

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	MAR 3 1976
DATE ENTERED	

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

****** HISTORIC Morris County State Bank

AND/OR COMMON Council Grove National Bank (preferred name)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 130 West Main

CITY, TOWN Council Grove VICINITY OF No. 5, Joe Skubitz

STATE Kansas 66846 COUNTY Morris CODE 127

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Council Grove National Bank
Ronald L. Haug, Executive Vice-President

STREET & NUMBER 130 West Main

CITY, TOWN Council Grove STATE Kansas 66846

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTER OF DEEDS, ETC. Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER Morris County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Council Grove STATE Kansas 66846

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic Sites Survey

DATE August, 1969 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kansas State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN Topeka STATE Kansas 66612

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Council Grove National Bank, originally the Morris County State Bank, has been influenced by the High Victorian Italianate style. The building, which has been constructed of pressed brick on a limestone foundation, has two stories and a basement and measures 25 feet across Main and 67 feet on Neosho street.

The main entrance to the bank addresses the corner and is at an angle to the front and side facades. It has a double wood door with two transoms and is framed by two Corinthian columns on raised octagonal bases. These columns support a projection of the entablature separating the first and second story windows. This terra cotta entablature has been highly embellished, having a corona supported by modillions, underneath which are dentils, a talon molding and a plain frieze. The projection of the entablature over the main entrance has been emphasized by a decorative iron balustrade. The second story window has been placed just slightly above the entablature. The window has been decorated with columns supporting a terra cotta plate that covers the arch and spandrels. The archivolt is indicated and a series of rosettes runs across the indication of the arch. The spandrels are decorated with abstract vegetative forms. The windows are plate glass and set in wooden frames. This decorative window treatment is repeated across the triple window on the second story of the south facade. The three windows on the first story and basement align with those on the second story. The windows on the first story are separated by Corinthian columns and the outer windows have transoms. There are vegetative carvings below the sills of the outer windows and on either side of the window grouping. The entablature is ended on the brick pier to the east side of this facade by a terra cotta ornament formed from two brackets supporting a finial.

The building is crowned with an entablature which has brackets that extend through the frieze and support a talon molding and corona. The frieze is decorated with vegetative forms. An open balustrade above the cornice has piers capped with finials that correspond to the vertical lines set up by the window columns. The balustrade becomes solid over the main entrance and the finials are larger. The open balustrade is continued through the first bay of the west facade.

The first bay of the west facade repeats the motifs used across the front of the building. Single windows on each floor have been aligned. This bay is ended with a brick pier where an ornament similar to the one used on the south facade ends the entablature which separates the first and second stories. The line set up by this entablature is continued down the west facade by a strip of terra cotta molding. There are recessed brick panels on each story next to the brick pier. There are three double windows and an entrance on the first story of this facade. The four windows on the second story have been centered over each opening. Each window on the first story is plate glass with wood frames and a

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1887 BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. H. Leedy

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Morris County State Bank, now known as the Council Grove National Bank, was originally chartered in August, 1878, and was operated in rented facilities until the completion of this building in 1887.

On Sunday, September 19, 1886, a fire destroyed the building housing the bank as well as six adjoining business buildings. The fire apparently made the bank's board of directors aware of the need for acquiring their own place of business. Within a week after the fire the bank, which was then operating out of other rented quarters, purchased the lot at the northeast corner of Main and First (now Neosho) Streets for \$3,500. The building formerly on the lot had been destroyed in the fire.

J. H. Leedy of Council Grove was selected as the architect, and Louis Peterson, also of the city, was the contractor and builder. By the beginning of October work was well underway on the basement. The cornerstone was laid Tuesday, November 30, 1886, and placed in a zinc box were copies of the local newspapers, a photo of the bank's president Lewis Mead and a manuscript prepared by Mead recounting the bank's history and the community's potential. By early March the workmen were putting the final touches to the exterior.

On Thursday, April 28, 1887, the bank's effects were moved into the new building, which was described by the Council Grove Republican as "by far the handsomest and most substantial structure yet attempted in this city." The total cost of the building and ground was placed at \$15,000. In addition to the bank the building had a barber shop in the basement, Lewis Mead's land office, and offices for doctors and attorneys.

In 1900 the bank secured a national charter and the name was changed to Council Grove National Bank. The bank continues to occupy the facilities.

The exterior of the building was refurbished in 1974, and the lobby was returned to an 1890's decor.

The Council Grove National Bank is significant for its contributions to the commercial and economic development of the community. For almost 90 years the building has anchored one of the key intersections in Council Grove. It is a fine, well-preserved example of Western commercial architecture. The sensitive application of materials and details and the corner site create an inviting building which opens out to the block and becomes the most important link in this commercial frontage. It is a good architectural reflection of the growing prosperity and sophistication of central Kansas before the turn of the century.

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transom and has a limestone lintel and sill. Aligned below these windows are the basement windows which are separated by limestone piers. The entranceway is arched with stone voussoirs while the actual doorway is recessed. Above the decorated spandrels are two rows of a checkerboard pattern formed by alternating different colored blocks. The windows on the second story are also plate glass with wood frames and have segmental arches. The lintels are delicately detailed terra cotta with a keystone. The sills have been made of limestone.

The interior details including the inside window and door frames and the wainscoting were finished in walnut.

The rear of the building, which was originally occupied by Mr. Mead's land office, could be reached by a hall way from the Neosho street entrance where there was also a stairway to the second floor. The second floor was divided into apartments. The basement of the building was occupied by a barber shop in the front while the rear was used as a furnace room. The building was heated by steam.

The interior of the building was recently renovated by an interior decorator who returned the lobby to an 1890's appearance. The exterior of the building was sandblasted and refinished in 1974.

The exterior looks very much like it did originally. One of the few differences which can be detected by comparing present and original views is in the pattern of the iron railing above the main entrance. All exterior changes are so minor as to be almost unnoticeable.

(Although physically located within the bounds of the Council Grove Historic District, a National Historic Landmark, the bank building was not identified as having historical significance. The elements identified by the National Park Service were historical places associated with the Santa Fe trail and the early history of the community. Buildings of architectural interest were not included.)

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Kansas Guide (Council Grove), 1887. (A one-issue booster paper to attract new settlers to Council Grove)

"Morris County State Bank," Council Grove Guard, Sept. 25, 1886.

"New Bank Building," Council Grove Republican, April 29, 1887.

"In Their New Quarter," Council Grove Guard, May 7, 1887.