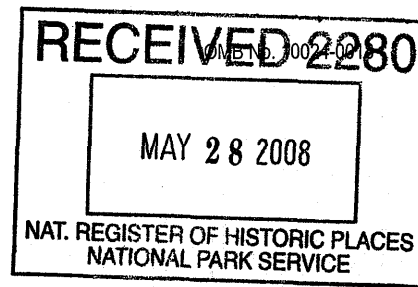


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

### 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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A) Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

Historic name Elms Hotel  
Other name/site number Forster #2; 041-0020-0044

#### 2. Location

Street & number 201 W. 1st Street  not for publication  
City or town Abilene  vicinity  
State Kansas Code KS County Dickinson Code 041 Zip code 67410

#### 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  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  
Patrick Zollner 5/23/08  
Patrick Zollner, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 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 official / Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is  
 entered in the National Register.  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 the Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action 7.10.08

Elms Hotel  
Name of Property

Dickinson County, Kansas  
County and State

**5. Classification**

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

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

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

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		total

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

N/A

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

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter Categories from instructions)

Domestic: hotel

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

Work in progress

**7. Description**

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

Late 19<sup>th</sup> & Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements:  
Commercial Style

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation: Concrete  
Walls: Brick

Roof: Synthetics: rubber

Other: Wood

**Narrative Description**

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

Elms Hotel  
Name of Property

Dickinson County, Kansas  
County and State

### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- 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 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning & Development

Commerce

#### Period of Significance

1919 - 1958

#### Significant Dates

1919; 1925; 1933

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Jacob (Jake) Forster

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Unknown

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliography

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

#### Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Kansas State Historical Society

Elms Hotel  
Name of Property

Dickinson County, Kansas  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	4	6	5	4	7	7	0	4	3	0	8	6	4	5
Zone		Easting					Northing							

2

Zone		Easting					Northing							

3

Zone		Easting					Northing							

4

Zone		Easting					Northing							

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 Christie Carl, AIA & SHPO staff

Organization C. Carl Architecture Date August 8, 2007

Street & number 1903 Beekman Place Telephone 785.263.2304 CCarl@Kansas.net

City or town Abilene State Kansas Zip code 67410

#### 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 SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

Name Vance Hassler

Street & number 1927 9th Street Place Telephone 785.493.5507 vhassler@cox.net

City or town Salina State Kansas Zip code 67401

**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. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

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National Park Service

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Section Number 7 Page 1

Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:**

The Elms Hotel (formerly Forster Hotel #2), built in 1919, is located at 201 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Abilene, Dickinson County, Kansas (pop. 6,500). The Elms Hotel is a three-story brick building located one block south of the historic Union Pacific Railroad and two blocks north of the Santa Fe Railroad in downtown Abilene, Kansas. The hotel is located in the original part of Abilene's downtown area that was once part of the 1870s cattle trade district.

*Exterior*

The Elms Hotel is a three-story north-facing wood frame structure with a dark red brick veneer and a flat roof. The hotel has a full basement and located on a corner lot. The architectural style would be considered early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Style Building. In 1925 a three-story, 19'-6" addition to the hotel's rear portion (south elevation) for two additional guest rooms with a private full bath for each was added to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors.



*Circa 1925 Photo*

*North/Front Elevation*

The rectangular hotel building measures, 123'-6" long (north to south) x 29'-6" wide (east to west) and sits on a corner lot at the junction of W. 1<sup>st</sup> and Spruce streets. The north/front elevation facing W. 1st Street is the main building entry which is elevated approximately 48" above grade with a set of concrete steps leading up to a wood decked porch. The prominent architectural feature on the north/front elevation are the four -2 1/2 story brick columns supporting the three wood porches. Each floor has a door to the porch located center of the front façade. On each side flanking each door are two pairs of 42"W x 62"H, side-by-side double-hung wood windows. This is symmetrically repeated on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors.

