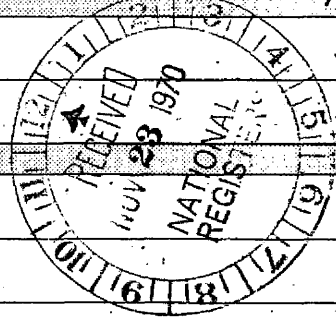


PH004727A

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kansas	
COUNTY: Douglas	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71.2.20.0012	2/24/71



1. NAME

COMMON: **Old Lawrence City Hall**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Watkins National Bank**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **1047 Massachusetts St.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Lawrence**

STATE: **Kansas** CODE: **66044** COUNTY: **Douglas** CODE: **045**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	Use as a city hall
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		ended October,
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		1970.

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **City of Lawrence**

STREET AND NUMBER: **City Hall**

CITY OR TOWN: **Lawrence** STATE: **Kansas** CODE: **66044** CODE: **20**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Register of Deeds**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Douglas County Courthouse**

CITY OR TOWN: **Lawrence** STATE: **Kansas** CODE: **66044** CODE: **20**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **NONE**

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER: **114113**

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE: DATE: **5/24/71**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Kansas**
COUNTY: **Douglas**
ENTRY NUMBER: **71.2.20.0012**
DATE: **5/24/71**
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

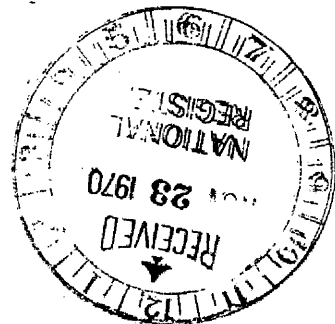
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two and one half story Watkins National Bank building has a combination hip and gable roof with three dormers on each side, a small dormer on the back, and a large one in the front. The second story is penetrated with many evenly spaced windows with a single continuous stone sill to strengthen the horizontal movement. The first story is plain with its arched windows making no significant impression. A strong horizontal line is produced by a wide band of contrasting rough-cut stone which pulls the eye around the building to the dominant feature, the massive semi-circular stone archway entrance. The half floor below the stone line is plain with uninteresting windows and no ornamentation.

The building measures 75 feet by 117 feet and has foundations which measure 12 feet across at the lowest point and taper up to the required basement wall thickness. The exterior plan is symmetrical about the longitudinal axis except for the archway. This single exception again tends to emphasize the importance of the entrance.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Kansas	
COUNTY	
Douglas	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

- The Old Lawrence City Hall (Watkins National Bank) is now owned by the Douglas County Historical Society, Lawrence, Kansas. The building is in the process of being restored and will be developed as a community museum. It will also house the Kansas All Sports Hall of Fame.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1887

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Watkins National Bank building was erected in 1887 for a Lawrence financier, Jabez B. Watkins. Watkins moved to Lawrence in 1873 and established himself as a lawyer and loan agent. He successfully solicited funds in the east to lend to farmers in Kansas and surrounding states. His company was incorporated in 1883 as the J. B. Watkins Land Mortgage Company with branch offices in London, New York City, Dallas, and Lake Charles, La. This company was one of the largest of its kind.

The second floor of the Watkins Building served as the home office of the mortgage company, and in 1888 the Watkins National Bank was established on the ground floor. Watkins also owned a local newspaper, the Lawrence Record, and controlled the Lawrence Canning Company, said to be the largest vegetable cannery west of Baltimore, Md.

The economic depression of the early 1890's brought disaster to many mortgage companies, and Watkins' firm went into receivership in 1894. The building continued to serve the Watkins bank until it was left vacant by a bank merger in 1929. Mrs. J. B. Watkins then donated the building to the city of Lawrence, which used it as the City Hall until 1970.

Presently city officials and citizens interested in the building's preservation are searching for a way in which the building may continue to serve the community.

The Watkins National Bank building is a classic example of the Romanesque influence on Kansas buildings.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bogue, Allan G., "The Land Mortgage Company in the Early Plain States," Agricultural History, v. 25, no. 1 (January, 1951), pp. 20-33.
 Ensign, Lela May, "Lawrence Realizes Some Objectives," Kansas Municipalities, v. 16, no. 1 (January, 1930), pp. 18-23.
 "The Historic City," Topeka Capital, August 8, 1888.
 Lawrence Daily Record, September 12, 1890.

NO
 ATM
 HR

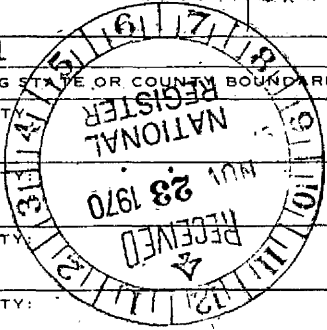
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 57' 51"	95° 14' 09"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles L. Hall, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society DATE: November 6, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth St.

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka STATE: Kansas 66612 CODE: 20

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Nyle H. Miller
Nyle H. Miller

Title Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society

Date November 6, 1970

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

Ernest A. Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 24 1971

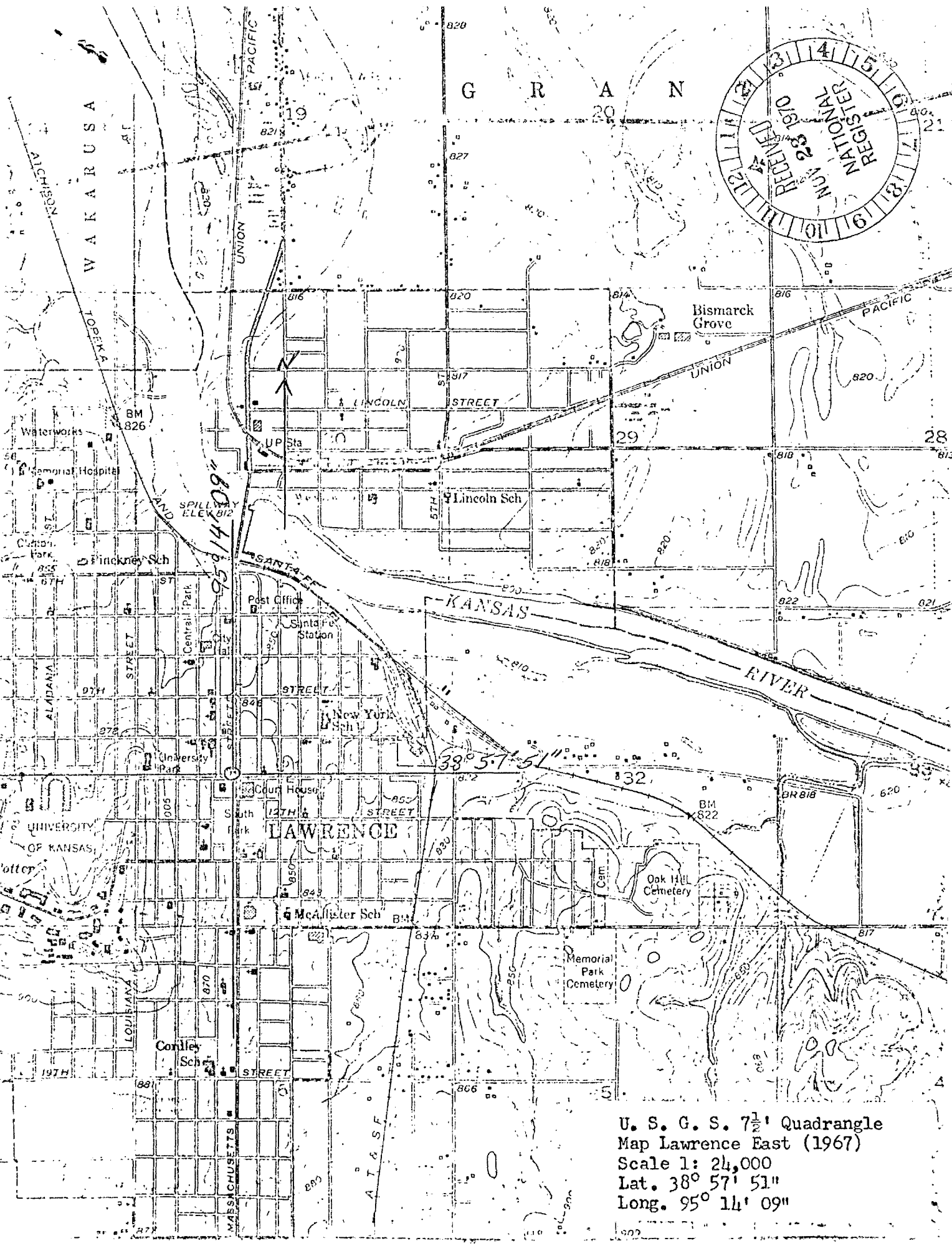
Date _____

ATTEST:

William J. Huntzger
 Keeper of the National Register

JAN 20 1971

Date _____



U. S. G. S. 7½' Quadrangle
Map Lawrence East (1967)
Scale 1: 24,000
Lat. 38° 57' 51"
Long. 95° 14' 09"

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE **Kansas**

COUNTY **Douglas**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER DATE

71-2-20-0012 2/24/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: **Old Lawrence City Hall**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Watkins National Bank**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

1047 Massachusetts St.

CITY OR TOWN:

Lawrence

STATE:

Kansas 66044

CODE

20

COUNTY:

Douglas

CODE

045

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U. S. G. S. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle, Lawrence East

SCALE:

1: 24,000

DATE:

1967

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

