FHR-8-300 (11-78)

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received FEB 29 1980
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Hooper Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number An irregular pattern along Main Street, Fulton, Elk, and Myrtle Streets ___ not for publication

city, town Hooper ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Nebraska code 31 county Dodge code 053

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
X district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	X commercial	___ park
___ structure	X both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple ownership

street & number (see continuation sheet)

city, town ___ vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dodge County Courthouse

street & number SW Corner 5th & Park Street

city, town Fremont state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date On-going ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Nebraska State Historical Society

city, town Lincoln state Nebraska

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	_X_ original site
_X_ good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hooper Historic District comprises some twenty-two architecturally and commercially significant buildings. Dating from the late 19th century, Hooper stands as a well preserved village of "American Renaissance" architecture incorporating elements of Romanesque and Italianate Revival styles. Hooper, located in the eastern part of Dodge County and with a population of over 200, retains the elements of a late 19th century village. The district consists primarily of commercial buildings constructed of local brick and cast iron facades still intact in the majority of the buildings (photo #6). A most interesting feature of Main Street is the tin canopy (ca. 1910) projecting over the sidewalk on several of the buildings (sites #41, 42, 43, 68--photos #5, 6, 15).

The Hooper Historic District consists entirely of one- and two-story brick commercial buildings with the exception of one frame commercial (site #62) and one residential structure (site #26). Presently, Hooper's commercial center is comprised of two banking institutions, one furniture store, several taverns, a grocery store, barber shop, drug store, public services including a library, city hall, and fire department, and other commercial structures. Three more recent structures, indicated as sites A-C, are listed as non-conforming, but are not considered intrusions because of their overall compatibility in terms of scale and materials.

Boundaries were drawn to include all structures similar in character and dating of late 19th century "American Renaissance" architecture. Certain properties in the business section of Hooper were excluded as they lacked historical qualities and served as intrusions. The decline in the concentration of significant structures and the merging of non-historical residential areas warranted the boundary lines to be drawn as indicated.

Buildings contributing to the character of the district.

DD06-26. Tillman House (photo #18), east side Myrtle, (block 2, lot 15, original town: c. 1880's. Two-story frame with gable entrance; central chimney; Eastlake porch; two-story bay on side; two story addition on rear; built by Frank M. Tillman, significant figure in the early development of Hooper who came to town in 1880 and purchased a hotel (no longer extant) located on the present site of DD06-66.

DD06-37. First National Bank (photo #9, far right), northeast corner Fulton and Main (block 1, lot 9, W½, original town): 1914. One-story brick with stone water-table and stone enhanced corbelled brick cornice; modern windows and entry; the Hooper bank, founded January 16, 1886, started out as a private banking house incorporated by John Heimrich, John Dern and Henry H. Looschen, with E. J. R. Burgh as the first cashier; in February of 1899 the bank was incorporated as the State Bank of Hooper and operated as such until March of 1900 when it became the First National Bank of Hooper (see also site #59).

DD06-38. Dodge County Bank--Professional Building, (photo #1, 2), northwest corner Fulton and Main (block 2, lots 10-12, original town), 1899. Two-story brick on raised basement with pseudo-dentilled cornice; paired and single arched windows with "broken" segmentally arched hoods on second, segmental on first; prominent corner entry; founded in 1882 by T. W. Lyman who came to Hooper in 1871, and John Heimrich; first known as Lyman and Heimrich, bankers; the firm was succeeded by the Dodge County Bank in 1884, which became a leading institution not only in the banking interests of Hooper and Dodge County but also in eastern Nebraska.

DD06-39. Commercial building (photo #2, 3), west side of Main (block 2, lots 8 & 9, original town), ca. 1902-03. Two story, brick over cast iron; vermiculated arch hoods on second; corbelled brick and pressed-metal cornice; double store; Fred L. Hoefner purchased the building in 1928 and started Hoefner Electric; still in business today.

