

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Camp Ground Church and Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W of Milan
~~County Road P2, Osgood~~

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Milan, Mo.

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
#6 Honorable E. Thomas Coleman

STATE

Missouri 63556

CODE
29COUNTY
SullivanCODE
211**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED
☒ N/A

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Camp Ground Church and Cemetery Association, Inc., Mr. Raymond Johnson

STREET & NUMBER

Rural Route 1, Box 210

CITY, TOWN

Milan

VICINITY OF

STATE
Missouri 63556**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder of Deeds, Sullivan County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Milan

STATE

Missouri 63556

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Missouri State Historical Survey

DATE

1980

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 176

CITY, TOWN

Jefferson City

STATE

Missouri 65102

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Camp Ground Church and Cemetery is situated 2½ miles southeast of Osgood, Missouri in a rural setting on the crest of a level ten acre tract of moderately wooded land. The Camp Ground consists of a cemetery of approximately 400 grave sites, a church structure, and surrounding meadow. The grave sites are encircled by a four foot wire mesh fence separating the church structure on its one acre tract of land, approximately 130 feet to the south. The entire Camp Ground Church and Cemetery location measures 750' 3/4" east to west and 605' 9" north and south.

The Camp Ground Church structure was built in 1901 in a vernacular Neoclassic style of architecture being 3 bays wide and two bays deep, measuring 30 feet by 44 feet. The exterior siding is of white six inch painted clap board siding. Red brick chimneys are at both the north and south ends flush with the exterior walls. The center gable roof has a medium green asphalt shingle covering. The overall structure is of a basic, simple, uncluttered wood frame construction on a broken ashlar foundation.

The pulpit is built into the center of the east wall and sits on a eight inch raised platform which protrudes approximately three feet into the auditorium proper. At both north and south ends of the rectangular structure exist wood or coal burning stoves used to heat the high 14 foot ceilinged interior. White 12" x 18" asbestos panels line interior walls.

Sixteen foot long oak pews line both sides of the auditorium facing east, leaving a five foot wide center isle directly in front of the pulpit area. The wooden pews are seven deep and provide seating for approximately 150 people.

Structurally the church building has been unaltered since its construction in 1901 and is in good condition. The building features a divided, half-elliptical transom over a double five panel door/main entrance. Windows are double hung, 4/4 lights, eight in number.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1850's; 1901

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Camp Ground Church and Cemetery is significant for its historic association to the early development of Sullivan County, Missouri and to local history during the years after the Civil War. Camp Ground became significant because of its role as a central community and county meeting place, as an area for outdoor religious gatherings, for its alleged use as an overland wagon train layover area to the West, and as the area's only early public burial grounds.

Sullivan County was formally organized in 1845. By 1850 the county had barely 3,000 residents thriving on its fertile land. During the 1850's a post office was located just east of the Camp Ground location referred to as Medicine Lodge Post Office. The nearby towns of Osgood, Harris, Galt, and Humphreys were not established until the 1870's and 1880's. With the advent of numerous schools and mills the Camp Ground area became a gathering area for the entire county in the 1850's.

The origin of the name, Camp Ground Church and Cemetery, appears to come from one or a combination of three sources. One possibility is attributed to the two church groups who organized in the area during the 1850's and used the Camp Ground site as a common meeting place. Another possibility is the alleged use of the grounds by west bound wagon trains as a favored stopover spot along the trail. A third source suggests the name was derived simply through the common use of the Camp Ground as a central community and county-wide meeting area. Whether the name originated from one or a combination of the three sources, the name Camp Ground Church and Cemetery simply became appropriate.

In 1852 the first church at Camp Ground was organized by the Methodist Episcopal church. During the time tents and sheds were constructed for the convenience of both man and beast. This church flourished for about ten years until the Civil War. After the Civil War, the Church did not reorganize at Camp Ground. A second religious organization, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, was formed there in July 1855. In 1856 the Cumberland Presbyterian Camp Ground group was organized on the farm of Mr. Christopher Copper and services held there one week each year to which people gathered from miles around in immense crowds.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CHURCH
CAMP GROUND & CEMETERY

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Around the turn of the century, the people of Osgood and surrounding communities wanted a proper church house at Camp Ground after years of having endured standing in the rain and snow during funerals. Grandchildren of the original settlers began the effort to build a church structure, circulating petitions and collecting money to build the church building and for the purchase of additional cemetery and church yard space.

In 1899 approximately 20 acres were purchased for \$200.00. One acre was specified to be used for building of the church structure. The deed was made out to Sullivan County with control being given to a board of five trustees who were to insure that the facility remain open to all orthodox denominations. The effort was a community project in which many participated. After much labor, the church structure was completed in 1901.

