

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| STATE: Kansas | |
| COUNTY: Morris | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| 713-20-0021 | 3/24/71 |

1. NAME

COMMON: **Old Kaw Mission**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Kaw Methodist Mission**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **500 North Mission St.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Council Grove**

STATE: **Kansas** CODE: **66846** COUNTY: **Morris** CODE: **127**

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural
 Commercial
 Educational
 Entertainment
 Government
 Industrial
 Military
 Museum
 Park
 Private Residence
 Religious
 Scientific
 Transportation
 Other (Specify) **caretaker's quarters**
 Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **State of Kansas**

STREET AND NUMBER: **State Capitol**

CITY OR TOWN: **Topeka** STATE: **Kansas** CODE: **66612** CODE: **20**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Register of Deeds**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Morris County Courthouse**

CITY OR TOWN: **Council Grove** STATE: **Kansas** CODE: **66846** CODE: **20**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1939** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Records destroyed. A guidebook, Kansas, was published in**

STREET AND NUMBER: **1939.**

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

STATE: **Kansas**
 COUNTY: **Morris**
 ENTRY NUMBER: **713-20-0021**
 DATE: **3/24/71**
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

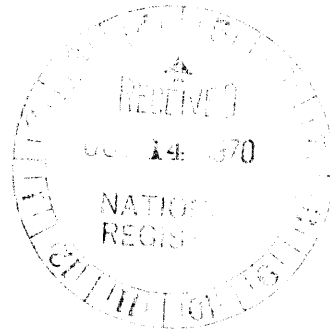
7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kaw Methodist Mission is a sturdy rectangular stone structure of eight rooms built in 1850-1851. Except for the addition of several colonial porches, the exterior of the building looks much like it did originally, with rectangular door and window openings and a gabled roof with chimneys at either end.

The interior wall structure remains the same, but the lower floor now houses a museum related to the Mission activities and the pioneer settlement of the area. At the present time the upper floor is used as living quarters for the caretaker.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1851-1854**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

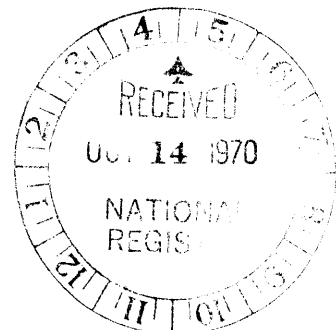
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

An 1846 treaty with the Kansa or Kaw Indians relegated them to a diminished reservation 20 miles square which included the site of present Council Grove. In 1850 the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, signed a contract with the government to establish a mission and school for the Kaw Indians at Council Grove.

The government paid for the building which was finished by February, 1851. The building was large enough to house 50 students in addition to teachers and other mission workers. The school opened in May, 1851, with Thomas Sears Huffaker in charge. The classes continued for the Indian children until 1854. The average attendance was 30 students a year, who were instructed in reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic. One reason for closing the school was the high cost--\$50 a year per pupil. Another reason was the lack of response by the Kaw Indians. The only children sent to the school were orphan and dependent boys.

In May, 1851, Huffaker had also established a white-school department in part of this building with 12 to 15 white pupils. This was one of the first schools for white children in Kansas territory. When the federal government withdrew its financial support in 1854, the school for the white children of Council Grove continued.

This was the westernmost Indian mission building constructed in Kansas.



MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blackmar, Frank W., Kansas, A Cyclopedia of State History (Chicago, Standard Publishing Co., 1912).
 Holter, Don W., Fire on the Prairies: Methodism in the History of Kansas (Methodist Publishing House, 1968), pp. 28-45.
 Kansas State Historical Society, "Council Grove and the Historic Kaw Mission" (Topeka, State Printer, n. d.).
 Lutz, Rev. J. J., "The Methodist Missions among the Indian Tribes of Kansas," Kansas Historical Collections, v. 9 (1905-06), pp. 160-230.
 Morehouse, George P., "Probably the First School in Kansas for White Children," Kansas Historical Collections, v. 9 (1905-06), pp. 231-235.

HR
NO
UTM

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | OR | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|----|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | ° ' " | ° ' " | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 38 40 07 | 96 29 36 | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **4**

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Richard D. Pankratz, Planner**

ORGANIZATION: **Kansas State Historical Society** DATE: **August 20, 1970**

STREET AND NUMBER: **120 West 10th St.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Topeka** STATE: **Kansas 66612** CODE: **20**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Nyle H. Miller
Nyle H. Miller

Title: **Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society, and State Liaison Officer for Kansas**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Richard D. Pankratz
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: **MAR 24 1971**

ATTEST:

William J. S. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

FEB 9 2 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

