



# 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 United Telephone Building  
Other names/site number Southwestern Bell Telephone Building; 1931 Telephone Building; KHRI #181-2110-00013  
Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

## 2. Location

Street & number 1003 Main Street not for publication  
City or town Goodland vicinity  
State Kansas Code KS County Sherman Code 181 Zip code 67735

## 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 Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

Patrick Zollner 8-14-17  
Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO Date

Kansas State Historical Society  
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): \_\_\_\_\_

Chris Obernady 10/4/17  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

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

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

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

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total</b>

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

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY: Communications Facility  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Work in Progress  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Art Deco  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

foundation: Concrete  
walls: Brick  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof: Asphalt  
other: Terra Cotta  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Narrative Description

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**Summary**

The United Telephone Building is located at 1003 Main Street in downtown Goodland, Sherman County, Kansas (*Figures 1 & 2*). Erected during May to October of 1931, it is a two-story brick Art Deco style structure with a flat roof behind a parapet. The building has distinctive Aztec clay tile exterior decorative elements, using colors of red, blue and yellow, contrasting against the light body tile color and brown brick (*Photo 01*). The Aztec motif extends along the parapet on the west elevation, facing Main Street, and along the north side facing 10<sup>th</sup> Street; this design is also above the windows on west and north sides, and outlines the five sets of windows facing west and north. Rectangular insets and top borders of terra cotta symbols grace the four pilasters forming the corners of the west and north facades. Single windows, one on each story are present in these four corner pilasters, with the exception of the eastern pilaster on the north façade, the lower part being an entry door from 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Two double windows are on the west first floor front with the main entry door and canopy between, and three double window sets are on the second story, resulting in a symmetrical appearance. The north façade has two sets of similar double windows with a single window between them. On the back side of the building is a lower first floor, which was originally a three-stall garage, and a second story which was added in 1970, according to Sherman County Appraisers office records. There is a full basement.

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**Elaboration**

**Site/Setting**

The United Telephone Building is located on the southeast corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and Main streets in downtown Goodland. At the time the building was constructed, Main Street was a primary thoroughfare. Main Street was U.S. North Highway 40 in 1931 and changed to State Highway 24 in January 1936, remaining until the early 1940s when Highway 24 was built south of the city. A hotel was across the street north, an opera house was directly west across Main Street, and a bank was diagonal northwest across Main Street. Main Street still retains a number of historic commercial buildings.

The L-shaped footprint of the United Telephone Building is 50' wide by 60' deep on a lot 65' deep. The site fronts Main Street with concrete sidewalks between the west front and the north side facing 10<sup>th</sup> Street. At the back of the property between the telephone building and the alley is the 1990 Southwestern Bell Telephone Building (now AT&T), whose construction ended the use of the 1931 Telephone Building. The south side of the building adjoins 1005 Main Street.

**Exterior**

The primary façade of the United Telephone Building faces Main Street (west) (*Photo 02*). The main entrance is on the west front with an overhang above the door. At one time this overhang had stained glass Aztec decoration along its three sides (*Figure 3*); currently only the metal structure remains. The front is symmetrical with wide corner pilasters extending out from the building's main body and containing a centered historic three-over-three double-hung window (typical unless otherwise noted, *Photo 03*) at each story. Between the pilasters, the west façade features three sets of two historic three-over-three wooden windows at both stories. Below the center, second story set is the entry comprised of a single pedestrian door with transom and sidelight centered under the metal canopy (*Photo 04*). The sidelight, which is to the north of the door, contains two historic drop-boxes for deposits and envelopes. Some of the wood frames of these windows are in poor condition. All of the wood windows are covered with sheet glass in metal storm window frames (non-historic). Below the parapet and above the light color tile are historic bronze letters spelling out "TELEPHONE BUILDING."

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The west half the north façade is almost identical to the west façade (*Photo 02*). Two wide pilasters frame this part of the elevation. In place of a window at the ground level, the east pilaster contains a pedestrian door. Instead of three sets of two historic windows at each story between the pilasters, there is a single historic three-over-three unit with a set of two windows on either side at each level. To the east of the east pilaster, the building becomes more utilitarian (*Photo 05*). When constructed, this portion was one story and contained two windows. The masonry openings at this level now contain louvers (air intakes). A row of rowlock bricks separates the two stories. The upper story, added in the 1970s, is of an orange brick. Two three-over-three metal windows are in this story; these windows have cast stone sills and steel lintels. Terra cotta ornamentation spans the parapet, reinstalled from the top of the former one-story portion.

The rear (east) façade of the former one-story portion of the building originally contained a three-bay garage (*Photos 05 & 06*) (*Figure 7*); it is 32' feet wide. Today, one garage bay occupies the south end, and brick infill occupies the majority of this elevation at the ground level. At the north end of the elevation is another air intake louver. The upper level, added in the 1970s, contains the same orange brick as is found on the north elevation of this portion of the building. A second story door above the air intakes was used for loading and worked in tandem with a track which extended out from the top of the building (no longer extant).