Throughout the Camp Ground's history, the present location was used as a burial grounds. During the Civil War the cemetery was also used by both sides as a drilling and preparations grounds with mutual understandings among the inter-related factions for its alternate use. Prior to this period, no other public burial grounds existed in Sullivan County. Because of this, the Camp Ground's central location and all of its associated uses, it became a natural location as a burial grounds. It is quite likely that a number of unmarked graves once existed prior to the 1860's. The first recorded burial was of the infant daughter of Sam Brown in 1851.⁵ In 1900, 150 marked graves existed in addition to a number of unmarked graves presently in one portion of the cemetery. In recent times over 400 marked graves exist.

Today Camp Ground Church is still used for annual meetings, special occasions, and as a burial grounds and has an active and interested constituency.

FOOTNOTES

1. Fisher, Ruth Ralls. "Camp Ground History: 1852 - 1955." Ms. P. 10.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid., p. 4.
4. Ibid., p. 15.
5. Ibid., p. 10.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Crumpacker, Gladys Well. The Complete History of Sullivan County, Missouri, 1836 - 1900. Milan, Missouri: History Publications
2. Fisher, Ruth Ralls. "Camp Ground History: 1852 - 1955." MS.
3. _____. This Small Town - Osgood. Milan, Missouri: The Milan Standard Press, 1975

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 7 acres

long. 93 19 20

lat. 40 10 28

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 4,7,3,6,3,0 4,4,4,7,3,2,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C 1,5 4,7,3,4,4,0 4,4,4,7,1,5,0

B 1,5 4,7,3,6,4,0 4,4,4,7,2,0,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D 1,5 4,7,3,4,4,0 4,4,4,7,3,4,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Of the North East fourth of the North West quarter Ten (10) acres out of the Southwest corner being Nine and Seventeen and 50/100 chains North and South by ten and 90/100 chains East and West, for Church and Cemetery, Section Thirteen (13), Township Sixty-two (62), Range Twenty-two (22) containing ten (10) acres more or less. (See continuation sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

1. Keith Graf, Site Administrator

ORGANIZATION

General John J. Pershing Boyhood Home State Historic Site

DATE

December 1, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

Pershing Drive

TELEPHONE

(816) 963-2525

CITY OR TOWN

Laclede

STATE

Missouri 64651

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ____

STATE ____

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Director, Department of Natural Resources
and State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

6-17-83

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet CAMPGROUND, CHURCH, AND CEMETERY Item number 10

Page 1

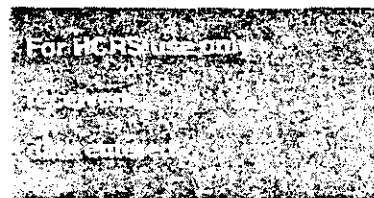
As no recent legal survey of the property has been done, we have nominated only the acreage of the property delineated by the fenced cemetery (shown on the U.S.G.S. map), and the lawn area maintained by the Church Association between the county road and the church and cemetery.

The above area contains the historic elements which make the property eligible and is locally thought to be the Campground Church and Cemetery. It contains approximately 7 acres (see Site Plan).

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CAMP GROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY



Continuation sheet

Item number 11

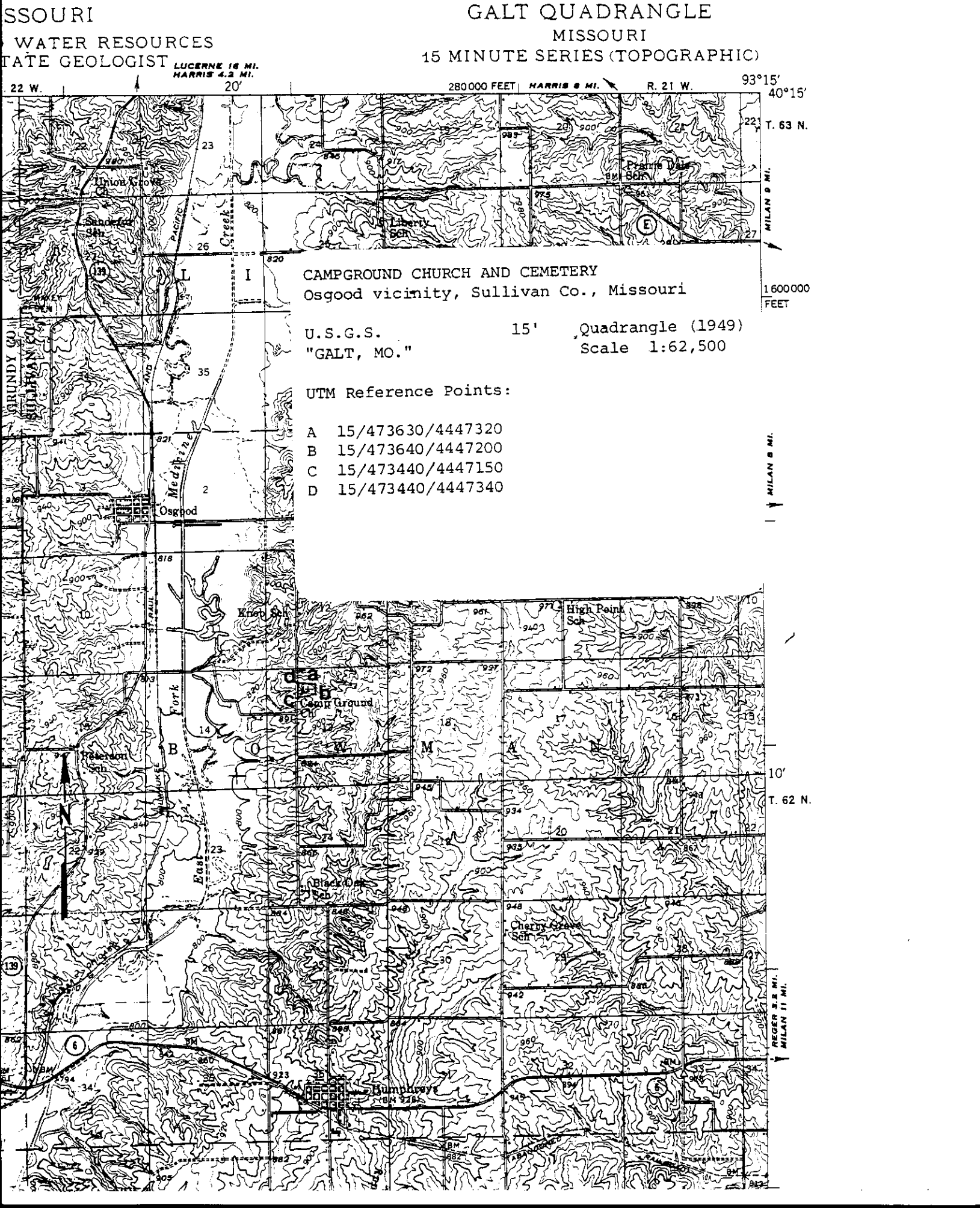
Page 1

2. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City

April 1981

(314) 751-4096

Missouri 65201



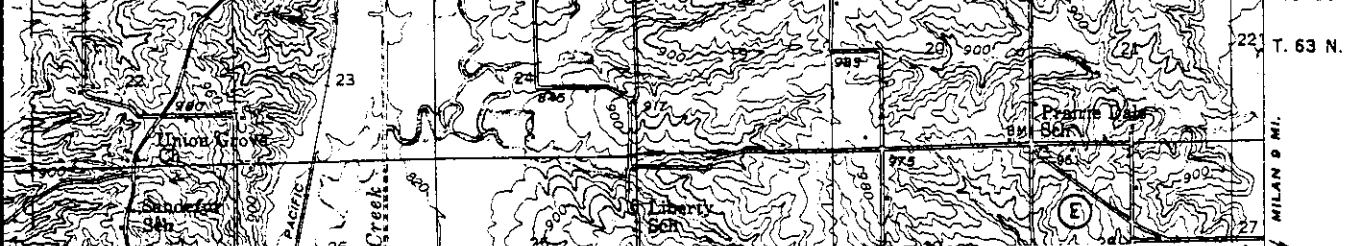
MISSOURI

WATER RESOURCES
STATE GEOLOGIST

LUCERNE 16 MI.
HARRIS 4.2 MI.

