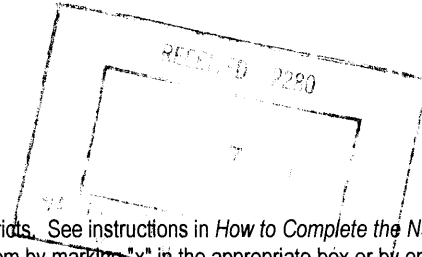


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How 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 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Nemaha County Jail and Sheriff's Residence  
Other name/site number 131-5030-0007

2. Location

Street & number 113 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  not for publication  
City or town Seneca  vicinity  
State Kansas Code KS County Nemaha Code 131 Zip code 66538

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. Rankenitz DSHD April 5, 2004  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Kansas State Historical Society

State or 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 commenting 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:)

Edson W. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

5/19/04  
Date of Action

Nemaha County Jail and Sheriff's  
Residence  
Name of property

Nemaha County, KS  
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)

Government: correctional facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture: museum

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Italianate

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone: limestone  
walls Brick

roof Other: composition

other

**Narrative Description**

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

Name of Property Nemaha County Jail and Sheriff's Residence County and State Nemaha County, KS

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register)

- 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.
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 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

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): Primary location of additional data:

- 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 #

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/ Government

Period of Significance

1879- 1907

Significant Dates

1879, 1907

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Pauley, P. J. and Brothers- Architect; Wundt, C. J. - Builder

Benfer, John Y.- Architect

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Name of Property Nemaha County Jail and Sheriff's Residence County and State Nemaha County, KS

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property less than 1 acre** \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	4	7	5	1	2	8	0	4	4	1	3	4	8	0
Zone		Easting					Northing							

2 

Zone		Easting					Northing							

3 

Zone		Easting					Northing							

4 

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 DarlAnn Swayze Rial

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Street & number 906 North 8th Telephone 785-336-0053

City or town Seneca State KS Zip code 66538

**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 SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

name Nemaha County Historical Society

street & number 113 N. 6th telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Seneca state KS zip code 66538

**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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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**Narrative Description**

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

The Nemaha County jail and sheriff's residence (c. 1879, 1907) is located on three lots (12,13,14 of block 61) on the southwest corner of the intersection of North Sixth and Nemaha streets of Seneca (population of 2,000), Nemaha County, Kansas. The building maintains a high degree of interior and exterior architectural integrity and stands as one of the oldest sheriff's residences and jails remaining in Kansas. The red brick, two-story structure rests on a foundation of limestone blocks, laid in mortar and a bed of sand. A renovation in 1907 enlarged the jail, added a tower and built a second floor to the jail. Today, the sheriff's residence and jail are connected with a modern brick addition, a museum annex.

The original jail and sheriff's residence is described in Andreas's History of State of Kansas (1883), as follows:

*It is a two-story brick structure with an L, the main building, 32x25 feet, containing six rooms conveniently arranged for the residence of the jailor. The L, 29x26 feet, contains three of J. Pauley's patent steel cells, each of sufficient size to accommodate four persons, while above the jailor's residence are two rooms used for the incarceration of female prisoners and those retained for minor offenses. In connection with the building is a large cistern and facilities for using the water to the best advantage in case of fire. The building cost \$9,965, and is in every way a credit to the (Nemaha) county.*

The "L" shaped building maintains a western façade orientation with overall measurements of fifty-one feet and eleven inches east to west and thirty-one feet and eight inches north to south. The exterior walls are eight to twelve inches in thickness and covered with uniform dark, red brick. The building is surmounted by a hipped roof over the Sheriff's residence and a flat roof over the jail. A chimney rises from the northern elevation of the residence.