The east elevation of the main 1931 building is 18' wide and two stories tall (*Photo 07*), as it was historically. This elevation contains three window units. A pair of historic two-over-two wood windows with steel lintel and cast stone sill is at the second level. A historic square two-over-two wooden unit is located between the first and second story; this window, which lights a stair between the floors, has stippled glass with chicken wire. A third two-over-two unit is located on the main level next to a brick chimney stack on the south end of the façade.

The south façade of the building's back ell is three bays wide (*Photo 06*). The westernmost bay was (and is) historically two stories tall and contains a historic paired two-over-two wood window unit on both stories. To the east, the historic one story portion has two single two-over-two window units with stippled glass and chicken wire. Above these windows is the 1970s second story addition. This brick wall contains no openings and is a redder brick than the rest of the building, including the addition's north and east walls. A historic metal stair is located on this elevation to access the roof.

## Interior

The interior of the two-story building contains mostly office and public space on the main level, with a garage area to the east in the historically one-story portion. The open upper story was historically used for telephone equipment. The building contains a basement under most of the building; the garage area does not have a basement underneath it.

The basement level is accessed by a straight-run (north-to-south) concrete stair on the south side of the north entry vestibule. At the bottom of this stair (*Photo 08*), is a door to the west that leads to a small room of 6" clay block and 8" brick construction, which is designated as "cable vault" on 1972 fallout shelter plans. At the south side of the basement are two smaller rooms that house the boiler heating unit. The main basement area is one large room with square concrete columns that houses a large air conditioning unit, original from 1931, in the southwest corner (*Photo 09*). Wrapped duct work extends from this unit along the ceiling. The basement space is presently used as storage. The perimeter basement walls are comprised of lift-poured concrete; hollow clay tiles are visible above this, comprising the structure of the upper stories. The structure of the first story floor is exposed throughout the basement and is comprised of a gridded concrete joist system, supporting a poured concrete floor.

The first (ground level) floor is divided into four rooms organized on a double-loaded hallway. The ceiling height is a consistent 11'-6" throughout the first floor, and all doors, trim, and hardware date to 1931. Ceilings and walls are plaster. The main lobby of the United Telephone Building is on the west front side, accessed

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through the Main Street entrance. This room still retains some of the Aztec decorative elements, namely: the red, yellow, and blue decorated telephone poles set in the ceiling, half-rounds that extend the width of the room east-to-west (*Photo 10*); and the linoleum floor that has a red, yellow and blue zigzag border design (*Photo 11*). On the south side of the lobby are two niches (*Photo 12*), which show their original faux corbeled arch construction; other arch openings in the room having been infilled through the years from remodeling. The smaller arched niche contains wooden shelves; the larger arched opening leads into a small room. At the south and southeast end of the room are two doors, leading into the private telephone booths, which were for customer use. The southeastern room, which is under the stair to the second story, was formerly converted to a janitor closet. The two rooms to the north of the lobby were originally one space, open to the lobby through an arched window (now filled in) and a customer's counter (now gone). A door at the north end of the lobby's east wall leads into the main hallway.

To the east across the hall from the lobby is a room that originally was the manager's office (*Photo 13*). A bathroom is accessed by a door at the northeast corner of this room. The local manager's office in 1931 had eagle feather decor on the door denoting "Chief."

A door at the north end of this hallway leads into a narrow storage room (*Photo 14*). This room's north wall was added at an unknown date, splitting the historic open space into two smaller rooms. The south wall formerly contained openings into the lobby, as described above.

A door in the north end of the hallway's east wall leads into another storage room (*Photos 15 & 16*). A small closet is located in this room's southeastern corner. A doorway at the north end of the room's east wall leads into the 10<sup>th</sup> Street entry vestibule. At the north end of the room's west wall is a door into another room now used for storage (*Photo 17*). This room's south wall was added at an unknown date, as it was historically open to the room to its south, as described above.

Two of the old garage stalls at the back are accessed by a door in the east wall of the north entry vestibule. The remaining garage stall on the south end is accessed from the outside by a roll up door and this garage space has been separated from the remainder of the first floor by 8" brick infill wall.

At the south end of the main hallway is a straight-run concrete stairway, leading to the second floor. The east wall is an exterior wall. Historically, a portion of the stair's west wall was open to the lobby with an arched window exposing an area of grilled iron banister. This area is currently filled as solid wall space from remodeling at an unknown time (*Photo 18*).

The second floor is accessed through a historic wood door in the west wall of the stair landing (*Photo 19*). The second level of the United Telephone Building is an L-shaped open space. Two concrete columns divide the north's larger open area (*Photos 20 through 22*). The area is well lit with natural light from the many windows on the west and north and has 14' ceilings. This room housed the switching equipment of the telephone company. There is evidence of water leaks on the northeast and southeast walls of the larger space where the 1970s concrete block addition was constructed. A steel door at the northeast corner was used to get machinery into the second floor; however, there is no dock outside. The floors are linoleum in the original part and asbestos tile in the addition on the east end, some tiles which are in poor repair. The walls and ceiling are plaster over concrete with a rib beam. At the southeast corner of the second floor is the entry from the stairs that leads into a 18' by 25' space that may have been the original employee lounge as described in 1931. A small closet with shelves is adjacent to the stairway door (*Photo 23*). Historic radiators are located in this upper area.

