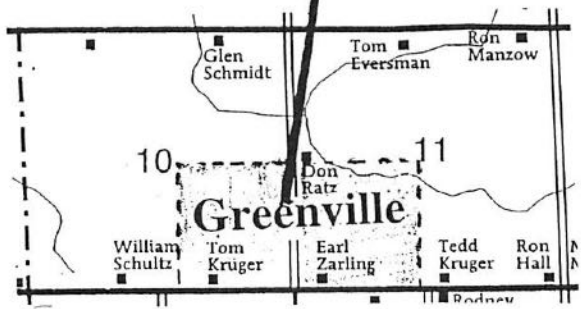
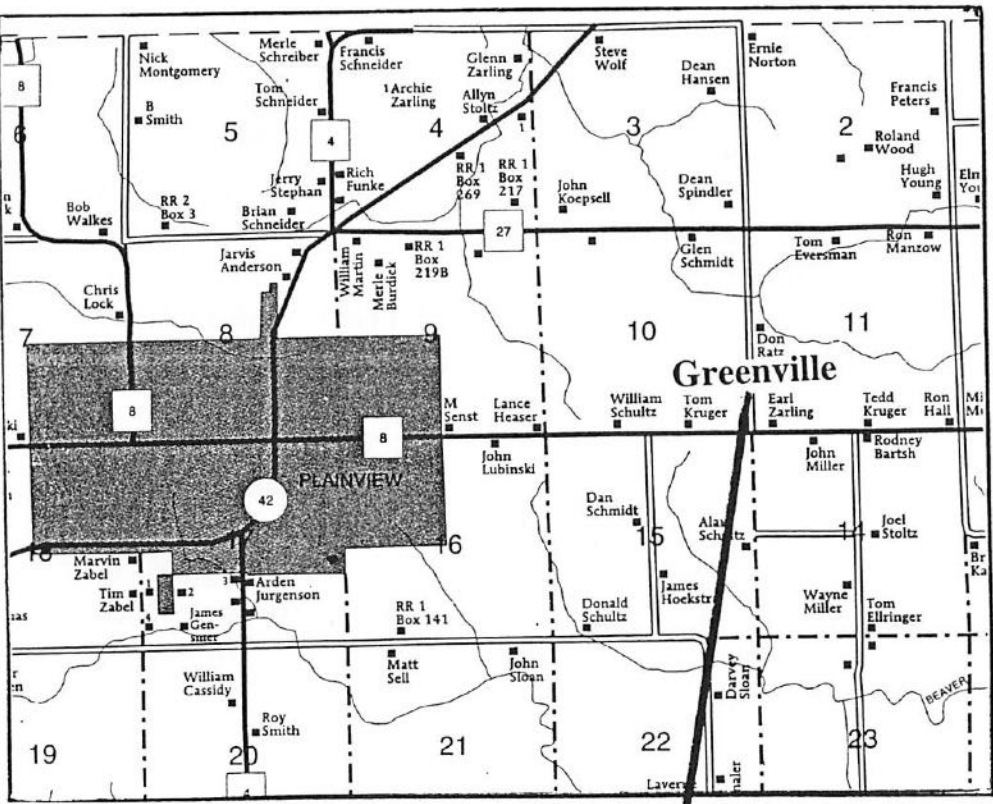


Road Map to Greenville



The town of Greenville was located on both sides of the township road. The Greenville well is on the west side, about 150 yards

into the field. The exact site of the buildings is uncertain, but could have been on the east side of the road near the Don Ratz building site.
Reminder: Greenville is located on private property. All are expected to respect the rights of the land owners.



Road Map to Greenville



A Brief History of Greenville

Founded May 21, 1855, the tiny town of Greenville was located in parts of section 10 & 11 in Plainview Township. A.T. Sharpe, Ezra & Jane Eddy, William & Charlotta Boatman and their family of eight, along with Thomas Todd and several men hired to help them on their journey, were among the first group arriving.

The town site was later platted by AT. Sharpe, F.S. Richards, William Boatman and A.P. Foster. The original site was 320 acres, but little of it was actually developed. The site consisted of a school house 14 by 16 built of boards positioned upright with shingles made by hand, the Boatman log home, a narrow log hotel operated by Dr. Kerl of Baltimore, Rodman Burchard's general store, another store operated by Burnham & Woodward, and later a store by Mr. T.J. Wadleigh. A post office was established in the Burchard Store for a brief time.



The settlement was short lived because of several problems: positioning of roads were not favorable to the town site, accessible supply of water was difficult, and the land was located on the Sioux Indian Half-Breed Tract, making legal title to the land impossible.

In 1856 the town of Centerville, later Plainview, was developed just 2 ½ miles to the west of Greenville. It was on deeded land and outside the Half-Breed Tract. Because of Greenville's land problem, many settlers decided to settle in Centerville. It began the decline of Greenville despite the efforts to save it.

The last of Greenville's businesses left in 1866. Some of the buildings were moved into Plainview while others were used as sheds for the neighboring farmers. A shallow well from the town site remains, being uncovered April 2005.

Greenville existed for eleven brief years from 1855 – 1866 but the memory of the small village has lived on in the recollections of old settlers and their stories to the present day.