

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Samuel Hunt Grave

other names/site number NPS Plan #68

### 2. Location

street & number Kansas Highway 31, Section 12, Burlingame Township [n/a] not for publication

city or town Burlingame [X] vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Osage code 139 zip code 66413

### 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 [ ] nationally [ ] statewide [X] locally.  
( See continuation sheet for additional comments [ ].)

Ramon Powers SHPO 11.2.94  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Kansas State Historical Society  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria.  
( See continuation sheet for additional comments [ ].)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

[X] entered in the National Register  
See continuation sheet [ ].

[ ] determined eligible for the  
National Register  
See continuation sheet [ ].

[ ] determined not eligible for the  
National Register.

[ ] removed from the  
National Register

[ ] other, explain  
See continuation sheet [ ].

Entered in the  
National Register  
for  
Signature of the Keeper Date  
Edson H. Brall 5-11-95

Samuel Hunt Grave  
Name of Property

Osage Co., KS  
County/State

Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880  
Multiple Property Submission

**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 count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing.**

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

Hist. Resources-Santa Fe Trail

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Function**

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY/graves/burials  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY/graves/burials  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A  
walls N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof N/A  
other Limestone  
Concrete

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.)

[X] 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.

[X] C a birthplace or grave.

[ ] D a cemetery.

[ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

[ ] F a commemorative property.

[ ] G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

# \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Periods of Significance

1835

Significant Dates

September 11, 1835

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Primary location of additional data:

[ ] State Historic Preservation Office

[ ] Other State Agency

[X] Federal Agency

[ ] Local Government

[ ] University

[ ] Other:

Name of repository: National Park Service Regional Office--Santa Fe, New Mexico

Samuel Hunt Grave  
Name of Property

Osage Co., KS  
County/State

Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880  
Multiple Property Submission

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A. Zone	<u>15</u>	<u>245770</u>	<u>4293360</u>	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
		Easting	Northing			
C. Zone	Easting	Northing		D. Zone	Easting	Northing

[ ] See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title See Continuation Sheet, section 11

organization The URBANA Group date May 1993

street & number 202 South Broadway, Suite 206, P.O. Box 1028 telephone (217) 344-7526

city or town Urbana state IL zip code 61801-9028

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**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.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

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

name Flinthills Farm Management Corporation

street & number 2921 SW Wanamaker, Box 4287 date \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Topeka state KS zip code 66604

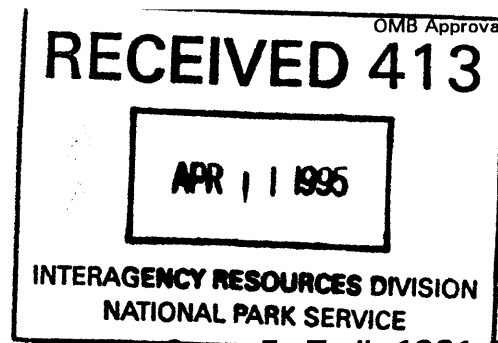
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Samuel Hunt Grave; Osage Co., KS; Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880  
Section number 7



Page 1

### Narrative Description

The Samuel Hunt grave is just north of Kansas Highway 31, 1.5 miles west of the bridge over Dagoon Creek and about 0.5 mile west of the site of the Havana Stage Station site. More specifically, the Samuel Hunt grave is located approximately 46 feet (14 meters) north of a highway pull-out on the north side of Kansas State Highway 31. The site consists of one contributing resource. The current grave site is a simple plot set in native prairie grasses. A replacement polished limestone headstone is inscribed:

Samuel Hunt  
Kentucky  
PVT  
U.S. Dragoons  
September 11, 1835

The grave site is capped with poured concrete. Roughly hewn limestone blocks are set at the head and foot of the grave. The grave is surrounded by a fitted pipe fence enclosing approximately 20 square feet. The immediate surroundings include a fence 10 meters to the south and the asphalt turn-around which is 4 meters south of the fence. To the north of the grave are cultivated agricultural fields.

The historic integrity of the site is acceptable for reflecting important historic associations rarely found on the Trail. Perhaps the most critical aspect of integrity in this instance, location, remains intact. In addition, this is the only site along the Santa Fe Trail directly associated with the 1835 military expedition. The grave site is also the earliest identified gravesite of a soldier serving on the Trail. It retains important historic associations that are clear and it is a rare surviving example of this property type on the Trail. Replacement materials (circa 1935) have been used to maintain the grave site for interpretation. While historic, the grave site materials do not date to the period of significance but are in keeping with the site as their small scale, unobtrusive character, and similarity in design of the replacement headstone materials do not strip the site of its historic value. Although development of the adjacent roadway and nearby agricultural fields have somewhat obscured the historic scene, the immediate grave site environment and the view to the north do retain sufficient historic character to allow for some sense of time and place to be gained. Setting, therefore, is minimally retained from the perspective of the viewer observing the site from the south. Given the rarity and significance of this site, it maintains an acceptable degree of integrity overall.

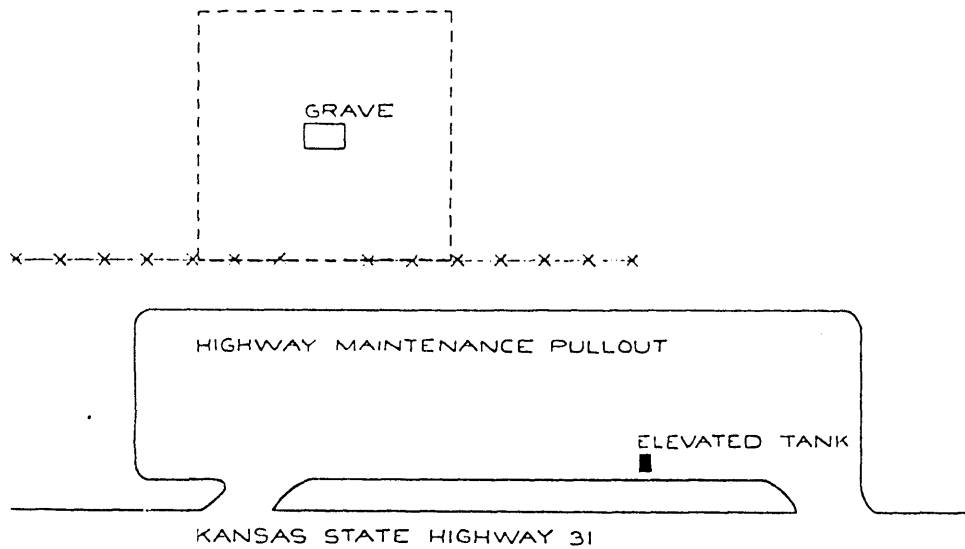
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Samuel Hunt Grave; Osage Co., KS; Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880

Section number 7

Page 2



KEY  
x-x-x FENCE  
---- SITE BOUNDARY

SCALE  
0 5 METERS

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Samuel Hunt Grave; Osage Co., KS; Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880**

Section number 8

Page 3

---

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

Summary

The Samuel Hunt grave is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in the area of Military [History]. The grave is a significant site directly associated with the 1835 expedition of the United States Dragoons across the Plains to the Rocky Mountains. The site meets the registration requirements outlined in the property type Ancillary Historic Properties (subtype: Trail Grave Sites/Cemeteries) detailed in Item F of the Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880 Multiple Property Documentation Form. The relevant historic context is International Trade on the Mexican Road, 1821-1846. The Samuel Hunt grave falls within the category of Criterion Consideration C: a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life.

History: Military

A significant event in the history of the Santa Fe Trail was the Rocky Mountain expedition of 1835, undertaken by three companies of the United States Dragoons under the command of Col. Henry Dodge. The purpose of this and other military expeditions was to assert American sovereignty over the lands north of the Mexican-American border. Councils were held with the resident American Indians to dissuade them from confronting Americans conducting business on the Santa Fe Trail. Between departing on May 29 and their return on September 16, Col. Dodge and his command of 125 traveled over 1600 miles. During this mission they visited the Otoe-Missouri and Pawnee on the Platte River, counseled the nearby Arikaras to lessen their resistance, and marched west to the upper reaches of the Arkansas River in Colorado. They visited and encamped at Bent's Fort, met in council with the Cheyenne, Arapahos and prairie Gros Ventres, and, by August, were following the Arkansas eastward to return to Ft. Leavenworth, having established firm, if not cordial, relations with the region's tribes. By September 8th the expedition had reached Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail. Traveling east from this point the command was struck with its first fatality when on September 11 Private Samuel Hunt of Company A, age 23, died. Hunt died of what Captain Lemuel Ford called "inflammation of the bowels."<sup>1</sup> He was buried on the prairie not far from what came to be called Drogan Creek. On September 16 the command returned to Fort Leavenworth.

The Samuel Hunt grave is unusual in two respects. First, it is the earliest military grave site on the Trail. Second, it represents a rare property type on the Trail, a historic gravesite whose location is concretely established and clearly linked to Trail history. In general, the gravesites associated with the Trail fall into five types. The first are graves of individuals who died or where killed along the Trail. Many isolated graves of this sort undoubtedly exist but their location has been lost or their association with Trail history is vague or tenuous. The second category of graves are those of the soldiers first buried on the Trail, and then exhumed and

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Samuel Hunt Grave; Osage Co., KS; Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880**

Section number 8

Page 4

---

reburied in official military graveyards. This type of gravesite is typified by the graves at Camp Grierson, Kansas, south of the lower crossing of the Little Arkansas River. Established in the summer of 1865 and manned irregularly to 1867, its dead were later removed to the Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery. The burial pits may still be seen south of the military campsite. Another class of grave site are those isolated sites of multiple deaths which have not been identified or relocated. An example of this class is the Soldier Creek Crossing, southwest of the Samuel Hunt grave. The creek is reportedly named after an army unit that suffered heavy losses to cholera at this location in 1851; this was perhaps the May-June expedition of Bvt. Col. Edwin V. Sumner and First Dragoons heading west to establish Ft. Union. At least 35 men were lost to cholera along the Trail on route between the Kansas River and the Santa Fe Trail crossing of the Arkansas River. The locations of such gravesites simply have not been found. The fourth class of graves are of those who became victims of Trail warfare. The Point of Rocks site in New Mexico was a popular campsite with a nearby spring. While only one of the eleven gravesites has been identified, some of the other graves may contain the remains of members of the White party who were killed in 1859 several miles to the east. In addition, numerous isolated gravesites of war victims associated with the Trail's history have still to be located or identified. The last category of graves are those found in cemeteries along the Trail which differ from these other classes from a practical point; namely they are evaluated under National Register Criteria Consideration D.

Death was a distinct possibility on the Trail; disease, accidents and warfare counted among the risks encountered along the Trail. However, few tangible, concretely identified sites with direct historic connections to Trail activities remain to convey these important historic associations. As a reflection of the risks inherent in Trail travel the Samuel Hunt grave is a significant site on the Santa Fe Trail. As a site of military history which conveys important historic associations, the Hunt grave represents a rare property type under-represented in the currently designated properties along the Trail. The site retains integrity of location, aspects of setting, feeling and clear association. Replacement materials used in the headstone are not incompatible with the scale or method of presentation found on the original gravesite. While Hunt's life as a private in the U.S. Dragoons was not in itself of tremendous significance, his death was intimately tied to the role of the military in securing American sovereignty and defending the use of Trail for the United States.

**Endnotes**

1. Nolie Mumey, March of the First Dragoons to the Rocky Mountains in 1835: The Diaries and Maps of Lemuel Ford (Denver: Eames Brothers Press, 1957), p. 88. as provided through Harry C. Myers to The URBANA Group, March 1993, National Park Service, Southwest Region, Santa Fe, New Mexico.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Samuel Hunt Grave; Osage Co., KS; Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880**

Section number 9

Page 5

---

**Bibliography**

Mumey, Nolie. March of the First Dragoons to the Rocky Mountains in 1835: The Diaries and Maps of Lemuel Ford. Denver: Eames Brothers Press, 1957.

Simmons, Marc. Following the Santa Fe Trail: A Guide for Modern Travelers. 2nd ed. Santa Fe: Ancient City Press, 1986.

United States Department of the Interior/National Park Service. Santa Fe National Historic Trail: Comprehensive Management and Use Plan. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1990.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Samuel Hunt Grave; Osage Co., KS; Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880**

Section number 10

Page 6

---

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Commencing ten meters north of the point identified as Zone 15, Easting 245770E, Northing 4293360N, U.S.G.S. Harveyville Quad, proceed ten meters west. Turn south and continue the boundary for twenty meters. Proceed twenty meters east, then twenty meters north. Then proceed ten meters west to the point of origin.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries encompass the historically-significant gravesite alone and exclude incompatible intrusions (i.e. cropland, highway turn-in space) in proximity to the site. The area surrounding the site currently features native plant species which add to the historic character of the site.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Samuel Hunt Grave; Osage Co., KS; Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail, 1821-1880**

Section number 11

Page 7

---

**Form Prepared By**

For The URBANA Group

Hugh Davidson/Technical Advisor  
Writer

Archaeological Survey, University of Missouri-St. Louis  
Colleen Hamilton and Brad Mueller/Historic Archaeologists  
Field Work

Susan Enscoe/Historical Geographer  
Editor

Alice Edwards/Vice President  
Editor