Go west on US24 to St. Marys. US24 and Grand Ave. (next to the Kansas State Historical marker) across the street from the St. Marys academy.

Continue west on US24 through St. Marys to K63, turn right to Dutink Street, turn left and it becomes Oregon Trail Road (a gravel road). Continue west on Oregon Trail Road to Pleasant View Road, turn right, continue west on Oregon Trail Road to Oregon Trail Nature Park (Westar).

Continue west on Oregon Trail Road, Cross Lost Creek Road, Cross Camp Creek Road, Cross Onaga road, go by the Vieux Cemetery, go by the Cholera Cemetery, cross the Vermillion River bridge, stop at the marker at the Louis Vieux Elm Tree site.

Continue west on Oregon Trail Road to Louisville, east Hickory Street to K99, turn south, Cross Rock Creek Bridge to Cannonball Road and turn left, continue for three tenths of a mile to the marker.

Continue west on Cannonball Road to Salzer Road, turn left to Elm Slough Road and turn right on Elm Slough, cross Flint Rock Road, turn left onto Rockenham Road, turn right or west on School Creek Road. As you near Flush Road the marker is on the north side of the road.

To follow the First Military Road turn north on Flush Road, turn left on Eliza Road to Lake Elbo Road. The marker is at the intersection of Eliza Road and Lake Elbo Road.

Go south on Lake Elbo Road to US24, turn right or west on US24 to Green Valley Road. Go north, cross Elbo Creek, continue north to marker at Kinzie Jo’s Way.

To go to the St. George cutoff turn east on US24 to Black Jack Road, turn south for about one mile to 1st Street, turn left to Lincoln Avenue, turn left, go two blocks north to Black Jack Spring. If coming from Manhattan Town Center go 7.3 miles east on US24 to Black Jack Road.

Continue north on Green Valley Road to Junietta Road and turn left or west for about four miles (the road changes to Blue River Road). The marker is on the north side of Blue River Road.

To follow the Second Military Road go west on Blue River Road to Dyer Road, turn south or left to US24. Follow US24 to Turtle Creek Blvd. The marker is located south west of the traffic light in the northeast corner of Chili’s parking lot. The marker faces the intersection.

Turn right and go right around the north edge of Manhattan Town Center (adj. To Dillards). Turn left to Third Street and go two blocks south to Poyntz Avenue. Turn right to Poyntz and go west to City Park at 11th Street across from the City Park. Turn right into the park, the marker faces Poyntz near the sidewalk.

Head out of City Park and turn right on Poyntz to 17th Street, turn left to and go to Fort Riley Blvd., Turn right, cross Wildcat Creek and pass Four Points motel. Turn right on Seth Child Road. Turn left at the entrance to the shopping center onto Southwind Road. Go one block west of entrance, turn right onto Southwind Road. At the next intersection turn left onto Brush Creek Road. Follow curve to the left to the Disc Golf parking lot. Foot walk north to the Scout’s Trail entering Warner Park.

Follow path to the bridge that was built in 1998.

Turn around and return to parking lot. Distance walking ~.37 Mile and about ten minutes.

From parking lot retrace same route to Fort Riley Blvd. Turn right and go to Miller Parkway, turn right on Arbor Drive, turn left on Warner Park Dr. The marker is across the street from 425 Warner Park Drive.

Retrace to Miller Parkway and turn right.

Marker on Miller Parkway Road.
The first Military Road from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Riley was used during the 1850’s and 1860’s. It went west from Louisville across Pottawatomie and Riley county and dropped into the Blue River valley at Juniatta, crossed the Blue River on a ferry operated by Samuel Dyer. Later a bridge was built but was washed out by a flood in 1856. It went to the Rocky Ford area following “the Old Indian Trail,” across the area of CICO Park, Amanda Arnold Elementary School to Anderson Avenue, west along Wildcat Creek, crossed over the hill to Eureka Valley and to Fort Riley.

Following the closing of the Junietta Crossing, the second Military Road came from the east to Manhattan. After crossing the Blue River and entering Riley County at the foot of Poyntz Avenue, “the great military road” proceeded west to 11th Street where it angled off southwest passing through Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School grounds, Long Park, and followed what is now Fort Riley Boulevard. It crossed Wildcat Creek, Seth Child Road, entering Warner Park, Miller Ranch, and dropped into Eureka Valley, crossing Scenic Drive and Wildcat Creek Road to Fort Riley.

Albert D. Richardson and Horace Greeley, both New York Tribune journalists, passed through Manhattan in 1859 on their way to the Colorado gold fields, described Manhattan as “a flourishing Yankee settlement of two or three hundred people.”