



1044

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Bluemont Youth Cabin

other names/site number Goodnow Park Cabin; khri # 161-2727

### 2. Location

street & number Northeast of Fifth and Bertrand Streets in Goodnow Park  not for publication

city or town Manhattan  vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Riley code 161 zip code 66502

### 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Patricia J. Zolner  
Signature of certifying official

11-19-13  
Date

DSHPO  
Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

For Colson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

2-8-14  
Date of Action

**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
		district
		site
1		structure
		object
2	0	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

New Deal-Era Resources in Kansas

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Outdoor

Recreation

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Outdoor

Recreation

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: New Deal-era Rustic

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: STONE

walls: STONE

roof: WOOD

other:

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## Narrative Description

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### Summary

The Bluemont Youth Cabin, also known as the Goodnow Park Cabin, is located in Goodnow Park at the base of Bluemont Hill at the north edge of Manhattan's historic Ward 3 neighborhood in a wooded park setting. The cabin site is distinguished by a series of native limestone retaining walls and steps that access the sloping site and the cabin. The two-story cabin is random-coursed limestone with a side-facing gable roof of wood shingles. A large stone chimney in the center of the east facade corresponds to fireplaces on the east wall of interior rooms on each floor. Paired window openings flank the raised entry in the center of the south/front facade. Six-over-six double-hung window sashes have been removed and the openings shuttered in attempt to discourage vandalism. The interior is generally one large open room on each floor with a large fireplace on the east wall. Perimeter walls retain the original plaster finish with simple squared returns at window openings. A reconstructed wood stairway provides interior access between the two floors. The lower level has exterior access at the south end of the west facade. Constructed in 1938 through the National Youth Administration, a federal New Deal program, the cabin retains a significant level of historic integrity clearly conveying its original New Deal-era rustic design.

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### Elaboration

#### Site

The Bluemont Youth Cabin is located in Goodnow Park, nestled at the base of Bluemont Hill. The cabin is sited on the southeast slope of Bluemont Hill, northwest of the city's water treatment plant – a site distinguished as a wooded area with mature coniferous and deciduous trees. A paved drive extends from the historic entrance to Goodnow Park at Fifth and Bertrand Streets, to the water treatment plant. A gravel path provides walking and limited vehicular access to the cabin and Bluemont Hill, off the paved drive.

Goodnow Park was developed at the same time that the cabin was constructed and originally included tennis courts and baseball diamonds and other recreational facilities. Limestone piers inscribed "Goodnow Park" (west) and "1938" (east) frame the entrance to the park at Fifth and Bertrand Streets. The sloping site features a system of native stone retaining walls and concrete steps that provide access around and to the cabin. The lower/southern-most retaining wall extends approximately 100 feet and bisects the first set of steps which are a split configuration. A single leg at the base, the stairs split in a "U" configuration above the retaining wall terminating at the gravel path in front of the cabin.

A second retaining wall frames the site immediately in front of the cabin. The second set of stone steps is a T-shaped configuration, accessed from the east and west, in front of the retaining wall. A center stair extends from the landing to provide access to the front door of the cabin in the center of the south facade. The stairs are framed by stepped stone walls with concrete caps. In the center of the south face of the wall is the cabin's date stone – a granite panel inscribed "Bluemont Youth Cabin, Goodnow Park, Built with Cooperation of N.Y.A. 1938."

The final tier of retaining walls bisects the east and west facades of the cabin, framing a basement entry on the south end of the west facade. The west retaining wall extends from the west facade southwest along the curved drive approximately 25 feet. The wall sections are stepped and feature large triangular and irregular-shaped stones interlaced with randomly-coursed stones creating a nicely articulated pattern in the stone wall. Similarly configured, the east wall extends from the northeast corner of the cabin straight east approximately 15 feet and then turns north into the hill beyond.

The lower portion of the site is a gently-sloping lawn with redbud and other trees along the lower retaining wall and steps. The gravel drive approaches from the southwest along the front of the cabin curving to the northeast as a narrow walking path. The immediate site around the cabin features large mature trees. Bluemont Hill immediately north of the cabin is a heavily wooded area accessed by primitive walking paths.

### Exterior

The two-story cabin has a rectangular footprint measuring 20 feet by 30 feet with a side-facing gable roof. The wood shingle roof has exposed rafter tails at the eave and is pierced by a large rectangular stone chimney in the center of the east facade. Exterior walls are random-coursed natural-faced limestone with stone sills and steel lintels. The cabin is built into the hillside with the front/south facade being two stories and the rear/north facade being one story. The sloping site allows lower-level exposure with basement windows on the south and east facades and at-grade basement access on the south end of the west facade. The upper level is exposed with windows on the north facade.

The main entrance is raised by terraced steps between the stone retaining wall to a door in the center of the south facade. Symmetrical in composition, the south/front facade is configured around the front entrance in the center of the upper facade. Paired window openings on each floor of the end bays frame the central entrance. The door is a replacement unit constructed of vertical wood siding.

The secondary entrance is located at the south end of the west facade, providing access to the lower level of the cabin. The west facade features a pair of windows centered on the upper floor and a small wood louvered attic vent in the gable end, in addition to the single door on the south end of the lower level. The door is vertical boxcar siding with strap hinges and three window lights.

The rectangular chimney extends above the roofline in the center of the east facade. A small square window opening on each floor of the end bays flank the central chimney. The north/rear facade features two paired window openings matching those on the upper floor of the south facade. Due to persistent vandalism, window frames are extant but sashes have been removed and the openings have been covered by heavy wood shutters. Historic views of the cabin illustrate that original sashes were 6/6 double-hung wood windows.

### Interior

The interior of the cabin is relatively intact with only minor alterations. Each floor is generally a large open space with a fireplace on the east end. An open wood stair, recently reconstructed, is located along the west half of the north wall to provide access between the floors.

The upper floor is distinguished by the fireplace in the center of the east facade. The random-coursed stone fireplace has a flat arch with keystone at the opening and a simple wood mantel. Plaster perimeter walls are in fair condition with cracks primarily at openings. The floor is wood and the ceiling is open to the exposed structure. The ceiling follows the roofline sloping on the north and south with a flat plane down the center corresponding to the roof structure. Deteriorated interior finishes including vinyl asbestos floor tile and gypsum board ceiling were formerly removed.

