

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
Other names/site number KHRI #091-3645-00362; Walker House (current)
Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number 5532 Knox Ave not for publication
City or town Merriam vicinity
State Kansas Code KS County Johnson Code 091 Zip code 66203

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
 national statewide local Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Patrick Zollner 2-6-17
Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO Date

Kansas State Historical Society
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____
Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
 other (explain:)

Alexis Albrecht 3/27/17
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th & Early 20th Century American

Movement: Prairie

Other: Shirtwaist

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone

walls: Stone

Wood

roof: Asphalt

other: _____

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Narrative Description

Summary

The single-family house at 5532 Knox Avenue in Merriam, Johnson County, Kansas, is a suburban example of the Shirtwaist style, popular in the Kansas City area at the turn of the 20th century. Located on Lot K, the Walker House is one of two speculative (spec) houses built around 1910 within an eight-lot subdivision platted by local developer R.W. Hocker. This two-and-a-half story Shirtwaist faces east. The stone foundation extends to the walls of the main level; clapboard covers the upper levels. The gable-front roof has bellcast (flared) eaves, as does the east elevation's one-story porch. A two-story porch is to the south of the house. While the entire five-acre Lot K was historically associated with this house, the current parcel is 0.31 acres; the parcel's 2016 legal description is the nominated boundary. A non-historic shed is located at the parcel's southwest corner. For clarity in the following description, this building is referred to by its current owners' last name (Walker).

Elaboration

Setting

The Walker House is located in Merriam, Kansas, a suburb in the Kansas City metropolitan area (*Figure 1*), in a 40-acre subdivision known as R.W. Hocker's Subdivision. The house at 5532 Knox Avenue is one of two circa 1910 spec houses completed in this subdivision. When platted R.W. Hocker's Subdivision contained eight, five-acre lots with Knox Avenue running north-to-south through the center of the plat. Surrounding the house today is a medium-density residential neighborhood created through the subsequent decades as Hocker's Subdivision was further subdivided into smaller parcels and developments (*Figures 2 & 3*).

Located on the west side of Knox Avenue, the Walker House faces east and has a setback of approximately 70 feet.¹ A half-circle asphalt drive leads from the street and is centered on the house. According to early aerials this drive was installed after 1956 when the house to the north was constructed.² The nominated parcel is minimally landscaped but does contain a number of trees, especially along the south boundary. The backyard is fenced with a modern wooden privacy fence, and a non-historic wood-frame shed is located at the southwest corner of the parcel.

Exterior

The two-and-a-half story house has a stone foundation. The limestone continues up the main level wall of the house on the east and partial north and south elevations; a sizable gable-front porch has stacked limestone supports. The stone is laid in random rubble brought to coursed pattern at the corners. The remainder of the house is covered in three-inch cedar clapboard with pilaster strips at the corners. The gable-front roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has bellcast eaves with eave returns. A gable-fronted dormer and boxed bay are on the north elevation. The south two-story porch consists of an enclosed sleeping porch at the upper level and an enclosed sun porch at the main level. The sun porch was enclosed in 2009 (*Figure 4*). A single stone chimney rises above the roof on the house's south side.

The **east elevation** consists of the main house block and south porch (*Photos 1, 2, & 3*). The main house block is centered on the gable. At the main level is a historic one-over-one window unit with rope pulleys that lights the living room.³ Beneath this window is an arched stone lintel over a basement window; the lintel is made of soldier coursed limestone. The entry portico is to the north of these windows. The portico's roof mimics the house's roof with flared eaves and eave returns. This roof is supported by two, limestone-stacked, two-foot by two-foot pillars. The gable end is clad in clapboard to match the rest of the building. The porch leads to a historic beveled glass door with sidelights. Separating the main level stone from second level clapboard is a wide wooden trim board.⁴ The second level of the main house block contains a small rectangular fixed-pane window centered between two one-over-one window units (lighting bedrooms). The rectangular window was uncovered when secondary siding was removed around 2000; this window lights a bedroom

¹ This setback is now typical for the houses along Knox Avenue in the subdivision.

² Aerial images are publically available through Johnson County, Kansas' AIMS GIS system, maps.jocogov.org.

³ Most of the house's windows had been previously replaced when the current owners acquired the property in 2012.

⁴ At the house's northeast corner, the trim matches the frieze board trim but to the south of the porch it is a plain trim piece.

Prior to 2016 the upper level was covered in board-and-batten (see *Figure 4*); this trim piece may have been lost when that was installed.

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closet. The frieze board from the north elevation extends across the east elevation to separate the second level from the attic level. Centered within the gable end is a two one-over-one window unit; above the top casing is a piece of molded trim, a treatment not typically found in this house, as the majority of windows' headers abut a frieze board. The sun porch's east elevation, which is set back approximately six inches from the main house block, contains a contemporary two-pane window centered in the main level wall and two one-over-one window units centered in the second level wall. The south porch has a stone foundation, but a concrete slab was installed over the stone when the main level porch was enclosed.

The **south elevation** is completely clad with clapboard except at the foundation (*Photos 2 & 3*). This side is dominated by the two-story porch block. The porch block occupies the eastern half of the elevation, extending several feet from the main house block. At the main level is a modern door accessed by the porch's historic stone stairs; to the east of the door are two two-pane windows like that found on the porch's east elevation. A plain trim board separates the main level from the second level, which contains four evenly spaced one-over-one window units. A decorative trim piece separates the second level from the gable end. This gable matches the main house's design with flared eaves and eave returns. A historic diamond-shaped fixed pane window with decorative trim is centered on the gable near the top of the gable-end wall; this window lights unfinished attic space. To the west of the porch block is the south elevation of the main house block. A rectangular masonry opening in the foundation at ground level contains a window into the basement. Centered above this masonry opening is the dining room's chamfered bay containing a single one-over-one window unit in each of the three chamfered sides. Directly above the windows is a trim board with molded top; above this trim are two rows of clapboard. A shed roof covers the bay; this roof has a semi-flared boxed eave. The boxed eave does not extend to the house's southwest corner. Above this roof is a two one-over-one window unit, lighting a bedroom.

The **west elevation** of the main house block is similar to the east elevation but is completely clad in clapboard except at the foundation (*Photo 4*). A set of (covered) stone steps leads down into the basement at the south end of the elevation.⁵ Above the basement stair is a one-over-one window into the dining room. At the north half of the elevation at the main level is a one-story, flat-roofed former mudroom, added in 1976 (now open to the kitchen); this addition has a concrete foundation. A modern door and smaller one-over-one window occupy the mudroom's west wall; a similar one-over-one window is located on the mudroom's south elevation, and no window is in the north elevation. A non-historic wooden deck extends from the mudroom. In the house's second level are three windows. The north and south one-over-one units are mirrored on the gable end; the south window lights a bedroom while the north window lights a bathroom. The middle window opening, which is now glass block, is to the north of the gable's center. It lights another bathroom. A single one-over-one window is centered in the gable end at the attic level. The west elevation of the south porch is identical to the porch's east elevation.

The house's **north elevation** has no openings in the basement level (*Photos 1 & 5*). Stone clads the east end of the main level while the rest of the elevation is clapboard. At the east end of the elevation is a rectangular masonry opening at the top of the stone that contains an original fixed leaded glass window with a diamond and vertical line muntin pattern; this window lights the foyer. Abutting the stone to the west is a boxed bay that extends a few feet from the wall plane. The bay, which contains the house's main staircase, is surmounted by a hipped roof. In the north wall is a three-window unit almost the width of the bay. The east and west windows are one-over-ones; the center window is a rectangular fixed-pane unit. The center window is about half the length of the others; all windows are aligned at the header. At the west end of the north elevation is a short two one-over-one window unit above the kitchen's sink. In the second level are three fairly evenly spaced windows. The east one-over-one window lights a bedroom; the center window is a short one-over-one unit lighting the attic stair, and the west window opening is now filled with glass block, lighting a bathroom. A furnace stack, clad in clapboard, extends from the ground to the eave between the elevation's boxed bay and west windows. Above the eave line and directly above the boxed bay is a gable-fronted dormer with double one-over-one window unit centered in the wall plane. The gable roof's eaves mimic the main house's gable roof.

Interior

The Walker House shares a similar floor plan with several Shirtwaist houses (*Figure 5*). The main level contains the public spaces while the upstairs houses private space. The house has original wood floors throughout (oak on the main level; pine on the upper levels); although, carpet covers some upstairs rooms. Walls and ceilings are lath-and-plaster. All historic doorways are trimmed with 4½" oak and topped with cornice caps, unless otherwise noted. Historic five-panel doors remain throughout the house. The fixtures on the second and third floors are not original.