*East/Side Elevation*

There is a secondary public entry approximately half way down the east/side elevation facing Spruce Street. This entry is located adjacent to the hotel's main stairway and small lobby on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. This entry has two -2 1/2 story brick columns supporting wood porches. Along the east elevation at each guest room is a single 47"W x 62"H double hung window and occasionally a 29" window located at the bathrooms. There are also two basement entries on the east elevation facing Spruce. One entry is at the

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section Number   7   Page   2  

Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

side of the front porch and the other is located close to the rear of the building (used as traveling salesman's storage and display room for wares).

*South/Rear Elevation*

The south/rear elevation has a basement door and an entry door to the first floor. Originally there was also another three-story porch but it was enclosed later on to create two more hotel rooms each with a private bath. The windows on either side of the door are the same size as the front/north elevation a pair of 47"W x 62"H double-hung wood windows.

*West/Side Elevation*

The west elevation is similar to the east except where the public toilets are located there are 29"W x 62"H windows. This elevation faces an adjacent residence side yard the full length of the building lot.

*Basement*

There are three stairways into the basement. Two are accessed from the exterior and one is an enclosed stairway under the hotel's main open stairwell. The finished basement was for the original owner's family's dining and kitchen facilities and for the hotel's storage. There is also a laundry room and a "sample" room for displaying and storing the traveling salesman's wares. This area is accessed by a separate exterior stair. The poured-concrete basement walls are clad with stucco around the exterior perimeter of the building.

*Windows*

The windows on all elevations are original; wood double-hung painted white with a 6 panes over 1 pane sash. There are currently aluminum storm windows that have been installed over the original.

*Brick*

The building's brick veneer is typically a running course with raked joints. The windowsills have a single rowlock course but the window header is part of the running course of the brick veneer. The building has a 2'-3" high decorative brick cornice band at the top of the parapet.

*Interior*

The building has approximately 3,640 gross square feet per floor for a total of 10,800 square feet. The basement has 3,600 square feet, which gives the building a total of 14,400 square feet. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors each have 17 guest rooms, three private baths, one shared bath and two toilets (1-women, 1-men). The 1<sup>st</sup> floor has 15 rooms and a main public lobby space on the north end of the building. The each floor layout is identical with exception of the first floor lobby.

The interior floor plan is a double-loaded corridor running north and south the full length of the building with rooms on both the east and west sides. There is an open staircase located on the east side of the building going from first to third floors. The staircase is accessible off the first floor lobby and the east entry. The staircase treads/risers, rails and newel posts are original and are stained oak.

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Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

The first floor lobby has a white ceramic mosaic tile floor. The guest rooms, corridor and stairway flooring is oak plank. The baseboards, doors and windows have stained oak millwork/casings. The guest rooms have the original wood/glass transoms over the doors but they were removed in the last 10 years to meet local building codes as the building functioned as an apartment building. Today the transoms are covered with gypsum board and painted white.

Walls are painted plaster on wood lath and are mostly in good condition. Plumbing fixtures are original white porcelain. Light fixtures have been updated in the last 20 years. Some of the guest rooms have kitchen units installed and were used as studio apartments when converted in 1993.

Plumbing walls for all the toilets and baths are stacked vertically. Each floor had one woman's toilet and one men's toilet and a unisex bath with toilet.

The rooms have steam heat and have the original heat radiators that were operational with the original hot water boiler in the basement until the building was mothballed in 2004.

Each hotel room was furnished with an iron bed, a straight chair and a chest of drawers. Some of the original furniture is still in the building.

*Current Condition*

The Elms Hotel was used as an apartment building from the 1970s until 2004. The current owner since 1993 managed the hotel as studio and one-bedroom apartments. Kitchen units have been added to the 1925 addition hotel room. In 2004, the current owner mothballed the building. The building needs to be cleaned up and furniture moved out. In the first floor public toilet area the plaster walls/ceiling have been removed due to plumbing leaks above. The roof and basement seem to be in good condition. The current owner is considering a renovation/rehabilitation of the existing 36-room hotel into affordable housing with 12-15 apartment units while keeping the architectural and historic character of the former hotel.

