

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

159-5968-0001
0000-0066

1. Name of Property

historic name Station Little Arkansas

other names/site number Camp Grierson, Military Camp, NPS Master Plan 88

2. Location

street & number 5 mi. s. of US 56 on FAS 443 & w. 3/4 mi. on gravel rd.¹ [n/a] not for publication

city or town Windom [X] vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Rice code 159 zip code 67491

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Ramon Powers SHPO 11.2.94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Kansas State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet [].

determined eligible for the
National Register
See continuation sheet [].

determined not eligible for the
National Register.

removed from the
National Register

other, explain
See continuation sheet [].

Signature of the Keeper

Date

Station Little Arkansas
Name of Property

Rice County, KS
County/State

Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail
Multiple Property Submission

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

DEFENSE/military facility
FUNERARY/graves/burials

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/
monument/marker

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A
walls N/A

roof N/A
other N/A

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Station Little Arkansas
Name of Property

Rice County, KS
County/State

Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail
Multiple Property Submission

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Archeology/Historic--non-aboriginal

Periods of Significance

1865-1867

Significant Dates

1865

1867

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Euro-American

Architect/Builder

N/A

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other:

Name of repository:

National Park Service Regional Office--
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Station Little Arkansas
Name of Property

Rice County, KS
County/State

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A. Zone	<u>14</u>	<u>592990</u> Easting	<u>4239740</u> Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
C. Zone	Easting	Northing		D. Zone	Easting	Northing
				[] See continuation sheet		

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title See Continuation Sheet, section 11
organization The URBANA Group date May 1993
street & number 202 South Broadway, Suite 206, P.O. Box 1028 telephone (217) 344-7526
city or town Urbana state IL zip code 61801-9028

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Wilmore Ekholm
street & number Rural Route telephone _____
city or town Windom state KS zip code 67491

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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2. Location

1. Unnamed gravel road is one mile north of FAS 445.

The Kansas Department of Transportation defines "FAS" in their road system designation as "Federal-Aid Secondary Highway System."

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Narrative Description

Station Little Arkansas is located south of the Lower Crossing of the Little Arkansas River and south of an unimproved road which separates sections 13 and 24 in T20S R6W, one mile north of FAS 445. The site contains four contributing resources: three burial depressions and an earthworks complex. The elevation of the site is approximately 1,520 feet above sea level with the terrain sloping slightly from west to east. To the west of the site is the tree-lined Little Arkansas River where some fluvial erosion of the river banks continues to take place especially at times of high water flow in the channel. The construction of an unimproved road to the north, and a private drive to the east, of the site has taken place.

The site contains an earthworks complex to the north where three semi-circular mounded areas can be identified near the Little Arkansas River. During Trail times, the earthworks may have been more extensive. Further archaeological investigation is required before the full extent of the structural remains can be evaluated. The existence of the military camp at this site is reinforced by physical characteristics of the site including the recovery of numerous cut square nails and spent lead shot. To the south, the site possesses three visible depressions believed to be former burial sites. The largest of these depressions measures 4.5 meters northwest to southeast and 2.5 meters northeast to southwest. Such a depression may have contained more than a single burial. The two other smaller depressions were 2.5 meters and 2 meters respectively in diameter. Additional irregularities in the landscape may represent other exhumed human remains while the potential for other human remains still buried at the site exists.

