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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Grinter Place comprises about eight acres of land and the original residence built by Moses Grinter in 1857. The building, which sits at an angle facing southeast, is situated at the brow of a hill overlooking the Kansas river. It is two stories in height, the exterior of red, home-kilned brick, and all walls, interior and exterior, are of solid brick. In style it has been called a "colonial, southern type farm house," modeled after a Kentucky farmhouse built by Grinter's uncle in 1800.

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

Interior construction is of native walnut and white pine. Millwork on the columns and cornice moldings was done in St. Louis. There are five fireplaces, three downstairs and two upstairs. They 5 bays, parch cover Corler bay had puch that puch production on verticing production interview and wooden production thin, elongated solumns nailing i thin, elongated solumns nailing i thin, elongated solumns were designed with shallow fireboxes which expelled the heat into the room and throats which prevented the rooms from filling with smoke.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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6. Historic American Buildings Survey (federal) 1966 Library of Congress 10 First St., S. E. Washington, D. C. 20540 Code: 11

9.

"What Future for a Kansas Landmark?" Kansas City Star, September 23, 1967



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

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

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

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

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	As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na- tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is: National State Local Name								Nationa	1 Register	г. Д(y and His 5 1971	mal	<u></u>		
Date October 12, 1970									Date						l	

