

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

AUG - 5 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)

Other names/site number: 5KW.28

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: Intersection of County Road 54 (Chief White Antelope Way) and County Road W

City or town: Eads State: CO County: Kiowa

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,


I hereby certify that this X 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.

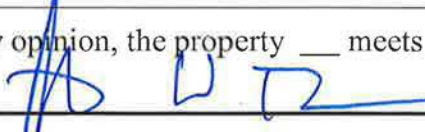
In my opinion, the property X meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

X national     statewide     local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A     B     C X D

	<u>8/4/16</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>FPO - NPS</u>	Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <u>   </u> meets <u>   </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
	<u>7/19/16</u>
Signature of commenting official: <u>JHPO</u>	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

*by Barbara Weyall*  
Signature of the Keeper

9-19-12  
Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:   
Public – Local   
Public – State   
Public – Federal

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**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC/Camp
- OTHER/Massacre Site
- DEFENSE/Battle Site
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

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**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE/Agricultural Field

LANDSCAPE/Natural Features

AGRICULTURE/Irrigation Facility

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: N/A

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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**Summary Paragraph**

This nomination amendment proposes the addition of land historically associated with the Sand Creek Massacre to the original National Register listing of the site. This 640-acre section is directly contiguous to existing land managed by the National Park Service as the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site. The section is included in the authorized boundary of the National Historic Site as defined by Congress in 2000; however, the Colorado State Land Board retained ownership until October 2015, when the property transferred to the National Park Service. No development has occurred on the site since 1864, with the exception of a stock tank, windmill, and well associated with stock grazing. The entirety of the section is surrounded by four-strand barbed wire.

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## **Narrative Description**

### **Setting**

This property is located approximately thirteen miles east and three miles north of Eads, Colorado. Access from Eads, the Kiowa County seat, is by traveling east on State Highway 96 until it intersects with County Road 54 (Chief White Antelope Way). Driving north approximately six miles on County Road 54, an unpaved secondary road, the visitor reaches the southwest corner of the subject property. One mile north of this point is County Road W, which forms the property's northern boundary.

As described in the original nomination, the site lies within the High Plains section of the Great Plains-Palouse Dry Steppe Province eco-region. It features gently rolling topography, with elevations in the entirety of the district ranging from 3950' to 4050'. Soils include Valent-Vorrid complex 1 to 15 percent slopes (59.8 percent), Olney loamy sand 0 to 3 percent slopes (24.1 percent), and Valent loamy sand, 1 to 15 percent slopes (10.4 percent). As presented in the Colorado State Land Board's analysis regarding disposition of the site, the parcel contains high-quality Lesser Prairie Chicken habitat as well as good vegetation diversity and the presence of the great horned owl and golden eagle.<sup>1</sup>

### **Relationship to Previous Boundary**

As stated in the 2001 National Register nomination,

The [nomination] boundary of the Sand Creek Massacre site covers approximately 11.5 sections (7,680 acres) of land in Township 17 South, Ranges 45 and 46 West, Kiowa County, Colorado. This includes all or portions of Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23, 24, and 25 of Township 17 South, Range 46 West; and Sections 19, 29, 30, 31, and 32 of Township 17 South, Range 45 West. Encircling the site of a running engagement, this boundary extends approximately 5 ½ miles in length and two miles in width, distances that correspond with first-hand descriptions given by participants in the massacre.

The previous boundary encompassed the Cheyenne and Arapaho village site, sandpits area, area of the villagers' flight, and the point from which Colonel John M. Chivington and his troops launched their attack. The subject section, Section 36 of Township 17 South, Range 46 West, is directly contiguous, with Section 36 being adjacent to the west of Section 31 of Township 17 South, Range 45 West. With the section's recent acquisition by the National Park Service, the parcel will now enter under management of the National Historic Site.

The locational information for the boundaries of the entire amended National Register district are as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> The Civil War Preservation Trust, State Historical Fund Grant Application 2016-01-018 [for "Sand Creek Battlefield Adjacent Site Acquisition"], Mar 2015, on file with the State Historical Fund, History Colorado, Denver, CO.

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13;712008mE 4275121mN (NAD 83 UTM)  
13;716817mE 4275253mN  
13;716898mE 4272035mN  
13;720269mE 4268926mN  
13;720310mE 4267308mN  
13;715407mE 4267181mN  
13;715344mE 4268727mN  
13;716979mE 4268808mN  
13;712035mE 4273504mN

PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 10 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 11 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 12 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 13 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 14 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 15 NE | NE NE | N NW NW | SE NW NW | N SE  
NW | SE SE NW | N NW SE | SE NW SE | NE SE | N SE SE | SE SE SE  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 23 NE | NE NW | N NW NW | SE NW NW | N  
SE NW | SE SE NW | N NW SE | SE NW SE | NE SE | N SE SE | SE SE SE  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 24 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 46W Section 25 NE | NE NW | N NW NW | SE NW NW | N SE  
NW | SE SE NW | N NW SE | SE NW SE | NE SE | N SE SE | SE SE  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 45W Section 19 SW | S NW NW | NW NW NW | SW NW | S  
SW NW | NW SW NW | SW SE | S NW SE | NW NW SE | S SE SE | NW SE SE  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 45W Section 29 SW | S NW NW | NW NW NW | SW NW | S SW  
NW | NW SW NW | SW SE | S NW SE | NW NW SE | S SE SE | NW SE SE  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 45W Section 30 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 45W Section 31 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 45W Section 32 All  
PM 6th Township 17S Range 45W Section 36 All  
[U.S.G.S quadrangle maps: North of Chivington and North of Brandon ]

The total revised acreage is: 8116.828.

**School Section (contributing site)**

The first formal archaeological survey dates to 1997 in partnership between Fort Lewis College, the National Park Service, Oklahoma Historical Society, and Colorado Historical Society (now History Colorado), funded in part through the Colorado State Historical Fund. Subsequent work, particularly in 1999, to locate the massacre site is described in the original nomination and therefore not repeated here, but study has continued since this time through historical research, oral histories (particularly those of descendants), traditional tribal methods, and limited archaeological survey. Research included investigation of written reports, diaries, reminiscences of those present, maps, aerial photography, and land records. The participation and contribution

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of descendants of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, Northern Cheyenne Tribe, and Northern Arapaho Tribe throughout the process has been particularly invaluable.

Major artifacts found in the Study Area and original National Register boundary, broadly speaking, in 1997 and 1999 relate to firearms and munitions, military equipment, personal items, camp equipage and utensils, tools, horse tack, harness, horse equipage, fasteners, and miscellaneous artifacts (see original nomination). Investigation has included focus on the distance traveled by Chivington's troops and their route of approach from Old Fort Lyon.<sup>2</sup> To date, conclusions drawn include:

1. The majority of artifacts are types that were in use in 1864 and are comparable to goods given or acquired by the Cheyenne and Arapaho in the years immediately preceding and immediately after the massacre;
2. The internal evidence that the camp material was intentionally destroyed; and
3. The arms and ammunition evidence that combat occurred at this site and that the armament artifacts are consistent with those carried by the Colorado Volunteer Cavalry units that participated in the massacre.<sup>3</sup>

It is anticipated that future archaeological investigation will yield similar artifacts.

