

PH 007-191

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Kansas
COUNTY:	Morris
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
716.20.0034	6/31/71

1. NAME

COMMON: Last Chance Store

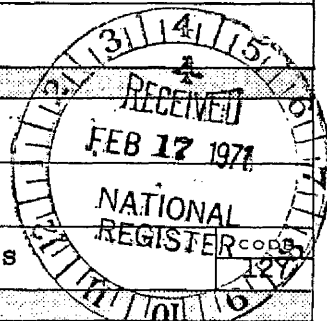
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 500 West Main St.

CITY OR TOWN: Council Grove

STATE: Kansas CODE: 20 COUNTY: Morris



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	storehouse for	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	owners antiques	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Helen Prater

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Council Grove STATE: Kansas CODE: 20

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Morris County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Council Grove STATE: Kansas CODE: 20

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas

DATE OF SURVEY: 1957 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kansas State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth St.

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka STATE: Kansas CODE: 20

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Kansas

COUNTY: Morris

ENTRY NUMBER: 716.20.0034

DATE: 6/31/71

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Last Chance Store is a primitive rectangular building constructed of hand-hewn native limestone. The stones vary in size and are randomly coursed. Moderate quoining occurs at the corners. Windows and doors are simple rectangular openings with rough stone sills and flat smoothed stone lintels. The one room, one-story structure has a double gable roof of wood shingles. A very simple cornice treatment graces the gable ends.

It is a good example of a transitional stage between Frontier style and Plains Vernacular architecture.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. 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 Applicable and Known) .1857

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Last Chance Store was erected in 1857 by Tom Hill on the north side of the Santa Fe trail, some five blocks west of the Neosho river crossing at Council Grove. At the time it was the last store in the settlement going west on the trail, hence its name. (It was also one of the first stores in the settlement.)

The building housed post office facilities for several years and also served as a government trading house. On August 2, 1858, it was the polling place when the people voted on the Leecompton Constitution. It was for a time the last opportunity for freighters bound for Santa Fe to pick up supplies for their journey and also a place where Kaw Indians from the nearby reservation could trade buffalo robes, deer and wolf skins, and other pelts for manufactured goods. In later years the building was a residence and at present serves as a storehouse and display for the owner's antiques.

The Last Chance Store is significant for its connection with the Santa Fe trail trade and the early development of Council Grove. The Last Chance Store and the Hays Tavern are the two oldest commercial buildings in Council Grove, both constructed in 1857.

one of the

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brigham, Lalla Maloy, The Story of Council Grove on the Santa Fe Trail (n. p., 1921).
 "The Conquest of the Wilderness," The Kansas City Star Magazine, v. 2, no. 2 (August 2, 1925), pp. 3, 4, 16, 19.
 "Historic Council Grove Is Proud of Its Earlier Days," Topeka Capital, August 24, 1924.
 "Many Historical Sights at Council Grove," Emporia Daily Gazette, May 7, 1954.

HR
NO
UTM

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		38	39	47
SE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SW	° ' "	° ' "		96	29	35

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles L. Hall, Architectural Consultant
 Richard Pankratz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society

DATE: November 24, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth St.

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka

STATE: Kansas 66612

CODE: 20

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Nyle H. Miller
 Nyle H. Miller

Title: Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society

Date: November 30, 1970

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

Ernest A. Cummings
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JUN 21 1971

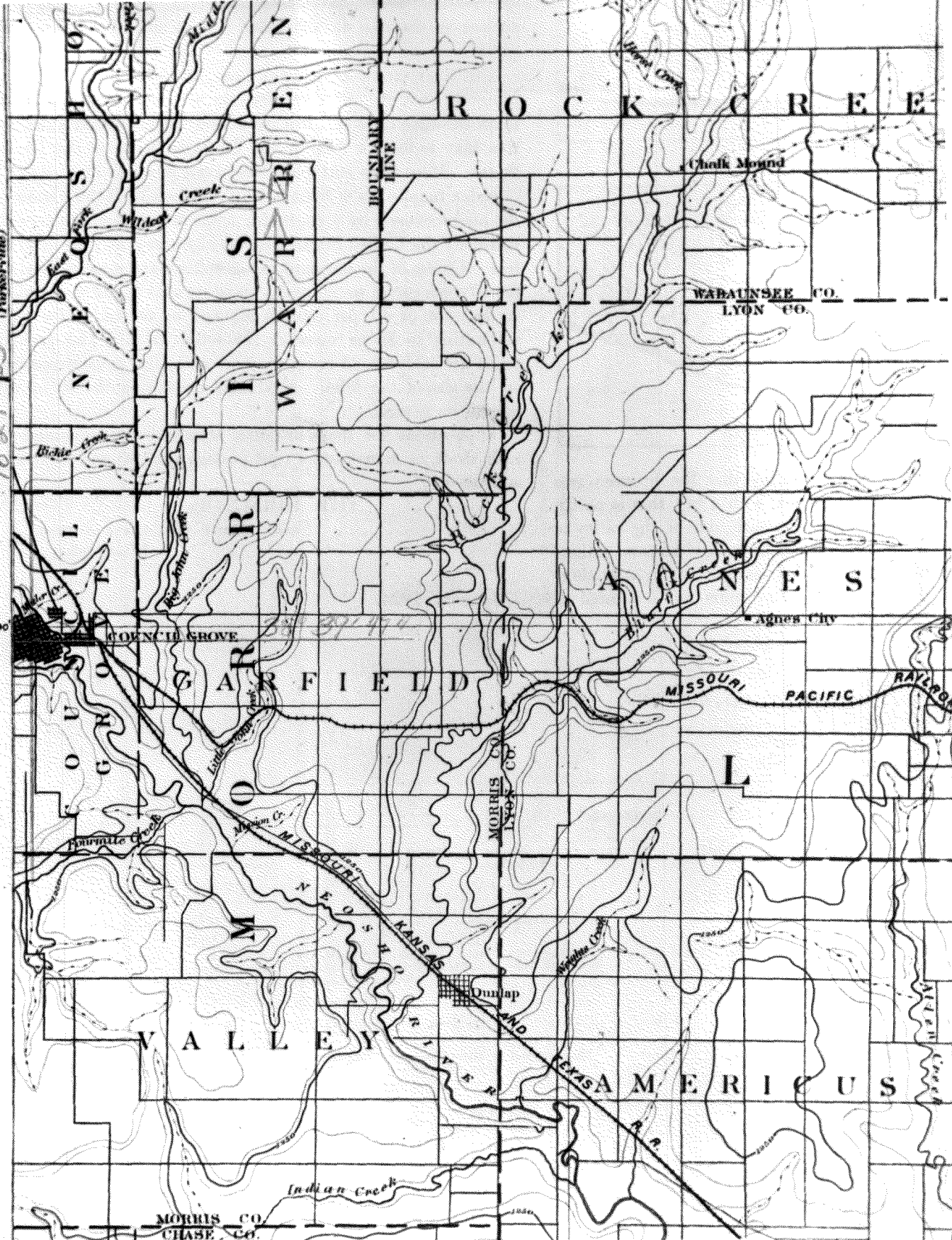
Date: _____

ATTEST: William Stenholz
 Keeper of The National Register

MAY 28 1971

Date: _____

96°29' 135° (Parker'sville)



C H A S E
T O L E D

U. S. G. S. 30' Reconnaissance
Map Eskridge (1894, reprint 1927)
Scale 1: 125,000

