

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

162

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



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. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel

other names/site number OT00-036

2. Location

street & number NE Corner of County Road P and South Road 70th

city or town Nebraska City

state Nebraska code NE county Otoe code 131 zip code _____

not for publication

X

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:

national statewide X local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Nebraska State Historical Society

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
Name of Property

Otoe County, Nebraska
County and State

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 include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	district
1	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
2	0	Total

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: Cemetery and Chapel
RECREATION / CULTURE: Commemorative
Monument
SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: Cemetery and Chapel
RECREATION / CULTURE: Commemorative
Monument
SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19th and EARLY 20th CENTURY

REVIVIALS:
Neo-Classical

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Ceramic Block
walls: Brick
roof: Rolled Asphalt
other:

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel are located in rural Otoe County, Nebraska in the southeastern corner of the state. Camp Creek is a rural community situated within the rolling hills lining the Missouri River Valley. The River is just two miles to the east and Nebraska City, the county seat of Otoe County, is approximately eight miles north. Peru, Nebraska, a small college town in Nemaha County, is approximately ten miles to the south. This region of Nebraska was among the first settled by Euro-Americans and is home to many of the state's earliest modern communities including Wyoming, St. Deroin, Plattsmouth, Bellevue, Brownville, and Nebraska City (originally Fort Kearny). When established in 1866, Camp Creek Cemetery was located in what was still Nebraska Territory. Prior to the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 it had been part of "permanent" Native American lands. More specifically, Camp Creek Cemetery is situated near the top of a hill between the North Branch of Camp Creek and one of its intermittent tributaries at an elevation of between 1,120 and 1,090 feet. The landscape slopes gently from northwest to southeast within the boundary of the cemetery before falling more dramatically to the east. The Camp Creek School (National Register listed, 1980) and Church (non-extant) were built approximately one mile to the southwest, just below the confluence of Camp Creek's main and north branches.

Today, the nominated property is located at the intersection of Otoe County Roads 70 and P and includes one contributing site (the southern 3 acres of the Camp Creek Cemetery) and one contributing building (the Camp Creek Cemetery Chapel). The Chapel, constructed in 1916-1917 is located approximately 120 feet from the front or west boundary of the Cemetery along County Road 70 and about 350 feet from its southern boundary (along County Road P).

Narrative Description

Camp Creek Cemetery

This contributing site encompasses approximately 3 acres, which includes the original 1866 plot, the 1884 addition and the southern portion of the 1912 addition. The northern portion of the 1912 addition (north of the Chapel) and a more recent plot of just over 2 acres added to the cemetery in 1990 are not included in this nomination. The original plot of the cemetery is a rectangular one acre section of land in the southwest corner of the SW ¼ of Section 13, T7N and R14W. It was donated to the newly-formed Camp Creek Cemetery Association by George F. Lee on June 15, 1866. Subsequent additions are contiguous and were added to the north of the original plot. These include one acre and 65 rods purchased from Lee in 1884 and two acres and two rods purchased from George Wright in 1912. The Camp Creek Cemetery Chapel is located near the southern boundary of this 1912 addition.

The entire west boundary of the cemetery is surrounded by fence installed between five evenly spaced gates. The fence is made of angle iron with a stamped, pointed end and was installed at the same time the Chapel was built. In 2005, a new section of fence utilizing the same design and materials was added to enclose the 1990 addition. Two gates along County Road 70 allow access to the historic portions of the cemetery. The southern gate opens to an east-west "roadway" that continues on to the rear (east) boundary of the cemetery. The roadway is not paved but is visible as a slightly depressed linear feature, approximately 16 feet wide, that does not include any graves or headstones. This delineates the line between the original and second plot of land added to the cemetery. It served as an access point for wagons to deliver caskets and stones to the cemetery. The second gate near the north boundary of the nominated property opens to the Chapel (See Photo 1). Mature conifers dot the older portion of the cemetery south of the Chapel (See photo 5). Two large pin oak trees were planted on either side of the Chapel entrance in the 1970s. Other than trees the major vegetation is a blanket of lush blue grass, which was seeded as part of improvements made by the Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association.

