

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

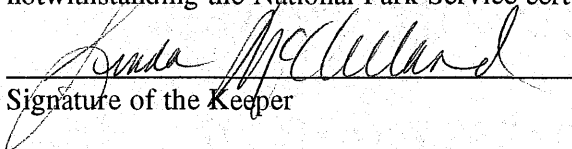
NRIS Reference Number: 02001307

Property Name: Glasco Downtown Historic District

County: Cloud State: Kansas

Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

November 17, 2002  
Date of Action

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination: Sections 5, 7, & Sketch Map**

The classification of Buildings 10 and 17 is, hereby, changed to "contributing" because, despite alterations to the storefronts, the buildings maintain distinctive second story and/or cornice details and convey their historic identity. Section 7, Description (pp. 7.8 & 7.12-13), and the Sketch Map (p.7.21) are amended accordingly. In addition, the count provided in Section 5, Classification, is, hereby, revised to indicate 24 contributing buildings and four noncontributing buildings for a total of 25 contributing resources and four noncontributing resources within the historic district.

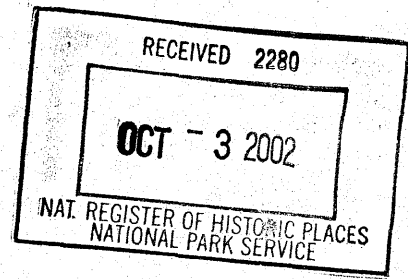
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The Kansas State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Glasco Downtown Historic District

Other name/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location Both sides of Main Street between Fisher Street and Railroad Avenue; East side of Railroad Avenue between Buffalo Street and Main Street; South side of Buffalo Street between Railroad Avenue and Fisher Street; West side of Fisher Street between Buffalo Street and Main Street.

City or town Glasco not for publication  
state code KS county Cloud N/A vicinity  
county code 029 zip code 67445

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this XX 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 XX meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_ nationally statewide XX locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Burton D. Parkentz DSHPO  
Signature of certifying official

September 27, 2002  
Date

Kansas State Historical Society  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. Leada McClellan 11/17/02
- See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register.
- See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

Property Name Glasco Downtown Historic District

County and State Cloud, Kansas

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**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>22</u>	<u>6</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<u>23</u>	<u>6</u> Total

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

N/A

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

**6. Functions or Use**

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE: specialty store  
COMMERCE: professional  
COMMERCE: restaurant  
COMMERCE: warehouse  
COMMERCE: financial institution  
COMMERCE: business  
SOCIAL: meeting hall  
AGRICULTURE: processing  
RECREATION AND CULTURE: theatre  
GOVERNMENT: post office  
INDUSTRY: communications facility  
HEALTH CARE: medical office

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE: specialty store  
COMMERCE: professional  
COMMERCE: restaurant  
COMMERCE: warehouse  
COMMERCE: business  
SOCIAL: clubhouse  
AGRICULTURE: processing  
RECREATION AND CULTURE: museum  
GOVERNMENT: post office

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN  
MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style  
LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate  
OTHER: False Front  
OTHER: Grain Elevator  
OTHER: Lumber Storage  
OTHER: Meat & Dairy Processing

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Foundation LIMESTONE  
 Walls LIMESTONE  
 Roof ASPHALT  
 Other: LIMESTONE

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Glasco Downtown Historic District

County and State Cloud, Kansas

**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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance  
Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1880-1948

Significant Dates

1911

ARCHITECTURE

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Isaac Biggs

M. L. Hare

O. A. Campbell

J. W. Studt

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Glasco Downtown Historic District

County and State Cloud, Kansas

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

Glasco Historical Society Museum

Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 3.87

UTM References

1	<u>1/4</u>	<u>5/9/9/9/0/0</u>	<u>4/3/5/7/3/6/0/</u>	3	<u>1/4</u>	<u>6/0/0/0/4/0</u>	<u>4/3/5/7/2/0/0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>1/4</u>	<u>6/0/0/0/4/0</u>	<u>4/3/5/7/3/6/0</u>	4	<u>1/4</u>	<u>5/9/9/9/0/0</u>	<u>4/3/5/7/2/0/0</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Elizabeth Rosin, Partner & Kerry Davis, Architectural Historian

organization Historic Preservation Services, date April 9, 2002

street & number 818 Grand Boulevard, Suite 1150 telephone (816) 221-5133

city or town Kansas City state Missouri zip code 64106

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Property Owners** (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Name See Continuation Sheet

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

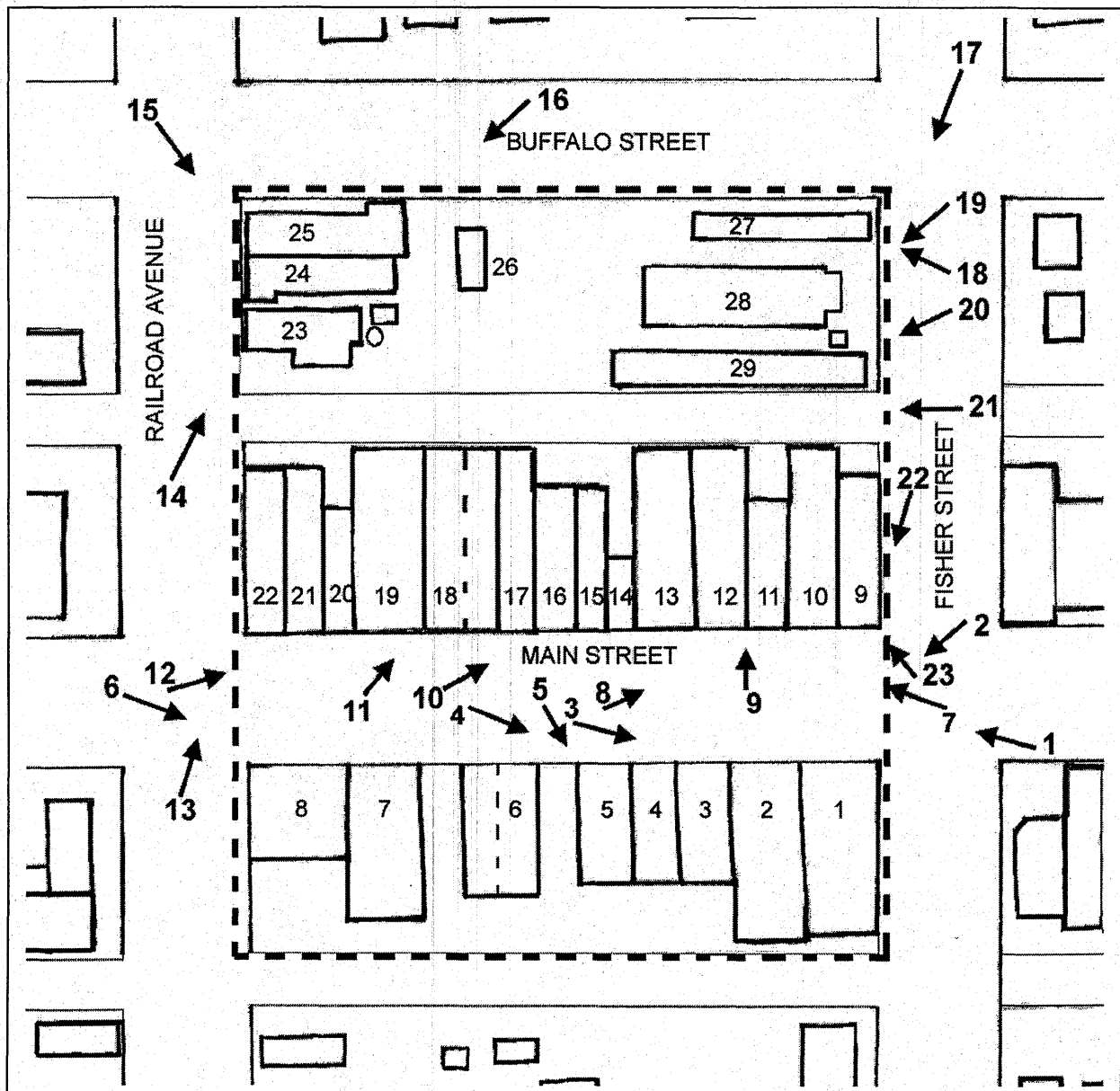
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Photographic Documentation Page 45

Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**GLASCO DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTO MAP**



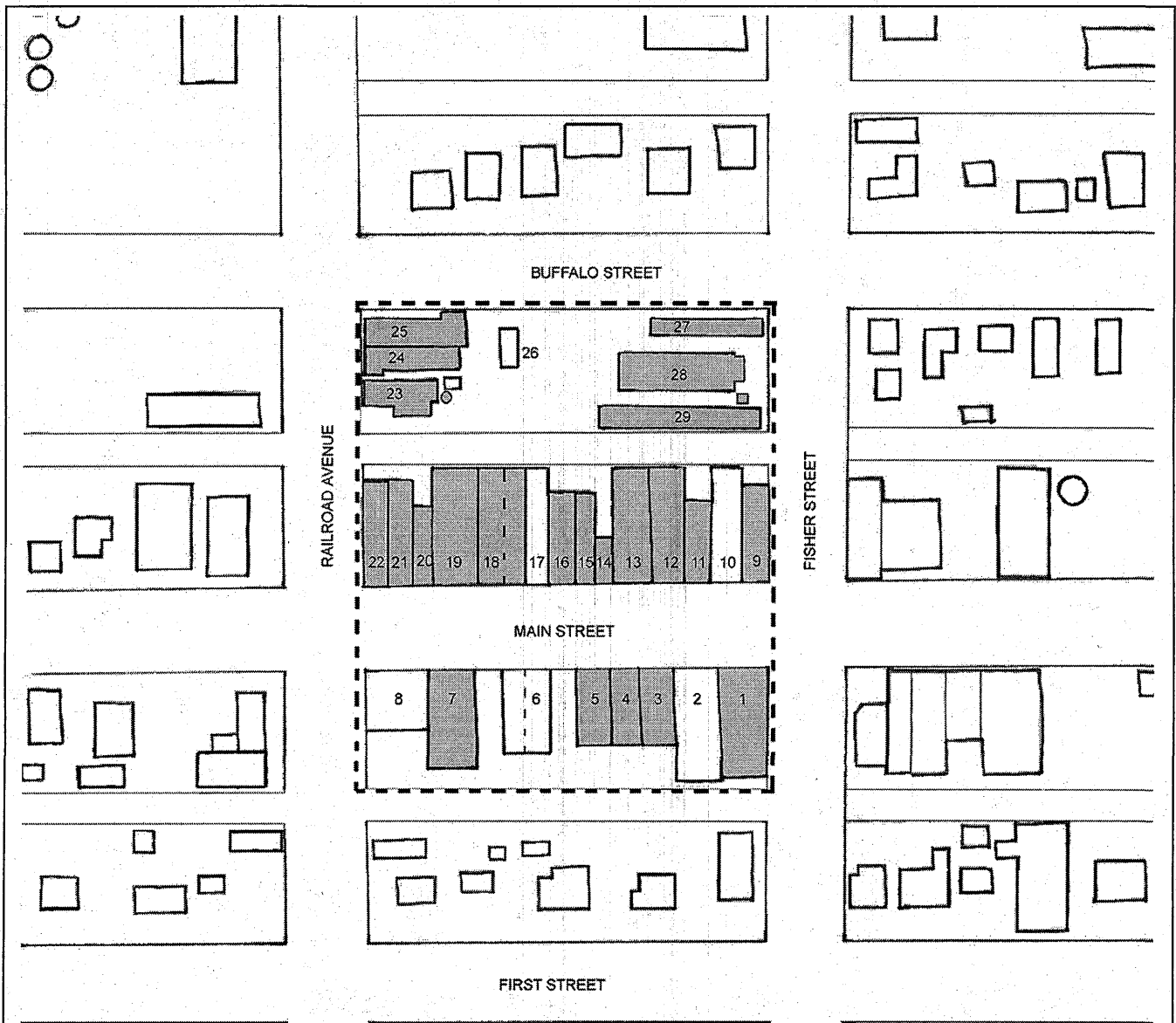
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**GLASCO DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP**



**LEGEND**

- PROPOSED DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- NON-CONTRIBUTING PROPERTY
- CONTRIBUTING PROPERTY

PROPOSED GLASCO DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

25 100  
APPROXIMATE SCALE



642 IV NW  
(SIMPSON)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



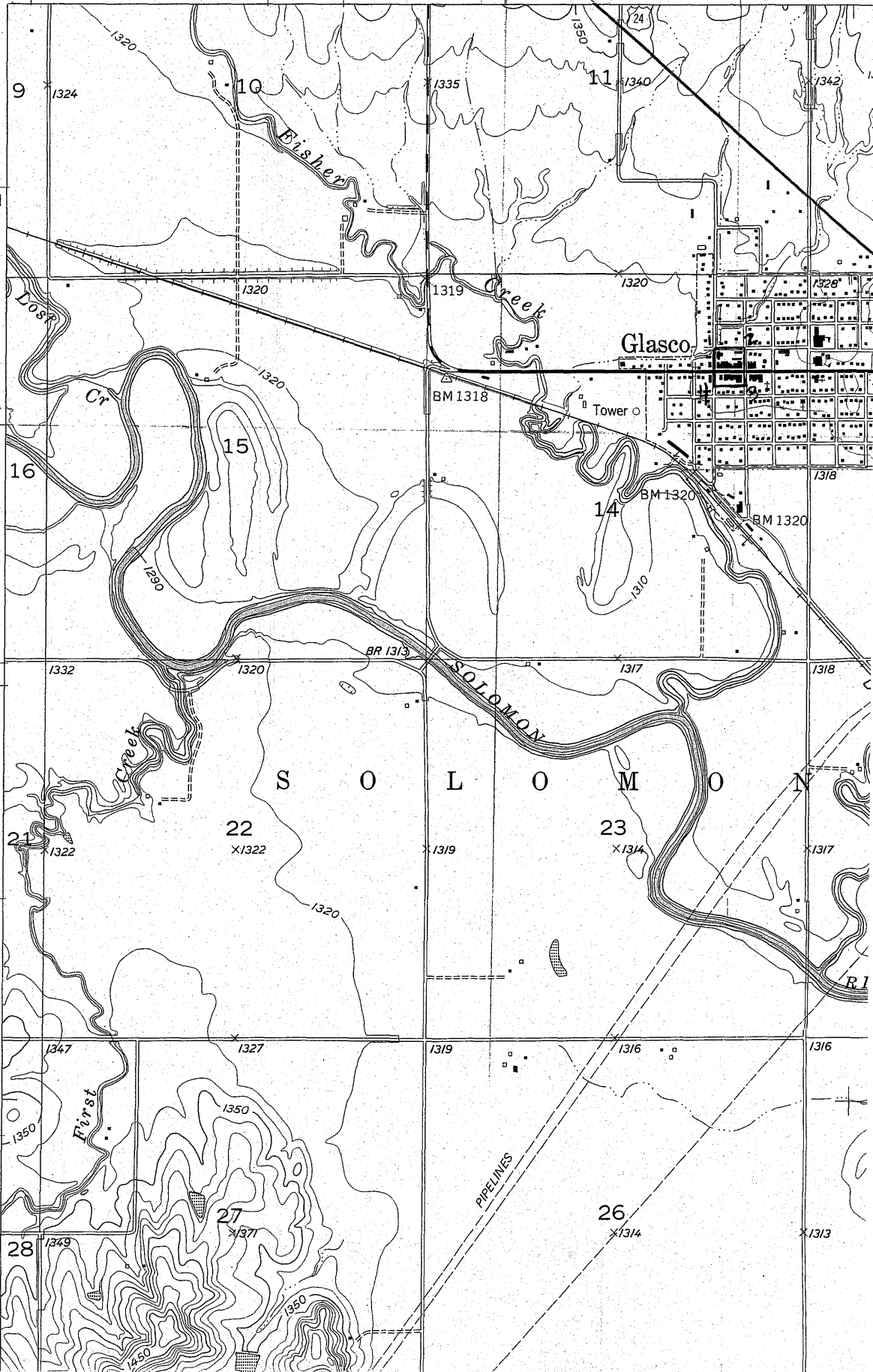
97°52'30"  
39°22'30"

598000mE

599

SIMPSON (KANS. 194) 6 MI.