## Integrity

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The United Telephone Building retains excellent integrity from its construction in 1931. Historic materials are intact. Although some alterations have occurred throughout the years, the majority of the building communicates its historic association, design, feeling, and workmanship from the year of construction.

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**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**

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1931

**Significant Dates**

1931

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Shaver, Charles W. (architect)

Murray, Joe & Cayton, Frank (architects)

Joe H. Fargo & Son Construction

Hamilton, Colby (artist)

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance incorporates the year of the building's construction, 1931.

**Criteria Considerations (justification)**

N/A

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Narrative Statement of Significance

**Summary**

Constructed in 1931, Goodland's United Telephone Building is significant as an excellent local representative of the Art Deco style. Characterized by solid, rectilinear forms, colorful terra cotta geometrical design elements, and strong symmetry of the whole, the 1931 building is an enduring influential example of workmanship and materials of the early 1930s. Constructed as the company offices and housing delicate telephone equipment, the fireproof building served as a communications facility for the United Telephone Company, with home offices at Abilene, Kansas. It served the same purpose from 1937 onward when United was taken over by the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. In 1990 a new building for digital equipment was built by Southwestern Bell and occupied in 1991, at which time the 1931 building ceased its use as a telephone utility. The building remained vacant until it was bought by Sherman County in 1994. In 2017 the county gifted the building to the Sherman County Historical Society.

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**Elaboration**

The 1931 United Telephone Building was constructed almost three decades after the establishment of Goodland's first telephone company. In November 1902, the Goodland Telephone Company was established at 1008 Main Street, directly across from the nominated building, above the Ennis Drug Store (later Higdon Drug Store). The company organizers were J.M. Jewell (1865-1948), C.E. Swartz, and William Ennis (1853-1905). The telephone service included a 100-line Eureka switchboard and 85 telephones. William Krow (1840-1918) was the first "Central." In 1905 the company operated out of 1112 Main Street, with Jewell and Swartz the two proprietors after Ennis sold his interest to Jewell. In 1907 Jewell and Swartz sold the company to Dr. A.C. Gulick, Mrs. Ella Gulick, R. A. Kent, J. O. Kent, and Rex Kent.

Abilene's (Kansas) United Telephone Company purchased the Goodland Telephone Company in 1922 and moved the headquarters to a house at 121 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street. United, the precursor of today's Sprint, was founded in Abilene in 1899 as the Brown Telephone Company, a competitor to the Bell Telephone Company.<sup>1</sup> The company expanded into several Kansas towns over the following decades, eventually reaching Goodland in the 1920s.

In February 1931, United Telephone announces plans to expand the telephone system in Goodland. These plans included the construction of a building dedicated exclusively to the telephone utility. The Agricultural Expansion Issue of the *Goodland News-Republic*, dated February 1931, documents the plans of the United Telephone Company for Goodland:

Our confidence in the future of the district is shown by our plans for expansion. In a short time work will start on improvements which will cost in excess of \$100,000.00 [\$1.5 million in 2017]. These improvements will include a new telephone building, an extension and expansion of cables, complete new subscribers' equipment and a complete new central office, which includes an automatic exchange. In this respect Goodland will be the fourth city in the state of Kansas to advance to dial equipment.

Joe H. Fargo of J.H. Fargo & Son, United Construction Superintendent, was the builder; Charles W. Shaver, Salina, Kansas, architect, drew the plans for the basic building design, assisted by Joe Murray and Frank Cayton, United Telephone Company architects. Colby Hamilton, United Equipment Superintendent, was responsible for research of the Aztec design elements used on the exterior and interior and also worked in concert with the architects and builder to supervise the construction.

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas Derdak and Adèle Hast, *International Directory of Company Histories*, Vol. 5. (Farmington Hills, Mich.: St. James Press, 1992) [transcribed online] Funding Universe <http://www.fundinguniverse.com/company-histories/united-telecommunications-inc-history/> (accessed July 8, 2017).



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The Aztec designs from legends and lore as portrayed by the interior and exterior of the United Telephone Building are described in a 15-page manuscript dated November 18, 1931, United Telephone Co., Abilene, Kansas. Authorship of this unsigned paper is unknown; however, an example listed in the newspaper was noted as, "An explanation of the Indian symbols used in the Goodland exchange" and was sealed behind a bronze tablet set in the lobby wall commemorating the formal opening of the building on Saturday, November 21, 1931. End notes of this paper state: "Note 1: The Thunder Bird is on the light fixture in booth #2 and on the back of the chairs and settee."<sup>2</sup> (Figure 4)

An in-house United Telephone Company publication, *The Voice*, November 1931 issue, which is devoted to the new building at Goodland, Kansas, summarizes: "Indian art is distinctively American and a colorful combination of symbols has been worked into the design. The terra cotta panels and borders of the exterior of the Telephone Building have all been taken from Aztec tribal artwork."<sup>3</sup> This publication also describes the lobby ceiling as "heavily beamed with rough poles stenciled with Indian patterns." Each of the beams is an actual telephone pole trimmed and decorated in red, blue, and yellow, and they retain their vibrant colors today. The business counter was supported on hand carved totem poles, each of which told a story.<sup>4</sup> The private telephone booths for customer use (6' x 8') were also decorated in the Aztec theme. These booths included a chair and table and were described as "acoustically perfect with all the convenience of a complete private office" in the 1931 issue of *The Voice*.<sup>5</sup>

By the end of February 1931, the site of the new building was selected at the southeast corner of 10<sup>th</sup> & Main streets. This was the former location of the *Goodland Republic-News*, published by J.H. Stewart; the site was purchased by United Telephone Company from the Stewart family heirs.

Work towards a new building began in April 1931 when the existing buildings on lots 23 and 24 of block 60 were demolished. By May 6, Salina architect Charles Shaver completed the plans for the new building, and on May 27, J.H. Fargo & Son started construction. Work continued on the Art Deco building throughout the summer and fall of 1931. On October 14, 1931 the new office opened and cutover from magneto crank telephones to a dial system is made. This was the fourth dial system in the state and the first in western Kansas. W.L. Ginn was the first local manager. A celebratory public open house occurred on November 21. As part of the dedication ceremony, a bronze plaque was installed in the wall of the new lobby. Behind this plaque was stored a number of historical items from 1931.<sup>6</sup>

The 1931 United Telephone Building was built during a period of great growth in construction of Goodland buildings: the Sherman County Courthouse with Art Deco influence was erected in the same year (Figure 6), the Millisack Department Store front was remodeled in Art Deco style, and the Sparks Building in the same block as the Telephone Building was also erected during this same year. Great optimism was shown by the city leaders in their support of these building projects during the time of the economic depression.

The building continued to operate as the United Telephone Company until 1937 when it was succeeded by the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. Southwestern Bell continued operating out of this building until 1991. In 1990, a new building to the east of the 1931 structure was built for state-of-the-art equipment. By 1991

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<sup>2</sup> "Indian Legends and Indian Lore as portrayed by the interior and exterior of the telephone building at Goodland, Kansas," unpublished manuscript, United Telephone Company, Abilene, Kansas, November 18, 1931, 15 pp. typed. Two chairs, a settee, and a table are now in the High Plains Museum artifact collection at Goodland, Kansas.

<sup>3</sup> Elliot Belden, editor, *The Voice: Speaking for all of the United Companies XIV* (November 1931).

<sup>4</sup> This counter is now held in a private family collection.

<sup>5</sup> Belden, *The Voice*.

<sup>6</sup> At least three separate articles/manuscripts regarding the building's construction were included in this time capsule. Copies were removed when Southwestern Bell Telephone Company moved in 1991; they were sent to Southwestern Bell offices at Colby, Kansas, then later returned to Robert Hines, Southwestern Bell retired employee at Goodland, Kansas, who now owned them in 2005.

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Southwestern Bell Telephone Company moved its offices into the new building, and after 60 years of continual use, the 1931 building no longer was used for telecommunications functions. In 1994 Sherman County acquired the building, using it as storage until gifting it to the county historical society in 2017.

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Belden, Elliot, editor. *The Voice: Speaking for all of the United Companies XIV* (November 1931). (One of three items found in the lobby wall box.)

Derdak, Thomas and Adèle Hast. *International Directory of Company Histories*, Vol. 5. Farmington Hills, Mich.: St. James Press, 1992 [transcribed online] Funding Universe <http://www.fundinguniverse.com/company-histories/united-telecommunications-inc-history/> (accessed July 8, 2017).

"Employees of Goodland Exchange of the United Telephone Company." Unpublished manuscript. November 21, 1931. One page on United Telephone stationery. (One of three items found in the lobby wall box.)

Fallout Shelter Survey Data Cover Sheet, MRO form 1199. 5 July 1972, by Russ. Four sheets.

*Goodland News-Republic* 1931.

*Goodland Daily News* 1978 & 1990.

"Indian Legends and Indian Lore as portrayed by the interior and exterior of the telephone building at Goodland, Kansas." Unpublished manuscript. United Telephone Company, Abilene, Kansas, November 18, 1931. 15 pp. typed, author unknown. (One of three items found in the lobby wall box.)

Interview: July 18, 2005. Lloyd Holbrook interview with Robert Hines, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company employee from 1948 to 1991. Mr. Hines was at Goodland from 1955 to 1991 when he retired.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: Kansas Historical Society  
Sherman County Historical Society

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

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one

**Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.**

(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 39.348887 -101.711544 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

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

West 65' Lots 23 and 24 Block 60 Original Town Goodland.

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

Boundary represents the part of the two city lots upon which the building was built in 1931 in downtown Goodland Kansas. That part on the east 75' of lots 23 and 24 is excluded because it is the site of the 1990 Southwestern Bell Telephone building property and not part of the parcel owned by Sherman County Historical Society. The city lots in this block are 140' deep.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Lloyd P. Holbrook, original author

organization Sherman County Historical Society date Fall 2005; edited Summer 2017

street & number 202 W. 13<sup>th</sup> St. telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Goodland state KS zip code 67735

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Property Owner:** (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Sherman County Historical Society (attn.: Jane Philbrick)

street & number 202 W. 13<sup>th</sup> St. telephone (785) 899-4800

city or town Goodland state KS zip code 67735

**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 100 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.

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### Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each digital image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to a sketch map or aerial map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

#### Photograph Log

Name of Property: United Telephone Building

City or Vicinity: Goodland

County: Sherman State: Kansas

Photographer: Amanda K. Loughlin (KSHS)

Date

Photographed: 24 April 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 01 of 23:** Detail of west façade, showing terra cotta work
- 02 of 23:** Looking SE at north and west elevations
- 03 of 23:** Detail of window on west façade
- 04 of 23:** Detail of west entry
- 05 of 23:** Looking SW at east and north elevations
- 06 of 23:** Looking NW at east and south elevations
- 07 of 23:** East elevation of two-story 1931 building
- 08 of 23:** View down basement stair from north entry vestibule; door to fallout shelter at bottom of stair to right
- 09 of 23:** Looking SE from NW corner of basement
- 10 of 23:** Detail of lobby ceiling
- 11 of 23:** Detail of lobby floor
- 12 of 23:** Niches in south wall of lobby (room is hard to photograph due to storage)
- 13 of 23:** View ENE through door into manager's office; bathroom is through door at left
- 14 of 23:** Looking SW at south storage room off hallway
- 15 of 23:** Back room, looking SW; door leads into hallway
- 16 of 23:** Back room, looking east; north entry vestibule is through cased opening; door beyond leads to garage; storage closet to right
- 17 of 23:** Looking west into north storage room off back room
- 18 of 23:** View up main staircase to second floor; infilled arched opening into lobby is noticeable at right; door frame at right leads into lobby; doorway at left leads into manager's office
- 19 of 23:** Looking SE at door from landing into second level; historic radiator is visible
- 20 of 23:** Looking SE from NW corner of building
- 21 of 23:** Looking south from NW corner of building toward staff lounge area
- 22 of 23:** Looking west from NE corner of building
- 23 of 23:** Closet in east wall of staff lounge on second floor

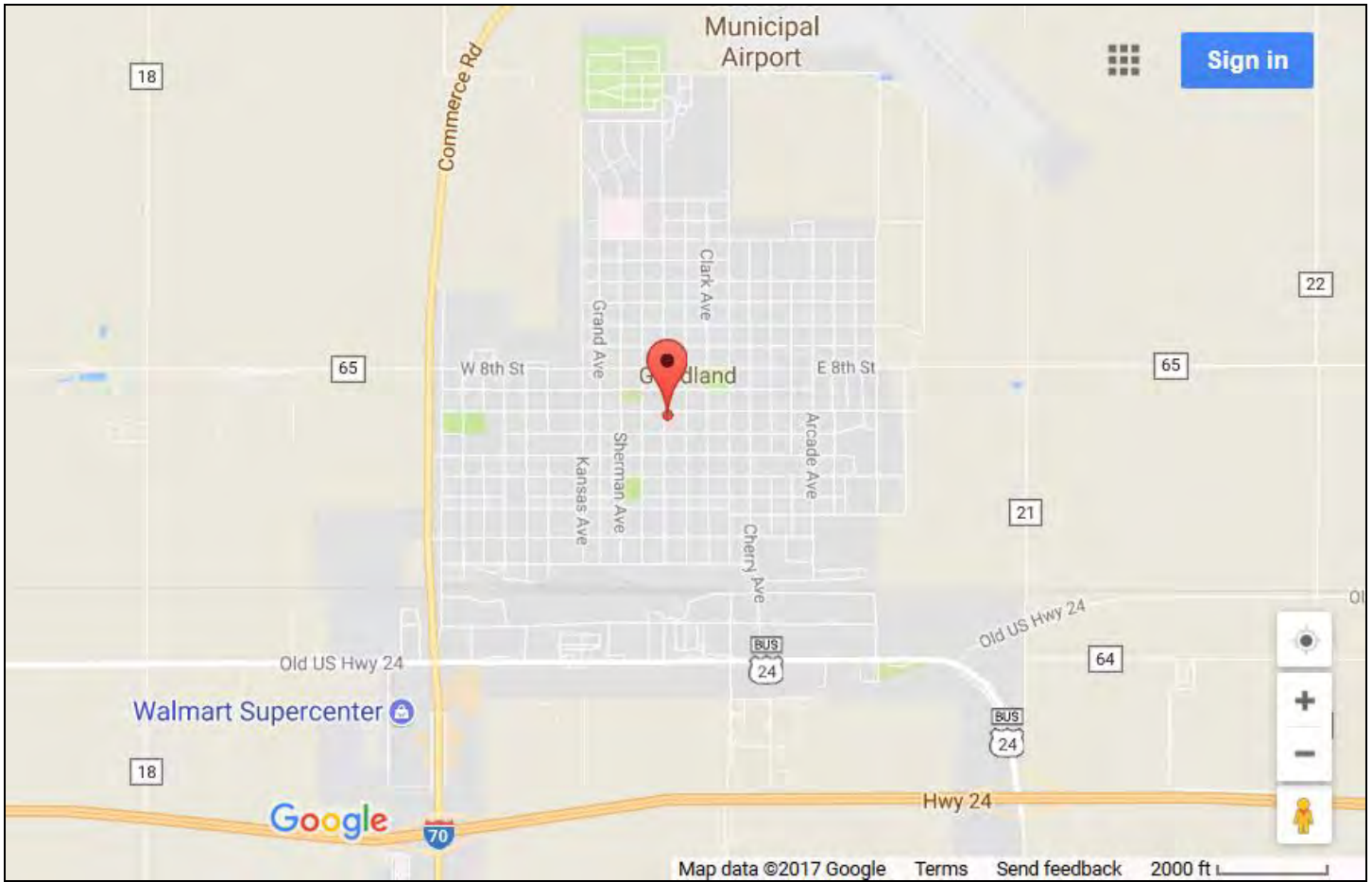
#### Figures

United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

Include GIS maps, figures, scanned images below.

**Figure 1.** Location of United Telephone Building within context of Goodland.



United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

Figure 2. Boundary map.



United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

**Figure 3.** 1949. B&M Studio, Goodland, Kansas.





United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

**Figure 4.** One of the historic chairs from the building now at the High Plains Museum.  
(<https://highplainsmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/museum-exhibit-018.jpg?w=225>)



United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

**Figure 5.** Wires for telephones in the United Telephone Building.  
From the High Plains Museum (<https://i2.wp.com/highplainsmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/presentation3.jpg>)



United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

**Figure 6.** Sherman County Courthouse. West elevation. KSHS.



United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

**Figure 7.** United Telephone Building, rear and north elevations, as surveyed in July 1970. KSHS.



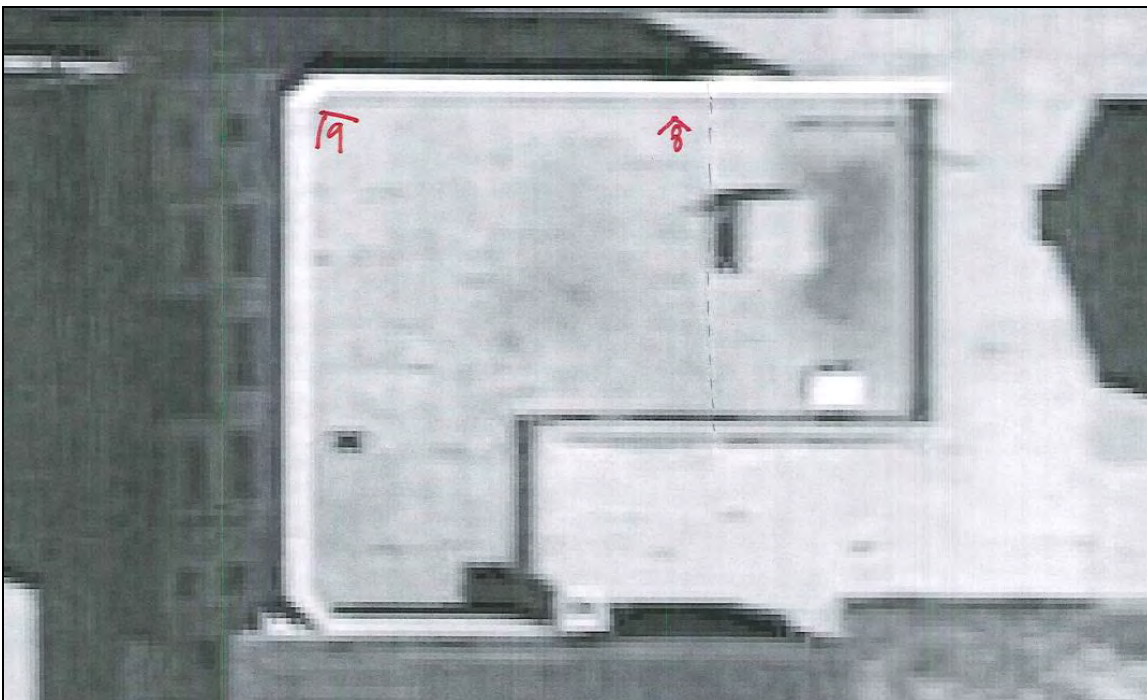
United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

**Photo Key (Overall).**



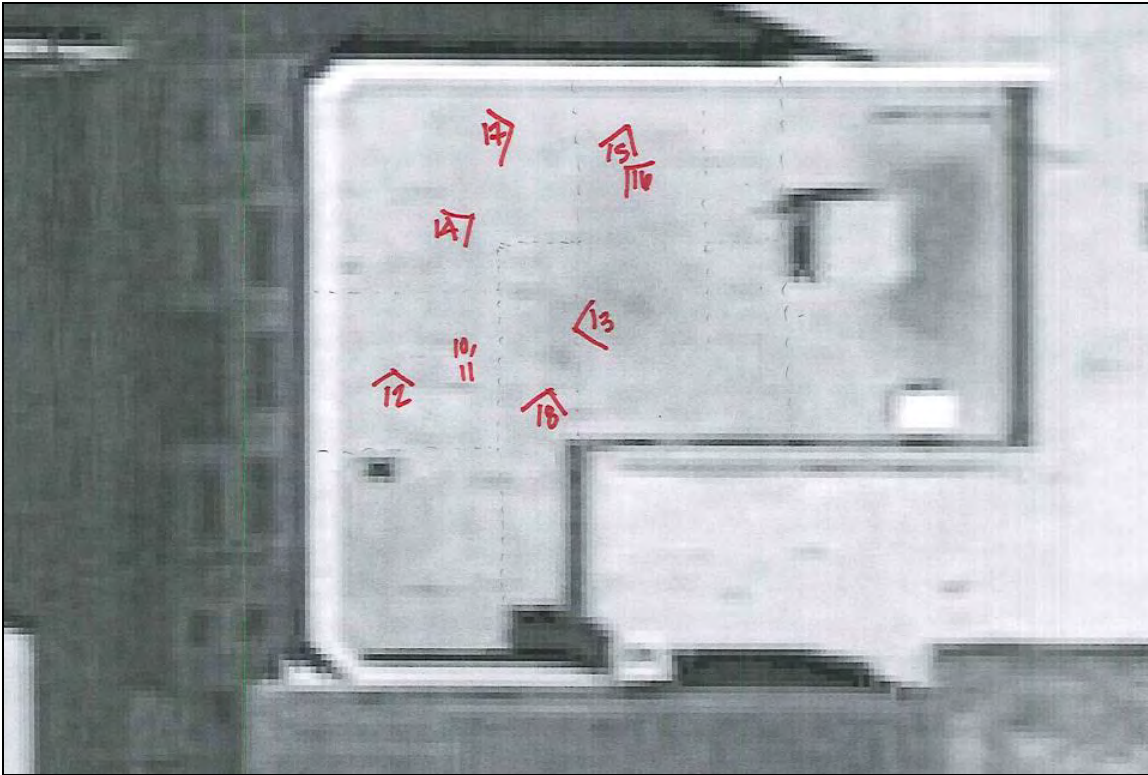
**Photo Key (Basement).**



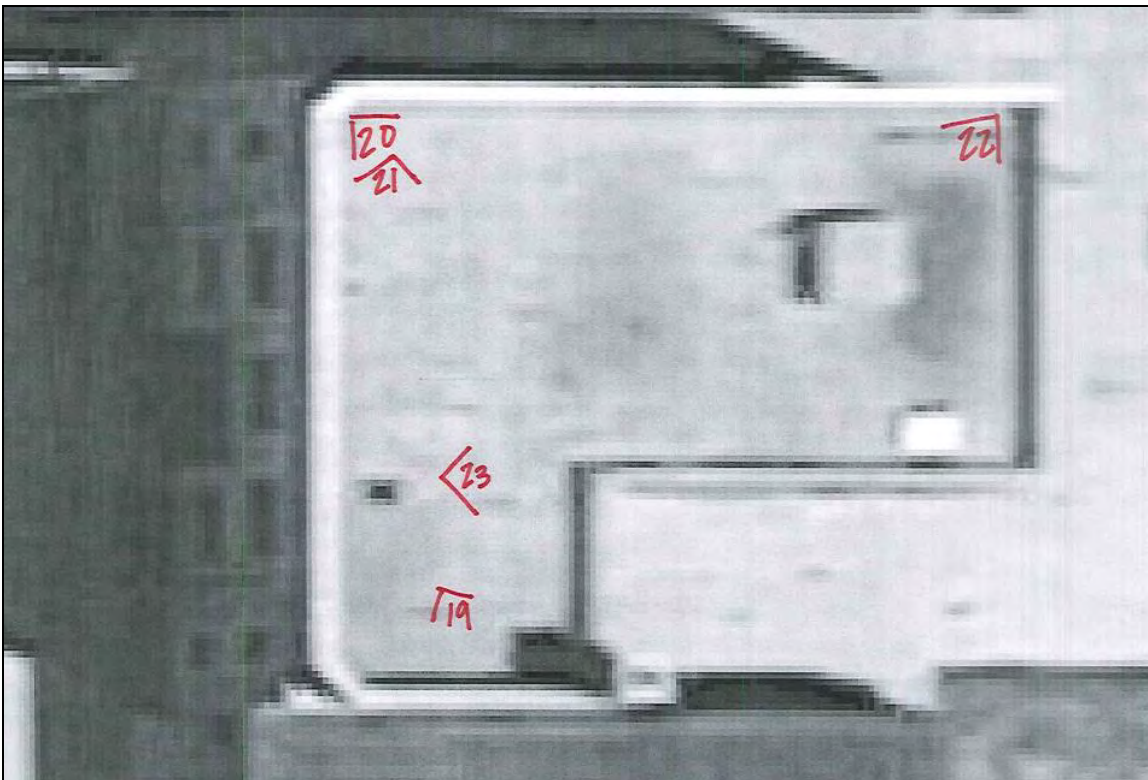
United Telephone Building  
Name of Property

Sherman County, Kansas  
County and State

**Photo Key (Main Floor).**



**Photo Key (Second Floor).**







TELEPHONE BUILDING

KANSAS  
EDUCATION  
KANSAS  
KANSAS

STREET SIGN





SOUTHWESTERN  
BELL TELEPHONE  
COMPANY

ERECTED  
1931  
TELEPHONE  
BUILDING

  
SOUTHWESTERN  
BELL TELEPHONE  
COMPANY

ERECTED  
1931  
TELEPHONE  
BUILDING









NO  
PARKING

**CAUTION**  
**USE HAND RAIL**















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FIRST AID KIT



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 8/21/2017      Date of Pending List: 9/19/2017      Date of 16th Day: 10/4/2017      Date of 45th Day: 10/5/2017      Date of Weekly List: 10/5/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept       Return       Reject      10/4/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Alexis Abernathy      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2236      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



**Sherman County Commissioners**

813 Broadway, Room 101

Goodland, Kansas 67735

Phone: 785-890-4807

Fax: 785-890-4809

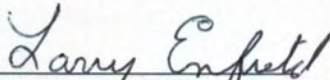
April 26, 2017

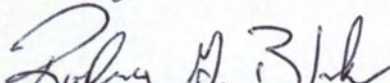
Dear Ms. Chinn,

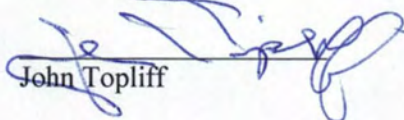
As the owner of the United Telephone Building (Southwestern Bell Building) at 1003 Main Street, Goodland, Kansas, we the Sherman County Commissioners support the nomination of the building to the National Register of Historic Places.

Best Regards,

Board of Sherman County Commissioners

  
Larry Enfield, Chairman

  
Rod Blake

  
John Topliff

Sherman County Historical Society  
202 West 13th St.  
Goodland, Kansas 67735  
785-899-6773

Amanda K. Loughlin  
National Register Coordinator  
Kansas Historical Society  
6425 SW 6th Ave.  
Topeka, Kansas 66615-1099

RECEIVED  
JUL 24 2017  
CULTURAL RESOURCES

Ms. Loughlin:

The Sherman County Historical Society (SCHS) wishes to express our very strong support for the nomination of the United Telephone Building in Goodland, Kansas to the National Register.

This historic building was gifted to the Historical Society by the Sherman County Commissioners in June 2017. It has been a prominent building in Goodland since its construction in 1931. The building has distinctive Aztec Indian clay tile exterior decorative elements, using Indian colors of red, blue, and yellow, contrasting against the light colored tile of the body of the building. The exterior echoes the design of the Sherman County Courthouse. It is an excellent example of the Art Deco style and is a wonderful expression of the workmanship and materials of the early 1930s. The building also reflects Native American legends and lore expressed through the symbols on the exterior and interior of the building. It is an outstanding example of the era.

The building is recognized as a landmark in Goodland and the surrounding counties. While it has not been in use for a number of years, the SCHS intends to house our large collection of historical materials in the building. It will become the Parker Research Center and will be open to the public for historical research and tours. It is the hope of the SCHS to restore the building to its original condition and to preserve it for future generations to enjoy and use.

Thank you for considering the nomination of this property to the National Register.

Sincerely,  
Lonnie Whiteker, President  
Mary Porterfield, Vice President  
Marcia Emig, Secretary  
David Branda, Board member  
Lawrence Musil, Board member  
Pat Townsend, Board member  
Peggy Gardine, Board member  
Janet Bear, Board member  
Jane Philbrick, Board member  
Brenda Ross, Treasurer





6425 SW 6th Avenue  
Topeka KS 66615



Sam Brownback, Governor  
Jennie Chinn, Executive Director

August 18, 2017

Paul Loether, National Register Chief  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240

Re: National Register documents for Kansas

Dear Mr. Loether:

Please find enclosed the following National Register documents:

NEW NOMINATIONS (8)

- **Topeka Cemetery Historic District; Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas** (boundary expansion)
  - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, GIS files, and letter of support;
  - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
  
- **Crawford, Nelson Antrim, House; Shawnee County, Kansas** (new nomination)
  - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, PDF of building plans, and letter of support;
  - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
  
- **Landmark Water Tower; Manhattan, Riley County, Kansas** (new nomination)
  - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination and letter of support;
  - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
  
- **E.S. Cowie Electric Company Buildings; Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas** (new nomination) (PDIL)
  - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination;
  - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

- **Maplecroft Farmstead; Grantville vicinity, Jefferson County, Kansas** (new nomination) (nominated under the “Historic Agriculture-related Resources of Kansas” MPS)
  - Physical, signed copy of the nomination’s first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination and .kmz file;
  - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.
- **Bryant School; Winfield, Cowley County, Kansas** (new nomination) (nominated under the “Historic Public Schools of Kansas” MPS)
  - Physical, signed copy of the nomination’s first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination;
  - 1 CD (disk #2) with photograph.
- **Florence Deeble Rock Garden; Lucas, Russell County, Kansas** (new nomination)
  - Physical, signed copy of the nomination’s first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination and .kmz file;
  - 1 CD (disk #2) with photograph.
- **United Telephone Building; Goodland, Sherman County, Kansas** (new nomination)
  - Physical, signed copy of the nomination’s first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination and letters of support;
  - 1 CD (disk #2) with photograph.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (1)

- **Leavenworth Downtown Historic District; Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas** (additional documentation)
  - Physical, signed copy of the first page;
  - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the documentation and GIS files.

If you have any questions about these enclosed items, please contact me at ext. 216 or [Amanda.Loughlin@ks.gov](mailto:Amanda.Loughlin@ks.gov).

Sincerely,

Amanda K. Loughlin  
 National Register Coordinator  
 Kansas State Historic Preservation Office

Enclosures