

BURLINGAME

Gabe Faimon & Jeremy Gaston
Herald-Chronicle

According to files of the Osage County Historical Society, the town site was platted in the spring of 1855 by agents of the American Settlement Society. The Society, also known as the Emigrant Aid Society and Kansas League, was formed in New York City for the purpose of establishing a settlement in Kansas and building a city, to be named Council City. The organization raised funds by selling shares at \$100 each.

A site selection committee, consisting of George M. Barnes, J.M. Kerr and Laton Smith was appointed. An 80-acre site was selected immediately east of Switzer Creek, adjoining the present town. Streets were to be 150 feet wide, lined with planted trees.

In 1854, several people from western Pennsylvania assembled for the journey to the settlement. Additional people in Kansas City joined the Pennsylvanians, with nearly 100 people arriving at the Council City site on Nov. 14. Many of the people had little or no training or experience for coping with the rigors of building the settlement as a severe winter developed. For winter survival, crude cabins and earthen dugouts were built.

On Jan. 30, 1858, Council City was renamed as Burlingame, after Anson Burlingame, a native of New York. Burlingame served as a Senator in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and as the U.S. Minister (ambassador) to China.

On Feb. 18, 1858, the Burlingame Town Company was incorporated by George Bratton, Samuel R. Caniff, John Drew, James Rogers, N.P.B. Schuyler and Phillip C. Schuyler.

Phillip C. Schuyler became the first mayor. In 1859, as a guest of Mayor Schuyler, Anson Burlingame presented a scathing emotional abolition speech in Topeka.

In 1908, Daughters of the American Revolution of Kansas placed a marker four miles west of the

City, along the route of the Santa Fe Trail.

Like Osage City, Scranton and Carbondale, Burlingame rose and fell with the mines, but Burlingame developed mining much later. Mining around the city was delayed until 1879, because the coal was buried deeper in the ground, far enough that some believed it didn't exist. The population of the

About half the city's businesses are located along the main street, Santa Fe Avenue, including all three of its eateries, a flower shop, exterminator, convenience store, quilting store, salons, attorney's office, funeral home, several automotive services, the Burlingame City Library

ta Fe Ave., and were selected one of the Seven Wonders of Osage County in 2008. The streets were originally left wide to allow an ox-cart team to perform a U-turn, but

of 2009.

The city is also home to the Schuyler Museum, which holds a history of the county, from American Indians to coal mining, housed in the old school building.

The new schools are located three blocks north of the old school, with the elementary, middle and high schools interconnected within newer buildings. The high school is Class 2A in size, and between 350 and 400 K-12 students attend the district. The district also employs about 70 people.

Just north of the schools is the Burlingame branch of Allen Community College, a two-year college offering a variety of introductory and general education courses.

North of ACC is the Jones Recreation Sports Complex, with three baseball diamonds, batting cages, tables and restrooms.

In addition to National Night Out, the community celebrates with a variety of events, including Rodeo Days in the spring, The Kansas Youth Rodeo in the summer, the Schuyler Fish Fry to benefit the museum, and the Country Christmas festival in December.

The city is run by Mayor Ray Hovastadt, along with council members Jim Nelson, Norman Bloomquist, Vikki DeMars, Carolyn Strohm and Rosie Parker. The council meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of the month in the council chamber at city hall.

The city's police force is run by Chief Jon Shaffer, with one full-time officer, two part-time officers, a reserve officer and a part-time animal control officer. Osage County Fire District No. 6, Burlingame, is run by Jim Strohm, with two assistant fire chiefs and four lieutenant officers.

The city recently completed Phase II of a major water project. The complete project was responsible for building a new water tower, and replacing many of the water mains and lines within the city. The council is also working on street and sewer improvements.



Old Downtown Burlingame



Burlingame Downtown Bricks



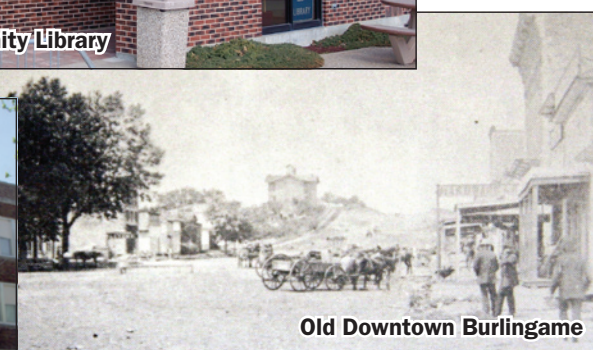
Burlingame Community Library



Old High School



Burlingame Federated Church



Old Downtown Burlingame

city and township triple between 1870 and 1890, with Burlingame township peaking at more than 4,000 before the turn of the century.

Mining continued later, however, with Burlingame holding on to the mines until 1964, when the last mine in Osage County rang its closing bell in the city.

Today, Burlingame retains its community feel and strong downtown. The city's population of 1,017 people live in an area total just less than one square mile.

and city hall. The city's bank, post office, antique shops, print shop, storage facility, two churches and grain elevator are located nearby, with additional plumbing, trucking, insurance, accounting and electronic services offered as well.

The downtown area is further signified by the preservation of brick streets, which stretch for two blocks down the wide lanes of San-

now offer additional access and parking to downtown businesses.

Burlingame has two parks, located just north and south of the downtown area. Jones Park is adjacent to the city schools, and has a playground, skate park and is home to the city pool. Summer Park, to the south, has basketball courts, volleyball, a shelter, gazebo and ample parking. Summer Park also hosts National Night Out, which will continue with its third anniversary of the event in the fall

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