The building was used until 1905 when deterioration of the floors of the jail began to raise concerns, complaints and jail-breakouts. Some prisoners escaped through the roof. One prisoner succeeded in making his escape by walking out the brick wall. The Nemaha County Commissioners accepted the bid from Shaul & Assenmacher on June 5, 1907 to renovate the building for \$9,851. A new second floor was added to the jail section with concrete floors and windows mirroring the first floor windows. The new, second floor jail addition added an exercise room and two more steel clad, maximum-security P. J. Pauley cells. Since the foundation of the jail needed restoration, the first floor jail building was enlarged by twenty feet and rearranged with a utility room and the original three P. J. Pauley cells, steel floors repaired.

As part of the 1907 renovation, the angle of pitch was increased over the sheriff's residence and the roof over the jail was built flat across. A tower with cupola was added to the intersection of the sheriff's residence and the jail on the south side of the building. In the new tower, cement steps were added which lead to a small covered porch on ground level and a bathroom on the second floor. Nestled back into the nook created by the tower on the south, a new porch was built. A western façade porch was extended to cover the full side of the building with cement arches decorating the stone railing. The terrazzo floor of the porch extends inwards to the foyer, but is currently cracking due to poor support framework. Four

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brick pillars rise from the porch railing to the centered gabled roof. The entire building was re-bricked from the Seneca Brick Factory.

A one-story wooden portico on the north bay of the western façade was moved to the mid-section of the north side of the building in the 1907 renovation. Four turned posts support a hipped roof. The floor is one-inch thick white pine, cut tongue and groove to fit. Supporting the hipped roof of the portico, ten inch by ten inch chamfered posts have molded caps and bases. The roof is covered with white pine sheathing boards.

The four panel doors surmounted by transoms provide entry into the building. All of the doors are box framed with galvanized iron trim. One-over-one, double hung sash fenestrate the building. Galvanized metal lintel hoods surmount the arched windows of the 1907 structure. Basement windows pierce the western façade, the north and south elevations. Stone extends over basement windows eight inches longer than width of opening to form a cap. The six jail windows are covered with steel bars. The exterior walls are eight to twelve inches in thickness covered with uniform dark, red brick.

All the new windows constructed for the renovation were built with rusticated stone sills and topped with vertical placed bricks, but the first floor jail windows and the sheriff's residence windows built with cast iron sills are the original. The roof received a face-lift during the renovations and a dormer added to the western façade. The stairway leading to the second floor has seven-eighth inch risers and one and one-fourth inch treads resting on two strong carriages. The handrail on the stairs is plain and measures two inches by four inches with one and three eighths inch turned baluster. The three rooms on the second floor were originally a chamber room and two rooms with grating for holding female prisoners and insane prisoners.

The basement under the Sheriff's residence has four rooms: on the north, the furnace room which measures a total of eleven feet six inches long by thirteen feet eight inches wide and on the south, the fuel room, which are eleven feet eight inches by thirteen feet eight inches. The stairs, located to the east of the fuel room, lead up to the first floor. The stairway has open risers with two-inch plank treads.

The jail and sheriff's office share such a close proximity, that importance is placed equally between them now, but in 1879, the jail was the impressive feature to the editor of the Seneca Tribune as he describes the new facility in The Seneca Tribune article of October 1, 1879, headlined, "A Model Prison":

*The main structure is two stories high, the front portion being designed as the jailer's residence, and the rear extension arranged as a prison. The most attractive feature, however, is the construction of the jail. The cells are made on the plan of Pauly's celebrated patient steel-clad jail cells. There are three of the cells, each capable of accommodating four prisoners, and all provided with hammocks and bunks, giving them a look that would seem inviting were the formidable bolts and bars removed. The cells are arranged in a row, with excellent means of ventilation at the rear, while in front is a corridor, separated from the center corridor by open latticework, all made of the famous patented hardened steel that defies files, saws, or cold chisels. The entire top and bottom, all the outer walls of the cells, the rear and the corridor and the*

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*partition between the corridor and cells are made of plate work, hardened by the best process known, and are absolutely saw and file-proof. The sanitary arrangements are the most thorough that could be desired, the lattice work and the foul air ducts affording ample ventilation, white water closets, water-tank, pump, hose supply pipe, soil-pipe, etc., enable the jailer to always keep his prison clean.*

