



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20240

January 18, 2011

Notice to file:

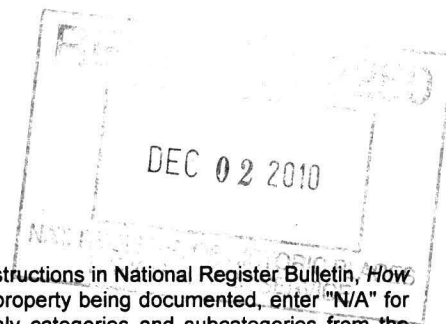
This property has been automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This is due to the fact that the publication of our Federal Register Notice: "National Register of Historic Places: Pending Nominations and Other Actions" was delayed beyond our control to the point where the mandated 15 day public comment period ended after our required 45 day time frame to act on the nomination. If the 45th day falls on a weekend or Federal holiday, the property will be automatically listed the next business day. The nomination is technically adequate and meets the National Register criteria for evaluation, and thus, automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Edson Beall
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
Phone: 202-354-2255
E-mail: Edson_Beall@nps.gov
Web: www.nps.gov/history/nr

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1137

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 North Topeka Baptist Church

other names/site number 177-5400-01486

2. Location

street & number 123 NW Gordon

☐ not for publication

city or town Topeka

☐ vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Shawnee code 177 zip code 66608

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x 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 x 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 x local

Patrick Spitzer
Signature of certifying official

12/1/10
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 Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

1-18-11
Date of Action

North Topeka Baptist Church
Name of Property

Shawnee County, KS
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	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)

Religion: Religious facility; church

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion: Religious facility; church

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals: Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick : Concrete

roof: Synthetics: Rubber

other: Stone: Limestone (trim)

Narrative Description

Summary

North Topeka Baptist Church (built 1921-1922) is located on the western edge of the historic commercial core of North Topeka at the southeast corner of NW Gordon and NW Jackson streets. The building faces north toward NW Gordon Street and measures 60 feet wide (east to west) and 57 feet long (north to south). The cost to building the church was approximately \$40,000. It had a seating capacity of 600 and was modern throughout, having twenty-one classrooms, library, banquet hall, kitchen and other up-to-date equipment. The education wing, which was added in 1952 and is attached to the rear of the church, measures 60 feet wide (east to west) and 50 feet long (north to south).

Elaboration

The two-story building has a brick exterior and is situated on a raised basement. Exterior walls are of red-faced brick laid in a running bond with white stone trim. The foundation is concrete and faced with brick above grade. The building has a pedimented roofline with a flat rubber-coated roof. The windows throughout the church are wood double-hung sashes with stained glass. Most second-story windows feature a round-arch top sash and have stone lintels, corner blocks and keystones. Church members donated these stained glass windows in memory of relatives and friends. The cornerstone is located on the northwest corner of the building and says the following: THE NORTH TOPEKA BAPTIST CHURCH 1921 FOUNDED 1869.

A two-story tetrastyle portico dominates the front, north-facing elevation and is approached by a double flight of low, broad concrete steps. Four Corinthian columns made of wood support the portico, which projects slightly from the building façade and features a triangular pediment. There are three double-door entrances on the front elevation, which contribute to the building's monumentality.

The building's front (north) elevation is five bays wide, with the central three bays projecting slightly from the flanking end bays. There is a fixed stained-glass transom above each of the three sets of double doors. Above the doors on the second story are three symmetrically spaced round arched windows. The wood sashes are double hung and have stained glass. Flanking the portico, there are rectangular windows at basement level, door level and on the second story. The windows are treated with stone lintels. The basement level windows are six-light over six-light and do not have stained glass. There is a secondary entrance at basement level beneath the main steps of the church.

The west (side) elevation faces NW Jackson Street and features six bays. The raised basement includes five double-hung wood windows. The sash configuration in each of the windows is ten-light over ten-light, and the glass is textured rather than stained. A stone band clearly delineates the basement level from the first story. The first story has five rectangular, double-hung stained glass windows. There are five round-arch, wood windows with stained glass on the second story. These windows have stone lintels, corner blocks, and keystones. At the south end of the west elevation is a slightly recessed bay that includes a ground-level entrance into the rear of the church and a small, rectangular window on the second story.

