

EXF 10-900

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received APR 8 1982
date entered MAY 6 1982

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name Old Railroad Savings and Loan Building

historic Railroad Building and Loan

and/or common (Old) Railroad Savings and Loan Building (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 500 Main St. N/A not for publication

city, town Newton N/A vicinity of congressional district

state Kansas code 20 county Harvey code 079

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: (storage)

4. Owner of Property

name Garry G. Boston

street & number 14 Circle Drive

city, town Newton N/A vicinity of state Kansas 67114

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Harvey County Courthouse

city, town Newton state Kansas 67114

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Old Railroad Savings and Loan Building located at 500 Main in Newton, Kansas, is a rectangular commercial structure with overall dimensions of 50' x 150'. Completed in 1925 it stands as a fine example of the architecture of the American Renaissance. There have been no structural or material changes to the exterior of the building, and many of the original interior features remain. This building is still a vital part of downtown Newton, serving as office and retail space, and its architectural integrity is still intact.

The south and west facades of the Railroad Savings and Loan Building are faced with cut limestone, while the two less important facades are finished in brick. The front 2/3 of the building consists of a two-story high space with a third story above that. The rear of the building is divided into three stories. Originally this left the monumental spaces of the front portion of the building for the use of the Loan Association. The main entrance facade is three bays wide, the center bay containing the door. The south facade is composed of 11 bays. The roof line is level.

The tall arched windows that distinguish the original offices of the Loan Association from the three-story portion of the building, have molded surrounds. The keystones are embellished with scrolled brackets topped by lion's heads. The windows above the ground floor are square, consisting of two double-hung sash windows side by side. The surrounds of the windows on the top floor are simply molded and have extruded corners. Those windows at the east end of the southern face on the second floor have no molding. The main entranceway is surmounted by two winged creatures carved in low relief. The door surround is emphasized by an egg and dart type molding.

The decorative features of both main facades are the same. Two-story Corinthian pilasters fill the space between each bay of windows. A fluted string course runs beneath the sills of the uppermost windows. A broad entablature completes the entire building. It is decorated only with a course of dentils, a course of egg and dart molding and a simple molding above those.

The plain brick east end wall is pierced by five windows on the second and third stories, and a door at the northeast corner on the ground floor. The only alterations to the exterior of the building have been the addition of a metal awning and two signs at the east end of the south side of the building. The awning projects out over the first floor office entrances.

The entrance vestibule to the Savings and Loan Building is a narrow vaulted space. The stairs on the left go to the third floor. To the west of the stairs is an office that was originally an executive office. This is mirrored by the office to the right of the entrance vestibule.

The original banking area on the ground floor has been intruded upon by the shoe store which is adjacent to the building. The owner of the store has expanded into the north half of the bank, breaking through the connecting wall and installing partitions and dropped ceilings. The south

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1925 **Builder/Architect** Greenebaum, Hardy and Schumacher

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Old Railroad Savings and Loan Building in Newton stands as an eloquent reminder of the prominence of the Savings and Loan Association in Newton, as well as throughout central Kansas. Newton had already been the site of the home office for the Association for 30 years before the new building was constructed in 1925 to house its headquarters. Built in the Classical manner, it was hailed as "a thoroughly modern office building of the highest class. . . ." The significance of the structure derives from its associations with a business enterprise that had played a major role in developing large parts of Kansas, as well as from its high quality of design and current architectural integrity.

The charter for the Railroad Loan and Savings association (as it was called then) was filed on May 8, 1896. The capital stock of the company was at that time placed at \$2,000,000. All of the directors were Newton residents. The Newton Kansan for August 22, 1922, cites the Association as being "a most valuable factor in the upbuilding of Newton and community and various other portions of the state of Kansas. . . ."

On July 24, 1924, the board of directors awarded a building contract to Greenebaum, Hardy and Schumacher of Kansas City. The August 3, 1924, Kansas City Star reported that the building was going to cost \$150,000. The basement, built of reinforced concrete, was to contain vaults and the heating plant. The loan company would occupy the first floor and the second floor would be office space. The company was valued at 8 million dollars at that time.

The esteem in which this company was held is evident in the praise for both the building and the Association found in the March 6, 1925, Newton Journal: "When completed it will be a thoroughly modern office building of the highest class with many refinements found usually only in large buildings... [The Association] has grown from a struggling beginning. . . . to its present Statewide operation through more than one hundred and fifty branches."

By November 5, 1925, the AOUW offices had been established on the third floor and the Parton Real Estate Company and a barber shop were on the first floor. The Loan Association moved in on December 3 of that year. An open house was held on December 22, and the Newton Journal reported on the 24th that "evidence of the interest and admiration entertained by Newton people toward the institution and the new structure is shown in the fact that about 3,000 people were guests of the occasion."

9. Major Bibliographical References

(see continuation sheet)
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approx. 1/4 acre

Quadrangle name Newton Quad

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	4	6	4	5	2	1	8	1	0	4	2	1	1	2	1	9	1	0
Zone			Easting						Northing									

B

Zone			Easting						Northing									

C

Zone			Easting						Northing									

D

Zone			Easting						Northing									

E

Zone			Easting						Northing									

F

Zone			Easting						Northing									

G

Zone			Easting						Northing									

H

Zone			Easting						Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 13 and 14 in Block 39, Original town of Newton. Building occupies these lots.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nora Pat Small, Architectural Historian

organization Ks. State Historical Society--HPD date 3-30-82

street & number 120 West Tenth St. telephone 913/296-3251

city or town Topeka state Kansas 66612

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Nora Pat Small*

title Ex. Director and State Historic Preservation Officer date March 24, 1982

For NPS use only

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

William A. Bralman date 5-6-82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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portion of the banking area retains its original configuration and is currently used only for storage. The teller's cages have been removed, as have a marble seat formerly located by the doorway and the marble facing on the lower portion of the columns. However, the gracious Corinthian columns and tall arched windows enable one to conceptualize the original impressiveness of the space. The mezzanine is visible from this portion of the bank. This mezzanine is not expressed on the exterior elevation, but corresponds in position to the last arched window on the south facade. The floor is on a level with the springing point of the arch. Rest rooms and a large walk-in vault are located on this level.

The three stories of office space to the rear of the building, and the extension of the third story over the banking area remain basically unchanged. Dropped ceilings have been installed in the offices, but no irreversible alterations have been made.

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The property was owned by the Railroad Savings and Loan Association until January, 1967, when it was sold to Robert A. Haury, Ada Mae Haury, and Kenneth K. Haury. The current owner purchased the property from them in August of 1979.

The Old Railroad Savings and Loan Building was apparently designed with the tenets of the American Renaissance in mind. One immediately notices the correlation between facade and interior arrangement of spaces. This was an integral part of buildings designed in the Renaissance manner. The addition of the mezzanine level at the east end of the building is clearly expressed in the three stories of windows. The banks of tall arched windows crowned by lion's heads denote the prominence of the offices and lobby space of the Building and Loan Association.

Also characteristic of this style are symmetry, a certain stately restraint, massiveness and strong horizontal lines. The horizontality of the structure is emphasized by its heavy, unbroken cornice. The symmetry of the two main facades is broken only where necessary to reflect the interior arrangement of space.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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Kansas City Star August 3, 1924, p1D.

Newton-Kansan-Republican July 25, 1924, p.5., August 22, 1924, p1.;
October 31, 1924 p2; December 12, 1924 p1.

"Newton an Important Railroad Center."
Wichita Magazine, Dec. 18, 1929, p 10.

Newton Journal. Mar. 6, 1925, p5; July 2, 1925; Nov. 5, 1925, p 1;
Dec. 3, 1925.

Newton Kansan. Aug. 22, 1922, p90.

Newton Republican. May 8, 1896.

Santa Fe Magazine. July, 1932, p44.