NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 5/31/2012)

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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 – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3

other names/site number 14MT1107, 14MT1108, 14MT1109, KHRI #129-171

2. Location

street & number FSR-600, east and west sides of K-27 Hwy ☐ not for publication

city or town Elkhart (Cimarron National Grassland) ☒ vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Morton code 129 zip code 67950

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

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

X national ___ statewide ___ local

Patrick Zollner — Signature of certifying official — Date 2-11-13

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 11-9-12

District Ranger — Title — USDA Forest Service, Cimarron National Grassland — State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

X 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 4/3/2013

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [ ] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [x] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box)

- [ ] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [x] 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
3	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
3	**0**	**Total**

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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE/conservation area

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

Narrative Description

Summary

The Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3 is composed of a series of swaled remnants of the Cimarron Route within three recorded archeological sites (14MT1107, 14MT1108, and 14MT1109), as well as a 50 meter (164 feet) linear contributing land area that ties the sites together.[1] This linear 164.35-acre site is located about eight miles north of Elkhart in Morton County, Kansas, completely within the Cimarron National Grassland along Forest Service Road (FSR) 600 and is a good example of a Transportation Site (Trail Segment subtype) as defined in the *Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail* revised multiple property nomination. The trail segment's eastern terminus is just across the section line in the SW1/4 of Section 26, Township 33 South, Range 42 West; its western terminus is located about one mile southwest of K-27 Highway in Section 5, Township 34 South, Range 42 West.

Elaboration

The Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3 is a remnant of the Cimarron Route of the Santa Fe Trail, which played a key role in transportation of travelers and goods along the trail between 1822 and 1868. Each site described below is a good example of a Transportation Site (Trail Segment subtype) described in the multiple property nomination. These swales lead to and away from Middle Spring and Point of Rocks. Dust storms produced a minor shift in vegetation during the Dust Bowl, with the most severe erosion in Morton County taking place between 1935 and 1938.[2] This segment maintains a similar visual landscape to that of its period of significance (1822-1868).

Landscape[3]

Morton County is located within the High Plains section of the Great Plains province of the Interior Plains division of North America. The natural vegetation of the High Plains consists of a vast expanse of prairie cut through by narrow, discontinuous ribbons of riverine forest. The potential natural vegetation of the region includes short grass prairie and floodplain forest or savanna.[4] The prairie contains a growth of blue grama and buffalograss along with a few other grasses and forbs. The forbs are most common in the southern part of the state. The overall terrain surrounding this site in Morton County is prairie, having intermittent patches of yucca (*Yucca spp.*) and buffalograss (*Buchloë dactyloides*) throughout the area. In the Cimarron National Grassland, sand sagebrush (*Artemisia filifolia*) and prickly pear (*Opuntia spp.*) are also prevalent.

This site along the north bank of the Cimarron River is relatively flat except for intermittent drainages through which the trail crossed. The eastern terminus (14MT1107) starts at an elevation of about 1036 meters (3400 feet); the elevation is 1039 meters (3410 feet) at the western end of the linear site. The swales are located in a rural area of Morton County, and the viewshed from the nominated sites shows a moderate amount of visual intrusions, namely gas and oil wells, defunct gravel pits, small windmills, and limestone posts erected to mark the general location of the trail.[5] Crossing the trail corridor are pipelines and modern two-track dirt roads, which obscure the visual continuity of the corridor. However, the rural nature of this area and its conservation as a national grassland helps to maintain the historic visual integrity of the linear site. The United States Forest Service (USFS) maintains a protective corridor on either side of the trail which helps to protect and preserve this nationally significant trail yet allow the USFS to meet its multiple use mandate.

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[1] 14MT1107, 14MT1108, and 14MT1109 are the Kansas State Historical Society's archeological site numbers.

[2] Donald Worster, *Dust Bowl: The Southern Plains in the 1930s* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2004), 28, 30.

[3] The following paragraph is adapted from standard language used in reports written by Kansas State Historical Society, Cultural Resources Division, Archeology Department.

[4] A.W. Kuchler, "A New Vegetation Map of Kansas," *Ecology* 55, no. 3 (1974): 586-604.

[5] According to the USFS, the gravel pits to the south of the trail corridor are not currently being mined. Much of the area is now part of the Cimarron Racetrack – an area where ATVs can drive overland and not stay on designated vehicular trails. The Racetrack does not extend into the boundary the boundary of the segment.

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc. conducted a reconnaissance survey of several potential Santa Fe Trail swales in the Cimarron National Grassland for the USDA Forest Service in 2000. The purpose of this investigation was to determine the validity of proposed trail sites identified in 1990 by William Buckles and Kathie Arwood of the University of Southern Colorado.[6] Alpine's report provides the basis for the following summaries.

Trail Segment 14MT1107

Archeological site 14MT1107 contains the easternmost set of swales in the Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3. Its eastern terminus begins at an elevation of about 1033 meters (3390 feet) on a west-facing slope in the very southwest corner of SW1/4 of Section 26, Township 33 South, Range 42 West about 30 meters (100 feet) east of the section line and just east of an entrenched drainage that runs north-south (Figure 1). This drainage slopes to an elevation of 1030 meters (3380 feet). On the east side of the drainage, the swale runs east-west for about 70 meters (225 feet) and is faintly visible as a break in the slope. Though it becomes more visible because of erosion down to the drainage, the southern edge of this portion of the swale is indistinct. Exiting on the west bank of the drainage, the shallow, 5 meters (16 feet) wide swale is fairly distinct as it travels in a southwesterly direction for 500 meters (1640 feet); only its northern edge is discernible. The 2.20-acre swale terminates at the east side of FSR-600 at an elevation of 1039 meters (3408 feet) in the NE1/4, NE1/4 of Section 34, Township 33 South, Range 42 West.

Trail Segment 14MT1107 is occasionally disrupted by man-made intrusions. On the western bank of the drainage, the trail is clipped by a mowed foot and horse path. The corridor is also crossed by a two-track road running east and west following a Coastal Field Services gas pipeline; a valve is located in the center of the swale. Due to the road and pipeline, 14 meters (45 feet) of the trail is no longer extant where the pipeline crosses the swale. However, southwest of this disruption, the swale – discernible by the presence of dense brush and grass in wetter seasons – continues for another 160 meters (525 feet) to its western terminus.[7]

The physical integrity of this segment is fair. Its eligibility is strengthened by its proximity and relation to segment 14MT1108, which is 200 meters (650 feet) to the southwest of 14MT1107's western terminus.

Trail Segment 14MT1108

Trail Segment 14MT1108 (Figure 2) is comprised of at least four parallel swales. The eastern terminus of the 10.16-acre linear site begins at an elevation of 1036 meters (3400ft), 200 meters (650 feet) southwest of the western terminus of Trail Segment 14MT1107 in the NE1/4 of Section 34, Township 33 South, Range 42 West. Following a southwesterly course toward Middle Spring, this 2.6-kilometer (1.6-mile) corridor exits the section in the SW1/4 and enters the SE1/4 of Section 33, Township 33 South, Range 42 West where it turns more westward and terminates in the east half of the SW1/4 of the section at an elevation of 1037 meters (3401 feet). The corridor is located along FSR-600, which continues to follow the trail.

