United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received JUN 1 8 1986 date entered

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

1. Name

| historic Ri | Ichard Howe Hous | e | | | |
|---|--|----------------|---|--|--|
| and or common | Same | | | | |
| 2. Loca | ation | | | | |
| street & number | 315 East Lo | gan Avenue | | | not for publication |
| city, town | Emporia | vic | inity of | | |
| state | Kansas | code 020 | county | Lyon | code 111 |
| 3. Clas | sification | | | | |
| Category district _X building(s) structure site object | Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition N/A in process N/A being consider | <u> </u> | upied 9 progress 9 stricted | Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military | museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other: |
| street & number | 315 Fast L | | | | |
| city, town | Emporia | ogan_Avenuevic | inity of | state | Kansas 66801 |
| | ation of Lo | | | on | |
| courthouse, regi | stry of deeds, etc. | Lyon Cou | inty Cour | thouse | |
| street & number | | Courthou | ise Square | 9 | |
| city, town | | Emporia | | state | Kansas 66801 |
| 6. Rep | resentatio | on in Exis | ting s | Surveys | |
| title Kansas | Historic Sites S | Survey | has this proj | perty been determined e | ligible? yes X no |
| date 1980 | | | | federal sta | ite county _X_ local |
| depository for su | urvey records | Kansas Sta | te Histor | rical Society | |
| city, town | | 120 West T | enth, Tor | oeka state | Kansas 66612 |

7. Description

| Condition | Check one | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|--|--|
| excellent | deteriorated | unaltered | | |
| _X_ good | ruins | X altered | | |
| fair | unexposed | | | |

Check one _X_ original site ____ moved date _

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Richard Howe House (ca. 1866-1867) is located at 315 East Logan Avenue in Emporia, Kansas (pop. 25,287). The two-story, three-bay, gable roofed, vernacular limestone building exhibits the structural and stylistic techniques of the Federal and Greek Revival periods. It stands on an agricultural tract on the southeast side of Emporia and remains as the only known residential example of stonemason Richard Howe's work. The Richard Howe House retains a moderately high degree of exterior and interior architectural integrity, although a one-story, wooden addition (ca. 1973) to the western gable wall does alter its historic appearance.

The building's facade is oriented to the north. Rusticated and coursed limestone blocks are employed for the facade, while roughly cut, random laid limestone pieces are employed for the remaining walls. Flush chimneys rise from the two gable ends. A one-story, limestone ell projects from the rear of the building, with a wooden porch abutting its western side. A one-story, gable roofed, wooden wing (ca. 1973) projects from the western gable wall. The building is roofed with cedar shingles.

Six-over-six double hung windows are employed for the three-bay facade. Cut limestone lintels surmount the windows. A centrally located, single portal doorway with a flat transom window provides the main entry into the house. There are no windows on the gable walls. The rear fenestration exhibits upper level six-over-six double hung windows on the main body of the building and a variety of different treatments on the projecting ell.

The interior plan of the house is designed around a center hall staircase with a room on either side of the stair. Black walnut is used for the mantles, doors, window surrounds, picture railings and oak and pine are used for the flooring.

8. Significance

| 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 | Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications | community planning conservation economics education engineering X exploration/settlement | Iandscape architectur law Iiterature military music philosophy politics/government | e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify) |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Specific dates | ca. 1866-1867 | Builder/Architect Ric | hard Howe | |

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Richard Howe House (ca.1866-1867) is being nominated to the National Register under criteria A and C for its historical association with the development of Emporia, Kansas (est. 1857) and for its architectural significance as a rare, extant example of a first settlement period limestone structure. The building was constructed by stonemason Richard Howe (1825-1910), one of the many Welsh immigrants that settled in Kansas during the 1850s, 1860s, and 1870s. The building reflects vernacular Welsh building traditions and exhibits structural and stylistic links with the Federal and Greek Revival styles.

Organizations such as the New York based Welsh Land and Emigration Society of America played an important role in the promotion of Welsh settlements in Kansas. Work in the coal mines and inexpensive agriculture land attracted a large Welsh population to southeastern Kansas during the second half of the Nineteenth Century. In 1870, 600 of Emporia's 2,500 people were Welsh.

Richard Howe was born in St. Bride's, South Wales, and immigrated to New London, Canada with his wife Sarah (née Evans) in 1854. The Howes moved to Pomeroy, Ohio in 1856 and settled permanently in Emporia in 1858. Howe was active in the community as a charter member of the Bethany Welsh Congregational Church (est. 1859) and as a stonemason. He was responsible for many public and private structures in Emporia, including the first Lyon County Courthouse (ca. 1866, d. 1901), the first Emporia Public School (ca. 1863-1865, d. 1880s), and the Kansas State Normal School (ca. 1867, d. 1880s). He is also credited with the masonry work on the Chase County Courthouse (ca. 1871-1873, NR 1971).

Emporia's commitment to the preservation of its Welsh heritage is strong but few first settlement buildings constructed by the Welsh remain. The Richard Howe House is a tangible link to the transplanted, vernacular Welsh building traditions and to the Federal and Greek Revival traditions. It maintains a high degree of architectural and historical significance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

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Continuation sheet 1

Item number 9

Page 5

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