



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name Harper Standpipe

Other names/site number Harper Water Tower; KHRI #077-50

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number 1012 Ash Street not for publication

City or town Harper vicinity

State Kansas Code KS County Harper Code 077 Zip code 67058

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Patrick Zollner

5-15-17

Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO

Date

Kansas State Historical Society

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

7/10/17
Date of Action

Harper Standpipe
Name of Property

Harper County, Kansas
County and State

5. Classification

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

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

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

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

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

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Industry/Processing/Extraction: Waterworks

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Industry/Processing/Extraction: Waterworks

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: No Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete
walls: Metal

roof: Metal
other: Brick (interior)

Harper Standpipe

Name of Property

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Narrative Description

Summary

The Harper Standpipe, finished in 1887, is located in the city of Harper, Harper County, Kansas, at 1012 Ash Street on a city-owned lot. The total height of the standpipe is 125'-0". The 25'-0" concrete base is octagonal. The 100'-0" pipe is constructed of riveted iron plate and is 15'-0" in diameter. It has a water capacity of 125,000 gallons. A 9'-0" long fish wind direction indicator is on top of the conical roof. The fish was named one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas Customs finalists.¹ The standpipe is in its original location with "HARPER" painted vertically on it. The Harper Standpipe retains excellent integrity as a late 19th century standpipe once ubiquitous in Kansas towns as waterworks were developed.

Elaboration

Harper's standpipe is located within a mostly residential neighborhood about three blocks due west of the central business district (*Figure 1*). The 42'-0" x 50'-0" lot is bounded on the east by Ash Street; to the south by a metal building on an adjacent parcel; on the west by the property line between lots 11 and 12; and on the north by the mid-block alley (*Figure 2*). A partial concrete driveway leads between the standpipe and the metal building from Ash Street; the remainder of the nominated parcel is mown grass. In the 1960s a radio tower was installed adjacent to the north of the standpipe; all that remains today is an iron box atop which the tower was located.

The standpipe itself consists of an iron-clad cylindrical holding tank atop an octagonal concrete (over stone) base. A conical iron roof covers the pipe with a weathervane shaped like a fish at the center of the cone. When first constructed, the base was built using local stone. In 1913 the stone exterior was reinforced with concrete and iron straps, creating the base as seen today. Historically the standpipe had a flat roof; a conical metal roof was installed at an unknown date.

The octagonal base measures 25'-0" high and 30'-0" square.² This concrete base added in 1913 was poured in vertical lifts and steps back twice approximately four inches, making the top of the base a smaller diameter than at ground level. Only one opening occurs in the base, and this is centered in the east-facing octagon face. The inset doorway (with non-historic door) contains an arched header. Five iron straps with turnbuckles encircle the concrete base. The concrete itself is in fair condition with cracking and spalling noticeable in places, especially at lift joints. The interior of the base is accessed through the east door. The exterior walls are comprised of stone blocks. At the center of the base is a square brick structure inside of which is the beginning of the standpipe. A small (approximately 30") walkway allows access to all sides of this structure. The ceiling is comprised of stone wedges.

The 15'-0" diameter standpipe rises 100'-0" from the center of the base.³ The pipe is attached to the base by a pair of riveted triangular brackets centered on each face of the octagonal base. The rectangular iron plates (approx. 10'-0" long x 5'-0" high) are installed horizontally with their riveted edges centered on the rows above and below (like running bond in brickwork). The town's name, HARPER, is vertically painted on both the east and west sides of the cylindrical standpipe. A narrow metal ladder is attached to the standpipe adjacent to the east side's lettering. It begins at the top of the tower's base. Next to this ladder is a cylindrical downspout that drains the roof.

¹ In 2010 the Kansas Sampler Foundation published a guidebook, *8 Wonders of Kansas*, with the purpose of helping the "world get to know Kansas and to encourage the public to explore Kansas." Along with the statewide eight wonders, eight additional wonders were selected for categories ranging from architecture to people. "Checking the weather in Harper" was a finalist for the Customs category. <https://www.kansassampler.org/8wonders/index.php>

² Measurements are approximate. The [*Harper*] *Daily Graphic* (August 27, 1886): 3, gives the base diameter as 30' square but the base height 20'. Later dimensions given in the *Harper Sentinel* from the summer of 1887 say the base is 25' tall but never give a diameter. This measurements were also based on the stone foundation; the later concrete addition increased the diameter of the base.

³ The September 17, 1887, *Harper Sentinel* gives these dimensions, specifying that the 15' diameter is an interior dimension; this is the only known source to specify this interior dimension. Others just list 15' diameter, including M.N. Baker, ed., *The Manual of American Water-Works*, Vol. 1 (New York: Engineering News, 1889), 435 [digitized online]; available from [Google Books](https://books.google.com/books), <<https://books.google.com/books>> (accessed January 19, 2017). At the time, heights between 25' and 250' were common, "with the majority in the eighty to one hundred twenty-five foot range. Diameters of five to forty feet were reported, with most in the fifteen to thirty foot range" [Carol Ann Dubie, "The Architecture and Engineering of Elevated Water Storage Structures: 1870-1940," Master's thesis, (George Washington University, 1980), 39].

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The conical metal roof is painted red and slightly overhangs the standpipe.⁴ Centered atop this roof is the most defining feature of the Harper Standpipe: a 9'-0" long metal fish attached to a vertical rod. The fish acts as a weathervane, moving with the wind. The rod was historically 16'-0" tall but was shortened at some point prior to 1960 (*Figures 3 & 4*).

⁴ The standpipe's conical roof appears to have been installed sometime after 1907, as the photo from that year (Figure 3) shows a flat roof.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

Community Planning & Development

Engineering

Period of Significance

1886-1913

Significant Dates

1886

1913

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

C.W. Hill & Associates (builder)

Shickle, Harrison, & Howard Iron Works Co.

