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Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 4

Garner Shriver
Form 10-300 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
(July 1969) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

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| Kansas | |
| COUNTY: | |
| Sedgwick | |
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The Rock Island Railroad station is a rectangular twostory building. It faces the tracks to the west and is approximately 130 feet long and 35 feet wide with an overall height of 25 feet.

The exterior walls are constructed of red brick laid in running bond and trimmed around the first floor windows and doors with rough hewn limestone.

The roof form is a steep pitched hip roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof splits the building at the first floor line to provide a covered walkway around the structure. This roof is supported by large curved frame brackets. The roof over the second floor is accented by small gables over the second floor windows. The fluting in these metal-covered gables adds an embellishing touch to the east and west facades. A simple cornice separates the roof from the wall below. A brick corbel at the roof line provides decorative treatment and directly below the corbeling a terra cotta design pattern circumscribes the building. A simple brick chimney rises near the south end of the building.

The first floor windows and doors occur in large arched openings. These arches are constructed of rough hewn stone blocks and begin at the window sills. Windows on the second floor are simple rectangles with brick sills and heads.

The building's exterior is in obvious need of paint and repair. Part of the interior has been damaged by fire and closed off; the rest of the interior continues in use as the Rock Island's Wichita freight office.

FEB 12 1973

| 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 Applicate | ole and Known) | 1887 | |
| AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch | eck One or More as Approp | riate) | |
| Abor iginal | Education | Political | Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | Engineering | Religion/Phi- | Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | losophy | |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | Science | |
| X Architecture | Landscape | Sculpture | |
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| ☐ Conservation | Music | ☐ Transportation | |
| STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE | | | A |

The Rock Island depot in Wichita was built by the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska railway company in 1887, the same year that railroad entered the city. The Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska company had been organized in December, 1885, as a subsidiary of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad company, which in July, 1890, took over all holdings of the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska.

The Rock Island depot was designed by J. T. Long and built by A. R. Ling Construction of the two-story brick building began sometime in the spring of 1887, and it was scheduled for completion by late October at an estimated cost of \$20,000. The building was used as both a freight and passenger station until the nearby union station was built in 1914; since then the depot has served for freight transportation only.

The depot is situated just east of the central city business district of Wichita for which comprehensive redevelopment planning is now underway. In relation to that planning, adaptive uses of the depot are now being explored by one of the city planning groups. Among the possibilities under consideration is that of a senior citizens' recreation center for the downtown area.

This structure has been a part of Wichita's transportation scene for 85 years. In addition, it is a good example of late nineteenth century Victorian railroad architecture.



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| Bentley, O. H., editor, History of Wichita and Sedgwick County, Kansas | | | | | | | | | | - | | | | | |
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| State Historical Society | | | | | | | | | ري | Y | m | | <u> </u> | | |
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Form 10-300a (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

| STATE | |
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| Kansas | |
| COUNTY | |
| Sedgwick | |
| FOR NPS USE O | NLY |
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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

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