



**Origin of Refuge Location Names**

This part of the Nebraska Sandhills was settled under the Kinkaid Act of 1904, a modification to the Homestead Act. The Kinkaid Act allowed settlers to homestead 640 acres rather than the standard 160 acres allowed under the original Homestead Act. Unfortunately, even 640 acres was not a viable size in the Sandhills. Many homesteads were sold or abandoned, and the land was soon consolidated into larger ranches.

Most of the Refuge location names shown in the map (e.g., Roberts, west of Refuge headquarters) are named for the early homesteader who first settled that meadow, flat, or valley.