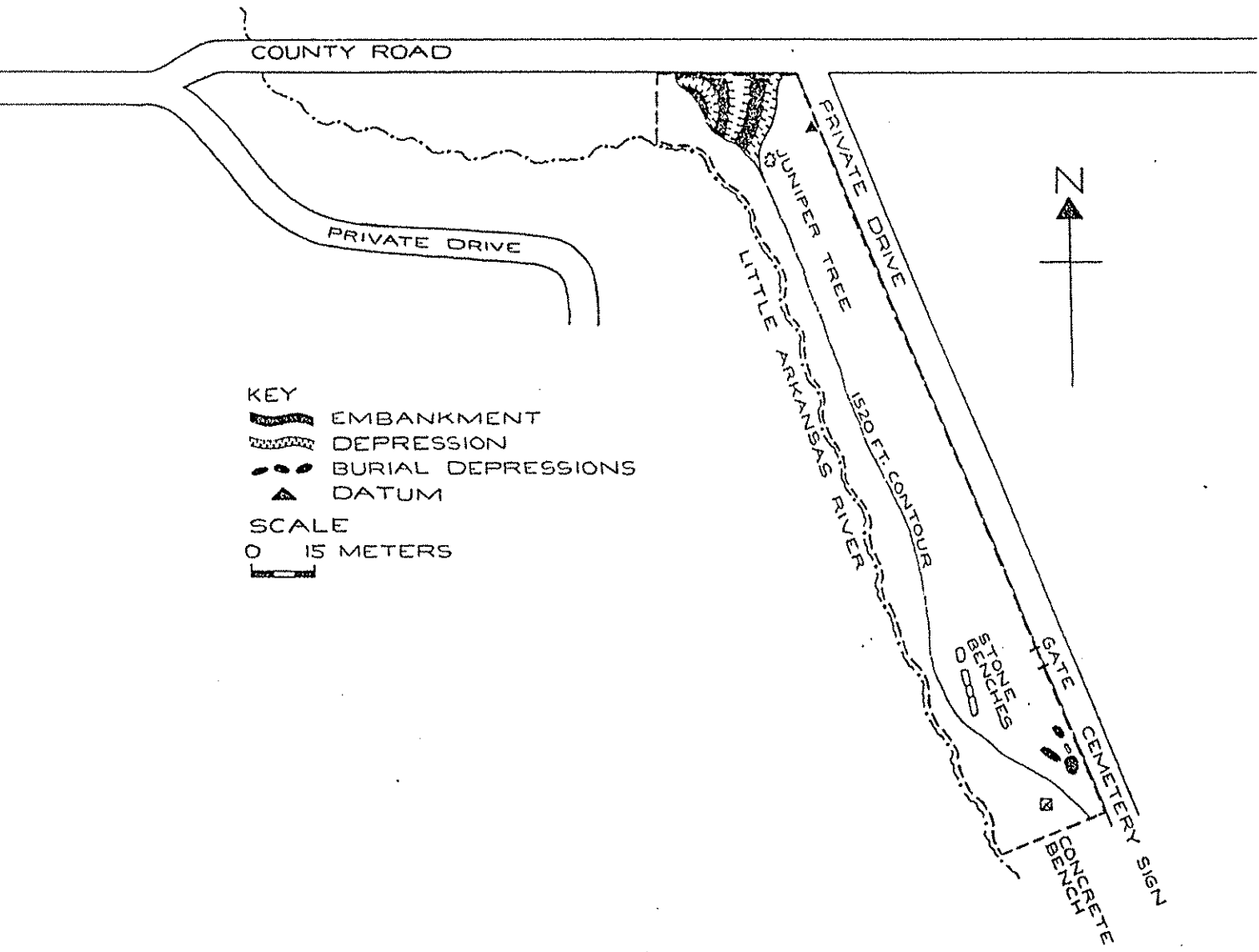
Minor site intrusions stemming from its current recreation/culture function include the placement of interpretive markers, by the landowner, to the north and south of the site. One marker describes the general history of local sites including the Little Arkansas River crossings, Santa Fe Trail ruts, Stone Corral, Camp Grierson, and the site's burials. A second marker cites the removal of fifteen human remains from this site to Fort Leavenworth. The site is enclosed by a wood post and wire fence while access to the site is gained by means of a metal gate southeast of the site. Several stone benches to the west of the gate and northwest of the burial depressions are intended for visitor use as is a concrete bench near the southern boundary of the site. Much of the site, with the exception of a narrow band of land along the river, was subject to cultivation. Currently, the site exhibits park-like setting and maintenance.

