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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 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 Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 1 (AMENDMENT)

other names/site number Ralph's & Kerns' Ruts; KHRI #159-0000-00067 & 159-111

### 2. Location

street & number 4<sup>th</sup> Rd at Ave L, ¼ mi. no. of US-56 Hwy  not for publication

city or town Chase  vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Rice code 159 zip code 67524

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this  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  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 \_\_\_ local

Patrick Palmer 2-11-13  
Signature of certifying official Date

DSHPO  
Title 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) \_\_\_\_\_

For Edson H. Beall 7-17-13  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**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	
0	0	buildings
0	0	district
2	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total</b>

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

Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail (2012)

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

See Section 7.

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/agricultural field

**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: N/A

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**Narrative Description**

**Summary**

The Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 1, including Ralph's and Kerns' Ruts, is located four miles west of Chase, Kansas and 0.75 miles north of US-56 Highway, near the Rice-Barton county line in central Kansas. This site – specifically, Ralph's Ruts – was initially listed in the National Register as a 19.68-acre site on the east side of 4<sup>th</sup> Road that contains six swales.<sup>1</sup> This amended nomination of the Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 1 adds a 24.00-acre site on the west side of 4<sup>th</sup> Road, known as Kerns' Ruts, that contains at least four individual swales. In the original nomination, each swale was counted individually as a contributing resource. The revised *Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail* multiple property nomination defines a segment as a set of swales or ruts; thus this discontinuous site contains two segments, which equal two contributing resources. The site is interrupted by 4<sup>th</sup> Road, which separates Ralph's Ruts on the east from Kerns' Ruts on the west; therefore, it is classified as a discontinuous site. The Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 1, as amended, contains two Transportation Sites (Trail Segment subtypes), as defined in the revised multiple property nomination and encompasses a total of 43.68 acres.

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**Elaboration**

The Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 1 is comprised of two sites on the east and west sides of 4<sup>th</sup> Road in rural western Rice County. Ralph's Ruts, located on the east side, is in the NW/4 of Section 34, Township 19 South, Range 10 West; Kerns' Ruts, on the west side of the road, is in the NE/4 of Section 33, Township 19 South, Range 10 West. This site is located along the main route of the Santa Fe Trail approximately 12 miles east of Fort Zarah in Barton County and 30 miles west of the Little Arkansas Crossings in eastern Rice County.

*Ralph's Ruts<sup>2</sup>*

Seven [swales] merging into six [swales] are discernible at the site. The ruts begin east of the Bushton Blacktop [currently known as 4<sup>th</sup> Road]. Six swales enter the site to the west and proceed in [an] east-west bearing approximately 110 degrees east of north and remain parallel for approximately 250 meters [820.2 feet] until a natural depression in the landscape is reached. The three more southerly sets of ruts enter the site to the west bearing between 93 and 99 degrees east of north. They remain parallel for approximately 175 meters [574.2 feet] at which point the two most northerly sets of ruts merge bearing 107 degrees east of north while the most southerly swale diverged to form two rutted segments bearing 99 and 135 degrees east of north respectively. The convergence and divergence of these ruts may represent the wagon drivers' desire to avoid this natural depression which may have posed an obstacle for the heavier wagons. The three most northerly swales traverse the depression which is approximately 50 meters [164 feet] wide. To the east of the depression, seven swales emerge oriented in a northeasterly direction bearing between 64 and 77 degrees east of north. These rutted segments converge and diverge at various points along their route and continue for approximately 80 meters [262.5 feet] before exiting the site to the east.

Several factors have contributed to the high environmental quality and preservation values of these ruts. Clearly, the volume of commercial and military traffic played its role in the formation of the ruts at this site as did the abreast formation adopted by many wagon trains in order to reduce its line of exposure to attack. The past and present physical environment also played an important role in the formation and conservation of these rutted segments. Due to the nature of the sandy soil in western Rice County and the weights exerted by wagons traversing the site, a strong physical impression was imprinted on the landscape. Over time, as the weight load of wagons and the volume of traffic increased, a deeper impression was left in the landscape. The physical remains of these ruts were deepened by aerial erosion and became too deep in

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<sup>1</sup> Recent acreage calculations based on the initial UTM coordinates indicate the eastern set of swales, Ralph's Ruts, contains 19.68 acres, as opposed to the 16 acre approximation in the initial nomination.