⁵ The wooden doors covering these stone steps were installed by the current owners.

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The house's main entrance is through the east door, which leads into a receiving **foyer** (*Photo 6*). This room has thick oak baseboards, trim, and painted egg-and-dart crown molding. The kitchen is accessed through a cased opening in the west wall, and the living room is through a large cased opening constituting most of the south wall; at the east end of this opening is a half wall with oak paneling (*Photo 7*).⁶ On the north wall is the original leaded glass window (*Photo 7*). The **main stair** is located in the foyer's northwest corner (*Photo 8*). An oak wainscot covers the wall at the stair. This wainscot is made of individual oak panel insets with egg-and-dart decorative trim surrounding each panel. This wainscot treatment only covers the stair visible from the foyer.

To the south of the foyer is the **living room** (the main level's southeastern room) (*Photo 7*). The focal point of this room is the rustic stone fireplace along the south wall (*Photo 9*). On the east and west sides of the fireplace is a historic one-over-one window looking onto the former open porch (now sunporch). At the western end of the south wall is a beveled glass door that leads onto the porch. The trim in this room matches the foyer. The ceiling plaster has a short inset towards the center, creating a wide frame around the room's perimeter. The distinguishing feature of the **sunporch** is its north wall, which is completely comprised of stone like on the north elevation, since this space was historically open. The living room's west wall contains a large arch-topped opening (without trim) that leads directly into the dining room.

The **dining room** is the southwestern room on the main level. The south wall is a chamfered three-window bay (*Photos 3 & 10*); a single window is located in the room's west wall (*Photo 4*). There is no crown molding in this room.

The **kitchen** is accessed through a historic door at the west end of the dining room's north wall. Access is also through a short hallway leading west from the foyer. The kitchen was completely remodeled in 2009, entirely changing the layout by adding new cabinets and new appliances. A drop ceiling was installed at that time to hide mechanical work; the current metal ceiling tiles were installed in the kitchen in 2015. The mudroom installed in 1976 off the west wall of the kitchen was opened up during the 2009 remodeling in order to expand the kitchen's footprint. While the kitchen floor is hardwood, it is not original to the house. This new flooring, which matches the house's historic wood floors, was added in 2012 after more than five layers and one inch of non-historic flooring materials (laminated, more laminate, and manufactured woods) were removed.

The **hallway** connecting the kitchen and foyer contains two doors in the north wall. The west door leads into a small powder room installed prior to 1976 by removal of a former back stair that connected to the main stair's landing. The east door is historic and leads down into the full unfinished basement.

The **main stair** is a switchback design with an uneven number of steps per leg. Five steps lead from the foyer to a small landing. This landing is highlighted on the exterior as the north elevation's box bay (*Photo 5*). A small open storage area is located on this landing where the back stair was once located. Turning back south, the main stair's longer leg leads up to the second level's L-shaped hallway (*Photo 11*).

The opening at the top of the stair is cased but painted, as is most of this level's wood trim and doors. Directly across from the stair is a mechanical closet (*Photo 11*) in the south wall of the hallway. Two bedrooms are located at the east end of the hallway: one in the northeast corner (*Photo 12*) and one in the southeast corner of the house. The **northeast bedroom's** south wall/hallway's north wall is slightly canted, making the eastern end of the hallway a few inches narrower than the rest of the hallway. A door at the east end of this bedroom's south wall leads into a closet lighted by the east elevation's centered rectangular window (*Photos 1, 2, & 13*). A single window is located both in the room's north and east walls. The room contains a small egg-and-dart crown molding.

Across the hallway to the south is the **southeast bedroom**. A single window is located in the east wall. A closet is located in the west wall, and the former sleeping porch, which is now enclosed, is accessed from a historic beveled glass door in the south wall west of the chimney (*Photo 14*). The **sleeping porch** ceiling is historic bead board (*Photo 15*). The stone chimney is visible on the north wall; it has been painted white. The western quarter of this porch has been divided from the rest of the space to create a bigger closet in the southwest bedroom.

At the west end of the hall, before it turns north, is a door, leading into a small vestibule with visible hardwood floor (*Photo 11*). Through a cased opening in the vestibule's south wall is the **southwest bedroom** (now master bedroom). This room also has visible wood floors. A pair of windows is located in the south wall; a single window is in the west wall. A door in

⁶ In 2000 a faux trompe l'oeil panel was removed above this half wall, opening up the view from the foyer to the living room. All woodwork had been painted white and was restored to its original stained oak.

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the south end of the east wall leads into a closet (*Photo 16*). The closet space was expanded south to include a portion of the sleeping porch. This was done in 2000.

Through a door in the vestibule's west wall is what is believed to be the house's original **bathroom**.⁷ While the space itself has not been significantly altered, the finishes and fixtures are completely new. The room's historic window was previously removed and replaced with glass block (*Photos 4 & 11*).

Another **bathroom/laundry room** is located in the northwest corner of the house, accessed through a door in the hallway's west wall after turning north. This bathroom was installed prior to 2000, replacing an existing small bedroom. The room's north window now is glass block (*Photo 5*).

At the hallway's north end is a door that opens to another switchback stair (*Photo 17*). This stair leads to the partially finished **attic**. At the top of the switchback stair, which is lighted by the north elevation's dormer (*Photo 5*), are two bedrooms (*Photo 18*). The east bedroom contains the gable end's double window unit. The west bedroom has a single west-facing window. Both bedrooms are surrounded by unfinished attic space.

A Note about Lot R Spec House

The house at 5644 Knox Avenue is similar in design to the Walker House with a few variations. The front porch spans the entire east façade; there is no porch on the south side; and the upper stories are covered in stucco. Like Lot K, Lot R was further subdivided and developed throughout the intervening years. The house on Lot R is not included within this nomination due to different ownership. Should the owners of this house be amenable to nomination in future, the house should be evaluated for potential addition to this nomination, as these two houses share historic significance.

⁷ Information from previous owners.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

Community Development

Architecture

Period of Significance

circa 1905 to circa 1911

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hocker, Richard Weaver (R.W.), developer

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance ranges between circa 1905 and circa 1911, as the house's exact date of construction is unknown. Evidence suggests it was constructed within these years as a speculative development directly associated with the Hocker Line active between 1904 and 1927.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

N/A

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Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The Walker House was one of two speculative Shirtwaist-style houses constructed around 1910 in Merriam's 40-acre R.W. Hocker Subdivision. Richard Weaver (R.W.) Hocker was a prominent local banker, land owner, and developer in the Kansas City area. Hocker platted his eight five-acre lot subdivision concurrently with his development of the Hocker Interurban Line. Begun in 1904 this trolley line eventually connected downtown Kansas City, Missouri, with Merriam and points west; it was discontinued in 1927. The house's parcel now only includes a portion of Lot K due to later residential development in the succeeding decades. The Walker House is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with early suburban development associated with the Kansas City regional streetcar lines; it is also nominated under Criterion C for its architecture as an example of the Shirtwaist style.

Elaboration

Criterion A: Community Development

Prior to 1854 – when Kansas Territory was established and opened for settlement – the land comprising Merriam was home to Shawnees who had been relocated from Ohio and Missouri between 1826 and 1833.⁸ When the US Government began issuing patents to land in Kansas Territory, several Shawnees were granted patents to the land now encompassing Merriam in accordance with established treaties. The Randall family were granted 800 acres in this area, including the NE¼ of the NW¼ of Section 12, Township 12 South, Range 24 East where the Walker House was eventually constructed.⁹

A few years after Kansas statehood in 1861, Tennessean David Gee (D.G.) Campbell bought Shawnee Mary Parks' 200 acres in the SE & SW quarters of Section 12.¹⁰ Campbell intended to develop a town at this location, naming it Campbelltown (Campbellton). During the 1860s Campbellton had approximately 20 houses and a few businesses, and the surrounding area was mostly farmland.¹¹

The exact date of Campbellton's name change to Merriam is unknown but available records indicate the change was in place by the mid-1880s. Railroad expansion from Kansas City, which was a focal point of trade and communication at the time, was a major factor in the development of the metropolitan area. The first railroad to reach Campbellton was the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Gulf Railroad in 1870. By 1874 the unincorporated town of Glenwood had been platted to the north and east of Campbellton (*Figure 6*).¹² The Glenwood post office, established in 1872, was renamed Merriam in May 1881;¹³ however, the 1886 county map used both Campbellton and Merriam to identify the town (*Figure 7*). The *Official State Atlas of Kansas*, published in 1887, used only the label Merriam.¹⁴ Local speculation is that Merriam was renamed in honor of Charles Merriam, a one-time secretary-treasurer of the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Gulf Railroad.¹⁵

When the Walker House was constructed in the early 1900s, Merriam, Kansas, was still an unincorporated community.¹⁶ Located approximately 10 miles from downtown Kansas City, Merriam became a desirable destination for amusement

⁸ City of Merriam, "History of Merriam," (n.d.): 1 [digitized online] City of Merriam Website www.merriam.org/2222/History-of-Merriam (accessed 01/06/2017).

