

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL 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

Kellogg's Grove

AND/OR COMMON

Blackhawk War Monument, Blackhawk Battlefield Park

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

On Blacktop road 1/4 mile south of Kent, Illinois
then east 1/4 mile on gravel road.

CITY, TOWN
Kent

Freeport, Illinois

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
16th

STATE

CODE
12

COUNTY
Stephenson

CODE
177

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Stephenson County

D. Sherman Virtue

Keith Althafer

STREET & NUMBER

County Courthouse

1509 East 3rd Street

R. R. #1

CITY, TOWN

Freeport, IL 61032

Sterling, IL 61081

STATE

Pearl City, IL

61062

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Stephenson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

W. Stephenson Street & Galena Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Freeport

STATE

Illinois 61032

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

U. S. Geological Survey Map-Kent, Illinois (SW 1/4 Lena 15" Quadrangle)

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Stephenson County now has a small park located at the site, containing approximately one-half acre on which there has been erected a monument commemorating the soldiers who died in the various battles in the area. There is also playground equipment, a shelter house with electricity, a water pump, and rest rooms, in this county park. Stephenson County obtained title to this tract in 1886.

In addition to the foregoing there is an adjoining farm of approximately 107 acres owned by David Sherman Virtue and an adjoining farm of approximately 58 acres owned by Keith Althafer. These two farms are included in the site because they contain the ground on which the skirmishes in the Blackhawk War were fought. They also contain some ruts on an unfarmed hillside which were made by the old ore (lead) wagons which traveled the old Kellogg trail from Galena to Peoria.

The original Kellogg cabin and outbuildings are no longer there. However, the foundation of the cabin which the soldiers occupied during the two battles that were fought there during the Black Hawk War is still there. It is located east and a little south of the monument.

The site is on a knoll or ridge that overlooks the Yellow Creek Valley to the west, north, and east, and the Plum River Valley to the south and west.

The monument was erected in 1887. It is made of native limestone and is topped by a group of cannonballs. It has three marble plaques on its sides, and is enclosed by a wrought iron fence about 15' by 25'. At the foot of the monument are the graves of the following soldiers, who were killed during the Black Hawk War: Felix St. Vrain, Joseph H. Fowler, William Hale, and Aquilla Floyd, all killed in the murder of St. Vrain Party, on May 24, 1832; Benjamin Scott, William B. Mecomson, Benjamin McDaniel, all killed during the first battle of Kellogg's Grove on June 16, 1832; Stephen Howard, George (Charles) Eames, and Michael Lovell, all killed during the Battle of Waddams Grove on June 18, 1832; William Allen, James Black, James B. Bank, Abner Bradford, Marcus Randolph and Robert Meek, all killed during the second Battle of Kellogg's Grove, on June 25, 1832; Samuel Crawford and Moses Hallett, killed during the Black Hawk War.

The original physical appearance of the Kellogg cabin can be found in WAU BUN, THE "EARLY DAY" IN THE NORTHWEST, by Juliette M. Kinzie.

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 type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site was a high point on the old Indian trail from Peoria to Prairie Du Chien, which contained a grove of oak trees and was first called Burr Oak Grove. The trail was originally used by Indians going to and from the Indian villages at Peoria and Prairie Du Chien. Later came the fur traders.

In the 1820s, there was a large migration from southern Illinois to Galena and other lead-producing communities in the area. One of the individuals who helped develop a wagon trail, along the old Indian trail, from Peoria to Galena was Oliver W. Kellogg, from New York. (Brother-in-law to John Dixon). In 1827 he decided to settle at the site and built a log cabin and barn there. The cabin was often used as an inn for travelers on the trail. The trail became known as Kellogg's Grove. In the spring of 1831, the Kelloggs removed South to Buffalo Grove and the site became known as "Kellogg's Old Place."