The original jail was only one-story and paved with brick laid in two inches of sand. All the floors, ceilings and partition walls in the jail cells were, and remain, 3/16-inch thick jail plate. The lathing and lattice sections were made of the patent hardened steel bars of two by 3/8 inches. Each cell had four twenty-eight inch wide hammocks, hung from angle irons set in the ceilings and iron loops on the sides of the cells. Each cell was six and half feet wide, eight feet deep and seven feet high, opening into a five-foot wide corridor. There was a privy and a sink in the rear of the corridor and a water tank outside the corridor. The cells, doors, locks and corridors are P. J. Pauley of St. Louis, Missouri, patented equipment.

The first floor of the residence was remodeled in 1907, keeping the original nine-foot ceilings in the three rooms, central hall, open stairway and a foyer. The hallway from western façade to stairway was removed, opening the parlor. A wall was removed in the north room allowing a larger dining room. The kitchen, sheriff's office and a small lavatory were added in the enlarged jail sector building. The sheriff's office was now centrally located with entrances to the kitchen, hall, foyer and the only passage into the jail. The renovated windows of the sheriff's office were built wider.

The interior walls of the two-story Sheriff's residence are lathed with white pine, two coats of brown mortar and finished with plaster. The floors throughout the residence are 7/8-inch thick mill worked oak wood. The second story hall and three rooms and the first story living room have been overlaid with two inch oak flooring. On the first floor of the residence are two rooms: the dining room and living room, which have four inch wood flooring. Leading into each room is a four-paneled door with ogee molding. On the south side of the residence is the living room, measuring twelve feet by fifteen feet, and on the north side is the twelve by ten feet dining room.

The major change in the second story residence was the removal of the female and insane cells. These rooms were transformed into family rooms. The renovations provided five rooms on the second floor, two closets and a bathroom for the Sheriff's residence. The building had steam heating until electricity and city water became available. In the 1907 renovation, the portico was moved from the western façade to the mid-section of the north side of the building, running east and west.

In 1977, the Nemaha County Commissioners moved the jail facilities to another location. The Nemaha County Historical Society, Inc. purchased the building in 1978 for a museum. At that time the Historical Society renovated the interior and removed all the heating and plumbing except in the kitchen and lavatory. All of the rooms were returned to their original early 20th Century style. In 1995, the Harry C.M. Burger Memorial Annex, a non-contributing building, was added. The annex is located on the east side of the building, running north to south. The addition is one story high with cement foundations and the walls are brick. The windows are box-framed with brick sills. The entrance to the annex is through a door created from a former window opening from the jail.

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Several large, old cedar trees and deciduous trees are located on the property. A school bell from a rural school, a hitching post, a flagpole and sign designating the building as a museum stand on the front (west) lawn. A column of the former Seneca high school (c. 1878) is displayed on the northeast corner of the lawn. The cistern, which was located on the northern façade, has been filled with dirt.



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**Statement of significance:**

The Nemaha County Jail and Sheriff's Residence (c. 1879, 1907) is being nominated for National Register under Criteria A for its historical association with the growth and development of Nemaha County. The building served as the county jail and sheriff's residence until 1976 when the Nemaha County Historical Society purchased the building for use as a museum. The building maintains a high degree of architectural integrity and is the oldest sheriff's residence and jail standing in Kansas.

Immigration to Nemaha County began in 1854 when Kansas was organized and given a government. The most prolific crops of corn, oats, and wheat interspersed with well-watered streams and well-timbered land prospered the new Kansas farmers. In 1858, the population of Seneca was only six residents. In less than ten years, the population swelled to three hundred one. By 1882, the area's population was one thousand, five hundred, and nineteen citizens. The Atchison & Pike's Peak, now the Missouri Pacific railroad, began to pass through Seneca in 1866, causing a rapid population growth. Many settlers moving westward would stop in Nemaha County and buy land without looking further.

The establishment of Seneca as the county seat of Nemaha County brought booming economic development, but not without some conflict. The new courthouse burned twice and after each episode, another election was held to choose the new county seat. Seneca won the third vote over Sabetha by promising a new courthouse as well as a new jail and sheriff's residence.

Prior to 1860, Nemaha County rarely needed a jail. The few prisoners that Nemaha County detained were lodged in various places, usually under guard, waiting on the tedious delays of the law. The first attempt at a jail in 1861 failed miserably as the twenty foot by thirty foot stone jail allowed tenants to escape easily. The County Commissioners put the proposition of a new jail on the ballot in the 1878 election. Once approved, Seneca accepted a bid from P.J. Pauley & Brothers, St. Louis, Missouri, to build the jail and residence for \$9,943 through their agent, C.L. Wundt and Company of Des Moines, Iowa. P.J. Pauley & Brothers had a respectable reputation for building the perfect jail. A.W. Burnett, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners supervised the building of the jail. Elbert Dumont, Seneca builder, was the local contractor. The October 6, 1879, minutes of the Board of Commissioners lists a check for \$9,943, payable to P.J. Pauley & Brothers.

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**Statement of significance:**

Mr. P.J. Pauley, a German-American born in 1832, founded the Pauley Jail Building and Manufacturing Company in 1856. The Pauley family started the small business in St. Louis, Missouri, as steamboat blacksmiths on the Mississippi River. River traffic was heavy at that time and the business flourished. America pushed its western frontier further and further after the Civil War. Young P.J. Pauley, Sr., then 33, saw the development of an enormous business opportunity. Counties of emerging Territories and States had a responsibility to house prisoners convicted of crimes until such time as the prisoner could be transferred to a state prison, often a considerable period of time. Harnessing his skills as a mechanic and blacksmith, Mr. Pauley began manufacturing small steel cages that were, at first, anchored to flat wagons. These cages were drawn from place to place to serve as "gaols" or jails. Thus began the Pauley family's involvement in the detention industry. Today (2003), P. J. Pauley, Sr.'s great-great grandsons, Robert James Pohrer and Joseph Pauly Pohrer III, continue the operation of the family business.

The Pauley Jail Building Company pioneered double ribbed bar and the development of tool resisting steel with Crucible Steel Company. The company is credited with the development of the 4-S approach to the correctional industry, known as *Segregation-Sanitation-Safety*. This approach involved special plumbing fixtures that could never be clogged (Noverflo), the forerunner of the heavy hollow metal door and frame (Securidor), and a line of detention security windows (Invisiguard and Ventralite) which replaced the old exposed guards.

Architect P.J. Pauley, Jr. prepared plans, specifications and details for the jail and sheriff's residence. The new jail was designed to express the growth and prosperity of the area through the popular Italianate style. Following the trend across the country, the prosperous farmers of Nemaha County encouraged a building of high style Italianate. Characterized by brackets, often doubled, which ornament the cornice, porches, and hipped roofs that often appear flat, the building was similar to the new high school, which had been built in 1878 across the street from the jail. Within the concrete and brick walls of the jail, small cells were constructed of metal lattice while common jail bars enclosed other areas. All exterior windows had metal bars. Catwalks (corridors) surrounded the cell areas. To open the cell doors, the jailer entered the corridor and removed the padlocks, then retired, closing and locking the corridor door. The jailer removed the padlock from the lever (in the lever box) and pulled the lever, which slides the locking bars and released all the cell doors. The jail was seen as a model of neatness. The Seneca Tribune reported in the September 24, 1879 issue: "*At first glance it appears more like a handsome dwelling than a jail. The beauty of the building allows Nemaha County to lay claim to having the handsomest jail in northern Kansas.*"

William G. Cutler's History of the State of Kansas includes the biography of Elbert Dumont:

*Elbert Dumont, architect and builder, was born in 1847, in Seneca County, N. Y. During the Rebellion he served in the One Hundred and Eleventh New York Volunteer Infantry, ... was discharged from the army, attended school at the seminaries at Ovid and Fulton, N. Y., till the spring of 1878, when he went to DeKalb County Mo., to learn the carpenter trade. After living in Missouri three years, he came to Seneca, Nemaha County, Kan. For the last four years he has devoted his time to draughting and superintending.*

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*Among the jobs that he has had charge of are the Nemaha county jail...His wife was Mary E., daughter of O. C. Bruner an early settler of Nemaha County.*

Seneca continued to grow and expand in the 1900, but the jail began to show signs of deterioration. *“As a place of confinement, almost any old brick building would be as good. There has been some eight or ten jail escapes since the jail has been in use, and several important criminals have got away. The money spent in chasing escaped prisoners would have gone far towards making the jail sanitary and secure,”* stated the editor of the Courier Democrat in the August 10, 1905 issue.

Serious health problems arose due to unsanitary conditions in the jail. The plank floor in the corridor had been put down some sixteen years before over the brick and sand flooring. Time and moisture rotted the planks. One could take a stick and stir in the mud underneath. The cages had a steel bottom and were set on a concrete floor, but the dampness had completely rusted through the steel bottoms in some places. Several prisoners contacted rheumatism while in the jail. Obnoxious gases caused prisoners to feel nauseous. *“Malaria was reported to be lurking throughout the entire premises. Then when one young man visited neighbors after being held at the jail, his clothing contaminated the house with a foul odor. His best shoes were covered in mildew and he looked sick. He went to the jail the picture of health and youth, and was released pale and sick from malaria.”* (Courier Democrat 11/1906.)

Local architect John Y. Benfer, drew up plans for renovation of the jail. Born in 1844 in Union County, Pennsylvania, and reared in Seneca County, Ohio, Mr. Benfer learned sign and carriage painting at an early age. Benfer enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served two years in the Shenandoah Valley, fighting at Winchester and other historic battles. At Winchester, he was wounded. He served one year with the army of the James, was captured three times and escaped once. After his third capture he was released at the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. After the war, he worked at his trade in Michigan and Indiana until 1900, when he located in Seneca, Kansas. Mr. John Benfer designed many houses and buildings in Seneca.

The renovation plans were kept on file at the County Clerk's office for several months while the County Commissioners discussed the matter of the jail. Bids were solicited for the renovation, but later called off because of the high costs. The County Commissioners then appointed a citizen committee whose task it was to review the plans submitted by the architect and to determine their worth. The committee reported that *“the sanitary conditions of said jail are very unwholesome and inadequate, and in our opinion cannot be well overcome without the alterations and repairs sought to be made by said plans. We think the plans are good and reasonable.”* (Nemaha County Commissioners Proceedings) The County Clerk and the County Attorney were then assigned the responsibility of devising an advertisement asking for bids to repair the county jail according to the plans. After much deliberation, the County Commissioners awarded the contract to Shaul & Assenmacher, a known and reliable contractor, for a total of \$9,851.

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Joseph Assenmacher of Shaul & Assenmacher settled in Seneca in 1867, where he made his home for forty-five years before moving to Lincoln, Nebraska where he could be closer to his major project of building part of the first Nebraska State capitol. He was considered to be one of the best builders in Seneca. He remodeled the old post office, was responsible for the brick blocks of Harsh's Drug Store and Routh's Shoe Store. He owned the opera house, constructed a hotel and built more than twenty residences in the city of Seneca.

George A. Shaul of Shaul & Assenmacher had a staunch and respected reputation in the area. Shaul was responsible for the construction of many buildings in Seneca. Before his death in 1938, he built the Masonic Temple, city hall, the Eley hardware building and Dr. Thomson's office building within the city of Seneca. He also was instrumental in the organization and management of the Seneca Shale Brick Company, which was turning out 20,000 brick per day in 1916. He built at least ten public buildings in Nebraska and worked on approximately twelve federal post offices. He was responsible for the Nebraska State Farm Building in Lincoln, the Carnegie library at Lawrence, Kansas and for the Feeble Minded Institute at Beatrice. Mr. Shaul provided labor for a large number of Seneca workmen and was a committed defender of the area.

After some delay, the renovation project was completed on December 17, 1907. The building was a model of security and served Nemaha County until 1977. On January 9, 1978, the jail property, which included the residence, jail, garage and lots was sold for \$19,500. The Nemaha County Historical Society purchased the site, funded through donations and fundraising activities.

The Nemaha County Jail retains a high degree of architectural integrity as an example of a turn-of-the-century jail and sheriff's residence. "*The low pitched roof, widely overhanging eaves, supported by decorative brackets, tall, narrow windows with elaborated window crowns of inverted-U shapes identifies the Italianate style of the late 1880's, even to the L-shaped compound-plan ...*" as described by Virginia and Lee McAlester in *A Field Guide to American Homes*. Although the tower was added in the renovation of 1907, it was designed to be characteristic of the Italian Villa. Although the cupola was removed by the tornado of 1910, the tower continues to occupy the position where the residence joins the jail in the L-plan building. Future plans are underway for replacing the cupola on the tower.

The three original P.J. Pauley steel clad cells and the two cells installed in 1907 are in excellent condition. The jail floors, ceiling and partition walls made of three-sixteenths inch plate are pristine. All of the lathe, lattice section, and steel bars remain intact and can be viewed by the public. The jail embraces all the latest improvements for that time and continues today to display historical artifacts as a museum. Restoration of the jail and sheriff's residence by the Nemaha County Historical Society is symbolic of the historical pride experienced by all community residents. A non-contributing building, called the Harry C. M. Burger Memorial Annex was added to the back of the nominated building. Entry to the annex from the original jail is through a door built from a jail window opening. A recent donation of the adjoining east lot will permit plans for increased parking and storage.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

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**Bibliography**

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

**Books:**

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**Correspondence:**

1897 Pauley Jail Museum, Union Springs, Alabama. History of the Pauley Jail Building Company; 2003.

**Documents:**

Nemaha County Register of Deeds, State of Kansas, Quit Claim Deed, Lot 13, Block 61, Book 2, page 52.

City of Seneca, April 10, 1879; Book Ten, page 73, Lot 14 in Block 61, April 10, 1879; Book 2, page 488, Lot 12, Block 61, October 8, 1879.

Nemaha County Commissioners Proceedings, 1878-79; 1907-1908, Book G, pgs. 149, 156, 191.

Check Payment to P.J. Pauley Bros. October 6, 1879.

Contracts, Specifications and Blueprints: Residence and Jail: 1879; 1907.

**Newspapers:**

**The Seneca Courier;** 21 September, 1877; 9 August, 1878; 21 September, 1877; 11 October, 1879; 4 July, 1879; 5 September, 1879; 1 October, 1879; 31 October, 1879.

**The Seneca Tribune;** 1 June 1879; 7 August, 1879; 24 September, 1879; 1 October, 1879; 8 January, 1880; 12 September, 1912; 27 July, 1905; 6 June, 1907; 22 August, 1907.

**Courier Democrat;** 27 July, 1905; 10 August, 1905; 26 July, 1906; 23 August, 1906; 16 November, 1906; 8 April, 1908; 30 May, 1907; 6 September, 1907; 12 December, 1907; 11 April, 1907, 13 January, 1905; 23 April, 1908.

**Courier Tribune;** 6 October, 1977; 8 December, 1977; 12 December, 1977; 31 December, 1977; 12 January, 1978; 21 March, 1938; 6 October, 1977; 31 December, 1977; 12 January 1978.

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

**National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

This building (both contributing and noncontributing) is located on lots 12, 13, 14, 15 of block 61, City of Seneca, Nemaha County, Kansas. It is bounded by the following;

- On the west by Sixth Street;
- On the north by Nemaha Street;
- On the east by private property; and,
- On the south by an alleyway.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nomination contains all property historically associated with the Nemaha County jail and sheriff's residence. The location is across the intersection from the County Courthouse, which allowed county government offices to remain centrally located and in relative close proximity to each other.