50'



GLASCO DOWNTOWN  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

GLASCO, CLOUD CO, KANSAS

UTM REFERENCE :

1. 14/599 900/4357 360

2. 14/600 040/4357 360

3. 14/600 040/4357 200

4. 14/599 900/4357 200



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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section Number 7 Page 1

Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**MATERIALS: (cont.)**

Walls: BRICK

Roof: METAL

Other: METAL

**SUMMARY**

**LOCATION AND SETTING**

The Glasco Downtown Historic District is located within the boundaries of the City of Glasco, Cloud County, Kansas. The small city of Glasco is located on the north slope of the wide, shallow Solomon River Valley. It is generally bounded by US Highway 24 to the northeast and the Union Pacific Railroad and Fisher Creek to the southwest. The District is part of a slightly larger commercial strip concentrated along two blocks of Main Street, which bisects the town. Extending approximately four blocks on each side of Main Street are Glasco's residential neighborhoods.

The 3.87-acre District is a rectangular area generally bounded by Buffalo Street on the north, Fisher Street on the east, Railroad Avenue on the west, and the alley directly south of Main Street on the south. The District includes 22 contributing buildings, one contributing structure, and six non-contributing buildings. With only two vacant lots, one of which has been vacant since at least 1917, the District retains its historic density. The other lot was converted to a "pocket" park in the early 1970s (Photograph #4, 6).<sup>1</sup>

The District's setting and its historic buildings reflect its late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial development. The 23 contributing properties include buildings constructed between 1880 and 1948. Of these properties, four date between 1880 to 1899, five date between 1900 to 1909, 10 date between 1910 to 1919, two date between 1920 to 1939, and two date between 1940 to 1948. The six non-contributing buildings constitute only 20 percent of the District. Although constructed during the period of significance, five of these buildings suffer from loss of integrity. The final non-contributing building was constructed after 1948. Approximately seventy-three percent of the extant buildings historically served a commercial function. Several had mixed-uses, including second story meeting halls, professional space, and residential apartments. The District also includes one recreational building (a theater), one government building (a post office), and five light industrial agricultural processing/warehouse buildings and structures.

The commercial buildings along Main Street occupy rectangular lots, generally measuring 25 feet by 115 feet. The lots are platted in a grid system and, without exception, face north and south. The buildings typically occupy the full width of the lots, sharing party walls with adjacent buildings. Gravel alleys, approximately twenty feet wide, bisect the blocks east to west behind the Main Street buildings (Photograph #21).

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<sup>1</sup> 1917 Cloud County atlas and historic photos show the lot directly to the east of Building #7 as vacant throughout the twentieth century.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

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Along Main Street, sixty-eight percent of the buildings in the Glasco Downtown Historic District are one story in height. The remaining buildings are two stories tall and date earlier in the period of significance. Limestone is the primary building material, although many buildings have brick facing. Decorative architectural elements include corbelled brick cornices and tooled limestone, as well as iron storefront details and pressed metal cornices. Two details unify the buildings in this portion of the District: the alignment of the buildings along the sidewalk and the placement of transoms at a uniform height above the storefront display windows. These elements contribute to the cohesive character of the streetscape.

North of the alley behind Main Street the character of the District shifts from commercial to light-industrial/warehouse in nature. This area includes a lumber and coal yard, a grain elevator, and meat and dairy processing facilities. These buildings face east and west onto Railroad Avenue and Fisher Street on rectangular lots of varying size (Photograph #13-21, 23). These six industrial buildings are good representative examples of their specific property types and functions. Nearly all are one-story in height, and several retain distinctive false-front parapet walls. Three of the industrial buildings also retain the distinctive form that defined their specific function (grain elevator, lumber shed, coal shed).

Sidewalks line both sides of Main Street, Fisher Street, and Railroad Avenue and include sections of tooled concrete and brick. Concrete curbs rise two steps above the street surface on the north side of Main Street and the standard one step elsewhere in the District (Photograph #3, 20, 22).

**ARCHITECTURAL STYLE AND TYPE**

Commercial building designs with subtle stylistic references dominate the District. The four examples of high style architecture are restrained versions of a popular contemporary style applied to a simple, commercial property type. These buildings express the Late Victorian Italianate style through pressed metal cornices, arched window openings, and decorative stone lintels (Photograph #1, 2, 7). Dominating the character of the District are sixteen buildings that express elements of the vernacular Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century American Movement Commercial Style (Photograph #4, 6, 11, 12). These buildings are nearly uniform in their absence of architectural ornament aside from limited cornice brickwork. The six industrial resource classified as "Other" are further defined by their functional and structural form due to their lack of stylistic references (Photograph #14-20). While several of these buildings include design elements that could be considered Commercial Style, the absence of storefront display windows distinguishes them as industrial rather than retail in function and places them in the "Other" category.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**PROPERTIES**

Because there is no local delivery of mail in downtown Glasco, the buildings in the District do not have postal addresses. Legal descriptions are used below to identify each building. Please refer to the boundary map for building numbers.

**1. E 44' of Lot 1, Block 10 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** 1902      **Photo Log #:** 1-3, 6

**Style:** LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Two-Part Commercial Block

This two-story limestone commercial block occupies a corner lot at the southwest corner of the principal intersection in downtown Glasco. The symmetrical, five-bay façade is faced with Dakota limestone with grapevine mortar joints. Indiana limestone on the side walls creates contrasting quoins. A 1940s aluminum-framed storefront with a central, recessed entrance and brick bulkhead spans the first story. The corrugated metal that covers the storefront transom dates to 1949. New one-over-one double-hung sash fill the second story window openings, which retain their original limestone sills and segmental arch limestone lintels with keystones. A pressed metal cornice with heavy brackets distinguishes the façade, below which is a centrally located limestone panel with the International Order of Odd Fellows (I. O. O. F.) chain-link symbol and "1902" carved in relief.

**History:** J. W. Studt and his brother Adam established a dry goods and grocery business in Glasco in 1887. They constructed this building in 1902. The first floor has functioned as a general merchandise/grocery store since its construction. Throughout the first half of the twentieth century, it was known as the most complete general store in the region. The second floor has functioned as a meeting hall space since 1902, first for the I. O. O. F. and later for the American Legion. In October 1948, the first floor was significantly damaged by fire and was subsequently remodeled in 1949 to its current appearance. In 1999, the Glasco Community Foundation purchased the building at auction to prevent its demolition. The foundation currently leases the first floor to a grocery and general store.

**Integrity:** The distinctive architectural elements of this building have been maintained, and the new windows match the size, shape and configuration of the building's original sash. The 1940s storefront alterations have gained historic significance in their own right. This building retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

**2. W 22' of Lot 1 & E 16' of Lot 2, Block 10 (Main Street)**

**Non-contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1912      **Photo Log #:** 1-4, 6

**Style:** LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Two-Part Commercial Block

This two-story brick commercial building has a symmetrical, four-bay façade distinguished by a corbelled brick cornice and panels of contrasting brick in the upper wall. Two storefronts occupy the first story, each with brick bulkheads. The pair of storefront entrances is centered in the façade. The recessed entrance leading to the second story is in the east end bay. Plywood covers the transom above the plate glass display windows as well as the second story windows.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section Number 7 Page 4

Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**History:** This building was constructed shortly after the 1911 fire destroyed J. M. Shull's one-story shoe repair shop at this location. The first floor functioned as retail space throughout most of the twentieth century and housed the following occupants: Frances Ward's Dress Shop and Beauty Parlor (1920s-1940s), shoe store and cleaners (1920s-1940s), and Gambles IGA (late 1940s – 1970s). The second floor served as both meeting space for the American Legion and office space for the telephone company in the 1920s. In 1945, the second floor meeting hall was converted to residential apartments. During the 1980s and 1990s, Joe's Appliance and Everly's Leather shop occupied the building. It is currently vacant.

**Integrity:** This building is in an advanced state of structural deterioration and demolition is pending. Less than 50 percent of the building's historic fabric can be salvaged. For these reasons, it is a non-contributing property to the District.

**3. Center 26' of Lot 2, Block 10 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** 1912

**Photo Log #:** 1-4, 6

**Style:** LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Two-Part Commercial Block

This two-story limestone commercial building is distinguished by the buff-colored brick cladding on its front (north) wall. The three-bay façade rises to a peaked parapet with limestone coping. The asymmetrical storefront incorporates a recessed entrance in the east end-bay. A brick bulkhead supports wood-framed plate glass storefront windows. The recessed entry has a mosaic tile stoop floor and doorways to both the first story commercial space and the second story. Both doors retain transoms. The entrance to the first story space has a non-historic aluminum-framed glass entrance door, while the entrance to the second story retains its historic paneled wood door. A transom spanning the width of the building above the storefront windows features squares of leaded purple glass arranged in a grid pattern. Operable hoppers are centered in each bay of the first story transom, which matches the height of the neighboring buildings along Main Street. The symmetrical, second story window openings have limestone sills and contain distinctive five-over-one double-hung windows composed of a short upper sash and tall lower sash. Narrow, double-hung sidelights flank the center window. A continuous lintel of soldier bricks projects above the second story windows. A rectangular stone panel at the cornice spells "FARMERS STATE BANK" in relief. Iron shutters cover the second story window openings in the building's west elevation. A historic alarm box is intact on this elevation as well.

**History:** This building was constructed immediately after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. It was built to house the Farmers State Bank, and the original vault, second-story window security shutters, and alarm box are intact from this period. The bank closed in 1933 as a result of the Depression. Real estate and insurance companies occupied the building during the 1930s and 1940s. It is currently vacant.

**Integrity:** Although one second story window has replacement sash, this building retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It clearly conveys its historic function and commercial associations and is a contributing property to the District.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**4. W 23.25' of Lot 2, Block 10 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1915      **Photo Log #:** 2-4, 6

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This one-story, limestone commercial building has a brick façade. Two large, rectangular recessed panels dominate the upper wall. The three-bay storefront includes a recessed entrance in the east end bay. The entrance steps up slightly from the sidewalk. It has a grooved concrete floor, a bead board ceiling, and retains both a historic wood paneled entrance door and a historic wood-framed screen door. The iron lintel exposed above the aluminum-framed storefront has a series of decorative tie-irons. The tooled limestone bulkhead is parged. Corrugated metal covers the storefront transom, which matches the height of the neighboring buildings along Main Street.

**History:** This building was constructed shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of each side of Main Street. It appears in multiple c.1915 – 1917 photos. A party wall agreement with the neighboring bank building (#3) was documented in 1922. Klein's Barber Shop occupied the building from its construction until the mid-1940s. A variety of men's wear shops occupied the building from the late 1940s through the 1960s. It is currently vacant.

**Integrity:** Although the original storefront windows have been replaced by aluminum-framed windows, the original window configuration remains intact. It is likely that the historic transom remains intact beneath the metal covering. This building retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It enhances the cohesive feeling of the streetscape and is a contributing property to the District.

**5. E 32' of Lot 3, Block 10 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** 1933      **Photo Log #:** 2, 4-6

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

The front (north) elevation of this one-story, limestone commercial building is clad with grooved, buff-colored brick. Engaged piers divide the façade into three bays and rise through the corbelled cornice and above the parapet. Wood-framed storefront windows flank the central entrance. The recessed entrance contains an aluminum-framed glass door within the historic wood jamb. Above each bay are wood-framed transoms filled with plate glass frosted to create a grid pattern. A historic, structural clay tile addition extends south from the main block to the alley at the rear.

**History:** Dr. Andrew Struble built this building in 1933 after operating a pharmacy out of his home and in leased space on north side of Main Street (Building #17) for over 15 years. Prior to its construction, a one-story blacksmith and livery building stood here through the 1910s and 1920s. Ann Jones operated a small beauty shop in the drug store throughout the 1930s and 1940s. Licensed in optometry, Dr. Struble used the balcony space for his optometry office. The soda fountain and bus agency located in the building made this a very popular hangout from the 1930s through the 1950s. Dr. Struble operated the pharmacy until 1988, when he sold to S & S Drugs in Beloit. The Hodge Podge drug store now occupies the building.

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Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**Integrity:** With very few alterations to its historic character-defining features, this building retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

**6. E 46' of Lot 4, Block 10 (Main Street)**

**Non-Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1915      **Photo Log #:** 6

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This one-story, limestone commercial building has a symmetrical, brick façade. Three engaged brick piers divide the façade into two storefronts. The west storefront has a brick bulkhead, aluminum-framed plate glass windows and a recessed entrance at its east end. The entrance has a bead board ceiling and a historic paneled wood door topped by a transom window. Vinyl siding covers the transoms that span the full-width of the building above the west storefront windows. This transom matches the height of those on the neighboring buildings along Main Street. The east storefront has a low bulkhead flanking a central recessed entrance that is clad with structural glass. Vinyl siding covers the storefront windows and transoms on this half of the building. Only two small, fixed windows pierce the vinyl facing the street. Corbelled brick embellishes the cornice of each storefront. Metal siding covers the east side wall.

