



## JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

### NEW SANTA FE

**William G. Johnston**

**1849 April 28**

“At six o’clock we reached the frontier line of Missouri....”

“Here alongside the farm of a Mr. Lipscomb we encamped, & by permission used an enclosure near his barn for confining our animals....”

\*\*\*\*\*The village of New Santa Fe was not incorporated until the early 1850s, but Dabney Lipscomb was one of the landowners that already was promoting the business interests of that area in the 1840s. When the Red Bridge Crossing of the Blue River became the primary trail crossing of the Blue around 1840, trail travelers began crossing the state line in the vicinity of New Santa Fe. Some histories of New Santa Fe say the village was a major outfitting town. This was not the case. Instead the village was a place where some supplies and services, including liquor and blacksmithing, could be purchased before crossing the Missouri state line. Land west of that line was Indian territory until 1854 when Kansas was opened for European-American settlement. **Source:** Mix, Larry and Carolyn Mix. “Western Missouri & Eastern Kansas: Santa [Fe] Trail Tour”. Accessed online at [santafetrailresearch.com/main-route/Missouri-sft-tour-west.html](http://santafetrailresearch.com/main-route/Missouri-sft-tour-west.html) on April 27, 2020.

**W.H. Brady**

**1854, from letter of 1906 November 5**

“... I remember seeing a way bill for emigrants to California, starting from Independence, Missouri. The first point was Barnes’ Spring, Big Blue, State Line, or New Santa Fe, which is north of Stanley now. Next point was “Lone Elm” then Bull Creek. ...”

\*\*\*\*\*When Brady settled in Kansas, the Santa Fe Trail still was active with travelers. Brady includes New Santa Fe on the Independence Route of the Oregon, California, and Santa Fe trails in 1854. **Source:** Brady, W.H. “Brady’s Letter” [letter read at 1906 dedication of Lone Elm DAR Santa Fe Trail marker since Brady unable to attend], *Lone Elm Marker, Lone Elm CampGround, Santa Fe Trail Monument, Erected 1906* [booklet does not give publisher but trail historian Craig Crease thinks it was self-published by Newton Ainsworth; WorldCat indicates this was reprinted from *Olathe Register* of November 13, 1906], quote on 6<sup>th</sup> unpagged page.



**The Border Star**  
**1859 February 17**

“The people of Independence had a mass meeting on Monday, the 31<sup>st</sup> ... at which they resolved that Independence was the best outfitting point in the West.... We believe Independence, [yes comma in article] is an excellent starting point, either to Pike’s Peak or elsewhere and we would be pleased to hear of half a million of adventurers buying their [illegible word] at that city. Doubtless they can get all they want there just as cheap as at other places. But what we do ask of Independence is, that after they have sold provisions, clothing, etc. to the gold-seeker[s], they will not misdirect them on their way, and try to send them over that obsolete, impassable and abandoned road via New Santa Fe. Let them come over the plain, well-traveled mail route by way of Westport. If we don’t sell them anything, we at least want to get a look at them.”

\*\*\*\*\*While this newspaper article is unsigned, the author, writing tongue-in-cheek, obviously is a supporter of Westport. Despite what the author literally says, this article intends to discourage any travelers from outfitting at Independence. Those leaving for the West from Independence obviously would be using the Independence route, and the author clearly gives a derogatory description of that route which happens to include the village of New Santa Fe. Thus without literally saying so, the article intends for readers to view Independence itself as “obsolete”.

**Source:** Euston, Diane. “If This Ground Could Talk,” *The New Santa Fe Trailer*, April 22, 2016, article includes reproduction of actual newspaper article. Accessed online at [newsantafetrailer.blogspot.com/2016/04/if-this-ground-could-talk.html](http://newsantafetrailer.blogspot.com/2016/04/if-this-ground-could-talk.html) on April 26, 2020.