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Sketch Map



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Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

Station Little Arkansas is eligible to the National Register under Criterion A as a reflection of historically significant military activity along the Santa Fe Trail. The site is also eligible under Criterion D since it has the potential to yield information important in military history. The military camp fulfills the requirements of the Military Properties property type (Sub-type: Forts and Fortifications) as outlined in Section F of the Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880 Multiple Property Documentation form. The site is Trail-related since the purpose of the stationing soldiers here was to protect Santa Fe traders and trade principally from American Indian confrontation. The site retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association, and bears witness to the Trail's military history between 1865-1867. Station Little Arkansas materially reflects important historic events outlined in the Effects of the Civil War on the Santa Fe Trail, 1861-1865 historic context.

History

Station Little Arkansas was established astride the Santa Fe Trail and near the Little Arkansas River crossings of the Trail. The military camp was established, prior to April 29, 1865, by Captain Theodore Conkey and Company G, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.¹ Its establishment may have been related to the general American Indian uprising of 1864.² On May 8, 1865, Captain Carter Berkeley, Second U.S. Volunteer Infantry, relieved Conkey who went to Fort Larned while on May 21 of that same year, Berkeley's Company K, Second U.S. Volunteer Infantry relieved Company G, Third Wisconsin Cavalry.³ Reinforcements in the form of Company B and Company D, Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry arrived in mid-June with Captain Joel H. Shelly of the Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry taking command of the post.⁴

On June 30, 1865, three members of the Thirteenth Missouri Cavalry and a corporal of the Second Colorado Cavalry were killed in two separate confrontations with American Indians in the vicinity of the Little Arkansas River crossing.⁵ Other reports state that five men were killed.⁶ The three members of the thirteenth Missouri Cavalry killed were Private H. Hogan, Private James Jones, and Private(?) G. W. Norris and they were buried originally at Stone Corral at this site but their remains were later reinterred at Fort Leavenworth.⁷ An interpretive sign currently located at the site supports much of this information; it reads "Cottonwood Grove Cemetery--Fifteen soldiers were buried here. Remains were moved to Fort Leavenworth in 1888 or 1889. Soldiers killed by [American] Indians include; PVT James Jones, Died Jan. 15, 1866, PVT A. Hogan, Died June 30, 1865, G. W. Norris, Died June 30, 1865. All of the above were from Co. D 13th Mo. Cavalry--Twelve unknown soldiers." The main discrepancy with the previous account concerns the date of Private James Jones' death. Field work and historical research did not eliminate the possibility of other interred remains at the site. Previous

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archaeological investigation has demonstrated that unmarked graves have been frequently overlooked when a cemetery was moved.

Troops were withdrawn from this military camp in July 1865 as the possibility of American Indian confrontation subsided. Peace negotiations were held, and a preliminary agreement was made, with the Comanches, Kiowas, Arapahos, and Plains Apaches at the mouth of the Little Arkansas River in August 1865.⁸ Peace treaties were made with these tribes and the Cheyennes in mid-October and from that time until mid-1867, incidents involving American Indian confrontation were kept to a minimum. In the summer of 1867, Captain Edward Byrne and Company C, Tenth U.S. Cavalry, formally established Camp Grierson.⁹ Rice County pioneer George Hoffman, of Little River, recollected the existence of soldiers at this site in the late 1860s as he crossed the Little Arkansas River across the Santa Fe Trail.¹⁰ Troops were stationed at Camp Grierson from June until November 10, 1867 and no incidents of American Indian confrontation were recorded.¹¹ However, during July and August 1867, seventeen cases of cholera and eight deaths were reported among the predominantly African-American troops.¹²

Military camps often developed into more permanent military structures as in the case of Camp Mackay (Fort Atkinson), Camp Center (Fort Riley), and Camp Alert (Fort Larned). This evolution did not occur at Camp Grierson due to its short-lived, sporadic military occupancy, the decrease in American Indian confrontation, and the arrival of the railroad in the late 1860s. Despite partial cultivation, the site still retains the physical and environmental characteristics necessary for registration. Physical artifacts including cut square nails and spent lead shot have been recovered at the site. Earthworks are still visible and combined with its environmental characteristics, the site continues to convey a sense of the historic scene.

