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Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 2
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:						
Kansas						
COUNTY:						
Pottawatomie						
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ					
ENTRY NUMBER DATE						
The Tale						

(Type all	l entries	– complete a	pplicable sections)	-	S/81 & # 8/8	1		一	
NAME					GB3X 2				
COMMON:	7 5 - 4-4-		dia Dan Ghati		- 				
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Pott	awatomie in	ndian Pay Stati	on (pr	ererred name	<u> </u>		\dashv	
	Indi	an Agency E	Building						
LOCATION			<u> </u>						
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CLASSIFICATION									
CATEGORY			OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACC	ESSIBLE		
(Check One)			OWNERSHIP		314103	ТО ТН	IE PUBLI	IC	
District X Bu	uilding	☐ Public	Public Acquisition:		▼ Occupied	Yes	s:		
Site St	ructure	□ Private	☐ In Process		Unoccupied	☑ Re	stricted	l	
Object		☐ Both	☐ Being Cons	idered	Preservation wor	k 🔲 Un	restricted	1	
					in progress	□ No			
PRESENT USE (Check	One or M	lore as Appropriate	e)						
Agricultural		overnment	☐ Park		T	Com	monto.	\dashv	
Commercial		dustrial	Private Residence		Transportation	Com	ments		
Educational	☐ Mi		Religious		Other (Specify)			- [
Entertainment	□ Mu	•	Scientific			*		-	
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				(Check One)		
CONDITION	Excellent	Good	[X Fair	Deteriorate	Ruins	Unexposed
		(Check Or	1e)		(Ch	eck One)
		red	Unaltered		☐ Moved	Original Site

The original Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station building was a one-story stone structure. Native stone was used for the walls with a minimum of effort being used to dress the stones. Coursing is extremely random, suggesting that any available stone was used. The mortar joints are very rough with a minimum of pointing. Larger stones were generally used for quoining with all the larger stones at or near ground level for the obvious reason that only manpower was available to lift the stones into position. Very simple windows and a door allow sunlight to reach the interior. Chimneys pierce the wood shingled gable roof at either end and effectively terminate the horizontal roof line. structure is a typical example of the frontier architecture that served the very basic requirements of shelter for its occupants. The small stone structure has been enlarged by a one-story frame addition at right angles to the stone portion.



IGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	(appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	17th Century	X 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicabl	e and Known) Ca.	1850's	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Approp	riate)	
Abor iginal	Education	XX Palitical	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
	Industry	losophy	_
Agriculture	Invention ,	Science	
Architecture	Londscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	☐ Military	Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			

The Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station in St. Marys, Kansas, reportedly built in the early 1850's, was used by government agents in paying the Pottawatomie Indians' annuities. These Indians had been moved in the 1830's from the Great Lakes region to Kansas, where they were allotted land to establish a reservation in what is now Miami county. Later the government permitted them to move to present Pottawatomie county. After choosing their own location, the

first permanent group of Indians arrived September 9, 1848, accompanied by Catholic missionaries, who immediately began a mission and school. This settlement later became the town of St. Marys, and the

Indian school became St. Mary's College in December, 1869.

When the Pottawatomies exchanged their lands for a reservation in Kansas, the United States government agreed to pay \$3,000,000 difference. This money was given to the individual members in small amounts every three months, often at the small stone building on the mission grounds. The annual amount paid to individuals in 1870 averaged \$688.00, and some families received as much as \$5,000. A newspaper account of one of the last annuities payments in St. Marys in 1870 described the event as "an utterly forlorn, dismal, and miserable spectacle." A paymaster from the Interior Department read off the names from inside the building, and an interpreter standing in the doorway repeated them, each individual coming forward to the building to get his payment. Much of the money passed immediately to traders or others having claims against an Indian.

The Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station is the oldest surviving building of the St. Marys Indian Mission and the oldest building in Pottawatomie county. Because of its use as a pay station for the Pottawatomie Indians by U. S. government agents during a period of approximately 20 years, it has significance and is worthy of recogni-

tion.

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9.	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES]
	Bollig, Richard Joseph, <u>History of Catholic Education</u> in Kansas, 1836-1932	
	(Washington, D. C., The Catholic University of America, 1933).	

Early History of Pottawatomie County (n. p., 1954), pp. 27-29.
"Epic of Western Pioneers Bound Up in St. Marys," Topeka Journal, August 21, 1948.

"History of Pottawatomie County," Historical Records Survey, Works Project Administration (n. p., n. d.), pp. 1-5.

History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, A. T. Andreas, 1883), p. 71.

Kans	sas State	Record	(Topeka)	, Oct	ober	30, 1870	o.'	. SY. 1 03	u waka T		
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Form 10-300a (Dec. 1968)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Kansas	
COUNTY	. ,
Pottawatom	ie
FOR NPS USE C	NLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

APR 1 3 1972

(Number all entries)

- 4. The City of St. Marys now has a 50-year lease on the Pottawatomie Indian Pay Station and it is being used as a museum.
- Palmer, L. R., "A Historical Sketch of the Early Days of Pottawatomie County," St. Marys Times, July 14, 1876.
 - "Pottawatomie County," Pottawatomie County Herald (Louisville), March 26, 1879.
 - "A Short History of Pottawatomie County," Onaga <u>Herald</u>, August 21, 1941.
 - Smith, William E., "The Oregon Trail Through Pottawatomie County,"
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 - Sutterlin, John Floyd, "Historical Outline of Pottawatomie County," 37 pp. manuscript in Kansas State Historical Society Library.
 - Watson, John, "Historic St. Mary's College Started as Indian Mission," Wichita Evening Eagle, September 17, 1953.

