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Topographic Maps, 1 x 2 Degree Series

R. R. Burchett

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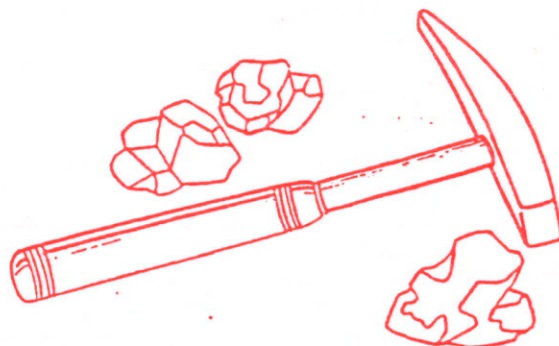
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NEBRASKA GEONOTES

TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS, 1° X 2° SERIES

Raymond R. Burchett



NEBRASKA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

**Conservation and Survey Division
Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources
University of Nebraska—Lincoln**



July 1990

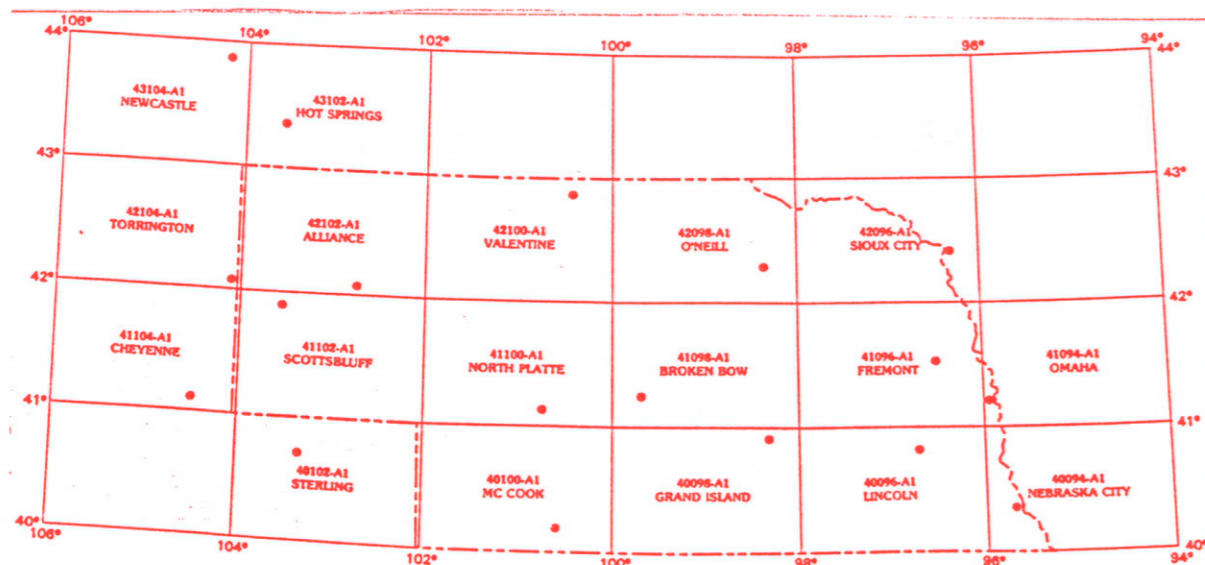


R.R. BURCHETT

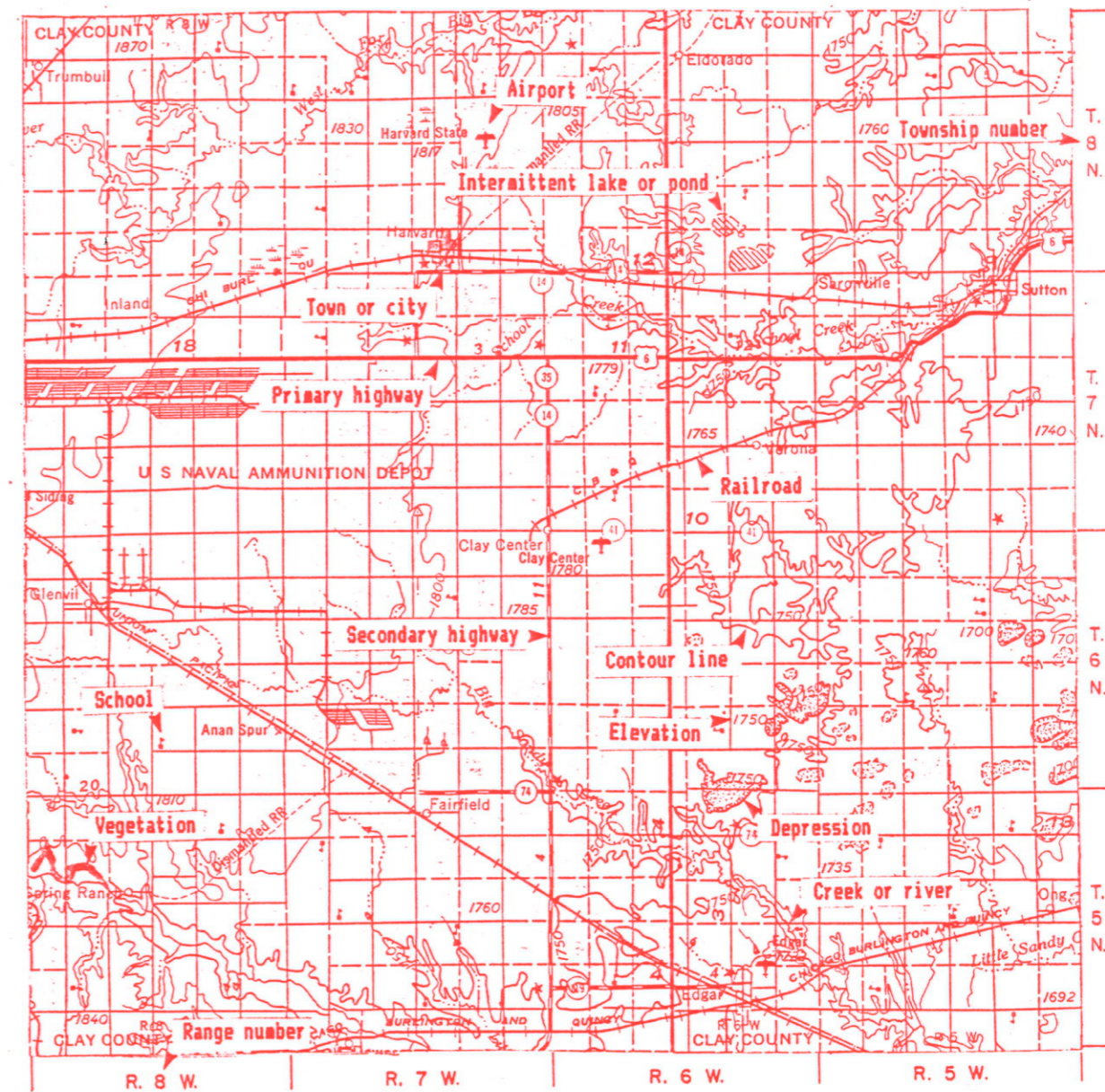
Topography, or shape of the land surface, is best illustrated by the contour lines on a topographic map. These lines are drawn along lines of equal elevation and are identified by a number signifying their altitude in feet above mean sea level. Topographic maps also show towns, roads, railroads, rivers and lakes. Color coding and map symbols indicate a variety of cultural and physical features. Brown is used for elevation and configuration of the terrain; blue is used for rivers, ponds and drainageways; black or red is used for man-made features such as roads, highways and buildings; red is used also for urban areas and for township, range and section lines; green indicates vegetative cover. In addition, lavender is used to show changes that have occurred since the date of the original map. The contour interval (given at the bottom of the map) identifies the vertical differences in feet, between the contour lines; for example, a 50-foot contour interval means a 50-foot difference in land-surface elevation between adjacent contours on the map. Widely spaced