

Johnson County Road Record Documentation Study

Introduction

Bighorn Surveying and Engineering, LLC was contracted in the spring of 2009 to organize, analyze, and compile the road records for Johnson County, Wyoming. The purpose of this study was to conclusively determine the status of every county road since the inception of Johnson County in 1881. The map accompanying this document shows Johnson County surveys from 1881 to the present as well as the current county road system. These items are only to illustrate the finding of this study. Significant portions of the project results are not available in this format but can be viewed upon request.

Extensive research through county records allowed all road surveys to be classified as follows:

Classifications

The explanations below correspond to the categories for the County Surveys shown in the legend of the accompanying map.

Active: These surveys were found to be established. In most cases, these active surveys were demonstrated to have legal establishments, following due process. In some, verification of advertisement was not found; therefore we could not conclude the establishment was legal.

City Street: This denotes a survey that was assimilated into the city limits as Buffalo expanded, but began as a county survey.

Not established: The surveys given this designation in the geodatabase were not established. No record of a declaration or resolution establishing the survey was found, though intent to establish may be evident, through proof of advertising, a resolution declaring it was the intention of the commissioners to establish a given survey, or an original petition marked as established.

Vacated (VACATED): The surveys here were found to be abandoned by the county. Advertisement is required for a legal vacation. Proof of advertising was not found in all cases.

State (WYDOT): These roads are believed to be under Wyoming Department of Transportation's jurisdiction. Portions of these roads may have been abandoned to the county and are now county responsibility.

Stock Drive: Though nearly all county surveys were stock trails as well as roads, some were solely intended to be stock drives. These surveys are represented here.

To be assessed (to be assessed): This category is the broadest of all. Surveys in this category may be established and active, but follow no current road. Some surveys follow an identical alignment with another survey, and two active surveys on a portion of road is unnecessary. Or a portion of a survey may have been intended to be vacated, perhaps was even advertised to be vacated but the declaration of abandonment is missing or incomplete. Other surveys are categorized as such because of alignment issues with the current road they are part of.