(manufacturer)

Period of Significance (justification)

Construction of Harper's standpipe began in 1886. The base was altered in 1913, when the standpipe acquired its current appearance. Therefore the period of significance begins with the construction and ends in 1913; although, the standpipe continues to serve the city of Harper.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

N/A

Harper Standpipe

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Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The Harper Standpipe, started in 1886 and finished in 1887, is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with community planning and development and under Criterion C for its engineering method of construction. It is a unique example of a late 19th century standpipe with a base constructed of local materials and a standpipe constructed of riveted iron plates. The fish wind direction indicator on top still moves, and the standpipe is in current use as a part of the city water system.

Elaboration

Harper County, Kansas, was first organized in 1873. The following year after an investigation into the organization and indebtedness of the county, the investigative committee reported to the state legislature that "gross and inexcusable frauds have been engaged by those who engaged in planning and procuring the organization of said county..."⁵ Kansas Attorney General Archibald L. Williams, reporting on the claim that the county contained 600 people when organized, stated, "It is not pretended that Harper County ever had an inhabitant; it is doubtful even if the bond makers of that county ever were in the county."⁶ In 1878 the organization finally became legal. The population of Harper County in 1880 was just over 4,000 inhabitants.⁷

The city of Harper is the oldest town in the county; although, the town of Anthony ten miles to the south is the county seat. According to an article from the *Anthony Journal* of October 24, 1878, "Cora City was laid out and located April 16, 1877."⁸ It was the first city in Harper County and after some rethinking by the residents the name was changed to Harper City in 1878.⁹ On September 7, 1880 Harper was organized as a city of the third class.¹⁰

The 1880s were a time of great growth for Harper. By 1880 the Kansas City, Lawrence & Southern Kansas Railroad (KCL&SK), which later became part of the Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Railway (ATSF), reached the city. Recalling the early days of Harper, resident John B. Potter stated in 1961, "Kansas was prospering, including Harper, in the early 80's."¹¹ He further recalled:

The town was ideally situated to grow...[sic] it was the end of the railroad which gave an advantage as the folks living further west came to Harper to do their trading; also people moving west to establish homes got as far as Harper, liked the surroundings and stayed here. There was plenty of work for everyone...[sic] building new buildings, homes, etc. ... I feel like they should call it "The Gay Eighties" instead of "The Gay Nineties" because everyone seemed to be gay and happy.¹²

Due to its rapid growth Harper was considered a boom town. In 1882 the town's population was 779; by 1884, the town population was estimated at 2,000 people.¹³

During this boom period several multi-story buildings were constructed in the town's downtown area (*Figure 5*). When the Sanborn Map & Publishing Company surveyed the town in 1884 for fire insurance purposes, they noted that the water facilities in Harper were "not good."¹⁴ While several wells were available, Harper had no waterworks or hydrants for fighting fires. To address this issue, the June 8, 1886, city council met in a special session. As the following day's *Harper Graphic* reported:

⁵ Gwendoline and Paul Sanders, *The Harper County Story* (North Newton, Kansas: The Mennonite Press, 1968), 29.

⁶ Sanders, *The Harper County Story*, 29 & William Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas* (Chicago: A.T. Andreas, 1883), n.p. [transcription on-line] available from Kansas Collection Books, <http://www.kancoll.org/books/cutler/harper/harper-co-p5.html#HARPER> (accessed December 7, 2016).

⁷ U.S. Federal Decennial Census, Harper County, 1880.

⁸ As transcribed in Sanders, *The Harper County Story*, 101.

⁹ Sanders, *The Harper County Story*, 101.

¹⁰ Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas*, n.p.

¹¹ Roy E. Carr, compiler, *Condensed History of the City of Harper, Kansas and Surrounding Territory, 1877-1961* (Harper, Kansas: Self-published, 1961), 54.

¹² John B. Potter as quoted in Carr's *Condensed History of the City of Harper*, 54. The ellipses are as quoted from the source.

¹³ Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas*, n.p. & "Harper, Kansas," (New York, New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, Ltd., 1884): 1 [digitized on-line] Kansas Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Collection, Kenneth Spencer Library, University of Kansas <https://lib.ku.edu/sanborn-maps> (accessed December 7, 2016).

¹⁴ "Harper, Kansas," 1884 map, 1.

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After Mayor [R.A.] Wright reported the results of his trip of investigation [into other cities' waterworks], Mr. Forrey moved that the council proceed to procure water works. The motion was carried, all voting aye.

On motion of Mr. Amsden, the council voted to instruct the clerk to prepare advertisements for bids on furnishing the city of Harper with water; said advertisements to be published in the city papers, and copies of the same to be sent to interested companies; all bids to be in by June 25.¹⁵

In the following issue of the paper, June 16, the editors complained on the front page of the *Harper Graphic* that the timeline established by the city council was not reasonable given the amount of time companies would need to develop a cost estimate.¹⁶ By June 30 the paper reported that "definite bids had not been delivered to the city" yet. In their own investigation, the *Harper Graphic* editors consulted with a Mr. E.J. Snow of the Comegys & Lewis Company (New York), who happened to be in town, about estimated costs to construct a waterworks. Based on the company's bids for Paola and Lawrence, Kansas, Mr. Snow estimated that Harper's system would not cost less than \$60,000 (\$1.46 million in today's money).¹⁷

At the time of Harper's waterworks development in the 1880s, the two most common types of water storage systems were elevated tanks and standpipes.¹⁸ In her 1980 Master's thesis Carol Ann Dubie explains, "The economics of standpipes were their greatest selling point, particularly for communities constructing their first water works system" like was the case in Harper.¹⁹ Standpipes were relatively inexpensive and were perceived to be simpler to design and erect than more elaborate water towers.²⁰ Unlike the water towers, standpipes were simple structures "fabricated of wrought or cast iron or steel plates of varying thickness, riveted together in rings...."²¹ These metal tubes were set atop a masonry base and "anchored to the foundation with rods extending through the bedplate into the foundation, and exterior brackets at the outside of the base and foundation. Additional support was often provided through guy wires attached to collars on the metal shell."²² Guy wires were not needed in Harper.

