**Selgem**

**National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form**

*(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)*

1. **Name**
   - **Common:** Grinter Place
   - **And/or Historic:**

2. **Location**
   - **Street and Number:** 1420 South 78th St.
   - **City or Town:** Muncie
   - **Congressional District:** no. 2, Bill Roy
   - **State:** Kansas
   - **Code:** 66111
   - **County:** Wyandotte
   - **Code:** 209

3. **Classification**
   - **Category (Check One):**
     - District
     - Building
     - Site
     - Structure
     - Object
   - **Ownership:**
     - Public
     - Private
     - Both
   - **Public Acquisition:**
     - In Process
     - Being Considered
   - **Status:**
     - Occupied
     - Unoccupied
     - Preservation work in progress
   - **Accessible to the Public:**
     - Yes:
     - Restricted
     - Unrestricted
     - No

4. **Owner of Property**
   - **Owner's Name:** State of Kansas
   - **Street and Number:** State Capitol
   - **City or Town:** Topeka
   - **State:** Kansas
   - **Code:** 66612

5. **Location of Legal Description**
   - **Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc.:** Register of Deeds
   - **Street and Number:** Wyandotte County Courthouse
   - **City or Town:** Kansas City
   - **State:** Kansas
   - **Code:** 20

6. **Representation in Existing Surveys**
   - **Title of Survey:** Survey of Historic Sites in Kansas
   - **Date of Survey:** 1957
   - **Federal**
   - **State**
   - **County**
   - **Local**
   - **Depository for Survey Records:** Kansas State Historical Society
   - **Street and Number:** 120 W. 10th
   - **City or Town:** Topeka
   - **State:** Kansas
   - **Code:** 66612
Grinter Place comprises about eight acres of land and the original residence built by Moses Grinter in 1857. The building, which sits at an angle facing southeast, is situated at the brow of a hill overlooking the Kansas river. It is two stories in height, the exterior of red, home-kilned brick, and all walls, interior and exterior, are of solid brick. In style it has been called a "colonial, southern type farm house," modeled after a Kentucky farmhouse built by Grinter's uncle in 1800.

The house has a separate kitchen connected to the main house by a "dog run" which in later years was enclosed. All rooms in the house are square and have about the same dimensions, approximately 18 feet by 18 feet. Upstairs there are two bedrooms plus the center hall; downstairs a parlor, dining room, central hall, and the detached kitchen. There are roofed porches on both the north and south fronts.

Interior construction is of native walnut and white pine. Millwork on the columns and cornice moldings was done in St. Louis. There are five fireplaces, three downstairs and two upstairs. They were designed with shallow fireboxes which expelled the heat into the room and throats which prevented the rooms from filling with smoke.
### Statement of Significance

Moses Grinter came to Cantonment Leavenworth in Kansas in 1828 and began operating the first ferry across the Kansas river in 1831, 23 years before Kansas was created as a territory and 30 years before statehood. Since the ferry was located on the Fort Leavenworth-Fort Scott military road laid out in 1842, it was vital to the military operations in Kansas. Many immigrants also used Grinter's ferry in the 1840's and 1850's on their way to California and Oregon.

The first Kansas post office, other than those at military posts, was established September 10, 1850 at this site. At first called Delaware, it was renamed Secondine on February 1, 1856.

Grinter operated a trading post at the landing from 1855 to 1860 and built a log cabin where he and his half-Delaware wife lived until 1857, when the brick house was completed. The house is said to be the oldest house standing in Wyandotte county.

Moses Grinter was the first permanent white settler in what is now Wyandotte county and one of the earliest in Kansas. His ferry operation was important to the military, to the westward movement, and to the commercial development of Kansas and the West.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hanson, Harry E., compiler, *A Historical Outline of Grinner Place from 1825 to 1878* (1963).


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>39° 4', 30&quot;</td>
<td>94° 45', 37&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>39° 4', 31&quot;</td>
<td>94° 45', 28&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>39° 4', 26&quot;</td>
<td>94° 45', 23&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>39° 4', 21&quot;</td>
<td>94° 45', 25&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 8

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

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Richard Pankratz, Historic Sites Survey Director

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society

DATE: Oct., 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 W. 10th

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka

STATE: Kansas CODE 66612

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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:

National [ ] State [x] Local [ ]

Name: Nyle H. Miller

Title

Date Sent to NR: 10/12/70

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

DATE

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register
6. cont.

Historic American Building Survey

1966 federal

Library of Congress
Washington, D. C. 08

9. cont.