A plot map for the cemetery, as well as a visual inspection, reveals that the cemetery has its oldest gravesites in the originally donated area, including a gravesite for George E. Lee (1830-1899) who donated the original section of land. His marker is a cylinder stone lying horizontally across the top of a square granite stone. It is located in the 2nd row

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towards the middle of the original section of the cemetery. However, there is no schematic plan for burials in any chronological format. The graves are arranged in rows with approximately 160 graves in the original section and 300 in the second addition. Graves are generally arranged by family, hence there are newer gravesites interspersed with much older sites. Many family plots included the graves of multiple generations. The Epler family and the Overton family have many prominent headstones in the two original sections of the cemetery (See Photo 8, foreground). More specifically, the James Cook family has 5 generations buried in the original and second sections of the cemetery, with a 6th generation family burial plot in the third addition of land added to the cemetery in 1912. Many of the names found on the headstones are indicative of the original founders of the Camp Creek community and the Cemetery, as well as current residents.

Gravestones and funerary art within the Camp Creek Cemetery date from as early as 1866 and range from the very simple to the ornate, although there is no individual grave or family plot that overwhelmingly stands out. Almost all are made of marble, granite, or concrete and older stones are often covered with orange or dark lichen. Many of the oldest stones are simple marble slabs with a rounded top. There are a few concrete stones; most are of a unique shape, such as the tree stump for a young boy's headstone (See Photos 5-11). **Contributing Site**

Camp Creek Chapel

The Chapel was completed by 1917, and was the result of a successful fundraising campaign started in 1912 by the Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association. The north cornerstone contains the dates "1866 - 1916," indicating the year the Cemetery was founded and its 50th anniversary. The latter date is also when the Chapel's cornerstone was laid. The south cornerstone notes that the Chapel is intended as "A Memorial to the Pioneers." It was built at a cost of \$3,000 with another \$1,150 spent by 1917 on angle iron fence on the west boundary of the Cemetery described above. The 12 foot gate with a center opening that swings inward is in alignment with the Chapel. The Chapel, at the time it was built, was located near the southern boundary of the 1912 addition to the cemetery. Here a swath of ground was set aside for the Chapel and no graves are found on either side. The boundary of the nominated portion of the Cemetery is found just to the north of the Chapel (See Photo 12).

The Chapel is a small, one-room, rectangular brick building (20' 2" wide x 37' long) designed in the Neo-Classical Style with a flat roof. The building sits on a ceramic block foundation with a full unfinished basement. A very low cast concrete watercourse is found around the entire building, but is more visible toward the back due to the gently sloping site. On the east façade and side (north and south) elevations, the building is decorated with a classically-inspired entablature with a brick architrave and cast concrete freeze and cornice. The bottom of the entablature is defined by a soldier course of brick with small concrete blocks at corners of the building. Above the cornice is a second soldier course with concrete corner blocks "supporting" a brick parapet capped with concrete, hiding the flat roof. This is repeated just above the watercourse.

Between the entrance and the east wall on the building's façade is a slightly projecting central bay that interrupts the entablature course. It has a pedimented parapet trimmed with cast concrete that rises well above the flat parapet found on the rest of the building. The Chapel has a series of four cement steps with low concrete-capped brick side walls and a single iron rail leading to the centered main entry. This entry contains two solid wood doors with small rectangular lights, which most likely date from the 1942 remodel of the Chapel's interior. The original transom window above the doors contains four horizontal lights decorated with an "X" pattern. The projecting entryway is surrounded by brick pilasters that begin at the side wall of the stairs. Each contains one of the previously described cornerstones. Here, the entablature is capped with a cast concrete pediment flanked by a single castellation (See Photo 2).

The Chapel has three long rectangular double-hung windows with concrete sills on both the north and south sides just below the entablature. Small hopper or awning basement windows that utilize the watercourse for a sill are located directly below the main story windows. All windows are original wood units. The rear (east) elevation of the building has a small brick addition (original to the building) with a flat concrete roof that contains an entrance to the basement and an outhouse. The former has its original vertical board door. The original gutter and downspouts are also visible here (See Photo 3).

Inside the chapel there is a stage area (71 inches deep) along the east wall, opposite the doorway (See Photo 4). The stage, constructed with stained wood, is defined by a low panel wall with posts. The stage is accessed by two short flights of stairs on either side. Two chairs, a podium and a working pump organ also occupy the stage area. A series of rows with permanently anchored wood and wrought iron chairs (some that have replaced the originals) face the stage area. The seating allows for approximately 60 people. There is no obvious religious ornamentation on either the interior or exterior of the Chapel. The building has no electricity and was originally heated with a wood stove located in the west-center portion of the building. Changes to the building over time have been minimal. In 1942, a drop ceiling was installed

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to cover unsightly ceiling stains and the plaster walls were covered with paneling. However, the Chapel still retains its original wood floors, baseboards and window trim. Sometime in the 1950s the stove was removed and the floor hole covered. A flagpole was installed in front of the chapel in 1990. The Camp Creek Cemetery Board has consistently sought to preserve the historic integrity of the building. **Contributing Building**

Condition and Integrity

Overall, the original portions of the Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel have retained their initial appearance and thus their historical integrity of design, workmanship, material, feeling and association. Both the Cemetery and the Chapel are a prime example of a simple community's efforts to develop a serene and peaceful site for the burial of their loved ones. Since the closing of the Camp Creek community's church and the rural one-room school, the Cemetery and its Chapel are the only remaining vestiges of a tight-knit community that has spanned over 150 years. Furthermore, the Cemetery's setting in the lush, heavily-timbered rolling hills that border Missouri River Valley attests to its association with early Euro-American heritage.