**Stock Well (noncontributing structure, 2014)**

One 50' aquifer-fed stock well (Permit 284444, Nov 2010) existed on the section, per the Records of the State Water Engineer. First put into use on December 31, 1956, this well, located 333' north and 2200' east of the section lines, was abandoned and plugged in December 2014.<sup>4</sup> A new pump and well (Permit 284444-A) was installed in September 2014 at the same location. According to an analysis and summary of the National Park Service's water rights as prepared by the National Park Service's Division of Water Resources, "commercial and stock water supply wells are exempt from water rights administration in Colorado and are not administered under the priority system."<sup>5</sup> The well is considered noncontributing as it does not relate to the proposed areas of significance and is outside of the stated period of significance.

**Windmill (noncontributing structure, ca. 1956)/Water tank with solar pump (noncontributing structure, 2014)**

The windmill pump in the north-central portion of the site is abandoned, having been replaced with a solar pump that fills the stock tank adjacent to the well. A small pond of water is formed

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<sup>2</sup> Pamela Holtman, Sand Creek Massacre Site National Register of Historic Places nomination (Mar 2001), on file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History Colorado, Denver.

<sup>3</sup> Holtman, Section 7, p. 14.

<sup>4</sup> Records of the Office of the State Engineer (accessed 16 Feb 2016). No water rights are the subject of this nomination.

<sup>5</sup> Gwen Gerber, *Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site: Water Rights Assessment*, Draft (Natural Resource Stewardship & Science, Water Resources Division, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Jan 2016) 2.

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around this tank, which overflows due to the lack of a float device.<sup>6</sup> The windmill and water tank with solar pump are considered noncontributing as they do not relate to the proposed areas of significance and are outside of the stated period of significance.

### **Gas Meter Station (noncontributing structure, ca. 1974)**

In the western portion of the site are two adjacent and related small fenced areas with a natural gas pipeline valve site and blow-risers, partially re-vegetated. The gas meter station is considered noncontributing as it does not relate to the proposed areas of significance and is outside of the stated period of significance.

### **Small-Scale Features**

Other small-scale features on site are remnants of previous and ongoing agricultural use for grazing, to wit the four-strand barbed wire fencing around the entire section perimeter and traces of stock movement towards the well. There also exist two marked underground natural gas pipelines (southeast to northwest trending transecting central portion of the site), installed respectively in 1947 (20") and 1974 (4").<sup>7</sup>

### **Integrity**

None of these features or noncontributing resources relate to the significance of the site, but do not detract overly from it. Ultimately, the section has changed very little since November 29, 1864 and exhibits an extremely high degree of integrity of feeling, setting, association, and location. The section has effectively been used only for grazing since 1864.

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<sup>6</sup> Gerber 9.

<sup>7</sup> Terracon Consultants, Inc., *Phase I Environmental Site Assessment: Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Tract 101-13 Section 36, Township 17 South, Range 46 West 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian Eads, Kiowa County, CO*, Prepared for National Park Service (Santa Fe: Oct 2014) 14.

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## 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ETHNIC HERITAGE/Native American

MILITARY

ARCHAEOLOGY/Historic Aboriginal

**Period of Significance**

1864

**Significant Dates**

November 28-30, 1864

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

Northern Arapaho Tribe of Wind River Reservation, Wyoming

Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Lame Deer, Montana

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

This additional section of land, acquired in October 2015 by the National Park Service, is located within the authorized boundaries of the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site and contributes significantly to its cultural landscape. Dr. Alexa Roberts, Superintendent, has described how it was across this parcel on the night of November 28, 1864 that Army troops halted after their night-long march from Fort Lyon and, upon word from scouts that the Cheyenne and Arapaho village lay two miles north, dropped their excess gear and prepared for attack. Roberts continued:

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This section of land provides the first interpretive opportunity that visitors to the site encounter as they approach the park on the main access road. The parcel offers one of the few high points on the plains landscape from which the visitors' first panoramic view contributes immeasurably to an understanding of the Army's route of approach to the tribal encampment and from which they may orient themselves to the distances and geography involved in the unprovoked attack.<sup>8</sup>

The proposed boundary increase strongly contributes to the national significance of the Sand Creek Massacre Site under Criteria A and D in the areas of Military, Ethnic Heritage: Native American, and Historic Aboriginal Archaeology:

The site of the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A because it is associated with a nationally significant event that profoundly influenced Indian-white relations on the western frontier during the last half of the nineteenth century, had devastating effects upon Cheyenne and Arapaho familial and social structures, and was a catalyst for years of ensuring U.S. Army-Indian warfare throughout the central plains. The Sand Creek Massacre also represents, in its broadest sense, the tragic extremes sometimes reached in the 500 years of conflict between Native Americans and people of European and other origins concerning the land that now comprises the United States (...) Since the day it happened, the Sand Creek Massacre has maintained its station as one of the most emotionally charged and controversial events in American history, a tragedy reflective of its time and place. A watershed event in U.S. Government/Indian relations, the Sand Creek Massacre created a climate of enormous distrust, and the months following the massacre witnessed an eruption of warfare throughout the plains that would last for years (...) In addition, the Sand Creek Massacre severely impacted the Cheyenne and Arapaho people and their ethnic homelands, the effects of which have had far-reaching repercussions that linger to this day. For both peoples, the site of the Sand Creek Massacre comprises sacred ground, consecrated by the blood of lost forbears and venerated today by descendants and friends of those who died, as well as those who survived (...) The Sand Creek Massacre site (...) is also eligible (...) under Criterion D because it is [sic] has yielded information supporting, in broad terms, oral tradition and historical documentation. In addition, it is likely to yield new information regarding U.S. military and American Indian conflicts. While the official period of significance for the Sand Creek Massacre site is the year 1864, the massacre affected American Indian/U.S. Army relations in the West through the Battle of the Little Big Horn and beyond.<sup>9</sup>

The nomination amendment will focus principally on movement across this parcel, deferring to the original listing for the Sand Creek Massacre site for additional detail.

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<sup>8</sup> Letter, Alexa Roberts, Superintendent, to Steve Turner, Vice President of Preservation Programs, History Colorado, dated 20 Mar 2015, included in The Civil War Preservation Trust, State Historical Fund Grant Application 2016-01-018 [for "Sand Creek Battlefield Adjacent Site Acquisition,] March 2015, on file with the State Historical Fund, History Colorado, Denver, CO.

<sup>9</sup> Holtman, Sect. 8, p. 23-24.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Congress enacted the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Study Act of 1998, directing the National Park Service (NPS) to complete a comprehensive analysis of the site. Published as *Sand Creek Massacre Project, Volume One: Site Location Study, Sand Creek Massacre Project, Volume Two: Special Resource Study and Environmental Assessment*, and, for a broader audience, *Finding Sand Creek: History, Archaeology, and the 1864 Massacre Site*, the study identified the location and extent of the area in which the 1864 massacre took place and confirmed its national significance. The study culminated in designation of the site as a unit of the National Park Service on November 7, 2000, when Congress enacted the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Establishment Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-465).