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Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Elms Hotel (1919) is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under the Criterion A for its association with the growth and development of Abilene, Criterion B for its association with Jacob Forster, a prominent Abilene businessman, and Criterion C as a good local example of the Commercial Style executed on a hotel building. The Elms Hotel was built during Abilene's development as the county seat and agricultural community for trade merchants traveling along the Union Pacific (north) and the Santa Fe (south) rail lines in the 1920s and 1930s.

*Historic Context*

Abilene saw its first economic and building boom in 1867 when the Kansas State Legislature lifted its ban on Texas cattle being shipped through Kansas to the slaughterhouses of Kansas City, Omaha and Chicago. Joseph McCoy was the person who selected Abilene to be a shipping point on the Kansas Pacific Railroad.<sup>1</sup> He invested \$35,000 for building stock and shipping yards to accommodate 3,000 cattle, and a new industry was born in the state.

Abilene's title as a cowtown was short lived as loading points for the cattle migrated west, with new towns of Wichita, Salina, Ellsworth and finally Dodge City eager to handle the demand. Towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the days of the open range cattle drives were numbered, but Kansas railroads still played a key role in the development of cattle industry into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The rails were still essential to the shipment of cattle and the industry was often at the mercy of the railroad companies.

It is difficult to overstate the influence of railroads on settlement and town location in western Kansas, and its effect on the vitality of all communities throughout the state. The railroad did more to create towns and shape the development of Kansas and the western United States than any other single force in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A connection with a railway was a key to prosperity. Even after the initial development and settlement of communities, the railroads remained necessary to the survival of Kansas agriculture, industry and its communities.<sup>2</sup> Abilene was a good example of this. Even after the cattle drives ended in town, the Union Pacific and the Santa Fe railroads still ran lines through town, bringing with them travelers and merchants needing a place to rest.

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<sup>1</sup> Robert R. Dystra, *The Cattle Towns* (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1968) p.21.

<sup>2</sup> Deon Wolfenbarger, "Historic Railroad Resources of Kansas Multiple Property Documentation Form". 2001 filed at the Kansas State Historical Society.



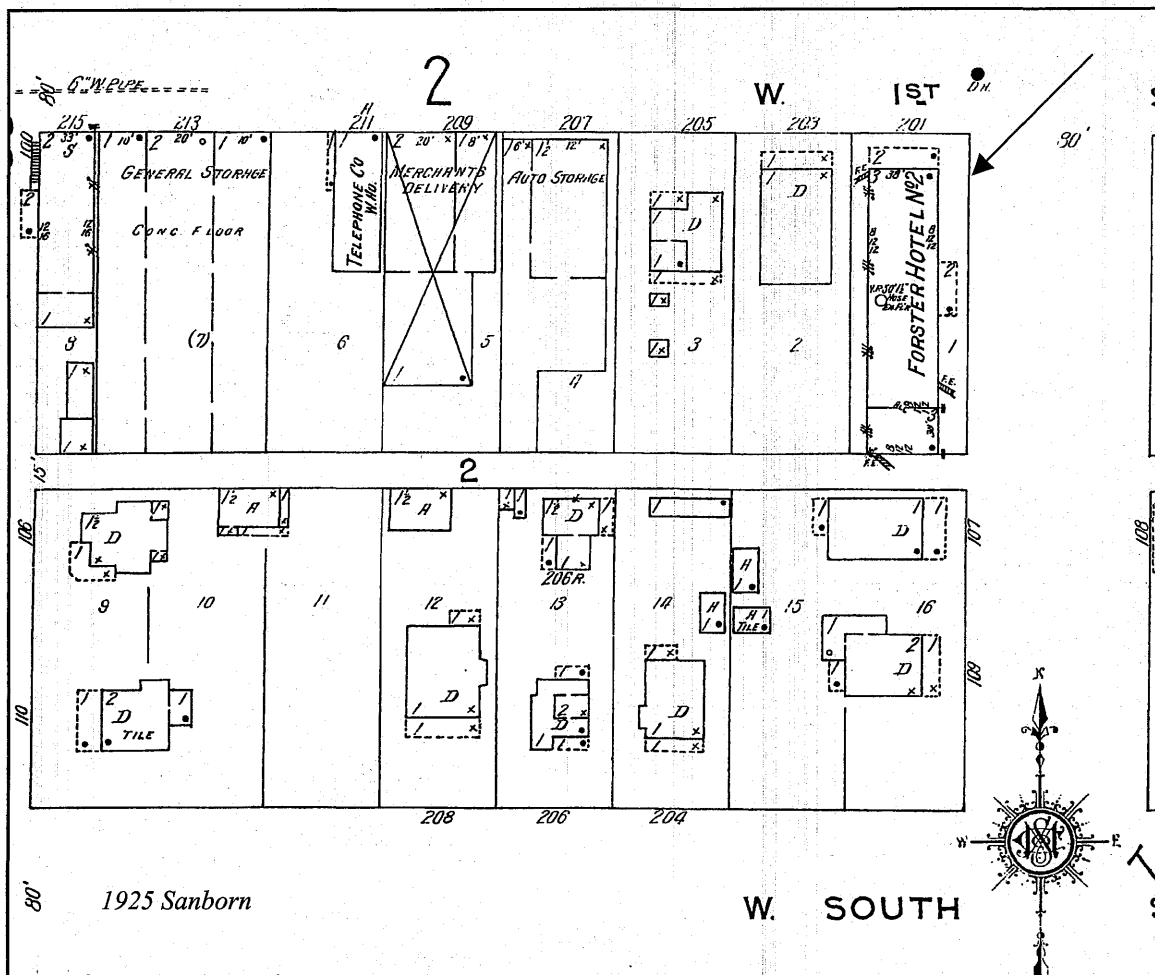
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Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

