

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Kansas</b>
COUNTY: <b>Linn</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>DEC 12 1973</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Battle of Mine Creek Site**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Two and one-half miles southwest of Pleasanton (see continuation sheet)**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Pleasanton vicinity**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**Cong. Joe Skubitz, No. 5**

STATE:  
**Kansas 66075**

CODE: **20**

COUNTY:  
**Linn**

CODE: **107**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" 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 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) _____ _____
Comments: _____			

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Multiple Private**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Linn County Courthouse**

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:  
**Mound City Kansas 66056 20**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

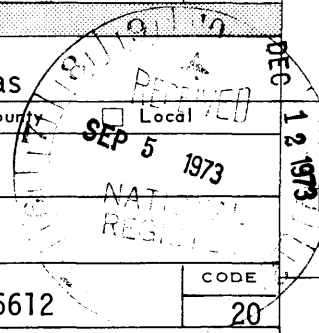
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**A Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1957**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Kansas State Historical Society**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**120 West Tenth**

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: <b>Kansas</b>
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DATE

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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 Battle of Mine Creek was fought over the fields and pastures of pioneer Kansas farmers in 1864. The area has remained rural and continues to be used for agricultural purposes. Parts of three farmsteads are included in the 180 acres being nominated.

Generally speaking, Mine Creek runs from west to east through the area but makes a 45 degree bend to the south about midway through the battle site. The land along the course of the creek has always been fairly overgrown with brush; however, it probably has more trees and shrubs today than at the time of the battle. Contemporary accounts refer to grassy prairie land on either side of the creek. These flat areas are today tilled fields. The area has been fenced and at least one farm pond has been dug.

The old road leading from Trading Post to Fort Scott divided both north and south of Mine Creek and crossed it at three different fords. Two of the fords are still visible, and then as now the creek is practically impassable elsewhere because of the steep bluffs forming the creek banks. Evidences of the old road are also visible in places.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **October 25, 1864**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Battle of Mine Creek was the <sup>✓</sup>only major Civil War battle fought on Kansas soil between uniformed troops of the Union and the Confederacy. Occurring on October 25, 1864, the engagement was a decisive factor in the failure of Price's raid.

In the spring and summer months of 1864, the situation of the Union armies was grim. In the east heavy losses had been incurred in the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania and Cold Harbor, while in the west campaigns in Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas had failed, allowing the Confederate troops to take the offensive.

Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, who had been placed in command of the Confederate District of Arkansas in March, 1864, thought the time was right for an all-out invasion of Missouri. In an order issued by Maj. Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith on August 4, 1864, at the headquarters of the Confederate Trans-Mississippi department, Price was authorized to invade Missouri. Smith stated the purpose of the raid:

"Rally the loyal men of Missouri, and remember that our great want is men. . . . Make St. Louis the objective point of your movement, which, if rapidly made, will put you in possession of that place, its supplies, and military stores, and which will do more toward rallying Missouri to your standard than the possession of any other point. Should you be compelled to withdraw from the State, make your retreat through Kansas and the Indian Territory, sweeping that country of its mules, horses, cattle, and military supplies of all kinds. . . ."

Price's forces of some 12,000 entered Missouri on September 19. Union troop concentrations at St. Louis caused Price to change his target first to Pilot Knob, where his forces suffered a defeat on September 27, and then to the state capital, Jefferson City, which he reached on October 7. Erroneously believing himself outnumbered by that city's defenders, Price decided to push on toward Kansas. He faced growing opposition and continuing harassment as he moved westward.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Battles and Leaders of the Civil War (New York, Thomas Yoseloff, Inc., 1956), vol. 4, pp. 376, 377.  
 Blackmar, Frank W., editor, Kansas, A Cyclopedia of State History (Chicago, Standard Publishing Co., 1912), vol. 2, pp. 285, 286.  
 Britton, Wiley, The Civil War on the Border (New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1904), pp. 489-496.  
 Castel, Albert, General Sterling Price and the Civil War in the West (Baton Rouge, La., Louisiana State University Press, 1968).  
 Crawford, Samuel J., Kansas in the Sixties (Chicago, A. C. McClurg and Co., 1911), pp. 157-182.

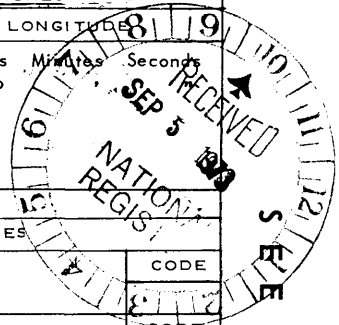
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38° 08' 28"	94° 43' 55"				
NE	38° 08' 28"	94° 43' 21"				
SE	38° 07' 54"	94° 43' 21"				
SW	38° 07' 54"	94° 43' 55"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **180**

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Richard Pankratz, Planner**

ORGANIZATION: **Kansas State Historical Society**      DATE: **June 28, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **120 West Tenth Street**

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

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  Local

Name Nyle H. Miller  
 Nyle H. Miller

Title Exec. Dir., Kans. State Hist. Soc.

Date August 30, 1973

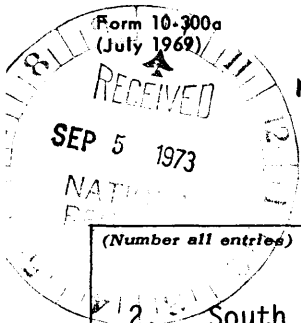
NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connelly  
 Associate Director, Professional Services  
 Date DEC 12 1973

ATTEST:

Conrad Smith  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date 12-11-73



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Kansas	
COUNTY	Linn	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	DEC 12	1973

(Number all entries)

1.

- 2. South 60 acres of SW 1/4 Sec. 12, T 22 S, R 24 E.  
NW 1/4 NW 1/4 Sec. 13, T 22 S, R 24 E  
E 1/2 NW 1/4 Sec. 13, T 22 S, R 24 E

- 8. On October 8 the governor of Kansas, Thomas Carney, issued a proclamation calling out the state militia along the eastern border at the request of Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, commanding the Department of Kansas. In response to the call 12,622 men assembled at six locations in eastern Kansas.

Price's movement across Missouri was contested by regular Union forces. The Battle of the Big Blue near Independence, Mo., on October 22 was a victory for the Confederates as the Union forces were compelled to withdraw to previously prepared lines of fortifications. On the following day the Battle of Westport was fought. Price's attack was stopped and the Confederates forced to retreat southward. The Union forces under Generals Curtis and Pleasanton were in pursuit on the 24th. Contact was made that night near Trading Post, Kan. At 4 a.m. on the 25th the Union forces began a general advance.

The Battle of Mine Creek was forced because Price's supply train, which he was determined to save, had because of its slow movement blocked troop passage across the fords of Mine Creek. The troops defending the withdrawal of the supply train had no choice but to form a defensive line and fight. A fierce Union charge and about 20 minutes of brutal close quarter fighting resulted in a Confederate rout. Since the creek was impassable except at the fords and the Southern forces had to retreat along one narrow road, a tremendous pileup of men, horses and wagons occurred at the ford. In an area of only a few acres at the bend of the creek 300 Confederates were killed or wounded and about 900 were captured, including Generals Marmaduke and Cabell. Price and his officers could not rally the defeated Southern forces until they had fled miles further south. That night on the banks of the Marmaton river near Fort Scott, Price was forced to destroy his supply train. And because of his defeat at Mine Creek and the continuing Union pressure, he could not carry out his intended attack on Fort Scott, which had large quantities of needed supplies.

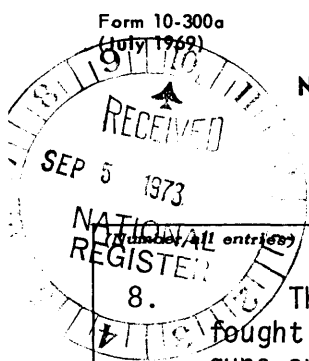
Price's raid failed to attain any of its major objectives. In his report he claimed to have captured and paroled more than 3,000 Federal officers and men, seized large quantities of supplies and stores of all kinds, destroyed many miles of railroad track and burned depots and bridges, all this property amounting to no less than \$10,000,000, and added 5,000 recruits to the Confederate army. His loses were put at 1,000 men, 10 pieces of artillery and 1,000 small arms. No mention was made in his report of the hundreds of wagons and horses and the tons of ammunition and supplies which were abandoned or had to be destroyed in the retreat.

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Kansas	
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2.

8. The Battle of Mine Creek was the only important Civil War battle fought in Kansas. Its major significance in addition to the prisoners, guns and other materials captured was that Price was forced out of Kansas and was unable to carry out his intended attack on Fort Scott. It was the conclusive battle of the Price raid after Westport, and it was probably the last significant battle of the Civil War in the trans-Mississippi area.

The area being nominated has been identified by local historians through the use of various battle accounts, old soldiers' written reminiscences, diaries, land records, and other sources as being the site of the major fighting of the battle. The Linn County Historical Society is working on plans for the acquisition of the 180 acres and restoration of the area to its 1864 condition, including reconstruction of the buildings which stood on the site at that time.

9. Hinton, Richard J., Rebel Invasion of Missouri and Kansas (Chicago, Church and Goodman, 1865), pp. 196-217.  
History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, A. T. Andreas, 1883), p. 1107.  
 Langsdorf, Edgar, "Price's Raid and the Battle of Mine Creek," Kansas Historical Quarterly, v. 30, no. 3 (Autumn, 1964), pp. 281-306.  
 Mitchell, William Ansel, Linn County, Kansas (Kansas City, Campbell-Gates, 1928), pp. 121, 307-311.  
 Pomeroy, Fletcher, Diary, Manuscript Division, Kansas State Historical Society.  
 Reader, Samuel J., Autobiography, pp. 87-89. Manuscript Division, Kansas State Historical Society.