The lower level of the cabin has utilitarian finishes including exposed concrete floor and exposed structure at the ceiling. Perimeter walls are plaster with simple squared returns at the window openings. The lower floor has a restroom, small storage room, and mechanical area in the northwest corner. The fireplace is located in the center of the east wall flanked by a small square window opening on each side. The fireplace is random-coursed stone with a flat arch and keystone.

### Integrity

The nominated property includes the cabin and three tiers of retaining walls with associated steps. The two upper retaining walls and steps that are physically connected to the cabin are included as part of the cabin building (not counted as a separate resource). The southern-most retaining wall is included as a separate contributing structure making a total of two resources listed under this nomination. The cabin, retaining walls, and steps retain a high degree of architectural integrity. The primary exterior modifications include installation of a new wood shingle roof, installation of a new front door, removal of the 6/6 double-hung window sashes and installation of wood shutters at all window openings to prevent unauthorized access and discourage vandalism. Interior alterations include removal of former deteriorated floor and ceiling finishes, and replacement of the interior stairway. The modifications and repairs do not significantly impact the cabin's historic character; the cabin clearly portrays its original design and construction.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- 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 is 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1938 - 1963

**Significant Dates**

1938

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

National Youth Administration - Builder

Harold Harper, City Engineer - Designer

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance for the Bluemont Youth Cabin is 1938 to 1963. This period begins with the building's date of construction and ends with the fifty-year cutoff for periods of significance where historic functions and characteristics continue to have importance and no specific date exists for ending the building's historic or architectural significance.

**Criteria Considerations (justification)**

NA

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## Narrative Statement of Significance

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### Summary

The Bluemont Youth Cabin, also known as the Goodnow Park Cabin, is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple property submission (MPS), *New Deal Era Resources of Kansas* as a representative of Social and Recreational facilities constructed with labor and funding through federal New Deal-era programs. The cabin was built in Manhattan, Kansas in 1938 with the cooperation of the National Youth Administration (NYA), a depression-era federal assistance program designed to aid the nation's youth. Over one hundred local youth participated in construction of the cabin through Riley County's NYA program that offered part-time work and valuable construction training.

The cabin is significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation and Politics/Government for its association with the New Deal program - The National Youth Administration. Construction of the cabin provided a needed facility for the youth of Manhattan. It was designed for use by the Boy Scouts, members of the NYA, and the boys and girls of Manhattan. The cabin's construction coincided with the establishment of Goodnow Park designed to provide expanded recreational facilities on the city's east side.

Bluemont Youth Cabin is also significant architecturally (Criterion C) as an excellent representative of a rustic park facility characterized by its natural wooded setting and its construction from local building materials. Designed by City Engineer Harold Harper, the cabin was constructed of limestone quarried from Bluemont Hill by local youth guided by a NYA construction superintendent and City of Manhattan stone mason.

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### Elaboration

#### Manhattan Kansas in the 1930s and 1940s

The massive public and private investment in roads and cars is often attributed with the economic boom of the 1920s but regional trade centers like Manhattan, also benefitted from the economic well-being of Kansas farmers who profited from record-high grain prices during in World War I. Manhattan also enjoyed a boost from the war-time expansion of neighboring Fort Riley. Rural trading centers, like Manhattan, were particularly hard hit during the early years of the Great Depression. The 1920s had brought a decade of expansion and wealth comparable to the state-wide 1880s boom. Beginning with the stock market crash in October 1929 and worsening with the passing of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, which quadrupled tariff rates on international trade, farm exports including wheat drastically declined causing crop prices to plunge up to 60%. Farmers defaulted on loans, local banks closed their doors, and residents looked for help to feed their families.<sup>1</sup>

Manhattan's population growth slowed from 39% in the 1910s and 27% in the 1920s to 15% in the 1930s.<sup>2</sup> Like the rest of the nation, President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs benefitted the citizens of Manhattan and Riley County and helped the community survive the economic challenges of the Great Depression. The cityscape is dotted with buildings and parks made possible through the work-creation programs of the 1930s. Manhattan saw a more rapid recovery from the Great Depression due in large part of the build-up for World War II. Between 1940 and 1950, the town's population exploded by 63%, an increase not seen since the years between 1900 and 1910.<sup>3</sup> During the war years and those immediately following, Manhattan continued to benefit from its proximity to Fort Riley, an asset that continues to shape the town today.

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<sup>1</sup> Brenda Spencer and Christy Davis, *Downtown Manhattan Historic District National Register Nomination*, 2006, 57-59.

<sup>2</sup> James Shortridge, *Cities on the Plains* (Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2004), 384-385.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

The Bluemont Youth Cabin and the National Youth Administration (NYA)

Manhattan City Commissioners approved plans for the youth cabin in April 1937. Bernard J. Conroy, supervisor of the National Youth Administration (NYA) in Riley County presented the plans for the building which was designed to be used by the youth of Manhattan including the Boy Scouts and NYA members. NYA program officials including Anne Laughlin, state director NYA and Horace Santry, Third District Director had approved the project, as had the Manhattan Boy Scout Board. City Commissioners agreed to furnish \$393.61 of the cost of the building. Conroy noted that the Boy Scouts were planning a funding drive and part of the money was to be used for construction of the new building.<sup>4</sup>

Plans for the building were drawn by Harold Harper, City Engineer. Constructed of native limestone with a shingle roof, the 20' x 30' building was to be one-story with a full basement. The basement was designed to house wood working equipment, and other equipment of the scouts and NYA. The main floor was designed to serve as a recreational room with a fireplace located on each floor. NYA labor would be used in construction of the building under the supervision of Sam Caughron. Work on the building's construction was to commence the following week with the City providing equipment for excavation and a stone mason to assist with the project.<sup>5</sup>

