

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bear Creek Redoubt

14CK303

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Five miles north of Ashland

SE 1/4, NW 1/4, NE 1/4 (SW 1/4 Sec. 15, T32S, R23W

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Ashland

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

No. 1 Keith Sebelius

STATE

Kansas

CODE

20

COUNTY

Clark

CODE

025

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

David Bouziden

STREET & NUMBER

Box 663

CITY, TOWN

Ashland

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kansas 67831

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Clark County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Ashland

STATE

Kansas 67831

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Archaeological Survey of Kansas

DATE

1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kansas State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas 66612

025-0000-004

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site is located near the headwaters of the east branch of Bear creek north of the present day town of Ashland, Kansas. Its historic location was along the road from Fort Dodge, Kansas, to Camp Supply, Indian Territory.

The redoubt was situated adjacent to the creek, on the east bank, at the edge of a broad expanse of elevated table land. The builder, Captain Richard T. Jacob, described it as follows:

"The redoubt which we built was about fifty feet square. The interior wall was built of burlap bags, filled with earth. Loose earth was filled against this wall on the outside, sloping down to a trench which was about fifteen feet wide. The wall or embankment was about ten feet thick at the base. Bastions were built at diagonally opposite corners. There was a stable for the mules on the inside of the enclosure, built against the wall on the western side. On the eastern side there was a living room and kitchen for the men. Both of these structures were of "hackall" or stockade, the earthen embankment forming one wall of each. The roofs were covered with earth and were a foot or two lower than the walls, so that they could be occupied for defensive purposes in case of an attack. A well was dug on a high creek bank, or second bottom, and the (sic) outside of the enclosure, near the gate, which was at the northeast corner." (Jacob 1924:31).

Five major features are visible at the site. The remains of the redoubt are visible as a square depression enclosed by walls as much as three feet high. This in turn is enclosed by a continuous ditch clearly visible on three sides. North of the redoubt is an enigmatic circular feature with a raised interior about thirty feet in diameter surrounded by a depression ten feet wide. Northeast of the circular feature is a stone lined well and northwest of the well is the foundation of another structure. West of these features are midden areas containing faunal refuse, metal and glass fragments and leather scraps. Most of these features belong to the military occupation of the site though some may be associated with a later civilian occupation.

The area in which the site is located is presently being used as grazing land. Although some minor erosion is present along the creek channel, the features are otherwise undisturbed and well preserved.

B SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

PREHISTORIC
 1400-1499
 1500-1599
 1600-1699
 1700-1799
 1800-1899
 1900-

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
 AGRICULTURE
 ARCHITECTURE
 ART
 COMMERCE
 COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

COMMUNITY PLANNING
 CONSERVATION
 ECONOMICS
 EDUCATION
 ENGINEERING
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
 INDUSTRY
 INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
 LAW
 LITERATURE
 MILITARY
 MUSIC
 PHILOSOPHY
 POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION
 SCIENCE
 SCULPTURE
 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
 THEATER
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

1870-1878

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bear Creek Redoubt was constructed in the fall of 1870 in conjunction with one similar in design near the Cimarron river to the south in order to provide protection and a convenient resting place for military mail coaches and freight wagons travelling the road between Fort Dodge and Camp Supply. Bear Creek Redoubt is mentioned in post returns from Camp Supply through the fall of the year 1871. It is next mentioned in historic accounts as a post office in the listing of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture Reports for the year 1876. It continued to be listed as a post office until 1878. A newspaper account of the establishment of a Catholic monastery farm in northern Clark county in 1876 mentioned the abandoned redoubt.

Bear Creek Redoubt and its companion Cimarron Redoubt came into existence as a military response to meet a specific threat to military communications. A similar situation occurred at various times along the frontier of 19th century Kansas, each precipitated by the increasing tempo of small scale attacks on the white population, both civilian and military, by the various Plains Indian tribes. Forts or camps were created where necessary, often by digging dugouts in suitable terrain; however, no other redoubts of sandbag construction are known for the state.

Bear Creek Redoubt has importance as the visible expression of a series of documented events occurring in the last century and as a unique type of military structure. Its excellent state of preservation and its relative inaccessibility should assure that its features will be preserved for an indefinite period of time.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Benedictine Monastery Farm on Mont Cassino in 1876 Leaves Record of Brothers Plan for Settlement Here," Clark County Clipper, June 29, 1939.
 Jacob, Richard T., "Frontier Army Life in Oklahoma, Military Reminiscences of Captain Richard T. Jacob," Chronicles of Oklahoma, Vol. II, No. 1, (1924).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 1/2 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

Longitude: 99° 48' 42"
 Latitude: 37° 15' 56"

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Martin Stein, Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION

Kansas State Historical Society

DATE

April 23, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

120 West 10th Street

TELEPHONE

913-296-5294

CITY OR TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Nyle H. Miller

TITLE

Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

DATE

August 3, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Bear Creek Redoubt

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

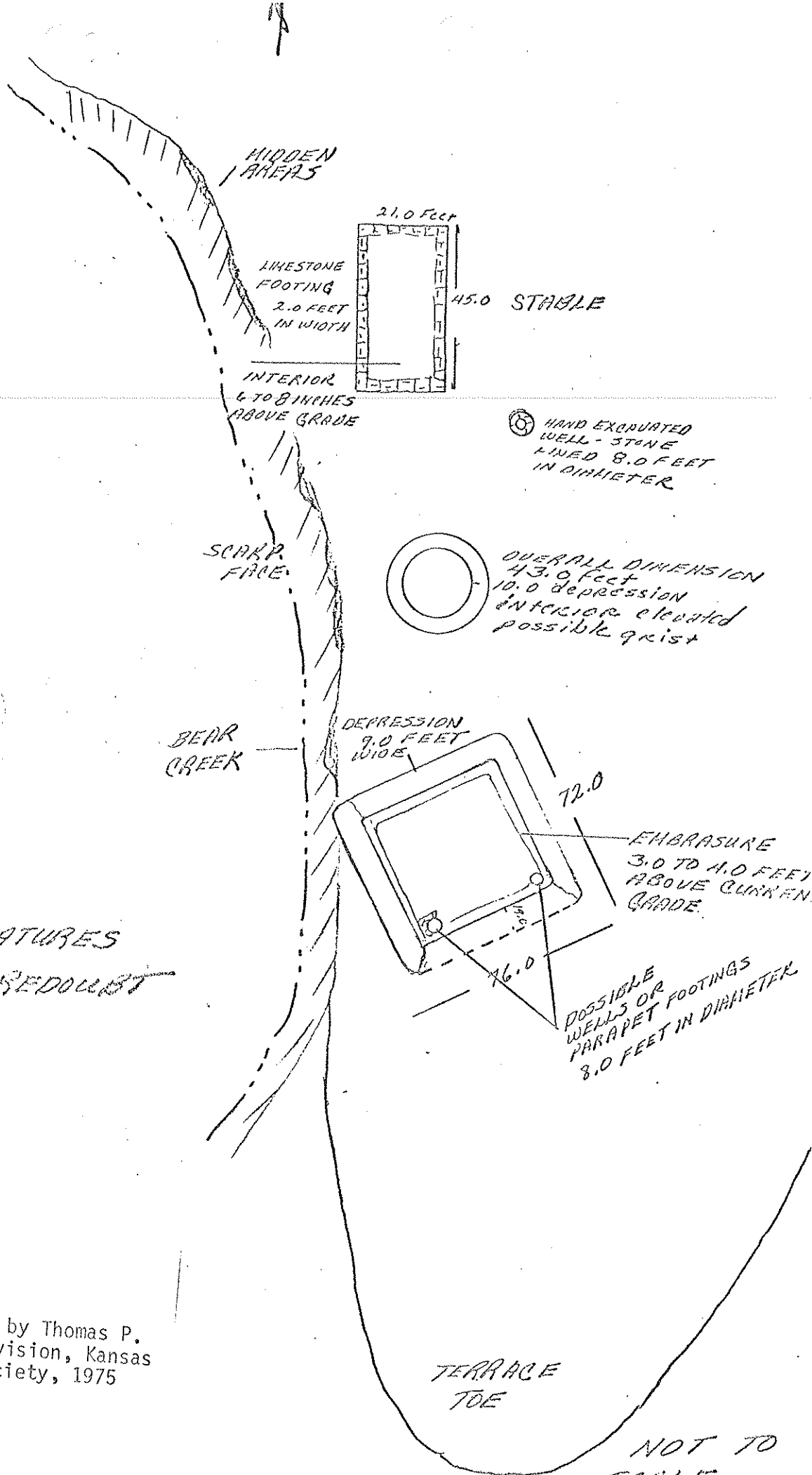
9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"A Missionary Trip Through Southern Kansas in 1876," Clark County Clipper,
May 13, 1940.

"Pioneer Post Offices," Clark County Clipper, September 1, 1939.

Reports of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, 1876-1877, 1881-1882,
1885-1886.

Roll 1243, Fort Supply, Oklahoma, November 1868-December 1879. Returns From
U.S. Military Posts 1800-1916, Microcopy 617, National Archives, Washington D.C.

