

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280

FEB 18 2014

# 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 Birchmore, John W., House

Other names/site number KHRI # 041-362

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

## 2. Location

Street & number 1204 North Buckeye Avenue not for publication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 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:)

*Joe Edson Jr. Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action 4.7.14

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**5. Classification**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

Domestic: Single dwelling

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

Domestic: Single dwelling

**7. Description**

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

Late Victorian – Second Empire

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

foundation: Stone: Limestone

walls: Brick

Metal: Steel

roof: Asphalt Shingle

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 John W. Birchmore House at 1204 North Buckeye Avenue in Abilene, Dickinson County, Kansas was built in 1878, and is situated toward the rear (west) end of a spacious lot. It is a Second Empire-style two-story brick building with a dormered, mansard roof. A single story, two-car garage is attached to the northwest corner of the building.

### **Elaboration**

Birchmore built his house on a four-acre tract of land that stretched from Buckeye Avenue on the east to Cedar Street on the west. In the early and mid-20th century, sections of the land were sold leaving today's parcel at less than one acre. In 1955 Spruceway Street was extended to the north, and this formed the new west (rear) boundary of the property. The two residences on either side of the property have a similar setback, situated toward the rear of their lots, and long teardrop shaped driveways accessing Buckeye Avenue. The remainder of the 1200 block of Buckeye Avenue includes early- and mid-20<sup>th</sup> century single family residences.

### **EXTERIOR**

The **east (principal)** facade faces North Buckeye Avenue. A one-story porch, 9 feet deep, extends 22 feet along the full width of the front elevation. The porch features a flat roof supported by six fluted columns resting on a limestone wall enclosing the porch. All stonework is painted white. The symmetrical facade consists of a single 12-pane entry door with full-height, four-pane sidelights on either side. Centered on either side of the entrance is a pair of 1/1 windows. Above the entrance and sidelights is a transom with three leaded beveled windows: two small ones the same width as the sidelights and a large one centered above the door. There are three gabled dormers set within the second-story mansard roof. The two outside dormers each contain a pair of 1/1 double-hung windows with a pediment over the windows. The smaller central dormer contains a single 1/1 double-hung window with a pediment.

The **south elevation** features a two-story bay with a conical roof situated on the east one-third of the façade. The three second-story bay windows feature a similar pedimented trim as other windows throughout the structure. There is an exterior, unpainted brick chimney centered on this south elevation. The west one-third of the south façade includes a pair of 1/1 double-hung windows centered on the basement, first, and second levels, although the basement windows are much smaller in size. The second story windows, like the east (or front) façade are set within a dormer in the mansard roof.

The **west (rear) elevation** has been somewhat altered by the addition of the now-enclosed porches on both the first and second stories – at the northwest end of the elevation. This addition consists of a breakfast eating area, laundry closet, mud room and entrance to the basement level and garage on the first level and a master closet on the second level. The mansard roof on the south half has a single 1/1 double-hung window centered on the façade with the second story having the dormer window much like the other second story windows. The enclosed porches are clad in metal siding. The first story windows are single pane while the second story are all 1/1 double-hung windows. There is an open-air, one-story wood deck extending from the south half of the west elevation.

The **north elevation** is divided into three bays. The east one-third has two windows – a 1/1 double-hung unit with pedimented trim on the first story and above it another 1/1 double-hung unit set within a pedimented dormer. The center part of the elevation projects outward slightly and features a small sliding-sash window on the first story and a 1/1 double-hung window in a pedimented dormer on the second story. The west portion of the north elevation is the north side of the enclosed porch, which has a 1/1 double-hung window on the second story. A 1970s-era two-car garage addition attaches to the building at the northwest corner.

One enters the house through the primary entrance centered on the east elevation.

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Above the primary entrance is a decorative lead-glass transom window. The entrance opens into a central reception area with access to a formal staircase that leads to the second level.

The **entry room** boasts the original newel post, stair railing, and turned baluster stair rails. To the right (north) is the formal dining room and to the left (south) is the former front parlor (now part of the great room). The opening to each of these rooms is a double-door frame with no doors. All of the wood trim is painted white and the floor is 6-inch pine covered with 3/4-inch plank solid oak.

The **front parlor**, which was the formal parlor, is now the east part of the room currently referred to as the great room. At the ceiling level of the walls feature a wide decorative trim, with picture rail at the lower edge, throughout the entire first level with the exception of the kitchen. The south wall contains the three-sided bay window, which includes three windows. Centered along the south wall is a red brick fireplace, which was installed in the early 1970s. The wall between the front and back parlors was removed sometime prior, by previous owners. All of the wood trim is painted white and the floor is 6-inch pine covered with 3/4-inch plank solid oak.

The **back parlor** has built-in book cases in the corner on the east and north walls. There is a pair of windows on the west end of the south wall. On the west wall are two windows centered on each half of the wall. The window to the north (right) has been enclosed to create a bookcase. It is believed this was done when the porch was added. All of the wood trim is painted white and the floor is 6-inch pine covered with 3/4-inch plank solid oak.

The **dining room** displays no visible changes, having a double-door entrance on the south from the entry room, a pair of windows centered on the east wall, and a window on the eastern one-third of the north wall. There is a 4-vertical raised-panel swinging door on the north portion of the east wall leading into the kitchen. All of the wood trim is painted white and the floor is 6-inch pine covered with 3/4-inch plank solid oak.

The **kitchen**, located in the northwest portion of the house has been modified and modernized. One can either enter into the kitchen via the swinging door from the dining room or through the door opening on the north wall of the back parlor. As one enters the kitchen from the back parlor to the immediate right (east) is a 4-vertical panel door leading into the basement. Originally, there was a window on the west wall. It is believed that this west wall door and window were removed (or filled in) when the porch was added. If one were to enter the kitchen from the dining room, to the immediate left (south) on the south wall is a 4-vertical panel door that once led to the back staircase to the second level. The stairs have been removed and has been converted into a pantry. Centered on the west wall is the stove with countertops and cabinets on both sides. There are no upper cabinets. Centered on the north wall is a sliding window over the kitchen sink with cabinets on each side. Below is the counter with drawers on top and cabinets below the drawers on each side. A dishwasher is to the right (east) of the double sink. The room off the northeast corner of the kitchen is a half-bath in what is believed to have originally been a pantry. Centered in the room is a work island. The floor is 12-inch square tile.

The **porch addition** off the kitchen on the west wall is accessed through what is believed to have been the original outside entrance door. The southern portion is the breakfast area with modern door (9-lights over 2 vertical panels) on the south wall. There is a 36" high x 48" wide fixed window to the west of the door. On the west wall there is a pair of 36" high x 48" wide fixed windows. To the north of the eating area is a laundry closet facing south to create a "wall", with the mud room to the north. On the north wall of the mud room is a door leading into the 2-car garage.

The front **staircase** near the home's primary entrance is U-shaped. One goes up six steps to the west, reaches a landing, steps up one step, make a "U" turn to the east and proceeds up another 10 steps to the second floor. The stairs are carpeted and the wood is painted white. There are 12 turned spindles up the first portion of the stairs. There are 18 turned spindles up the second portion of the stairs and 35 turned spindles along the upstairs hall railing.

The **first bedroom** is at the top of the stairs to the left (across the hall) is the smallest of the three bedrooms. One enters into the room via a 4-vertical-panel door. There is a closet on the west wall at the south end which has a paneled door the same as the entrance door. There is a 17-inch deep cornice at the top of the walls. There is a window on the eastern one-third of the north wall and a pair of windows centered on the east wall. The 4-inch wide window and door trim is very plain as is the 6-inch mop board. All of the wood is painted white and the floor is 6-inch pine plank currently covered with carpet.

The **second bedroom** is at the top of the stairs to the right (south). One enters into the room via a paneled door. Centered on the east wall is a pair of windows. The bay window, with three windows, is centered on the south wall. The west wall is a unique configuration of closets. The larger closet is to the south with 4-vertical-panel sliding door, which slides to the south (left). There is another 4-vertical raised-panel pocket door, which slides to the left (or south). To the

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right (or north) of this door is a section with a cupboard on the top, two drawers (one above the other) and a cupboard on the lower section. The 4-inch wide window and door trim is very plain as is the 6-inch mop board. There is a decorative crown molding at the top of the walls. All of the wood is painted white and the floor is 6-inch pine plank currently covered with carpet.