The south side of the building is visible above the roofline of the attached one-story education wing. There are three second-story windows with stained glass on the south elevation. A brick chimney pierces the cornice in the center of the façade. The southeast corner of the building is inset and features two second-story windows with stained glass and an exterior brick chimney that pierces the cornice.

The east (side) elevation faces a vacant lot and adjacent alleyway. This elevation closely mimics the opposite west elevation. The raised basement includes five window openings, four of which have been boarded and one opening which has been bricked over. A stone band clearly delineates the basement level from the first story, which has five rectangular, double-hung stained glass windows. There are five round-arch, wood windows with stained glass on the second story. These windows have stone lintels, corner blocks, and keystones.

1952 Education Wing

The one-story 1952 education wing is attached to the rear (south side) of the building. The west elevation of the education wing is flush with the west elevation of the church building and faces NW Jackson Street. This street-facing elevation is clad with brick and includes four bays. There are four evenly spaced windows with on the first story and basement level. Four lower windows and two upper windows are metal framed, and two upper windows are vinyl.

The south side of the education wing has three glass-block windows on the raised basement level and three square metal frame windows for the main floor. The east elevation of the education wing includes four square metal frame windows on the first story and three glass block windows on the basement level. There is a door at the far southeast corner. An elevator shaft with a hipped-roof entry was added onto the center of this elevation on June 6, 2006.

Interior

In 1951, torrential summer rains caused the Kansas River to rise out of its banks and spill into much of North Topeka. As a result, the interior of the building is a blend of its original 1921-22 construction and the 1951-52 remodel. The church retains original character-defining features including its floor plan, plaster walls, stained woodwork, and original windows and trim. The balcony spaces in the sanctuary suffered less damage during the flood and therefore retain a higher percentage of original materials – including the seats.

The three sets of double doors on the front the building lead to a vestibule that is 36 feet wide (east to west) and 5 1/2 feet deep (north to south). The vestibule opens to the original pastor's office (on the west side) and to stairs that go up to the balcony and down to the basement (on the east side). Hanging on a wall in the vestibule are the names, pictures and dates of all previous pastors dating back to 1869 (See the "Narrative Statement of Significance" for the names and dates of service of the pastors). There are three sets of double "swing" doors that open into the sanctuary. The sanctuary is also accessible via a secondary entrance on the south end of the sanctuary.

The main floor of the sanctuary contains a main central aisle flanked by pews and side aisles. These pews were installed after the 1951 flood. There is a platform from which the pastor addresses the congregation at the south end of the sanctuary. The platform is 29 inches high, 8 1/2 feet deep and 20 feet wide. This main level also contains sets of pews along the east and west walls that face the center of the church. Both of these sets of pews extend 11 feet, and are situated directly beneath the second floor balconies. These areas can be enclosed with roll-up wall enclosures.

The sanctuary's second floor consists of balconies on the west, north and east sides. The east and west (side) balconies have an overhang of 11 feet and extend the length of the sanctuary plus the vestibule. The north balcony has an overhang of 11 feet and a width of 38 feet, the width of the front of the church less the stairwell. The west balcony has the original theater-style seats with wire hat racks under each seat. The east and west balconies have roll-up wall enclosures that can be pulled down to enclose those balcony areas. When enclosed, these spaces were used as Sunday school classrooms. A choir loft is located above and behind the pulpit.

An organ dedication service was held on September 10, 1989. The organ is a Reuter pipe organ, a two manual seven rank instrument. It replaced the church's 1936 Reuter pipe organ. The new organ, an Opus 2114, has 499 pipes with the bases of the Gedeckt and principal pipes exposed. It is located behind the choir loft.

The baptismal pool is podium level and covered by a curtain. It is accessed from the rear of the sanctuary.

The basement includes a meeting/eating area (Fellowship Hall) and is accessible from the vestibule via stairs, the west entry door via stairs and a stairwell from the extreme west side of the front of the building. The basement includes a kitchen, 4 storage areas, 2 restrooms and a furnace room. On the east side of Fellowship Hall is an elevated stage that measures 10 1/2 feet deep and 17 feet wide. The lower part of the

wall is covered with wainscoting and the upper part is plaster. Dropped ceilings have been installed in this space.

The education building is accessed through hallways connecting it with the main building. There is also an entrance (and elevator shaft) on the east side of the education building. The addition includes the church office (three rooms), choir practice room, library, childcare room, partial kitchen with sink, microwave and refrigerator, eight meeting/class rooms and six storage areas.