⁹ State Volume Patent No. 335 (11/01/1860) [digitized online] US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records <https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov> (accessed 01/06/2017).

¹⁰ "History of Merriam," 1; State Volume Patent No. 235 (12/28/1859) [digitized online] US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records <https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov> (accessed 01/06/2017). This patent shows the extent of Parks' land holding.

¹¹ Kendall Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb: A History of Merriam, Kansas* (Merriam, Kansas: Self-published, 1968), 17.

¹² Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb*, 19; E.F. Heisler & D.M. Smith, *Atlas Map of Johnson County, Kansas* (Wyandott [sic], Kansas: E.F. Heisler & Co., 1874), 8 & 73. This plat of Glenwood appears to have not been developed.

¹³ Robert W. Baughman, *Kansas Post Offices* (Topeka: Kansas Historical Society, 1977), 51 & 83.

¹⁴ *The Official State Atlas of Kansas* (Philadelphia: L.H. Everts & Co., 1887), 96 & 100.

¹⁵ Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb*, 19; "History of Merriam," 1.

¹⁶ Not until 1950 did the citizens of the town petition the governor to be incorporated as a city of the third class; in 1957 Merriam became a city of the second class (Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb*, 34; "History of Merriam," 1).

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seekers. In 1880 the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Gulf Railroad opened Merriam Park.¹⁷ By 1882 the railroad had hired a young George Kessler, on the recommendation of Frederick Law Olmsted, to improve the park. This 40-acre pleasure ground was located just south of the depot and was “designed to entice Kansas City, Missouri, residents to take a train ride for a day in the countryside across the Missouri River.”¹⁸ The park drew praise and upwards of 20,000 people per day during its heyday.¹⁹ By the turn of the 20th century, the park was closed, most likely due to the railroad’s incorporation into the Frisco line in 1901.²⁰

In 1908 Hocker Grove Park, another 40-acre amusement park, was opened along an electric trolley line about one-half mile southwest of the Walker House. Hocker Grove Park’s location was approximately halfway between Merriam and Shawnee near the current Hocker Grove Middle School on Johnson Drive. The park had picnic grounds, a skating rink, dance pavilion, a baseball diamond for the Hocker Grove baseball team and bleachers for spectators.²¹ In 1919 the park had a boardwalk with concessions and various sporting events. The park also hosted trolley parties, along with hot air balloon rides and political rallies. Rosedale High School in Kansas City, Kansas, used the rink year-round for their basketball games. After the game was cleared, orchestras played for crowds of dancers into the evening.²²

Like Merriam Park, Hocker Grove Park was created in direct response to a transportation line. The Kansas City, Lawrence, and Topeka Electric Railroad was an electric trolley line that connected downtown Kansas City with Merriam on its way to Zarah, a small now-defunct community about seven miles west of Merriam (*Figure 8*). This interurban began in 1904 as the Kansas City & Olathe Electric Railway, with the plan to connect Kansas City with Olathe, Johnson County’s seat.²³ Only a few miles of track were laid by 1906 due to financial problems. A federal court ordered the owners sell the line, and a new group of investors took over the line.²⁴ The plans to extend the line to Olathe were abandoned in 1909 due to the Strang Line interurban’s connection to that city. Instead, the company renamed the line the Kansas City, Lawrence, and Topeka Electric Railroad to communicate the line’s new destination; although, it never extended much past Shawnee.²⁵ Local businessman R.W. Hocker was head of the group of railroad officers.²⁶ While head of the company, Hocker opened the Hocker Grove Park and platted a number of residential developments; thus, the line became known as the Hocker Line.

Richard Weaver (R.W.) Hocker (1853-1919) (*Figure 9*) was a “lawyer, banker, real estate dealer and railroad builder” in the Kansas City area.²⁷ He was born in Kentucky and in 1883 moved to St. Joseph, Missouri, as a cashier for the Saxton National Bank. In 1885 he became vice-president of Citizens National Bank in Kansas City, Missouri. In 1888 Hocker organized the Metropolitan National Bank and served as president before retiring from banking and moving into “commercial pursuits.”²⁸ One of the biggest commercial pursuits was construction and real estate investment. In her 1908 biography of prominent Kansas Citians, historian Carrie Westlake-Whitney wrote the following of Hocker:

He was one of the promoters of the Shawnee Construction Company which built the railroad known as the Kansas City & Olathe Electric Railroad. It has already been completed as far as [Merriam], Kansas, and has been in operation since the 1st of October, 1907. Mr. Hocker has not only handled property for speculative purposes but

¹⁷ Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb*, 24-25; Kurt Culbertson, *Landscape of the American Renaissance: The Life and Work of George Edward Kessler* (Unpublished, 2005) <http://kurtculbertson.blogspot.com/2005/06/landscape-of-american-renaissance-life.html> (accessed 01/09/2017).

¹⁸ Kurt Culbertson, “George Edward Kessler: Landscape of the American Renaissance,” ed. William Tishler, *Midwestern Landscape Architecture* (Urbana & Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2000), 102.

¹⁹ Culbertson, *Landscape of the American Renaissance* (2005), n.p.; Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb*, 25.

²⁰ Ed Blair, *History of Johnson County, Kansas* (Lawrence, Kansas: Standard Publishing Co., 1915), 177; Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb*, 26. The park no longer exists, having been ultimately destroyed by the construction of I-35.

²¹ Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb*, 27; “The Hocker Grove Bungalows,” Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City (Missouri) Public Library 22 & 23 (Fall 2009/Winter 2010): 1 MVSC F 978.1675 J66AL.

²² “The Hocker Grove Bungalows,” 1.

²³ Monroe Dodd, *A Splendid Ride: The Streetcars of Kansas City, 1870-1957* (Kansas City, MO.: Kansas City Star Books, 2002), 120-121.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, 121.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ Horace Herr, *Men of Affairs in Greater Kansas City* (Kansas City, Missouri: Kansas City Press Club, 1912), 205 [digitized online] Available from Internet Archive <https://archive.org/details/menofaffairsingr00kans> (accessed 01/09/2017).

²⁸ *Ibid.*

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is also the owner of a valuable farm land in Johnson county, Kansas, where the railroad company is building a power house and residences.²⁹

Hocker acquired at least 150 acres in Merriam in 1902. Forty of those acres comprised the entire NE¼ of the NW¼ of Section 12, which he bought from the Randall family for \$3800 (\$102,199 in 2016).³⁰ In 1905 Hocker acquired an additional +/-50 acres in the south half of Section 12; forty of these acres were designated for Hocker Grove Park.³¹

Hocker's speculative real estate investment in Merriam was directly associated with the Hocker Line. Where once people from Kansas City came to Merriam for the pleasure grounds like Merriam and Hocker Grove parks, the interurban made the possibility of commuting to Kansas City convenient, as the Hocker Line eventually included 44 stops between Zarah and Kansas City.³² Housing for commuters was a logical necessity, and with his land so conveniently situated near the trolley line, Hocker was in a position to offer this housing.

