

REGISTER OF HISTORIC KANSAS PLACES---COVER SHEET

Name of Property Benedict Meyer Log Cabin 87-0000-0280Location Meriden Threshing Bee Grounds, State Highway 4
(street and number)Meriden(city, town, or vicinity location)
20' x 16' lot in South 50 acres of Northwest Quarter of Section 8, Township 10,
South, Range 17, East.

(legal description)

Jefferson

(county)

Owner of Property Meriden Antique Engine & Threshers AssociationMeriden Threshing Bee Grounds, State Highway 4
(street and number)Meriden, Jefferson County, Kansas 66512
(city, town, county)

National Register status:

date approved for nomination to the National Register by Kansas Historic
Sites Board of Review N/Adate entered in National Register N/A

Description: The Benedict Meyer Log Cabin (ca. 1854) is located on the west side of
State Highway 4 at the Meriden Threshing Bee Grounds in Jefferson County, Kansas. The
reconstructed and relocated log cabin is a one-room, one-and-one-half story structure
with a wood shingled gable roof. Its hand-hewn walnut and oak logs are dovetailed and
chinked with crushed rock covered with cement. The building stands on a cement slab
approximately twenty feet from north to south and sixteen feet from east to west.

The cabin is a dark space with one 6/6 double hung window piercing all first floor
elevations but the north. A center door pierces both the east and north walls. Two small
second story windows are located centrally on the east and west elevations. A ladder
stair, located in the southeast corner of the structure on an east-west axis leads to the
second story. Wooden poles supporting the second floor are visible on the east and west
facades. The gable ends are sheathed with verticle wooden boards.

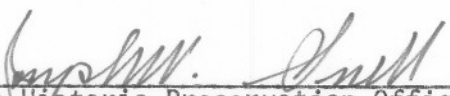
The Benedict Meyer Log Cabin's original location was five miles northeast of Valley
Falls. Prior to 1900, lap siding and several rooms were added to the structure. New

materials employed for the cabin's reconstruction include the roof,
four logs, two doors, and some window panes.

Significance The Benedict Meyer Log Cabin (ca. 1854) is being nominated to the Register of Historic Kansas Places for its historical association with Benedict Meyer (1822-1907), a German immigrant who settled permanently in the Valley Falls area of Kansas after 1850. Until 1983, the building was used as a residence by Meyer's descendants, although its log structure was hidden by lap siding and additions. The Meriden Antique Engine and Threshers Association disassembled the endangered structure in 1983, reconstructing it on its present location. In its disassembly, the Meriden Antique Engine and Threshers Association numbered all pieces of the cabin and reassembled the structure according to the numerical markings. Much of the original structural material was salvaged in the reconstruction.

Form prepared by Martha Hagedorn date 4/4/86

This property was approved for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review on May 10, 1986
I hereby certify that this property is included in the Register of Historic Kansas Places.


State Historic Preservation Officer

May 10, 1986
Date