Two battles were fought at the site during the Black Hawk War in 1832. On the night of June 15, 1832, Captain Snyder's company of militia were sleeping for the night at Kellogg's Grove. Indians were discovered in the area. One horse was stolen during the night. The next morning Captain Snyder took some of his men and pursued the Indians' trail to the southwest. They found four Indians, and killed them. Private William B. Mecomson was mortally wounded. They were bringing the dying man back to the Kellogg cabin on a litter. They stopped when he asked for a rest. Some of the soldiers went for water. A large body of Indians came upon them, killing the drummer boy, Benjamin Scott, and Benjamin McDaniel. After this attack, the Indians left, and the soldiers returned to the cabin for the night. The next day they buried their dead and left.

A few days later, the second battle of Kellogg's Grove occurred on June 25, 1832. On Sunday, June 24, Major Dement and his militia troops were camped at Kellogg's Grove, when they learned that a large body of Indians were nearby. The next morning, June 25, three men whose horses had strayed during the night, started out in search of them. Not long after that, Indians were seen in the distance. The troops went after them, and the Indians ran into

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

the woods. Just as the troops were entering the woods, the Indians opened fire, killing two men and wounding a third. The troops ran back and formed a line of battle. The Indians, led by Black Hawk, attacked the troops and forced them to the log house and barn at Kellogg's Grove. At about the same time, the three soldiers who went after the horses were returning. The Indians saw them and killed all three. The Indians attacked the men in the log house and barn again and again. About 25 horses were killed. The Indians finally left, leaving nine of their own dead. Black Hawk said later, "This young chief deserves great praise for his courage and bravery, but fortunately for us, his army was not all composed of such brave men."

A very detailed account of these two battles can be found in The Black Hawk War by Frank E. Stevens.

The battle of June 25, 1832 at Kellogg's Grove was the last Indian battle or skirmish on Illinois soil.

It has been suggested that the site as a cemetery does not meet the criteria for the National Register. In reply, we submit the following: On June 26, 1832, the next morning after the battle, some troops in the company of Captain Jacob M. Early rode up to the site and helped to bury the dead. One of these troopers who buried the dead men at the site has left behind a statement as to the event. It is as follows: "I remember just how those men looked as we rode up the little hill where their camp was," he later said. "The red light of the morning sun was streaming upon them as they lay heads towards us on the ground. And every man had a round, red spot on top of his head, about as big as a dollar where the redskins had taken his scalp. It was frightful, but it was grotesque, and the red sunlight seemed to paint everything all over. I remember that one man had on buckskin breeches."

This quote can be found in William H. Herndon's and Jesse W. Weik's Life of Lincoln at page 83 and Carl Sandburg's Abraham Lincoln The Prairie Years, volume one, page 158.

Need we say more?

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Barrett, Mary X. History of Stephenson County, Kable Printing Co., Mt. Morriss, IL, 1970.
 Jackson, Donald. Black Hawk, An Autobiography, University of Illinois Press, Urbana, 1964.
 Kinzie, Juliette M. Wau-Bun, "The Early Day" in the Northwest
 Stevens, Frank E. The Black Hawk War, Cham. of Com. Bldg., Chicago, 1903

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 56 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Lena, IL.

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The boundary of the existing park area is shown as the green line in the accompanying land use map. The red line on the map is the proposed area for expansion pending our efforts to have the area designated a national monument.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY F. Stanley Rodkey and Neil Lathrop for

NAME / TITLE

Blackhawk Monument Committee, Evelyn Dameier, Chairman

ORGANIZATION

Blackhawk Hills Road Area

DATE

1-18-78

STREET & NUMBER

330 Summit Avenue

TELEPHONE

815/288-4030

CITY OR TOWN

Dixon

STATE

Illinois 61021

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

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 _____

DATE _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE _____

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE _____

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Barrett, Mary X. History of Stephenson County, Kable Printing Co., Mt. Morriss, IL, 1970.
 Jackson, Donald. Black Hawk, An Autobiography, University of Illinois Press, Urbana, 1964.
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 Stevens, Frank E. The Black Hawk War, Cham. of Com. Bldg., Chicago, 1903

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QUADRANGLE NAME Lena, IL.

