

Muriel Siding

About 1937 Parrish and Heimbecker built an elevator at Muriel siding, about three and a half miles east of Elk Point. It seems this extra elevator, so close to Elk Point, was a bit much for the volume of grain at that time. First agent was Mr. Kossman, followed by Lester L. Smith, Frank Keitges and Buster Valentine. The elevator was dismantled about 1942 or 1943. The foundations of the elevator are still east of the picnic area.

Muriel School was built half a mile south of the siding. On June 15, 1945, Muriel School was struck by lightning just after school let out at 3:30 p.m. Joe O'Kane had been hired to erect swings at the school. He brought his load of peeled green posts and tools shortly before school was out. Some of the boys came to help photos When the lightning struck the poles, two boys -- Joe O'Kane and George Holliday -- were killed instantly. John Holliday, who was standing back a little, was rendered unconscious and suffered flash burns and a ruptured ear drum. One corner of the schoolhouse roof was splintered. The teacher and children who were inside were badly shocked and some were injured.

Mrs. Van Arnam was the teacher at the time. When she recovered consciousness, she gave her whole attention to caring for her dead, injured and shocked pupils.

Muriel School after lightning 1945



Muriel School (4 miles northeast) was moved in the 1960s to Elk Point where it was used as an Industrial Arts building. It was later purchased by Nick Kozicky and moved to his farm where it became a machine shed.