

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

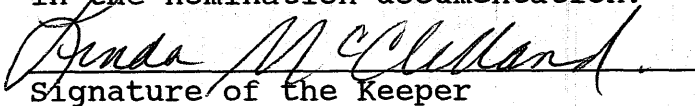
NRIS Reference Number: 00000770

Property Name: Brewer Scout Cabin

County: Dickinson State: Kansas

none  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

July 18, 2000  
Date of Action

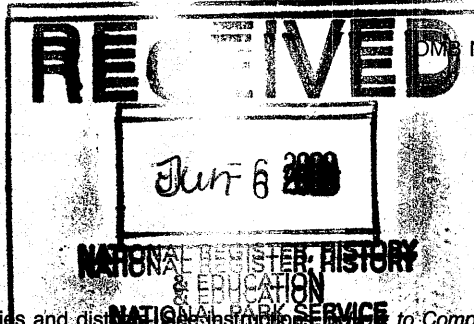
=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 5. Classification: "Building" is, hereby, entered to indicate the category of the property.

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The Kansas State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

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**DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



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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 to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name BREWER SCOUT CABIN

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number SOLOMON CITY PARK, 100 EAST 4TH STREET  not for publication

city or town SOLOMON  vicinity

state KANSAS code KS county DICKINSON code 041 zip code 67480

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  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard D Parkers D-SHPO MAY 30, 2000  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Anna McClelland Date of Action 7/18/00

BREWER SCOUT CABIN  
Name of Property

DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS  
County and State

**5. Classification**

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

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

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

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: CLUBHOUSE

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: CLUBHOUSE

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: RUSTIC

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls WOOD: LOG

roof ASPHALT

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.
[X] 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1934

Significant Dates

1934

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

BREWER SCOUT CABIN  
Name of Property

DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** LESS THAN ONE ACRE

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	4
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6	4	1	2	9	0
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4	3	0	8	6	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

3 

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Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title DONNA TOPE

organization CITY OF SOLOMON date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number P.O. BOX 273 telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town SOLOMON state KS zip code 67480

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name CITY OF SOLOMON

street & number 116 W. MAIN STREET telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town SOLOMON state KS zip code 67480

**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. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service**

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**Brewer Scout Cabin**

**Dickinson County, Kansas**

**Description**

The Brewer Scout Cabin is a one story building located in the center of the Solomon City Park on East Fourth Street. Since its construction in 1934, it has been used by both Boy and Girl Scouts for their meetings. Built by the Civil Works Administration (CWA), which employed local men who were out of work during the Great Depression, the log cabin is an example of one of the many programs President Franklin Delano Roosevelt put into action to restore men's dignity and improve the economy. Except for a few modernization's and repairs, the Brewer Scout Cabin retains its original appearance and continues its historical association with the local Boy and Girl Scouts.

The log cabin was constructed in a cross shape with a gabled roof at each end of the cross. It is approximately 26 feet by 26 feet, and according to The Solomon Tribune, April 26, 1934 the floor was constructed from 2" X 6" boards taken from the City Hall. The oak logs for which it is constructed were sized from 8 to 10 inches in diameter and were placed from bottom to top set with mortar in between. The chimney on the north side of the cabin is constructed with native sandstone and limestone found north of town. The cabin consists of one large room and two closets. The doors and windows are framed with plain wood and have no moldings. The roof was originally covered by green composition roofing, which has since been replaced with asphalt shingles. On the cabin's 50th anniversary, in 1993, the roof was repaired and the original wood floor was replaced with concrete because of termite damage. The work was done by area volunteers.

The side walls are built out of oak timbers donated by J. J. Sullivan, who lived north of town. The fireplace is built of native rock and brick and is in conformity with the rustic design of the remainder of the building. The cabin's interior walls are of the same oak logs the building is made of. The dimensions of the cabin are approximately 23 feet by 23 feet with the ceilings highest point being approximately 12 feet. The cabin consists of one large room which has two closets. One closet was used to store wood and the other was to store miscellaneous items. The walls are lined with benches except by the fireplace. The fireplace is made entirely of native rock found north of town. The ends of the timbers inside and out are painted a dark gray to harmonize with the bark on the logs.

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**Brewer Scout Cabin**

**Dickinson County, Kansas**

**Description**

The floor in front of the fireplace is made of concrete and the rest of the floor is of 2' X 6' boards taken from the city hall. The building was covered with a green composition roofing. The lighting fixtures were made of small logs to blend with the rustic appearance of the rest of the cabin. There is a light on each side of the fireplace and one over the door. Three lights hang from a wooden chandelier in the center of the building. Around 1945, electricity was introduced to the cabin and three ceiling fixtures were added. In 1993, electric heaters were installed.

The Brewer Scout Cabin looks much as it did upon completion and retains its rural appearance as it is surrounded by the many trees of the City Park. It is easily visible from Old Highway 40 (4th Street) where benches, a gazebo and handicapped accessible restrooms have been added for the use of our citizens.

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**Brewer Scout Cabin**  
**Dickinson County, Kansas**

**Statement of Significance**

The Brewer Scout Cabin (c. 1934) is being nominated to the National Register for its historical association with the Civil Works Administration (CWA) and for its significance as an example of rustic, park architecture. The cabin was built by the CWA for the use by Boy and Girl Scouts. One of several projects in Dickinson County, the scout cabin put local men back to work and helped the economy during the Great Depression. As reported in the February 8, 1934 edition of The Solomon Tribune "The purpose of the Administration is to aid the unemployed situation in counties and towns." Other projects in Dickinson County included building state and county highways; redecorating schools in Solomon, Enterprise and Abilene; City streets and water mains in Solomon, Woodbine, Manchester, Herington, Navarre and Enterprise; park improvements in Solomon and Abilene; and sewing new garments and bedding for area hospitals.

The CWA was federally sponsored work program operated during the winter of 1933-34 that provided work and income for a few million individuals, benefiting at least 12 million people. Localities financed 10 percent of the nearly \$1 billion spent. Schools, roads, sewer lines, and small airports were built and repaired. To fund the new program, President Roosevelt transferred \$400 million from the Public Works Administration in the November 1933. The program was terminated in the spring of 1934.

**Historical Background and Significance**

Located on the west boundary line of Dickinson County, Solomon was established in 1861. The town of Solomon is situated approximately thirteen (13) miles east of Salina and seven (7) miles west of Abilene on the Solomon River. The Solomon River runs its course along the south edge of town and meets the Smoky Hill River.

In 1932, the Great Depression hit bottom and the nation was in deep gloom. Thousands of men were out of work, but far too proud to accept charity or "be on the dole" as it was described back then. Franklin Delano Roosevelt took office in 1933, and with congressional approval, quickly set into motion many programs designed to put men back to work and improve the economy. Much good came from these groups. They built hospitals, colleges, community buildings, water works, sewage plants, bridges, highways, golf courses, and even organized theater groups and orchestras.



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The Brewer Scout Cabin in the City Park of Solomon, Kansas was such a project. It was built by the CWA utilizing many area men, thus restoring dignity of work and the ability to bring home a paycheck. The cabin was started in the winter of 1933 and completed in the spring of 1934, dedicated to Solomon Boy and Girl Scouts in May 1934, with the presentation of Tenderfoot badges to 29 Boy Scouts. One hundred and twenty-five people were expected to attend the banquet at the High School and dedication ceremony at the City Park, with proceeds from ticket sales going directly to Boy Scouts in Solomon for the purchase of new uniforms.

The oak timbers from which it is constructed came from Sullivan Bend on the Solomon River, south of Niles, Kansas. All of these logs were hewed and faced by hand by John Baney with a broad axe and adz. Fred Eisenhaur was the acting foreman on the building of the cabin. Some others working on it were: Charles Luck, Tom Rouse, Homer Boyer, Harold Boettcher and Preston Luck. These workers completed all but the fireplace, chimney and some chinking of the logs before the project ended in March, 1934. The cabin was completed by Joe and Charles Haddock who donated their time and labor to finish the project.

The timbers were cut the desired length and two sides are hewed so as to fit the other logs. They were then notched and fitted in place. The stones used for the fireplace were collected from a pasture one mile north and one mile west of the present K-18 Highway. The sandstone and ironstone were hauled to Solomon in a trailer pulled by an old Model T pickup. On weekends, the rocks were washed and cleaned by high school and grade school scouts, most of which were on the National Youth Administration Roll. A special prepared composition shingle of bright green color was used for the roof. The light fixtures were made of small logs to blend with the rustic appearance of the cabin.

Lewis Seth Brewer was Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop #47 from 1934-36, 1947-57 and 1963-64. Kathyne Cramer, who would later become his wife, was the first Girl Scout Leader in Solomon forming the first troop in May 1934 consisting of 22 girls. Kathyne was leader from 1934-40, and taught in the school system for 43 years, all but two of those in Solomon. She continued to be active with the Girl Scouts the rest of her life. In 1984, a year after Kathyne Cramer Brewers death, the Solomon Girl Scouts requested, and the City Council approved, the cabin be named the Brewer Scout Cabin as a tribute to this home town couple who did so much for scouting and the community.

Since 1934, the cabin has undergone few changes. The building was wired for electricity in the 40s and in the 80s the roof was repaired and the floor replaced. The town of Solomon, too, has gone through

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few changes since the construction of the cabin. Along with the nation, this small rural community continues to improve and grow. But even today, the town retains its quiet character and the Brewer Scout Cabin continues to serve as a meeting place for the local scouts as well as a reminder of Lewis and Kathryn Brewer who devoted so much of themselves to scouting and to the community of Solomon.

**Primary Research**

The articles used for this nomination have one major thread running throughout ... The pride of men in the 1930s, their dedication to providing for their families, and a distinct aversion to any hint of charity being provided by their country. This is demonstrated clearly in the propaganda of the time. "Uncle Sam Can: Let us starve; Not in this man's country;" "Give us a dole; But who wants a handout?" "Let us work; Which is every mans right" paints a very different picture of the United States during the Depression years vs. the last half of the century when we have become less patriotic in many ways. The articles depict an America where men and women alike worked on projects not only to help those less fortunate, but also to improve conditions of cities and towns all over the United States. One such project, the Brewer Scout Cabin employed many local men cited in The Solomon Tribune on December 28, 1933; "Besides the road work outside of town there is a crew of men working in the park on a project there and another crew working on the high school building." "But there are still a few men who need work in this community. And it is hoped they will be put to work soon."

On January 4, 1934 it was reported that "Concrete was poured Saturday for the boy scout cabin. . ." and that "Because of the project to construct a Boy Scout Cabin in the City Park it has been decided by the city to move the band stand from the park to a location of Main Street." This would indicate a sense of community pride and dedication to the projects being performed by this group of local men. In the January 18, 1934 edition, the local folk even were looking to the future when they stated "When the cabin is finished it will be used as a meeting place for both local Boy and Girl Scouts." They even made a time capsule as reported in the January 25, 1934 edition once again displaying their generosity for the future - "We haven't learned whether any gold found its way into the box, but it has been reported that several coppers were placed in the box to help out in case of depressions in later years."

Not all citizens in Solomon at that time were so giving . . ."The OLD MEANIE" lurked in the City Park not once but twice to steal logs being used by the workers to build the cabin! By April 28, 1934 great anticipation was felt as the cabin reached completion. It was reported in the Abilene Daily Reflector that "The cabin improves the looks of the park greatly and will be very useful to the scouts as their headquarters." A dedication was held on May 18, 1934 complete with a band concert and honorary

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guest speakers from throughout the state. Twenty-nine scouts were awarded their tenderfoot badges during the ceremony marking their first hurdle into Scouting. "Solomon is proud of this achievement and takes pride in being able to do something worthwhile for its boys and girls. The Solomon community is sure to reap much dividends from this investment." Today, as it was some 64 years ago when this quote was published, the cabin serves as a meeting place for our Boy and Girl Scouts.

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Abilene Daily Reflector. June 24, 1933; April 28, 1934.

Christian Scientist Monitor. June 9, 1934.

Graham, Otis L. and Meghan Robinson Wander, edited by. Franklin D. Roosevelt, His Life and Times: An Encyclopedic View. Boston: G. K. Hall, 1985.

Kansas City Star. February 18, 1934.

Luck, Preston and Billie Farmer. History of the Scout Cabin in the Solomon City Park. Brewer Scout Cabin Dedication, 1984.

Solomon Tribune. December 28, 1933; January 4, 1934; January 25, 1934; February 8, 1934; February 15, 1934; February 22, 1934; March 8, 1934; April 26, 1934; May 10, 1934; May 17, 1934; May 24, 1934.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The Brewer Scout Cabin is in the center of the Solomon City Park in Solomon, Dickinson County, Kansas. The park is bounded to the north by East Fourth Street, to the south by East Third Street, to the west by Walnut Street and to the east by Pine Street. The cabin sits centrally on a 36' x 36' parcel located in the center of the park.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nominated property is located in the center of the Solomon City Park. The building itself and a ten foot perimeter of ground are included in the nomination.