Trail Segment 14MT1108's eastern terminus becomes visible about 35 meters (115 feet) southwest of a small intermittent drainage as a single, lush grassy swale with a width of 35 meters (115 feet). This swale parallels the southeast side of FSR-600 for about 550 meters (1800 feet).[8] Emerging from this single grassy swale are four distinct parallel swales within a 35 meters (115 feet) wide corridor that stretches southwest for 50 meters (164 feet). Crossing another small intermittent drainage, the corridor narrows to a width of 20 meters (65 feet) with three parallel swales stretching southwest for another 50 meters (164 feet). Beyond the drainage and across a north-south two-track road, the three swales widen to 24 meters (80 feet) corridor for another 240 meters (800 feet) where a limestone marker has been placed to mark the trail. From this point, the corridor widens again to 30 meters (100 feet) and contains four parallel swales that continue for 85 meters

[6] Jonathon C. Horn, *Santa Fe Trail Documentation on the Cimarron National Grassland, Morton County, Kansas* (Montrose: Alpine Archeological Consultants, Inc., 2000), ii. See William G. Buckles and Kathie Arwood, *Investigations of the Cimarron Branch of the Santa Fe Trail Cimarron National Grassland, Morton County, Kansas* (Pueblo: University of Southern Colorado, 1990) on file with the Kansas State Historical Society's Cultural Resources Division.

[7] Horn, 20, 24. Citation covers both paragraphs.

[8] Horn notes that this single swale may actually be the result of the construction of FSR-600.

(280 feet). The corridor narrows back down to a width of 24 meters (80 feet) that contains only three distinct swales. These three swales continue southwest an additional 180 meters (600 feet) to an east-west two-track road. A single 6-meter (20-foot) swale of dense grass that leads to an intermittent drainage is visible for 55 meters (180 feet) after crossing this road.

At this drainage, 100 meters (325 feet) of visible trail evidence disappears but picks back up as a single 6-meter (20-foot) wide swale midway up the western rise of the drainage and continues for another 45 meters (150 feet) to a stone marker. To the west of the stone marker, the trail widens to 40 meters (130 feet), 110 meters (360 feet) long, 1 meter (3 feet) deep corridor with at least four swales evident. This eroded 1.07-acre corridor ends at another two-track road along the slope of an intermittent drainage. Along the bottom of the drainage for about 55 meters (180 feet), the visual trail evidence is indecipherable.

Three distinct routes begin to diverge along the southwestern slope of this drainage. The main, central route contains two densely vegetated parallel swales with a depth of 1 meter (3 feet). These two swales are contained within a 12-meter (40-foot) wide corridor that extends southwest for 200 meters (650 feet) to FSR-600. To the southwest of the main route is a single 5-meter (15-foot) wide gully with a variable depth of 1.2 meters to 1.5-meters (4 feet to 5 feet). Horn believes this to be a severely eroded swale leading out of the drainage. This swale rejoins the main route after 170 meters (550 feet), just before its termination at FSR-600. The third route begins 30 meters (100 feet) northwest of the main route, continuing southwest for 60 meters (200 feet) before terminating at FSR-600. During the May 2011 grassfires that occurred in this part of the Cimarron National Grassland, a portion of this northern swale was disked in an effort to prevent the spread of fire. However, the general profile of the swale is still present.

The trail is disrupted for the next 250 meters (820 feet) by FSR-600. Within this area of disturbance, a CIG pipeline crosses the trail in a northwest-southeast direction. The trail becomes visible again to the north of FSR-600, 50 meters (164 feet) west-southwest of the pipeline. Stretching upslope 80 meters (250 feet), the trail is evident as two shallow, brushy swales in a 12-meter (40-foot) wide corridor. The corridor continues westward for another 100 meters (325 feet) before its visibility is again compromised. Following the presumed route westward for about 35 meters (115 feet), a northern edge of a single swale becomes visible again for another 65 meters (210 feet). At this point just north of FSR-600, a southern swale emerges and at least three swales in a 40- to 55-meter (130- to 180-foot) wide corridor are visible descending the east bank of a small drainage area. Disappearing in the drainage bottom for 20 meters (65 feet), the corridor again reappears, widening to 40 meters (130 feet) and containing four parallel swales. This corridor stretches westward 50 meters (164 feet) until only a single 5-meter (16-foot) wide swale is visible for another 90 meters (300 feet). Also exiting the drainage 15 meters (50 feet) to the south of this wide corridor is a single deeply eroded swale 5 meters (16 feet) wide. This swale is visible for 480 meters (1575 feet) until reaching FSR-600. From here, the trail disappears for 80 meters (260 feet). Picking back up for a final stretch of 160 meters (525 feet), the single swale fades as the topography flattens.[9]

From this point west to the right-of-way of K-27 Highway no swales are discernible. However, the landscape corridor within which the trail was located is included within the boundary of the Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3 for continuity. This boundary is technically broken only at the east and west rights-of-way for K-27 Highway, though the visual continuity between the east and west sides of the highway are retained.

Trail Segment 14MT1109

Trail Segment 14MT1109 (Figures 3 and 4) is comprised of one to three parallel swales. The eastern terminus of the 5.83-acre linear site begins on the west side of the K-27 Highway right-of-way at an elevation of 1041 meters (3414 feet) just across the section line of NW1/4 Section 4, Township 34 South, Range 42 West. Following a southwesterly course toward Middle Spring, this 1.8-kilometer (1.12-mile) corridor crosses the extreme SE1/4 of Section 5, Township 34 South, Range 42 West and continues southwestward to

[9] Horn, 24, 26. Citation covers preceding five paragraphs.

terminate in the center of the SW1/4 of the section at an elevation of 1039 meters (3410 feet). The corridor is located along FSR-600.

Trail Segment 14MT1109 begins at the right-of-way fence on the south side of FSR-600 and initially appears as a single 5-meter (16-foot) wide swale stretching in a southwesterly direction for about 210 meters (695 feet), becoming obscured 60 meters (200 feet) northeast of a well pad; the trail is indistinguishable for 180 meters (590 feet). A mowed foot and horse path is located immediately south of the swale. To the immediate west of an earthen levee, the trail reemerges as a single 5-meter (16-foot) wide swale, crossing a drainage ditch and leading southwest to a stone trail marker about 120 meters (395 feet) southwest. On the northeast side of the stone trail marker, three parallel swales appear in an 18-meter (60-foot) wide corridor. This corridor quickly merges into a variable 10- to 20-meter (32- to 65-foot) wide corridor that heads southwest for 480 meters (1575 feet) to another stone marker; this marker is located on a low rise above an intermittent drainage crossing. Along this variable-width 480-meter (1575-foot) corridor the number of swales varies between two and three that are frequently obscured by dense grass and a modern two-track road.

Heading southwestward from the stone marker, the swale corridor widens on the slope down to the drainage and is obscured for 45 meters (150 feet) as it crosses the bottom. Emerging on the southwest side of the drainage, the trail is present as a 20-meter (65-foot) wide corridor with an additional 5-meter (16-foot) wide swale to the northwest. This corridor is evident for about 50 meters (164 feet) until it is disrupted by two modern swaths related to an adjacent well pad for another 50 meters (164 feet). The trail becomes visible again as two swales for 90 meters (300 feet) to a northwest-southeast pipeline crossing. The pipeline crossing disrupts the segment's path, making only the north edge of a single 5-meter (16-foot) swale visible for 180 meters (600 feet). The trail then vanishes for about 40 meters (130 feet). Reaching the western terminus, the segment is vaguely discernible as a 15-meter (50-foot) wide corridor containing two swales which terminate at a stone marker west of a dirt road leading to man-made ponds.[10]

Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3 varies in width throughout its entire length. The segment spans 40 meters to 55 meters (130 feet to 180 feet) at its widest and about 5 meters (16 feet) at its narrowest. The proposed boundary for the trail segment includes its immediate variable-width corridor with a 50-meter (164-foot) linear contributing land area on either side of the recorded swale corridors. Though visual intrusions in the form of energy developments are present, the corridor retains enough integrity as a whole to be considered eligible.