Section Number 8 Page 5

Jacob Forster owned three hotels within two blocks of the Union Pacific and Santa Fe Railroad, making his lodging facilities quite accessible. When the trains arrived in Abilene, Forster would bring his buggy to the station and taxi customers to his hotels. The Forster Hotels (1909-1934) were considered "Railroad Hotels" for the travelers who traveled by rail through and to Abilene, Kansas.



*Jacob (Jake) A. Forster*

The Elms Hotel was one of four Abilene hotels purchased and/or designed, built and operated by Jacob (Jake) A. Forster and his family in a period of 50 years from approximately 1910-1960.

In 1883, at the age of 12, Forster came to the United States through Ellis Island from Gossau, Switzerland with his parents Emilie and Jacob A. Forster, four brothers and three sisters. His

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Continuation Sheet

Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

Section Number 8 Page 6

family was associated with the hotel business in Switzerland, but when they came to Kansas, they tried their luck with farming in New Basel, a Swiss community near Elmo in southern Dickinson County. His father passed away in 1894 and the family moved to Oklahoma for the free land in the Oklahoma Indian Territory. Later young Jake returned to the Abilene area and continued to farm<sup>3</sup>. By 1907 he was ready to retire from farming as his eldest daughter put it "the dust irritated his eyes as they were very sensitive due to a childhood injury which had blinded one eye."<sup>4</sup>

Below is a listing of the hotels developed by Jacob Forster:

1. 1908, October 8- National Hotel, 207 A. Street (now Texas Street): Forster purchased Abilene's National Hotel. The nine-room hotel was a two-story wood frame with clapboard siding, located on the original saloon street (Texas) in Abilene's 1870s cow town.<sup>5</sup> Forster lived with his wife and three daughters here until 1919.
2. 1911- National Hotel Annex (Forster #1), 204 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street: Forster built a 3-story wood clapboard hotel structure due south, behind the National Hotel on Texas Street. The Annex had 20 rooms and a three-story porch similar to the 1919 brick Forster Hotel but smaller scale and with wood clapboard siding.
3. 1919- Forster #2 (later named the Elms Hotel), 201 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street: After assessing the need for more rooms/housing in the growing town, Forster built a new three-story brick hotel across the street from National Hotel Annex (Forster #1). The Forster #2 was considered "The" hotel at the time and it had a brick exterior, plaster walls/ceilings and a full concrete basement. The Forster family moved into this hotel when construction was complete.
4. 1921- Central Hotel (Old Hotel Corp), SW corner of Spruce and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets. Forster had controlling interest of this hotel and had the hotel torn down due north of the 1927 Foster #3.
5. 1927- Forster #3, 200 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, across the street and north of the Union Pacific Railroad. Forster built this two-part Commercial-Style, 3-story brick structure. This hotel currently has the name Forster Hotel and is converted to two floors of apartments. The first floor has retail shops.