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1921-1952

Significant Dates

1921 (original construction)

1951 (flood)

1952 (construction of education building)

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Williamson & Co. Architects

G. Carlson & Son Contractors

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A | Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | B | removed from its original location. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | C | a birthplace or grave. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | D | a cemetery. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | E | a reconstructed building, object, or structure. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | F | a commemorative property. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | G | less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years. |

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the construction of the building in 1921 and extends through 1952 to account for a major flood in 1951 and the subsequent renovations to the building in 1952.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

This nomination is subject to consideration under Criteria Consideration A because it is owned by a religious institution and used for religious purposes.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The North Topeka Baptist Church building (built 1921) is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architectural significance as a good local example of early twentieth century Classical Revival architecture executed on a church building. It survived a devastating flood in 1951 and features many interior updates from the early 1950s.

Elaboration

Architecture

North Topeka Baptist Church is an example of Classical Revival architecture, which was used in all types of public and private construction including residential, civic, commercial, and religious buildings. It was first popular in the United States in the early nineteenth century and was based on the use of Greek and Roman forms. It was typified by simplicity, dignity, monumentality, and purity of design. There was a revival of interest in Classical architecture in the late nineteenth century, particularly after the style was prominently featured at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893.

Buildings in this style are usually rectangular in plan with a front-gable portico. They commonly exhibit many of the following attributes: a symmetrical form sometimes similar to a classical temple; two stories high, often with one- or two-story wings; walls of brick, stucco, stone, or wood construction; typically, a two-story monumental portico painted white with a triangular pediment, frequently with a semicircular window set within its tympanum; a pedimented roof, usually supported by columns on square bases; and an entablature above the columns.

Characteristics of the style are evident throughout the building beginning with the dominant two-story portico on the front, north-facing elevation. Four Corinthian columns made of wood support the portico, which projects slightly from the building façade and features a triangular pediment. There are three double-door entrances on the front elevation, which contributes to the building's monumentality. The two-story building has a brick exterior and is situated on a raised basement. It has a pedimented roofline.

There are no other Classical Revival-style churches with a dominant Greek portico like this one in North Topeka. North Topeka Baptist Church is a familiar landmark to those who know the area. If someone asks "where do you go to church?", they may not know the name of the church, but if you mention "the church with the columns in front" they often recognize the building.

Architect Thomas W. Williamson (1887-1974) was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania who established a practice in Topeka in 1912. According to authors David Sachs and George Ehrlich, Williamson contributed significantly to the architecture of Kansas throughout [his] long and distinguished career."¹ Some of his firm's designs include the Jackson County Courthouse (1919-1921), Topeka High School (1930), Topeka's Sumner Elementary School (1936), Pittsburg's Mirza Shrine Temple (1925), the Labette County Courthouse (1948), the Parsons Municipal Building (1922), the Cheyenne County Courthouse (1924-1925), the Sheridan County Courthouse (1917-1918), and the Smith County Courthouse Neoclassical (1918-1920).

¹ David H. Sachs and George Ehrlich, *Guide to Kansas Architecture* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1996), 22.

Church History

North Topeka is situated on the north side of the Kansas River and was originally laid out in 1865 by William Curtis and Louis Laurent. North Topeka Baptist Church traces its roots back to the late 1869, just four years after North Topeka was established. On April 4, 1869, thirteen people formed the Indian Creek Baptist Church, adopting the church covenant, articles of faith, and rules of order as found in the Baptist Church Directory. For the first few months, services were held on the first and third Sundays of the month. Business meetings were held on the third Sunday of each month. On March 27, 1870 they changed the name of their church to North Topeka Baptist Church, with the adoption of a preamble and resolution. Worshippers first met in the Indian Creek schoolhouse located five miles north of Topeka, with Reverend Joshua Barrett as their leader.

The congregation announced a proposal on June 18, 1870 to erect a new church building at the intersection of Laurent and North Harrison streets.² The land was purchased for \$150 from William and Pernila Curtis, the grandparents of Charles Curtis, who later became Vice-President of the United States during Herbert Hoover's second term. Dedication ceremonies were performed for the completed basement on April 23, 1871. All other churches in North Topeka were closed in observance of the dedication service.