By the end of July 1886, C.W. Hill of Wellington, Kansas, was granted the contract "to construct and operate water works in the city of Harper."²³ Mr. Hill had visited the city earlier that month "to survey the field and give us a bid for the construction of our water works."²⁴ The agreement between the city and Hill amounted to an annual rental rate of \$50 per fire hydrant for the next 20 years; 60 hydrants were expected to be installed. At least five miles of pipe were included in the bid, which would connect two sets of pumps at the water source that were to supply not less than 1.5 million total gallons of water in a 24-hour period. Fees for individuals and businesses were outlined in the contract and were said to be lower than in neighboring communities. Labor costs were expected to be around \$40,000 (\$972,342) and men from Harper were to be first in line for the work.²⁵ Mayor Wright supervised the project even after he left office, as he was part of the privately-held Harper Water Company.

At the end of August 1886, plans for the waterworks were complete. Besides the hydrants and miles of piping, two structures were planned to be constructed as part of the system: a pump house and a standpipe. The pump house, which was specified to be masonry and of a "neat style of architecture," was to be located at either Spring Creek (to the west of Harper) or Sand Creek (to the east) (*Figure 6*).²⁶ Although not mentioned in available papers, the location of the standpipe was to be chosen based on the final location of the well. The standpipe's design received considerably more attention, as the editors of *The Daily Graphic* noted:

The stand pipe also will be a structure worthy to look upon. It will rest on a stone foundation 30 feet square. The first 20 feet of the tower will be of cut stone from the Winfield quarries. This part of the structure will not be uniform in size from top to bottom. At the top of the first 5 feet there will be a break and the second 5 feet will be set in 8 inches, the third 5 feet 8 inches more and the next five feet 8 inches more. At the top of the stonework, running all

¹⁵ "Council Meeting," *Harper Graphic* (June 9, 1886): 3.

¹⁶ *Harper Graphic* (June 16, 1886): 1.

¹⁷ *Harper Graphic* (June 30, 1886): 3 & 4.

¹⁸ Dubie, 10.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 41.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, 37.

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² *Ibid.*, 37 & 39.

²³ "Water Works," *The Daily Graphic* (July 28, 1886): 3.

²⁴ "Water Works," *The Daily Graphic* (July 16, 1886): 3.

²⁵ "Water Works" and "Ordinance No. 170," *The Daily Graphic* (July 28, 1886): 3.

²⁶ "Ordinance No. 170," *The Daily Graphic* (July 28, 1886): 3.

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around the stand pipe (which will rise through the centre [sic] of this to a height of 120 feet) is a walk way around which will be an iron railing.²⁷

An iron railing was specified also for the top of the standpipe. The decorative railing was a common treatment of these standpipes at the time due to the engineering profession's disdain of the "plain cylinders of iron thrust up into the air like enormous steam boilers, much elongated and set on end, or like very thick, unsharpened led pencils...."²⁸ The railings for Harper's standpipe appear to have never been installed.

Land along Spring Creek was secured in the latter part of August. A "force of men" was immediately hired to start digging the well.²⁹ On September 7, the *Harper Daily Sentinel* reported, "The workmen who are digging the test well for the water works, struck a first-class water supply yesterday, which settles the location of the works permanently."³⁰ The standpipe was to be built approximately one mile east of the artesian well along Spring Creek (*Figures 7 & 8*).³¹

Work on the waterworks plant and the standpipe occurred concurrently. The New Year's Day 1887 issue of the *Harper Sentinel* reported that the hole for the standpipe's foundation had been dug.³² By mid-February the paper reported the waterworks smokestack was complete, and more men were hired to complete the engine house.³³ The standpipe's stone foundation was well underway by the end of March, reaching a height of eight feet by mid-April.³⁴

At least two destructive fires in downtown Harper occurred in April 1887.³⁵ The city procured a fire wagon in March, but the fires showed "how badly we [Harper] need the waterworks."³⁶ The fires spurred the city to establish a fire department in the middle of May to enable firemen to train before the waterworks were fully operational.³⁷ The pump house appears to have been completed around the time the fire department was established, and the city anxiously awaited the completion of the standpipe and the laying of the water mains.³⁸

Work continued on the standpipe and water mains throughout May and well into the summer of 1887. Although the standpipe pieces themselves arrived in town at the beginning of May, erection of the pipe did not begin until July due to unspecified delays.³⁹ The five-and-one-half miles of water lines were laid at the same time the standpipe was being erected.⁴⁰ A.M. "Pop" Carter, long-time Harper water superintendent, recalled working on laying the pipes in his 20s, "We got 12 and ½ [cents] an hour and worked 10. If you weren't there by 7 in the morning there would be a half a dozen there to take your place."⁴¹ Reporting on the standpipe's progress at the end of August, the *Harper Sentinel* wrote:

Those of our citizens who have not visited the stand-pipe now in course of erection, can spend an hour very pleasantly watching the process of erecting the gigantic pipe. It takes the form of a pipe or cylinder, only after it is elevated to its place on the foundation. The iron comes in flat sections with the holes drilled for the rivets and all ready to go up. These are hoisted one at a time and are riveted together after they have been placed in position.

A platform has been constructed on the inside of the pipe, which is fifteen feet clear in diameter, upon which the workmen stand to clinch the bolts on the inside. On the outside is a swinging platform so arranged as to move on small wheels around the outside of the pipe. A forge is kept on the inside platform in which the bolts are

²⁷ *The Daily Graphic* (August 27, 1886): 3.

²⁸ As quoted in Dubie, 42.

²⁹ *The Daily Graphic* (August 26, 1886): 3.

³⁰ *Harper Daily Sentinel* (September 7, 1886): 4.

³¹ "Harper, Kansas," (New York, New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Company, Ltd., 1891): 1 [digitized on-line] Kansas Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Collection, Kenneth Spencer Library, University of Kansas <https://lib.ku.edu/sanborn-maps> (accessed December 8, 2016).

³² *Harper Sentinel* (January 1, 1887): 7.

³³ *Harper Sentinel* (February 19, 1887): 7.

³⁴ *Harper Sentinel* (March 12, 1887): 7; (March 26, 1887): 4; & (April 16, 1887): 2.

³⁵ W.B. Wayland & Co., *General City Directory of Harper, Kansas* (Fort Scott, Kansas: Monitor Publishing House and Book Bindery, 1887), 10. These were also reported in the *Harper Sentinel*.