<sup>2</sup> The following three paragraphs were the original nomination's Section 7, written by Joseph Gallagher for The URBANA Group, May 1993.

some instances to be used by wagons so a new route often parallel to the existing one was chosen.<sup>3</sup> After the [t]rail was abandoned by wagons, sunflowers were the first form of vegetation to grow in the ruts themselves.<sup>4</sup> This type of vegetation gave way to buffalo, bluestem, and cheat grasses which are more characteristic of the present-day vegetation.<sup>5</sup>

The lack of cultivation of the site can be attributed to the sandy soils which were not conducive to retaining moisture for crop growth and to the generational family stewardship of the current owner. Natural depressions of various sizes are common in the landscape of western Rice County and this site is no exception. To the east of the site, a natural, shallow depression occurs. On a seasonal basis, these depressions may accumulate water due to an increase in the water table or the impermeability of the underlying bedrock. The depression, referred to as a buffalo wallow, has been reinforced with earthen embankments to form a cattle pond. These earthen embankments are the only man-made intrusions on this site.

### *Kerns' Ruts*

Kerns' Ruts are an example of a Transportation Site (Trail Segment subtype), as described in the amended multiple property nomination. This 24.00-acre rectangular site includes at least four swales that extend east-west for nearly one-half mile. The boundaries for this area are defined by a fence and oil lease road on the north; a fence along 4<sup>th</sup> Road on the east; a fence and tree row along the south; and a fence and the half-section line on the west.

The easternmost 61 meters (200 feet) of the site were disturbed in the 1930s when temporary oil lease houses were erected. Those houses are no longer extant, and the swales continue on to the west from this location.

Though the topography along this site is varied, the swales continue along at a fairly even elevation of between 538 meters and 539.5 meters (1765 feet and 1770 feet). The land has never been cultivated but is currently used for grazing. Native grasses such as big and little bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii* and *Schizachyrium scoparium*) dominate this pasture, as is typical of the Great Bend Lowland division of the Arkansas River Lowlands section of the Central Lowland province of the Interior Plains of North America, in which this site is located. Non-native cheat grass (*Bromus tectorum*) is also prevalent at this site.

Together, Ralph's and Kerns' ruts and their contributing land area encompass a 43.68-acre discontinuous site, broken by 4<sup>th</sup> Road and its right-of-way.

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<sup>3</sup> Ralph Hathaway, *My One-Half Mile of Santa Fe Trail* (Ellsworth, Kansas: Ellsworth Printing Company, 1984), 4; Paul Hawkins, "Ralph's Ruts," *KANSAS! Magazine* 1 (1991): 4.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Hawkins, 5.

**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)

- Transportation \_\_\_\_\_
- Commerce \_\_\_\_\_
- Military \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1821-1866 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

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

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

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

**Cultural Affiliation**

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

**Architect/Builder**

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

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the initiation of trail traffic by William Becknell in 1821 and ends with the arrival of the railroad in Junction City in 1866, which virtually spelled the end of trail traffic east of Great Bend.

**Criteria Considerations (justification)**

N/A

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## Narrative Statement of Significance

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### Summary

The Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 1 is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as a reflection of historically-significant trail traffic and meets the criterion within the areas of commerce, transportation, and military. This segment is also eligible under Criterion D for its potential to yield important information related to the stretch of trail between the Little Arkansas Crossings and Fort Zarah. The site retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association required for registration. This site represents the trail's importance in terms of international and national commerce and transportation in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, as well as the military traffic that traversed this portion of the trail. The period of significance begins with the initiation of trail traffic by William Becknell in 1821 and ends with the arrival of the Union Pacific Eastern Division Railroad in Junction City in 1866, which virtually spelled the end of trail traffic east of Great Bend.