DD06-40. C. W. Klingbeil Building (photo #3), west side Main (block 2, lot 7, original town), 1890. Two story, brick over cast iron; arched pressed-metal hoods on second; corbelled brick and pressed metal cornice with segmental pediment; built by C. W. Klingbeil, a prominent businessman in general merchandise who came to Hooper in 1883 and started business one year later; original building lost in fire of January, 1890, but immediately rebuilt the present brick structure at a cost of over $8,000.

DD06-41. Ancient Free and Accepted Masons Building (photo #3), west side Main (block 2, lots 4-6, original town), 1890. Two story brick; three stores; cast iron front; arched windows on second; pedimented, pressed-metal cornice; central store building constructed by the Lodge with flanking stores built by E. H. Airis; occupied by a saloon, general store and drug store, respectively; A.F. & A.M. Lodge, organized in 1878, still occupies the second floor of the two northernmost stores.

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DD06-42. Bucholz Brothers-Warne Furniture (photo #4), west side Main (block 2, lots 2 & 3, original town), 1890. Two story brick over cast iron; stilted pressed-metal, flat-arched hoods; pressed-metal cornice; Charles Bucholz established the Bucholz Brothers Furniture in 1875; constructed at a cost of $4,000

DD06-43. Heine Brothers Block (photo #4), west side Main (block 2, lots 1, original town), c. 1886. Two story brick over cast iron; stilted pressed-metal, flat-arched hoods; pressed-metal cornice; built by George and John Heine, brothers who were pioneer dealers in the hardware and implement business; first store destroyed in 1884, and after damages from a second fire in 1890, the Heine Brothers constructed the present brick building.

DD06-55. Kroegar Brothers Building #2 (photo #12), northwest corner Elk and Main (1st addition, block 10, lot 12), c. 1892. Two story brick; corbelled-brick cornice; segmentally arched brick windows grouped under parabolically arched hoods; corner entry; Hooper's oldest meat market business was started in 1880 by the Kroegar Brothers; occupied the brick building (site #56, see photo #11, presently the City Office) and later constructed the present brick building.

DD06-56. Kroegar Brothers Building #1 (presently the City Office--photo #12), west side Main (1st addition, block 10, lot 11). One story brick with pressed metal cornice, three-bay facade with segmental arches.

DD06-57. Jacobs Building (photo #12), west side Main (1st addition, block 10, lot 10), c. 1885-86. One story brick over cast iron; pressed-metal cornice; built by Uede Jacobs, proprietor of the meat market in 1886; in 1909 he opened a saloon business in the same building.

DD06-58. Hartung & Munderloh Building (photo #14), east side Main (1st addition, block 11, lot 9); c. 1892. One story, three bay brick building with segmentally arched openings and pressed-metal cornice; built by A. W. Hartung, of Hartung and Munderloh, dealers in wine, liquor and cigars; ownership changed in 1905 to C. H. VonRein, wines and liquors. (photo #14).

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DD06-59. State Bank of Hooper-Hooper Sentinel Building (photo #14), east side Main (1st addition, block 11, lot 8), 1886. One story brick with segmentally arched openings and pedimented pressed-metal cornice; built by Heimrich and Company for the Hooper Bank, later incorporated as the State Bank of Hooper; sold to the First National Bank in 1900; served a variety of uses after the new First National Bank was built (site #37), before becoming the Sentinel Building.

DD06-60. Looschen's Block (photo #13), northeast corner Elk and Main (1st addition, block 11, lot 7), 1885. Two story brick with cast iron front; corner entry; pressed-metal consoled hoods; pressed metal cornice; built by Henry H. Looschen, an 1872 immigrant who located in Hooper in 1877; operated as a general merchandise store; purchased by prominent businessman A. H. Harms in 1898 for his clothing and dry goods business.

DD06-61. City Meat Market (photo #10), east side Main (block 1, lot 17, original town), c. 1896-97. One story brick with cast iron; pressed metal cornice; owned and operated by the Uhlig family since 1914.

DD06-62. Commercial building (photos 8, 9, 10), east side Main (block 1, lot 15, original town), c. 1913. One story frame with cast iron front; pressed metal cornice; built by Jacob Sanders, who started in the grocery business in Hooper in 1902.

DD06-63. Commercial building (photos 9 & 10), east side Main (block 1, lot 14, original town); c. 1918. Two story brick with corbelled brick wall cornice.

DD06-64. Commercial building (photo #9), east side Main (block 1, lots 12 & 13, original town), 1899. Two story brick with cast iron front; pressed-metal hoods and cornice; Philip Dern, popular saloonist, occupied this brick building erected at the cost of $4,500; upper level was used for a cigar factory.

DD06-65. Commercial building (photo #9) east side Main (block 1, lot 11, original town), c. 1913. Simple two story brick with corbelled brick cornice.

DD06-66. Tunberg and Reetz Garage (photo #16), north side Fulton Street (block 2, lot 13, E½, original town), c. 1911. Presently two story brick; second level and windows inserted later; built on the site of the old Tillman Hotel (see site #26); Anton Tunberg and E. A. Reetz, two significant figures in the automobile business, began in 1907 selling Buick and Ford; by the year 1911 their success had made Hooper widely known as the town that sold more autos than any town of its size in the state.

DD06-67. City Hall-Hooper Fire Department (photos #16, 17), northeast corner Fulton and Myrtle (block 2, lot 13, W½, original town), 1914. Two story brick; five-bay assymmetrical facade; pseudo-dentilled wall cornice.

DD06-68. Looschen's Block-Stroh Bros. Building (photo #15), north side Elk Street (1st addition, block 11, lot 7, east end), c. 1885. Two story brick store attached to east end of Looschen's original block; three-bay; segmentally arched openings on first.

Nonconforming Buildings, not detracting from the integrity of the district.

A. Barber Shop-Cleaners, east side of Main Street, (block 1, lot 10, original town).

B. Farmers Mutual Home Insurance, east side Main Street, (block 1, lot 20, original town).

C. Thriftway Food Store, east side Main, (block 1, lot 21, original town).

8. Significance

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

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hooper Historic District is significant as the commercial center of a thriving agricultural community and for its outstanding nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial architecture.

The town of Hooper was platted by John I. Blair, February 15, 1871, on sections 17 and 20 of Township 19, Range 8 and was named for one of the officials of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway. The town of Hooper owes its origin to the building of the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Branch of the Northwestern System. Due to its location in the midst of a rich grain-raising section, the town's business prospered and Hooper became a significant commercial center. The population of Hooper is largely German. According to newspaper accounts of the time, Germany was a severe place to farm in the 1870's and 80's. As a result, many farmers immigrated to more promising farming regions in Nebraska. Significant numbers settled the Elkhorn River valley in Dodge and Cuming counties. Many of these people, and in the case of the Hooper immigrants, entire villages left Germany for the promise of less government and taxes on free or cheap land in America.

Hooper's Main Street, according to earliest record, has been extant as a commercial area since the year 1875. The town was legally incorporated in 1886, but since Hooper did not have its newspaper established until 1885, little is known of the 1870's Main Street buildings.

In 1884-1885, and 1886, several major fires brought about a town ordinance that all structures on Main Street must be of brick construction. Another fire in January of 1890 virtually eliminated the remaining frame buildings. This law was to vastly improve the quality of Hooper's Main Street as a frontier community, giving it a strong sense of unity through its design and construction of brick architecture. The west side of the main street provides the focal point of the district with its contiguous store fronts; mostly of brick, all of similar heights and vintage (c. 1890), and most with cast iron fronts.

The Hooper Historic District is significant to Nebraska's cultural heritage in that it stands as a well preserved example of 19th century commercial architecture. Hooper is one of the few Nebraska communities in which commercial building facades have retained their historic integrity. Commercially, Hooper continues to serve the surrounding countryside as the hub of business activity.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property About 4

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Hooper Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	14	704407	4609405
B	14	704407	4609241
C	14	704279	4609240
D	14	704279	4609403
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joni Lidolph, Survey Associate

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date February, 1980

street & number 1500 R Street telephone 402/471-3270

city or town Lincoln state Nebraska

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national X 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Marvin F. Kivett 2/26/80

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society date

For HCRS use only

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

for W. Ray Luce date 5/8/80

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: William H. Brashear date 4.29.80

~~Chief of Registration~~

GPO 938 835

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Andreas, A. T., History of Nebraska. Western Historical Company, Chicago. 1882. Volume 1, pp. 668-670.

Hooper Mrs. Jaycees, 1876-1976 Centennial History of Hooper, (May 1976).

"Hooper." Hooper (Nebraska) Sentinel, 1 April 1892, pp. 4-5, c. 1-6.

Some Nebraska Gems. A Group of Thriving Towns in the Northwest. Omaha, Nebraska, The Herald Job Printing Rooms. 1889.

"Thirtieth Anniversary Number of the Sentinel", Hooper (Nebraska) Sentinel, 1 April 1914, p. 1, c. 1-6; p. 4, c. 1-5; p. 5, c. 3-5; p. 8, c. 1-12.

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The Hooper Historic District comprises properties beginning at the intersection of Myrtle and Fulton Streets with the boundary line continuing north approximately 136', then turning east approximately 120' to the alley (block #2). The line follows north up through the Alley (block #2, 10) cutting across Elk Street, then turns east again for 100', making a slight jog south, across Main Street to the alley in Block #11. It then heads directly south to Fulton Street and finally follows Fulton Street northwest to Myrtle Street.

Lots included within the boundaries are: Block #1, lots 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17; Block #2, lots 1-13, 15; Block #10, lots 10-12; Block #11, 7-9.

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Block 1, Original Town

lot 9. First National Bank, Hooper, Nebraska
11. The Public, Hooper, Nebr.
12. Bernard Spies and wife, Hooper, Nebr.
13. Dean A. Christensen, Hooper, Nebr.
14. Nebraska Natural Gas Company, Hooper, Nebr.
15. Fred V. Fachman et ux, Hooper, Nebr.
17. Estate Edmund E. Uhlig, Hooper, Nebr.

Block 2, Original Town

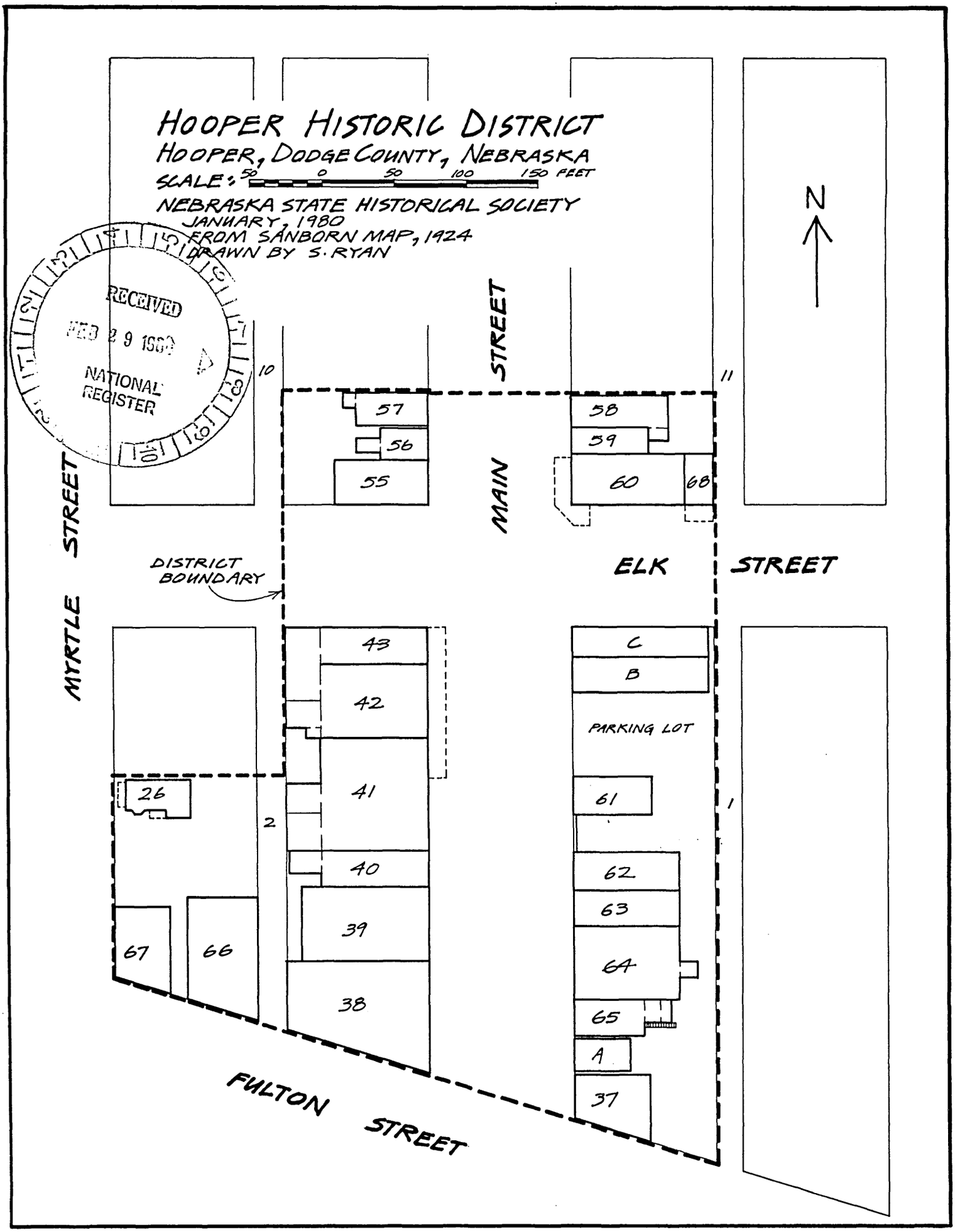
lot 1. Estate Herman C. Christensen, Hooper, Nebr.
2. Richard C. Warne, Hooper, Nebr.
3. Richard C. Warne, Hooper, Nebr.
4. Hooper Lodge #72, Hooper, Nebr.
5. Hooper Lodge #72, Hooper, Nebr.
6. American Legion Hooper #18, Hooper, Nebr.
7. Hoefner Electric Inc., Hooper, Nebr.
8. Hoefner Electric Inc., Hooper, Nebr.
9. William R. McManigal, Hooper, Nebr.
10. H. E. Hurt, Jr., Hooper, Nebr.
11. H. E. Hurt, Jr., Hooper, Nebr.
12. H. E. Hurt, Jr., Hooper, Nebr.
13. Farmers Union Coop, Hooper, Nebr.
15. Farmers Union Coop, Hooper, Nebr.

First Addition, Block 10

lot 10. Leonard Zaucha et ux, Hooper, Nebr.
11. City of Hooper, Hooper, Nebr.
12. City of Hooper, Nebr.

First Addition, Block 11

lot 7. West 80' Duane H. Mines, Hooper, Nebr.
8. South 10' Duane H. Mines, Hooper, Nebr.
North 15' Michael Egan, Hooper, Nebr.
9. South 3' Michael Egan


HOOPER HISTORIC DISTRICT
HOOPER, DODGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA
SCALE: 50 0 50 100 150 FEET
NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JANUARY, 1980
FROM SANBORN MAP, 1924
DRAWN BY S. RYAN
RECEIVED
FEB 29 1980
NATIONAL REGISTER
N
MYRTLE STREET
MAIN STREET
ELK STREET
FULTON STREET
DISTRICT BOUNDARY
10
11
1
2
57
56
55
58
59
60
68
43
42
41
40
39
38
26
67
66
C
B
PARKING LOT
61
62
63
64
65
A
37