³⁶ *Harper Sentinel* (April 16, 1887): 1 & (April 30, 1887): 1.

³⁷ *Harper Sentinel* (May 21, 1887): 7.

³⁸ *Harper Sentinel* (April 30, 1887): 7. This article mentions that the pumps and boiler arrived, and once installed, the masonry of the pump house would be completed.

³⁹ *Harper Sentinel* (May 7, 1887): 5 & *Harper Sentinel* (July 16, 1887): 5.

⁴⁰ *Harper Sentinel* (July 16, 1887): 5.

⁴¹ A.M. "Pop" Carter, as quoted in Carr's *Condensed History of the City of Harper*, 60-61.

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heated. The work is progressing rapidly, and the stand-pipe will be completed within the next sixty days. The work of laying the pipe is also being pushed rapidly, having now almost reached Central avenue.⁴²

The standpipe and water pipes were manufactured by the Shickle, Harrison, & Howard Iron Works Company out of St. Louis, Missouri. References in the local papers indicate the construction of the standpipe itself was done by workmen from or under the direction of the Shickle company.⁴³ Although no iron railings were installed, Harper's standpipe did receive a unique decorative feature in the shape of a fish. City records indicate the fish-shaped wind direction indicator on top of the standpipe was built by Sam Schurter, a local skilled tradesman. Schurter attached the nine-foot long fish to a 16'-0" pole, and with the help of several other men, installed it atop the standpipe. Harper's standpipe was declared finished September 16, 1887.⁴⁴

Although the water mains were in place by mid-October, heavy rains delayed the opening of the waterworks. The trenches were covered with dirt and leveled, but the rains caused the ditches to wash out. Repairs to pipes and trenches went relatively quickly; within a month, the line from the pump house to the standpipe was operational and the standpipe half filled.⁴⁵ The *Harper Sentinel* quietly announced the completion of the waterworks on November 26, 1887, with the following comical account on its third page:

At 3 o'clock this afternoon, the fire bell tapped a signal for the boys to try their speed in getting out and working their company to the fire plugs on the street. The boys got there in good style, but had to wait some time before they could work the coupling on account of not having any wrench with which to turn on the water. The water was finally turned into the hose, and quickly demonstrated that the pressure is sufficient to throw water over the highest buildings and the full pressure was not turned on. Two hose were attached, and the boys that were holding them, thought it would be funny to turn the streams unto [sic] each other and, for a few minutes they battled fiercely, until all were drenched to the skin, when it did not look so funny as it did at first. The water works are a success in every sense.⁴⁶

Upon completion the waterworks' two compound Smith & Valle engines had a daily pumping capacity of 750,000 gallons each; although, daily consumption was around 200,000 gallons under 52 lbs. of pressure (increased to 150 lbs. for fire suppression).⁴⁷ Water was first pumped to the 160,000 gallon standpipe, which then fed 100 taps and 65 hydrants throughout town.⁴⁸ According to city records, final payment on the contract was in January 1888.

Harper Water Company, whose superintendent was former Mayor Wright, operated the waterworks until about 1891 when it was closed down.⁴⁹ The annual operating costs were \$2,000 and revenue was close to \$1,500 a year, not including the city's annual payment of \$3,250.⁵⁰ Pop Carter recalls, "Times got bad and lots of people went to Oklahoma. They [the water company] only had about 30 customers."⁵¹ The tornado of 1892 destroyed a good part of the city. A large number of people chose not to rebuild and went to the 1893 land rush in Oklahoma.

In 1893 the city purchased the waterworks from the Harper Water Company for \$6,500 (\$176,000).⁵² The city then hired Pop Carter as water superintendent for \$55.00 a month to repair the system and get it operational. Carter recalled some of the work needed on the system:

The water had been in the stand pipe for five years so I emptied and cleaned it. ... The customers wouldn't fix their pipes which had frozen and busted and said the city couldn't run the plant. I fixed the pipes and turned the water on for a month then went around, but all paid up. We had 30 customers. ... The [1892] cyclone blew the fish off of the pipe and it rested on the edge of the stand pipe. I got Bruce Broadstone and we took the fish down and its head and tail were together.⁵³

⁴² "The Stand-Pipe," *Harper Sentinel* (August 27, 1887): 1. The practice of "suspending workmen and materials for the partially completed shell were discontinued" by the 1890s [Dubie, 42].

⁴³ *Harper Sentinel* (May 14, 1887): 4. The paper reported, "R.A. Wright received dispatch from Shickle, Harrison, & Howard, of St. Louis, yesterday asking when he would be ready to erect the water works stand pipe." Wright responded "immediately" to which Shickle, Harrison, & Howard replied they would be there "next week."

⁴⁴ *Harper Sentinel* (September 17, 1887): 4.

⁴⁵ *Harper Sentinel* (October 15, 1887): 5 & (November 19, 1887): 5.

⁴⁶ "Water Works Tested," *Harper Sentinel* (November 26, 1887): 3.

⁴⁷ M.N. Baker, ed., *The Manual of American Water-Works*, Vol. 1 (New York: Engineering News, 1889), 435 [digitized online]; available from Google Books, <<https://books.google.com/books>> (accessed January 19, 2017).

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ Carr, *Condensed History of the City of Harper*, 61.

⁵⁰ Baker, *The Manual of American Water-Works*, 435.

⁵¹ As quoted in Carr, *Condensed History of the City of Harper*, 61.

⁵² Carr, *Condensed History of the City of Harper*, 61.

⁵³ As quoted in Carr, *Condensed History of the City of Harper*, 61.

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In 1907 the water plant was rebuilt. In 1913, because of demand, a new well was dug that measured 20' in diameter and 40' deep. Water was pumped by two Smith Valle pumps, one 500 GPM the other 350 GPM. The base of the standpipe was reinforced with concrete and metal straps at this time. In 1913 there were 65 fire hydrants and 250 customers with a daily consumption of 200,000 gallons.⁵⁴ In later years three more wells were added.