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### Elaboration

William Becknell initiated trade with Santa Fe in 1821 and most likely passed over this section of the trail in that year. Certainly, though, this portion of the trail was used from the initiation of wagon traffic over the trail in 1822 to the advancement of the railroad to Junction City in 1866. These rutted remains were an important component of the commerce and transportation network that developed. These ruts were traversed by caravans that undertook that portion of the trail from Cow Creek in the east to the Big Bend of the Arkansas River to the west – two popular overnight camping grounds. The camping grounds chosen by the wagon master were often near streams or rivers as they were sources of water and wood. Among the notable individuals believed to have traversed this portion of the trail are Francisco Vasquez de Coronado (prior to the establishment of the trail itself), Kit Carson, George Custer, and Bill Mathewson.<sup>6</sup>

The possibility of American Indian confrontation over this portion of the trail was very real. While the sandy nature of the soil at the site contributed to the formation of [multiple swales], the density of the ruts across the site are also indicative of the four abreast formation adopted by the wagon trains in order to reduce the line of exposure. This type of formation also facilitated the organization of the wagons in to a corral formation in times of attack. One instance of American Indian and Santa Fe Trail traffic confrontation related to this site is the "Plum Buttes Massacre." Although the sand dunes known as the Plum Buttes are approximately two miles west of the site, the incident was identified with this natural landmark because of its imposing presence in the landscape at that time. Despite conflicting accounts, the incident most likely occurred in September 1866 when several wagons composing the annual Santa Fe Trail caravan was confronted by Cheyenne, Kiowa, and Arapaho Indians. The driver of one of the wagons was killed as was a woman and her son traveling in that wagon.<sup>7</sup> The incident was reported at Fort Zarah, approximately 15 miles away, by Frank Huning. Huning was the leader of the annual merchant caravan and had requested a military escort to Fort Zarah but was refused.<sup>8</sup> Huning's mother-in-law and brother-in-law, Fritz, who were killed in the incident, were members of the caravan and were en route from Dayton, Ohio to Albuquerque, New Mexico to be reunited with Huning's wife, Ernestine.<sup>9</sup> Captain Charles Christy and Roma, a Mexican, were dispatched from Fort Zarah to investigate the incident.<sup>10</sup> They recovered the three bodies and placed them in the army ambulance in which they were travelling. As they were returning to the fort, they were confronted by [a group of Cheyenne] and were engaged in a four-mile chase which lasted until they were met by a military escort.<sup>11</sup> The "Plum Buttes

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<sup>6</sup> Hawkins, 4.

<sup>7</sup> Marc Simmons, "'Ralph's Ruts' Mark Scene of Massacre: New Mexican Scrapbook," *El Paso [Texas] Times*, 15 December 1986, n.p.

<sup>8</sup> Rowe Findley, "Along the Santa Fe Trail," *National Geographic* 179 (March 1991): 112.

<sup>9</sup> Hathaway, *My One-Half Mile*, 12; Ralph Hathaway, "From the Little Arkansas to the Big Arkansas," *Adventure on the Santa Fe Trail*, ed. Leo Oliva, (Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society, 1987), 87.

<sup>10</sup> Hathaway, *My One-Half Mile*, 12.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

Massacre” most likely took place east of this site; however, the annual merchant caravan and the subsequent rescue attempt probably used the well-established Santa Fe Trail and crossed the ruts at this site.

This portion of the trail performed important freighting transportation functions. The freighting firms of Majors, Russell, and Waddell held an Army contract in 1866 to deliver supplies to forts along the trail. The firm employed 5000 men, utilized 3500 wagons, 40,000 oxen, 1000 mules, and transported 8000 tons of freight.<sup>12</sup> With the location of Fort Zarah to the west of the site and several other forts further along the trail itself, much of this freight probably traversed this site.

### *Archeological Potential<sup>13</sup>*

Archeological prospection, geophysical survey, and metal detector survey of similar trail segments have been shown to reveal associated artifact assemblages, sometimes buried and sometimes not, that can inform on the use of the trail during its period of significance. Though no such surveys have been undertaken on this trail segment, there is every reason to believe that the presence of such an assemblage is possible. These swales and their contributing land area have the potential to yield important information to understanding the use and nature of the Santa Fe Trail through Rice County, including patterns of use and change over time, evolving trade patterns, and cultural interactions. Study of both the remnant trail swale and adjacent archeological features can provide valuable insight into the evolving patterns of historic development in this region. This site likely contains data which may be vital to any wider study of 19th-century trade and economic development. Further investigation could address key questions regarding trade and transportation variability and change. Excavation could also provide additional social data including better estimates of the frequency of use during various phases of history, the role played by the military, various ethnic and social groups, and the nature of trail users, material culture and the production, distribution, and consumption of commodities.<sup>14</sup>

The ruts on the east side of 4<sup>th</sup> Road have only become known as “Ralph’s Ruts” within the last 50 years and are name after the previous owner, Ralph Hathaway. Kerns’ Ruts are name for the Ed and Carolyn Kern; Carolyn is Ralph’s daughter. The entire property continues to be in the Hathaway family and has been for three generations. The swales contained within both Ralph’s and Kerns’ ruts retain a high degree of visual and environmental integrity. “The seven parallel trail ruts [Ralph’s Ruts] are some of the finest examples of pristine trail remains any place along the entire route” and some of the most impressive.<sup>15</sup> Kerns’ Ruts are an extension of those found on the east side of the road.

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<sup>12</sup> Hathaway, *My One-Half Mile*, 4.

<sup>13</sup> This section on the archeological potential of the site is new to this nomination. With minor editorial changes, the rest of Section 8 is from the original nomination.

<sup>14</sup> Kansas State Historical Society, *Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail Multiple Property Documentation Form (Revised)*. August 2012, F116. Citation covers paragraph.

<sup>15</sup> United States Department of the Interior/National Park Service, *Santa Fe National Historic Trail: Comprehensive Management and Use Plan* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1990), 99; Findley, 111.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Findley, Rowe. "Along the Santa Fe Trail." *National Geographic* 179 (March 1991): 98-123.

Hathaway, Ralph. "From the Little Arkansas to the Big Arkansas." *Adventure on the Santa Fe Trail*. edited by Leo Oliva. Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society, 1987.

Hathaway, Ralph. *My One-Half Mile of Santa Fe Trail*. Ellsworth, Kansas: Ellsworth Printing Company, 1984.

Hawkins, Paul. "Ralph's Ruts." *KANSAS! Magazine* 1 (1991): 4-5.

Kansas State Historical Society. *Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail*, revised multiple property documentation form (August 2012).

Simmons, Marc. "'Ralph's Ruts' Mark Scene of Massacre: New Mexican Scrapbook." *El Paso [Texas] Times*, 15 December 1986, n.p.

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

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: **Kansas Historical Society**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): n/a

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 43.68  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>14</u>	<u>550300</u>	<u>4245770</u>	3	<u>14</u>	<u>550700</u>	<u>4245560</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>14</u>	<u>550700</u>	<u>4245710</u>	4	<u>14</u>	<u>550300</u>	<u>424560</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Latitude,-Longitude Coordinates**

Datum: WGS84

**Ralph's Ruts:**

NE corner: <u>38.360093,-98.420082</u>	SE corner: <u>38.356506,-98.420078</u>
NW corner: <u>38.360473,-98.424699</u>	SW corner: <u>38.358542,-98.424714</u>

**Kerns' Ruts:**

NE corner: <u>38.360263,-98.424986</u>	SE corner: <u>38.359086,-98.425012</u>
NW corner: <u>38.360188,-98.434041</u>	SW corner: <u>38.359276,-98.434081</u>

**Verbal Boundary Description** (describe the boundaries of the property)

Ralph's Ruts: Commencing at a point on the eastern margin of the Bushton Blacktop [4<sup>th</sup> Road] and 1220 meters north of the intersection of US-56 Highway and [4<sup>th</sup> Road], proceed due east for 375 meters until the fence line is reached. Continue due north along the fence line for 150 meters before turning northwest. Continue the boundary northwest bearing 278 degrees east of north for 400 meters until a point on the eastern margin of [4<sup>th</sup> Road], and 1440 meters north of the intersection of [US-56 Highway] and [4<sup>th</sup> Road] is reached. Proceed directly south for 220 meters to the point of origin. The use of the road margin as a boundary, contained within this nomination, presupposes the exclusion of the road's current publicly-designated rights-of-way.

Kerns' Ruts:

A rectangular site located in the N/2, NE/4 of Section 33, Township 19 South, Range 10 West bound on the north by a fence and oil lease road; bound on the east by a fence along 4<sup>th</sup> Road; bound on the south by a fence and tree row that run parallel to the swales; and bound on the west by a fence and the property line.

**Boundary Justification** (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundaries of the site enclose an area of [43.68 acres] and include the rutted segments and their immediate environs. The boundaries were formed only to encompass the historically-significant trail resources especially in the case of the northern and southern boundaries. [4<sup>th</sup> Road] disturbs the continuity and environmental context of the ruts. Therefore, this site is discontinuous. A fence line with cultivated land to its east defines the eastern boundary of Ralph's Ruts.

The original nomination erroneously mentions that swales are evident only intermittently on the east side of 4<sup>th</sup> Road and claims that the "installation of an oil pipe and pumps west of [Ralph's Ruts] have destroyed" much of Kerns' Ruts. Upon a May 2012 site visit, intact swales were discovered on the west side of 4<sup>th</sup> Road beyond the area of disruption. The new boundaries include the original site of Ralph's Ruts but are extended to also include the swales comprising Kerns' Ruts and their immediate environs.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Original: Joseph Gallagher / Amended: Amanda Loughlin  
organization The URBANA Group / Kansas State Historical Society date May 1993 / September 2012  
street & number 6425 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave telephone (785)272-8681  
city or town Topeka state KS zip code 66615  
e-mail cultural\_resources@kshs.org

**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:** (Historic images, maps, etc.)

**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:** Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 1  
**City or Vicinity:** Chase vicinity  
**County/State:** Rice County, Kansas  
**Photographer:** Amanda K. Loughlin  
**Date of Photos:** 30 May 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking west from 4th Road.
- 2 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking WSW along swales from near east of site.
- 3 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking east along swales toward 4th Road.
- 4 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking SSW along swales.
- 5 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking west along swales.
- 6 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking east along swales, showing people in swale.
- 7 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking east along north site boundary from west portion of site.
- 8 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking SW along swale from west part of site.
- 9 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking east along swales.
- 10 of 15: Kerns' Ruts. Looking SE across swales.
- 11 of 15: Ralph's Ruts. Looking east from 4th Rd.
- 12 of 15: Ralph's Ruts. Looking east.
- 13 of 15: Ralph's Ruts. Looking west along double swale.
- 14 of 15: Ralph's Ruts. Looking NE across swales.
- 15 of 15: Ralph's Ruts. Looking north, showing wallow.

**Property Owner:**

(complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name On file with SHPO.