Forster divorced his first wife, Mathila (Mattie), and remarried 1911 to Maria Ziegelmemier. Maria liked hotel living and worked hard at making the rooms attractive and comfortable for

<sup>3</sup> Crane, Pearl, "My Early Years in Kansas and California", Elaine Hassler files.

<sup>4</sup> 1999, Elaine Hassler Interview with Pearl Forster Crane, San Diego, CA, daughter of Jake Forster via letter from Pearl Forster Crane, dated January 28, 1999.

<sup>5</sup> Dickinson County Register of Deeds, Lot 1, Block 2.

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Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

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guests. Forster also built five houses in Abilene, but the family never moved into any of them. Instead, the family remained at Forster #2.

Forster built and managed the hotels, but it was family business. Forster's sisters, Agnes, Bertha and Anna completed the daily tasks of laundry, sewing and cooking. Later on, it was Forster's daughter, Mary Bruhwiler who renamed Forster #2 to the Elms Hotel. She bought the hotel from her father in 1933, and officially changed the name on June 29, 1933<sup>6</sup>.

Jacob A. Forster died November 27, 1934. His obituary stated "he was considered one of the most successful independent hotel owners in central Kansas". The Forster family played a significant role in the economic and community development of Abilene for over 50 years. The Abilene Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution following his death stating, "Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce that in his death not only the city but the entire community has suffered the loss of the influence of one who was always interested in those things which would further the up building of the community and the welfare of the people."<sup>7</sup>

Mary Bruhwiler continued to own the Elms Hotel until her death in 1962. The hotel was then sold to Lillian McDonald on September 7, 1962. She owned it for over a decade before selling it to Patricia L. and Jimmie R. Corum on September 16, 1977. It was during this time that hotel became apartments. Mary L. and Charles W. Anderson purchased the Elms Hotel on May 31, 1984, and on July 16, 1993 it was sold to current owner Vance Hassler.<sup>8</sup>

*The Architecture of the Elms Hotel*

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, a new set of design concerns entered the architectural mainstream, derived from facets of European modernism that had emerged in the 1910s and 1920s. What became known as the Modern movement, or the International Style, not only rejected the use of historical references, as Art Deco did; it also entailed new concepts of form and space, with space, or volume, as the primary consideration. Architecture thus was no longer conceived so much as masses or blocks enclosing space as it was abstract planes defining space. The idea of a façade was considered antiquated; buildings were to be three-dimensional objects differentiating indoor and outdoor space while permitting a sense of continuity or "spatial flow" between the two. Composition was to be developed not in two-dimensional terms – in plan and elevation

<sup>6</sup> Dickinson County, Register of Deeds, Lot 1, Block 2.

<sup>7</sup> Abilene Reflector Newspaper, Feb. 8, 1934.

<sup>8</sup> Dickinson County, Register of Deeds, Lot 1, Block 2.

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Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

Section Number   8   Page   8  

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(including the façade) – but in three dimensions, balancing horizontal and vertical planes (the floors, roof and walls).<sup>9</sup>

The 1919 construction of the Elms hotel reflects a shift from Victorian to an “academia approach”, with the architecture having a plain sense of order and unity expressed with the brick masonry.<sup>10</sup> The exterior facades reflect the Commercial Style architecture of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century with a plain, utilitarian design with the prominent architectural features to be the three story porches with white balustrades located on the north and east elevation at the public entries.