The Harper Standpipe represents the early development of the city of Harper. The standpipe and waterworks provided healthy drinking water to the citizens of Harper and allowed for the creation of a fire department who could combat fires more easily. Few Kansas communities retain their original water holding features let alone continue to use them; however, with the exception of a few years in the 1890s, Harper's standpipe has been in continuous use since construction, and the city plans to continue using it. To that end a new mixer system was installed in 2013 to make it compatible with the city's new water tower instead of making it obsolete.

⁵⁴ C.A. Haskins & C.C. Young, *Engineering Bulletin 5. Water Supplies of Kansas: Part I—Ground Water Supplies*, Bulletin of the University of Kansas XVI (April 1, 1915): 112-113 [digitized online]; available from *Google Books*, <<https://books.google.com/books>> (accessed January 19, 2017).

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Baker, M.N., ed. *The Manual of American Water-Works*. Vol. 1. New York: Engineering News, 1889 [digitized online]; available from *Google Books*, <<https://books.google.com/books>> (accessed January 19, 2017).

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Haskins, C.A. & C.C. Young. *Engineering Bulletin 5. Water Supplies of Kansas: Part I—Ground Water Supplies*. Bulletin of the University of Kansas XVI (April 1, 1915): 112-113 [digitized online]; available from *Google Books*, <<https://books.google.com/books>> (accessed January 19, 2017).

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Sanders, Gwendoline & Paul. *The Harper County Story*. North Newton, Kansas: The Mennonite Press, 1968.

U.S. Federal Decennial Census, Harper County, 1880.

W.B. Wayland & Co. *General City Directory of Harper, Kansas*. Fort Scott, Kansas: Monitor Publishing House and Book Bindery, 1887.

Newspapers:

The *[Harper] Daily Graphic* (February 17, 1886 – August 31, 1886). Kansas Historical Society, State Archives, Microfilm Newspaper Collection, Roll H38.

Harper [Weekly] Graphic (June 9, 1886 – August 1, 1888). Kansas Historical Society, State Archives, Microfilm Newspaper Collection, Rolls H39 & H40.

Harper [Weekly] Sentinel (September 7, 1886 – November 19, 1887). Kansas Historical Society, State Archives, Microfilm Newspaper Collection, Rolls H51 & H52.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: Harper City Archives

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

Harper Standpipe
Name of Property

Harper County, Kansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one

Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.
(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>37.286547</u>	<u>-98.030500</u>	3	_____	_____
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The property boundaries are defined by the tract description: Glenn's Addition to Harper, Block 01, north 42' of lot 12.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

This is the tract historically associated with the standpipe.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Clayton Snyder, Harper city council member; edited by Amanda K. Loughlin (KSHS)
organization City of Harper, Kansas date January 2017
street & number 1020 W. Main telephone 620-532-2083
city or town Harper state KS zip code 67058
e-mail Clayton39@yahoo.com

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

name City of Harper
street & number 201 W. Main telephone 620-896-2511
city or town Harper State Kansas zip code 67058

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Harper Standpipe
Name of Property

Harper County, Kansas
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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Photographs

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

Photograph Log

Name of Property: Harper Standpipe

City or Vicinity: Harper

County: Harper State: Kansas

Photographer: Amanda K. Loughlin

Date Photographed: February 16, 2017

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

- 01 of 05:** Looking NE from the corner of Hickory & 11th streets
- 02 of 05:** Interior of base, looking up at ceiling from west side of brick center
- 03 of 05:** Interior of base, water control valve at east end
- 04 of 05:** View of base, looking NW
- 05 of 05:** Close-up of east side of tower, showing fish