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[10] Horn, 26, 29. Citation covers preceding three paragraphs.

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.
- [x] 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

Period of Significance

1822-1868

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, 1822-1868 was selected because it spans the years the Santa Fe Trail was active in this part of Kansas as a route of transportation and commerce.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

n/a

Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3 is nationally significant as a historic resource of the Santa Fe Trail under Criterion A for its association with transportation and commerce along the Santa Fe Trail from 1822 to 1868. This segment is also nationally significant under Criterion D for its potential to yield information on the use of the trail during its initial period of significance. This site's trail segments and contributing land area retain a good degree of integrity in terms of location, setting, feeling, and association. The period of significance begins with the initiation of wagon movement over this segment of the Cimarron Route in 1822 and ends with the arrival of the Union Pacific Eastern Division Railroad at the town of Sheridan, Kansas in June 1868. This site materially reflects important historic events outlined in the historic contexts International Trade on the Mexican Road, 1821-1846; The Mexican-American War and the Santa Fe Trail, 1846-1848; Expanding National Trade on the Santa Fe Trail, 1848-1861; The Effects of the Civil War on the Santa Fe Trail, 1861-1865; and The Santa Fe Trail and the Railroad, 1865-1880, as well as The Santa Fe Trail in Kansas.

Elaboration

From 1821 to 1880, the Santa Fe Trail was a significant trade route between Missouri and New Mexico. Unlike other trails such as the Oregon, California, and Mormon trails, which served as a highway for emigrants bound for new homes in the far West, the bulk of traffic along the Santa Fe Trail consisted of civilian traders and military personnel. The Cimarron Route, which passed through what is now the Cimarron National Grassland, traversed 294 miles between its departure from the Mountain Route near Ingalls, Kansas and its reunification with the Mountain Route at La Junta (Watrous), New Mexico; 88 miles of the Cimarron Route were in Kansas, including a portion of the 60-mile waterless stretch known as *La Jornada*.

This trail segment is closely related to neighboring Point of Rocks and Middle Spring, which was the next reliable water source west of the Lower Cimarron (or Wagon Bed) Spring at the western end of *La Jornada*.[11] A lack of reliable water sources contributed to difficult travel through *La Jornada*. With the Cimarron River containing only small pools of water after heavy rains, Middle Spring was a crucial stop for travelers.[12] Almost all travelers looking for Middle Spring would have used neighboring Point of Rocks as a navigational aid. In evidence of this today, visible trail segments curve around Middle Spring and directly to the south of Point of Rocks. The Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3 is part of the Cimarron Route and is closely associated with Point of Rocks and Middle Spring, which are located approximately 1.5 miles to the southwest of this segment.

Trail Traffic (1822-1868)

Although William Becknell initiated travel to Santa Fe in 1821, his expedition entered New Mexico using pack animals through Emery Gap on the present-day Colorado-New Mexico border, not through this portion of Morton County. Becknell's second trading expedition in the spring of 1822, however, likely did pass through this area of Morton County. This expedition included 21 men and three wagons – the first American attempt to use wagons on the trail.[13] The use of wagons required the party to adopt a trail route that avoided the mountains Becknell used during his first trip; this new route followed what became the Cimarron Route in

[11] Lower Cimarron Spring is a National Historic Landmark (12/19/1960) and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (10/15/1966). Both the NHL and NR nominations are on file with the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office.

[12] William E. Brown, *The Santa Fe Trail: National Park Service 1963 Historic Sites Survey* (St. Louis: The Patrice Press, 1988), 113.

[13] Larry M. Beachum, *William Becknell, Father of the Santa Fe Trade* (El Paso: Texas Western Press, 1982), 34; Larry M. Beachum, "To the Westward: William Becknell and the Beginning of the Santa Fe Trade," *Journal of the West* 28 (April 1989): 9; Brown, 8; William E. Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans Vol. I* (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1918-1919), 89.

Morton County, Kansas (Figure 2).[14] From 1822 to the start of the Mexican-American War in 1846, the Cimarron Route was known as *the* Santa Fe Trail (in its various naming iterations) by traders between New Mexico and Missouri. During the Mexican-American War, users of the Cimarron Route were predominately the United States military. This route continued to see commercial and military traffic after the war until the Union Pacific Eastern Division reached the short-lived town of Sheridan, Kansas, in June 1868. Santa Fe-bound freight was shipped to this rail-end town approximately 140 miles north of Elkhart where it was then loaded onto wagons and hauled along the Mountain Route (Figure 6). The portion of the trail through this corridor was completely abandoned by 1874. The General Land Office surveyors reached this area of Morton County in 1874, and did not include the trail on their survey maps.

Documented use of this route in Morton County occurred throughout the trail's history, specifically with the mention of Point of Rocks and Middle Spring. Traveler Josiah Gregg mentioned Middle Spring in his 1824 journal of the trail.[15] In 1825 surveyors George Sibley and Joseph C. Brown both made mention of Point of Rocks and Middle Spring in their journals and field notes in October 1825.[16] During the Mexican-American War, US Captain Alexander B. Dyer mentioned Middle Spring in his field notes.[17] In 1865, Kansas settler, Frank Stahl, was employed by Leavenworth contractor James Kerr to drive over 1100 head of cattle to Fort Union, New Mexico for the US military.[18] Stahl passed Middle Spring in September 1865, noting it in his travel journal.[19]

Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc. concluded that the swales comprising this segment are impressions left by traffic that traveled along the Cimarron Route to and from Santa Fe. 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 are surviving remnants of the route that likely would have had at least four parallel columns. As such, this segment and its contributing land area have the potential to yield important information to understanding the use and nature of the Cimarron Route through Morton County, including patterns of use and change over time, evolving trade patterns, and cultural interactions. Study of both the remnant trail segment 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 the 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

[14] According to Josiah Gregg's 1844 "Map of the Indian Territory Northern Texas and New Mexico Showing the Great Western Plains," the "First Wagon Route" left Cool Spring (in present-day Oklahoma) and headed further south of the Cimarron Route, crossing Arroyo de los Yutas and the Canadian River before arriving in San Jose, New Mexico where it rejoined the Cimarron Route into Santa Fe. The map is viewable on the University of Tulsa's website: http://www.lib.utulsa.edu/speccoll/collections/maps/gregg/Gregg%20%20complete.jpg (accessed 29 February 2012).

[15] See Appendix B in the multiple property nomination.

[16] Kate L. Gregg, ed. *The Road to Santa Fe: the Journal and Diaries of George Champlin Sibley and Others Pertaining to the Surveying and Marking of a Road from the Missouri Frontier to the Settlements of New Mexico, 1825-1827* (Albuquerque: The University of New Mexico Press, 1952), 92, 258.

[17] See Appendix D in the multiple property nomination.

[18] William E. Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans* Vol. III (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1918-1919), 1316.

[19] Francis (Frank) M. Stahl, John Meredith, trans., *Santa Fe Trail Diary: Cattle drive from Leavenworth, Kansas to Fort Union, New Mexico* (Unpublished, 1865, 2008), 12 [electronic transcription on-line]; available from http://www.frankstahlbio.net/Frank%20Stahl%20Santa%20Fe%20Trail%20diary%20transcription.pdf; Internet; accessed 21 June 2012. Stahl also mentions camping 2 miles east of Middle Spring, which would likely have been along this corridor of the trail.

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.[20]

Point of Rocks and Middle Spring were both key stops along the Cimarron Route for Santa Fe Trail travelers and remain central components to the associated trail segments throughout the Cimarron National Grassland, including the Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3.