**History:** This building was constructed shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. Historic photos show C. D. McDowell Groceries occupying the east storefront c.1913. Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, a soda fountain and sundries shop occupied the east storefront. Postal records indicate the post office occupied the west storefront from 1914 through 1961, when the existing post office (#8) was constructed. Currently, the Glasco Senior Citizens Club occupies the building.

**Integrity:** The vinyl siding covering the east storefront prevents this building from conveying its historic character and commercial function. It is non-contributing to the District. However, in the future if the siding were removed and the original materials and configuration of the storefront remains intact, it could be a contributing element to the District.

**7. Center 40' of Lot 5, Block 10 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1905      **Photo Log #:** 6

**Style:** LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

A red brick façade, with a corbelled cornice distinguishes this tall, one-story, tooled limestone commercial building. The three-bay, cast iron storefront incorporates a wide, recessed entrance in its central bay. The recessed entrance has a bead board ceiling and a pair of paneled wood doors topped by a long, narrow transom. A secondary entrance occupies the east end bay. The plate glass storefront windows rest on a brick bulkhead. Plywood covers the transoms that span the full-width of the building above the storefront windows. The transom is similar in size and configuration with neighboring buildings. A neon sign is centered in the façade above the transom. Above the sign, three narrow horizontal, recessed brick panels correspond with the three façade bays.

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National Park Service

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**History:** This building was constructed shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. Historic photos show an automobile garage in this building c.1915-1917. In the late 1920s, the building was leased to the Phillips Motor Co. The building functioned as an automobile garage until the early 1950s when it converted to a machine shop. Miller's Machine Shop currently occupies the building and has been at this location since the early 1960s.

**Integrity:** The manner in which the transom has been covered suggests that no historic fabric has been removed and that this is a reversible alteration. This building otherwise retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It clearly conveys its historic function and commercial associations and is a contributing property to the District.

**8. W 22' and tract W of Lot 5, Block 10 (Main Street)**

**Non-contributing**

**Building Date:** 1961      **Photo Log #:** 6

**Style:** MODERN MOVEMENT

**Functional Use/Type:** GOVERNMENT: Post Office

This low, one-story brick building has a flat roof with metal coping that emphasizes its geometric form. The aluminum-framed storefront and entrance are recessed in the west half of the asymmetrical façade. The entrance includes a glass door with a wide sidelight and fixed transom. The storefront bulkhead consists of opaque, blue panels. The east end of the façade is a solid brick wall with mounted metal sign letters.

**History:** This building was constructed in 1961 to serve its current function as the town Post Office. It has been leased from C. Wampler since 1961.

**Integrity:** This building is a good example of its type and period of construction. It retains a very high degree of integrity; however, it does not contribute to the District due to its construction after the period of significance.

**9. E 25.25' of Lot 10, Block 9 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** 1880      **Photo Log #:** 1, 3, 7, 8, 12, 17, 22, 23

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This one-story tooled limestone building occupies the northwest corner lot at the principal intersection in downtown Glasco. The three-bay façade incorporates a recessed central entrance flanked by storefront windows. The entrance retains its historic wood-framed screen door and a historic paneled wood door under a large transom window. The storefront elements include slender iron columns cast in Leavenworth, Kansas, a boxed wood bulkhead, a wood lintel, and large wood-framed, four-light storefront windows. Parging covers the façade parapet. The side walls have historic cast stone coping. Along the east wall, which extends to the alley, the historic brick-paved sidewalk, gutter, and curbing are intact.

**History:** This building was built by Isaac Biggs, one of Glasco's earliest settlers. The oldest extant building in town, it was first occupied by Biggs' general store. An 1883 advertisement in the Cloud County Atlas for John W. Jones' Harness Shop placed it in this building. A hardware store occupied the building from 1885 through 1893. Postal records indicate that the post office shared the building with Day & Day Hardware between 1893

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and 1897. Historic photos show the building occupied by Schuttler Wagons c.1902. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, Dr. Palmer operated an office at the rear of the building. From 1926 through 1931, the building was owned by the Kansas Telephone Company, after which the American Telephone Company owned the building through the 1950s. A laundromat occupied the building from the early 1960s through the mid-1980s. The building is currently vacant.

**Integrity:** This is the oldest building in downtown Glasco and it retains a high degree of architectural and historic integrity. Historic photos show the parapet alterations (cast stone, parging) early in the period of significance and the building clearly conveys its historic commercial associations. It is a contributing property to the District.

**10. Center 22' of Lot 10, Block 9 (Main Street)**

**Non-contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1885

**Photo Log #:** 1, 3, 7, 8, 12, 23

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Two-Part Commercial Block

A three-bay first story storefront and a two-bay, brick-faced second story distinguish this limestone commercial building. The plywood-covered storefront retains the original recessed entrance in the center bay, flanked by rectangular, fixed windows that pierce the modern siding. The tooled limestone side walls are painted to match the second story brick, which is heavily corbelled at the cornice. Plywood covers the second story window openings, which have tooled limestone sills and wide, splayed brick hoods.

**History:** This building is one of the oldest remaining buildings in downtown Glasco. Postal records indicate the post office shared the first floor space with C. M. White Drugstore from 1889 to 1893. Historic photos show a bakery in the first story c.1913. Chet Halderson operated a restaurant in the first story and the Glasco Sun newspaper occupied second story space during the 1920s and 1930s. A variety store and beauty shop occupied the building in the 1940s. Residents of Glasco suggested that the Newbery family lived at the back of the store during this time, although not documented. Also around this time, Dr. Knight's dentist office was located on the second story. By 1950, a ladies apparel store occupied the first story. During the 1980s and 1990s, the United School District offices were located here. The building is currently vacant.

**Integrity:** This building retains integrity in the areas of location, setting, and association. Although its distinctive brickwork remains intact, the obscured original storefront elements render this building non-contributing to the District. If the first story openings were restored to their original appearance this building could be considered a contributing element to the District.

**11. W 18' of Lot 10 & E 5.5' of Lot 9, Block 9 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1885

**Photo Log #:** 1, 3, 7-9, 12

**Style:** LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Two-Part Commercial Block

This two-story, limestone commercial block has a flat roof and a three-bay façade. It shares a pressed metal, dentiled cornice with the two buildings immediately to the west. End brackets mark the façade of each building. Scored parging covers the first story, which includes three bays of plate glass storefront windows resting on a



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black structural glass bulkhead. This treatment matches the adjacent storefront to the west, suggesting that these buildings were united in ownership or use at one point in time. The recessed entrance occupies the west end bay. A transom window system of frosted glass spans the first story above the storefront windows. The entrance to the second floor is in the east end bay and contains a historic paneled wood door with a limestone slab threshold. The second story has stucco wall covering. Tall, segmental arched windows with historic, one-over-one double-hung sash, historic detachable screens, and tooled limestone sills fill the three symmetrical second story window bays.

**History:** This building is one of the oldest buildings remaining downtown. The earliest occupants of the first story cannot be confirmed, however the building likely housed a variety of retail concerns. The second story was occupied by fraternal organizations throughout the period of significance, including the International Order of Odd Fellows (I. O. O. F.). In 1915, R. W. Cramer leased the first story of this building and the neighboring building to the west to operate his hardware business. In 1927, he bought the buildings and they remain in the Cramer family. Damage from a fire in the early 1940s resulted in the storefront alterations to the building and its neighbor to the west. The first story has been occupied by Cramer's Gifts and Decorating store since the 1960s.

**Integrity:** Historic photos show the second story stucco wall covering as early as c.1920. Historic photos also confirm that the aluminum storefront window system, structural glass bulkhead, and the first story wall parging are 1940s alterations that have become historic in their own right. Within the period of significance established for the Glasco Downtown Historic District, this building maintains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

12. 23.5' W of E 5.5' of Lot 9, Block 9 (Main Street)

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1885      **Photo Log #:** 1, 3, 7-9, 12

**Style:** LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Two-Part Commercial Block

This two-story tooled limestone commercial building has a flat roof and a three-bay façade. It shares a pressed metal, dentiled cornice with the two flanking buildings. End brackets mark the façade of each building. Scored parging covers the tooled limestone of the first story. The three-bay storefront has a black, structural glass bulkhead that matches that of the neighboring storefront to the east. The recessed entrance to the commercial space occupies the east end bay. The opening retains a historic, paneled wood door and a screened transom. A transom window system of frosted glass spans the width of the first story above the storefront windows. The recessed entrance to the second floor occupies the west end bay and contains an Italianate arched, paneled wood door. The tall, segmental arched window openings in the second story contain historic four-over-four double-hung wood sash with historic detachable screens and tooled limestone sills and arched lintels with keystones. A stone plaque with the Masonic compass and book symbol carved in relief is centered below the cornice.

**History:** This building is one of the oldest buildings extant in downtown. The earliest occupants of the first story cannot be confirmed; however, the building likely housed a variety of retail concerns. In 1915, R. W. Cramer leased the first story of this building and the neighboring building to the east to operate his hardware business. In 1927, he bought the buildings and they have been in the Cramer family since. Damage from a fire in the early 1940s resulted in the storefront alterations to the building and its neighbor to the east. The first story has been

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occupied by Cramer's Gifts and Decorating store since the 1960s. The second story was occupied by the Masons from the 1880s until the 1980s.

**Integrity:** Historic photos confirm that the aluminum-framed storefront windows, structural glass bulkhead, and the first story wall parging are 1940s alterations that have achieved historic significance in their own right. Within the period of significance established for the Glasco Downtown Historic District, this building maintains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

**13. 26' E of W 9.75' of Lot 9, Block 9 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1880; c.1885      **Photo Log #:** 1, 3, 7-9, 12

**Style:** LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Two-Part Commercial Block

This two-story limestone commercial block has a flat roof and a three-bay façade. It shares a pressed metal, dentiled cornice with the two buildings immediately to the east. End brackets mark the façade of each building. A three-bay cast iron and wood-framed storefront system with a recessed central entrance and a black tile bulkhead define the first story. Plywood covers the transom that spans the width of the building above the storefront windows. Mosaic tile covers the floor of the entrance stoop, and double leaf wood doors topped by a screened transom window fill the entry. The entrance to the second floor is recessed in the east end bay. It also contains a historic, paneled wood door with a wood plank floor and limestone threshold. Stucco, applied c.1920, covers the second story wall. Tall, segmental arched windows with one-over-one double-hung wood sash and limestone sills fill the three symmetrical second story bays. Plywood currently covers one window.

**History:** This is one of the oldest extant buildings downtown, with its basement and first story built by Isaac Biggs c.1880. The I. O. O. F. added the second story in 1885 to serve as a meeting hall. In 1898, the Knights of Pythias occupied the second story. The earliest occupants of the first story cannot be confirmed; however, the building likely housed a variety of retail concerns. During the 1920s and 1930s, a café occupied the first story. A pool hall occupied the first story during the 1940s and 1950s. The Glasco Men's Club occupied the building from 1977 through 1997. The Glasco Historical Society Museum has occupied the building since 1997.

**Integrity:** Historic photos show the second story stucco wall covering as early as c.1920. The addition of tile to the storefront bulkhead was in place by at least the mid-1950s, however the style is consistent with 1940s storefront alterations of neighboring buildings. The plywood covering the first story transoms and second story window can be easily removed to restore these elements to their original appearance. Despite these minor alterations, this building continues to convey its historic commercial associations and otherwise retains its historic architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

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**14. W 9.75' of Lot 9 & E 5' of Lot 8, Block 9 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1915

**Photo Log #:** 1, 3, 7, 8, 12

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This one-story brick-faced limestone commercial building matches the height, storefront transom placement, and brick cornice corbelling of the two neighboring buildings to the west. The aluminum-framed display windows rest on a brick bulkhead. The building incorporates a recessed entrance in the east end bay. The entry features a historic paneled wood door topped by a transom window. The leaded transom spanning the width of the building above the storefront windows features squares of leaded, ribbed, purple glass arranged in a grid pattern with an operable hopper at its center.

**History:** This building was built shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. Local residents suggest that a shoe repair shop occupied this building during the 1920s and 1930s. The Carlile Insurance Agency occupied the building during the 1950s and 1960s. Currently, the Davidson Insurance Agency is located in the building.

**Integrity:** The only alteration to this building has been the replacement of the original storefront display windows with a new aluminum-framed window system. The replacement windows maintain the size and configuration of the building's original windows. Despite these minor alterations, this building continues to convey its historic commercial associations and otherwise maintains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

**15. 14.5' W of E 5' of Lot 8, Block 9 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1915

**Photo Log:** 1, 3, 7, 8, 10, 12

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This one-story, brick-faced limestone commercial building matches the height, storefront transom placement, and brick corbelling of the two flanking buildings. The three-bay storefront includes a two-part plate glass display window and a recessed entrance in the east end bay. An aluminum-framed door has replaced the original door, although the entrance retains its historic, screened transom window. The wood-framed storefront windows rest on a brick bulkhead. Plywood covers the transom that spans the width of the building above the storefront windows, which matches the height of the neighboring buildings along Main Street.

**History:** This building was built shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. Historic photos show a bakery located here c.1915-1920. Throughout the 1940s and 1950s a cleaners occupied the building. During the mid-1970s a leather shop operated here. Currently, Heartland Computers occupies the building.

**Integrity:** The only visible alterations to this building are the plywood covering the storefront transom and the replacement entrance door, both of which are easily reversible changes. Despite these minor alterations, this

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building continues to convey its historic commercial association and retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

**16. 22.5' E of W 24' of Lot 8, Block 9 (Main Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1915      **Photo Log #:** 1, 3, 7, 10, 12

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This one-story, brick-faced limestone commercial building matches the height, storefront transom configuration, and brick corbelling of the two buildings immediately to the east. The storefront includes a three-part plate glass display window. The entrance is recessed in the east end bay. A historic, paneled wood door with a wood-framed screen door and a screened transom window fills the doorway. The storefront windows rest on a wood sill and a brick bulkhead. The transom that spans the width of the building above the display windows has been painted and matches the transom height of the neighboring buildings along Main Street.

**History:** This building was built shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. While the early occupants of this building cannot be confirmed, it likely housed a variety of retail concerns. By 1951, Mary's Café occupied the building. During the 1970s and 1980s, a barber shop operated in the building. Currently, the building is vacant.

**Integrity:** The only visible alteration to this building is the painting of the storefront transom window. Otherwise, this building retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

**17. W 24' of Lot 8, Block 9 (Main Street)**

**Non-contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1912      **Photo Log #:** 1, 7, 10, 12

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This limestone commercial building is one of five buildings that form a continuous wall of seven storefronts that are uniform in height, transom placement, and architectural details. Cast iron piers flank and define each storefront. Engaged brick piers continue the vertical line of the cast iron elements to the corbelled brick cornice line. Within these vertical and horizontal framing elements, red brick laid in an English bond clads the upper wall of each facade. On this building, a concrete pier at the east end of the facade was molded to match the iron piers. The three-bay facade includes a single leaf, glass entrance door at its center. Flanking the entrance are pairs of small, tinted aluminum windows resting on a tall bulkhead faced with thin, buff-colored brick. Panels of synthetic siding cover the storefront transom.

**History:** This building was built shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. As early as 1917, a drugstore operated here. During the mid-1920s, Wymore's drugstore and soda fountain occupied the building. Dr. Andrew Struble operated his drugstore here from 1928 until 1933 when he built Building #5. During the late 1940s and through the mid-1950s this building housed the Smejkal Café. Currently, Kelly's Café occupies the building.

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**Integrity:** The storefront of this building was heavily altered c.1957, after the period of significance. Because so much of the building's original configuration and materials have been lost it is no longer a contributing property to the historic District.

18. E 46.25' of Lot 7, Block 9 (Main Street)

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1912

**Photo Log #:** 1, 7, 10-12

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This limestone commercial building is one of five buildings that form a continuous wall of seven storefronts that are uniform in height, transom placement, and architectural details. Cast iron piers flank and define each storefront. Engaged brick piers continue the vertical line of the cast iron elements to the corbelled brick cornice line. Within these vertical and horizontal framing elements, red brick laid in an English bond clads the upper wall of each facade. This building, like the building to the west (#19), has a large rectangular parapet, centered above its two storefronts, that rises above the cornice to disguise the metal-clad, gable-front roof. The two storefronts mirror one another across a central cast iron pier. Each storefront includes a wide wood door topped by a transom, located toward the center of the building, and a two-part, wood-framed, plate glass display window resting on a brick bulkhead. Each complete storefront (windows and door) is recessed from the front plane of the building. In front of the storefronts, each recessed area has a pressed tin ceiling. Flush with the upper wall of the building, corrugated metal panels cover the transoms above each storefront.

**History:** This building was built shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. Lott & Stine established a combination hardware/furniture/undertaker business here in 1912. A furniture business was still located in the building in 1917. Historic photos show an appliance store occupying the building by 1951. From 1954 to 1977 the building continued to serve as a hardware store. Currently, the building is vacant.

**Integrity:** The only visible alteration to this building is the application of corrugated metal panels over the storefront transoms, which is easily reversible. This building continues to clearly convey its historic commercial associations and retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

19. W 19.75' of Lot 7 & E 26.5' of Lot 6, Block 9 (Main Street)

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1912

**Photo Log #:** 1, 7, 11, 12

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This limestone automobile service building is one of five buildings that form a continuous wall of seven storefronts that are uniform in height, transom placement, and architectural details. Cast iron piers flank and define each storefront. Engaged brick piers continue the vertical line of the cast iron elements to the corbelled brick cornice line. The cast iron and brick piers that delineate the garage bay are thinner than the piers that define the other storefront bays on this end of the block. Within these vertical and horizontal framing elements, red brick laid in an English bond clads the upper wall of each facade. As with Building #18, a large rectangular parapet centered above the cornice line disguises the building's metal clad, gable-front roof. At the center of the building

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is a garage bay filled with a wood-paneled overhead door. Flanking the garage bay are three-part, plate glass storefronts resting on brick bulkheads. Immediately east of the garage bay is a wood-paneled pedestrian entrance door. Plywood covers the transom window that spans the full-width of the building above the storefront windows, and corrugated metal covers a transom area above the garage door.

**History:** This building was built shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. This building has functioned as an automobile garage/car dealership since its construction. The characteristic architectural features associated with this function remain intact, including the central garage bay, which passes through the building to the alley. Historic photos show a variety of signage associated with the building throughout the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century including "Buick," and "Chevrolet." Currently the building is vacant.

**Integrity:** The only visible alteration to this building is the application of plywood and corrugated metal over the transom windows. Despite these minor reversible alterations, this building continues to convey its historic character, period of construction, and commercial associations, and it retains a high degree of architectural integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

20. 20' W of E 26.5' of Lot 6, Block 9 (Main Street)

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1912      **Photo Log #:** 1, 7, 11, 12

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This limestone building is one of five buildings that form a continuous wall of seven storefronts that are uniform in height, transom placement, and architectural details. Cast iron piers flank and define each storefront. Engaged brick piers continue the vertical line of the cast iron elements to the corbelled brick cornice line. Within these vertical and horizontal framing elements, red brick laid in an English bond clads the upper wall of each facade. The three-bay, wood-framed, plate glass storefront rests on a brick bulkhead. Plywood panels cover the transom that spans the full-width of the building above the storefront windows. A recessed entrance fills the east end bay. Pressed tin covers the ceiling above the entrance stoop. A paneled wood door topped by a screened transom window fills the entry.

**History:** Robert LaRocque established a drugstore at this location c.1900. Shortly after the devastating 1911 fire, this building was constructed. LaRocque continued his drugstore at this location until c.1950. During the 1950s and 1960s this building housed offices for the neighboring Horn Brothers' Garage (Building #19). Currently, this building is vacant.

**Integrity:** Visible alterations to this building include the plywood panels covering the transom windows and paint on the storefront windows. Both of these changes are reversible and the building otherwise continues to convey its historic character, period of construction and commercial associations. This building retains a high degree of architectural integrity and is a contributing property to the District.

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**21. W 19.5' of Lot 6 & E 6.5' of Tract W of Lot 6, Block 9 (Main Street)      Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1912      **Photo Log #:** 1, 7, 12, 13

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type** RECREATION AND CULTURE: Theater

This limestone building is the westernmost of five buildings that form a continuous wall of seven storefronts. The storefronts are uniform in height, transom placement, and architectural details. Cast iron piers flank and define each storefront. A concrete pier at the west end of this façade was molded to match the iron piers. Engaged brick piers continue the vertical line of the cast iron elements to the corbelled brick cornice line. Within these vertical and horizontal framing elements, red brick laid in an English bond clads the upper wall of each facade. The entrance is centered in the façade and contains double-leaf, wood doors flanked by sidelights. Stucco covers the adjacent display windows, plywood panels cover the window openings in the transom area, and horizontal lap siding covers the area above the windows where a marquee once hung.

**History:** This building was built shortly after the 1911 fire that destroyed the majority of Main Street. From 1913 through 1952 the Lyric Theatre occupied the building. A 1917 map identifies this building as a "picture house." Historic photos indicate that sometime between the 1920s and 1951 the storefront was remodeled to its current appearance. Oral history confirms that the existing entry configuration was in place by the 1930s.<sup>2</sup> The Dream Theatre operated here from 1952 through 1974. Currently, this building is vacant.

**Integrity:** The existing storefront of this building, although altered from its original configuration, was in place by the 1930s. These alterations have become historic in their own right and typify the evolution of commercial design in small Kansas towns such as Glasco. The historic alterations included the replacement of the central ticket booth with a central, double-leaf entrance; the original flanking openings were enclosed and stuccoed; and the continuous transom was reduced to three rectangular windows. Since 1951, the remaining transom openings were covered with plywood, the marquee was removed, and the central doors were replaced. These latter alterations are easily reversible and this building continues to convey its historic 1930s character as part of a larger, cohesive façade, as well as its recreational and commercial associations. Within the period of significance established for the Glasco Downtown Historic District this building maintains sufficient architectural integrity to be a contributing property to the District.

**22. W 26.6' of Tract W of Lot 6, Block 9 (Main Street)      Contributing**

**Building Date:** c.1912      **Photo Log #:** 1, 12, 13

**Style:** LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

**Functional Use/Type** COMMERCE: One-Part Commercial Block

This one-story tooled limestone and cast-stone commercial building occupies a corner lot at the west end of a continuous row of buildings similar in size and scale. The three-bay façade contains a recessed center entrance. Plywood covers the plate glass display windows flanking the entrance. Corrugated metal covers the transom, which aligns with the seven neighboring storefronts to the east. A metal awning spans the storefront. The parapet wall steps down along the building's north wall.

<sup>2</sup> Joan Nothern, personal letter to author, 12 April 2002.

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**History:** This building appears to have been constructed from the ruins of a limestone building that burned in the 1911 fire. While the early occupants of the building cannot be confirmed, historic photos show that it was retail space. Local residents recall that a feed store occupied the building during the 1940s. A liquor store occupied the building in the 1980s. Currently, this building is vacant.

**Integrity:** Visible alterations to this building include the plywood panels covering the display windows and corrugated metal covering the transom. Both of these changes are easily reversible, and the building otherwise continues to convey its historic character, period of construction and commercial associations. It retains a high degree of architectural integrity and is a contributing property to the District.

**23. W 39.5' of S 45.5' of Lot 5 & S 45.5' of Tract W of Lot 5, Block 9 (Railroad Avenue) Contributing  
Building Date: 1948 Photo Log #: 13-16**

**Style:** OTHER: Grain Elevator

**Functional Use/Type:** AGRICULTURE: Processing; COMMERCE: Business

This structure is composed of a series of rectangular sections that form an irregular plan. The first story is concrete block. The upper stories are wood-framed and clad with corrugated metal and vary from one to four stories in height. Corrugated metal also covers the gable roofs. The enclosed machinery includes an elevator and seed cleaning and processing equipment. Facing Railroad Avenue is a two-story gable-front block with a three-bay façade. The façade includes a paneled wood entrance door flanked by four- and six-pane steel windows with operable upper hopper sash. Sliding metal service-bay doors are centered in each story of the south wall of this block. Perpendicular at the rear of the front block is a three-story, side-gabled block. This section of the building has a drive-through opening in the west wall of the first story. A pair of large, hinged wood plank doors fills this opening. Above the drive-through bay is a sliding, standing-seam metal door. At the northeast corner of the structure, two separate side-gabled sections clad with corrugated metal siding rise three and four stories high.

A cylindrical metal tank, conical at both ends, stands upright, approximately 20' tall at the rear of the elevator structure. Metal beams support the tank. A non-historic, ancillary building with a shed roof also stands at the rear of the elevator structure. A single entrance door is located at the east end of the front (south) façade of this shed.

**History:** This structure was constructed as a grain elevator and seed processing facility. It continues to serve this function.

**Integrity:** This structure is a good example of the industrial commerce that developed in small, rural towns with access to the railroad. With no apparent alterations to the original materials or design, it retains a high degree of integrity. It is a contributing structure to the District.



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Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**24. W16' of Lot4 & E26.5' of Lot 5 & N70' of W39.5' of Lot 5 & N70' of Tract W of Lot5 (Railroad Avenue)**

**Building Date:** 1929      **Photo Log #:** 13-16      **Contributing**

**Style:** OTHER: Meat & Dairy Processing

**Functional Use/Type:** AGRICULTURE: Processing; COMMERCE: Business

This one-story, brick commercial building has a flat roof and an asymmetrical three-bay façade faced with grooved, buff-colored brick. The north end bay contains an aluminum-framed glass entrance door. The central entrance bay has been covered with masonite siding. The south end bay contains a wood-framed, one-over-one double-hung sash window. The window opening has a projecting header brick sill. A simple line of dentiled brick marks the cornice line. Below the cornice is a rectangular panel framed by a single course of projecting brick. Within the panel the painted words, "GLASCO CREAMERY CO." are faintly visible. At the center of the building, between the cornice and the brick panel, an internally illuminated plastic sign that projects from the building wall reads "GLASCO LOCKER." Attached to the south wall is a small, one-bay shed addition clad with masonite siding and a second entry that faces Railroad Avenue. A tall, wood-frame addition with masonite siding and a shallow, asphalt-shingle gable roof extends from the rear wall of the main block.

**History:** This building was constructed by the Glasco Co-Operative Creamery Company. The grand opening was October 1929. During the Depression, this was one of several creameries where one could trade eggs and cream for much-needed cash. In 1944, the Glasco Co-Operative Creamer Company expanded with the construction of the locker plant to the north. By 1950, the Glasco Co-Operative Creamery Company became known as the Glasco Creamery and Cold Storage Company. The building continues to operate as a meat and dairy processing facility.

**Integrity:** This building is a good example of the industrial commerce that developed in small towns with access to the railroad. Both the masonite covering the original central entrance and the shed-roof addition are reversible alterations. The conversion of a window to an entrance in the north bay is a more significant alteration but does not impinge upon the ability of the property to convey its historic functions or commercial associations. The building otherwise retains its historic architectural integrity, and is a contributing property to the District.

**25. W16' of Lot4 & E26.5' of Lot5 & N70' of W39.5' of Lot5 & N70' of Tract W of Lot5 (Railroad Avenue)**

**Building Date:** c.1945      **Photo Log #:** 13-16      **Contributing**

**Style:** OTHER: Meat & Dairy Processing

**Functional Use/Type:** AGRICULTURE: Processing; COMMERCE: Business

This one-story, brick commercial building is clad with buff-colored brick. Asphalt shingles cover the hipped roof. The three-bay façade rises above the eaves to create a rectangular, false-front parapet. Masonite siding covers the central window opening as well as the two flanking entrances. The window opening retains its projecting header brick sill. Below the cornice is a rectangular panel framed by a single course of projecting bricks. Within the panel the painted words, "LOCKER PLANT" are visible. A series of irregular additions with both flat and shed roofs and a shed roof livestock pen extend from the rear of the building.

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**History:** In 1944, the Glasco Co-Operative Creamery Company (Building #24) expanded its operation with the construction of this locker plant building. By 1950, the Glasco Co-Operative Creamery Company became known as the Glasco Creamery and Cold Storage Company. The building continues to operate as a meat processing facility.

**Integrity:** This building is a good example of the industrial commerce that developed in small, rural towns with access to the railroad. The masonite covering the façade fenestration is a reversible alteration that does not affect the ability of this building to convey its historic function and commercial associations. The building otherwise retains its architectural integrity and is a contributing property to the District.

**26. E 50' of Lot 4, Block 9 (Buffalo Street)**

**Non-contributing**

**Building Date:** Unknown

**Photo Log #:** 16

**Style:** OTHER: No Style

**Functional Use/Type:** UNKNOWN: garage/shed

The ridgeline of this gable-front, wood-frame shed runs north and south. A combination of metal and vinyl siding covers the north, east, and west walls. Pressed metal, faux brick siding covers the south wall. A paneled wood door is centered in the north gable end, and two, four-pane wood-framed windows pierce the west façade. A garage bay flanked by two plywood-covered windows is located in the south gable end.

**History:** The historic functions of this building cannot be confirmed. It has no apparent associations with neighboring buildings.

**Integrity:** The addition of siding to this building obscures its original architectural features. It no longer conveys its historic functions or associations and lacks integrity in the areas of workmanship, design, materials, feeling and association. It is a non-contributing property to the District.

**27. Lots 1, 2, 3, Block 9 (Fisher Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** 1903

**Photo Log #:** 17, 18, 23

**Style:** OTHER: False Front

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Warehouse

Similar in size and scale to the neighboring lumber company office building (#29), this one-story, wood-frame, gable-front coal shed is distinguished by its false front parapet and historic metal cladding. The poured concrete foundation defines the long, rectangular footprint of the building. The front façade is void of fenestration and has a painted sign that faintly reads, "COAL." Sliding wood doors cover each of the eight bays that pierce the south façade. Above each door is a small rectangular opening covered by a hinged wood door. A poured concrete driveway runs along the south side of the building.

**History:** The Foster Lumber Company was established in 1879 in Concordia. By 1903, the company established this additional location in Glasco. A 1917 map indicates this building and the associated lumber yard buildings (#28, #29) in their current configuration. From 1922 through 1965 this site (Buildings #27-29) was owned by

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Golden Belt Lumber Company. Berndts Lumber Company occupied the site from 1965 until 1992. Currently, the site functions as a private wood shop.

**Integrity:** This building is a good example of the industrial commerce that developed in small, rural railroad towns with access to the railroad. With no apparent alterations the original design or materials, this building retains a high degree of integrity, and continues to convey its historic design, function, and association. It is a contributing property to the District.

**28. Lots 1, 2, 3, Block 9 (Fisher Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** 1903      **Photo Log #:** 17, 19, 20, 23

**Style:** OTHER: Lumber Storage

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Warehouse

This two-story, wood-framed lumber storage building is distinguished by the full-length balconies that line the north and south side walls. Corrugated metal clads the wide, shallow gable-front roof. Metal sheets with a more delicate rib clad the front (east) and rear (west) walls. A one-story shed extension projects from the front of the building. Pairs of six-light wood casement windows fill three of the four openings in the east wall of the shed. The fourth opening, at the south end of this façade, is covered with plywood. The north and south elevations each contain eleven lumber storage bays. A sliding wood door fills each second story opening. The first story bays are open. Poured concrete driveways run the length of the building along both the north and south sides.

**History:** The Foster Lumber Company was established in 1879 in Concordia. By 1903, the company established this additional location in Glasco. A 1917 map indicates this building and the two flanking buildings (#27, #29) in their current configuration. From 1922 through 1965 this site (Buildings #27-29) was owned by Golden Belt Lumber Company. Berndts Lumber Company occupied the site from 1965 until 1992. Currently, the site functions as a private wood shop.

**Integrity:** This building is a good example of the industrial commerce that developed in small, rural towns with access to the railroad. The only visible alteration is the covered window opening on the east elevation. This change is easily reversible and does not hinder its ability to convey its historic function, design or associations. The building otherwise retains a high degree of integrity. It is a contributing property to the District.

**29. Lots 1, 2, 3, Block 9 (Fisher Street)**

**Contributing**

**Building Date:** 1903      **Photo Log #:** 17, 20, 21, 23

**Style:** OTHER: False Front

**Functional Use/Type:** COMMERCE: Business

Similar in size and scale to the neighboring coal storage building (#27), this one-story, brick building is distinguished by the front wall that rises above the roofline to create a false front parapet. A single course of header bricks forms the coping on the parapet, and corrugated metal covers the gable-front roof. The poured concrete foundation defines the long, rectangular footprint. A painted sign on the front wall faintly reads, "GOLDEN BELT LUMBER CO." The two-bay front (east) façade includes a paneled, wood entrance door and a wood-framed window with a leaded upper sash. An additional door and a series of one-over-one double-hung

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wood windows pierce the side walls. All of the openings have a cast stone lintel and sill. Three pipe ventilators are evenly spaced along the ridgeline. The rear half of the building has metal siding, and two sliding wood doors pierce the north wall.

A rectangular wood plank truck scale is built into the concrete driveway immediately south of the lumber storage building (#28) and directly adjacent to a door on the north façade of the lumber company office building (#29).

**History:** The Foster Lumber Company was established in 1879 in Concordia. By 1903, the company established this additional location in Glasco. A 1917 map indicates this building and the two neighboring buildings to the north (#27, #28) in their current configuration. From 1922 through 1965 this site (Buildings #27-29) was owned by Golden Belt Lumber Company. Berndts Lumber Company occupied the site from 1965 until 1992. Currently, the site functions as a private wood shop.

**Integrity:** This building is a good example of the industrial commerce that developed in small, rural railroad towns. Although, one opening on the south façade has been filled with brick, this change does not diminish the ability of the building to convey its historic design, function and associations. The building otherwise retains a high degree of integrity and is a contributing property to the District.

**DISTRICT INTEGRITY**

Of the 29 buildings and structures that comprise the Glasco Downtown Historic District, over 75 percent are one- or two-part commercial blocks with varying degrees of architectural styling and ornament. The balance of the buildings have light-industrial/commercial mixed-use functions, including agricultural processing and warehousing. The commonality of form and commercial function unifies the District. As the largest concentration of extant buildings that retain their historic architectural integrity and associations with the city's commercial development, they form a distinctive district with a visual sense of place.

The historic setting, density, and feeling of the District are intact, and the commercial and architectural associations are clearly conveyed. Of the two vacant lots, one has been vacant historically and the other is a park that has enhanced the streetscape for at least thirty years. The historic grid of the original town plat is intact, including street widths and alley configurations, as well as the large sections of historic poured concrete road bed and tooled sidewalks. The solid wall of brick-faced limestone buildings with uniform setbacks and storefront transoms has been maintained along Main Street. North of Main Street, the light industrial buildings continue to function essentially as they have historically and therefore have changed little since their construction.

The integrity of design and materials in the District are intact. Of the commercial storefronts in the District that have sustained alterations, most have gained historic significance in their own right. Often these historic alterations convey the typical design and materials from the period in which they were made. The handful of insensitive alterations consists primarily of non-historic coverings that do not obscure the original storefront configurations.

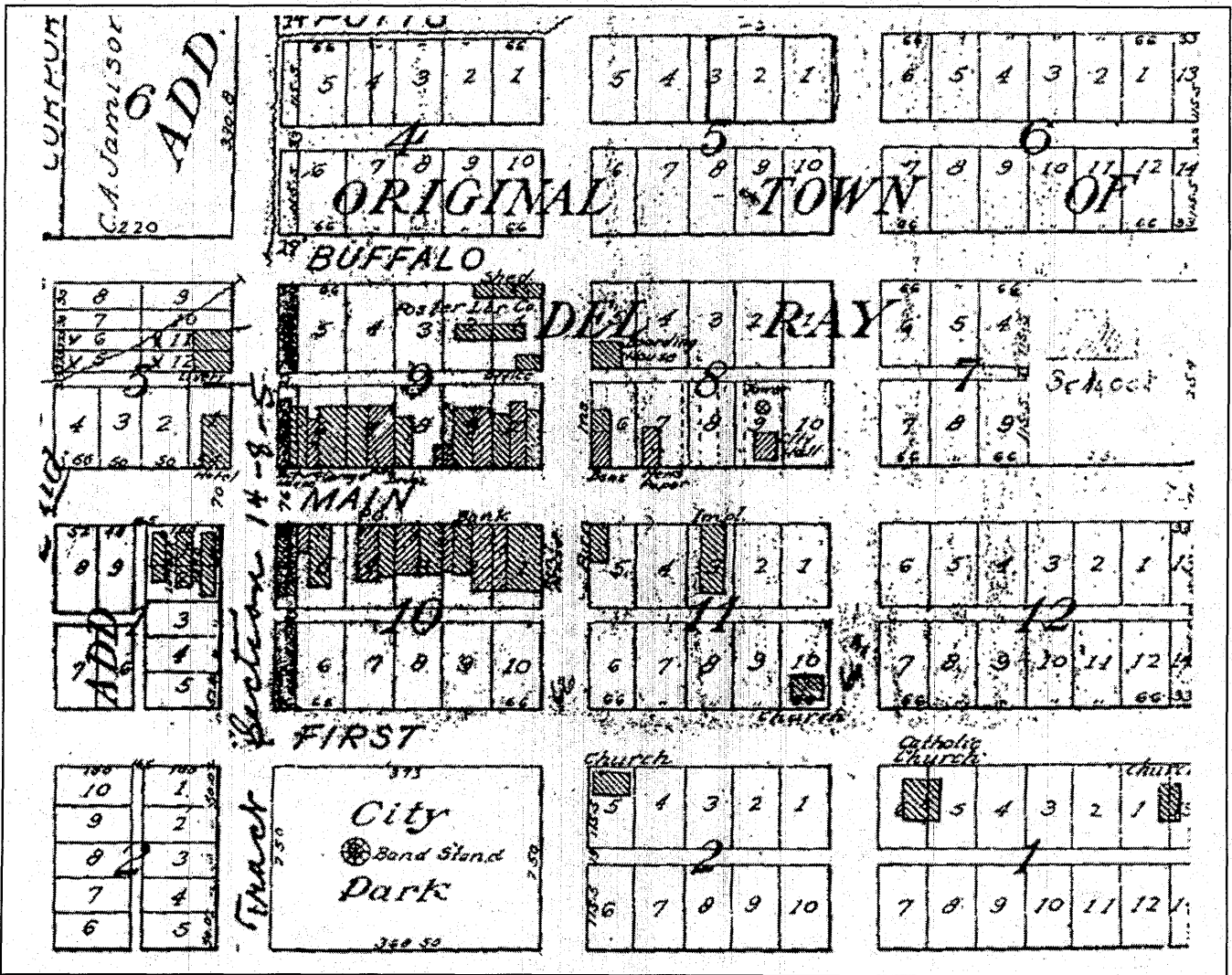
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GLASCO DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT LOT & BLOCK MAP (1915)



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**SUMMARY**

The Glasco Downtown Historic District is significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of COMMERCE and under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE. The District includes the heart of the city's late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth century retail and light industrial commercial district. Composed primarily of retail businesses and light industrial buildings, the District has strong associations with both the economic development of Glasco and the continuum of commercial and light industrial architecture constructed in the community during this period. The restrained vernacular designs that comprise Glasco's downtown convey a sense of historic and architectural cohesiveness.

As a grouping, this collection of buildings reflects the evolution of commercial functions present in Glasco's primary mercantile district from the late nineteenth century through the first half of the twentieth century. In addition, they successfully communicate the evolution of commercial and industrial design in Glasco during this period. The buildings physically represent the spectrum of building types and forms associated with local commercial development, providing insight into local patterns of building technology, retail and industrial commercial design, stylistic features, form, and function.

The District contains 22 contributing buildings, one contributing structure, and six non-contributing buildings. The District's period of significance is 1880-1948. The start of this range reflects the date of construction of the earliest extant building in the District. The end of this range reflects the construction of the most recent contributing building. It also acknowledges historic alterations to buildings as specific functional and commercial styles evolved and accepts changes to buildings within this period as historic to the District.

**ELABORATION**

To understand the significance of the resources in the Glasco Downtown Historic District requires knowledge of the relationship of the resources to historic contexts associated with the commercial and architectural development of Glasco, Kansas and to the region in the late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth centuries:

**COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN GLASCO, KANSAS**

Located on the north slope of the Solomon River Valley in the southwest corner of Cloud County, the City of Glasco is located one-mile northeast of the Solomon River along Fisher Creek, a principal tributary. The town site, surrounded by a wide crescent of rolling prairie hills and plateaus, is bounded by Highway 24 to the northeast and the Union Pacific Railroad to the southwest. The commercial and retail business district of Glasco is concentrated along Main Street, which bisects the small city. Within this central area, Glasco's retail and light industrial commercial activities developed close to the city's railroad facilities. The area continues to function as the city's central commercial district.

Because of its location near the Solomon River and the number of tributaries in the area, bridges played an important role in development patterns. Glasco's first permanent bridge spanned the Solomon River at the west edge of town in 1884.<sup>1</sup> A second bridge was constructed over the Solomon River at the south edge of town in

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<sup>1</sup> The Pott's Ford Bridge is still standing and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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1899. These bridges served as major links to local and regional markets until the 1950s when the southern bridge was replaced and the alignment of US 24 diverted traffic north of town.

**PERIOD OF EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT (1820-1880)**

The establishment of a commercial trade route to Santa Fe in 1821 promoted the first major encroachment by Euro-Americans<sup>2</sup> into the territory of the Kansa, Osage, and Pawnee nations in present-day Kansas. By the 1840s, pressures created by the increasing use of the Santa Fe trade route and the California-Oregon overland emigrant trails impacted the territory set aside for Native American groups and the United States government began to remove all the tribes from what is now the State of Kansas to reservations in present-day Oklahoma.<sup>3</sup> When the Kansas Territory opened for settlement after the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, there was an immediate influx of Missourians. In the years leading up to the Civil War, north central Kansas experienced a steady increase in activity and settlement. With the onset of the 1859 Colorado Gold Rush, the Leavenworth-Pike's Peak Express Stageline was established, traveling along the north slope of the Solomon River Valley, not far from present day Glasco.<sup>4</sup> Counties were organized in response to settlement, and in 1860, the boundaries of Cloud County were established as one of the westernmost counties in Kansas at the time.<sup>5</sup>

In 1861, the year the Civil War began, Kansas became the 34<sup>th</sup> state to enter the Union. In addition to the national conflict, early settlers of Cloud County endured drought, grasshopper plagues, and regular altercations with the native Pawnee, who opposed Euro-American settlement in the area. When the war started, Cloud County had only 80 residents.

Immediately following the war, Kansas' leaders focused their attention on rail construction. The subsequent 1862 Homestead Act and the rapid growth of railroads encouraged speculators to construct towns. During this period, Kansas again became a destination point for settlers from the East and between 1865 and 1870 the state's population grew from 150,000 to 365,000. Most of these settlers established farmsteads in rural areas and the state's population began to spread into the central and western portions of the state.<sup>6</sup>

In response to increased settlement, Cloud County legally organized in 1866 and the Union Pacific Railroad proposed three branch lines through Cloud County the same year.<sup>7</sup> Cloud County boasted a population of more than 2,000 residents as well as a Federal Land Office by the early 1870s.<sup>8</sup>

The rich Solomon Valley soil enticed settlers to southwestern Cloud County in the vicinity of present-day Glasco. The first permanent settlers arrived immediately after the war, including H. H. Spaulding who came to the area in

<sup>2</sup> Other than the early explorers and trappers.

<sup>3</sup> David Sachs and George Ehrlich, *Guide to Kansas Architecture*, (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1996), 6.

<sup>4</sup> Homer Socolofsky and Huber Self, *Historical Atlas of Kansas*, (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988), 23.

<sup>5</sup> William G. Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas*, (Chicago: A. T. Andreas, 1883), Part 1, 3.

<sup>6</sup> "Kansas Preservation Plan, Study Unit on the Period of Exploration and Settlement (1820s-1880s)," (Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society, 1987), 55.

<sup>7</sup> Ralph and Monte Preston, *Early Kansas: An Historical Atlas*, (Tidewater, Oregon: Pioneer Press, 1997), 43.

<sup>8</sup> Cutler, Part 1, 3.

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1865. Steady growth continued, and by 1869, present-day Glasco offered area residents both a school and a post office. Recognizing that settlement would continue, H. H. Spaulding joined with Jim Copeland, H. C. Snyder, J. A. Potts, and A. H. Spaulding to found the Dell Ray Town Company in 1871.

The increase in rural settlement very soon created the need for goods and services. Biggs answered this need in 1871 when he constructed a frame building to house a general merchandise store and post office, as he was by now the second postmaster.<sup>9</sup>

Although commercial development had begun in Dell Ray, the economy of the region was still entirely dependent on agricultural production, which was growing steadily. In addition to extensive cultivation, livestock was a significant component of regional agricultural production, especially sheep, of which there was nearly one sheep for every person in Cloud County.<sup>10</sup> In response to the growth of this leading enterprise in Cloud County, the Solomon Valley Wool Growing Association was organized in 1875. The first organization of its kind in the state, the Association held annual sheep shearing festivals with various competitions and speakers. The gatherings were widely advertised and interest in them, "set the counties of Mitchell and Cloud booming," with several other communities following suit and organizing similar associations.<sup>11</sup>

The town of Dell Ray officially became Glasco with recognition from the Kansas legislature in 1878. It is believed that the name is a modified spelling of Glasgow, a reference to the Scotch-Irish heritage of many early settlers in the area.<sup>12</sup>

In spite of the area's robust agricultural conditions, the most significant economic stimulus to downtown Glasco was the arrival of the Union Pacific Railroad. After the usual contention over rail line location, the Union Pacific rail line reached Glasco in 1878. Access to rail trade and travelers spurred commercial growth and anchored the town. E. R. Haynes, Glasco's first railroad operator and station agent, responded immediately to the arrival of the railroad by opening Haynes House Hotel and restaurant, where rail travelers stopped for lunch.<sup>13</sup> Also upon the arrival of rail traffic, W. R. West & Co. established a grain elevator, and Isaac Biggs constructed a more permanent general store at the northwest corner of Main and Fisher streets in the center of town (Building #9, Photograph # 1, 23). During this time, Solomon Township, of which Glasco was the largest town, doubled its population, from 518 residents to 1073. As evidence of this spike in population, increased enrollment forced the Glasco school board to rent a downtown storeroom temporarily from the Christian Church for the swelling elementary grades.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Mrs. E. F. Hollibaugh, *Biographical History of Cloud County, Kansas*, (1903), 525. This building was still standing when the county history was written and was referred to as the last remnant of Glasco's pioneer days.

<sup>10</sup> Cutler, Part 2, 5.

<sup>11</sup> Mrs. E. F. Hollibaugh, *Biographical History of Cloud County, Kansas*, 534.

<sup>12</sup> Virginia Struble, *Solomon Valley Historical Overview*, (Glasco, Kansas: Solomon Valley/Highway 24 Heritage Alliance, 2000), 4.

<sup>13</sup> Mrs. E. F. Hollibaugh, *Biographical History of Cloud County, Kansas*, 544.

<sup>14</sup> Cutler, Part 1, 5.



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**BOOM YEARS (1880-1900)**

The growing number of commercial businesses established in Glasco during the 1880s and 1890s in Glasco reflected prosperous times. Despite a national economic depression in 1893 that ended the real estate boom, Glasco's access to the railroad ensured a stable local economy that gradually expanded throughout the last part of the nineteenth century. The effect of the railroad is visible in the city's downtown commercial buildings constructed shortly after its arrival, in which builders supplemented locally produced limestone with cast iron storefronts produced in distant foundries and shipped to Glasco by rail.<sup>15</sup>

Through advertisements, often subsidized by the rapidly expanding railroad companies and supported by the continuing land disposal efforts of the Federal Government, the Solomon Valley became known for especially fine soil. Not only ideal for winter and spring wheat, it was also declared to have the best sandstone and timber supplies in the county.<sup>16</sup> William G. Cutler described Glasco in 1883 as, "destined to be the metropolis of the southern and western part of the county."<sup>17</sup> By this time, Glasco boasted a doctor, a druggist, a hotel, and a newspaper. Commercial businesses included many standard suppliers, such as a blacksmith, a livery, a harness shop, and a grocer. Industrial endeavors included a flour mill, a grain elevator, and two lumber companies. Items available to the local community included clothing, hardware, shoes, groceries, houseplants, and professional real estate and insurance services.<sup>18</sup> Luxury items were available in retail stores, which included a confectionery, a book and stationery store, a furniture dealer, a jeweler, and a millinery. Local businesses advertised their wares in the *Glasco Sun* newspaper.

These businesses were housed within the earliest commercial buildings in downtown Glasco. Remaining buildings from this period include the four, two-part commercial buildings (Buildings #10-13, Photograph #1, 7-9) constructed during the 1880s immediately west of the Biggs Building (#9) on the north side of Main Street. Each included a three-bay retail storefront and second story office and/or meeting hall space.

A significant asset to the commercial development of Glasco was the construction of the Pott's Ford Bridge one-mile southwest of downtown in 1884.<sup>19</sup> As with rail lines, there was much competition and controversy over the location of this Pratt through truss bridge. Once in place, this vital river crossing ensured access to downtown Glasco merchants, even in times of frequent high water.

Within a few short years, Glasco's commercial district took shape, and the town was incorporated as a city of the third class in 1886. Main Street became the central artery with two blocks of storefronts that contained retail and wholesale businesses or services on the first floor, and offices for attorneys, doctors, real estate developers, and meeting halls on the second floors. The city's public and residential districts grew outward in each direction from the commercial heart of town.

<sup>15</sup> The 1880 Biggs Building (#9) has an iron storefront cast in Leavenworth, Kansas.

<sup>16</sup> Cutler, Part 4, 9.

<sup>17</sup> Cutler, Part 4, 9.

<sup>18</sup> *The Glasco Sun*, 2 February 1883.

<sup>19</sup> This bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (1989) and is still in use.

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At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, downtown Glasco was composed of solid limestone buildings generally two stories in height of "modern architecture."<sup>20</sup> The town boasted a fire company, five churches, an opera house, both Masonic and Odd Fellows halls, a bank, a photographer, a shoemaker, a three-story hotel and restaurant, and both baseball and football teams.

In 1899, Glasco's status as a regional commercial center was sealed with construction of a second bridge crossing the Solomon River one-mile southeast of town. This additional river crossing set Glasco apart from neighboring communities by providing unimpeded access to the railroad as well as abundant goods and services offered downtown. Thus established, Glasco entered the twentieth century with economic confidence and security.

**EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY GLASCO (1900-1930)**

By the early twentieth century, Glasco played the role of most small cities that supported the surrounding agricultural community with railroad access. The city's downtown commercial and industrial center continued the steady and substantial growth enjoyed during the two previous decades. Construction of new buildings continued at an active pace in response to growth of the market-based economy and Glasco's strategic posture in the region. Examples extant on Main Street include the 1902 Studt General Store Building (Building #1, Photograph #1, 2) and the c.1905 garage/machine shop (Building #7, Photograph #6).

Commercial growth downtown was not limited to retail space on Main Street, but included light industrial development, as well. Foster Lumber Company, founded in 1879 and based in Concordia, established a Glasco location at the corner of Buffalo and Fisher streets in 1903 (Building/Structure #27-29, Photograph #17-23); a convenient location adjacent to Main Street that ensured steady, competitive business other lumber supply companies in town. The ability of Glasco to support at least two lumber supply companies in the central commercial district indicates the rapid pace of new construction, as well as the town's healthy economy.

That same year, the first annual Glasco Stock Show was held in September. The event grew rapidly and became one of the most widely attended events in the county.<sup>21</sup> Reputed for its exhibits, the Glasco Stock Show's display of quilts was heralded as, "larger than the showing at Topeka, Hutchinson, or Belleville."<sup>22</sup> This annual event drew large crowds to Glasco, especially with daily events that included dances, concerts, ball games, parades, and later, auto races that started and finished on Main Street.<sup>23</sup>

During the first decade of the twentieth century, the one- and two-story commercial buildings of downtown Glasco lined two solid blocks along Main Street. Light industrial businesses extended one-half block to the north and south from the primary intersections at Railroad Avenue and Fisher Street, at the edge of the central retail district. Contemporary reports described Glasco as having "superior facilities for business. They have direct communications east and west and thus have a ready market for their [products]."<sup>24</sup> The robust commercial

<sup>20</sup> Mrs. E. F. Hollibaugh, *Biographical History of Cloud County, Kansas*, 525.

<sup>21</sup> *The WPA Guide to 1930s Kansas*, (Lawrence: University of Kansas Press, 1984), 326.

<sup>22</sup> Virginia Struble, *Solomon Valley Historical Overview*, 5.

<sup>23</sup> R. M. Sawhill, "Our Fair in 1911." *The Glasco Sun*, 20 February 1947.

<sup>24</sup> Mrs. E. F. Hollibaugh, *Biographical History of Cloud County, Kansas*, (1903),524.

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climate supported dozens of competing businesses, including five general merchandise stores, four restaurants, three carpenters, three grocers, two druggists, two physicians, two barbers, two millenaries, two hotels, two attorneys, a dentist, and a real estate dealer.<sup>25</sup>

Although the size of downtown Glasco remained about the same, its appearance changed drastically during the second decade of the twentieth century. The reason was a devastating fire along Main Street in 1911, which destroyed more than half of both the north and south sides of the block between Railroad Avenue and Fisher Street, including the opera house and the impressive Davidson Block (Historic Photo Documentation, p.37). Although a fire company existed, it was "no more than a bucket brigade," and with no city water system, the nighttime fire burned almost out of control.<sup>26</sup> The estimated damages were approximately \$225,000, with only \$40,000 of insurance coverage.<sup>27</sup> While the loss of so many buildings at the heart of a lesser town could have proven devastating, Glasco's transportation resources and economic stability facilitated a rapid rebuilding campaign. Nine new one-story limestone commercial buildings with visually cohesive brick facades quickly replaced the ruins on the north side of Main Street (Buildings #14-22, Photograph #1, 10-12). They included a new theater (Building #21), an auto service garage (Building #19), and several new retail businesses.

Confidence in the future of Glasco as a regional commercial center was further enhanced by the construction of new buildings on the south side of Main Street shortly after the fire. These included Buildings #2-4, and 6 (Photograph # 2-4, 6). The various early tenants of these buildings reflect the community's diverse economy at the time: a telephone company office and Frances Ward's Dress Shop (Building #2), Farmer's State Bank (Building #3), Klein's Barber Shop (Building #4), as well as the post office and McDowell groceries (Building #6).

Downtown business owners reacted to the fire of 1911 not only by rebuilding destroyed properties, but also by making improvements and rejuvenating their remaining buildings. Property owners of several surviving nineteenth century buildings modernized facades in the years following the fire with new brick (Building #10) or stucco facing (Building #11, 13, Photograph #1, 7).<sup>28</sup> The momentum of revitalization included city officials who took action as well. Within 12 months of the fire, city water and electricity were installed and the principal streets were paved. By 1917, the existing water tower was constructed just off Main Street, and wastewater and sewer lines were laid, completing the city's major infrastructure improvements.

In less than five years, Main Street was solid again, with brand new one and two-story commercial buildings forming a uniform wall of storefronts across the length of the block. Retail concerns continued to thrive and expand into the recently constructed spaces along Main Street. Businesses that advertised in contemporary issues of the *Glasco Sun* included: a millinery, a café, a bakery, a tailor, a meat market, a photo gallery, a hardware store, an optometrist, watch and clock repair, and Harley Davidson motorcycle sales.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>25</sup> *Business Directory*, Glasco, Kansas, 1902.

<sup>26</sup> "Glasco Fire's Origin Remains Mystery More Than 47 Years." *Topeka Daily Capital*, 4 December 1958, 21.

<sup>27</sup> Virginia Struble, *Solomon Valley Historical Overview*, 8.

<sup>28</sup> The approximate dates of these alterations were determined from historic photographs.

<sup>29</sup> *The Glasco Sun*, 1913 and 1914.

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The nationwide prosperity of the 1920s reinforced the stability of Glasco's economy. Although very little new construction occurred in the downtown retail district, the popularity of the automobile resulted in some changes along Main Street, which was part of Highway 24, a main east-west route to Colorado and points west. As a result of increased traffic, street lampposts were installed and at least two new gas stations were constructed along Main Street. Prior to 1929, it was common practice to park vehicles at the center of Main Street. After 1929, parking was moved to the flanking curbs.

Spurred by steady growth in downtown activity and Glasco's role as the regional mercantile center for the surrounding agricultural community, light industrial development continued along the side streets north of Main Street. In 1929, the Glasco Cooperative Creamery Company constructed a brick, dairy processing building at the southeast corner of Buffalo and Railroad Avenue (Building #24, Photograph #13-16). Formed by local farmers, the cooperative was one of several creameries where farmers would regularly trade cream and eggs for cash.

Fraternal organizations, such as the OddFellows, Rebeccas, Masons, and Eastern Star, were also very active in the early part of the twentieth century, holding elaborate banquets in their second story meeting halls downtown (Building #1, 2, 11-13). These spaces were essential gathering places for the community, hosting weekly dances and even Glasco Basketball team practice.

**THE GREAT DEPRESSION AND WORLD WAR II (1931-1945)**

Little private commercial development occurred in Glasco during the Great Depression. The poor national economy, coupled with regional drought in the early 1930s, brought growth to a near standstill. In spite of the lean times, new commercial endeavors expressed faith in Glasco's future. In 1933, the year Farmer's State Bank (Building #3) closed, Dr. Andrew Struble built a drugstore on the south side of Main Street (Building #5, Photograph #4, 5). In addition, the Natural Gas & Pipeline Company built a compressor station one mile northeast of town in 1933. With sixty employees, this was a boon to the local economy and helped sustain the town.<sup>30</sup>

During the Great Depression, social activities were vital to the emotional health of the community. Downtown Glasco became important not only economically, but also psychologically. The fraternal organizations continued to be strong and service groups, such as the Boy Scouts, the Lions Club, and the YWCA, organized and were active in Glasco. The movie theater (Building #21, Photograph #12) showed two movies on Saturday night, and the I.O.O.F. held popular dances in their meeting hall (Building #1, second story, Photograph #2). A pool hall was located in the first story of Building #13 (Photograph #8, 9), and Struble's drugstore (Building #5, Photograph #4, 5) with a soda fountain and bus agency, was a place to meet friends and stay out late.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>30</sup> Virginia Struble, *Solomon Valley Historical Overview*, 5. Twelve houses were constructed at the plant site and the rest of the employees lived in Glasco.

<sup>31</sup> Virginia Struble, "A 1938 Saturday Night in Glasco," 2001.

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By the onset of World War II, Glasco's population had reached about 900. Although the increased expansion of the previous decades had slowed, the local economy remained steady through the war years with such economic staples as a packing house, a hatchery, a creamery, and a flour mill.<sup>32</sup>

**POST-WORLD WAR II GLASCO**

By the end of World War II, the nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial and residential neighborhoods clustered around Glasco's Main Street reflected the effects of the Great Depression and the rationed resources of the World War II period. As in many American cities in the late 1940s, poorly maintained older buildings in Glasco's downtown retail area received storefront "updates." Although there was not a great deal of new construction in Glasco during this time, the amount of postwar remodeling is not surprising. Almost 20 years passed during which the Great Depression and wartime restrictions severely constrained construction and commercial opportunities. Thus, there was both a real and psychological need for new, clear symbols of progress.

During this period, remodeled storefronts updated the downtown's appearance. The greatest change was the replacement of original display windows with aluminum-framed storefronts and reclad bulkheads. Owners also covered storefront transoms with opaque panels or signs. Many of the remodeled storefronts retained the footprint of the original display windows and, with the exception of the use of modern materials, the buildings continue to convey their original designs. Buildings #1, #11, and #12 (Photograph #2, 8, 9) sustained fire damage during the 1940s and their subsequent remodelings reflect these types of alterations.

Improvements were not limited to retail space along Main Street. Light industrial development continued along Railroad Avenue on the block north of Main Street. In 1944, the Glasco Cooperative Creamery Company expanded with construction of a locker plant to the north of their existing creamery (Building #25, Photograph #13-16). Responding to the increased draw of local farmers to the neighboring businesses, four years later, O. A. Campbell constructed a seed business building and grain elevator complex along the alley south of the creamery (Building #23, Photograph #13-16). The addition of these two light industrial ventures offered a solid "home market to local producers" and further strengthened Glasco's downtown economy.<sup>33</sup>

During the second half of the twentieth century, several insubstantial changes occurred in the District. In 1951, the Solomon River swelled over its banks and brought about 18" of water to Main Street, resulting in superficial damage to storefronts and minor, mostly interior, alterations. However, the flood did destroy the 1899 bridge southeast of town and by 1953, it was replaced. Around 1953, cobra-head street lights replaced the c.1920 street lamp posts. In 1956, US 24, was realigned on the north edge of town, effectively diverting through traffic from Main Street. By 1961, the existing post office (Building #8, Photograph #6) was constructed and the one-story building that stood directly east of Building #6 was demolished shortly thereafter. The resulting vacant lot was converted to a park by the Venus Study Club in the early 1970s.

<sup>32</sup> *The WPA Guide to 1930s Kansas*, 326.

<sup>33</sup> "O.A. Campbell Erecting New Business Building," *The Glasco Sun*, 20 May 1948, Vol. 64, No.12.

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Currently, the businesses occupying buildings in the District reflect the same variety of commercial uses that have characterized Glasco throughout its history. These include: a general merchandise and grocery store, a machine shop, a variety/drug store and soda fountain, professional offices, a decorating and gifts store, and a café. The historic light industrial commercial buildings continue to perform, essentially, their original functions as lumber storage, seed/grain processing, and meat processing facilities. Community activities are still important in downtown Glasco. The Senior Citizens Center occupies Building #6 (Photograph #6) and the Glasco Historical Society Museum is located in Building #13 (Photograph #8, 9). Approximately one third of the buildings in the District are vacant.

The Glasco Community Foundation was incorporated in June of 1999 in response to the increasing endangerment of community assets. With a stated purpose to "[support] civic, cultural, and recreational activities that promote a quality of life leading to the continued existence of the Glasco community," historic preservation is a major component of their mission. The Glasco Community Foundation purchased Building #1 (Photograph #1, 3-6) to prevent its demolition and leases it to a grocery store. They have hosted history and humanities speakers as a means of building community awareness of cultural heritage and the Kansas Preservation Alliance honored the Glasco Community Foundation with their 2000 Award of Excellence. It is as a result of their initiative and concern for their community that this nomination is being submitted.

**DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE IN GLASCO, KANSAS**

Commercial development in Glasco after the arrival of the railroad reflected the Main Street prototype where business houses face onto a primary thoroughfare, an arrangement that reflects the circumstances of time and technological development. The deciding factor in the layout of these communities often related to physical factors, such as the location of the river or presence of a railroad line. In Glasco, the tracks ran along the north bank of the Solomon River where there was a gradual change in grade. To assure increased safety from annual flood waters, yet sustain access to freighting services, Glasco's commercial businesses clustered along its main commercial thoroughfare, Main Street, approximately one mile north of both the river and the tracks.

**COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURAL STYLES AND PROPERTY TYPES**

Access to water, the railroad, and suitable building materials influenced the location, configuration, and physical appearance of small communities such as Glasco in the state's late settlement period. A number of areas in Kansas contained limestone formations that supplied ready access to building materials in areas with scarce timber supply. In these locations, builders used local stone not only for foundations and decorative details, but also for entire buildings. In Cloud County, the Republican River valley was historically known for the "extensive quarries of limestone, while the majority of the quarries along the Solomon River are a red sandstone."<sup>34</sup> Glasco's downtown exemplifies this distinctive Kansas limestone construction. All but one building facing Main Street is constructed of local stone.

Most of the early commercial buildings in Kansas were simple temporary structures capable of housing various business functions. As soon as possible, owners replaced their first business houses with more permanent

<sup>34</sup> Cutler, Part 1, page 2.

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masonry structures, using local stone where available. Most were one or two stories in height with local merchants and businesses occupying the ground floor. Rooms on the upper floors served as professional offices, assembly rooms, or provided residential space for the merchants' families or tenants.<sup>35</sup>

The evolution of Glasco's commercial center mirrored that of other small communities in the region. In the cities and towns of the Midwest and West at this time, there was a physical and emotional need to make order from the chaos of the earlier settlement period and the Civil War. Through the boom years of the late nineteenth century, the shape of the downtown business center expanded as more retail shops, banks, industrial supply companies, offices, and hotels appeared. Within twenty years of the construction of the first permanent commercial structure, Glasco's central commercial district stretched two solid blocks along Main Street.

Most nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial buildings were constructed to be seen from the front rather than as freestanding objects. As a result, the main façade provided commercial architecture with its distinctive qualities. Sidewalls were often party walls, shared with, or secured to those of the adjacent structure. Walls at the end of blocks or facing onto alleys had simple, utilitarian design treatments. Lot dimensions determined the form and, commercial buildings filled most if not all of their respective lots. Most lots shared standard dimensions, were rectangular, and were much deeper than they were wide.<sup>36</sup>

The composition of most retail and industrial building facades can be reduced to a few simple designs that reveal the major divisions of function. Those designed for human occupation, rather than industrial processing or storage, reflected an effort to provide the greatest possible amount of natural light and air through the use of large display windows, transom windows, light wells and skylights.<sup>37</sup> Those designed for industrial processing and/or storage accommodate machinery, shelter and store goods, and provide limited front office space. In downtown Glasco, the extant historic buildings fall into three distinct types -- one- or two-part commercial blocks, agricultural processing facilities, and warehouse buildings. Materials, doors, windows, cornices, decorative details, and stylistic expressions were secondary characteristics that related to the basic compositional arrangement of the building.<sup>38</sup>

Whether executed in a popular style or a simple generic design, the downtown retail commercial buildings found in communities like Glasco commonly took the form of the one- or two-part commercial block building types.<sup>39</sup> Typically of masonry construction, these buildings are between one and two stories in height. They have a distinct hierarchy of architectural elements. All have a cornice at or above the roofline. A horizontal band of transom windows separates the first story storefronts from the upper stories, reflecting a visual division of uses. When there is a second story, the windows have defined lintels, sashes and sills. Recessed entrances (to first and

<sup>35</sup> "Kansas Preservation Plan Study Unit on the Period of Rural/Agricultural Dominance (1865-1900) (Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society, 1984), I-29.

<sup>36</sup> Richard Longstreth, *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. Washington D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1987), 17.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., 24, 29, 31

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second stories) and display windows fill the storefront area below the transom windows. Below the display window is a solid bulkhead supporting the window frames. In addition to the visually and/or physically supporting elements of the first floor storefront, pilasters and columns provide vertical definition, framing the ends of the display windows as well as the transition to the entrances.

**Late Victorian Styles**

The explosion in population after the end of the Civil War, which continued until the twentieth century, resulted in rapidly changing architectural styles that appealed to the citizens of the prosperous post-Civil War period. Late Victorian design reflected a new taste for decoration and the increasing desire to have the buildings themselves perceived as ornaments to the community. Downtown buildings typically featured applied cornices with patterned brickwork and corbels, elaborate brackets, dentils and complex moldings carved from wood or made from pressed metal. Storefronts and window surrounds also featured cast iron, stone, or wood trim. Advances in technology allowed for the mass production of such architectural ornaments. With access to rail lines, builders could easily order standard products from catalogs or purchase stock items at the local lumberyard or iron works.

The builders of the first permanent buildings in Kansas followed the vernacular building traditions and styles they had known in their home communities. They adapted the popular high styles of the time and modified them according to the skills and materials available in the new community.<sup>40</sup> Surviving examples of "high style" Late Victorian style commercial buildings in Glasco's downtown include versions of the Italianate style. All are two-story, limestone buildings with limestone detailing and flat roofs. Pronounced cornice moldings and details such as tooled limestone window arches and sills accentuate the formal balance of the design. The extant examples include four 1880s buildings on the north side of Main Street (Building #11-13, Photograph #1, 8, 9) and the 1902 grocery building at the southwest corner of Main and Fisher streets (Building #1, Photograph # 2).

**Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements**

Beginning in the 1890s, and well established in the first decade of the twentieth century, was a subtle shift in American architecture. The change had its origins in the growing progressive reform movement that eschewed the sentimentality and ornamental excesses of the Victorian era. Chicago's Columbian Exposition in 1893 played a major role in popularizing these changes, particularly in the Plains states. The Exposition introduced classical architectural forms and mass-produced building materials and products to the owners of businesses in rural and urban commercial centers.

More generic designs represent the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century American Movement Commercial Style that evolved during this period. These are the simple late Victorian and early twentieth century commercial buildings that have flat roofs, symmetrical fenestration, and traditional storefront designs. Most decorative, stylistic ornamentation occurs above the storefront or on the upper stories of the façade and includes a restrained parapet or false front treatment, rectangular windows and patterned brick ornament separating the ground floor from the upper façade wall. Ornament on these buildings was often limited to vernacular adaptations of popular architectural styles or vague references to a particular style.

<sup>40</sup> Kansas Preservation Plan. "The Period of Exploration and Settlement," 63.



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The majority of the buildings constructed in Glasco during the early to mid-twentieth century had simple plans and designs augmented by minimal architectural ornament. More often than not, brickwork was the vehicle for embellishment, which took the form of corbel courses, soldier brick lintels, and projecting header sills. (Building #2, 4, 6, 7, Photograph # 2, 4, 6).

As the nineteenth century drew to an end and the twentieth century progressed, plans for larger commercial buildings emerged, such as the department store building type. A variation of the larger commercial plan is the grouping of storefronts. Modest 25 to 30 foot-wide buildings began to appear integrated into three to six-unit blocks that created an impressive and modern effect on the downtown streetscape.<sup>41</sup> Examples of this commercial building type in Glasco include Buildings #14 – 22 (Photograph #1, 12). The cohesive horizontal emphasis is created by corbel courses of brick at the roofline and underscored by the continuous band of wide transom windows. The result of the rebuilding campaign subsequent to the devastating 1911 fire, each of these buildings shares a unified façade implying a single building block.

**Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Industrial Design**

The light industrial buildings found in communities like Glasco took the form of agricultural processing or warehouse building types. Located at the edge of the retail district, the design and materials of these buildings were function-specific. The builders utilized both traditional and new construction techniques and materials in a variety of combinations to create efficient, functional space. They are between one and four stories in height with flanking driveways and/or street/alley access. Depending upon their function, roof shapes were either flat, low-rise gable end or false front. The agricultural processing building type often includes irregular fenestration, transport bays, and front office space. The associated processing machinery drives the building form. The warehouse building type often includes multiple bays and an open floor plan for easy access to stored goods, and it lacks front office space. Stylistic concerns were secondary for each of these building types, often resulting in a false front treatment, restrained brick patternwork, or no decorative embellishment at all.

The industrial commercial buildings in the District reflect the same trend in generic design outside the “high styles” dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. While several of these buildings include design elements that could be considered Commercial Style, the absence of storefront display windows distinguishes them as industrial rather than retail in function. The 1903 Foster Lumber Company buildings represent the false front treatment applied to a functionally driven building design (Building #27, 29, Photograph #17-20).

The demand for cheap materials and swift construction techniques leading up to and through World War II led to numerous innovations. Materials such as aluminum and concrete saw increased use and widespread acceptance. By 1930, concrete block had been improved with a standard size and light-weight aggregate.<sup>42</sup> It became the

<sup>41</sup> Rifkind, 194.

<sup>42</sup> Richard Bergmann, “Blocks Like Rocks,” *Building Renovation*, Spring 1995, 49.

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quick, cheap, and easy substitute for traditional building methods. Rural communities like Glasco took advantage of these developments, especially with functional and industrial buildings (Building #23, Photograph # 13-16).

**HISTORIC ALTERATIONS**

Prosperous times during the first decades of the twentieth century spurred enhancements to existing nineteenth century facades and storefronts in an effort to modernize commercial space. Popular alterations to commercial buildings included new façade treatments, such as the application of stucco, which achieved a much-desired smooth and modern appearance. New brick facing with decorative corbel courses was also a widespread early twentieth century alteration. In downtown Glasco, Buildings #10, 11, and 13 represent these typical 1920s changes (Photograph 1, 7, 8).

The prosperity enjoyed by Kansans in the 1920s brought a general acceptance of designs inspired by the Modern Movement, which embraced artistic expression that complemented the modern machine age. The style originated in Europe and gained popularity in America in the late 1920s, becoming the first widely popular style in nearly three decades that departed from the traditional revival styles. As the sobering realities of the Great Depression set in, designs inspired by the austere Modern Movement began to appear in public architecture. As interpreted in America, the Moderne style of the 1930s featured cubic and cylindrical forms with a horizontal emphasis, smooth surfaces, curving shapes and a minimum of ornamentation. Cast concrete, buff-colored brick, glass, and steel replaced dark red brick and stone. Art Deco brought structural glass and marble as well as bronze and terracotta into common usage in commercial and institutional buildings. The 1933 drugstore building in downtown Glasco (Building #5, Photograph #4, 5) reflects vernacular Moderne styling through the use of both strong vertical elements and buff-colored brick.

In rural Kansas communities like Glasco, the influence of Modern Movement styling is also reflected in common storefront alterations. Typical enhancements included the installation of aluminum-framed display windows, structural glass or tile bulkhead cladding, and the application of stucco to achieve a smooth, modern appearance (Building #1, 11, 12, 13, Photograph #8, 9)

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The surviving historic buildings in the Glasco Downtown Historic District reflect a continuum of commercial enterprises and the corresponding evolution of commercial architecture in Glasco from the late-nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century. They are significant as a surviving group of buildings and structures that represent Glasco's commercial and architectural history. As the largest concentration of extant buildings that retain their historic architectural integrity and associations with the city's commercial past, they form a distinct district with a visible sense of time and place.

Late nineteenth century commercial enterprises in downtown Glasco represented by these buildings include: dry goods and clothing stores; shoe shops; hardware, grocery and produce dealers; druggists; restaurants and saloons; hotels; barber shops; undertakers and furniture dealers; organizational meeting rooms and harness shops – goods and services necessary to the daily life of a growing Kansas community. Luxury items became available in Glasco

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as businesses expanded to include florists, confectioner shops, millenaries, jewelers, photographers, and book and stationary stores. With the progression of the twentieth century, many of these enterprises continued to be part of the city's economy. Later the dime store replaced the local mercantile or dry goods store. Automobile service stations replaced harness shops and livery stables, and the movie theater replaced the opera house. Throughout the late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth centuries, the second floor spaces of the two-part commercial blocks housed professional offices for doctors, dentists, lawyers and real estate agents, and fraternal organizations.

Late nineteenth century examples of commercial architecture in downtown Glasco include the 1880 Biggs Building, the first permanent structure built on Main Street, and four Late Victorian Italianate style two-part commercial blocks with distinctive tooled limestone detailing. Commercial Style buildings constructed during the early twentieth century comprise the remainder of the retail district along Main Street. As a grouping, these buildings reflect the continuum of commercial architectural development in Glasco. Included in this collection are examples of popular alterations made to commercial buildings through the World War II era as part of the general evolution of commercial design.

The extant light industrial buildings represent the same evolution through the early to mid-twentieth century. They each exhibit different characteristics based on function, competitive location, contemporary construction technology and materials, reflecting their functional design with little, if any, decorative embellishment. In addition, their size, scale and massing visually link them, retaining the feelings and associations that connect them to the retail district.

The buildings in the Glasco Downtown Historic District are significant as a group of buildings that represent a cross-section of the retail and light industrial commercial property types historically found in small, rural communities throughout the Midwest. Of the 29 buildings and structures that comprise the Glasco Downtown Historic District, over 75 percent are one or two-part commercial blocks with varying degrees of architectural styling and ornament. The balance of the buildings, while similar in design, had light-industrial/commercial mixed-use functions, including agricultural processing and warehousing. The commonality of form and commercial function unifies the District. These buildings reflect the patterns of commercial development that became established in Kansas and in small towns throughout the Midwest during the mid-nineteenth century and remained dominant for another hundred years. As a result, the size and extent of Glasco's extant commercial buildings serve as an index of its economic development.

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**HISTORIC PHOTO DOCUMENTATION**



**A: Main Street, c.1905, looking east**



**B: Main Street, 1911 fire ruins, looking south from Buffalo Street**

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**C: Main Street, c.1912, looking east**



**D: Main Street, c.1912, looking southeast**

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**E: Main Street, 1951 flood, looking west**

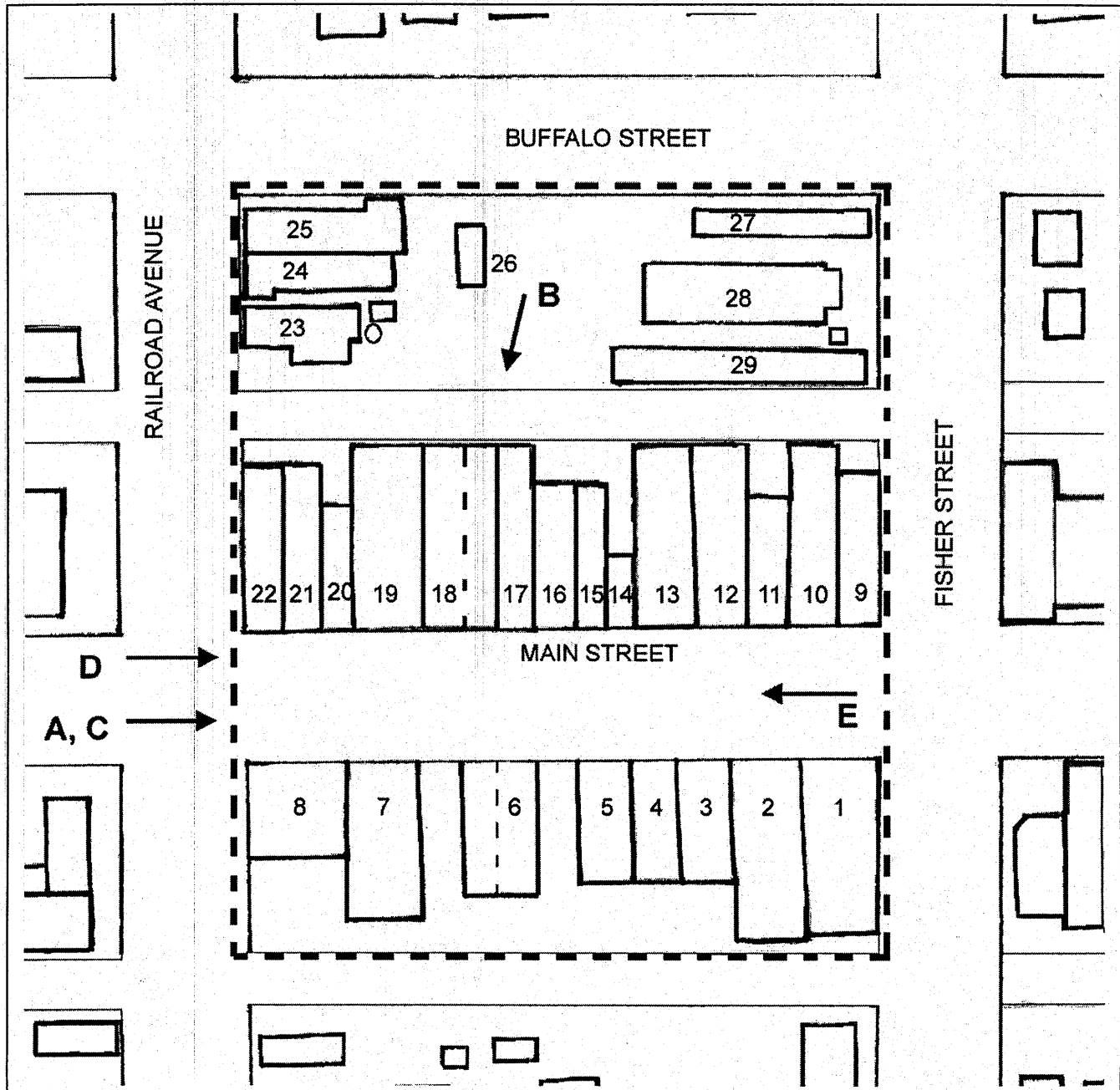
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**HISTORIC PHOTO DOCUMENTATION MAP**



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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

The boundary of Glasco Downtown Historic District is shown as the dotted line on the attached boundary map.

**Boundary Justification:**

The Glasco Downtown Historic District includes the city lots of those properties that represent the remaining significant concentration of commercial and industrial buildings in Glasco that retain their historic architectural integrity. Beyond the district boundaries to the north, south and west are residential neighborhoods. The surviving historic commercial buildings to the east have lost their architectural integrity and are no longer eligible for listing on the National Register.

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Section Photographic Documentation Page 44

Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Glasco, Kansas

**PHOTO LOG**

Photographer: Kerry Davis, Kansas City, Missouri  
Date of Photographs: October 2001  
Location of Original Negative: City of Glasco, Cloud County, Kansas

Photograph Number	Camera View	Street Address / Intersection
1.	West	Buildings 1-4 (L) and 9-22 (R)
2.	Southwest	Buildings 1-5
3.	East	Buildings 1-4 (R) and 9-16 (L)
4.	Southeast	Buildings 2-5
5.	South	Building 5
6.	Southeast	Buildings 1-8, including pocket park and vacant lot
7.	Northwest	Buildings 9-22
8.	Northeast	Buildings 9-15
9.	North	Buildings 11, 12
10.	North	Buildings 15-18
11.	North	Building 18, 19
12.	Northeast	Buildings 9-22
13.	Northeast	Buildings 21, 22; Structure 23 and Buildings 24, 25 in background
14.	Northeast	Structure 23 and Buildings 24, 25
15.	Southeast	Structure 23 and Buildings 24, 25
16.	Southwest	Buildings 26 (L), 25 (R), and 23 background
17.	Southwest	Buildings 27, 28, 29 and 1, 9 in background
18.	Northwest	Building 27
19.	Southwest	Building 28
20.	Southwest	Building 29 and truck scale
21.	West	Alley between Main and Buffalo streets; Building 29 (R)
22.	South	Brick sidewalk along Fisher Street; Building 9
23.	Northwest	Buildings 9, 10 (L) and 27, 29 (R)

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Section Owners Page 46

Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

**PROPERTY OWNERS**

PROPERTY #	LOT AND BLOCK NUMBER	OWNER(S)	MAILING ADDRESS
1.	E 44' of Lot 1, Block 10	Glasco Community Foundation	P.O. Box 572, Glasco, KS 67445
2.	W 22' of Lot 1 & E 16' of Lot 2, Block 10	Glasco Community Foundation	P.O. Box 572, Glasco, KS 67445
3.	Center 26' of Lot 2, Block 10	Berndt, Brian L.	304 E. Elm, Glasco, KS 67445
4.	W 23.25' of Lot 2, Block 10	Martin, Dennis L.	307 N. Railroad, Glasco, KS 67445
5.	E 32' of Lot 3, Block 10	Wyatt, Judy A.	107 S. West, Glasco, KS 67445
6.	E 46' of Lot 4, Block 10	Glasco Senior Citizens	Senior Center, Main St., Glasco, KS 67445
7.	Center 40' of Lot 5, Block 10	Miller, Gerald G. and Sandra	310 W. Main, Glasco, KS 67445
8.	W 22' and tract W of Lot 5, Block 10	Wampler, Donald D.	1727 Fir Street, Pampa, TX 79065
9.	E 25.25' of Lot 10, Block 9	Embree, Dana	202 E. 2 <sup>nd</sup> St., Glasco, KS 67445
10.	Center 22' of Lot 10, Block 9	Embree, Dana	202 E. 2 <sup>nd</sup> St., Glasco, KS 67445
11.	W 18' of Lot 10 & E 5.5' of Lot 9, Block 9	Cramer, Ruth	518 Sunset Ave., Manhattan, KS 67445
12.	23.5' W of E 5.5' of Lot 9, Block 9	Cramer, Ruth	518 Sunset Ave., Manhattan, KS 67445
13.	26' E of W 9.75' of Lot 9, Block 9	Glasco Historical Society	Main Street, Glasco, 67445
14.	W 9.75' of Lot 9 & E 5' of Lot 8, Block 9	Lyle Davidson	P.O. Box 516, Glasco, KS 67445
15.	14.5' W of E 5' of Lot 8, Block 9	Ernsbarger, Charles and Rebecca	Heartland Computers, Glasco, KS 67445
16.	22.5' E of W 24' of Lot 8, Block 9	Halfhide, Randy	107 W. 1 <sup>st</sup> St., Glasco, KS 67445
17.	W 24' of Lot 8, Block 9	Nauman, Kelly	Kelly's Kafe, Main St., Glasco, KS 67445
18.	E 46.25' of Lot 7, Block 9	Gates, Lorn	109 Custer, Delphos, KS
19.	W 19.75' of Lot 7 & E 26.5' of Lot 6, Block 9	Gates, Lorn	109 Custer, Delphos, KS
20.	20' W of E 26.5' of Lot 6, Block 9	Williamson, Mary	P.O. Box 186, Delphos, KS

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Glasco Downtown Historic District  
Cloud County, Kansas

21.	W 19.5' of Lot 6 & E 6.5' of Tract W of Lot 6, Block 9	Cool, Kelly L. and Laurie A.	RR 1, Glasco, KS 67445
22.	W 26.6' of Tract W of Lot 6, Block 9	Heidrick, John W. and Sherry L.	1811 Lyman, Apt. 8, Hutchinson, KS 67501
23.	W 39.5' of S 45.5' of Lot 5 & S 45.5' of Tract W of Lot 5, Block 9	Schrandt, Steve	P.O. Box 546, Glasco, KS 67445
24. 25.	W 16' of Lot 4 & E 26.5' of Lot 5 & N 70' of W 39.5' of Lot 5 & N 70' of Tract W of Lot 5, Block 9	Cool, Kelly L. and Laurie A.	RR 1, Glasco, KS 67445
26.	E 50' of Lot 4, Block 9	Dwyer, James D.	
27. 28. 29.	Lots 1, 2, 3, Block 9	Brillhart, Max and Donna	303 N. Railroad, Glasco, KS 67445