*Summary*

The Elms Hotel embodies the bustling commercial community that Abilene responded to as a result of the railroads. Jacob Forster saw an opportunity to build and continue his family’s tradition of hotel management and as a result became an important figure in Abilene. The Elms Hotel was constructed using the most current building philosophies about composition and flow. All of this culminated with a building that remains only minimally changed.

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<sup>9</sup> Richard Longstreth, *The Buildings of Main Street, a Guide to American Commercial Architecture* (New York: Alta Mira Press, 2000), pg 16-17.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

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Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**Sources:**

Dickinson County Historical Society  
Dickinson County Register of Deeds  
Dickinson County Tax Records  
Abilene City Directories  
Abilene Reflector-Chronicle Newspaper, February 8, 1934.  
Abilene Public Library, Newspaper Microfiche  
Elaine Hassler, Salina Kansas, 785.823.2022

**Interviews:**

1999, Elaine Hassler Interview with Pearl Forster Crane, San Diego, CA, daughter of Jake Forster via letter from Pearl Forster Crane, dated January 28, 1999.  
1999, Elaine Hassler interview with Mary Steiner, Lancaster Texas, daughter of Jake Forster.  
1998, Elaine Hassler interviewed Bruce Sexton and Stella Huston, Abilene Kansas, grandchildren of Jake Forster.  
1998-1999, Elaine Hassler interviewed Lucille Wilson, Abilene Kansas, daughter of Elms Hotel Resident 1940-1950.  
Note: The above material is from Elaine Hassler's files.

**Books:**

Robert R. Dystra, The Cattle Towns (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1968)  
Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, a Guide to American Commercial Architecture (New York: Alta Mira Press, 2000)  
Miner, Craig. Kansas: The History of the Sunflower State, 1854-2000. Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 2002.

**Articles:**

Raitz, Karl B., and John Paul Jones III. "The City Hotel as Landscape Artifact and Community Symbol." Journal of Cultural Geography 9 (1988): 17-36.

**National Register:**

Deon Wolfenbarger, "Historic Railroad Resources of Kansas Multiple Property Documentation Form". 2001 filed at the Kansas State Historical Society.  
December 2, 1998, Abilene Heritage Commission Application #HC-98-2, by Abilene City Staff.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number**   9   **Page**   10  

Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

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**Printed Materials:**

Crane, Pearl, "My Early Years in Kansas and California" Elaine Hassler files.

**Site Visit:**

July 17, 2007, Christie Carl, AIA, C.Carl Architecture, Abilene Kansas. Walkthrough.

July 17, 2007, Sarah Martin, SHPO, Topeka Kansas, Architectural Walkthrough +  
Photos.

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National Park Service

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Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson County, KS

Section Number 10 & Photos Page 11

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The legal description for the nominated property is as follows:  
Section 21, TWP 13, Rng 2: Lot: 1 Block No. 2, Subdivision: Abilene, Original Town.  
Lot Information: 50' x 140' at the corner of W. 1<sup>st</sup> street and Spruce.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Elms Hotel.