Station Little Arkansas has the potential to yield valuable information on military protection and material culture of activities along the Santa Fe Trail. Determining the specific significance of this site under Criterion D is difficult in the absence of a systematic archaeological survey and preliminary testing. The site did function as a component part of a system of military protection along the Trail. As this site contains intact deposits, artifacts dating to the period of significance, and reliable information identifying the site as a known Trail property, it meets the registration requirements for its property type under Criterion D.

Station Little Arkansas has the potential of yielding data sets involving building construction techniques, spatial relationships to other non-extant buildings in the site area, military life, and material culture. These data sets, if present, could be profitably used in a comparative fashion with other military sites along the Trail. Station Little Arkansas has the ability to address several important research questions. Site-specific questions involve the relationship of the camp to the Trail both spatially and militarily, the existence of other burial sites, the exact

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configuration of the military camp, and the vernacular construction techniques involved. More general research questions that could potentially be elucidated from this site include military transportation and protection of the Santa Fe Trail, military construction techniques employed during Trail times, and American Indian activities in the region. Through the presence of relatively undisturbed data sets capable of yielding information relevant to answering important research questions, Station Little Arkansas fulfills the requirements for eligibility under Criterion D in the area of archaeology/historic--non-aboriginal.

Endnotes

1. Louise Barry, "The Ranch at Little Arkansas Crossing," The Kansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXXVIII, No. 3, Autumn 1972, pp. 291-292.
2. Dean E. Wood, The Old Santa Fe Trail From The Missouri River, (Kansas City, Missouri: E. L. Mendenhall, Inc., 1955), p. 239.
3. Barry, p. 292.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid, pp. 292-293.
9. Ibid, p. 293.
10. Ibid, p. 291.
11. Ibid, p. 293.
12. Ibid.

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Bibliography

- Barry, Louise. "The Ranch at Little Arkansas Crossing." The Kansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXXVIII, No. 3, Autumn 1972, pp. 287-294.
- United States Department of the Interior/National Park Service. Santa Fe National Historic Trail: Comprehensive Management and Use Plan. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1990.
- Wood, Dean E. The Old Santa Fe Trail From The Missouri River. Kansas City, Missouri: E. L. Mendenhall, Inc., 1955.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Commencing at the point of intersection of the southern margin of the unimproved light-duty road and the western margin of the private drive, proceed southeast along the western margin of the private drive for approximately 185 meters. Continue the boundary in a southwesterly direction, perpendicular to the private drive, for approximately 35 meters until the eastern bank of the Little Arkansas River is reached. Follow the eastern bank of the river northeast until a point on the river bank 17 meters from the road. Continue the boundary for 17 meters, perpendicular to the road, from the river bank north to the southern margin of the road. Proceed along the southern margin of the road for approximately 33 meters and return to the point of origin. The use of the road margin as a boundary, contained within this nomination, presupposes the exclusion of the road's current publicly-designated rights-of-way.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries enclose an area of approximately two acres. Although the boundaries of the site are largely determined by man-made features of the physical environment and the extent of the site's historic resources, the eastern bank of the Little Arkansas River composes the western boundary of the site. The northern boundary was determined by the light-duty road while the eastern boundary was designated based on the location of a private drive just east of the site. To the south and the northwest, the site only includes the historic resources and their immediate environs.