The purpose of the Act was first to recognize the Sand Creek Massacre as a nationally significant element of frontier military and Native American history and as a symbol of the struggles of Native American tribes to maintain their way of life on ancestral land. Secondly, the Act authorized the Secretary of the Interior, on acquisition of sufficient land, to establish the site of the Sand Creek Massacre as a National Historic Site. Finally, the Act mandates partnership between the National Park Service, Tribes, and State of Colorado (as History Colorado) to consult in the development of general management plans and interpretation for the National Historic Site.

The Act identified 12,480 acres in Kiowa County as the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site's authorized boundary. The National Register boundary increase proposed in this amendment documentation reflects acquisition of 640 acres from the Colorado State Land Board in October 2015 within that authorized boundaries and contiguous to the other +/-2400 acres of land acquired by the National Park Service between 1998 and present. The total acreage of the National Historic Site is thus 3025 acres. For broader understanding, the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Study Area comprised 34,387.61 acres. Prior to acquisition of this section, the National Park Service managed 2,388.62 acres in the Massacre's Core Area.

Sand Creek is listed in the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report, completed in 1993 by a 15-member Commission established by Congress to identify the most historically significant Civil War sites. Out of the nearly 10,000 battles and skirmishes of the war, the report identified 384 principal battlefields worthy of preservation.<sup>10</sup>

The Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site opened for public visitation on June 1, 2007.

### **Staging the Massacre**

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<sup>10</sup> *Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*, prepared for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate Committee on Natural Resources, United States House of Representatives, The Secretary of the Interior, by the Staff of the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission c/o National Park Service. 1993. <http://www.nps.gov/abpp/cwsac/cws0-1.html> (accessed 16 Feb 2016).

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As researched and analyzed by historian Jeff C. Campbell on behalf of the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Colonel John M. Chivington ultimately led a force to the massacre composed of 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Cavalry troops, about 675 soldiers. Chivington, accompanied by Colonel George Laird Shoup and First Lieutenant Luther Wilson, arrived at Old Fort Lyon (also known as Fort Wise) on November 28, 1864 with about 800 soldiers. Shoup commanded Morgan's Company C battery consisting of two 12-pound mountain howitzers and a detachment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Colorado Volunteers, also known as the 100 Days Regiment, comprised of a total of about 425 men.<sup>11</sup> The second battery of two howitzers was Baldwin's Company D, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment from Fort Lyon. Companies D, G, and K, all detachments of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment and known as the "Fort Lyon Battalion," included about 125 men from the post under the command of Major Scott J. Anthony. There were also about 125 men in detachments from the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment under the command of Wilson. Also included among the force were: Lieutenant Colonel Leavitt L. Bowen, vice-commander, 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg.; Major Jacob Downing, 1<sup>st</sup> Reg.; and Major Hal Sayr, 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg.

From Fort Lyon, Chivington, as Expedition Commander of all troops in the field, sought to lead a campaign against "hostiles" on the Smoky Hill and Republican drainages. Between 7 and 9 p.m. the majority of a column of 675 troops, piece-meal units of the several companies organized into five small battalions, left Chivington's camp one mile downriver from Old Fort Lyon and headed due north, perpendicular to the river and following the North Star; this route approximated the Bent – Prowers county line road of modern times.<sup>12</sup>

Around midnight, a supply train of 115 wagons (including two or more ambulances) with an escort of 50 soldiers under First Lieutenant Pennock, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Company D, left Old Fort Lyon. The wagons followed the 1854-1855 military road northeasterly to a point where Rush and Sand creeks join, where they camped.<sup>13</sup>

Reportedly, "the night was cold, clear, calm, and moonless."<sup>14</sup> The area was not only already familiar to many in the party, but:

Eight to as many as 15 scouts (including Jim Beckwourth, Antoine Janis, Robert Bent, Pvt. Alexander "Alex" Safely, Pvt. Duncan "Dunk" Kerr, "Romeo" Romero, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant [2LT] Jose Mariano Autobee and his father Charley Autobee) and two "scout" detachments of about fifty "Mexican" and Arkansas Valley men) forged ahead of the column following the approximate route of the timeworn "lodgepole trail" to the Smoky Hill [Bunches of Timbers] River.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Colonel Shoup was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Commander, responsible for all 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment troops during the march and on the field. Personal communication, Jeff Campbell to Astrid Liverman, 23 Feb 2016.

<sup>12</sup> Jeff C. Campbell, "From Chaos: What We Know—The Sand Creek Massacre, Upper Arkansas Indian Agency, Colorado Territory in the Military District of the Upper Arkansas, 29 & 30 November & 1 December 1864," unpublished manuscript [restricted material] (2008-2016) 8.

<sup>13</sup> Campbell 10.

<sup>14</sup> Campbell 9.

<sup>15</sup> Campbell 9.

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Further, Arapaho chief Left Hand (Niwtot)ʼs group of 40-60 people had created fresh ruts in the trail by dragging about 200 lodge poles from 40-50 horses, and driving or riding an additional 60-100 horses, in the eight days before they returned to the Sand Creek camp. Other testimony recounts another 10-20 lodges of Cheyennes moving across the same ground had previously freshly marked the trail.<sup>16</sup> As a traditional route from the Arkansas to Smoky Hill rivers, the trail was well known and well worn.

After five or six hours, the column turned due northeast, passing somewhere north of present-day Horseshoe Bend Ranch.<sup>17</sup> As historian Jeff Campbell observed:

In the dim, pre-dawn light the cavalry column “struck” Sand Creek (the valley) somewhere south-southwest of the village, after a ten-hour or forty-mile march (...) At that point, a large “pony” herd was observed a mile away in the bottoms of the shallow treeless valley. At this point, they [the soldiers] could neither see the village nor know it was so close.<sup>18</sup>

The troops rode toward the herd, apparently not disturbing the stock and once amongst them scouts, like Romero, Janis or Safely came in telling of lodges about two miles upstream slightly to the north-northwest of that position. It is interesting that neither Indians nor soldiers recall the village having any sentries out, nor that camp dogs keyed on the soldiers even though we know there were a hundred or more noted.<sup>19</sup>

The original nomination states the following, likely pertaining to the subject parcel:

Advancing closer, the soldiers gained a ridge overlooking Sand Creek from which they could clearly discern the camp. Pony herds ranged on either side of the stream, and Chivington dispatched units to capture and corral the animals before the Indians might use them (...) While troops of the First Colorado rode ahead, Chivington halted the men of the Third about one-half mile from the village so that they could remove their overcoats and other luggage.<sup>20</sup>

Summarizing more recent research, Campbell clarified the distance of two miles versus the previous erroneously stated half-mile:

The soldierʼs two-mile advance is projected to have started in the State Section near the Section line separating [sections] 36/31. This is the projected site where the command rallied and the point where they deployed from after dropping excess baggage.

As the soldiers advanced the two miles from the point where they dropped their baggage and prepared for the attack[,] the morning became lighter and they could discern the village as they rounded the hill we now call “Monument hill.” To them the village stretched out up the

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<sup>16</sup> Campbell 9.

<sup>17</sup> Campbell 10.

<sup>18</sup> Campbell 11.

<sup>19</sup> Campbell 12.

<sup>20</sup> Holtman, Sect. 8, p. 36.

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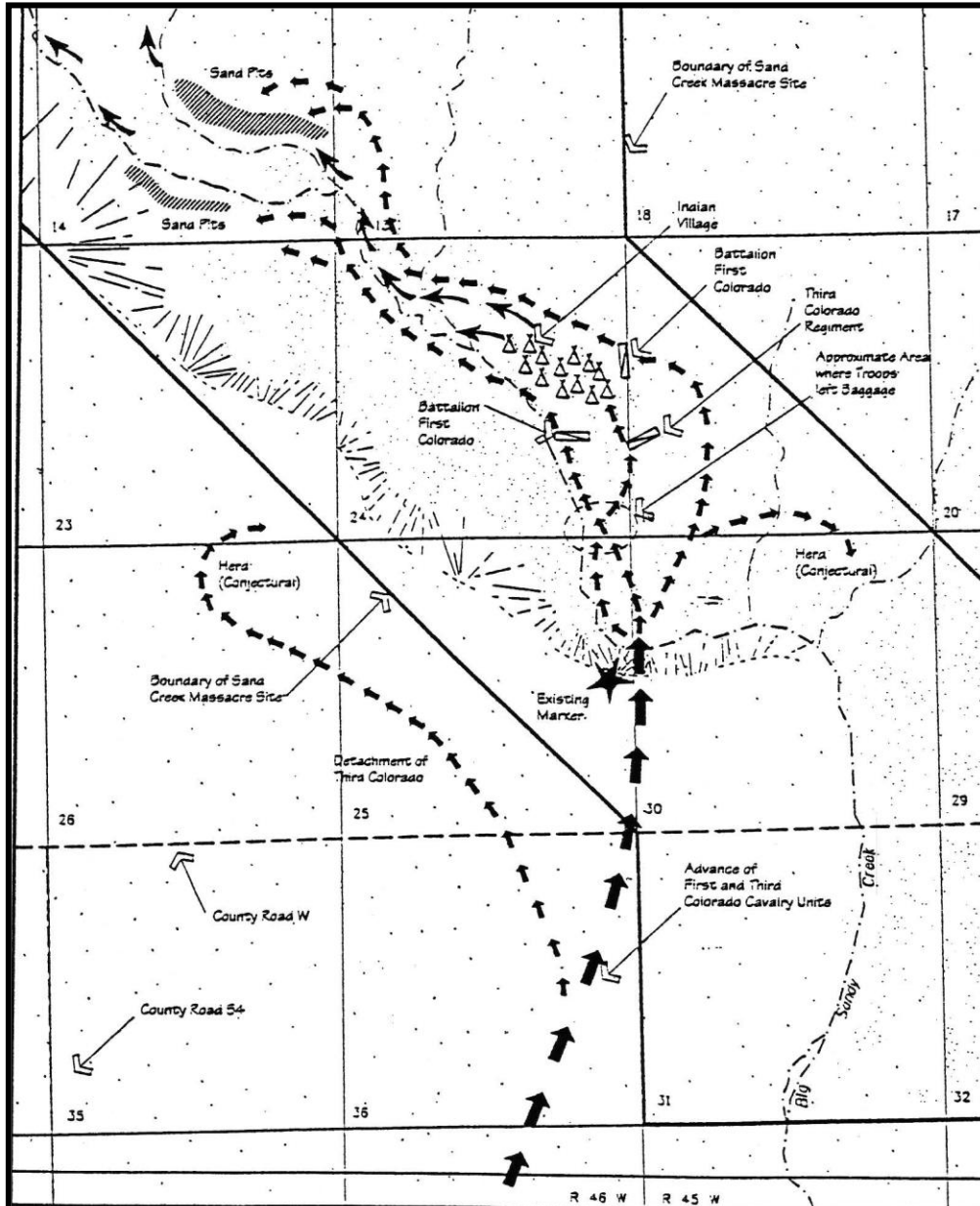
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valley and seemed to be larger and larger. (The soldiers in the initial attack did not gain a ridge overlooking the village.)<sup>21</sup>

Campbell further recounted how two battalions of 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment troops under Major Anthony and



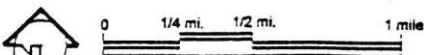
First Lieutenant Wilson led columns (four abreast) in parallel formations at a gallop, which would have taken about 15-18 minutes to cover the two miles of sandy terrain.<sup>22</sup> The howitzers followed up the stream's flood plain, while detachments of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment set after the pony herds a mile or two west of the village above the bluffs.<sup>23</sup>

The atrocities and aftermath of the unwarranted and brutal massacre that followed are recounted elsewhere, including the original National Register nomination, and

National Park Service Site Map based on the Historical Documentation Report by Jerome Greene and the Archeological Report by Douglas Scott.

The Northern Arapaho Tribe concurs with this site map based on the historical and archeological evidence, as well as input received from Northern Arapaho tribal representatives and spiritual leaders who participated in the fieldwork and traditional tribal method process.

Sand Creek Massacre  
 Special Resource Study  
 US Department of the Interior  
 National Park Service



Legend

- Indian Village
- Area of Indian Flight
- Routes of Troops
- Troop Position
- Sand Pits
- Creek Channel
- Boundary of Massacre Site

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)

Name of Property

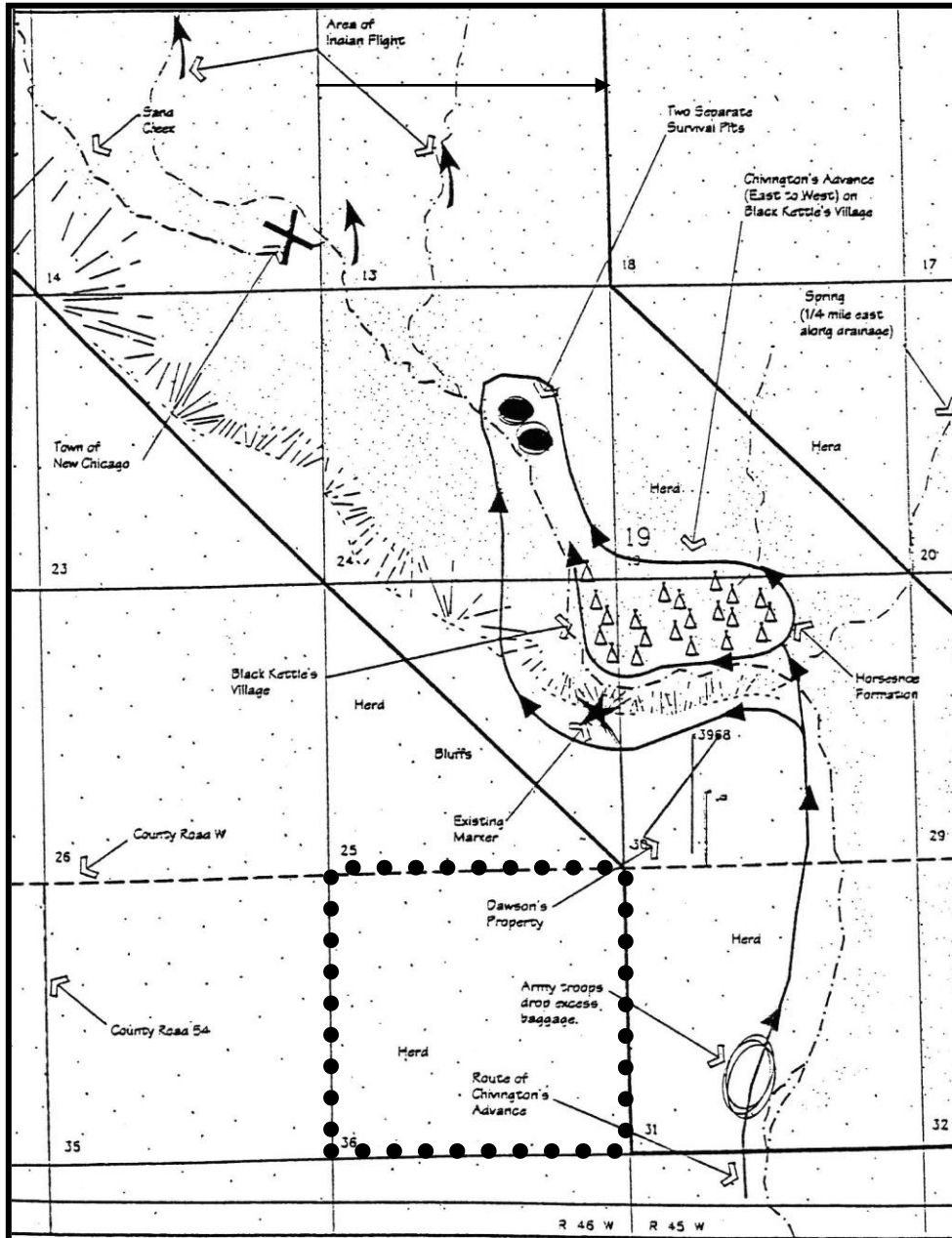
thus are the beyond the scope of this amendment.<sup>24</sup>

Kiowa County, CO

County and State

**Figure 1 National Park Service Site Map based on the Historical Documentation Report** Source: Holtman, Sec. 7, p. 17

**Archaeological Potential**



The map included in the original nomination is reproduced here with the proposed boundary increase represented by the dotted line (Fig. 1).

This map of troop movements as then understood was supported by the National Park Service and Northern Arapaho Tribe. The movement and site map (Fig. 2) supported in 2001 by the Southern Cheyenne, Southern Arapaho, and Northern Cheyenne differed.

**Figure 2 Southern Cheyenne/Southern Arapaho/Northern Cheyenne Map of the Location of the Sand Creek Massacre Site** Source: Holtman, Sec. 7, p. 19

Southern Cheyenne/Southern Arapaho/Northern Cheyenne Map of the Location of the Sand Creek Massacre Site based on Traditional Tribal Methods, Oral Histories and the George Bent Maps.

Sand Creek Massacre  
Special Resource Study

US Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

LEGEND

- Route of Chivington's Troops
- Black Kettle's Village
- Area of Indian Flight
- Site of Survival Pits

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)

Kiowa County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

The subject section has the potential to yield information regarding the approach of the troops towards the village, the path of the lodgepole trail used by the tribes and subsequently the Army to track them, and the staging area where the Army dropped excess baggage immediately prior to the attack. These events are attributed to this section relative to the projected location of the village site, as suggested by archaeological investigation and contemporary and descendant accounts, two miles from Section 36.

In the course of fundraising for acquisition of the parcel (discussed below), the Civil War Trust presented an updated map referencing potential troop movements through the school section. The Civil War Trust map is further revised here to correct certain errors it contained, including, notably, that soldiers did not go over Monument Hill but rather via the valley floor or floodplain around the base of the hill, per two eyewitness accounts.<sup>25</sup> This map relied on Campbell's work, but further refinements based on his further research are possible, presented below.

Archaeological potential is likely in terms of buried and undisturbed artifacts of Cheyenne and Arapaho origin, origin of other Plains tribes, or of Army origin. Additional potential exists for artifacts associated with ranching or cattle drives, pre-Columbian or earlier Native American origin, or eighteenth-century Spanish trade.

Analysis of the location of the village site has continued through consultation between the National Park Service and Tribal representatives and archaeological investigation since 2001. In conclusion, as stated in the original nomination,

While there may be different beliefs about the location of some of the components of the Sand Creek Massacre, it is again important to note that the National Park Service, the State of Colorado, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, and the Northern Arapaho Tribe are all in agreement with the Sand Creek Massacre Site boundary as presented in this nomination.<sup>26</sup>

Similarly, all partners are in full support of the proposed boundary increase.

### **Acquisition of the School Section**

Efforts to acquire the so-called school section began circa 2000. The Colorado State Land Board had owned the property for more than a century. The Colorado State Land Board voted to dispose of the property at their meeting on October 2, 2014. The motion for the approval reads:

After consideration of the materials presented and testimony given at its regular meeting of October 2, 2014, the Board determines that it is the best interest of the School Trust to dispose of 640 acres (+/-) of surface estate in Section 36, Township 17S, Range 46W in Kiowa County under 36-1-141 directly to the United States of America, to be managed by the National Park Service as part of the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site.

<sup>25</sup> Campbell, personal communication, 4 Mar 2016.

<sup>26</sup> Holtman, Sect. 7, p. 21.

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)

Kiowa County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

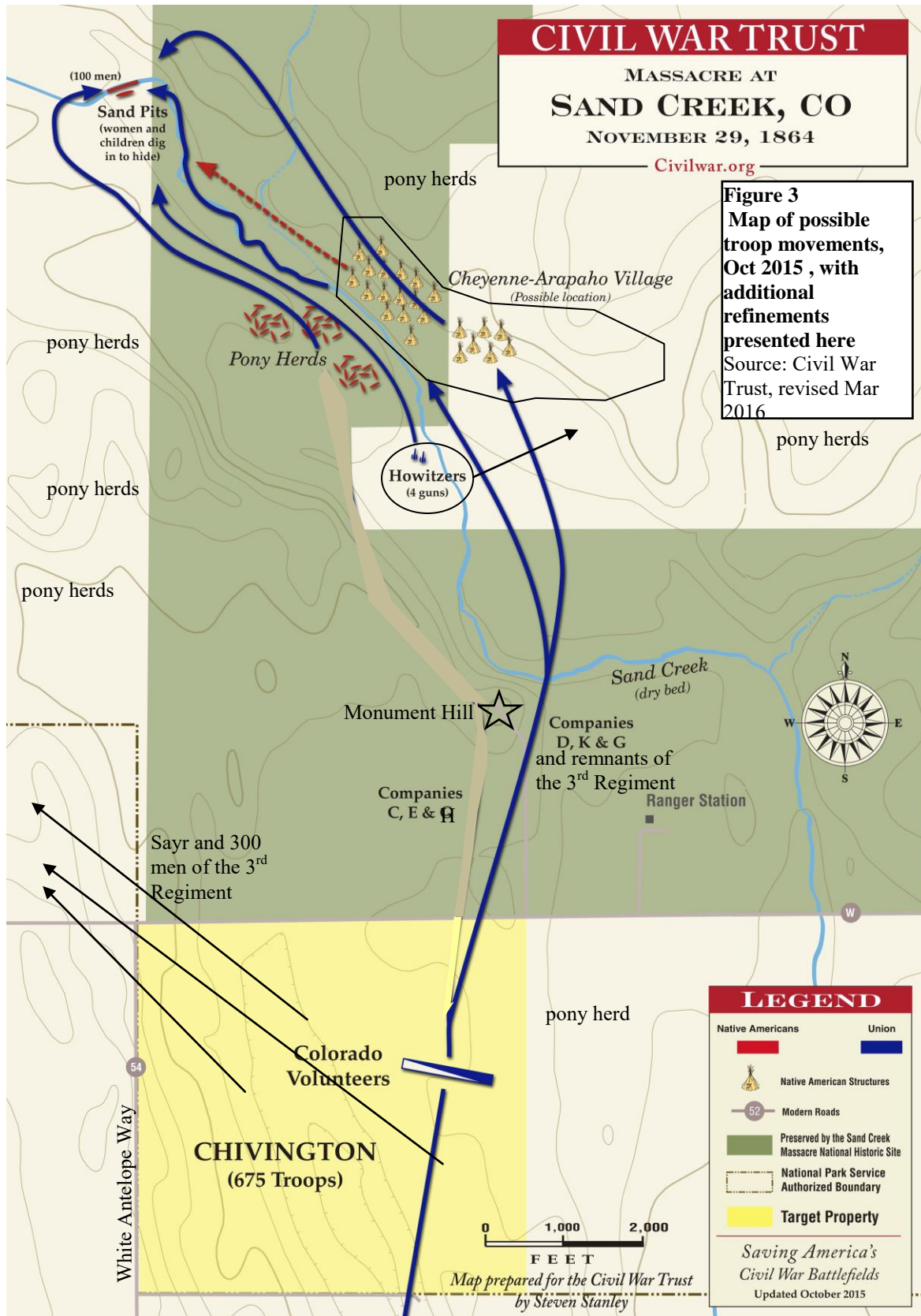
The National Park Service was able to receive the section as a donation via a State Historical Fund grant and the assistance and leadership of the Civil War Trust.

### **Current and Proposed Use**

The parcel is encumbered by a grazing lease set to expire in 2022. The National Park Service, in consultation with representatives of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Northern Arapaho Tribe, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, and State of Colorado, are in the process of developing an interpretive plan for the Sand Creek Massacre Site which may result in the recommendation for an interpretive wayside along Chief White Antelope Way to incorporate visitor understanding of the significance of this section.

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
 Name of Property

Kiowa County, CO  
 County and State



Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

Kiowa County, CO  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

**N.B.: This bibliography does not purport to be an exhaustive bibliography on the complex subject that is the Sand Creek Massacre, but rather presents the key scholarship and sources cited in the preparation of this nomination amendment.**

Campbell, Gregory R. *An Ethnological and Ethnohistorical Assessment of Ethnobotanical and Cultural Resources at the Sand Creek National Historic Site and Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site*. Vol. 1. Missoula, Ontana: Department of Anthropology, Nov 2007.

Campbell, Jeff C. "From Chaos: What We Know—The Sand Creek Massacre, Upper Arkansas Indian Agency, Colorado Territory in the Military District of the Upper Arkansas, 29 & 30 November & 1 December 1864." Unpublished manuscript [restricted material]. 2008-2016.

---. "Statement of Site Significance [Attention Astrid Liverman, Ph.D.]." Unpublished manuscript [restricted material]. 2016.

Clemmer-Smith, Richard, Alan Gilbert, David Fridtjof Halaas, et. al. *Report of the John Evans Study Committee, University of Denver*. Denver: Nov 2014.

The Civil War Preservation Trust. State Historical Fund Grant Application 2016-01-018 [for "Sand Creek Battlefield Adjacent Site Acquisition"]. Mar 2015. On file with the State Historical Fund, History Colorado, Denver, CO.

*Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields*. Prepared for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate Committee on Natural Resources, United States House of Representatives, The Secretary of the Interior. By the Staff of the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission c/o National Park Service. 1993. <http://www.nps.gov/abpp/cwsac/cws0-1.html> (accessed 16 Feb 2016).

Gerber, Gwen. *Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site: Water Rights Assessment*. Draft. Natural Resource Stewardship & Science, Water Resources Division, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Jan 2016.

Greene, Jerome A. and Douglas D. Scott. Foreword by Christine Whitacre. *Finding Sand Cree: History, Archaeology, and the 1864 Massacre Site*. University of Oklahoma Press, 2006.

Holtman, Pamela. Sand Creek Massacre Site National Register of Historic Places nomination. Mar 2001. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History Colorado, Denver.

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

Kiowa County, CO  
County and State

Kelman, Ari. *A Misplaced Massacre: Struggling over the Memory of Sand Creek*. Harvard University, 2015.

*Report of the Northwestern University John Evans Study Committee*. Northwestern University, 2014.

*Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site: General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment*. Denver: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, June 2015.

*Sand Creek Massacre Project, Volume One: Site Location Study*. Denver: National Park Service, Intermountain Region, 2000.

*Sand Creek Massacre Project, Volume Two: Special Resource Study and Environmental Assessment*. Denver: National Park Service, Intermountain Region, 2000.

Terracon Consultants, Inc. *Phase I Environmental Site Assessment: Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Tract 101-13 Section 36, Township 17 South, Range 46 West 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian Eads, Kiowa County, CO*. Prepared for National Park Service. Santa Fe: Oct 2014.

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: Denver Public Library, National Park Service, U. of Colorado at Boulder and U. of Oklahoma

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 5KW.28

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

Kiowa County, CO  
County and State

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 640

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                    |                     |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Zone: 13 | Easting: 715346mE  | Northing: 4268727mN |
| 2. Zone: 13 | Easting: 716979mE  | Northing: 4268805mN |
| 3. Zone: 13 | Easting: 717042mE  | Northing: 4267213mN |
| 4. Zone: 13 | Easting : 715402mE | Northing: 4267181mN |

### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Section 36, Township 17 South, Range 46 West, Kiowa County, Colorado

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary includes the land historically associated with and known as the “school section,” located within the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site authorized boundary. The section is currently understood to have the potential to yield information relative to the movement of

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)

Kiowa County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

Colonel John M. Chivington's troops as they prepared to launch their attack on the unsuspecting village of Cheyenne and Arapaho.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Astrid Liverman, Ph.D., National Register Coordinator (for property owner)

organization: History Colorado, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

street & number: 1200 Broadway

city or town: Denver state: CO zip code: 80203

e-mail astrid.liverman@state.co.us

telephone: 303-866-4681

date: February 2016

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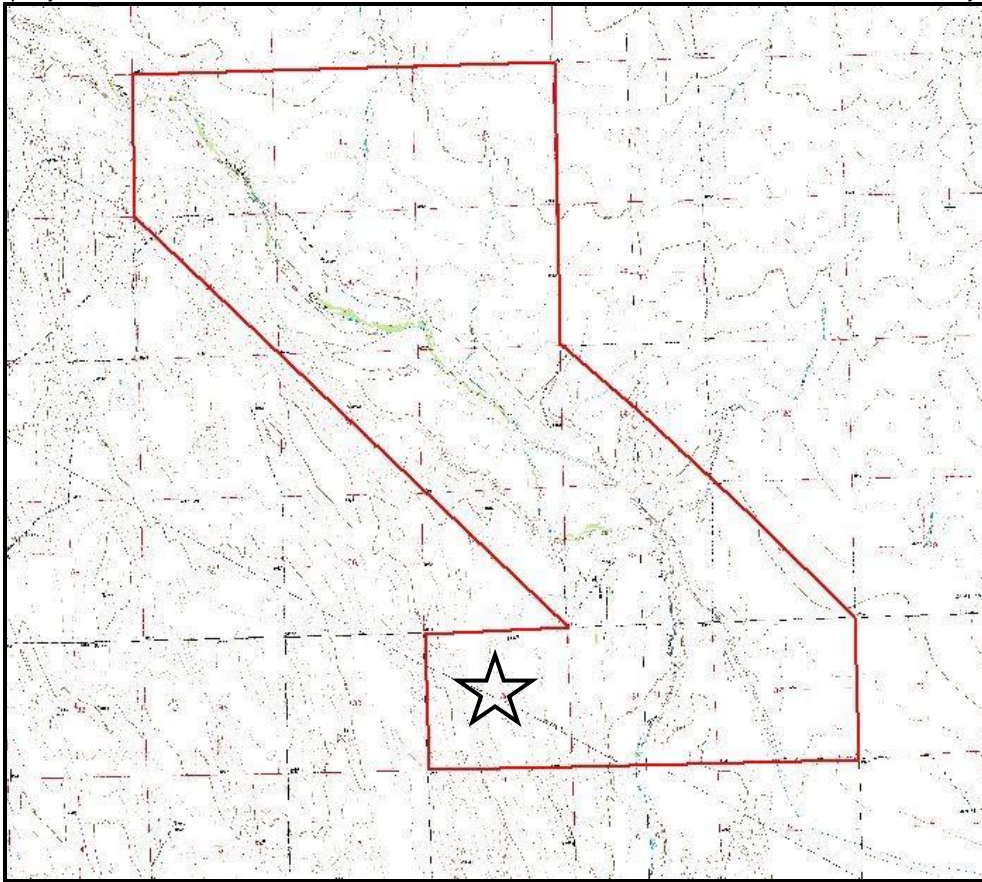
### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

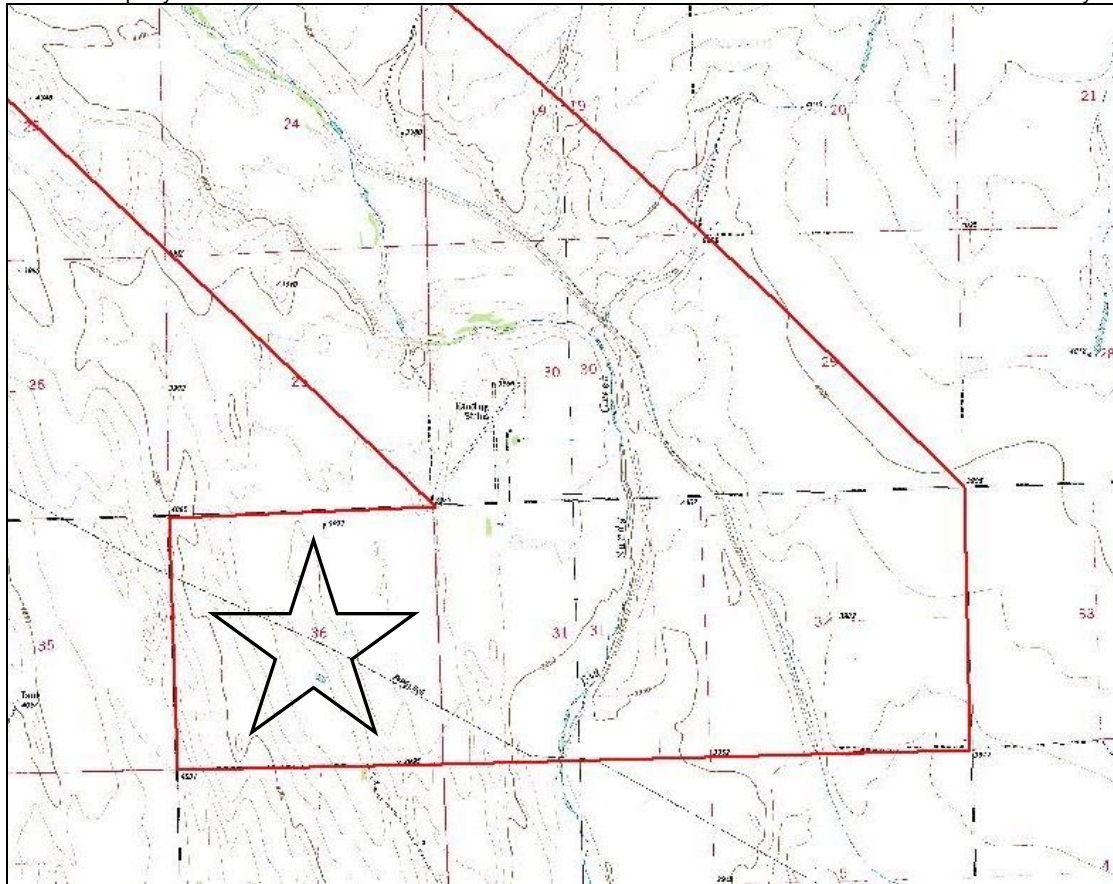
Kiowa County, CO  
County and State



Revised National Register contiguous boundary, including the addition of subject parcel comprising the amendment (signified by a star)

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

Kiowa County, CO  
County and State



Revised National Register contiguous boundary (close-up), including the addition of subject parcel comprising the amendment (signified by a star)

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

Kiowa County, CO  
County and State



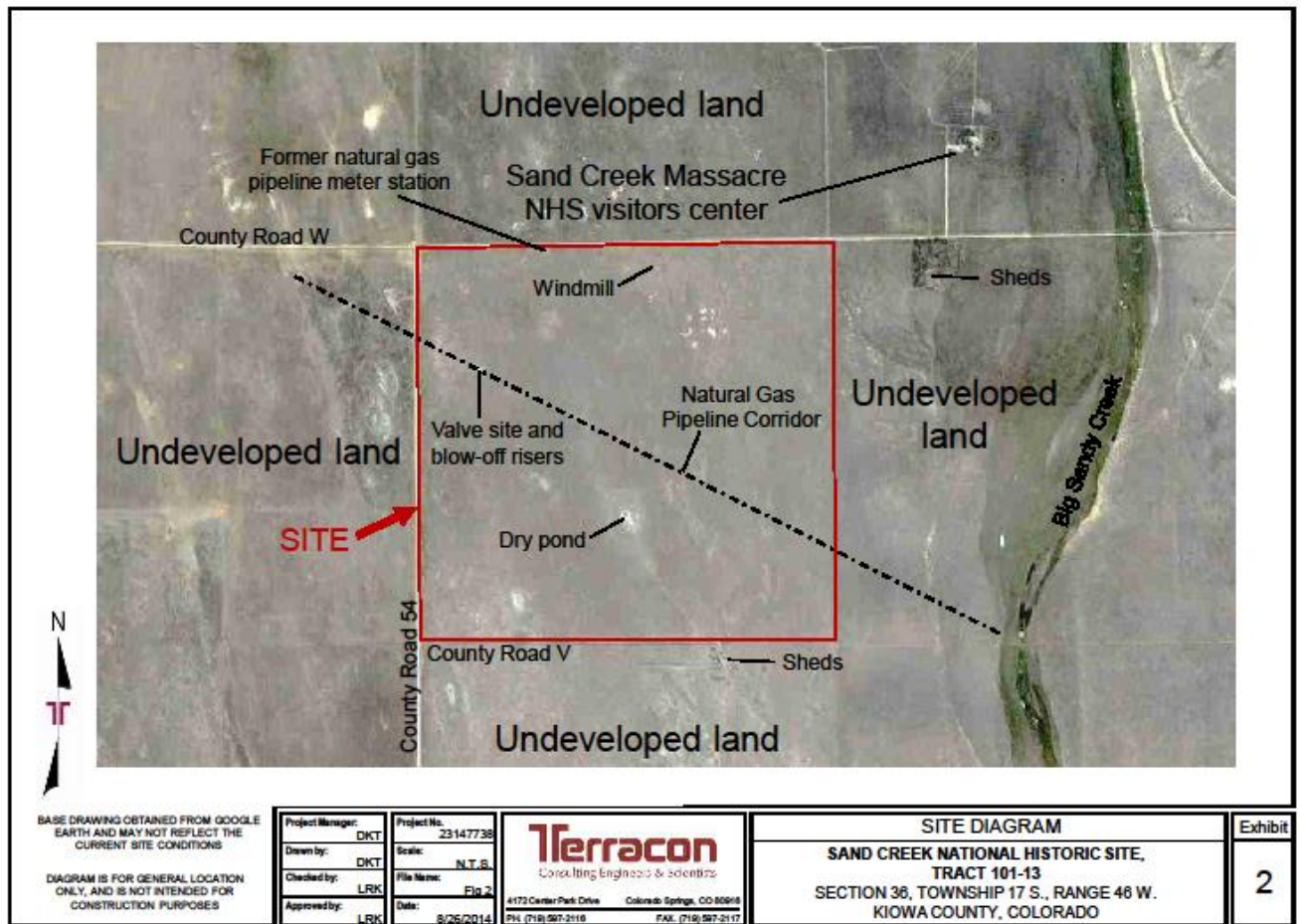
Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

Kiowa County, CO  
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Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
 Name of Property

Kiowa County, CO  
 County and State



### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)

Kiowa County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Property: **Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)**

City or Vicinity: **Kiowa (vicinity), Colorado**

County: **Kiowa** State: **Colorado**

Photographer: Astrid Liverman (History Colorado); Truda Peters (National Park Service)

Date Photographed: March 22, 2016; February 19, 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 5 Southwest corner of school section parcel at right, facing north on White Antelope Way (County Road 54) (Astrid Liverman)
- 2 of 5 View of school section from White Antelope Way, facing east (Truda Peters)
- 3 of 5 View of school section from White Antelope Way, including noncontributing gas meter station, facing east (Astrid Liverman)
- 4 of 5 View, northwest corner of school section parcel at the intersection of White Antelope Way and County Road W (Astrid Liverman)
- 5 of 5 View to south from County Road W, detail noncontributing windmill and water tank with solar pump (Astrid Liverman)

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.











UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase)  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Kiowa

DATE RECEIVED: 8/05/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/02/16  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/19/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/20/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000637

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: Y

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 9.19.16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

July 20, 2016

Kirk A. Cordell, LEED AP BD+C, Acting Federal Preservation Officer, National Park Service  
Deputy Associate Director, CR Stewardship & Science (Acting)  
Executive Director, NCPTT  
1201 Eye Street, N.W., Room 804  
Washington, D.C. 20005

**Re: National Register of Historic Places Nomination Amendment, Sand Creek Massacre Site (5KW.28), Boundary Increase**

Dear Mr. Cordell:

We are pleased to submit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination amendment for the Sand Creek Massacre Site (5KW.28), located in Kiowa County, Colorado.

Preparing the nomination amendment on behalf of the National Historic Site, in consultation with the National Park Service and Tribal representatives, the State Historic Preservation Officer has recommended forwarding to the Keeper for final approval. The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination amendment for the Sand Creek Massacre Site (Boundary Increase) to the National Register of Historic Places.

We look forward to the formal listing of this amendment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at (303)866-4681 or by email at [astrid.liverman@state.co.us](mailto:astrid.liverman@state.co.us)

Sincerely,



Astrid Liverman, Ph.D.

National and State Register Coordinator, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Enclosures:

CDs (2) of full nomination with photos

Signature page

cc: Alexa Roberts, Ph.D., Superintendent, Bent's Old Fort/Sand Creek Massacre NHS, 35110 Highway 194 E., La Junta, CO 81050



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

RECEIVED 2280


AUG - 5 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

August 2, 2016

## Memorandum

To: Acting Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

From: Federal Preservation Officer, National Park Service 

Subject: Boundary Increase for Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Kiowa County, CO

I am forwarding a Boundary Increase for the National Register nomination for the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, in Kiowah County, Colorado. This 640-acre section is within the Congressionally-authorized boundary of the National Historic Site, but was owned by the Colorado State Land Board until October 2015. It is directly adjacent to the existing land managed by the NPS as part of the National Historic Site. The Park History Program has reviewed the document and found the property eligible at the national level of significance under Criteria A and D, with areas of significance of Archeology: Historic Aboriginal, Ethnic Heritage: Native American, and Military. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Spradley-Kurowski at 202-354-2266, or [kelly\\_spradley-kurowski@nps.gov](mailto:kelly_spradley-kurowski@nps.gov).