The **upstairs hall** is in the shape of a "T", with the bottom of the "T" to the east and the first two bedrooms to the north and south of this end of the "T". All of the wood is painted white and the floor is 6-inch pine plank currently covered with carpet.

The right "arm" of the T leads one around a curved corner into the three-quarter **bathroom** at the end. Prior to entering the bathroom is a closet (on the right, east) which holds the furnace. It is believed that this area (the closet and the bathroom) was where the back staircase opened to the second level. This bathroom consists of a sink set in a vanity, a shower and a toilet with modern tile covering the floor. The woodwork in this room is 2½-inch wide with a dark stain. One enters into the bathroom through a 4-vertical-panel door.

The left arm of the hallway "T" leads into the **master bedroom** through a 4-vertical-panel door. Centered on the south wall is a 1/1 double-hung window. Centered on the south one-third of this west wall is a 1/1 double-hung window. Along the north portion of the west wall is a doorway leading into what is now the enclosed second level of the porch and converted into a walk-in closet. There is what is believed to be the original closet to the immediate north (right) of this door creating a short wall from east to west. To the right (east) of this small closet is a door leading into what may have originally been a dressing room as there is a built-in dresser on the east wall. There was another door leading to the north (from this "dressing room") into the master bathroom. On the east one-third of the north wall is a window. The 4-inch wide window and door trim is very plain as is the 6-inch mop board. All of the wood is painted white and the floor is 6-inch pine plank currently covered with carpet.

The **master bedroom bathroom** has been modified from what is believed to be original. On the north wall of the master bedroom is the door leading into the bathroom. On the west (left) is a walk-in shower, followed to the north by double sinks resting in a vanity. Along the north wall, below the window, is an antique bath tub. On the east wall is the toilet and in the southeast corner is the original built-in dresser.

As you enter into the now **master closet** there is a window on the west end of the south wall as well as on the south end of the west wall. A wall was installed on the north one-third of this room from east to west to create a smaller room that is accessed via a door with a large mirror attached to it. This smaller room has a window on the north end of the west wall and another window on the west end of the north wall. All of the wood is painted white and the floor is the original 6-inch pine plank, which is painted.

The **basement** has a bedroom with a three-quarter bathroom in the southeast section of this level. A family room/TV room/craft room is in the southwest section of the basement with an entrance door leading outside on the south portion of the west wall. There is a pair of windows centered on the west half of the south wall. The wood trim in this area is 2½-inch wide with a dark stain and the floors are cement covered with carpet. The remainder of the basement is storage with an entrance in the north section of the west wall leading into a large cistern. There is a pair of windows on the west one-third of the north wall.

## Integrity

The house has always functioned as a single-family residence. Changes include the construction of a 2-story rear porch, a garage addition, and window replacement. The primary change on the interior is the removal of the secondary staircase; the other interior changes are largely cosmetic. It retains a sufficient degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1878

**Significant Dates**

1878

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The Period of Significance for the John W. Birchmore house is 1878, the year the house was built.

**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

The John W. Birchmore House is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its local significance in the area of Architecture. Completed in 1878, the residence is a good example of the Second Empire style executed on a single-family residence in Abilene. The Second Empire style was popular in residential architecture in the United States from 1855 to 1885, though less popular in Kansas than its contemporary, the Italianate style.

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### Elaboration

#### *Abilene History*

Abilene traces its roots to the 1860s era of Texas cattle drives when great herds of longhorns were driven overland on the Chisholm Trail from Texas to Abilene, which served as the western terminus of the first railroad through Kansas. Town histories credit Timothy and Elizabeth Hersey as the first Euro-American settlers. They built a home along Mud Creek in 1858, and Mrs. Hersey is credited with the naming of the city, which she chose from the Bible - Luke 3:1 - the name means "city of the plains."

The town was laid out in 1860 on land owned by C. H. Thompson, but remained small and underdeveloped until the development of the railroad after the Civil War. With the arrival of cattlemen and entrepreneur Joseph McCoy who promoted Abilene as an excellent place from which to ship Texas cattle by rail, Abilene was flooded with drovers, cowboys, railroad workers, and businessmen in the late 1860s.<sup>1</sup> The Kansas Pacific Railroad (later named Union Pacific) developed through Abilene in 1866. With over three million head of cattle passing through Abilene between 1867 and 1871, the cattle industry played an important role in the early development of the community until 1872, when the railroad opened up more railheads in Newton, Wichita, and Ellsworth. It was at this point that the cultural makeup of the community shifted away from an active cattle-focused railhead to a more refined business-and agricultural-based city.

Abilene, the seat of Dickinson County government, boasted the opening of Belle Springs Creamery in 1892, and the Parker Amusement Company opened a shop in Abilene in 1905. Frank Blackmar's 1912 history of Kansas noted Abilene's population at 4,118 and highlighted its continued importance as a shipping point for grain and livestock.<sup>2</sup> The city's population reached as high as 8,000 in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but has remained at about 6,800 for many years. The Federal Census reported 6,844 residents in Abilene.

When this house was constructed in the late 1870s, Abilene was emerging from its rowdy cow town days and transitioning into a more refined community focused on developing a business- and agricultural-based economy. The town was prospering when Birchmore purchased the lot at 1204 North Buckeye and made plans to build a residence. It is not known which builder Birchmore employed to construct his residence.

#### *John W. Birchmore Biography and House History*

Episcopal priest John W. Birchmore purchased a four-acre property on which he built this residence on July 23, 1878, taking out a mortgage in November for \$1,600.<sup>3</sup> The *Dickinson County Chronicle* reported that Birchmore had "purchased land on Holland creek but will reside in or near the city, having purchased a part of the Mahan property fronting on North Cedar street. He expects to commence the erection of a dwelling within thirty days".<sup>4</sup> Just three months later it was

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<sup>1</sup> William Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas* (Chicago: Andreas Publishing, Co., 1883).

<sup>2</sup> Frank Blackmar, *Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History, vol. 1* (Chicago: Standard Publishing Co., 1912).

<sup>3</sup> Abstract of property. The property owner has the original abstract.

<sup>4</sup> *The Dickinson County Chronicle*, May 24, 1878.

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reported that "Rev. Birchmore is building a fine house on Buckeye, near Mr. Mahan's".<sup>5</sup> And by September it was reported that "Rev. Birchmore's new house presents an imposing appearance."<sup>6</sup>

John W. Birchmore, son of William and Juliana, was born on February 14, 1822 at Charlestown, Massachusetts, where his father was a surgeon at the United States Navy Yard. After graduation from Yale University he taught at Westmoreland, County, Virginia before studying theology at Berkeley Divinity School in Middletown, Connecticut. He was ordained a deacon in 1849 and became a priest in 1850. He married Mary Jane Morse on May 5, 1853, and they had two sons and two daughters. He served several churches before coming to St. John's Episcopal Church in Abilene in 1878 where he served until 1880. Birchmore was instrumental in the founding of St. John's, and he served as the parish's first minister, often hosting services in his home.<sup>7</sup> He died at his home in Cambridge, Massachusetts on March 21, 1900 at age 78.<sup>8</sup>

The Birchmores owned their Abilene home until March 1896 when the mortgage held by Travelers Insurance Company was foreclosed on (entry #22 on the Abstract of Title) it was sold at a Sheriff's sale to the Travelers Insurance Company,<sup>9</sup> which sold it to John D. and Mary Haskell in May 1905.<sup>10</sup> The Haskells owned the property until 1907 when they sold it to Martin H. Dull.<sup>11</sup> It was sold to Walter D. & Hattie F. Nichols in 1910.<sup>12</sup> Walter served as Dickinson County Assessor from 1885-1886, Dickinson County Register of Deeds from 1887-1893 and Mayor of the City of Abilene from 1912-1924. In 1897, Walter, along with a business partner, raised \$100,000 to start the Kansas Farmers' Mutual Insurance Association.<sup>13</sup> In 1911 the Nichols sold the property to their daughter Georgie and her husband Herbert M. Howard.<sup>14</sup>

In 1931 the Howards sold a portion of the property to her sister and husband, Nina (Nancy) Nichols and Fred W. Meyer.<sup>15</sup> The Meyers sold a portion of the property to Robert O. & Nina Mae Gemmill (their daughter) 1944.<sup>16</sup> He served on the Abilene City Commission from 1947 to 1950 and was Mayor of Abilene in 1949. He was also a charter member of the Eisenhower Foundation, a director of the Upland Mutual Insurance Company and a past president of the Kansas Association of Mutual Insurance Agents.<sup>17</sup> In 1955, the Gemmills and the Howards sold part of their property to the City of Abilene to extend Spruceway Street.<sup>18</sup> The original four-acre property had shrunk to less than one acre.

The Gemmills sold the property to James and Karen Schoenbeck, an Alco-Duckwall stores executive, in 1975.<sup>19</sup> The Schoenbecks added the two-car garage and the red brick fireplace in the mid-1970s. In 2000 Brian and Julie Holmes purchased the property.<sup>20</sup> They installed the replacement windows. Vance and Sabrina Enyart purchased the home in 2007.<sup>21</sup> James and Sabrina Holland are the current owners.

### **Architecture: Second Empire Style**

The Birchmore house is an example of the Second Empire style, which is named for the reign of Napoleon III (1852-71), who undertook a major building campaign that transformed Paris into a city of grand boulevards and monumental

<sup>5</sup> *The Dickinson County Chronicle*, August 2, 1878.

<sup>6</sup> *The Dickinson County Chronicle*, September 13, 1878.

<sup>7</sup> Nanc Scholl, "St. John's Episcopal Church" National Register of Historic Places Nomination (Topeka: Kansas Historical Society, 2001), section 8, page 1.

<sup>8</sup> "Obituary Record of Graduates of Yale University Deceased During the Academic Year Ending in 1900," Archives and Manuscripts Division, Yale University. Accessed online at: [http://mssa.library.yale.edu/obituary\\_record/1859\\_1924/1899-1900.pdf](http://mssa.library.yale.edu/obituary_record/1859_1924/1899-1900.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 23.

<sup>10</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 24.

<sup>11</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 25.

<sup>12</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 26.

<sup>13</sup> *Abilene Daily Reflector*, May 19, 1931.

<sup>14</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 27.

<sup>15</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 31.

<sup>16</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 34.

<sup>17</sup> *Abilene Reflector-Chronicle*, February 18, 1989.

<sup>18</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 45.

<sup>19</sup> Abstract of Title, Entry # 53.

<sup>20</sup> Dickinson County Register of Deeds.

<sup>21</sup> Dickinson County Register of Deeds.



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buildings. French architecture of this era, such as the New Louvre, influenced the design of buildings throughout Europe and the United States. In the United States, the Second Empire style was most popular in the northeast and Midwest and was used often for grand public buildings.<sup>22</sup> Early non-domestic examples of the style in the United States include James Renwick's Corcoran Gallery (1859) in Washington, D.C. and the Main Hall at Vassar College (1860) in Poughkeepsie, New York. Washington's Executive Office Building (1871-1875), designed by Alfred Mullett, is a later example of the style. The Second Empire style became popular in American domestic architecture in the mid-1850s, just as the Kansas Territory was opened for settlement. Examples of the style can be found in many Kansas communities, often on residences built in the 1870s and early 1880s. One of Kansas' iconic Second Empire-style residences is the Lebold residence, a unique and high-style mansion that is also located in Abilene. It was built two years after the Birchmore house across town. Other known examples of Second Empire-style residences in Abilene include the Johntz House (NRHP) and a dwelling at 200 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

The mansard roof – a double-pitched roof with a steep lower slope – is a hallmark of the Second Empire style. French architect Francois Mansart popularized the roof form that came to be named for him. Domestic architecture in the style is more difficult to characterize because the mansard roof could be placed on almost any house to create a contemporary look without requiring innovations in plan or ornament.<sup>23</sup>

The Birchmore House features the classic element of the Second Empire style: a mansard roof with dormer windows on the steep lower slope. In this example, the roofline is straight, rather than flared, concave, or S-curved. It has pedimented windows, which are commonly found in Second Empire-style houses. While it is common to see residences of this style and period with a tower, this element is usually centered prominently on the front elevation. The Birchmore House has a tower, but it is located on a secondary elevation and has a cone-shaped roof, rather than the more typical mansard roof.

<sup>22</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (Alfred A. Knopf: New York, 1984), 242.

<sup>23</sup> John C. Poppeliers, S. Allen Chambers, Jr., Nancy B. Schwartz, *What Style is it?* (Washington, D.C.: Preservation Press of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1983), 52. Also, Marcus Whiffen, *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*, revised edition (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1993), 103-108.

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Abstract of Title of property. Private collection.

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Poppeliers, John C., S. Allen Chambers, Jr., Nancy B. Schwartz. *What Style is it?* Preservation Press, 1983.

*Reflector-Chronicle*, August 26, 1979, February 18, 1989.

*The Reflector-Chronicle*, February 20, 1957.

Scholl, Nanc. "St. John's Episcopal Church" National Register of Historic Places Nomination. Topeka: Kansas Historical Society, 2001.

Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles, revised edition*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1993.

**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

**Acreage of Property** Less than 1 acre

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

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Birchmore, John W., House  
Name of Property

Dickinson County, Kansas  
County and State

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

1	<u>38.927436</u>	<u>-97.214842</u>	3	_____	_____
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:

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

The nominated property includes a tract of land beginning at a point 420' No. & 40' W. of the SE corner of the NE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Sec. 16-13-2 E. of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., thence No. 100'; thence W. 307.94', m/1, to the E. line of a tract of land deeded to the City of Abilene, Ks., for the purposes by warranty deed recorded in Book 136, at Page 477 in the office of the Register of Deeds, Dickinson Co., KS.; thence So. 100'; thence E. 307.94'; m/1, to the point of beginning, in the City of Abilene, KS.

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

The nominated property includes the property historically associated with the John W. Birchmore house.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Nanc Scholl  
organization N/A date September 26, 2013  
street & number 813 N. Olive Street telephone (785) 263-7012  
city or town Abilene state Kansas zip code 67410  
e-mail abileneresearcher@yahoo.com

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

name Sabrina and James Holland  
street & number 1204 North Buckeye Avenue telephone (785) 263-3772  
city or town Abilene state Kansas zip code 67410

**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**

Birchmore, John W., House  
Name of Property

Dickinson County, Kansas  
County and State

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each digital image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger.

### Photograph Log

Name of Property: Birchmore, John W., House

City or Vicinity: Abilene

County: Dickinson State: Kansas

Photographer: Katrina Ringler

Date Photographed: June 17, 2010

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

- 1 of 12: Birchmore House – East (primary) elevation, facing W
- 2 of 12: Birchmore House – Tower on south (side) elevation, facing NW
- 3 of 12: Birchmore House – West (rear) elevation, facing NE
- 4 of 12: Birchmore House – West (rear) elevation, facing NE
- 5 of 12: Birchmore House – East (primary) elevation, porch detail, facing W
- 6 of 12: Birchmore House – Interior, staircase to second floor, facing NW
- 7 of 12: Birchmore House – Interior, living room, facing E
- 8 of 12: Birchmore House – Interior, living room, facing W
- 9 of 12: Birchmore House – Interior, dining room, facing NW
- 10 of 12: Birchmore House – Interior, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hall, facing W
- 11 of 12: Birchmore House – Interior, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor ceiling detail
- 12 of 12: Birchmore House – Steps down to underground cellar/cistern

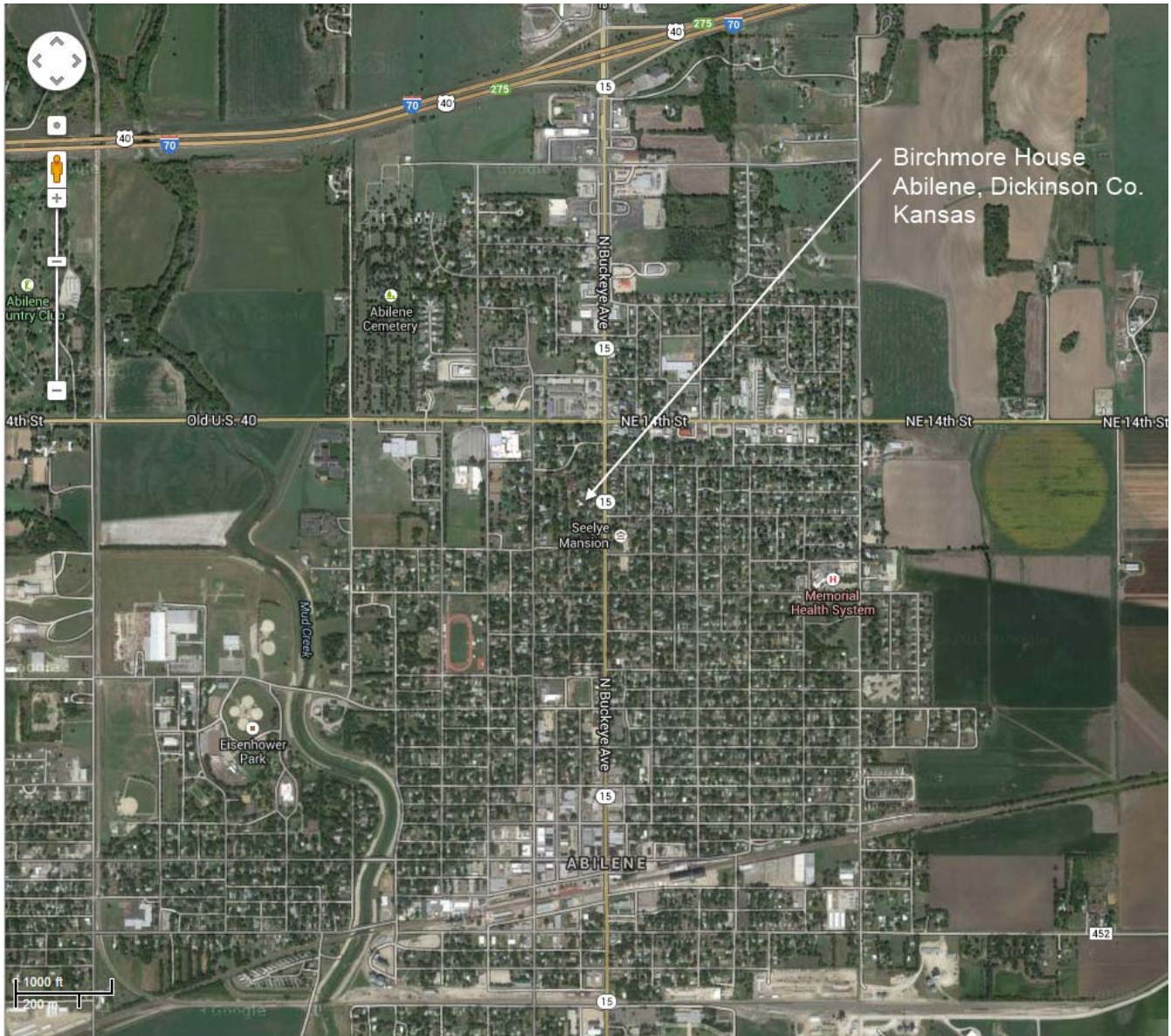
### Figures

Include GIS maps, figures, scanned images below.

Birchmore, John W., House  
Name of Property

Dickinson County, Kansas  
County and State

Figure 1: Context Map



Birchmore, John W., House  
Name of Property

Dickinson County, Kansas  
County and State

Figure 2: Close-in Aerial Image



Birchmore, John W., House  
Name of Property

Dickinson County, Kansas  
County and State

Figure 3: Historic Image of Birchmore House (Source: *Abilene, Kansas Illustrated*, 1915)



MAYOR W. D. NICHOLS RESIDENCE



1204











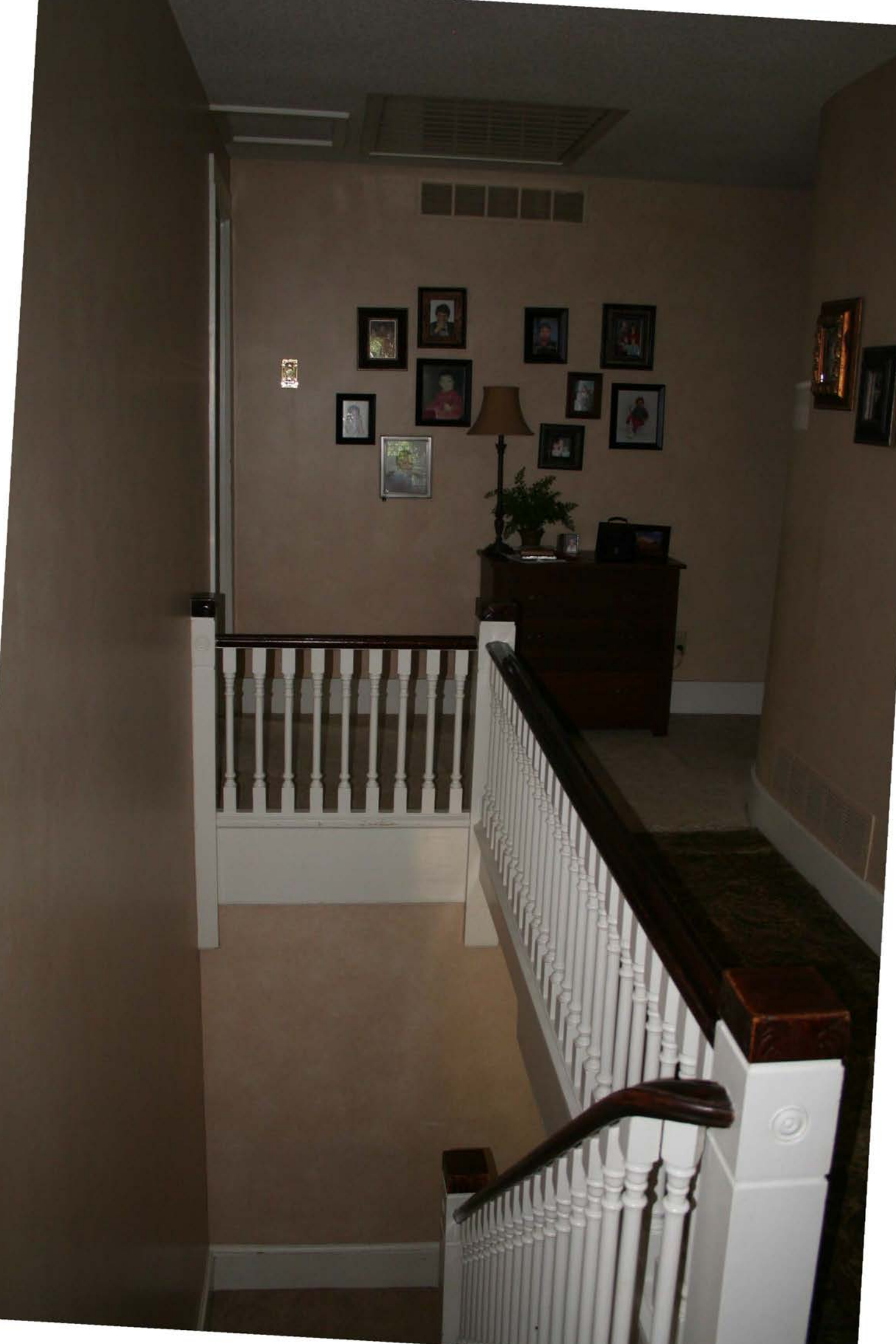
















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Birchmore, John W., House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KANSAS, Dickinson

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: 14000116

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.  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, DC 20005



Re: National Register Nominations – new submissions

Dear Ms. Shull:

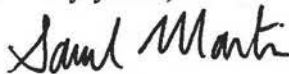
We are pleased to submit for your consideration the following National Register documents:

- **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](mailto:smartin@kshs.org).

Sincerely yours,



Sarah J. Martin  
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures