

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

114



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 Norcatour City Hall

Other names/site number US Highway 36 Association Museum; KHRI # 039-63

Name of related Multiple Property Listing New Deal-Era Resources of Kansas

2. Location

Street & number 107 N Decatur Avenue not for publication

City or town Norcatour vicinity

State Kansas Code KS County Decatur Code 039 Zip code 67653

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 Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO Date 2-11-14

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) _____

Jon Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 4.7.14

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Government: City hall, correctional facility, office,
fire station

Social: Meeting hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Work In Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: Streamlined Moderne
Vernacular

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete; Stone

walls: Concrete; Wood; Metal

roof: Asphalt

other:

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources, if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary

The Norcatour City Hall, completed in 1937, is located at 107 North Decatur Avenue in the center of town. It is on the east side of the main thoroughfare leading into Norcatour from Highway 36, which is one-half mile south of town. The raised one-story concrete building measures 40 feet in width, 43 feet/6 inches in length, and 27 feet in height. The small building faces west, sits 30 feet off the street, and features a broad concrete walk leading from the street to eight concrete steps up to the front entrance landing. Though the building has experienced physical changes, it retains sufficient integrity to convey its function as a small-town, multi-purpose city building.

Elaboration

SETTING

Norcatour has a population of 150 and is incorporated as a city of the third class. Decatur Avenue, the town's main north-south thoroughfare, is formerly the route of U.S. Highway 36, which today passes south of Norcatour connecting Norton to the east with Oberlin to the west.

WEST (PRIMARY) ELEVATION

The building features a L-shaped footprint and rests on a raised concrete foundation. The primary (west) elevation is comprised of three bays defined by a 70-light steel casement window unit on the north, a central entrance, and an infilled garage bay on the south. The central bay projects forward slightly from the flanking bays. A broad concrete sidewalk leads from the street to eight concrete steps centered on the building's west elevation. The steps, framed by concrete railings on either side, lead to a landing and a single-door entrance (originally a double-door entrance). The landing or porch is encircled by a concrete balustrade and once featured iron light fixtures – two sconces or bracketed lanterns set within in the building's west wall and two on pedestals atop the balustrade. There are narrow, deep set steel windows with horizontal muntins on either side of the entrance, adjacent to the former locations of the sconces. Below the window in the north bay is a steel casement basement window well enclosed by a metal-pipe railing. The south bay features a garage bay opening that has been filled in with modern siding and a single man door. This opening once featured a glass- and wood-panel overhead garage door. Leading up to this garage bay (from the street) is a concrete ramp – about 35 feet long and 12 feet wide – that was used by the city's fire truck to access the interior of the building.

A two-toned brown tile band wraps around the building above the fenestration. The primary elevation includes additional tile embellishments – geometric in appearance – within the top one-third of the building.

SOUTH (SIDE) ELEVATION

The south side of the building measures 45 feet, 6 inches long. There are two 24-light steel casement windows on the main level. Below these windows are three steel casement basement window wells enclosed by a metal-pipe railing. The west two windows open into the kitchen area, and the east one opens into the former boiler room.

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EAST (REAR) ELEVATION

At the southeast corner, 17 concrete steps lead down to the basement level, where a door leads into the boiler room. These steps are enclosed by a metal pipe railing. Adjacent to these steps is a concrete cover for a coal slide, which allowed coal to be emptied directly into the boiler area. There is a single 24-light steel casement window below which is a window well enclosed by a metal pipe railing. The basement casement window opens into the basement hallway. The north half of the east elevation extends forward 12 feet, giving the building its L-shaped footprint. There is a 24-light window facing on the south wall of the extension, which opens into the women's rest room. Centered on this north extension is a wood man door with a two-light transom that is accessed by six concrete steps. On either side of this entrance are two window wells enclosed by metal pipe railings with steel casement windows opening into the basement assembly hall.

NORTH (SIDE) ELEVATION

There are three windows on the main level of the north elevation: a 60-light steel casement unit at the northwest corner, a 24-light steel casement window, and a small 6-light window at the northeast corner. There are two window wells enclosed by a metal pipe railing with steel casement windows opening into the basement assembly hall.

INTERIOR

The primary entrance on the west side of the building enters into a large central open area that provides access to the garage bay on the south, a basement staircase, the former city office at the northwest corner, and restrooms, a utility closet and a jail off a hallway at the northeast corner. Directly opposite the main entrance is the women's restroom, which is quite spacious and includes a sitting room in addition to the toilets and sinks. This open area has plaster walls and ceiling, retains its original wood trim around the window and door openings, and retains the old radiator units along the walls. The flooring is tile laid over concrete.

From this central open area, one enters the **garage bay** through a single wood door and down three steps. This room has experienced the most change of all the spaces in the building, but the change is rather cosmetic and reversible. The space was most recently used as a library and includes a dropped ceiling (with the plaster ceiling intact above), carpeting, and wood paneling on the east wall. The west wall once housed an overhead garage door, but this has been removed, framed in, and now includes a single man door. The old radiators are intact along the south wall.

Opposite the garage bay is the **former city hall office** at the building's northwest corner. This space has plaster walls and ceiling, retains its original wood trim around the window and door openings, and retains the old radiator units along the walls. This area includes two metal casement windows – one of the west wall and another on the north wall. At the northeast corner of the room is a walk-in safe. The flooring is tile laid over concrete.

Directly opposite the main entrance is the **women's restroom**, which is quite spacious and includes a sitting room in addition to the toilets and sinks. This space has plaster walls and ceiling, retains its original wood trim around the window and door openings, and retains the old radiator units along the walls. The floor is carpeted. One first enters the sitting area, and then a small hallway wraps around to the northeast where there are two toilets behind wood partitions along the east wall. The sinks are on the north wall. There is a metal casement window on the east wall of the sitting area and another on the south wall opposite the sinks. The original radiator units are situated along the walls.

There is an **east-west hallway** at the building's northeast corner that is accessed from the main lobby. This hallway leads to a **utility closet**, the **men's restroom**, and a **one-room jail cell** all along the building's north

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wall. There is a door to the exterior at the end of the hall on the building's east wall. The hallway retains the old plaster walls and ceiling and the original wood trim around the window and door openings. The wood doors accessing the men's bathroom and jail swing out into the hallway. The jail doorway includes a second barred-jail door that swings inward. These rooms have metal casement windows, radiator units along the walls, and a toilet and sink. The floors are carpeted.

The **basement** is accessed by a concrete staircase in the main lobby along the south wall next to the garage bay. This straight-run staircase with 18 steps leads down to a **central east-west hallway**. The basement shows the effects of mold¹ and is in need of re-plastering. The bottom of the staircase terminates near the east wall of the basement, where there is a short wooden bench below a metal casement window that opens into a concrete window well. The north part of the basement includes a large **assembly hall** (with two wood doors accessing it at the east and west ends of the hallway). This area has concrete walls (with plaster) and floors and retains its wood trim beneath the windows and around the doors. There are metal casement windows on the west, north, and east walls that open into concrete window wells.

Tucked beneath the staircase and opposite the assembly hall at the building's southwest corner is a **kitchen**. There is a pass-through opening built into the upper part of the north wall of the kitchen allowing for the easy passage of items into the hallway. Metal kitchen cabinets are situated along the south wall above which is a metal casement window. Large built-in wooden cabinets occupy much of the kitchen's west wall.

At the southeast corner of the basement (near the base of the staircase) is a door leading to the boiler and coal storage room. This space is unfinished and has concrete floor and walls. There is a coal chute on the east wall of the coal storage room.

INTEGRITY

Norcatour City Hall retains a high degree of its historic integrity including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The building retains its original footprint, scale, and massing. The obvious exterior changes are the replacement and partial infill of the main entrance doors and the removal of the overhead garage door and the partial infill of the garage bay on the primary elevation. The interior changes are largely confined to the garage bay and are generally cosmetic and reversible. Many fixtures that have been removed (such as along the front porch) are stored inside and can be reinstalled.

¹ The mold is likely due in part to the framing in of the window openings, which has recently been reversed.

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

Politics/Government

Social History

Entertainment/Recreation

Architecture

Period of Significance

1936-1964

Significant Dates

1936, 1937, 1964

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hildebrand, C. H.

Smith, Horace

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the construction of the building in 1936 and ends in 1964 with the fifty-year cut-off date established by the National Park Service to provide sufficient passage of time to allow objective evaluation of the historic resource eligibility at the time of its listing.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

N/A

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Narrative Statement of Significance

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Summary

Norcatour City Hall (completed in 1937) in Decatur County, Kansas is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the *New Deal-Era Resources of Kansas* multiple property nomination under Criterion A for its local significance in the areas of politics/government, social history and entertainment/recreation. It also is nominated under Criterion C in the area of architecture. This vernacular Streamlined Moderne building is an example of a Civic property type, as defined by the multiple property nomination. The city hall housed the city office, jail, fire department, and a basement assembly hall where civic groups and others could gather. In these varied roles, the building hosted city council meetings, housed offenders in the jail cell, and stored the community fire truck until 1985 when the city offices relocated to the old school building across town.

Elaboration

COMMUNITY HISTORY

The Kansas Legislature created Decatur County in 1873 as the first homestead claims were made in the area. The area's first post office was established in 1874 in Oberlin, which was selected as the county seat in 1880.² The completion of the Burlington, Kansas and Southwestern Company's railroad line into Oberlin in October of 1885 jumpstarted the development of several towns along the route, including Norcatour. In July 1885, the *Norton Champion* newspaper reported the development of the new town, and on October 29, 1885, the *Norton Couvuer* newspaper reported the construction of 14 buildings and plans for others in Norcatour. The town grew rapidly as a commercial center for the surrounding area, reaching a peak of nearly 500 citizens in 1910.³

PROPERTY HISTORY

Beginning in 1935, the *Norcatour Dispatch* newspaper reported weekly on the progress of the planning and construction of the town's new city hall. These numerous accounts are cited throughout the following narrative and provide an excellent snapshot of the project and key players.

The Norcatour City Council passed an ordinance authorizing the construction of a public building for the use of its officers and the conduct of the business of the city. The ordinance also called for a public library and auditorium. City officials sought funds through the Works Progress Administration in the amount of \$20,880.67.⁴ This was passed November 5, 1935, and plans for a bond election were published November 28 and December 5 editions of the *Dispatch*. Residents voted in favor (213 to 13) of a bond proposal of \$3800 to match a federal grant of \$26,000.⁵

² William Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas*, vol. 2 (Chicago: Andreas Publishing Co., 1883), 1613-1614.

³ Frank Blackmar, *Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History*, vol. 2 (Chicago: Standard Publishing Co., 1912), 372.

⁴ The WPA O.P. Number was 65-82-3028. Works Progress Administration, Central Office Reference Card Location Project File (MF 6038-6042).

⁵ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 28 November 1935; 5 December 1935; 12 December 1935; 19 December 1935; 26 December 1935.

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Early in 1936, the *Dispatch* reported on the progress of the plans making their way through the approval process by WPA officials in Hays, Topeka, and Washington, D.C.⁶ The newspaper announced the names of those in charge of the construction: "J.C. Sayles will become time keeper, [and] Linus Warner will be foreman of some portion of the sand and pit-men workers. C.W. Chapell was selected as general foreman and constructor, but declined the position."⁷ Concerned about construction delays, representatives from Norcatour (including Mayor Sheetz, County Engineer Moody, Howard Benton, Frank Nelson, and Harry Anderson) visited Topeka to seek assurance the project could begin on time – as soon as the weather cooperated. Finally, "after numerous delays, and the unwinding of much red tape," preparation of the construction site began in early March 1936. Interestingly, an old baseball grandstand in the city's park was being torn down and some of the salvage lumber was used in the building's foundation form work.⁸

Linus Warner oversaw several men at a sand pit on Will Brooks' farm south of Norcatour near Clayton. The sand was to be used in the mortar work on the building.⁹ By mid-March, C.H. Hildebrand of Hill City had taken charge as the project superintendent.¹⁰ The project experienced a delay in early May when a lumber order did not arrive on time, and local officials successfully sought the permission of WPA officials in securing lumber locally to keep the project moving along.¹¹ This delay was followed by a heavy rain that forced workers to pump water out of the foundation. A large shipment of materials, including steel and lumber, finally arrived at the end of May.¹²

Work pouring cement for the lower foundation walls began in mid-June. The newspaper reported that the "walls are very heavily reinforced with steel, and it would seem that the same should be firm and sound a thousand years hence."¹³ Work stopped for two weeks in late June and early July as the laborers returned to area farms to harvest crops.¹⁴ Even after the men returned, the project was further delayed by slow shipments of materials. It was not until mid-September that the building's side walls were completed, and only in mid-October was the roof completed and wiring and piping installed.¹⁵

The newspaper announced on October 29 that Cecil Shull would succeed Hildebrand as the project's superintendent and that WPA officials had assigned Hildebrand to a different project. Shull had overseen other WPA projects, including the construction of a new school in Colby.¹⁶

Interior plaster work was in full swing by mid-November, at which time the heat and water connections were being completed. The steel windows and door frames had arrived and were being installed.¹⁷ Despite the onset of cold weather, the garage bay was readied for storage of the fire engine. The council chamber and city office spaces were hurriedly completed in February as the lease on the city's former building was soon to expire.¹⁸

⁶ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 6 February 1936 and 13 February 1936.

⁷ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 20 February 1936. Sayles may not have worked as timekeeper after all, as Ralph New was noted as timekeeper in early April at which time he was replaced by Linus Warner.

⁸ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 5 March 1936.

⁹ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 12 March 1936.

¹⁰ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 19 March 1936.

¹¹ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 7 May 1936.

¹² *Norcatour Dispatch*, 28 May 1936.

¹³ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 18 June 1936.

¹⁴ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 2 July 1936.

¹⁵ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 17 September and 22 October 1936.

¹⁶ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 29 October 1936.

¹⁷ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 19 November 1936.

¹⁸ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 18 February 1937.

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The newspaper announced on February 25, 1937 that Horace Smith, who had been serving as the project's timekeeper, would succeed Shull as the project's superintendent. Smith would see the project through to completion.

The Dispatch amusingly announced that the first "bad man" thrown in jail – ceremonially, of course – was local Marshall Eli Lecount: "While he was inside the new jail on an inspection visit, one of the workers calmly slipped the key in the lock, making the marshall the first inmate in the jail room. Maybe he will know how the other fellows feels [sic] if he ever has occasion to repeat the procedure on a real culprit."¹⁹

Finishing touches were made to the property in the spring and summer of 1937, including the pouring of a concrete driveway, sidewalks, and curbing. The interior was painted by S.J. Bell.²⁰ The project completed on August 17, 1937 at a total cost of approximately \$25,500.²¹

The building served numerous community functions, but most residents recall events in the basement banquet hall. The following is a list of activities known to have taken place in the building:

- Monthly meetings of Business and Professional Women
- Monthly meetings of local Extension Homemaker Units (EHU)
- Meetings of the City Council and Fire Department
- The Centennial Celebration in 1986
- The National Centennial Celebration in 1976
- Meetings of local 4H clubs
- Wedding Dances
- Anniversary Celebrations
- Square Dances
- Community Dinners
- Community Christmas Drawings

In addition, the building has housed the city's library, polling place, and the municipal court and jail.

Fewer functions were held in the basement banquet hall after the local United Methodist Church built an educational building in 1964 that accommodated large gatherings. Many family dinners, anniversaries, community dinners, and other events moved to that facility. In 1985, after the Norcatour school closed, the clerk's office and city library were moved to the old school building. At that time, the city office was converted into a beauty salon, which operated from 1986 to 2006.

The EHU, Three Prairie Unit, operated a Prairie Hobby Shop in the area formerly used by the fire department. This remained active until 1998. The building was also used as a drop point and storage area for a church clothing project, which sent used clothing to the Norton Correctional Facility for repair and packaging.

On June 21, 2013 the U.S. Highway 36 Association at its annual meeting in Phillipsburg passed a resolution naming the old Norcatour City Hall as the future site of the association's museum. On July 19, 2013 the U.S. Highway 36 Association Museum was incorporated as a Not-for-Profit Corporation. On July 19, 2013, the City of Norcatour leased the building to the U.S. Highway 36 Association Museum for a term of ten years.

NEW DEAL HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE

¹⁹ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 11 March 1937.

²⁰ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 6 May 1937.

²¹ *Norcatour Dispatch*, 16 September 1937.

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The effort to build the city hall building in 1936 and 1937 employed many area men during hard economic times. Kansans not only benefitted from much-needed employment, but also from the many new public buildings and recreational facilities resulting from the Works Progress Administration. According to the multiple property nomination *New Deal-era Resources in Kansas*:

Between July 1, 1935 and June 1, 1939 the WPA either built or improved 619 buildings in the state. That figure includes 36 administrative buildings, 16 auditoriums, 45 barns and stables, 58 community buildings, 59 dormitories, three fire houses, 35 garages, 12 gymnasiums, two hospitals, three jails and reformatories, ten other institutional buildings, seven libraries, 142 schools, 52 stadiums, and 16 warehouses. In addition, there were 121 WPA recreational facilities, including 59 athletic fields, 91 parks, five fairgrounds, 92 playgrounds, 40 swimming and wading pools, 14 band shells, five outdoor theaters, and 140 golf courses, tennis courts, handball courts and horseshoe courts.²²

A 1939 report by the Kansas WPA also detailed the aggregate numbers for road and highway projects undertaken in the state using WPA funds. According to that report, 13,706 miles of road were either built or improved.²³

Kansas WPA Administrator Clarence Nevins commented that in June of 1939 approximately 30,000 Kansans were on the WPA rolls.²⁴

Civic buildings erected through the WPA program typically featured expressions of Classical or Moderne architecture. The Norcatour City Hall reflects a vernacular interpretation of the Streamlined Moderne style with its stucco and concrete exterior, multi-light steel casement windows, pipe railings, flat roof, and modest horizontal tile accents. The Streamlined Moderne architectural style gained favor in the 1930s in part because of its de-emphasis of extravagant architectural ornament in favor of clean (sometimes curved) lines and modern materials.²⁵ The style emphasized horizontality often with a flat roof and minimal horizontal ornamentation.

For all its coverage of the construction of the city hall, the Norcatour Dispatch writers never commented on the style of the building, but its simplicity and functionality must have appealed to locals of that period.

SUMMARY

Completed in 1937, the Norcatour City Hall is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the *New Deal-Era Resources of Kansas* multiple property nomination under Criterion A for its local significance in the areas of politics/government, social history, and entertainment/recreation. It also is nominated under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its Streamlined Moderne architecture. It is an example of a Civic property type, as defined by the multiple property nomination. The city hall housed the city office, jail, fire department, and a basement assembly hall where civic groups and others could gather. The city offices relocated to the old school building across town and the building was used for other functions.

²² Elizabeth Rosin, *New Deal-Era Resources of Kansas* National Register Multiple Property Nomination (Topeka, KS: Kansas Historical Society, 2002), E20.

²³ Rosin, E21.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Marcus Whiffen, *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles, Revised Edition* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1993), 241-242.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Blackmar, Frank. *Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History, vol. 2.* Chicago: Standard Publishing Co., 1912.

Cutler, William. *A History of the State of Kansas, vol. 2.* Chicago: Andreas Publishing Co., 1883.

Norton (KS) Champion. July 1885.

Norton (KS) Couvuer. 29 October 1885.

Norton (KS) Dispatch. Multiple editions between November 1935 and September 1937.

Rosin, Elizabeth. *New Deal-Era Resources of Kansas National Register Multiple Property Nomination.* Topeka, KS: Kansas Historical Society, 2002.

Temple, Ron. *Norcatour Centennial, 1886-1986.* Norton, KS: Wilson-Carter Printers, 1986. (K/978.1/-D35/N751).

Works Progress Administration, Central Office Reference Card Location Project File (MF 6038-6042).

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Kansas Historical Society

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

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>39.837331</u> | <u>-100.190190</u> | 3 | _____ | _____ |
| | Latitude: | Longitude: | | Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2 | _____ | _____ | 4 | _____ | _____ |
| | Latitude: | Longitude: | | Latitude: | Longitude: |

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The property is located in Block 8, on Lots 9 &10, in the Original City of Norcatour (less the east 46 feet of these lots).

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

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The nominated property includes the property currently and historically associated with the Norcatour City Hall. This boundary does not include the east 46 feet of the lots, where the city's siren and weather warning system is located.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bob Strevey, Chairman (Edited by KSHS staff)
organization US Highway 36 Association Museum date _____
street & number 107 North Decatur Avenue telephone _____
city or town Norcatour state KS zip code 67653
e-mail bkstrevey@yahoo.com

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

name City of Norcatour (Attn: Debra Marshall, City Clerk)
street & number PO Box 89 telephone _____
city or town Norcatour state KS zip code 67653

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.

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: Norcatour City Hall
City or Vicinity: Norcatour
County: Decatur State: Kansas
Photographer: Sarah J. Martin
Date Photographed: October 3, 2013

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

- 1 of 13: Norcatour City Hall – West (primary) elevation, facing E
- 2 of 13: Norcatour City Hall – South (side) elevation, facing N
- 3 of 13: Norcatour City Hall – East (rear) elevation, facing W

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- 4 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Southeast corner of building, facing SW
- 5 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Close-up of north window on west (primary) elevation, facing NE
- 6 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Plaque on building next to main entrance on west (primary) elevation, facing E
- 7 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Interior, showing front door at right and door to garage bay straight ahead, facing S
- 8 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Interior, garage bay, facing E
- 9 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Interior of city office at northwest corner of building, facing NE
- 10 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Interior to jail cell (at northeast corner of building), facing NW
- 11 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Interior of jail cell, facing SW
- 12 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Interior, staircase between basement and main floor (looking up from basement), facing W
- 13 of 13: Norcatatur City Hall – Interior, basement assembly hall, facing NW

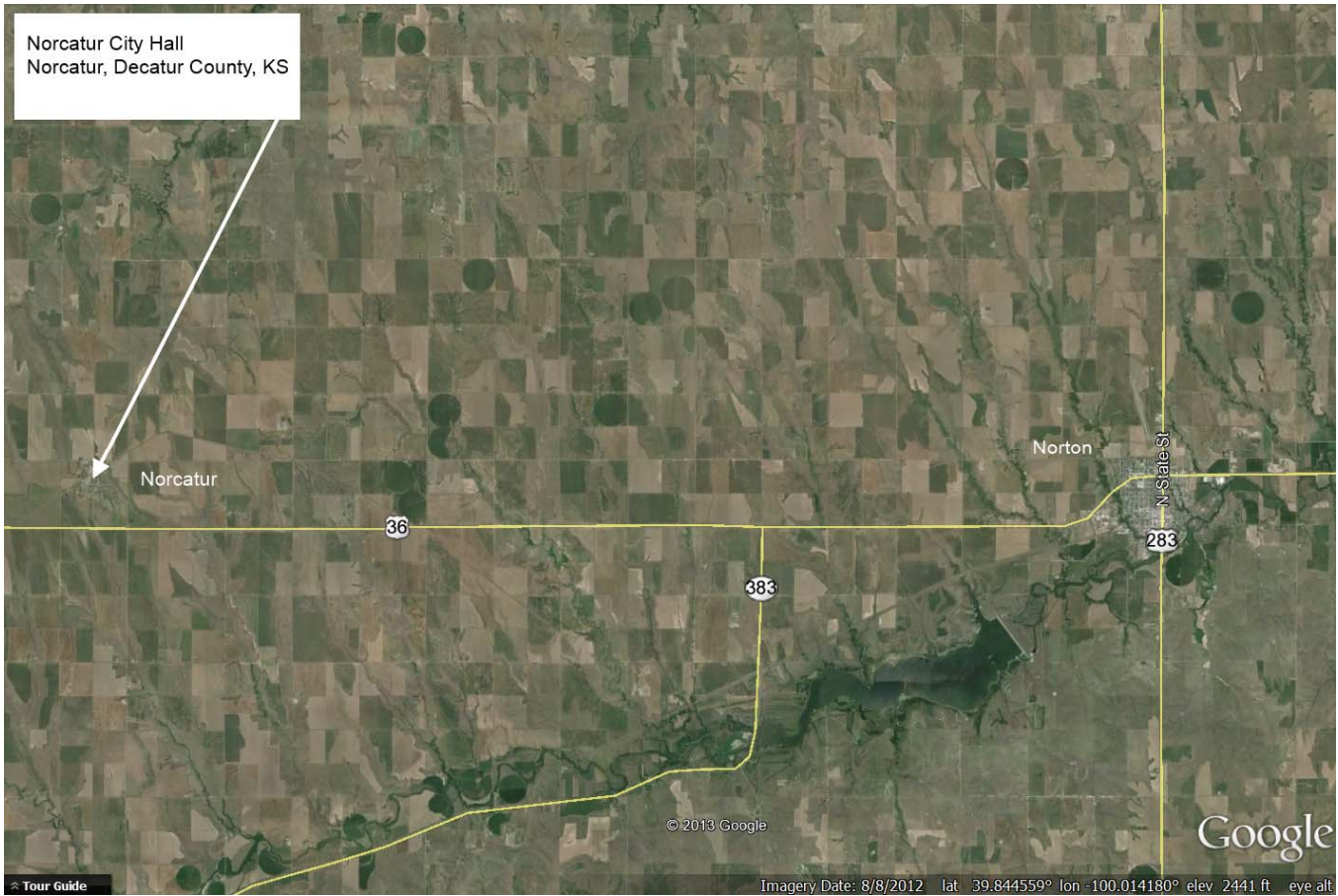
Figures

Include GIS maps, figures, scanned images below.

Norcatour City Hall
Name of Property

Decatur County, Kansas
County and State

Figure 1: Contextual Aerial Map



Norcatour City Hall
Name of Property

Decatur County, Kansas
County and State

Figure 2: Aerial Image



Norcatour City Hall

Name of Property

Decatur County, Kansas

County and State

Figure 3: Historic Photograph



West side main entrance not current NORCATOUR CITY HALL, DECATUR Co.











★ ERECTED BY ★
WORKS PROGRESS
ADMINISTRATION

AND
CITY OF
NORCATUR

★ A-D-1937 ★















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Norcatur City Hall
NAME:

MULTIPLE New Deal-Era Resources of Kansas MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KANSAS, Decatur

DATE RECEIVED: 2/18/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/18/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/02/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/06/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000114

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4.7.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

February 12, 2014

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, N. W.
8th Floor (MS 2280)
Washington, DC 20005



Re: National Register Nominations – new submissions

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to submit for your consideration the following National Register documents:

- **Norcatour City Hall – Decatur County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

- **Minier, Abram M., House – Doniphan County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

- **Birchmore, John M., House – Dickinson County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

- **Truitt, James & Ella, House – Neosho County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

- **Sylvan Grove Union Pacific Depot – Lincoln County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

- **Low Center School – District #115 – Washington County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

- **Sand Creek Tributary Stone Arch Bridge – Rush County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

- **Lone Elm Campground Swale – Johnson County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

- **Little Arkansas River Crossing – Rice County** (new nomination)
 - Enclosed: Signed copy of nomination and 2 disks (with nomination, GIS, and photo files)
 - The enclosed disk #1 contains the true and correct copy of the nomination.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I may be reached at 785-272-8681 ext. 216 or smartin@kshs.org.

Sincerely yours,



Sarah J. Martin
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures