



The Osage Mission "A Great Distributing Center of Civilization"

Sister Mary Paul Fitzgerald "Beacon on the Plains"

Mission Stations Established by Missionaries of Osage Mission

In addition to their role at the Mission, the Jesuits were also responsible for establishing mission stations and propagating the Christian faith across the frontier territory. Father Schoenmakers, Administrator of Osage Mission, established four mission stations, three with churches, all in the southeast corner of Kansas. Seven other priests were credited with starting stations and/or churches in various parts of the state. Of the seven, two names are prominent:

- Father Paul Mary Ponziglione - 87 mission stations across Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma (Indian territory) and Wyoming. It is also reported that he traveled as far south as Texas, and west into Colorado.
- Father Philip Colleton - 15 mission stations in Kansas and several missionary trips to Colorado.

It must be noted that much of this work was done during the 1840's through the 1860's prior to the availability of railroad travel across the plains area. The entire wide spread missionary work was done from horseback or by wagon. Father Ponziglione and Father Colleton visited many of the mission stations repeatedly. It is also noted that many of the mission stations were unsuccessful. Some settlements failed, but the contacts were made and the missionary influence extended.

The map and list that follows, illustrate the breadth of their travels. The list is color-coded to dots on the map to show which missions were established by a specific priest. *Imagine the hardships and danger these priests encountered in an unsettled region.*

Table 1 Color Key:

Fr. Ponziglione



Fr. Schoenmakers



Fr. Colleton



Fr. Bax



Others



List of Mission Stations Color Coded to Error! Reference source not found.				
Date	Town	County - State	Visited By Priest	Established
Key				
1847	Osage Mission	Neosho - Kansas	John Schoenmakers	Residence and Church
	<i>Built a church, large residence, schools and convent for the Sisters of Loretto.</i>			
1849	Miami Town	Miami - Kansas Territory	Charles Truyens	Residence and Church
	<i>Started mission with Father Van Mierlo for Miami, Peoria and Wea but was not kept up for long.</i>			
1849	Paola and Wea	Miami - Kansas Territory	Charles Truyens	Missionary Station
	<i>Station and Mission named Saint Francis Regis</i>			
1849	Middle Creek	Miami - Kansas Territory	John Bax	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for the Miami and visited it along with Paola and Wea</i>			
1849	Balls Mill	Bourbon - Kansas Territory	John Bax	Missionary Station
	<i>Started for Mixed-Blood and white settlers living by the mill</i>			
1849	Spring River	Jasper - Missouri	John Bax	Missionary Station
	<i>Started for Quapaw Indians living in the area</i>			
1850	Fort Gibson	Indian Territory (Cherokee Nation Oklahoma)	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for the Garrison of the U.S. Army</i>			
1850	Fort Scott	Bourbon - Kansas Territory	John Bax	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for soldiers residing in Garrison at the fort. Troops were evacuated in 1854.</i>			
1851	Barnsville	Bourbon - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Indians of the six nations called New York Indians (A town was founded in 1858)</i>			
1853	Cabin Creek	Indian Territory (Cherokee Nation Oklahoma)	Van Hulst	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Osage and Cherokee Mixed Blood</i>			
1853	Seneca	Indian Territory (Cherokee Nation Oklahoma)	Van Hulst	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Seneca and Shawnee Indians</i>			
1854	Chippewas	Franklin - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established mission station for Chippewas as well as for Sac and Fox Indians. 1858 - care for these small tribes was transferred to Father Ivo Schacht who visits Franklin County. The exact location of the station is now unknown except the Chippewas reservation with in the north central part of Franklin County near Ottawa</i>			

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1854	Appanoose	Franklin - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for the Mixed-Bloods of different nations living in the area. The exact location of the mission station is now unknown.</i>			
1855	Cow-Creek	Crawford - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>(Later became part of Pittsburg) Established for white settlers</i>			
1857	Burlington	Coffee - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for white settlers in the William Wisler home Began St. Francis Xavier Church</i>			
1857	LeRoy	Coffee - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for white settlers in Daniel Barry home</i>			
1857	Ottumwa	Coffee - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
1857	Humboldt	Allen - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for white settlers in Thurston home St. Joseph's church erected in 1867, First mass in church on August 11, 1867</i>			
1857	Owl Creek	Woodson - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established at Michael Reardon's a mission station for Irish and French Settlers</i>			
1858	Prairie City	Douglas - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for French settlers at the Buttell home</i>			
1858	Briar Town	Neosho - Kansas Territory	Van Leugenhaege	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Osage Camps along Hickory Creek and Neosho River</i>			
1858	Mound City	Linn - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for white settlers in a private home</i>			
1858	Greeley	Anderson - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Belgian Squatters</i>			
1858	St. Boniface (Near Scipio)	Anderson - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for Germans in John Henry Rocher (Roker) home Began erection of Church of St. Boniface</i>			
1858	Elizabethtown	Anderson - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for German settlers at Adam Meyers home</i>			
1858	Iola	Allen - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station

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Key					
	<i>Established for Irish squatters</i>				
1858	Columbus	Crawford - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station	
	<i>Established for Osage Mixed-Bloods at La Force home</i>				
1858	Lightning Creek	Crawford - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station	
	<i>Established for stone and coal miners at Lemon home</i>				
1858	Owl Creek	Woodson - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station	
	<i>Established for Irish settlers at Michael Collins home</i>				
1858	Fredonia	Wilson - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Church	Station,
	<i>Established for Irish and French squatters at Michael Reardon Home Church established</i>				
1858	New Albany	Wilson - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Church	Station,
	<i>Established for Irish and German settlers at D. Collins Home Church established</i>				
1858	Fall River	Greenwood Territory - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station	
	<i>Established for Irish and American settlers at Patrick Crain home</i>				
1858	Eureka	Greenwood Territory - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station,	
	<i>Established for white settlers at Ryan home</i>				
1859	Chanute (Was New Chicago)	Neosho - Kansas Territory	Paul Van Goch	Missionary Station, Church	
	<i>Established for German settlers at Peter Kraws home Began Church of St. Lawrence, First Mass said in New Chicago in November 1871</i>				
1859	Little Osage	Bourbon - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church	
	<i>Established for white settlers at E. Hannons home. St. Lawrence Church built here</i>				
1860	Pleasant Grove	Greenwood Territory - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station	
	<i>Established for Irish settlers at Clark home</i>				
1860	Granby	Newton - Missouri	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station	
	<i>Established for French settlers working at lead mines</i>				
1860	Defiance	Woodson - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church	
	<i>Established for Irish settlers at the Hefferman and Deviny homes</i>				

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	<i>Began the Church of the Immaculate Conception</i>			
1860	Otter Creek	Coffey - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Establish for German settlers at Heffernan home</i>			
1860	Emporia	Lyon - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Irish settlers at James Ryan Home Catholic Register, June 12, 1924 gives T.L. Ryan as the first Catholic family</i>			
1860	Marion Centre (Now Marion)	Marion - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for German settlers in a private home</i>			
1860	Osage City	Osage - Kansas Territory	John Schoenmakers	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Irish settlers in a private home</i>			
1860	Mapleton	Bourbon - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Irish Settlers</i>			
1860	Geneva	Allen - Kansas Territory	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Irish settlers in Mortimer home</i>			
1863	Fort Scott	Bourbon - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Residence and Church
	<i>Established for white settlers at O'Connor Home Established residence, rector and Mary Queen of Angels Church in 1864</i>			
1863	Girard	Crawford - Kansas	John Schoenmakers	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for German settlers at Riddner Home Built St. Francis Xavier Church</i>			
1863	Oswego	Labette - Kansas	Paul Van Goch	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for Osage Mixed-Bloods at J. Matthews Home Built St. Cecelia Church</i>			
1864	Madison	Woodson - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Irish Settlers at Dwyer home</i>			
1866	Thunderbolt	Crawford - Kansas	J. Setters	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for white settlers in coal mines in a private home</i>			
1866	Dry Creek	Woodson - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Irish settlers at John Shea home</i>			
1867	Verdigris Falls	Greenwood- Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station

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1867	Big John Creek	Morris - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
1867	Ottawa	Franklin - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
1867	Salt Creek	Osage - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
				<i>Established for the Sac and Fox Tribes</i>
1868	Diamond Creek	Chase - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
				<i>Established for Irish settlers at Lawless house</i>
1868	Bazaar	Chase - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
				<i>Established for Irish settlers at Norton home</i>
1868	Cottonwood Falls	Chase - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
				<i>Established for white settlers at Maginty Home Church established</i>
1868	Baxter Springs	Cherokee - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station, Church
				<i>Established for Catholic soldier stationed here Church established</i>
1868	Scammonville	Cherokee - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station, Church
				<i>Established for coal miners and farmers Church established</i>
1868	Chetopa	Labette - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station Church
				<i>Established for Mixed-Bloods and white settlers at Eastes home In 1870 made contact with Chetopa Town Company to build a frame church</i>
1868	Coyville	Wilson - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
				<i>Established for Irish settlers at John Lee home Built St. Francis Regis Church four miles north of New Albany - dedicated December 4, 1871</i>
1868	Parsons	Labette - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station, Residence and Church
				<i>Established for railroad camps Residence and Saint Patrick's Church built in 1872</i>
1868	Ladore	Neosho - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
				<i>Built residence and Immaculate Conception Church in 1870. The church was established near the Parsons Catholic cemetery.</i>

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1868	Hickory Creek (Greenbush)	Crawford - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for French settlers; Built St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church</i>			
1868	Neodesha	Wilson - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for German settlers at Martin Benedict home Built St. Ignatius Loyola Church in 1876</i>			
1869	Big Walnut	Butler - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for farmers at John Mannion home</i>			
1869	Thayer	Neosho - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for railroad camps and coal miners Built St. Agnes Church</i>			
1869	Morehead	Neosho - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for white settlers in the railroad section house</i>			
1869	Parker	Montgomery - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Osage Mixed-Bloods and white settlers at Ryan home Discontinued in 1882</i>			
1869	Coffeyville	Montgomery - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for Mixed-Bloods and white settlers at Ryan home Built Sacred Name of Jesus "Holy Name" Church</i>			
1869	Forrest Hill	Lyon - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for German Settlers</i>			
1869	Florence	Morris - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for French settlers at Bernard home</i>			
1869	Dodge City	Ford - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Railroad workers in the section house</i>			
1869	Newton	Harvey - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for white settlers in a school house</i>			
1869	Fort Larned	Pawnee - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for railroad men and Catholic soldiers in garrison</i>			
1869	Winfield	Cowley - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for white settlers at the McDonald home Father Ponziglione reported that he celebrated mass for the first time on 9 January 1872</i>			

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1869	Hutchinson	Reno - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for railroad workers at Foley home</i>			
1869	Boston	Chautauqua - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for farmers at Robert Mattingly home Church established</i>			
1869	Walnut	Crawford - Kansas	Phillip Colleton	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for railroad workers and white settlers a Clement home</i>			
1869	Howard	Elk - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for German settlers at Mr. Schoenmaker home</i>			
1869	El Dorado	Butler - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for white settlers at McDonald home</i>			
1869	Elk City	Montgomery - Kansas	John Schoenmakers	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Prepares to build church for Mixed-Blood and Osage Indians. The location will be convenient for the growing settlement of whites (Schoenmakers).</i>			
1870	Saint Ignatius	Montgomery - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Built church of St. Ignatius</i>			
1870	Council Grove	Morris - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Mixed-Bloods of the Kaw Indian Nation Father Ponziglione read Mass for two families living six mile south of Council Grove</i>			
1870	Cedar Creek	Chase - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for French settlers</i>			
1870	Eagle Creek	Lyon - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for German settlers</i>			
1870	Rock Creek Crossing	Morris - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for the Kaw Mixed-Bloods on their reservation</i>			
1870	Timber Hill (Big Hill)	Labette - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for the New York Tribe at Peter Labedie home</i>			

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1870	Wichita	Sedgwick - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for white settlers at the home of Mr. Meagher (Meigner)</i> <i>In 1871 Father Paul Ponziglione convinced a "fervent lady" in Wichita to raise subscriptions for the building of a church in the town. Some lots were secured as a gift and the foundation of the church was being erected, when difficulties arose over the building. The lady appealed to Coadjutor-Bishop Fink for assistance; in answer Father Kuhls was sent to collect subscriptions; with these funds a nicely finished Presbyterian church was bought and moved to the lots on which the foundation had been built. On November 24, 1872 the church was dedicated under the title of St. Aloysius Gonzaga.</i>			
1870	Greenwood	Greenwood - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Irish settlers at Mitchel home</i>			
1870	Morgan City	Montgomery - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for Irish settlers at J. McEnery home</i> <i>A church was established.</i>			
1870	Independence	Montgomery - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Irish and German settlers at McLane home</i>			
1871	Fort Sill	Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for soldiers in garrison at Captain Hogan's quarters</i>			
1871	Cherryvale Agency	Montgomery - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Church
	<i>Established for German Settlers at Jacob Blaes home</i> <i>A church was built.</i>			
1872	Augusta	Butler - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Father Ponziglione read mass for the first time 8 September 1872</i>			
1872	Wellington	Sumner - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established missionary station among railroad camps</i>			
1872	Oxford	Sumner - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for French settlers in a private home</i>			
1873	Harper	Harper - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established station for German settlers</i>			
1873	Arkansas City	Cowley - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Canadian settlers</i>			
1873	Mound Valley	Labette - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Belgian settlers</i>			
1873	Sedan	Chautauqua - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Osage Mixed-Bloods and white settlers at the John Lee house</i>			

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1873	Elgin	Chautauqua - Kansas	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Osage Mixed-Bloods at the William Tinker home</i>			
1878	Muskogee	Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for railroad workers and white settlers at the D. Cavegan home</i>			
1878	Vinita	Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for railroad workers at the section house</i>			
1880	Eufaula	Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for railroad workers and Indians in a hotel</i>			
1882	Fisher's Town	Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for Mixed-Bloods in a private home</i>			
1882	Checkota	Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for railroad workers and Mixed-Bloods in the Drew home</i>			
1882	Tahlequah	Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for German settlers in the Shabel home</i>			
1882	Pawhuska	Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Osage Agency - Established for Osage Indians in the Moses Plumbondoom home</i>			
1886	Saint Stephen	Indian Territory - Wyoming	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station, Residence and Church
	<i>Established for the Arapahoe on the Wind River, Wyoming Residence and church established</i>			
1886	Lander	Fremont - Wyoming	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station Residence and Church
	<i>Established for Catholics in the area. Established a residence and church</i>			
1886	Fort Washakle	Fremont - Wyoming	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for soldiers in garrison house</i>			
1886	Okmulgee	Creek Nation Indian Territory - Oklahoma	Paul Ponziglione	Missionary Station
	<i>Established for the Creek and for white settlers in the town hall</i>			
Note:				
There were fourteen missionary visits that were recorded without any date or general information given.				