Later that summer, Sam Caughron, the foreman in charge of construction, announced that the basement had been completed using PWA funds. Construction of the building was ready to begin and 256 sacks of cement had arrived at the site. Twelve NYA boys were working on the construction project quarrying stone from nearby Bluemont Hill.<sup>6</sup>

The cabin was completed in May 1938. One hundred and fifteen youth of Riley County took part in the construction and landscaping of the Bluemont Youth Cabin, completed in a period of one year.<sup>7</sup>

In addition to work on the cabin, NYA labor was also used for recreational facilities in the park around the cabin. In March 1938, two ball diamonds and horseshoe grounds were ready for use and tennis courts were near completion. In addition to work programs, the local National Youth Association organized summer youth activities. Director B.J. Conroy stated, "The youth of Manhattan are encouraged to take advantage of the NYA swimming, handicraft, softball and other recreational activities this summer."<sup>8</sup>

The NYA was active in Manhattan like most cities across Kansas and the nation during this time. Around the same time that the local NYA was working on the Bluemont Youth Cabin, projects were underway on recreational facilities at Sunset Park.<sup>9</sup> Shortly after the Bluemont Cabin was completed, work began on Bluemont Road/Scenic Drive, a road providing access to the top of Bluemont Hill.<sup>10</sup> No NYA resources in Manhattan are listed on the National Register. Other NYA-constructed resources in Kansas that are listed in the National Register include Antelope Park in Graham County, the Sim Park Golf Course Tee Shelters in Wichita, Sedgwick County, and a commemorative marker at the Dodge City Municipal Building in Ford County

<sup>4</sup> City Clerk's Scrapbook 1935-1939 "Building Plan Gets Approval, April 28, 1937" available at the Riley County Historical Museum.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> City Clerk's Scrapbook 1935-1939, "The Basement is Completed, June 24, 1937."

<sup>7</sup> *In Memory of Early Leader*, "The Manhattan Mercury, May 19, 1938. The article lists the following names of NYA boys who took part in the cabin's construction: Jack Scott, Wane Coffey, Royal Cavens, Sam E. Nelson, Francis Brunk, Clarence Cross, Roscoe Pitts, Victor Rice, Raymond Stuckey, Edward Jensen, Gerald Kliner, James Piper, Lester Ady, Arthur Condray, John Condray, Gordon Clemmons, Carl D. Martin, Tom Quinn, Jerry Quinn, James Underwood, Phillip McGerty, Thomas F. Lee, Winefred Taylor, Maynard Bresses, Frederick Piper, Raymond Pickett, Gerald Worth, Wilbur Loberg, Howard Macklin, Harry Britt, Paul Henton, Lloyd Severance, Carl E. Carlson, Clarence Diegleman, James E. Jeffdey, Edward Chapman, Barnard Piper, Ross Zerby, Kenneth Martin, William Fields, Charles Padgett, Charles Cain, James W. Drumm, Daniel Taylor, Gerald Dempsey, Lyle Simons, Richard Monshower, Wilbur Britt, Lloyd Pickett, William J. Fields, Lyle Simons, Jack Scott, and Raymond Byrd.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> City Clerk's Scrapbook 1935-1939 "NYA Work at Sunset Park, March 31, 1936."

<sup>10</sup> City Clerk's Scrapbook 1939-1941 "Bluemont Road will offer View," "Build Scenic Drive in Icy Cold," January 13, 1940.

### Goodnow Park

In May 1938, City officials announced an expansion of the City's park system. At the time, the City of Manhattan had the city park in the center of town and Sunset Park on the city's west side where the zoo was located. The new park was to be established on the city's east side at the south base of Bluemont Hill near the water plant.<sup>11</sup> The park extended from Thurston to Raton Streets between Fourth and Fifth Streets and included 15 acres on Bluemont Hill. Sam C. Charleson, Finance Commissioner said that the first plots for the park were obtained by the city in the fall of 1930 on delinquent tax deeds.<sup>12</sup> The park was designed to offer a variety of recreational opportunities. In addition to the recently constructed youth cabin, the new park would include tennis courts, baseball diamonds and other recreational facilities that had been constructed by NYA.<sup>13</sup>

The park was named to honor one of Manhattan's early pioneers, Isaac T. Goodnow. Goodnow was elected state superintendent of public instruction in 1862 and became secretary to the Manhattan Town Association in 1863. He was one of three individuals responsible for the establishment of Bluemont College which later became Kansas State Agricultural College. Stone piers inscribed "Goodnow Park" and "1938" were built at the entrance to the park at Fifth and Bertrand Streets.

On May 20, 1938, dedication ceremonies celebrated completion of Manhattan's newest park and the Bluemont Youth Cabin. Two men, Sam Charleson, Finance Commissioner, and Frank Whipple, Commissioner of Utilities, were credited for creation of the park, preserving the area for future generations of Manhattan residents.<sup>14</sup> The dedication program included NYA officials, local City officials, the City Band and the Boy Scouts. Members of the historical society presented a program on Manhattan's early history and Isaac Goodnow's prominent role in the city.

Goodnow Park became the site of the first-known married student housing for Kansas State University in 1946. The City Commission signed an agreement with the Federal Public Housing Authority allowing them to move army barracks to the park for use as housing for married students. Twelve barracks would each house four families for a total capacity of 48 families.<sup>15</sup> Veterans of World War II and their families were housed in these former army barracks while they attended Kansas State University. The barracks remained in the park until 1963. In the early 1970s, the Bluemont Youth Cabin was used for a Teen Center however, the park's and cabin's use was on the decline.

Expansion of the city's water treatment plant in the 1980s greatly reduced the size of Goodnow Park and eliminated original features such as the ball diamonds and tennis courts. Since that time, some improvements have been made to the park and Bluemont Hill. In the late 1990s, park improvements included a new bike path near the playground equipment and new park benches. A hiking trail was constructed extending from Goodnow Park to the top of Bluemont Hill east of the Bluemont Youth Cabin. The park does not retain sufficient historic integrity to be including in the National Register.

### Recent History of Cabin

By the 1980s, the Youth Cabin had fallen into disuse and city officials contemplated demolition. The Goodnow Park Cabin Coalition, Inc, a private, non-profit organization was formed in 1991 and leased the cabin from the City of Manhattan for a twenty-year period ending in 2011. The Coalition was formed to prevent demolition of the cabin and adjacent stone walls and steps, and to repair and stabilize the cabin preserving it for future use.

Members of the Association of General Contractors, a KSU campus volunteer construction science organization worked with the Cabin Coalition to repair the cabin, including installation of a new wood shingle

<sup>11</sup> City Clerk's Scrapbook 1935-1939 "City Expands Park System, March 17, 1938."

<sup>12</sup> *A New Park to be Established*, The Manhattan Daily Nationalist, March 17, 1938.

<sup>13</sup> Announcement of the park's establishment March 17, 1938 noted that a lake was to be constructed at the base of Bluemont Hill from water impounded by an overflow dam that was to be attached to the bridge on Fourth Street near the Water plant. There is no documentation that the lake was ever built.

<sup>14</sup> *Manhattan News*, May 12, 1938.

<sup>15</sup> *Contract for Park Housing*, The Manhattan Mercury, June 26, 1946.



roof in 1992.<sup>16</sup> Other repair work included masonry repairs, installation of an operable front door, and installation of wood shutters at the window openings to protect the interior and discourage vandalism. The cabin was placed on the Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance's *Manhattan's 11 Most Endangered* in 2007 in attempt to boost local support of the cabin's preservation.<sup>17</sup>

The inaccessibility of the cabin site presents significant challenges for public or City use of the facility. The Coalition accomplished the necessary and immediate repairs to the cabin, protecting the structure from further deterioration. The Coalition is pursuing National Register listing as another step in protecting the cabin's future. Although the interior is not available for public use, the cabin serves well as a place-maker in the park. Bluemont Youth Cabin is a charming community resource that represents one of the lesser-known New Deal-era Programs – the National Youth Administration.

#### New Deal-era Resources in Kansas<sup>18</sup>

The National Youth Administration (NYA) was one of the many New Deal programs designed to create jobs contributing to period of great construction activity across the nation. The National Register multiple property document *New Deal-era Resources in Kansas*, developed by Elizabeth Rosin in 2002, provides a summary of the various New Deal programs and their workings in Kansas.

Established by executive order in 1935, the National Youth Administration operated as part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) until 1939, under the Federal Security Agency until 1942, officially folding in 1943.<sup>19</sup> According to the MPS, the program employed youth generally between the ages of 16 and 24, developed vocational programs, and provided student aid for those attending high school and college. Students were employed in the construction of buildings, roads, recreation and conservation facilities, as well as in projects including research, secretarial, sewing, and youth activities. Like other New Deal programs, the NYA impacted the built environment of America, and Kansas.<sup>20</sup>

The Bluemont Youth Cabin was constructed in 1938, one of several NYA projects in Manhattan, Kansas. More than one hundred youth of Riley County took part in the construction and landscaping of the Bluemont Youth Cabin over a one-year period. The NYA project served three primary goals: providing part-time work for the community's youth; valuable training in stone building construction, carpentry, woodworking, painting and house decorating, installation of water and gas, electrical wiring, grading and landscaping; and provision of a needed youth cabin.<sup>21</sup>

As noted in the MPS, facilities constructed through the relief programs were generally constructed in a manner that was more labor intensive than might otherwise be typical. The MPS also notes that it was common during this era for recreational and parks buildings in particular, to express elements of rustic architecture appropriate to their natural context.<sup>22</sup> The Bluemont Youth Cabin and related retaining walls and steps were built of native limestone quarried from Bluemont Hill by the youth workers. The design of the rustic cabin blends perfectly with its natural wooded setting at the base of Bluemont Hill.

#### Summary

The nominated property includes two resources: the southern-most retaining wall and steps located approximately forty-feet south of the cabin and the Bluemont Youth Cabin with the attached limestone front steps and retaining wall on the south side of the cabin and the upper retaining walls extending from the east and west facades of the cabin.

<sup>16</sup> *Kansas State Collegian*, April 13, 1992.

<sup>17</sup> *Manhattan's 11 Most Endangered Program*, Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance, 2007.

<sup>18</sup> Elizabeth Rosin, *New Deal-era Resources in Kansas* Multiple Property Nomination to the National Register, 2002.

<sup>19</sup> Records of the National Youth Administration. U.S. National Archives and Records Administration website, accessed 23 May 2013: <http://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/119.html>

<sup>20</sup> Rosin, 22-23.

<sup>21</sup> *In Memory of Early Leader*, *The Manhattan Mercury*, May 19, 1938.

<sup>22</sup> Rosin, 31-33.

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The cabin is an excellent representative of the social and recreational facilities made possible by New Deal-era programs. It meets the general registration requirement identified in the MPS that eligible resources must have been constructed with New Deal funds and/or labor and reflects the general characteristics of the property type. The Bluemont Youth Cabin retains the physical features that define the New Deal-era character and clearly portrays its original design. The cabin retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and association. The integrity of setting has been somewhat compromised by expansion of the adjacent water treatment plant and the alteration of Goodnow Park although the site immediately around the cabin retains its natural wooded setting at the base of Bluemont Hill. Alterations to the cabin itself have been minor and do not significantly diminish historic integrity.

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

City Clerk's Scrapbook 1935-1939, 1939-1941. Newspaper Clippings. Riley County Historical Society files.  
*Goodnow Park Cabin Coalition newsletters, lease, clippings and other records.*  
*Goodnow Park Dedication Program.* Riley County Historical Society files. May 20, 1938.  
 "In Memory of Early Leader," The Manhattan Mercury, May 19, 1938.  
Kansas State Collegian, April 13, 1992.  
 Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance, *Manhattan's 11 Most Endangered Program*, 2007.  
 National Youth Association records accessed on-line May 16, 2013 at <http://www.archives.gov/research/guided-fed-records/groups/119.html>  
 "A New Park to be Established," The Manhattan Mercury, March 17, 1938.  
 "Old Scout House to become Teen Center," The Manhattan Mercury, May 31, 1972.  
*Riley County Historical Society, Photo files.*  
 Rosin, Elizabeth. *New Deal-era Resources in Kansas* Multiple Property Nomination to the National Register, 2002.  
 Shortridge, James. Cities on the Plains. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2004.  
 Spencer, Brenda, and Christy Davis. *Downtown Manhattan Historic District* National Register Nomination, 2006.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
 Name of repository: **Riley County Historical Museum**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_N/A\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Approx. .31 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

**UTM References – NAD 1983**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>14</u>	<u>710493</u>	<u>4340872</u>	3	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	4	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (describe the boundaries of the property)

The Bluemont Youth Cabin is located on a tract of land in the Southeast Quarter of Section 7, Township 10 South, Range 8 East in the City of Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas, specifically described as follows: Commencing at the intersection of the pavement centerlines of Thurston and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets in said city; Thence North on an assumed bearing of N0°00'00"E along said 5<sup>th</sup> Street pavement centerline a distance of 575.0feet; Thence N90°00'00"E a distance of 81.1 feet to the point of beginning, said point being 5.6 feet west of the northwest corner of a chain-link fence; Thence N85°00'00"E a distance of 110.0 feet; Thence N5°00'00"W a distance of 122.0 feet; Thence S85°00'00"W a distance of 110.0 feet; Thence S5°00'00"E a distance of 122.0 feet back to the point of beginning. Sketch of site boundary is provided at the end of the nomination under 'Additional Documentation.'

**Boundary Justification** (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The cabin is located on a 33 acre tract owned by the City of Manhattan that includes the city's water treatment plant, Goodnow Park, and Bluemont Hill (Parcel id is 081-203-07-2-80-08-001.00-0). Goodnow Park and the larger context around the cabin have changed significantly since the cabin's construction in 1938. The boundary described above reflects the property on which the cabin is located and the site immediately surrounding the cabin with related features including the stone retaining walls and steps – a parcel 122' x 110'. The boundary reflects the parcel on which the cabin is located which was formerly leased by the City of Manhattan to the Goodnow Park Cabin Coalition. The proposed boundary reflects the cabin's immediate site and is the most appropriate boundary definition.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Brenda R. Spencer  
organization Spencer Preservation date 17 May, 2013  
street & number 10150 Onaga Road telephone 785-456-9857  
city or town Wamego state KS zip code 66547  
e-mail spencer@wamego.net

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Bluemont Youth Cabin  
City or Vicinity: Manhattan  
County/State: Riley County, KS  
Photographer: Brenda R. Spencer  
Date of Photos: 04-30-2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- | #  | Description  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Bluemont Youth Cabin as viewed from Thurston Street with Goodnow Park and City of Manhattan Water Treatment facility in foreground. Looking N.                                       |
| 2  | Historic entrance to Goodnow Park at Fifth and Bertrand Streets. Paved drive extends to City Water Treatment facility with gravel path extending to Bluemont Youth Cabin. Looking NE |
| 3  | Bluemont Youth Cabin, looking NE.  |
| 4  | Bluemont Youth Cabin, looking NE from gravel path providing access to cabin from the SW.   |
| 5  | Lower retaining wall and steps south of cabin, looking NW.   |
| 6  | Cabin with two tiers of stone retaining walls and steps leading to main entry in center of south/front facade. Looking N.  |
| 7  | Looking S, down on lower tier of steps integrated in lower retaining wall south of cabin.  |
| 8  | Upper retaining wall and steps leading to main cabin entry in center of south facade, looking NW.  |
| 9  | Looking NE in front/south of cabin with upper retaining wall curving around cabin to the N and E.  |
| 10 | Cabin from NE with east facade with central chimney and one-story north/rear facade. Looking SW.   |
| 11 | East facade with retaining wall extending from NE corner of cabin.   |
| 12 | One-story north/rear facade, looking SW along rear facade.   |
| 13 | West facade with retaining wall bisecting lower level and door at south end providing access to lower level. Looking E.  |
| 14 | Detail of stonework at stepped retaining wall extending from west facade. Looking N  |
| 15 | Front/South facade of cabin with central stairs providing access to main entry on upper level. Looking N.  |
| 16 | Granite panel inscribed "Bluemont Youth Cabin, Goodnow Park, Built with Cooperation of N.Y.A., 1938" set in center of south wall of central stair.                                   |
| 17 | Main entry in center of upper level, South/front facade, flanked by paired window openings with wood shutters.   |
| 18 | Upper Level room, looking east with fireplace on east wall and stairway on west end of north wall.   |
| 19 | Window openings in SE corner of upper floor. Wood shutters installed at window openings as protective measure to reduce vandalism.   |
| 20 | Lower Level room, looking east with fireplace on east wall and stairway on west half of north wall.  |

**Property Owner:**

(complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

Name\*\*\* Eddie Eastes, Asst. Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Manhattan  
street & number 1101 Freemont Street telephone 785-587-2757  
city or town Manhattan state KS Zip 66502