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	1.6	262600.0	468667.5	B	1.6	262600.0	468665.0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1.6	262600.0	468625.0	D	1.6	262600.0	468625.0
E				F			
G				H			

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STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Dad Kennedy

TITLE

Director, Ill. Dept. of Conservation

DATE

3/27/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

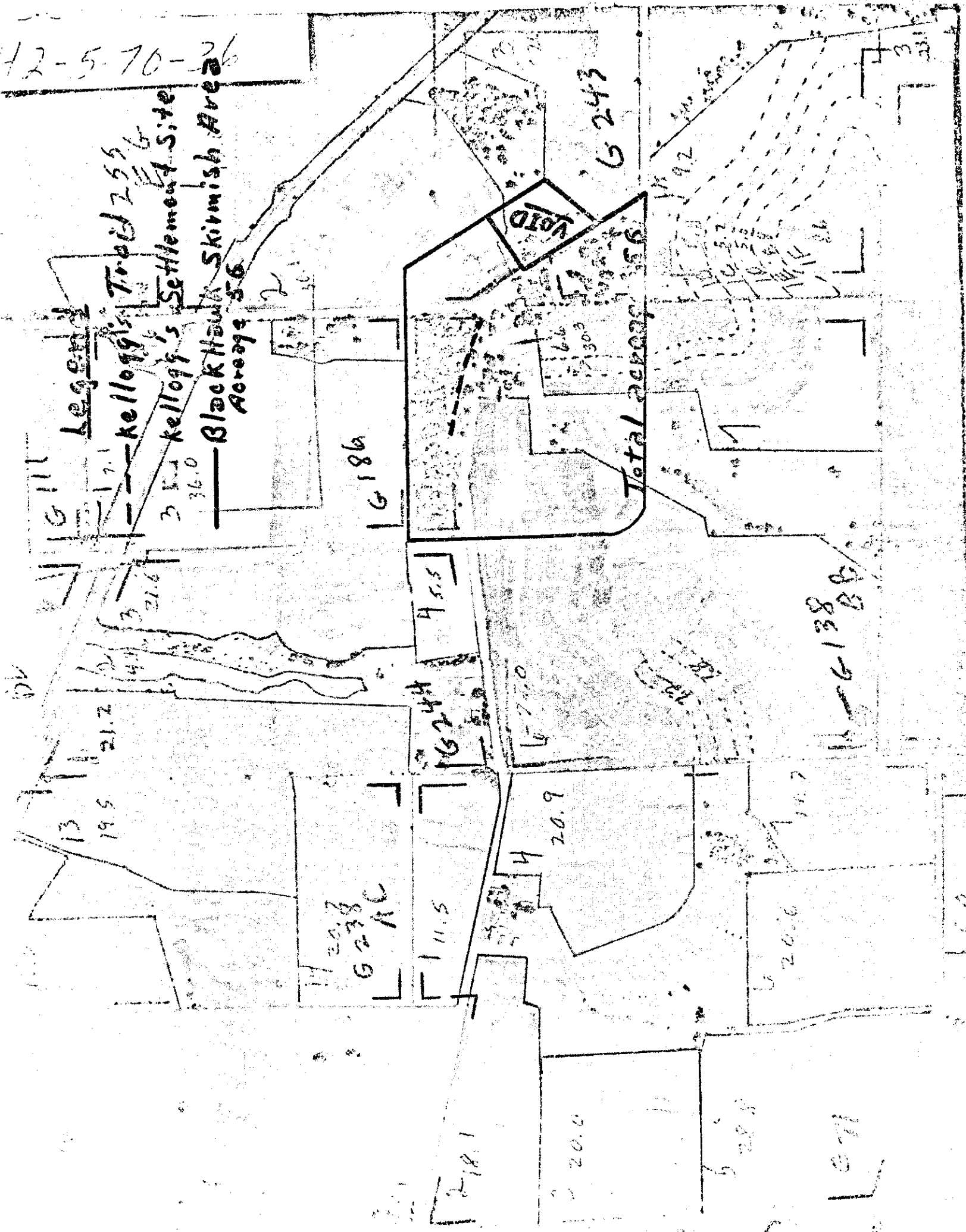
ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

12-5-70-36

Legend

- - - kellogg's Tract 256
- - - kellogg's Settlement Site
- - - Black Hawk Skirmish Area
- - - Acroga 56



VOID

Total acreage 1388

G 186

G 243

G 1388