contours indicate nearly flat or gently sloping terrain, and closely spaced contour indicate steep slopes. Contour lines have the following features: 1) they do not cross or intersect one another; 2) they do not split; 3) they close on themselves either within or outside the map area; 4) they bend upvalley (that is, they "V" upstream).

Topographic maps have many uses as basic planning tools for locating new highways, railroads, pipelines and transmission lines, and for selecting suitable sites for airports and industrial, commercial and residential developments. The maps also may be useful in locating mineral resources and evaluating water sources.

The U.S. NK topographic map (quadrangle) series has a scale of 1:250,000. This means that one quarter inch on the map equals approximately 1 mile. Each 1:250,000-scale map covers an area of 1 degree of latitude by 2 degrees of longitude, about 70 miles by 100 miles, or about 7,000 square miles. Sixteen maps of this scale provide complete topographic coverage of Nebraska at a contour interval of 50 feet. An example of one county is shown on the next page at the 1:250,000 scale.



NEBRASKA
1 X 2 DEGREE SERIES
1:250 000 SCALE



Scale 1:250,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 50 FEET

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF CLAY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36

SECTIONALIZED TOWNSHIP

Adapted from U.S. Geological Survey
Grand Island and Lincoln
1 x 2 Degree Quadrangles

Raymond R. Burchett
Nebraska Geological Survey
Conservation & Survey Division
Institute of Agriculture & Natural Resources
University of Nebraska-Lincoln 68588-0517

To order please write or call:

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