

INTRODUCTION - CABIN LOCATION

For purposes of officially recording and describing the conveyance of ownership of land certain terminology is used. The first and most general term is "Range", or "Range line". These are north-south running lines, and in the case of our land in question, reference is made to "Range 2W", which is the Range line closest to the west of our land. The next term is "Township" which is defined as a geographic area of a county. Our land is located in "Township 46". As we narrow down the description, the next term is "Section". A "Section" is a large square of land comprising 640 acres in all. Our land is located within "Section 13". Then a "Section" is divided into 4 quarters, each containing 160 acres. Each "Quarter" in turn is divided into quarters, each containing 40 acres. The points of the compass are used to describe each Quarter of a Section.

Our log cabin is located near the vertical line between the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter, and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter. Therefore the land in question is described as: "the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter, and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter, Section 13, Township 46, Range 2W".

This land was a very small part of the huge land acquisition by the United States government from France in 1803, the Louisiana Purchase. Missouri became a State in 1821. Warren County was organized out of Montgomery County in 1833. The Hickory Grove Township was carved out of Elkhorn Township in 1839. The earliest records of land transactions in Warren County are from 1840.