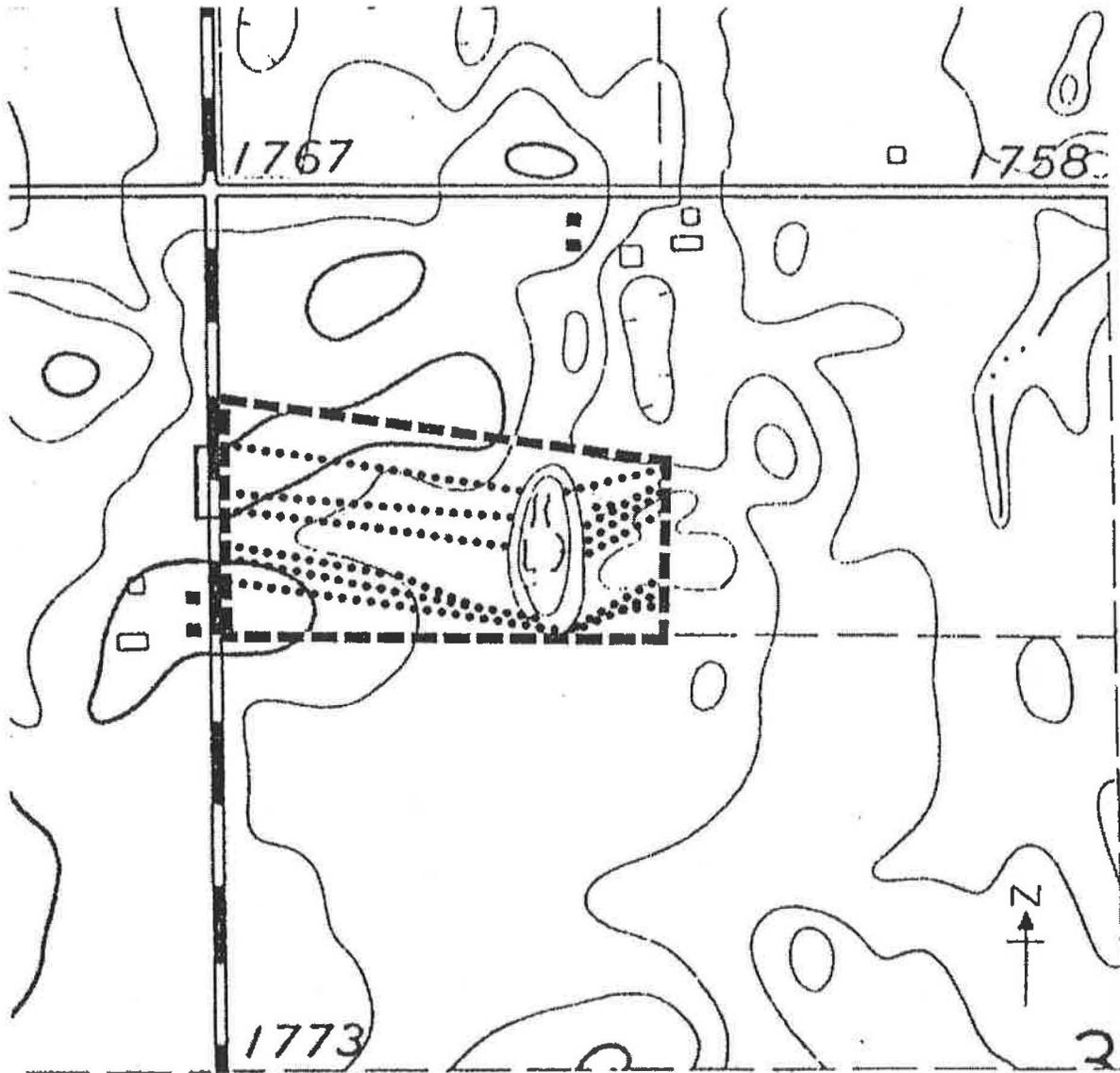
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**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.

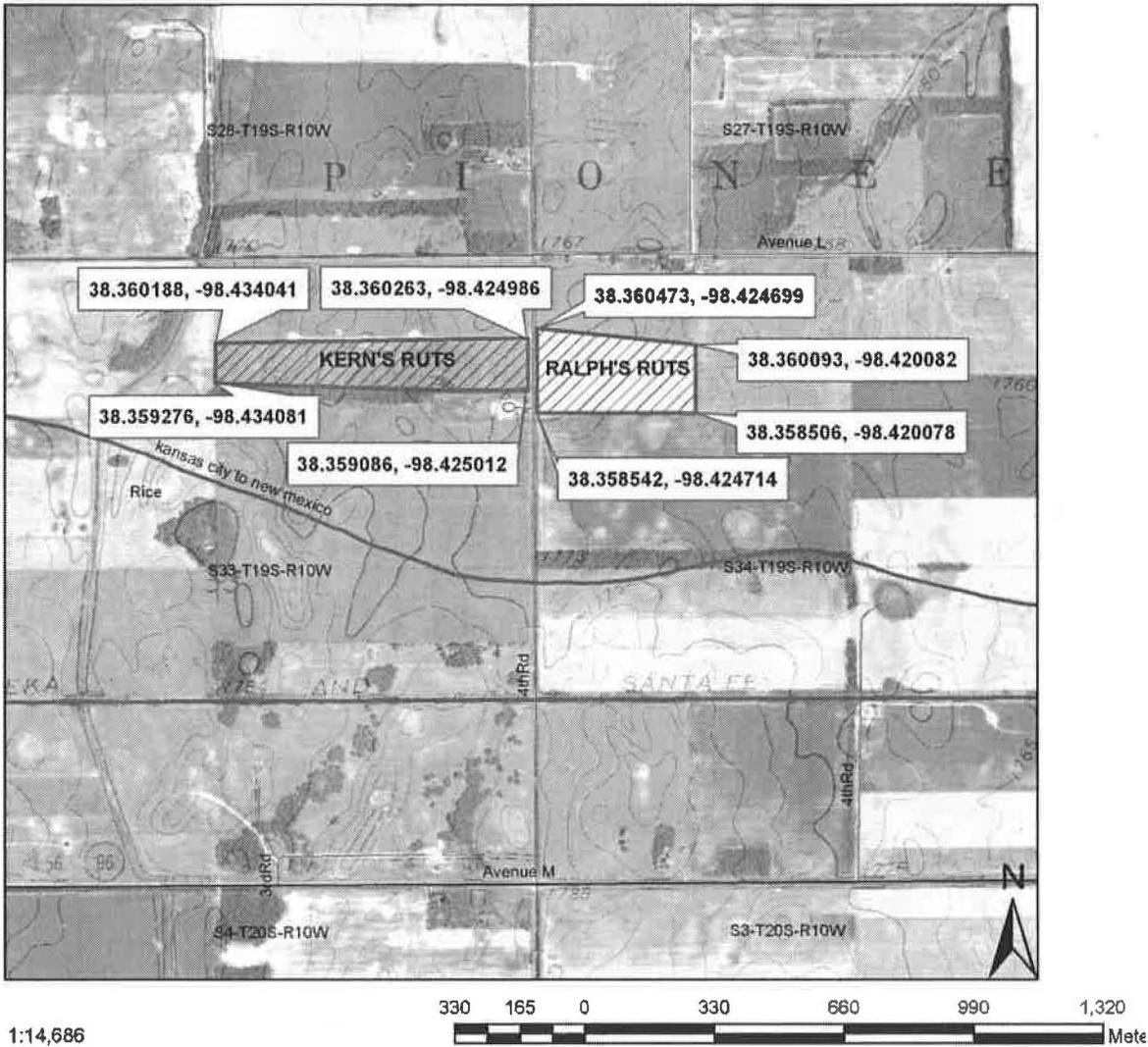
**Sketch Map of Ralph's Ruts.**



- KEY**  
■ ■ ■ ■ SITE BOUNDARY  
..... TRAIL SEGMENTS

**APPROXIMATE SCALE**  
0 100 METERS  
[Scale bar]

**Amended Site Boundary Map.**



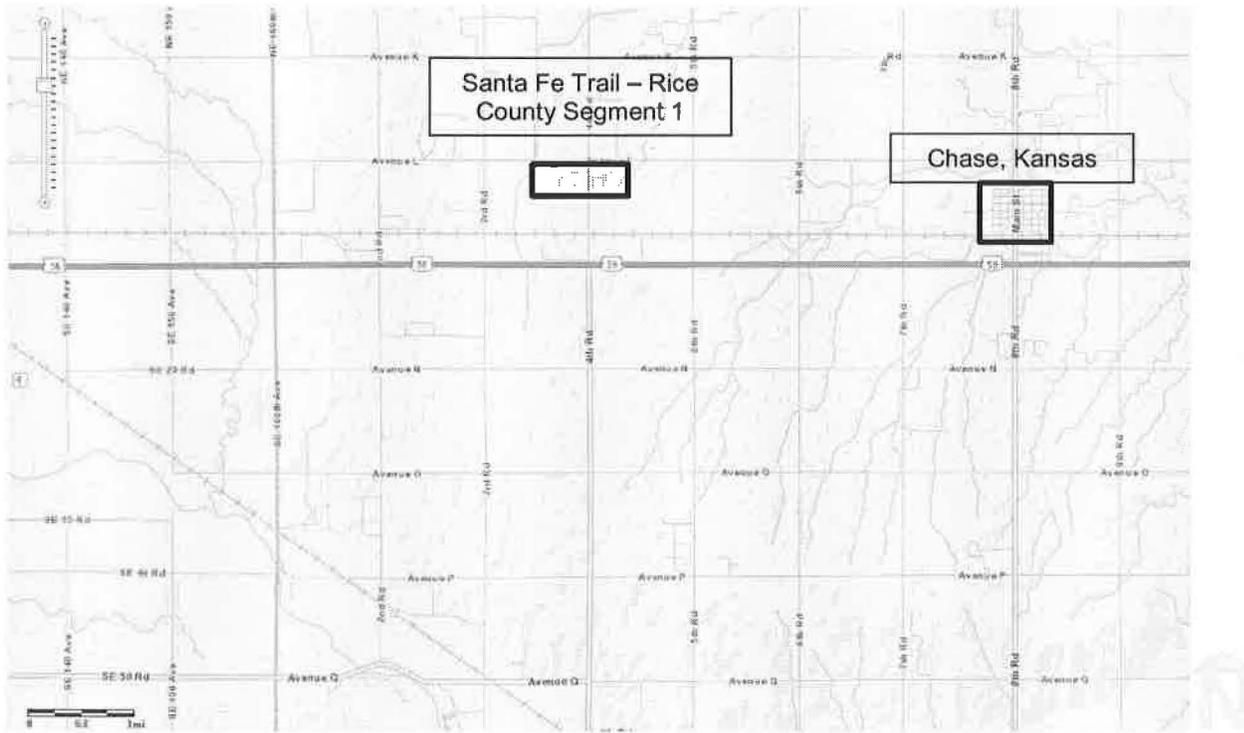
**Santa Fe Trail - Rice County Segment 1  
Kern's Ruts & Ralph's Ruts  
Chase vicinity, Rice County, Kansas**

Boundary is within hatched area on either side of 4th Rd.  
Ralph's Ruts, on the east, was listed in 1995.  
This amendment adds Kern's Ruts on the west side of 4th Rd.  
1866 GLO survey line runs to the south of these sites.

Site Coordinates Datum = WGS84

Ralph's Ruts area: 19.68 acres (0.08 sqkm)  
Area south of road: 24.00 acres (0.10 sqkm)  
Total area: 43.68 acres (0.18 sqkm)

**Contextual Map.**

































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Santa Fe Trail--Rice County Segment 1 (Boundary Increase)  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Santa Fe Trail MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KANSAS, Rice

DATE RECEIVED: 5/31/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/18/13  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/03/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/17/13  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000495

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 7.17.13 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.

Kansas Historical Society



May 28, 2013

Carol Shull  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street, N. W.  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to submit for your consideration the following new National Register nominations:

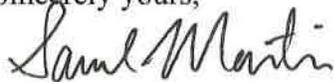
- Sawlog Creek Crossing on the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road – Ford County
- Santa Fe Trail – Ford County Segment 2
- Coon Creek Crossing on the Santa Fe Trail – Pawnee County
- Pawnee Fork Crossing and Boyd's Ranch Site – Pawnee County
- Santa Fe Trail – Grant County Segment 1 – Grant County
- Santa Fe Trail – Kearny County Segment 1 – Kearny County
- Indian Mound – Lakin, Kearny County
- Finney County Point of Rocks – Finney County
- Trail Park & Trail Park DAR Marker – Douglas County

This enclosed nomination is an amendment:

- Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 1 – Rice County (Amended Nomination)

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I may be reached at 785-272-8681 ext. 216 or [smartin@kshs.org](mailto:smartin@kshs.org).

Sincerely yours,



Sarah J. Martin  
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures