SAMPLE OF A STORY WRITTEN IN 1936 FOR THE AMERICAN GUIDE PROJECT

This story was easy to read and is in the Clark County section of this book.

THE AMERICAN GUIDE

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S, KANSAS

3-623

POINTS OF INTEREST, CLARK CO.

1018 words

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Rewrite: Elmer Stegman

DEEP HOLE, (Clark Co.) KANSAS

Deep Hole was formerly a small town in Clark Co., but it is now extinct.

Deep Hole was first used, however, to designate a deep quicksand hole in the

Cimarron River at the point at which its banks were later the location of the

town of the same name. It was situated ten miles south of Ashland, Ks., just

below the point at which Clark Creek empties into the Cimarron River. Its site

was at the point at which the Cimarron River was crossed by the "Wire Trail".

The "Wire Trail" was the name which was given to the telegraph line which, at

that time, was the connecting link between Fort Dodge, Kansas, and Camp Supply,

which was located in the Indian Territory.

(1)

At Fort Dodge and Camp Supply, soldiers were stationed to protect the early settlers from the Indians who, at times, were none too peaceful. At times, when the settlers aroused the natural hostility of the Indians to a very high feeling of animosity, the Indians went on the warpath—looting and killing to their hearts content. It was the duty of the soldiers to prevent this as much as they could possibly do so. (2)

A very interesting account is given as to how Deep Hole received such a natural and very appropriate name. This is how it happened: A group of Govt, freighters who were on their way to Camp Supply with a number of wagons, which were loaded with food and other supplies for the soldiers who were stationed at that place, found, on reaching the Cimarron River, that the river was full to the top of its banks. It was a roaring, whirling, raging mass of brush, trash, and, and water. (3)