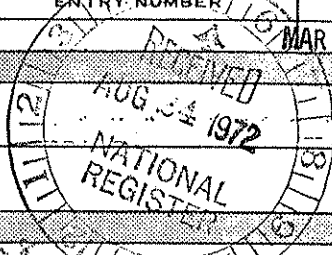


L 3-0000-001

# SELGEM NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Kansas
COUNTY:	Smith
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 26 1973



**1. NAME**

COMMON: "Home on the Range" Cabin

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: *about 1 1/2 miles NW of* 8 miles west of Smith Center on US-36, 8.2 miles north on K-8, 3/4 mile west on secondary roads. SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 7, T-2-S, R-14-W

CITY OR TOWN: Smith Center vicinity

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Kansas	66967	Smith	183

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: Peter A. Rust and Ellen M. Rust

STREET AND NUMBER: R.R.

CITY OR TOWN: Athol

STATE:	CODE
Kansas	20

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Smith County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Smith Center

STATE	CODE
Kansas	20

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas

DATE OF SURVEY: 1957  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kansas State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka

STATE:	CODE
Kansas	20

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Kansas
COUNTY:	Smith
ENTRY NUMBER	MAR 26 1973
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

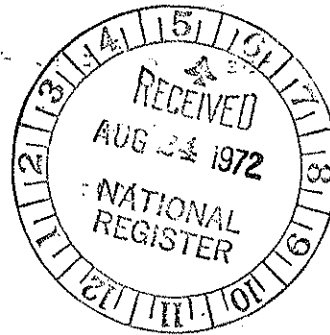
CONDITION

(Check One)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The "Home on the Range" cabin is a rectangular one story log structure. The logs are generally circular with the bark peeled off except that the logs on the cabin end are split face. The logs do not interlock at the corners. The simple gable roof is covered with wood shingles and has a narrow overhang on all sides. The gable end of the wall is constructed of logs set vertically. All openings for windows and doors are small, simple and rectangular. The supporting lintels are provided by one of the logs of the wall. The cabin was restored in the 1950's by a Smith Center civic club.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

State Kansas	
COUNTY Smith	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 26 1973

(Number all entries)

6. Federal Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration (1939)  
Federal  
Records destroyed. A guidebook, Kansas, was published in 1939.
  
9. Schmidt, Heinie, "Portrait of Man Who Wrote Kansas State Song...,"  
(Dodge City) High Plains Journal, June 23, 1949.  
Smith County Pioneer, March 18, 1948.  
Van Dyke, June, "But Over the Land the Song Lives On," Salina Journal,  
April 5, 1964.



**2. SIGNIFICANCE**

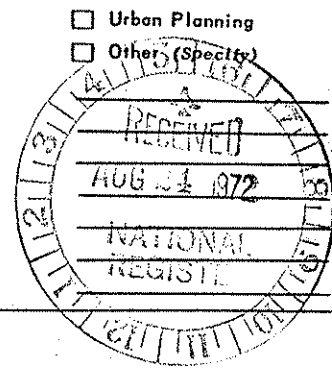
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1875**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The "Home on the Range" Cabin near Smith Center was built in 1875 by Dr. Brewster Higley. Dr. Higley, born November 30, 1823, at Rutland, Ohio, began the study of medicine at the age of 18, was graduated from the State Medical College of Indiana in 1848, and practiced medicine in the vicinity of La Porte, Indiana, for some time. Higley moved to Kansas about 1871 and established a homestead near Beaver Creek in Smith County, approximately ten miles northwest of Smith Center. Here he continued his practice of medicine, living in a dugout at first.

In the fall of 1872, Higley began a poem which provided the lyrics for the song "Home on the Range." He took the words to a friend, Dan Kelley, at Gaylord in Smith County, in 1873, and Kelley wrote music to fit the poem. The song, which was originally called "My Western Home," was first published in the Smith County Pioneer in 1873.

It is noteworthy that many people claimed authorship of the song. A half-million-dollar lawsuit in the 1930's, plus reports that it was Pres. Franklin Roosevelt's favorite song, drew attention to it and made it a popular hit. The Kansas legislature designated "Home on the Range" as the official state song in 1947.

The cabin built by Higley in 1875 still stands. It has often been erroneously referred to as the place where the song was written; however, at the time he composed the song Higley was living in the dugout. He and his family lived in the log cabin until the early 1880's when they moved to Smith Center. In 1886 he sold the homestead and moved to Van Buren, Arkansas.

The "Home on the Range" Cabin is important because of the nationally-known song written by Dr. Higley. The fact that it is now the official state song of Kansas adds to its significance and makes the cabin a more interesting landmark for Kansans to visit.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

"Dedication--'Home on the Range' Cabin," Sunday, July 25, 1954 (n.p., n.d.).  
 "Dr. Bruce Higley's Early Day Cabin Still Stands at Site on Beaver Creek,"  
 Smith Center Pioneer, September 26, 1946.  
 "History of Famous Song is Reviewed," Dodge City Globe, May 23, 1947.  
 Kansas City Star, September 20, 1949.  
 Mechem, Kirke, "The Story of Home on the Range," Kansas Historical Quarterly,  
 v. 17, no. 4 (November, 1949), pp. 313-339.  
 "Medical Ballad er," Medical Newsmagazine, May, 1960, pp. 157, 158.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	39	53	23
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Richard Pankratz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society DATE: March 8, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka STATE: Kansas 66612 CODE: 20

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION
<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Nyle H. Miller</u>  <u>Nyle H. Miller</u></p> <p>Title <u>Executive secretary, Kansas State Historical Society</u></p> <p>Date <u>Nov. 24, 1971</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert Van Utley</u>  <u>Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</u></p> <p>Date <u>3/26/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u>  <u>Keeper of the National Register</u></p> <p>Date <u>3/21/77</u></p>

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE		Kansas	
COUNTY		Smith	
FOR NPS USE ONLY			
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE		
	MAR 26 1973		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: "Home on the Range" Cabin  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 8 miles west of Smith Center on US-36, 8.2 miles north on K-8  
3/4 mile west on secondary roads. SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 7, T 2 S, R 14 W.

CITY OR TOWN: Smith Center vicinity

STATE:	Kansas 66967	CODE	20	COUNTY:	Smith	CODE	183
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Kansas State Historical Society Staff

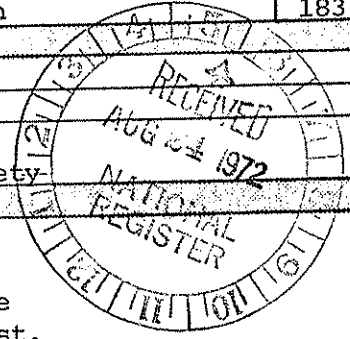
DATE OF PHOTO: 1960

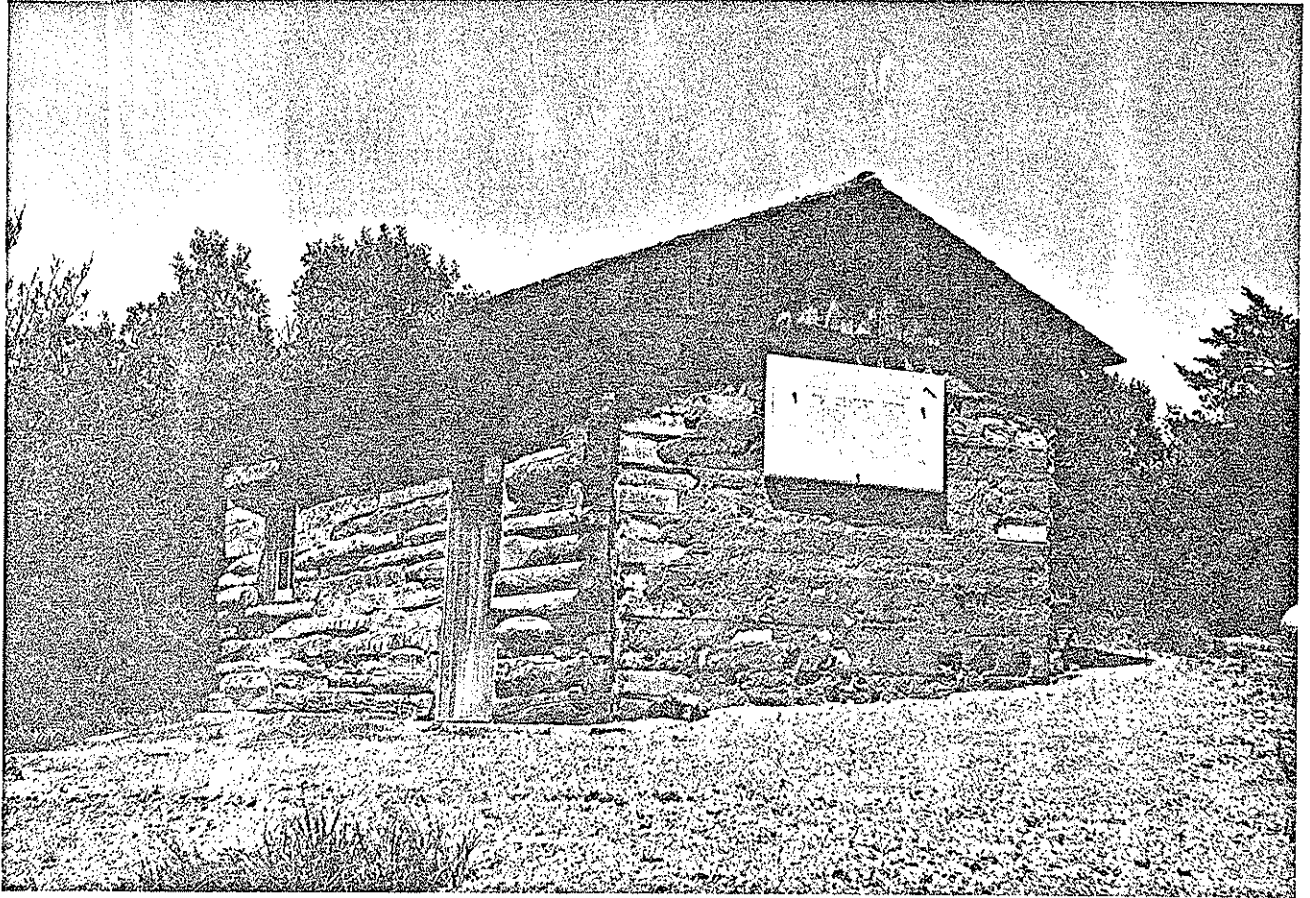
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Archives, Kansas State Historical Society

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View of east end and south front of the  
"Home on the Range" Cabin from southeast.





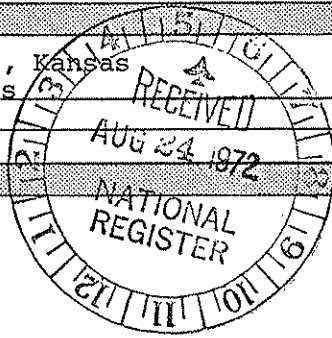
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Kansas	
COUNTY Smith	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON:		"Home on the Range" Cabin	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: 8 miles west of Smith Center on US-36, 8.2 miles north on K-8, 3/4 mile west on secondary roads. SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 7, T 2 S, R 14 W			
CITY OR TOWN: Smith Center vicinity			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Kansas 66967	20	Smith	183
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:		General Highway Map, Smith County, Kansas State Highway Commission of Kansas	
SCALE:		One inch: two miles	
DATE:		1962	
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property boundaries where required.</li> <li>North arrow.</li> <li>Latitude and longitude reference.</li> </ol>			





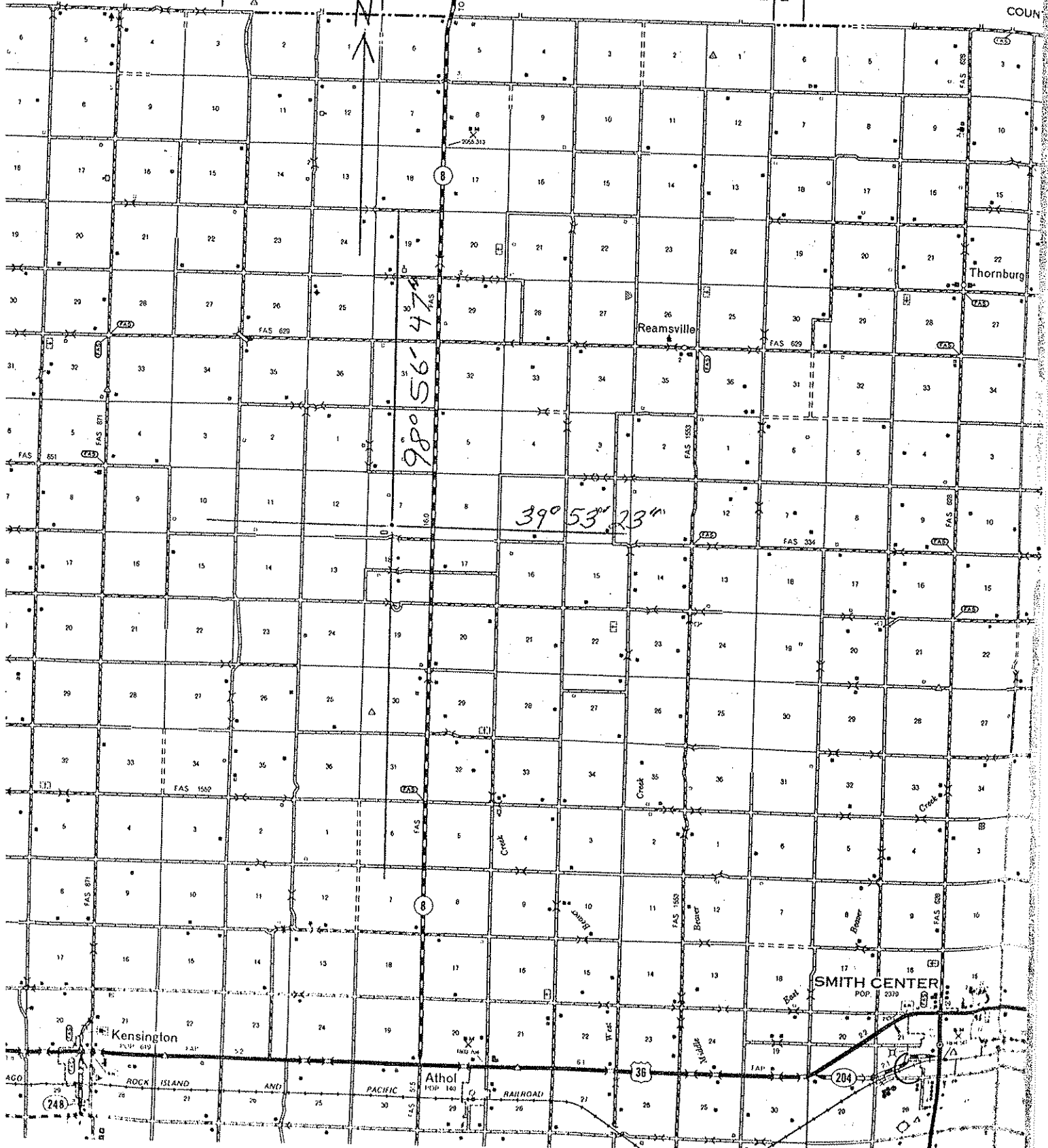
FRANKLIN

99° 00'

R 15 W  
R 14 W

R 14 W  
R 13 W  
98° 50'

NEBRASKA  
COUN



98° 56' 47"

39° 53' 23"

Thornburg

Reamsville

SMITH CENTER  
POP. 2310

Kensington  
POP. 619

Athol  
POP. 140

RAILROAD

ROCK ISLAND AND PACIFIC

(248)

36

204