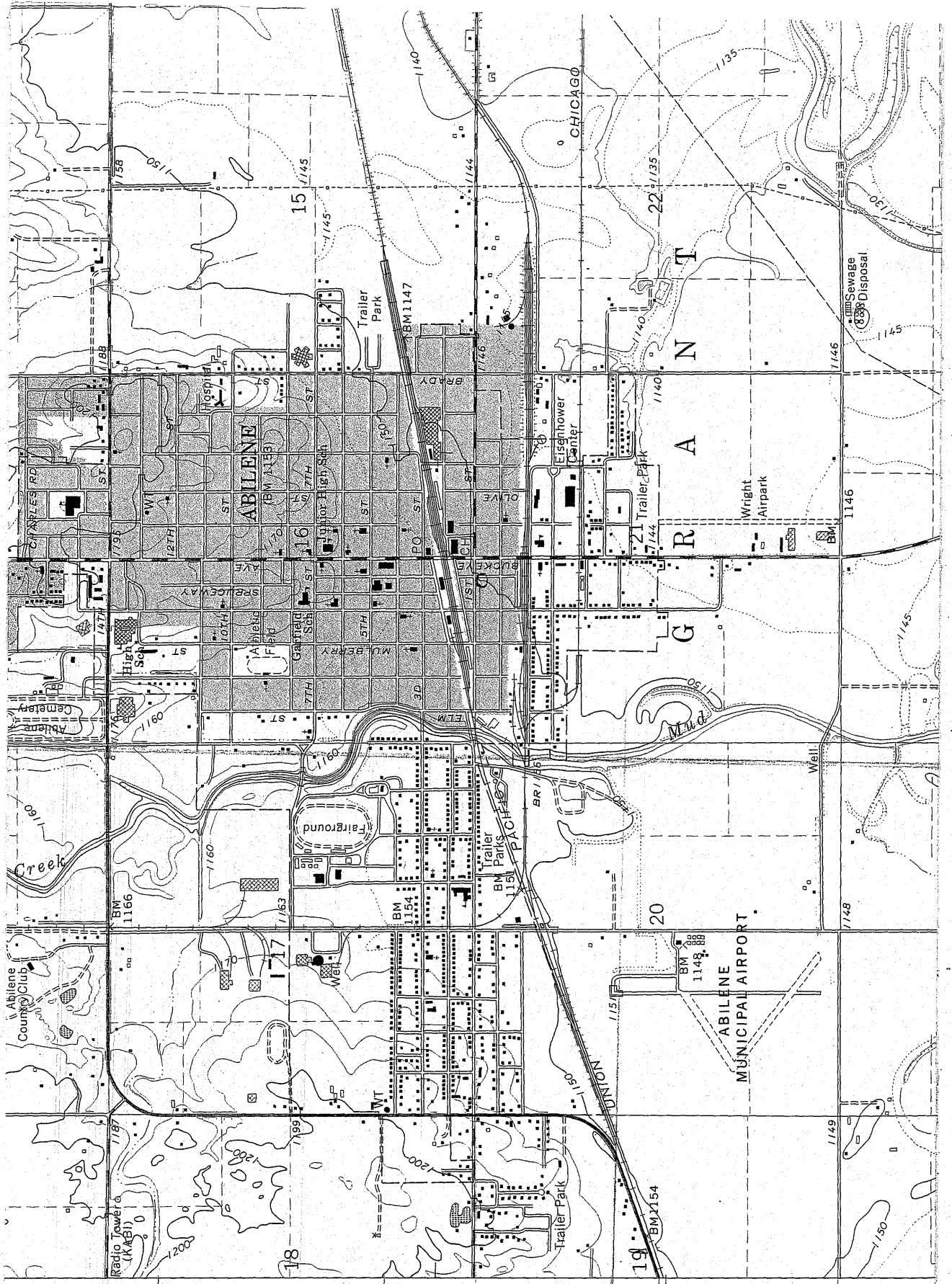
**PHOTOGRAPIC INFORMATION**

Property Name: Elms Hotel  
Location: 201 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Abilene Kansas 67410, Dickinson County Kansas  
Photographer: Sarah Martin  
Date: 17 July 2007

Location of Digital Images or Negatives: Kansas State Historical Society

Photo 1: Hotel sign atop building, facing S  
Photo 2: North (front) elevation, facing S  
Photo 3: East (side) elevation, facing W  
Photo 4: South (rear) elevation, facing NW  
Photo 5: West (side) elevation, facing S  
Photo 6: Porches and entryway on east (side) elevation, facing W  
Photo 7: Main entrance on north (front) elevation, facing S  
Photo 8: Interior, tile floor in entryway  
Photo 9: Interior, typical hallway  
Photo 10: Interior, staircase  
Photo 11: Interior, typical light fixture  
Photo 12: Interior, typical door

Elms Hotel  
Abilene, Dickinson  
Kansas  
+ 654770 E  
4308645N



4910

4909

557

4308

4907

SOLOMON 7 MI.  
SAND SPRING 1.9 MI.