GALT QUADRANGLE
MISSOURI
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

22 W. 20' 280000 FEET HARRIS 6 MI. R. 21 W. 93°15' 40°15'

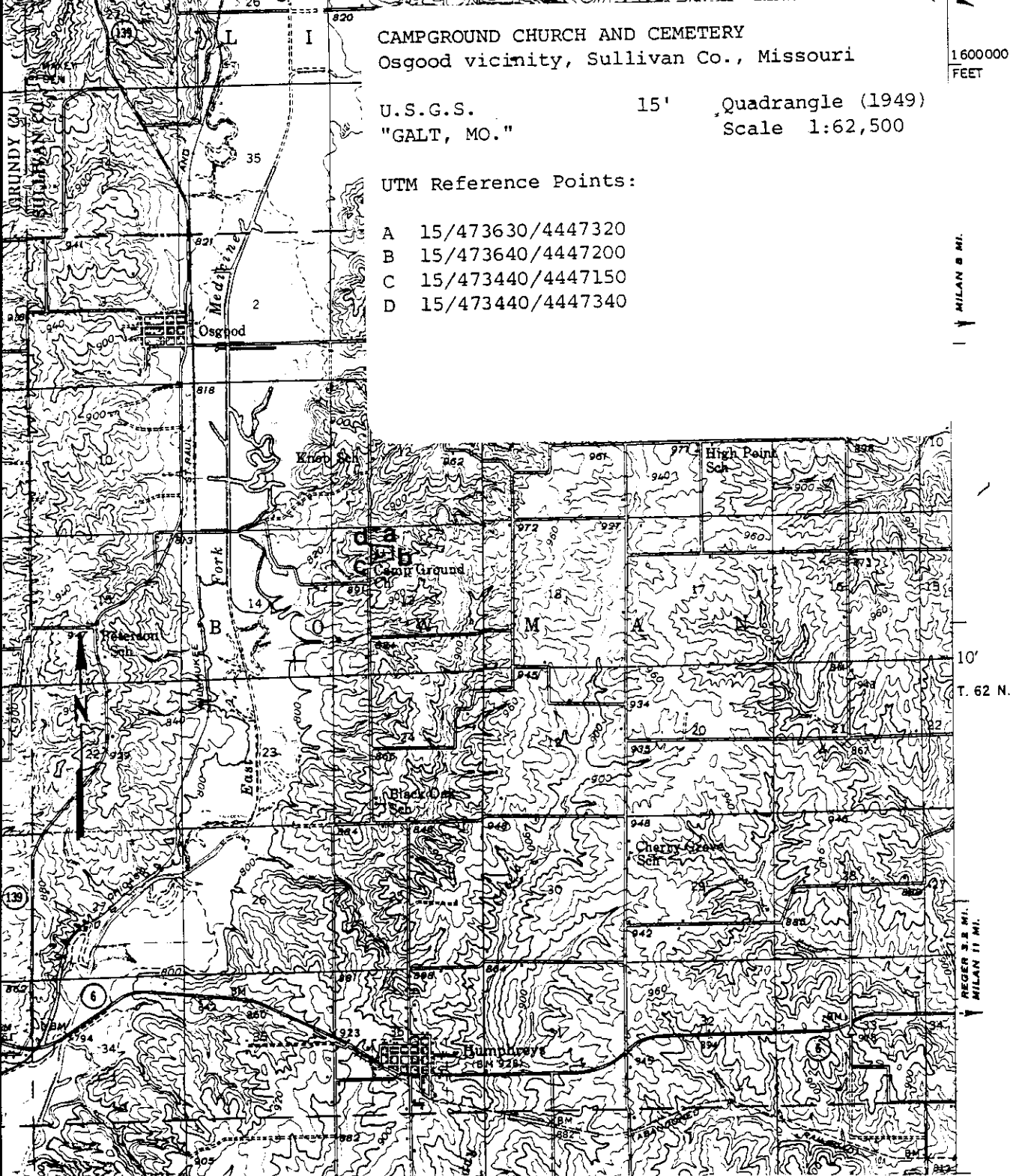


CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan Co., Missouri

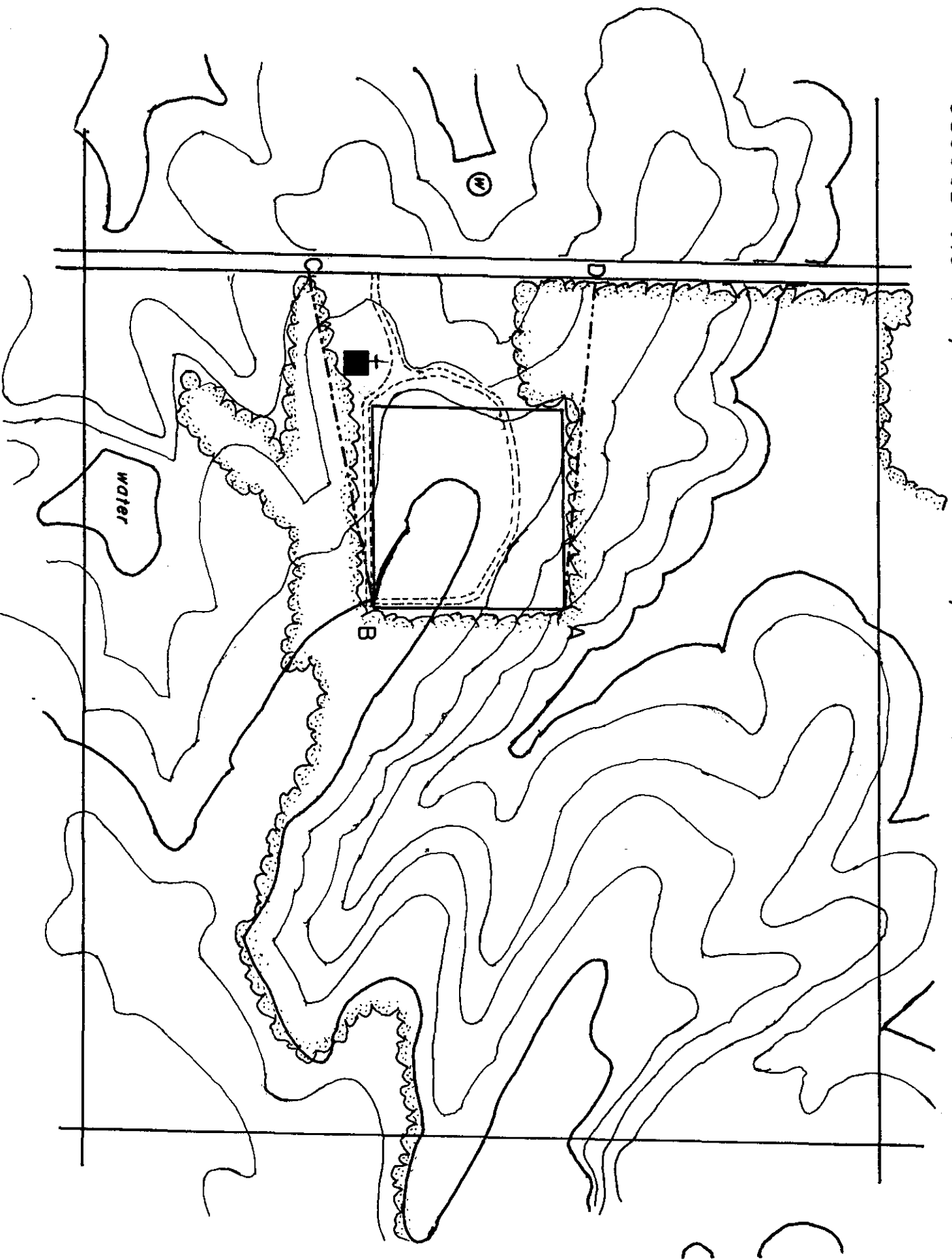
U.S.G.S. 15' Quadrangle (1949)
"GALT, MO." Scale 1:62,500

UTM Reference Points:

- A 15/473630/4447320
- B 15/473640/4447200
- C 15/473440/4447150
- D 15/473440/4447340



CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY
OSGOOD VICINITY, SULLIVAN COUNTY, MISSOURI



CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY #1 of 8
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan County, Missouri

Photographer: Keith Graff, Site Administrator
Date: 1981
Neg. Loc.: Div. of Parks & Historic Pres.
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

View looking east.



CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY #2 of 8
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan County, Missouri

Photographer: Keith Graff, Site Administrator
Date: 1981
Neg. Loc.: Div. of Parks & Historic Pres.
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

View looking southwest.



CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY #3 of 8
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerald Lee Gilleard

Date: April, 1985

Neg. Loc.: Dept. of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Interior view looking northeast.



CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY #4 of 8
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerald Lee Gilleard
Date: April, 1985
Neg. Loc.: Dept. of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Interior view looking southeast.



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CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY #5 of 8
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan County, Missouri

Photographer: Keith Graff, Site Administrator
Date: 1981
Neg. Loc.: Div. of Parks & Historic Pres.
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Interior view of apse looking east.



CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY #6 of 8
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan County, Missouri

Photographer: Keith Graff, Site Administrator
Date: 1981
Neg. Loc.: Div. of Parks & Historic Pres.
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

View looking east of footpath (main) cemetery
entrance.



CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY #7 of 8
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerald Lee Gilleard

Date: April, 1985

Neg. Loc.: Dept. of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

View of majority of the graves in the cemetery
and the chapel looking west.



CAMPGROUND CHURCH AND CEMETERY #8 of 8
Osgood vicinity, Sullivan County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerald Lee Gilleard

Date: April, 1985

Neg. Loc.: Dept. of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

View of the rear of the cemetery looking west.



EXTRA PHOTOS

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