[20] Kansas State Historical Society, *Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail Multiple Property Documentation Form (Revised)*. August 2012, F116.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Worster, Donald. *Dust Bowl: The Southern Plains in the 1930s*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

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:

__x__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 164.35
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Map Datum: WGS84

See attached Boundary Maps for additional coordinates; letters correspond to map.

A:	37.116316,-101.914996	G:	37.126378,-101.899168
F:	37.126326,-101.889678	Q:	37.142925,-101.862915

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)
A linear 164.35-acre site within the Cimarron National Grassland. The eastern terminus is located in the SW/4, SW/4 S26-T33S-R42W; continuing southwest, the corridor passes through the SE/4, SE/4 S27-T33S-R42W and enters S34-T33S-R42W at the NE/4 and exits the section in the SW/4. From this location changes to a west-southwesterly course and continues through the S/2 S33-T33S-R42W. The boundary is broken at the right-of-way of K-27 Hwy. The corridor boundary resumes in the extreme SW/4 S33-T33S-R42W, just east of the section line between sections 33 and 32, and moves to a southwesterly course through the extreme SE/4, SE/4 S32-T33S-R42W and enters the NE/4 S5-T34S-R42W. The corridor's western terminus is in the SW/4 of this section.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)
The boundary includes the documented archeological sites 14MT1107, 14MT1108, and 14MT1109, along with a 50m (164ft) contributing land area around the sites as required in the multiple property nomination. This contributing land area ties the recorded archeological sites together into one contiguous corridor that is only broken at the state highway due to the major disruption to the trail at this location.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John R. Barry & Amanda K. Loughlin
organization Kansas State Historical Society date
street & number 6425 SW 6th Ave telephone (785)272-8681
city or town Topeka state KS zip code 66615-1099
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 – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3
City or Vicinity: Elkhart vicinity
County/State: Morton County, Kansas
Photographer: Laura Groves
Date of Photos: 11 October 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 4: Segment 14MT1108, view east across swale on south side of FSR-600.
2 of 4: Segment 14MT1108, view northeast across swale on south side of FSR-600. Gas well is visible on ridge in left background; stone post marking approximate location of swales is visible in the yucca on the right.
3 of 4: Segment 14MT1108, view southeast across swale on south side of FSR-600. Cimarron River is to the right where concentration of trees is.
4 of 4: Standing in 14MT1108, looking northwest from south side of FSR-600 and showing disked area. Profile of swale is still evident.

Property Owner:

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

name USDA Forest Service (c/o Dr. Michelle Stevens)

street & number 242 HWY 56 E, PO Box 300 telephone (620)697-4621

city or town Elkhart state KS zip code 67950

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.

Figure 1.

Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3.
Aerial view of 14MT1107. Arrows indicate location of swale, visible as a darker line within the landscape.
Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (kshs.org/khri).
Accessed 11 April 2012.

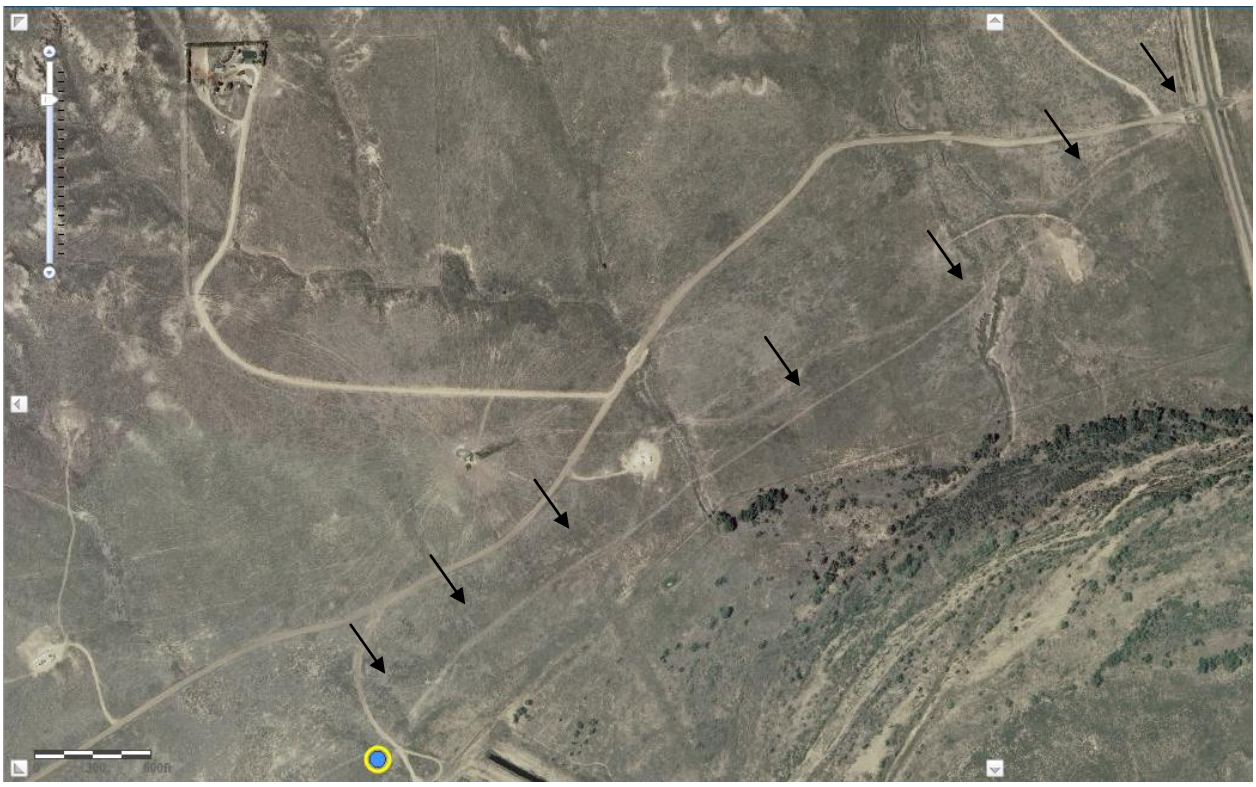
Figure 2.

Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3.
Aerial view of east portion of 14MT1108. Arrows indicate location of corridor with multiple swales visible. Leftmost arrow is the approximate location of the disked swale. Cimarron River is located at the bottom right of the image.
Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (kshs.org/khri). Accessed 11 April 2012.

Figure 3.

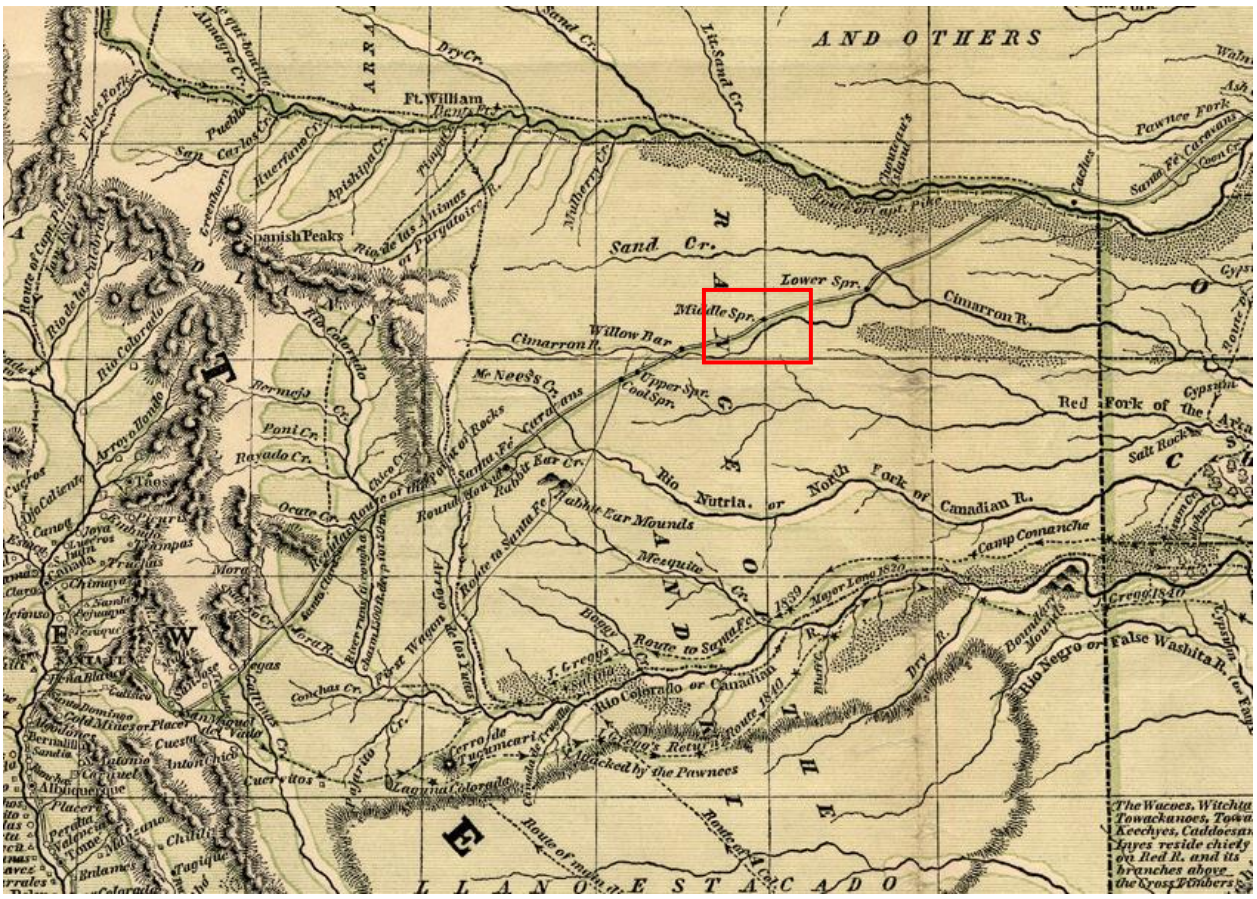
Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3.
2008 aerial view of west portion of 14MT1108. Arrows indicate location of corridor. Leftmost arrow is the approximate location of the disked swale. Cimarron River is located at the bottom right of the image; K-27 Highway is at the left.
Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (kshs.org/khri).
Accessed 11 April 2012.

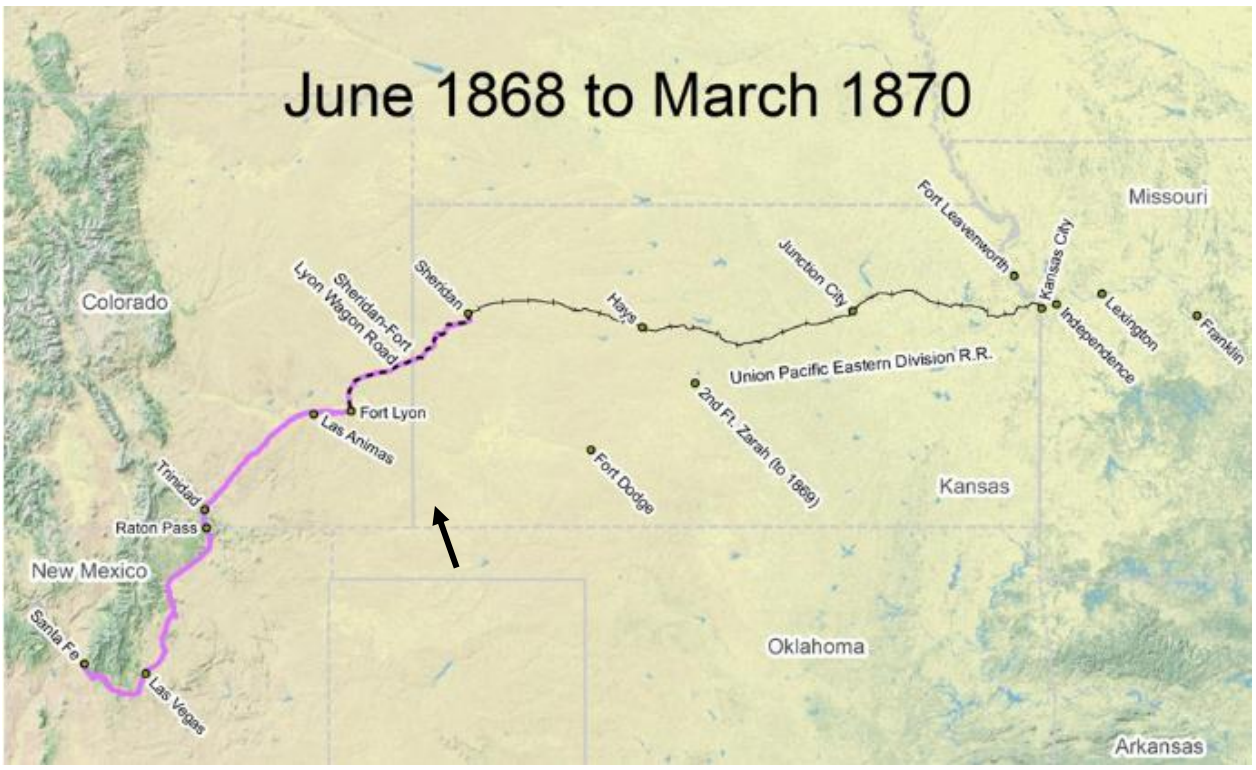
Figure 4.



Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3.
2008 aerial view of west portion of 14MT1109. Arrows indicate location of corridor; dot is approximate location of western terminus. Cimarron River is located at the bottom right of the image; K-27 Highway is at the upper right.
Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (kshs.org/khri).
Accessed 11 April 2012.

Figure 5.


AND OTHERS
Ft. William
Sand Cr.
Lower Spr.
Middle Spr.
Willow Bar
Cimarron R.
Upper Spr.
Cool Spr.
Red Fork of the
Rio Nutria, or North Fork of Canadian R.
Rabbit Ear Mounds
Camp Comanche
Rio Colorado or Canadian
Rio Negro or False Washita R.
Pawnee Fork
Spanish Peaks
Rio Colorado
Mesquite Cr.
Dry R.
Dry Cr.
Lit. Sand Cr.
Mulberry Cr.
Salt Rock
Cyprian
Cuerritos
Laguna Colorado
Tucumcari
Cuesta
Anton Chico
Bernalillo
Sandia
Placer
Chilili
Tagique
Embudo
Colorado
Cuchas Cr.
Mesa Cr.
Poni Cr.
Rayado Cr.
Ocate Cr.
Bernacho Cr.
Arroyo Hondo
Rio de los Animas or Purgatoire R.
Rio de los Pueblos
Rio de los Pueblos
Pueblo
San Carlos Cr.
Huerfano Cr.
Apishipa Cr.
Greenhorn
Dry Cr.
Sand Cr.
Mc Nees's Cr.
Cardinas
Round Hollow
Rabbit Ear Cr.
Chico Cr.
Route to Santa Fe
Route to Santa Fe
Route of the Rocks
Route of the Rocks
Route of the Rocks

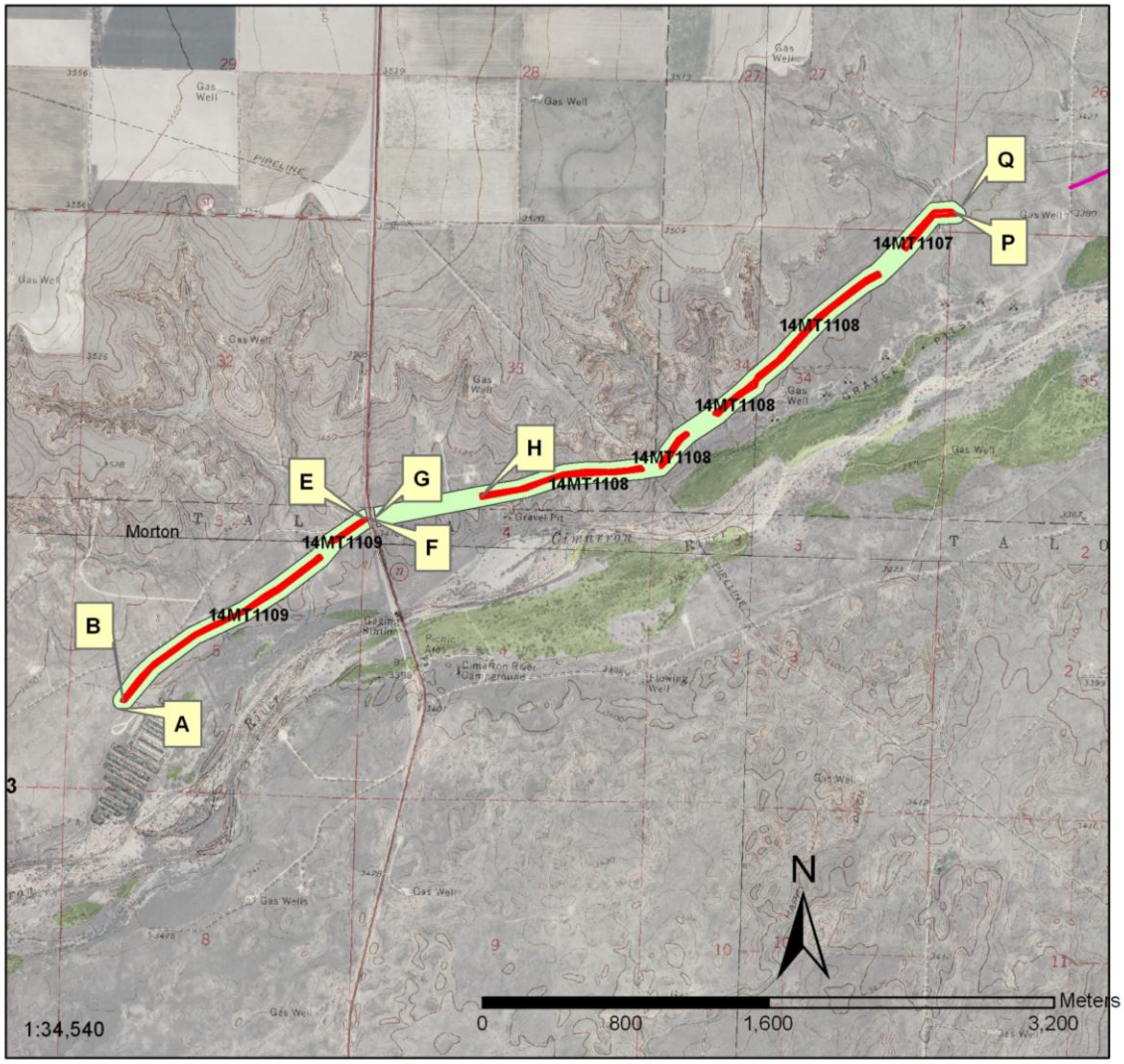


Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3.
Arrow indicates general location of nominated site.
June 1868-March 1870 Timeline Map of the Santa Fe Trail.
National Park Service GIS.
http://www.nps.gov/safe/historyculture/map-timeline-3.htm
Accessed 9 October 2012.

Photographic Key for 14MT1108

Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3.
2008 aerial image of SW/4 S34-T33S-R42W
Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (kshs.org/khri).
Accessed 11 April 2012.
Numbers correspond with photograph log.

Overall Boundary Map.

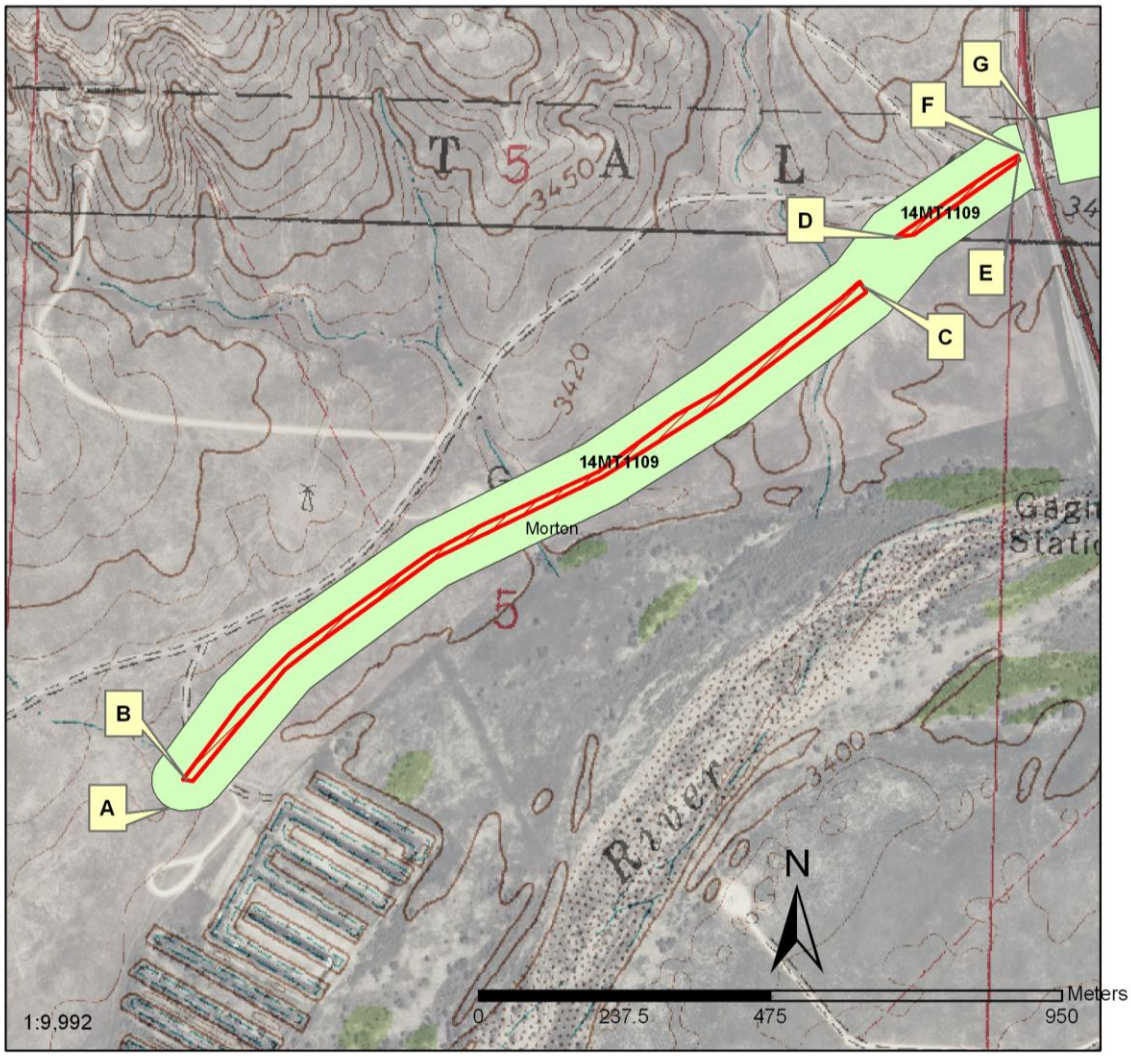


Santa Fe Trail - Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3
Elkhart vicinity, Morton County, Kansas
Image shows trail segment boundary with the recorded sites within hatched area.
Note: Boundary of segment is interrupted by K-27 Hwy and its right-of-way.

Site Coordinates (Datum = WGS84):
A: 37.116316,-101.914996 (Boundary Edge)
B: 37.116727,-101.914682 (Edge of Recorded Site)
E: 37.126270,-101.899791 (Edge of Recorded Site)
F: 37.126326,-101.889678 (Boundary Edge at K-27)
G: 37.126378,-101.899168 (Boundary Edge at K-27)
H: 37.127576,-101.892563 (Edge of Recorded Site)
P: 37.142613,-101.863400 (Edge of Recorded Site)
Q: 37.142925,-101.862915 (Boundary Edge)

Total area: 164.35 acres (0.67 sqkm)
Total area of Recorded Sites: 18.19 acres (0.074 sqkm)

Boundary Map for 14MT1109.

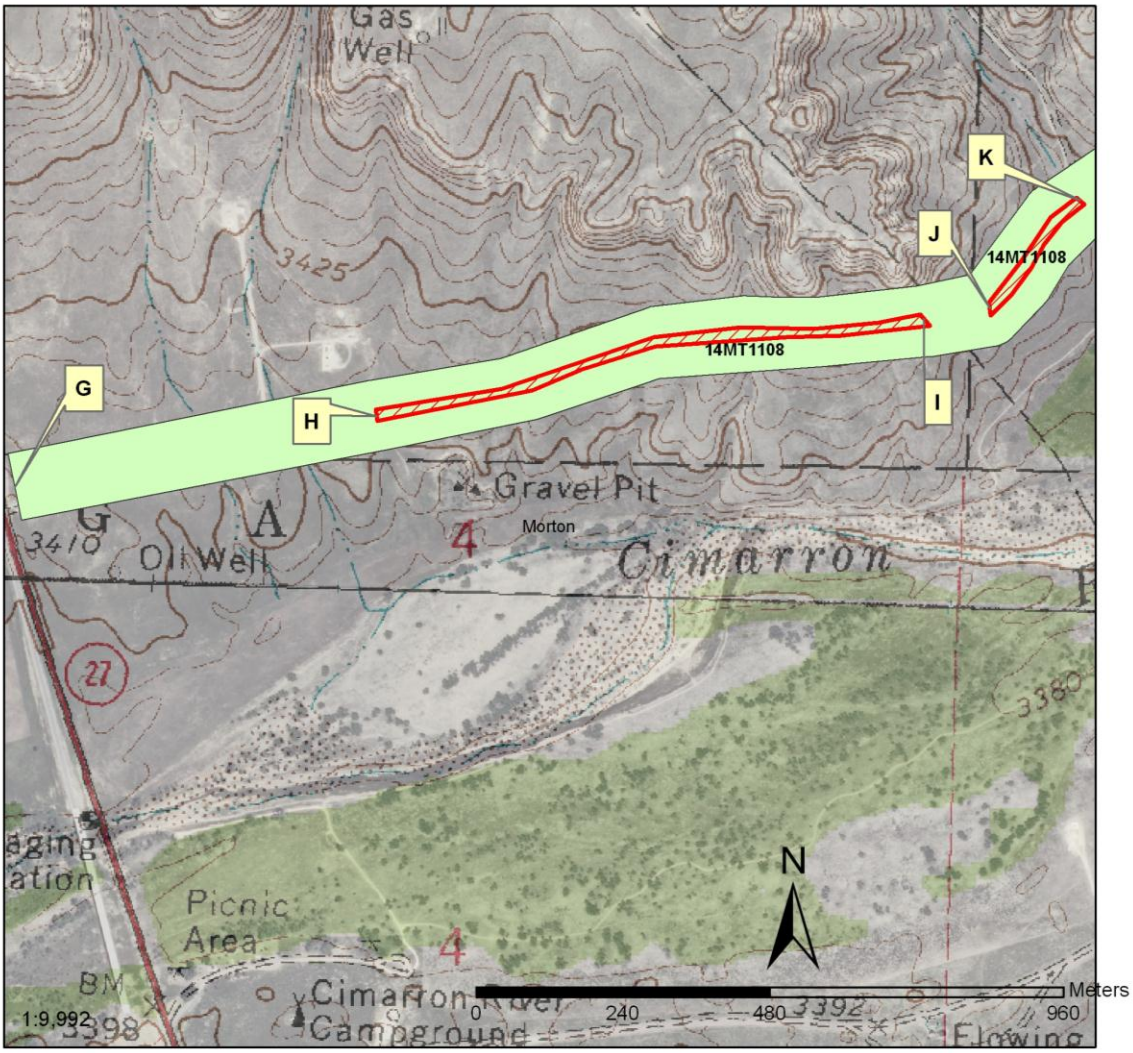


Santa Fe Trail - Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3
Elkhart vicinity, Morton County, Kansas
Detail of 14MT1109
Note: Boundary of segment is interrupted by K-27 Hwy and its right-of-way.

Site Coordinates (Datum = WGS84):
A: 37.116316,-101.914996 (Boundary Edge)
B: 37.116727,-101.914682 (Edge of Recorded Site)
C: 37.124305,-101.902579 (Edge of Recorded Site)
D: 37.125034,-101.901864 (Edge of Recorded Site)
E: 37.126270,-101.899791 (Edge of Recorded Site)
F: 37.126326,-101.889678 (Boundary Edge at K-27)
G: 37.126378,-101.899168 (Boundary Edge at K-27)

Total area of Recorded Site: 5.83 acres (0.023 sqkm)

Boundary Map for the Western Portion of 14MT1108.

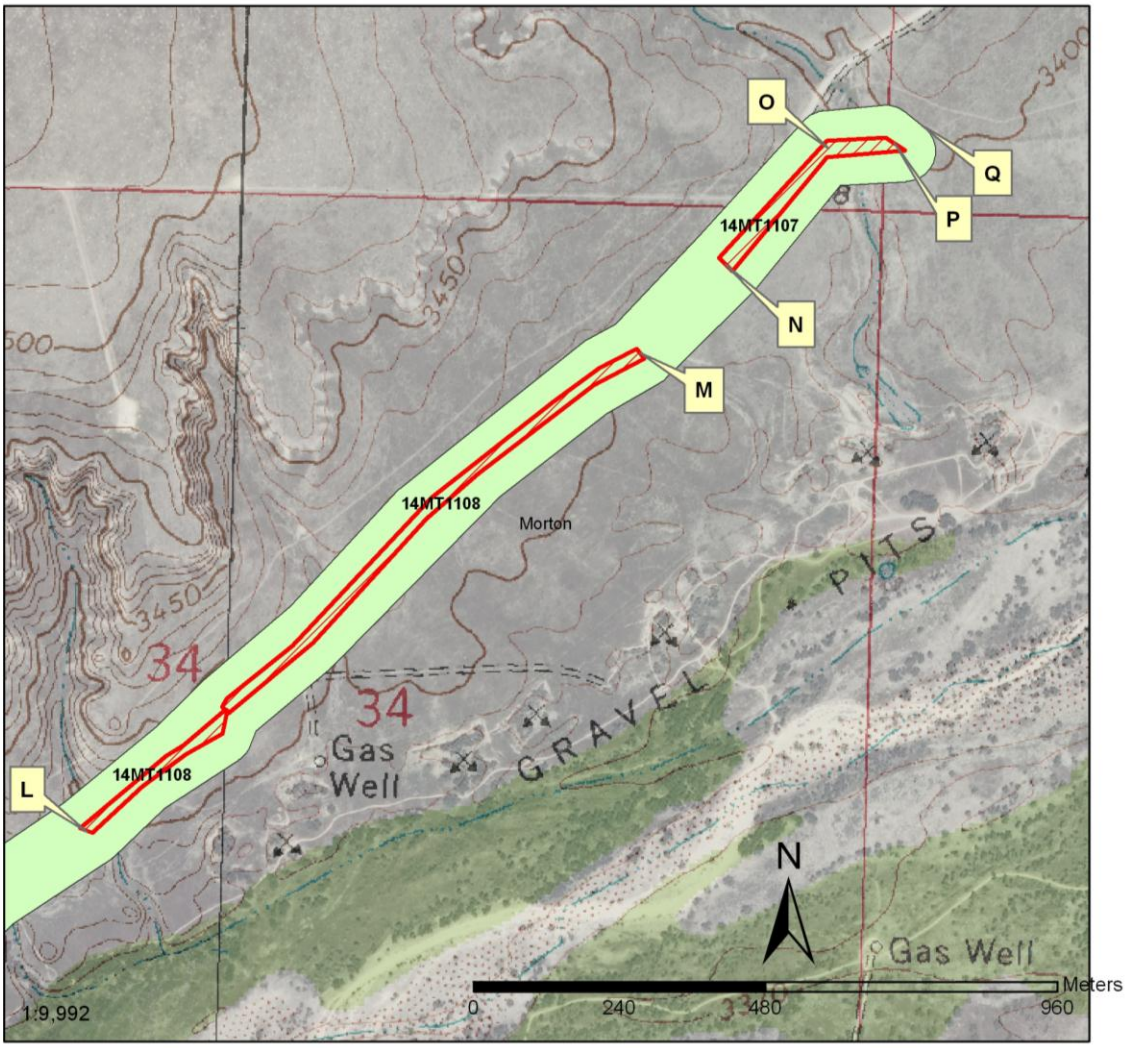


Santa Fe Trail - Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3
Elkhart vicinity, Morton County, Kansas
Partial Detail of 14MT1108

Site Coordinates (Datum = WGS84):
G: 37.126378,-101.899168 (Boundary Edge at K-27)
H: 37.127576,-101.892563 (Edge of Recorded Site)
I: 37.129254,-101.882551 (Edge of Recorded Site)
J: 37.129442,-101.881345 (Edge of Recorded Site)
K: 37.131080,-101.879749 (Edge of Recorded Site)

Total area of 14MT1108: 10.16 acres (0.042 sqkm)

Boundary Map for the Eastern Portion of 14MT1108 and all of 14MT1107.

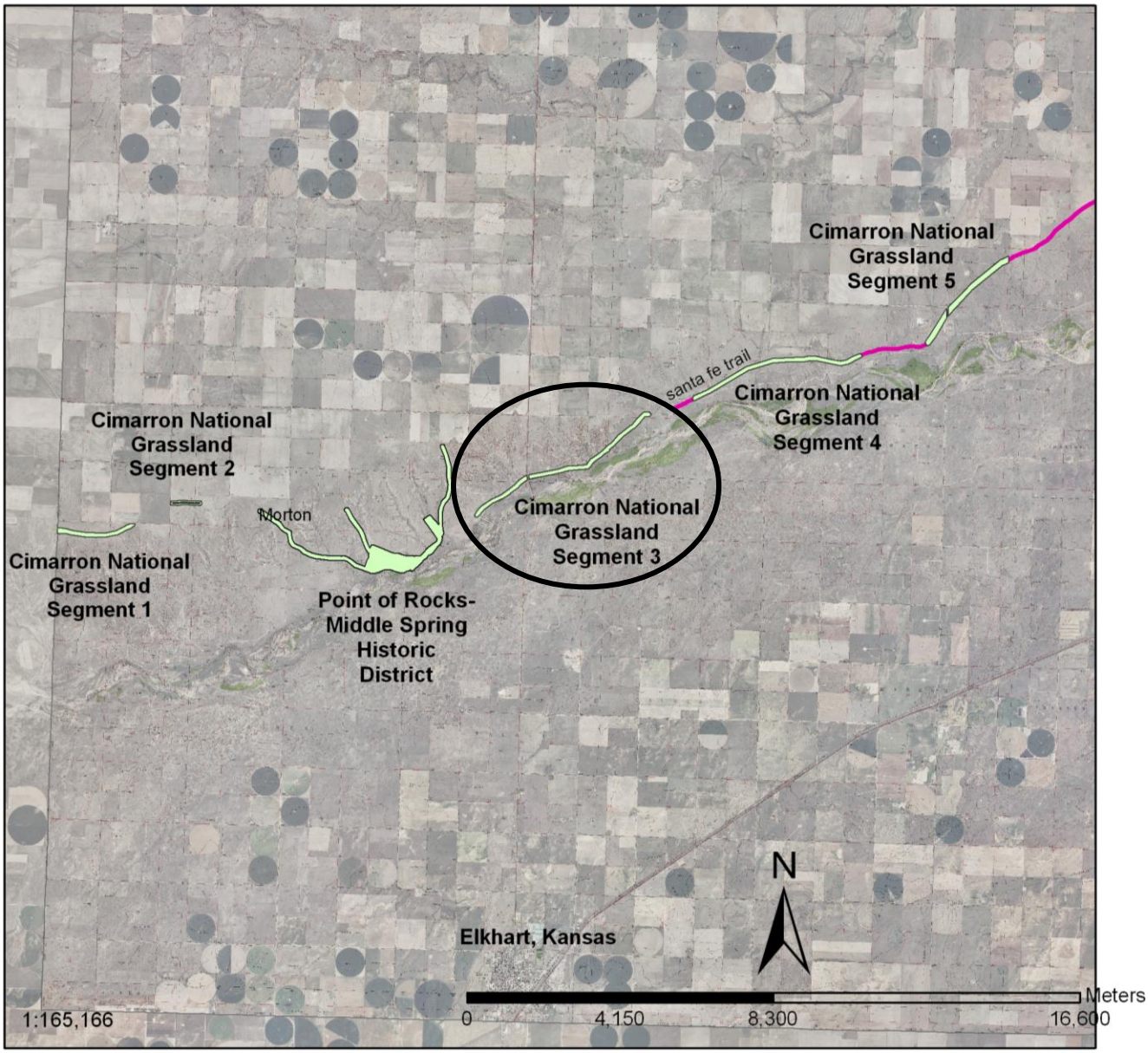


Santa Fe Trail - Cimarron National Grassland Segment 3
Elkhart vicinity, Morton County, Kansas
Detail of 14MT1107 & Partial Detail of 14MT1108

Site Coordinates (Datum = WGS84):
L: 37.132069,-101.877946 (Edge of Recorded Site)
M: 37.139420,-101.867974 (Edge of Recorded Site)
N: 37.140765,-101.866449 (Edge of Recorded Site)
O: 37.142534,-101.864609 (Edge of Recorded Site)
P: 37.142643,-101.863400 (Edge of Recorded Site)
Q: 37.142925,-101.862915 (Boundary Edge)

Total area of 14MT1108: 10.16 acres (0.042 sqkm)
Total area of 14MT1107: 2.20 acres (0.009 sqkm)

Contextual Map.



The Santa Fe Trail in
the Cimarron National Grassland
Elkhart vicintiy, Morton County, Kansas