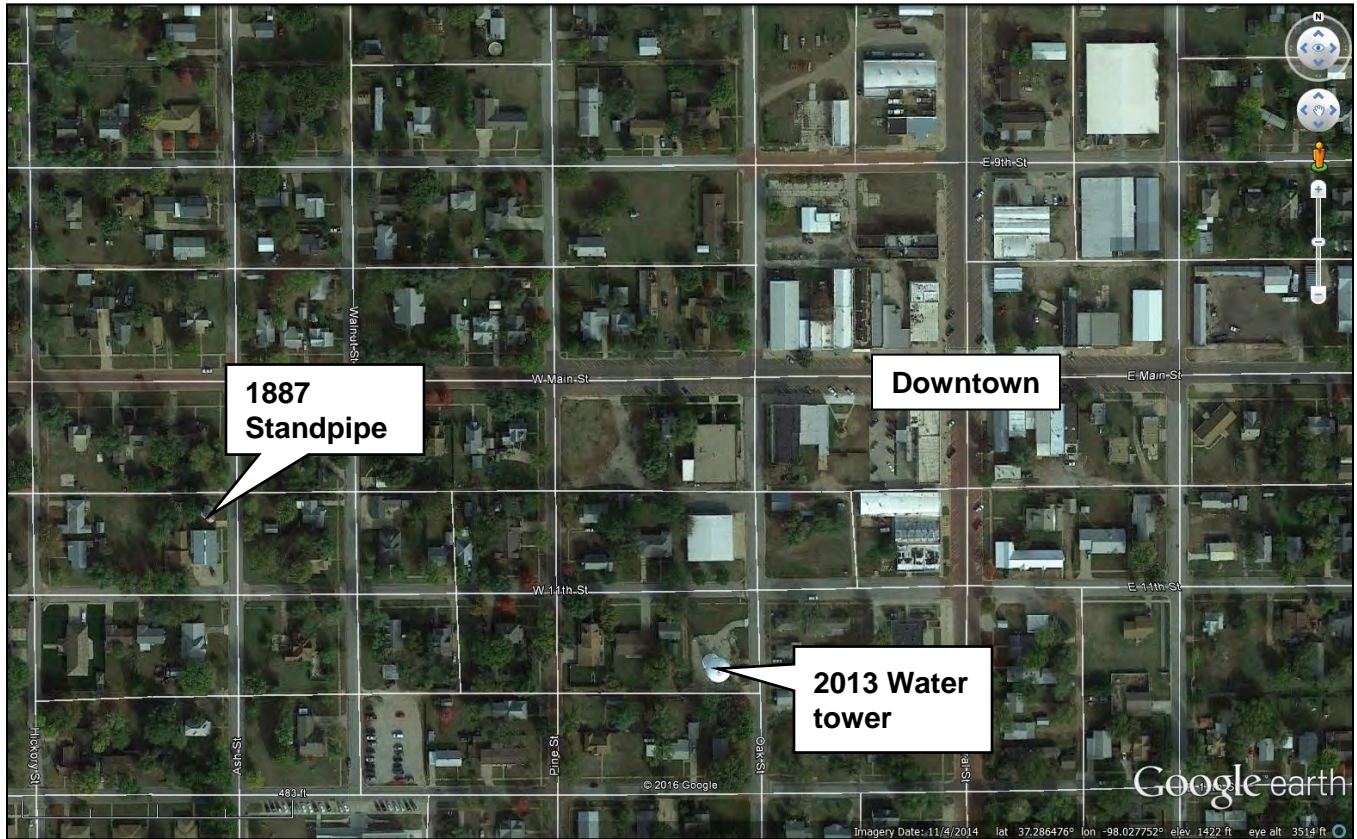
Figures

Include GIS maps, figures, scanned images below.

Harper Standpipe
Name of Property

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Figure 1. 2014 Google aerial image of Harper Standpipe in context.



Harper Standpipe
Name of Property

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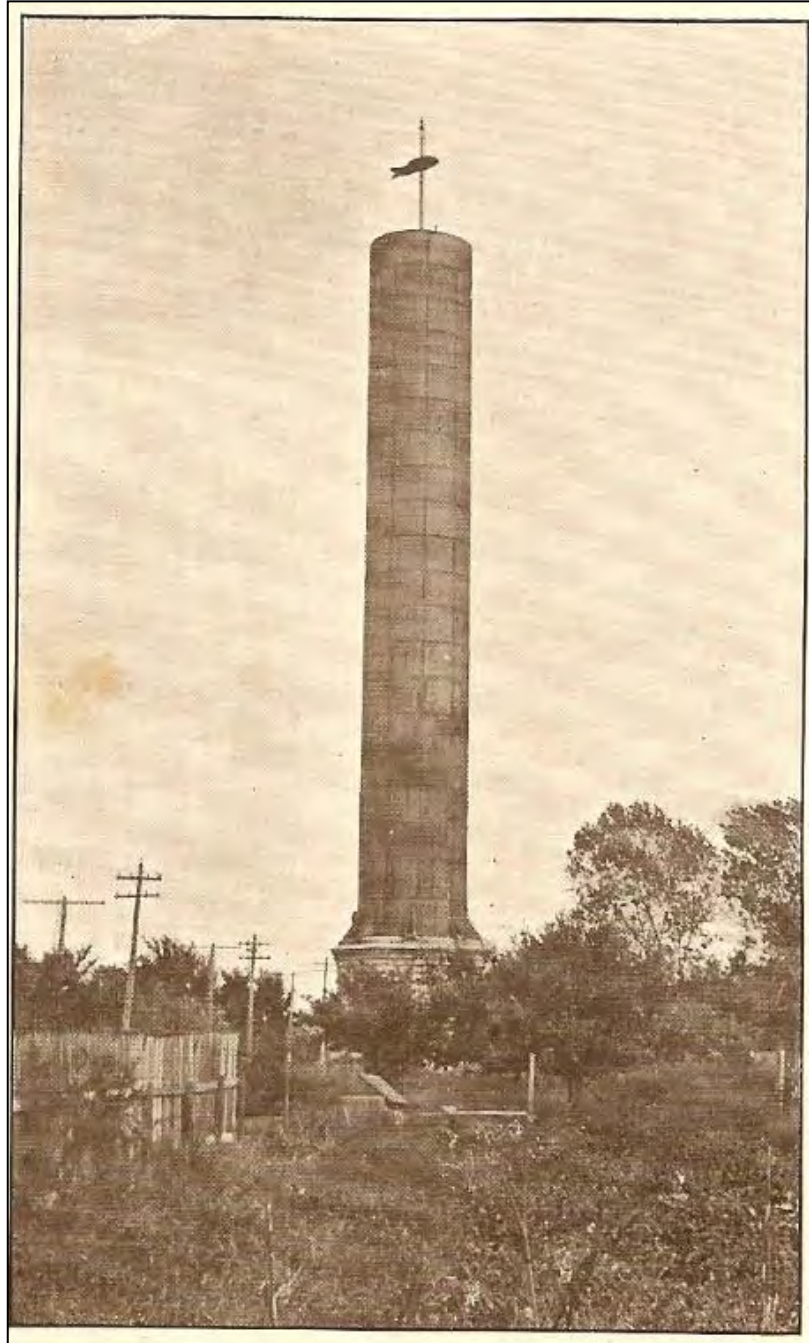
Figure 2 (Boundary Map). 2014 Aerial image with parcel overlays, showing location of standpipe.
Source: Harper County, Kansas GIS



Harper Standpipe
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Figure 3. Circa 1907 image.



Harper Standpipe
Name of Property

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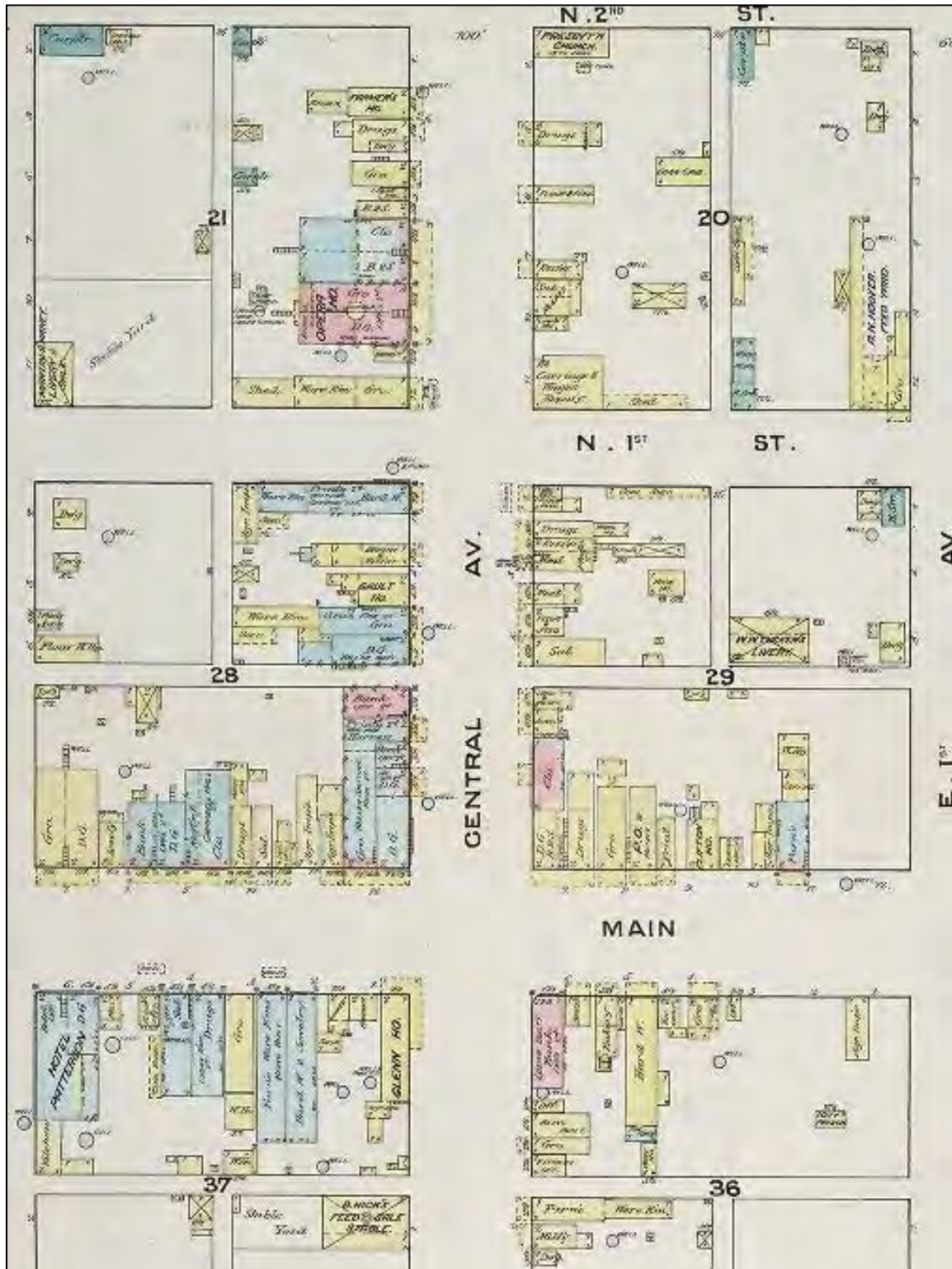
Figure 4. Circa 1960 image, looking west, and showing shortened rod at top of standpipe.



Harper Standpipe
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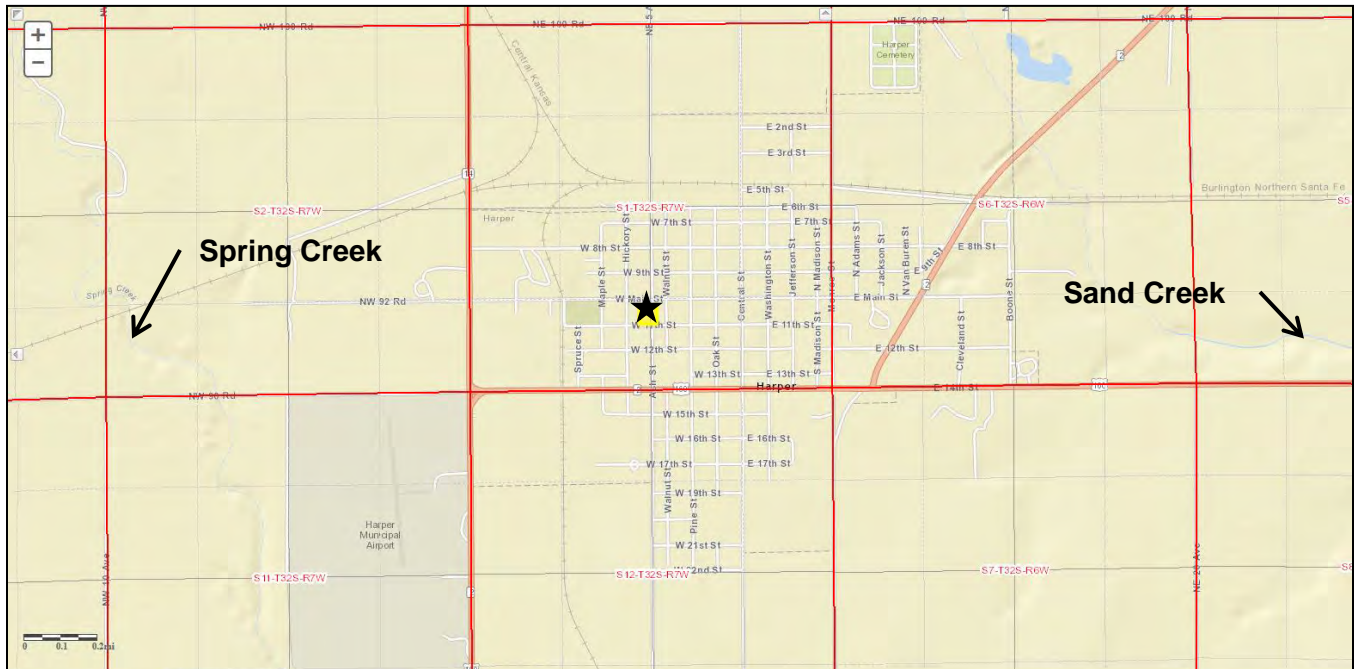
Figure 5. Page 2 of 1884 Sanborn map, showing concentration of buildings in downtown.