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

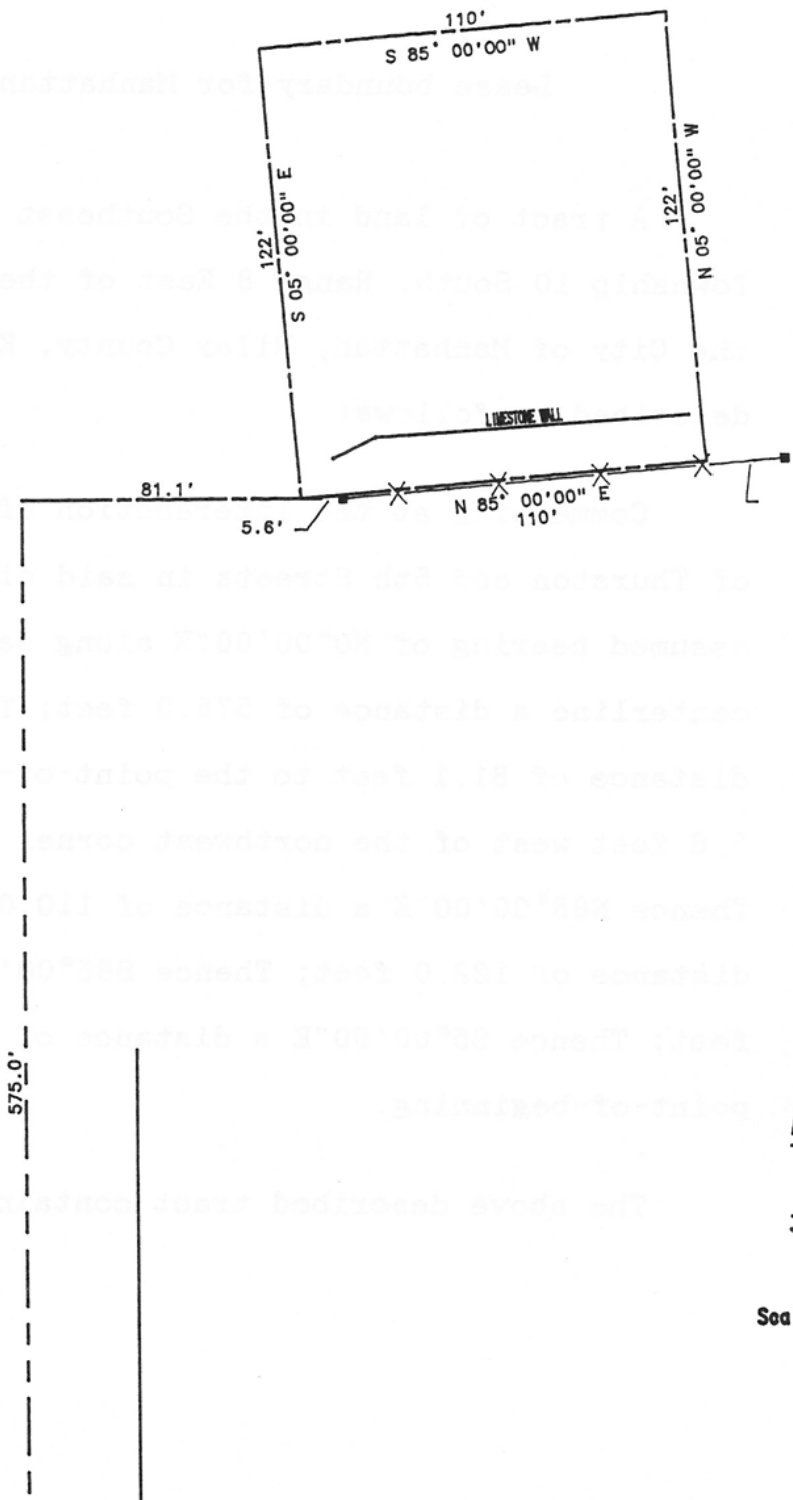
### Additional Documentation

#### Maps/Site



Imagery © 2013 Digital Globe, USDA Farm Service Agency, Map data © 2013 Google. Downloaded at Google Maps 5-20-2013.

**Additional Documentation**  
Maps/Site



Scale: 1" = 40'

Designated boundary corresponding to description in nomination illustrated above. Parcel reflects a site approximately 110' x 122', .31 acres encompassing cabin and immediate site including limestone steps and retaining walls.

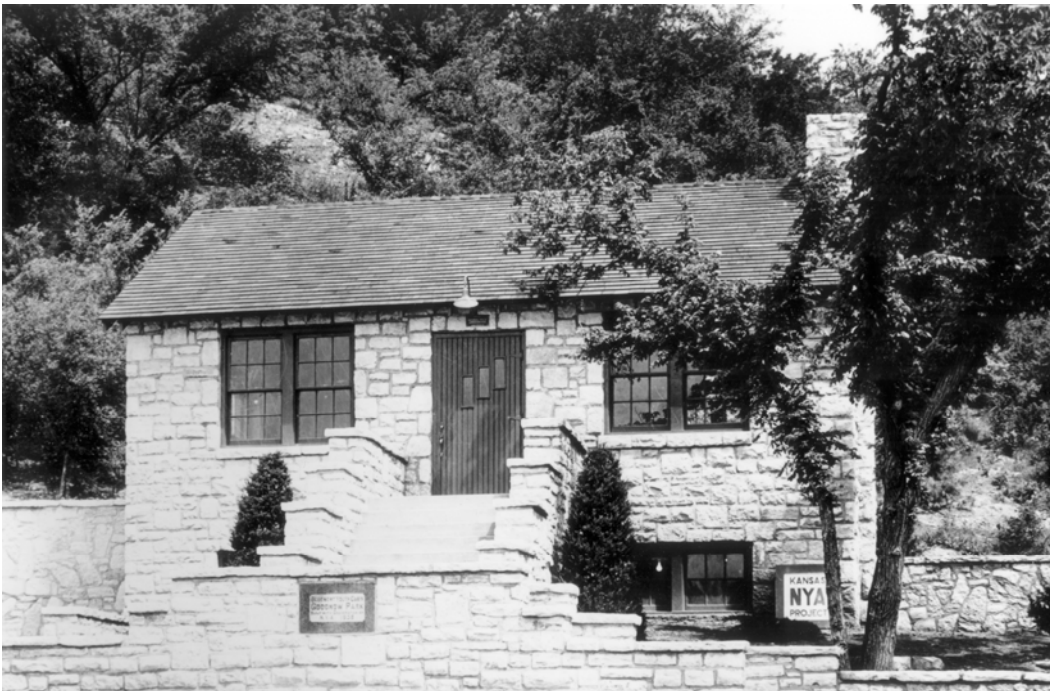
Historic Views

NOTE-The following historic images are included courtesy of the Riley County Historical Society. The Historical Society maintains the original digital scans. Quality digital copies or photo prints can be obtained directly from: Riley County Historic Society, 2309 Claflin Road, Manhattan, KS 66502.



*Bluemont Youth Cabin, Goodnow Park*

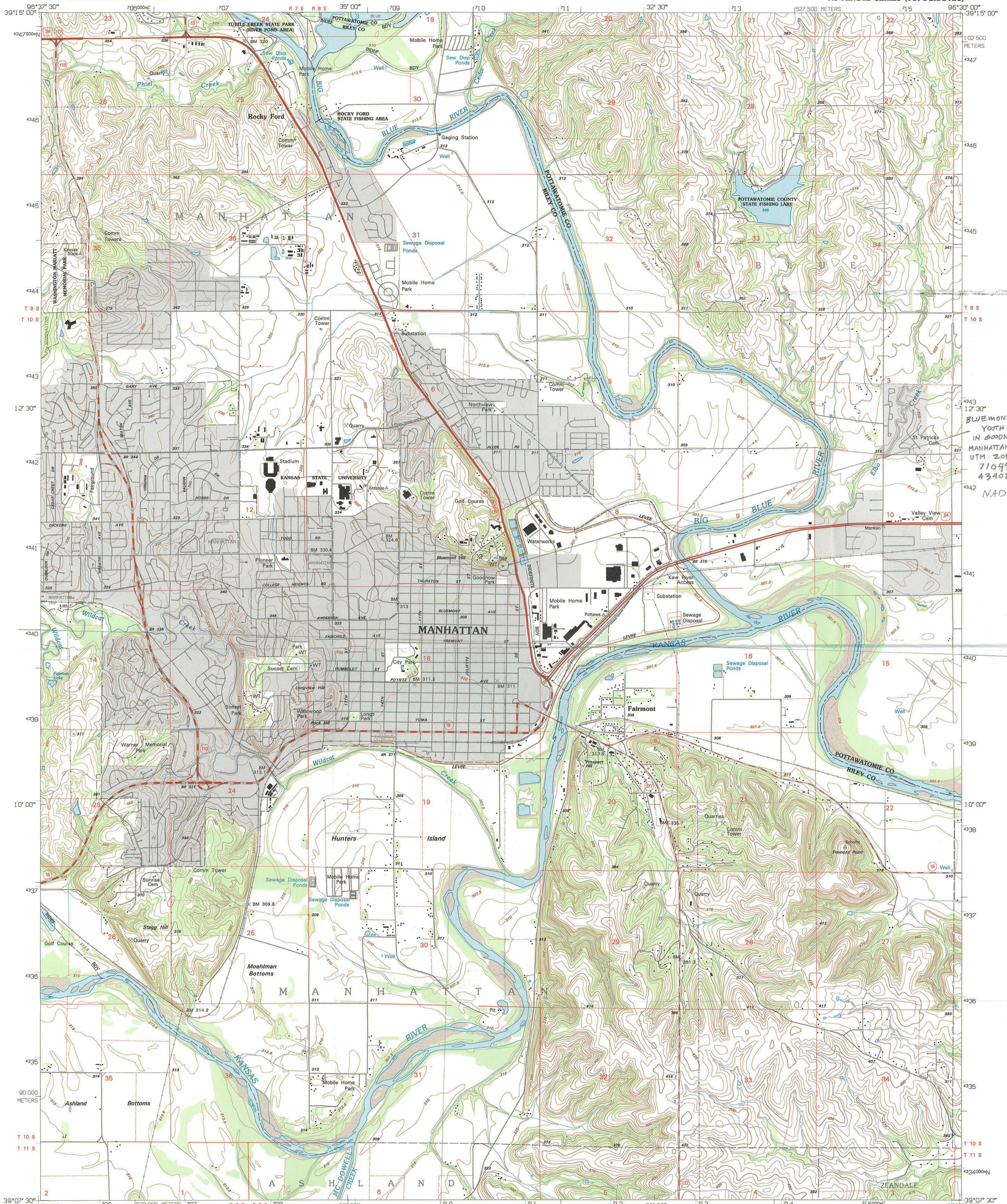
*Riley County Historical Society Photo (RCHS 977.17.00 QQQQ Bluemont Youth Cabin, Goodnow Park 640)*



*Bluemont Youth Cabin, Goodnow Park 1938*

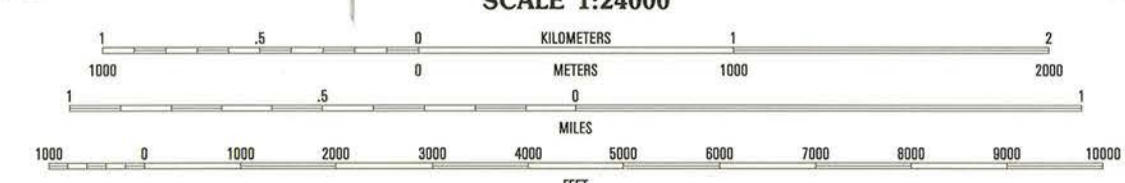
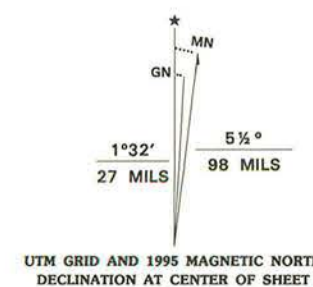
*Riley County Historical Society Photo (RCHS 988.67.9 Bluemont Youth Cabin, Goodnow Park 1938 640)*





BLUE MONT  
YOUTH CABIN  
IN GOODNOW PARK  
MANHATTAN, RILEY CO, KS  
UTM - ZONE 14  
710493 E  
4340812 N  
NAD1983

Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from imagery dated 1978  
Field checked 1979. Revised from imagery dated 1991.  
PLSS and survey control current as of 1979. Map edited 1995.  
Contours not revised.  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and  
blue 1000-meter ticks: Kansas Coordinate System of 1983 (north zone)  
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed  
corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27  
for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic  
Survey NADCON software.  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
the National or State reservations shown on this map.



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway hard surface .....	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface .....
Secondary highway hard surface .....	Unimproved road .....

Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLE NAMES

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	

1 Olberg SW  
2 Tuttle Creek Dam  
3 Flush  
4 Keets  
5 St. George  
6 Ogden  
7 Swede Creek  
8 Wamego SW

**MANHATTAN, KS**  
39096-B5-TM-024  
1991  
DMA 6662 II NE - SERIES V878

SCALE 1:24000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 METERS  
SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOUR INTERVAL 2.5 METERS  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METERS  
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER  
TO CONVERT METERS TO FEET MULTIPLY BY 3.2808  
TO CONVERT FEET TO METERS MULTIPLY BY 0.3048

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND KANSAS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST





BOGGS  
PARK

1875

1875









2010  
GARDEN PATH  
MONUMENT





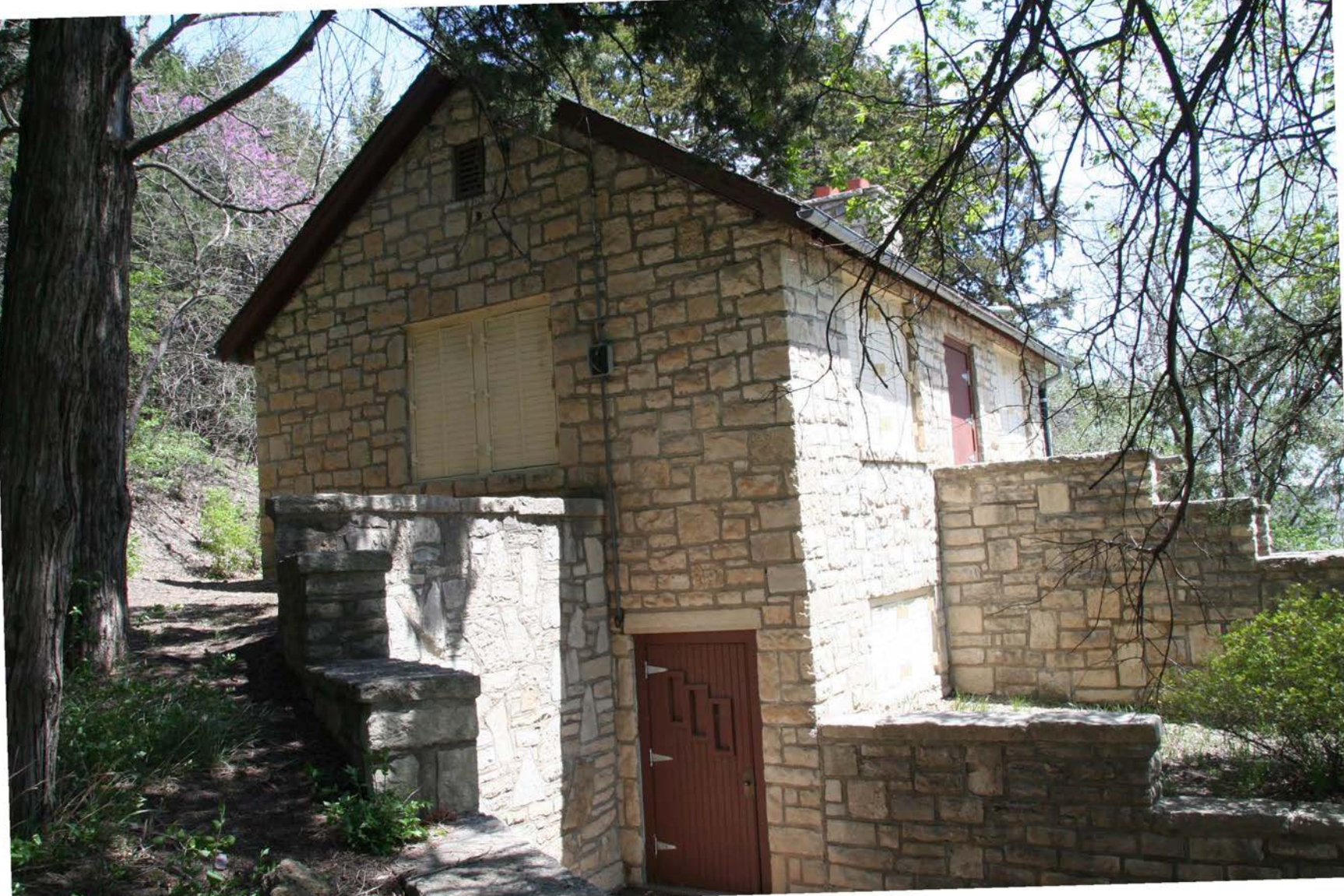
















SLOANETT YOUTH CABIN  
GOODNOW PARK  
Built with Cooperation of  
N.Y.S. 1938



BLUEMONT YOUTH CABIN  
GOODNOW PARK  
BUILT WITH COOPERATION OF  
N. Y. A. 1938









UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Bluemont Youth Cabin  
NAME:

MULTIPLE New Deal-Era Resources of Kansas MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KANSAS, Riley

DATE RECEIVED: 11/22/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/24/13  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/08/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/08/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13001044

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 1-8-14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

November 20, 2013

Carol Shull  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street, N. W.  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, DC 20005



Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to submit for your consideration the following National Register documents:

- **University of Kansas East Historic District – Douglas County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Clearfield School District #58 – Douglas County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Upper Wakarusa River Crossing – Douglas County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Cedar Manor Farm – Montgomery County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Bluemont Youth Cabin – Riley County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination, USGS map, and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Ingraham, Jesse, House – Riley County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)

- The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Trout, George & Virginia, House – Pottawatomie County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **City Square Park Bandstand – Allen County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Simmons Funeral Home – Wyandotte County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Oregon and California Trail – Pacha Ruts – Marshall County (new nomination)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.
- **Lake of the Forest – Wyandotte County (boundary increase)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of amendment and 2 disks (with amendment, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the amendment.
- **Doney-Clark House – Kingman County (request for removal)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of request for removal
- **Clear Creek Trail Segment – Nemaha County (request for DOE)**
  - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with notarized owner objection, nomination, GIS, and photo files)
  - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I may be reached at 785-272-8681 ext. 216 or [smartin@kshs.org](mailto:smartin@kshs.org).

Sincerely yours,



Sarah J. Martin  
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures