Griggs County has 3 incorporated towns (Cooperstown, Binford and Hannaford).

It’s surprising to look at a map of the Griggs County borders and see 16 towns within a dozen miles (as the crow flies) of our border. They are Aneta, Luverne, Sibley, Glenfield, Dazey, McHenry, Courtney, Sharon, Wimbledon, McMille, Finley, Kensal, Pekin, Tolna, Rogers and Hope.

For many of these towns the Courier is the closest newspaper. We hope they are subscribing and will try our best to include some of the history of these towns.

An older map would show a lot more towns in this area. The towns of Binford, Blooming Prairie, Cooperstown, Fairview, Gallatin, Gunderson, Hannaford, Jessie, Karnak, Mardell, Mose, Revere, Shepard, Sutton and Walum were within the Griggs County borders.

Some of these names are duplicates. Blooming Prairie became Binford. Fairview became Karnak. Gunderson became Walum.

There were also railroad sidings such as Lovell. How about Post Offices? There were post offices in Durham, Lee, Helena, Lake Jessie, Lybeck, Montclair, Ottawa, Romness, Cottonwood and Willow to name a few.

How many towns are missing from this list that were within a dozen miles of the Griggs County border? Blabon and Pickert come to mind right away.

We’ll sponsor a small contest. Ten Cooper Bucks will be awarded to whoever can come up with the most names of additional towns, sidings, post offices, named places or populated places not mentioned here that were in or within a dozen miles (as the crow flies again) of the county border. Plus you will have the honor and prestige of becoming the first Historic Highlights contest winner. We’ll close the contest at the end of January and announce the winners shortly after that. Then we’ll try to write some future articles on these towns and how they fit into our history.

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| --- | --- |
| Pillsbury | 12 |
| Spiritwood | 18 |
| Spiritwood Lake | 25 |
| Sibley | 30 |
| Luverne | 31 |
| Grace City | 36 |
| Clifford | 44 |
| Courtenay | 45 |
| Rogers | 46 |
| McHenry | 56 |
| Pekin | 70 |
| Glenfield | 91 |
| Sharon | 96 |
| Dazey | 104 |
| Galesburg | 108 |
| Hannaford | 131 |
| Kensal | 163 |
| Tolna | 166 |
| Binford | 183 |
| Buffalo | 188 |
| Wimbledon | 216 |
| Aneta | 222 |
| Page | 232 |
| Tower City | 253 |
| Hope | 258 |
| Hunter | 261 |
| McVille | 349 |
| Finley | 445 |
| Lakota | 672 |
| Hatton | 777 |
| Northwood | 945 |
| Cooperstown | 984 |

http://www.census.gov/geo/www/gazetteer/files/2010\_place\_list\_38.txt