

WYOMING - SOUTH DAKOTA - NEBRASKA

DATE VISITED: June 24, 1991

ACCESS ROUTE: From Harrison, Nebraska, go N on route 29 about 10 miles to the Coffee ranch. Turn L under the ranch sign, cross a creek, and continue W and N past the Schnurr ranch. At about 12 miles beyond the Coffee ranch, the road crosses into WY. The first turn off right in WY is to the Tollman ranch. Take the second turn off to the right about 11/2 miles W of the WY - NE line. Follow this road N and E with several bends in the road. The road finally turns due N very close to the WY - NE line. Continue about 1 mile, then the road bends left, crosses Indian Creek and goes up to the Jordan ranch.

Visitors should stop at the ranch house and get permission and directions for proceeding the remaining mile across the fields to the tri-state point. The low white limestone Chaffee monument is next to the taller quartzite Jenkins monument. A bronze plaque (see text below) is mounted near the monuments.

THE COMMON CORNER TO NEBRASKA AND SOUTH DAKOTA ON WYOMING LINE

The Survey for the boundary between Nebraska and Wyoming territory began August 17th 1869 at the intersection of the 41st Parallel of Latitude and the 27th degree of Longitude W of Washington, DC. Oliver N. Chaffee, Astronomer and Surveyor and his crew surveyed North on the 27th Meridian 138 miles, 22 chains and 67 links, and set a white limestone monument here on September 6th 1869.

In 1874, beginning at the Keya Paha River and ending at the Chaffee monument, Chauncey Wiltse surveyed the 43rd Parallel of Latitude between Nebraska and Dakota Territory.

In 1893, Joseph Jenkins retraced the Wiltse Survey and set a quartzite monument here and at ½ mile intervals from the Chaffee monument to the Missouri River.

In 1908, Edward F. Stahle retraced the Wyoming-Nebraska boundary and set granite posts at mile intervals and brass caps at closing corners.

In recognition of those early Surveyors, the skills they demonstrated and the hardships they endured,

we dedicate this Plaque on September 6, 1989.

The geographic position of the Chaffee monument is based on NAD1983 and determined by the Global Positioning System. Latitude N 43° 00' 02.251", Longitude W104° 03' 11.315", Elevation 1198.4 Meters (3931.70 feet).

Clark Hall, Jack and Joyce Parsell with Dan Jordan, land owner, at the tri-point. As with many of the tri-points, the area is fenced to protect the markers from cattle.