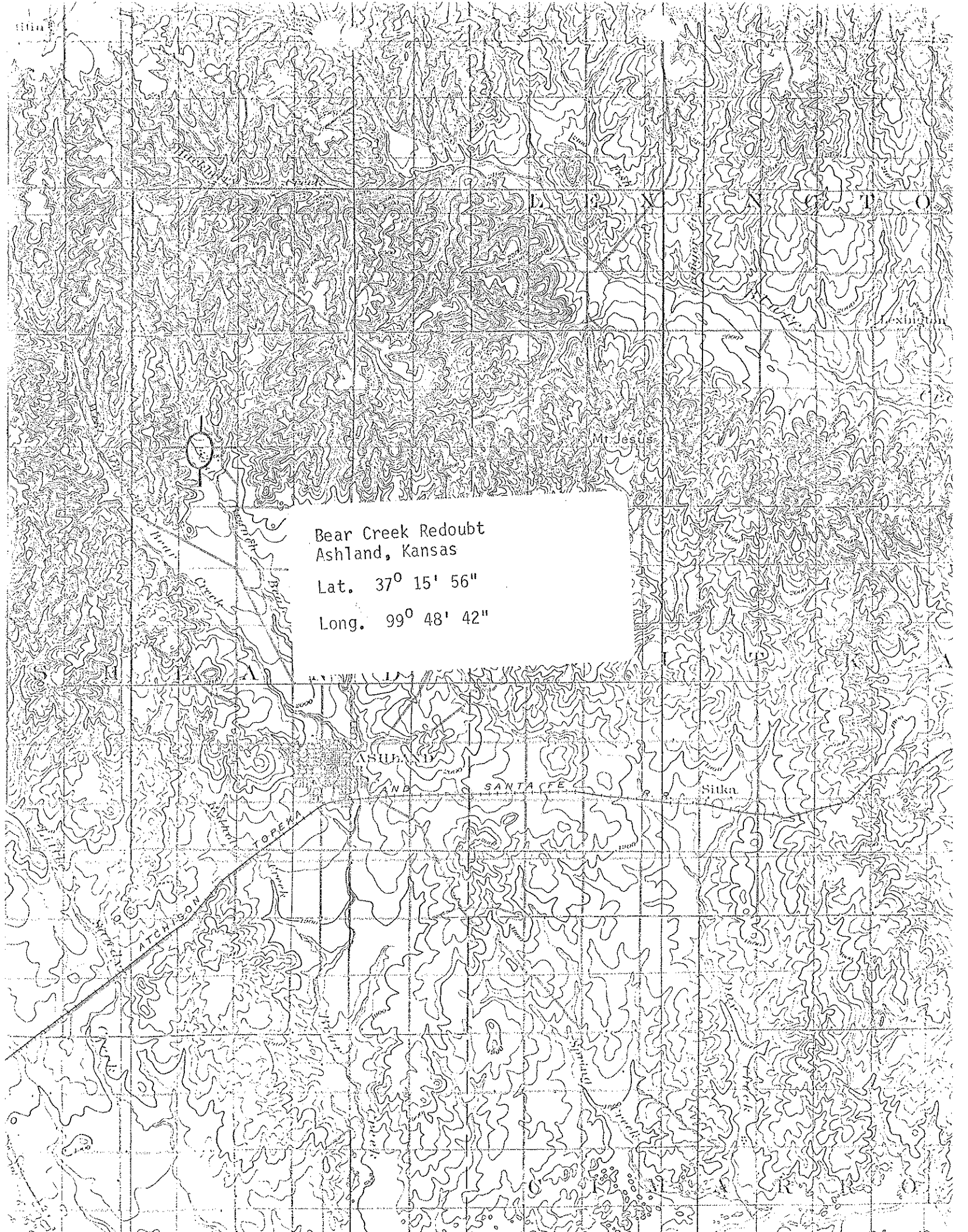


14CK303 FEATURES
 BEAR CREEK REDOUBT

Bear Creek Redoubt
 Ashland Vicinity

Sketch map prepared by Thomas P. Barr, Archeology Division, Kansas State Historical Society, 1975
 Not to scale

NOT TO SCALE



Bear Creek Redoubt
Ashland, Kansas

Lat. 37° 15' 56"

Long. 99° 48' 42"

ATCHISON

ASHLAND

SANTA FE

Sitka

Bear Creek

Walnut Creek

Atchison

Atchison

Atchison

Atchison

Atchison

Atchison

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

BEAR CREEK REDOUBT

The area encompassed by the site designation includes the visible above ground remains of the redoubt. This is a square enclosure approximately 75 feet on a side composed of low rounded walls three to four feet above the present ground surface. The western boundary of the site is defined by the bluff edge overlooking Bear creek. The south and east boundaries are measured to a point 300 feet from the centerline of the enclosure while the northern boundary is measured to a point 400 feet beyond the centerline.