

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received JUL 13 1983  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic Judge T. B. Wall House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 622 N. St. Francis Ave.

N/A not for publication

city, town Wichita

N/A vicinity of

state Kansas

code 20

county Sedgwick

code 173

**3. Classification**

| Category  | Ownership                                   | Status  | Present Use                                       |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public             | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied                   | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied      | <input 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                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                   | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <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 type="checkbox"/> museum                   |
|   |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> park                     |
|   |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence        |
|   |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> religious                |
|   |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific               |
|   |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation           |
|   |   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant |

**4. Owner of Property**

name Kim Dumford, Kelly Dumford

street & number 1624 Fairview

city, town Wichita

N/A vicinity of

state Kansas 67203

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Sedgwick County Courthouse

street & number North Main

city, town Wichita

state Kansas

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Wichita Landmark Registry

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date Unknown

federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Planning Department, Wichita City Hall

city, town Wichita

state Kansas

# 7. Description

|  |                                       |   |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |
| <input 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 _____    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |   |

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Judge T.B. Wall house is located in a mixed commercial and residential neighborhood. It is situated on the east side of St. Francis avenue (formerly Fourth avenue) and faces west. Probably originally built in the 1880's, its current appearance dates from an 1898 remodeling. It is a three bay building, designed in the spirit of the late Queen Anne style. The front entrance is recessed between the two end bays and there is a two story extension to the rear. Wall covering is lapped wood siding and there are such decorative details as fish-scale shingle diagonal boards, sunburst brackets, and Eastlake-type perforated woodwork. A shed roofed porch extends across the entire front elevation and is accented by a decoratively trimmed cross gable. A recessed second story porch is located above the entrance. A steeply pitched hipped roof with wood shingles covers the main part of the house. Nearly all of the 1890's interior woodwork remains in place including elaborate paneling and carved trim, columns and intricate brackets in the entrance area.

## ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Among the exterior architectural details on the house are elaborate paneling and carving on the face of the cross gable above the main entrance. They match the interior architectural elements. On the south elevation is a semi hexagonal projecting bay, to the west of which is second story porch with a dentiled frieze. An original remaining half round porch post follows the Ionic order. The north side elevation is very plain without any adornment although there are indications that the one story porch which extends across the west and south elevations or wrapped around the north side as well. The house has brick chimneys with decorative corbeling inside the north and south walls.

The interior of the house is divided into five main rooms at each story and a large, imposing entrance and stair area into which each of the rooms opens. The entrance area is the most elaborate part of the interior. In its northeast corner is a staircase with four runs. The base newel post consists of a fluted colonette suggesting the Doric order. There are four delicately turned balustrades per step. The handrail is carved at the base to resemble a plume. The staircase itself is heavily paneled and the ends of the risers are decorated with bead molding and applied scrolls. Between the staircase and the front entrance is a divider consisting of intricately bracketed Corinthian columns resting on a dado with deeply recessed panels. The southwest room on the second floor and northeast room on the ground floor each have diagonal corner fireplaces with elaborate wooden mantelpieces. The mantelpiece in the southwest room on the ground floor is marbelized slate. Original cast iron fireplace liners are in place. The fireplace fronts have original tiles. Architraves throughout the house have symmetrical moldings and decorative corner blocks.

A photograph of the Wall House before its 1898 rebuilding can be seen in the book Souvenir of Wichita, page 27. The photograph shows that the south part of the present house is actually the original structure with extensive modifications. The north rooms were added as part of the new construction. In the Wichita Daily Eagle for April 4, 1898 on page 5 is the following item listed under Building and Transfers: "T.B. Wall is out hearing Hearod in the Sim's addition he is getting on to his already large residence what with its porches, galleries, bay windows, alcoves, dormers, etc., it resembles the mansion of a millionaire's summer resort on the sea coast."

The house has been vacant for several years and has been vandalized. However, nearly all original architectural elements are in place. The present owner plans sympathetic rehabilitation for the building. The owner retains original material such as exterior porch posts which have been removed from the house. They will be replaced as part of the renovation planned for the Judge Wall House.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> law         | <input type="checkbox"/> science                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input 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/<br>humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> theater                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)         |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   |  |

**Specific dates** remodeled 1898      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

MEETS CRITERIA B, C

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Judge T.B. Wall House is significant for its association with its owner, Judge Wall, who was outstanding locally as an attorney and as the youngest judge in the District Court of Kansas at the time of his term. Extensive newspaper coverage of his life and death at the age of 49 point to Judge Wall's prominence in the community as an attorney and judge. Judge Wall bought the property in 1886, shortly after he was appointed judge. He rebuilt the house in 1898 prior to his second marriage and resided there until his death in 1906. He was described in a biographical sketch as one of the most prominent lawyers in Wichita. Architecturally the house is significant for its extensive elaborate detailing, nearly all of which remains in place. The intricacy of the interior woodwork, particularly that in the entrance area is notable and unusual. The house expresses the preferences of a prominent and well to do citizen and is a reminder of a prosperous time in Wichita's history. Contemporary writings about Judge Wall indicate that his 1898 rebuilding project was in part an effort to create a residence befitting his standing in the community. His house is repeatedly referred to as "one of the finest in the city." The degree to which the house retains its architectural integrity as it was remodeled by Judge Wall is particularly important.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Judge Wall arrived in Wichita in 1878 from his native Illinois. In that year he formed a partnership with W.E. Stanley, who later became Governor of Kansas. In December 1885, he was appointed Judge of the District which included Butler, Sedgwick and Kingman counties. In 1900 Judge Wall was delegate to the Republican National Convention. At his funeral in 1906, pall bearers included three judges, two senators and a governor. In a resolution adopted by the local bar association at the time of his death, it is written that "Sedgwick County has been honored and benefitted by his service as judge of the district court, by reason of his learning in the law and his great executive and business ability; and his record in this and other public official positions has been an object lesson of which our bar may justly be proud...."

In A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans, Judge Wall is recorded as a "man whose fine intellectual and professional attainments enabled him to have a deep and benignant impress upon the history of this commonwealth. He was numbered among the representative members of the Kansas Bar, served with distinction on the bench of the District Court and by his character and ability won inviolable place in popular confidence and esteem."

While no single event or action is known to stand out in T.B. Wall's time as judge or in his career as attorney it is clear from contemporary writings and his associations with people of significance at state and federal levels that Judge Wall was an important member of the community and his profession.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 100' x 140' (less than one acre)

Quadrangle name Wichita East

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A 

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| Zone |   | Easting |   |   |   | Northing |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

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Verbal boundary description and justification Lots 23, 25, 27, and the south 10 feet of lot 29 in Hilton's Addition to Wichita. These lots have made up the entire property since purchase by Wall in 1886.

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 Paula Stoner Reed

organization Preservation Associates, Inc. date Feb. 1983

street & number P.O. Box 100 telephone (301) 791-7880

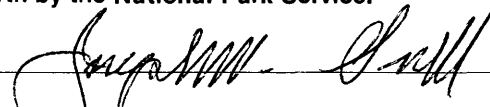
city or town Sharpsburg state Maryland 21782

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

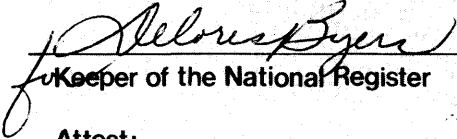
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society date June 28, 1983

For NPS use only

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

  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 8/11/83

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

Inspite of its deteriorated condition Judge Wall's house is an architectural gem from the late Queen Anne period. It combines characteristic Queen Anne elements with some of the newer classicistic detailing. The total asymmetricality of the earlier Queen Anne has been abandoned for an apparent overall symmetry wherein one side of the house does not mirror the other. The house mixes small colored glass window panes, fish-scale shingles, and intricate scroll and spindle work with Palladian window variations, Ionic and Corinthian columns, and dentils. Interior photos from the turn of the century indicate that the Judge's house was indeed a showcase. Most of the elements that made it what it was are still present.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Biographical Sketches of Leading Citizens of Sedgwick County, Kansas. Chicago: 1902.

Connelley, William E. A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1918.

Dilday, P.B. Souvenir of Wichita. Wichita: Wichita Eagle, 1895.

Eighth Annual Directory, City of Wichita. Wichita: Leader Printing & Publishing Co., 1892.

North, F.A. City Directory, Wichita, 1886.

North, F.A. City Directory, Wichita, 1887.

Sedgwick County Land Records.

The Wichita Daily Eagle, April 4, 1898.

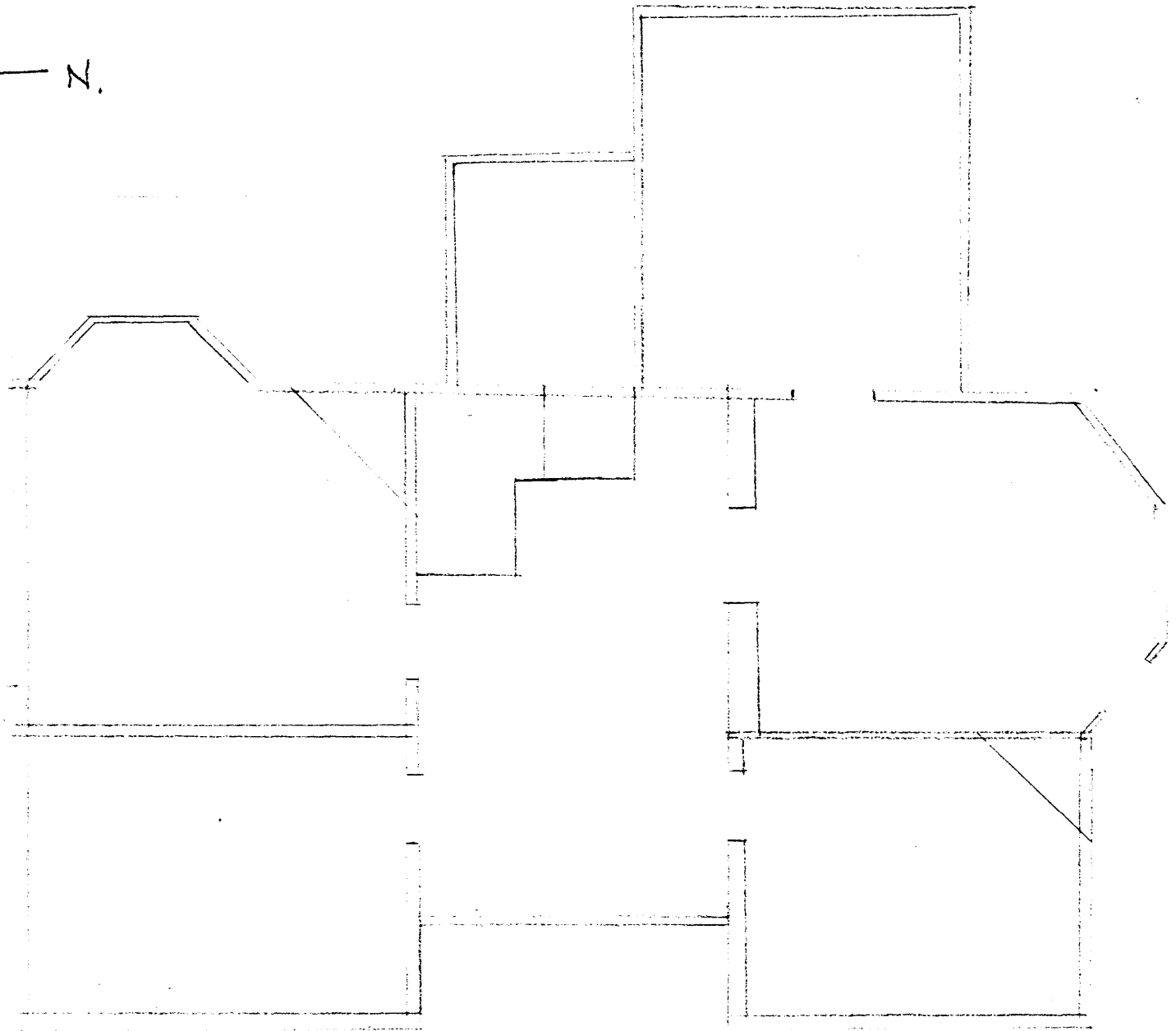
The Wichita Daily Eagle, Jan. 16, 1906.

The Wichita Daily Eagle, Jan. 19, 1906.

The Wichita Daily Eagle, Jan. 20, 1906.

N.

NOT TO SCALE



JUDGE TB WALL HOUSE, WICHITA, SEDGWICK CO. KANSAS

FIRST FLOOR