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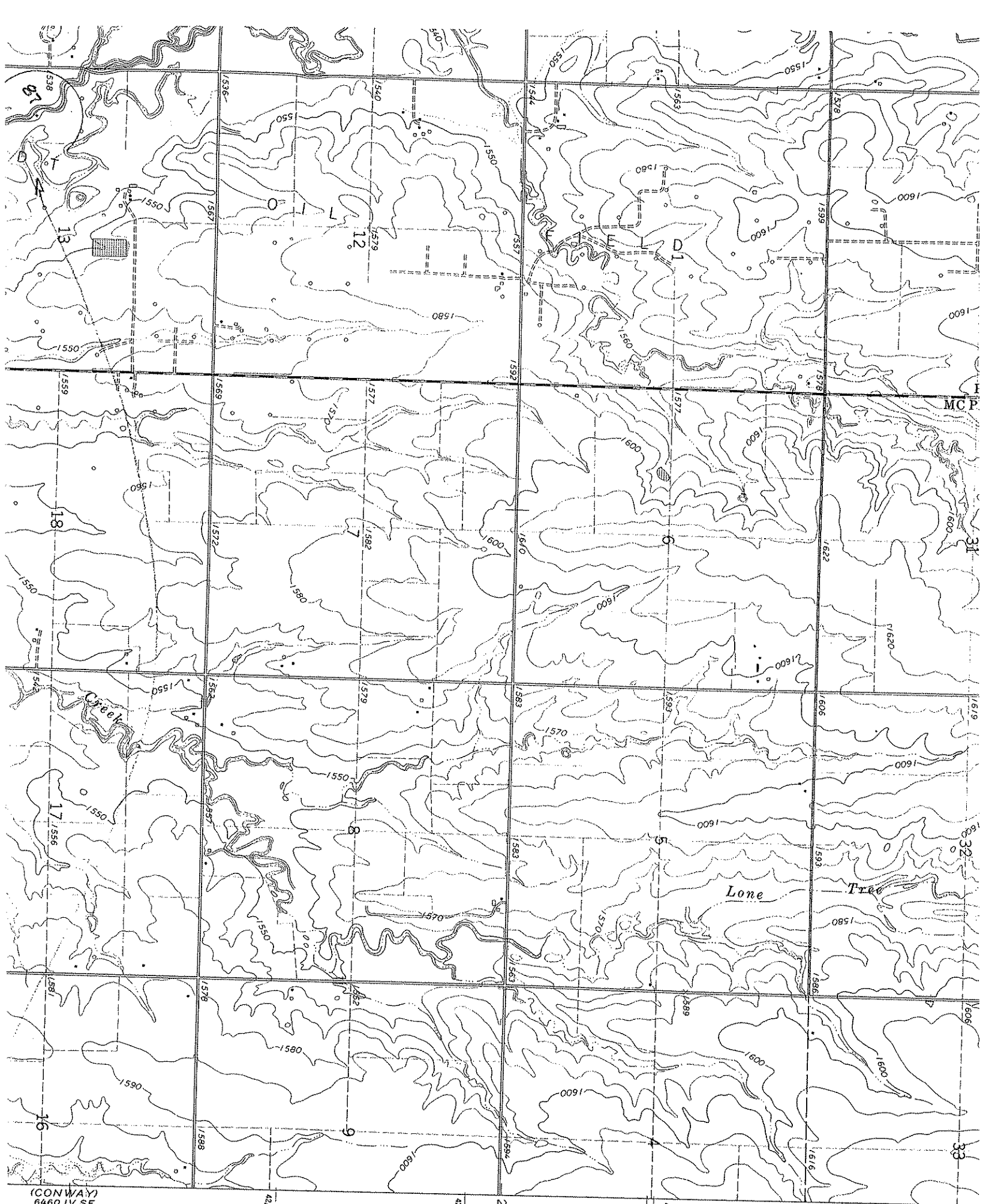
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Form Prepared By

For The URBANA Group:

Joseph Gallagher/Cultural Geographer
Writer

Archaeological Survey, University of Missouri-St. Louis
Colleen Hamilton and Brad Mueller/Historic Archaeologists
Field Work



#87: LITTLE ARKANSAS RIVER (UPPER) CROSSING
 & SOUTHERN RAILROAD (UPPER) CROSSING