

# PHEASANT RIDGE TRAIL



ALMA,  
a thriving, little town located  
along the Southern coast of  
NEBRASKA,  
boasts a beautiful landscape that overlooks  
the Republican River Valley.

**The Pheasant Ridge Trail  
can be found just off  
Hwy 183, on South Street.  
It continues along the  
shoreline for three miles,  
ending at Methodist Cove.**

**Step up your pace for exercise  
or just relax at one of the  
various vistas. Let nature  
capture your spirit and be  
greeted by this wandering pathway.**

## ENJOY THE TRAIL, BUT USE IT COURTEOUSLY!

### TRAIL GUIDELINES

**Be respectful of other trail users regardless of speed, level of skill or mode. Anticipate other trail users around corners and blind spots.**

**Keep to the right of the trail. Save the left for passing.**

**When passing, give a clear warning signal in advance. Hikers, joggers, bikers listen for the signals from other trail users.**

**Stay on the designated trail. Do not trespass.**

**Motorized vehicles prohibited except for motorized wheelchairs.**

**Bikes yield to all other trail users.**

**Keep pets on a SHORT leash and under control at all times.**

**Pick up your own litter and whatever your pet leaves behind.**

Pheasant Ridge Trail was completed in October, 2005. This project was granted to the City of Alma by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and by the Nebraska Department of Roads.

## HISTORICAL SITES ALONG THE TRAIL

1. The Indians named the Republican River "Buffalo Dung," from the huge herds of buffalo who found it a haven.

2. The Guyer Hotel was located on present day South St. and claims to have housed Buffalo Bill and Nelson Buck's surveyors who were later killed by Indians. It was constructed of logs and erected in 1873.

3. The Burlington Railroad came thru Alma in 1873. It was moved from its river route to a site North of Alma when the Dam was built in 1952.

4. The Republican River Valley Flood occurred in 1935. This is the area where the worried Mrs. Bohling went to help her boys with cattle and was swept away by the water. She was a casualty, but her boys were found several days later, clinging to a tree.

5. In 1879, the North Surveyor Party and Chief Bear Claw of the Pawnee tribe met along the banks of Cook Creek. There is a picture of this meeting in the Alma history book, Alma Toward The Year 2000.

6. This is the site of the first Homestead in Harlan County. In 1870, J. W. Foster built the first house, a dugout. The site became known as Foster Grove and in 1871, the first sermon was preached, here.

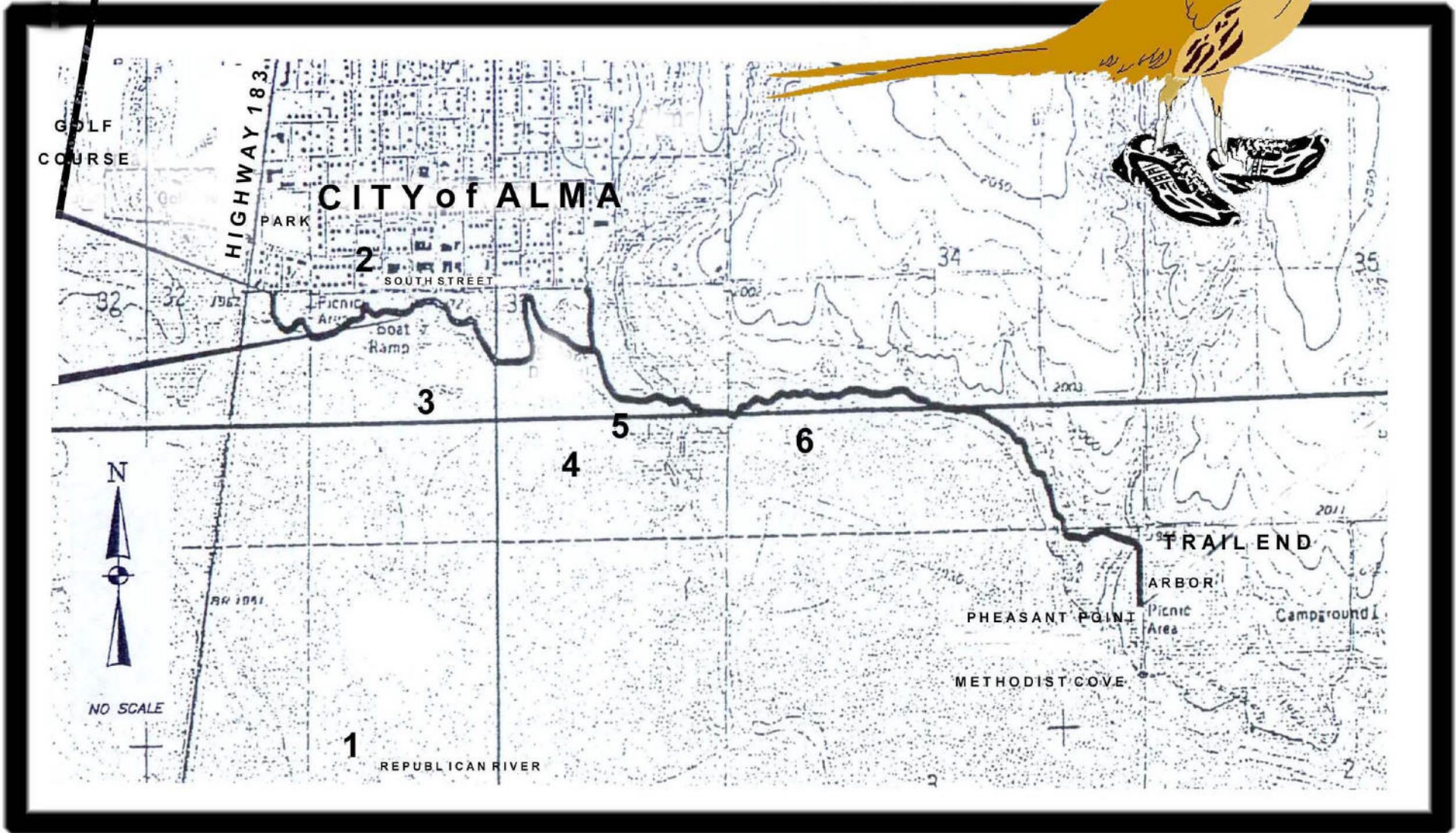
On that same day, in 1871, William McBride was shot and killed becoming the first shooting death in the county. It is believed he was buried on land now known as the Shallenberger residence and that the body was never moved. That home, at the time of this writing, is owned by Bonnie Collison.

Foster Grove is also the site where the election establishing the County seat, in 1871, was held. Mr. Foster died in 1891 and was buried on this property. His grave, with the original stone, was moved to the Alma Cemetery when the lake formed.

# TRAIL ENTRY

## PHEASANT RIDGE TRAIL

DISTANCE: 3 MILES



NUMBERS 1 THROUGH 6: HISTORICAL SITES KEY