6. EDWARD OWEN, 1861. Edward Collins Owen retired here in 1861. In 1864, three of their sons caught "Mormon Fever" from a young Mormon boy who moved to Salt Lake City. "Mormon Fever" probably didn't mean what we now imagine, but it was the local term given to the uncertainty or anxiety contracted from people on the trail.

7. CHEAP MANY BLANKETS ENCAMPMENT. Chief Many Blankets and his Pawnees camped in this loop of the river twice during their annual dance in 1864. Chief Many Blankets saved Edward Collins's life by tending to the boy back to his camp and after the other boys had died.

8. JOHN MAHER, 1862. John Maher and his wife, Elizabeth Collins Maher helped organize the area Catholic Church. Legend says it was John who suggested the lighted-stone buffalo hunt was buried near the Pappy Francis Bridge site.

This brochure is funded in part by a Nebraska Tourism office grant, the Wood River Sportsman Association, and Area Sponsors. Mormon Trail Markers were funded in part by the Salt Lake City and Wood River Community Club and Private Donations.

Historical markers are White signs, 12 inches by 18 inches, with Green Letters.

Wood River Valley
Wood River • Shleton • Gibbon
Follow the trail of the early pioneers.
Visit our area conveniently located in central Nebraska with many access points to Highway 30.

How To Use This Map
This brochure has been designed so that you may follow the discipleship journey. The numbers of historical museums, libraries and newspaper offices are listed on the other side of the map so that you may call ahead for hours and additional information.

11. JOHN COHEN, 1862. He was a postmaster of the office called "White Cloud." He sold hay and corn and provided stateing and sheltering for travelers. Traveling Methodist ministers conducted services at the post the same way the "Hucksters" did. It is assumed that Jackson Township was named for James Jackson.

12. SAWBLADE TRIPS. A pace of travel, various companies left by stages, still remain in the present.

13. M. D. HALLER, 1864. Haller was a newsboy, still remains in the present.

14. ROBERT P. NILSSON, 1864. He immigrated to the area with his children after traveling 10 years in Iowa. The ranch died, shifting, water, and grassland are available. Nilsson's homestead is on the Hudson and Hills.

15. JOHN DODORAND, 1865. John Dodorand, Civil War veteran, immigrated to the area with his children after traveling 10 years in Iowa. The ranch died, shifting, water, and grassland are available. Nilsson's homestead is on the Hudson and Hills.

16. ROBERT P. NILSSON, 1864. He immigrated to the area with his children after traveling 10 years in Iowa. The ranch died, shifting, water, and grassland are available. Nilsson's homestead is on the Hudson and Hills.

17. MORMON TRAILS. Mormon Trails ended in this area to Salt Lake City. Legend says it was John who suggested the lighted-stone buffalo hunt was buried near the Pappy Francis Bridge site.

Today, the Ronald Lewis family of Shleton has the farmstead which he built by early Mormon families. Ronald Lewis, son of Ralph and Dorothy Oliver Lewis, married Vicki Nutter, daughter of Richard H. and Grace Oliver Nutter. Their children are Curt and Peggy Lewis.

The Wood River Cemetery and the St. Marys Catholic Cemetery at Wood River, Shleton Cemetery, and Riverton Cemetery at Gibbon may be used for fire grate sites of many early Mormon families as well as other immigrant families.

For additional historical information, contact: 
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