

Museum Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas  
 (1872-1894) Dec 31, 1967 [inserted from May 8, 1976 and Nov. 24, 1976]  
 Early history of a railroad that travelled up the valley of the Wakarusa  
 and now to be covered by the Clinton reservoir. Included as a source of  
 material for future publications on the research of the reservoir. J.W. Bee.

In researching this railroad, I have used as many sources as I have been able to uncover. Some of the material was gleaned from historical publications, some from maps and some from previously published accounts of Kansas railroads. However, most of the material I have used in writing this 'history' was obtained through talking to people who had lived in the area where the railroad originally ran. Most had seen it only as very young children or had been told of it from others older than they. Therefore, in the many years that have passed since the railroad's existence, recollections of what once was may not exactly coincide with the actual history of this line. In trying to avoid possible errors, I have concentrated on the information that I got from at least two independent sources, which makes it documented to a degree. However, I have also included the stories and memories given to me which couldn't be confirmed as those too make up an important part of any history. Certainly, the people and families that lived along the Wakarusa and the "Jerkwater" are what made this little railroad's history unique and interesting.

I would like to thank everyone who helped in writing this paper as without their help I would have been quite literally lost. In allowing me to interrupt their lives for an afternoon, they enabled such a 'history' to come about, and without their help, this paper would have never gotten off the ground. Thank you very much for all of your time and trouble; it is sincerely appreciated.

May 8, 1976 (Nov. 24, 1976)  
 This report, and the one to follow on the Kansas City,  
 Kaw Valley and Western Railroad Co. (1908 - 1962) was written  
 by Kevin Ronald Johnson, April 8, 1976, as partial requirement  
 for a class of Natural History Museum Techniques (musculology),  
 for Dr. James W. Bee, Univ. Kansas. I assisted this student  
 in the early phases of the survey of the remnants of this  
 long abandoned railroad.

J.W.B.