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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.)

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SETTLEMENT

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1866-1917

Significant Dates

1866; 1868; 1884; 1912; 1916/1917

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown [Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association and
Camp Creek Cemetery Association]

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1866, the year Camp Creek Cemetery was established, and ends with completion of the Chapel in 1917. This period marks the cemetery's association with early Euro-American settlement, specifically the formation of the Camp Creek community. By 1916/1917 community members were ready to commemorate the establishment of the Cemetery and the early pioneers buried there with the construction of a non-denominational Chapel. Other significant dates are April 7, 1868 (mass re-interment), 1884 (second plot added) and 1912 (third plot added, Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association formed).

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel meet National Register Criterion Considerations D and F. Cemeteries are considered eligible for the National Register if they derive their primary significance from age, design, association with events or if they are the burial place of individuals of transcendent importance. The historic sections of Camp Creek Cemetery are significant because of their age and because of their association with the formation of the Camp Creek rural community. Therefore, the property meets Criterion Consideration D for Cemeteries. The Camp Creek Cemetery Chapel was completed in 1917 to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of the Cemetery and to honor the pioneers buried there. A commemorative property may be eligible for the National Register if design, age, tradition or symbolic value "has invested it with its own exceptional significance." In this case, the Chapel represents a later (but still historic) assessment of the past and the culmination of the efforts of the Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association, as well as a gathering place for the rural community of Camp Creek. Its significance comes from its association with a woman's group, its intended use as a gathering place and its symbolic value in the area of social history.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A. The Cemetery, established in 1866, is associated with the early Euro-American settlement of southeastern Nebraska, and more specifically with the formation and endurance of the rural community of Camp Creek. The Camp Creek Chapel is significant in the area of social history. As a memorial to the pioneers, the Chapel represents the importance of the Cemetery and the previous generations buried there to the Camp Creek community fifty years after it was established. Its 1917 completion was the result of a five year effort by the Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association, a group very much concerned with the betterment and beatification the Cemetery and by extension the entire community.

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

Settlement

Otoe County was officially opened to Euro-American settlement in December of 1854 through a treaty with the Otoe and Missouri Tribes that followed on the heels of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. By 1858, settlers along Camp Creek (named for bands of local Indians that "camped" there) had built a frame Congregationalist Church and established a school district. Camp Creek was becoming a community. To further cement community ties, a group of area men met to organize a public cemetery association on June 15, 1866. The land for the original cemetery of one acre (in the SW¼, Section 13-7-14) was donated by George F. Lee ten days later. By August 15, 1866 lots were plotted and fencing of the grounds was complete. The name of the cemetery was originally proposed as the Lee Cemetery (owing to his donation of the original land) but he declined the honorary title and the cemetery was named for nearby Camp Creek instead.

The first burial took place on October 8, 1866, a child of G. L. Dodson (See Photo 9). However, on April 7, 1868 as prearranged, community members brought those previously buried on private property to the Camp Creek Cemetery for re-interment. A total of twenty-eight bodies were moved from homesteads to the Camp Creek Cemetery on that day (See Supplementary Materials for a complete list). This mass re-interment powerfully displayed the formation of a "community" among area settlers and the importance many placed on including the dead in that community. A closer look at the families that participated in the re-interment illustrates how death was an ever-present part of life during this period, particularly among children. For instance, during most of the 1860s the Clayton family was made up entirely of one generation, Edgar Clayton (b. 1835) and his wife, Nancy (b. 1840). Edgar's parents Clayton and Eleanor died 1859 and two children born after 1860 (Emma and Robert) died in 1862 and 1965. Five members of the Sim family were re-interred at Camp Creek Cemetery in 1868: Phillip (b. 1789), Helen (b. c1851), Mary (b. c1859), Willis and Edward (both born after 1860). Together, the Sims' and Claytons' endured the death seven children between 1860 and 1868. However, children were not the only individuals that became a permanent member of the Camp Creek community posthumously. Both the Sims and Claytons also moved the graves of their parents. In other cases, only one individual from a family was moved including Mrs. C.E. Jenkins (b. c1801), Mrs. Louisa Sailor and Robert Wright.

Settlers who participated in the re-interment likely desired to be buried at the new cemetery—and forever be a part of Camp Creek—but could not imagine eternity without being near loved ones. Or perhaps they simply did not want to leave the dead behind. Whatever their motivation, the mass re-interment insured that Camp Creek would not have to wait long for one defining characteristic of community: a cemetery. After the mass re-interment in 1968, the cemetery continued to grow, albeit at a less dramatic pace. This necessitated more land, and additions were added in 1884, 1912 and, most recently, two acres purchased from Robert Spire in 1990. Today the Camp Creek Cemetery includes a total of 7.31 acres.

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Social History

In September of 1912 the women of the community organized for the purposes of beautifying and preserving Camp Creek Cemetery, calling themselves the Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association. While only forty-six years had passed, the significance of the Camp Creek Cemetery was already well-established and area women were ready to ensure it would continue to serve and sustain the community. According to a 1966 *Nebraska City News* article celebrating cemetery's 100th anniversary, the Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association sent out the following "membership" letter in late 1912:

The ladies of this community met in September 1912 and organized a ladies cemetery association for the purpose of beautifying and keeping in better shape the Camp Creek Cemetery. This does not in any way interfere with the men's association, but works in conjunction with them to make this, 'our City of the departed,' more beautiful. Our aim is to have a nice fence and entrance, tool house and rest room, lowering device, lots filled and seeded to lawn grass and finally a man thro summer to care for the ground.

Several gentlemen have joined our association as honorary members. Membership dues are \$1.00 per year. May we have your name as a member?

Despite the consolatory tone, there was an implication that the "men's association" was not doing enough in the areas of grounds-keeping, visitor/user services or aesthetics. By 1912, the "rural" cemeteries and City Beautiful movements had spread across the United States, and cemeteries had become more than just a community burial place. They were a place for quite reflection and bereavement, but also aesthetic enjoyment and outdoor recreation. While few Camp Creek residents had need for the rural escape from city life provide by urban "rural" cemeteries like Wyuka Cemetery in Lincoln, Nebraska, creating a beautiful 'City of the departed' for a community with little communal space had an obvious appeal. In fact, the Cemetery may have been the only place where Camp Creek women could act on their desire to participate in Progressive Era beautification movements. Their goals may seem ordinary today, but it is worth noting that in 1912 they chose a heavily gendered tone to gather support for their cause. Moreover, by choosing the name "Lee's Ladies," instead of Camp Creek, for their woman's cemetery association, they not only harkened history but placed themselves under male stewardship. It was a winning strategy. Like so many other "women's projects" across the nation, this one proved successful. Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association raised sufficient money through memberships, box socials, square dances and other fundraising events to not only make the proposed improvements to the Cemetery, but build a Chapel as well.

It is unclear exactly when the Camp Creek Chapel began as an idea to celebrate the cemetery's 50th anniversary in 1916, but it was certainly possible due to the efforts of the Lee's Ladies Cemetery Association and the larger Camp Creek Community. Built at a cost of \$3,000, the Chapel was constructed both as "A Memorial to the Pioneers" and as a gathering place for funeral services and other events. As a commemorative property, the Chapel reflects the values of the Camp Creek community in the early 20th century. The individuals buried at the Camp Creek Cemetery were more than just family; they were "pioneers" who formed a rural community on a new landscape, and their achievements deserved special recognition. Illustrating the community-wide support of the Chapel and the sentiment attached to it, a local newspaper's account of the Camp Creek Cemetery Chapel dedication noted "one of the largest crowds ever gathered at the cemetery" congregated on that day. The dedication closed with a rendition of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," a perfect song for the occasion. Through the Chapel, Camp Creek community members were linked to the past, but just as importantly to each other in the present. Moreover, the construction and dedication of the Chapel and improvements to the Cemetery represents a self-realization by the Camp Creek community that its "pioneer" era of settlement had passed.

Conclusion

Camp Creek is at the crossroads of early Nebraska territorial history. In its earliest days the area saw the confluence of American Indians, free-soilers and abolitionists moving along the Jim Lane Trail, and those simply seeking agricultural land to start anew. Given the transportation modes of the mid to late 1800s, Camp Creek settlers found that even without a town, they still needed a community to provide opportunities for socialization and support. These settlers created a church, a one-room school house, and a cemetery. The church no longer exists, but the school house located approximately 2½ miles southwest of the Cemetery, continued in operation until the mid 1980s. Now privately owned, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NPS #80002459). As the last *public* space available, the Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel are the focal point for the community. They serve as a physical reminder of this rural community's settlement and social history.

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The cemetery has never had any association with a specific religious denomination. It still serves as the site for annual Memorial Day services. Ministers and pastors from various nearby churches are asked to provide the message for the service. The Memorial Weekend service attracts families from afar that return to honor their dead and reconnect to the community that meant so much to their families in previous years. The Cemetery and Chapel continue to function as a working site, with funerals and burials occurring on a regular basis. Since 1866 to the present, families find comfort and serenity in the Camp Creek Cemetery as the final resting place for their loved ones.

Lacking any other community structure for the Camp Creek region, the Chapel has also been the site of a few weddings for members of the community. It still functions as the hub of the community and binds those that live in the region as members of a rural community. A common sight is to see families that had grown up in this community reunite at the cemetery for a family member. It is also quite common, even in today's highly mobile society, to hear locals refer to the region as the Camp Creek area.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

The Camp Creek community was also home to Abraham Kagy from 1856-1885. His homestead was approximately 1 ½ miles southwest of the Camp Creek Cemetery. Kagy is best known as the father of John Henry Kagy (sometimes spelled Kagi or Kagey), an abolitionist and journalist who participated in Underground Railroad activities and was "second in command" in the John Brown Provisional Army. His father's home in the Camp Creek area may have been part of the Jim Lane Trail across southeast Nebraska, as well as a "stop" for the Underground Railroad. Its location was in a geographical line between locations in Peru, Brownville, Nemaha City, and Falls City areas to the south, and the Mayhew Cabin to the north on the edge of Nebraska City. Barbara Kagy Mayhew, Abraham Kagy's daughter and John Kagy's sister, lived there with her husband Allen Mayhew and their children as early as 1855. The Mayhew Cabin was used as a stop by John Henry Kagy and other abolitionists involved in the Iowa-Nebraska-Kansas-Missouri portion of the Underground Railroad and according to Edward Mayhew (the son of Allen and Barbara Mayhew) harbored black individuals who were likely escaping slavery on at least two occasions. It is currently listed in the National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program, and a National Register nomination was accepted by the Nebraska Historic Preservation Review Board on September 24, 2010, and is currently under review by the National Park Service.

The Kagy family also has strong associations with the Camp Creek Cemetery. Abraham Kagy attended the inaugural meeting to organize a cemetery association for a public cemetery, and was elected chairman of the group. Kagy's youngest daughter, Mary Kagi Davis, and her family lived with him from 1862 until her death in 1869, when she was buried at Camp Creek Cemetery. After Barbara Mayhew Kagi's second husband Calvin Bradway (an Iowan associated with the Underground Railroad in Iowa) was killed in 1869, she moved in with her father. Barbara died in January of 1882 and is also buried at the Camp Creek Cemetery. Her gravestone is marked as Barbara Bradway. While Camp Creek Cemetery is not considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion B because of these associations, it may be eligible for inclusion in the National Park Service's National Underground Rail Road Network to Freedom Program.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Anonymous. "Dedicate Camp Creek Chapel." Nebraska City News, c. June 18, 1917. (Photocopy on File at Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office).

Brand, Bill. "Camp Creek Cemetery is a Century Old." Nebraska City News-Press. May 25, 1966.

Camp Creek Cemetery. Partial List of Burials, 2005 (transcribed by Kay Kier), available online at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~neotoe/campcreek/>.

Fuller, Rosalie Trail. "A History of Camp Creek, Its Church, Cemetery and School 1854-1900." 1980.

Potter, Elisabeth Walton and Beth Boland. *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places*, National Park Service, 1992.

Sharp, Lucille (Board member). "Camp Creek Cemetery History." 2006.

United States Census Bureau. Federal Census of 1860, "Otoe County, Nebraska." Accessed online at www.ancestry.com.

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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): OT00-036

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 3 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	15	262767	4494388	3	15	262930	4494219
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	15	262930	4494388	4	15	262767	4494219
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
Chapel:		262796	4494377				

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

The nominated property consists of the southern 3 acres (approximately) of the Camp Creek Cemetery, located in the southwest corner of Section 13, T7N, R18E in rural Otoe County, Nebraska. It is bounded on the west by County Road 70, on the south by County Road P, and on the east by a fence line. The north boundary is located approximately 20 feet north of the Camp Creek Cemetery Chapel along a line between an area free of graves and where burials resume north the Chapel. (See Attached Site Plan and Photo 12).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The west, south and east boundaries are based on the historic cemetery plots in 1866, 1883/84 and 1912. The northern boundary was selected to include the Chapel, and because it provides a visual boundary between the historic (south) section and the later (north) section of the cemetery (See Photo 12). While the 1912 addition does fall within the period of significance, most of the graves within it post-date 1917. Therefore only the southern portion, where the Chapel is located, is included in the nominated property. The northern boundary represents a marked decrease in resources (headstones and graves) dating from the period of significance, 1866-1917.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sara B. Crook, Ph.D. / Professor and Community Volunteer

organization Peru State College

date _____

street & number 6919 "R" Road

telephone _____

city or town Peru

state NE

zip code 68421

e-mail scrook@peru.edu

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
City or Vicinity: Nebraska City (vicinity)
County: Otoe
State: Nebraska

Photographer: Patrick Haynes, NSHS

Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel

Name of Property

Otoe County, Nebraska

County and State

Date Photographed: July 8, 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 01 of 12.** Cemetery Gate (c. 1916) leading to Chapel. Aspect: E
- 02 of 12.** Chapel, west-facing façade and south elevation. Aspect: NW
- 03 of 12.** Chapel, rear (east) and north elevations. Aspect: SE
- 04 of 12.** Chapel, interior. Aspect: E
- 05 of 12.** Cemetery, including mature conifer tree from c. 1916 and headstones of Thomas Van Sickle (1787-1871) in immediate foreground and Solomon Van Sickle (1816-1903) just to the south. Aspect: NE
- 06 of 12.** Cemetery, including headstones of Casper (1833-1890) and Margaret Hauptman (1848-1917) to the south and Frederick Stuckenholtz (d. 1895). Aspect: E
- 07 of 12.** Cemetery, general view, Aspect: NE
- 08 of 12.** Cemetery, general view including several headstones of the Overton family. Aspect: SE
- 09 of 12.** Cemetery, headstone for child of G. L. Dodson (1866), first burial at Camp Creek. Aspect: NE
- 10 of 12.** Cemetery, headstone for George (c.1848-1868) and Robert (c.1843-1868) Allnutt. Aspect: E
- 11 of 12.** Cemetery, headstone for two children (possibly boy/girl twins) who died at age 1, 1872, Aspect: E
- 12 of 12.** Cemetery, northern boundary of the nominated property. Aspect: E

Property Owner:

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

name Lucile Sharp (Secretary of the Camp Creek Cemetery Board)

street & number 403 South 13th Street

telephone 402-873-7841

city or town Nebraska City

state NE

zip code 68421

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 18 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.

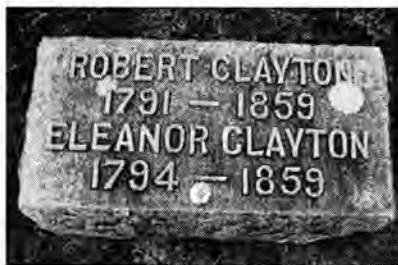
Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
Name of Property

Otoe County, Nebraska
County and State

Supplementary Materials

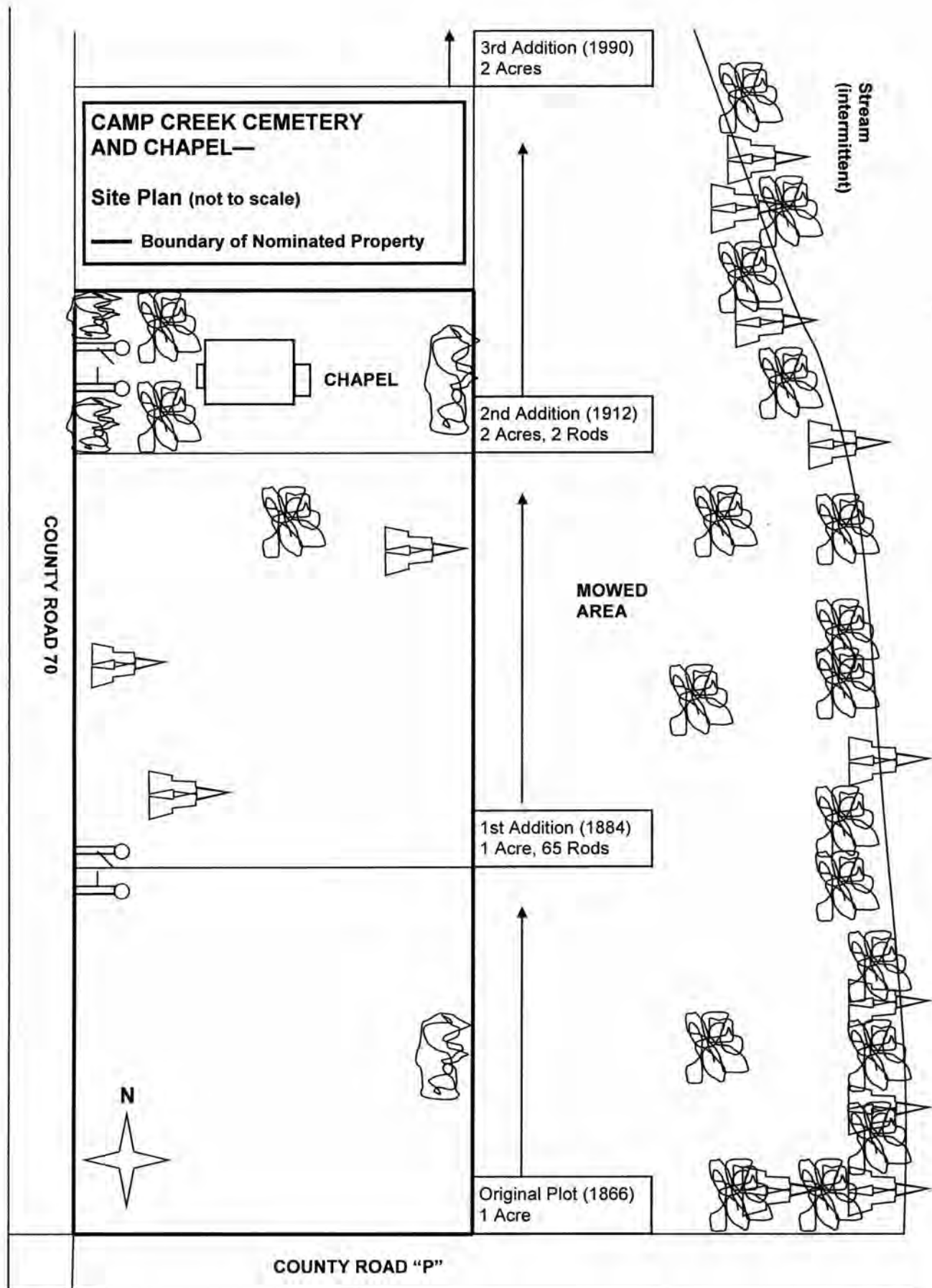
List of Probable Individuals Re-Interred at Camp Creek, 1968

Robert Campbell
Robert Clayton (1861-1862)
Emma Clayton (1863-1865)
Robert Clayton (1791-1859)
Eleanor Clayton (1794-1859)
Jacob Davis
Lloyd Davis
Rollin C. Davis
William N. Fitchie
Frankie Foote (3 years in 1860)
Carrie Foote (9 months in 1860)
Mrs. Hiskey
Mrs. C.E. Jenkins
Infant McCune
Lucy E. Meadville
Mary M. Meadville
Mrs. Louisa Sailor
John Schuester
Frankie Sim
Phillip Sim (1789-1863)
Helen Sim (8 years in 1860)
Mary Jane Sim (1 year in 1860)
Willis Sim (not listed in 1860 Census)
Edward Sim (not listed in 1860 Census)
William Steinett
Child Stienett
Lincoln Wells
Robert Wright



Gravestones of re-interred individuals at Camp Creek Cemetery. Note that their deaths pre-date the founding of the cemetery in 1866.

Photo from www.findagrave.com, 2010. The full extent and significance of the re-interment story was not understood during a Nebraska SHPO site visit in 2010 and these gravestones were not photographed.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEBRASKA, Otoe

DATE RECEIVED: 2/01/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/09/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/24/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/19/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000102

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3-21-11 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.



CAMP CREEK CEMETERY

CAMP CREEK CEMETERY
IS MAINTAINED BY
DONATIONS. YOU MAY
SEND DONATIONS TO:
CAMP CREEK CEMETERY
1749 69 RD.
NEBRASKA CITY, NE
68410

Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE corner, Roads 70 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 1 of 12

NEHRSI #: OT00-036

NE-Otoe County-Camp Creek Cemetery-0001



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE corner, Roads 70 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 2 of 12

NEHRSI #: OT00-036

NE-OtoeCounty-CampCreekCemetery-0002



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE Corner, Roads 78 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 3 of 12

NeHRSI #: OT00-036

NE-Otoe County-Camp Creek Cemetery-0003



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE corner, Roads 70 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 4 of 12

NeHRSI #: OT00-036

NE-OtoeCounty-CampCreekCemetery-0004



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE corner, Roads 70 and P
Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 5 of 12

NeHRSI #: OT00-036

NE-Otoe County-Camp Creek Cemetery-0005



1871-1882
1882-1883
1883-1884
1884-1885
1885-1886
1886-1887
1887-1888
1888-1889
1889-1890
1890-1891
1891-1892
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1902-1903
1903-1904
1904-1905
1905-1906
1906-1907
1907-1908
1908-1909
1909-1910
1910-1911
1911-1912
1912-1913
1913-1914
1914-1915
1915-1916
1916-1917

Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE Corner, Roads 70 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 6 of 12

NEHRSI #: OT00-036

NE-OtoeCounty-CampCreekCemetery-0006



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE corner, Roads 70 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
photo 7 of 12

NEHKS1 #: OT00-036

NE-Otoe County-Camp Creek Cemetery-0007



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE Corner, Roads 70 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 8 of 12

NeHRSI #: OT00-036

NE-Otoe County-Camp Creek Cemetery-0008



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE Corner, Roads 90 and P
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 9 of 12

Ne HRSI #: OT00-036

NE-Otoe County-Camp Cemetery-0009



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE Corner, Roads 70 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 10 of 12

Ne HRSI #: OT00-036

NE-OtoeCounty-CampCreekCemetery-0010



GEORGE ALLMUTH
Died
Oct 12 1888
Aged 25 years

ROBERT W. ALLMUTH
Died
Oct 1 1888
Aged 20 years

Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE Corner, Roads 410 and P
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
photo 11 of 12

NEHRS1 #: OTCC-036

NE-Otoe County-Camp Creek Cemetery-0011



Camp Creek Cemetery and Chapel
SE Corner, Roads 70 and P, Nebraska City vicinity
rural Otoe County, Nebraska
Photo 12 of 12

NeHRSI #: OT00-036

NE Otoe County - Camp Creek Cemetery - 0012

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

JULIAN QUADRANGLE
NEBRASKA—MISSOURI—IOWA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



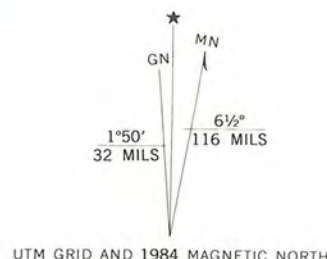
Camp Creek
Cemetery and Chapel
Otoe County,
Nebraska
Julian Quad
[000-036]

UTMs: Zone 15

- 1.E262767
N4494388
- 2.E262830
N4494388
- 3.E262830
N4494219
- 4.E262767
N4494219
- 5.(Chapel)
E262795
N4494377

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
as part of the Department of the Interior program
for the development of the Missouri River Basin
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1965 and planetable surveys 1966
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Nebraska coordinate system, south zone,
Missouri coordinate system, west zone, and Iowa coordinate
system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 3 meters north and
23 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks



SCALE 1:24 000
0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
0 1 2 3 4 5 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
DIVISION OF GEOLOGY AND LAND SURVEY
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, ROLLA, MISSOURI 65401
AND IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U.S. Route ——— State Route ———

JULIAN, NEBR.—MO.—IOWA
40095-E7-TF-024

1966
PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 6865 III SE SERIES V875

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial
photographs taken 1982 and other sources
This information not field checked. Map edited 1984



STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



January 25, 2011

J. Paul Loether
National Register—National Historic Landmarks Programs
National Park Service
1201 "I" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Camp Creek Cemetery & Chapel
Rural Otoe County, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Loether:

Please find enclosed the National Register of Historic Places nomination form for the above resource. This form has met all notification and other requirements as established in 36 CFR 60.

If you have any questions concerning this nomination, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bob Puschendorf".

L. Robert Puschendorf
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

1500 R Street
PO Box 82554
Lincoln, NE 68501-2554
p: (800) 833-6747
(402) 471-3270
f: (402) 471-3100
www.nebraskahistory.org



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

March 21, 2011

Notice to file:

This property has been automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This is due to the fact that the publication of our Federal Register Notice: "National Register of Historic Places: Pending Nominations and Other Actions" was delayed beyond our control to the point where the mandated 15 day public comment period ended after our required 45 day time frame to act on the nomination. If the 45th day falls on a weekend or Federal holiday, the property will be automatically listed the next business day. The nomination is technically adequate and meets the National Register criteria for evaluation, and thus, automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Edson Beall
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
Phone: 202-354-2255
E-mail: Edson_Beall@nps.gov
Web: www.nps.gov/history/nr