Harper Standpipe
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Figure 6. Map showing location of the two potential water sources in context of the standpipe (star).
Source: Kansas Historic Resources Inventory, kshs.org/khri



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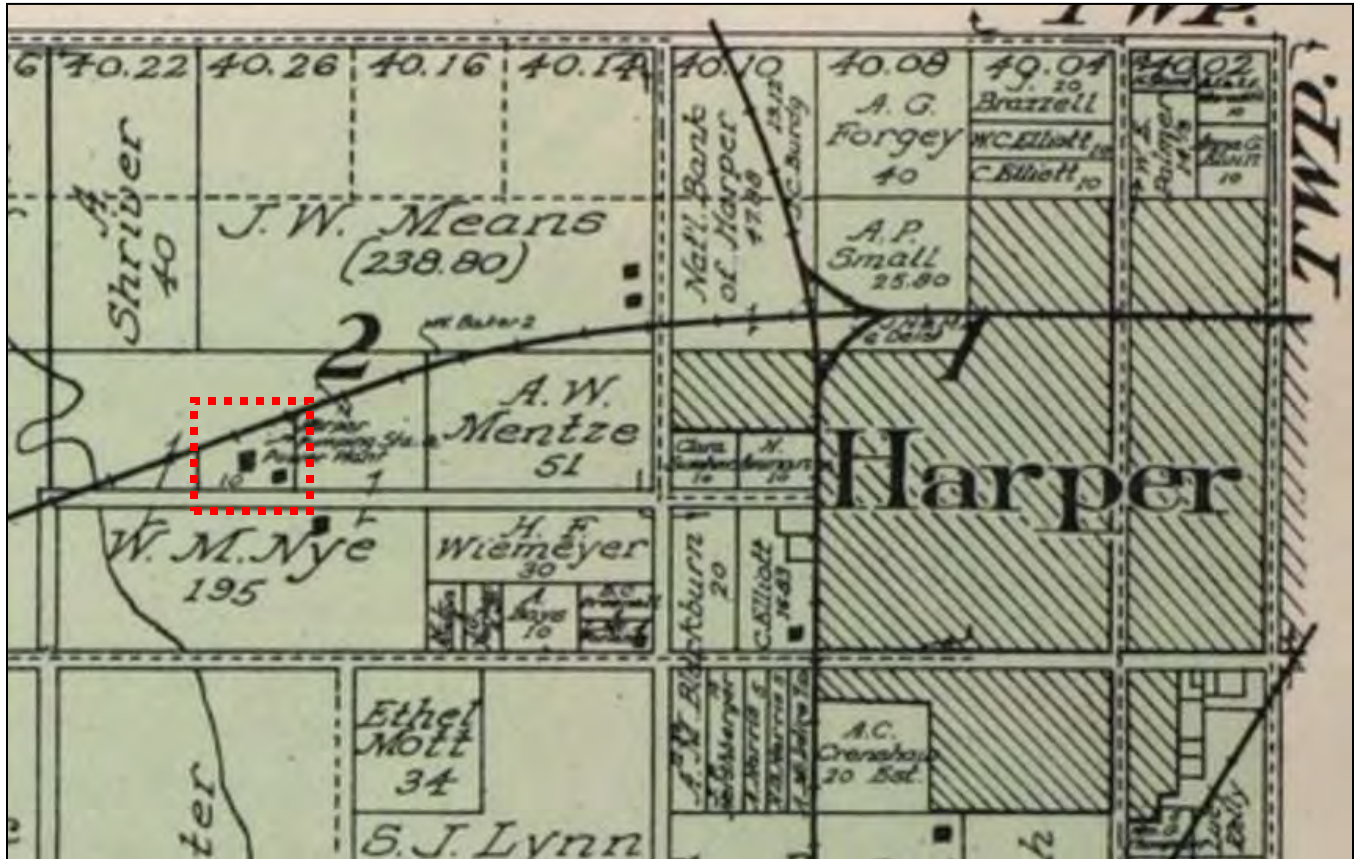
Figure 7. Snippet of the 1902 county atlas, showing location of water works plant.
“Banner Township,” *Standard Atlas of Harper County, Kansas* (Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1902), 23.



Harper Standpipe
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Figure 8. Snippet of the 1919 county atlas, showing location of water works plant.
"Banner Township," *Standard Atlas of Harper County, Kansas* (Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1919), 27.





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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 5/26/2017 Date of Pending List: 6/28/2017 Date of 16th Day: 7/13/2017 Date of 45th Day: 7/10/2017 Date of Weekly List: 7/13/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 7/10/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Alexis Abernathy Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2236 Date _____

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

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



6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615

Sam Brownback, Governor
Jennie Chinn, Executive Director

May 22, 2017

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

Re: National Register documents for Kansas

Dear Mr. Loether:

Please find enclosed the following National Register documents:

NEW NOMINATIONS (5)

- **Oak Hill Cemetery; Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas (new nomination)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, .kmz file, and letter of support;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

- **Keystone Ranch; Burns vicinity, Marion County, Kansas (new nomination) (nominated under the "Historic Agriculture-related Resources of Kansas" MPS)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination and .kmz file;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

- **Harper Standpipe; Harper, Harper County, Kansas (new nomination)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

- **Frisco Freight Depot; Pittsburg, Crawford County, Kansas (new nomination) (nominated under the "Historic Railroad Resources of Kansas" MPS)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination and email from owner;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

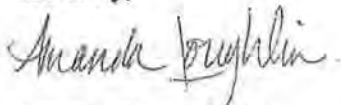
- **Newell-Johnson-Searle House; Oskaloosa, Jefferson County, Kansas (new nomination)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the nomination's first page;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the nomination, structural report referenced in nomination, and letters of support;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photographs.

REMOVAL REQUESTS (2)

- **Naomi & Leona Apartment Buildings; Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas (removal request)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the removal request;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the removal request;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photograph.
- **Ellington Apartment Building; Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas (removal request)**
 - Physical, signed copy of the removal request;
 - 1 CD (disk #1) with a PDF of the true and correct copy of the removal request;
 - 1 CD (disk #2) with photograph.

If you have any questions about these enclosed items, please contact me at ext. 216 or Amanda.Loughlin@ks.gov.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures