863, Quit claim for \$48.16, Undivided half of N $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 9 T85 NR3E 5PM, Book R, p. 423

Treasurer of Jackson County to Ansel Briggs Jr. and John S. Briggs, Nov. 16, 1863, Nov. 16, 1863, Tax deed, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 9 T85 R3E 5PM, Book A, p. 328

John S. Briggs to Ansel Briggs Jr., May 26, 1863, Apr. 25, 1864, Power of Attorney, Book S, p. 338 (John's address given as Council Bluffs, Iowa; Ansel Jr.'s as Jackson Co.; Power to lease all Town Lots in Andrew and all other lands in Iowa or in Nebraska Territory)

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 5

Ansel Briggs to J.Y. Blackwell, Mar. 13, 1860, Mar. 15, 1860, deed, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 9 T85 R3E & $\frac{1}{2}$ acre in Sec. 10, Book P, p. 33 (lists Briggs' address as Jackson County)

Ansel Briggs to Harriet Frances, June 26, 1861, July 3, 1861, Quit claim to tract of land lying west of the south half of the town of Andrew, in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22 T85 NR3E 5PM, and east of the line dividing the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ from the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 22, Book P, p. 621

Ansel Briggs to John S. Briggs and Ansel Briggs Jr., Sept. 6, 1862, Sept. 6, 1862, deed, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 9 T85 R3E also Blks 33&48, Lots 3&6 in Blk 49 and Lots 1,2,7,8 in Blk 52 in town (all for \$1200), Book Q, p. 460

Benjamin J. Briggs estate to Ansel Briggs, Mar. 16, 1864, Mar. 13, 1864, deed, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22 T85 R3E 5PM, Book S, p. 476

Ansel Briggs to Mary E. Thomas, Feb. 12, 1866, Feb. 13, 1866, deed, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22 T85 R3E 5PM (index entry) (instrument entry) -- "all of the south east quarter of section 22 T85 NR3E 5PM West of Block 1 west of the west end of Cass Street and west of Lots 1 and 10 in Block number 2 in the town of Andrew." Book 20, p. 257

John S. Briggs and Ansel Briggs Jr. to Wm. H. Thomas, Jan. 20, 1865, Apr. 15, 1865, deed, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 9 T85 R3E 5PM, Book V, P. 132 (address for both Briggs' given as Madison County, Montana Territory; clerk in Montana says both Briggs' appeared before him there)

Sarah A. Weed to David M. Briggs, Oct. 23, 1865, Dec. 2, 1865, deed, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 30 T84 R5E 5PM, Book V, p. 568

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 6

R.D. Bugbee to Charles B. Briggs, Nov. 10, 1857, May 16, 1868, Warranty Deed, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34 T84 NR3E 5PM, Book 26, p. 85 (Charles Briggs' residence - Gainsville, Wyoming County, New York)

Charles B. Briggs to George & Otto Wendel, May 9, 1868, June 27, 1868,
Warranty deed, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34 T84 NR3E 5PM, Book 25, p. 57

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 7

Louisa Briggs and her husband Alfred Briggs, Wyoming County, New York and
several others, to Perkins Hatfield, July 5, 1865, June 4, 1869,
Warranty deed, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7 T84 NR2E 5PM, plus miscellaneous other
small tracts. (evidently an estate settlement), Book 27, p. 29

David M. Briggs to Edward Foster, Feb. 12, 1870, Feb. 16, 1870, Warranty
deed, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 30 T84 NR5E 5PM (40 acres), Book 27, p. 423

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 8

James H. Andrew to Porter Briggs, Sept. 17, 1873, Dec. 10, 1872, Warranty
deed, \$357, land adjoining town of Ozark, 117 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. from SE corner of
L1 in Blk11 running south 14 west 16 west 14 north 50 34 west 20 ft.
more or less etc. etc. ad inf., Book 34, p. 312

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 10

Horatio W. Sanford to Ansel Briggs, Mar. 15, 1881, Mar. 22, 1881, Quit claim,
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 34 T85 3RE 5PM for \$1.00 (made in place of a deed made by
Sanford to Briggs in April 1852 for same land, first deed reported lost),
Book 44, p. 307 - gives Briggs' residence as Jackson County, as it would
have been in 1852

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Lands), Book 11

Oren Briggs and wife Roberta to sign with 4 Kimball's and 2 Moores in a sale
to Michael Burk, Mar. 29, 1882, May 13, 1882, Quit claim, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 36
T85 NR3E 5 PM for \$400 (Seems like an estate settlement), Book 44, p. 523
- Briggs given as living in Union County, Dakota

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Town Lots), Book 1

- Ansel Briggs to Richard Hildreth, July 2, 1855, Aug. 17, 1855, deed, Andrew, Blk18 except L4, and $W\frac{1}{2}$ of Blk31, Book A, p. 31
- Ansel Briggs to David Stover, Aug. 15, 1855, Aug. 28, 1855, deed, Andrew, L4&5, Blk29, Book A, p. 39
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to George Wyckoff, Sept. 6, 1855, Sept. 10, 1855, deed, Andrew, L6, Blk26, Book A, p. 51
- Ansel Briggs to H.D. Hanna, Apr. 24, 1855, Oct. 1, 1855, deed, Andrew, L5,6,7,8,&9, Blk31, Book A, p. 60
- Ansel Briggs to William McClure, Oct. 17, 1855, Nov. 5, 1855, deed, Andrew, Blk25, Book A, p. 72
- Ansel Briggs to Charles A. Moulton, July 12, 1855, Dec. 21, 1855, deed, Andrew, L3, Blk50, Book A, p. 92
- Ansel Briggs to Henry Waters, Oct. 25, 1855, Mar. 3, 1856, deed, Andrew, Blk21, Book A, p. 126
- Ansel Briggs and wife to Joseph Palmer, Sept. 19, 1856, Oct. 6, 1856, deed, Andrew, Blk 4, Book A, p. 311
- Ansel Briggs to Michael Zentner, May 15, 1857, May 18, 1857, deed, Andrew, Blk32, Book A, p. 461
- Ansel Briggs to William B. Johnson, Oct. 19, 1857, Nov. 25, 1857, deed, Andrew, $S\frac{1}{2}$ L3, Blk36, Book B, p. 76
- Ansel Briggs to James D. Cannon, Oct. 27, 1857, Dec. 8, 1857, deed, Andrew, L1,2,3,4,7,8,9,&10, Blk15, Book B, p. 82
- Ansel Briggs to H.J.Dawson, Oct. 3, 1857, Feb. 13, 1858, deed, Out lot in Andrew, Book B, p. 108
- Ansel Briggs to William McClure, Aug. 13, 1858, Jan. 20, 1859, deed, Andrew, L2,3,&4, Blk27, Book B, p. 274
- Ansel Briggs to L.H. Warriner, Mar. 15, 1859, June 6, 1859, deed, Andrew, Blk51, Book B, p. 338
- Ansel Briggs and Francis to John L. Hodges, July 21, 1845, Sept. 17, 1859, deed, Book B, no page reference but says "see Land Index"
- Ansel Briggs to Charles Speith, Aug. 9, 1860, Aug. 20, 1860, deed, Andrew, L5, Blk45, Book B, p. 519
- Ansel Briggs to Francis Mullin, Apr. 14, 1862, Apr. 14, 1862, deed, Andrew, L3,4,5,&6, Blk52, Book C, p. 12
- Ansel Briggs to John Briggs and Ansel Briggs Jr., Sept. 6, 1862, Sept. 6, 1862, L3&6, Blk49, B1,2,7,&8, Blk52, Blks33,&48, Book Q, p. 460

Ansel Briggs to Harriet Francis, May 26, 1863, June 6, 1863, Quit claim, Andrew, L8, Blk19, Book C, p. 170

Harriet Francis to Ansel Briggs, May 26, 1863, May 27, 1863, Quit claim, Andrew, L2, Blk30, Book C, p. 166

Roswell C. Briggs to Christopher J. Dawson, Nov. 31 (sic), 1855, Apr. 4, 1856, deed, Andrew, L1&8, Blk26, Book A, p. 154

R.C. Briggs to Francis Means, July 12, 1855, Dec. 29, 1857, deed, Andrew, L5&6, Blk27, Book B, p. 91

Francis Briggs to L.H. Warriner, Apr. 30, 1858, May 3, 1858, deed, Andrew, Blk46, Book B, p. 138

Ansel Briggs Jr. and J.S. Briggs to J.M. Schueller, Apr. 11, 1864, Apr. 18, 1864, deed, Andrew, L1,2,7,&8, Blk52, Book C, p. 305

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Town Lots), Book 2

Ansel Briggs to J.Y. Blackwell, May 20, 1864, June 11, 1864, deed, Andrew, L2, Blk30, Book C, p. 340

Ansel Briggs to Enos J. Ford, Feb. 1, 1866, Feb. 8, 1866, deed, Andrew, L7&8, Blk22, Book D, p. 62

Ansel Briggs to A.J. Phillips, Apr. 14, 1866, Nov. 20, 1867, Quit claim, Andrew, L2,6,7,N $\frac{1}{2}$ of 3, Blk36, Book E, p. 40

Ansel Briggs to Jno. P. Mann, Nov. 2, 1867, Feb. 3, 1868, Quit claim, Andrew, L3,4,5,&6, Blk22, Book E, p. 130

Frederick Schramling et al to Charles Briggs Sr., Sept. 1, 1869, Sept. 22, 1869, Warranty deed, Sabula, L7&8, Blk12, Book E, p. 439

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Town Lots), Book 3

Charles Briggs to Abraham Beasley, June 28, 1870, May 4, 1871, Warranty deed, Sabula, L7&8, Blk12, Book G, p. 1

Index to Deeds in Jackson County (Town Lots), Book 5

Ansel Briggs to P.B. Bradley, Mar. 20, 1860, Dec. 15, 1886, Warranty deed, Andrew, L1,9,&10, Blk47; L9&10, Blk50; Book P, p. 256

Ansel Briggs to P.B. Bradley, Mar. 20, 1860, not filed until 1886, deed,
Andrew, L1,9,&10, Blk47; L9&10, Blk50, for \$250

John S. Briggs to Nathaniel B. Butterworth, Apr. 8, 1882, Apr. 17, 1882,
Warranty deed, Andrew, Book 0, p. 143

John S. Briggs to Nathaniel B. Butterworth, May 10, 1882, May 17, 1882, Quit
claim, Andrew, Book J, p. 544

Hiberd Waugh and wife to Tamma H. Briggs, July 25, 1889, Aug. 6, 1889, Warranty
deed, Monmouth, for \$500 a lot in Blk16, Book R, p. 340

John S. Briggs and wife Mary E. of Douglas County, Nebraska sold to Nathaniel B.
Butterworth, Quit claim, Andrew, for \$25.00, Blk33; L1&2, Blk38; Blks48&49

John S. Briggs and wife Mary E. of Douglas County, Nebraska sold to Nathaniel
B. Butterworth, Warranty deed, Andrew, for \$30.00, the undivided one half
interest of Blks 48&49, L1&2 in Blk38

Index to Deeds in Pottawattamie County (Grantee), Book 1

J.E. Johnson and wife to Ansel Briggs and A.B. Malcolm, March 5, 1857, May 6, 1857, special warranty, L1, Blk71; L12, Blk70; L1,2,&9, Blk92; L13, Blk92; L9, Blk123, L8&10, Blk93; B10, Blk105; L3, Blk78; L4,5,6,8,16, Blk11; L5, Blk23, L2&7, Blk127; L9, Blk112, L2, Blk95; L10&15, Blk111; L1&9, Blk1; L9, Blk55; L5&6, Blk124; B3&19, Blk90; L5&7, Blk125; L10, Blk100; L3, Blk79; L7, Blk89; L3, Blk129; L3&6, Blk22; L1, Blk12; L6, Blk98; L20, Blk91; L1, Blk57, in Crescent City, Iowa, Book F, p. 446

Index to Deeds in Pottawattamie County (Grantee), Book 3

S.P. and Saul Eggleston to J.S. and Ansel Briggs, 22 Sept. 1860, 15 Nov. 1860, special warranty, W $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 24 T75 R43, Book P, p. 39

Index to Deeds in Pottawattamie County (Grantee), Book 5

Samuel M. Weston and wife to R.W. Briggs, 11 March 1872, 27 April 1872, warranty deed, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 15-74-39, Book 35, p. 172

S.M. Weston and wife to R.W. Briggs, 26 July 1870, 31 Aug. 1870, warranty deed, S $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW Sec. 15-74-39, Book 28, p. 340

Index to Deeds in Pottawattamie County (Grantor), Book 2

John S. Briggs, D.W. Carpenter and wife, to N.P. Dodge, 18 Jan. 1864, 19 Jan. 1864, warranty deed, NE, SW Sec. 22 T75 R43, L1,2,3, Blk7; L11,12,13,14,15,16,17, Blk25; Book U, p. 369

John S. Briggs to Carolina Lamb, 29 April 1864, 30 April 1864, warranty deed, NW, SW, Sec. 4 T75 R43, Book U, P. 551

Index to Deeds in Pottawattamie County (Grantor), Book 3

Ansel Briggs, Sr. to A.B. Malcolm, 21 November 1860, 30 October, 1866, special warranty, no description (see deed), Book 3, p. 444

Index to Deeds in Pottawattamie County (Grantor), Book 5

Ansel Briggs, Administrator of Malcolm Estate to E. Rosencrans, 26 Nov. 1875,

27 Nov. 1875, Administrator's Deed, part of L180&181, O.P., Book 52, p. 156

Index to Original Entries of U.S. Lands in Pottawattamie County

Ansel Briggs, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 35 T74 R44, 40A, 5 June 1854

Index to Deeds in Douglas County, Nebraska, Book 3

Florence Land Co. to Ansel Briggs, 26 Jan. 1868, 17 April 1860, warranty deed /3/,
"A number of lots in the city of Florence", Book M, p. 371, 372, 373

Mayor of Florence to Ansel Briggs, 9 Jan. 1858, 20 April 1860, Mayor deed /2/,
"A large number of lots in the city of Florence", Book M, p. 378, 379

Index to Deeds in Douglas County, Nebraska, Book 9

Ansel Briggs, Administrator, to Olof Hansen, 14 November 1876, 14 November 1876,
deed, "Several lots", in town of Florence, Book 20, p. 133

Ansel Briggs, Administrator, to Eliza J. Mitchell, 17 November 1876, 20 November
1876, deed, L2, Blk40; town of Florence and Out Lots 151 and 152, Book 21,
p. 182

Ansel Briggs, Administrator, to Eliza A. Campbell, 20 November 1876, 22 November
1876, deed, L1, Blk72, town of Florence and L5, Blk83, Book 21, p. 187

Ansel Briggs, Administrator, to Kassa Oleson, 17 Nov. 1876, 6 March 1877, deed,
L6, 10, 11, and 12, Blk49; town of Florence, Book 21, p. 582

Ansel Briggs, Administrator of Malcolm, to Thomas Barrett, 17 November 1876, 21
April 1877, deed, L4, Blk89, in town of Florence, and L3, Blk222; Book 22,
p. 103

Ansel Briggs, Administrator, to N.C. Perry, 17 November 1876, 16 May 1877, warranty
deed, L7, Blk 87; town of Florence, Book 22, p. 199

Ansel Briggs, Administrator, to E.H. Walker, 17 November 1876, 14 January 1878,
deed, L16, Blk90, L16, Blk95 - both in town of Florence, Book 23, p. 579

SITES CONNECTED WITH ANSEL BRIGGS, AND AN APPRAISAL OF THEIR POTENTIAL
AS HISTORIC MEMORIALS TO HIM

1. Home site on Brush Creek: there is no evidence of the remains of it, and no documentation that Briggs ever actually lived there. Probabilities are that he did, but we do not know exactly where. There is little that could be done here except as part of the park listed in the recommendations.
2. Mill site on Brush Creek: no remnants left of it. Documentation exists that Briggs did own a mill on Brush Creek, but not that he operated it personally. This is the same area as #1 and would be a good park site as mentioned in the recommendations. It would be a mistake to ruin the natural beauty of the site with any other intrusions.
3. Two house sites in Andrew: neither building is still standing. The site of one is marked with the plaque on the boulder in front of the stump of an elm tree that Briggs is supposed to have planted. In either case the only memorial possible would be a small marker in front on the lot indicating that Briggs once lived there. We see no great value in such a proceeding.
4. Gravesite in Andrew Cemetery: presumably Briggs' remains are buried here. This site already has a marker monument erected by the state, and there seems to be little point in putting up another one or a larger one.
5. Butterworth Tavern: strong local historical tradition holds that Briggs lived in this 1851 structure for several years after being governor. No documentation has been found for this except the 1870 census entry, which, of course, does not indicate the length of time he may have stayed in it. It is in private ownership and the present occupant gives no indication of wishing to vacate. The building is not in good repair and there are apparently no articles remaining that can be proven as having belonged to Briggs, or used by him. Indeed, there are few original furnishings of any kind. This is a stone building, but there is not much that could be done with it, as it is in a rural area, presenting a security problem, and it is not in good condition.
6. Andrew Court House: this was built in the mid-1860s and has no particular connection with Briggs except that he recorded a land transfer in it. The building was fire damaged a number of years ago, and the top floor is missing. It is not in good structural condition, and presents insurmountable problems as an historic building open to the public even if the Briggs connection was stronger.
7. Normal School site in Andrew: Briggs was Governor when this was created and a case can be made that Andrew would not have received a state institution if Briggs had not been Governor at the time

of its establishment. The original building was destroyed by wind, and classes were never actually held in it. A marker in front of the site is a possibility, but does not seem to have much value as either a memorial to Briggs or as an historic site.

8. Methodist Church in Andrew: Briggs may have worshipped in this, and his children apparently attended classes in it prior to the time that the Normal School was constructed. There is little chance of developing this in a meaningful way.
9. Andrew Jail: no connection with Briggs. It is a stone structure, built about 1871. Serious restoration problems would be involved in trying to use it as an historic building open to the public.
- 10 Godard House west of Maquoketa: local tradition holds that Briggs always stayed in it on his way to and from Iowa City while he was Governor. It is privately owned and while it might be marked as an historic building it does not show any other possibilities in connection with this project.
11. Davenport, Council Bluffs, and Omaha: Evidence is strong that Briggs once lived in Davenport but we do not know the exact spot. We also know that he lived in Council Bluffs on more than one occasion but as far as we have been able to find out, none of the buildings are still standing. In Omaha he lived with his son and that house is also non-extant. His original gravesite presumably still exists. All of these sites are quite tangential to this study, and none of them are particularly worthy of further notice or marking.

REGISTER OF MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS TO ANSEL BRIGGS

1) On 6 May 1881, the day after Governor Briggs' death, John Gear, the current governor of Iowa, made the following proclamation: "To the People of Iowa:--It is with deep sensibility that the governor formally announces to his fellow citizens the death of Ansel Briggs, first Governor of the State of Iowa, which event occurred at 3:30 o'clock on the morning of Thursday the 5th day of May, instant, at the city of Omaha, Nebraska. The people of Iowa will not fail to do honor to the memory of one who was deemed worthy by the hardy pioneers of this commonwealth to be its first chief magistrate. He with them, laid well the foundations in this prairie wilderness, of a mighty state, destined to be the home of millionspeople, coming from our own and other lands. Serving faithfully in her day of feebleness, he retired with the respect of all to private life, and now, having retained that respect throughout, he goes to his grave in a serene old age, having lived to witness the growth of the state he loved so well, until now its population is numbered by the millions, and the constant realization of the fervent desire expressed in his retiring message to the General Assembly, 'that this, his adopted state, might ever be distinguished for virtue, intelligence and prosperity.'

"The funeral will be held at North Omaha, Nebraska, on Saturday, the 7th inst., at 10 o'clock A.M.

"In respect to the memory of the departed, a gun will be fired every half hour on the day of the funeral from sunrise until noon, in the city of Des Moines, the capital of the state. The national flag will be displayed at half mast on that day from the various public buildings. John H. Gear" (Council Bluffs Nonpareil, 12 May 1881.)

2) There were several efforts, in the years following Briggs' death, to get his body moved to Iowa and a suitable monument erected. At first, John S. Briggs, son of the late governor, resisted these efforts. But by the end of the late 1890's, he decided that this would be "quite proper." After he died, in 1900, his wife began to encourage such action. In 1904, the Pioneer Lawmakers' Association of Iowa adopted the following resolution: "Resolved, That if the representatives of the family of Ansel Briggs, the first Governor of Iowa, will assent to the removal of his remains to a suitable burial place within this State, that it is the sense of this Association that the people, through the Governor and General Assembly, should provide for the expense of the same, and for a monument to his memory. And that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mrs. John S. Briggs, at Omaha, Nebraska."

About this time the Jackson County Historical Society began an effort to get the state to remove Briggs' body to Andrew, and erect a monument there. The president of this organization was J.W. Ellis, who also happened to be a Representative from Jackson County to the General Assembly. After several years of effort, he succeeded in getting an appropriation for \$1000 from the state, in 1909, to remove

Briggs' body from the Prospect Hill cemetery in Omaha to the Andrew cemetery, and to erect a monument over this grave. This task was completed and the monument was dedicated on 6 June 1909. The total cost of this project was \$1,025.18, the state paying all but \$25.18. (Various letters, Briggs Family Papers; Laws of the Thirty-third General Assembly, 233-34; "Report of Historical Society to State Auditor for Removal of the Remains of Ansel Briggs and Erecting Monument," Annals of Jackson County, Iowa, VI (1908-1909), 70-71; the Des Moines Register and Leader, 6 June 1909.)

3) On 18 September 1925, in ceremonies attended by many dignitaries including Iowa's Governor John Hammill, the Andrew Ladies Literary Association placed a bronze marker on a boulder in front on an elm tree that was supposed to have been planted by Governor Briggs, in Andrew. (Various newspaper clippings, Katherine Daudel's Scrapbooks; Des Moines Register, 2 December 1973.)

4) Two markers were erected in 1936, with private funds, on the Henry Janssen farm in Jackson County. The first was erected on a bluff overlooking Brush Creek, with the following inscription: "J. H. JANSSEN, PARK MEMORIAL TO GOV. BRIGGS ON SITE OF HIS OLD HOME 1836-1842, FRIEND OF EDUCATION, HE SIGNED ACT TO CREATE SUI FEB. 25 1847, GOVERNOR 1846-1850." The other marker was erected a few hundred yards away, on the banks of Brush Creek, to mark the site of Ansel's sawmill. It was washed into the stream, in the 1960's, and is no longer visible. (Iowa Journal of History and Politics, XXIV (1936), 162; Arthur Janssen to T.N. Hyde, 30 March 1975.)

5) On 10 March 1946, as a result of efforts by the Iowa Association of Long Beach, California, the Liberty ship Ansel Briggs was launched. (Various letters and newspaper clippings, Mary Elda Schreiber's scrapbook, Maquoketa.)

6) There are signs, at either end of Andrew on highway 62, with the words "Andrew--Home of Iowa's First Governor." These markers were erected by the Town of Andrew, the local Senior Citizens, and the Andrew Petal Pals Club. (Des Moines Register, 2 December 1973.)

7) "It has been proposed to designate the road between Dubuque and Davenport as the Ansel Briggs Memorial Highway. Over this road Ansel Briggs, later the first Governor of the State of Iowa, carried mail on horseback. The former home of Governor Briggs was at Andrew, in Jackson County, and would thus be reached by the proposed improvement of the highway." from the Iowa Journal of History and Politics, Volume XXIV (January 1926), p. 162.

8) Briggs' portrait hangs in the Hall of Fame of the Jackson County Historical Society Museum, in Maquoketa.

9) An oil portrait of Ansel Briggs hangs in the State Museum in Des Moines. The caption reads: "Ansel Briggs, First Governor of the State of Iowa, 1846-50, painted by J. N. Parks."

10) An article was published in The Palimpsest, "The First State Governor", by Jacob Swisher, Volume 27 (December 1946), pp. 357-368. The markers about Briggs in the Andrew and Brush Creek area are listed in S. W. Wright's book on Historic Markers in Iowa, and page 96 of Discovering Historic Iowa, published by the State Department of Public Instruction in 1972 is devoted to Briggs and the Jackson County sites connected with his life and career.

11) There is an Ansel Briggs Elementary School in Maquoketa.

12) There is a Briggs Street in Omaha, Nebraska, and a town of Briggs north of Omaha in the 1921 atlas. Briggs lived the last few years of his life in the Omaha area, and was also prominent in the development of the town of Florence as a rival to Omaha in the 1850s. We have no proof that either of these were actually named for Ansel Briggs, but they are located in an area where he lived and owned land.

RECOMMENDATIONS

These are listed in our priority order.

1. An official state highway marker at Andrew: This marker would be a part of an ongoing program of highway markers, but would be appropriate to commemorate Briggs. The local authorities would be involved in locating the site for the erection of the marker - probably the best location would be on Iowa Highway 62 on the outskirts of Andrew, or in the City Park there.
2. Special display in the Jackson County Museum, Maquoketa: The state could fund a special room or exhibit in the existing county historical society museum, which would tie Briggs into the context of county history and also utilize an existing facility. We would recommend the sum of \$5000 or more, and the Board of Directors and Curator of the Jackson County Historical Society Museum would receive the funds and administer them, under the general technical supervision of the Iowa State Historical Department. The most feasible plan would probably be a diorama illustrating some important activity, such as a diorama showing his inauguration as Governor of Iowa.
3. Purchase of the Janssen property for a park site: The Janssen property is the location of the mill owned by Briggs and is already the site of two memorials to him, one no longer extant. Both of these were privately erected, as explained in the section on existing monuments and memorials. We envision this site to be a natural area with no development on the actual sites, and little interpretation. Further, we recommend that 2 or 3 acres be acquired on the south side of the road for a parking lot, picnicking, trash receptacles, and rest rooms. We have been in contact with Judge Janssen about this and he is amenable to further discussion about it. We feel that the best plan would be for this to be considered a public park, purchased or leased with State funds and administered by the Jackson County Conservation Board. Judge Janssen favors lease of the land and administration by the local agency. He would also like to have the state fund a plaque for the existing marker on the property.
4. Full biography of Briggs: This biography would be a continuing part of the State Historical Society's biographical series, the latest of which was that of Governor C.C. Carpenter. Funding would be to cover the salary of the researcher, the costs of travel, typing, proof reading, and the printing of the finished book. Of course the proceeds from sales of the book would return to the State General Fund. The funding would need to be for a two year period, and would cost \$12,199.91 a year for an historical writer, \$2000 a year in travel funds, the costs of publishing the book would have to be determined later, since the costs of printing and paper change so rapidly.

5. Brochure about Briggs: A short history of the man and his career, for free distribution in state outlets would be a relatively easy and cheap way to inform the public about the life and career of the state's first Governor.
 - a. Produce this single brochure as a pilot program in a contemplated series.
 - b. Coordinate a series of brochures, including this one, with the state highway marker program, with a brochure being printed to explain in more detail the events and sites commemorated by each marker.
 - c. Fund a series of brochures in a single appropriation, all to deal with famous men and events of Iowa's history.

In any of the above options there should be funding for a person to do the research and writing necessary in producing the brochure, and the costs of printing ought to be included as well. We estimate a minimum of \$2500 per brochure.

6. Palimpsest article about Briggs: This could take the form of either a study of the man and his personal life, or the man and his public career. The earlier article by Jacob Swisher covers most of his public career. Our research has turned up much more data about his activities before and after he was Governor.

7. Scholarships: There are at least two forms that this might take.
 - a. An internship for \$6000, awarded from open competition to a graduate student, to do research in Iowa history at the State Historical Society of Iowa for one year.
 - b. An Ansel Briggs Scholarship in History, to be awarded to one undergraduate history major at each Regent's institution in the state each year. This could be a cash award of \$500 each, or simply tuition exemption.

8. Archaeological Survey: An investigation of the mill site, and possibly the home site, on Brush Creek might reveal much more about the early history of this area, and more exact data about Briggs' activities there. Artifacts and information recovered would become a part of the State Museum in Des Moines, the Historic Preservation Program, the State Historical Society, and the Jackson County Historical Society. We estimate that it would be necessary to have a crew chief and four persons to work on the survey for two months, costing approximately \$5000.

9. Briggs Memorial Highway: Iowa Highway 62, which goes through Andrew on its route from Maquoketa to Bellevue, could be renamed the Ansel Briggs Memorial Highway, and the Iowa State Highway Commission could erect signs to so mark it. It would also be so designated on the official Highway Commission road map.

10. National Register of Historic Places: Of the many historic sites and buildings in Jackson County, both those connected with Briggs and others, few have been nominated to the National Register. The owners,

local residents, and the county historical society should be encouraged to nominate more of the sites and buildings mentioned in this report.

11. State Historic Sites: The Iowa State Historical Department, through its three divisions, could develop criteria for selection and means of application for a designation of a "State Historic Site". As mentioned in #10 above, many of the buildings and places in Jackson County with which Briggs had some connection could then be part of the group considered for such naming. Such sites would be included in a directory of Iowa points of interest, and also on the official Highway Commission road maps, as well as in the publications of other state agencies such as the Development Commission, the Conservation Commission, and the Department of Public Instruction.
12. Post Office Decal: The Post Office in Andrew could apply to the national office of the Postal Service for permission to use a cancellation decal on all mail going out of Andrew. It could simply state "Home of Ansel Briggs - first Governor of the State of Iowa" or words to that effect. Other Post Offices in Jackson County could also apply for a similar cancellation decal.

LOG OF CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE ANSEL BRIGGS PROJECT

5 July 1974 - LNH to John Burmeister, Preston
 17 July 1974 - PTH to Mary Elda Schreiber, Maquoketa
 5 September 1974 - Richard J. Norpel, Sr. to PTH
 9 October 1974 - TNH to Ohio Historical Society
 16 October 1974 - TNH to Town Clerk, Shoreham, Vermont
 16 October 1974 - TNH to Clerk of District Court, Omaha, Nebraska
 18 October 1974 - Ohio Historical Society to TNH
 23 October 1974 - TNH to Omaha World-Herald
 23 October 1974 - TNH to Ohio Historical Society
 24 October 1974 - TNH to Nancy Gibbons Zook, Shenandoah
 25 October 1974 - Clerk of County Court, Omaha, Nebraska to TNH
 29 October 1974 - TNH to Phyllis McLaughlin, Des Moines
 29 October 1974 - Omaha World-Herald to TNH
 29 October 1974 - Ohio Historical Society to TNH
 30 October 1974 - LNH to Mary Elda Schreiber, Maquoketa
 31 October 1974 - Betty Van Ness, Shenandoah to TNH
 31 October 1974 - Phyllis McLaughlin, Des Moines to TNH
 1 November 1974 - TNH to Omaha Public Library
 3 November 1974 - Omaha Public Library to TNH
 8 November 1974 - TNH to Edmond Sommers, Andrew
 11 November 1974 - TNH to Minnesota Historical Society
 11 November 1974 - John Burmeister, Preston to LNH
 13 November 1974 - TNH to Montana Historical Society
 14 November 1974 - Minnesota Historical Society to TNH
 14 November 1974 - TNH to Omaha Public Library
 15 November 1974 - PTH to Eber Flint, Andrew
 16 November 1974 - Omaha Public Library to TNH
 18 November 1974 - PTH to Eber Flint, Andrew
 18 November 1974 - TNH to Judge Arthur F. Janssen, Maquoketa
 19 November 1974 - LNH to Reed Whitaker, Federal Regional Archives, Kansas City
 21 November 1974 - LNH to Grace Holihan, Maquoketa
 22 November 1974 - LNH to Joyce Madison, Council Bluffs
 22 November 1974 - TNH to Catherine Robertson, Rock Springs, Wyoming
 22 November 1974 - TNH to Council Bluffs Public Library
 23 November 1974 - Pat Williams, Sanford Museum, Cherokee to LNH
 25 November 1974 - National Archives, Washington, D.C. to TNH
 25 November 1974 - John Burmeister, Preston to LNH
 27 November 1974 - Grace Holihan, Maquoketa to LNH
 27 November 1974 - Reed Whitaker, Federal Regional Archives, Kansas City to LNH
 29 November 1974 - Catherine Robertson, Rock Springs, Wyoming to TNH
 3 December 1974 - LNH to Reed Whitaker, Federal Regional Archives, Kansas City
 3 December 1974 - LNH to Jane F. Smith, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
 3 December 1974 - LNH to Grace Holihan, Maquoketa
 3 December 1974 - LNH to John Burmeister, Preston
 4 December 1974 - Judge Arthur F. Janssen, Maquoketa to TNH
 4 December 1974 - TNH to Clerk of District Court, Maquoketa
 4 December 1974 - TNH to Clerk of District Court, Council Bluffs

6 December 1974 - John Burmeister, Preston to LNH
 6 December 1974 - Clerk of District Court, Maquoketa to TNH
 6 December 1974 - Clerk of District Court, Council Bluffs to TNH
 10 December 1974 - TNH to Idaho Historical Society
 10 December 1974 - TNH to Catherine Robertson, Austin, Texas
 11 December 1974 - TNH to Guernsey County Historical Society, Cambridge, Ohio
 18 December 1974 - TNH to Phyllis McLaughlin, Des Moines
 20 December 1974 - Phyllis McLaughlin, Des Moines to TNH
 30 December 1974 - TNH to John R. Adney, Miles
 31 December 1974 - Eber Flint, Andrew to PTH
 31 December 1974 - LNH to John Burmeister, Preston
 3 January 1975 - TNH to Harold J. Mohlenhoff, Andrew
 3 January 1975 - TNH to Ernie Daudel, Andrew
 3 January 1975 - TNH to Max Sommers, Andrew
 6 January 1975 - PTH to Eber Flint, Andrew
 6 January 1975 - TNH to Council Bluffs Public Library
 7 January 1975 - John Burmeister, Preston to LNH
 8 January 1975 - TNH to Douglas County Clerk, Omaha, Nebraska
 8 January 1975 - TNH to Montana Historical Society
 8 January 1975 - LNH to James D. Walker, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
 8 January 1975 - LNH to Jane F. Smith, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
 8 January 1975 - LNH to Reed Whitaker, Federal Regional Archives, Kansas City
 8 January 1975 - LNH to Grace Holihan, Maquoketa
 9 January 1975 - Jerome Finster, National Archives, Washington, D.C. to LNH
 10 January 1975 - Grace Holihan, Maquoketa to LNH
 13 January 1975 - Montana Historical Society to TNH
 14 January 1975 - Douglas County Health Department, Omaha, Nebraska to TNH
 15 January 1975 - Nebraska Historical Society to Susan Rogers
 20 January 1975 - LNH to Jerome Finster, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
 20 January 1975 - LNH to Grace Holihan, Maquoketa
 20 January 1975 - Carol Hunt, Putnam Museum, Davenport, Iowa to LNH
 25 January 1975 - Ernie Daudel, Andrew to TNH
 27 January 1975 - TNH to Judge Arthur F. Janssen, Maquoketa
 31 January 1975 - Council Bluffs Public Library to TNH
 1 February 1975 - LNH to Jim Potter, Maquoketa
 1 February 1975 - LNH to Grace Holihan, Maquoketa
 1 February 1975 - TNH to Council Bluffs Public Library
 4 February 1975 - Grace Holihan, Maquoketa to LNH
 4 February 1975 - LNH to John Burmeister, Preston
 6 February 1975 - TNH to Catherine Robertson, Rock Springs, Wyoming
 11 February 1975 - LNH to John Wenberg, Maquoketa
 11 February 1975 - LNH to Jim Potter, Maquoketa
 11 February 1975 - LNH to Grace Holihan, Maquoketa
 11 February 1975 - TNH to John R. Adney, Miles
 11 February 1975 - TNH to Esther Hass, Preston
 11 February 1975 - Judge Arthur F. Janssen, Naples, Florida to TNH
 12 February 1975 - TNH to Phyllis McLaughlin, Des Moines
 12 February 1975 - MDG to Idaho Historical Society
 15 February 1975 - Mrs. Ross Thompson, Maquoketa to LNH
 17 February 1975 - TNH to Judge Arthur F. Janssen, Naples, Florida
 18 February 1975 - Phyllis McLaughlin, Des Moines to TNH

19 February 1975 - TNH to Grace Holihan, Maquoketa
19 February 1975 - John R. Adney, Miles to TNH
21 February 1975 - Idaho Historical Society to MDG
21 February 1975 - LNH to Allene Latta, Logan
21 February 1975 - LNH to Mrs. Ross Thompson, Maquoketa
21 February 1975 - LNH to Walter Godard, De Witt
22 February 1975 - Grace Holihan, Maquoketa to LNH
23 February 1975 - TNH to Guernsey County Public Library, Cambridge, Ohio
24 February 1975 - LNH to Paul Sagers, Maquoketa
25 February 1975 - Jerome Finster, National Archives, Washington, D.C. to LNH
26 February 1975 - Paul Sagers, Maquoketa to LNH
27 February 1975 - LNH to Jim Potter, Maquoketa
1 March 1975 - Catherine Robertson, Rock Springs, Wyoming to TNH
3 March 1975 - TNH to National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3 March 1975 - LNH to Fred Borchuck, Coe College Library, Cedar Rapids
5 March 1975 - Jerome Finster, National Archives, Washington, D.C. to LNH
5 March 1975 - LNH to Mrs. Esther Graham, Guthrie Center
5 March 1975 - Fred Borchuck, Coe College Library, Cedar Rapids to LNH
6 March 1975 - LNH to Jim Potter, Maquoketa
6 March 1975 - Catherine Robertson, Rock Springs, Wyoming to TNH
10 March 1975 - TNH to Catherine Robertson, Rock Springs, Wyoming
10 March 1975 - Grace Holihan, Maquoketa to TNH
11 March 1975 - TNH to Judge Arthur F. Janssen, Naples, Florida
12 March 1975 - TNH to Grace Holihan, Maquoketa
12 March 1975 - Allene Latta, Logan to LNH
13 March 1975 - LNH to Mrs. Carl Vieth, Oakland
13 March 1975 - TNH to LaSalle County Historical Society, Ottawa, Illinois
15 March 1975 - Donald R. McLean, Dunlap to LNH
21 March 1975 - Fred Borchuck, Coe College Library, Cedar Rapids to LNH
21 March 1975 - TNH to Economy Advertising, Iowa City
21 March 1975 - TNH to Tel-Graphics, East Dubuque, Illinois
23 March 1975 - Marguerite S. Whiting, Cherokee to LNH
24 March 1975 - John Burmeister, Preston to LNH
26 March 1975 - Tel-Graphics, East Dubuque, Illinois to TNH
26 March 1975 - LaSalle County Historical Society, Ottawa, Illinois to TNH
26 March 1975 - Council Bluffs Public Library to TNH
29 March 1975 - TNH to Direct Mail Advertising, Cedar Rapids
31 March 1975 - TNH to LaSalle County Historical Society, Ottawa, Illinois
31 March 1975 - TNH to Council Bluffs Public Library
31 March 1975 - TNH to Sarpy County Historical Society, Bellevue, Nebraska
31 March 1975 - LNH to Marguerite S. Whiting, Cherokee
31 March 1975 - LNH to John Burmeister, Preston
31 March 1975 - LNH to Pat Williams, Sanford Museum, Cherokee
2 April 1975 - Esther Butterworth Hass, Preston to TNH
3 April 1975 - Judge Arthur F. Janssen, Naples, Florida to TNH
5 April 1975 - Mrs. Carl Vieth, Oakland to LNH
10 April 1975 - National Archives, Washington, D.C. to TNH
11 April 1975 - TNH to Arthur F. Janssen, Naples, Florida
18 April 1975 - TNH to Economy Advertising, Iowa City
21 April 1975 - Arthur F. Janssen, Naples, Florida to TNH
27 April 1975 - Marguerite S. Whiting, Cherokee to LNH

11 May 1978 NORTHAM UNIVERSITY, NORTHAMPTON, ENGLAND

18 February 1979 - Timothy R. Hyde

TRIPS TO ARCHIVES BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR

24 March 2015 Publishing No. 1503

OTHER TRIPS CONNECTED WITH THE ARCEL BRIEFS PROJECT

3-6-7- May 1975 - Letter to National Archives, Washington, D.C.

21 January 1978 ENR 60-0001-0000

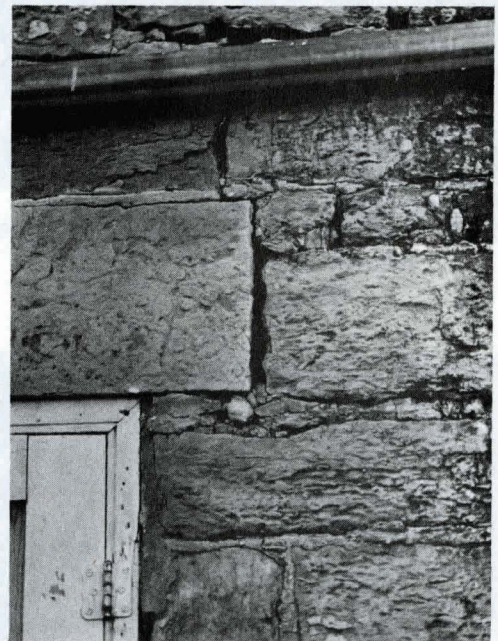
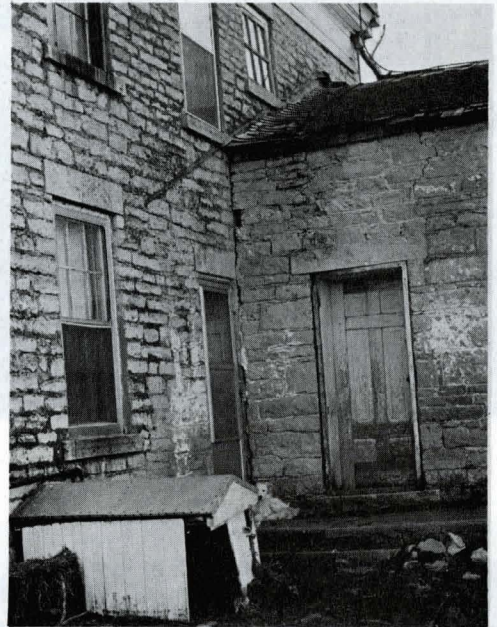
24 January 1975 - LNH to Grace Holihan
 28 January 1975 - James D. Walker, National Archives, Washington, D.C. to LNH
 6 February 1975 - LNH to Cedar Rapids Public Library
 6 February 1975 - Cedar Rapids Public Library to LNH
 7 February 1975 - Cedar Rapids Public Library to LNH
 18 February 1975 - Quad-City Times to LNH
 19 February 1975 - LNH to Mrs. Esther Graham
 2 April 1975 - Pat Williams to LNH
 3 April 1975 - LNH to Pat Williams
 18 April 1975 - TNH to John Brown, Economy Advertising, Iowa City
 18 April 1975 - TNH to Ben Otten, Direct Mailing, Cedar Rapids
 28 April 1975 - TNH to Ben Otten, Direct Mailing, Cedar Rapids
 15 May 1975 - TNH to Ben Otten, Direct Mailing, Cedar Rapids
 22 May 1975 - TNH to Ben Otten, Direct Mailing, Cedar Rapids

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE ANSEL BRIGGS PROJECT

Interview with Mrs. Lucille Butterworth, Andrew - 27 June 1974
 Interview with Mary Elda Schreiber, Maquoketa - 27 June 1974
 Interview with Mrs. Clifton Lamborn, Maquoketa - 27 June 1974
 Interview with Judge Arthur F. Janssen, Maquoketa - 6 November 1974
 Interview with Mrs. Lucille Butterworth, Andrew - 6 November 1974
 Interview with Mary Elda Schreiber, Maquoketa - 6 November 1974
 Interview with John R. Adney, Miles - 10 February 1975
 Interview with Mrs. Esther Graham, Guthrie Center, Iowa - 8 April 1975
 Interview with Mrs. Joyce Madison, Council Bluffs, Iowa - 19 May 1975

Radio Interview on Station WMAQ, Maquoketa - 10 February 1975

Newspaper article in Maquoketa Community Press - 28 January 1975
 Newspaper article in Maquoketa Community Press - 6 February 1975
 Newspaper article in Quad-City Times - 19 February 1975



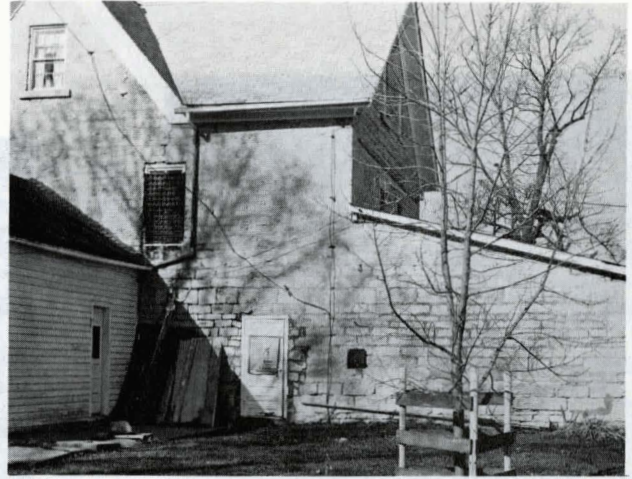
The putative site of Briggs' home along
Brush Creek.

From the site of Briggs' home
along the creek.





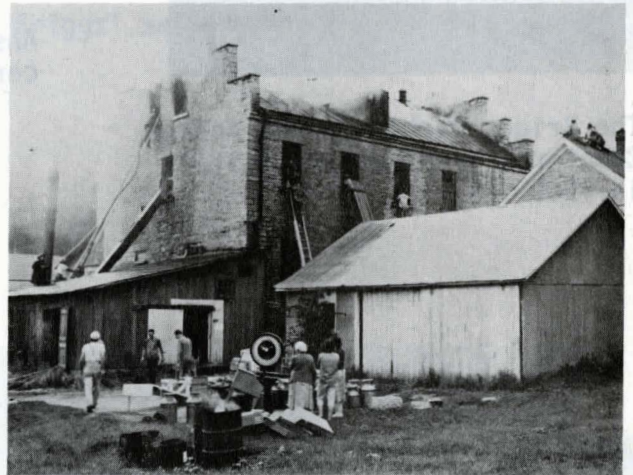
The Andrew Jail, built in 1871.



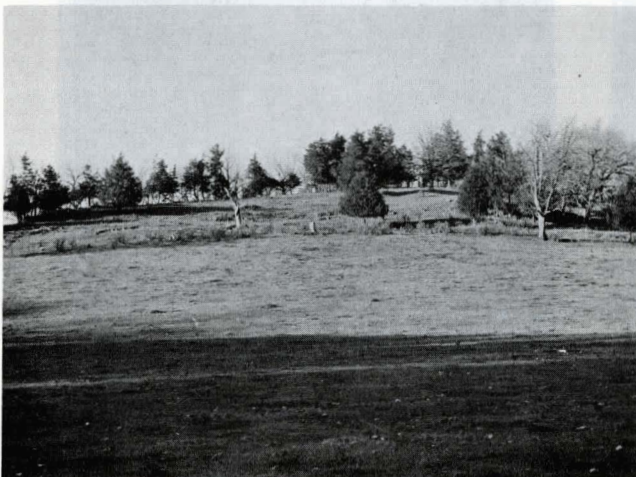
The Andrew Jail.



The Jackson County Court House in Andrew, built in 1861. It is now a creamery.



A fire in 1961 which destroyed the top floor of the Andrew Court House.



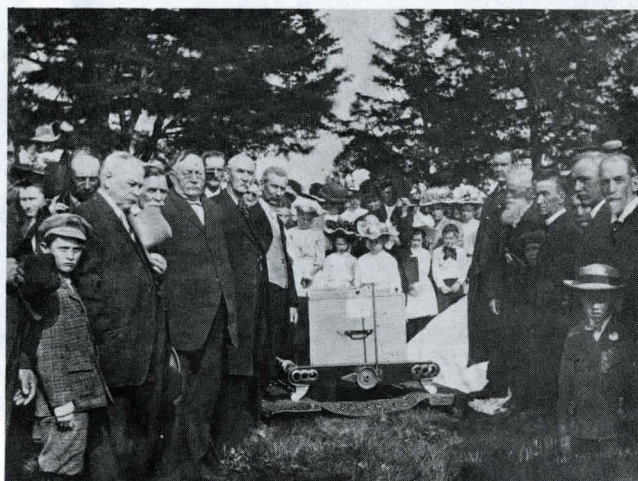
The putative site of Briggs' home along Brush Creek.



Brush Creek, the site of Briggs' sawmill.



The Briggs marker in the Andrew Cemetery, erected by the State in 1909.



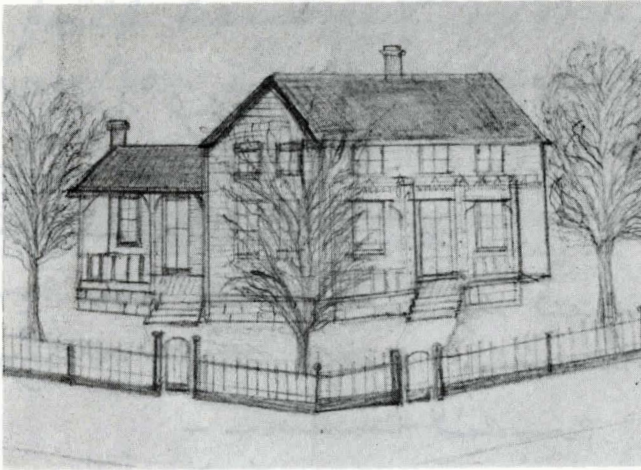
Ansel Briggs' remains and casket at the ceremonies dedicating his marker, 1909.



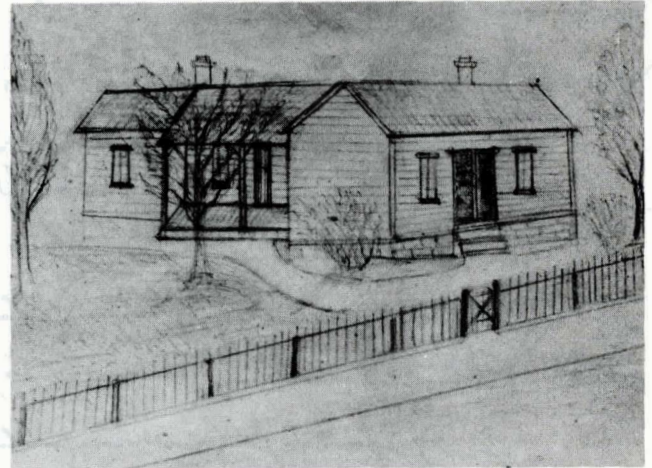
One of two signs on Highway 62, outside of Andrew.



A memorial to Briggs erected privately on the Janssen farm along Brush Creek, 1936.



Governor Briggs' first Andrew home.



Briggs' second Andrew home.



Mrs. Nancy M. Dunlap Briggs,
Ansel's first wife.



A bronze marker in front of the stump of
an elm that Briggs is supposed to have
planted.

Cambridge Miss
Nov to 3^d 1839.

Dr Sir

This letter will be handed you by my friend
Ansel Briggs of this place who is about to visit
Governor Linn - He is a gentleman of good char-
acter and highly esteemed by all who are ac-
quainted with ^{him} and is in every respect worthy
of your favorable consideration -

Any aid and attention which you
may render him will be gratefully received
and kindly remembered -

Yours with great respects -

Wilson Shannon -

Yours

Robert Lucas.

A letter of introduction for Ansel Briggs from the Governor of Ohio, Wilson Shannon, to Robert Lucas, Territorial Governor of Iowa. It is dated November 3, 1839.

Received from A. Briggs Sheriff of Jackson County
 the sum of nine Dollars and seventy cents the same
 the full amount of my fees collected by him on an
 execution issued from the Supreme Court in favor
 of John Bunnels against William Phillips
 Iowa City Decr. 5. 1845
 Geo. S. Hampton
 Clerk of the Supreme Court
 J. S.

Receipt to Briggs for duties performed while Sheriff of Jackson County.

Recd of John Finances the sum of Twenty
 five dollars for a Grocers License
 in Audubon Jackson County
 July 3rd 1844
 For W. H. Graves Treas.
 A. Briggs Deputy
 695.00

Receipt signed by Briggs as Deputy County Treasurer of Jackson County

I hereby certify that at the General
 Election held in the County of Jackson
 Territory of Iowa on Monday the 1st day
 of August A.D. 1842. Ansel Briggs
 received the largest No. of votes and
 was elected Member of the Legislative
 Assembly of said Territory.
 In witness whereof I hereto
 set my hand and affix
 the Seal of our said County
 at Anawan this 1st day
 of August A.D. 1842
 A. P. Macleod. Clerk
 C. D. Dwyer

Certification of Ansel Briggs' election to the Fifth Territorial Assembly from Jackson County. It is signed by the Jackson County Clerk.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME—GREETING:

Whereas,

Patrick Hunt

of

Johnson

County, and

State of Iowa

has deposited a certificate of final payment in the office of the Secretary of the State, whereby it appears that said

Patrick Hunt

purchased Lot numbered

five (5)

in Block numbered

(18)

Eighteen

as designated on the recorded plat of Iowa City: AND WHEREAS, full

payment has been made in conformity to the said certificate of purchase in accordance with the provis-

ions of the acts of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory, and of the State of Iowa, for said

Lot: **NOW KNOW YE,** That the State of Iowa, in the name and by the authority of

the people thereof, for and in consideration of the premises, and in conformity to the several acts of

the Legislative Assembly in such cases made and provided, has given and granted, and by these pres-

ents does give and grant unto the said

Patrick Hunt

and to

his heirs, the said Lot above described, TO HAVE AND TO

HOLD the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatsoever

kind thereunto belonging, unto the said

Patrick Hunt

and to his heirs and assigns forever.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, ANSEL BRIGGS,

Governor of the State of Iowa, have caused the GREAT SEAL

of the State of Iowa to be hereunto affixed. GIVEN under my

hand at Iowa City, on this

Thirtieth

day of

October

in the year of our Lord one thousand

eight hundred and forty-~~seven~~ and of the Independence of

the United States the seventy-~~seventh~~ and of the State of

Iowa the

first

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Alvin C. ...

SECRETARY OF STATE.

Ansel Briggs

TREASURER'S OFFICE, JACKSON COUNTY,

Bellevue, Jan 5th 1855Received of Ansel Briggs The Taxes for 1854
on Personality.

	SEC.	T.	R.	A.	COUNTY.	STATE.	SCHOOL.	ROAD.
					2.46	49	20	239
SE 1/4	9	85	3	160	6.40	1.60	64	128
SW 1/4	8	-	-	160	8.00	40	16	32
Mr. Mr. & S. S. Mr. A. W. J.	23	-	-	60	60	15	6	12
S. Mr. S. Mr. & part - S. E. 1/4	22	-	-	190	4.85	121	49	97
part - S. E. 1/4 S. E. 1/4	"	-	-	10	20	5	2	4
Lot 1 & 2 in Block 38	38	-	-	-	50	15	5	10
Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 4 & 5 in	15	-	-	-	15	4	2	3
" 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 & 8	18	-	-	-	15	4	2	3
" 4 & 5	29	-	-	-	1.00	25	10	20
" 5	45	-	-	-	3	1	1	1
					1794	437	177	549

#29.57

pro Pope

Collector & Treasr.

Treasurer's Office, Jackson County, Iowa.

April 14th 1862Received of Ansel Briggs
the taxes for the year 1861, to wit:

	SEC.	T.	R.	ACRES.	COUNTY.	STATE.	SCHOOL DIST.	SCHOOL HOUSE.	ROAD.	SUB. DIST.	Fed. Tax
PERSONALTY,											
Block 33 in Andrew	70	88	4	10	1						8
" 48 "	30	22	10	25	2					476	22
Lot 3, 4, 5, 6, 13 & 12	20	8	4	8	1						8
" 5, 6 13 & 12	10	4	2	5	1						4
" 1, 2, 7, 8 13 & 12	84	33	15	39	4	47	128				33
	234	75	55	87	11	47	304				75
	4	2	1	2							
8.98											
15 Int											
9.13											

F. Mullin Treasurer and Collector.

Ansel Briggs claims No 18 of
 100 foot on Bishop Lead running
 South west from the Discovery
 John A Briggs claims No 19 of 100 foot
 on Bishop Lead running South west
 from the discovery
 Both the above claims were made on
 the 9th day of June 1860

A mining claim filed by Ansel Briggs and his son, John S., in 1860, presumably
 in Colorado.

John S. Briggs
Omaha

100

Lock Box 187 $\frac{1}{2}$

Nebraska

Andrew Dec 13th 1869

Dear John

I received yours of the 27th ult and was truly glad to hear that your health had improved. and I hope it may continue good. that ^{you} may enjoy life and not have to pay doctor bills to pay. I should like to see you get along and prosper. if you was in any kind of business that I could help you it would be a pleasure for me to do so. I arrived ^{safely} in as good health as usual from the folks all well. and appeared glad to see me. your aunt Laura has moved out here Sherman is Deputy Sheriff the Town has improved some there has been several new houses put up this season. they ^{have} a paper here the first number will be struck off this week. I will send you a copy I should like to hear from you often.

Truly Yours Ansel Briggs

An 1869 letter from Ansel Briggs to his son, John S. It is the only known extant letter of Ansel Briggs.

STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



3 1723 02067 8819