The "Historic News" a publication of Historic Topeka, reprinted an article in its Winter 1992 edition from the February 21, 1871 issue of the *Kansas State Record*, which stated the following: "Mark Sage and a gang of sturdy masons are rapidly raising the walls of the Baptist church in North Topeka. By its April 23, 1871 dedication, they had completed only the basement or ground floor portion of the 40 X 60 foot structure." The *Historic News* goes on to say, "Even so, the northside Baptists had collected less than half of its \$2,640 price tag. Though overshadowed by a few larger and wealthier churches south of the river, the North Topeka Baptist Church earned a reputation in the late 19th century as a seat of culture for the entire city – not just the northside. Indeed, economically and in population North Topeka was almost as important or significant as south."

The native stone building was completed at a cost of \$2,640 and the dedication was held on August 24, 1879. Only a small debt remained when the congregation of 22 members moved into their new facility. The stone building was one story with a flat roof. Several years later a second story was added. Thus, prudence as their guide, the faithful waited five years before tackling the next stage. Initially, the second floor was to be brick, but expediency dictated stone instead. On September 7, 1876, the *North Topeka Times* described the finishing touches then being applied, which included a 15 foot addition to the front and a short tower and steeple. The newspaper article complimented contractor F. M. McKee for his efforts, investing him with the title "architect".

A small wage was paid to Nellie Saywell, who began on March 26, 1873, as the congregation's first organist at five dollars per month. Three-and-a-half dollars per month were paid to M. McKee to keep the church in working order and ring the bell. The pastor's pay was also small. Sometimes all other bills were paid first and then the pastor received what was left. By 1881, finances had improved so that the pastor was paid \$50 a month. Beginning December 23, 1876, the church building was insured against lightning and fire in the amount of \$1,000. The premium was \$30 covering five years to December 23, 1881.³

In 1889, an organized choir sang for church services; and in 1892, an all-male choir was organized. By 1903, the church had grown substantially, and had a membership of 577 people.

² The present-day address of this building, which is still extant, is 316 Laurent Street. See KHRI # 177-5400-00174.

³ The 90th Anniversary Book of the North Topeka Baptist Church (1959).

With its close proximity to the Kansas River, the church was heavily damaged during floods in 1903 and 1904. Towns throughout the Kansas River valley suffered damage, but Topeka and Kansas City were hit especially hard. Thirty-eight people died in Topeka as a result of the flooding. Due in part to the devastating losses of the flood coupled with the rapid growth of the congregation, the church began planning for a new building in May of 1911. The building committee recommended that the new sanctuary be located at the intersection of Gordon and North Jackson streets - the church's present location.

During the first quarter of the twentieth century, there were a number of changes in how the church functioned and was managed. The church began using printed bulletins, which outlined the morning and evening services, gave announcements and advertised local merchants. From the time of the church's founding, women had served on the Board of Deacons, and they were known as Lady Deacons. In 1915, the women formed a separate board named the Deaconess Board. The ordination of Deacons was dropped, and the rules were changed so that Deacons could be elected for a term. The church records indicate that a ballot election for pastor was held each year, many times unanimously for that pastor.

Once the construction of the new church building was underway, local newspapers provided frequent updates on the progress of the project. The *Topeka Daily State Journal*, for instance, provided this account of the church's plans:

While the deal has not been entirely closed, an agreement was made yesterday afternoon between the directors of the North Topeka Baptist Church and Mrs. Samuel Dolman, 824 Quincy Street, by which the church will come into possession of the property on the southeast corner of Gordon and Jackson streets, as soon as the necessary papers can be made out.

The corner will be the site of the new church which the Baptists will start building this spring. The house will be removed from the lot, as the ground will no more than accommodate the church as planned. Whether the house will be moved to another location and used as a parsonage has not been decided, as the church already has a parsonage at 316 West Laurent Street, adjacent to the present church.

The corner where the new church will stand was in the early days of North Topeka, or Eugene, as it was then known, the home of the Thompkins family, and was the northern edge of the town. The property was later bought by E. W. Yates, who improved it and lived there for some years. L.A. Dolman bought the property and lived there while probate judge. The Lee Dolman family later made their home there.

The location is admirably suited for a church site. It is central, on paved streets, and while in the same block with the new post office, is not in a business district. The Second Presbyterian church is diagonally across the street.⁴

A later newspaper article (date unknown, 1921) about the upcoming groundbreaking ceremony, stated that "The two-story Dolman house has been moved to a lot adjoining the church site (east side of church building) and will be used as a Baptist parsonage." This parsonage was later destroyed during the 1951 flood, and the lot remains vacant except for steps leading up from the sidewalk adjacent to Gordon Street. This same newspaper article noted that the building's architect was Williamson & Company and that G. Carlson & Son was hired as the contractor. The building committee consisted of W. E. Bacon, Harold Rude, William Van

⁴ *Topeka Daily State Journal*, April 19, 1921.

Ness, G. Carlson, George Schneck, Charles Allison, and C. A. Jones. It was planned to have a sanctuary with the capacity of 600 seats, twenty-one classrooms, a library, kitchen, and banquet hall.

The building was dedicated November 19, 1921, and was in full use by 1922. Some of the "old-timers" lovingly tell of the grand march from the old church to the new. The old stone church building and old parsonage were sold for \$3,000. The \$40,000 mortgage for the new building was burned March 11, 1928 (we still have the ashes in a bottle) – shortly after being paid off.

The 1940s saw the church leadership and worshippers still involved in mission work. The pastor, Reverend Lynn Hodges, organized a "Way of Life" radio program, which originated from his office in the northwest corner of the first floor of the church. He played an important role, along with leaders of the First Baptist and West Side Baptist churches, in forming the Topeka Baptist Mission Society. Out of this cooperative venture came four new Baptist churches: Gage Park, Community, Terra Heights and Southwest Baptist.

Pastor Hodges exercised his leadership skills in other ways, too. He spearheaded a fund-drive to raise money for an air-conditioning system for the church. A spring 1951 newspaper headline playfully warned, "Heat No Alibi to Stay Home," and went on to say, "Members of the North Topeka Baptist Church can't very well use hot weather as an excuse for not attending services this summer. Contracts were let this week for the installation of a combination water and refrigerating type air conditioning system for the entire church building. [It] is being installed at a cost of approximately \$9,000. A 12-inch well is being sunk on the church grounds to an approximate 55-foot depth in order to reach the 58-degree cool water bed in that particular area. The system will completely change the air in the building every eight minutes." The air conditioner was likely installed and functioning prior to the devastating floods later that summer.

A key turning point in the history of this building came in 1951 when a devastating flood hit much of the Kansas River valley. Much of North Topeka was under water as the Kansas River spilled out of its banks. Pastor Hodges described the event in one of his newsletters:

Thursday, July 12, 1951 was a day of tragedy for the Capital city of Kansas. Fed by days of torrential rains, the normally peaceful Kansas River became a raging monster, spilling its angry waters over the dikes and into homes, churches and industries throughout the lower sections of Topeka. A record breaking crest of 36.4 feet was reached which left in its wake the worst scene of devastation I have ever seen.⁵

The 1951 flood hit hard. Water was fifteen feet deep in the street in some areas, and inside the sanctuary of North Topeka Baptist Church, it was several inches deep on the speaker's platform. Church records and files, as well as many personal belongings, were completely destroyed. The flood destroyed the theater-type seats and all of the pianos in the church (at that time the organ was situated in the choir loft). The west balcony still retains theater seats with built in hat racks beneath. The parsonage, located east of the church was destroyed along with the Sunday school annex, which stood (detached) south of the church. The latter building served as the church parsonage at one time and had been used as a home for the church windows when they were temporarily removed during clean up after the flood. A new education facility was built to replace the destroyed annex. This addition was dedicated on October 11, 1952.

⁵ Reverend Lynn Hodges, "The Way of Life" Picture Letter, Vol. 1, No. 2 (Topeka: Way of Life Foundation, 1951). Archived in Church Records. This "Picture Letter" provides a first-hand account of the flood's devastation and includes photographs of the property and surrounding neighborhood. See appendix.

After the flood, a new parsonage was purchased at 348 Cecil Road (now named N.W. 35th) in North Topeka. It appears that the houses may have been renumbered when the street was renamed. The parsonage was sold prior to 1971, and the pastor began receiving a stipend.

During the 1970s, North Topeka Baptist Church became active in an organization called the Topeka North Outreach (TNO). For several years, the church building hosted health clinics for the underprivileged, as one of TNO's programs. Still today, Fellowship Hall welcomes senior citizens of the community every Friday for a meal in a spiritual atmosphere.

In 1978, the church across the street hired a contractor to open the cornerstone of their building, but the buildings' addresses were confused, and the North Baptist Street Church cornerstone was opened by mistake. Not surprisingly, the 1951 flood had damaged the contents of the cornerstone box from North Topeka Baptist Church. The stone was replaced on October 19, 1978 with old and new contents.

On September 10, 1989, a dedication was held for a new pipe organ. The new instrument replaced the organ that had been installed in 1936. \$60,000 for the new organ was raised during a three-year fund drive, which began in 1986. An additional \$20,000 was spent to remodel the sanctuary to accommodate the new instrument and to move the console from the choir loft to the main floor of the sanctuary.

Since the dedication of the original church building in 1871, the congregation has persevered through natural disasters and has taken pride in their buildings. The congregation continued to grow, and a church attendance record of 953 was set on April 12, 1925 (Easter Sunday). The economic hardship of the 1930s provided the church with another opportunity for outreach. Many of the smaller churches in the area were unable to afford a minister. Pastor Barclay embraced this opportunity and regularly preached at several other churches until the economy improved.

An article in *The Topeka State Journal* on May 17, 1933 stated that the church had 640 members at that time. The "Baptist Informer", a church newspaper, dated February 1949 shows the following attendance record for January 1949:

	AM Worship	PM Worship	Total
January 2	246	210	456
January 9	266	127	393
January 16	270	123	393
January 23	251	146	397
January 30	216	155	371
Average	250	152	402

Bible Classes 9:45 AM Sunday
Worship Service: 10:50 AM Sunday
Youth Fellowship: 6:45 PM Sunday
Gospel Hour: 7:30 PM Sunday

North Topeka Baptist Church, "A Family of Faith Following Christ," continues to minister to the members of the church as well as the people of the North Topeka community, as it has done for over 141 years. Today the

church has regular Sunday morning worship, Sunday school for all ages, a mid-week Bible study, choir, monthly men's and women's fellowship groups, a Friday luncheon for senior citizens, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Alcoholics for Christ, and a new Ministry In Training program. In addition to these regular programs, the church offers a variety of community outreach events like Topeka North Outreach and the Topeka Rescue Mission.

Below is a list of the church's ministers from 1869 to 2010.

Name	Date of Service
Rev. Joshua Barrett	1869 - 1881
Rev. T. F. Boechers	Interim 1882
Rev. C. W. Gregory	1882 - 1885
Rev. Holt	Interim 1885
Rev. E.L Riley	1886 - 1890
Rev. W. B. Hutchinson	1890 - 1904
Rev. Hauser	8 months 1904
Rev. W. E. Tanner	1905 - 1907
Rev. T. L. Peterson	1908 - 1909
Rev. W. I. Cole	1909 - 1913
Rev. W. G. Handley	1913 - 1917
Rev. O. L. Weir	1917 - 1922
Rev. E. L. Ryals	1922 - 1925
Rev. W. C. Barclay	1926 - 1940
Rev. Glen L. Farr	1941 - 1942
Rev. A. A. Van Sickel	1942 - 1947
Rev. Lynn Hodges	1947 - 1951
Rev. Clayton Cormack	1952 - 1958
Rev. E. A. Lambert	1959 - 1963
Rev. Terry Hodges	1964 - 1965
Rev. Vincent K. Relyea	1965 - 1971
Rev. Ronald Cobb	1971 - 1974
Rev. Gary Deter	1975 - 1997
Rev. Karel S. Ramsey	1997 - 2004
Rev. Ed O'Rear	2004 -

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cutler, William. *History of the State of Kansas*. Chicago: Andreas Publishing Co., 1883.

"Historic News" (Winter 1992 edition). Topeka: Historic Topeka, Inc.

Hodges, Reverend Lynne. "The Way of Life" Picture Letter, Vol. 1, No. 2 (Topeka: Way of Life Foundation, 1951).
Archived in Church Records.

North Topeka Baptist Church
Name of Property

Shawnee County, KS
County and State

Pictorial Directory dated 1991. Collaboration with Reverend Deeter and committee.

Sachs, David H. and George Ehrlich. *Guide to Kansas Architecture*. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1996.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Topeka 1913-Sept.1950 vol.2, Sheet 104.

Souvenir [sic] Book for the 90th Anniversary of the North Topeka Baptist Church. N.P. July 11, 1959.

The 90th Anniversary Celebration Booklet. N.P. October 7 – 11, 1959.

Topeka Capital-Journal, September 9, 1989.

Topeka State Journal, April 19, 1921.

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: **Kansas Historical Society**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>269255</u>	<u>4327630</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)

EUGENE ADDITION, Lot 96 +, LOTS 98 & 100 JACKSON ST & N 9.5' O F LOT 96 SECTION 29 TOWNSHIP 11 RANGE 16.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The nominated property includes the parcel historically associated with the North Topeka Baptist Church.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Darrell Linguist

North Topeka Baptist Church
Name of Property

Shawnee County, KS
County and State

organization Church member date July 21, 2010
street & number 2120 NW 53rd Terrace telephone 785-286-0255
city or town Topeka state KS zip code 66618
e-mail _____

Additional Documentation

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: North Topeka Baptist Church
City or Vicinity: Topeka
County/State: Shawnee County, KS
Photographer: Sarah Martin
Date: September 15, 2009

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 11 North (front) and east (side) elevations, facing SW
- 2 of 11 East (side) and south (rear) elevations, showing rear addition, facing NW
- 3 of 11 North (front) and east (side) elevations, facing SW
- 4 of 11 North (front) elevation, facing S
- 5 of 11 North (front) elevation, facing SE
- 6 of 11 West (side) elevation, showing rear addition, facing SE
- 7 of 11 Interior, view of sanctuary, facing N
- 8 of 11 Interior, view of sanctuary from balcony, facing SW
- 9 of 11 Interior, view of sanctuary, facing S
- 10 of 11 Interior, view of sanctuary, facing NE
- 11 of 11 Original theater chairs in balcony, facing N

Property Owner:

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

name North Topeka Baptist Church, Attention: Mike Singer
street & number 123 NW Gordon telephone _____
city or town Topeka state KS zip code 66608

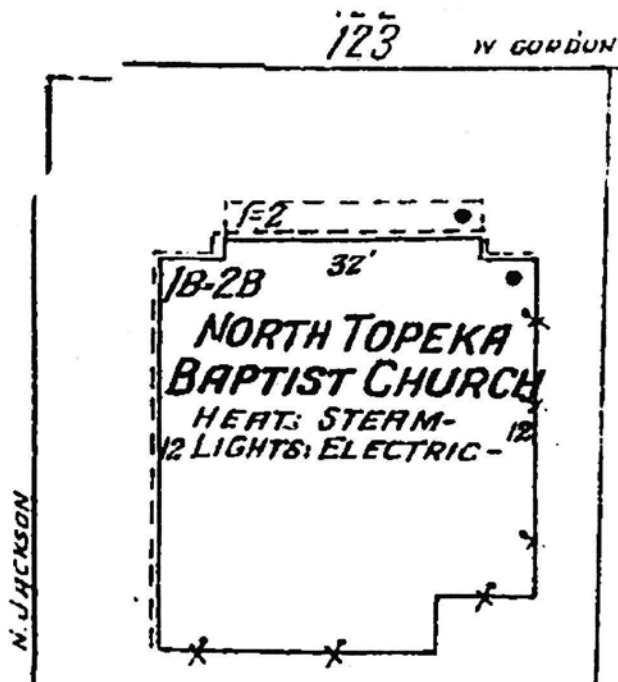
North Topeka Baptist Church
Name of Property

Shawnee County, KS
County and State

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.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map: Topeka 1913-Sept. 1950 vol. 2, Sheet 104



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY North Topeka Baptist Church
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KANSAS, Shawnee

DATE RECEIVED: 12/02/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/04/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/19/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/17/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10001137

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 1.18.11 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.

















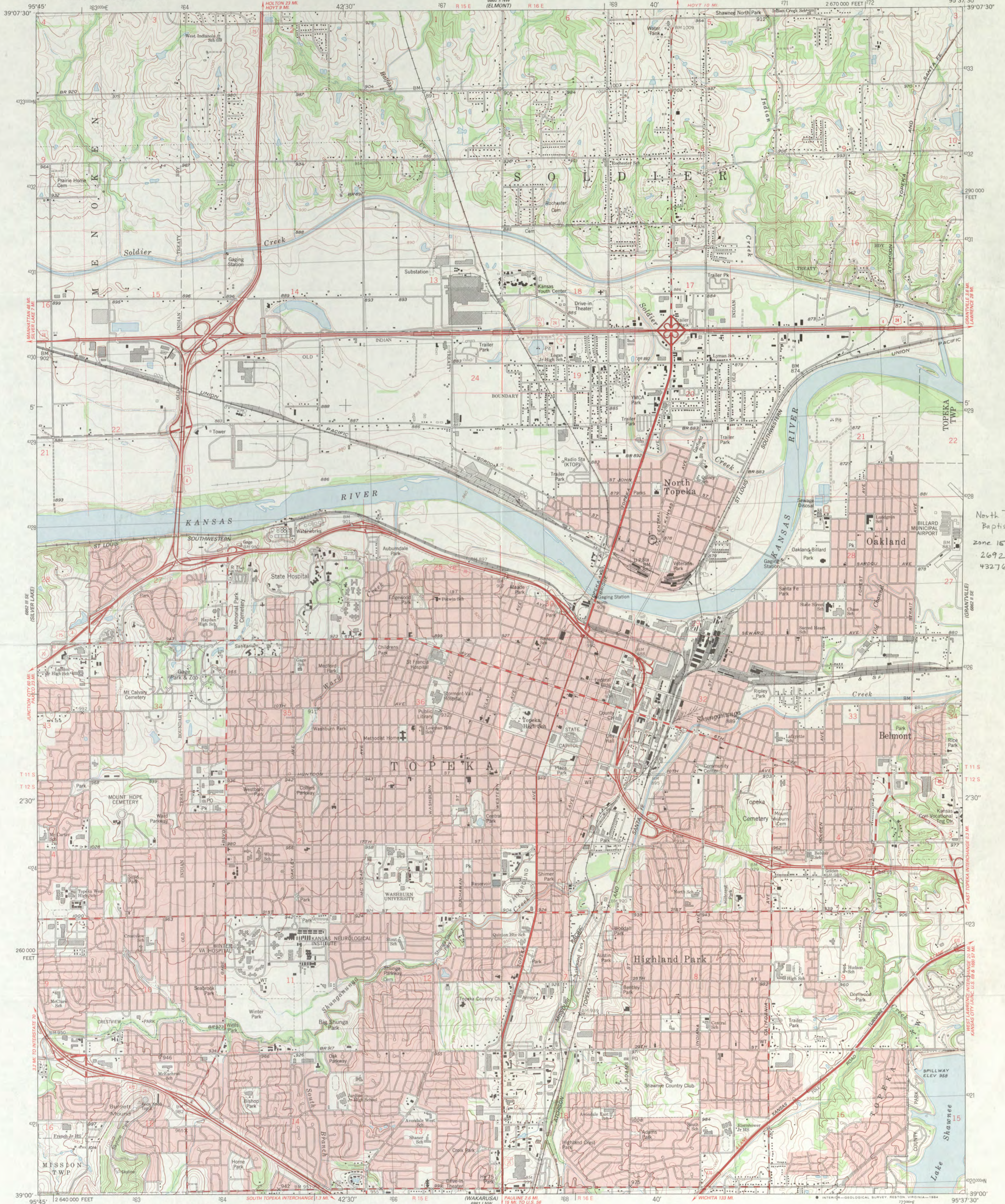






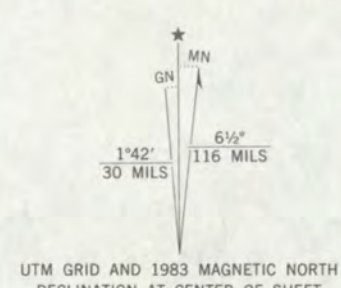
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

TOPEKA QUADRANGLE
KANSAS-SHAWNEE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



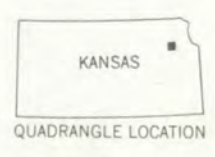
North Topeka
Baptist Church
Zone 15
269255 E
4327630 N

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
in cooperation with State of Kansas agencies
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1948 and planimetric surveys 1950. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1982. Field checked 1982. Map edited 1983
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American Datum
10,000-foot grid based on Kansas coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 3 meters north and
23 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Dotted land lines established by private survey
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

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



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

TOPEKA, KANS.
39095-A6-1F-024

1983
DMA 6862 II SW-SERIES V878