Merriam's development in the beginning of the 20th century is common to the nationwide trend of streetcar suburbs at the time. Between 1888 and 1928 trolley lines became one of the most frequented modes of transportation. As horse-drawn conveyances gave way to electric streetcars, travelers could "travel in 10 minutes as far [as] they could walk in 30 minutes."³³ The technological change also allowed streetcar lines to expand to surrounding land, fostering "tremendous expansion of suburban growth in cities of all sizes."³⁴ Kansas City's streetcar lines expanded away from the city center; four interurban lines eventually spread into Kansas, and the Hocker Line was one of these four.³⁵ Residential development was a natural reaction to the interurbans' extensions into the surrounding land, and often the streetcar company was also the developer, as was the case with Hocker.³⁶ While the community of Merriam had been previously established, the town's population significantly increased as a direct result of the trolley line.³⁷

Hocker's residential developments in Merriam were well within a five-to-ten minute walk of his trolley line.³⁸ Hocker's Grove, which was platted in 1915 around the park of the same name, was intersected by Hocker Drive, the street through which the interurban passed.³⁹ R.W. Hocker's Subdivision was platted in 1910 within a half-mile of the interurban line (*Figure 2*).⁴⁰ While the two plats were developed for the same purpose and around the same time, the two residential developments offered different environments. Hocker's Grove was meant to contain modest Craftsman bungalows on lots containing around one acre; only 17 houses were actually constructed at the time.⁴¹ In contrast, R.W. Hocker's Subdivision was meant to contain eight Shirtwaist houses on spacious five-acre lots; only two, including the Walker House, were constructed.⁴² Both house types were typical of middle class housing, as the middle class was the target demographic of the streetcar suburbs.⁴³

²⁹ Carrie Westlake-Whitney, *Kansas City, Missouri: Its History and Its People 1808-1908*, Volume 3 (Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1908), 627-628 [digitized online] Available from Internet Archive <https://archive.org/details/kansascitymissou03whit> (accessed 01/09/2017). In the published record, Merriam's name was misprinted as "Marion." This is a town in central Kansas' Marion County.

³⁰ Copy of deed from William P. Randall (son of Eliza Randall, who received the original patent), dated 01/17/1902 and filed 12/25/1902. Anderson Title Company Collection, Kansas Collection, Box 26, Folder 1, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas Libraries. *Edwards' Map of Johnson Co. Kansas* (Philadelphia, Penn. & Quincy, Ill.: John P. Edwards, 1886), single page map [digitized online] Available from *Kansas Memory* <<http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/210670>> (accessed 01/09/2017) & *Standard Atlas of Johnson County, Kansas*. Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1902 [digitized online] Available from *Kansas Memory* <<http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/209390>> (accessed 01/09/2016).

³¹ "The Hocker Grove Bungalows," 1.

³² *Ibid.*

³³ Linda Flint McClelland, David L. Ames, & Sarah Dillard Pope, "Historic Residential Suburbs in the United States, 1830-1960," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form (no date noted): E-4.

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ Dodd, *A Splendid Ride*, 125.

³⁶ McClelland, Ames, & Pope, "Historic Residential Suburbs in the United States," E-5.

³⁷ Bailes, *From Hunting Ground to Suburb*, 29.

³⁸ This was a typical distance from streetcar lines at the time (McClelland, Ames, & Pope, "Historic Residential Suburbs in the United States," E-5). Hocker also owned additional developments and land in and around Merriam.

³⁹ "The Hocker Grove Bungalows," 1.

⁴⁰ Copy of filing documents for R.W. Hocker Subdivision, filed with Johnson County, Kansas, 10/21/1910. Anderson Title Company Collection, Kansas Collection, Box 26, Folder 1, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas Libraries.

⁴¹ "The Hocker Grove Bungalows," 1. Most lots within the subdivision now contain houses from later decades, mostly mid-century dwellings.

⁴² The lots were lettered M, D, H, O, C, K, E, & R. Hocker's wife, who passed away in 1907, was named Mary D. (Ketchan) Hocker.

⁴³ McClelland, Ames, & Pope, "Historic Residential Suburbs in the United States," E-4.

R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House

Johnson County, Kansas

Name of Property

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Located within the R.W. Hocker Subdivision, the Walker House was built on Lot K. The exact date of construction is unknown but records indicate the house was in place between 1906 and 1911.⁴⁴ According to county tax roll documents from 1905, R.W. Hocker, owner of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 12 (40 acres), owed a total of \$2200 in taxes (\$56,753 in 2016). The following year, Hocker paid \$4125 (\$104,283 in 2016), almost twice the amount of the previous year. Although, the plat for R.W. Hocker's Subdivision was not filed until 1910, there is a possibility that the current house was built in 1906.⁴⁵ Lot K was sold in 1911 to Azubah S. Dunham for \$5500 (\$133,697 in 2016). The *Olathe Mirror* reported two similar real estate transfers at the end of 1910: Both lots E and R were sold for \$3000 each (\$72,925 in 2016).⁴⁶ The difference in cost appears to indicate improvements were done on Lot K by this time. Only one other house was built in this subdivision during the early 1900s; the house on lot R is similar in design but was constructed after the Walker House.⁴⁷ By the time R.W. Hocker died in 1918, Merriam had expanded its boundaries with several new subdivisions, increasing competition among the residential developments.⁴⁸ This may account for why no additional houses were constructed within Hocker's Subdivision at the time. Although examples of 1930s housing is found within the subdivision today, the majority of housing stock dates to the 1950s-1960s when the subdivision was further divided and replatted.

The Hocker Line continued to carry passengers through mid-1927. The poorest of the Kansas City area streetcars, the Hocker Line was ultimately doomed by the advent of automobiles.⁴⁹ In a *Kansas City Star* article about the line's closure, Superintendent W.K. Paul blamed "the kindheartedness of motorists" for "the lack of patronage." Paul elaborated that potential passengers awaiting the once-an-hour trolley were given rides by passing motorists.⁵⁰ The last car ran on July 31, 1927.⁵¹

Criterion C: Architecture

The spec house on Lot K is a suburban example of the Shirtwaist style. The style's name refers to ladies fashion at the turn of the 20th century. A shirtwaist dress included a seam at the waist where the material changed between the bodice and skirt; similarly, a button-down shirt could be worn with a skirt of a different style. A shirtwaist house, therefore, is a house with two separate materials at the top and bottom (masonry at the bottom; wood at the top). A regional variation of the two-and-a-half-story American Foursquare, the Shirtwaist dominates Kansas City's early residential subdivisions from between 1900 and 1920.⁵² Exterior characteristics of a Shirtwaist include: the use of two materials on the exterior (most often stone at the base); steeply-pitched bellcast gable roofs with eave returns; gable-fronted one-story porch (most often across the entire façade); windows in the gable ends; projecting bay at the dining room; sleeping porch. Interior characteristics include: beveled glass windows; asymmetrical floor plans; stained woodwork on the main level; wooden columns separating the foyer from the living room (or living and dining rooms); prominent fireplace in the living room; boxed beams in the dining room; three or four bedrooms with one full bath; usable attic spaces.⁵³

The Walker House is a suburban example of the Shirtwaist so commonly found in Kansas City's urban residential districts. The house exhibits most of the notable features mentioned above that are common to these houses; although, there are a few variations. Namely, the porch is not the full-width and the stone base only covers the lower half of the façade and the eastern halves of the north and south elevations. The dining room also does not contain boxed beams.

⁴⁴ The Anderson Title Company Collection, Kansas Collection held at the University of Kansas' Kenneth Spencer Research Library contains a folder of documents related to R.W. Hocker's Subdivision (Box 26, Folder 1); however, the majority of the documents pertain to Lot R. No specific information related to Lot K is housed in this collection, which also contains a folder related to Hocker's estate upon his death (Box 37, Folder 36).

⁴⁵ In Hocker Grove the first houses were started in 1907, eight years before the plat was filed with the county ("The Hocker Grove Bungalows," 1).

⁴⁶ Hocker to Kate Foster, lot R, *Olathe Mirror* (10/27/1910): 6 & Hocker to F.E. Rugg, lot E, *Olathe Mirror* (12/22/1910): 7.

⁴⁷ Information pertaining to Lot R in the Anderson Title Company Collection contains a copy of a mortgage document dated 11/13/1920 (and filed 04/23/1921). Wording in this document states the mortgage is for "land and tenements," which may indicate that the house on Lot R was constructed by this time.

⁴⁸ According to estate records, Hocker died on Christmas Eve, 1918. His estate was not settled until 1921. Anderson Title Company Collection, Kansas Collection, Box 37, Folder 36, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas Libraries.

⁴⁹ Dodd, *A Splendid Ride*, 121.

⁵⁰ "End of the Hocker Line," *Kansas City Star* (07/06/1927): n.p.

⁵¹ "A Hocker Line Farewell," *Kansas City Star* (08/01/1927): n.p.

⁵² Susan Jezak Ford & Kansas City (Missouri) Landmarks Commission staff, "South Hyde Park Historic District," National Register nomination (2007): Section 8, 204.

⁵³ Joan Michalak, "A Lesson in Style: The 'Shirtwaist' House," *Historic Kansas City News* 3, no. 4 (1979): 10-11.

R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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As historian Susan Ford notes, the Shirtwaist “was an extremely common compromise ... between grand and efficient housing. The two-and-a-half-story foursquare with different wall treatments on each level provided a spacious, yet reasonably priced house for its residents.”⁵⁴ The houses were modestly sized for middle-income families,⁵⁵ making this style suited for a residential development targeted at middle-class families wanting to move away from the city center.

Summary

The Walker House was one of two speculative Shirtwaist-style houses constructed around 1910 in R.W. Hocker’s Subdivision. This residential subdivision was intentionally planned as part of Merriam’s development as a streetcar suburb along the Hocker Line at the beginning of the 20th century. The Walker House is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with early suburban development associated with the Kansas City regional streetcar lines and under Criterion C for its architecture as an example of the Shirtwaist style.

⁵⁴ Ford, “South Hyde Park Historic District,” Section 8, 195.

⁵⁵ Michalak, “A Lesson in Style,” 10.

R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Michalak, Joan. "A Lesson in Style: The 'Shirtwaist' House." *Historic Kansas City News* 3, no. 4 (1979): 10-11.

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Olathe Mirror (10/27/1910): 6 & (12/22/1910): 7.

R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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Standard Atlas of Johnson County, Kansas. Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1902 [digitized online] Available from *Kansas Memory* <<http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/209390>> (accessed 01/09/2016).

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Kansas Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____ n/a

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 0.31

Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.

(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|---|-----------|------------|
| 1 | <u>39.027990</u> | <u>-94.698590</u> | 3 | _____ | _____ |
| | Latitude: | Longitude: | | Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2 | _____ | _____ | 4 | _____ | _____ |
| | Latitude: | Longitude: | | Latitude: | Longitude: |

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The Walker House is located at 5532 Knox Avenue. The property's legal description, which is described below, constitutes the boundaries of this nomination and includes the house and lot located at: Lot K in R.W. Hocker's Subdivision NE Quarter of the NW Quarter of Section 12 Township 12 Range 24 Johnson County, KS.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The nominated property includes the house that was first constructed on Lot K in Hocker's Subdivision and that portion of the lot that is still associated with the house.

R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
Name of Property

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Heidi Walker, owner & Amanda K. Loughlin, KSHS
organization _____ date January 2017
street & number 5532 Knox Avenue telephone 913.205.4326
city or town Merriam state KS zip code 66203
e-mail Hmd1810@hotmail.com

Property Owner: (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Heidi & Mike Walker
street & number Same as above. telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each digital image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to a sketch map or aerial map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photograph Log

Name of Property: R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House

City or Vicinity: Merriam

County: Johnson State: Kansas

Photographer: Amanda Loughlin

Date
Photographed: December 23, 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 01 of 18:** East elevation, looking WSW
- 02 of 18:** East elevation, looking NW
- 03 of 18:** South elevation, west end (dining room)
- 04 of 18:** West elevation, looking ENE
- 05 of 18:** East and north elevations, looking SW
- 06 of 18:** Foyer, looking at west wall from entry
- 07 of 18:** Living Room, looking NE into foyer
- 08 of 18:** Foyer, looking NW at main stair
- 09 of 18:** Living Room, looking SSE at fireplace along south wall
- 10 of 18:** Dining Room, looking SSE at south wall
- 11 of 18:** Second level Hallway, looking W from east end of hall; mechanical room through door on left; main stair through opening on right; original bathroom straight ahead
- 12 of 18:** Northeast Bedroom, looking NE
- 13 of 18:** Northeast Bedroom, looking ESE at closet in south wall
- 14 of 18:** Southeast Bedroom, looking SSW from door; former sleeping porch through beveled glass door
- 15 of 18:** Sleeping Porch, looking NW at north wall and chimney
- 16 of 18:** Southwest (Master) Bedroom, looking ENE at east wall
- 17 of 18:** Second level Hallway, looking N at stair to attic
- 18 of 18:** Attic level, West Bedroom, looking E; east bedroom through door and across landing

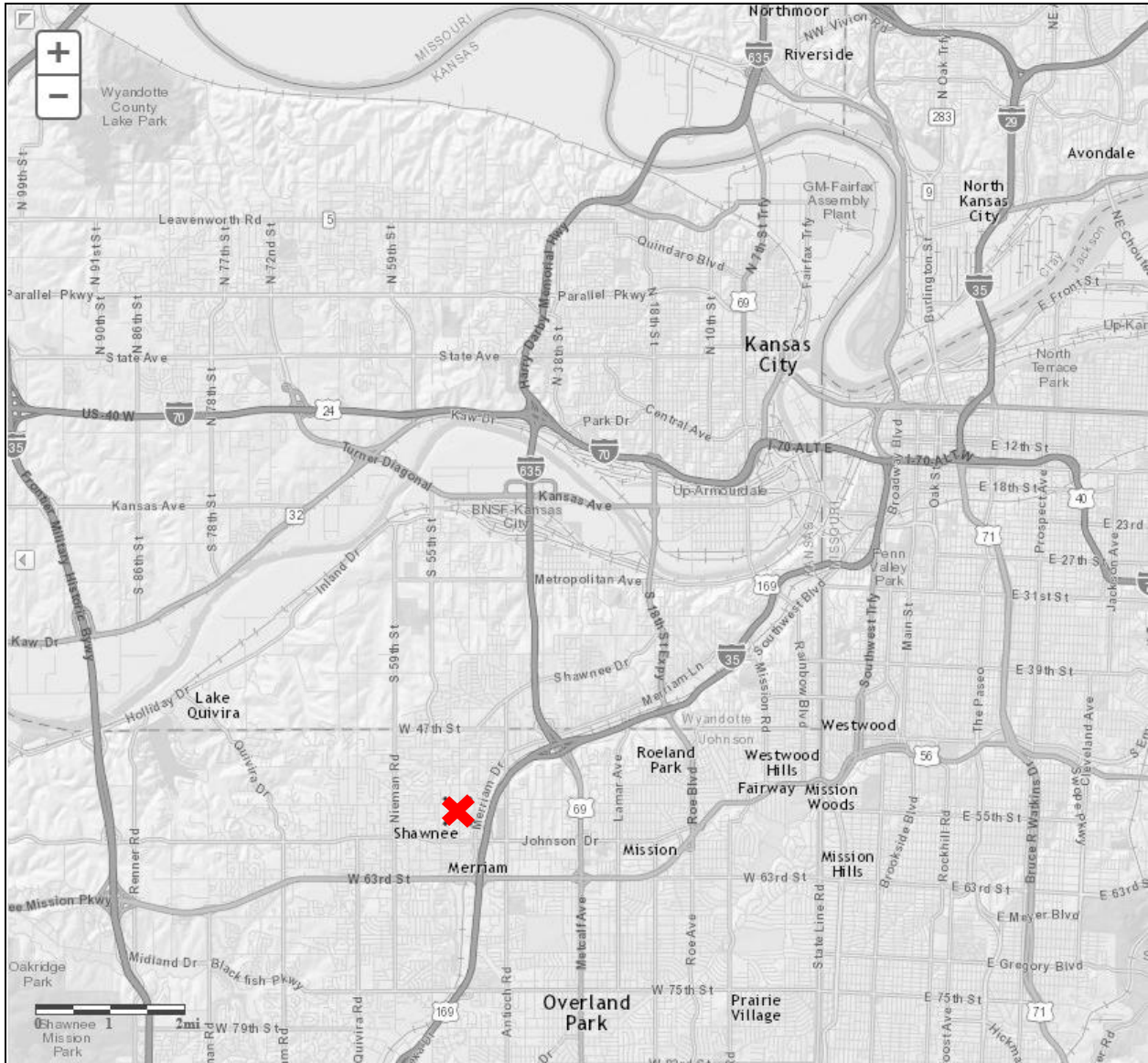
Figures

Include GIS maps, figures, scanned images below.

R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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Figure 1. Contextual image of Walker House in Merriam (marked by X) to Kansas City area.
Source: Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (www.kshs.org/khri)



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Figure 2. R.W. Hocker Subdivision in 1922, showing the approx locations of the two spec houses.
Source: *Standard Atlas of Johnson County, Kansas*, 17.



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Figure 3. Contextual image of Walker House in Merriam.
Source: Johnson County, KS GIS (maps.jocogov.org)



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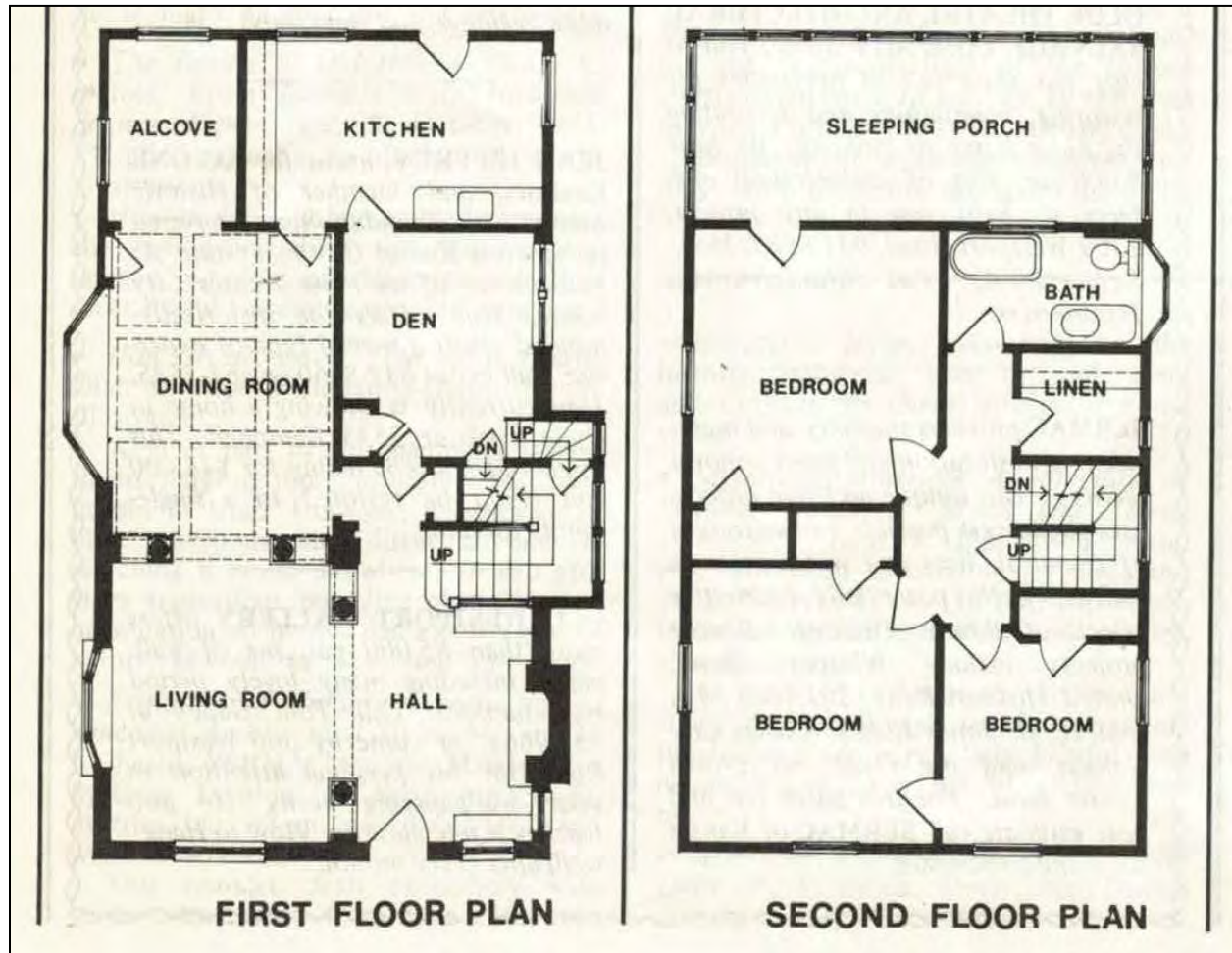
Figure 4. 1993 Image, showing ground level's open south porch (within circle).
Source: Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (www.kshs.org/khri)



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Figure 5. Example of a Shirtwaist floorplan; the Walker House is similar to this layout.
Source: Michalak, "A Lesson in Style: The 'Shirtwaist' House," 10.



R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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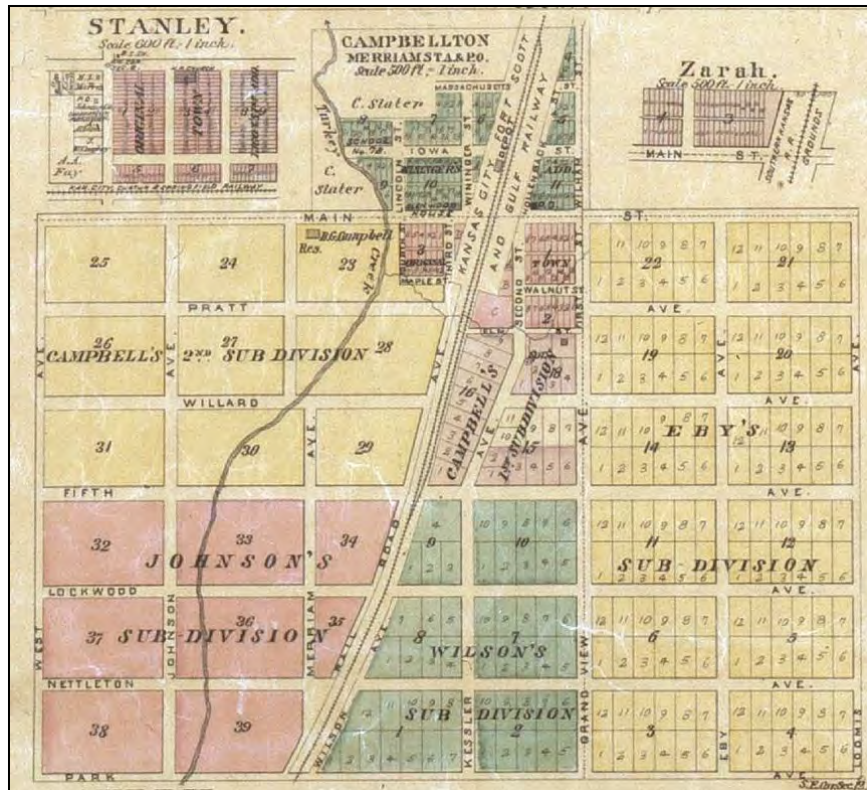
Figure 6. Snippets of 1874 Johnson County atlas, showing both names Campbellton and Glenwood. Top image is page 8; bottom image is page 73.



R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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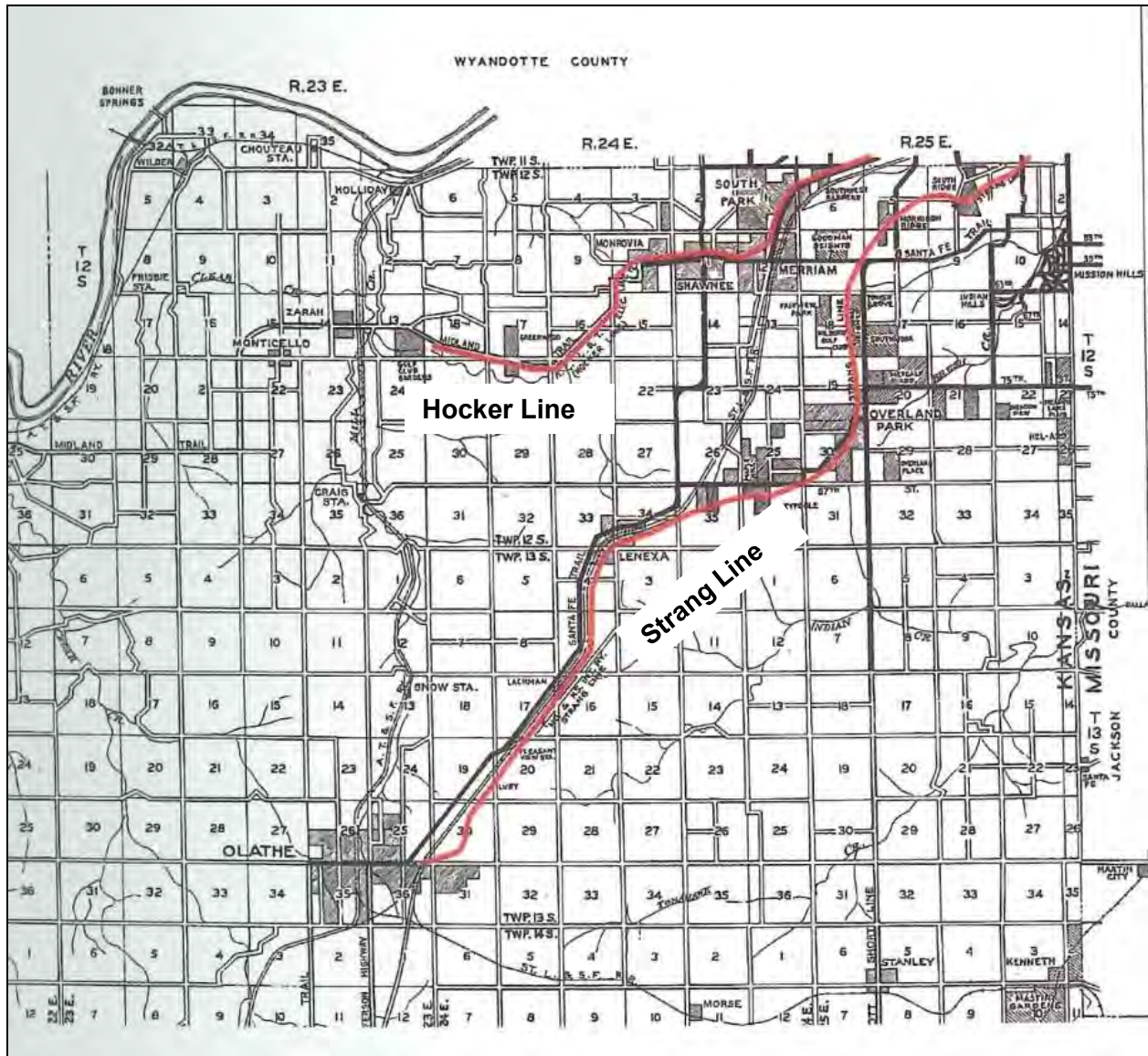
Figure 7. Snippets of Edward's 1886 county map Johnson County atlas, showing both names Campbellton and Merriam.



R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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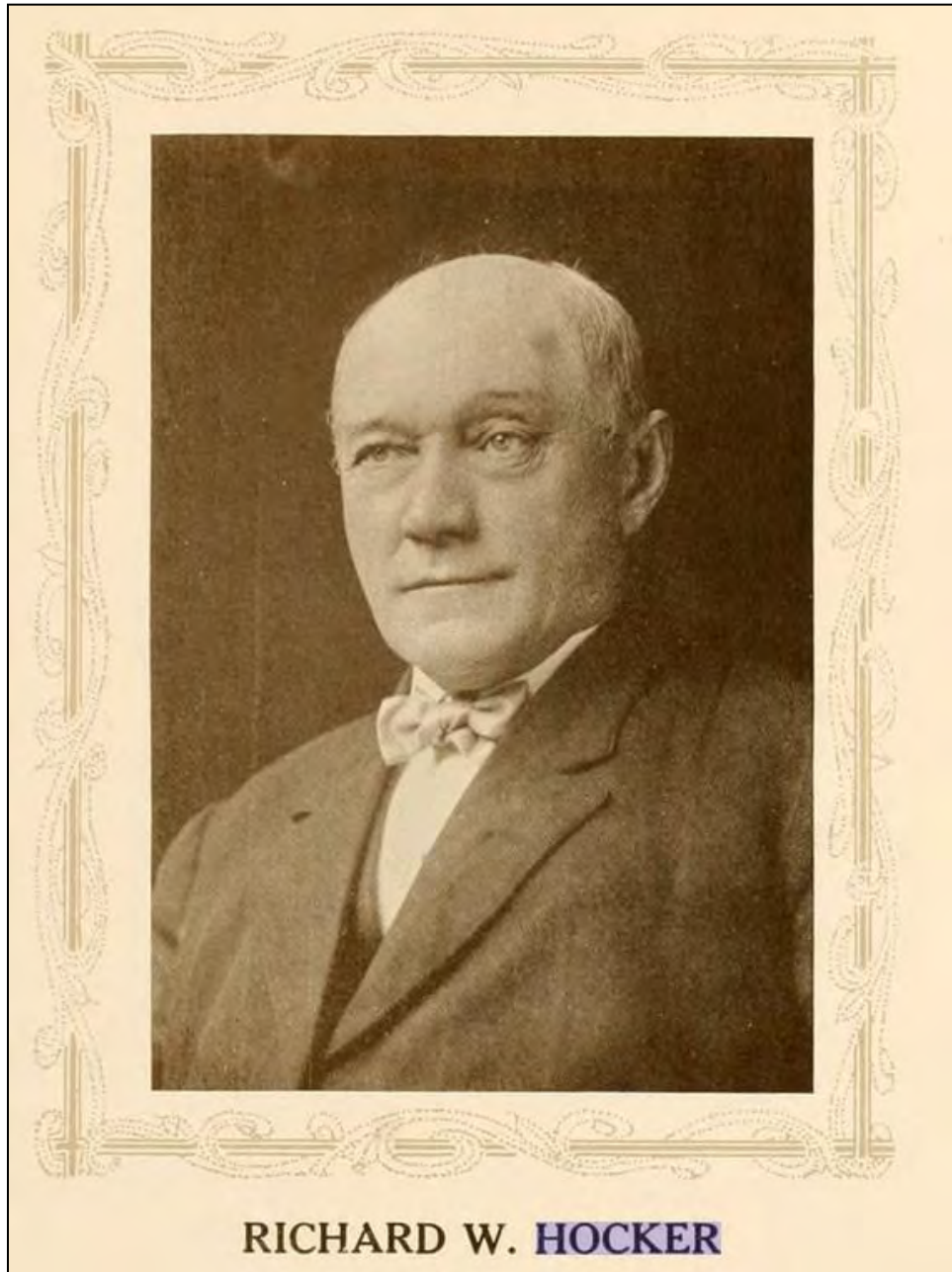
Figure 8. The locations of Johnson County, Kansas' two interurban lines, Hocker Line and Strang Line.
Source: Monroe Dodd, *A Splendid Ride*, 125.



R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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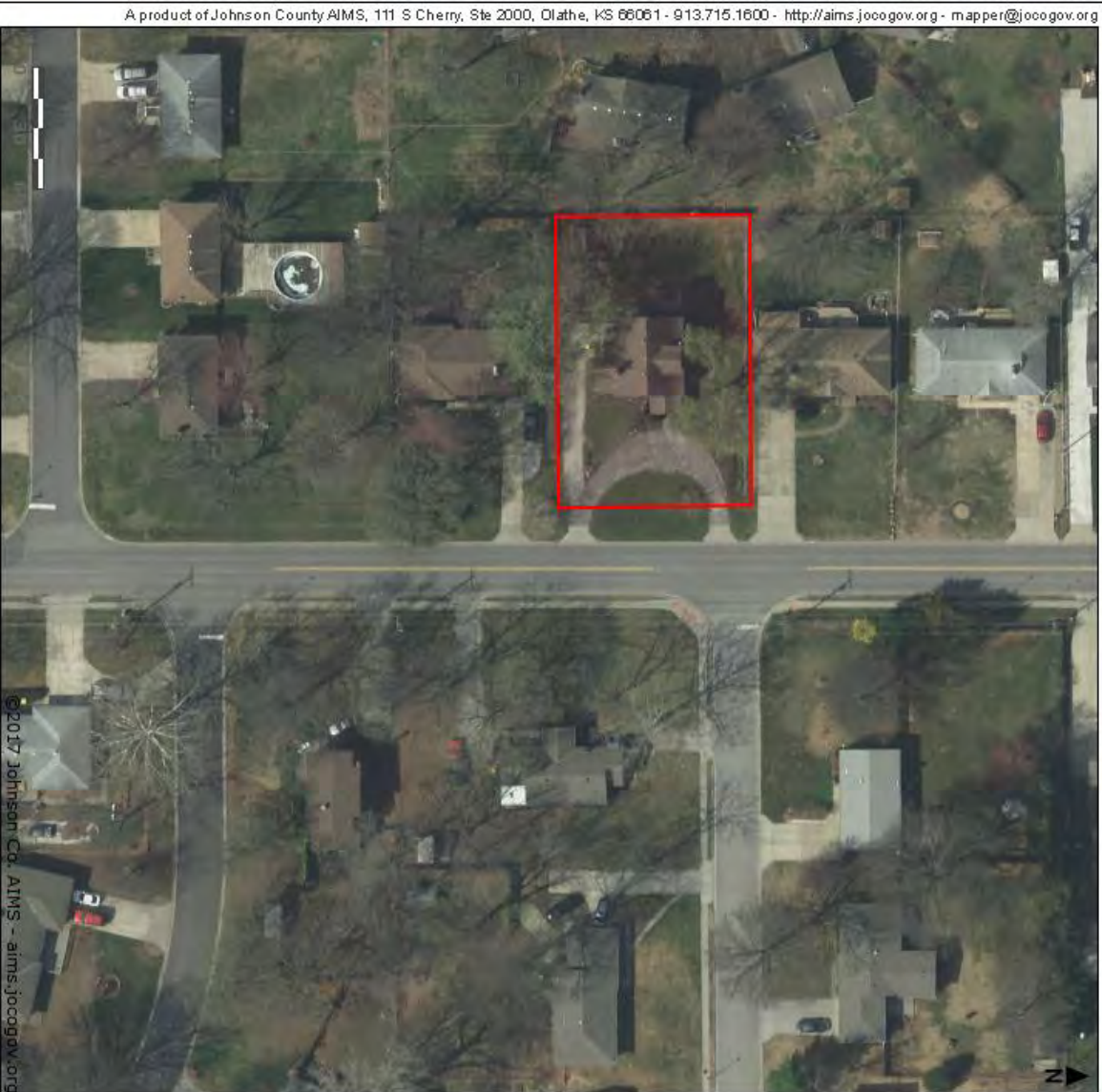
Figure 9. Richard W. Hocker, circa 1912.
Source: Horace Herr, *Men of Affairs in Greater Kansas City*, 205 .



R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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Boundary Map. The nominated property is depicted by the outlined shape.
Source: Johnson County, Kansas AIMS <http://maps.jocogov.org/aims/>



Johnson Co AIMS Map

LEGEND

AIMS Imagery: 2016

**Walker House (5532 Knox Ave)
39.028004, -94.698568 (WGS84)**



Disclaimer: No person shall sell, give, reproduce, or receive for the purpose of selling or offering for sale, any portion of the data provided herein.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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Criterion A: Community Development (cont'd)

The significance of the Walker House is tied to the development of western Merriam, Kansas, which is directly associated with the Hocker Interurban Line. Developer R.W. Hocker, who was also president of the interurban line, specifically platted several subdivisions within walking distance of his interurban, including the eponymously named R.W. Hocker Subdivision in which the Walker House is located (see *Figure 2* for the relationship of the Hocker Line to the Walker House). Hocker's speculative development, which was part of Merriam's community development, was in line with national housing trends that developed along streetcars between 1888 and 1928.

The Walker House represents the first residential development in this part of Merriam. Although eight houses were ultimately planned for R.W. Hocker's Subdivision, only two were constructed by Hocker's death in 1918. By then the city limits had expanded further west and new housing developments were planned. When commuters switched from streetcars to automobiles as the primary means of travel, Merriam's population grew even more. Throughout the 1930s and into the 1960s, R.W. Hocker's Subdivision was divided into smaller parcels to accommodate new residences, thus the reason the Walker House's current parcel is 0.31 acres.

Traveling north or south along Knox Avenue, the Walker House (along with the house at 5644 Knox) stands out from its context. The houses surrounding the Walker House are a mix of smaller buildings, ranging from Craftsman bungalows to Minimal Traditional Cape Cods to Ranch houses (*Figures 10 through 13*), showing the progression of housing development within the subdivision. Most houses along Knox Avenue adhere to the Walker House's 70' setback (see *Boundary Map*), indicating the standards previously established within the development.

Although a speculative house, the Walker House is a tangible example of the early development of the town of Merriam. The subdivision in which it is located did not finish developing until well into the 1960s, partly due to the death of R.W. Hocker and the end of the streetcar; however, this house, represents this important period of the town's history and is significant as a representation of Merriam's community development.

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R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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Figure 10. Contextual street view, looking SW (Google, April 2015). The Walker House is circled for reference.



Figure 11. Contextual street view, looking ESE from east of Walker House (Google, April 2015).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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Figure 12. Contextual street view, looking SW from east of 5644 Knox Ave. (Google, April 2015).



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National Park Service

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R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House
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Figure 13. Contextual street view, looking NE from east of 5644 Knox Ave. (Google, April 2015).





5532



5532





A single window located in the gable end of the second floor.

A double window on the second floor, left side.

A double window on the second floor, middle.

A double window on the second floor, right side.

A double window on the first floor, left side.

A double window on the first floor, middle.

A single window on the first floor, right side.

A large double window on the first floor, right side.

A double window on the second floor, far right.

A double window on the second floor, far right.

A double window on the first floor, far right.

A wooden deck with a railing, located on the left side of the house. A red patio umbrella is positioned on the deck.

Two black air conditioning units located on the ground in front of the house.

A wooden door or panel leaning against the ground in front of the house.

A green garden hose coiled on the ground near the house.

A yellow and black electrical control box mounted on a wooden fence.



5532





A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a dark long-sleeved top and dark pants, stands in the doorway on the left, looking towards the adjacent room.

The room visible through the doorway is a dining area. It features a wooden dining table with a patterned tablecloth, a chandelier with multiple lights, a window with a wooden frame, and a coat rack with a yellow quilted jacket hanging on it. The room is decorated with Christmas lights and garlands.

The room visible through the doorway on the right is a sunroom or entryway. It has a wooden door with a glass panel, a wreath on the door, and a black handbag on a wooden ledge. The room is brightly lit by natural light.

A tall, dark wood bookshelf filled with books, located on the right side of the living room. The books are arranged on several shelves, and there is a decorative object on the wall to the right of the bookshelf.

A dark green sofa with a white blanket draped over it, located in the foreground of the living room. A patterned pillow is visible on the right side of the sofa.





10:07
FRI, DEC 23
My Andrew Caldwell
sourced on Google





















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Alexis Abernathy Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2236 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615

Sam Brownback, Governor
Jennie Chinn, Executive Director

February 6, 2017

Paul Loether, National Register Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington, DC 20005

Re: National Register documents

Dear Mr. Loether:

Please find enclosed the following National Register documents:

NEW NOMINATIONS (4)

- **Soffietti-Boccia Store, West Mineral, Cherokee County, Kansas** (new nomination)
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination and .kmz file;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
- **R.W. Hocker Subdivision, Lot K Spec House; Merriam, Johnson County, Kansas** (new nomination)
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
- **Mugan-Olmsted House, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas** (new nomination) (nominated under the "Historic Resources of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas" MPS)
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
- **Ness County Bridge FS-450, Bazine vicinity, Ness County, Kansas** (new nomination) (nominated under the "Masonry Arch Bridges of Kansas" MPS)
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

REMOVAL REQUEST (1)

- **Rooks County Record Building, Stockton, Rooks County, Kansas** (removal request)
 - Physical, signed copy of the removal request;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the removal request;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photograph

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (2)

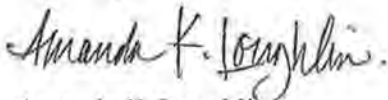
- **Topeka-Emporia Historic District, Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas (04000779)** (additional documentation)
 - Physical, signed copy of the documentation;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the documentation;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photograph
- **Brown, Samuel A., House, Newton, Harvey County, Kansas (88001904)** (additional documentation)
 - Physical, signed copy of the documentation;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the documentation and a PDF of boundary map;

PHOTOGRAPH RESUBMITTAL (2)

- **Hoffman & Lamb Buildings, Enterprise, Dickinson County, Kansas (SG100000510)** (photograph resubmittal)
 - 1 CD with photographs 5 through 11 of National Register property SG100000510, as re-requested by Alexis Abernathy due to corrupted files previously received
- **Engle, Jacob S., House, Abilene, Dickinson County, Kansas (SG100000506)** (photograph resubmittal)
 - 1 CD with photograph 1 of National Register property SG100000506, as re-requested by Alexis Abernathy due to corrupted files previously received

If you have any questions about these enclosed items, please contact me at ext. 216 or aloughlin@kshs.org.

Sincerely,



Amanda K. Loughlin
National Register Coordinator
Kansas State Historic Preservation Office

Enclosures